

2007 - Where Are We Now Memo

The Nation's Report Card

All data reported from National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP)

4th Grade Reading

SC's rank (42nd) is determined in a comparison of 2007 average scale scores among all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide scores on the grade 4 reading assessment, given in 2003 and 2007. SC's average scale score dropped 1 point from 2003 to 2007.

2005 ranking: (41st)

8th Grade Reading

SC's rank (41st) is determined in a comparison of 2007 average scale scores among all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide scores on the grade 8 reading assessment, given in 2003 and 2007. SC's average scale score dropped 1 point from 2003 to 2007.

2005 ranking: (39th)

4th Grade Math

SC's rank (33rd) is determined in a comparison 2007 average scale scores among all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of available nationwide scores on the grade 4 math assessment, given in 2000 and 2007. SC's average scale score increased 17 points from 2000 to 2007, the sixth largest jump nationwide. Ten states did not report results for the grade 4 math assessment.

2005 ranking: (28th)

8th Grade Math

SC's rank (28th) is determined in a comparison 2007 average scale scores among all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide scores on the grade 8 math assessment, given in 2000 and 2007. SC's average scale score increased 15 points from 2000 to 2007, the largest increase in the nation. Eleven states did not report results for the grade 8 math assessment in 2000.

2005 ranking: (21st)

**one of five fastest improving systems*

4th Grade Science

SC's rank (33rd) is determined in a comparison 2005 average scale scores among all 50 states. Seven states did not report scores for the 2005 4th grade science assessment.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide scores on the grade 4 science assessment, given in 2000 and 2005. SC's average scale score

increased 8 points from 2000 to 2005, the largest increase nationwide. Fifteen states either did not report results for the grade 4 science assessment in 2000 or 2005, so the rate of improvement could not be calculated for those states.

**one of five fastest improving systems*

8th Grade Science

SC's rank (30th) is determined in a comparison 2005 average scale scores among all 50 states. Seven states did not report scores for the 2005 8th grade science assessment.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide scores on the grade 8 science assessment, given in 2000 and 2005. SC's average scale score increased 5 points from 2000 to 2005, the third largest increase in the nation. Fifteen states either did not report results for the grade 8 science assessment in 2000 or 2005, so the rate of improvement could not be calculated for those states.

**one of five fastest improving systems*

On-time graduation rate

70.9% as calculated by the SDE and reported on the 2007 school and district report cards, released November 2007.

2006 graduation rate: 74.3%

State calculations vary; therefore comparison data are unavailable.

SAT

SC's rank (48th) is determined in a comparison of 2007 average composite scores (critical reading plus math sections) among all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The average composite score for SC students in 2007 was 984, down one point from 2006. The College Board reports that 62 percent of SC high school graduates took the SAT.

2006 ranking: (49th)

**one of five fastest improving systems [SC's ten year change (1998 to 2007) reflects a gain of 31 points.]*

ACT

SC's rank (48th) is determined in a comparison of 2007 average composite scores among all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The average composite score for SC students in 2007 was 19.6, out of a possible 36 points. The ACT reports that 43 percent of SC high school graduates took the ACT, up four percentage points from last year.

Show comparison from previous year's rank (49th) – new this year

Between 2006 and 2007, South Carolina's average ACT score increased one-tenth of a point.

Advanced Placement – Participation

SC's rank (22nd) was determined in a comparison of the percent of students who took an AP exam in high school, as reported by the College Board. The College Board uses the projected number of 2006 graduates from public schools in each state as the denominator, as issued by the *Knocking at the College Door* (2003) report, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. SC data was compared to all 50 states and the District of Columbia. In 2006, 22.0 percent of students in SC took an AP exam in high school.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide participation rates, between 2000 and 2006. Between 2000 and 2006, SC's rate of participation increased 4.3 percentage points.

Show comparison from previous year's rank (18th)

Participation rate is four tenths of a percentage point up from last year

Advanced Placement – Passage

SC's rank (23rd) was determined in a comparison of the percent of students in the graduating class of 2006 who scored a 3 or higher on an AP exam at any point during their classroom years. In 2006, 12.5 percent of students in SC scored a 3 or higher on an AP exam in 2006.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide passage rates, between 2000 and 2006. Between those years, SC's rate of passage increased 2.5 percentage points.

Show comparison from previous year's rank (20th)

Passage rate is down one-tenth of a percentage point from last year

Achievement Gap – PACT

All PACT data reported by the State Dept. of Education. The gap measures the percentage point difference at the Proficient or above level between two student groups from 2000 to 2007 in ELA and Math. The gap in Science and Social Studies measures the gap between 2003, the first year data was available in these subjects, and 2007.

PACT

White/African-American Gap	24.4	29.1↑	28.3	26.3↓	24.3	30.4↑	21.6	24.3↑
White/Hispanic Gap	2.1	21.6↑	12.1	21.8↑	19.2	23.6↑	16.2	17.2↑
Pay/Free or Reduced-Price Lunch Gap	24.8	28.3↑	29.6	28.2↓	24.6	29.9↑	24.0	26.9↑
	Math 2000	Math 2007	ELA 2000	ELA 2007	Science 2003	Science 2007	Social Studies 2003	Social Studies 2007

Note: ELA performance went up among White students; AA student performance remained the same.

↓Progress made

Achievement Gap – AP Performance

Performance data measures the percentage point gap that exists between the passage rates (score of 3 or higher) of two student groups between 1997 and 2007. AP data reported by the College Board.

AP Performance

White/African-American Gap	36.0	30.1↓
White/Hispanic Gap	5.0	8.7↑
	1997	2007

Note: AP performance is increasing within each demographic group.

 ↓Progress Made

Achievement Gap – AP Participation

Participation data measures the percentage point gap existing between percent of student population and percent of total AP examinees. AP data reported by the College Board.

AP Participation

African-American	22.9	21.9↓
Hispanic	0	0.1↑
	2004	2006

Achievement Gap – SAT and ACT

Reported data show the gap in the average composite score of the SAT (2002-2007) and the ACT (2002-2007). SAT data reported by the College Board. ACT data reported by the ACT.

(Gap in average composite score)

White/African-American Gap	195	188↓	2.2	5.2↑
White/Hispanic Gap	52	67↑	1.7	1.6↓
	*SAT 2002	*SAT 2007	**ACT 2002	**ACT 2007

 ↓Progress Made