

# How Colors are Determined in the Dashboard

The California School Dashboard reports how districts and schools are performing on the multiple state and local measures that make up California’s accountability system. The results are used to identify strengths and weaknesses and help ensure that the needs of all students are met.

## How does the Dashboard display performance?

Performance is based on two factors:

**Current data on the measure**

**Improvement or lack of improvement from prior year results**

These calculations are done for each state measure and intersect on a 5x5 grid. The grid layout will vary for each measure.

In the 5x5 grid, current year data levels are displayed in the left column, while the difference between current year and prior year data levels are displayed in the top row.

The performance level, or color, is determined by the point at which these two levels intersect.

Level	Declined Significantly	Declined	Maintained	Increased	Increased Significantly
Very High	Green	Green	Blue	Blue	Blue
High	Green	Green	Green	Green	Blue
Medium	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green
Low	Orange	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Yellow
Very Low	Red	Red	Red	Orange	Orange



RED



ORANGE



YELLOW



GREEN



BLUE

In the example shown, the district’s current year data falls into the high level. It maintained this level, which means that there was no significant increase or decrease in results from the prior year. “High” and “Maintained” meet for an overall performance level of green.