



# RESEARCH BRIEF

## Research Services

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### **Miami-Dade County Public Schools: 2022-2023 Student Performance in the International Baccalaureate Program**

#### **Results at a Glance**

This Research Brief summarizes the performance of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) students participating in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program. The IB program was offered at six M-DCPS high schools in 2022-2023. Over 3,200 assessments were completed by M-DCPS students in 30 subject areas in 2022-2023. The number of IB assessments completed in M-DCPS increased from 2021-2022 to 2022-2023. Overall, the percentage of IB assessments receiving passing scores decreased by six percentage points from 2021-2022 to 2022-2023. At the conclusion of the 2022-2023 school year, 84% of eligible M-DCPS students received IB diplomas.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) program is a rigorous pre-university curriculum and examination program that emphasizes the development of students' intellectual, personal, emotional, and social skills. The IB program provides students with a broad general education while offering specialization based on students' interests and plans. The IB program is recognized at colleges and universities throughout the United States and worldwide.

Three IB programs span the years from kindergarten to pre-university. The programs can be offered individually (the Primary Years Programme for students aged 3-12, the Middle Years Programme for students aged 11-16, and the IB Diploma Programme for students aged 16-19) or as a continuum. A fourth program, the Career-Related Programme, is designed to address the needs of students aged 16-19 who are engaged in career-related education. This report focuses on the IB Diploma Programme that is offered at M-DCPS senior high schools.

The IB Diploma Programme (DP) is a two-year liberal arts curriculum designed to promote an understanding of global citizenship. The program encourages students to become critical and compassionate thinkers and informed participants in local and world affairs. The DP curriculum is made up of three core elements and six subject groups. The three core elements are:

- The Theory of Knowledge course, assessed through an oral presentation and a 1,600-word essay, encourages students to reflect on the nature of learning and different kinds of knowledge;
- The extended essay, an independent, self-directed research project, culminates in a 4,000-word paper; and

- A Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) component requires students to take part in a range of experiences and at least one project.

The six subject groups are:

- Studies in language and literature;
- Language acquisition;
- Individuals and societies;
- Sciences;
- Mathematics; and
- The arts.

Students may study an additional course in science, individuals and societies, or languages, instead of a course in the arts. Each student takes three to four subjects at the *Higher Level (HL)* and the remaining subjects at the *Standard Level (SL)*. Students taking courses at HL are expected to demonstrate a greater body of knowledge, understanding, and skills.

Descriptions of courses in the first two subject groups are provided below.

- Studies in language and literature courses are as follows:
  - Language A: Literature – These courses introduce students to the analysis of literary texts. Courses are available in 55 languages.
  - Language A: Language and Literature – These courses introduce the critical study and interpretation of written and spoken texts from a wide range of literary and non-literary genres. Courses are available in 17 languages.
  - Literature and Performance – These courses explore the relationship between literature and theatre. Courses are automatically available in English, and by special request in Spanish and French.
- Language acquisition courses are as follows:
  - Language Ab Initio – These courses are for beginners (students who have little or no previous experience of learning the language they have chosen).
  - Language B – These courses are intended for students who have some previous experience of learning the language.
  - Classical Languages (Latin or Classical Greek) – These courses provide opportunities for students to study the language, literature, and culture of ancient Rome or Greece.

### **IB Assessments Scoring**

In both school years, assessments were scored on a scale of 1 to 7 for each subject, with 7 being the highest. A score of 4 is considered a passing score on an IB assessment. Students must earn a total of 24 points on their six IB assessments to receive the IB diploma, subject to certain

minimum levels of performance across all components of the program and satisfactory completion of the CAS requirement. Students can also be awarded up to three additional points toward the overall diploma score for their combined results on the Theory of Knowledge course and the extended essay.

Six M-DCPS high schools offered the IB program during the 2022-2023 school year: Coral Gables Senior, Coral Reef Senior, John A. Ferguson Senior, Miami Beach Senior, North Miami Senior, and South Dade Senior. This Research Brief includes 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 data on these six M-DCPS schools. The tables included in this report provide data on the number of IB assessments completed and the percentage of assessments receiving passing scores by subject area across all six M-DCPS IB schools, by school across all subject areas, and by school and ethnicity across all subject areas. The number and percentage of participating students earning diplomas in the District and at each IB school are also provided. The reader should note that results are not reported if fewer than 10 assessments were taken.

