



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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**RESPONSES TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
ABOUT THE 2022 ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARDS
(REPORTING ON THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR)**

October 16, 2022

1. Where can I find information on how indicator ratings are calculated?

Please refer to the [2021-2022 Accountability Manual](#) (“the Manual”) for information on the indicators, the ratings, and the other data elements found on the South Carolina report cards.

2. Why are some ratings missing?

If a school had fewer than twenty students used in a calculation the rating was removed.

3. Why don’t the numbers in the SCDE Assessments and the Report Card assessment results match?

SCDE Assessments report the scores for ALL students in the school who tested that year.

For elementary and middle schools, the Report Card/Accountability results only display test scores for students who were actively enrolled on the 45th day and the first day of testing and were continuously enrolled in the school all year (between the 45th day and the first day of testing) with no break in enrollment. We also excuse from the performance results students who reside in group homes and Residential Treatment Facilities (RTF) as well as some ML students if they just moved to the US within the past year or so.

For high schools, the Report Card/Accountability results only display test scores for students who were in the four-year on-time graduation rate cohort (graduates and non-graduates) to which we match multiple years of end-of-course assessment scores to capture whenever they took the test, using the highest score if they tested in the same subject multiple times.

4. Why do some of our schools have 40 points assigned to Student Progress, but others have only 35 points?

The number of points for Student Progress varies based upon whether there are sufficient Multilingual Learners (MLs) to report on the Multilingual Learners' Proficiency (MLP) indicator. Schools with the MLP Indicator have 35 points assigned to Student Progress. Please see Table 1 in the Manual on p. 17.

5. Our school had sufficient points for an Academic Achievement rating of "Average" according to the chart in the Manual, but the report card is showing "Below Average." Why is that?

If fewer than 95 percent of eligible students were tested, then the achievement indicator rating is reduced by one level, the school is not eligible for the highest overall rating, and the school must submit an improvement plan for increasing the participation percentage.

6. What if I think the items "Second graders who are on track for success in English Language Arts at the third grade" and "Second graders who are on track for success in Mathematics at the third grade" are wrong?

These two items and the items about first graders on track for success at the second grade are questions on the Summer Survey. The information displayed on the report card is the same information the district entered into the Summer Survey.

7. One of our schools only has 18 ML students in the report card subgroup for Achievement. However, the ML page on the Report Card site shows an n-count of 36 for the subgroup; 26 for assessed. Please help me understand the difference in those numbers.

- **Number of ML students in ML Subgroup:** Number of students selected from PowerSchool 180 day file (esl codes excluding codes of 8, 8FOREX, 8FRMEL, 8NVREL, 9, or Blank, and gradelevel K-12). Note: The ML population for subgroup reporting includes students who have achieved proficiency (coded in PowerSchool as P1, P2, P3, or P4), students who have not achieved proficiency (coded in PowerSchool as 1.0-6.0, A1, A2, A3), or students with waivers from services (coded as W) and students who have a missing composite score (coded as CM).
- **Number of ML Students Assessed:** This is the students who were tested in 2021-2022 ACCESS test with a valid composite score; and enrolled on or before the 45th day of the same school year within the same school (for continuous enrollment); and with "years in the program" greater than or equal to 1 (students with an initial enrollment date or initial assessment date on or before October 1, 2021)

- **Number of ML Students who Met Progress Toward Proficiency Target:** This is the students among the above “Number of ML students Assessed,” whose current year (2021-2022) ACCESS test score, is greater or equal than each student’s targeted goal (determined by the target goal table, calculating from student’s “Date of Initial Test” and “Years in the program”).
- **Percent of ML Students who Met Progress Toward Proficiency Target:** Divide the above “Number of ML Students Assessed” by “Number of ML Students who Met Progress Toward Proficiency Target.”

You can find more details for specific calculation methods documented in the Manual.

8. On the College and Career Readiness (CCR) (Detail) page what do the numbers on the right side of the bar charts represent? For example, 17/200.

These numbers display the proportion of your **graduation cohort** who met the criteria for college/career readiness on the specific item. If a student meets the CCR threshold under multiple criteria, that student is reported multiple times. If 17/200 appears next to the ASVAB bar, this means that 17 of the 200-student graduation cohort at your school scored 31 or greater on the ASVAB. This does not mean that 183 students did not score 31 or greater. It is possible that only 50 students even took the ASVAB. It means that 17 students in this 200-student cohort meet the career readiness criteria through their ASVAB scores.

9. In the College & Career Readiness section of the report card, the information appearing on bar charts on each screen matches, but when you click on the left of the screen to look at the results for the individual assessment components, those numbers do not match. Why is that?

The data are reporting on two different cohorts. The data displayed under the individual test results and dual enrollment are from the 2021-22 school year only, and may include students from multiple grades. E.g., it may include 2021-22 ACT scores for students in 10th, 11th, and 12th grade. That information is noted at the top of that column. The College & Career Readiness data displayed in bar charts are the results of matching to the students who were in the four-year, on-time graduation cohort for 2022. Those data reflect results over the span that the cohort members were in school, regardless of the year of the assessment. E.g., it may include data on “12th grade” (graduation cohort) students who took the test in 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22.

10. Are there any resources we can share with parents that would explain the report cards?

A document prepared by the Education Oversight Committee for the general public is available here: <https://eoc.sc.gov/school-report-cards/information-families-and-communities>