



IB Diploma Programme (DP)

IB DP Retention

Enrollment numbers of all students enrolled in the Diploma Programme and the number of IB Diplomas earned are as follows:

2011 authorization	Total IB Programme	Course Option	Full IBDP2	Diplomas Earned
2021	132*	110	22	3 (goal)
2020	69	51	15	1
2019	112	90	22	0
2018	126	110	16	0
2017	86	68	18	1
2016	53	43	10	1
2015	17	7	10	3
2014	18	7	11	4
2013	15	9	6	0

*includes all IB English III juniors

	Total	Junior Diploma	Senior Diploma	Junior Course	Senior Course
2022 (5.11.21)	230	15	15	105	95
2021	132	19 21 @ BOY	3 6 @ BOY	95	15
2020	69	12 12 @ BOY	3 4 @ BOY	23	31**
2019	112	14 20 @ BOY	8 12 @ BOY	57	33
2018	126	n/a	12	n/a	38
2017	181	28	18	67	68

**only 5 seniors certificate course option students submitted assessment components during May 2020 amended session.

Retention in the IB Diploma Programme (DP) is an area of concern not only for the International High School of New Orleans (IHSNO) but for other DP schools around the globe. IHSNO is unique in that we are an open enrollment school and do not restrict access to students attempting to receive an IB Diploma (all DP courses plus core components of Extended Essay, Theory of Knowledge, and Creativity, Activity, Service) or individual certificate course option DP courses.

Unrestricted access to IB is key to what makes IHSNO stand apart from New Orleans public charter choices but also provides for a difficult value proposition when students can achieve their high school diploma with less credit hours and overall effort than attempting an IB Diploma or Certificate.

IB courses present students with worthy experiences. As the data above presents, retention rates from year one (DP1) to year two (DP2), for both Diploma and certificate/course-option students, hovers consistently around 50% each year.

Over the past two years, exit surveys have been conducted by the IB Coordinator, Cody Bourque.

- A significant number of rising juniors who expressed interest in the DP leave for other schools. Sixteen (16) students for the 2019-20 school year withdrew over the summer. About 5-10 additional students were targeted and then moved to a graduation plan that allowed for them to graduate early.
- DP2 numbers decrease when students have a choice of early release and/or dual credit option. Thirty (30) DP2 students in 2019-20 elected to drop all or some of their DP courses for early release and/or dual credit options.
- Stress related to student workload in the Diploma Programme is always an adjustment and cause for students to drop DP courses, especially as Diploma Candidates.
- Students have also expressed on exit surveys that Teacher retention for DP courses is a cause for dropping DP courses.

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- The impact of the pandemic and distance learning' has yet to be measured but anecdotally, DP1 students have been especially overwhelmed with the workload and access to faculty support.