

DISTRICTS IMPROVING IN ABSOLUTE RATING, 2010

0403	Anderson 3	was Below Average, should be <b>AVERAGE</b>
2601	Horry	was Average, should be <b>GOOD</b>
3201	Lexington 1	was Good, should be <b>EXCELLENT</b>
4501	Williamsburg	was Below Average, should be <b>AVERAGE</b>

HIGH SCHOOLS WITH A PREVIOUS ABSOLUTE RATING OF GOOD CHANGING TO AN ABSOLUTE RATING OF **EXCELLENT**, 2010

0402012	BELTON-HONEA PATH HIGH	Anderson 2
1301002	CHESTERFIELD HIGH	Chesterfield
2301006	EASTSIDE HIGH	Greenville
2301014	MAULDIN HIGH	Greenville
2601001	AYNOR HIGH	Horry
2601011	SOCASTEE HIGH	Horry
2901006	INDIAN LAND HIGH	Lancaster
3205039	IRMO HIGH	Lexington 5
3901003	D W DANIEL HIGH	Pickens
4001004	DREHER HIGH	Richland 1
4002084	RIDGE VIEW HIGH	Richland 2
4201002	CHAPMAN HIGH	Spartanburg 1
4205043	JAMES F BYRNES HIGH	Spartanburg 5
4206053	DORMAN HIGH	Spartanburg 6
4602010	CLOVER HIGH	York 2

# 2010 Annual School and District Ratings Discussion Points

Based on data received from SCDE October 29, 2010; November 5, 2010; March 1; and March 7, 2011. This document also reflects revisions made by SCDE on March 23, 2011. Revisions are noted in blue.



Note: 2010 ratings for primary, elementary, and middle schools were released in November 2010. The high school and district ratings release was delayed until March 2011. These discussion points incorporate the ratings for all schools and districts.

## RATINGS

### Absolute Ratings for Primary, Elementary, Middle, and High Schools

	2009		2010	
<b>Schools rated Excellent</b>	<b>188 (16%)</b> Primary schools: 26 Elem. schools: 111	Middle schools: 26 High schools: 25	<b>242 (21%)</b> Primary schools: 32 Elem. schools: 134	Middle schools: 36 High Schools: 40
<b>Schools rated Good</b>	<b>185 (16%)</b> Primary schools: 3 Elem. schools: 105	Middle schools: 41 High schools: 36	<b>209 (18%)</b> Primary schools: 0 Elem. schools: 119	Middle schools: 46 High schools: 44
<b>Schools rated Average</b>	<b>537 (46%)</b> Primary schools: 0 Elem. schools: 301	Middle schools: 143 High schools: 93	<b>509 (44%)</b> Primary schools: 0 Elem. schools: 288	Middle schools: 136 High Schools: 85
<b>Schools rated Below Average</b>	<b>170 (15%)</b> Primary schools: 0 Elem. schools: 86	Middle schools: 62 High schools: 22	<b>137 (12%)</b> Primary schools: 0 Elem. schools: 73	Middle schools: 52 High schools: 12
<b>Schools rated At-Risk</b>	<b>83 (7%)</b> Primary schools: 0 Elem. schools: 33	Middle schools: 29 High schools: 21	<b>69 (6%)</b> Primary schools: 0 Elem. schools: 24	Middle schools: 27 High schools: 18

Table does not include ratings for career and technology centers. Percentages calculated using total number of school report cards in 2009 (1161) and 2010 (1163). Additionally, ratings were not reported for 28 schools in 2009 and 33 schools in 2010.

### South Carolina's Students – 2010

- 25.2% of students are enrolled in a school with an Absolute rating of *Excellent* (up from 18.6% in 2009)
- 21.1% of students are enrolled in a school with an Absolute rating of *Good* (up from 18.1% in 2009)
- 41.4% of students are enrolled in a school with an Absolute rating of *Average* (down from 47.7% in 2009)
- 8.6% of students are enrolled in a school with an Absolute rating of *Below Average* (down from 10.8% in 2009)
- 3.8% of students are enrolled in a school with an Absolute rating of *At Risk* (down from 4.9% in 2009)

