

# Some wild swings in SouthCoast scores

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MCAS scores typically fluctuate year to year, and 2010 is typical. There were, however, wider swings in some SouthCoast towns in some areas. Here are some of the noteworthy changes, for better or worse, over 2009:

## ACUSHNET

Grade 8 scores fell sharply. Advanced scores in English fell from 23 percent to 8 percent, which is more in line with 2008. Grade 8 math went from 19 to 12 percent. Grade 6 English saw an improvement from 58 to 64 percent in the proficient category.

## DARTMOUTH

There was a gain in Grade 10 science and technology: from 7 percent to 13 percent advanced. Grade 10 math went from 44 to 49 percent advanced. Grade 8 math jumped from 16 percent to 24 percent advanced.

## FAIRHAVEN

Grade 10 struggled with English, down to 10 percent advanced from 20 percent. Grade 10 math slipped from 51 percent to 45 percent advanced. Grade 8 math also slipped, from 15 percent to 9 percent advanced. Grade 8 English showed losses. Grade 3 English jumped from 11 percent to 20 percent advanced. The biggest gain was in Grade 3 math, 45 percent advanced, up from 24 percent.

## FREETOWN-LAKEVILLE

Lakeville scores were fairly stable. Freetown lost ground in Grade 4 English, which saw a decline in proficiency from 53 percent to 32 percent. Superintendent John McCarthy pointed to sharply increased class sizes as the primary cause. Grade 3 English improved from 2 percent advanced to 15 percent. Regional high school scores stayed stable, but Grade 7 math lost ground, from 20 percent advanced to 8 percent, and in English, down from 20 percent advanced to 9 percent.

## **GLOBAL CHARTER (New Bedford)**

Grades 7 and 8 scores slipped slightly. But Grade 10 made big gains, from 0 percent advanced in English to 27 percent. Grade 10 math improved from 29 percent to 41 percent advanced. Grade 10 science and technology rose from 6 percent advanced to 12 percent.

## **MARION**

Grade 5 made huge gains in math and science and technology, both going from 26 percent to 40 percent advanced. Grade 4 math rose from 18 percent advanced to 25 percent, and Grade 3 followed suit, from 32 percent to 44 percent advanced. Grade 5 English leaped from 9 percent advanced to 22 percent.

## **MATTAPOISETT**

The best showing was Grade 3 math, which went from 8 percent advanced to 28 percent. Grade 6 math climbed from 22 percent advanced to 32 percent.

## **NEW BEDFORD**

There were incremental differences in almost all grades in almost all areas with no major shifts.

## **OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL**

ORR students in Grades 7-10 showed incremental changes with no major swings.

## **ROCHESTER**

Grade 5 English shot from 13 percent advanced to 24 percent. Grade 5 math did likewise, rising from 20 percent advanced to 43 percent. Grade 4 math improved from 14 percent advanced to 23 percent.

## **WAREHAM**

Scores were generally stable with slight gains and losses. The exceptions were Grade 5 English, down from 16 percent advanced to 8 percent, and Grade 3 math, up sharply from 7 percent advanced to 20 percent.

## **WESTPORT**

Scores were essentially flat with some exceptions. Grade 5 math improved from 17 percent to 27 percent advanced. Grade 4 math improved from 17 percent to 28 percent advanced.

## **BRISTOL COUNTY AGRICULTURAL**

Grade 10 math scores rose from 41 percent advanced to 51 percent.

## **GNB VOC-TECH**

Big gains came in Grade 10 math, up from 19 percent to 32 percent.

## **OLD COLONY REGIONAL**

Grade 10 math scores improved from 31 percent to 43 percent advanced.

## **UPPER CAPE VOC-TECH**

Grade 10 math improved from 37 percent to 49 percent advanced.

Detailed results for every town in Massachusetts are available at <http://profiles.doe.mass.edu>