
Districts Identified as In Need of Improvement

The Background:

In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-1-602 and Tennessee's accountability system as approved in its Every Student Succeeds Act plan, the Tennessee Department of Education is charged with presenting to the State Board of Education a listing of districts identified as In Need of Improvement. Such districts are presented by the Department annually.

In Need of Improvement Criteria

Districts that miss the Minimum Progress Goal are labeled in Need of Improvement. The Minimum Progress Goal requires districts to improve in terms of TVAAS or proficiency, as well as subgroup performance. Districts that do not test 95 percent of students on ACT are also labeled in Need of Improvement. There are two exceptions. Districts will not be labeled In Need of Improvement if:

- They earn Exemplary status based on all applicable indicators and subgroups, or
- At least 33 percent of their schools earn Reward status.

Districts earn a determination based on all applicable indicators. Districts' final accountability scores reflect a weighted average of the performance of all students and of historically underserved groups at 60 percent and 40 percent, respectively. As noted above, districts that miss the Minimum Progress Goal and do not meet the exceptions above are labeled In Need of Improvement.

The following indicators are included in district accountability:

- Grades 3–5 success rate
- Grades 6–8 success rate
- Grades 9–12 success rate
- Grades K–12 chronically out of school
- Grades K–12 English language proficiency assessment (ELPA)
- Graduation rate

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends adoption of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.