

## Laurens County School District 56

211 N. Broad Street, Suite B  
Clinton, SC 29325



# South Carolina State Report Card

State and federal laws require public schools to release report cards to the public each year. This year, the report card has been updated to reflect changes in reporting directed by the SC Education Oversight Committee. Schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017 when the state will transition to a single accountability system. The following reports student performance in school year 2014-15.

**Grades:** PK-12 District  
**Enrollment:** 3,136 students  
**District Phone:** 864-833-0800  
**District Website:** <http://www.lcsd56.org/>

**Superintendent:** Dr. David C. O'Shields  
**Board Chair:** Jim Barton



### Profile of the SC Graduate

#### World Class Knowledge

- Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness
- Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences\*

#### World Class Skills

- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Communication, information, media and technology
- Knowing how to learn

#### Life and Career Characteristics

- Integrity
- Self-direction
- Global perspective
- Perseverance
- Work ethic
- Interpersonal skills

\* 21st Century core courses in Social Sciences include History, Geography, Economics, Government and Civics.

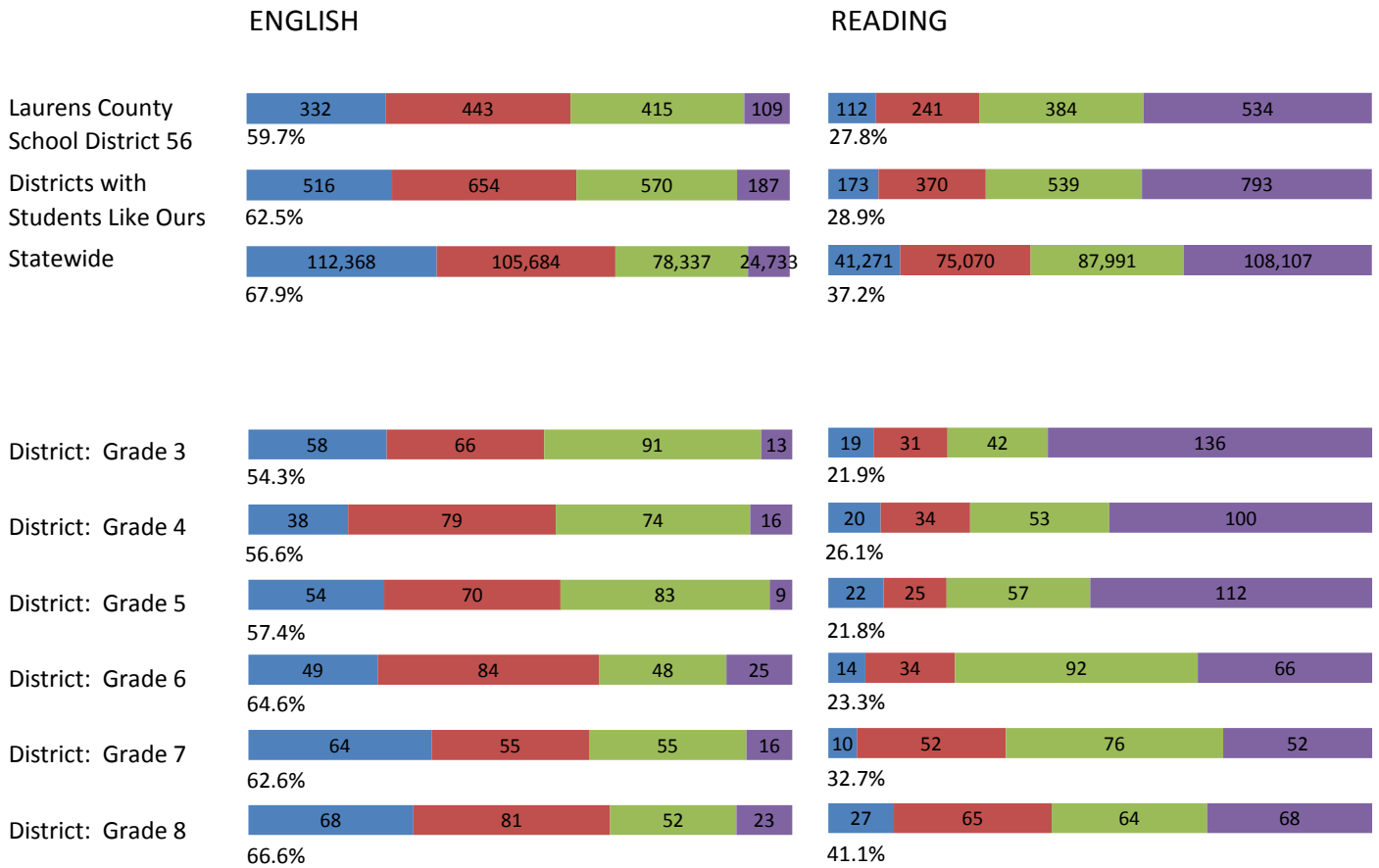
### WORLD CLASS SKILLS & LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

