Maryland
STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Carey M. Wright, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Carey M. Wright, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Schools

DATE: October 29, 2026

SUBJECT: Maryland School Report Card Results, SY 2025-2026

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

Pillar 5: Governance and Accountability
Goal: Every school and district receives a rating of ___ or higher.
Outcome:

5.A Increase the percentage of schools rated ____ or higher.

5.B Increase the percentage of districts rated ____ or higher.

Purpose

The purpose of this item is to provide an overview of the Maryland School Report Card and highlight the results from SY 2025-2026 including the star rating information.

Background

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), signed into law in 2015, requires each state to submit a plan detailing how it will hold schools accountable for student performance. ESSA requires that all public schools in the state be evaluated based on a robust, statewide accountability system including multiple indicators. These indicators must measure each of the following areas: academic achievement; graduation rates for high schools or academic progress for elementary and middle schools; progress in attaining English language proficiency, and at least indicator of quality and student success, which can be selected by each state. The law mandates that the accountability system must meaningfully differentiate among schools, disaggregate measures by subgroup, and allow for the designation of schools in need of support and improvement.

Maryland's State Plan was approved by the U.S. Department of Education in early 2018, and the first Maryland School Report Card was released later that year.

Executive Summary

The presentation will provide information on the following:

1. Maryland School Report Card Overview
2. Maryland School Report Card Results, SY 2025-2026
3. Maryland School Report Card Reporting

No action is required; this information is for discussion only.

Attachments

Maryland School Report Card Results, SY 2025-2026.pptx

Maryland School Report Card Results, SY 2025-2026.pdf

Maryland School Report Card Results, SY 2025-2026

DIVISION OF ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Presented By | Geoff Sanderson, Chief of Accountability

October 29, 2026

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MSDE Strategic Plan Goals

1

Every child has access to a high-quality early childhood program.

PILLAR 1: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

2

Every school has high-quality and diverse teachers and leaders.

PILLAR 2: HIGH-QUALITY & DIVERSE TEACHERS AND LEADERS

3

Every student graduates high school college and career ready.

PILLAR 3: COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

Every student is matched with the resources they need to ensure their success.

4

PILLAR 4: MORE RESOURCES FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Every school and district receives a rating of ___ or higher.

5

PILLAR 5: GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Visit the Maryland State Department of Education website to learn more about the Strategic Plan!

strategicplan.marylandpublicschools.org

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

GOAL 5

Every school and district receives a rating of ___ or higher.

5.A	Increase the percentage of schools rated ____ or higher.
5.B	Increase the percentage of districts rated ____ or higher.

Presentation Outline

1. Maryland School Report Card Overview
2. Maryland School Report Card Results SY 2025-2026
3. Maryland School Report Card Reporting

Maryland School Report Card System Overview

The Maryland School Report Card System is based on 100 total possible points on indicators that vary by grade span.

Indicator	Grade Span	Measure
Academic Achievement	EMH	Achievement in English language arts and mathematics
Academic Progress	EM	Growth in English language arts and mathematics
	EM	Credit for completion of a well-rounded curriculum
Progress in Achieving English Language Proficiency	EMH	Progress in achieving English language proficiency
School Quality and Student Success	EMH	Chronic absenteeism
	EMH	Maryland School Survey
	EMH	Access to a well-rounded curriculum
Graduation Rate	H	Adjusted cohort graduation rates
Readiness for Postsecondary Success	H	On-track in 9th grade
	H	Credit for completion of a well-rounded curriculum

Maryland School Report Card Star Rating

Total possible points

Total number of points a school can earn across the measures.

Total earned points

Total number of points a school earns across the measures.

Total earned percent

Each school's total earned points, divided by its total possible points.

