

MEMORANDUM

August 13, 2008

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

FROM: Rudolph F. Crew, Superintendent of Schools



SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 2008 ACT ASSESSMENT

On August 13, 2008, ACT, Inc., released national, state, and district *ACT Assessment (ACT)* results for the 2008 graduating class. These results summarize the performance of the District's students in the class of 2008, who may have taken the ACT Assessment as sophomores, juniors, and/or seniors. For students who took the test more than once, the most recent test scores are included in the analyses. The results for the class of 2008 are compared to those of their counterparts in the class of 2007.

Approximately 43% of the students in the class of 2008 took the *ACT* college readiness assessment, up from 37% in the class of 2007. This represents an increase from 8,235 students in 2007 to 9,762 students in 2008. Highlights of the results and a summary of the results for individual schools are provided as attachments to this memorandum.

As with all college entrance exams, the population tested consists of self-selected students who participate on a voluntary basis. As a result, student demographic characteristics and the number and percent of students tested at each school can vary greatly both among schools and from year to year. Therefore, caution should be used in making comparisons, particularly in schools with relatively low numbers of students tested.

Should you have any questions about the 2008 *ACT* results, please contact Ms. Gisela Feild, Administrative Director, Assessment, Research, and Data Analysis, at 305-995-2943.

RFC/GF/SAS/mb
M200
Attachment

cc: School Board Attorney
Superintendent's Senior Staff

**Highlights of the ACT Assessment Results
Summary Report for Miami-Dade County
Graduating Class of 2008**

District Results

- The percentage of students participating in the ACT Assessment increased from 37% in the graduating class of 2007 to 43% in the class of 2008.
- At the national, state, and district levels, the mean ACT scores decreased slightly from 2007 to 2008. This was true of the mean Composite score as well as each content area except Mathematics, in which the state and national mean scores stabilized in 2008.
- For all reported scores, the national mean scores were highest, followed by the state's and then the District's scores.

Individual School Results

- Students in the graduating class of 2008 participated in the ACT Assessment at 60 M-DCPS schools.
- Twenty-eight percent (28%), or 14 of the 50 high schools with ten or more participating students, had Composite scores at or above the state mean of 19.8.
- Sixteen percent (16%), or 8 of the 50 high schools with ten or more participating students, had Composite scores at or above the national mean of 21.1.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Summary of District, State and National Results for the
ACT Assessment
Graduating Class of 2008

On August 13, 2008, ACT, Inc. released district, state, and national results from students in the 2008 graduating class who chose to participate in the ACT Assessment. The ACT is a curriculum-based measure of college readiness which includes subtests in English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science. ACT scores can range from a low of 1 to a high of 36.

The 2008 ACT mean scores for the English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science test sections, as well as the overall Composite scores, are presented in Table 1 for the district, the state, and the nation. Individual school ACT results for the Class of 2008 are presented in Table 2. This table displays the number of test-takers at each school, as well as the mean scores for each subject area test and the accompanying Composite score. School summary score results are not presented if fewer than 10 students participated; however, the data for these schools are included in the district and state results.

Table 1
District, State, and National ACT Results for 2007 and 2008
Number Tested and Mean Scores

	Number Tested	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
M-DCPS						
2007	8,235*	17.3	18.7*	18.9	18.1	18.4
2008	9,762	17.2	18.5	18.5	17.7	18.1
Change 07 to 08		-0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3
FLORIDA						
2007	81,527	19.1	20.0	20.5	19.5	19.9
2008	93,884	19.0	20.0	20.3	19.3	19.8
Change 07 to 08		-0.1	0	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1
NATION						
2007	1,300,599	20.7	21.0	21.5	21.0	21.2
2008	1,421,941	20.6	21.0	21.4	20.8	21.1
Change 07 to 08		-0.1	0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1

*Revised summary data provided by ACT for 2007.

Note: "Number Tested" is the unduplicated count of students who took the ACT Assessment during their sophomore, junior, or senior year and reported their graduation year as 2008. If a student took the ACT more than once, only the most recent scores are included in the mean scores.

