



# **Parent Guide to the California School Dashboard**

## What Is the California School Dashboard?

The California School Dashboard (or the Dashboard) is an **online tool** that shows parents and communities how well schools and districts are meeting the needs of all students. It reports performance on both state and local measures. These multiple measures reflect California's accountability system, which is based on the ten priority areas of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), which are discussed on the CDE Webpage at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/lc/lcffoverview.asp>.

### State Measures

These measures are based on information collected statewide and allow parents to compare schools and districts across California.

#### Six State Measures

- Chronic Absenteeism (for grades K–8)
- Suspension Rate (for grades K–12)
- English Learner Progress (for grades 1–12)
- Graduation Rate (for high school only)
- College/Career (for high school only)
- Academic (for grades 3–8 and grade 11)
  - English language arts/literacy (ELA)
  - Mathematics

You can learn more about each of these indicators in Appendix A: What More Should We Know about the State Measures?

### Local Measures

While state measures are based on information collected statewide, local measures are based on information collected by districts. These measures include basic conditions (teacher qualifications, safe and clean buildings, and textbooks for all students); implementation of academic standards; access to a broad course of study; school climate surveys; and parent involvement and engagement.

## How Is Performance Measured?

Performance on the state measures is based on results for both the **current year (2018 data)** and the **prior year (2017 data)**.

For each state measure, schools and districts receive **one of five performance levels**. Each performance level is identified by a different **color**:

Performance Colors	Performance Levels
Blue (Highest Performance)	Very High
Green	High
Yellow	Medium
Orange	Low
Red (Lowest Performance)	Very Low

## How Is Performance Reported on the Dashboard?

On the Dashboard reports, the performance levels appear as **semi-circle gauges** that are divided into color segments: red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. An arrow points to the color that represents the performance level for that measure.



**Blue**

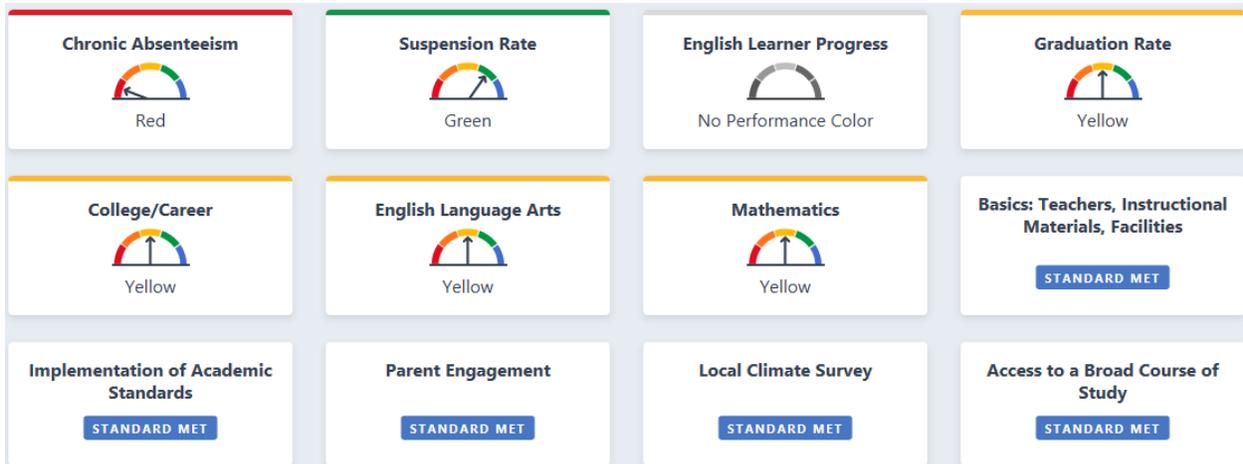
In the example above, the arrow is pointing to the far right segment, which is the Blue performance level. This is the highest performance level.

