

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

CCSD students significantly improve on End-of-Course examinations

Communications Office

CCSD out-performs the state in all four EOC tests

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Charleston, SC - Charleston County School District's (CCSD) high school students recorded major gains and outpaced the state average in the Algebra 1, Biology 1, and US History & Constitution content area exams on the 2021-2022 End-of-Course Examination Program (EOCEP), according to data released by the South Carolina Department of Education today. CCSD students also achieved higher than the state average in English 2.

Students enrolled in the aforementioned courses take an EOCEP assessment at the end of the course term. While the results are important for federal accountability requirements and the South Carolina school report card, CCSD believes student success indicates the system's ability to ensure that students are ready for life after high school.

"These results are more proof of the excellent work happening in our classrooms," explained Superintendent of Schools Don Kennedy. "We aren't where we want to be as a system, but we recognize our teachers are committed to both excellence and setting high expectations, and our students are responding."

ALGEBRA 1

Nearly 57 percent (56.93) of CCSD students scored a "C" or better on the Algebra 1 test, almost 15 points higher (14.59) than the state average, and more than 10 percentage points (10.2) better than last year's score. In addition, each major demographic group of CCSD students improved when it comes to students scoring "C" or above from the previous year.

- Black - 14.6 to 28.3 (highest in five years of data); 13.7 percent increase
- Hispanic - 31.4 to 44.5; 13.1 percent increase
- White - 68.2 to 76.9; 8.7 percent increase
- Other - 63.7 to 74.0; 10.3 percent increase

"Notably, subgroups of CCSD students whose scores (C or higher) were lowest in 2021 on Algebra 1 EOCEP demonstrated the greatest gains in 2022," according to Interim Deputy Superintendent Anita Huggins. "This demonstrates thoughtful

planning and standards-aligned instruction by teachers and strategic support as well as goal-setting by leaders. While we still have work to do, the gains are a significant feat for CCSD's schools."

Huggins, who worked as an Executive Director in the Secondary Learning Community alongside Associate Superintendent Dr. Joe Williams during the 2021-2022 school year, also pointed out eight high schools improved 12 percentage points or more in the number of students scoring a "C" or better.

ENGLISH 2

CCSD exceeded the state in students scoring a "C" or better; the district's average was 71.32 percent, compared to the 67.36 state average (+4.48). The 2021-22 school year was the first year of the state's complete transition from English 1 to English 2 EOCEP; both the district and state averages slightly declined from the previous year.

The following results are CCSD averages for the major subgroups (compared to last year's results):

- Black - 48.5 to 47.0; 1.5 percent decrease
- Hispanic - 54.9 to 53.6; 1.3 percent decrease
- White - 91.9 to 90.0; 1.9 percent decrease
- Other - 84.9 to 84.7; 0.2 percent decrease

BIOLOGY 1

CCSD made gains (48.99 to 50.15) in students scoring a "C" or above from the 2020-21 school year and outperformed the state average by 7.6 percentage points. All four of the district's major subgroups improved on the Biology 1 EOCEP as well.

- Black - 15.7 to 19.8; 4.1 percent increase
- Hispanic - 29.5 to 34.0; 4.5 percent increase
- White - 72.5 to 75.2; 2.7 percent increase
- Other - 60.8 to 68.8; 8.0 percent increase

"These increases are promising," noted Interim Chief of Schools Dr. Anthony Dixon, "However, we still have much work to do in order to close the achievement gap between students of color and white students. We are dedicated to focusing on strategies to serve all students during the coming year."

U.S. HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION (USHC)

CCSD improved by nearly five percentage points (4.93) overall from 2020-2021 to 2021-2022 in the USHC exam when it comes to students earning a "C" or better. The district's average of 48.86 percent is almost nine percent (8.92) better than the state average as well. Most of the CCSD subgroups demonstrated gains in USHC EOCEP scores.

- Black - 12.4 to 20.6; 8.2 percent increase
- Hispanic - 27.8 to 31.9; 4.1 percent increase
- White - 63.4 to 69.1; 5.7 percent increase
- Other - 63.6 to 58.3; 5.3 percent decrease

“We want to be honest in our analysis of these results - we need to improve,” added CCSD’s Interim Chief of Schools Michelle Simmons. “At the same, considering the large numbers of students taking these exams, there is an opportunity to celebrate the efforts of our teachers and students.”

CCSD students participated in more than 14,000 EOCEP tests during the 2021-2022 school year.

It is important to note that new U.S. History standards were tested in 2021-22, so results will not be used in Report Card accountability for the 2021-22 school year.

For more information, visit the [state website](#) or call CCSD’s Communications Office at (843) 937-6300.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all of its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 49,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools. Options include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military.