

What is the trend of dual credit course taking for North Dakota high school students?

For the graduating classes in the years 2017-2022, dual credit course taking has been relatively stable in North Dakota, with perhaps a slight increase in the past three graduating classes, with nearly half of all North Dakota high school graduates enrolling in at least one NDUS dual credit course prior to high school completion.

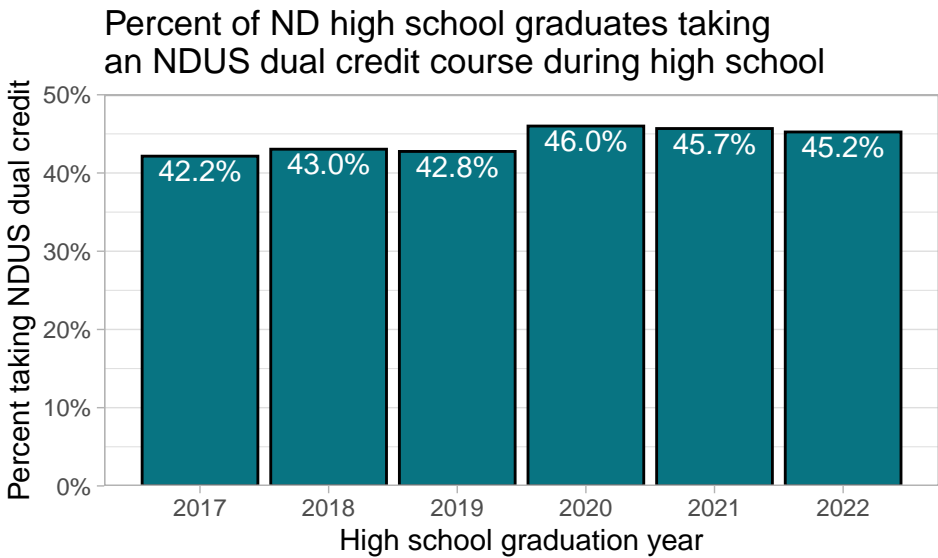


Figure 1: Percent of ND high school graduates completing high school after taking a NDUS dual credit course by high school graduation year

While dual credit enrollments have remained relatively stable, it appears that students who enroll in dual credit may be taking *more* dual credit courses prior to high school completion. Students in the graduating class of 2022 who took dual credit courses completed an average of 10.9 credits, compared with 9.5 credits completed by students who took dual credit courses and graduated in 2017.

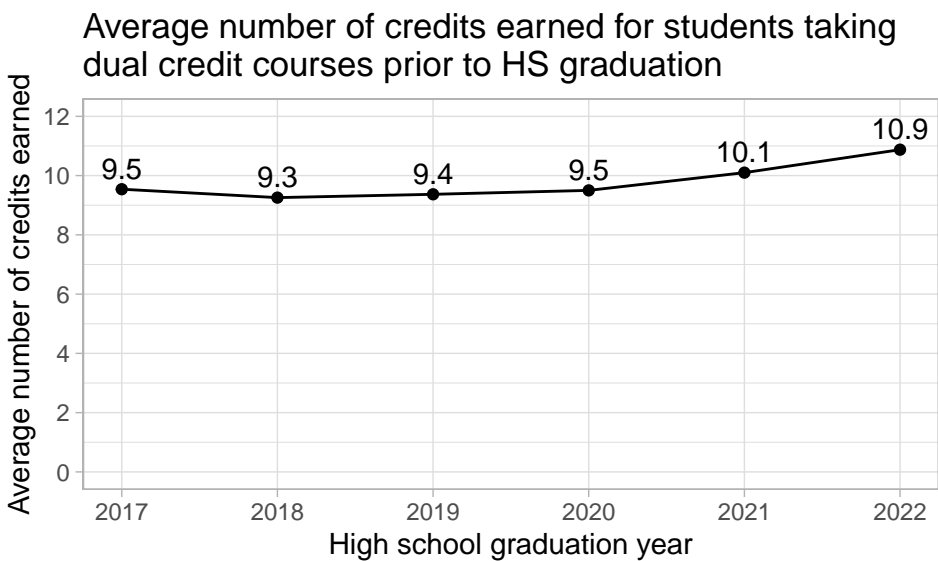


Figure 2: Average number of credits completed by students enrolling in dual credit courses prior to high school graduation by high school graduation year

Which are the most common courses for students to take in high school?

Figure 3 below outlines the most common NDUS dual credit courses taken by students in the 2021-22 school year.