# How to View Performance of a School or District on the 2018 Dashboard

1. The Dashboard can be viewed on the CDE California School Dashboard and System of Support Web page, at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/dashboard>.
2. To see the results for a district or school, type the name into the search bar. Then select the year.

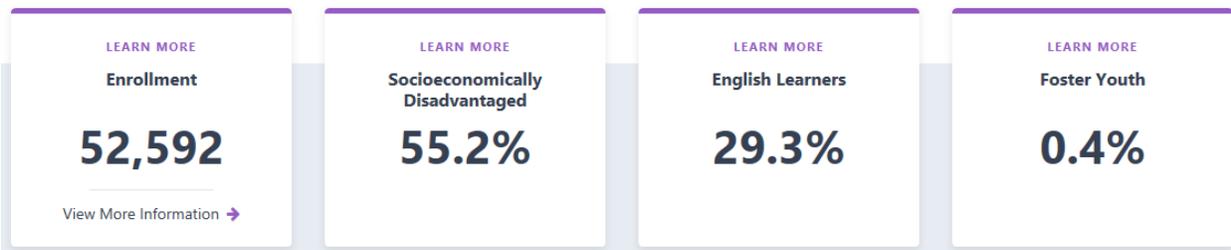


3. Once you select your district or school, you'll be able to see its **performance on state and local measures.**



In the example above, we see that the district received a Red performance level for Chronic Absenteeism and a Green performance level for the Suspension Rate. The district received a Yellow performance level for the remaining four state measures—Graduation /rate, College/Career, ELA, and Mathematics. (Note that schools and districts will not receive a color for English Learner Progress in 2018.) The district also met the standard for all five local indicators.

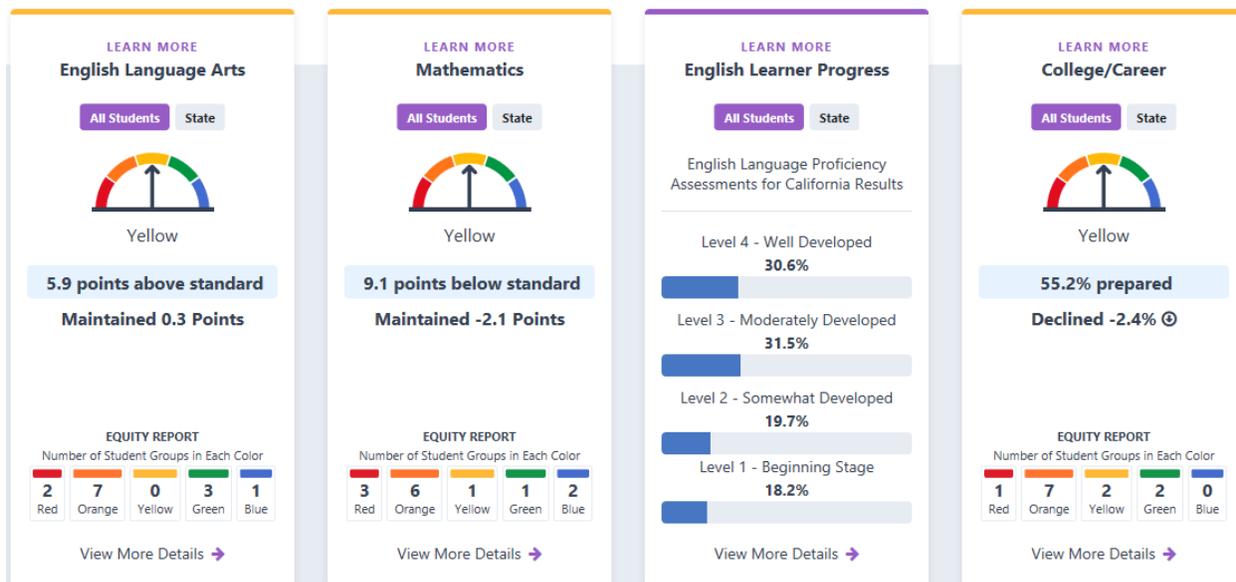
4. Below the at-a-glance view of the district's or school's performance, you will find information about the **student population**.



