



## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

**A high school diploma is a critical milestone on the path to a post-secondary degree and/or a self-sustaining career.**

Whether you are headed to college, pursuing a credential or beginning your career, a high school diploma is essential. High school graduates have a higher earning potential, contribute more to our local economy and are more engaged in the community.

Unfortunately, too many of our residents – particularly those in low-income areas – are not graduating high school on time – if at all. One out of every 10 high school students in the Richmond and Petersburg region did not graduate on time. We can do better. We must do better.

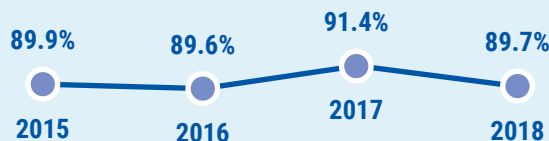
### BY THE NUMBERS

#### KEY INDICATOR

#### ON-TIME HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION (2018)



**12,263** (90%)  
STUDENTS GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL ON TIME



Source: Virginia Department of Education

#### RELATED INDICATOR

#### HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT RATE (2014)



**972** (7.1%)

STUDENTS WHO ENTERED NINTH GRADE IN 2018 DROPPED OUT BEFORE GRADUATING FOUR YEARS LATER

Source: Virginia Department of Education

#### RELATED INDICATOR

#### CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM (2017)

**9,599** (17.1%)  
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MISSED MORE THAN 10% OF THE SCHOOL YEAR IN THE UNITED WAY REGION

Children missing more than 10% of the days in a school year are much more likely to struggle to read at grade level by third grade. Chronic absenteeism creates and widens achievement gaps throughout elementary, middle and high school.

Source: Virginia Department of Education

#### RELATED INDICATOR

#### JUVENILE CRIME RATE PER 1,000 JUVENILES AGES 10-17 (2017)



**2,619**  
JUVENILES WERE ARRESTED FOR GROUP A CRIMES

Source: Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia Report, 2014-2017.



## WHAT WE DO

United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg funds programs that provide critical support to students as they approach graduation. We also work with school districts and community organizations to ensure we are doing everything possible to keep students in school and on track to graduate.

- We serve as the backbone of the **Petersburg City and Schools Partnership**, which works to create the climate and conditions for every child to succeed by providing a sustainable, coordinated system of supports and access.

## SUPPORTED PROGRAMS

United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg is proud to support the following programs:

- **Boys and Girls Club of Metro Richmond** - Capital One Club on Northside
- **Boys and Girls Club of Metro Richmond** - Fairfield Court Club
- **Boys and Girls Club of Metro Richmond** - Petersburg Club
- **Boys and Girls Club of Metro Richmond** - Southside Club
- **Communities in Schools of Chesterfield** - Meadowbrook High School Expansion
- **Communities in Schools of Richmond** - High Schools & Performance Learning Centers
- **Petersburg Health Department** - Teen Pregnancy Prevention

## HOW YOU CAN HELP



**DONATE:** Give to UWGRP. Let us know you want your gift to help increase on-time high school graduation.



**VOLUNTEER:** Want to lend your time to supporting these efforts? Email [Volunteer@YourUnitedWay.org](mailto:Volunteer@YourUnitedWay.org) and we will help match you with the right opportunity.



**CONNECT:** Visit [YourUnitedWay.org](http://YourUnitedWay.org) to learn more about any of our important efforts or to get to know our leadership team.



United Way of Greater  
Richmond & Petersburg

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