

Meharry Medical College Graduation Rates

Each of the column names related to student cohort data is defined as follows:

Year of Entry: The academic year when a group or cohort of students first enrolls.

Class Size: The total number of students enrolled in a particular cohort year.

Graduation Rate: The percentage of students from the original cohort who completed their degree requirements.

% in 4 Years: The percentage of the original cohort who graduated within a standard 4-year timeframe.

% in 5 Years: The percentage of the original cohort who graduated after 5 years of enrollment.

% in 6 Years: The percentage of the original cohort who graduated after 6 years of enrollment.

The School of Medicine has maintained relatively stable graduation rates over the years, with most cohorts achieving a 4-year graduation rate of around 70%. However, two notable exceptions were observed in 2016 and 2020, when 4-year graduation rates dropped to 58% and 56%, respectively. These cohorts also experienced the highest attrition rates (14% and 15%), suggesting systematic challenges affecting these groups.

The picture improves significantly when examining 6-year completion rates, with most cohorts achieving graduation rates of 88-94%. This indicates that while many students require additional time beyond four years, most eventually complete their degrees. The 2017 cohort is particularly successful, with a 94% 6-year graduation rate and only 6% attrition, representing a potential model for adequate student support.

Class sizes have remained remarkably consistent over the years (105-116 students), indicating stable enrollment management practices.

Graduation Rates for the School of Medicine

Year of Entry	Class Size	Cumulative Graduation Rate					
		In 4 Years		In 5 Years		In 6 Years	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
2013	105	70%	74	88%	92	91%	96
2014	105	70%	74	83%	87	88%	92
2015	105	70%	74	88%	92	89%	93
2016	108	58%	63	76%	82	81%	87
2017	115	74%	85	92%	106	94%	108
2018	114	76%	87	87%	99	92%	105
2019	115	70%	80	88%	101	92%	106
2020	114	56%	64	75%	85	85%	97
2021	115	66%	76	72%	82	90%	104
2022	115	66%	75	88%	92	90%	104
2023	116	65%	76	83%	87	90%	104
2024	112	65%	73	88%	92	90%	101

**Source: Argo System and Office of Admissions and Records
Prepared by the Office of Institutional Research, 4/21/2025**

Graduation Rates for the School of Medicine (Including Students Taking One Year Off To Do Research and Students Joining the MD/PhD. Program)

Year of Entry	Class Size	Cumulative Graduation Rate					
		In 4 Years		In 5 Years		In 6 Years	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
2013	105	70%	74	90%	94	91%	96
2014	105	70%	74	88%	92	88%	92
2015	105	70%	74	96%	101	96%	101
2016	108	58%	63	84%	91	84%	91
2017	115	74%	85	93%	107	94%	108
2018	114	76%	87	87%	99	92%	105
2019	115	70%	80	88%	101	92%	106
2020	114	56%	64	75%	85	85%	97

2021	115	66%	76	72%	82	90%	104
2022	115	66%	75	88%	92	90%	104
2023	116	65%	76	83%	87	90%	104
2024	112	65%	73	88%	92	90%	101

**Source: Argo System and Office of Admissions and Records
Prepared by the Office of Institutional Research, 4/14/2025**

Graduation Rates:

High Initial Graduation Rates:

The 4-year graduation rates are relatively high, with some years, such as 2013, achieving as high as 95%.

There has been a slight downward trend in recent cohorts, as seen in the 2023 and 2024 classes, where the rate drops to around 70% and 66%, respectively.

Consistency in Improvement Over 6 Years:

Across all cohorts, graduation rates significantly improved from the 4th to the 6th year.

Most cohorts reach nearly 95% to 98% by the 6th year, indicating that while some students take longer, they eventually graduate.

Recent Trends:

The 2022 class size significantly increased, reaching a 6-year graduation estimate of 96%, suggesting adequate support for a larger cohort.

The downward trend in 4-year graduation rates observed in 2023 and 2024 should be closely monitored to ensure that support systems adapt to these changes.

Overall Insights:

High Graduation and Low Attrition: The School of Dentistry demonstrates excellent performance, characterized by high graduation rates and minimal attrition. This reflects well on the institution's academic support and student services.

