

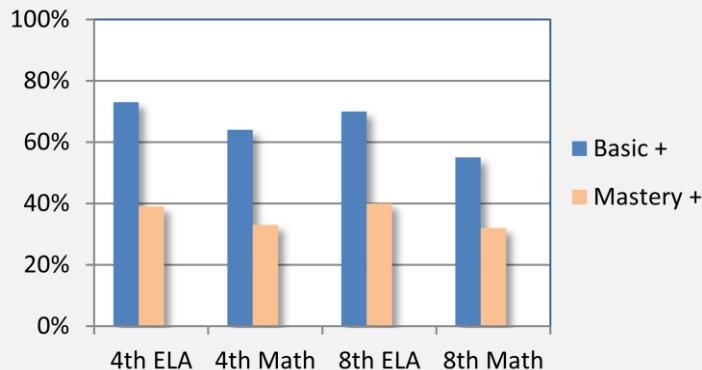
REPORT CARD

On Major Education Indicators

Council for A Better Louisiana



LEAP/PARCC - % At/Above Basic and Mastery, 2015



Levels: 1-Unsatisfactory, 2-Approaching Basic, 3-Basic, 4-Mastery, 5-Advanced

2016 QUALITY COUNTS –

	Louisiana	U.S. Average	Rank
- Chance for Success	C-	C+	# 48
- K-12 Achievement	D	C-	# 49
- School Finance	C	C	# 25
Overall Grade	D+	C	

National Ranking: #44

-Education Week, January 2016

NAEP NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS

is a program in which Louisiana voluntarily participates, as do all other states. NAEP tests on reading, math, science, and writing on a rotating basis. **2015 in math and reading, students at national “proficient” level & national rank:**

4th Reading: 29% (up from 2013), #43

4th Math 30% (up from 2013), #45

8th Reading 23% (near static), #48

8th Math 18% (down some), #49

-NAEP Report 2015

Highlight 1 In shift to higher

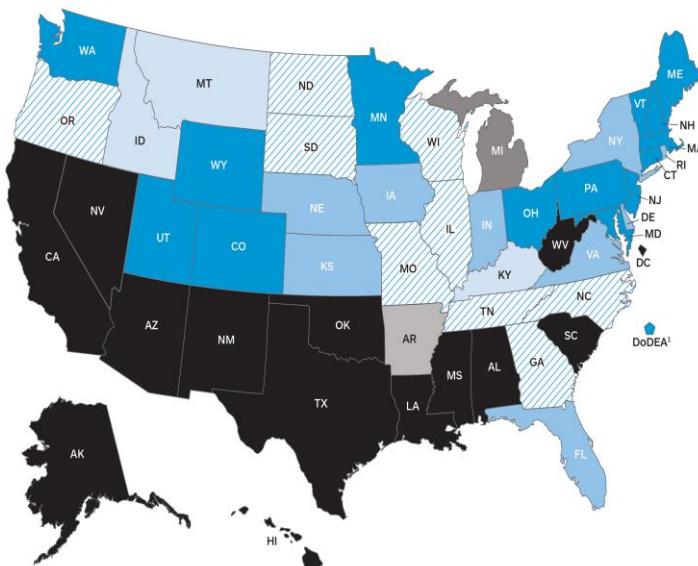
standards and new tests, some gains made, but room for growth remains.

In the past 16 years, more and more students achieved Louisiana’s “Basic” grade-level skills and knowledge - laudable efforts by all. But achieving “Basic” is not reflective of students having a **mastery** of those academics, only a minimum. To increase learning, Louisiana has moved to more rigorous benchmark standards of **national** comparison in core subjects. Many previous Louisiana standards were not rigorous enough for most students to *master* important subject matter nor for many graduates to *solidly* prepare for high-skill training or the technical, college and university credits needed in our dynamic economy. Louisiana’s 2025 goal is to help most students achieve at “Mastery” in order to graduate better prepared in today’s world. New state tests (PARCC) in 2015 show more students *are* reaching “Mastery.” But, results also indicate that a number of students (~25-33%) are still *below* “Basic,” though this is a similar range prior to state’s new standards.

Highlight 2 Gaps on national

measures. While a majority of Louisiana students achieve at “Basic” levels in reading and math on state tests, **only 2-3 out of 10 students are at or above the national (NAEP) standard of Proficient in those core subjects.**

Why? NAEP sets the bar for *proficiency* at a higher level than “Basic” and is more in line with Louisiana’s “Mastery” level. NAEP *proficiency* reflects a deeper understanding and a fuller grasp of subject matter. State laws now require higher expectations, similar to those in most other states, for our students -- and with comparable results to other states. The state has also set a new 10-year goal to help students reach *proficiency* at the “Mastery” level of knowledge and skills, with 2015 and 2016 as baseline years.



