

Sims Middle School

2200 Whitmire Highway

Union, SC 29379

**Grades** 6-8 Middle School

**Enrollment** 715 Students

**Principal** Mickey Connolly 864-429-1755

**Superintendent** Dr. Kristi V. Woodall 864-429-1740

**Board Chair** Dr. Wanda All 864-429-0746

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
**2014** ANNUAL SCHOOL  
REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
<b>2014</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>
2013	Average	Average
2012	Average	Good
2011	Average	Average
2010	Average	Average

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.

## Percent of Student SC PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

Percent of students tested in 2013-14 whose 2012-13 test scores were located

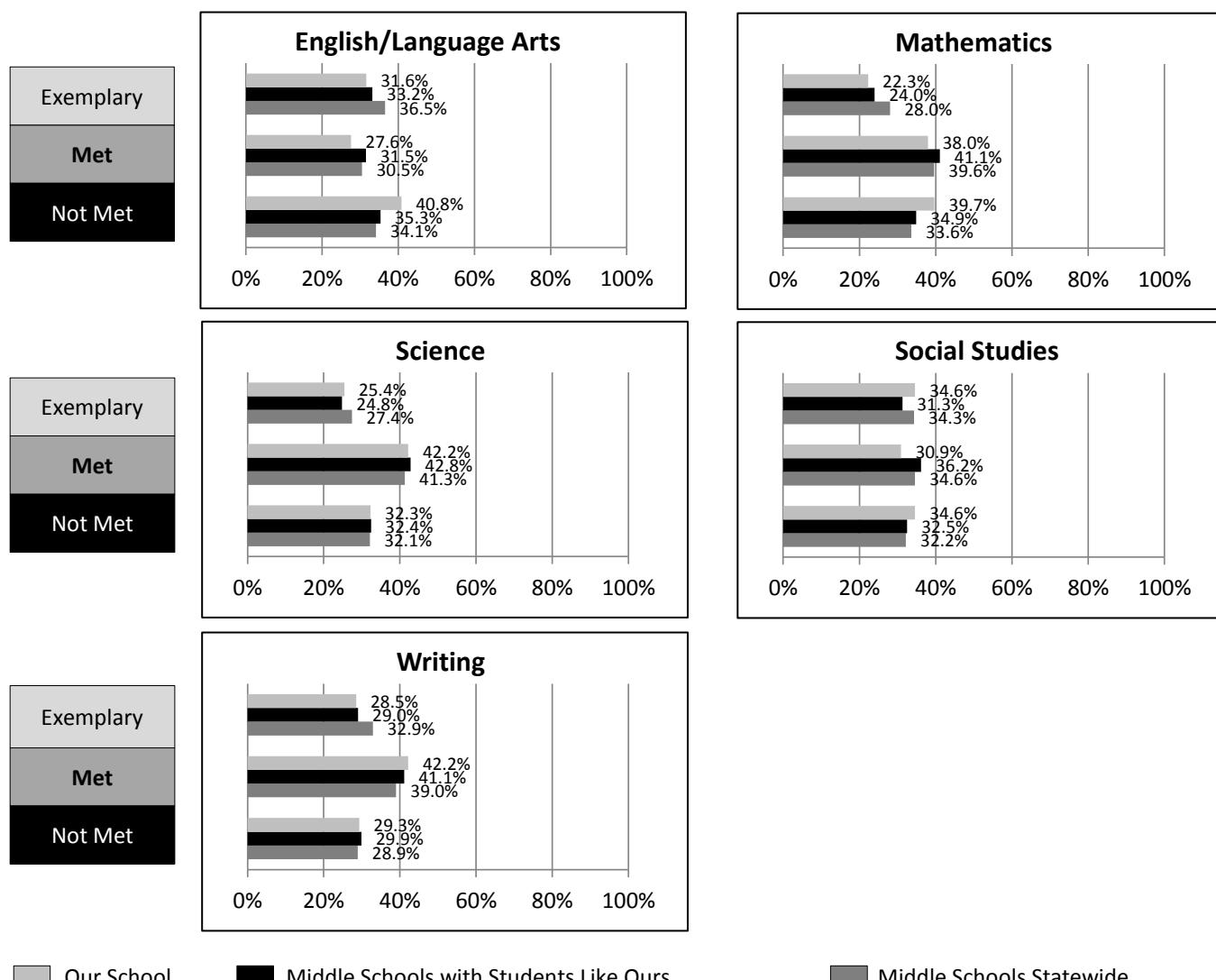
97.6%

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



\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 04/27/2015.