Awarded stars

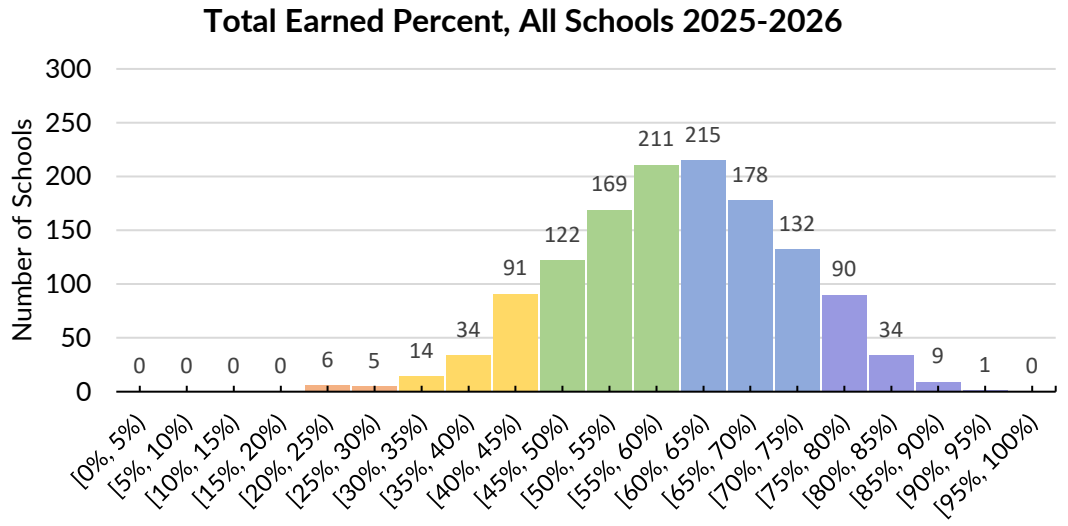
Each school will be awarded a star based on its total earned percent.

Awarded Stars	Percent of Total Earned Points
★★★★★	75% or greater
★★★★	60% or greater and less than 75%
★★★	45% or greater and less than 60%
★★	30% or greater and less than 45%
★	Less than 30%

Star Rating by School Type, SY 2025-2026

Across all school types, 50% of schools earned a star rating of 4 or 5.

About 89% of schools earned a star rating of 3 or higher.



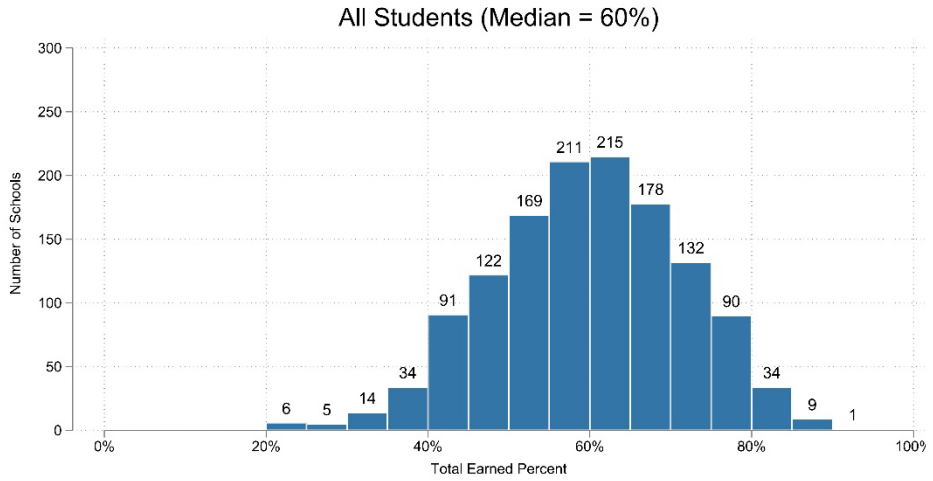
		ALL SCHOOLS	ELEMENTARY	MIDDLE	HIGH	COMBINED
Total Earned Percent	**Awarded Stars**	**N (%)**	**N (%)**	**N (%)**	**N (%)**	**N (%)**
Less than 30%	★	11 (1%)	2 (0%)	1 (0%)	3 (2%)	5 (4%)
30% or greater and less than 45%	★★	139 (11%)	30 (4%)	38 (18%)	35 (18%)	36 (26%)
45% or greater and less than 60%	★★★	502 (38%)	243 (32%)	115 (53%)	82 (42%)	62 (45%)
60% or greater and less than 75%	★★★★	525 (40%)	380 (50%)	57 (26%)	55 (28%)	33 (24%)
75% or greater	★★★★★	134 (10%)	105 (14%)	5 (2%)	21 (11%)	3 (2%)

