

# Frequently Asked Questions: Power BI Public-facing Data Dashboards

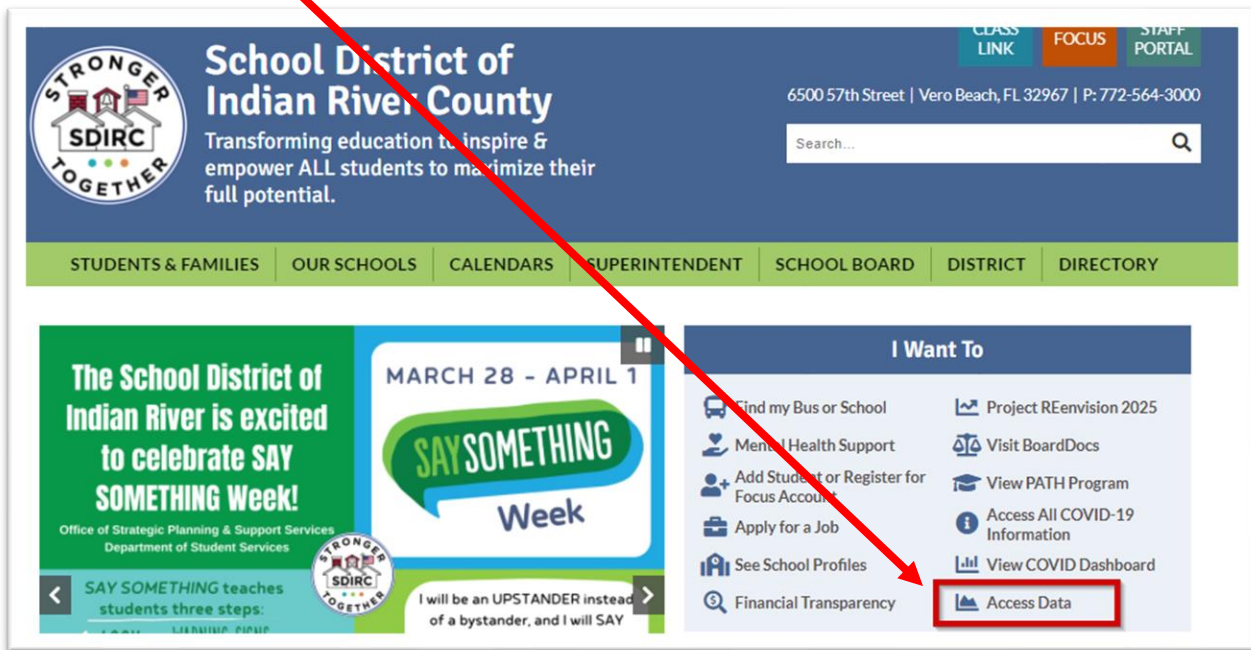
## What is Power BI?

**Power BI dashboards** are a data visualization tool that enables us to provide visualized data that is readily available and easily accessible. Within the schools and at the district, Power BI provides staff with the ability to interact **with the data** to help drive better decisions by analyzing data that is provided in real-time. Most of the dashboards available to the public are updated monthly at the beginning of each month.

## How do I access Power BI?

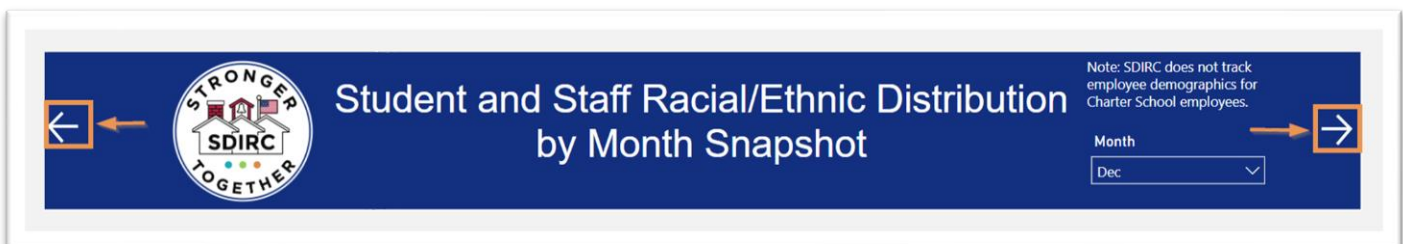
From the **Indian River County School District** website – follow these steps:

1. Click on **Access Data**



## How do I move around in a Power BI?

Once you are in the Dashboard, you will see arrows at the top of the page. These will take you to additional pages or move you back to previous pages.



