

GENERATED ON APRIL 28, 2026

# Trends in Academic Performance in Federal Way School District, Washington

VERSION 2025.1

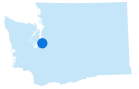
This report summarizes district-level educational outcomes using data from the Stanford Education Data Archive (SEDA) from 2009-2025. Figures may contain gaps where source data are unavailable.

For more information, please visit [edopportunity.org](https://edopportunity.org)

Report created by the Educational Opportunity Project at Stanford University in collaboration with the Education Scorecard at Harvard University, using data provided by the National Center for Education Statistics and the Education Data Center. See final page for full information on data sources.

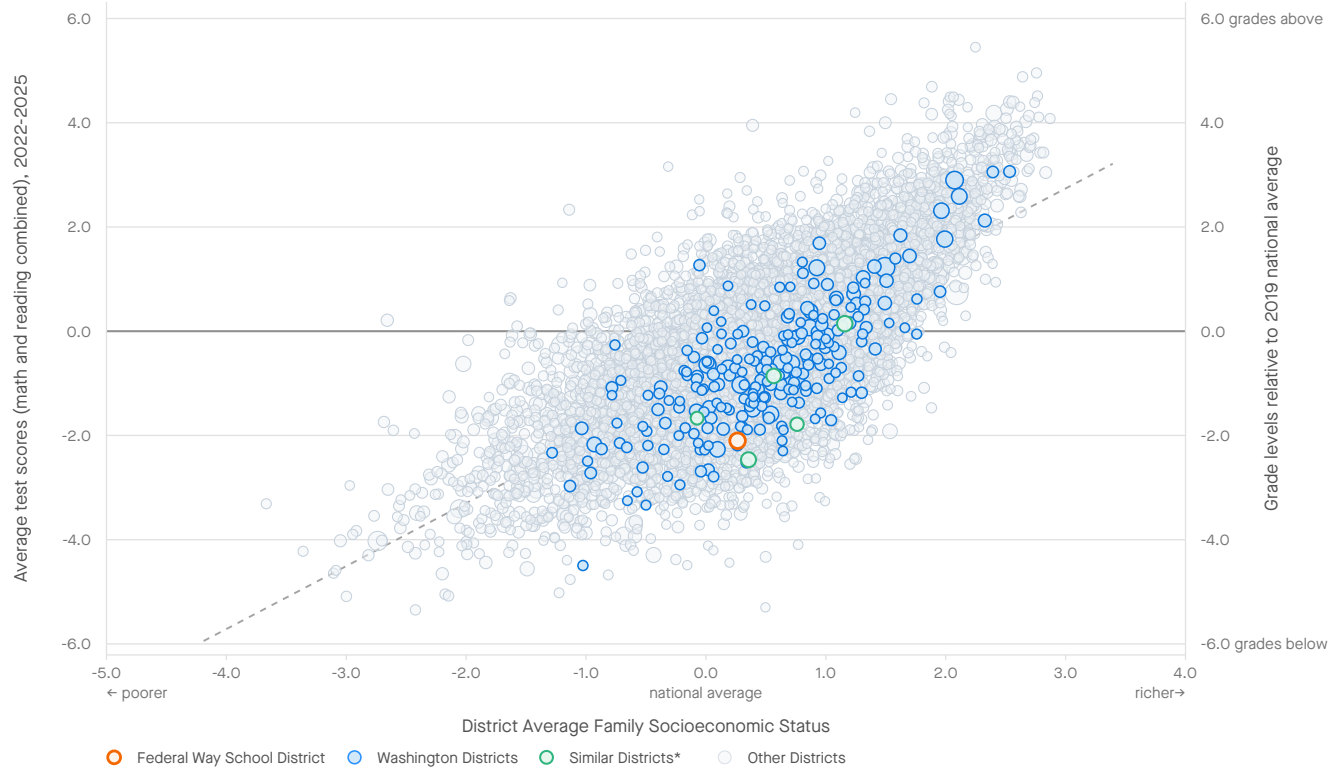


# Federal Way School District, Washington



## Average Grade 3-8 Test Scores, 2022-2025, by District Socioeconomic Status

Average test scores in grades 3-8 reflect the set of educational opportunities available to students in the district, including those provided by their families, preschools, neighborhoods, and elementary and middle schools.



Note: each bubble is a U.S. school district, with size proportional to district enrollment. Districts in Washington are highlighted. District socioeconomic status is a composite measure of a district's average family income, parental education, poverty rate, SNAP eligibility rate, unemployment rate, and female-headed household rate. Test scores are measured in grade levels relative to the 2019 national average.

## Average Test Scores and Trends, 2022-2025

### ALL STUDENTS

|                                    | 2022-2025<br>Average Scores | 2022-2025 Trend<br>in Test Scores |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Federal Way School District</b> | -2.10                       | -0.03                             |
| <b>Similar Districts Avg.*</b>     | -1.19                       | -0.05                             |
| <b>Washington</b>                  | -0.32                       | 0.00                              |

Test scores are reported in grade level units, relative to the 2019 national average. For example, the first row above reads: "Students in Federal Way School District performed 2.10 grade levels below the 2019 national average. Test scores in Federal Way School District have been changing at a rate of -0.03 grade levels/year since 2022."

