

Details of Massachusetts’ school and district accountability system

Massachusetts’ accountability system is designed to measure how a school or district is doing and what kind of support it may need. The accountability system considers:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Achievement** | MCAS scores in English language arts, math, and science  |
| **Student Growth** | Student growth percentiles in English language arts and math  |
| **High School Completion** | Four-year cohort graduation rate  |
| Extended engagement rate (five-year cohort graduation rate plus the percentage of students from the cohort who are still enrolled) |
| Annual dropout rate |
| **Progress Towards English Proficiency** | Percentage of English learners meeting annual targets in order to reach English proficiency in six years |
|
| **Chronic Absenteeism** | Percentage of students missing 10 percent or more of the days they were enrolled at a given school during a school year |
| **Advanced Coursework Completion** | Percentage of 11th and 12th graders completing advanced coursework (Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Project Lead the Way, dual enrollment courses, and other selected rigorous courses)  |

The system sorts schools and districts into categories to recognize success and identify where support is most needed:

**Schools of recognition**

**Meeting or exceeding**

**targets**

**Focused/**

**targeted**

**support**

**Broad/**

**comprehensive support**

**Schools and districts not requiring assistance or intervention**

**Schools and districts requiring assistance or intervention**

**Substantial progress toward**

**targets**

**Moderate progress toward**

**targets**

**Limited or no progress toward targets**

For more information, go to <http://www.doe.mass.edu/accountability/lists-tools/>.

The Department is committed to monitoring whether the accountability system effectively provides useful information to districts, schools, and the community.

In addition to accountability results that come out each fall, DESE publishes annual district and school report cards that include student discipline rates, access to the arts, educator qualifications, course passing rates, and per-pupil spending.