## South Carolina Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SC 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

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"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

I/S-Insufficient Sample

## School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
<b>Students (n = 715)</b>				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	15.8%	Up from 15.5%	24.4%	26.0%
Retention Rate	1.8%	Down from 2.6%	0.8%	0.6%
Attendance Rate	94.4%	Up from 94.2%	96.0%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	15.4%	Up from 13.0%	17.3%	19.4%
With disabilities	14.1%	Down from 16.0%	13.8%	12.8%
Older than usual for grade	6.3%	Down from 7.4%	5.5%	4.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No change	0.5%	0.4%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Teachers (n = 54)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	66.7%	Down from 71.9%	58.4%	61.3%
Continuing contract teachers	87.0%	Down from 87.7%	77.0%	75.9%
Teachers returning from previous year	84.5%	Down from 87.5%	84.5%	85.4%
Teacher attendance rate	95.1%	Up from 94.7%	94.9%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$46,574	Down 3.3%	\$46,472	\$47,081
Professional development days/teacher	15.2 days	Down from 15.9 days	11.8 days	10.6 days
<b>School</b>				
Principal's years at school	9.0	Up from 8.0	5.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	18.2 to 1	Down from 19.1 to 1	21.4 to 1	21.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.0%	Up from 88.4%	89.9%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	93.7%	Down from 95.3%	98.8%	99.0%
Character development program	Good	No change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,249	Up 9.3%	\$7,588	\$7,616
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	70.3%	Up from 70.0%	61.9%	62.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	69.7%	Up from 69.0%	60.8%	61.3%

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

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

## 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	100.0%	97.2%
English 1	93.0%	97.0%
Biology 1	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	96.1%	97.0%

## Abbreviations for Missing Data

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I/S-Insufficient Sample

# Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

The staff at Sims Middle School continually strives to provide our students with a high- quality education. Our students are provided diverse and rigorous educational experiences with high expectations and academic excellence as our primary goals. [2]

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The 2013-2014 school year allowed for many challenging and stimulating opportunities to move toward successful obtainment of our school's goal. Our students, faculty, and staff experienced a great deal of success in academics, the arts, and athletics while effectively participating in many service-learning activities. The accomplishments of SMS included 8 students being recognized as SC Junior Scholars, 3 students being named Duke TIP Scholars, and 108 students being inducted in the National Jr. Beta Club. Our National Jr. Beta Club was selected as a "Club of Distinction." The academic efforts at SMS continued with our 6th grade Academic Challenge Team winning the district championship. Eighth graders were given a new opportunity to excel as we provided a challenging, above grade level course in World Geography for high school credit. Our athletic activities at Sims Middle School also experienced success with the wrestling teams finishing as the runner-up in the Peachtree Conference Championship. Our girls' softball team also had another outstanding season. Our band, chorus, and orchestra received Excellent ratings at the South Carolina Concert Festival. SMS students participated in service learning projects including The Miracle League, Salvation Army, Relay for Life, and others.¶

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Teachers at Sims continued the expansion of their professional learning community by making consistent improvement in the instructions provided to the students. Common planning time was used for teachers to collaborate and align instruction to state supported documents. The administrators and teachers at SMS are continuously seeking new instructional strategies that will enable them to move all students to their greatest academic potential. A notable increase in students' reading was seen during the daily SSR time of SMS Reads and with the Super Reader program. Another area for high academic achievement was seen with the realization of advanced level instruction in ELA, Math, and Science. [\[2\]](#)

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Jennifer Tazerouti, Media Specialist, was elected as the President of the South Carolina Association of School Librarians. Two teachers received Donors Choose grants totaling \$800. Our school also received a \$1000 AT&T grant and a \$170,000 School Improvement Grant. [\[2\]](#)

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Sims Middle School is fortunate to have a new facility, and a caring community which provides support and assistance to our students and staff. We had a successful year and will continue to provide as many opportunities for success as possible. Our school is dedicated to helping students achieve both in and out of the classroom. ☺

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Melissa Gregory, SJC Chairperson Mickey Connolly, Principal

## Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

Teachers	Students*	Parents*
57	207	83
84.2%	71.5%	75.9%
89.5%	79.2%	67.0%
66.0%	85.1%	47.6%

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

## Abbreviations for Missing Data

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## ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/esea/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	65.6
Overall Grade Conversion	D

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations.

