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## ABSTRACT

This document addresses the CLAST results for Miami-Dade Community College (M-DCC) in June 2002. The results can be useful in developing strategies to enhance the CLAST pass rates of M-DCC students. Specifically, the document addresses the following three areas: first time pass rate increases in essay, reading, and mathematics, education majors; CLAST first time pass rates exceed college wide first time pass rates, performance of first time examinees by skill area. Some of the key findings of the report are as follows: (1) first time pass rates from the June 2002 administration were higher in the essay, reading, and mathematics subtest compared with June 2001 results; (2) although M-DCC achieved increases in some of the pass rates, they remain low; (3) first time pass rates from the June 2002 administration were higher in all of the subtests for education majors compared with college-wide results; and (4) 2,373 students earned a CLAST alternative in mathematics, which is an 8% increase as compared to June 2001. The document contains three recommendations about how CLAST results can be improved in the future. Contains five tables, which present information such as results for first time and retake examinees and other Florida public institutions. (MZ)

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## INFORMATION CAPSULE: CLAST RESULTS — JUNE 2002

### CLAST First-Time Pass Rates Increase in Essay, Reading, and Mathematics

First-time pass rates from the June 2002 administration were higher in the Essay, Reading, and Mathematics subtests compared with June 2001 results. Essay results reflected an increase of 2 percentage points, Reading reflected an increase of

	College-Wide CLAST Pass Rates			
	First-Time		Retake	
	June 2001	June 2002	June 2001	June 2002
<b>Essay</b>	69% (N=226)	71% (N=316)	51% (N=63)	52% (N=92)
<b>English Lang. Skills</b>	56% (N=254)	47% (N=361)	51% (N=154)	36% (N=245)
<b>Reading</b>	51% (N=245)	55% (N=358)	61% (N=140)	60% (N=204)
<b>Mathematics</b>	38% (N=335)	39% (N=438)	41% (N=271)	38% (N=394)
<b>Total Test</b>	21% (N=112)	21% (N=141)		

**Recommendations**

1. Reading and English disciplines should follow the Mathematics discipline's lead in developing strategies and pilot projects to enhance students' success in their courses.
2. The CASSC Research and Testing subcommittee charged with developing a website to support CLAST/CPT test preparation should move forward and establish the site by the end of Spring Term.
3. The Academic Deans should investigate ways to encourage students to complete their required English and mathematics courses earlier in their enrollment at M-DCC.

4 percentage points, and Mathematics reflected a one percentage point increase. Pass rates also increased for students retaking the Essay subtest (52% passed, a one percentage point increase compared to 2001). The pass rate for the few students (141) taking the entire test remained unchanged at 21%.

Although M-DCC achieved increases in some of the pass rates, they still remain low. This is not surprising since most of the students currently taking the CLAST are the least academically prepared for the exam as they have probably earned C grades in all of the courses applicable to an alternative.

For this administration, students were most successful in the first-time Essay and retake Reading subtests and least successful in first-time Mathematics and retake English Language Skills subtests. Campus results for the June 2002 administration are given in Table 1 attached.

### Education Majors CLAST First-time Pass Rates Exceed College-wide First-time Pass Rates

First-time pass rates from the June 2002 administration were higher in all of the subtests for education majors compared with college-wide results. Essay and English Language Skills results were 6 percentage points higher, Reading was 8 percentage points higher, and Mathematics was one percentage point higher. The pass rate for the few education majors (78) taking the entire test was also higher than the college-wide rate. The total test pass rate for the education majors (28%) was 7 percentage points higher than the college-wide rate (21%). In contrast, the retake pass rate for education majors was lower in all of the subtests for education majors compared with college-wide results.

For this administration, education majors were most successful in the first-time Essay and retake Reading subtests and least successful in first-time Mathematics and retake English Language Skills subtests.

