

# GOVERNORS' EDUCATION PROFILE SERIES

CLASS OF 2018



NGA is boldly nonpartisan. Through NGA, governors share best practices, speak with an informed voice on national policy and develop innovative solutions that improve state government and support the principles of federalism.



ACT is a mission-driven, nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people achieve education and workplace success. Headquartered in Iowa City, Iowa, ACT is trusted as a leader in college and career readiness, providing high-quality assessments grounded in nearly 60 years of research. ACT offers a uniquely integrated set of solutions designed to provide personalized insights that help individuals succeed from elementary school through career.

<sup>1</sup> [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17\\_203.40.asp?current=yes](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17_203.40.asp?current=yes); [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d16/tables/dt16\\_203.20.asp?current=yes](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d16/tables/dt16_203.20.asp?current=yes); [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17\\_304.10.asp?current=yes](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17_304.10.asp?current=yes)

<sup>2</sup> <http://nieer.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/State-of-Preschool-2017-Full-7-16-18.pdf>; <https://stats.bls.gov/oes/special.requests/oesm17st.zip>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/ndecore/landing>. Analysis done by ACT.

<sup>4</sup> [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17\\_219.46.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17_219.46.asp)

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.sheeo.org/sites/default/files/project-files/SHEEO\\_SHEF\\_FY2017\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.sheeo.org/sites/default/files/project-files/SHEEO_SHEF_FY2017_FINAL.pdf); [https://www.nassgapsurvey.com/survey\\_reports/2016-2017-48th.pdf](https://www.nassgapsurvey.com/survey_reports/2016-2017-48th.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> [https://ticas.org/sites/default/files/pub\\_files/classof2017.pdf](https://ticas.org/sites/default/files/pub_files/classof2017.pdf); [https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/17\\_5YR/DP02/0100000US|0100000US.04000.001](https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/17_5YR/DP02/0100000US|0100000US.04000.001). Analysis done by ACT. Reflects adults, residing in the state, aged 25 and older.



# GOVERNOR HENRY MCMASTER

**Major Education Priorities:** ★ Teacher Recruitment and Retention  
★ K-12 Funding ★ Workforce Education ★ School Safety ★ School Choice

**BACKGROUND:** Governor McMaster attended the University of South Carolina for both his undergraduate and law degrees. He entered private practice and later served as the first U.S. attorney appointed by President Reagan, state attorney general and lieutenant governor. He also served in the US Army Reserves. Governor McMaster is married with two children.

**PARTY AFFILIATION:** Republican

“Just as we cannot have a thriving economy without an educated workforce, we cannot have a productive educational system without economic growth.”  
- Gov. McMaster

## Early Education and K-12 Educational Priorities

**Teacher Recruitment and Retention:** Emphasizes putting substantial resources toward bolstering teacher salaries to enhance the recruitment and retention of teachers in higher-need areas.

**School Safety:** Prioritizes school safety by calling for the placement of full-time certified, trained law enforcement in every school, in every county. Committed to providing mental health counselors for every school in the state to assist troubled youth and recognize warning signs of violent behavior. Dedicated to replacing South Carolina’s aging bus fleet by phasing out old and outdated buses and replacing them with newer, more fuel-efficient models to ensure safe and reliable transportation.

**K-12 Funding:** Advocates for transparent education funding reform to deliver necessary and appropriate resources in the classroom.

**School Choice:** Believes in a robust charter school program to provide high-quality education opportunities, particularly for children with special needs or in low-performing districts. Committed to supporting schools that provide parents with choice and opportunity that best suits their child.

**Economic Development:** Proposed the creation of the “Rural School District Economic Development Closing Fund” to provide funding for infrastructure that may be utilized to bring jobs and investment to the state’s most high-need rural school districts.

## Student Enrollment<sup>1</sup>



## Higher Education and Workforce Priorities

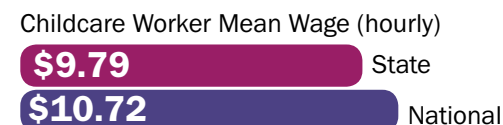
**Workforce Education:** Invests significant resources into workforce partnership grants and scholarships utilized by technical schools, businesses and high schools to expand the pipeline of talent and labor for both manufacturing and skilled trades.