PERCENTAGE COMPARISON BETWEEN STATES AND THE NATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AT OR ABOVE PROFICIENT IN FOURTH- AND EIGHTH-GRADE NAEP READING: 2013

- █ Higher than nation at both grades 4 and 8
- █ Lower than nation at both grades 4 and 8
- █ Not significantly different from the nation at either grade
- █ Higher than the nation at grade 4 only
- █ Lower than the nation at grade 4 only
- █ Higher than the nation at grade 8 only
- █ Lower than the nation at grade 8 only

KEY HIGH SCHOOL OUTCOMES—

The number of public school **dropouts** in grades 7-12 declined significantly from 15-16,000+ in the early 2000s to 10,637 dropouts in 2012 and 10,703 in 2013.

More high school students are **graduating on time** with the state posting an **all-time high cohort graduation rate of 77.5%** (freshmen who graduated in four years) in 2015, up from 64.8% in 2006.

End-of-Course Tests (2014 & 2015 combined) % students who scored 'Good' or 'Excellent' (*Range: Needs Improvement, Fair, Good, Excellent*)

Algebra 1 - 54%	Biology – 58%
English 2 - 72%	U.S. History – 65%



ACT Average (2014-15) = 19.4 out of 36 with all seniors exam; an increase of .2 from previous year. U.S. average = 21.0. Over **6300 more students scored 17 or higher and can enter some form of college in the state**, but only 17% met ACT *Benchmarks* for College Readiness (75% chance of a 'C' or better in college core subjects).

34% college freshmen (2012) who graduated from public high schools had to take non-credit **remedial courses**

Public student enrollment in **Advance Placement (college-prep) courses** vastly increased from 17,540 in 2011-12 to 33,231 in 2014-15 and **students scoring at a "Qualifying" level (3> out of 5) on AP® Exams increased 89%**...though LA generally ranks low nationally.

Highlight 3 HS gains improving preparation for job training and college. Louisiana has reported a steady decline in dropouts in the last decade and has significantly **improving its 4-year graduation rate**. In 2015, it posted the largest gain in average scores among states that give ACT and increased the number of students passing AP courses.

It's important to note that **over half of Louisiana jobs in the next decade will require more than a high school diploma**, as in associate degree, technical, and 4-year college training and courses and **Louisiana has traditionally ranked low in preparation and completion of 2- and 4-year college degrees**. But since 2012, more students can now *enter* some level of college. **ACT college readiness benchmarks, however, continue to signal low chances for many students to succeed**. The benchmarks show math and science prep are particularly low, a critical gap for the many STEM jobs in our state's economy. Louisiana continues to help graduates be better prepared through more rigorous content standards and greatly expanded dual enrollment, AP, career and technical high school courses.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE SCORES AND LETTER GRADES, FALL 2015

Letter Grade	SPS Range	# of Schools	
A	100-150	227	17%
B	85-99.9	378	28%
C	70-84.9	365	27%
D	50-69.9	246	19%
F	0-49.0	107	8%
T (transitional)		7	<1%

SPSs and corresponding Letters Grades are based on a formula of test scores (LEAP, PARCC, ACT), graduation rates, course participation, diplomas and bonus points. 2015 reflects the first year of a new 2-year baseline to gauge how Louisiana students are achieving on more rigorous content standards in core subjects.

Highlight 4 School and District

Performance Scores Fairly Static

At present, tracking progress with **School Performance Scores (SPS)** from 1998-99 when they were first established in the state's Accountability System to 2015-16, is no longer an "apples to apples" comparison. This is due to the state's frequent changes in the scale and factors used in SPS calculations (i.e., different tests, bonus points, various weights). Making comparisons with **individual** school and district **Letter Grades** from year-to-year and **with other schools** is difficult, at best. Additionally, during the transition to higher academic learning standards in key subjects and new tests, BESE has set a "curve" distribution to letter grades in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 for the state as a whole, so that significant change overall from the previous year was not expected. Regardless, statewide results show there continues to be room for improvement, with **353 schools rated 'D' and 'F'** – meaning that most of their students remain below even "Basic" or minimum grade level and well below "Mastery" of skills and knowledge.

Highlight 5 Careers of the future...is Louisiana ready?

Louisiana lags the nation in the number of its citizens with associate degree or higher. In 2018, 51% of all jobs in Louisiana will require some form of postsecondary education, but today only 29.6% of adults in the state have earned an associate degree or higher. In just five years, the number of jobs requiring an associate degree or a job training credential will grow by nearly 20%. The good news is that Louisiana's enrollment in community and technical colleges is steadily climbing and associate degrees and certificates have **significantly increased**.



