


MEMORANDUM

May 23, 2006

TO: The Honorable Chair and Members of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida

FROM: Rudolph F. Crew, Superintendent of Schools 

SUBJECT: STATE RELEASE OF THE SPRING 2006 FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TEST (FCAT) SSS READING AND MATHEMATICS RESULTS FOR GRADES 3-10

The Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released today the Spring 2006 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) grades 4-10 Sunshine State Standards (SSS) Reading and Mathematics district and school results. The grade 3 scores were previously released on May 1, 2006. The scores released today provide summary data based on the scores of **all students tested; these are not the scores that will be used for accountability purposes**. The FLDOE will release the 2006 School Performance grades in mid June 2006.

Approximately 215,350 Miami-Dade County Public Schools students participated in the Spring 2006 FCAT administration. An overview of the District's results is provided in the highlights below and in the attached 2006 FCAT Snapshot of District Results. Results from grade 3 are included in this report for ease of comparison.

Highlights of the 2006 FCAT SSS Reading and Mathematics Results

Across all grades 3-10

- District students demonstrated significant gains in the percent scoring in Achievement Levels 3-5, and decreases in the percent in Achievement Level 1, in both Reading and Mathematics, continuing the pattern of improved achievement which was observed in 2005.
- The observed patterns of improved student achievement held true for students across the District and for students in the School Improvement Zone (Zone) schools.
- Overall, across the District, the majority of students, 51% in Reading and 55% in Mathematics, are now scoring at the higher Achievement Levels 3-5.

Grade level clusters 3-5, 6-8, 9-10

- When examined by grade level cluster, the patterns observed for all students also hold true, with increases in the percent of students scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, paired with decreases in the percent of students scoring in Level 1.

- Most notable are the improvements at the middle school level; the percent of students scoring at the lowest Achievement Level in Reading decreased by 10% both District wide and for Zone schools, while the percent of students scoring at Levels 3-5 increased by 11% for the district overall, and by 7% for Zone schools.
- In Mathematics at the middle school level, the percent of students scoring in Achievement Level 1 decreased by 5% for the District and 6% for Zone students, while the percent scoring in Achievement Levels 3-5 increased by 5% for the District and 2% for the Zone.

Grade by grade

- In both Reading and Mathematics, the percent of students scoring in Achievement Level 1 decreased in 7 out of 8 grade levels. The largest decreases are observed at grade 6 (-13%) and grade 7 (-11%) in Reading.
- Conversely, the percent of students scoring at Levels 3-5 increased at all grade levels except grade 4 Reading and grade 5 Mathematics.
- Score patterns for the District paralleled those of the state. However, District improvements at grades 6, 7, and 8 exceed those of students statewide.

Grade 10 passing rates

- The grade 10 District passing rate increased for both Reading and Mathematics, while state passing rates remained constant.
- The gap between the state and District passing rates narrowed significantly from 2005 to 2006, from an 11 point to a 6 point gap in Reading and from a 9 point gap to a 6 point gap in Mathematics.

Reports of District, state, and school-by-school summary results are available online at: <http://oada.dadeschools.net/06FCAT.asp>. A comprehensive report detailing information on District FCAT scores, including the FCAT SSS Science, the FCAT NRT, and results by curriculum group, ethnicity, and school trends, will be transmitted to the School Board as soon as it is available.

Should you have any questions about the attached results, please contact Ms. Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction, and School Improvement, at 305-995-1451, or Ms. Gisela Feild, Administrative Director, Assessment and Data Analysis, at 305-995-7512.

