



About This Report

| 7 III O III O III O II O II O II O II O | |
|--|----|
| Message from the State Superintendent of Education | 2 |
| Facts and Figures | 3 |
| Mississippi State Board of Education | 4 |
| Mississippi Connects | 6 |
| Mississippi State Board of Education Strategic Plan | 12 |
| Goal 1 | 14 |
| Goal 2 | 16 |
| Goal 3 | 22 |
| Goal 4 | 24 |
| Goal 5 | 28 |
| Goal 6 | 30 |



Superintendent's Annual Report 2020-21

MISSISSIPPI SUCCEEDS

Stay Connected

Carey M. Wright, Ed.D.

State Superintendent of Education





Message from the State Superintendent of Education





✓ Carey M. Wright, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education

To: Education Stakeholders

Mississippi students, teachers and school leaders achieved historic academic gains before the start of the pandemic, reaching No. 1 in the nation for gains on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), achieving significant, annual gains on statewide English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics assessments in every grade, and earning Quality Counts' No. 2 ranking in the nation for improvement in education – for three consecutive years. Our momentum continued during the pandemic with our graduation rate reaching an all-time high of 87.7% – higher than the national average.

Unlike students in many states across the country, most Mississippi students had access to in-person learning during the 2020-21 school year. Still, hybrid learning, quarantining and numerous weather-related school building closures disrupted teaching and learning. Our Mississippi Connects initiative helped schools minimize those disruptions by providing computer devices, enhanced internet connectivity and support to students statewide.

Statewide assessments resumed in 2020-21, with 97% of students participating. Though statewide proficiency levels dropped as they did in other states, student achievement in Mississippi did not fall in every grade, subject and school. The pandemic affected other areas of student achievement; however, the state's previous track record of sustained improvement shows the ability of our students to overcome obstacles.

I am proud of the way Mississippi students, families, teachers and school leaders persevered through the most challenging school year of their lives. As the world moves to recover from the pandemic, I am confident Mississippi students will progress just as rapidly as they did before.

CAREY M. WRIGHT, ED.D., State Superintendent of Education Office of the State Superintendent of Education 601-359-3515 | mdek12.org









31,856
classroom
teachers



442,122 student daily membership

Average daily attendance:

401,439

COVID-19 Impact and Enrollment Trends

- 4,345 fewer kindergarteners enrolled in school in fall 2020, compared to fall 2019
- Homeschool enrollment increased to 25,489 in fall 2020, compared to 18,758 in fall 2019, removing an additional 6,731 students from public-school attendance rolls
- Mississippi public-school enrollment has declined an average of 5,511 students a year since 2017

\$12,107 Average expenditure per pupil (based on ADA) Average teacher salary:

\$46,862

Districts and Schools

140 school districts (not including charter schools)

- Elementary/middle schools: 634
- Traditional high schools (grades 9-12 only): 155
- Combined grades (K-12 attendance centers and high schools with grades below 9): 84
- Charter schools: 7



Virtual Meeting Edit View Help





◯ ♀ ♀ ♀ 2020-21

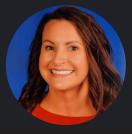
Meeting with the Mississippi State Board of Education



Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair At-Large Representative



Glen East, Vice-Chair Administrator Representative



Wendi Barrett, Ph.D. **Teacher Representative**









Angela Bass, Ph.D. Central Supreme Court District Representative



Karen Elam, Ph.D. 3rd Supreme Court District Representative



Bill Jacobs At-Large Representative



Ronnie McGehee, Ph.D. At-Large Representative



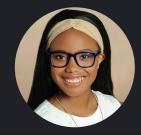
Matt Miller Southern Supreme Court District Representative