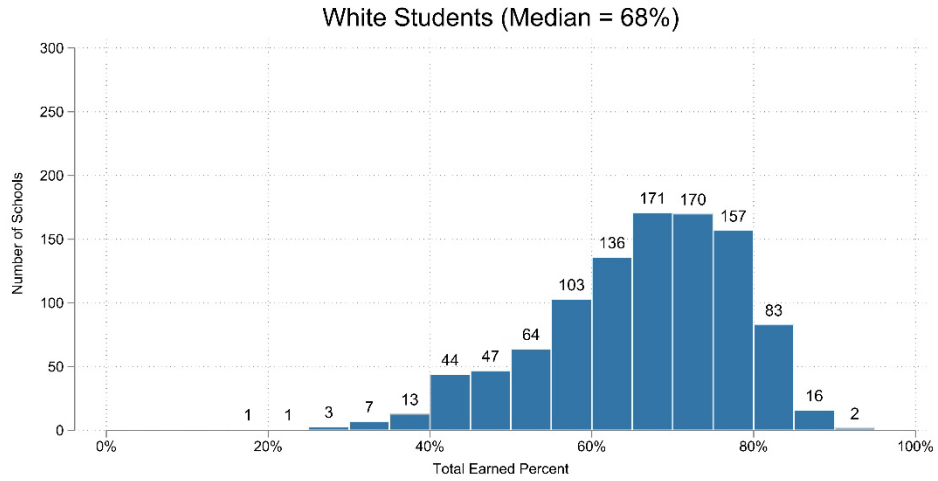
Note: Values may not equal 100 due to rounding.