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Attachment

cc: School Board Attorney
Superintendent's Senior Staff

2006 FCAT

SNAPSHOT OF DISTRICT RESULTS

FCAT SSS READING AND MATHEMATICS
ALL STUDENTS TESTED

SUMMARY RESULTS FOR GRADES 3-10
STATE, DISTRICT, AND ZONE SCHOOLS

SUMMARY RESULTS BY GRADE LEVEL CLUSTERS:
3-5, 6-8, AND 9-10,
DISTRICT AND ZONE SCHOOLS

SUMMARY RESULTS BY GRADE
DISTRICT AND STATE

GRADE 10 PASSING RATES
DISTRICT AND STATE

Table 1. Three-year Trends: Percent of Students Scoring in FCAT Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, in Reading and Mathematics, State, District, and ZONE, Grades 3-10, All Students Tested

| READING GRADES 3-10 | State Percent of All Students | | | | District Percent of All Students | | | | ZONE Percent of All Students | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------|------|----------------|-------------------------------------|------|------|----------------|---------------------------------|------|------|----------------|
| | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 |
| Level 1 | 28 | 25 | N/A | N/A | 37 | 34 | 28 | -6 | 59 | 56 | 49 | -7 |
| Level 2 | 21 | 22 | N/A | N/A | 21 | 21 | 21 | 0 | 21 | 22 | 24 | +2 |
| Level 3-5 | 51 | 53 | N/A | N/A | 41 | 45 | 51 | +6 | 20 | 22 | 27 | +5 |
| MATH GRADES 3-10 | State Percent of All Students | | | | District Percent of All Students | | | | ZONE Percent of All Students | | | |
| | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 |
| Level 1 | 22 | 20 | N/A | N/A | 30 | 26 | 22 | -4 | 52 | 47 | 42 | -5 |
| Level 2 | 22 | 21 | N/A | N/A | 23 | 22 | 22 | 0 | 23 | 25 | 27 | +2 |
| Level 3-5 | 56 | 59 | N/A | N/A | 47 | 52 | 55 | +3 | 25 | 28 | 32 | +4 |

Due to rounding, percents may not total to 100

Table 2. Percent of Students Scoring in FCAT Reading Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, for 2005 and 2006, and Difference 2005-2006, State, District, and ZONE, All Students Tested, Grade Clusters 3-5, 6-8, and 9-10

| READING | District Percent of All Students | | | ZONE Percent of All Students | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------|----------------|---------------------------------|------|----------------|
| | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 |
| GRADES 3-5 | | | | | | |
| Level 1 | 21 | 19 | -2 | 36 | 32 | -4 |
| Level 2 | 15 | 15 | 0 | 21 | 20 | -1 |
| Level 3-5 | 64 | 66 | +2 | 43 | 48 | +5 |
| GRADES 6-8 | | | | | | |
| Level 1 | 37 | 27 | -10 | 55 | 45 | -10 |
| Level 2 | 23 | 22 | -1 | 22 | 25 | +3 |
| Level 3-5 | 40 | 51 | +11 | 23 | 30 | +7 |
| GRADES 9-10 | | | | | | |
| Level 1 | 48 | 42 | -6 | 68 | 64 | -4 |
| Level 2 | 26 | 28 | +2 | 22 | 23 | +1 |
| Level 3-5 | 26 | 30 | +4 | 10 | 12 | +2 |

Due to rounding, percents may not sum to 100.

Table 3: Percent of Students Scoring in FCAT Mathematics Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, for 2005 and 2006, and Difference 2005-2006, State, District, and ZONE, All Students Tested, Grade Clusters 3-5, 6-8, and 9-10

| MATHEMATICS | District Percent of All Students | | | ZONE Percent of All Students | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------|----------------|---------------------------------|------|----------------|
| | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 |
| GRADES 3-5 | | | | | | |
| Level 1 | 17 | 16 | -1 | 32 | 27 | -5 |
| Level 2 | 22 | 21 | -1 | 29 | 27 | -2 |
| Level 3-5 | 61 | 63 | +2 | 39 | 46 | +7 |
| GRADES 6-8 | | | | | | |
| Level 1 | 34 | 29 | -5 | 56 | 50 | -6 |
| Level 2 | 22 | 22 | 0 | 20 | 24 | +4 |
| Level 3-5 | 44 | 49 | +5 | 24 | 26 | +2 |
| GRADES 9-10 | | | | | | |
| Level 1 | 25 | 23 | -2 | 42 | 39 | -3 |
| Level 2 | 24 | 24 | 0 | 29 | 29 | 0 |
| Level 3-5 | 51 | 53 | +2 | 29 | 31 | +2 |

Due to rounding, percents may not sum to 100.

