

A Brief Overview of the 2016 Ohio School Report Cards

The Ohio Department of Education will release in mid-September its 2016 Ohio School Report Cards for districts and schools, showing how each performed in the 2015-2016 school year. Ohio continues to raise expectations for how its schools perform, so students become better prepared to complete post-high school education and meet the ever-increasing skill demands of today's employers.

Schools and districts report information for the Ohio School Report Cards on specific marks of performance – called measures – within six broad categories or components. While the department has given letter grades on most of the individual measures for several years, new this year are letter grades on each of the six components. This will help give Ohio parents and schools an even more complete snapshot of the quality of education they are providing their children.

REPORT CARD COMPONENTS

- **The Prepared for Success component** grade shows how well a school and district's students will be prepared for success after high school.
- **The Graduation Rate component** reveals the percentage of students in a school or district that graduated in four years and in five years.
- **The Progress component** shows whether students in grades 4-8 and those taking high school end-of-course tests made the expected year's-worth of progress in math and reading during the school year.
- **The Achievement component** indicates how well all students performed on state achievement tests.
- **The Gap Closing component** shows whether schools and districts are closing historic gaps in academic achievement between specific groups of students, such as those who are economically disadvantaged compared to students as a whole.
- **The K-3 Literacy component** indicates whether students who are struggling to read at the beginning of kindergarten through grade 3 are improving to grade-level reading by the beginning of the next grade. It tells us whether a school or district's youngest students are building the essential reading skills they'll need to keep learning and achieving throughout their school careers.

2016 REPORT CARD BACK ON SCHEDULE

- The September release of the 2016 Ohio School Report Cards puts Ohio schools back on the traditional fall report card schedule. The department delayed the 2015 report card release because Ohio's achievement tests changed.
- Schools will be equipped to address areas that need improvement as the next school year begins, which best benefits students.

Ohio's School Report Cards have attracted national attention for their clarity and user-friendliness, and they show how schools are doing in every area with every type of student.