

PERFORMANCE MATTERS

News from the CSDE Performance Office
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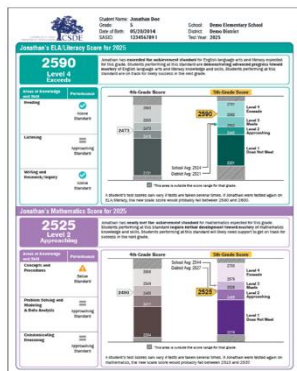


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Sharing Assessment Results with Families

All districts received Individual Student Reports (ISRs) for the Smarter Balanced, CTAA, CTAS, and NGSS Assessments.



Paper copies were delivered by August 5, 2026. Districts received only one paper copy per student this year. Electronic copies were posted to the District Administrator's Secure File Center in TIDE. The reports will remain in the Secure File Center for 90 days.

Districts should distribute ISRs electronically or via paper to families

before the school year begins. [Parent Resources for Connecticut Summative Assessments](#) can be used to support communication.

To support the electronic delivery of student reports, please see the [Individual Student Report Electronic Distribution Webinar](#), which outlines some of the methods currently used by Connecticut districts. Additionally, please see [Using Results from State Summative Assessments \(Smarter Balanced, NGSS, and CTAA\) During Release Period](#), which is a resource that articulates exactly when and how results can be released/used.

Performance Office Hours in 2026-27

This school year, the Performance Office will host [Performance Office Hours on the second Tuesday of every month at 3 p.m.](#) beginning on Tuesday, September 8. These informal sessions will include a discussion of timely topics connected to the work of the Performance Office. Topics may range from the Next Generation Accountability System, EdSight reports, assessment enhancements, new research publications, and data collection/test administration protocols. There will also be an opportunity for attendees to raise their own questions and topics for clarification and discussion. [Registration](#) for the 2026-27 series is available now.



Next Generation Accountability Reporting Underway

EdSight Secure users have access to 2025-26 Smarter Balanced achievement and growth reports, Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA), Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), and SAT School Day results for their district/school. Results of the Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment (CTAS) are available in the [Centralized Reporting System](#) (CRS).

The CSDE expects to release 2025-26 state summative assessment results publicly by the end of August. Districts will have an opportunity to preview final results prior to the public release. The release will include subject performance indices for English language arts (ELA), mathematics, and science (Indicator 1) as well as Smarter Balanced growth (Indicators 2a-d).

The final annual attendance results submitted through the June Public School Information System (PSIS) Collection and certified by districts is now available in both [EdSight Public](#) and EdSight Secure. Chronic absenteeism data for the All Students and Students with High Needs groups are Indicator 4 in the Next Generation Accountability System.

Assessment and attendance data are an important part of the Next Generation Accountability results, but there are other indicators currently under review. On August 20, authorized users of EdSight Secure gained access to a preview of three Next Generation accountability indicators based on Teacher-Course-Student (TCS) data. These are:

- Indicator 5 – College and Career Readiness Course Taking;
- Indicator 7 – On Track to High School Graduation; and
- Indicator 12 – Arts Access.

The report provides aggregate results and a list of students included in the numerator and denominator of each indicator. Changes greater than ± 10 percent from the prior year are highlighted in the report. Districts can use this report to validate their TCS submissions. Districts have until 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 2 to submit additional data to TCS.

Until then, the report in EdSight Secure will be updated according to the following timeline to help districts submit complete and accurate data to TCS.

- Thursday, August 20: Report refreshed with TCS data as of August 19.
- Thursday, August 27: Report refreshed with TCS data as of August 26.
- Tuesday, September 1: Report refreshed with TCS data as of August 31.
- Wednesday, September 2 at 3 pm: FINAL deadline for TCS submission.
- Tuesday, September 8: Report refreshed with FINAL TCS data as of September 2.

The table below lists all components of the Next Generation Accountability system with planned release dates. Indicators that have already been publicly reported have release dates marked with an asterisk.