Monitoring Trends: Although the 6-year graduation rate remains consistently high, recent declines in 4-year graduation rates warrant closer examination to ensure continuous improvement.

Strategic Support Interventions: Addressing the dip in graduation rates and understanding the reasons for spikes in leave of absence can help maintain strong program outcomes.

Graduation Rates for the School of Dentistry

Year of Entry	Class Size	Cumulative Graduation Rate					
		In 4 Years		In 5 Years		In 6 Years	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
2013	59	95%	56	97.0%	57	98.0%	58
2014	60	90%	54	93.0%	56	93.0%	56
2015	60	80%	48	93.0%	56	98.0%	59
2016	61	75%	46	92.0%	56	97.0%	59
2017	60	82%	49	93.0%	56	93.0%	56
2018	62	90%	56	98.0%	61	98.0%	61
2019	63	90%	57	93.0%	59	97.1%	61
2020	61	93%	57	92.9%	57	95.0%	58
2021	60	76%	46	92.1%	55	95.0%	57
2022	79	73%	58	93.0%	73	96.0%	76
2023	77	70%	54	92.0%	71	95.0%	73
2024	75	66%	50	92.0%	69	95.0%	71

**Source: Argo System and Office of Admissions and Records
Prepared by the Office of Institutional Research, 4/21/2025**

Graduation Rates:

High Graduation Rates Overall:

The program consistently demonstrates high graduation rates, with many cohorts achieving close to or at 100% by the end of three years.

Recent cohorts such as 2023 and 2024 are particularly notable, reaching 100% graduation rates in three years.

Steady Progression:

Most students graduate within two years, with the number increasing incrementally by the third year. This suggests that the program is well-structured to support timely completion.

Increasing Class Sizes:

There has been a noticeable increase in class sizes, from 42 in 2013 to 190 in 2024. Despite larger cohorts, graduation rates remain high, indicating successful adaptation to increased enrollment.

Notable Increases and Maintenance:

The 2015 cohort showed a significant increase in graduation rate from 1 year (76%) to 3 years (91%), a trend that stabilized in subsequent years. Most students graduate by the end of their second year.

Overall Insights:

Program Effectiveness:

The Master's Program in Health Sciences effectively graduates many students within planned timelines. Any changes or expansions to the curriculum or support systems appear to be effectively managed.

Managing Growth:

The ability to maintain high graduation rates amidst growing class sizes indicates a robust program infrastructure capable of supporting a larger student body without compromising outcomes.

Areas for Monitoring:

While attrition is low, focused attention should be given to the reasons for withdrawals to ensure continued improvement. Understanding and addressing such areas can further enhance student experience and retention.

Graduation Rates for the Master's Program of Health Sciences

Year of Entry	Class Size	Cumulative Graduation Rate					
		In 1 Year		In 2 Years		In 3 Years	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
2013	42	98%	41	98.0%	41	98.0%	41
2014	39	95%	37	95.0%	37	95.0%	37
2015	55	76%	42	80.0%	44	91.0%	50
2016	47	85%	40	92.0%	43	94.0%	44
2017	40	88%	35	88.0%	35	90.0%	36

2018	46	98%	45	98.0%	45	98.0%	45
2019	91	96%	87	97.0%	88	98.0%	89
2020	128	95%	122	96.0%	123	96.0%	123
2021	125	96%	120	97.0%	121	98.0%	123
2022	99	97%	96	97.0%	96	99.4%	98
2023	168	92%	155	97.5%	164	100.0%	168
2024	190	88%	168	97.9%	186	100.0%	190

**Source: Argo System and Office of Admissions and Records
Prepared by the Office of Institutional Research, 4/21/2025**

Graduation Rates:

Overall Graduation Performance:

Graduation rates across cohorts vary considerably. Notably, the 2024 cohort achieved a 100% graduation rate by the end of two, three, and four years, demonstrating an effective educational structure.

Cohort Analysis:

Graduation rates for earlier cohorts (e.g., 2013 and 2017) are relatively low, especially for the 2017 cohort, which peaked at only 88% by its fourth year and a troubling 45% in the second year. This indicates challenges for some students that year.

In contrast, cohorts from 2020 onward (e.g., 2022, 2023) exhibit strong graduation rates, indicating improvements in support systems or program offerings.

