

USC / School Performance Dashboard

INDICATOR DEFINITIONS

FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND INVESTMENT INDICATORS

Reserves Ratios Index

The Reserves Ratios Index is the ratio of reserve fund balances to total expenditures. This measure of charter school financial stability counts available funds to cover unexpected costs or to compensate if future revenues are less than expected.

Liquidity Ratios Index

The Liquidity Ratios Index, which measures assets to liabilities, is a measure of a charter school's financial health. It indicates a school's ability to meet its liabilities as covered by its assets. A school with a high liquidity ratio is better able to raise additional capital, either through selling off or borrowing against its assets.

Direct Classroom Investment Index

The Direct Classroom Investment Index is the ratio of classroom investment to total revenues. Classroom investments include such expenditures as teacher salaries and benefits, textbooks, and curriculum.

SCHOOL QUALITY INDICATORS

Teaching Resources Index

The Teaching Resources Index provides a ratio of full-time equivalent teachers to students. A teacher is an individual who holds a position requiring certification, and who provides direct instruction to students.

Teacher Qualification Index

The Teacher Qualification Index measures teacher quality based on credentials and experience. Each school begins with a score of 10; this is lowered if any of its teachers possess an emergency, intern or waiver credential or if 20 percent or greater of its teaching staff is first- or second-year teachers. As this indicator is criterion-referenced, it is possible for all schools to receive a ranking of 10.

English Learner Reclassification Index

The English Learner Reclassification Index represents the frequency with which a school transitions students from English Learner (EL) to fluent-English-proficient (FEP).

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

API Composite Index

The API Composite Index summarizes school performance on a combination of API school rank, API similar schools rank and API base score from the previous year.

Adequate Yearly Progress Index

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Index rankings include whether schools met AYP goals in math and English/language arts and the percentage of students rated as proficient or above in these subject areas.

Academic Momentum Index

The Academic Momentum Index measures changes in a school's student achievement over time. To do this, it combines three measures of academic progress: annual change in the percentage of students proficient in math; annual change in the percentage of students proficient in English/language arts; and annual API growth.

ACADEMIC PRODUCTIVITY

English/Language Arts Productivity Index

The English/Language Arts Productivity Index measures academic achievement on standardized tests of English/language arts as compared to non-charter schools within the same district and districts with similar per-pupil spending.

Math Productivity Index

The Math Productivity Index measures how well a charter school performs on math standardized tests compared to non-charter schools within the same district and districts with similar per-pupil spending.

School Productivity Index

School Productivity Index rankings compare a school's API scores to those of schools within their district and similarly funded districts.

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INDICATOR COMPOSITIONS

FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND INVESTMENT INDICATORS

Reserves Ratios Index Composition

Data sources:

> Charter School Alternative Form Unaudited Actual Data Sets: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10

> SACS Unaudited Actual Data: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10

Site:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/fd/>

Liquidity Ratios Index Composition

Data sources:

> Charter School Alternative Form Unaudited Actual Data Sets: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10

> SACS Unaudited Actual Data: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10

Site:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/fd/>

Direct Classroom Investment Index Composition

Data elements:

- > Teachers' salaries
- > Certified pupil support salaries
- > Instructional aides' salaries
- > Non-certified support salaries
- > Approved textbooks and core curriculum materials
- > Books and other reference materials
- > Materials and supplies
- > Tuition to other schools
- > State teachers' retirement system
- > Public employees' retirement system
- > OASDI/Medicare/Alternative
- > Health and welfare benefits
- > Unemployment insurance

INDICATOR COMPOSITIONS cont'd

- > Workers' compensation insurance
- > Retiree benefits
- > PERS reduction (for revenue limit funded schools)
- > Other employee benefits

Data sources:

- > Charter School Alternative Form Unaudited Actual Data Sets: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10
- > SACS Unaudited Actual Data: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10

Site:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/fd/>

SCHOOL QUALITY INDICATORS

Teaching Resources Index Composition

Data sources:

- > CBEDS Professional Assignment Information Form (PAIF): assign04.exe, assign05.dbf, assign06.dbf, assign07.dbf, and paif09.txt
- > CBEDS Certificated Staff Profile: prcert08.txt, prcert07.txt, prcert06.txt, prcert05.dbf, and prcert04.exe

Site:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/df/filescertstaff.asp>

Teacher Qualification Index Composition

Data elements (number per school of):

- > Teachers
- > Beginning teachers
- > Pre-interns
- > Emergency permits
- > Waivers

Data Sources:

- > CBEDS Professional Assignment Information Form (PAIF): paif04.exe, paif05.exe, paif06.dbf, paif.07.dbf, and tchcrd08.txt

Sites:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/ss/cb/filestchcrd.asp>
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/ss/cb/filespaif.asp>

English Learner Reclassification Index Composition

Data elements:

- > Number of English Learner (EL) in previous years
- > Number of EL reclassified
- > Percent reclassified

Data Sources

- > Language Census (R30-LC): lc05p2_4, lc06p2_4, lc07p2_4, lc08p2_4, lc09p2_4, and lc10p2_4
- > DataQuest search: 2009-2010

Sites:

- <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/files/lcp234.asp>
- <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/AltPage2.asp?cSubject=LC>