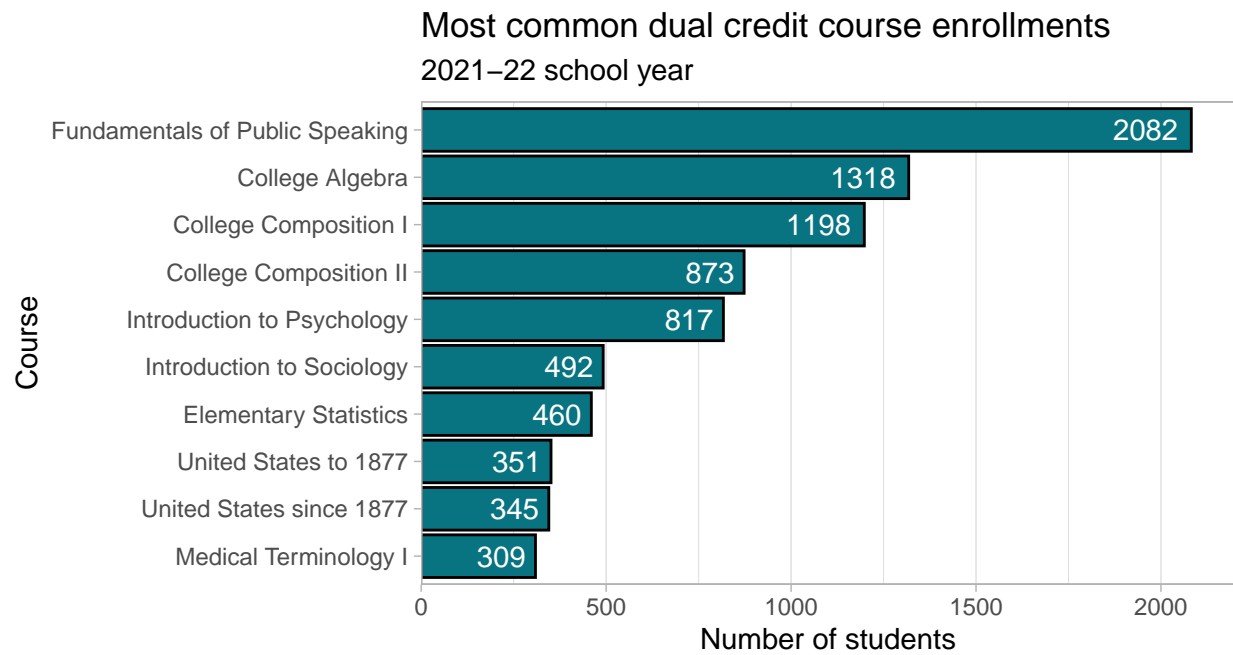


Figure 3: Most common NDUS dual credit course enrollments by North Dakota high school students during the 2021-22 school year

Are students taking dual credit courses more commonly enrolled in NDUS after graduation when compared with similar students?

To more accurately estimate the effect of taking dual credit courses on postsecondary enrollment, students who took dual credit courses in high school were matched one-to-one with academically similar students who did not take dual credit courses in high school. This allows for relatively comparable students to be compared directly to each other. Students were matched using their high school GPA, along with ACT Composite, Math, and Reading sublevel scores. Students who graduated in the years 2017-2022 were used for this section of this study. Students were considered 'enrolled' if they were enrolled in the fall semester immediately following high school graduation.

Of academically similar students who enrolled in postsecondary immediately following high school graduation, students who took NDUS dual credit courses in high school were more likely to enroll in NDUS (79.2%) than students who did not take NDUS dual credit courses (69.3%).

	NDUS	ND private	Out of state
Took dual credit	79.2%	4.6%	16.2%
Did not take dual credit	69.3%	4.4%	26.4%

Table 1: Enrollment locations for comparable students attending postsecondary by NDUS dual credit status - 2017-2022 North Dakota high school graduates

Are students who take dual credit more successful in their first year in NDUS than academically similar students?

Utilizing a similar matching technique to the previous section, academically similar students who enrolled in NDUS immediately following high school graduation were compared to determine if there was any difference in first year NDUS success, with groups being separated by whether or not they took dual credit in high school. For the purposes of this section, 'academic success' is defined as a student passing all credits attempted in their first two semesters. Students were included for possible matching if they graduated from a North Dakota high school in the years 2017-2021 and enrolled in a NDUS institution in the fall semester immediately after graduation.

		<i>No dual credit</i>	
		Passed all credits	Did not pass all credits
<i>Took dual credit</i>	Passed all credits	835	591
	Did not pass all credits	382	656

Table 2: NDUS first-year success for student matched pairs

Of the matched pairs of students created, 57.9% of students who took dual credit in high school passed all credits attempted in their first year, while only 49.4% of their matched academically similar students passed all credits attempted in NDUS during their first year.