

Louisiana Believes

Letter Grade Results

Fall 2013

Our Challenge: Why Accountability Matters

American Education Outcomes are Not Competitive Internationally.

- Literacy, math skills, and problem-solving of people age 16 to 65, in 24 developed countries, were compared and only two countries scored lower than Americans in math and 16 scored higher than Americans in literacy.
- America Achieves review of 2009 PISA shows the U.S. lag in education is not restricted to low-income schools and communities. It extends deeply into America's middle class. U.S. students near the top of socio-economic advantage significantly outperformed by 24 countries in math and behind 10 countries in reading.
- There is a substantial cost to our country and our state associated with lower educational outcomes. Had the U.S. closed the international achievement gap by 1998, the GDP could have been \$1.3 trillion to \$2.3 trillion higher in 2008.

Louisiana Graduates will Struggle to Compete for Jobs.

- Louisiana continues to rank among the bottom states in math and reading.
- Almost one third of Louisiana college students are enrolled in developmental courses.
- By 2020, the number of jobs in Louisiana is expected to increase by 13.6%, growing to 2.25 million jobs.
 - 23.7% increase in professional, scientific, and technical services jobs
 - 20.9% increase in health care and social assistance jobs
 - 19.6% increase in transportation and warehousing jobs

These jobs will require education after high school. Only 23% of students receive ACT benchmark scores that indicate post secondary success.

School Performance Scores

In spring 2012, BESE adopted changes to the school accountability formula designed to achieve the following:

✓ **Simplify the formula**

- Easy to understand scale (100 = A, <50 = F)
- Award an “A” for each desired outcome (e.g., proficient scores, graduating with a diploma, graduation rate of 80%)

✓ **Align with higher standards to ensure postsecondary success**

- No longer award points for students below basic
- Ensure students are transitioning successfully to high school
- Value rigorous ACT, Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate results, as indicators of postsecondary readiness

✓ **Focus on students below grade level**

- Reward schools that make progress with persistently low performing students

New, Simplified Formula

A
120-200

B
105-119.9

C
90-104.9

D
75-89.9

F
0-74.9

OLD SCALE



EASIER TO
UNDERSTAND SCALE
(100+ = A)
(<50 = F)

A
100-150

B
85-99.9

C
70-84.9

D
50-69.9

F
0-49.9

NEW SCALE

New, Simplified Formula

OLD CALCULATION



ELEMENTARY (K-6)
90% Tests + 10% Attendance



MIDDLE (K-8)
90% Tests + 5% Attendance +
5% Dropout



HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)
70% Tests + 30% Graduation Rate



COMBINATION SCHOOL
Average of: (K-8 SPS x # Students)
+ (HS SPS x # Students)



NEW CALCULATION



ELEMENTARY (K-6)
100% Tests



MIDDLE (K-8)
95% Tests + 5% High School Credits
Earned by End of Freshman Year



HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)
25% ACT Composite + 25% End of Course +
25% Graduation Rate + 25% Quality of Diploma



COMBINATION SCHOOL
Average of: (K-8 SPS x # Students)
+ (HS SPS x # Students)



100%



HOW DID STUDENTS PERFORM?

Students are assessed on how well they achieved their grade-level expectations.

LEVEL	SCHOOL	STATE
Advanced (150 pts = A)	%	%
Mastery (125 pts = A)	%	%
Basic (100 pts = A)	%	%
Approaching Basic (0 pts)	%	%
Unsatisfactory (0 pts)	%	%

* This table includes students who take LAA 1 and LAA 2. View how their performance is measured [here](#). Schools with grades no higher than 2 have accountability data based on a paired school designated by its district.



DID THIS SCHOOL MAKE PROGRESS WITH STUDENTS WHO CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE ACADEMICALLY?

Schools earn “bonus” points for students who did not score Basic or above, but who made significant progress nonetheless.

BONUS POINTS EARNED	#/10
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2012-2013 (Old Scale)	2012-2013 (New Scale)	
C	B	Starting with the 2012-2013 school year, the Louisiana Department of Education improved and simplified the way schools are graded by aligning with higher standards, rewarding the gains schools have already made, and focusing on students below grade level through a new bonus system. Schools earn 100 points or an “A” every time a student achieves a desired outcome like scoring Basic, graduating with a diploma, etc. Though some outcomes generate more points and some less, if every student scored the minimum desired outcome, the school would earn a score of 100, an A grade.

