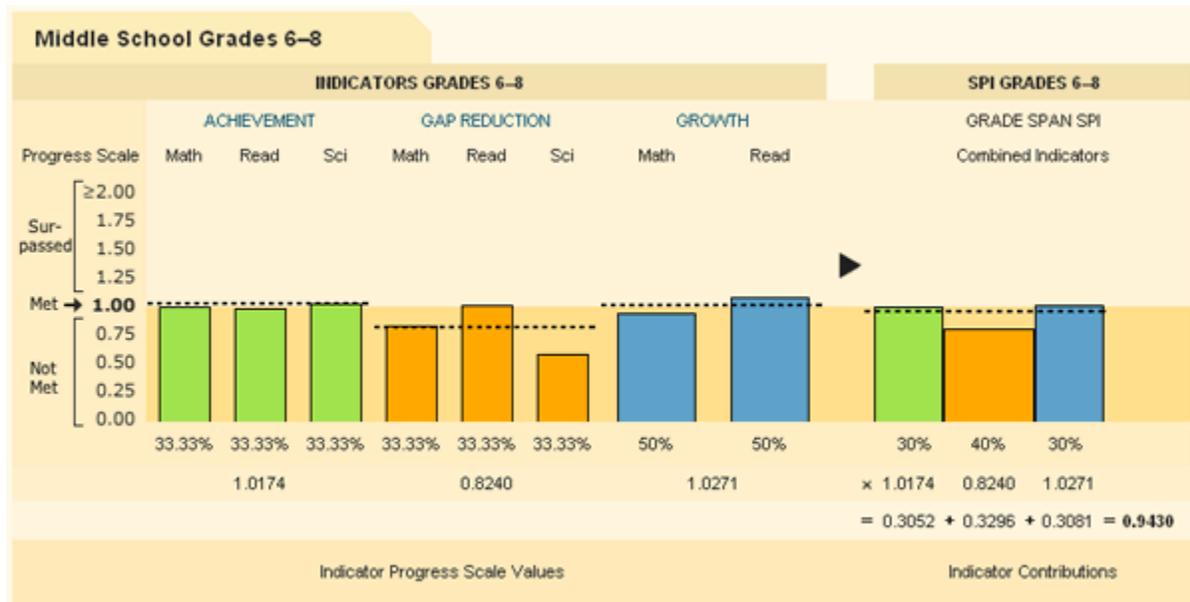


School Progress Index (SPI) Tutorial

What is the School Progress Index?

3. How will the School Progress Index data be presented online?

The Maryland Report Card website (MdReportCard.org) and the School Improvement in Maryland Website (mdk12.org) show each school's data for the School Progress Index. SPIs are calculated for each grade span (elementary, middle, and high school) based on the Indicators. If a school serves students in two or three grade spans, then the SPI for that school is based on an average of the SPIs weighted by the number of students in each grade span.



This graph shows the School Progress Index for one middle school. The data is represented in a bar graph. Colors are used to help you differentiate the data results for each of the Indicators that are used to calculate the SPI for a middle school and then shows how the three Indicators are weighted and averaged to determine the school's SPI. The header that reads Indicators Grades 6-8 shows the school's performance and progress on the three Indicators. The header on the right hand side shows how the Indicators performance is averaged to get a School Progress Index for the school.

On the left hand side, the green bars show the Achievement Indicator data.

Achievement in Math, Reading, and Science is shown and the 33.33% under each of the green bars indicates that Math, Reading and Science all have equal value and are averaged together to determine the achievement contribution to the SPI.

The gold bars show the Gap Reduction Indicator data in the three content areas. The 33.33% under each of these bars again indicates that the Gap Reduction for the three content areas has equal value and is averaged together to determine the gap reduction contribution to the SPI.

The blue bars show the Growth Indicator data. Growth is only calculated for Math and Reading. The 50% under each blue bar indicates that the Growth for Math and Reading has equal value and is averaged together to determine the growth contribution to the SPI.

The dotted black lines going across the three green, three gold, and two blue bars are showing the average of the three performances using the weighting shown under the bars.

The right hand side column called the SPI Grades 6-8 shows how the three Indicators from the left hand column are weighted and averaged together to determine a school's SPI. You can see the weights of the three Indicators under the bars. The green bar or Achievement contributes 30% of the value; the gold bar or Gap Reduction contributes 40% of the value, and the blue bar or Growth contributes 30%.

The Y axis or vertical line on the left represents the new indices. The number "1.00" would indicate that the performance met the AMO. Numbers above 1.00 surpass the AMO, whereas numbers below 1.00 do not meet the AMO.

Since Maryland's former accountability system only used percentages, it may be somewhat confusing to understand what the numbers under each Indicator represent and how they were calculated. The numbers or indices are derived from dividing the percent of students who performed at the proficient or advanced level by that school's AMO for the Indicator. By clicking on the Indicator at the top of the graph, you will be able to see how each Indicator was calculated. Additional information can be found in the tutorials that explain how to read and interpret the data for each Indicator.