

SD Mines Ph.D. Graduation Rates and Student Outcomes
April 15, 2021

For a list of all MS programs, go to <https://www.sdsmt.edu/Academics/Degrees/All-SD-Mines-Degrees/>

Ph.D. Program 3-year to 8-year Graduation Rates

Graduation rates for graduate students are determined based on the Fiscal Year (FY) which begins on July 1. For example, FY 2016 includes graduates from these academic terms: Summer 2015, Fall 2015, and Spring 2016.

PhD Students		Percent of all PhD students graduated*					
Cohort (year started)	Cohort Size	3-year	4-year	5-year	6-year	7-year	8-year
FY2010	20	5%	40%	50%	65%	80%	80%
FY2011	17	6%	12%	29%	41%	59%	65%
FY2012	12	25%	42%	75%	75%	75%	75%
FY2013	14	14%	29%	43%	57%	57%	
FY2014	27	11%	30%	41%	52%		
FY2015	25	20%	36%	56%			
FY2016	30	7%	30%				
FY2017	25	16%					

* Percentages are cumulative. This means, for example, that the percentage of all students who have graduated after the passage of four years includes those who graduated after the passage of three years.

Data on Ph.D. student success in programs of study are on the following page.

Ph.D. Program Outcomes

Student outcomes (success in achieving the degree) have been reliably tracked in a Graduate Office database since Fiscal Year 2010. Note that recent cohorts naturally have more students in progress and fewer students graduated.

- “In progress” includes students actively working on the degree.
- “Inactive” includes students on an approved Leave of Absence or who are no longer actively pursuing the degree.
- “Terminated” includes students dropped from the program for academic insufficiency.
- “Transferred” includes students who transferred to a different graduate degree program within SD Mines.

Cohort (year started)	Cohort Size	Percent of students in each Category				
		Completed	In Progress	Inactive	Terminated	Transferred
FY2010	20	85%	0%	5%	5%	5%
FY2011	17	65%	0%	24%	6%	6%
FY2012	12	75%	8%	17%	0%	0%
FY2013	14	64%	0%	36%	0%	0%
FY2014	27	56%	11%	26%	0%	7%
FY2015	25	68%	16%	16%	0%	0%
FY2016	30	40%	27%	27%	3%	3%
FY2017	25	16%	48%	20%	0%	16%
FY2018	23	13%	61%	17%	4%	4%
FY2019	35	3%	80%	9%	6%	3%
FY2020	23	0%	91%	4%	0%	4%