5. If you continue to scroll down the page, you'll find **additional data on each measure**, such as school or district results for the current year and whether improvement was made from the prior year. The state and local measures are organized into three areas:

- Academic Performance
- Academic Engagement:
- Conditions & Climate

Let's look at the state measures that appear under Academic Performance for our sample district.

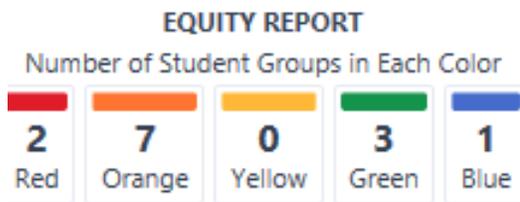


For the English Language Arts, we see that the school had an average of 5.9 points above standard. This was a 0.3 points increase from prior year and was deemed maintained.

For College/Career, we see that 55.2 percent of the high school students in the district were deemed prepared for college or a career upon graduation. This represents a decline (-2.4 percent) from the prior year.

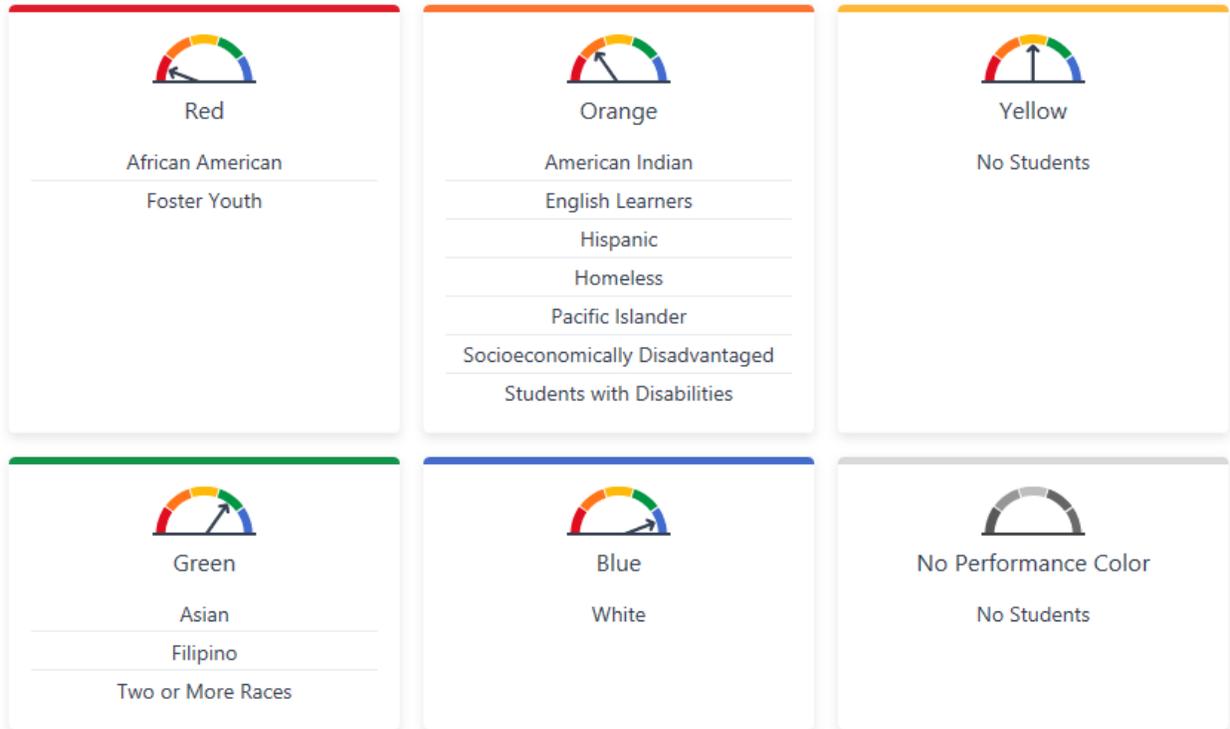
Notice that you can toggle back and forth between “All Students” and “State,” allowing you to compare student results for your school or district with statewide results.