**Table 2
Individual School ACT 2008 Results
Number Tested and Mean Scores**

School	Number Tested	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
Academy Arts & Minds Charter	19	18.7	18.9	20.2	19.1	19.4
Academy Community Education	4	-	-	-	-	-
American	313	14.9	16.8	17.0	15.9	16.3
Barbara Goleman	282	16.3	18.5	17.8	17.0	17.5
Booker T. Washington	86	14.0	16.2	15.5	16.2	15.6
COPE Center North	16	13.6	15.3	15.8	16.6	15.4
Coral Gables	257	19.2	20.3	20.2	19.2	19.9
Coral Reef	469	22.0	21.6	22.5	20.8	21.8
Corporate Acad. North	18	11.5	14.2	13.8	13.9	13.4
Corporate Acad. South	9	-	-	-	-	-
D.A. Dorsey Educational Center	18	10.4	14.1	12.7	14.6	13.2
DASH	33	23.7	22.6	23.8	21.3	22.9
Doctors Charter of Miami Shores	19	18.2	19.1	19.7	17.7	18.7
Doral Academy Charter	113	19.0	19.4	19.5	19.0	19.3
Dorothy M. Wallace COPE Center	5	-	-	-	-	-
Dr. Michael M. Krop	301	19.1	20.4	19.8	19.0	19.7
Educ. Alt Outreach Program – DJJ	2	-	-	-	-	-
Felix Varela	294	17.4	18.8	18.8	18.6	18.5
G. Holmes Braddock	305	17.5	18.3	18.3	18.0	18.1
Hialeah	359	16.1	17.6	17.7	16.7	17.1
Hialeah-Miami Lakes	160	15.0	16.7	16.7	16.0	16.2
Homestead	158	15.0	16.3	16.8	16.2	16.2
International Studies Charter	21	21.1	19.4	22.0	19.2	20.5
John A. Ferguson	340	19.9	20.9	20.6	19.9	20.5
Life Skills Center Liberty City	8	-	-	-	-	-
Life Skills Center Miami-Dade	5	-	-	-	-	-
Life Skills Center Opa-Locka	1	-	-	-	-	-
MAST Academy	98	24.5	24.8	25.3	23.7	24.8
Mater Academy Charter Mid./High	189	17.1	17.9	18.5	17.4	17.8
Miami Beach	100	20.2	20.7	20.5	19.3	20.3
Miami Carol City	239	14.3	15.7	16.0	15.3	15.4
Miami Central	285	14.2	16.0	16.0	15.3	15.5
Miami Coral Park	375	17.8	19.8	19.0	18.4	18.9

Note: The results for any school with fewer than 10 students tested are not reported separately, but are included in the district, state and national summaries.

Table 2, Continued
Individual School ACT 2008 Results
Number Tested and Mean Scores

School	Number Tested	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
Miami Douglas Macarthur North	3	-	-	-	-	-
Miami Douglas Macarthur South	4	-	-	-	-	-
Miami Edison	169	12.4	15.0	14.2	14.2	14.1
Miami Jackson	121	13.6	16.0	15.5	15.4	15.2
Miami Killian	284	19.9	20.8	21.0	19.9	20.5
Miami Lakes Ed. Center	99	19.0	19.3	21.0	19.4	19.8
Miami Norland	279	14.5	16.1	16.2	15.3	15.6
Miami Northwestern	244	15.5	16.3	16.8	15.9	16.3
Miami Palmetto	413	22.0	23.0	22.7	21.4	22.4
Miami Senior	154	15.6	17.0	17.2	17.0	16.9
Miami Southridge	248	16.1	17.5	17.7	17.5	17.3
Miami Springs	292	16.0	18.0	17.6	17.0	17.2
Miami Sunset	313	17.3	18.7	18.3	17.9	18.2
New World School of the Arts	101	23.3	22.3	23.9	21.4	22.8
North Miami	382	14.0	16.3	16.0	15.6	15.6
North Miami Beach	327	15.3	17.0	16.7	16.0	16.4
Robert Morgan	323	17.8	18.6	19.1	18.4	18.6
School for Adv. Studies North	66	24.2	24.8	24.5	22.7	24.2
School for Adv. Studies South	30	25.4	25.9	26.5	24.4	25.7
School for Adv. Studies Wolfson	20	24.0	25.1	24.0	22.5	24.0
School for Applied Technology	11	13.9	16.7	16.0	15.1	15.5
School for Int. Acad. and Tech.	157	10.6	14.6	14.0	13.1	13.3
Somerset Academy Charter High	2	-	-	-	-	-
South Dade	172	15.4	17.0	17.5	17.4	17.0
South Miami	168	16.2	18.6	18.3	16.7	17.6
Southwest Miami	234	18.0	19.2	19.2	18.8	18.9
William Turner Tech. Center	241	16.5	17.6	18.0	16.9	17.4
District	9,762	17.2	18.5	18.5	17.7	18.1
State	93,884	19.0	20.0	20.3	19.3	19.8
Nation	1,421,941	20.6	21.0	21.4	20.8	21.1

Note: The results for any school with fewer than 10 students tested are not reported separately, but are included in the district, state and national summaries.