

2022-2023 SOL SCORES

Virginia's 2022-2023 Standards of Learning (SOL) scores show that our students continue to suffer from historic learning loss. Students continue to struggle meeting proficiency benchmarks across reading and math, showing decline from the prior year's results, and student achievement remains well below prepandemic levels.

- **Reading scores remain below pre-pandemic performance**. Students showed no growth between the 2021-22 and the 2022-23 school years. In 2022-2023, more than half of all 3rd 8th grade students either failed, or are at risk of failing, their reading SOL test.
- Math scores remain below pre-pandemic performance. While students made some gains between 2021-22 and 2022-23, math pass rates are still 15 percentage points behind their pre-pandemic peers. As of 2022-23, nearly two thirds of all 3rd 8th grade students either failed, or are at risk of failing, their Math SOL test.

CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

During the 2022-2023 school year, nearly one in five 3rd through 8th grade students were chronically absent, defined as missing 18 or more days of school a year. This is nearly double the number of students compared to the 2018-2019 school year.

- Attendance plays a critical role. From the 2018-2019 school year to the 2022-2023 school year, Virginia's chronic absenteeism rate for grades 3-8 nearly doubled from 9% to 17%.
- Students in grades 3-8 who are **chronically absent score 25% lower in mathematics and 18% lower in reading** than their peers who regularly attend school.

The data demonstrates an urgent need for an intensive, statewide approach to help students recover from pandemic learning loss. The Governor and General Assembly came together on a bipartisan basis to invest \$418 million to tackle student learning loss. The ALL IN VA plan shows school divisions how to get it done based on proven best practices. VDOE recommends school divisions allocate this \$418 million in resources to proven programs that will achieve the greatest student impact—approximately 70% for high-dose tutoring, 20% for Virginia Literacy Act acceleration, and 10% for chronic absenteeism response.



Governor Youngkin is taking action to ensure students get the academic support they need to recover from learning loss. The ALL IN VA plan is a three-pronged approach to accelerate learning loss recovery, addressing: Attendance, Literacy, and Learning.

- 1. ATTENDANCE: Launch a Chronic Absenteeism Task Force <u>#AttendanceMattersVA</u>.
 - **Convene a student attendance task force** of educators, business members, transportation and health experts, community partners, and families who will quickly develop recommendations for school divisions to reduce chronic absenteeism, including barriers related to transportation and health.
 - **Reducing chronic absenteeism playbook.** VDOE will create a resource guide to support local school divisions in increasing school attendance in addition to the resources provided through the #AttendanceMattersVA initiative.
- 2. LITERACY: Accelerate the Expansion of the Virginia Literacy Act through Grade 8.
 - **Hire and Train Grade 4-8 Reading Specialists.** School divisions will utilize additional funding to hire Grade 4 through 8 reading specialists, and the Virginia Literacy Partnership will provide training to ensure middle grade reading teachers have instructional support.
 - **Provide high-quality instructional materials.** VDOE will ensure educators have the best tools and high-quality instructional materials from the approved VLA list.
 - **Ongoing professional support.** Include professional development and implementation support for those school divisions that use these high-quality instructional materials to deliver effective science of reading instruction.
 - **Statewide support networks.** VDOE will establish regional networks of support to provide ongoing support to help school divisions accelerate ahead of 2024-2025 implementation.
- 3. **LEARNING: Invest in an intensive statewide tutoring initiative** to support educators and school divisions as students begin to accelerate their learning to pre-pandemic levels of academic achievement.
 - All In Tutoring Playbook. VDOE will provide proven models of high dosage academic tutoring that help facilitate school division's ability accelerate learning recovery.
 - **High dosage tutoring**. Students will receive 3 to 5 hours of tutoring per week. Students who are at risk (received a score of low proficient on their 2023 SOL) receive tutoring for 18 weeks, while students who are not proficient receive tutoring for up to 36 weeks.
 - **Small-group ratios with trained tutors.** Students will be tutored in groups with a 1:10 ratio led by current teachers, retired or part-time teachers, and/or trained tutors.
 - Flexible tutoring time for maximum results. Tutoring can occur before or after school, during the school day, or during school breaks including summer depending on the needs in the school and the community.
 - **Personalized sessions guided by standardized recommendations.** Tutoring will entail personalized sessions that will be guided by digital tools used across all participating school divisions.
 - **Content provided at no cost.** Digital content, tutor resources, and progress monitoring tools will be provided to local school divisions in both math and literacy.