

What Is the Three-by-Five Table?

The California School Dashboard (Dashboard) shows performance of local educational agencies (LEAs), schools, and student groups on a set of state indicators that assist in identifying strengths, weaknesses, and areas in need of improvement. Typically, performance for state indicators is determined using a five-by-five colored table, which results in one of five Performance Levels (or colors): Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, or Blue.

However, in cases where the number of students within an indicator denominator for an LEA, school, or student group is small, the Dashboard utilizes a three-by-five colored table to determine performance. The three-by-five table prevents large swings in data year over year that are triggered by the results of a few students, which can lead to an over-identification of schools in the Red and Blue Performance Levels.

For the current Dashboard, the three-by-five table will be applied to the following indicators based on the number of students included in the denominator.

Chronic Absenteeism

If fewer than 150 students in the current year meet the eligible enrollment requirement

Suspension Rate

If fewer than 150 students in the current year are cumulatively enrolled

Graduation Rate

If fewer than 150 students in the current year are in the combined four- and five-year graduation rate

College/Career Indicator (CCI)

If fewer than 150 students in the current year in the four-year graduation rate plus fifth-year graduates who met CCI Prepared

The three-by-five colored table is created by removing two Change levels, Increased Significantly and Decreased Significantly, thus limiting extreme changes when the count of students in the denominator is small. The table below is an example of a three-by-five table.

Level	Change Declined	Change Maintained	Change Increased
Very High	Green	Blue	Blue
High	Yellow	Green	Green
Medium	Orange	Yellow	Green
Low	Orange	Orange	Yellow
Very Low	Red	Red	Orange

For information pertaining to the five-by-five colored table, refer to the How Dashboard Colors Are Determined flyer on the [California Department of Education \(CDE\) Dashboard Communications Toolkit web page](#). To access the three-by-five tables for the indicators noted above, refer to their respective technical guide on the [CDE Dashboard Technical Guide web page](#).

For more information, visit the [CDE California School Dashboard and System of Support web page](#).

Contact the Analysis, Measurement, and Accountability Reporting Division by email at dashboard@cde.ca.gov.

