

Key Messages on the 2018-19 State Report Card

- In 2017 and 2018, the Tennessee Department of Education worked with educators, families, and community organizations to develop a report card that presents a dashboard of key information about every school and district in the state. The report card contains a variety of metrics ranging from students' academic performance to how often students are missing school. It also shows how all students and specific student groups are performing.
- In the 2018-19 report card, we have made the language more user-friendly to make this tool more accessible to a wider range of stakeholders.
- Each school receives a rating, ranging from 0 to 4, on each of these categories. This rating is based either on how well the school is doing on that metric or how much it improved in the past year. The school gets the higher rating between the two.
- You can think of this rating like a GPA, with a 4.0 being the highest score. But just like a GPA, the context is important—no school can be judged on a single number. For each rating, families can click to see more information and make a decision about whether they are satisfied—or not—with how their child's school is doing. The information on the report card is intended to be a catalyst for conversation, not a defining characteristic of a school.
- The report card groups information into six main categories or indicators. Each one looks at a different aspect of student success. The six categories on the State Report Card for 2018-19 are:
 - **Academic Achievement:** Whether students are performing at or above grade level or whether the school improved from year to year
 - **Student Academic Growth:** Whether students are making progress from year to year
 - **Chronically out of School:** Whether students are absent more than 10% of the year
 - **Progress on English Language Proficiency:** Whether English Learner students are making progress in their understanding of the English language
 - **Ready Graduate:** Whether students are prepared for postsecondary education or career paths after they leave high school
 - **Graduation Rate:** Whether students are graduating from high school on time
- **Visit the updated report card at reportcard.tnk12.gov.** For additional data on schools and districts, families and community members can visit the [Data Downloads page](#), which has some additional metrics from 2018-19 that can provide further insights.
- The school report card is an important tool for families, educators, and communities to understand how our schools are serving all of our students—and how they can do better. With this knowledge, we can continue to build on our state's progress to ensure that every Tennessee student has the opportunity to succeed.