

2010 Annual School and District Ratings Discussion Points

Elementary, Middle, and Primary Schools

Based on data received from SCDE October 29, 2010; and November 5, 2010



RATINGS

Absolute Ratings for Primary, Elementary, and Middle Schools

	2009	2010
Primary, Elementary, and Middle schools rated Excellent	163 (17%) Primary schools: 26 Elementary schools: 111 Middle schools: 26	202 (21%) Primary schools: 32 Elementary schools: 134 Middle schools: 36
Primary, Elementary, and Middle schools rated Good	149 (15%) Primary schools: 3 Elementary schools: 105 Middle schools: 41	165 (17%) Primary schools: 0 Elementary schools: 119 Middle schools: 46
Primary, Elementary, and Middle schools Average	444 (46%) Primary schools: 0 Elementary schools: 301 Middle schools: 143	424 (44%) Primary schools: 0 Elementary schools: 288 Middle schools: 136
Primary, Elementary, and Middle schools Below Average	148 (15%) Primary schools: 0 Elementary schools: 86 Middle schools: 62	125 (13%) Primary schools: 0 Elementary schools: 73 Middle schools: 52
Primary, Elementary, and Middle schools At-Risk	62 (6%) Primary schools: 0 Elementary schools: 33 Middle schools: 29	51 (5%) Primary schools: 0 Elementary schools: 24 Middle schools: 27

Table does not include ratings for high schools, career and technology centers, and special schools. Percentages calculated using total number of primary, elementary, and middle schools receiving a report card in 2010 (967 report cards). Data for 2009 was updated and received from the SCDE in October 2010.

South Carolina's Students – 2010

24% of students are enrolled in a primary, elementary, or middle school with an Absolute rating of *Excellent*.
 20% of students are enrolled in a primary, elementary, or middle school with an Absolute rating of *Good*.
 42% of students are enrolled in a primary, elementary, or middle school with an Absolute rating of *Average*.
 10% of students are enrolled in a primary, elementary, or middle school with an Absolute rating of *Below Average*.
 3% of students are enrolled in a primary, elementary, or middle school with an Absolute rating of *At Risk*.

Data based on enrollment across primary, elementary, and middle schools

Charter School Absolute Ratings

- The performance of elementary and middle charter schools is included in the overall “snapshot” of the primary, elementary, and middle school ratings. Of the 33 elementary and middle charter school receiving an Absolute rating in 2010, six schools are rated *Excellent*. Four of the charter schools are rated *At Risk* and five are rated *Below Average*.

Palmetto Priority Schools Absolute Ratings

- Seven elementary schools and 23 middle schools were designated as Palmetto Priority Schools by the SCDE in either 2007 or 2009. Of the 30 schools, six schools (20%) improved their ratings from 2009 to 2010. However, thirteen schools (43%) experienced declines in overall student performance as their absolute indices dropped.

Growth Ratings for Primary, Elementary, and Middle Schools

The table below shows the Growth ratings distribution for primary, elementary, and middle schools in 2010.

	2009	2010
Primary, Elementary, and Middle schools receiving Growth rating of Excellent	91 (9%) Primary schools: 7 Elementary schools: 76 Middle schools: 8	238 (25%) Primary schools: 13 Elementary schools: 183 Middle schools: 42
Primary, Elementary, and Middle schools receiving Growth rating of Good	165 (17%) Primary schools: 15 Elementary schools: 124 Middle schools: 26	221 (23%) Primary schools: 15 Elementary schools: 139 Middle schools: 67
Primary, Elementary, and Middle schools receiving Growth rating of Average	524 (55%) Primary schools: 1 Elementary schools: 338 Middle schools: 185	385 (40%) Primary schools: 1 Elementary schools: 240 Middle schools: 144
Primary, Elementary, and Middle schools receiving Growth rating of Below Average	100 (10%) Primary schools: 0 Elementary schools: 50 Middle schools: 50	87 (9%) Primary schools: 0 Elementary schools: 58 Middle schools: 29
Primary, Elementary, and Middle schools receiving Growth rating of At-Risk	79 (8%) Primary schools: 1 Elementary schools: 47 Middle schools: 31	32 (3%) Primary schools: 0 Elementary schools: 17 Middle schools: 15

Table does not include Growth ratings for high schools, career and technology centers, and special schools. Percentages calculated using total number of primary, elementary, and middle schools receiving a Growth rating in 2010 (963 schools). Data for 2009 was updated and received from the SCDE in October 2010.

One-year movement

There were changes to primary, elementary, and middle absolute ratings from 2009 to 2010 in the following manner:

“Improvers”

- 0 primary schools, 43 elementary schools, and 15 middle schools receiving Absolute ratings in both 2009 and 2010 elevated their ratings

“Maintainers”

- 22 primary schools, 466 elementary schools, and 233 middle schools receiving Absolute ratings in both 2009 and 2010 maintained their ratings

“Sliders”

- 1 primary school, 119 elementary schools, and 42 middle schools receiving Absolute ratings in both 2009 and 2010 dropped their Absolute rating.

Achievement Gaps – 2010 PASS

Significant gaps in achievement continue to exist between students of different demographic groups and socio-economic status. A comparison of 2010 PASS performance in all tested subject areas among white students, African American students, Hispanic students, students who qualify for free- or reduced-price lunch, and pay-lunch students illustrates clearly that the gaps are persistent and require significant attention and educational investment. Similarly, achievement gaps exist between these students when analyzing performance by school Absolute rating.