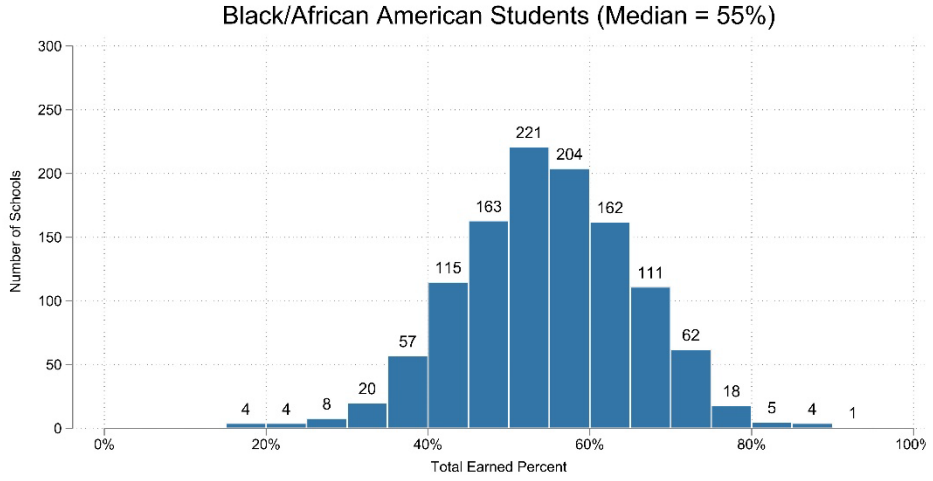
Results by Race/Ethnicity, SY 2025-2026

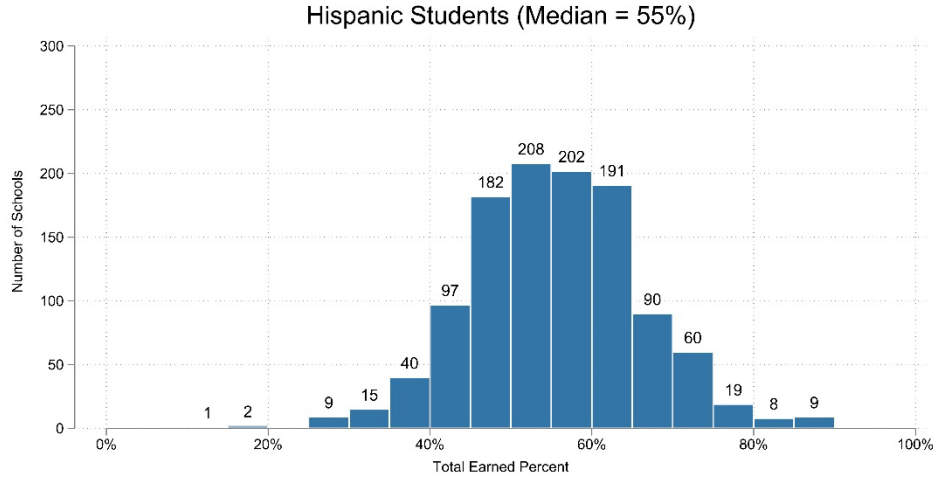
School Report Card results are provided by student groups.

Both Black/African American and Hispanic student group data show lower results as compared to the White student group and All students.





