


## MEMORANDUM

May 17, 2007

**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 2007 FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TEST (FCAT) NORM-REFERENCED TEST (NRT) READING AND MATHEMATICS RESULTS FOR GRADES 3-10**

Today the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released results from the Spring 2007 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. Note that FCAT NRT scores for students in Grade 3 were released previously to facilitate promotion decisions, but are included in this memorandum to provide a comprehensive summary of district results.

Approximately 208,500 Miami-Dade County Public Schools students in Grades 3 through 10 took the FCAT NRT in Spring 2007. Generally, trends for district students paralleled those for students state-wide, with reading trends tracking the state more closely than those for mathematics. For the second year in a row, the district's median percentile ranks remained at or above the national median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) at all grade levels in both reading and mathematics. 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/SAET/FCAT.asp>. School shipments of 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 – 11 are expected in late May, and the 2007 School Performance Grades in mid June. 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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Attachment

cc: School Board Attorney  
Superintendent's Senior Staff

**Highlights of the Florida Department of Education's  
Summary Report for Miami-Dade County**

**Spring 2007 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)  
Norm Referenced Test (NRT)  
Grades 3 through 10**

**Overall**

- For the second year in a row, district median percentile ranks for the FCAT NRT remained at or above the national median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) at all grade levels, 3 through 10, in both reading and mathematics.
- When comparing the performance of students enrolled in 2007 to those enrolled at the same grade levels in 2006, MDCPS student performance was mixed.
  - In reading, the median percentile rank was higher in 2007 in four grades (Grades 5, 7, 8, and 9), and lower in four (Grades 3, 4, 6, and 10).
  - In mathematics, the median percentile rank was higher in 2007 in four grades (Grades 4, 5, 7, and 8), remained stable in one (Grade 3), and was lower in three (Grades 6, 9, and 10).

**Reading**

- In reading, performance trends on the FCAT NRT for the district largely followed the same pattern as those for the state.
- There was a marked decline in the median percentile rank in reading from 2006 to 2007 for students enrolled in Grades 4 and 10 at both the state and district levels, while there was a notable increase for students enrolled in Grade 5.
- The persistent gap between state and district performance at the senior high level increased from 2006 to 2007 for students enrolled in Grade 9 and decreased slightly for those enrolled in Grade 10.

**Mathematics**

- The median percentile ranks in mathematics increased or remained stable from 2006 to 2007 for all grades except at Grades 6, 9, and 10 in the district, and at Grades 6 and 10 in the state.
- Notable increases in the percentile rank scores in mathematics from 2006 to 2007 were achieved in the district at Grades 4 (+7) and 7 (+8), outpacing increases in the state at those same grade levels (+6 and +4, respectively).

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Summary of District and State Results for the**  
**Spring 2007 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)**  
**Norm Referenced Test (NRT)**  
**Grades 3 through 10**

On May 17, 2007, the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released data from the Spring 2007 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 2005, 2006, and 2007. The 2007 results include approximately 208,500 district students, including those classified as limited English proficient and Students with Disabilities.

**Table 1**  
**FCAT NRT Reading Comprehension**  
**State and District, 2005, 2006, and 2007**  
**Median Percentile Ranks and Number Tested**