Data based on enrollment across primary, elementary, middle, and high schools

There were changes to school Absolute ratings from 2009 to 2010 in the following manner:

**“Improvers”**

3 primary schools, 118 elementary schools, 40 middle schools, 71 high schools

**“Maintainers”**

26 primary schools, 465 elementary schools, 233 middle schools, 95 high schools

**“Sliders”**

0 primary schools, 43 elementary schools, 13 middle schools, 29 high schools

### **Charter School Absolute Ratings**

The performance of charter schools is included in the overall “snapshot” of the ratings. Of the 44 charter schools who received an Absolute rating in 2010, eleven schools are rated *Excellent*. Eleven of the charter schools are rated *At Risk* and five are rated *Below Average*.

- Eight of the 44 charter school report cards (18%) with Absolute ratings in 2010 are chartered within the SC Public Charter School District; 36 schools are chartered within their local school districts.
- There are 55 charter schools currently operating in SC; eleven are not rated currently.

### **Palmetto Priority School (PPS) Performance**

Beginning in 2006, the SC Department of Education began designating schools as Palmetto Priority Schools if they did not meet expected progress as outlined in the Education Accountability Act (EAA).

- Sixteen schools were originally designated PPS but the list currently includes 44 schools.
- Twenty-eight of the 44 schools (64%) are rated *At-Risk* in 2010. Three of the schools, Blackville-Hilda High School (Barnwell 19), Eau Claire High School (Richland One), and Chestnut Oaks Middle School (Sumter 17) received an Absolute rating of *Average* in 2010.

### **Performance of schools rated either *Below Average* or *At-Risk***

In 2009, 253 schools received a rating of either *Below Average* or *At-Risk*.

- Of the 77 schools receiving a rating of *At-Risk* in 2009, 24 schools (31 percent) improved their rating in 2009-2010. One school, Aiken Performing Arts Academy (Aiken), improved their Absolute rating from *At-Risk* in 2009 to *Excellent* in 2010.
- Of the 176 schools receiving an Absolute rating of *Below Average* in 2009, 67 schools (38 percent) improved their rating. One school, Fox Creek High School (Edgefield), improved their Absolute rating from *Below Average* in 2009 to *Excellent* in 2010.
- Thirteen of the schools receiving an Absolute rating of *Below Average* in 2009 saw a decline in their rating to *At-Risk* in 2010.

### **District Absolute Ratings**

- This year, 6 school districts are rated *At Risk*, compared to 21 in 2009 and 12 in 2008.
- All districts either improved or maintained their Absolute rating from 2009 to 2010; 65 school districts improved their Absolute rating.

<b>Absolute rating</b>	<b>2009 District Rating # (%)</b>	<b>2010 District Rating # (%)</b>
<i>Excellent</i>	1 (1.2%)	6 (7.0%)
<i>Good</i>	0	12 (14.0)
<i>Average</i>	24 (28.2%)	48 (55.9%)
<i>Below Average</i>	39 (45.9%)	14 (16.3%)
<i>At-Risk (Unsatisfactory)</i>	21 (24.7%)	6 (7.0%)

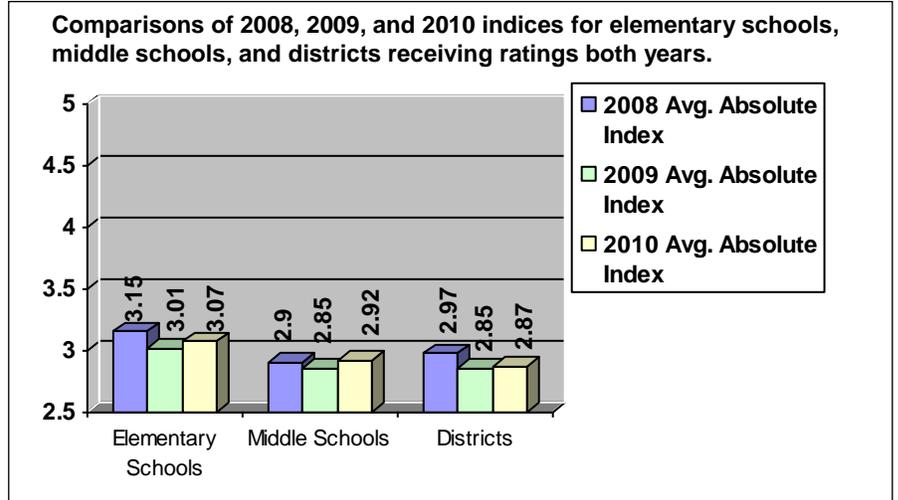
**Growth Ratings for Primary, Elementary, Middle, and High Schools**