6. An **Equity Report** is displayed at the bottom of the card for each state measure. This shows the number of student groups placed in each performance level (color) for that measure. Below is a sample district’s Equity Report for mathematics.



Looking at the data above, we see that two student groups received a Red color (the lowest performance level) for ELA, and one student group received a Blue color (the highest performance level).

7. If you click the “**View More Details**” link below the Equity Report, you will be brought to a page that gives detailed information on how **student groups** performed on that indicator. Here are the **Student Group Details** for ELA:



These are just some of the data you can find on the 2018 Dashboard.

# **Appendix A: What More Should We Know About the State Measures**

Now let's look at each of the state measures in more detail.

## **1. Chronic Absenteeism**

The Chronic Absenteeism measure shows how many students were absent for 10 percent or more of the total instructional school days. For example, most schools have 180 instructional days; if a student is absent 18 or more of those days, the student would be considered chronically absent. Students who are chronically absent miss out on important classroom instruction. Capturing this information in the Dashboard allows parents and educators to see if chronic absenteeism is a problem at a school or across a district.

## **2. Suspension Rate**

The Suspension Rate measure shows the percent of students who were suspended anytime during the school year. Students who are suspended from school miss out on important classroom instruction. Capturing this information in the Dashboard allows parents and educators to see if there is a suspension problem at a school or across a district and whether certain student groups are suspended more than others. (Note: A student is counted only once for this measure even if he or she has multiple suspensions throughout the year.)

## **3. English Learner Progress**

Proficiency in the English language is a first step for students to do well in other subject areas, such as reading, writing, mathematics, and science. The English Learner Progress measure looks at the progress that English learners (e.g., students who don't speak English as their first language) are making toward English proficiency. Each spring, English learners take the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California, or ELPAC, which measures how well they know and understand English. Results from the ELPAC are used to calculate the English Learner Progress measure. Because the ELPAC is a new test, results will be reported in the 2018 Dashboard, but no performance level (or color) will be available.

## **4. Graduation Rate**

The Graduation Rate measure applies only to schools and districts that serve high school students. For traditional schools, this measure is based on the number of students who graduate with a regular high school diploma in four years. (Note: Students who earn a Special Education Certificate of Completion or a general equivalency diploma are not counted as graduates.) Regardless of whether students go on to college, a high school diploma is the minimum requirement for most entry-level jobs in

today's economy. It represents mastery of foundational skills in mathematics, reading, and writing.

## **5. College/Career Readiness**

The College/Career measure shows how many students graduate from high school better prepared for college or a career. It uses many different measures of college and career preparedness, looking at the courses students completed in high school or the exams they passed. For additional information about how schools help students become prepared, please view the College/Career measure informational flyer at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/ccidashboardflyer.pdf>.

## **6. Academic: English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA) and Mathematics**

The Academic measure shows how well students are meeting grade-level standards in ELA and mathematics. It is based on student performance on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments, which are taken each spring by students in grades 3–8 and grade 11. Note: If less than 95 percent of all students are not tested, performance on this measure is adjusted.

## Appendix B: Descriptive Text for the Images in this Document

### Image 1:

A picture of the five analog gauge meters used on the California School Dashboard. Each gauge meter is a half-circle dial that has 5 segments. Each segment represents a different performance level. The colors read from left to right: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, and Blue. Red represents the lowest performance level while Blue represents the highest performance level. A needle indicates the performance level for the measure.