### **Participation in Assessments**

- In 2022-2023, M-DCPS students completed 3,213 IB assessments. The number of assessments completed by M-DCPS students increased by 171 assessments from 3,042 completed in 2021-2022.
- M-DCPS students took IB assessments in 30 subject areas in 2022-2023. Overall, most IB assessments were taken in History, Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches, Spanish B, Biology, and English A Language & Literature in 2022-2023. Over half (60%) of IB assessments taken by M-DCPS students were taken in these five subject areas.
- The greatest number of IB assessments were completed at Coral Gables Senior in 2022-2023 (873 assessments).
- From 2021-2022 to 2022-2023, the number of IB assessments completed increased at four of the four M-DCPS IB schools: John A. Ferguson Senior, Miami Beach Senior, North Miami Senior, and South Dade Senior. The number of IB assessments completed at the other two M-DCPS IB schools decreased.
- The District's Hispanic students completed 71% of all IB assessments in 2022-2023. White students completed 17% of IB assessments, Black students completed 6%, and students classified as "Other" (Alaskan Native, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, and Multiracial categories) took 5%.
- From 2021-2022 to 2022-2023, the percentage of assessments completed by Hispanic and Black students increased by one percentage point, while that for White students decreased by three percentage points, and the Other ethnic group remained the same.

### **Assessment Results**

- Overall, the percentage of IB assessments receiving passing scores in M-DCPS decreased by six percentage points from 90% in 2021-2022 to 84% in 2022-2023.

- The 2022-2023 subject areas in which the highest percentages of M-DCPS IB assessments received passing scores (98%+) were Social and Cultural Anthropology, Business Management, German B, Italian B, and World Religions. The subject areas in which the lowest percentages of IB assessments received passing scores were Visual Arts and French AB (both 58%).
- Coral Reef Senior and Miami Beach Senior had the highest percentages of IB assessments receiving passing scores (93% and 94%, respectively) in 2022-2023.
- From 2021-2022 to 2022-2023, the percentage of assessments receiving passing scores increased at two M-DCPS IB schools, Coral Reef Senior, and Miami Beach Senior.
- In 2022-2023, 93% of IB assessments completed by M-DCPS White students, 84% of assessments completed by Hispanic students, 59% of assessments completed by Black students, and 90% of assessments completed by students classified as “Other” received passing scores.
- From 2021-2022 to 2022-2023, the percentage of assessments receiving passing scores decreased by one to five percentage points for all ethnic groups, while decreasing by 29 percentage points for Black students.

### **Diploma Results**

- Grade 12 students who were enrolled in the IB program, met all program requirements and took the required examinations were eligible to receive IB diplomas.
- A total of 436 M-DCPS students, or 84% of eligible students, received IB diplomas at the conclusion of the 2022-2023 school year. The percentage of the District’s eligible IB program students receiving an IB diploma decreased by 9 percentage points from 2021-2022 to 2022-2023.
- Of the six M-DCPS IB schools, Miami Beach Senior had the highest percentage of eligible students receiving IB diplomas (98%) in 2022-2023.
- From 2021-2022 to 2022-2023, the percentage of students receiving IB diplomas decreased at five out of the six M-DCPS IB schools.

Table 1. Numbers of IB Assessments Completed and Percentages of IB Assessments Passed by Subject Area, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, M-DCPS, All IB Schools Combined

Subject Area	# of Assessments Completed		% of Assessments Passed	
	2021-2022	2022-2023	2021-2022	2022-2023
Biology	295	387	78	63
Business Management	4	11	N/A	100
Chemistry	159	49	76	82
Computer Science	5	6	N/A	N/A

Dance	20	19	100	74
Economics	29	28	86	75
English A Language & Literature	269	297	99	96
English A Literature	228	225	96	96
Environmental Systems and Societies	35	115	74	60
Film	21	17	95	94
French AB	1	12	N/A	58
French B	108	102	93	91
Geography	6	10	N/A	90
German B	15	12	100	100
History	506	475	94	91
Italian AB	N/A	1	N/A	N/A
Italian B	10	13	100	100
Mathematics: Applications and Interpretations	360	392	82	69
Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches	171	157	91	93
Philosophy	66	60	88	95
Physics	4	22	N/A	59
Portuguese B	2	6	N/A	N/A
Psychology	212	270	91	86
Social and Cultural Anthropology	60	63	100	98
Spanish A Language & Literature	8	5	N/A	N/A
Spanish AB	5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spanish B	360	387	97	96
Sports, Exercise and Health Science	12	4	33	N/A
Theatre	10	19	50	84
Visual Arts	18	31	56	58
World Religions	43	18	100	100
<b>Total, All Subjects</b>	<b>3042</b>	<b>3213</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>84</b>

