


MEMORANDUM

May 27, 2008

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 RESULTS FOR THE SPRING 2008 FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TEST (FCAT) NORM-REFERENCED TEST (NRT) READING AND MATHEMATICS FOR GRADES 3-10

Today, the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released results from the Spring 2008 administration of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) Norm-Referenced Test (NRT) for students in Grades 4 through 10. Specifically, district-wide and school-level summary reports were provided for the FCAT NRT assessments in reading and mathematics. The attached summaries include results released earlier for students in Grade 3 to provide a comprehensive look across all tested grade levels.

Over 205,000 Miami-Dade County Public Schools students in Grades 3 through 10 took the FCAT NRT in Spring 2008. Highlights of the results and District summary tables are provided as attachments to this memorandum.

Complete State, District, and school-level summary reports are available online at: <http://oada.dadeschools.net/FCAT/FCAT.asp>. Individual student reports for the FCAT NRT will be forwarded to the schools as they are received. FCAT Sunshine State Standards (SSS) results for students in Grades 4 through 11 are expected by June 6, 2008, and the 2008 School Performance Grades in mid-July. Additional reports of FCAT results, including disaggregated reports of student achievement, will be released as they become available.

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

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Attachments

cc: School Board Attorney
Superintendent's Senior Staff

**Highlights of the Florida Department of Education's
Summary Report
Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS)
Spring 2008 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)
Norm Referenced Test (NRT)
Grades 3 through 10**

Overall

- Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) students scored significantly above the national median (50th percentile) in both reading and mathematics at all grades tested on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) Norm-Referenced Test (NRT) administered in Spring 2008.

Reading

- In reading, the median percentile rank of M-DCPS students in Grades 4 and 10 increased markedly in 2008 from that of District students in the same grades in 2007.
- The reading results in the other tested grades were mixed, with both slight increases and decreases observed from 2007 to 2008, largely paralleling the results for students statewide.

Mathematics

- In both the District and the State, the median percentile ranks of sixth grade students in mathematics improved by six points from 2007 to 2008; however, the median percentile ranks declined six points for 3rd and 4th grade students.
- In mathematics, the gaps in student performance between the State and District were reduced or remained stable from 2007 to 2008 in all grades tested.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Summary of District and State Results for the
Spring 2008 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)
Norm Referenced Test (NRT)
Grades 3 through 10

On May 27, 2008, the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released data from the Spring 2008 administration of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) Norm-Referenced Test (NRT) for students in Grades 4 through 10. The tables that follow provide summaries of these data, and include the results released earlier for students in Grade 3 to provide a comprehensive look across all tested grade levels.

The FCAT NRT is a secure form of the *Stanford Achievement Test, Tenth Edition (SAT-10)*, which measures student achievement in comparison to a national sample of students. Results are typically reported in terms of percentile rank scores, which represent students' standing in comparison to the "norm" group. The median percentile rank of a group of students is the middle score within that group.

The median percentile ranks for students in Grades 3 through 10 are provided in Tables 1 and 2, for reading and mathematics, respectively, from 2006, 2007, and 2008. The 2008 results are based on the scores of over 205,000 students, including those classified as English language learners and students with disabilities.

Table 1
FCAT NRT Reading Comprehension
State and District, 2006, 2007, and 2008
Median Percentile Ranks and Number Tested

READING	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10
DISTRICT								
2006	57 (28,733)	66 (26,265)	65 (26,559)	62 (22,897)	58 (26,992)	57 (26,929)	55 (28,885)	56 (26,506)
2007	56 (27,758)	59 (26,102)	70 (25,972)	60 (25,972)	61 (22,905)	58 (26,459)	57 (27,130)	50 (26,361)
2008	56 (27,704)	66 (25,454)	70 (25,940)	58 (25,859)	63 (25,686)	62 (22,787)	58 (26,842)	62 (25,016)
Difference 07-08	0	+7	0	-2	+2	+4	+1	+12
STATE								
2006	61 (203,784)	70 (191,431)	69 (196,076)	67 (185,390)	65 (199,870)	65 (198,152)	65 (202,847)	67 (178,378)
2007	62 (201,432)	63 (195,735)	74 (191,585)	66 (196,601)	66 (186,548)	67 (197,104)	71 (198,078)	60 (178,598)
2008	60 (203,729)	69 (192,008)	73 (194,789)	65 (192,394)	70 (195,100)	68 (184,298)	67 (196,604)	71 (177,017)
+Difference 07-08	-2	+6	-1	-1	+4	+1	-4	+11

Note: The national median percentile is 50.

Table 2
Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)
Norm Referenced Test (NRT) Mathematics
State and District, 2006, 2007, and 2008
Median Percentile Ranks and Number Tested

MATHEMATICS	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10
DISTRICT								
2006	64 (28,721)	67 (26,264)	66 (26,558)	62 (22,875)	61 (26,976)	66 (26,920)	67 (28,817)	60 (26,460)
2007	64 (27,753)	74 (26,100)	68 (25,970)	58 (25,949)	69 (22,882)	67 (26,425)	66 (27,056)	57 (26,309)
2008	58 (27,692)	68 (25,447)	72 (25,939)	64 (25,831)	67 (25,675)	70 (22,765)	67 (26,815)	55 (24,969)
Difference 07-08	-6	-6	+4	+6	-2	+3	+1	-2
STATE								
2006	67 (203,436)	71 (191,214)	71 (195,845)	67 (185,234)	69 (199,730)	73 (198,010)	74 (202,656)	70 (178,160)
2007	69 (200,939)	77 (195,380)	75 (191,156)	66 (196,479)	73 (186,371)	74 (197,007)	74 (197,848)	67 (178,349)
2008	63 (203,373)	71 (191,836)	77 (194,464)	71 (192,278)	72 (194,935)	74 (184,113)	73 (196,393)	63 (176,828)
Difference 07-08	-6	-6	+2	+5	-1	0	-1	-4

Note: The national median percentile is 50.