## How do I know what the purpose of a Power BI dashboard?

The first page of every dashboard contains the (1) Dashboard Background, (2) Dashboard Information, and (3) a key, definitions, or school type which explains the meaning of various abbreviations within the dashboard. Below is one example.

**1** **Dashboard Background**  
 In January of 2020, the School District of Indian River County (SDIRC) embarked on a mission to re-envision school excellence in ways that cultivate optimal learning conditions and school environments for students and staff to maximize educational outcomes for each and every student served by our district. To these ends, the ACHIEVE 2025 District Strategic Plan was developed to guide our district through needed transformations to realize unprecedented levels of student achievement. Through this plan, the district has clearly established and outlined (among other areas) Focus Areas for Academic Success; Equity, Culture, & Climate; Communication & Engagement; Talent Development & Support; and Organizational & Fiscal Responsibility. Throughout this plan, an understanding of our district's student population across school, grade level, and demographics is needed. This dashboard will provide information to satisfy this need.

**2** **Dashboard Information**  
 The following pages on this dashboard provide a month-to-month view of the student enrollment of our PK-12 students. The data on this dashboard updates approximately once a month (time and date of refresh is at the top of the screen).  
 The first page of this dashboard is titled "Current Student Enrollment" and provides the ability to obtain the student count and percentage by race/ethnicity across a variety of filters. This data draws from SDIRC internal records and represents enrollment at the beginning of that month.  
 This dashboard can be used to determine the racial/ethnic distribution of students enrolled at the Alternative Center for Education. Exprentional Student Education status

**3** **Race/Ethnicity Key**  

Race/Eth	Race Ethnicity
W	White
B	Black or African American
H	Hispanic
O	Other
A	Asian
I	American Indian or Alaskan Native
PI	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
NR	Not Reported

  
**School Type to School Crosswalk**  

School Name	School Type
ACE	Other
BES	Elementary
CES	Elementary
DES	Elementary
FES	Elementary
GES	Elementary
GMS	Middle
IRA	Elementary
IRCHS	High
IRV	Other
ISASV	Combined
LMS	Elementary
NCCS	Elementary
OMS	Elementary
OsloMS	Middle
PIES	Elementary
RMS	Elementary
SCJH	Middle
SES	Elementary
SGMS	Middle
SPA	Elementary

  
**Header Definitions**  
**Ct Students:** Distinct Count of Students  
**% Students:** Percent of Students by Race/Ethnicity  
**Race/Eth:** The racial/ethnic breakdown according to the FLDOE single race/ethnicity methodology. If Hispanic is chosen, then the student/staff will be labeled "Hispanic" regardless of race. If multiple races are chosen, then the student/staff will be labeled as "Other"

## How do I see extra information on a dashboard when it appears to be "cut off?"

If there is additional information to view, there will be a gray bar to the right of that text. You will left click and hold on the gray bar while you scroll up and down.

**4** **Dashboard Background**  
 In January of 2020, the School District of Indian River County (SDIRC) embarked on a mission to re-envision school excellence in ways that cultivate optimal learning conditions and school environments for students and staff to maximize educational outcomes for each and every student served by our district. To these ends, the ACHIEVE 2025 District Strategic Plan was developed to guide our district through needed transformations to realize unprecedented levels of student achievement. Through this plan, the district has clearly established and outlined (among other areas) Focus Areas for Academic Success; Equity, Culture, & Climate; Communication & Engagement; Talent Development & Support; and Organizational & Fiscal Responsibility. Throughout this plan, an understanding of our district's student population across school, grade level, and demographics is needed. This dashboard will provide information to satisfy this need.  
 Additionally, in 2018, SDIRC and the Indian River NAACP agreed to a Joint Plan for the Achievement of Unitary Status to meet the requirements of the Federal Deseareation

## How do I sort information?

In the category headings, like in the examples below, you can click on that heading and the information will sort alphabetically or numerically.



