



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL

RESEARCH & EVALUATION
3300 FOREST HILL BOULEVARD, B-246
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33406

PAUL HOUCHENS, PH.D.
DIRECTOR

JAMIE WYATT
CHIEF OF STAFF

ADAM MILLER, PH.D.
CHIEF OF PERFORMANCE
ACCOUNTABILITY

PHONE: 561-434-8469 / FAX: 561-357-7611

WWW.PALMBEACHSCHOOLS.ORG

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

July 1, 2024

TO: School Board Members

THROUGH: Michael J. Burke, Superintendent *MJB*

FROM: Jamie Wyatt, Chief of Staff *JW*
Adam Miller, Ph.D., Chief of Performance Accountability *am*

SUBJECT: FY24 STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT RESULTS RELEASE

On June 30, 2024, the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released the FY24 results of the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) for grades 3 to 10 English Language Arts (ELA) and grades 3 to 8 Mathematics; B.E.S.T. Algebra 1 and Geometry End-of-Course (EOC) Exams; Biology, Civics, and U.S. History End-of-Course Exams, and State Science Assessments.¹

The FAST assessments for ELA (VPK through grade 10 Reading) and Mathematics (VPK through grade 8 Mathematics) are progress monitoring (PM) assessments and are administered three times per year. The administration of PM1 occurs at the very beginning of the school year and is designed to provide a baseline score so that teachers can begin to track student achievement progress. PM2 is administered mid-year, and PM3 is the summative assessment of standards-based learning for the school year. Per the FLDOE, FAST data from FY23 and FY24 should not be compared with prior year's performance due to the change in standards associated with the migration from the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) to the new FAST progress monitoring system. In FY23, the FAST scores were initially reported on the FSA scale. In October 2023, the FLDOE established the scale for the new FAST assessments and provided updates with retrofitted scores for FY23 and reports the FY24 scores on the new scale. The new FAST scale is used in this report.

In light of the new progress monitoring system, the FLDOE instructs parents that results from PM1 and PM2 are for informational purposes only, are used to identify areas that may need additional instruction or support and should not be considered student achievement designations. The present report provides a high-level summary of the performance data at the end of year (PM3) in comparison with FY23 scores, similar school districts, and the state of Florida overall.

FAST ELA

- Palm Beach increased the percentage of students scoring level 3 or higher in grades 3-10 combined at a higher rate than the state and matched the second-highest growth among the large seven districts (trailing Pinellas and matching Broward) compared to FY23.
- All grade levels, except grade 4, experienced increases in the percentage of students scoring at Level 3 or higher in FY24 compared to FY23. The largest increase occurred in grade 6 (56%, up from 48%) followed by grade 10 (54%, up from 47%).
- Palm Beach performed higher than Florida overall in grades 5, 6, 8, and 10 and matched the state in grades 7 and 9.

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- Among the seven large districts, Palm Beach made the largest increase in grades 6 (+8 percentage points), 8 (+5 percentage points), and 10 (+10 percentage points, tied with Broward).
- Palm Beach decreased the number of grade 3 students scoring at Level 1 by 4 percentage points from 28% to 24% (representing a decrease of more than 900 students). This represents the second-largest decrease of all large districts following Pinellas.

FAST Math

- Palm Beach increased the percentage of students scoring level 3 or above in grades 3-8 combined at an equal rate to the state and matched the second-highest growth amongst the large seven districts (trailing Broward and matching Orange and Pinellas) compared to FY23.
- All grade levels recorded increases in the percentage of students scoring at Level 3 or higher in FY24 relative to FY23. The largest increase was recorded in grade 6 with an 11-percentage-point increase from 49% to 60%.
- Palm Beach exceeded the state average in grades 5, 6, and 8.
- Compared to the seven large districts, Palm Beach showed the largest increase in performance in grade 6 (+11 percentage points) and showed the highest performance among the large seven districts in grades 6 (60%, tied with Miami-Dade) and 8 (63%).

BEST Algebra 1 and Geometry EOCs

- Performance in Algebra 1 increased by 11 percentage points from 47% to 58% at Level 3 or higher in FY24 compared to FY23, the largest increase among the seven large school districts.
- Palm Beach exceeded the statewide performance in Algebra 1 by 3 percentage points (58% vs. 55%).
- Performance in Geometry increased by 3 percentage points from 48% to 51% at Level 3 or higher in FY24 compared to FY23.

Statewide Science Assessment

- Palm Beach increased performance in grades 5 and 8 (+2 percentage points each).
- Palm Beach matched the state in grade 5 and exceeded the state in grade 8.

End-of-Course Exams

- Performance on the Biology EOC increased by 4 percentage points (67% from 63%).
- Performance on the Civics EOC increased by 1 percentage point (66% from 65%).
- Performance on the U.S. History EOC increased by 3 percentage points (65% from 62%).