GRADES 3-10 FCAT SSS READING AND MATHEMATICS

Table 4. Percent of Students Scoring at FCAT SSS Reading Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, for 2004, and 2005, and 2006, and Difference 05-06, for All Grades 3-10 Students Tested, for the District and the State

READING

| READING | Level 1 | | | | Level 2 | | | | Levels 3-5 | | | |
|-----------------|---------|------|------|-------------|---------|------|------|-------------|------------|------|------|-------------|
| | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 |
| GRADE 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 29 | 25 | 18 | -7 | 14 | 14 | 11 | -3 | 57 | 61 | 71 | +10 |
| STATE | 22 | 20 | 14 | -6 | 13 | 13 | 11 | -2 | 66 | 67 | 75 | +8 |
| GRADE 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 17 | 17 | 20 | +3 | 15 | 14 | 16 | +2 | 68 | 69 | 64 | -5 |
| STATE | 16 | 15 | 19 | +4 | 14 | 13 | 16 | +3 | 70 | 71 | 66 | -5 |
| GRADE 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 33 | 20 | 19 | -1 | 18 | 16 | 17 | +1 | 49 | 64 | 64 | 0 |
| STATE | 24 | 18 | 17 | -1 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 0 | 59 | 66 | 67 | +1 |
| GRADE 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 40 | 35 | 22 | -13 | 20 | 21 | 17 | -4 | 40 | 44 | 62 | +18 |
| STATE | 26 | 25 | 18 | -7 | 20 | 20 | 17 | -3 | 54 | 56 | 64 | +8 |
| GRADE 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 38 | 37 | 26 | -11 | 21 | 21 | 20 | -1 | 41 | 43 | 53 | +10 |
| STATE | 27 | 27 | 19 | -8 | 20 | 21 | 21 | 0 | 53 | 53 | 61 | +8 |
| GRADE 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 38 | 37 | 31 | -6 | 26 | 29 | 29 | 0 | 36 | 34 | 40 | +6 |
| STATE | 30 | 27 | 24 | -3 | 26 | 30 | 30 | 0 | 44 | 44 | 46 | +2 |
| GRADE 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 52 | 46 | 39 | -7 | 26 | 26 | 29 | +3 | 22 | 28 | 32 | +4 |
| STATE | 39 | 35 | 30 | -5 | 29 | 28 | 30 | +2 | 32 | 36 | 40 | +4 |
| GRADE 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 46 | 50 | 45 | -5 | 28 | 27 | 28 | +1 | 26 | 23 | 27 | +4 |
| STATE | 37 | 39 | 38 | -1 | 29 | 29 | 29 | 0 | 34 | 32 | 32 | 0 |

Notes: Achievement Levels range from Level 1 (lowest) to Level 5 (highest).

All calculations have been rounded to the nearest whole number. Percents may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5. Percent of Students Scoring at FCAT SSS Mathematics Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, for 2004, 2005, and 2006, and Difference 05-06, for All Grades 3-10 Students Tested, for the District and the State