Mary Werner At-Large Representative



Amy Zhang Senior Student Representative



Micah Hill Junior Student Representative



Carey M. Wright, Ed.D. State Superintendent of Education

















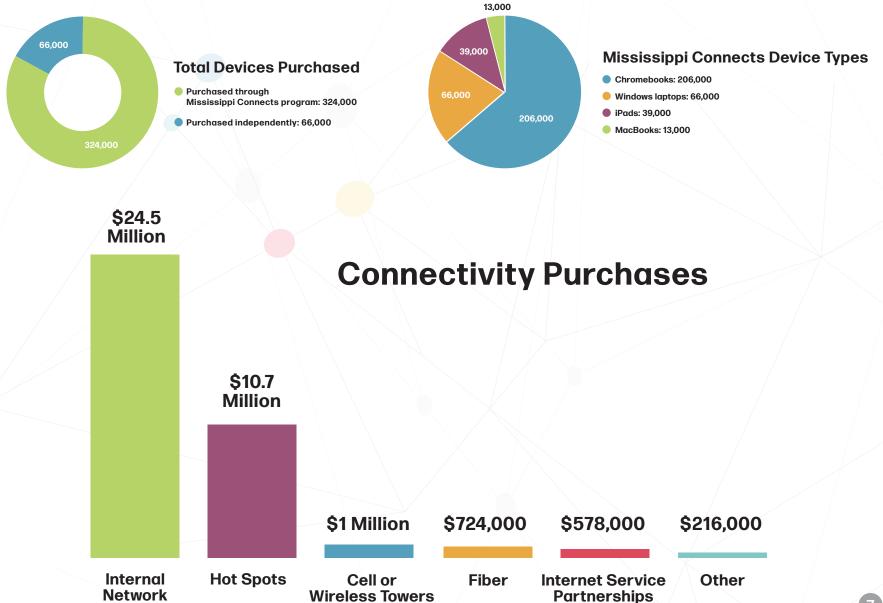
DEVICES CONNECTIVITY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HIGH-QUALITY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

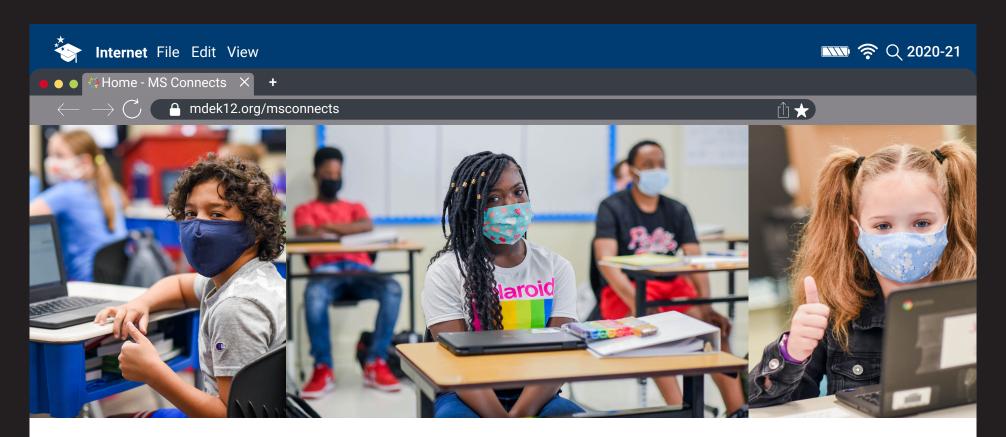


DEVICES

As Mississippi students prepared to head back to school for the 2020-21 school year, nearly 400,000 computer devices were on the way to schools across the state. Throughout the fall, school districts celebrated the arrival of delivery trucks filled with crates of computers set up for immediate use.

Device Purchases





STUDENT CONNECTIVITY

Every public-school student in the state now has access to a computer device to learn because state leaders, philanthropic partners and the world's biggest tech companies invested more than \$200 million to innovate education in Mississippi. The computers are part of the Mississippi Connects initiative, which is the nation's only statewide digital learning program that includes devices, connectivity, high-quality digital curriculum, professional development for educators and student access to telehealth and teletherapy.

Mississippi Connects shows the determination of state education leaders to not just respond to the COVID-19 crisis, but to use the crisis to make education better for all children. Every child, regardless of where they live, has a right to the tools they need to be successful in school.



LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION AMOUNT SPENT

DATE: 12/15/2020

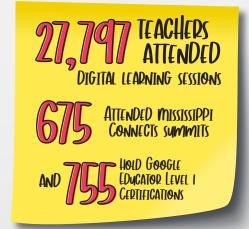
| AMOUNT |
|--------------------|
| \$149.7 million |
| \$147.7 million |
| 98.6% |
| |

| Connectivity appropriation | \$50 million |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Amount spent | \$39.4 million |
| % Expended | 78.9% |
| | |