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF ADULTS

AGE 25-64 (2013) Associate Degree or Higher

LA: 29.6% SREB States: 36.4%
US: 40.0%

ASSOCIATE DEGREES

Awarded from 2-year & technical colleges (public)

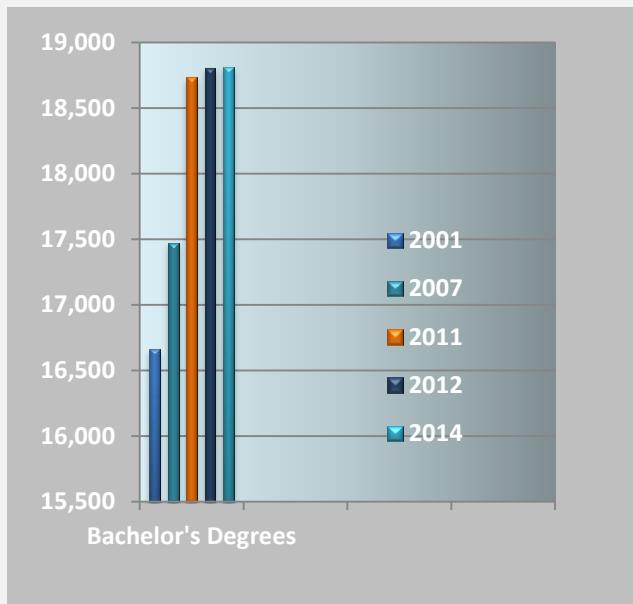
2005	2,567	2013	5,404
------	-------	------	-------

POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT (FTE) TREND in Louisiana...

	2003	2008	2013
4-year colleges/universities	75%	72%	66%
2-year community/technical colleges	25%	28%	34%
4-year colleges/universities	55%	55%	53%
2-year community/technical colleges	45%	45%	47%

Traditionally, the state has had disproportionately more students enrolled in 4-year than 2-year or technical schools compared to the South and US. The ratio is still outside the norm, but improving.

BACHELOR'S DEGREES AWARDED –



Highlight 6 Indicators Rise for “4-year” Baccalaureate Schools.

Despite a tumultuous decade of natural disasters and state revenue cuts, Louisiana has shown improvement on two key outcomes for baccalaureate institutions: **Degrees Awarded (18,814 in 2014)** and **Six-year Graduation Rates (up to 49.8%)** – a performance measure often used nationally. These improvements have been credited to effective strategies at institutions and strengthened admission standards by the State Board of Regents. Most schools have increased grad rates, but the state’s average still falls below that of Southern region as a whole and 5 campuses continue to graduate less than 40% of its freshmen in six years.

Louisiana Public College 6-Year Graduation Rates (Full-time freshmen cohort) As reported by the Louisiana Board of Regents, which includes transfers.

Campus	2005 Freshmen fall '99	2009 Freshmen fall '03	2012 Freshmen fall '06	2014 Freshmen fall '08
LSU – BR	64%	66%	72.9%	71.4%
LA Tech	54%	52%	52.1%	56.6%
UL, Lafayette	43%	46%	48.9%	53.4%
McNeese	35%	37%	39.1%	42.4%
Grambling	37%	29%	31.4%	32.2%
Northwestern	35%	35%	39.4%	40.1%
UL, Monroe	31%	32%	41.3%	45.5%
Southeastern	29%	34%	39.3%	41.1%
Southern Univ. BR	28%	32%	30.2%	33.6%
Nicholls State	32%	31%	42.0%	43.6%
UNO	26%	28%	38.9%	36.6%
LSU- S	26%	28%	36.6%	40.1%
LSU- A	n/a	n/a	17.6%	28.8%
SUNO	9%	10%	14.2%	15.0%
STATE	42%	42%	47.6%	49.8%
SOUTH (SREB)*	52%	52%	56%	n/a

SREB rate for the South (56%) does **not include transfers and reports LA's 6-year graduation rate at 43%.

Sources:

ACT National and State Scores; ACT Profile Report – LA State Executive Summary

Louisiana Department of Education: *State Performance Summaries, School Performance Scores Summary, District Performance Scores Summary, End-of- Course Tests Summary Reports, GEE Science Results, LEAP Achievement Level Summary Reports, District Dropout Rates Grades 9-12 Report, Historical Statewide Cohort Graduation Rates for Louisiana, Louisiana Annual Dropout Rates*

Louisiana Board of Regents: *Table – Board of Regents 6-year College Graduation Rates*

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), national and state reports

College Board, (AP) Student Achievement Report, Executive Summary (Louisiana – Public Schools)

U.S. Census Bureau: *Selected Social Characteristics, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, US and Louisiana*

SREB State Data Exchange: *Degrees and Other Awards Conferred All Public Institutions; Student Progression Rates- Full-time Bachelor's Seeking Undergraduates - Public 4-year Colleges and Universities; Total FTE Enrollment Public 4-Year Institutions*

Education Week Quality Counts- National and State Report Card

Louisiana Workforce Investment Council, Accountability and Performance Measures Report