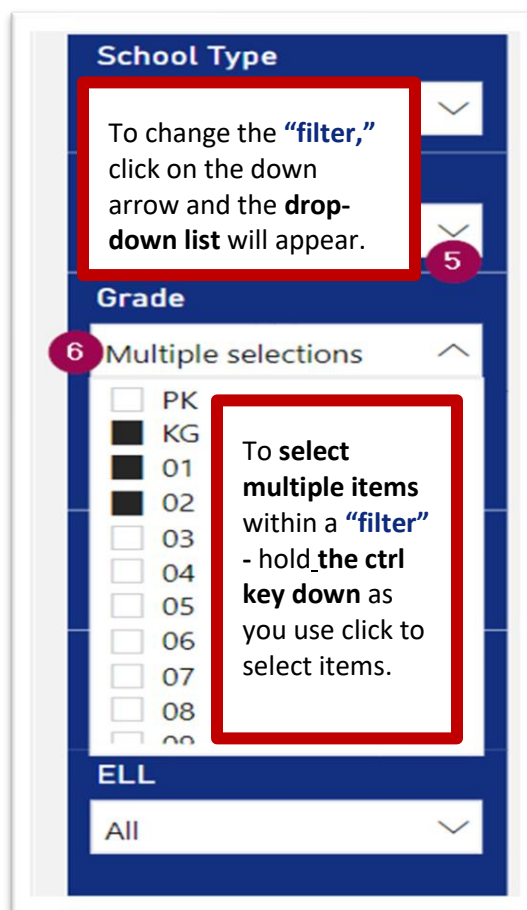
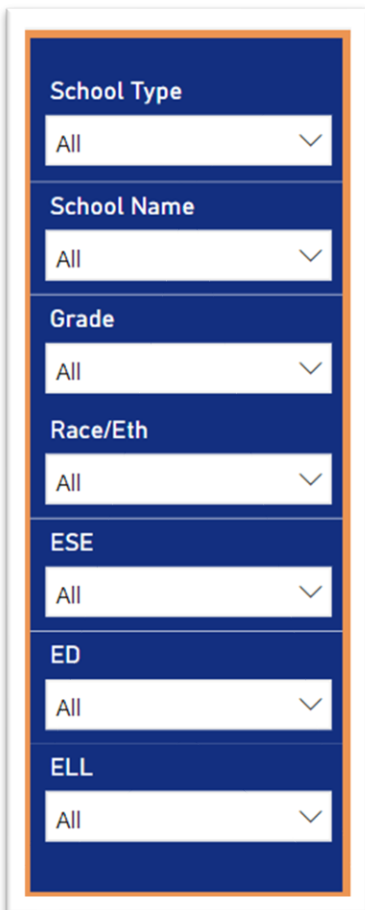
Race/Eth	Ct Student	% Student	Ct Staff	% Staff
W	7342	49.7%	854	79.1%
H	3689	25.0%	76	7.0%
B	2814	19.0%	133	12.3%
O	720	4.9%	8	0.7%
A	180	1.2%	3	0.3%
PI	21	0.1%	1	0.1%
I	14	0.1%	3	0.3%
NR	1	0.0%	1	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14781</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1079</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## How do I customize the data to look at what I need?

- Filters

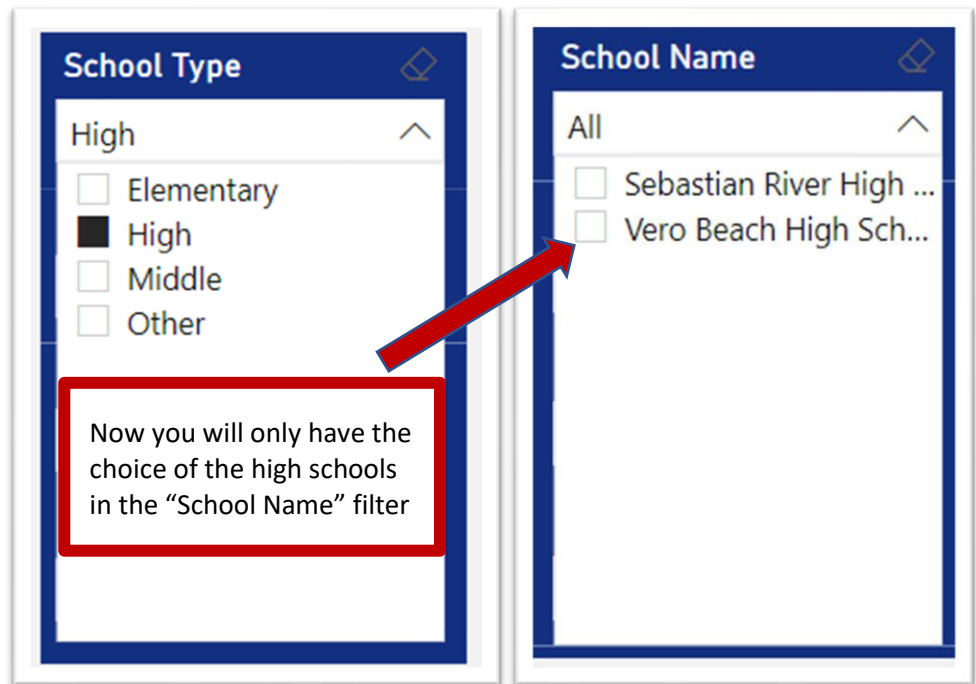
Within Power BI, users can use “filters” to customize the data you see on a page. “Filters” allow you to gather data according to your wants. “Filters” will limit what data you see and apply those to the entire dashboard.