* THANK YOU *









Internet File Edit View









search/maps

(1) ★





Districts Selected for 2021-22 Digital Learning Coach Program

O Columbus Municipal **Covington County**

East Jasper

East Tallahatchie

Franklin County

Greenville Public

Hazlehurst City

Hollandale

Itawamba County

Jackson Public

Scott County

Laurel

Lawrence County

Leland

Marshall County

Natchez-Adams

Nettleton

North Bolivar Consolidated

North Tippah

Noxubee County

Okolona Municipal

Pearl River County

Perry County

Pontotoc City

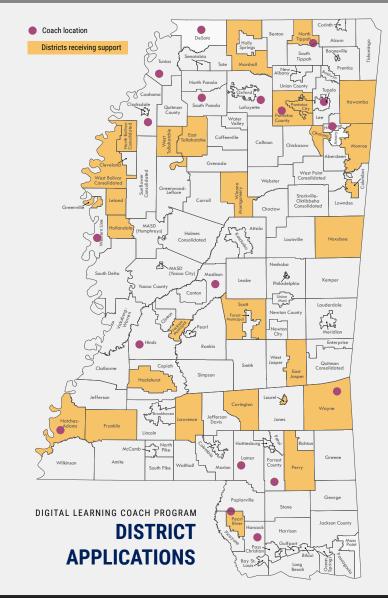
Pontotoc County

Wayne County

West Bolivar Consolidated

West Tallahatchie

Winona-Montgomery Consolidated





State Board of Education STRATEGIC PLAN

The Mississippi State Board of Education Strategic Plan sets the roadmap for continually improving public education in Mississippi. The plan describes the objectives and strategies the Mississippi Department of Education employs to help local school districts achieve the Board's vision and goals. The Board's goals were created in 2014 and expanded in 2016.

State Board of Education STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS



ALL Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All
Assessed Areas

EVERY School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders





EVERY Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career





EVERY Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program

EVERY School and District is Rated "C" or Higher

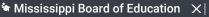






READ THE COMPLETE MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN: MDEKIZ.ORG/MRE













mdek12.org/mbe



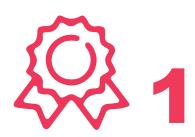












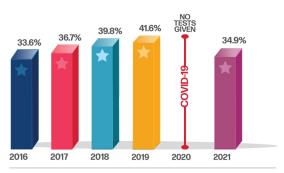
ALL Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All **Assessed Areas**

The Mississippi Department of Education provided school districts with pandemicrelated flexibilities to administer statewide assessments to all students, including fulltime virtual learners who took assessments at schools. The statewide participation rate was 97%, close to the 98-99% rates of previous years.

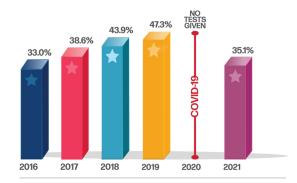
Pre-pandemic, student proficiency reached an all-time high in ELA and mathematics in 2019. When assessments resumed in 2021, student proficiency decreased in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics. Like other states, achievement dropped more in mathematics than ELA.



Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP)



English Language Arts (ELA)
Proficient & Advanced



Mathematics
Proficient & Advanced

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

| GRADE | 2018-19 PROFICIENT OR ADVANCED | 2020-21 PROFICIENT OR ADVANCED | CHANGE |
|------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Grade 3 | 48.3% | 34.8% | -13.5% |
| Grade 4 | 48.5% | 37.2% | -11.3% |
| Grade 5 | 43.1% | 41.5% | -1.6% |
| Grade 6 | 33.6% | 29.6% | -4.0% |
| Grade 7 | 39.0% | 30.7% | -8.3% |
| Grade 8 | 35.5% | 35.6% | 0.1% |
| English II | 43.8% | 34.9% | -8.9% |
| Overall | 41.6% | 34.9% | -6.7% |

MATHEMATICS

| GRADE | 2018-19 PROFICIENT OR ADVANCED | 2020-21 PROFICIENT OR ADVANCED | CHANGE |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Grade 3 | 51.4% | 34.9% | -16.5% |
| Grade 4 | 48.8% | 33.2% | -15.6% |
| Grade 5 | 38.9% | 33.4% | -5.5% |
| Grade 6 | 47.6% | 35.0% | -12.6% |
| Grade 7 | 51.1% | 41.7% | -9.4% |
| Grade 8 | 44.8% | 34.3% | -10.5% |
| Algebra I | 49.3% | 33.2% | -16.1% |
| Overall | 47.4% | 35.1% | -12.3% |