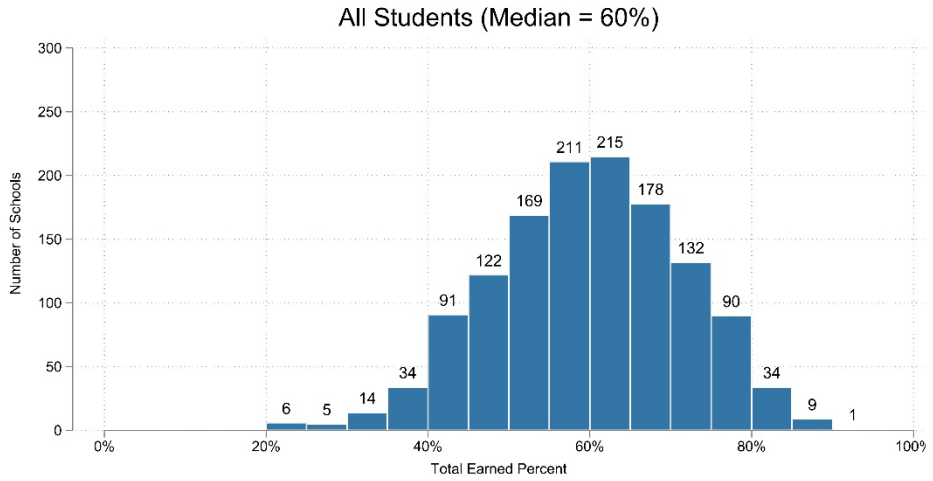


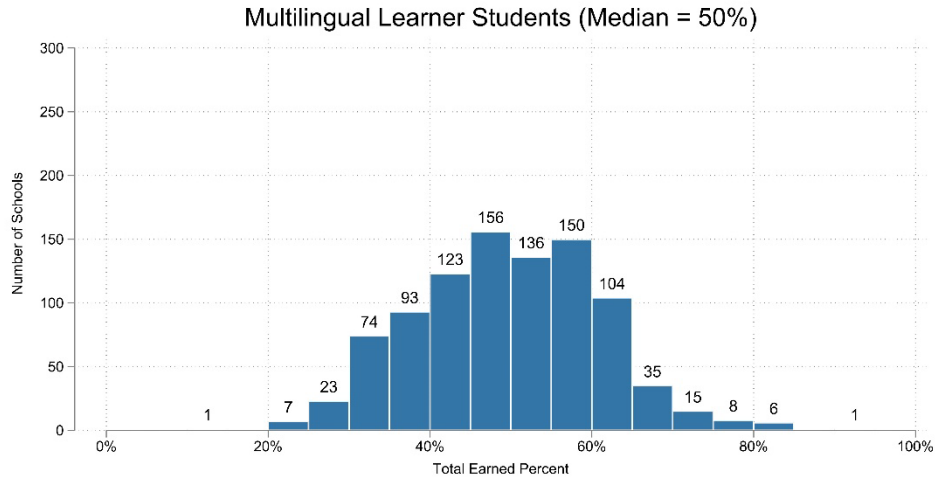


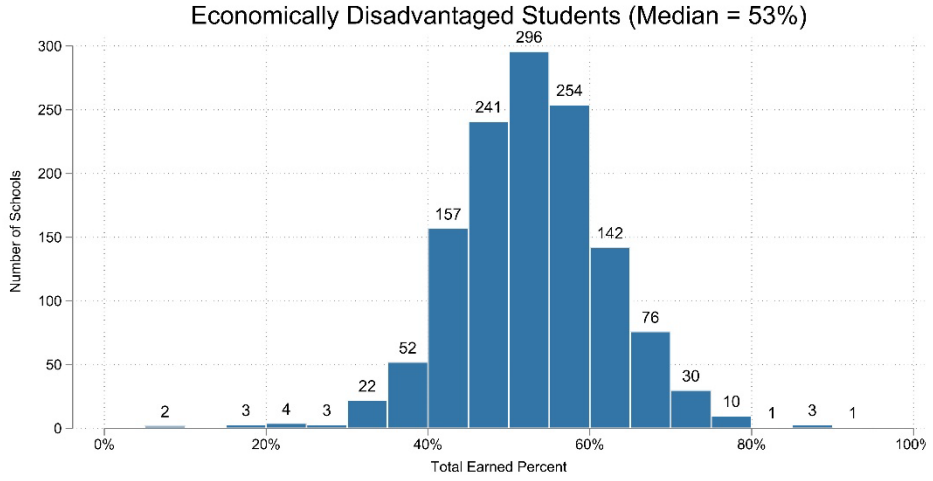
Note: Only schools that have at least 45 total points possible receive a star rating.

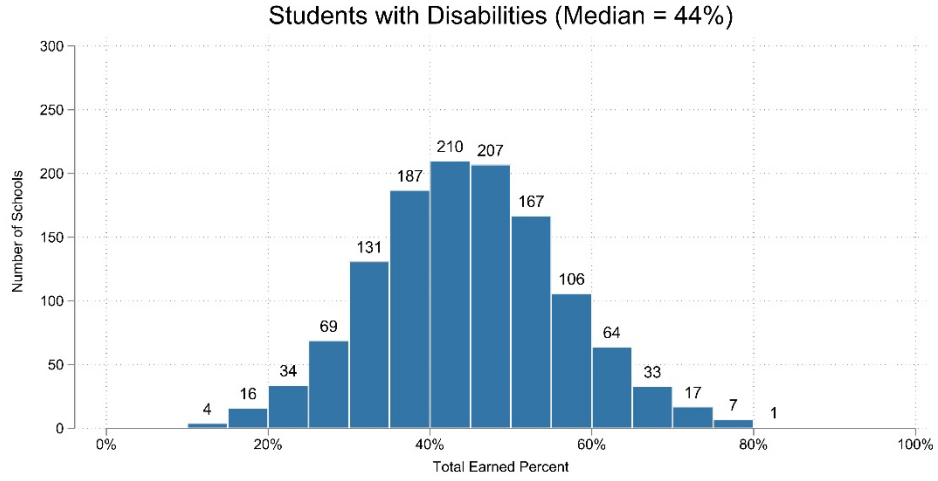
Results by Service Group, SY 2025-2026

School Report Card results show that multilingual learners, economically disadvantaged, and students with disability service groups perform lower than All students.