How is my school’s grade calculated, and how is it different from last year? (link to infographic)

What are my school and course choice options? (link to webpage)

Where can I find information on how different groups of students performed?(link to Data Center)

95% HOW DID STUDENTS PERFORM?



Students are assessed on how well they achieved their grade-level expectations.

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5% HOW MANY CREDITS DID STUDENTS EARN BY FRESHMAN YEAR?



Schools with 8th grade are assessed by the number of dropouts and high school credits earned by students by the end of ninth grade.

CREDITS	SCHOOL	STATE
6+ (150 pts = A)	%	%
5.5 (125 pts = A)	%	%
5 (100 pts = A)	%	%
4.5 (75 pts)	%	%
4 (50 pts)	%	%
3.5 (25 pts)	%	%
3- (0 pts)	%	%
3yr 8 th grader (0 pts)	%	%
Dropout (0 pts)	%	%

+

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SPS = ###

25% HOW DID STUDENTS PERFORM?

Students are assessed on how well they achieved in Algebra I, Geometry, English II, English III, and Biology on end-of-course exams.

LEVEL	SCHOOL	STATE
Excellent (150 pts = A)	%	%
Good (100 pts = A)	%	%
Fair (0 pts)	%	%
Needs Improvement (0 pts)	%	%

* This table includes students who take LAA 1. View how their performance is measured [here](#).

25% WHAT KIND OF DIPLOMAS & CREDITS DID STUDENTS EARN?

The graduation index measures the different diplomas and credits that a high school graduate can earn.

DIPLOMA + CREDITS	SCHOOL	STATE
High School Diploma + passing score on AP or IB (AP score at least 3 and IB at least 4) (150 pts = A)	%	%
High School Diploma + Endorsement (135 points = A) or High School Diploma + TOPS Opportunity (120 pts = A)	%	%
High School Diploma + passing course in IBC, dual enrollment, AP, or IB (AP score 1-2 or IB 1-3)(110 pts = A)	%	%
High School Diploma (100 pts = A)	%	%
Nongraduates (0 pts)	%	%

* This is not the exhaustive list of diploma options.

25% ARE STUDENTS PREPARED FOR POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS?

A score of 18 or above on the ACT indicates students have minimum proficiency for postsecondary success.

	SCHOOL	STATE
ACT Score of 18+ (100 pts = A)	%	%

25% WHAT % OF STUDENTS GRADUATE?

The cohort graduation rate is the percent of students who enter the ninth grade and successfully graduate four years later.

	SCHOOL	STATE
4 year degree (> 80% = 100 pts = A)	%	%



DID THIS SCHOOL MAKE PROGRESS WITH STUDENTS WHO STRUGGLE ACADEMICALLY?

Schools earn bonus points for students who score non-proficient on state tests, but who demonstrate significant growth.

BONUS POINTS EARNED

#/10

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2012-2013 (Old Scale)

2012-2013 (New Scale)

C

B

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K-8



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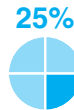
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2012-2013 (Old Scale) : 2012-2013 (New Scale)

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Fewer Kids in Failing Schools

Our schools improve in letter grades because our students improve.

- 71% of students are now scoring Basic and above in ELA and math in grades 3 to 8 and more than 7,300 students since 2012.
- 60% of students are now scoring Good and above on End of Course tests – a 5% increase from 55% in 2012 – in grades 9 to 11.

As a result, the number of failing schools has decreased from 12% to 8% across the state.

In New Orleans, only 5% of students attend a failing school- down from 62% in 2005.

- In 2004-2005, 78 public schools in New Orleans, enrolling over 38,000 students, were failing. Today, only 9 schools in the city, enrolling 2,481 students, are failing.
- 67% of students in New Orleans attend A, B, or C schools – up from 20% in 2005.