EVERY Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career

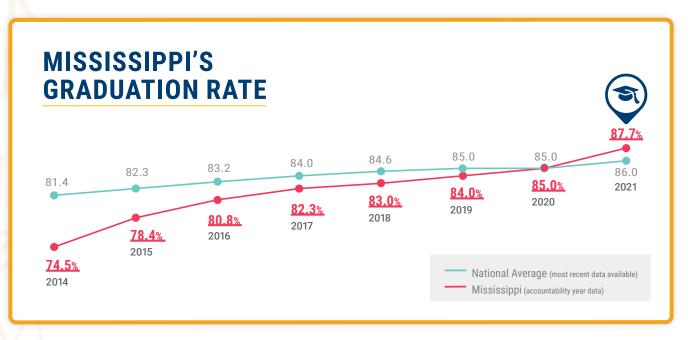
GRADUATION RATE

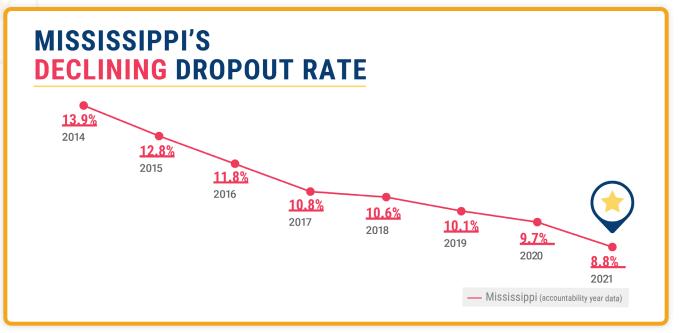
Mississippi high school students achieved a record-breaking graduation rate of 87.7% in 2019-20, surpassing the most recent national rate of 85%. The statewide drop-out rate fell to an historic low of 8.8%, a decrease from 13.9% in 2014.

Notably, the graduation rate for students with disabilities reached an all-time high of 55.4%, more than double the rate of 23.2% in 2014. Graduation rates are reported in late winter the following school year.

Starting with the class of 2022, high school students can earn an endorsement with their high school diploma. Students who take additional classes may earn an academic, distinguished academic and/or career and technical education endorsement. Students who earn an academic or distinguished academic diploma endorsement from a public high school automatically qualify for admission into any of the state's public universities.

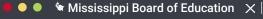












⇔ Goal 2 ×

ା 🚨 Goal 3 🗙 ା 🖹 Goal 4 🗙 ା ଲୀ Goal 5 🗙 ା 🗟 Goal 6 🗙 🕇



mdek12.org/mbe

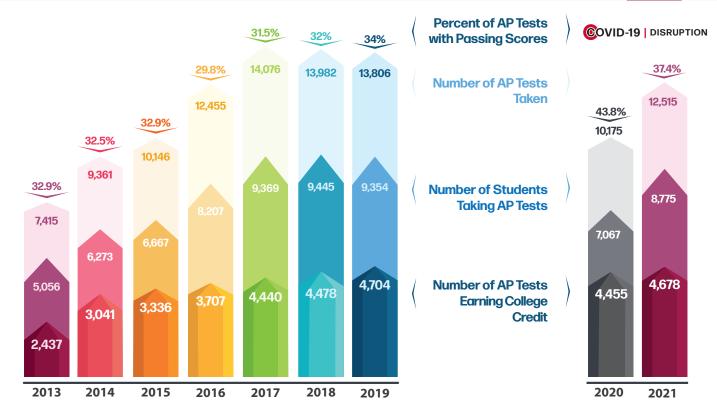


ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

The number of Mississippi students taking AP exams and the number of exams with passing scores have both nearly doubled from 2013 to 2019. School closures in 2020 affected test design, participation and performance. Due to the disruptions caused by the pandemic, the 2020 exams were abbreviated (e.g., no multiple choice, all free response) and students nationwide were permitted to test on mobile phones and other devices while quarantining at home. Therefore, 2020 figures cannot be compared to other years. The passing rate for 2021 reached an all-time high of 37.4% for a full school year.

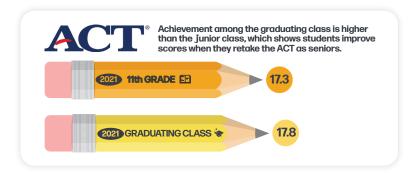
HIGHEST EVER 37.4% pass rate for a full school year

18



ACT

All Mississippi public-school students take the ACT at no cost in their junior year of high school. The test measures college-readiness at a critical time in high school when there is still time to provide interventions to improve ACT performance.



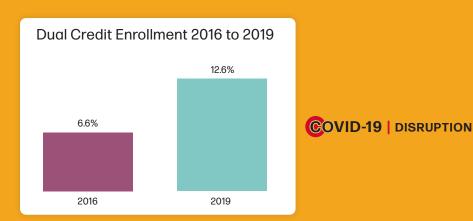
DUAL CREDIT / DUAL ENROLLMENT

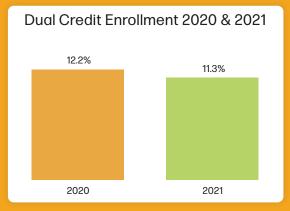
Dual credit and dual enrollment courses enable students to take college courses while in high school and receive college credit.

2016 to 2019: Percentage of students participating in dual credit courses nearly doubled, rising from 6.6% to 12.6%.

2020: All accountability business rules were not applied to data as no new accountability grades were calculated.

2021: Pandemic altered high school and college schedules, which affected enrollment.





94.5% of 2021 students passed their courses and earned college credit.

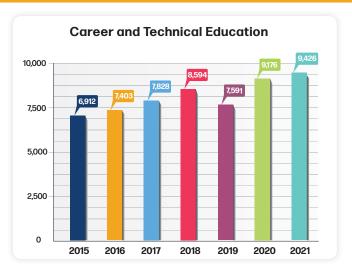


mdek12.org/mbe



CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses help students develop marketable job skills and earn national industry certifications needed to achieve their occupational goals. High school students take CTE courses in 49 distinct occupational areas at more than 500 schools and 15 community and junior colleges. Students who take four CTE courses in the same field of study earn the status of CTE completers. The number of CTE completers increased 36% from 2015 to 2021.



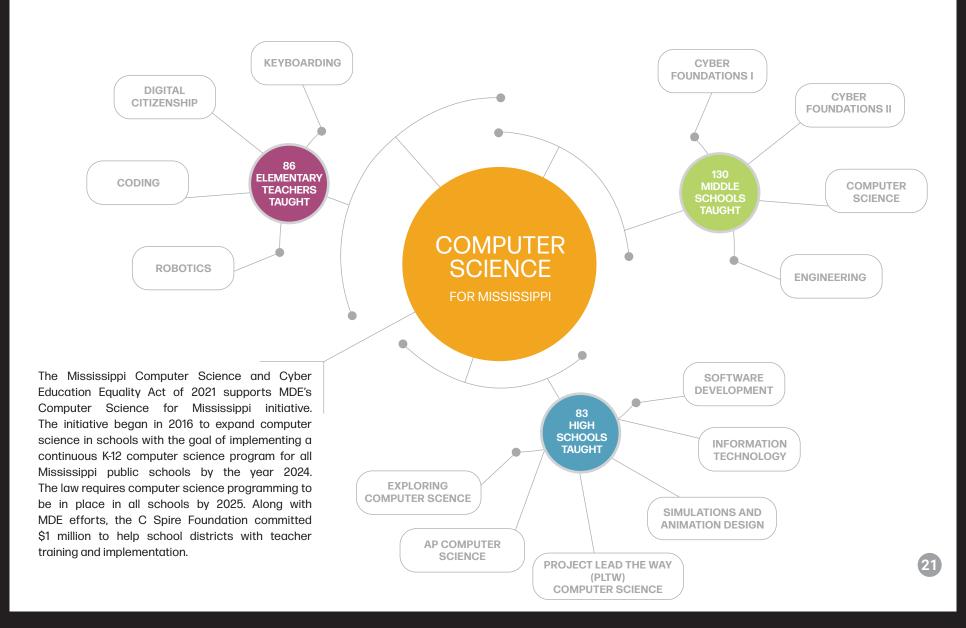
EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOLS

Early college high schools are small schools located on a partnering college campus where high school students can earn an associate degree or career credential with their high school diploma. Middle college is a dual credit/dual enrollment program where students attend school part of the day on a college campus.

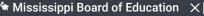
| School/District Name | Higher Education Partner | Year Founded | 2020-2021 Enrollment | College Credits Earned to Date | Associate Degrees Earned to Date |
|--|---|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Golden Triangle | East Mississippi Community College | 2015 | 165 | 6,908 | 110 |
| Natchez-Adams | Copiah-Lincoln Community College | 2016 | 189 | 6,032 | 74 |
| River City (Vicksburg-Warren) | Hinds Community College | 2016 | 316 | 7,833 | 37 |
| Greenville Public | Mississippi Valley State University | 2017 | 174 | 7,407 | 141 |
| Jackson Public Schools | Tougaloo College | 2018 | 106 | 2,375 | N/A |
| Gulfport High School Middle College | Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College | 2018 | 71 | 36 | N/A |
| | | Total | 1,021 | 30,591 | 362 |

COMPUTER SCIENCE FOR MISSISSIPPI

Computer Science Implementation as of 2020-21

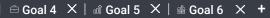






















EVERY Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program

EARLY LEARNING COLLABORATIVES

Mississippi started building its first publicly funded early childhood education infrastructure in 2013 after the passage of the Early Learning Collaborative Act. The law initially provided \$3 million to establish a limited number of Early Learning Collaboratives in underserved areas throughout the state. The collaboratives are partnerships among school districts, Head Start agencies, childcare centers and non-profit organizations. Based on the immediate results just two years later, the Legislature increased funding in subsequent years.





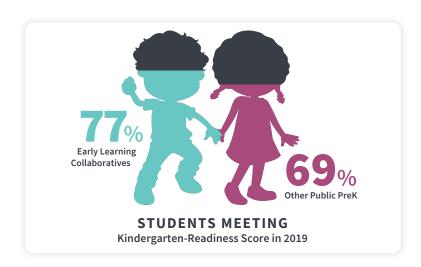




NATIONAL MODEL

The National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) first recognized Mississippi for its ELC program in 2015 as one of only a handful of states that meet all 10 of its quality standards. In subsequent years, NIEER continued to name Mississippi among the top states in the nation for quality pre-K. Today, Mississippi is one of only six states that meet all of NIEER's quality standards for pre-K.