An example of a “filter” is within the orange box. In this example, there are seven ways of “filtering” the data. As you change the options within a “filter,” your visualizations will change according to the options you have selected. Directions how to change the “filter” are below. To clear your choices, there is an (7) “eraser” icon on the top right corner of each “filter.” Click that “eraser” and all selections for that “filter” are removed.



## I applied one filter and then the choices for another filter disappeared. Where did they go?

When you choose one condition from a filter, it may impact your choices in other filters and only give you choices based on the first filter criteria.



## Why are there \*\* on the data?

If you notice \*\* within the cells of data table, this indicates there are less than 10 students. This is to protect the privacy and identity of students.


Subject	Algebra 1		
	UA Count Tested	UA Count 55%+	UA %55+
White	669	226	34%
Hispanic	378	82	22%
Black	274	34	12%
Two or More	51	17	33%
Asian	13	**	**
Am Indian	**	**	**
Pac Islander	**	**	**

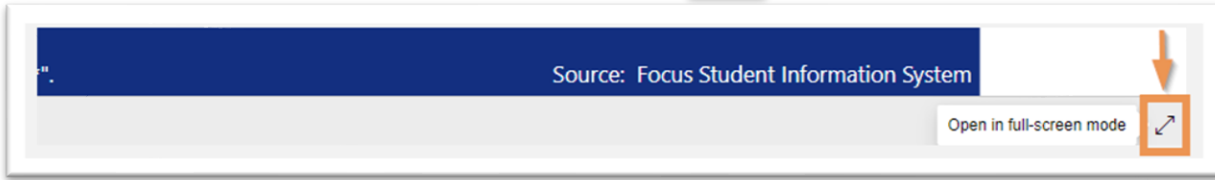
## What's the difference between a blank cell and \*\*?


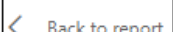
- **Blank Cell** – there is no data to report
- **\*\*** – less than 10 students have been reported in that cell and the actual number is masked to protect the privacy of individual students

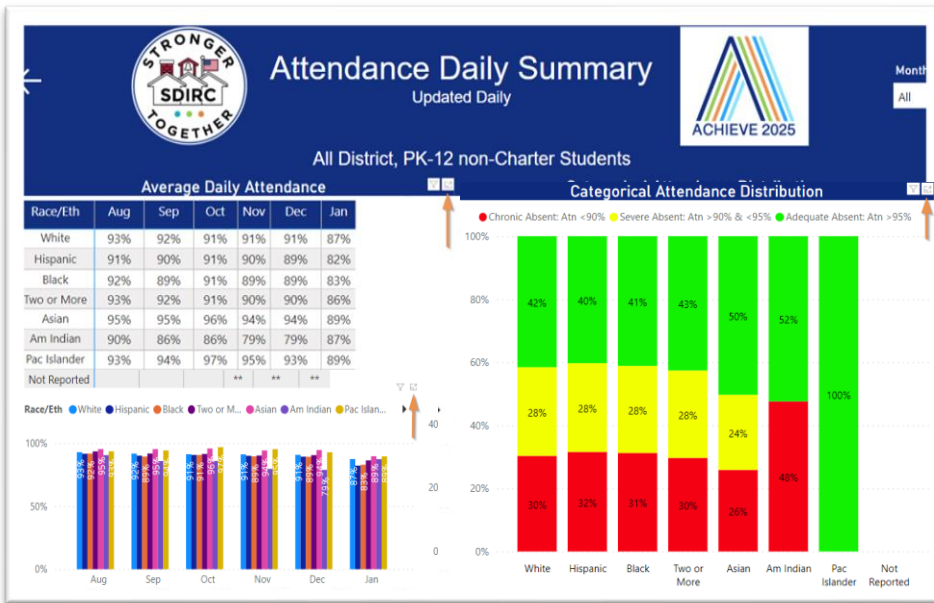
# How do I increase the size of a data table in Power BI if it is too small?

## Focus Mode

To make the **entire screen** larger, click on the double ended arrow  on the bottom right-hand corner of your screen.



To make a **specific table larger**, click on the rectangle  (notice what the **orange** arrow is pointing to in the 3 tables below). To return to the dashboard, click on  in the top left-hand corner.



## Who do I contact for more data information?

If you have any questions about the data dashboards, please email [DataDashboards@indianriverschools.org](mailto:DataDashboards@indianriverschools.org) and a member of the district staff will reach out to you with a response.