\*Similar districts are the nearest matches within the same state based on socioeconomic status, demographics, and size. Similar districts for Federal Way School District are Highline School District, Mukilteo School District, Edmonds School District, Marysville School District, and Franklin Pierce School District.

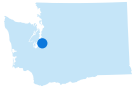
### STUDENT SUBGROUPS

|                 | 2022-2025<br>Average Scores | 2022-2025 Trend<br>in Test Scores |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>White</b>    | -0.73                       | 0.01                              |
| <b>Black</b>    | -2.91                       | -0.02                             |
| <b>Hispanic</b> | -2.80                       | -0.01                             |
| <b>Asian</b>    | -0.78                       | -0.22                             |
| <b>Poor</b>     | -2.69                       | -0.01                             |
| <b>Non-Poor</b> | -0.06                       | 0.10                              |
| <b>Female</b>   | -1.90                       | -0.01                             |
| <b>Male</b>     | -2.31                       | -0.04                             |



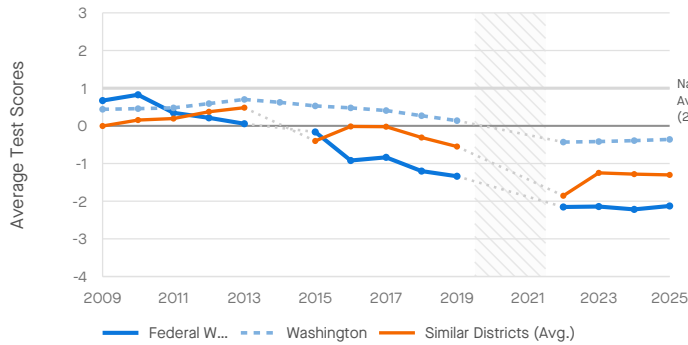
# Federal Way School District, Washington

## Trends in Average Grade 3-8 Test Scores, 2009-2025, by Subject and Student Subgroup

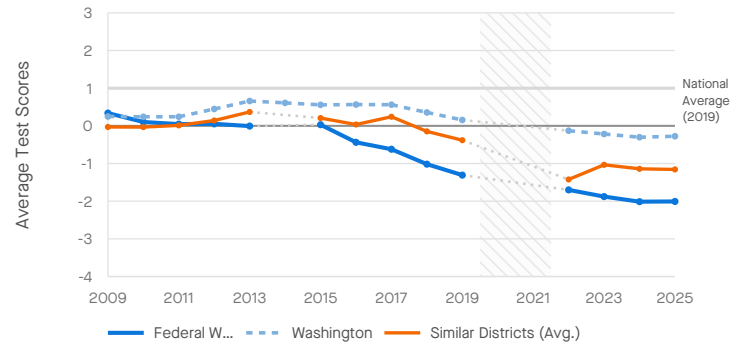


Trends in test scores may reflect changes in school quality, changes in demographics, and/or changes in out-of-school educational opportunities.

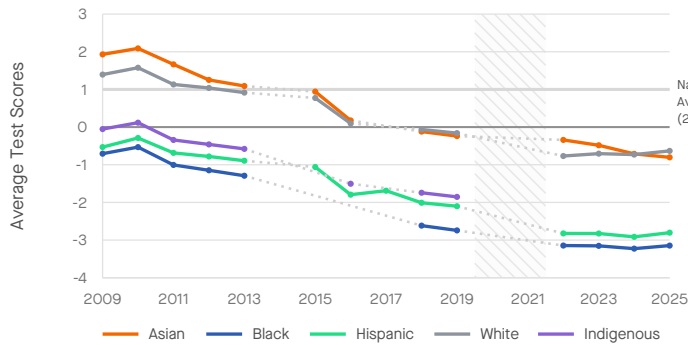
### Trend in Math Scores (All Students)



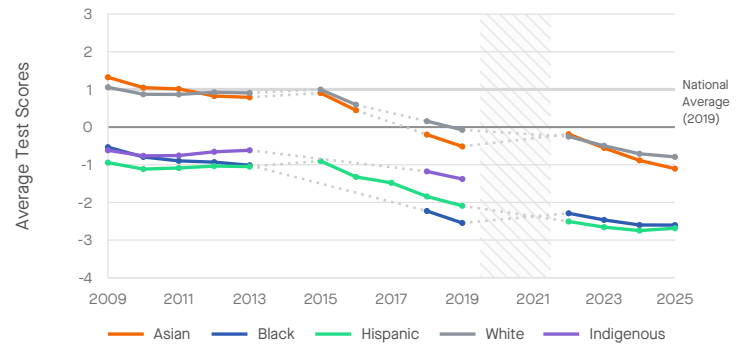
### Trend in Reading Scores (All Students)