FUNDING AND ENROLLMENT

| YEAR | State Funding | Students | Sites |
|----------|---------------|----------|-------|
| 2014-15 | \$3 million | 1,700 | 11 |
| 2015-16 | \$3 million | 1,000 | 11 |
| 2016-17 | \$4 million | 2,000 | 14 |
| 2017-18 | \$6.5 million | 3,000 | 18 |
| 2018-19 | \$6.5 million | 3,000 | 18 |
| 2019-20 | \$6.5 million | 3,000 | 18 |
| 2020-21* | \$8 million | 3,000 | 18 |
| 2021-22 | \$16 million | 6,000 | TBD |

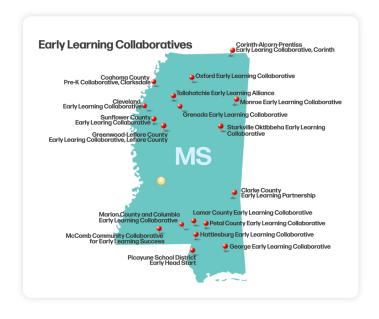
^{*}Per-student funding rate increased. Enrollment remained the same.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Early Learning Collaborative students annually outperform students in all other public pre-K programs.

COVID-19 | NO TESTS GIVEN IN 2019-20

| YEAR | ELC | OTHER PUBLIC PRE-K |
|------|-----|-----------------------|
| 2019 | 77% | 69% |
| 2018 | 76% | 67% |
| 2017 | 78% | 66% |
| 2016 | 71% | 69% |
| 2015 | 59% | 63% |



TAX CREDITS

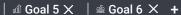
Individuals or corporations donated \$5.6 million to Early Learning Collaboratives in calendar year 2020, an increase from \$3.3 million in 2019. Contributors are eligible to receive a 1:1 state tax credit for the donated amount up to \$1 million.













mdek12.org/mbe







EVERY School Has Effective **Teachers and Leaders**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Building the capacity of educators is a major part of the Mississippi Department of Education's strategy to improve student achievement. MDE's professional development team offers in-person and virtual training, online Canvas courses and self-directed professional development on demand.



Participants 14,917 participants

11,462 virtual

2,988 Canvas course enrollment

in-person



Sessions

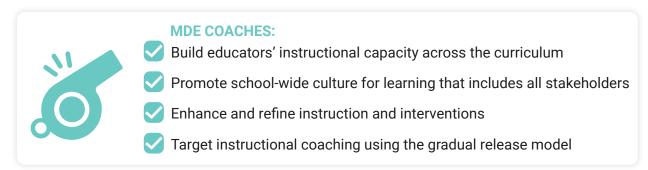
trainings

57 Canvas courses

districts served

COACHING MODEL

The MDE's coaching model has proven to be an effective method of transforming Mississippi schools and improving student achievement. Developed around transformational coaching, it is a powerful, comprehensive and systematic way to plan and organize coaching supports.



Coaching staff has expanded from **29 literacy coaches** in 2013-14 to a **team of 112 coaches** supporting teachers and school leaders in the areas of literacy, early childhood education, special education, school improvement and digital learning. In 2022, math coaches will be added to the team.



