



FACT SHEET

The Rhode Island Accountability System

How We Measure School Performance School Year 2015-16

This year's accountability system is in transition. This plan allowed us to adjust our accountability system and begin to pivot to the new ESSA law. This year's plan requires RI to calculate an accountability index for every school under an abbreviated set of measures; to identify Commended Schools, and schools In Good Standing; and to maintain our list of Priority and Focus Schools unless they met agreed upon exit criteria from that status. Because we are using an abbreviated system based on the second year of the PARCC assessment system, the 2015-16 index scores are not comparable to scores from previous years as the rules and procedures RIDE previously used to determine school classifications have changed.

Classification is based on three (3) metrics or measures of performance based on school level:

- Percent Meets Expectations (also called "Proficiency" for short), for ELA and Mathematics
- Performance Gaps (or "Gap-Closure"), for ELA and Mathematics
- Student Growth (or "Growth") – ELA and Mathematics for elementary and middle level only, and
- High School Graduation Rate (or "Graduation") – high school level only.

It is important to note that a school is classified at only one level (elementary, middle or high). As a general rule, this is the highest grade high the school includes and for which it has sufficient numbers to calculate the above metrics. If there are sufficient metrics in a different level other than the level containing the highest grade, then the school is classified under that level. A district is classified separately at each appropriate level. Therefore a district with grades K-12, would be evaluated at the elementary level, at the middle level and at the high school level.

Commended Schools

There are 22 Commended Schools. These schools represent 7.7% of schools in RI. They are:

District	School	2016	Consecutive Years Commended
BARRINGTON	BARRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL	Commended	
BARRINGTON	BARRINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL	Commended	2 Years
BARRINGTON	HAMPDEN MEADOWS SCHOOL	Commended	
BARRINGTON	NAYATT SCHOOL	Commended	
BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREP	BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREP MIDDLE SCHOOL	Commended	
BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL	ROCKWELL SCHOOL	Commended	5 Years
CHARIHO	HOPE VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Commended	2 Years
CHARIHO	RICHMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Commended	
CUMBERLAND	COMMUNITY SCHOOL	Commended	
EAST GREENWICH	ARCHIE R. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL	Commended	3 Years
JAMESTOWN	JAMESTOWN SCHOOL-LAWN	Commended	
JAMESTOWN	JAMESTOWN SCHOOL-MELROSE	Commended	2 Years
JOHNSTON	BROWN AVENUE SCHOOL	Commended	2 Years
KINGSTON HILL ACADEMY	KINGSTON HILL ACADEMY	Commended	
NORTH KINGSTOWN	WICKFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL	Commended	
NORTH SMITHFIELD	NORTH SMITHFIELD HIGH SCHOOL	Commended	
PAWTUCKET	FRANCIS J. VARIEUR SCHOOL	Commended	
SCITUATE	CLAYVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Commended	
SOUTH KINGSTOWN	PEACE DALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Commended	2 Years
SOUTH KINGSTOWN	WAKEFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Commended	2 Years
THE COMPASS SCHOOL	THE COMPASS SCHOOL	Commended	2 Years
TIVERTON	FORT BARTON SCHOOL	Commended	5 Years

How We Classify Schools

Accountability Design Weights			
Measure	Components	Elementary/ Middle	High School
Percent Meets Expectations	All Students - ELA	20	20
	All Students - Math	20	20
Gap Closure	All Students - ELA	15	15
	All Students - Math	15	15
Growth	All Students - ELA	15	n/a
	All Students - Math	15	
HS Graduation Rates	All Students	n/a	30
TOTAL		100	100

RIDE ranks schools by total point value, or Composite Index Score, to determine classifications:

Commended Schools have the highest index scores in the state and no achievement gaps; they are recognized because of either high performance or significant progress.

Focus Schools have the lowest point totals in the state (excluding Priority Schools) for Proficiency or Gap-closing, regardless of their index score.

Priority Schools have the lowest Composite Index Scores in the state. Schools previously identified as Persistently Lowest Achieving are also Priority Schools.

Average Achievement Levels

Rhode Island's Assessment and Accountability System is aligned to Common Core Standards that have been presented to districts to use as guides for assessment and curriculum development. For each of the reading, writing and mathematics assessments, students receive a scaled score. The scaled score is a numerical value that summarizes the overall level of performance attained by that student. Performance levels are the broad, categorical levels used to report student performance on an assessment that describe how well student(s) met the expectations for their grade level or course. Each performance level is defined by a range of scores for the assessment. There are five performance levels for PARCC assessments:

- **Level 1:** Did not yet meet expectations
- **Level 2:** Partially met expectations
- **Level 3:** Approached expectations
- **Level 4:** Met expectations
- **Level 5:** Exceeded expectations

Students performing at levels 4, and 5 met or exceeded expectations, and have demonstrated readiness for the next grade level and, ultimately, are on track for college and careers.

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