

NEW YORK STATE ESSA ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

Reimagine Phase Accountability Indicator Fact Sheet

Attendance



Last Updated: 9/2025

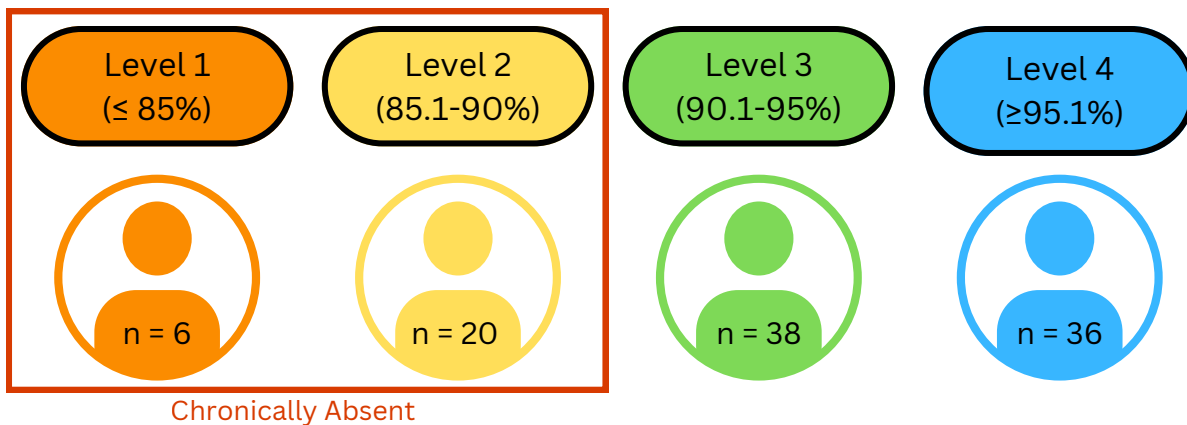
Elementary/Middle and High School Levels

Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year (SY), the new **Attendance indicator** will replace the Chronic Absenteeism indicator at the elementary/middle and high school levels.

How is the Attendance indicator calculated?

1. All students in Grades 1-8 at the Elementary/Middle level and Grades 9-12 at the High School level who are enrolled in a school for **at least 30 instructional days** and in attendance for at least one of those days are assigned one of four attendance levels based on percent of instructional days attended.

Elementary/Middle School A - All Students Group n = 100 students enrolled ≥ 30 instructional days



2. These student attendance levels are used to calculate the Attendance Index.

$$\text{Attendance Index} = \frac{(\# \text{ Level 2}) + 2(\# \text{ Level 3}) + 2.5(\# \text{ Level 4})}{\# \text{ Students enrolled } \geq 30 \text{ days and in attendance at least one day}} \times 100$$

$$\text{School A Attendance Index} = \frac{(20) + 2(38) + 2.5(36)}{100} \times 100 = 186$$

3. An Attendance Level is assigned using static cut points established based on ranked 2023-2024 SY outcomes and reestablished every three years.

Elementary/Middle Level All Students Group

| Attendance Index | Attendance Level |
|------------------|------------------|
| 0-133.5 | 1 |
| 133.6-191 | 2 |
| 191.1-208 | 3 |
| 208.1-250 | 4 |

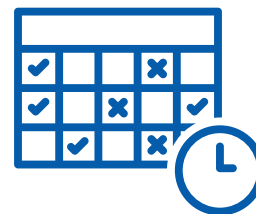
[Click here for the Attendance Level static cut points.](#)

What are the benefits of the Attendance indicator?

The Attendance indicator shifts the focus toward ***improved attendance for all students.***



More students contribute to the Attendance Index, which provides a more comprehensive view of student attendance and absenteeism patterns.



Using a 30-day enrollment inclusion criterion gives schools **more time** to implement interventions to address student absenteeism.



Any increase in a student's attendance level will result in a **higher Attendance Index for the school.**



Static cut points provide **clear targets** for continuous improvement.

What about chronic absenteeism?

Addressing chronic absenteeism remains a priority for NYSED. Data used for calculating attendance can be found in the SIRS 116 report.

NYSED will continue to measure, track, and report chronic absenteeism, defined as missing 10% or more of enrolled instructional days.

Students assigned an Attendance Level of 1 or 2 for the purposes of Attendance Indicator calculations are considered chronically absent.

Do suspensions count as absences?

No, suspensions do not count as absences, because suspended students must receive alternate instruction if they are of compulsory school age.

Want to know more?

For more tools and resources about the New York State ESSA Accountability System, visit the NYSED School and District Accountability Resources and Data website.

<https://www.nysed.gov/accountability/school-and-district-accountability-resources-and-data>

To learn more about resources and supports for identified schools and districts, visit the NYSED Office of Accountability's Continuous Improvement website.

<https://www.nysed.gov/accountability/continuous-improvement>

