To monitor states’ progress in implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the Alliance for Excellent Education analyzed school ratings and lists of identified schools from the 2018–19 school year (based on 2017–18 data).

### About Ohio’s ESSA Accountability System

- **School Rating Type:** A–F grades
- **Indicators Included in Ratings:**
  1. “achievement”: English language arts, math, science, social studies, chronic absenteeism, gains on end-of-course tests, and gifted education; (2) “progress” on state tests; (3) “gap closing”: performance against achievement, high school graduation rate, and English language proficiency goals; (4) “improving at-risk K–3 readers” (for elementary schools); (5) high school graduation rate; and (6) “prepared for success”: earning a college-ready SAT or ACT® score, honors diploma, industry-recognized credential, or dual-enrollment and other college credit via Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exams (for high schools)
- **Subgroup Performance Included in Ratings:** all federally required subgroups (major racial/ethnic groups, students from low-income families, English learners, and students with disabilities) and two additional groups (gifted students and lowest-performing 20% of students statewide)
- **Categories of Schools Identified for Support under ESSA:**
  - (1) comprehensive support and improvement (CSI) due to low performance or low graduation rates schoolwide and (2) targeted support and improvement (TSI) due to low-performing groups of students, including schools with consistently underperforming subgroups (TSI:CU) and schools needing additional targeted support (TSI:ATS)
- **How Schools Are Identified for Targeted Support:**
  - TSI:CU—schools with (1) a group of students that achieves at or below average for that group in CSI schools for two or more years or (2) a group of students that performs below the bottom 30% of schools for that group on all federally required indicators and the school receives a D or F on “gap closing” for two consecutive years.
  - TSI:ATS—schools with a group of students performing as poorly as students overall in CSI schools
- **School Year in Which Schools Were First Identified for Support:** 2018–19, based on 2017–18 data

In Ohio, the majority (58%) of schools received a B or C grade and about one-quarter (26%) of schools were identified for support.

Were Schools with Low Ratings Overlooked for Support?

5% of F schools and 43% of D schools were not identified for support.
Like in most states, historically underserved students were more concentrated in schools with low ratings.

For example, the student body of an average school was 31% Black. Yet the student body of an average A school was 9% Black, while the average F school was 57% Black.

Which Student Subgroups Needed Extra Support?

Nearly all targeted support schools needed to provide more supports to multiple groups of students, most commonly students from low-income families (73%) and “all students” (72%), which Ohio treats as a subgroup for the purposes of identifying schools for targeted support.

To What Extent Did High Ratings Mask Outcomes for Low-Performing Subgroups?

Among targeted support schools 0% received an A grade or B grade.

For more information about Ohio’s ESSA plan, visit all4ed.org/essa/essa-in-your-state/.

Endnotes

1 Schools with “no grade” in this analysis include schools that did not receive a grade but were identified for support (83 schools).
2 Ohio calls CSI schools “priority” schools, TSI:CU schools “focus” schools, and TSI:ATS schools “warning” schools.
3 Some graphs in this document may not total 100 percent due to rounding of percentages.

The Alliance for Excellent Education (All4Ed) is a Washington, DC–based national policy, practice, and advocacy organization dedicated to ensuring that all students, particularly those underperforming and those historically underserved, graduate from high school ready for success in college, work, and citizenship. all4ed.org

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