

Attachment 1

Proposed Status and Change Cut Scores for the Chronic Absenteeism Indicator

Background

California's new multiple measures accountability and continuous improvement system was developed to align with the priorities of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and to meet the requirements under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Chronic absenteeism is a metric identified as part of Pupil Engagement (LCFF Priority 5). The ESSA requires states to collect data to identify students who are chronically absent and report chronic absenteeism rates for schools in the ESSA State Report Card (Section 1111[h][1][C][viii]).

For purposes of the Local Control and Accountability Plan, a student who is absent 10 percent or more of the instructional days they were enrolled to attend is defined as "chronically absent." Chronic absenteeism data is collected through the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) and is used to calculate this indicator. This data was collected for the first time at the end of the 2016–17 school year and released publicly in December 2017. It is currently reported on the California School Dashboard (Dashboard) through a direct link to the California Department of Education's (CDE's) reporting website, DataQuest. The 2016–17 Chronic Absenteeism Rate Statewide Report is available at the following web page:
<https://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/DQCensus/AttChrAbsRate.aspx?aggllevel=State&cds=00&year=2016-17>.

Implementation of the Chronic Absenteeism Indicator on the Dashboard

Chronic absenteeism will serve as an additional academic indicator for kindergarten through grade eight (K–8), given its strong correlation with future academic attainment (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/ag/ag/yr18/documents/sep18item01.docx>). The methodology used to calculate this indicator was approved at the September 2018 State Board of Education meeting. It is based on a minimum enrollment of 31 instructional days where students attend at least one day and assigns the same weight to all students who meet this criterion.

Proposed Status and Change Cut Scores for the Chronic Absenteeism Indicator

Beginning with the 2018 Dashboard, schools and local educational agencies (LEAs) will receive a performance level (color) for this indicator, based on 2017 and 2018 data. In order to propose Status and Change cut scores for this indicator, the CDE conducted

several data analyses, which were shared with the Technical Design Group (TDG) at its October 2018 meeting.

Based on simulations produced by the CDE and analyses conducted by the TDG, the CDE recommends the Status and Change cut points shown in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1: Recommended Status Cut Scores for the Chronic Absenteeism Indicator

Status Level	Status Cut Scores
Very Low	Chronic absenteeism rate is 2.5% or less
Low	Chronic absenteeism rate is 2.6% to 5.0%
Medium	Chronic absenteeism rate is 5.1% to 10%
High	Chronic absenteeism rate is 10.1% to 20%
Very High	Chronic absenteeism rate is 20.1% or more

Table 2: Recommended Change Cut Scores for the Chronic Absenteeism Indicator

Change Level	Change Cut Scores
Declined Significantly	Chronic absenteeism rate declined by 3% or more
Declined	Chronic absenteeism rate declined by 0.5% to 2.9%
Maintained	Chronic absenteeism rate declined or increased by 0.4%
Increased	Chronic absenteeism rate increased by 0.5% to 2.9%
Increased Significantly	Chronic absenteeism rate increased by 3% or more

Applying these proposed cut scores, Tables 4 and 5 show the Status and Change distributions for chronic absenteeism rates, respectively, using the current and prior-year data.

Table 3: Status Distribution –2018 Chronic Absenteeism Rates

(Based on County Office of Education, District, and All Charter School Data)

Percentile	Chronic Absenteeism Rate	Status Level
5	0.9	Very Low
10	2.5	Very Low
15	3.5	Low
20	4.3	Low
25	5.0	Low
30	5.7	Medium
35	6.2	Medium
40	6.9	Medium
45	7.7	Medium
50	8.4	Medium
55	9.2	Medium
59.4	10.0	Medium
60	10.1	High
65	11.1	High
70	12.2	High
75	13.3	High
80	15.0	High
85	17.4	High
88.9	20.0	High
90	21.3	Very High
95	29.0	Very High

Table 4: Change Distribution– Difference between 2018 and 2017 Chronic Absenteeism Rates

(Based on County Office of Education, District, and All Charter School Data)

Percentile	Difference from Prior Year to Current Year	Change Level
5	-5.5	Declined Significantly
10	-3.4	Declined Significantly
11.9	-3.0	Declined Significantly
15	-2.3	Declined
20	-1.6	Declined
25	-1.2	Declined
30	-0.7	Declined
35	-0.5	Declined
40	-0.2	Maintained
45	0.0	Maintained
50	0.1	Maintained
55	0.4	Maintained
59.3	0.5	Increased
60	0.6	Increased
65	0.9	Increased
70	1.2	Increased
75	1.6	Increased
80	2.1	Increased
85	2.8	Increased
86.0	3.0	Increased Significantly
90	4.2	Increased Significantly
95	6.8	Increased Significantly

Table 5 is the five-by-five colored table produced using the proposed Status and Change cut scores.

Table 5: Chronic Absenteeism Performance Levels (Colors)

Performance Level	Increased Significantly from Prior Year (by 3.0% or more)	Increased from Prior Year (by 0.5% to less than 3.0%)	Maintained from Prior Year (declined or increased by less than 0.5%)	Declined from Prior Year (by 0.5% to less than 3.0%)	Declined Significantly from Prior Year (by 3.0% or more)
Very Low 2.5% or less in Current Year	0 (0.0%) Yellow	62 (0.8%) Green	168 (2.2%) Blue	185 (2.4%) Blue	53 (0.7%) Blue
Low More than 2.5% to 5.0% in Current Year	18 (0.2%) Orange	361 (4.7%) Yellow	311 (4.1%) Green	386 (5.1%) Green	61 (0.8%) Blue
Medium More than 5.0% to 10.0% in Current Year	139 (1.8%) Orange	1,106 (14.5%) Orange	520 (6.8%) Yellow	856 (11.2%) Green	214 (2.8%) Green
High More than 10.0% to 20.0% in Current Year	459 (6.0%) Red	960 (12.6%) Orange	311 (4.1%) Orange	587 (7.7%) Yellow	245 (3.2%) Yellow
Very High More than 20.0% in Current Year	182 (2.4%) Red	227 (3.0%) Red	36 (0.5%) Red	138 (1.8%) Orange	47 (0.6%) Yellow