	Percent of students scoring <i>Met or above</i> in an Elem/Middle school rated <i>Excellent</i>								
	All students	White students	African American students	White /AA Gap	Hispanic students	White /Hisp. Gap	Pay-lunch students	Free- or reduced price lunch students	Lunch status gap
Reading & Research	87%	91%	71%	20 %pts	78%	13 %pts	92%	75%	16 %pts
Writing	85%	89%	70%	19 %pts	74%	15 %pts	91%	73%	18 %pts
Math	85%	90%	66%	23 %pts	77%	13 %pts	91%	72%	19 %pts
Science	83%	89%	62%	27 %pts	71%	18 %pts	90%	69%	21 %pts
Social Studies	86%	89%	71%	19 %pts	79%	10 %pts	91%	74%	17 %pts

	Percent of students scoring <i>Met or above</i> in an Elem/Middle school rated <i>Average</i>								
	All students	White students	African American students	White /AA Gap	Hispanic students	White /Hisp. Gap	Pay-lunch students	Free- or reduced price lunch students	Lunch status gap
Reading & Research	71%	78%	61%	17 %pts	67%	11 %pts	83%	64%	19 %pts
Writing	68%	75%	60%	15 %pts	62%	13 %pts	82%	61%	20 %pts
Math	66%	74%	55%	19 %pts	64%	10 %pts	79%	60%	20 %pts
Science	63%	74%	50%	24 %pts	57%	17 %pts	78%	55%	23 %pts
Social Studies	67%	73%	59%	14 %pts	66%	7 %pts	79%	60%	19 %pts

	Percent of students scoring <i>Met or above</i> in an Elem/Middle school rated <i>At Risk</i>								
	All students	White students	African American students	White /AA Gap	Hispanic students	White /Hisp. Gap	Pay-lunch students	Free- or reduced price lunch students	Lunch status gap
Reading & Research	45%	57%	43%	13 %pts	53%	4% pts	54%	44%	9% pts
Writing	45%	51%	44%	7 %pts	50%	1%pt	53%	44%	9% pts
Math	38%	49%	36%	12 %pts	45%	3% pts	46%	37%	9% pts
Science	32%	47%	30%	18 %pts	39%	8% pts	40%	31%	9% pts
Social Studies	40%	47%	38%	9 %pts	51%	NO GAP	47%	38%	9% pts

Confronting Poverty

Note: Numbers of schools will vary within data sets. Data provided from the SC Office of Data Management and Analysis includes information from schools that may not have received a report card or received more than one report card, depending on their school structure.

Poverty and Absolute Ratings

- Only 43 primary, elementary, and middle schools (4.5%) serve a population of 30% poverty or less.
- Of 938 primary, elementary, and middle schools that had poverty indices in both 2009 and 2010, 737 (79%) showed an increase in the poverty index in 2010.
- Sixty-four percent of South Carolina primary, elementary, and middle schools have at least 70% of their students living in poverty in 2010. This percentage increased from 2009 when 62% of primary, elementary, and middle schools were affected.
- Over one-quarter of primary, elementary, and middle schools (28%) serve a population of students in very high poverty (90% or more.)

Absolute Rating	Average 2009 Poverty Index (includes primary, elem, and middle schools)	Average 2010 Poverty Index (includes primary, elem, and middle schools)
Excellent	48.0% (n=163)	51.4% (n=196)
Good	62.6% (n=149)	65.4% (n=165)
Average	76.9% (n=444)	80.6% (n=423)
Below Average	91.6% (n=148)	92.7% (n=124)
At-Risk	95.6% (n=62)	95.6% (n=51)

2010 Poverty Levels Across Primary, Elementary, and Middle Report Cards

	Extent of Poverty (Poverty Index)		
	High Poverty (70%+)	Very High Poverty (80%+)	Extreme Poverty (90%+)
Total Number of Primary, Elementary, and Middle Report Cards (959)	2010: 611 (64%)	2010: 458 (48%)	2010: 268 (28%)

Note: Ten primary schools did not have a poverty index for 2009-2010

Poverty by Organizational Level – School Absolute Ratings

An analysis of poverty and school Absolute Ratings shows clearly that high poverty in a school does not necessarily mean a school is low-achieving.

Elementary

- Forty-four of the 448 (10%) elementary schools with a poverty index of 80% or greater earned an absolute rating of *Excellent* or *Good*. Four of the 190 (2%) elementary schools with a poverty index of 90% or greater earned an absolute rating *Good*.

Middle Schools

- The impact of poverty presents a great challenge for middle schools although progress is occurring. In 2010, two of the 167 middle schools with a poverty index of 80% or greater earned an absolute rating of *Good* while 92 of 167 (55%) of these schools earned an absolute rating of *At Risk* or *Below Average*.

Poverty by Organizational Level – Growth Ratings

Elementary

- 130 of the 448 (29%) elementary schools with a poverty index of 80% or greater earned a Growth rating of *Excellent* or *Good*. Forty-four of the 190 (23%) elementary schools with a poverty index of 90% or greater earned a Growth rating of *Excellent* or *Good*.

Middle Schools

- Seventeen of the 167 (10%) middle schools with a poverty index of 80% or greater earned an Growth rating of *Excellent* or *Good*. Three of the 69 (4%) middle schools with a poverty index of 90% or greater earned a Growth rating of *Excellent* or *Good*.

Growth Rating	2009 Average Poverty Index (includes primary, elem, and middle schools)	2010 Average Poverty Index (includes primary, elem, and middle schools)
Excellent	51.1% (n=91)	56.5% (n=233)
Good	62.3% (n=165)	71.4% (n=219)
Average	75.1% (n=524)	81.1% (n=385)
Below Average	87.3% (n=100)	92.4% (n=86)
At Risk	92.0% (n=79)	93.5% (n=32)