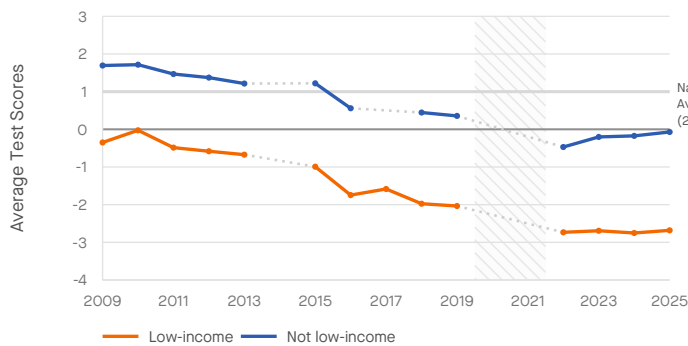
### Trend in Math Scores, by Student Race/Ethnicity



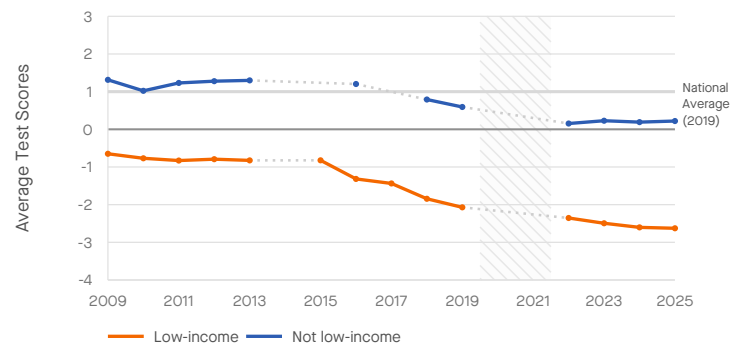
### Trend in Reading Scores, by Student Race/Ethnicity



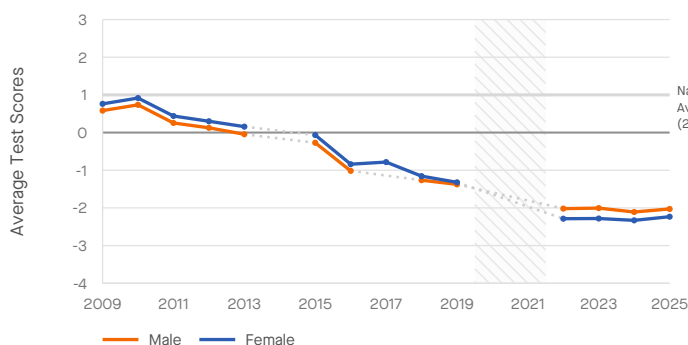
### Trend in Math Scores, by Student Income Level



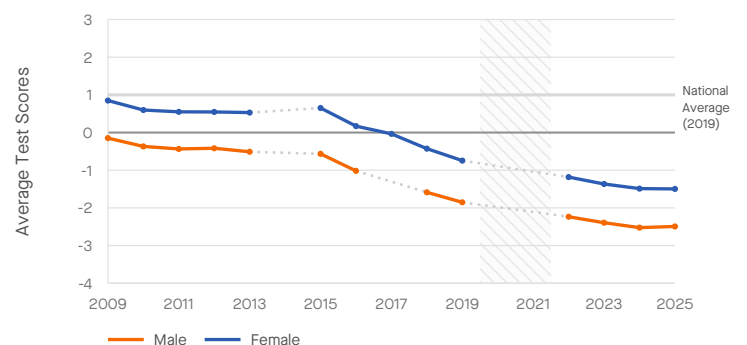
### Trend in Reading Scores, by Student Income Level



### Trend in Math Scores, by Student Gender



### Trend in Reading Scores, by Student Gender

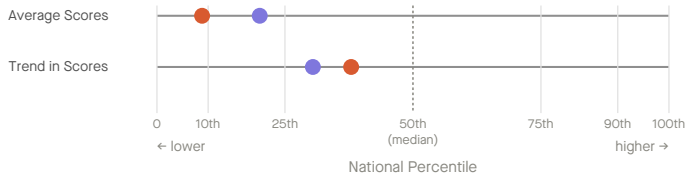


# Federal Way School District, Washington

## Academic Performance Rankings, 2022-2025, Relative to Other Districts in the U.S.



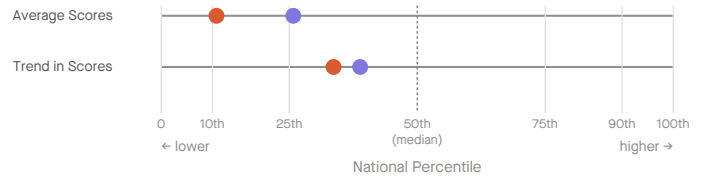
### Math Ranks



|                             | Average                   | Trend                    |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Federal Way School District | 9,306 / 10,205 (9th pct)  | 3,395 / 5,468 (38th pct) |
| Similar Districts Avg.      | 8,157 / 10,205 (20th pct) | 3,803 / 5,468 (30th pct) |

Federal Way School District ranked higher than 9% of districts nationwide in average math performance during the 2022-25 school years (9,306th of 10,205 districts with available data).

