

SPSF Division & School Leader Guide

Division and school leaders are responsible for interpreting results [from the School Performance and Support Framework \(SPSF\)](#), coordinating improvement planning, and ensuring families, staff, and communities understand the data. This resource supports that work by explaining how the SPSF is designed, how schools are identified for additional support, and what actions leaders can take.

How Virginia Measures School Performance

Virginia schools are measured based on a variety of factors to create a balanced picture. Each factor, or component, includes multiple measures. Depending on the grade span, the state looks at:



Mastery:

Student performance in reading, math, and science, plus English learners' progress in acquiring English language skills, on state assessments in **all schools**.



Growth:

How much students improve in reading and math over the year in **elementary and middle schools**.



Readiness:

Indicators of future success, including consistent attendance in **all schools**, advanced **middle school** math coursework, postsecondary preparation (3E Readiness), and **high school** graduation within six years.



Graduation:

The percentage of **high school** students who earn a standard or advanced diploma within four years.

School Ratings

Schools earn points based on how they do in each component, and schools' overall points place them into one of four Performance Categories:

Distinguished (90+ points):

Exceeding expectations for students.

Meets Expectations (formerly On Track) (80–89 points):

Meeting expectations for students.

Approaching Expectations (formerly Off Track) (65–79 points):

Not yet meeting expectations for students.

Needs Intensive Support (<65 points):

Schools significantly not meeting expectations for students.

Federal Identifications

A school may be federally identified for support based on school or student group performance on the SPSF.

- **Comprehensive Support and Improvement:** For full school support—lowest-performing 5 percent of Title I schools, high schools with low graduation rates, and additional targeted support Title I schools that have not improved.
- **Additional Targeted Support and Improvement:** For intensive student group support—schools that have been in targeted support for multiple years.
- **Targeted Support and Improvement:** For student group support—schools where an individual student group is performing similarly to students in comprehensive support schools.

These distinctions are separate from the state Performance Categories. However, schools identified as Targeted or Additional Targeted Support and Improvement are lowered one Performance Category.

How Virginia Calculates School Performance

	Mastery	Growth	Readiness	Graduation
ELEMENTARY	Total Weight: 65% Reading Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 22.5% Math Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 22.5% Science Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 10% English Learner Progress (WIDA assessments): 10%	Total Weight: 25% Reading Growth (SOL & VAAP assessments): 12.5% Math Growth (SOL & VAAP assessments): 12.5%	Total Weight: 10% Chronic Absenteeism: 10%	N/A
MIDDLE	Total Weight: 60% Reading Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 20% Math Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 20% Science Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 10% English Learner Progress (WIDA assessments): 10%	Total Weight: 20% Reading Growth (SOL & VAAP assessments): 10% Math Growth (SOL & VAAP assessments): 10%	Total Weight: 20% Chronic Absenteeism: 10% Advanced Math Coursework: 10%	N/A
HIGH	Total Weight: 50% Reading Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 15% Math Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 15% Science Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 10% English Learner Progress (WIDA assessments): 10%	N/A	Total Weight: 35% Chronic Absenteeism: 5% 6-Year Graduation Rate with Applied Studies: 5% 3E Readiness: 25%	Total Weight: 15% Federal Graduation Indicator (4-Year Graduation Rate): 15%

What This Means for Leaders

- Use the results to inform division- and school improvement planning and to direct resources like technology; attendance interventions; curriculum supports; funding, staffing and budgeting allocations; and professional learning funds strategically.
- Support your school leaders, educators, staff, and caregivers in learning more about how data is used to support learning through [VDOE resources](#).