

Weighted Average Achievement

Elementary/Middle Level

Last Updated: 2/2025

Beginning in the 2025-2026 school year (SY), the **Weighted Average Achievement** indicator will have minimal revisions to its calculation methodology from prior years.

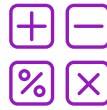
What does the Weighted Average Achievement indicator measure?

The Weighted Average Achievement indicator measures **academic achievement of continuously enrolled students using a denominator that meets federal requirements**. At the elementary/middle level, the Weighted Average Achievement indicator measures annual student performance in three subjects.

English Language Arts (ELA)



Math



Science



Restored to calculations starting with 2024-2025 SY results

How is the Weighted Average Achievement indicator calculated?

The Weighted Average Achievement indicator will be calculated for an accountability subgroup **when the number of continuously enrolled students with valid Grades 3-8 ELA, math, and science assessment results combined or 95% of the number of continuously enrolled students in ELA, math, and science combined is greater than or equal to 20**. Students' scale scores are converted into **accountability achievement levels** ranging from **1 to 4**.

1. Calculate ELA, math, and science subject Performance Indices (PIs) using the formula below.

$$PI = \frac{(\# \text{ Level 2}) + 2(\# \text{ Level 3}) + 2.5(\# \text{ Level 4})}{\text{The greater of: \# of continuously enrolled students with valid assessment results OR 95\% of all continuously enrolled students, with or without valid assessment results}} \times 100$$

2. Calculate the Weighted Average Achievement Index using the formula below.

$$\text{Weighted Average Achievement Index} = \frac{\text{ELA PI Numerator} + \text{Math PI Numerator} + \text{Science PI Numerator}}{\text{ELA PI Denominator} + \text{Math PI Denominator} + \text{Science PI Denominator}} \times 100$$

3. Rank schools based on Weighted Average Achievement Index. The higher the rank, the better the performance.

4. Assign Weighted Average Achievement Level based on where the school falls in the ranking and the statewide rank-based cut points shown in the table below.

Rank	Weighted Average Achievement Level
≤ 10%	1
10.1-50%	2
50.1-75%	3
≥ 75%	4

What is an example of a Weighted Average Achievement calculation?

Let's calculate the Weighted Average Achievement Level for School R's All Students Group.

1. Calculate ELA, math, and science subject PIs.

Subject	# Continuously Enrolled Students	95% Continuously Enrolled Students	# Tested Students	# Level 1	# Level 2	# Level 3	# Level 4	PI Numerator
ELA	200	190	186	34	64	52	36	258
Math	200	190	186	37	67	49	33	247.5
Science	80	76	74	12	28	24	10	101

$$\frac{(64) + 2(52) + 2.5(36)}{190} \times 100 = 135.8$$

ELA PI

$$\frac{(67) + 2(49) + 2.5(33)}{190} \times 100 = 130.3$$

Math PI

$$\frac{(28) + 2(24) + 2.5(10)}{76} \times 100 = 132.9$$

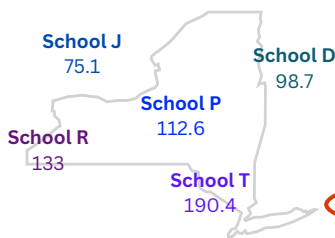
Science PI

2. Calculate the Weighted Average Achievement Index.

$$\text{Weighted Average Achievement Index} = \frac{258 + 247.5 + 101}{190 + 190 + 76} \times 100 = 133$$

3. Rank schools based on Weighted Average Achievement Index.

Assume five schools in New York State for example purposes.



School Index	Rank
School J 75.1	1
School D 98.7	2
School P 112.6	3
School R 133	4
School T 190.4	5

4. Assign Weighted Average Achievement Level.

Rank	Weighted Average Achievement Level
≤ 10%	1
10.1-50%	2
50.1-75%	3
≥ 75%	4

How can the Weighted Average Achievement indicator be used for continuous improvement?

Schools and subgroups with Weighted Average Achievement Level 1 or 2 may be identified for more rigorous support models.

Analyzing Weighted Average Achievement data in combination with local data elements can support goal-setting, instructional decision-making, and the needs assessment process.

Student level data used for calculating Weighted Average Achievement can be found in the SIRS 106 report.

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>