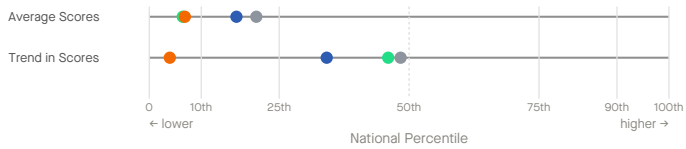
### Reading Ranks



|                             | Average                   | Trend                    |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Federal Way School District | 8,990 / 10,076 (11th pct) | 3,764 / 5,673 (34th pct) |
| Similar Districts Avg.      | 7,479 / 10,076 (26th pct) | 3,470 / 5,673 (39th pct) |

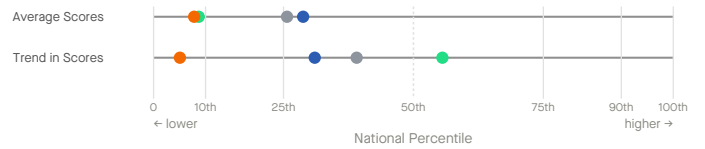
Federal Way School District ranked higher than 11% of districts nationwide in average reading performance during the 2022-25 school years (8,990th of 10,076 districts with available data).

### Math Ranks by Race/Ethnicity



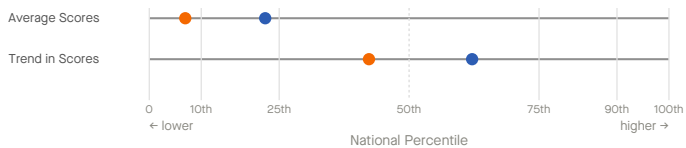
|          | Average                  | Trend                    |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| White    | 6,914 / 8,707 (21st pct) | 1,850 / 3,582 (48th pct) |
| Black    | 2,088 / 2,508 (17th pct) | 394 / 597 (34th pct)     |
| Hispanic | 4,288 / 4,583 (6th pct)  | 719 / 1,330 (46th pct)   |
| Asian    | 1,498 / 1,608 (7th pct)  | 244 / 254 (4th pct)      |

### Reading Ranks by Race/Ethnicity



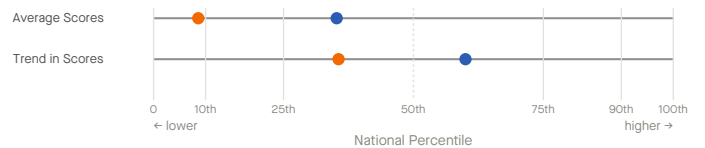
|          | Average                  | Trend                    |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| White    | 6,530 / 8,785 (26th pct) | 2,402 / 3,941 (39th pct) |
| Black    | 1,884 / 2,644 (29th pct) | 506 / 733 (31st pct)     |
| Hispanic | 4,257 / 4,662 (9th pct)  | 623 / 1,400 (56th pct)   |
| Asian    | 1,514 / 1,642 (8th pct)  | 301 / 317 (5th pct)      |

### Math Ranks by Income



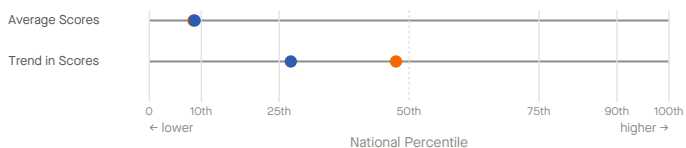
|                | Average                  | Trend                    |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Low-income     | 8,261 / 8,875 (7th pct)  | 1,649 / 2,855 (42nd pct) |
| Not low-income | 6,596 / 8,489 (22nd pct) | 1,185 / 3,127 (62nd pct) |

### Reading Ranks by Income



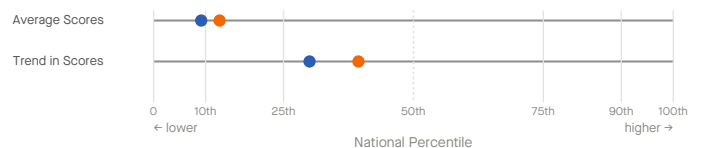
|                | Average                  | Trend                    |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Low-income     | 8,215 / 8,987 (9th pct)  | 2,053 / 3,186 (36th pct) |
| Not low-income | 5,568 / 8,596 (35th pct) | 1,325 / 3,311 (60th pct) |

### Math Ranks by Gender



|        | Average                 | Trend                    |
|--------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Female | 7,786 / 8,509 (9th pct) | 1,691 / 3,219 (47th pct) |
| Male   | 7,756 / 8,497 (9th pct) | 2,162 / 2,971 (27th pct) |

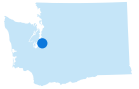
### Reading Ranks by Gender



|        | Average                  | Trend                    |
|--------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Female | 7,569 / 8,670 (13th pct) | 2,111 / 3,483 (39th pct) |
| Male   | 7,860 / 8,652 (9th pct)  | 2,393 / 3,418 (30th pct) |