*Our district is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by ...*

Laurens County School District 56 is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by providing all students a high quality education that prepares them for college and career readiness. In the district, teachers continue to learn and grow as professionals through the district-wide involvement with the Teacher Advancement Program. Within this model, teachers meet weekly to learn best practice strategies and to examine student data. Additionally, teachers at all grade levels strive to become familiar with the state's new College and Career Ready Standards in math and ELA in order to prepare students for success. In addition to the focus on math and ELA, Laurens District 56 has expanded its knowledge and awareness of STEM programs through the receipt of an iSTEM grant, which allows the engagement in engineering partnerships and implementation engineering practices within classrooms across the district. The middle school teachers continue their work with the IQ-MS initiative to implement disciplinary literacy into math and science classrooms, and the high school campus introduces new courses to increase students' employability in computer science and engineering. In Laurens District 56, staff has worked diligently to equip students with world class skills that will serve them upon graduation. At the elementary level, administrators expand the Gifted and Talented program to include an artistic focus and offer eligible students the opportunity to participate in a summer camp. Leaders continue the partnership with Michelin to participate in the LINX program, which incorporates inquiry-based learning with science concepts. At the secondary level, teachers receive training in Project-Based Learning (PBL) and extend PBL units across the curriculum incorporating the 21st century competencies—collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking. Laurens District 56 also increases its awareness of technology and its role in education by providing various technology-focused professional development opportunities to teachers. All district schools also work conscientiously to assist students in developing life and career characteristics that will support them in their post-secondary endeavors. As part of this preparation, the elementary schools implement a work ethics report card. This focus on work ethic expands in upper grades as classroom teachers evaluate students on various life and career characteristics and have the opportunity to earn corresponding levels of distinction and recognition. Lastly, every school within the district incorporates activities to generate career awareness to increase students' knowledge of potential careers. In Laurens County School District 56, the goal is to prepare students to become productive citizens upon their graduation by focusing on academics, world class skills, and life and career characteristics. We are very proud of the accomplishments of district students and schools! David C. O'Shields, Superintendent

**KNOWLEDGE**

The ACT Aspire assessment was given to students in grades 3-8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Reading, English, Mathematics and Writing



Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

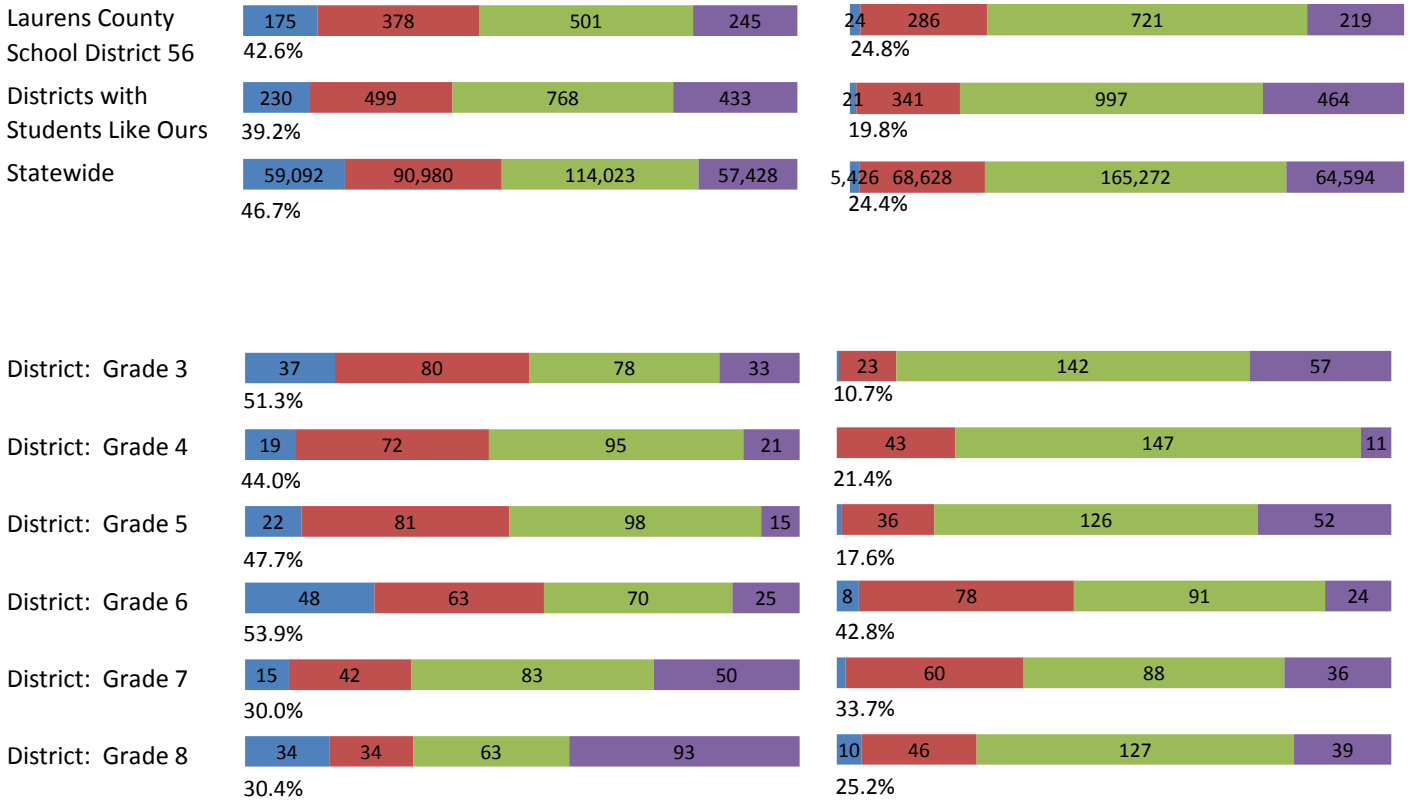
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**KNOWLEDGE**