## Accountability Indicator (Title I Schools)

Sims Middle School has been designated as a:

	Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
	Title I Reward School for Progress - one of the schools with substantial progress in school subgroups.
	Title I Focus School - one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
	Title I Priority School - one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
X	Title I School - does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
X	Non-Title I School - therefore the designations above are not applicable.

## Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	3.2%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	7.3%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	8.2%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	94.4%	94.0%*	Yes

	State
Professional qualifications of all elementary and secondary teachers in the State (Advanced Degrees)	61.9%
Percentage of all elementary and secondary teachers in the State with emergency or provisional credentials	0.0%

\* Or greater than last year

### Abbreviations for Missing Data

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## SC PASS Performance By Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean*	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested
<b>Grades 6-8</b>							
All Students	615.7	619.4	627.3	630.9	100.0	100.0	100.0
Male	608.9	616.7	627.6	635.5	100.0	100.0	100.0
Female	622.6	622.3	627.1	626.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	629.6	630.3	639.8	643.4	100.0	100.0	100.0
African American	598.8	605.9	611.3	617.1	100.0	100.0	100.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan Native	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	570.6	580.6	585.9	584.2	100.0	100.0	100.0
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Meals	605.8	610.2	616.9	621.1	100.0	100.0	100.0
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0

\* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

## Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

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## Two Year Elementary and Middle School Grades Trend Data

	Grade	SCPASS ELA			SCPASS Math		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
		3	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A
2013	4	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	5	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	6	245	625.6	100.0	245	639.2	100.0
	7	243	609.1	100.0	243	619.4	100.0
	8	236	614.5	100.0	236	626.6	100.0
	SCPASS Science			SCPASS Social Studies*/History			
	N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested	
	3	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	4	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	5	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	6	124	605.4	98.4	121	628.8	100.0
	7	242	611.8	100.0	241	609.7	100.0
	8	119	612.4	100.0	117	636.2	100.0

	Grade	SCPASS ELA			SCPASS Math		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
		3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2014	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	231	622.6	100.0	231	618.2	100.0
	7	252	617.7	100.0	252	627.1	100.0
	8	224	606.4	100.0	224	612.2	100.0
	SCPASS Science			SCPASS Social Studies*/History			
	N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested	
	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	114	609.9	100.0	116	652.6	99.1
	7	251	637.7	100.0	251	620.3	100.0
	8	112	621.8	100.0	112	632.3	100.0

\* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

NOTE: Results include the SC-ALT test.

## Abbreviations for Missing Data

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I/S-Insufficient Sample

Performance by Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability (District)							4/27/2015	4401004
Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Soc Studies*/History Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested	Graduation Rate
<b>Grades 3 - 5</b>								
All Students	635.1	635.2	621.6	641.0	100.0	100.0	99.8	N/A
Male	630.9	632.0	623.1	642.4	100.0	100.0	99.7	N/A
Female	639.5	638.6	620.0	639.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
White	644.2	645.4	633.3	650.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
African American	621.2	619.3	604.5	625.9	100.0	100.0	99.6	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	594.6	593.8	584.0	605.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Meals	626.9	626.3	613.3	632.1	100.0	100.0	99.8	N/A
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	640.0	640.0	640.0	640.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
<b>Grades 6 - 8</b>								
All Students	615.3	617.7	627.1	628.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Male	608.4	615.2	627.6	632.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Female	622.1	620.1	626.6	625.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
White	625.7	625.9	635.7	637.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
African American	600.5	605.7	613.5	617.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	570.5	579.1	586.2	584.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Meals	605.5	608.9	616.5	619.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
<b>Grades 9 - 12</b>								
All Students	224.6	217.8	72.5	70.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	78.8
Male	219.7	214.7	73.5	71.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	76.3
Female	229.7	220.9	71.4	69.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	81.4
White	230.4	225.7	75.3	73.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	81.7
African American	217.2	207.8	69.3	66.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	72.8
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	201.6	192.1	63.7	61.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	37.1
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Meals	218.2	210.9	71.6	68.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	69.8
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	229.0	226.0	78.0	75.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	75.1

\* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

Performance by Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability (State)							4/27/2015	4401004
Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Soc Studies*/History Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested	Graduation Rate
<b>Grades 3 - 5</b>								
All Students	643.8	644.3	626.4	645.0	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Male	638.9	643.9	627.0	646.5	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Female	649.0	644.6	625.8	643.4	99.8	99.9	99.8	N/A
White	659.5	662.7	644.4	659.5	99.8	99.9	99.8	N/A
African American	622.3	617.3	601.2	624.1	99.7	99.8	99.7	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	669.9	686.6	655.9	673.4	99.9	100.0	99.8	N/A
Hispanic	631.7	634.6	614.5	636.5	99.7	99.9	99.9	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	642.1	640.4	627.1	641.8	99.7	99.9	99.5	N/A
With Disabilities	599.3	596.5	587.6	609.2	98.9	99.5	99.5	N/A
Limited English Proficient	631.2	638.6	615.0	638.1	99.7	99.9	99.9	N/A
Subsidized Meals	627.7	625.2	609.4	628.7	99.7	99.8	99.7	N/A
Migrant	608.2	615.1	590.4	623.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	640.0	640.0	640.0	640.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
<b>Grades 6 - 8</b>								
All Students	627.8	632.2	634.7	637.4	99.7	99.7	99.7	N/A
Male	620.6	630.1	634.4	639.8	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Female	635.4	634.3	635.0	634.9	99.8	99.8	99.7	N/A
White	644.3	647.7	652.3	652.3	99.8	99.8	99.7	N/A
African American	604.3	608.5	608.9	615.2	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	658.5	680.2	673.0	677.3	99.9	99.9	99.9	N/A
Hispanic	617.3	625.4	625.0	630.5	99.7	99.7	99.7	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	629.4	631.2	637.2	638.3	99.9	99.8	99.7	N/A
With Disabilities	574.5	584.3	584.9	592.8	99.4	99.4	99.2	N/A
Limited English Proficient	612.5	625.8	622.5	629.8	99.6	99.7	99.8	N/A
Subsidized Meals	610.0	614.6	616.3	619.9	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Migrant	586.4	606.8	600.8	607.7	98.2	98.2	100.0	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
<b>Grades 9 - 12</b>								
All Students	229.3	222.6	81.8	74.9	98.7	98.7	100.0	80.0
Male	225.6	222.4	81.8	75.9	98.3	98.3	100.0	75.7
Female	233.2	222.9	81.9	74.0	99.2	99.1	100.0	84.5
White	235.9	230.8	86.1	78.1	99.0	98.9	100.0	82.8
African American	219.6	209.6	75.2	69.9	98.3	98.3	100.0	76.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	240.2	245.8	89.4	80.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	88.0
Hispanic	225.1	219.4	79.5	73.5	98.9	99.0	100.0	76.9
American Indian/Alaskan	228.8	220.3	81.9	77.2	98.9	99.3	100.0	74.3
With Disabilities	204.3	196.5	68.4	66.2	96.6	96.5	100.0	43.2
Limited English Proficient	218.0	214.7	76.6	71.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	73.4
Subsidized Meals	221.1	212.6	76.8	70.8	98.3	98.2	100.0	72.5
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.5
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	229.0	226.0	78.0	75.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	75.1

\* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

#### Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

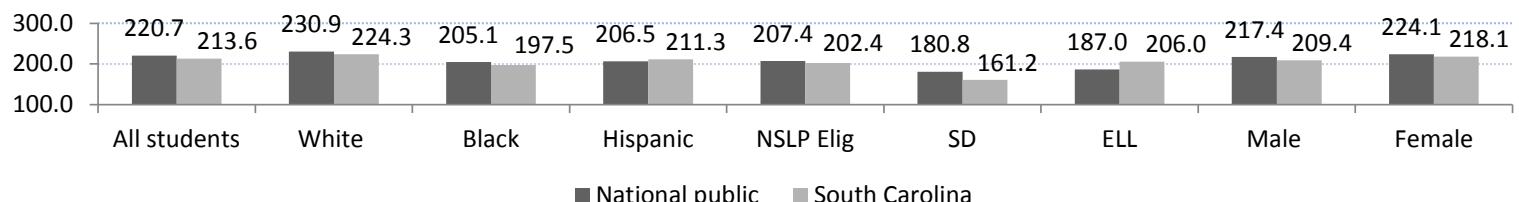
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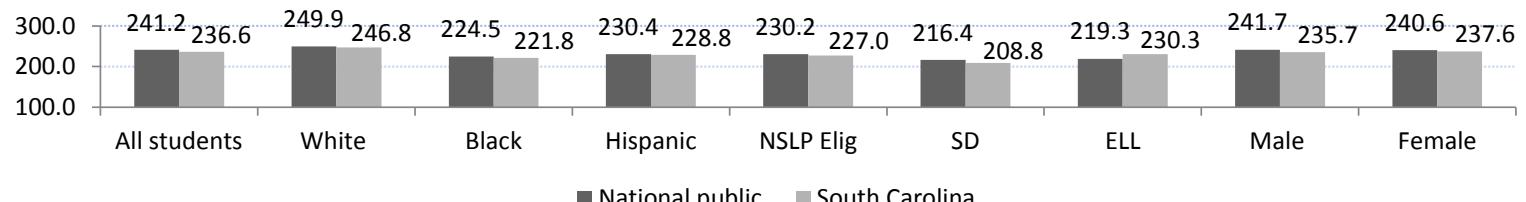
I/S-Insufficient Sample

\*Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level.

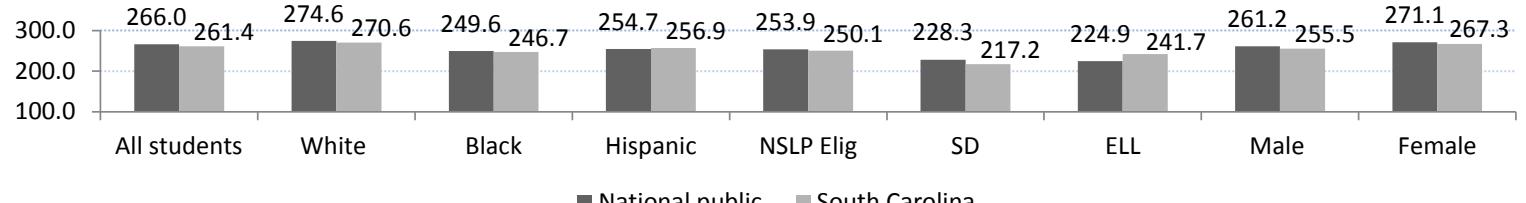
### Reading - Grade 4 (2013)



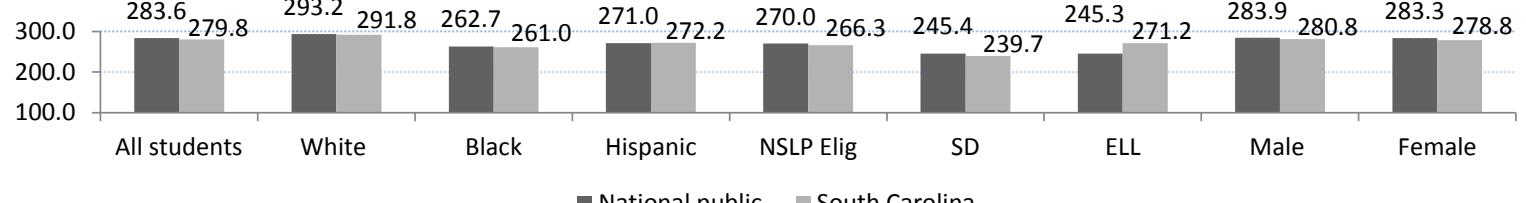
### Mathematics - Grade 4 (2013)



### Reading - Grade 8 (2013)



### Mathematics - Grade 8 (2013)



#### Key

NSLP National school lunch program

SD Student with disabilities

ELL English language learner

NAEP National Association of Education Progress

#### SD Participation Rate

#### ELL Participation Rate

Reading, Grade 4	89.0%	96.0%
Reading, Grade 8	85.0%	96.0%
Mathematics, Grade 4	93.0%	99.0%
Mathematics, Grade 8	90.0%	95.0%

#### Our School

Number of recently arrived ELL students exempted from ELA in state assessments

0

#### Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample