



## CHOICES

P.O. Box 15386  
Florence, SC 29506

<b>Grades</b>	6-11 Middle School	
<b>Enrollment</b>	32 Students	
<b>Principal</b>	Ralph Porter	843-664-8993
<b>Superintendent</b>	Dr. Rainey Knight	843-398-5200
<b>Board Chair</b>	Charles Govan	843-332-2288

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2011 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

## RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2011	<b>At-Risk</b>	<b>At-Risk</b>
2010	At-Risk	At-Risk
2009	At-Risk	At-Risk
2008	At-Risk	At-Risk
2007	At-Risk	At-Risk

## DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

## SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>  
<http://eoc.sc.gov>

**Percent of Student PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating**

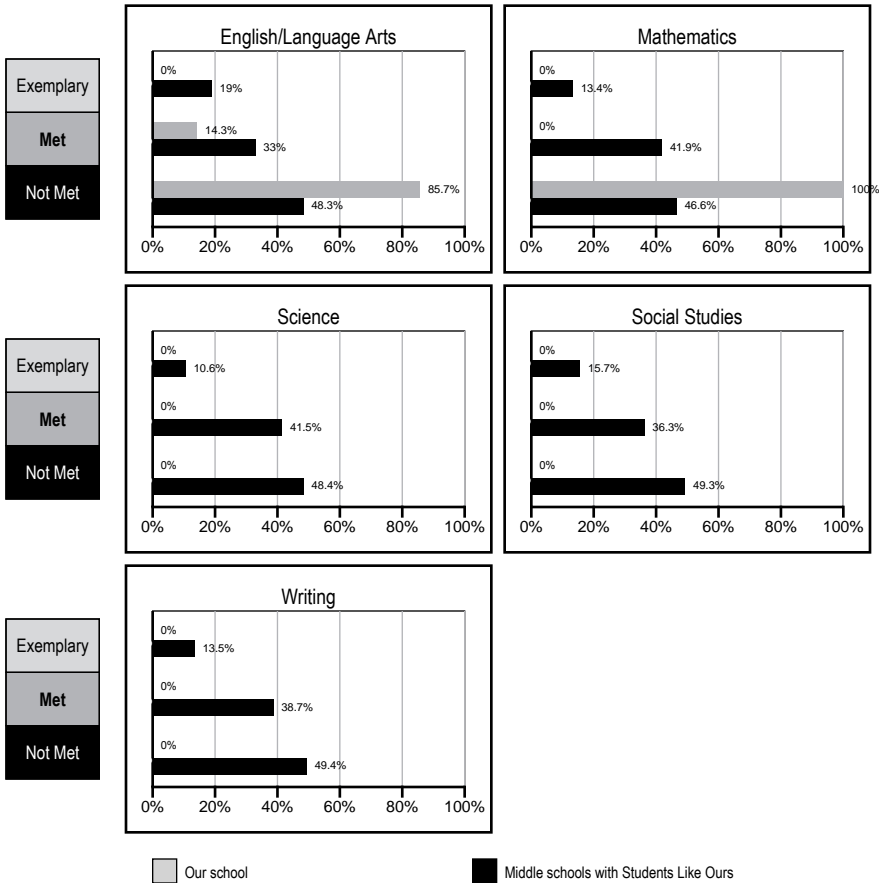
Percent of students tested in 2010-11 whose 2009-10 test scores were located | 80%

**ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\***

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
0	0	21	26	18

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/09/2011.

**Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)**



\* Middle schools with Students Like Ours are middle schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

**Definition of Critical Terms**

<b>Exemplary</b>	"Exemplary" means the student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
<b>Met</b>	"Met" means the student met the grade level standard.
<b>Not Met</b>	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable    N/AV–Not Available    N/C–Not Collected    N/R–Not Reported    /S–Insufficient Sample

## End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	N/A	91.8%
English 1	N/A	88.8%
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	N/A	46.0%
Physical Science	N/A	19.2%
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	N/A	90.0%