**MATHEMATICS**

**WRITING**



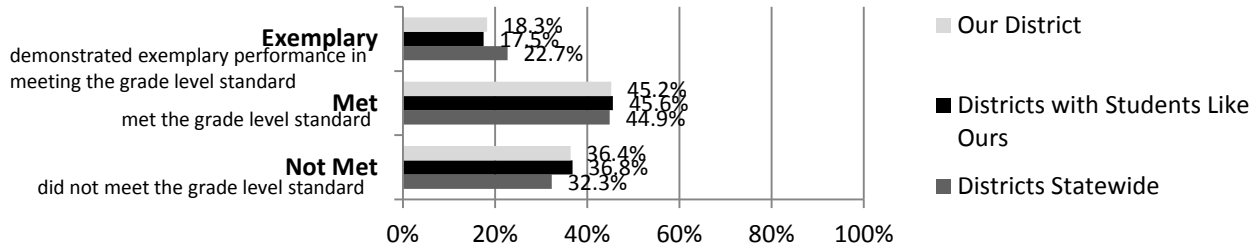
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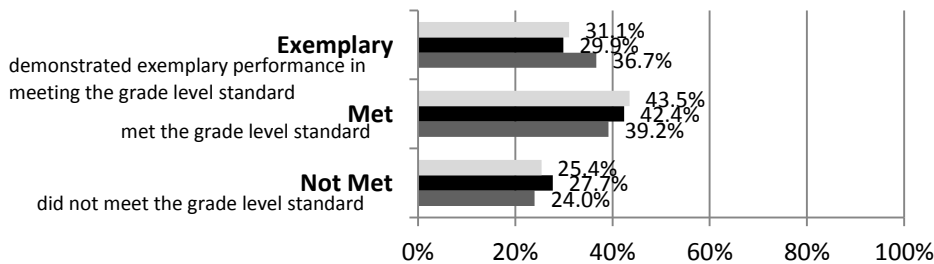
**KNOWLEDGE**

The SC Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) was given to students in grades 4 - 8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Science and Social Studies.

**Science**



**Social Studies**



**Science SCPASS**

Our District: Percent Met and Above for each grade level

4th grade	5th grade	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
60.4	60.6	61.7	66.8	69.6

**Social Studies SCPASS**

Our District: Percent Met and Above for each grade level

4th grade	5th grade	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
83.0	66.2	81.6	65.8	76.8

Note: Results include SC-Alt assessment results.

Exemplary	"Exemplary": student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met": student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met": student did not meet the grade level standard.

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**KNOWLEDGE**

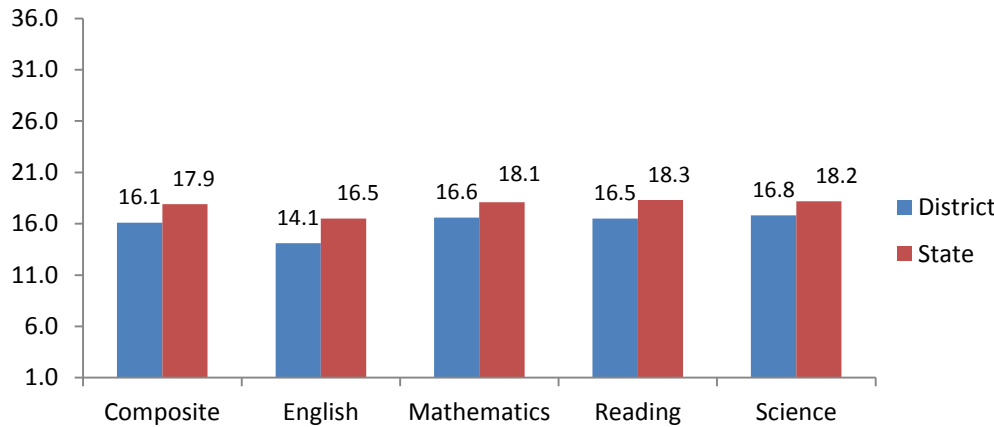
**End of Course Tests**

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our District	Districts with Students Like Ours	State
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	88.1	82.1	85.7
English 1	81.6	67.9	75.1
Biology 1	88.8	68.5	77.8
US History and the Constitution	50.8	60.1	69.1
All Subjects	77.4	70.1	77.3

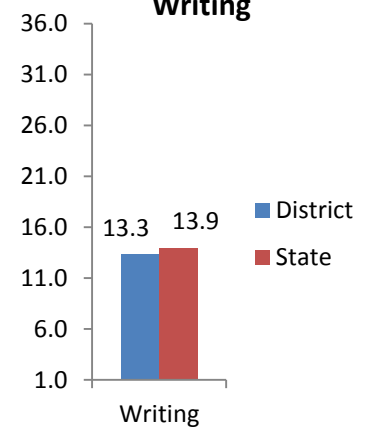
Districts with Students Like Ours are districts with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the district.