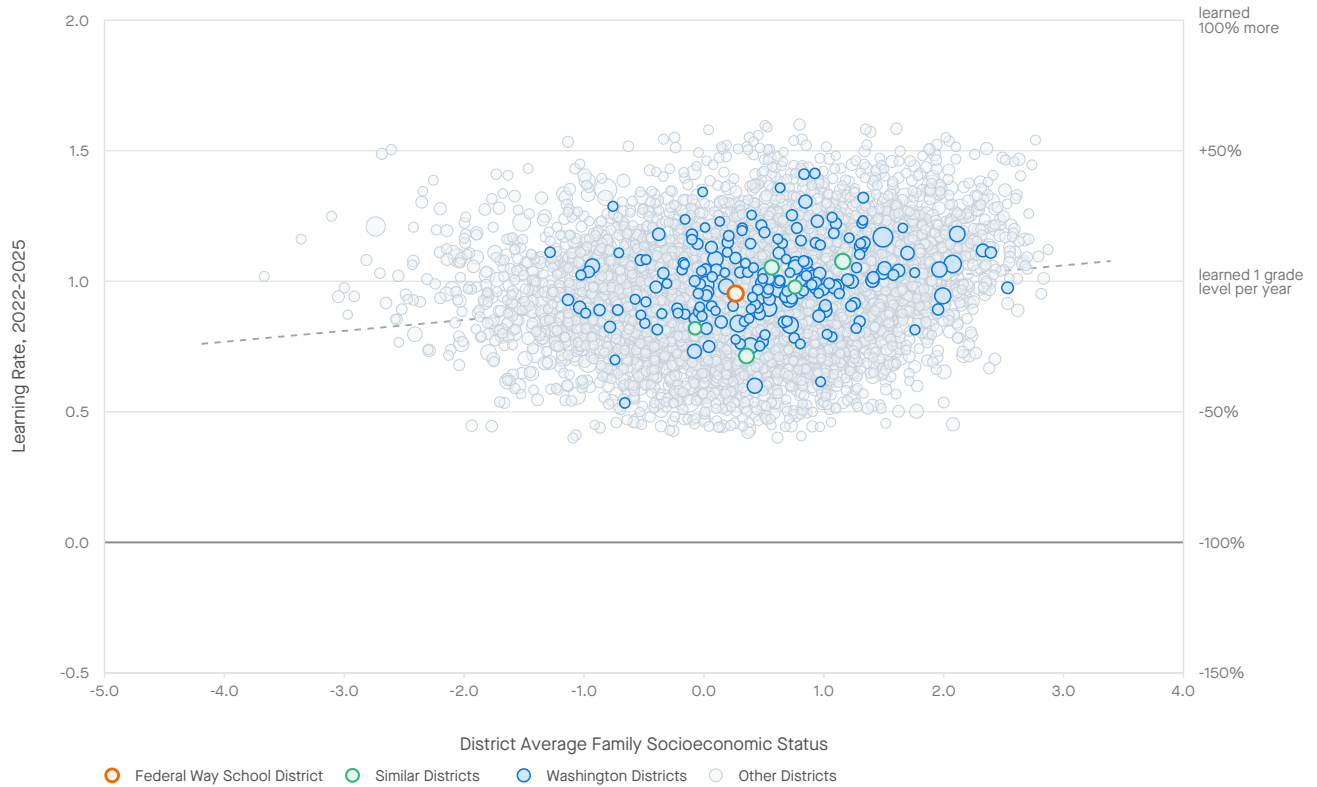


# Federal Way School District, Washington



## Average Grades 3-8 Learning Rates, 2022-2025, by District Socioeconomic Status

Learning rates measure how much students' scores improve as they progress from grade to grade. They are a better indicator of school quality than average test scores, which are influenced by a range of experiences outside of school.



Note: each bubble is a U.S. school district, with size proportional to district enrollment. Districts in Washington are highlighted. District socioeconomic status is a composite measure of a district's average family income, parental education, poverty rate, SNAP eligibility rate, unemployment rate, and female-headed household rate.

### Learning Rates and Trends, 2022-2025

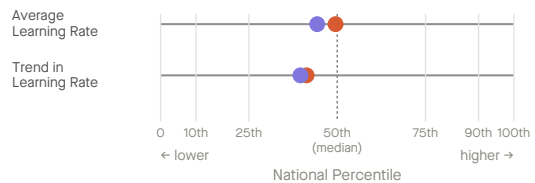
#### ALL STUDENTS

|                                    | 2022-2025 Learning Rate | 2022-2025 Trend in Learning Rates |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Federal Way School District</b> | 0.95                    | -0.02                             |
| <b>Similar Districts Avg.*</b>     | 0.94                    | -0.03                             |
| <b>Washington</b>                  | 0.98                    | -0.01                             |

Learning rates are measured in grade levels of skills gained per year and are averaged over math and reading. The national average learning rate is 1.0. For example, the first row above reads: "Students in Federal Way School District learned an average of 0.95 grade levels/year during 2022-2025. Learning rates in Federal Way School District have been changing at a rate of -0.02 grade levels/year since 2022."

\*Similar districts are the nearest matches within the same state based on socioeconomic status, demographics, and size. Similar districts for Federal Way School District are Highline School District, Mukilteo School District, Edmonds School District, Marysville School District, and Franklin Pierce School District.