Note: Only schools that have at least 45 total points possible receive a star rating.

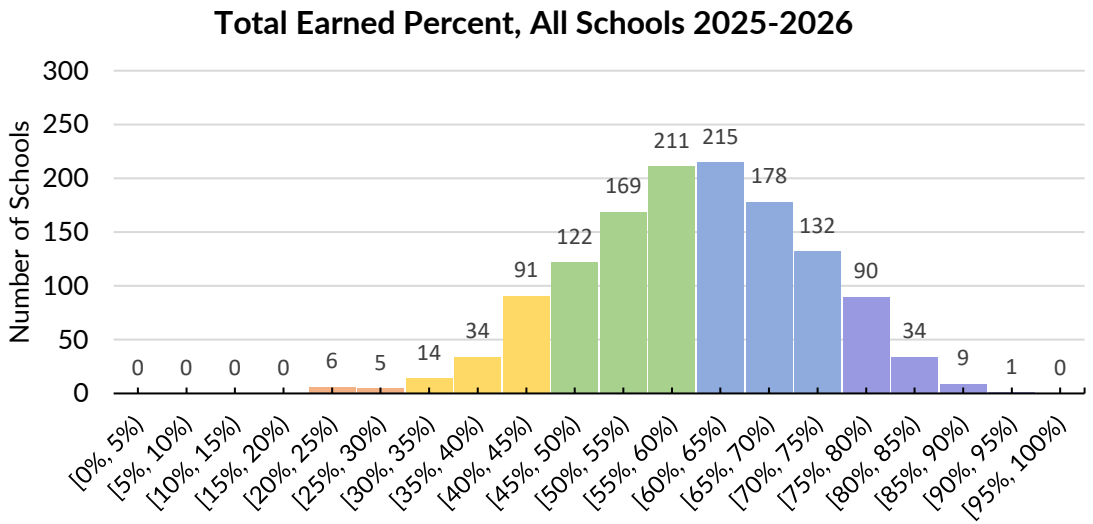
Star Ratings, SY 2025-2026 and SY 2024-2025

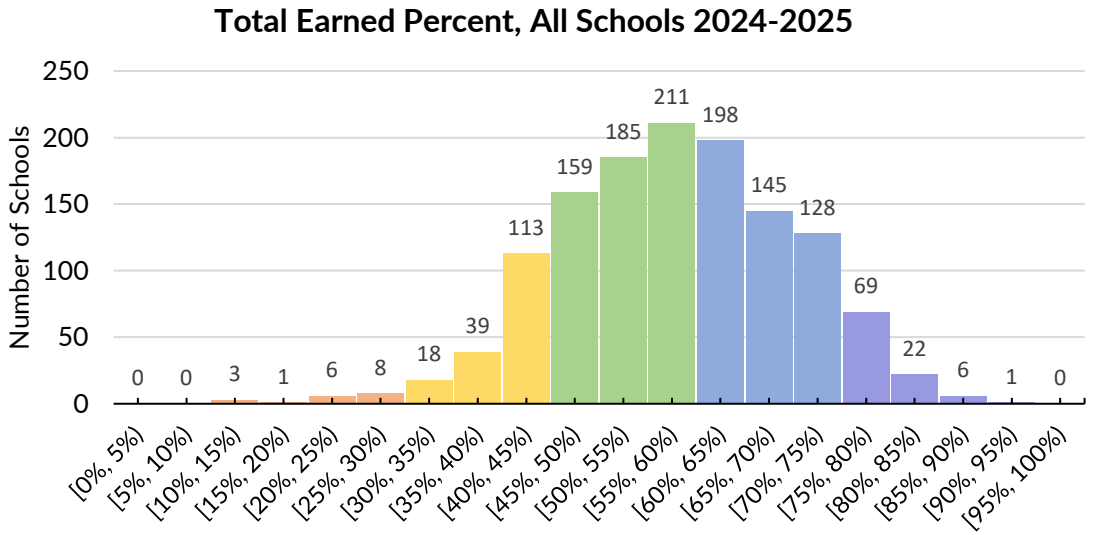
Across all school types, more schools earned 4 or 5 stars in SY 2025-2026 compared to SY 2024-2025.

