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News Release

Schools and districts show improvement on Colorado's preliminary accountability framework

DENVER -- A greater percentage of schools and districts earned higher marks on the preliminary accountability frameworks than in 2022, showing a gradual improvement occurring across the state since the pandemic.

"I am pleased that we continue to see some improvement in our schools and districts after a tough three years," said Colorado Education Commissioner Susana Córdova. "These preliminary frameworks will give families and communities more insight into how their schools are doing. We know that students and staff have been working incredibly hard these past years and the improvements shown on these preliminary results are a reflection of those efforts. Additionally, this information can help us determine where we need to focus our efforts to help schools that are still struggling."

[The 2023-24 ratings can be found on the Performance Frameworks Results webpage or on the school and district dashboard.](#)

Performance frameworks, which are part of the state's accountability system, are used to accredit school districts and assign school plan types, or ratings. Frameworks are calculated using statewide data, including academic growth, academic achievement and postsecondary and workforce readiness data (e.g., graduation, dropout, matriculation rates). These are the preliminary results. Districts may provide the state with additional data through a *request to reconsider* process that may result in a rating change, pending state board approval later this year.

[Read an overview of the state's accountability process.](#)

Final ratings for districts and schools that do not participate in the *request to reconsider* process will be adopted by the State Board of Education in November. The ratings for the remaining schools and districts will be adopted by the state board in December.

Results for 2023-24 preliminary ratings

A greater percentage of districts and schools earned the highest rankings in comparison to 2022. Specifically, 70% of districts earned an Improvement or higher rating compared to 2022 with 54% of districts. Likewise, 78% of schools earned a Performance or Improvement plan type in 2023 compared to 71% in 2022 before requests to reconsider.

Overall, the number of schools and districts on the Accountability Clock decreased from 2022. Unfortunately, there was an increase in the number of sites with Priority Improvement assignments, the second lowest measure.



District Summary

Distribution of District Plan Types

Plan Types	# in 2023 (Out of 182) - Prelim	# in 2022 (Out of 184)	
		2022 Prelim	2022 Final (after Request to Reconsider)
Accredited with Distinction	11 (6%)	11 (6%)	11 (6%)
Accredited	70 (38%)	47 (26%)	50 (27%)
Accredited with Improvement	47 (26%)	41 (22%)	40 (22%)
Accredited with Priority Improvement	19 (10%)	12 (7%)	10 (5%)
Accredited with Turnaround	3 (2%)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
Accredited with Insufficient State Data	32 (18%)	72 (39%)	72 (39%)

Note: Plan types for two districts have not yet been published as the department re-calculates their data. This was an isolated incident impacting the DPF calculations for the two districts and did not impact the school plan type assignments.

School Summary

Distribution of School Plan Types - *Reminder that Alternative Education Campuses (AEC) are not yet included in 2023 data.*

Plan Types	# in 2023 (Out of 1773) - Prelim	# in 2022 (Out of 1876) - Prelim	
		2022 Prelim	2022 Final (after R2R)
Performance	1034 (58%)	1015 (54%)	1061 (57%)
Improvement	348 (20%)	323 (17%)	327 (17%)
Priority Improvement	164 (9%)	132 (7%)	120 (6%)
Turnaround	40 (2%)	43 (2%)	40 (2%)
Insufficient State Data	141 (8%)	319 (17%)	309 (17%)
New Schools	12 (<1%)	25 (1%)	0 (All were assigned a plan type)
Closed Schools	34 (2%)	19 (1%)	19 (1%)

Note: One school has not yet been assigned a plan type as the department reviews their data.



District Performance Watch Information

Districts are considered on Performance Watch if they received the two lowest ratings (Priority Improvement or Turnaround) for one or more years. It also includes districts “on watch,” which have earned an Improvement plan type or higher after being on the Accountability Clock for at least two years. Additionally, districts are on Performance Watch that are on “on hold,” which means they received an Insufficient State Data rating after being on Performance Watch in the prior year.

Criteria	# of Districts in 2023 - Prelim	# of Districts in 2022	
		2022 Prelim	2022 Final (after Request to Reconsider)
Exited the Accountability Clock	6	n/a due to transitional frameworks	0
# of Districts on Performance Watch (PI, T, ISD – On Hold, Imp/Perf – On Watch)	23	13	13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Watch 	1	n/a due to transitional frameworks	2 (both held from 2021)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of Districts Newly Identified (Year 1 at PI/T/ISD) 	19	9	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of Districts on Clock (PI/T/ISD) at Year 2 or higher 	3	4 (2 held at On Watch)	4 (2 held at On Watch)



School Performance Watch Information

Performance Watch includes schools that received the lowest two ratings, Priority Improvement or Turnaround, for one or more years. It also includes those that are “on watch,” which means they received a rating of Improvement or Performance after two or more years on the Accountability Clock. Please note that this table does not yet include AECs on Performance Watch, as those ratings have not yet been calculated. They are anticipated to be released in mid-September. There were 31 AECs on Performance Watch in 2022. Also, the 2022 Transitional Frameworks did not allow schools or districts to advance or exit the clock except through request to reconsider.

Criteria	# of Schools in 2023 - Prelim	# of Schools in 2022	
		2022 Prelim	2022 Final (After R2R)
Exited the Accountability Clock	47 (128 with YO from 2022)	n/a due to transitional frameworks	45
# of Schools on Performance Watch (PI, T, ISD – On Hold, Imp/Perf – On Watch)	224	302	244
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Watch 	14	n/a due to transitional frameworks	39
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of Schools Newly Identified (Year 1 at PI/T/ISD) 	158	211 (127 at Year 0 + 84 in Y1)	167 (114 at Year 0 + 53 in Y1)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of Schools on Clock (PI/T/ISD) at Year 2 	21	47	20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 3 	12	19	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 4 	8	10	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5 	3	8	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6+ (up to Y10) - All have SBE Orders 	8	7	5