### Learning Rate Rankings



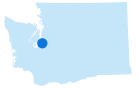
|                                    | Average                  | Trend                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Federal Way School District</b> | 4,113 / 8,147 (50th pct) | 3,559 / 6,065 (41st pct) |
| <b>Similar Districts Avg.</b>      | 4,536 / 8,147 (44th pct) | 3,665 / 6,065 (40th pct) |

Federal Way School District ranked higher than 50% of districts nationwide in average learning rates during the 2022-25 school years (4,113th of 8,147 districts with available data).



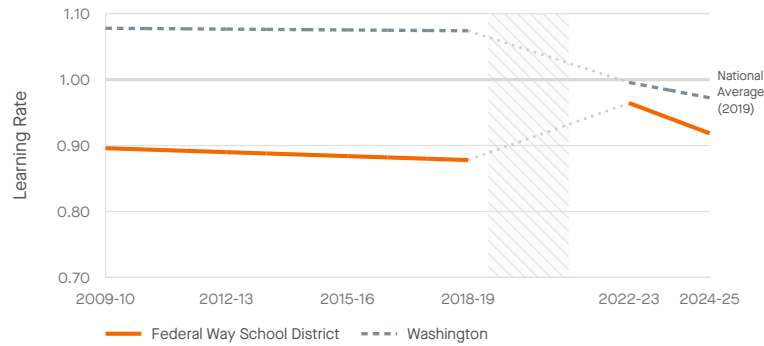
# Federal Way School District, Washington

## Trends in Average Grade 3-8 Learning Rates, 2009-2025, by Student Subgroup

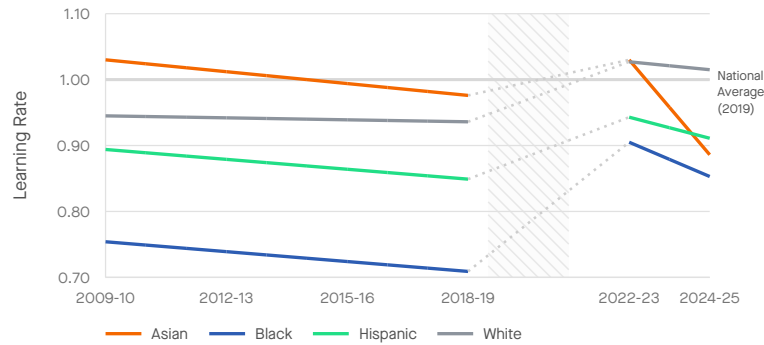


Trends in learning rates measure how annual learning rates change over time. They are a better indicator of changes in school quality than trends in average test scores, which are influenced by a range of experiences outside of school.

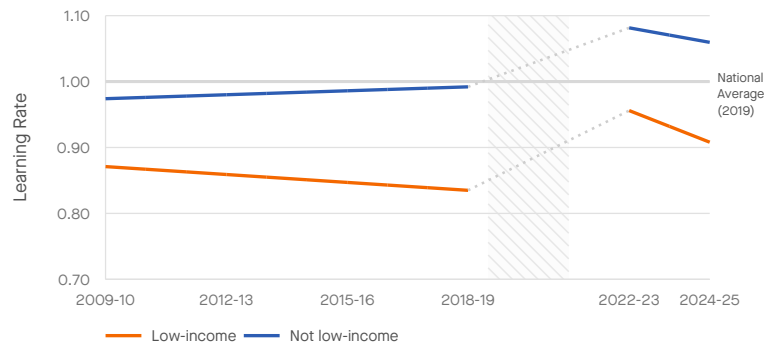
### Trend in Learning Rates (All Students)



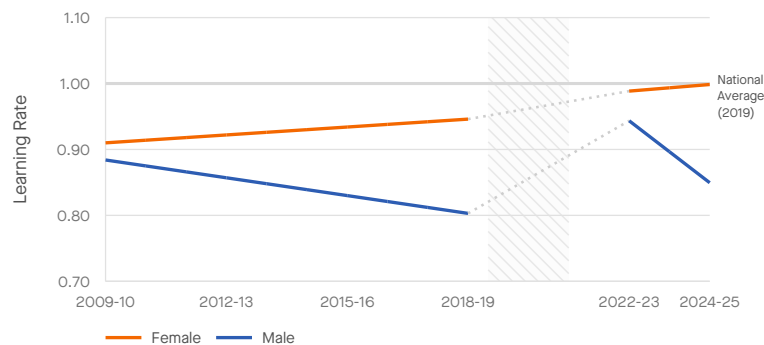
### Trend in Learning Rates, by Student Race/Ethnicity



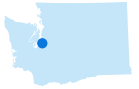
### Trend in Learning Rates, by Student Income Level



