# How the California School Dashboard Informs the Charter School Performance Category Data File​

California Department of Education | March 2024

This Notetaking Guide is a supplementary resource to the 2024 Charter School webinar.

## What We'll Explore Today

* Charter School Performance Categories​
* Overview of how AB1505 connects the California School Dashboard to Charter School Performance Categories​
* 2024 Performance Categories File
* Contact Us

## Overview of AB 1505 and the Dashboard

The Dashboard is an online tool that shows the performance of local educational agencies (LEAs), schools, and student groups on a set of state and local indicators to help identify strengths, challenges, and areas needing improvement. The goal of the Dashboard is to help communities across the state access valuable information about students in kindergarten through grade twelve.

### Dashboard State Indicators

The Dashboard features six state indicators that provide important information on how LEAs and schools are serving their students. The information used for these indicators is based on data collected statewide.

The state indicators are the following six indicators:

* Academic Indicators
* English language arts/literacy (ELA)
* Mathematics
* English Learner Progress Indicator (ELPI)
* Chronic Absenteeism Indicator
* Graduation Rate Indicator
* Suspension Rate Indicator
* College/Career Indicator (CCI)

### Where does ​the data ​for the ​Dashboard come from?

* California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) data collections and CALPADS Operational Data Store (ODS)​
* Annual assessments​
* Additional student-level data submissions

### How The Dashboard Measures Performance

* Current year data equals **Status**.
* A comparison between current and prior year data is known as **Change**.

It is the combination of Status and Change that determines the performance color for LEAs, schools, and student groups. They receive one of five colors that range from Red (lowest Performance Level) to Blue (highest Performance Level).

Since charter schools are treated as LEAs under the Local Control Funding Formula, their data are not included in their authorizer’s Dashboard report. This includes both direct and locally funded charters.

### Five Performance Levels (Colors)

There are five Performance Levels (colors) that can be reported on the Dashboard.



* The range of colors is from Red to Blue with Red being the lowest possible Performance Level while Blue is the highest possible Performance Level.
* The Performance Levels in order from highest to lowest are Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange, and Red.

### Five-by-Five Tables

An LEA, school, or student group’s Performance Level (color) is determined through the use of a five-by-five colored table that utilizes the Status level and Change level.

Table 2. Five-by-Five Table

| **Performance Level** | **Declined Significantly** | **Declined** | **Maintained** | **Increased** | **Increased Significantly** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Very High** | Yellow | Green | Blue | Blue | Blue |
| **High** | Orange | Yellow | Green | Green | Blue |
| **Medium** | Orange | Orange | Yellow | Green | Green |
| **Low** | Red | Orange | Orange | Yellow | Yellow |
| **Very Low** | Red | Red | Red | Orange | Yellow |

​

As a reminder, for some indicators very low is the desired outcome, so each indicator will have its five-by-five colored table which properly identifies its Performance Level.

Five-by-five tables and cut scores are available for each of the indicators and can be found on the CDE Five-by-Five Colored Tables web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/fivebyfivecolortables23.asp>.

### Three-by-Five Tables

Select LEAs and schools with small populations are more susceptible to large swings in results from year to year. To account for this, A three-by-five colored table is applied when the N-size is less than 150 at the LEA, school, and student group levels​ for certain indicators.

Table 3: Three-by-Five Table

| **Performance Level** | **Declined** | **Maintained** | **Increased** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Very High** | Green | Blue | Blue |
| **High** | Yellow | Green | Green |
| **Medium** | Orange | Yellow | Green |
| **Low** | Orange | Orange | Yellow |
| **Very Low** | Red | Red | Orange |

​The three-by-five colored tables remove both the “Increased Significantly” and “Declined Significantly” Change levels from the Performance Level determinations. Small student populations will receive only one of **three Change levels**for the Graduation Rate Indicator, Suspension Rate Indicator, Chronic Absenteeism Indicator, and CCI.

The Change levels are Increased​, Maintained​, and Declined​.

### What You See on a Dashboard Card

Each Dashboard card provides the following information:

* School/Local Education Agency (LEA) Overall Color
* School/Local Education Agency (LEA) Overall Status
* School/Local Education Agency (LEA) Overall Change
* Student Group Colors/Equity Report

The graphic shared is an example of a Graduation Rate card from the 2023 Dashboard. It shows a color of orange, a status of 86.4% graduated and a decline of 1% from the prior year.

The Equity Report shows that all 1 student group was in the red, 9 were in the orange, 1 was in the yellow and 2 were in the green.

### What You See When You "View More Details"

When you click on the "View More Details" button located at the bottom of each card, you are taken to a webpage that provides additional details. Those details include:

* School/LEA Student Group Colors​
* School/LEA Student Group Status​
* School/LEA Student Group Change​
* Number of Students in the Student Group

### Reporting for At Least ​ 30 Students

* Performance Level (color) gauge graphic displayed
* Status and Change reported
* Held accountable for support determinations

### Reporting for 11–29 Students​

* Performance Level (color) graphic greyed out
* Status and Change reported
* Not held accountable for support determinations

### Foster Youth/Homeless Rules

LEAs with at least 15 students in the current and prior year will receive a Performance Level (color) for Homeless and Foster Youth only.

Charter schools are treated as schools and still require the 30 students to receive a Performance Level (color).

