Strategic Priority: Hoʻonaʻauao (Education)

Strategic Result — Increase the percentage of Native Hawaiian students
  • meeting and exceeding READING standards from 55% to 65%, and
  • meeting and exceeding MATH standards from 32% to 45%.

BACKGROUND. The Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) of reading and math are administered to Department of Education (DOE) public and charter school students enrolled in grades 3 – 8 and 11. Due to the replacement of the Hawaiʻi State Assessment (HSA) by the SBA, results for School Year (SY) 2015 became the DOE’s new baseline and all future results are therefore incomparable to previous years (DOE, 2017a). OHA developed its 2018 strategic results for education based on data from the now outdated HSA and will be considering how best to move forward on setting new targets.

Figures 1 and 2 depict the percentage of students who tested proficient (met or exceeded standards) in reading and math in HSA for SY2009-13, “bridge” for SY2014, and SBA for SY2015, SY2016, and SY2017.

**Figure 1.** Reading proficiency trends among public school students (SY2009-SY2017)

- 34.2% of Native Hawaiian students were proficient in reading, a 1.9 percentage point decrease from SY2016 (36.1%).
- 50.3% of all DOE students were proficient in reading, a 0.8 percentage point decrease from SY2016 (51.1%).

**MATH SY2016-2017**

- 26.7% of Native Hawaiian students were proficient in math, a 0.9 percentage point decrease from SY2016 (27.6%).
- 41.8% of all DOE students were proficient in math, a 0.2 percentage point increase from SY2016 (41.6%).

**Figure 2.** Math proficiency trends among public school students (SY2009-SY2017)

**FIGURES 1 AND 2 SOURCES.** DOE, 2017b; RTTT, 2010.

**NOTE.** SY2013, SY2014, and SY2015 results in Figures 1 and 2 cannot be compared to previous years as indicated by the broken timeline.

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TERMS.

Hawai‘i Common Core State Standards (Common Core): These standards “define the knowledge and skills students need to succeed in college and careers when they graduate. They align with college and workforce expectations, are clear and consistent, include rigorous content and application of knowledge through higher-order skills, are evidence-based, and are informed by standards in top-performing countries.” Common Core replaced HCPS in SY2014 (HCCS, 2017).

Hawai‘i Content and Performance Standards III (HCPS): Hawai‘i Content and Performance Standards were created in 1991 and were replaced by Common Core in SY2014 (HCPS, 2005).

Hawai‘i Standard Assessment (HSA): The Hawai‘i Standard Assessment (HSA) in reading and math was administered to DOE students enrolled in grades 3–8 and 11 between SY2003 and SY2013 and measured student attainment of the HCPS. Science assessments are also administered to students enrolled in grades 4 and 8. The HSA in math and reading was replaced by SBA in SY2015, however, the HSA Science Assessment continues to be used (HCCS, 2017).

Native Hawaiian: For students enrolled in the public school system, race is based on the student’s enrollment application which is completed by the parent/guardian of each student (OHA, 2015).

Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA): The Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) replaced the Hawai‘i Standard Assessment (HSA) in SY2015 (preceded by a “bridge assessment in SY2014) to align with the newly implemented Hawai‘i Common Core State Standards. The SBA is administered to DOE and public charter school students enrolled in grades 3–8 and 11. It is aligned with Common Core and measures student knowledge and real-world application in math and reading as an indicator of their college-, career-, and community-readiness. Scores are categorized into four achievement standards (Exceeded, Met, Nearly Met, and Did Not Meet). Proficiency is defined as those students scoring within the Exceeded and Met standard levels (DOE, 2017a).

REFERENCES.


Hawai‘i Department of Education (DOE). (2017b). ARCH Accountability Data Center. Proficiency: School Divisions (Statewide), Subject (Math/ELA), Type (By Subgroup & Year), Type of Data (All Students). Retrieved September 27, 2017 from http://adc.hidoe.us/#/proficiency
