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# Exploring Educational Opportunity in St. Helena Parish

A report created by the Educational Opportunity Project at Stanford University

GENERATED ON 08/05/19



### **About the Data**

The Educational Opportunity Project has derived these data and visualizations from the Stanford Education Data Archive (SEDA), which is the first national database of academic performance in the U.S.

The SEDA data are based on the standardized accountability tests in math and English Language Arts (ELA) administered annually by each state to all public school students in grades 3-8 in each school year from 2008-09 through 2015-16. In these years, third-through eighth-graders in U.S. public schools took roughly 350 million standardized math and ELA tests.

The Educational Opportunity Project harnesses these and other data to help scholars, policymakers, educators, and parents learn how to improve educational opportunity for all children.



# Test scores reveal three aspects of educational opportunity in America:



### **AVERAGE TEST SCORES**

The educational opportunities available in a community, both in and out of school, are reflected in children's average test scores.

Average test scores are influenced by children's opportunities to learn at home, in their neighborhoods, in childcare, preschool, and after-school programs, from peers and friends, and at school. Average test scores therefore reflect the total set of educational opportunities available in a community.



#### LEARNING RATES

The contribution of schools to educational opportunity is reflected in the growth of test scores while children attend school.

Learning rates measure how much student scores improve each year while they are in school. They are a better indicator of school quality than average test scores, which are influenced by a range of experiences outside of school.



### **TREND IN TEST SCORES**

The change in a community's educational opportunities, both in and out of school, is reflected in average test score gains or losses.

Trends in test scores reflect both changes in school quality and changes in other family and community features that provide opportunities for children.