### Reporting for Fewer than 11 Students

* Performance Level (color) graphic greyed out
* Status and Change not reported
* Not held accountable for support determinations

### Dashboard Use

The California School Dashboard is an online tool designed to help communities across the state access important information about kindergarten through grade twelve schools and districts. The Dashboard features easy-to-read reports on multiple measures of school success. The Dashboard represents one of many steps taken over the past decade that have raised the bar for student learning, increased the focus on equity, and expanded the review of performance data to a specific set of state and local measures.

### History of AB 1505

Assembly Bill 1505 went into effect on July 1, 2020 and modified the criteria used within charter school renewal. ​Based on the criteria from AB 1505, charter schools receive a performance category based on their Dashboard performance over the past two years.

​The first set of designations were released in 2020 and were based on the 2019 and 2018 Dashboards.

### AB 1505 Performance Categories

There are three performance categories that charter schools can qualify for under AB 1505:

* High: A charter school in this category is eligible for a five-, six-, or seven-year renewal term.​
* Middle: A charter school in this category may be renewed for a five-year term.​
* Low: A charter school in this category may be renewed for a two-year term only if it meets the conditions under EC Section 47607.2(a)(4).

Dashboard Alternative Status Schools (DASS) are not included in the performance category determinations.

## 2024 Performance Categories

### Two Paths to Your Performance Category:

In order to qualify for either the high or low performance categories, there are two sets of criteria:

* Criterion 1:
* Overall colors on your Dashboard at the overall School Level
* Criterion 2 (For charter Schools that do not receive a High/Low performance category under Criterion 1):​
* Overall status on your Dashboard for your Academic Indicators across the School Level and Student Group Levels

### Criterion 1

For charter schools to be evaluated under Criterion 1, they must have two or more Academic Indicators (Academic ELA, Academic Math, College/Career Indicator - CCI, English Learner Progress Indicator - ELPI) with an overall school color in both years.

Charter schools with Blue and/or Green ​performance levels on all school​ Indicators in both years will qualify for the High performance category under Criterion 1.

Charter schools with Red and/or Orange ​performance levels on all school​ Indicators in both years will qualify for the Low performance category under Criterion 1.

In 2024, 9 charter schools received a High performance category under Criterion 1, and 2 received a low performance category. Following this evaluation, the other 1,138 non-DASS charter schools move into consideration under Criterion 2.

### Criterion 2

For charter schools to be evaluated under Criterion 2, they must have two or more Academic Indicators (Academic ELA, Academic Math, College/Career Indicator - CCI, English Learner Progress Indicator - ELPI) with an overall school color in both years, and they also must have two underperforming student groups that have a color. All student groups are eligible under this consideration except White, Asian, Two or More Races and Filipino student groups.

Charter schools with a school status higher (or same) than the state for all Academic Indicators in both years and with a majority of eligible student groups with a status higher than state for all Academic​ Indicators in both years​ will qualify for the High performance category under Criterion 2.

Charter schools with a school status lower (or same) than the state for all Academic Indicators in both years and with a majority of eligible student groups with a status lower than state for all Academic​ Indicators in both years​ will qualify for the Low performance category under Criterion 2.

In 2024, 201 charter schools received a High performance category under Criterion 2, and 95 received a low performance category.

### 2024 Performance Categories: Middle

The remaining 842 charter schools are placed in the middle performance category. Of those, 601 were evaluated for but did not meet the requirements for Criterion 1 or 2. Another 241 charter schools did not have the necessary data to be evaluated under Criterion 1 or 2.

## Dashboard Resources

### Dashboard Resources Website

* Dedicated pages for each state indicator
* Organized by "general" and "technical" information
* Anchors on each page to help identify the available resources and information

### 2023 Dashboard Toolkit

* Flyers for multiple audiences
* On-demand training sessions
* FAQs and more
* Always an email away: dashboard@cde.ca.gov

#### Dashboard Indicator Flyers

* Academic Indicators:
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/academicindicator23.pdf>
* Academic Participation Rate Calculation for the Dashboard: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/aiparticipation23.pdf>
* Graduation Rate Indicator: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/graduationrate23.pdf>
* Chronic Absenteeism Indicator: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/chronicabsenteeism23.pdf>
* Suspension Rate Indicator: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/suspensionrate23.pdf>
* ELPI:
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/elprogressindicator23.pdf>
* ELPI Participation Rate: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/elpiparticipationrate23.pdf>
* College Career Readiness Indicator: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/collegecareer23.pdf>

#### Flyers for Parents

* Getting to Know the California School Dashboard: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/gettingknowdashboard23.pdf>
* Getting to Know the State Measures: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/gettingtoknowmeasures23.pdf>
* How to View Performance for a School or District on the 2023 Dashboard: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/howtoviewperformance23.pdf>
* How to Compare Schools on the 2023 Dashboard: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/howtocompareschools23.pdf>
* How Colors Are Determined: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/howcolorsdetermined23.pdf>
* Exploring the Equity Report: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/explorequityreport23.pdf>

### Technical Resources

* CDE 2023 Dashboard Technical Guide web page: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardguide23.asp>
* 2022–23 Handbook Connecting CALPADS to the Dashboard: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/caldashhandbook23.docx>

### Dashboard Additional Reports

* Expanded information from the Dashboard
* Aimed for LEA and School Audiences
* The CDE School Dashboard Additional Reports web page: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dbadditionalrpts.asp>

## Contacting Us

* Email Charter School Performance Category Questions to Charters@cde.ca.gov
* Email Dashboard Questions to dashboard@cde.ca.gov