### Trend in Learning Rates, by Student Gender



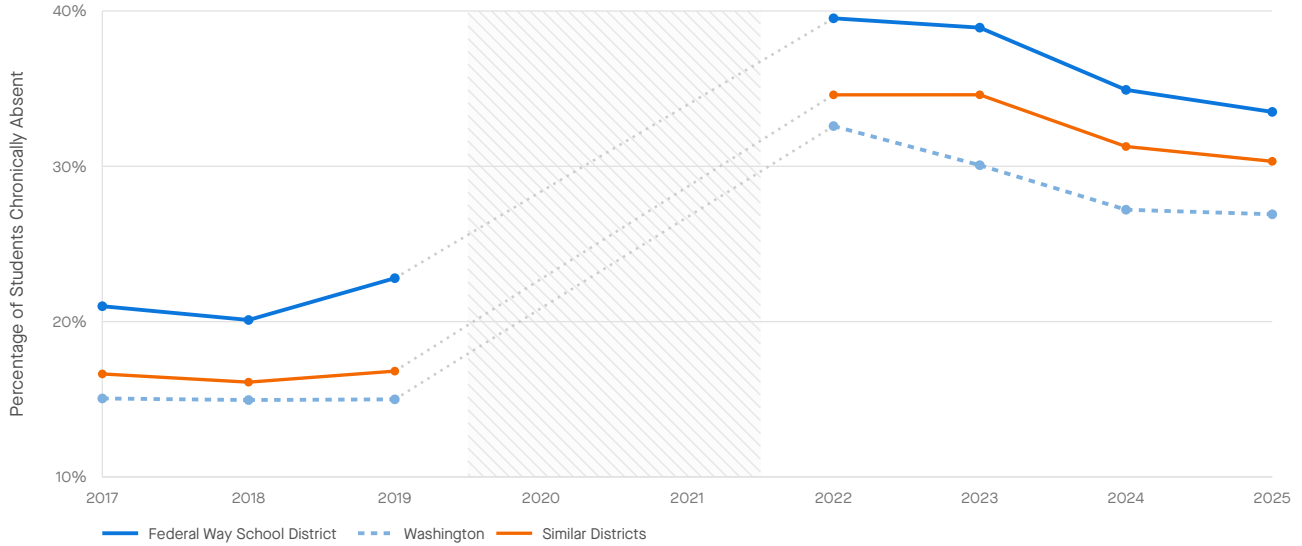
# Federal Way School District, Washington



## Trends in Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic absenteeism rates indicate the proportion of students who were absent 10% or more of the school year.

Trends in Chronic Absenteeism



## Trends in Chronic Absenteeism

### ALL STUDENTS

|                                    | 2017-2019 Avg. Chronic Absenteeism | 2022-2025 Avg. Chronic Absenteeism | Change |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| <b>Federal Way School District</b> | 21.3                               | 36.7                               | +15.4  |
| <b>Similar Districts Avg.*</b>     | 16.5                               | 32.7                               | +16.2  |
| <b>Washington</b>                  | 15.0                               | 29.2                               | +14.2  |

\*Similar districts are the nearest matches within the same state based on socioeconomic status, demographics, and size. Similar districts for Federal Way School District are Highline School District, Mukilteo School District, Edmonds School District, Marysville School District, and Franklin Pierce School District.

Absenteeism data courtesy of [Nat Malkus, American Enterprise Institute](#).

