

2018–19 School Performance Grades Workbook

School Performance Grades are calculated for all schools as required by the North Carolina Every Student Succeeds Act State Plan and North Carolina General Statute 115-C 83.15. A-F letter grades are assigned to all public schools in the state.

School Performance Grades are assigned using a weighted model of 80% achievement and 20% growth. Schools with a grade span that does not go beyond 8th grade (grades 3-8, referred to as Elementary/Middle) use a defined set of indicators for the letter grades. Schools with a grade span starting at 9th grade (grades 9-13, referred to as High School) use another set of indicators. Schools with grades in both grade spans use the indicators from each combined to create one letter grade. These grades are used to identify schools in need of Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) as required by ESSA. Also, as required by state law, School Performance Grades and a school's growth status determines whether a school is low-performing or a district is low-performing. Lists of CSI schools and low-performing schools and districts are posted on the Accountability Services Division website.

Elementary/Middle Indicators

Reading/Mathematics Assessments English Learner Progress Science Assessments	80%
EVAAS School Growth (Reading, Mathematics and Science)	20%

High School Indicators

Reading/Mathematics Assessments English Learner Progress 4-year Cohort Graduation Rate Biology Assessments ACT/WorkKeys Assessments Passing NC Math 3 Course	80%
EVAAS School Growth (Reading and Mathematics)	20%

In addition to School Performance Grades, schools are given subgroup letter grades using the same methodology. Any school-level subgroup with at least one indicator meeting all accountability rules is assigned a letter grade. These grades are used to identify subgroups in need of Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI). The lists of TSI schools are posted on the Accountability Services Division website.

Schools with any grade level 3-8 are also assigned a separate reading and mathematics letter grade.

Detailed business rules on the calculation of grades can be found on the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's Accountability Services Division website.

The minimum number of scores needed for an indicator to be used is 30. Students must be enrolled in the same school for at least half the instructional period to be included. District schools consisting of only grades below 3rd grade are assigned the school performance grade of the school to which the highest percentage of students are sent.

Analysis of potential impact of loss of instructional days due to Hurricane Florence indicated the need for an adjustment to the grade 3 growth analysis. The adjustment accounts for the numbers of days missed and waived due to the Hurricane and the resulting impact on the Beginning of Year assessment. This adjustment was made to ensure the validity and comparability of the growth analysis.