The ACT, a college readiness assessment, was given to every South Carolina 11th grader in 2015 with the exception of those eligible for alternate assessments. The ACT scores range from 0 to 36. The district and state averages are included for comparison. State averages for ACT data are based on regular public schools and do not include private schools in the state.

**Average ACT Score Achieved by Students: English, Math, Reading, Science, Composite of all four tests, 2015**



**Average ACT Score Achieved by Students: Writing**



Percent of Students in District Meeting ACT College-Ready Benchmarks, 2015				
English Benchmark Score: 18	Math Benchmark Score: 22	Reading Benchmark Score: 22	Science Benchmark Score: 23	All 4 Subjects
24.7	11.7	17.3	14.2	5.1

ACT benchmarks are scores on the ACT subject-area tests that represent the level of achievement required for students to have a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in corresponding credit-bearing first-year college courses.

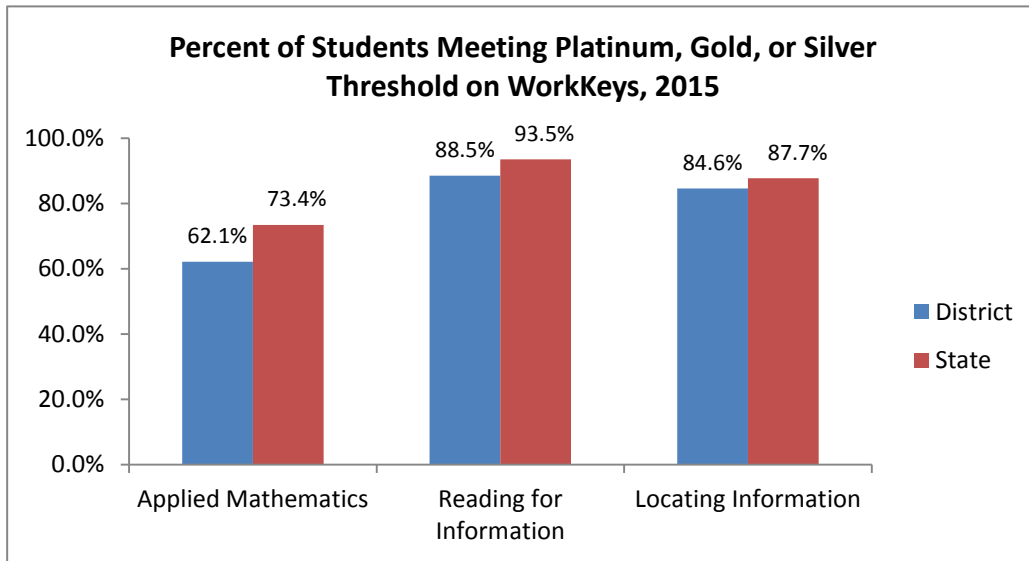
The ACT is a registered trademark of ACT, Inc.

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**KNOWLEDGE**

ACT WorkKeys is a job skills assessment system measuring "real world" skills that employers believe are critical in the workplace. The assessment is given to every South Carolina 11th grader with the exception of those eligible for alternative assessments. The assessment consists of three subtests: Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Locating Information. Students can earn certificates at the Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze level on WorkKeys assessments.



District SAT Performance				
Percent of Students Tested	Average Critical Reading Score	Average Math Score	Average Writing Score	Average Composite Score
51.3	430	439	412	1281

The highest composite score on the SAT is a 2400. For each of the three sections of the test, the highest score is 800.