## School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
<b>Students (n=32)</b>				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	0.0%	N/R	13.6%	24.5%
Retention rate	2.1%	Up from 0.0%	1.0%	0.7%
Attendance rate	91.0%	Up from 89.8%	95.6%	95.9%
Served by gifted and talented program	2.2%	Up from 0.0%	7.1%	17.8%
With disabilities other than speech	6.4%	Down from 14.1%	10.8%	9.2%
Older than usual for grade	21.3%	Down from 30.8%	2.9%	1.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	6.3%	Up from 0.0%	0.4%	0.4%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Teachers (n=3)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	N/A	N/A	58.2%	60.0%
Continuing contract teachers	N/A	N/A	70.2%	82.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	82.2%	85.6%
Teacher attendance rate	100.0%	No Change	95.3%	95.3%
Average teacher salary*	I/S	N/A	\$44,142	\$46,300
Professional development days/teacher	9.0 days	Down from 10.0 days	10.2 days	9.9 days
<b>School</b>				
Principal's years at school	9.0	Up from 8.0	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	14.7 to 1	Up from 4.9 to 1	19.2 to 1	21.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	91.0%	Up from 89.8%	89.5%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Poor	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	Up from 99.2%	97.8%	98.1%
Character development program	Excellent	Up from Good	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$9,769	Down 19.0%	\$9,564	\$7,634
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	73.0%	Up from 58.8%	62.3%	64.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	61.4%	Up from 52.4%	56.4%	61.2%

\* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

\*\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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## Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

"CHOICES" is in its 9th year as a charter school with charter agreements with both Florence District One and Darlington County school districts. "CHOICES" has a target population of students ages 12-17 who have been expelled from school or dropped out. Our goal is to provide an education that will transition them to become life-long learners and to possibly return to a regular traditional school, if possible and appropriate. "CHOICES" is for practical purposes an Alternative School and should be compared to other Alternative Schools.

"CHOICES" provides a foundation for continuous learning through classroom instruction, service learning, project based learning, and on-site construction training. Character training is the cornerstone for "CHOICES," as the students are given the opportunity to discover the greatest possible understanding of self. They are exposed to individual, personalized learning with a strong emphasis on work ethics and job skills.

The mission of "CHOICES" Charter School is to provide a learning environment that links school to work experiences by making the right choices and staying in school. "CHOICES" was originated by a retired police chief from the City of Florence, who saw a need for a school for divergent learners who were roaming the streets and demonstrating behavior problems that were getting them expelled from school. "CHOICES" is the only alternative after expulsion besides the streets or incarceration.

"CHOICES" is located in Darlington County, adjacent to Florence County, in the middle of 130 acres of forest on Black Creek. The property is owned by Central United Methodist Church. "CHOICES" leases eight acres for one dollar per month for the school location. Student enrollment has remained small intentionally for a total of 45 students.

There is one certified teacher and teacher's assistant per 15 students, with additional assistance provided by retired professional people in the community who volunteer. "CHOICES" has incorporated a Pre-GED component for students who cannot return to high school. These students will pursue the GED when they turn 17. "CHOICES" has also incorporated a Vocational Educational component for all grade levels.

"CHOICES" has adopted a progressive discipline system that ensures good communications with other schools, relative to student behavior.

Ralph Porter, Executive Director

## Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with learning environment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	N/A	N/A	N/A

\* Only students at the highest middle school grade level and their parents were included.

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## No Child Left Behind

## School Adequate Yearly Progress

NO

This school met 3 out of 5 objectives. The objectives included student performance, graduation rate or student attendance, and participation in the state testing program.

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for "All Students" and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency in the areas of English/Language Arts and Mathematics, as well as meeting the statewide target for "All Students" for attendance or graduation rate.

## School Improvement Status

## School Improvement Key

<b>NI</b>	Newly Identified-The school missed adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two years. Sanction: Offer school choice.
<b>CSI</b>	Continuing School Improvement-The school missed AYP for three years. Sanctions: Continue school choice and implement supplemental services.
<b>CA</b>	Corrective Action-The school missed AYP for four years. Sanction: Continue school choice and supplemental services. The school district takes a corrective action.
<b>RP</b>	Plan to Restructure-Sanctions: Continue school choice and supplemental services. Develop a plan to restructure. If the school misses AYP the next year, the school implements the restructuring plan.
<b>R</b>	Restructure-The school missed AYP after two years of corrective action. Sanctions: Implement the restructuring plan. Continue school choice and supplemental services.
<b>DELAY</b>	The school met AYP in all subgroups and the indicator for one year, thus the delay provision applies. The school remains in the same status as last year and is referred to as in "Delay."
<b>HOLD</b>	The school made progress for one year in the subject area that identified the school for school improvement. The school remains in the same status as last year and is referred to as in "Hold."

## Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	1.7%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.7%	4.4%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	100.0%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	91.0%	94.0%**	Yes

\* Or greater than last year

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## PASS Performance By Group

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	School % Met or Exemplary*	District % Met or Exemplary*	State % Met or Exemplary*	Performance Objective Met	Participation Objective Met
<b>English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 79.4% (Met or Exemplary)</b>										
All Students	30	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	21.4	77.6	82.4	No	Yes
<b>Gender</b>										
Male	22	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	73.7	78.7	N/A	N/A
Female	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	81.7	86.2	N/A	N/A
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>										
White	17	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	86.6	88.9	I/S	I/S
African American	12	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	70.9	72.9	I/S	I/S
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	85	93	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	76.7	79.3	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	83	I/S	I/S
<b>Disability Status</b>										
Disabled	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	47.6	48.1	I/S	I/S
<b>Migrant Status</b>										
Migrant	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	68.9	N/A	N/A
<b>English Proficiency</b>										
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	75.3	78.3	I/S	I/S
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>										
Subsidized meals	19	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	18.2	72.5	75.4	I/S	I/S
<b>Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 79.0% (Met or Exemplary)</b>										
All Students	30	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	21.4	80.5	81.9	No	Yes
<b>Gender</b>										
Male	22	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	78.6	79.9	N/A	N/A
Female	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	82.5	84.1	N/A	N/A
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>										
White	17	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	88	88.9	I/S	I/S
African American	12	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	74.8	71.4	I/S	I/S
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	85	94.6	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	86.3	81.1	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	84.4	I/S	I/S
<b>Disability Status</b>										
Disabled	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	51.2	47.3	I/S	I/S
<b>Migrant Status</b>										
Migrant	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	77.6	N/A	N/A
<b>English Proficiency</b>										
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	86.3	81.4	I/S	I/S
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>										
Subsidized meals	19	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	18.2	76.4	74.9	I/S	I/S

\* Adjusted to account for natural variation in performance.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

## PASS Performance By Group

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	School % Met or Exemplary	District % Met or Exemplary	State % Met or Exemplary
<b>Science</b>								
All Students	21	95.2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	66.2	68.6
<b>Gender</b>								
Male	14	92.9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	67.3	68.3
Female	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	65	68.9
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>								
White	11	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	81.3	80.7
African American	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	55	51.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	85.3
Hispanic	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	62.7	61.6
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	70.8
<b>Disability Status</b>								
Disabled	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	42.9	35.7
<b>Migrant Status</b>								
Migrant	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	42.9
<b>English Proficiency</b>								
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	62.5	60.7
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>								
Subsidized meals	14	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	59.3	57.3
<b>Social Studies</b>								
All Students	21	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	71	72.5
<b>Gender</b>								
Male	16	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	71.1	72
Female	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	70.9	73.1
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>								
White	10	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	80.9	81
African American	10	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	63.1	60
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	80	89
Hispanic	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	84	69.6
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	73.5
<b>Disability Status</b>								
Disabled	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	42.6	40.5
<b>Migrant Status</b>								
Migrant	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	53.8
<b>English Proficiency</b>								
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	84	69.7
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>								
Subsidized meals	13	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	65	62.9

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

## PASS Performance By Group

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	School % Met or Exemplary	District % Met or Exemplary	State % Met or Exemplary	School Attendance Rate	District Attendance Rate
<b>Writing</b>										
All Students	13	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	67.4	73.2	92.8	95.4
<b>Gender</b>										
Male	10	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	61.2	67.2	92.5	95.1
Female	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	74	79.4	94	95.7
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>										
White	10	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	78.1	81.5	90.8	94.9
African American	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	59.5	61.3	95	95.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	87	N/A	96.8
Hispanic	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	57.9	66.7	99.1	96.2
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	72.2	N/A	93.5
<b>Disability Status</b>										
Disabled	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	19.7	26	77.6	93.9
<b>Migrant Status</b>										
Migrant	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	40.5	N/A	98.5
<b>English Proficiency</b>										
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	75	65.7	N/A	96.8
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>										
Subsidized meals	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	60.7	63.2	93.2	95.1

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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## PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
<b>English/Language Arts</b>							
<b>2010</b>	3	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	8	18	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>2011</b>	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	12	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	8	11	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>Mathematics</b>							
<b>2010</b>	3	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	8	18	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>2011</b>	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	12	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	8	11	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>Science</b>							
<b>2010</b>	3	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	1	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	8	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>2011</b>	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	4	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	12	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	8	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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## PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
<b>Social Studies</b>							
<b>2010</b>	3	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	8	10	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>2011</b>	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	12	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	8	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>Writing</b>							
<b>2010</b>	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	8	16	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>2011</b>	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	13	100	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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