

Criteria for Designating Persistently Dangerous Schools

Designation of persistently dangerous schools is based on Violent and Disruptive Incident data. The Department has established a School Violence Index (SVI) to identify persistently dangerous schools.

Schools may be designated as persistently dangerous if they meet the following criteria:

IF for two consecutive school years, a school has EITHER:

1) An SVI of 1.5 or greater

OR

2) An SVI of 0.5 or greater AND a total of 60 or more violent incidents

THEN the school may be designated as persistently dangerous.

The School Violence Index (SVI)

The SVI is a ratio of violent incidents to enrollment in a school and is determined by the number of incidents, the seriousness of the incidents, and the school’s enrollment. The table below provides the weights for each type of incident that carries a weight.

Incident Category (All of these Types of Incidents are Considered to be Violent Incidents)	Weight
Homicide	100
Forcible Sex Offenses	60
Other Sex Offenses	45
Robbery	40
Assault with Serious Physical Injury	40
Arson	30
Kidnapping	30
Assault with Physical Injury	30
Reckless Endangerment	25
All Other Incident Categories Involving the Use of a Weapon	25
Weapons Possession	15

To calculate the SVI for each school, the incident counts for each type of incident are multiplied by the weight for that type of incident and those products are added together to obtain an overall weighted incident total. This total is then divided by the enrollment, which results in the SVI score. Please see the SVI worksheet for an example of how the SVI is calculated.

Violent Incidents

Violent incidents are those that carry a weight greater than zero. (All of the types of incidents listed in the table above are considered to be violent incidents.)