	2009		2010	
<b>Schools receiving Growth rating of Excellent</b>	<b>110 (9%)</b> Primary schools: 7 Elem. schools: 76	Middle schools: 8 High schools: 19	<b>263 (23%)</b> Primary schools: 13 Elem. schools: 183	Middle schools: 42 High Schools: 25
<b>Schools receiving Growth rating of Good</b>	<b>201 (17%)</b> Primary schools: 15 Elem. schools: 124	Middle schools: 26 High schools: 36	<b>242 (21%)</b> Primary schools: 15 Elem. schools: 139	Middle schools: 67 High schools: 21
<b>Schools receiving Growth rating of Average</b>	<b>535 (46%)</b> Primary schools: 1 Elem. schools: 338	Middle schools: 185 High schools: 11	<b>402 (35%)</b> Primary schools: 1 Elem. schools: 240	Middle schools: 144 High Schools: 17
<b>Schools receiving Growth rating of Below Average</b>	<b>161 (14%)</b> Primary schools: 0 Elem. schools: 50	Middle schools: 50 High schools: 61	<b>135 (12%)</b> Primary schools: 0 Elem. schools: 58	Middle schools: 29 High schools: 48
<b>Schools receiving Growth rating of At-Risk</b>	<b>150 (13%)</b> Primary schools: 1 Elem. schools: 47	Middle schools: 31 High schools: 70	<b>116 (10%)</b> Primary schools: 0 Elem. schools: 17	Middle schools: 15 High schools: 84

Table does not include Growth ratings for career and technology centers. Percentages calculated using total number of schools receiving a report card in 2009 (1154 schools) and 2010 (1165 schools). Additionally, Growth ratings were not reported for 35 schools in 2009 and 41 schools in 2010.

**STUDENT PERFORMANCE**

Student performance drives the calculation of a school's index. The index determines a school's Absolute rating based upon a 5-point scale. Average student performance as measured by indexes, went up from 2009 to 2010 among elementary, middle, and school districts. The Absolute index for high schools cannot be compared to previous years as the cut-off scores for the high school components were revised, beginning with the 2010 release.



**On-time graduation rate**

- Of the 208 high schools that received Absolute ratings in both 2009 and 2010, 123 (59%) experienced a decline in on-time graduation rate.

## **Confronting Poverty**

*Note: Numbers of schools will vary within data sets. Data provided from the SC Office of Data Management and Analysis includes information from schools that may not have received a report card or received more than one report card, depending on their school structure.*

### **Poverty and Absolute Ratings**

- Only 50 schools (4%) serve a population of 30% poverty or less. **See Appendix for list of schools.**
- Of 1098 schools that had poverty indexes in both 2009 and 2010, 888 (81%) showed an increase in the poverty index in 2010.
- Over half (60%) of all South Carolina schools have at least 70% of their students living in poverty in 2010. This percentage increased from 2009 when 58% of schools were affected. In 2005, 50% of schools served at least 70% of students in poverty.
- One-quarter of schools (25%) serve a population of students in very high poverty (90% or more.) **See Appendix for list of schools.**

<b>Absolute Rating</b>	<b>Average 2008 Poverty Index</b>	<b>Average 2009 Poverty Index</b>	<b>Average 2010 Poverty Index</b>
Excellent	49.9% (n=97)	47.7% (n=188)	50.6% (242)
Good	53.1% (n=182)	62.8% (n=185)	64.7% (209)
Average	66.6% (n=402)	74.4% (n=532)	79.4% (508)
Below Average	82.1% (n=281)	90.2% (n=168)	91.9% (136)
At-Risk	92.2% (n=185)	93.9% (n=82)	94.8% (69)

