

Per Pupil Expenditure Data Exploration Tool – Glossary of Terms

Y-Axis Indicators

School Achievement Score: The percent of students scoring at or above proficient (*a Level 3 or higher*) on required state assessments – including End-of-Grade tests and End-of-Course tests – and the percent of English Learners who met the State’s progress standards on the language proficiency test. At the high school level, school achievement scores also include graduation rates, the percent of 12th grade students who receive credit for NC Math 3, and the percentage of 12th grade students who meet the benchmarks on the ACT (*a composite score of 17 or higher*) or ACT WorkKeys (*a Silver certificate or higher*).

School Growth Index: School growth is the amount of academic progress that students make over the course of a grade or class. School growth is measured by EVAAS, a statistical tool North Carolina uses to measure academic progress.

The school growth index measures student academic progress on a scale of -10 to 10 (*it is possible to achieve values greater than 10.0 or below -10.0 but those values are transformed to 10.0 and -10.0 for use in the school accountability model*). Scores below -2.0 indicate that, on average, students in the school did not meet growth expectations; scores between -2.0 and 2.0 indicate that, on average, students in the school met growth expectations; and scores greater than 2.0 indicate that, on average, students in the school exceeded growth expectations.

School Growth Score: The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction converts scores on the EVAAS school growth index to a 100-point value prior to inclusion in the School Performance Grades. A higher school growth score aligns with a higher value on the school growth index and vice versa.

School Performance Score: School performance scores are calculated using a formula that weights school achievement scores at 80% and school growth scores at 20%.

Percent Economically Disadvantaged: This measure shows the percentage of students in this school who are economically disadvantaged. Students from economically disadvantage families face additional challenges.

Source: [NC DPI – Accountability Indicators and School Performance Grades Business Rules 2018–19](#); [NC DPI - Student Growth](#); [NC DPI – North Carolina School Report Cards](#)

Per Pupil Expenditure Source

Total PPE: The amount of funding spent per student from all revenue sources combined: local, state, and federal.

Federal PPE: The amount of spending per student provided by the United States Department of Education.

State PPE: The amount of spending per student provided by the State of North Carolina.

Local PPE: The amount of spending per student provided by the local education agency or school district.

School Locale Type – (assigned by the U.S. Department of Education)

City, Large: Territory inside an urbanized area and inside a principal city with population of 250,000 or more.

City, Midsize: Territory inside an urbanized area and inside a principal city with population less than 250,000 and greater than or equal to 100,000.

City, Small: Territory inside an urbanized area and inside a principal city with population less than 100,000.

Suburb, Large: Territory outside a principal city and inside an urbanized area with population of 250,000 or more.

Suburb, Midsize: Territory outside a principal city and inside an urbanized area with population less than 250,000 and greater than or equal to 100,000.

Suburb, Small: Territory outside a principal city and inside an urbanized area with population less than 100,000.

Town, Fringe: Territory inside an urban cluster that is less than or equal to 10 miles from an urbanized area.

Town, Distant: Territory inside an urban cluster that is more than 10 miles and less than or equal to 35 miles from an urbanized area.

Town, Remote: Territory inside an urban cluster that is more than 35 miles from an urbanized area.

Rural, Fringe: Census-defined rural territory that is less than or equal to 5 miles from an urbanized area, as well as rural territory that is less than or equal to 2.5 miles from an urban cluster.

Rural, Distant: Census-defined rural territory that is more than 5 miles but less than or equal to 25 miles from an urbanized area, as well as rural territory that is more than 2.5 miles but less than or equal to 10 miles from an urban cluster.

Rural, Remote: Census-defined rural territory that is more than 25 miles from an urbanized area and is also more than 10 miles from an urban cluster.

Source: [NC DPI - Educational Directory and Demographical Information Exchange](#)

Title I Status

Title I Schools: Schools serving high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families are eligible to receive federal funding through Title I of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act*, as amended by the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015*. Title I status and school-level funding are determined by the local school district.

Source: [U.S. Department of Education – Title I, Part A Program](#)

School Program Type

Cooperative Innovative High School: A State Board of Education approved high school program that offers accelerated learning opportunities, or a program that targets students who are at risk of dropping out of high school before attaining a high school diploma.

Early College: A State Board of Education approved high school program that allows students the opportunity to pursue college credit. Students are eligible to take college courses at a cooperating higher educational institution.

Hospital School: A school that offers instructional services to students admitted to a hospital for treatment. Students can be from any location in the state and normally have various lengths of stay.

Magnet School: A magnet program incorporates both the curriculum of a regular program and special or thematic programs such as liberal arts, science, music, or health-business or technology-oriented programs. A portion of the student population is selected via a district-based application process.

Source: [NC DPI - Educational Directory and Demographical Information Exchange](#)

State Board of Education Districts

State Board of Education District: The State Board of Education divides North Carolina into eight education districts: Northeast Region, Southeast Region, North Central Region, Sandhills Region, Piedmont-Triad Region, Southwest Region, Northwest Region, and Western Region.

Source: [North Carolina State Board of Education – Education Districts](#)

Students with Disabilities:

Percent Students with Disabilities: The percent of children with disabilities who receive special education and related services according to an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Service Plan.

Source: [NC DPI – Exceptional Children: Child Count](#)

**Note: A small subset of schools have been excluded from this data set as outliers. If you are looking for a specific school and cannot find it here, please visit the [NC School Report Card](#) page for more information.*