

What's New for the 2018-19 Accountability Report Cards?

Inclusion of ACT Aspire:

Report cards will include ACT Aspire results for the first time this year. Both 9th and 10th grade Aspire results (English language arts and mathematics) will be included. Three years of data are used in Achievement and Growth priority area calculations and up to five years in Closing Gaps.

Adding two grade levels of assessment results into the report card means that, for many high schools, cell size counts will be tripled in Achievement and Growth calculations, and many schools will see Closing Gaps scores for student groups for the first time.

The inclusion of 9th and 10th grade performance data also means high schools are eligible to get a School Growth score for the first time. Growth may be calculated from grades four through 11. Schools and districts with growth scores are subject to statutorily required variable weighting, which adjusts the weight of Achievement and Growth scores based upon the percentage of students in the school or district who are economically disadvantaged. Report cards display priority area weighting on the front page.

Closing Gaps Score Changes:

Schools and districts with a Closing Gaps scores that changed at least 20 points (positive or negative) from last year will not receive a Closing Gaps score this year. The reason for this change is that, in most of these cases, the large score changes are due to changes in student groups that impact the calculations more than changes in performance, and schools cannot control the size of different populations. This is a one-year change as the Office of Educational Accountability is working with an Accountability Advisory Group, comprised of staff from public and choice schools and CESAs, to design a new closing gaps measure for 2019-20 accountability.

Report Card Display:

The table on the School or District Growth priority that displays value-added results for student groups now include those scores for target *and* comparison groups of students in each school/district. Specifically, this means the following student groups are added to the table: not economically disadvantaged students, English proficient students, and students without disabilities. This comparison data helps readers better understand a school or district's impact on learning for different groups of students. The growth results in this supplemental table do not impact growth priority area scores.

For the **Private School - Choice** report cards, the percentage of enrolled choice students is now displayed in the information box on the front page.

Report Card Eligibility:

In order to receive an accountability report card rating in 2018-19, schools must have two sequential years of achievement data. Public schools that do not have two sequential years of achievement data receive Alternate Accountability ratings, while private (choice) schools receive a rating of "NR-Data."