	College-Wide CLAST Pass Rates Education Majors	
	First-Time	Retake
	June 2002	June 2002
<b>Essay</b>	77% (145)	50% (24)
<b>English Lang. Skills</b>	53% (142)	31% (58)
<b>Reading</b>	63% (138)	55% (49)
<b>Mathematics</b>	40% (114)	32% (59)
<b>Total Test</b>	28% (78)	

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## INFORMATION CAPSULE: CLAST RESULTS — JUNE 2002

### Performance of First-Time Examinees by Skill Area Shows Little Improvement

Results from the June 2002 paper and pencil administration reflected a few increases and decreases. In English Language Skills, there was a 9 percentage point decrease in Word Choice, a 5 percentage point decrease in Sentence Structure, and a 5 percentage point increase in Grammar.

In Reading, there was a decrease of 2 percentage points in Literal Comprehension and a 1 percentage point increase in Critical Comprehension.

In Mathematics, there was a large 19 percentage point increase in Arithmetic, and decreases which ranged from 3 percentage points in Algebra and Logic to 14 percentage points in Statistics and Probability. The pass rate in Geometry did not change.

Students in the June 2002 administration were most successful in the skill areas of Grammar (79% passing), Literal Comprehension (71% passing) and Arithmetic (71% passing) within each of the broad skill categories. In all of the skill areas, the performance of M-DCC students was generally lower than the Statewide rates for public universities and community colleges (see Table 2 attached).

These results can be useful in developing strategies to enhance the CLAST pass rates of M-DCC students. Students' skills improvement should focus on those areas which include a high number of questions on the subtest (s). This would likely enhance their performance and therefore increase the likelihood that they will pass the subtest(s).

### CLAST Mathematics Alternatives Increase by 8%

During the June 2002 administration period, 2,373 students earned a CLAST alternative in Mathematics (an 8% increase compared to June 2001) and 549 students were exempt from the entire CLAST. In addition, 5,762 students earned a CLAST alternative during this administration. As in the past, more alternatives were granted in the communications subtests of Essay (3,837), English Language Skills (3,845), and Reading (3,820) than in the Mathematics subtest (2,373), but the gap between the communications and mathematics subtests has narrowed.

	CLAST Skill Areas	% Correct		
		# Items	June	June
			2001	2002
<b>English Language Skills:</b>				
	<i>Word Choice</i>	4	80%	71%
	<i>Sentence Structure</i>	12	72%	67%
	<i>Grammar</i>	19	74%	79%
<b>Reading:</b>				
	<i>Literal Comprehension</i>	9	73%	71%
	<i>Critical Comprehension</i>	27	68%	69%
<b>Mathematics:</b>				
	<i>Arithmetic</i>	12	52%	71%
	<i>Algebra</i>	16	59%	56%
	<i>Geometry</i>	8	64%	64%
	<i>Logic</i>	6	66%	63%
	<i>Statistics &amp; Probability</i>	8	68%	54%

	CLAST Alternatives Granted	
	March 1 through June 30 2001	March 1 through June 30 2002
Essay	4,008	3,837
English Lang. Skills	4,090	3,845
Reading	4,089	3,820
Mathematics	2,204	2,373
<b>Total Test</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>549</b>
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>5,814</b>	<b>5,762</b>

	CLAST Alternatives Granted Between March 1, 2002 - June 30, 2002 By Campus and College-Wide						Unduplicated Number of Students
	Campus	English Language Skills	Essay	Reading	Math	Total Test	
North	831	836	823	490	99	1,250	
Kendall	1,783	1,780	1,784	1,155	291	2,697	
Wolfson	734	735	733	444	94	1,100	
Medical Center	125	128	128	80	28	182	
Homestead	174	174	170	70	17	228	
InterAmerican	190	192	182	134	20	305	
College-Wide	3,837	3,845	3,820	2,373	549	5,762	

## INFORMATION CAPSULE: CLAST RESULTS — JUNE 2002

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This is partially explained by the continued efforts of the math discipline to improve student success in mathematics courses. Their efforts have contributed to the following successes, which were recently reported by Cathy Morris in an October 2002 Information Capsule (IC-2002-14C): MAC1105 had 54.1% A,B,C grades in Fall 2001 compared to 46.8% in Fall 2000; MAC1114 had 48.3% A,B,C grades in Fall 2001 compared to 41.9% in Fall 2000; and MAC2311 dropped off the "High Risk Courses List" with 62.4% A,B,C grades in Fall Term 2001. Finally, most students no longer take the CLAST - they earn an alternative. Education majors are the exception, as they need to take and pass the CLAST for their program.