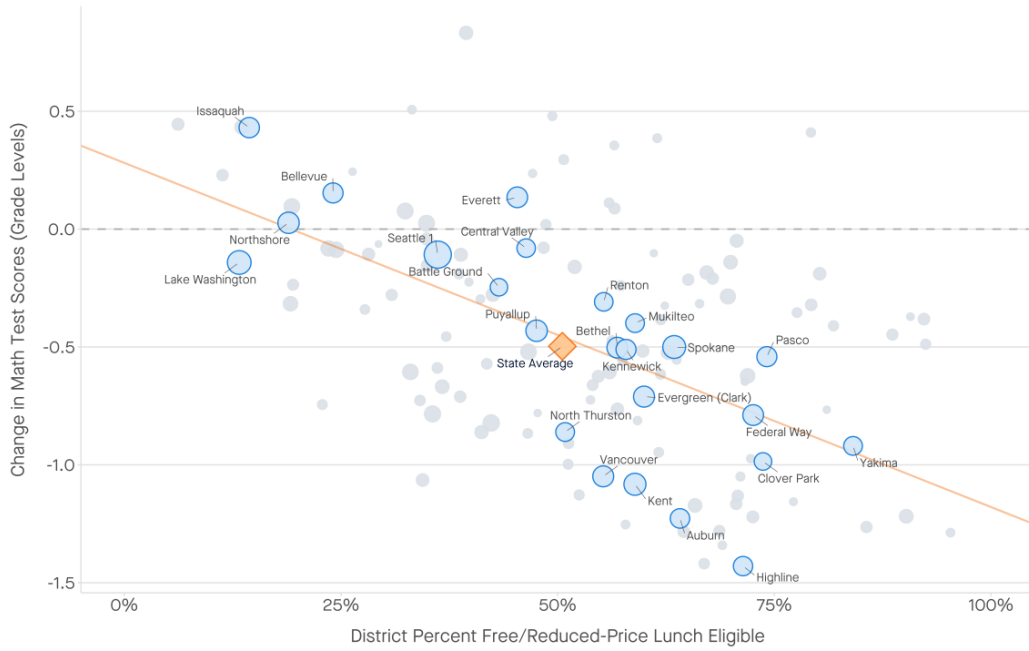


# Federal Way School District, Washington

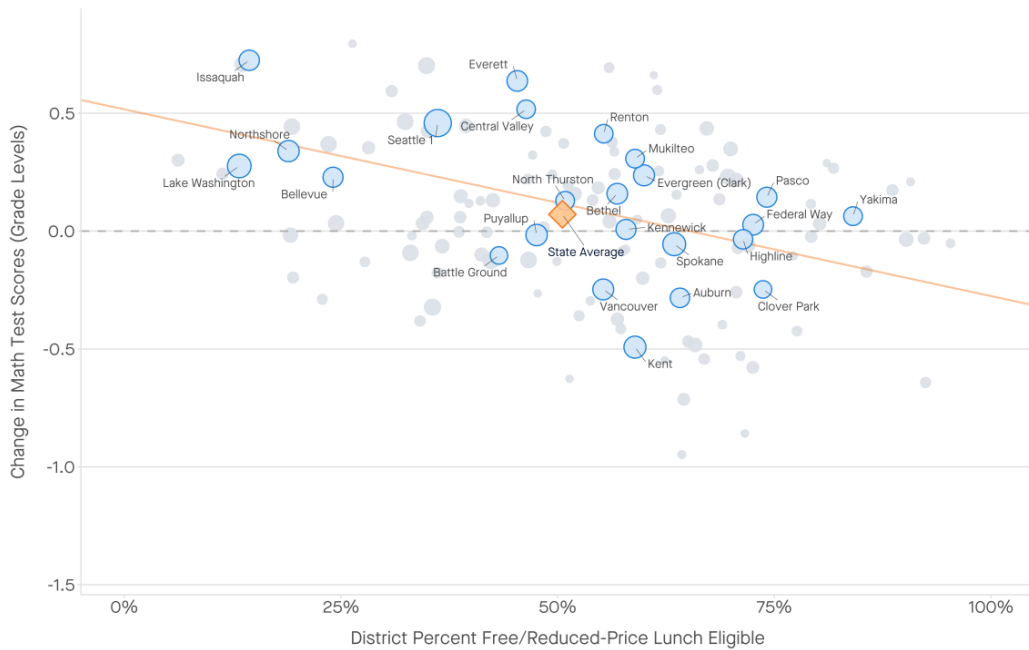


Changes in Average Math Scores in Washington Districts, 2019–2025 and 2022–2025, by District Free/Reduced-Price Lunch Eligibility Rate

## Change in Math Scores, 2019–2025



## Change in Math Scores, 2022–2025



# Federal Way School District, Washington



Changes in Average Reading Scores in Washington Districts, 2019-2025 and 2022-2025, by District Free/Reduced-Price Lunch Eligibility Rate

## Change in Reading Scores, 2019-2025



Figure produced by the Center for Education Policy Research at Harvard University

○ Largest Districts    ◆ State Average

## Change in Reading Scores, 2022-2025

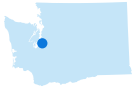


Figure produced by the Center for Education Policy Research at Harvard University

○ Largest Districts    ◆ State Average



# Federal Way School District, Washington



## Change in Chronic Absenteeism in Washington Districts, 2019-2025, by District Free/Reduced-Price Lunch Eligibility Rate

### Change in Chronic Absenteeism, 2019-2025



Figure produced by the Center for Education Policy Research at Harvard University

○ Largest Districts    ◆ State Average





## Notes & Acknowledgments

This report summarizes academic performance in Federal Way School District from 2008-09 through 2024-25, using data from the Stanford Education Data Archive (SEDA). SEDA is a national database of U.S. academic performance produced by the Educational Opportunity Project at Stanford University. The SEDA data are based on the standardized accountability tests in math and reading language arts (RLA) administered by each state to all public-school students in grades 3-8.

The raw test score data used to construct the SEDA 2022-2025 estimates here were graciously provided to us by Emily Oster and Clare Halloran at the [Education Data Center](#). The raw test score data used to construct the SEDA 2009-2019 estimates are available through the [EDFacts](#) data system at the U.S. Department of Education, and were provided to us by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). Detailed NAEP data used to harmonize test scores across states was provided by NCES and the National Assessment Governing Board. Chronic absenteeism data were provided by [Nat Malkus at the American Enterprise Institute](#). Funding to construct and analyze SEDA was provided by the Gates Foundation. Funding for the Education Scorecard was provided by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Joyce Foundation, Kenneth C. Griffin and Citadel Catalyst. The findings and opinions expressed in our research and reported here are those of the authors alone; they do not represent the views of any of the above organizations.

### Citation:

Educational Opportunity Project. (2026). "Trends in Academic Performance in Federal Way School District." Report version 2025.1. Available at: [https://edopportunity.org/reports/trends/2025/WA/report\\_WA\\_5302820\\_federal-way-school-district.pdf](https://edopportunity.org/reports/trends/2025/WA/report_WA_5302820_federal-way-school-district.pdf)