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**OUTCOMES**

State Graduation Rate	
Four-Year	Five-Year
80.3	82.0

District Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate			
2015	2014	2013	2012
81.6	77.8	76.9	70.2

District Five-Year Cohort Graduation Rate			
2015	2014	2013	2012
77.9	78.2	72.8	67.2

Percentage of Seniors Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	
District	State
63.5	42.2

Percentage of Students from 2014 Graduating Class Enrolled in a two- or four-year college or technical college pursuing an associates degree, certificate, or diploma in Fall 2014	
District	State
69.0	70.3

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**OPPORTUNITIES****For students to meet the profile of the SC Graduate**

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with students like ours
<b>Students (n = 3,136)</b>			
Percent of students participating in Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF; homeless, foster, or migrant students (poverty index)	82.3	Down from 85.3%	N/A
Attendance Rate	97.6	Up from 97.0%	94.7
With disabilities	17.7	Down from 17.8%	13.7
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.3	No change	0.8
Percentage of students served by gifted and talented programs	12.4	Up from 12.1%	11.0
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	7.8	Down from 17.2%	9.8
Successful in AP/IB programs	38.7	Up from 32.1%	41.7
Career/tech students in co-curricular organizations	3.7	N/A	2.9
Enrollment in career/technology courses	N/A	N/A	-18.0
Students participating in work-based experiences	0.0	N/A	2.9
Number of seniors who have completed FAFSA forms	123	N/A	169
Percentage of seniors completing college applications	N/A	N/A	87.0
Number of students in dual enrollment courses	182	Up from 132	77
Success rate of students in dual enrollment courses	98.4	N/A	98.9
Annual dropout rate	2.4	Up from 2.3%	1.9
Dropout recovery rate	5.0	N/A	0.9
Percentage of students retained	1.3	Down from 1.9%	2.5
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	67	Down from 119	38
Completed adult education GED or diploma program	0	Down from 18	7
<b>Teachers (n = 185)</b>			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	54.6	Up from 54.5%	58.2
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	81.1	Down from 85.4%	80.0
Teachers returning from previous year	89.0	Down from 90.1%	89.1
Teacher attendance rate	94.8	No change	94.8
Average teacher salary*	\$46,757	Up 0.6%	\$46,669
Professional development days / teacher	N/A	N/A	N/AV
District-issued technology devices per teacher	N/A	N/C	N/A
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	4.8	Down from 5.6%	3.5
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	0.6	N/A	0.7

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**OPPORTUNITIES**

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with students like ours
<b>District</b>			
Superintendent's years at district	5.0	Up from 4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.6 to 1	Down from 23.8 to 1	20.7 to 1
Prime instructional time	91.1	Up from 90.2%	88.0
Opportunities in the arts	Fair	Down from Excellent	Excellent
Opportunities in foreign languages	Excellent	N/A	Excellent
Number of schools with AdvancEd (SACS) accreditation	5	No change	N/A
Parents attending conferences	98.0	Up from 85.4%	100.0
Bandwidth capacity per student	25-50 Mbps	N/C	N/A
Number of schools with classroom wireless access	5.0	N/C	N/A
Do any schools plan to implement one-to-one computing	Yes	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	N/A	N/C	N/A
Do any schools offer online or blended (50% online) courses	No	N/C	N/A
Dual enrollment courses offered	26	N/A	12
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$9,780	Up 1.4%	\$9,556
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	48.8	Up from 48.5%	50.7
Percent of expenditures for teachers' salaries**	48.4	Down from 50.5%	53.1
Average administrator salary	\$77,838	Down 0.9%	\$79,379

\* Includes current year teachers contracted for 190 days or more.

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

**State Ratings History of District**

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2014	Average	Average
2013	Average	Average
2012	Average	Excellent

Based on state law, districts will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017.

**Additional Resources**

SC State Content Standards  
[Family-Friendly Guides to the SC Content Standards](#)  
[2014-15 Accountability Manual](#)  
[Report Card Data Files](#)  
[ESEA Data Files](#)

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