

How do you measure how well a school is doing? In our estimation, it's more than scores on high-stakes tests. Schools should show that they are supporting children along the educational pipeline toward college, career, and community readiness. Are our students attending school? Are they graduating? Are they going to college? And how successfully are schools reducing the achievement gap between high-needs and non-high needs students?

Connections PCS

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Our Story

Our mission is to create an 'ohana which is conducive to the recognition and development of individual talents. Thematic and experiential learning experiences are provided which focus on how students construct knowledge using creative and critical thinking. A forum for the development of the ability to recognize and differentiate a quality result or product is offered. Classroom experiences are connected to real life experiences so that students can grow in the understanding of themselves in relation to their community and the world.

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About Our School

Principal | Romeo Garcia Grades | K-12 808-961-3664

www.connectionscharterschool.org

366

students enrolled



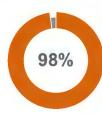
of students are English learners



of students are eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch



of students receive special education services



of special education students are in general education classes most of the day

Learn more at http://bit.ly/StriveHISystem



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Pandemic Related Considerations When Assessing Strive HI Results

Throughout this 2021-22 school year (SY), numerous pandemic-related challenges arose across Hawai'i's public schools. Many challenges were common across schools, yet others were unique to a particular school or group of schools within a particular geographic area. The pandemic's impact on instruction and learning had an effect on teachers and students, and those conditions should be considered when examining student achievement and school performance results.

Chronic Absenteeism and the Pandemic

(For 2022 results, see Page 4)

In school year 2021-22, there was a substantial, statewide increase in the chronic absenteeism rate. These increases were largely pandemic related and schools had very little control over such absences. While schools continued to implement follow-up procedures for absent students, the impact was minimal given the large number of students kept home due to several pandemic related factors. A number of factors described below were also seen nationally and are not unique to Hawaii only.

It is important to reiterate that the purpose of the Strive HI Chronic Absenteeism Measure is to identify schools where a substantial proportion of students did not receive the full year of instructional time. The measure is not intended to place fault with schools and is based on all student absences, both unexcused and excused absences. The following is a summary of key pandemic related factors that contributed to the large increase in chronic absenteeism rates across schools.

Statewide factors

The single most influential factor attributable to 2021-22 absences was due to COVID infections and quarantines due to potential exposure. Increases in absences and peaks in infection rates were consistently mirrored during September – November 2021 (Delta variant) and January – May 2022 (Omicron variant). Key factors observed included the following:

- Elementary students were disproportionately negatively impacted, accounting for over half of 2021-22 chronically absent students.
- Vaccinations for elementary age students were not readily available through the first half of the school year.
- Vaccine apprehension resulting in parents/guardians more likely to keep their child home knowing he/she is unvaccinated.
- Changes with COVID exposure/infection guidance caused confusion around when students should attend or not attend school.
- Exposure or infection of a single student impacting an entire household including multiple school aged siblings.
- Convenient and abundant access to home tests increased identification of positive results (including non-symptomatic cases) resulting in isolation and quarantines within the household.

Localized factors

The following are localized factors that were reported to increase absences. One was clustered in an individual complex area and the other disproportionately impacted a specific island:

- U.S. Navy emergency fuel storage leak coinciding with increases in absenteeism across one Central Oahu complex area.
- Bus driver shortages were already an issue pre-pandemic and exacerbated further by the pandemic. Approximately 15% of schools statewide were impacted to some degree. Big Island schools were most impacted with around 50% of schools across the island.

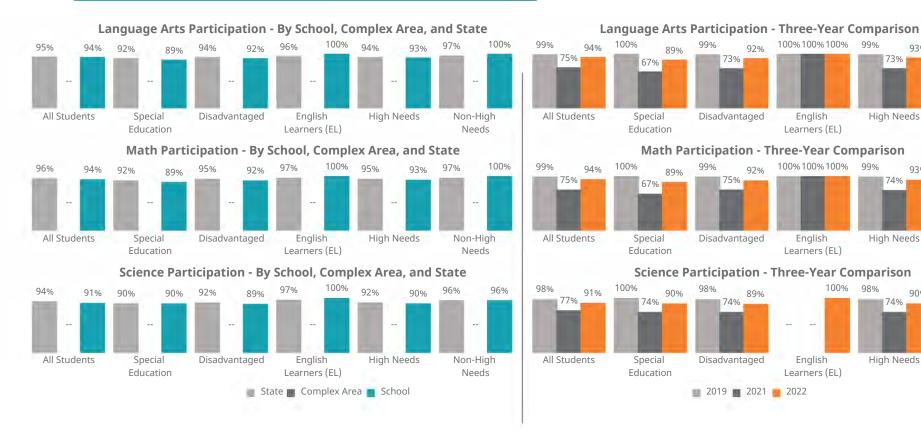


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How many students participated in testing?