### **Notes on Method:**

Test results of the June 2002 CLAST administration are reported for M-DCC students who took the CLAST at M-DCC and at other institutions. Results also include Computer Adaptive Test – (CAT-CLAST) administrations for M-DCC students who took the CLAST at M-DCC and at other institutions during the period of March 1, 2002 – June 30, 2002. Results are reported for first-time examinees, retake examinees, and students earning alternatives to the CLAST requirement during the above period. Campus results are presented using the students' home campus designation. Results for Education Majors are provided using the students' program code designation.

Results for first-time and retake examinees at M-DCC and other Florida public institutions are presented in Tables 3 and 4 respectively. Comparisons with other institutions should not be made due to different criteria in effect for allowing students to take and retake the CLAST, as well as awarding alternatives to the CLAST. Also, the number of M-DCC students taking the test and corresponding pass rates depicted in the State tables may differ from M-DCC results due to reporting procedures.

**Silvio Rodriguez:ab**

**Table 1**  
**Pass Rates for June 2002 CLAST by Campus and College-Wide**

<b>First-Time Examinees*</b>								
	College Wide	Education Majors**	Campus					
			North	Kendall	Wolfson	Medical Center	Homestead	Inter-American
Essay	71% (N=316)	77% (N=145)	76% (N=50)	72% (N=166)	65% (N=60)	0% (N=1)	75% (N=16)	65% (N=23)
English Language Skills	47% (N=361)	53% (N=142)	57% (N=61)	47% (N=174)	44% (N=73)	0% (N=2)	57% (N=14)	42% (N=36)
Reading	55% (N=358)	63% (N=138)	60% (N=55)	57% (N=173)	44% (N=70)	67% (N=3)	88% (N=16)	46% (N=41)
Mathematics	39% (N=438)	40% (N=114)	41% (N=109)	35% (N=185)	49% (N=84)	33% (N=9)	38% (N=16)	32% (N=34)
Pass-All-Four	21% (N=141)	28% (N=78)	58% (N=12)	18% (N=79)	16% (N=25)	0% (N=1)	17% (N=12)	17% (N=12)
<b>Retake Examinees</b>								
	College Wide	Education Majors	Campus					
			North	Kendall	Wolfson	Medical Center	Homestead	Inter-American
Essay	52% (N=92)	50% (N=24)	59% (N=17)	56% (N=45)	42% (N=19)	0% (N=0)	100% (N=1)	40% (N=10)
English Language Skills	36% (N=245)	31% (N=58)	27% (N=59)	45% (N=92)	35% (N=49)	0% (N=0)	27% (N=11)	35% (N=34)
Reading	60% (N=204)	55% (N=49)	52% (N=46)	71% (N=63)	63% (N=54)	100% (N=1)	75% (N=8)	41% (N=32)
Mathematics	38% (N=394)	32% (N=59)	37% (N=95)	40% (N=163)	41% (N=79)	50% (N=4)	30% (N=23)	30% (N=30)

\* "N" and pass rate may differ from State data due to reporting procedures. Includes M-DCC students tested at other institutions, and/or CAT-CLAST results between March 1, 2002 - June 30, 2002.

\*\*Education Majors are included if they were enrolled during the 2001-2 Spring Term and were tested in the date range mentioned above.

**Table 2**  
**College-Level Academic Skills Test**  
**Public First Time**

**Date of Test: June 1, 2002**

**Institution Name: Miami-Dade Community College**

Broad Skill Area	Number of Subtest Items	% Correct in Institution	% Correct in State	Range in Public Institutions	% Correct in Universities	% Correct in Community Colleges
<b>Mathematics</b>						
Arithmetic	12	71	75	64 - 90	74	76
Algebra	16	56	59	45 - 76	58	60
Geometry	8	64	68	56 - 93	68	68
Logic	6	63	66	53 - 75	68	65
Statistics & Probability	8	54	59	48 - 83	59	59
<b>Reading</b>						
Literal Comprehension	9	71	77	70 - 92	79	76
Critical Comprehension	27	69	77	69 - 92	78	75
<b>English Language Skills</b>						
Word Choice	4	71	79	71 - 85	80	78
Sentence Structure	12	67	75	67 - 88	77	73
Grammar	19	79	82	72 - 92	83	81