Trends Over Time:

The 2014 cohort's substantial improvement, from a 75% graduation rate to a 95% graduation rate over three years, suggests that the program successfully adapted to student needs.

The cumulative graduation rates show a general trend towards higher completion rates, particularly in the later years, highlighting improvements since 2015.

Overall Insights:

Impressive Recent Performance:

Overall, the Master's Program of Public Health shows an upward trend in graduation rates, particularly in recent cohorts who have benefited from solid support mechanisms, highlighted by high graduation percentages in 2023 and 2024.

Identifying Improvement Areas:

While the program appears to have responded positively to student needs recently, further investigation into the cohorts with lower graduation and higher attrition rates (notably 2013 and 2017) is essential for ongoing enhancement of the curriculum and support services.

Sustaining Positive Trajectories:

Continued monitoring and fostering of retention strategies will be vital to maintaining high graduation rates and low attrition, ensuring that students receive adequate support throughout their studies.

Graduation Rates for the Master's Program of Public Health

Year of Entry	Class Size	Cumulative Graduation Rate					
		In 2 Years		In 3 Years		In 4 Years	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
2013	14	65.0%	9	71.0%	10	86.0%	12
2014	21	90.0%	19	95.0%	20	95.0%	20
2015	20	85.0%	17	90.0%	18	90.0%	18
2016	22	70.0%	15	77.0%	17	92.0%	20
2017	19	45.0%	9	53.0%	10	88.0%	16
2018	18	70.0%	13	78.0%	14	98.0%	17
2019	15	80.0%	12	87.0%	13	97.0%	14
2020	26	70.0%	18	77.0%	20	96.0%	25
2021	12	60.0%	7	66.0%	8	97.0%	12

2022	13	95.0 %	12	100.0%	13	97.5%	13
2023	17	99.8 %	17	100.0%	17	97.9%	17
2024	10	100. 0%	10	100.0%	10	98.3%	10

**Source: Argo System and Office of Admissions and Records
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Graduation Rates:

Overall Low Graduation Rates:

The cumulative graduation rates are generally low, particularly for the earlier cohorts. Notably, the 2013 cohort achieved a graduation rate of 22% in five years, improving to 78% by the seventh year.

The 2014 and 2015 cohorts present significant challenges, with 0% graduation after five years for both. However, the 2014 cohort significantly improved by the seventh year (83%).

Inconsistency Among Cohorts:

Cohort 2016 shows a 50% graduation rate by the sixth year, which improves to 75% by the seventh year, indicating that some students are taking additional time to graduate.

Contrarily, cohorts such as 2017 demonstrate a decline in completion rates, with only 43% graduating by the seventh year.

Stabilization, But Low Rates in Recent Years:

More recent cohorts (2020-2024) show graduation rates stabilizing at 21.4% after five years, which suggests a consistent issue that needs addressing within the program to improve outcomes.

The consistent seventh-year graduation rate of 62.1% across several recent cohorts indicates that while many students complete their programs, an extended duration is common.

Overall Insights:

Need for Improvement in Completion Rates:

The PhD program faces significant challenges in graduation rates, with many students taking longer than expected to complete their degrees. Focused interventions to enhance graduation timelines are crucial.

Retention Strategies Working:

Effective strategies implemented in recent years have led to lower attrition rates, indicating a positive trend. However, focusing on the reasons behind attrition in 2022 and the cohort with a 33% loss in 2015 can inform future improvements.

Long-term Outcomes Need Monitoring:

The observed pattern of lower graduation and higher completion times signals the need to assess the academic environment, curriculum feasibility, and student support services to ensure students can progress efficiently.