Literacy and Special Education

68 Coaches

75 Districts served

180 Schools served



School Improvement

12 Coaches

65 Schools served



Early Childhood

11 Coaches

209 Classrooms served

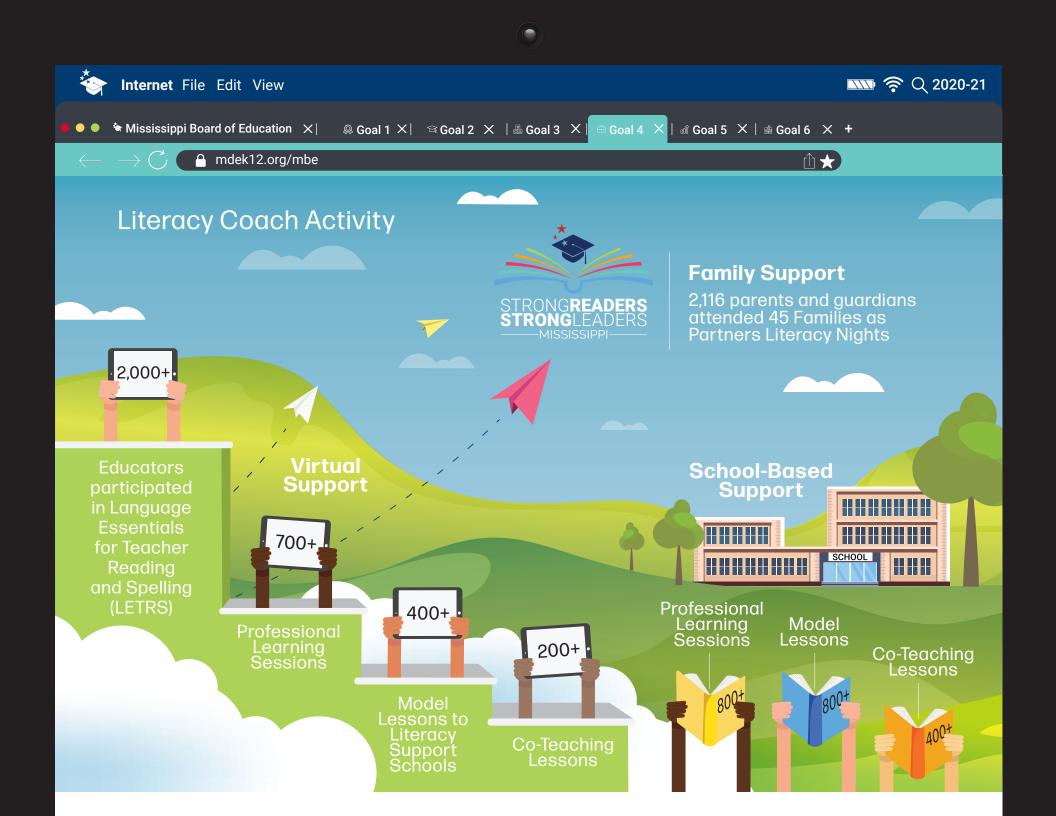


Digital Learning

22 Coaches

29 Districts

62 Schools to be served in 2021-22



MISSISSIPPI TEACHER RESIDENCY AND PERFORMANCE-BASED LICENSURE PROGRAMS

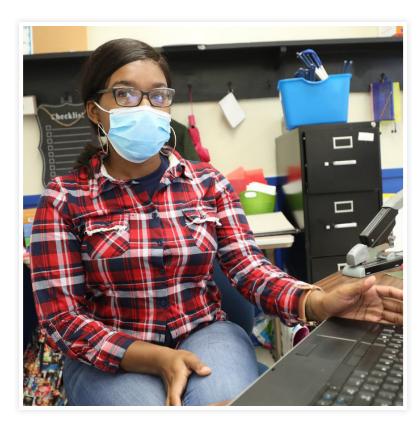
The Mississippi Teacher Residency (MTR) is a two-year program that combines coursework and on-the-job training to prepare prospective educators for the teaching profession. MTR is part of a statewide strategy to expand and diversify the teacher pipeline so that all students have teachers who are well-prepared, appropriately licensed and can serve as role models. \$12.3 million in federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds has been committed to expand the teacher residency program.

The Performance-Based Licensure program helps a select group of Mississippi teachers with provisional licenses become fully licensed. The program is aimed at teachers who have proven to be effective in the classroom, but are struggling to pass licensure exams.

Mississippi Teacher Residency

60 participants

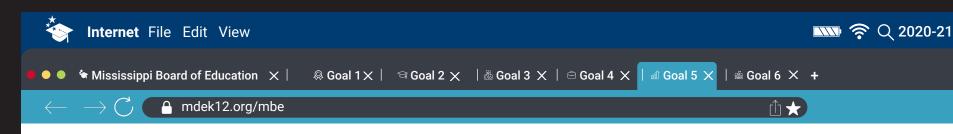
71% identify as a person of color



Performance-Based Licensure

134 participants

99% identify as Black or African American



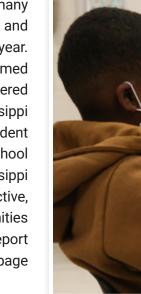


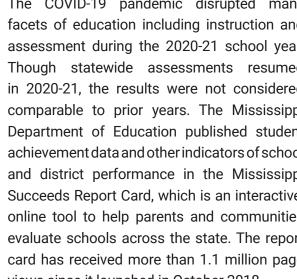


EVERY Community Effectively Uses a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes

MISSISSIPPI SUCCEEDS REPORT CARD

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted many facets of education including instruction and assessment during the 2020-21 school year. Though statewide assessments resumed in 2020-21, the results were not considered comparable to prior years. The Mississippi Department of Education published student achievement data and other indicators of school and district performance in the Mississippi Succeeds Report Card, which is an interactive, online tool to help parents and communities evaluate schools across the state. The report card has received more than 1.1 million page views since it launched in October 2018.