These bar charts display participation rates across language arts, math, and science for All Students and high-needs subgroups. School rates are accompanied by complex area and statewide rates allowing for side-by-side comparisons. Consideration should be given to the following: (A) Participation rates should always be taken into consideration when reviewing proficiency results, and especially so, when students' modes of learning, instruction, and test-taking options are disrupted or altered during the school year; (B) School participation rates should be compared across key subgroups as well as complex area and statewide rates; (C) Participation rates allow readers to judge the extent proficiency and other test derived results such as growth, achievement gap, and 3rd and 8th grade literacy rates, are representative of all students eligible to test; and (D) When participation rates drop below 95%, one should ask, "To what extent are these results reflective of all students eligible to test?" "Are certain student subgroups over- or under-represented?" "Do those differences skew achievement results?" The following link provides guidelines and considerations when examining achievement results derived from low-participation rates, as well as other important pandemic related considerations: Appropriate Use of SY 2020-21 Hawai'i Statewide Assessment Program (HSAP) Results.

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English

English

English

High Needs

High Needs

High Needs

100%

Non-High

Needs

Non-High

Needs

Non-High

Needs

88% 96%



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2021-22 Strive HI School Performance Results

IMPORTANT: Due to COVID-19, in SY 2020, no statewide tests were administered. In SY 2021, Hawai'i public schools administered a shortened version of the statewide assessment, a skip-year growth methodology was used, and participation rate penalties were waived as approved by the U.S. Department of Education.



How are students performing in each subject?

Measures the percent of students meeting the standard/who are proficient on state assessments. No participation penalty was applied to 2021 proficiency results.

Language Arts Math Science





How are students performing compared to others?

Compares the percent of students meeting the standard/who are proficient on state assessments.

Language Arts Math Science





How are student subgroups performing?

High Needs: English learners, economically disadvantaged, and students receiving special education services. Non-High Needs: All other students.

Language Arts		Math		
43%	27%	27%	7%	
Non-High Needs	High Needs	Non-High Needs	High Needs	
Achievement gap: 17 points		Achievement gap: 20 points		

17%

of students learning English are on-track to English language proficiency



How are students' academic progress measured?

Schools' Smarter Balanced growth is represented by a Median Growth Percentile (MGP) which ranges from 1 - 99. HSA-Alt & KAEO growth shows the percent of students making one year of growth.

Smarter Ba	alanced	HSA-Alt		
41	44		Language Arts	Math
		KAEO		
Language Arts	Math		Language Arts	Math



How many students are prepared for transition?

61% of 3rd graders read near, at, or above grade level	of students completed a Career & Technical Education program by 12th grade
69% of 8th graders read near, at, or above grade level	58% of students graduated ontime
79% of 9th graders are promoted to 10th grade on-time	of students enrolled in postsecondary institutions the fall after graduation



How many students missed 15 or more days of school this year?





How do students feel about their school?

Measures percent of students reporting positive school climate as measured by the Panorama Student Survey by school level.

Upper Elementary
(For grades 3-5)
Secondary
(For grades 6-12)
School
School
73%
59%

¹2020 chronic absenteeism is based on absences only through the end of the third quarter (3/13/20). As such, the rate is not directly comparable with years prior to or following 2020, which were based on absences through May 1 of each school year.



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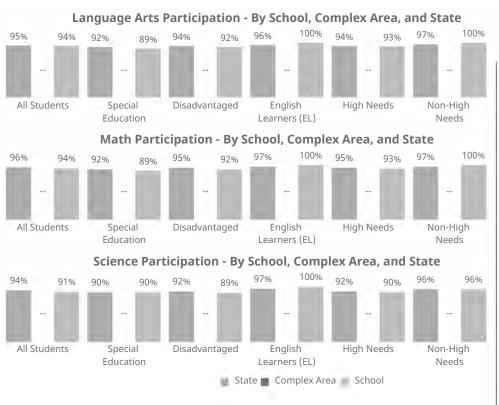


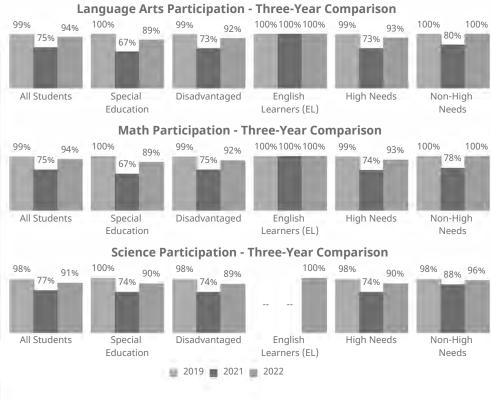
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71		KAEO		
Language Arts	Math		Language Arts	Math

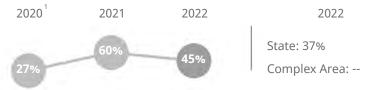


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