Report	Accountability Indicator	Release Date
Performance Index (DPI/SPI)	1 a-f	August 2026
Smarter Balanced Growth	2 a-d	August 2026
LAS Links Growth	2 e-f	June 2026*
Chronic Absenteeism	4	August 2026*
College-and-Career-Readiness: Course-Taking	5	October 2026
Preparation for Postsecondary and Career Readiness- Exams and College Credit	6	October 2026
On-Track in Grade 9	7	October 2026
4-year graduation rate (all students)	8	June 2026*
6-year graduation rate (students with high needs)	9	September 2026
College Entrance and Persistence	10	October 2026
CT Physical Fitness Assessment	11	August 2026
Arts Access	12	October 2026

Final accountability reports are scheduled to be released in early November. In the meantime, the online [Accountability Estimator Tool](#) can be used to estimate a school or district's overall Accountability Index before final accountability reports are issued. The Performance Office hosted a *Behind the Numbers* session in September 2023 to demonstrate how to use the online tool. The [recording](#) is available on the CSDE YouTube Channel.

CSDE Updates Performance Index Calculation for CTAA

Next Generation Accountability reports will be issued in November. The 2025-26 reports will incorporate a small but important adjustment to how the subject performance index (SPI) is calculated for students taking the Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA). The change is in response to requests from the field to revise the calculation to ensure that the English language arts and mathematics SPIs accurately reflect student performance on these specialized assessments.

CTAA scale scores range from 1200 to 1290 in both subjects across all tested grades. Scale scores are converted to a 0–110 performance index scale. The formula below has been used since 2014-15 to transform the CTAA scale score to an index value. In the numerator, 1200 is the lowest obtainable scale score for CTAA and 90 represents the full range of scale score points.

$$\text{CTAA Performance Index} = \frac{(\text{Scale Score} - 1200)}{90} * 110$$

The ultimate target for the academic achievement indicator (Indicator 1) in the accountability system is 75. An SPI of 75 indicates that on average, students are performing solidly within the desired achievement level (i.e., Level 3). However, the CTAA is structured and scored in a way that the scale score transformation leads to a mismatch: a student receiving a scale score of 1261, for example, is assigned a performance index score of 68, less than 75, even though 1261 falls within performance level 4, not performance level 3.

To address this problem, Connecticut is adjusting the upper end of the CTAA scale score range used in the performance index calculation. The rescaling will result in the middle of the performance level 3 (around a scale score of 1244–1245) corresponding to a performance index of about 75. This will ensure that for students taking the CTAA, the index values used in SPI calculations will be a more accurate reflection of student performance.

The new adjusted scale score range for CTAA will be 1200 to 1265. The formula below will be used beginning with 2025-26 accountability reports. Note that students earning a scale score of at least 1265 will be included in the calculation with an index value of 110.

$$\text{Adjusted CTAA Performance Index} = \frac{(\text{Scale Score} - 1200)}{65} * 110$$

This change impacts only accountability calculations and reporting. Individual student scale scores and performance levels will not change and there will be no changes to individual student reports because of this adjustment.

Latest National NAEP Report Shows Mixed Results

The National Center for Education Statistics released results of the 2025 Long-Term Trend (LTT) assessment on June 10, 2026. A nationally representative sample of 9-and 13-year-old students took assessments of mathematics and reading. The headlines tell a tale of two age groups. Younger students are demonstrating improvement since 2022. Scores for older students have not changed.

Matthew Soldner, acting commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics called this an “optimistic release.” Average reading and math scores for 9-year-olds rose in 2025 compared to 2022, reversing several years of pandemic-era decline. The gains weren't limited to top performers — lower-scoring students saw some of the largest improvements in decades, a sign that recovery efforts may be reaching the kids who need them most.

For 13-year-olds, there was no statistically significant change in reading or math since the last assessment. Reading scores for this age group are essentially flat compared to when the test began in the early 1970s.

LTT began in the early 1970s and is different from Main NAEP, which provides us with Connecticut-specific results every two years. To learn more about the two programs, see [*What Are the Differences Between Long-Term Trend NAEP and Main NAEP?*](#) Connecticut students in Grades 4 and 8 participated in Main NAEP in January through March 2026. We expect results to be released in early 2027.

To see full LTT results, including breakdowns by student subgroup and percentile visit the [Nation's Report Card website](#).

