

K-12 BY THE NUMBERS: KEY EDUCATION INDICATORS

SCORE is committed to student success across the kindergarten through career continuum. This dashboard provides a snapshot of data across K-12 and into postsecondary education to highlight key education metrics and identify areas of improvement for better supporting students through the Tennessee public education system. Data and data insights specific to each school district are explorable in this resource. Due to small sample sizes in some cases, there may be fluctuations in year-over-year comparisons. Areas without data listed indicate suppressed data due to low student counts.

HOW TO USE THE DASHBOARD

Review Local Data: Look at the data for your local school district. If there is any missing data due to suppression, particularly for small student populations in independent or municipal school districts, look to the data of the county-wide districts.

Ask Questions About The Data: Consider the following questions about the data for your community's school district.

- » **Across education milestones:** What are the success rates of students in your community across transition milestones within K-12 and into postsecondary education? Do these rates of success improve, stay the same, or decline as students move through the education system?
- » **Across student groups:** What are the differences in success rates across student groups? Do these success rates improve, stay the same, or decline as students move through the education system?
- » **Across Tennessee:** Using the state-level and district-level dashboards, compare your district to the state averages or similarly sized districts in Tennessee. Consider comparisons with communities that are in your region, as well as communities that may serve similar student demographics.

Consider Local Context: The purpose of the student outcomes data provided in this dashboard is to provide a snapshot of education outcomes across the K-12 system, what other information might you want to review to get a fuller picture of your local school district's strengths and opportunities for improvement?



DATA DEFINITIONS AND RATIONALE

The definitions below are technical definitions of the metrics found in this resource. The metrics included in this dashboard were chosen because they are key indicators of student success across the K-12 system and into postsecondary education. The rationale below provides a high-level understanding of why each metric was chosen and how it is predictive of student success.

Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS) Represents the percentage and number of schools within each district that fall within each TVAAS performance level (1-5). TVAAS measures student growth year over year, regardless of whether the student is proficient on the state assessment. In calculating a TVAAS score, a student's performance is compared to the performance of their peers who have performed similarly on past assessments. TVAAS composite levels of 3 and above indicate that a school has met or exceeded growth expectations.

- » When paired with achievement results, TVAAS as a growth measure offers a complete picture of student learning and the potential for improving success rates.ⁱ

Third-Grade Reading Proficiency Represents the percentage of third-grade students who scored on-track or mastered on the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) for English language arts (ELA).

- » Students who do not read proficiently by the end of third grade are unlikely to catch up in future years. These students are less likely to graduate high school or earn a postsecondary degree or credential.ⁱⁱ

Seventh-Grade Math Proficiency Represents the percentage of seventh-grade students who scored on-track or mastered on the TCAP for math.

- » Students who are not proficient in math by the end of seventh grade are more likely to struggle with more complex mathematics courses in high school including algebra which is highly predictive of success on college entrance exams and in postsecondary courses.ⁱⁱⁱ

ACT Composite 21 or Higher Represents the percentage of high school students who scored an ACT composite score of 21 or higher.

- » In Tennessee, ACT is used to determine student eligibility for scholarship opportunities that include HOPE and Aspire scholarships, which require an ACT composite of 21 or higher or a 3.0 GPA.^{iv}

College Going Represents the percentage of graduating high school seniors who enrolled in any form of postsecondary education the subsequent summer or fall term.

- » Students who do not immediately enroll in postsecondary education after high school graduation are unlikely to enter the higher education system in the future.^v



DATA SOURCES

The data provided for each school district are drawn from sources within Tennessee. To help users understand where they can find further information and insights, please reference the data sources below, which are organized by sections as they appear on the dashboard.

Enrollment Demographics

- » **District Total Enrollment and Demographics:** Accessed from the Tennessee Department of Education District-Level Profile Data Files, 2020-21

Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS) Scores

- » **TVAAS Composite Levels by School:** Accessed from the Tennessee Department of Education School-Wide TVAAS Composite Files, 2021-22

Grade 3 English Language Arts Proficiency

- » **Grade 3 ELA TCAP Proficiency Rates by Student Group:** Accessed from the Tennessee Department of Education District and State-Level Assessment Files, 2019-2022

Grade 7 Math Proficiency

- » **Grade 7 Math TCAP Proficiency Rates by Student Group:** Accessed from the Tennessee Department of Education District and State-Level Assessment Files, 2019-2022

ACT 21+

- » **Percentage of Students Scoring 21 or Above on the ACT Composite by Student Group:** Accessed from the Tennessee Department of Education District-Level ACT Data Files, 2019-2021

College Going

- » **College-Going Rates by Student Group:** Accessed from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission College-Going Reports and Data Downloads, 2022

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- Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System. TDOE (2022).
 - Double Jeopardy: How Third-Grade Reading Skills and Poverty Influence High School Graduation. Annie E. Casey Foundation (January 2012).
 - The Predictive Power of Ninth-Grade GPA. UChicago Consortium on School Research (September 2017).
 - Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program Annual Report. THEC (2021).
 - Castleman, Benjamin L. and Lindsay C. Page. "Understanding the Extent of Summer 'Melt' Among College-Intending High School Graduates." *Social Science Quarterly* (April 2013).



ABOUT SCORE

The State Collaborative on Reforming Education (SCORE) is a nonpartisan nonprofit education policy and advocacy organization based in Nashville, Tennessee. SCORE was founded in 2009 by Senator Bill Frist, MD, former US Senate majority leader, and works to transform education in Tennessee so all students can achieve success in college, career, and life.



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