Table 2. Numbers of IB Assessments Completed and Percentages of Assessments Passed, by School, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023

School	# of Assessments Completed		% of Assessments Passed	
	2021-2022	2022-2023	2021-2022	2022-2023
Coral Gables Senior	920	873	88	88
Coral Reef Senior	899	861	92	93
John A. Ferguson Senior	606	737	90	78
Miami Beach Senior	400	407	91	94
North Miami Senior	87	144	90	55
South Dade Senior	130	191	79	52
<b>Total, All IB Schools</b>	<b>3042</b>	<b>3213</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>84</b>

Table 3. Numbers of IB Assessments Completed and Percentages of Assessments Passed, By Ethnicity, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023

School		White		Black		Hispanic		Other	
		Number Taken	Percent Passed	Number Taken	Percent Passed	Number Taken	Percent Passed	Number Taken	Percent Passed
Coral Gables Sr	2023	132	92	12	92	704	87	25	92
	2022	182	91	10	90	694	87	34	91
Coral Reef Sr	2023	147	99	53	75	581	93	78	91
	2022	173	96	38	87	600	91	88	97
John A. Ferguson Sr	2023	20	65	13	62	655	78	49	100
	2022	8	88	12	100	566	91	20	70
Miami Beach Sr	2023	246	93	7	86	151	95	3	100
	2022	237	90	12	92	140	90	11	100
North Miami Sr	2023	.	.	98	53	34	68	12	33
	2022	6	100	66	91	15	80	.	.
South Dade Sr	2023	6	83	31	32	152	54	2	100
	2022	1	.	23	70	102	81	4	100
<b>Total, All Schools</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>2277</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>90</b>
	<b>2022</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2117</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>92</b>

Table 4. Numbers and Percentages of Students Receiving IB Diplomas, by School and M-DCPS Overall, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023

School	Number of Students Eligible for IB Diplomas		Number of Students Receiving IB Diplomas		Percent of Students Receiving IB Diplomas	
	2021-2022	2022-2023	2021-2022	2022-2023	2021-2022	2022-2023
Coral Gables Senior	147	149	137	127	93	85
Coral Reef Senior	148	141	140	128	95	91
John A. Ferguson Senior	98	118	94	93	96	79
Miami Beach Senior	66	61	59	60	89	98
North Miami Senior	14	22	12	9	86	41
South Dade Senior	17	28	12	19	71	68
<b>Total, All IB Schools</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>84</b>

## **Summary**

This Research Brief summarized the performance of M-DCPS students participating in the IB program. Six M-DCPS high schools offered the IB program during the 2022-2023 school year: Coral Gables Senior, Coral Reef Senior, John A. Ferguson Senior, Miami Beach Senior, North Miami Senior, and South Dade Senior.

Over 3,200 assessments were completed by M-DCPS students in 30 subject areas in 2022-2023; the number of IB assessments completed in M-DCPS increased by 171 assessments from 2021-

2022 to 2022-2023. The greatest number of IB assessments were completed at Coral Gables Senior. Districtwide, 71% of IB assessments were completed by Hispanic students, 17% were completed by White students, 6% were completed by Black students, and 5% were completed by students classified as “Other.”

The percentage of M-DCPS IB assessments receiving passing scores decreased by six percentage points to 84% from 2021-2022 to 2022-2023. Coral Reef Senior and Miami Beach Senior had the highest percentages of IB assessments receiving passing scores. White and “Other” students had the highest percentage of IB assessments receiving passing scores in 2022-2023, followed by Hispanic students, and Black students.

Overall, 84% of M-DCPS’ eligible students received an IB diploma at the conclusion of the 2022-2023 school year. The percentage of eligible students earning an IB diploma decreased by nine percentage points from 2021-2022 to 2022-2023. Of the six M-DCPS IB schools, Miami Beach Senior had the highest percentage of eligible students receiving IB diplomas in 2022-2023: 98%.