

# THE MARYLAND REPORT CARD: Maryland's Accountability System

## What is an accountability system?

Maryland's accountability system measures school and local education agency performance. It provides information to educators, parents, and the public about each school and paves the way for improvement. Through a strong accountability system, stakeholders gain an understanding of how schools are doing and where support is needed in order for those schools to perform better.



## What does the Maryland Report Card include?

### 1 Indicators of school performance:

Student achievement and growth on state tests in English Language Arts and mathematics; student achievement on state tests in science (elementary and middle schools); student access to and credit for a well-rounded curriculum; graduation rate (high schools); progress of English learner students in achieving English language proficiency; student readiness for postsecondary success (high schools); and school quality and student success (including measures of chronic absenteeism and a school survey).

### 2 Information about schools throughout the State:

Users can view the Report Card for any school and local education agency in the state. The Report Card website also has additional information and data about the performance of Maryland public schools.

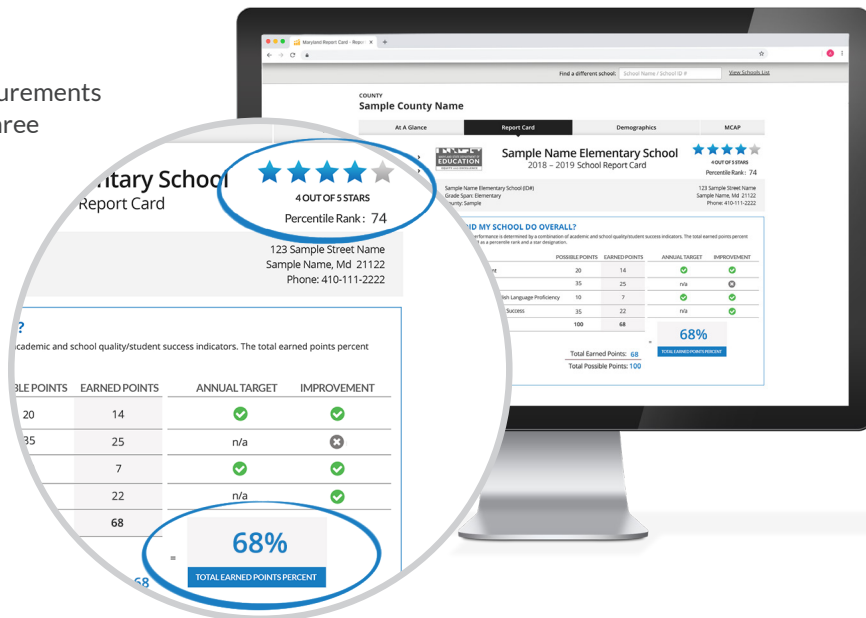
## How are schools measured?

The School Report Card shows data on individual measurements of school performance. It also combines the data into three “summary scores.”

**TOTAL EARNED POINTS PERCENT:** The total number of points earned by the school, divided by the total possible points.

**STAR RATING:** A concise way of showing a school's total earned points percent.

**PERCENTILE RANK:** A comparison of how a school performed relative to other schools.



## Do Schools Receive Help?

Schools are identified as needing support based on performance on the Maryland accountability system. Lowest-performing schools, and schools with groups of students that are low-performing or consistently underperforming, must develop improvement action plans. Supports might include leadership coaches, professional learning, on-site visits, and staffing, scheduling, and programmatic change assistance. Depending on how much improvement is needed, either the State or school system will guide and monitor the school's progress. Even if a school is not identified by the accountability system as particularly low-performing, there are universal supports such as online resources and statewide collaboration. Regardless of the level and type of support, all actions will be informed by data, research, and a focus on student learning and well-being.