There was also a decrease in the number of schools receiving 2 stars or less.

Total Earned Percent	Awarded Stars
Less than 30%	★
30% or greater and less than 45%	★★
45% or greater and less than 60%	★★★
60% or greater and less than 75%	★★★★
75% or greater	★★★★★

Note: Only schools that have at least 45 total points possible receive a star rating.





How Many Schools had a Star Rating Change in SY 2025-2026?

Most schools had the same star rating in SY 2025-2026 as in SY 2024-2025. Of the schools that changed star ratings, nearly three times as many schools increased their star rating as decreased their rating.

SY 2024-2025 \ SY 2025-2026	1 Stars	2 Stars	3 Stars	4 Stars	5 Stars	Total
1 Stars	7	5	1	0	0	**13**
2 Stars	1	107	61	0	0	**169**
3 Stars	0	26	398	129	0	**553**
4 Stars	0	0	39	375	57	**471**
5 Stars	0	0	0	21	77	**98**
Total	**8**	**138**	**499**	**525**	**134**	1304

Change from 2025	Number of Schools	Percent of Schools
Increased two stars	1	0.1%
Increased one star	252	19.3%
No change	964	73.9%
Decreased one star	87	6.7%
Decreased two stars	0	0.0%

Note: Only schools that have at least 45 total points possible receive a star rating.

Community Schools Accountability Changes

Community schools on average increased their points by slightly more than all other schools.

Community Schools 2025 to 2026 Accountability Changes

Identification Year (School count) (Concentration of poverty eligibility threshold)	Gained a Star	Same Rating	Lost a Star	Average Change (percentage points)
FY 2020 (170) (At least 80%)	31	128	11	**2.0**
FY 2021 (71) (At least 75%)	17	51	3	**2.4**
FY 2022 (43) (At least 70%)	9	33	1	**2.6**
FY 2023 (53) (At least 65%)	22	29	2	**3.2**
FY 2024 (95) (At least 60%)	22	66	7	**1.9**
FY 2025 (163) (At least 55%)	31	120	12	**1.9**
FY 2026 (100) (At least 55%)	25	69	6	**2.7**
All Community Schools (695)	157	496	42	**2.2**
Not Community Schools (632)	97	488	47	**1.4**

Note: Community schools identified in FY 2025 and FY 2026 have not had at least one year of implementation. Schools that did not receive a star rating are not included.

Community Schools Accountability Changes

Most community schools had the same star rating in SY 2025-2026 as in SY 2024-2025. Of those that changed star ratings, nearly four times as many schools increased their star rating as decreased their rating.

SY 2024-2025 \ SY 2025-2026	1 Stars	2 Stars	3 Stars	4 Stars	5 Stars	Total
1 Stars	5	3	1	0	0	**9**
2 Stars	1	107	57	0	0	**165**
3 Stars	0	24	293	89	0	**406**
4 Stars	0	0	16	89	7	**112**
5 Stars	0	0	0	1	2	**3**
Total	**6**	**134**	**367**	**179**	**9**	695

Change from 2025	Number of Schools	Percent of Schools
Increased two stars	1	0.1%
Increased one star	156	22.4%
No change	496	71.4%
Decreased one star	42	6.0%
Decreased two stars	0	0.0%

Note: Only schools that have at least 45 total points possible receive a star rating.

Maryland School Report Card Reporting

- SY 2025-2026 School Report Card data will be published on October 29, 2026.
- Each school's results will be reported on the Maryland Report Card website (mdreportcard.org).
- The Maryland School Report Card includes disaggregated data showing the performance of each student group.
- A downloadable report is available for each school.

https://reportcard.msde.maryland.gov/