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

API Composite Index Composition

Data elements:

- > API school rank
- > API similar schools rank
- > API base score

Data sources:

- > API - Data File (DBF): 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009

Site:

- <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ap/apidatafiles.asp>

Adequate Yearly Progress Index Composition

Data elements:

- > Met overall AYP for English/Language Arts (yes or no)
- > AYP English/Language Arts Achievement (percent proficient or above)
- > Met overall AYP for math (yes or no)
- > AYP Math Achievement (percent proficient or above)

INDICATOR COMPOSITIONS cont'd

Data sources:

> AYP - Data File (DBF): 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010

Site:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ay/aypdatafiles.asp>

Academic Momentum Index Composition

Data elements:

- > English/Language Arts Performance
- > Math Performance
- > API Growth (percent proficient or above)

Data Sources:

- > SARC: 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10
- > Growth API - Data File (DBF): 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010

Sites:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/>
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ap/apidatafiles.asp>

ACADEMIC PRODUCTIVITY INDICATORS

English/Language Arts Productivity Index Composition

Data elements:

- > Percent proficient in English/language arts
- > Expenditures per ADA

Data sources:

- > AYP - Data File (DBF): 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010
- > Current Cost of Education: 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10

Sites:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ay/aypdatafiles.asp>
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/ec/>

INDICATOR COMPOSITIONS cont'd

Math Productivity Index Composition

Data elements:

- > Percent proficient in math
- > Expenditures per ADA

Data sources:

- > AYP – Data File (DBF): 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009
- > Current Cost of Education: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09

Sites:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ay/aypdatafiles.asp>

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/ec/>

School Productivity Index Composition

Data elements:

- > API Base
- > Expenditures per ADA

Data sources:

- > Base API - Data File (DBF): 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010
- > Current Cost of Education: 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10

Sites:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ap/apidatafiles.asp>

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/ec/>

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DATA SOURCES

Academic Performance Index (API)

The API measures the academic performance and growth of public schools in California based on a variety of tests and establishes a statewide ranking of schools according to those scores. Most schools have an API, an overall state ranking, a ranking in comparison to 100 similar schools, and growth targets for the following year.

Further information can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ap/>

Accountability Progress Report (APR)

The APR provides information on state API results, federal AYP results and federal program improvement information.

Further information can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ar/index.asp>

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

A goal of the 2001 federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) is to require schools and districts to measure and report students' annual progress toward proficiency in English/language arts and mathematics. Progress is based on whether the school or district has met its Annual Measurable Objectives, demonstrated 95 percent participation on standardized tests, achieved its target on the API and, for high schools, met target graduation rates.

Further information can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ay/>

Charter School Alternative Form Data

California Education Code began requiring charter school financial reporting during fiscal year 2003-2004. Charter schools can choose to use the Charter School Alternative Form. Charter schools that do not report in the Standardized Account Code Structure format must use the Alternative Form.

Further information can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/sf/fr/csalternative.asp>

California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS)

CBEDS contains information that the California Department of Education collects each October from school districts, schools and certificated staff. The CBEDS data include staffing information and student characteristics collected on three forms: the School Information Form, the Professional Assignment Information Form and the County/District Information Form.

Further information can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/cb/>

DATA SOURCES cont'd

DataQuest

DataQuest is a database developed and maintained by the Department of Education that provides reports about California's schools and school districts. It contains a variety of information, including school performance indicators; student and staff demographics; expulsion, suspension, and truancy data; and a variety of test results.

Further information can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/cb/dataquest.asp>

Language Census (R30-LC)

This census collects data on students with non-English-language backgrounds and includes information regarding English learner (EL) and fluent-English-proficient (FEP) students.

Further information can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/dc/lc/>

Professional Assignment Information Form (PAIF)

PAIF data are collected annually from California teachers and concern the qualifications, demographics and teaching assignments for teachers in California's public schools.

Further information can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/df/filespaif.asp>

School Accountability Report Card (SARC)

California state law requires all public schools receiving state funding to prepare a SARC. The SARC is intended to provide the public with important information about individual public schools, including school mission and progress towards goals; academic and demographic data; school safety and climate for learning; teacher and staff information; and fiscal and expenditure data.

Further information can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/>

School Information Form (SIF)

The SIF is used to collect data specific to schools on the number of classified staff, school enrollment, high school graduates, enrollment in selected high school courses, career-technical education enrollment, dropouts, alternative education, technology, education calendars and No Child Left Behind reporting requirements.

Further information can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/cb/studentdatafiles.asp>

DATA SOURCES cont'd

Standardized Account Code Structure (SACS)

The SACS is a uniform and comprehensive chart of accounts for classifying the financial activities of California local school districts and county offices of education. Phase-in began in 1997-1998; by 2003-2004, all local educational agencies (LEAs) reported in SACS.

Further information can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/fd/>

Teacher Qualification Index (TQI)

The TQI is a standardized rating system that shows the credential status and experience level of teachers at public K-12 schools in California. Schools receive a rating from 1 to 10 based on the percentage of teachers at the school who are formally qualified (i.e. fully credentialed with more than two years' teaching experience). Schools with higher percentages of underqualified teachers have lower TQI ratings.

Further information can be found at <http://www.edfordemocracy.org/>