ESL Students Who Have Graduated from US High Schools Much Less Likely to Graduate from LaGuardia

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Graduates from US high schools who place into ESL are less likely to graduate from LaGuardia than students who come to college from foreign high schools, especially those on a student visa (Figure 1).

This is true even though there is similarity in these students’ placement levels (Figure 2).
Another statistic that differentiates these students is the number who place into a level and never take that course, either because they skip it or they drop out before taking it. Figure 3 shows the results for those place into either ESL 099 or ESR 099.

![Figure 3](image)

As Figure 4 shows, this performance difference also exists among students not needing ESL.

![Figure 4](image)

**Interpretation**

Students with foreign high school preparation are more prepared for a college like LaGuardia than students coming from US high schools, even with the same English language deficits.