

Webinar: Background on 2020–21 Test Data Release

August 25, 2021

Agenda

- Introductions
 - Todd Silberman, NCDPI Communications
 - Tammy Howard, Director, Accountability Services
 - Curtis Sonneman, Section Chief, Analysis and Reporting, Accountability Services
- U.S. Department of Education (USED) Waiver
- State Board of Education Data Release (September 1)
 - Test Results
 - Cohort Graduation Rate

USED Waiver

- For the 2020–21 school year, the USED granted a waiver to North Carolina from
 - Calculating and reporting School Performance Grades and indicators, including School Accountability Growth
 - The 95% test participation requirement
 - Calculation and reporting of long-term goals for schools to improve achievement and reduce performance gaps

USED Waiver

- For transparency to parents and the public, conditions of the waiver require North Carolina to report
 - All test performance data disaggregated by student subgroups
 - All participation and non-participation data disaggregated by subgroup

USED Waiver

- School identifications are not calculated; however, previous school identifications remain in effect and appropriate support must continue
 - Comprehensive Support and Improvement
 - Targeted Support and Improvement

Data Release

- End-of-grade and end-of-course tests in reading, mathematics, and science
 - Percentage of students scoring at Level 3 and Above: State Proficiency
 - Percentage of students scoring at Level 4 and Above: College and Career Readiness
 - Percentage of students at each academic achievement level
- Provides data from 2018–19, the most year with complete data; however, comparisons are not recommended

Data Release

- Participation
 - Percentage of students who participated in the tests, disaggregated by student subgroup
 - Percentage of students who did not participate in the tests, disaggregated by student subgroup
 - Important to note the participation was not consistent with previous years with respect to
 - the length of the testing windows
 - the standardization of instruction

Data Release

- Identified English learners' performance and participation on the required English proficiency test
 - Percentage of students qualifying to exit identification as an English learner
- ACT: Percentage of 11th graders who have a composite score of at least 17 (UNC system admission minimum)
- WorkKeys: Percentage of 12th graders Career and Technical Education (Completers) who achieved a Silver Certificate or better
- Graduation Project: Percentage of schools that implemented and completed a graduation project

Data Release

- Cohort Graduation Rate
 - Establishes a cohort for each school
 - Four Year: Students who entered 9th grade in the 2017–18 school year
 - Five Year: Students who entered 9th grade in the 2016–17 school year
 - Students are removed if they meet criteria such as transferring to another school that grants diplomas
 - Students are added as they transfer into a school (maintain their original cohort designation)
 - Extended deadline for students to graduate and count in the 2020–21 cohort to August 6; previously was July 15

Data Release

- District level and school level data available on the NCDPI website on September 1
 - All test performance data disaggregated by student subgroups
 - All participation and non-participation data disaggregated by subgroup
 - Exited English learners
 - Cohort Graduation Rate

Notes

- At its August meeting, the State Board of Education approved academic achievement standards for new tests first implemented in the 2020–21 school year
 - Reading Grades 3–8 (general and alternate)
 - English II (alternate only; the general assessment's academic achievement standards were approved summer 2020)
 - Science Grade 5 and 8; Biology (alternate only)

Notes

- Beginning with mathematics in the 2018–19 school year, the general assessments are reported on four levels
 - Not Proficient
 - Level 3
 - Level 4
 - Level 5
- Alternates are reported on three levels
 - Not Proficient
 - Level 3
 - Level 4

Notes

- Level 3 and above
 - Identifies students who have a sufficient command of grade-level knowledge and skills in the tested content areas to move on to the next grade but who may need additional support.
- Level 4 and above
 - Identifies students who with continued learning and progress are on track to be career-and-college ready by the time they graduate from high school.
- The exception to this is Grade 3 Reading EOGs
 - Reported on five levels for the 2020–21 school year to support Read-to-Achieve interventions and support.
 - Will be reported on four levels with the 2021–22 school year.

Timeline

- September 1: Release to State Board of Education
- September 2–10: Data correction window
- October 6: Present data corrections to State Board of Education for approval

Conclusion

- The reporting of the test data is to support local educators and parents in planning for instruction in the 2021–22 school year
 - Not intended to be an accountability report; accountability was waived

QUESTIONS

