## **Performance of schools in the Local Government Area**

### Summary

There are 15 schools in this local government area (LGA), teaching a total of 39,170 students, with a total budget of just over $24.5 million ($24,649,428). The average scores for maths and reading were 70.34 and 69.98 respectively, with 86.08% and 84.43% of students passing maths and reading respectively. The proportion of students that passed both maths and reading is 72.81% for the whole LGA. This LGA has 7 government (G) and 8 independent (I) schools.

### Proportion of students that passed both maths and reading

The top performing schools by proportion of students that passed both maths and reading were:

1. Griffin High School (I; 81.34%)
2. Cabrera High School (I; 80.79%)
3. Bailey High School (G; 80.08%)
4. Wright High School (I; 79.72%)
5. Rodriquez High School (G; 79.42%)

The poorest performing schools were:

1. Hernandez High School (G; 66.36%)
2. Huang High School (G; 66.71%)
3. Johnson High School (G; 67.19%)
4. Wilson High School (I; 67.46%)
5. Ford High School (G; 67.47%)

The difference between the highest performing school, Griffin and the poorest performing school, Hernandez was 14.97% (unrounded).

### Average maths & reading score

Top performing school by average maths and reading scores by year level:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Maths** | **Reading** |
| **Year 9** | Shelton High School (I) | Griffin High School (I) |
| **Year 10** | Holden High School (I) | Pena High School (I) |
| **Year 11** | Wright High School (I) | Holden High School (I) |
| **Year 12** | Holden High School (I) | Bailey High School (G) |

Poorest performing school by average maths and reading scores by year level:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Maths** | **Reading** |
| **Year 9** | Figueroa High School (G) | Hernandez High School (G) |
| **Year 10** | Johnson High School (G) | Figueroa High School (G) |
| **Year 11** | Wilson High School (I) | Hernandez High School (G) |
| **Year 12** | Ford High School (G) | Johnson High School (G) |

Despite some schools scoring high in average maths and/or reading scores, it was not necessarily a determinant of the proportion of students that passed both maths and readings tests. This suggests that for the schools with high average scores but did not have a high proportion of students passing maths and/or reading, there were a small number of high scoring students that skewed the average higher. However, schools that scored low average maths and/or reading scores, also had low proportion of students passing those tests.

The top performing schools by % overall passing consistently ranked in the top 8 out of 15 schools in the LGA for average maths score for all year levels, and vice versa for the poorest performing schools by % overall passing. The same findings were found for average reading scores, except for year 11 average reading scores where 2 of the top schools by % overall passing were in the bottom 7 of average scores.

### Budget

The $585–630 average budget per student group had the highest scores across all metrics, followed by <$585, $630–645, and lastly $645–680. This suggests that higher spending ranges per student does not correspond to better academic performance. Of note, the 4 poorest performing government schools had the highest budget expenditure per student, except for Wilson High school (independent) who received the lowest budget per student.

### School size

Across all metrics, small school sizes (<1000 students) performed the best, followed by medium school sizes (1000–2000), and lastly by large school sizes (2000–5000). There is a general trend that the smaller the school size, the better the academic performance.

### School Type

Overall, independent schools performed better than government schools across all metrics.

### Factors contributing to academic performance

The general factors or characteristics that may determine top performance across all metrics (average maths & reading scores, % passing maths, % passing reading and % passing both maths and reading) were schools that:

1. Have a smaller school size,
2. Are an independent school, and
3. Have an average budget of $585–630 per student.