Mississippi Succeeds Report Card

Search for state, school, or district data below.

Q Mississippi

 $\mathsf{Go} \longrightarrow$

or click to search and compare districts and schools.



Statewide Accountability Performance Results

The Mississippi Statewide Accountability System is a single "A" through "F" school and district accountability system. Grades are based on student achievement, student growth, student participation in testing, and other academic measures.



State Average

Learn more about the state results and subgroup breakdowns

See state data →



Data Map

View performance measures on a map.

View data map →



All Data

Download the full dataset for the current year as a spreadsheet.

Select a year to download ^



Student Group Data

Learn more about the state results and subgroup breakdowns

Compare student groups →



School Improvement

View all schools that qualify for CSI/TSI/ATSI status.

 $\text{View list} \rightarrow$



User Guide

Get an in-depth understanding of report card details.

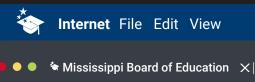
Read user guide >



Video Overview

A quick video with highlights of the Mississippi Succeeds Report Card.

Watch video →



















mdek12.org/mbe







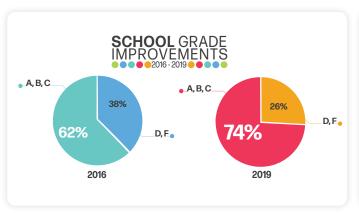
EVERY School and District is Rated "C" or Higher

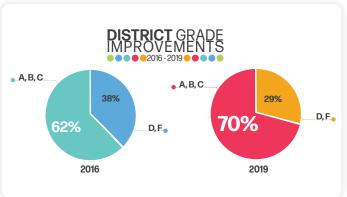
LETTER GRADES HELD CONSTANT

©OVID-19 | NO NEW A-F LETTER GRADES EARNED IN 2020-21

Schools and districts did not earn new A-F letter grades in 2020-21 because assessments were not administered in 2019-20 and growth could not be calculated. Districts and schools retained letter grades from 2018-19.









SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITY



802 virtual and in-person visits with administrators and school leadership teams

19 virtual interviews with districts with one or more Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) schools. District teams included superintendents, principals, instructional staff, and a school board member.

10 virtual professional learning meetings for identified schools

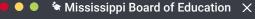
30 participants in two summer Canvas courses

Three-day Virtual Statewide School Improvement Convening focused on Social Emotional Learning, Instructional Practices and Leadership

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT OUTCOMES

Three schools exited CSI status with improved graduation rates:

- Blue Mountain High School, South Tippah School District
- Wingfield High School, Jackson Public School District
- Yazoo City High School, Mississippi Achievement School District





















FOUR MISSISSIPPI SCHOOLS NAMED 2021 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

The U.S. Department of Education recognized four Mississippi schools among the 325 National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2021. The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. The coveted National Blue Ribbon Schools award affirms the hard work of educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content.

Exemplary Achievement Gap-Closing Schools

Woolmarket Elementary School, Harrison County School District Brandon Elementary School, Rankin County School District

Exemplary High-Performing Schools

East Hancock Elementary School, Hancock County School District Della Davidson Elementary School, Oxford School District

Exemplary Achievement Gap-Closing Schools are among the state's highest performing schools in closing achievement gaps between a school's student groups and all students. Exemplary High-Performing Schools are among the state's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests.



Three of Mississippi's 2021 National Blue Ribbon Schools receive their awards from the U.S. Department of Education. Pictured (from left) are Karen Schmidt and Vallerie Lacey (Brandon Elementary School); Jill Ryals and Gina Pace (Woolmarket Elementary); Stacey Lee and Allison McCraw (East Hancock Elementary); and Alan Burrow (Mississippi Department of Education).



MISSISSIPPITODAY.ORG | photo credit: Vickie D. King Brandon Elementary was recognized nationally as an extraordinary school. Here's why.







Woolmarket Elementary School Harrison County School District



East Hancock Elementary School Hancock County School District



Della Davidson Elementary School Oxford School District







Mississippi Education Update

Q | Search



Mississippi Education Update

A Mississippi education update is available for you

Mississippi has made tremendous strides in recent years and continues to build a strong foundation for future generations of students. These achievements follow a coordinated effort that combined policy, leadership, strategic planning, investments in educator effectiveness, and the unwavering belief that Mississippi children could reach, and exceed, higher expectations.

More Info . . .

Quality Counts Grade

National Ranking

Graduation Rate

NAEP

version 2013

50th

75.5%

4th grade reading one full grade behind national average

/

version 2021

C-

39th

87.7%

No. 1 in nation for gains in 4th grade reading and math. Higher than national average in 4th grade math, tied for reading.











mdek12.org

Office of Communication and Government Relations 601.359.3515