High School Students Achieve More: Record Number of Students Can Attend College

- Louisiana became the 10th state in the country to test all high school students on the ACT series of tests. These tests:
 - Prepare our students for new rigorous standards;
 - Ensure greater college and technical training access for our disadvantaged students; and
 - Provide schools with year-over-year college- and career-readiness information.
- As a result, **nearly 3,600 more Louisiana seniors are eligible to attend college or technical programs next years.**
 - This represents a 20% increase in graduates with this opportunity over 2012.

High School Students Achieve More: Advanced Placement

The college credits earned on Advanced Placement (AP) exams increased by more than 1,000 credits – or 25% – over 2012.

- This represents **the largest individual increase in state history.**

- Louisiana high school students scored high enough to earn credit on 5,144 AP exams in 2013.
- 10,553 students took AP exams in 2013, which is 4,000 more than 2012.
- African American students saw a dramatic 44.7% increase in the number of students earning college credit through AP.

Top 10 in Growth	% of Students Scoring 3+ In 11-12	% of Students Scoring 3+ In 12-13	Change in Percent
West Monroe High School	70.5%	87.5%	17.0%
Westgate High School	0.0%	15.5%	15.5%
Woodlawn High School	20.8%	35.7%	14.9%
North DeSoto High School	0.0%	14.5%	14.5%
Zachary High School	52.8%	65.3%	12.5%
Benton High School	23.6%	35.6%	12.0%
Live Oak High School	46.7%	58.2%	11.5%
Belle Chasse High School	41.9%	52.8%	10.9%
Caddo Parish Magnet High School	71.0%	79.9%	8.9%
Sam Houston High School	17.9%	24.8%	7.0%

High School Students Achieve More: Graduation Rate Reaches Record High

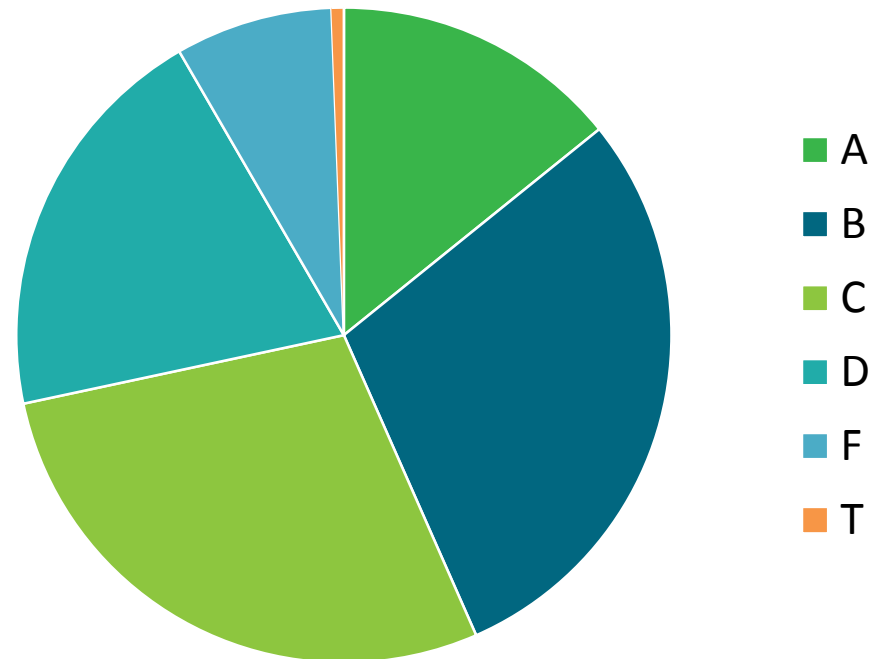
- Louisiana's 2012 cohort graduation rate increased to an all-time high for a second consecutive year** – reaching 72.3% of students completing high school in four years.
- This represents a .9 percentage point increase over 2011 and a **10 percentage point increase over the last ten years.**
- Of the 71 districts across the state, 39 increased the percentage of students graduating in 2012, and of the 20 districts with the lowest 2011 Cohort Graduation Rate, 16 increased by an average of 5.85 percentage points.