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Table 1: FY24 Number of Students Tested in Different Assessments

Assessment	Grade Levels	Number of Students Tested
FAST ELA	3–10	114,378
FAST Mathematics	3–8	76,970
BEST Algebra 1 EOC	7–12	14,627
BEST Geometry EOC	8–12	15,707
Statewide Science	5 & 8	27,306
Biology EOC	8–12	14,518
Civics EOC	6–8	14,954
U.S. History EOC	9–12	13,553

Table 2: Overall FAST ELA & Math Performance for the Seven Largest Florida Districts and State

District Name	Grades 3-10 ELA Combined			Grades 3-8 Math Combined		
	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff
State	49	53	4	51	55	4
Broward	51	56	5	51	57	6
Miami-Dade	52	56	4	55	58	3
Duval	43	46	3	48	50	2
Hillsborough	48	50	2	51	53	2
Orange	49	52	3	51	55	4
Palm Beach	49	54	5	51	55	4
Pinellas	50	56	6	54	58	4

Table 3: FAST ELA – Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the District and Florida

Year	Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5		Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8		Grade 9		Grade 10	
	PB	FL	PB	FL												
FY24	54	55	52	53	57	55	56	54	50	50	53	51	53	53	54	53
FY23	49	51	53	52	52	50	48	50	49	47	48	48	48	48	47	47
Diff	5	4	-1	1	5	5	8	4	1	3	5	3	5	5	7	6

PB = District; FL = State of Florida

Table 4: FAST Mathematics, BEST Algebra I EOC, and BEST Geometry EOC – Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the District and Florida

Year	Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5		Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8		BEST Algebra 1 EOC		BEST Geometry EOC	
	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL										
FY24	59	60	50	58	58	56	60	56	36	47	63	54	58	55	51	53
FY23	55	57	49	58	53	52	49	49	34	46	62	53	47	51	48	46
Diff	4	3	1	0	5	4	11	7	2	1	1	1	11	4	3	7

PB = District, FL = State of Florida. Note: The FDOE does not administer a FAST Mathematics test at grades 9 and 10. The BEST Algebra I EOC and Geometry EOC are only administered at PM3.

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Table 5: FAST ELA – Grades 3, 4, and 5: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Seven Largest Florida Districts and State: PM3

District Name	Grade 3			Grade 4			Grade 5		
	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff
State	51	55	4	52	53	1	50	55	5
Broward	54	57	3	55	57	2	51	60	9
Miami-Dade	53	56	3	53	55	2	52	56	4
Duval	47	49	2	45	47	2	43	46	3
Hillsborough	47	51	4	48	49	1	48	51	3
Orange	53	57	4	55	54	-1	50	58	8
Palm Beach	49	54	5	53	52	-1	52	57	5
Pinellas	54	62	8	52	57	5	53	59	6

Diff. = Difference

Table 6: FAST ELA – Grades 3: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 1 for the Seven Largest Florida Districts and State: PM3

District Name	Grade 3 Level 1		
	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff
State	25	22	-3
Broward	24	21	-3
Miami-Dade	27	24	-3
Duval	30	28	-2
Hillsborough	29	26	-3
Orange	26	23	-3
Palm Beach	28	24	-4
Pinellas	21	16	-5

Table 7: FAST ELA – Grades 6, 7, and 8: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Seven Largest Florida Districts and State: PM3

District Name	Grade 6			Grade 7			Grade 8		
	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff
State	50	54	4	47	50	3	48	51	3
Broward	53	57	4	49	54	5	50	52	2
Miami-Dade	53	57	4	51	55	4	52	54	2
Duval	41	45	4	40	42	2	42	45	3
Hillsborough	49	54	5	48	49	1	45	47	2
Orange	47	52	5	45	47	2	47	49	2
Palm Beach	48	56	8	49	50	1	48	53	5
Pinellas	50	57	7	49	54	5	48	52	4

Diff. = Difference

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Table 8: FAST ELA – Grades 9, and 10: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Seven Largest Florida Districts and State: PM3

District Name	Grade 9			Grade 10		
	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff
State	48	53	5	47	53	6
Broward	49	55	6	47	54	7
Miami-Dade	51	54	3	52	56	4
Duval	42	46	4	42	46	4
Hillsborough	48	51	3	48	52	4
Orange	46	51	5	47	51	4
Palm Beach	48	53	5	47	54	7
Pinellas	46	55	9	45	51	6

Diff. = Difference

Table 9: FAST Mathematics – Grades 3, 4, and 5: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Seven Largest Florida Districts and State: PM3