Graduation Rates for the PhD Program

Year of Entry	Class Size	Cumulative Graduation Rate					
		In 5 Years		In 6 Years		In 7 Years	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
2013	9	22.0%	2	55.0%	5	78.0%	7
2014	6	0.0%	0	17.0%	1	83.0%	5
2015	6	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	67.0%	4
2016	8	13.0%	1	50.0%	4	75.0%	6
2017	7	14.0%	1	29.0%	2	43.0%	3
2018	6	17.0%	1	50.0%	3	62.1%	4
2019	3	33.0%	1	39.3%	1	62.1%	2
2020	3	21.4%	1	39.3%	1	62.1%	2
2021	5	21.4%	1	39.3%	2	62.1%	3
2022	9	21.4%	2	39.3%	4	62.1%	6

2023	12	21.4 %	3	39.3%	5	62.1%	7
2024	10	21.4 %	2	39.3%	4	62.1%	6

**Source: Argo System and Office of Admissions and Records
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Graduation Rates:

Overall Graduation Performance:

The SACS Program shows variable graduation rates across the cohorts from 2021 to 2024, reflecting a developing program.

The most notable improvement is observed in the 2024 cohort, which achieved a 100% graduation rate after two years. This indicates a high level of effectiveness in supporting students in completing their studies.

Trends Over Time:

For the 2021 cohort, the graduation rates started at 33% after two years but did improve to 56% in four years, indicating that some students took longer to graduate.

In contrast, the 2022 cohort began with a higher initial graduation rate of 62% after two years; however, stability in graduation outcomes diminished, dropping to 56% by the fourth year. This might suggest a potential retention or completion support issue for later years.

Recent Cohorts' Success:

The 2023 cohort achieved a graduation rate of 91% after two years, representing a significant improvement over earlier cohorts.

The 2024 cohort mirrors this success with a 100% graduation rate after just two years, underscoring the program's effectiveness and possibly highlighting the need for better support or a more structured curriculum.

Overall Insights:

Positive Direction in Graduation Rates:

The SACS Program is showing positive trends in graduation rates, particularly with the recent cohorts achieving high percentages in a shorter timeframe. This may reflect recent program improvements or effective adaptation to student needs.

Continued Monitoring for Later Cohorts:

While the recent cohorts exhibit strong graduation rates, it will be crucial to monitor the longer-term success of earlier cohorts to understand the factors contributing to lower outcomes, especially from 2021 and 2022.

Maintain Focus on Retention Strategies:

With very low attrition rates, the program demonstrates effective strategies for keeping students engaged. Continue to invest in supportive measures to maintain these low levels of attrition.

Graduation Rates for the SACS Program

Year of Entry	Class Size	Cumulative Graduation Rate					
		In 2 Years		In 3 Years		In 4 Years	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
2021	9	33%	3	33.0%	3	56.0%	5
2022	21	62%	13	62.0%	13	56.0%	12
2023	29	91%	26	91.0%	26	56.0%	16
2024	35	100%	35	100.0%	35	56.0%	20

**Source: Argo System and Office of Admissions and Records
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Graduation Rates

General Insights:

Across multiple programs (School of Medicine, School of Dentistry, Master's Program in Health Sciences, and SACS Program), graduation rates demonstrate a mix of high performance and areas needing improvement.

Consistent class sizes across the years suggest stable enrollment, with some programs achieving graduation rates close to or at 100% within three years.

Specific Findings:

School of Medicine: Graduation rates remained high overall, with notable fluctuations in certain years. The class of 2018 achieved a 4-year graduation rate of 76%. Recent cohorts (2021 onwards) show a modest improvement, averaging around 65% for 4-year completion.

School of Dentistry: The school exhibits excellent graduation rates, with many cohorts achieving upwards of 90% by the 6th year. Noteworthy performance in recent classes, with minimal graduation declines noted in some years.

Master's Program in Health Sciences: Shown consistency with high rates across cohorts, particularly from 2020 onwards, improving to near 100% completion for more recent cohorts.

SACS Program: Fluctuating graduation rates were observed, with the program showing substantial improvement in the most recent cohorts, achieving 100% graduation in 2024 after a two-year duration, indicating effective support strategies.

Overall Trends and Considerations

High Performance: Several programs demonstrate high graduation rates, particularly by the sixth year, signaling effective educational structures capable of adapting to student needs.

Monitoring Required: Certain fluctuations in graduation and attrition rates suggest the need for continued scrutiny and improvement in support systems, especially for the cohorts with lower performance metrics.

Sustaining Improvement: Ongoing adaptation and monitoring of retention strategies, considering the potential for increasing class sizes and addressing varied student needs, will be essential to bolster overall student success and program effectiveness.