

Milwaukee's Share of Low-Performing Schools

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The purpose of this document is to answer the following question: **What share of Wisconsin's low-performing schools are in Milwaukee?**

First, it is instructive to know what share of Wisconsin schools are in Milwaukee in general.

- **Milwaukee:** 271 (11.3%)
- **Not Milwaukee:** 2124 (88.7%)

Performance as indicated by the School Report Card Overall Ratings

First, we will label schools as *low-performing* based on having the following School Report Card ratings:

Alternate Rating - Needs Improvement
Fails to Meet Expectations
Fails to Meet Expectations^
Meets Few Expectations
Meets Few Expectations^

By this definition, a Milwaukee school is 18% MORE likely to be low-performing than a school not in Milwaukee.

Milwaukee Indicator	Total Schools	Low Performing Schools
Not Milwaukee	2124	227
Milwaukee	271	106

Performance as indicated by Spencer's Benchmarking

Next, we will label schools as *low-performing* based on the the Benchmarking model Spencer created. **It should be noted that the original model was optimized for Milwaukee, meaning no out-state schools were included.** Therefore, the results listed below should be interpreted with caution.

Also recall that this model depends on the Achievement Score, and schools are omitted when they don't have that score. This is why the number of *Total Schools* are different.

Milwaukee Indicator	Total Schools	Low Performing Schools
Not Milwaukee	1798	26
Milwaukee	235	13

This table labels as low-performing those schools whose *Difference from Benchmark* is greater than two standard deviations **below** the mean—put another way, it's about the bottom 2.5%.

By this definition, a Milwaukee school is 3% MORE likely to be low-performing than a school not in Milwaukee.