### Image 2:

A screenshot of the new 2018 Dashboard Homepage. The top of the page has an image of a performance gauge with the arrow pointing to green. Tabs from left to right as follows:

- Home
- About
- State Summary
- Search
- More Information
- En Espanol

Explore information about your local school and district with a search tab.

### Image 3:

A screenshot of the 2018 Dashboard landing Page showing tabs from left to right:

- Chronic Absenteeism – Red performance color
- Suspension Rate –Green performance color
- English Learner Progress –No performance color
- Graduation Rates –Yellow performance color
- College/Career – Yellow performance color
- English Language Arts – Yellow performance color
- Mathematics – Yellow performance color
- Basic Teachers Instructional Materials, Facilities –Indicator Met
- Implementation of Academic Standards –Indicator Met
- Parent Engagement –Indicator Met
- Local Climate Survey –Indicator Met

### Image 4:

A screenshot of what the Student Enrollment Population section looks like on the Dashboard. It gives you total enrollment count followed by the SED, EL, and Foster

Youth enrollment percentages. In this example, the tabs read from left to right in the following order:

- Enrollment 52,592
- Socioeconomically Disadvantaged 55.2%
- English Learners 29.3%
- Foster Youth 0.4%

### **Image 5:**

A screenshot of 2018 Dashboard for an example school under the “Academic Performance” section. Under this section are the details of how this school performed in the ELA, Math, ELPI, and CCI measures. The details include the performance color, current year performance, performance difference from prior year, and the number of students groups in each color. You can explore deeper by selecting the “View More Details.” For our example school, here are their performance stats for each of the indicator:

English Language Arts – They received a Yellow performance rating by scoring 5.9 points above Standard for the current year which was an increase of 0.3 points from the prior year. There are 2 students groups that received a Red performance rating, 7 student groups that received an Orange performance rating, 3 student groups that received a Green performance rating, and 1 student group that received a Blue performance rating.

Mathematics – They received a Yellow performance rating by scoring 9.1 points below Standard for the current year which was a decrease of 2.1 points from the prior year. There are 3 students groups that received a Red performance rating, 6 student groups that received an Orange performance rating, 1 student group that received a Yellow performance color, 1 student group that received a Green performance rating, and 2 student groups that received a Blue performance rating.

English Learner Progress – This schools had 30.6% of their students scoring Well Developed on the ELPAC. 31.5% scoring Moderately Developed. 19.7% scoring Somewhat Developed. 18.2% scoring Beginning Stage.

College/Career – They received a Yellow performance rating by having 55.2 percent of students placing in the Prepared level. This was a decrease of 2.4% from the prior year. There is 1 student group that received a Red performance rating, 7 student groups that received an Orange performance rating, 2 student groups that received a Yellow performance rating, 2 student groups that received a Green performance rating and 0 student group that received a Blue performance rating

### **Image 6:**

Screenshot of the Equity Report that depicts the number of Student Groups in each of the performance color. In this example, there are 2 student groups in Red performance level,

7 student groups in the Orange performance level, 0 student group in Yellow performance level, 3 in the Green performance level, and 1 student group in the Blue performance level.

**Image 7:**

A screenshot of the Student Group Details on an unspecified indicator on the 2018 Dashboard. This section lists how each of the students groups placed in terms of their performance color. In this example, here are the student groups listed in each of the performance colors:

- Under the Red Performance level
  - African American
  - Foster Youth
- Gauge Indicator arrow pointing to Orange
  - American Indian
  - English Learners
  - Hispanic
  - Homeless
  - Pacific Islander
  - Socioeconomically Disadvantaged
  - Students with Disabilities
- Gauge Indicator arrow pointing to Yellow
  - No Student (Groups)
- Gauge Indicator arrow pointing to Green
  - Asian
  - Filipino
  - Two or More Races
- Gauge Indicator arrow pointing to Blue
  - White
- Gauge Indicator with No Performance Color
  - No Student (Group)