

A-F School Letter Grades

Tennessee's A-F School Letter Grade System assigns each public school a letter grade (A through F) to help parents and communities easily understand how schools are performing.

Overview

In 2016, T.C.A. § 49-1-228 was established and required the Tennessee Department of Education to develop a school letter grade rating system to provide parents and families with information that shows how our public schools are performing. Implementation was delayed due to testing administration issues and COVID-19, and the first grades were issued December 2203.

Rationale

The state created the A-F grading system with several key goals in mind:

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Informed Decision-Making

Schools are graded on their achievement, growth, growth for highest-need students, and for high schools, their college & career readiness.

Takeaways

01

Schools receive an indicator score of 1-5 for each indicator. Each score is multiplied by the grade band weight allocation to create a total score that is used to determine the school's letter grade.

02

The median score for score-eligible schools was 3.2 out of 5, or a C in 2024

03

Each eligible school's letter grade and indicator scores is available on the state report card website

School Letter Grade Indicator Weights

Indicator	Elementary	Middle	High
Student Achievement (TCAP or EOC Proficiency)	50%	50%	50%
Academic Growth	40%	40%	30%
Academic Growth of Bottom 25% (based on last year's TCAP/EOC)	10%	10%	10%
College & Career Readiness	-	-	10%

Letter Grade Scale

Letter Grade	Point Range	Performance Level
A	4.5-5.0	Exemplary
B	3.5-4.49	Above Average
C	2.5-3.49	Average
D	1.5-2.49	Below Average
F	1.0-1.49	Significantly Below Average

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