Understanding the California School Dashboard

A Tool for Tracking Your School’s Progress

www.smcoe.org/dashboard
The California School Dashboard provides multiple measures using state and local data to show how schools are performing. These measures can help schools and districts understand how well they can better serve all students.

**State Measures**

These measures are based on statewide information and allow families and community members to understand how schools and districts are serving students.

- **Academic Performance in English Language/Arts and Mathematics**: Displays how well students are meeting grade-level standards in English-language arts/literacy and math.
- **English Learner Progress**: Shows the number of students who made progress on the California English Language Development Test (CELDT) or were reclassified as fluent English-proficient speakers.
- **Chronic Absenteeism**: Indicates the number of students in K-8 schools who were absent for 10 percent or more of the total instructional school days.
- **Graduation Rate**: Reflects the percentage of students who graduate high school with a high school diploma within four years of entering grade nine.
- **Suspension Rate**: Gives the percentage of students who were suspended at any time during the school year.
- **College/Career**: Shows the number of students who graduate from high school better prepared for college or a career.

The statewide measures are also reported by student groups, such as students who are English learners, are socioeconomically disadvantaged, have disabilities, are in the foster care system, or are experiencing homelessness. It also looks at student groups based upon race/ethnicity.
Local Measures

Local measures are based on information collected by districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to paint a broader picture of students’ school experience.

**Basic Services and Conditions:** Indicates that students have access to fully credentialed teachers, instructional materials aligned with state standards, and safe, clean, and functional facilities.

**Parent and Family Engagement:** Reflects a school or district’s progress, successes, needs, and areas for growth in family engagement policies, programs, and practices.

**Access to a Broad Course of Study:** Shares the extent to which students have access to a wide range of courses and pathways that meet their interests and academic needs.

**School Climate:** Addresses how the school or district is promoting school safety and connectedness.
You can find your school or district’s report at caschooldashboard.org. Below is an example of a school district report on the California School Dashboard.

**Performance Overview**

The report begins with a summary of how your school or district is performing across state and local measures.

- **A** See a snapshot of your school or district’s performance on statewide and local measures.
- **B** Create a PDF report of your school or district's results in English and Spanish.
- **C** Click on “View All Schools” to compare how schools within the district are performing.
- **D** Click on “View Additional Reports” to access more detailed reports.
- **E** Use the dropdown menu to change the year displayed.
Learn about the student population, such as the number of students enrolled and what percentage of students are socioeconomically disadvantaged, English learners, or in the foster care system.

### How Performance is Displayed

#### Statewide Measures

Performance on state measures is based on both recent data and growth from the prior year. Schools and districts receive one of five performance levels: blue, green, yellow, orange, and red. Blue shows the highest performance level while red indicates the lowest performance level.

The performance levels appear as semi-circle gauges that are divided into color segments. An arrow points to the color that represents the performance level for that measure.

#### Local Measures

Performance on local measures are displayed as one of three ratings: Standard Met, Standard Not Met, or Standard Not Met for Two Years.
Detailed Performance Reports

Scroll down in the report to find additional data on each measure. The reports are organized into three areas: academic performance, academic engagement, and conditions and climate.

A. Compare student results for your school or district with statewide results.
B. View how students performed in the most recent year and in the prior year.
C. The equity report shows performance level for each student group.
D. Click the “View More Details” link to read detailed information.
E. Click the "View More Details" link to learn more about progress made on local measures.

YOUR SCHOOL
Academic Performance
View Student Assessment Results and other aspects of school performance.

LEARN MORE
English Language Arts

A. All Students State

Green

B. 30 points above standard
Declined 18.2 Points

LEARN MORE
Mathematics

A. All Students State

Yellow

B. 17.6 points below standard
Maintained 0.6 Points

Local Indicators

LEARN MORE
Implementation of Academic Standards

STANDARD MET

E. View More Details
Qualifying for Additional Assistance

All districts receive resources and tools to better serve their students. Some districts are eligible for additional assistance depending on their results on the California School Dashboard.

**California’s Statewide System of Support**

**LEVEL THREE:**

**Intensive Intervention**
Concentrated intervention to address persistent areas for improvement for eligible districts

**LEVEL TWO:**

**Differentiated Assistance**
Individually-designed assistance to help address identified areas for improvement for eligible districts

**LEVEL ONE:**

**Universal Support**
Resources, tools, and technical assistance available to all districts

**Differentiated Assistance**

Districts with student groups that are red in two or more priority areas qualify for differentiated assistance. Districts work alongside the San Mateo County Office of Education to identify key challenges and opportunities and address disparities among student groups.

**Intensive Intervention**

Districts receiving differentiated assistance are eligible for concentrated intervention when their performance levels are not improved over a period of time.
Measuring Success

You cannot get a full picture of how your child’s school is doing from one score. That is why California has shifted away from using only test scores to measure school success.

The California School Dashboard displays a range of measures in an interactive online format. It helps districts and schools identify strengths and weaknesses and pinpoint student groups that could be better served. It also answers important questions for families, such as:

- Are all students set up to succeed?
- Are students graduating ready for college or career?
- Is my school improving over time?

The California School Dashboard differs from previous accountability tools by:

1. **Using multiple measures:** The Dashboard displays how schools are doing in key areas to help parents and educators understand how to keep students on track for success.

2. **Emphasizing equity:** Equity is at the heart of the Dashboard. Identifying gaps among student groups will help us put our resources where they are needed most.

3. **Supporting local decision-making:** The Dashboard helps districts measure progress towards meeting the goals of their Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAPs) and can inform future decisions.

4. **Focusing on continuous improvement:** The Dashboard enables schools and districts to make decisions to support and improve student outcomes.

www.smcoe.org/dashboard