Table 3

CLASST RESULTS FOR JUNE 1, 2002  
MEAN SCALE SCORES AND PERCENT OF EXAMINEES MEETING 1992 STANDARDS  
FIRST-TIME EXAMINEES IN EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION

REGION AND INSTITUTION	ESSAY		ENG LANG SKILLS		READING		MATHEMATICS		ALL SUBTESTS				
	NUMBER TESTED	% PASS	NUMBER TESTED	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	% PASS			
PANHANDLE REGION	442	89	400	64	309	401	75	308	493	41	291	300	38
CHIPOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE	23	96	22	59	309	22	77	310	24	54	296	18	44
FLORIDA A & M UNIVERSITY	81	81	81	53	294	81	59	294	97	16	276	69	12
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY	116	97	110	81	323	113	89	321	174	50	298	95	55
GULF COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE	135	77	135	60	307	135	71	306	147	43	292	33	27
NORTH FLORIDA JUNIOR COLLEGE	12	75	12	67	296	10	70	305	13	38	290	10	50
OKALOOSA WALTON COMMUNITY COL.	36	92	25	68	308	23	78	305	22	41	294	13	38
PENSACOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE	61	90	44	73	314	43	72	310	34	65	299	28	64
TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	51	82	48	56	308	49	71	306	56	43	292	21	29
UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA	27	100	23	57	306	25	60	307	26	23	278	13	23
CROWN REGION	449	91	373	68	315	375	79	313	405	49	299	275	50
CENTRAL FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	49	88	49	61	309	49	73	306	52	29	288	42	21
FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT JAX	100	82	99	51	303	100	68	304	80	48	293	52	42
LAKE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	70	89	18	72	312	18	72	312	26	42	284	18	39
SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	43	95	43	60	311	43	72	311	39	38	292	34	26
ST. JOHNS RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	109	98	111	86	328	112	93	326	130	65	312	80	84
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA	60	95	53	70	319	53	81	313	77	44	297	49	47
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA													
EAST CENTRAL REGION	525	91	501	69	311	495	79	312	601	53	299	399	42
BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	60	85	59	71	309	58	79	311	82	50	298	46	30
DAYTONA BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	49	88	47	72	309	46	77	314	67	49	297	46	43
INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	59	92	49	73	314	46	85	319	42	81	314	27	44
LAKE SUMTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	18	100	18	83	317	18	78	311	31	85	304	18	44
SEMINOLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	52	88	52	62	307	53	70	310	63	52	298	42	35
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA	139	95	121	82	320	119	92	320	148	63	307	113	59
VALENCIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	148	91	145	57	304	144	69	304	168	40	291	107	26
WEST CENTRAL REGION	826	88	809	65	310	814	75	311	1,006	49	296	656	42
EDISON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	74	91	75	60	309	74	72	307	77	42	291	61	33
FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY	32	94	21	67	309	22	73	308	19	42	293	15	47
HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	115	82	115	58	305	116	66	306	115	50	297	81	32
MANATEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	60	88	60	72	318	60	85	316	61	64	302	52	44
PASCO-HERNANDO COMMUNITY COLLEGE	38	84	38	58	307	38	82	311	45	51	299	34	34
POLK COMMUNITY COLLEGE	51	86	50	72	309	50	58	299	50	42	284	38	37
SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	11	91	11	45	306	11	73	311	10	20	283	8	13
SOUTH FLORIDA UNIVERSITY	139	93	138	61	310	138	75	311	139	57	299	117	46
ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE	306	89	301	68	314	305	80	315	470	47	295	249	48
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA													
SOUTH REGION	885	77	825	54	302	812	60	300	962	37	289	573	28
BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	100	82	97	62	305	98	63	304	112	37	294	80	34
FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	225	83	215	59	302	215	68	304	276	67	288	180	31
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY	167	80	163	59	306	162	60	300	278	36	288	124	26
FLORIDA KEYS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	4	75	4	75	351	4	100	354	5	60	339	4	75
MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	305	71	264	46	297	251	54	293	211	33	288	129	19
PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	84	77	82	44	298	82	52	298	80	44	288	156	34
STATE TOTALS	3,127	86	2,908	63	308	2,897	72	308	3,467	45	294	2,203	39
STATE UNIVERSITIES	1,262	89	1,199	68	313	1,207	77	311	1,695	44	294	987	44
COMMUNITY COLLEGES	1,865	85	1,709	59	306	1,690	69	305	1,772	47	294	1,216	35