MATHEMATICS

| MATHEMATICS | Level 1 | | | | Level 2 | | | | Level 3-5 | | | |
|-----------------|---------|------|------|-------------|---------|------|------|-------------|-----------|------|------|-------------|
| | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Diff. 05-06 |
| GRADE 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 24 | 18 | 15 | -3 | 20 | 18 | 16 | -2 | 56 | 63 | 69 | +6 |
| STATE | 17 | 15 | 12 | -3 | 19 | 17 | 16 | -1 | 64 | 68 | 72 | +4 |
| GRADE 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 16 | 16 | 15 | -1 | 22 | 22 | 20 | -2 | 62 | 61 | 65 | +4 |
| STATE | 15 | 15 | 14 | -1 | 21 | 21 | 19 | -2 | 64 | 64 | 67 | +3 |
| GRADE 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 26 | 17 | 19 | +2 | 27 | 27 | 28 | +1 | 47 | 57 | 53 | -4 |
| STATE | 21 | 16 | 17 | +1 | 27 | 27 | 27 | 0 | 52 | 57 | 57 | 0 |
| GRADE 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 44 | 39 | 30 | -9 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 0 | 35 | 40 | 49 | +9 |
| STATE | 33 | 31 | 26 | -5 | 22 | 22 | 21 | -1 | 45 | 47 | 53 | +6 |
| GRADE 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 39 | 34 | 29 | -5 | 21 | 22 | 23 | +1 | 40 | 44 | 48 | +4 |
| STATE | 30 | 26 | 23 | -3 | 21 | 22 | 22 | 0 | 49 | 53 | 55 | +2 |
| GRADE 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 31 | 30 | 27 | -3 | 23 | 21 | 22 | +1 | 46 | 49 | 51 | +2 |
| STATE | 23 | 21 | 20 | -1 | 21 | 20 | 20 | 0 | 56 | 59 | 60 | +1 |
| GRADE 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 34 | 28 | 25 | -3 | 25 | 24 | 26 | +2 | 41 | 48 | 49 | +1 |
| STATE | 22 | 20 | 18 | -2 | 23 | 21 | 23 | +2 | 55 | 59 | 59 | 0 |
| GRADE 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT | 23 | 22 | 20 | -2 | 24 | 24 | 22 | -2 | 53 | 54 | 58 | +4 |
| STATE | 16 | 15 | 15 | 0 | 21 | 22 | 19 | -3 | 63 | 63 | 65 | +2 |

Notes: Achievement Levels range from Level 1 (lowest) to Level 5 (highest).
 All calculations have been rounded to the nearest whole number. Percents may not total 100 due to rounding.

GRADE 10 FCAT GRADUATION TEST PASSING RATES

The Grade 10 FCAT SSS is also the graduation test for Florida students seeking a standard high school diploma. The Spring FCAT administration in the tenth grade year is the first opportunity that students have to take and pass the graduation test. In the March 2006 FCAT SSS graduation test administration for grade 10 students, 25,955 students took the Reading test and 25,838 took the Mathematics test. These are not unduplicated counts, as the majority of students have taken both tests.

The passing score is 300 in Reading and 300 in Mathematics. The passing rate information provided below is for first-time test takers and does not include retained grade 10 students.

Table 6. Grade 10 FCAT Graduation Test Percent of Grade 10 Students Passing on the First Attempt for 2004, 2005, and 2006, and the Difference from 2005 to 2006

| GRADE 10 READING PERCENT PASSING | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|-------------------------|
| | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Difference 2005-2006 |
| District | 45% | 41% | 46% | +5 |
| State | 54% | 52% | 52% | 0 |
| GRADE 10 MATHEMATICS PERCENT PASSING | | | | |
| | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | Difference 2005-2006 |
| District | 67% | 68% | 71% | +3 |
| State | 76% | 77% | 77% | 0 |

Some highlights of the March 2006 FCAT graduation test are:

- The grade 10 District passing rate increased for both Reading and Mathematics, while state passing rates remained constant.
- The gap between the state and District passing rates narrowed significantly from 2005 to 2006, from an 11 point to a 6 point gap in Reading and from a 9 point gap to a 6 point gap in Mathematics.
- At both the state and District levels, passing rates were significantly higher in Mathematics than in Reading.