| <b>READING</b>              | <b>Grade 3</b>  | <b>Grade 4</b>  | <b>Grade 5</b>  | <b>Grade 6</b>  | <b>Grade 7</b>  | <b>Grade 8</b>  | <b>Grade 9</b>  | <b>Grade 10</b> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>DISTRICT</b>             |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>2005</b>                 | 43<br>(29,708)  | 49<br>(26,687)  | 57<br>(22,568)  | 43<br>(26,941)  | 46<br>(27,480)  | 57<br>(28,083)  | 53<br>(29,423)  | 50<br>(26,788)  |
| <b>2006</b>                 | 57<br>(28,733)  | 66<br>(26,265)  | 65<br>(26,559)  | 62<br>(22,897)  | 58<br>(26,992)  | 57<br>(26,929)  | 55<br>(28,885)  | 56<br>(26,506)  |
| <b>2007</b>                 | 56<br>(27,758)  | 59<br>(26,102)  | 70<br>(25,972)  | 60<br>(25,972)  | 61<br>(22,905)  | 58<br>(26,459)  | 57<br>(27,130)  | 50<br>(26,361)  |
| <b>Difference<br/>06-07</b> | -1              | -7              | +5              | -2              | +3              | +1              | +2              | -6              |
| <b>STATE</b>                |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>2005</b>                 | 50<br>(201,925) | 55<br>(194,474) | 61<br>(180,422) | 54<br>(198,657) | 56<br>(199,099) | 67<br>(198,138) | 63<br>(204,543) | 61<br>(172,934) |
| <b>2006</b>                 | 61<br>(203,784) | 70<br>(191,431) | 69<br>(196,076) | 67<br>(185,390) | 65<br>(199,870) | 65<br>(198,152) | 65<br>(202,847) | 67<br>(178,378) |
| <b>2007</b>                 | 62<br>(201,432) | 63<br>(195,735) | 74<br>(191,585) | 66<br>(196,601) | 66<br>(186,548) | 67<br>(197,104) | 71<br>(198,078) | 60<br>(178,598) |
| <b>Difference<br/>06-07</b> | +1              | -7              | +5              | -1              | +1              | +2              | +6              | -7              |

Note: The national median percentile is 50

**Table 2**  
**FCAT NRT Mathematics**  
**State and District, 2005, 2006, and 2007**  
**Median Percentile Ranks and Number Tested**

| <b>Mathematics</b>          | <b>Grade 3</b>  | <b>Grade 4</b>  | <b>Grade 5</b>  | <b>Grade 6</b>  | <b>Grade 7</b>  | <b>Grade 8</b>  | <b>Grade 9</b>  | <b>Grade 10</b> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>DISTRICT</b>             |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>2005</b>                 | 54<br>(29,717)  | 57<br>(26,708)  | 61<br>(22,569)  | 51<br>(26,912)  | 57<br>(27,454)  | 59<br>(28,068)  | 63<br>(29,374)  | 47<br>(26,743)  |
| <b>2006</b>                 | 64<br>(28,721)  | 67<br>(26,264)  | 66<br>(26,558)  | 62<br>(22,875)  | 61<br>(26,976)  | 66<br>(26,920)  | 67<br>(28,817)  | 60<br>(26,460)  |
| <b>2007</b>                 | 64<br>(27,753)  | 74<br>(26,100)  | 68<br>(25,970)  | 58<br>(25,949)  | 69<br>(22,882)  | 67<br>(26,425)  | 66<br>(27,056)  | 57<br>(26,309)  |
| <b>Difference<br/>06-07</b> | 0               | +7              | +2              | -4              | +8              | +1              | -1              | -3              |
| <b>STATE</b>                |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>2005</b>                 | 62<br>(201,794) | 63<br>(194,444) | 64<br>(180,332) | 61<br>(198,535) | 65<br>(198,994) | 67<br>(198,064) | 71<br>(204,314) | 58<br>(172,738) |
| <b>2006</b>                 | 67<br>(203,436) | 71<br>(191,214) | 71<br>(195,845) | 67<br>(185,234) | 69<br>(199,730) | 73<br>(198,010) | 74<br>(202,656) | 70<br>(178,160) |
| <b>2007</b>                 | 69<br>(200,939) | 77<br>(195,380) | 75<br>(191,156) | 66<br>(196,479) | 73<br>(186,371) | 74<br>(197,007) | 74<br>(197,848) | 67<br>(178,349) |
| <b>Difference<br/>06-07</b> | +2              | +6              | +4              | -1              | +4              | +1              | 0               | -3              |

Note: The national median percentile is 50