Table 4

CLAST RESULTS FOR JUNE 1, 2002  
 MEAN SCALE SCORES AND PERCENT OF EXAMINEES MEETING REQUIRED STANDARDS  
 RETAKE EXAMINEES IN EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION

REGION AND INSTITUTION	ESSAY		ENG LANG SKILLS		READING		MATHEMATICS	
	NUMBER TESTED	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	MEAN
PANHANDLE REGION	100	6.3	148	291	124	297	274	284
CHIPOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE	2	6.0	3	296	6	307	4	25
FLORIDA A & M UNIVERSITY	38	5.7	73	289	58	294	118	278
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY	17	7.1	22	297	16	301	29	288
GULF COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE	3	7.5	11	284	10	298	21	291
NORTH FLORIDA JUNIOR COLLEGE	1	7.0	7	284	7	291	12	288
OKALOOSA WALTON COMMUNITY COL.	10	7.3	4	314	4	303	15	299
PENSACOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE	12	6.5	40	287	6	293	30	284
TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	17	7.1	100	312	6	313	10	298
UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA	10	6.0	12	283	10	286	50	279
CROWN REGION	64	5.7	81	295	62	301	173	286
CENTRAL FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	8	5.0	2	289	3	282	2	289
FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT JAX	8	6.0	23	293	18	309	34	288
LAKE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	7	6.0	9	291	8	309	21	286
SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	10	6.0	0	297	0	307	1	293
ST. JOHNS RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	5	8.0	15	297	11	295	24	283
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA	15	7.0	24	295	18	315	74	285
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA	11	6.9	8	299	4	315	17	286
EAST CENTRAL REGION	113	5.7	155	293	118	301	244	286
BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	10	6.3	12	291	12	307	30	289
DAYTONA BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	17	5.3	33	288	27	299	39	282
INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	6	5.8	9	310	6	304	33	291
LAKE SUMTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	0	0	1	299	0	0	6	286
SEMIHOLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	11	5.5	27	287	14	295	37	282
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA	28	5.8	21	297	21	305	18	285
VALENCIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	61	5.8	46	294	38	299	56	286
WEST CENTRAL REGION	121	5.4	201	290	141	296	305	284
EDISON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	11	5.0	15	285	9	301	29	282
FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY	18	6.2	10	291	0	297	0	285
HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	22	5.1	47	296	42	308	80	290
MANATEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	4	4.8	20	288	10	292	22	286
PASCO-HERNANDO COMMUNITY COLLEGE	2	4.0	25	290	17	292	16	280
POLK COMMUNITY COLLEGE	8	5.4	35	298	57	303	38	286
SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	6	6.3	20	298	11	303	33	280
SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	4	6.0	9	287	8	293	21	286
ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE	21	5.5	58	287	39	287	17	283
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA	44	5.7	20	296	15	294	23	285
SOUTH REGION	334	5.4	439	292	353	293	820	282
BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	24	5.8	36	297	26	299	40	285
FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	120	5.4	160	292	125	289	329	279
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY	58	5.4	48	297	65	298	275	283
FLORIDA KEYS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	0	0	1	280	0	280	1	274
MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	99	5.6	101	289	93	289	121	287
PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	33	4.8	49	285	44	286	33	281
STATE TOTALS	732	5.6	1,024	292	798	296	1,816	283
STATE UNIVERSITIES	346	5.5	438	293	329	294	1,002	282
COMMUNITY COLLEGES	386	5.7	586	291	469	297	814	285





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