

NCLB Compliance Report 2008: Washington Schools and Districts in “Improvement” Status PRELIMINARY REPORT

Since the passage of the No Child Left Behind Act in 2001, the federal government has assumed a stronger role in education. This law clearly sets forth an expectation that all children achieve their state’s academic standards and that schools, districts and states be more accountable for student learning. Under No Child Left Behind, schools and districts that receive federal education dollars (Title I) and miss making achievement goals, commonly referred to as Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), face specific consequences. In our state, reading and math scores from the Washington Assessment of Student Learning are used to calculate AYP.

Schools are expected to make AYP in up to 37 different categories, and districts are evaluated in as many as 111 categories, or “groups” in the table that follows (e.g., “# of ‘YES’ groups”). Any school not making AYP for two consecutive years in the same subject area (such as reading in 2007 and 2008) is identified for “improvement” status. And until AYP is achieved in every category for two years in a row, schools continue to be identified as needing to improve. Making it one year and then missing the next means a school stays on the federal “improvement” list and restarts the two-year cycle of making AYP.

This preliminary report includes the names of all schools and districts identified for federal “improvement” based on assessment data analyzed by OSPI. Many schools receive federal Title I education funds and therefore face federally mandated consequences if they are in “improvement” status. Each school’s Title I status is provided below.

While federal law may require our state to apply a specific definition of “needs improvement”, our education system is based on the premise that all schools and districts strive to make continuous improvements to help students experience a success.

OSPI will issue a final report detailing the AYP status of all schools and districts later this fall. Until that release, this list is considered to be preliminary. Those identified today have an opportunity to appeal their AYP determination and change their status.

Step	Schools	Districts
1	505	50
2	342	53
3	44	
4	94	
5	88	
Total	1073	103