**Additional Priorities:** Workforce re-entry education for formerly incarcerated individuals.

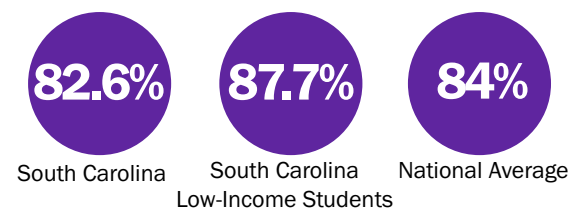
“ We want a multifaceted system, anchored by traditional public schools boasting the best teachers, principals and technologies. We want charter schools – all public – to flourish, including those for children with special needs. Parents want vigorous, accountable, innovative school choice. ”

# State of South Carolina Education

## Early Childhood Facts<sup>2</sup>

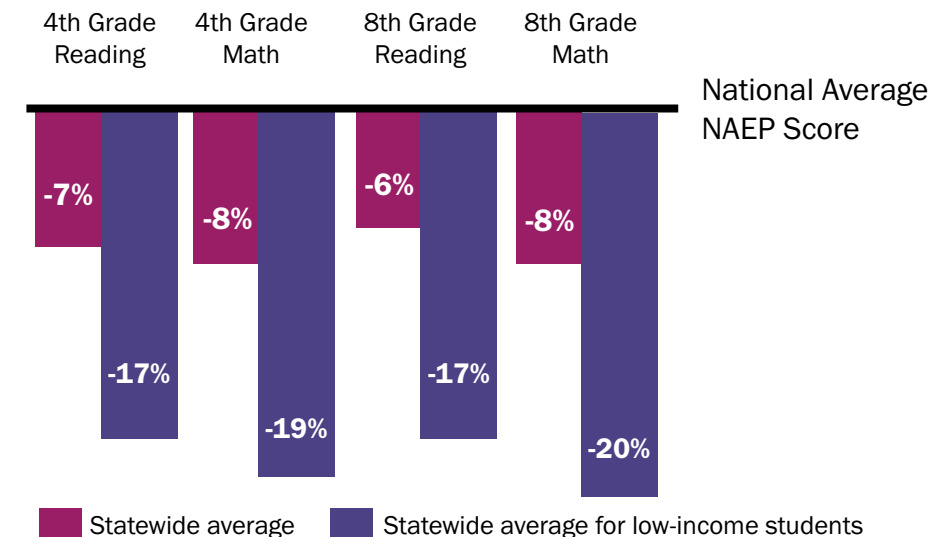


## High School Graduation Rate<sup>4</sup>



## South Carolina National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Scores<sup>3</sup>

Percentage of students performing at or above proficient level



## Are South Carolina Students Ready for College?

The ACT test is the most frequently taken college entrance exam in the U.S. The chart below shows the ACT Composite score distribution for students in South Carolina and the U.S.

ACT COMPOSITE	SOUTH CAROLINA	NATION
1-18	58.7%	39.9%
19-23	24.4%	29.1%
24-36	16.9%	31%

## STEM Careers: Are South Carolina Students Interested and Ready?

In South Carolina, **43 percent** of ACT-tested students from the class of 2018 had aspirations to pursue a future in STEM. Of those students, **13.5 percent** are prepared for first-year college coursework related to STEM fields.

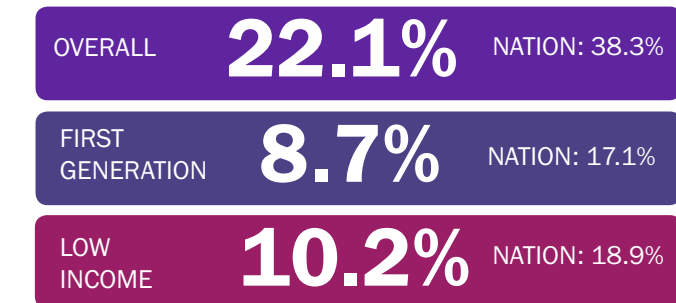
## Higher Education Stats<sup>5</sup>

	SOUTH CAROLINA	NATIONAL AVERAGE
Educational Appropriations per Full-Time Equivalent	\$5,716	\$7,642
Total State Grant Expenditures as Percentage of State Fiscal Support for Higher Education	36.4%	12.7%
Percent Change in Total Spending Since 2008	-25.8%	-11.6%
State Grant Aid per Full-Time Undergraduate Student	\$2,189.88	\$816.79
Need-based State Grant Aid per Full-Time Undergraduate Student	\$373.72	\$623.66

## College Readiness is More than ONE Number

Along with their ACT Composite score, students also receive scores in four subject areas – Math, Science, English and Reading – along with target (or “Benchmark”) scores that will help them gauge their likelihood of earning a B or C in credit-bearing first-year college courses. The percentages of students who met at least three of these four Benchmark scores are provided below.

## Students in South Carolina Who Met at Least 3 of 4 College-Ready Benchmark Scores

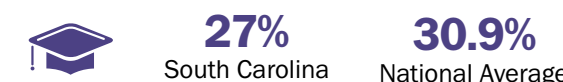


## Higher Education Outcomes<sup>6</sup>

Percent of Residents with an Associate’s Degree or Higher:



Percent of Residents with a Bachelor’s Degree or Higher:



Average Student Debt:

