



**SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

DIVISION OF QUALITY ASSURANCE
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MEMORANDUM

November 15, 2013 (Revised by FLDOE November 22, 2013)

TO: Cheryl C. Alligood, Chief Academic Officer

FROM: Frank J. Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent

THROUGH: E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent

**SUBJECT: FY2014 FALL FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TEST (FCAT)
RETAKE RESULTS FOR GRADES 10, 11, AND 12**

During the FY2014 Fall administration, 9,089 students in grades 10, 11, and 12 in the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) took the FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake test. Students taking the FCAT Retakes are those students who have not passed the Grade 10 Reading test at least once and have not met the concordant scores on either the SAT or ACT.

A preliminary analysis reveals the following:

- The number of students taking the Reading retake has decreased at grade 11, and increased at grade 12.¹
- The percentage of students passing FCAT Reading Retakes remains low for the SDPBC and for Florida.
 - The grade 11 passing rate for the SDPBC (23%) is higher than that of grade 10 (10%) and grade 12 (17%).

Comparisons of results from year to year are made difficult due to differing patterns of test takers, including different rates of those meeting the graduation requirement using either the SAT or ACT.

The attached Table 1 report the number tested and percent of students passing the FCAT Retakes for the District and for Florida. Results for individual District schools are available on the Research, Evaluation and Assessment website at:

<http://www.palmbeachschools.org/dre/FCAT.asp>

¹ This may have occurred since the FCAT 1.0 Reading retake was eliminated in FY2013 and those students now take the 2.0 Reading retake test. This would have increased the number of grade 11 test takers in FY2013, and increased the number of grade 12 test takers in FY2014.

Table 1: FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake Results – Number Tested and Percent of Students Passing

Year	Grade 10				Grade 11				Grade 12			
	SDPBC		Florida		SDPBC		Florida		SDPBC		Florida	
	Number Tested	%	Number Tested	%	Number Tested	%	Number Tested	%	Number Tested	%	Number Tested	%
FY2013	1,039	13	6,187	14	5,680	30	90,204	27	2,143	22	34,883	21
FY2014	1,097	10	6,565	11	5,411	23	85,633	24	2,581	17	42,413	19

Data for FY2012 is not compatible as that year contained both FCAT 1.0 retakes and FCAT 2.0 retakes.

Schools have received their results and will use this information to meet the needs of individual students and for school improvement planning. For additional information regarding Florida graduation requirements for statewide assessments, please refer to:
<http://fcat.fldoe.org/pdf/fcatpass.pdf>

If you have questions about these results, please contact Mark Howard, Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment at 561-434-8781. If you have questions about instruction, please contact Keith Oswald, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Curriculum, at 561-357-1113. If you have questions about individual school efforts and the FCAT Retakes, please contact the appropriate area superintendent or school principal.

EWG/CA/FR/MH:bs

- c: Academic and Operating Chiefs
- Area/Assistant Superintendents
- Academic Directors
- Principals