

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 through the use of a five-by-five colored table, which results in one of five Performance Levels (or colors): Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, and Blue.

However, in cases where the number of students 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 2024 Dashboard, the three-by-five table will be applied to the following indicators based on the number of students included in the denominator.

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Chronic Absenteeism If fewer than 150 students meet the eligible enrollment requirement</p> | <p>Suspension Rate If fewer than 150 students are cumulatively enrolled</p> |
| <p>Graduation Rate If fewer than 150 students are in the combined four- and five-year graduation rate</p> | <p>College/Career Readiness If the combination of students in the four-year graduation rate and fifth-year graduates who met Prepared is fewer than 150 students</p> |

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 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 the [CDE 2024 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.

