

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
School Report Cards
2020-21**

INDEX OF QUESTIONS

Q01: Why are there no ratings? 2

Q02: What denominator was used in high school calculations? 2

Q03: Why don't the numbers in the SCDE Assessments and the Report Card assessment results match? 2

Q04: 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? 2

Q05: In the College & Career Readiness (CCR) 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. 3

Q06: On the College and Career Readiness (Detail) page what do the numbers on the right side of the bar charts represent? (17/200, for example)..... 3

Q07: Where does the number of students completing a FAFSA come from? 3

Q08: One of our schools only has 18 English Learner (EL) students in the report card subgroup for Achievement. However, the English Learners 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..... 3

Q09: Where can I find more detailed information about the report card data elements and calculation methodologies? 4

Q10: Are there any resources we can share with parents that would explain the report cards?..... 4

FAQ

School Report Cards

2020-21

Q01: Why are there no ratings?

A: On March 26, 2021, the U.S. Department of Education [waived federal accountability requirements](#) and [granted flexibility in administering assessments](#) due to COVID-19. The results displayed within this report card should not be compared to those of other years due to the testing limitations as a result of the pandemic. In addition, these results may be incomplete and may not be representative of the make-up of the State, district, or school population.

Q02: What denominator was used in high school calculations?

A: The denominators used are as follows:

Achievement and Preparing for Success— students in the four-year on-time graduation cohort file (includes graduates and non-graduates) ***NOTE: This is different from the SCDE End of Course assessments page, which shows results of ALL students who tested in that subject in any grade during that school year.*** <https://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/state-assessments/end-of-course-examination-program-eocep/>

College and Career Readiness— students in the four-year on-time graduation cohort file (includes graduates and non-graduates)

Graduation Rate— students in the four-year on-time graduation cohort file (includes graduates and non-graduates)

Q03: Why don't the numbers in the SCDE Assessments and the Report Card assessment results match?

A: 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 EL 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 EOC assessment scores to capture whenever they took the test, using the highest score if they tested in the same subject multiple times.

Q04: 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?

A: 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 entered into the Summer Survey.

FAQ

School Report Cards

2020-21

Q05: In the College & Career Readiness (CCR) 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.

A: The data displayed under the individual test results and dual enrollment are from the 2020-21 school year only. 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 2021.

Q06: On the College and Career Readiness (Detail) page what do the numbers on the right side of the bar charts represent? (17/200, for example)

A: These numbers display the proportion of your graduation cohort who met the criteria for college/career readiness on the specific item. If 17/200 appears next to the ASVAB bar, this means that 17 of the 200 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.

Q07: Where does the number of students completing a FAFSA come from?

A: The US Department of Education reports that information at this website: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/about/data-center/student/application-volume/fafsa-completion-high-school>. Information for the report card was downloaded from the site in mid-August.

Q08: One of our schools only has 18 English Learner (EL) students in the report card subgroup for Achievement. However, the English Learners 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.

A:

- **Number of EL students in EL 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 EL 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 EL Students Assessed:** The students who were tested in 2020-2021 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, 2020)
- **Number of EL Students who Met Progress Toward Proficiency Target:** The students among the above “Number of EL students Assessed”, whose current year (2020-2021) ACCESS test score, greater or equal than each student’s targeted goal (determined by the

FAQ

School Report Cards 2020-21

target goal table, calculating from student’s “Date of Initial Test” and “Years in the program”).

- **Percent of EL Students who Met Progress Toward Proficiency Target:** Divide the above “Number of EL Students Assessed” by “Number of EL Students who Met Progress Toward Proficiency Target”

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

Q09: Where can I find more detailed information about the report card data elements and calculation methodologies?

A: The [2020-21 Accountability Manual](https://www.eoc.sc.gov/accountability-manuals) prepared by the Education Oversight Committee details the data elements to appear in the report card and calculation methodologies. The document is available here: <https://www.eoc.sc.gov/accountability-manuals>

Q10: Are there any resources we can share with parents that would explain the report cards?

A: 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>