

Executive Summary

Schools receive two annual accountability ratings based on the performance of students on statewide assessments. One is for state accreditation and the other is for meeting the goals of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001. Federal law requires states to set annual benchmarks for achievement in reading, mathematics, and for other academic indicators (OAI). Schools, divisions, and states that meet these objectives make what federal law refers to as “Adequate Yearly Progress” (AYP). This report describes the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) by school and the division for school year 2010-11 (based on spring 2010 testing).

The format of the AYP benchmark reports has been redesigned to enable the reader to easily assimilate information at the school and division level and to compare this information across the reports. The layout allows the reader to quickly review information by participation and achievement for reading and mathematics by the seven student subgroups, outlined in NCLB and provide summary information of the OAI selected by each school. The benchmark for participation or proficiency is noted at the top of each column and the percentages of students that either participated in or passed the subject assessment by subgroup are reported. For OAI, the percentage of the “All students” subgroup is reported. The use of colors (red and green) also helps the reader quickly determine AYP status, where red is used to indicate that AYP was not met and green that it was.

After providing some essential background and description of state accountability guidelines and a brief explanation of the layout and components of the benchmark reports, the AYP benchmark reports for school year 2010-11 are presented. The appendices include additional information for school year 2010-11: a complete copy of the state accountability guidelines, summary tables of AYP performance in the four core academic subject areas, and a summary table of state accreditation and AYP status. These are followed by the AYP benchmark reports for school year 2009-10.