



The 5Essentials

All schools need valid and reliable information on the factors that can truly help them improve. The 5Essentials is a diagnostic assessment of a school's organizational conditions and culture and climate that helps schools organize, prioritize, and evaluate what education research shows matters most in achieving sustainable school improvement. It provides insights into schools' organizational strengths and areas of opportunity across the five essential factors for school improvement: Effective Leaders, Collaborative Teachers, Involved Families, Supportive Environment, and Ambitious Instruction.

Research shows schools strong on at least three of the five essentials for school improvement were 10 times more likely to show substantial gains in student learning than schools weak on three or more of the five essentials. A low score in even just one of the five essentials reduced the likelihood of improvement to less than 10 percent. Research has also shown that 5Essential Survey indicators reliably predict school success on a variety of outcomes for both high school and elementary schools, including:



Graduation Rates



Freshman OnTrack



Test Score Gains



Attendance

The 5Essentials Survey is administered to students and teachers, with an optional parent survey, once a year and, after in-depth survey analysis, schools receive individualized web-based reports that offer a comprehensive view of their school environment. Schools can also receive professional learning designed to help school leaders leverage 5Essentials Survey insights to create improvement plans that strengthen the organizational conditions linked to long-term school and student success.



The 5Essentials Survey has been administered in over **6,000 schools** across 22 states, with over **7 million students, teachers, and parents** completing the survey and contributing to school improvement processes.

The 5Essentials Reporting Site Allows Educators to:

See a snapshot of how organized their school is for improvement.

After in-depth survey analysis, schools receive an overall performance score of Well-Organized, Organized, Moderately Organized, Partially Organized, or Not Yet Organized for Improvement.

Example Elementary School
Elementary School (K/PK-8)
123 Main Street, Anytown, OH 44111

5Essentials Survey Parent Survey

For 2016, Example Elementary is **well-organized** for improvement

The overall performance score is comprised of each of the 5Essentials scores. Schools that are at or above benchmark on 3 or more essentials are 10 times more likely to improve than schools that are below the benchmark.

About the Survey

THE 5ESSENTIALS
How is Example Elementary performing on each of the 5Essentials?

ALL MEASURES
How is Example Elementary performing across all measures?

Compare performance across the 5Essentials that matter most for school improvement.

Educators can see how their school's performance varies across each Essential and identify the specific aspects of their school's culture and climate they have an opportunity to strengthen.

The 5Essentials	Performance
Collaborative Teachers	77 Strong
Ambitious Instruction	72 Strong
Effective Leaders	61 Strong
Involved Families	60 Strong
Supportive Environment	57 Neutral

Examine performance across the multiple Survey Measures that make up each Essential.

Educators can take an even more pointed approach to understanding their school's organizational strengths and opportunities by exploring the research-based Measures that comprise each Essential.

Measure	Performance
Teacher-Principal Trust	77 Strong

+ NOTE

What are these results based on?
Teacher-Principal Trust is comprised of the survey questions shown below to identify particular strengths and weaknesses on Teacher-Principal Trust

Teachers report the following:
[Expand All](#)

The principal has confidence in the expertise of the teachers.

I trust the principal at his or her word.

Identify patterns across student subgroups and compare school performance to the district.

Educators can disaggregate student-based Measures by grade level, gender, race, free and reduced price lunch status, IEP status, and English language learning status. Educators can also compare their school's performance on the 5Essentials, and specific Measures of each Essential, to their overall district's performance.

Measure	Performance
Student-Teacher Trust	56 Neutral
Student-Teacher Trust (FRL)	64 Strong
Student-Teacher Trust (Non-FRL)	49 Neutral

Track changes in the organizational conditions that are necessary for school improvement.

5Essentials Survey reports are individualized and show multi-year trends that allow schools to dig into their data, formulate strategic actions, and track their improvement over time.

How has performance changed since the last survey?

What are these results based on?
This school's overall performance is based on the 5Essentials shown below. Click on each Essential and its underlying concepts (measures).

The 5Essentials	Change	Performance
Supportive Environment	+7	57 Neutral
Ambitious Instruction	+2	72 Strong
Collaborative Teachers	+2	77 Strong
Effective Leaders	+1	61 Strong
Involved Families	-1	60 Strong

Learn More:

To learn more about the 5Essentials Survey, Framework, and Reporting Site, visit uchicagoimpact.org/5essentials or contact us at 5Essentials@uchicago.edu.