

A Quick Guide to the 2006 School Report Cards

The School Report Card shows whether the school has met its annual targets, and it compares the school's results with those of the district and the state as a whole. The report card also shows the performance classification of the school.

As required by federal law, the R.I. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (RIDE) has established annual targets in both English and mathematics, based on the state tests, which were administered in elementary and middle schools in October 2005 and in high schools in March 2006. RIDE has also established a target of 95 percent for the participation rate on the state tests. The school as a whole and students in each of eight student groups listed must meet the targets for the school to make Adequate Yearly Progress as defined by the federal No Child Left Behind Act..

RIDE has also established a target of 90 percent for the attendance rate for elementary and middle schools and a target of 75.3 percent for the high-school graduation rate.

Each school faces a total of 37 potential targets, though schools must meet targets only when student groups of 45 or more are enrolled in the tested grades in the school:

	English		Mathematics	
	Score	Participation	Score	Participation
Schoolwide				
Asian				
Black				
Hispanic				
Native American				
White				
Students with disabilities				
English-language learners				
Students living in poverty				
	9	9	9	9 = 36
Plus : Attendance/Graduation				1 = 37 targets

Schools that substantially surpass the targets are classified as “high performing.”

All other schools meeting the targets are classified as “moderately performing.”

All schools that miss targets are classified as making “insufficient progress” except that schools missing up to three targets may be classified as high performing or moderately performing “with caution” for one year only.

Schools that have attained exceptionally high scores or that have made significant progress are designated as “commended schools.”

Note that the scores RIDE uses to determine school classifications *do not* represent the percent of students who achieved proficiency on the state tests. The classifications are based on an index score that RIDE calculates, based on the test results of all students in all tested grades in the school. The index scores could range from 0 to 100 (100 = all students met or exceeded the proficiency standard).

Also note that in some instances the index score (shown on the card) is below the target, yet the school has met the target. Schools may get credit for meeting the target if they are making rapid progress toward the target.

See the RIDE Web site, www.ride.ri.gov, under 2006 School-Performance Classifications, for additional information.