

3rd Grade Literacy

Data notes, definitions and calculations

Definitions

- 1) Each “cluster” is defined by MNPS “School Communities 2018-2019” cluster pathways, available [online](#).
- 2) Traditional schools— All children are zoned to a neighborhood public school and are guaranteed a seat in that school.
- 3) Charter schools— Charter schools are MNPS-authorized public schools, but operated autonomously and with increased accountability.
- 4) Non-zoned schools— MNPS-run schools located inside the cluster zone, but are not accessible through the traditional feeder pattern. These are academic magnet schools with testing requirements, Alternative Learning Centers (ALCs), Adult Learning Centers, and non-traditional schools.
- 5) Magnet school— MNPS-run, non-zoned schools that are designed around specific focus areas. The MNPS elementary magnet schools in this category are: Stanford, Lockeland, Jones Paideia, Hull-Jackson, Carter-Lawrence and Glendale.
- 6) Reward school— Identified by the state as improving student achievement and growth. Reward status is the top distinction a school can earn in Tennessee.
- 7) Priority school — Identified by the state and fall in the bottom five percent statewide over the past three years, and are in need of the most support and improvement.
- 8) “N/A”— When the percentage of students is below 5%, or above 95%, the state suppresses the data because it could be identifiable for students. We can understand that the percentage of students "on track or mastered" is below 5 percent and therefore unavailable. Likewise, we can understand the percentage of students chronically absent is below 5%.

Data Sources & Calculations

- 1) Third Grade ELA: The English Language Arts (ELA) proficiency rate indicates the proportion of valid tests for which students scored on track or mastered on one of the English language arts assessments. The information was pulled from the Tennessee Department of Education website.
- 2) Chronic Absenteeism: This calculation is the percentage of students missing more than 10% of school days. The percentage were pulled from the Tennessee Department of Education website.
- 3) Economically Disadvantaged: As defined by the State of Tennessee, includes all students who are directly certified to receive free lunch without the need to complete the household application.
- 4) English Language Learners: The U.S. Department of Education defines an EL as a student “who comes from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact on the individual’s level of English language proficiency [...and] whose difficulties in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language may be sufficient to deny the individual:
 - the ability to meet the state’s proficient level of achievement on state assessments,
 - the ability to successfully achieve in classrooms where the language of instruction is English, or
 - the opportunity to participate fully in society.”

Students classified as ELs are entitled to services specifically designed to improve their English proficiency, which is needed for ELs to access the Tennessee Academic Standards. The information was pulled from the Tennessee Department of Education website.