District Name	Grade 3			Grade 4			Grade 5		
	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff
State	57	60	3	58	58	0	52	56	4
Broward	60	65	5	62	63	1	55	61	6
Miami-Dade	61	65	4	61	62	1	54	59	5
Duval	57	56	-1	55	53	-2	49	49	0
Hillsborough	53	56	3	55	55	0	50	53	3
Orange	57	62	5	59	58	-1	52	58	6
Palm Beach	55	59	4	49	50	1	53	58	5
Pinellas	60	63	3	63	65	2	58	63	5

Diff. = Difference

Table 10: FAST Mathematics – Grades 6, 7, and 8: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Seven Largest Florida Districts and State: PM3

District Name	Grade 6			Grade 7			Grade 8		
	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff
State	49	56	7	46	47	1	53	54	1
Broward	48	55	7	49	55	6	43	43	0
Miami-Dade	53	60	7	46	49	3	57	58	1
Duval	37	44	7	38	36	-2	43	46	3
Hillsborough	48	52	4	34	34	0	55	55	0
Orange	48	55	7	35	36	1	56	61	5
Palm Beach	49	60	11	34	36	2	62	63	1
Pinellas	53	59	6	33	27	-6	59	60	1

Diff. = Difference

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Table 11: BEST Algebra I EOC and BEST Geometry EOC: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Seven Largest Florida Districts and State.

District Name	BEST Algebra I EOC			BEST Geometry EOC		
	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff
State	51	55	4	46	53	7
Broward	49	58	9	44	53	9
Miami-Dade	57	61	4	50	56	6
Duval	53	56	3	51	55	4
Hillsborough	56	56	0	47	54	7
Orange	50	53	3	44	54	10
Palm Beach	47	58	11	48	51	3
Pinellas	54	54	0	44	55	11

Note. Summary based on all test takers on FY23 and FY24.

Table 12: Statewide Science Assessment Results – Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the District and Florida

Year	Grade 5		Grade 8	
	Palm Beach	State	Palm Beach	State
FY24	53	53	48	45
FY23	51	51	46	44
FY22	44	48	47	45
FY21	44	47	47	45
FY23 -FY24 Diff.	2	2	2	1
FY21-FY24 Diff.	9	6	1	0

Table 13: Statewide Science Assessment Results – Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for Grades 5 and 8 for Seven Largest Florida Districts and State

District Name	Grade 5						Grade 8					
	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff.	FY21-FY24 Diff.	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY23-FY24 Diff.	FY21-FY24 Diff.
State	47	48	51	53	2	6	45	45	44	45	1	0
Broward	40	44	46	52	6	12	36	40	38	41	3	5
Dade	43	49	50	53	3	10	37	39	40	42	2	5
Duval	42	42	48	49	1	7	37	35	35	37	2	0
Hillsborough	44	45	47	47	0	3	42	43	41	43	2	1
Orange	50	52	59	61	2	11	46	49	50	48	-2	2
Palm Beach	44	44	51	53	2	9	47	47	46	48	2	1
Pinellas	55	55	60	64	4	9	47	45	47	50	3	3

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Table 14: Biology EOC– Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the District and Florida

District Name	Biology					
	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY23 -FY24 Diff.	FY19-FY24 Diff.
State	62	60	63	67	4	5
Broward	58	58	63	70	7	12
Dade	61	61	65	70	5	9
Duval	56	56	66	69	3	13
Hillsborough	60	62	62	64	2	4
Orange	62	60	63	69	6	7
Palm Beach	64	62	63	67	4	3
Pinellas	60	59	59	62	3	2

Table 15: Civics and US History EOC– Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the District and Florida

District Name	Civics						U.S. History					
	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY23- FY24 Diff.	FY19- FY24 Diff.	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY23- FY24 Diff.	FY19- FY24 Diff.
State	64	69	66	67	1	3	63	65	63	68	5	5
Broward	58	68	64	68	4	10	56	63	63	69	6	13
Dade	62	71	68	70	2	8	59	65	66	70	4	11
Duval	64	66	63	63	0	-1	58	60	61	69	8	11
Hillsborough	61	72	64	65	1	4	67	69	65	68	3	1
Orange	61	67	61	62	1	1	64	68	63	69	6	5
Palm Beach	62	68	65	66	1	4	61	66	62	65	3	4
Pinellas	62	66	68	73	5	11	62	66	59	67	8	5

For questions about the School District of Palm Beach County’s FAST results, please contact Dr. Adam Miller, Chief of Performance Accountability, at 561-434-8851. If you have questions about instructional programs, please contact Dr. Glenda Sheffield, Chief Academic Officer, at 561-434-8616. If you have questions about individual school efforts and the FAST tests, please contact the appropriate Regional or Instructional Superintendent.

MJB/JW/AM/PH/RC:wI

- c: Academic and Operating Chiefs
- Regional/Instructional Superintendents
- Academic Directors
- Principals