Top 10 School for Growth	10-11 Cohort Graduation Rate	11-12 Cohort Graduation Rate	Graduation Rate Growth
St. Martinville Senior High School	63.5	85.5	22
Oakdale High School	75	95	20
G.W. Carver High School	56.4	73.9	17.5
Ebarb School	70	87.5	17.5
Rapides High School	72.1	89.4	17.3
Varnado High School	60	76.6	16.6
Phoenix High School	62.5	78.9	16.4
Magnet Academy for Cultural Arts	80.6	96.9	16.3
Green Oaks Performing Arts Academy	58	73.5	15.5
East Jefferson High School	63.6	78.7	15.1

Statewide Snapshot of School Grades

Percent of Schools

Letter Grade	# of Schools
A	187
B	384
C	372
D	262
F	102
T	8



Grade Distribution by Year

Letter Grade	10-11 Letter Grade	11-12 Letter Grade	12-13 Letter Grade
A	7%	13%	14%
B	21%	24%	29%
C	28%	28%	28%
D	35%	24%	20%
F	9%	12%	8%
T	--	1%	1%

Grade Distribution: K-8 Schools

Letter Grade	K-8 School Distribution 10-11	K-8 School Distribution 11-12	K-8 School Distribution 12-13
A	7%	8%	16%
B	21%	22%	29%
C	29%	31%	29%
D	37%	26%	20%
F	6%	12%	7%
T	--	1%	< 1%

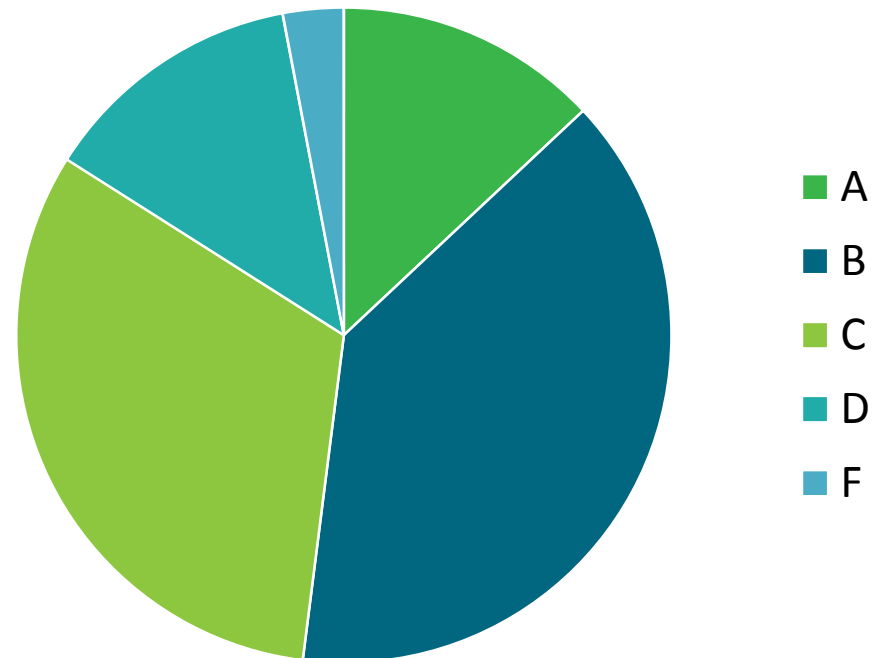
Grade Distribution: High School

Letter Grade	High School and Combination School Distribution 10-11	High School and Combination School Distribution 11-12	High School and Combination School Distribution 12-13
A	8%	25%	11%
B	23%	28%	31%
C	24%	19%	28%
D	30%	16%	19%
F	16%	13%	11%
T	N/A	< 1%	< 1%

District Letter Grades

Percent of Districts

Letter Grade	# of Districts	% of Districts
A	9	13%
B	28	39%
C	23	32%
D	9	13%
F	3	3%



District Highlights

Top Districts

Zachary Community Schools	A	109.1
Orleans Parish	A	108.2
Ascension Parish	A	104.9
St. Tammany Parish	A	104.6
Vernon Parish	A	104.6
St. Charles Parish	A	104.3
West Feliciana Parish	A	103.1
St. Bernard Parish	A	101.5
Central Community Schools	A	101.3

Louisiana Believes