### **2006-2010 School Ratings Poverty Levels Across Primary, Elementary, Middle, and High Schools Report Cards**

	<b>Extent of Poverty (Poverty Index)</b>		
	<b>High Poverty (70%+)</b>	<b>Very High Poverty (80%+)</b>	<b>Extreme Poverty (90%+)</b>
Total Number of Report Cards (% of 1164 report cards in 2010; 1178 in 2009; 1171 in 2008; 1128 in 2007; and 1106 in 2006)	2010: 699 (60.1%) 2009: 684 (58.1%) 2008: 656 (56.0%) 2007: 601 (53.3%) 2006: 599 (54.2%)	2010: 514 (44.2%) 2009: 493 (41.9%) 2008: 471 (40.2%) 2007: 421 (37.3%) 2006: 402 (36.3%)	2010: 295 (25.3%) 2009: 283 (24.0%) 2008: 278 (23.7%) 2007: 228 (20.2%) 2006: 215 (19.4%)

### **Poverty by Organizational Level – School Absolute Ratings**

An analysis of poverty and school Absolute Ratings shows clearly that high poverty in a school does not necessarily mean a school is low-achieving. Schools with extreme poverty are earning Absolute ratings of *Excellent* and *Good*.

#### Elementary

- Twenty-three of the 315 (7.3%) elementary schools with a poverty index of 80% or greater earned an absolute rating of *Excellent* or *Good*. Four of the 186 (2.2%) elementary schools with a poverty index of 90% or greater earned an absolute rating of *Excellent* or *Good*. **See Appendix for list of schools.**

#### Middle Schools

- The impact of poverty presents a great challenge for middle schools. In 2010, no middle schools with a poverty index of 80% or greater earned an absolute rating of *Excellent* or *Good* while 75 of 114 (65.8%) of these schools earned an absolute rating of *At Risk* or *Below Average*.

### High Schools

- Eight of the 62 (12.9%) high schools with a poverty level of 80% or greater earned an absolute rating of *Excellent* or *Good*, down from 30.5% in 2008. **See Appendix for list of schools.**

### School Districts

- The average poverty index for school districts has increased from a level in 2009 of 74.7% to 76.1% in 2010.

### Poverty by School Organizational Level – Growth Ratings

- Sixty-one of 291 (21%) schools (primary, elementary, middle, and high) with a poverty index of 90% or greater earned a Growth rating of *Excellent* or *Good*. **See Appendix for list of schools.**
- 130 of 508 (26%) schools with a poverty index of 80% or greater earned a Growth rating of *Excellent* or *Good*.
- Of the 693 schools with a poverty index of 70% or greater, 206 (30%) earned a Growth rating of *Excellent* or *Good*.

Growth Rating	2008 Average Poverty Index	2009 Average Poverty Index	2010 Average Poverty Index
Excellent	62.6% (n=104)	51.5% (n=110)	57.5% (n=262)
Good	66.7% (n=166)	61.9% (n=200)	69.9% (n=242)
Average	68.8% (n=147)	75.0% (n=533)	80.3% (n=402)
Below Average	70.2% (n=356)	78.8% (n=160)	83.2% (n=134)
At Risk	76.8% (n=368)	81.8% (n=145)	78.6% (n=116)

### Blue Ribbon Schools – Absolute Ratings

- To assist with rewards for successful schools, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program seeks to honor those elementary and secondary schools in the United States that make significant progress in closing the achievement gap or whose students achieve at very high levels. The schools are selected based on one of three criteria:
  - Schools with at least 40 percent of their students from disadvantaged backgrounds that dramatically improve student performance on state tests, as determined by the state school chief;
  - Schools whose students, regardless of background, achieve in the top 10 percent on state tests; and
  - Private schools that achieve in the top 10 percent in the nation.

In 2009-2010, five SC public schools received Blue Ribbon recognition: Powdersville Elementary (Anderson School District One); Howe Hall Arts Infused Magnet School (Berkeley County School District); Greenville Technical Charter High School (Greenville); Ballentine Elementary School (Lexington/Richland School District Five); and Charles Pinckney Elementary School (Charleston County School District).

Each of the five recognized schools received an Absolute rating of *Excellent* in 2010. Four of the five schools received a Growth rating of *Excellent* while one received a Growth rating of *Good*.