



# Data Match Results

## Between Lancaster School District and the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services

July 1, 2009

### Background

This report presents the results of a data match conducted between the Lancaster School District (grades K-8) and the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). DCFS data reflecting active caseloads were matched against Lancaster School District's enrollment file as of March 2009. Lancaster School District then provided the Education Coordinating Council with the matched data for analysis, after measures were taken to ensure its confidentiality.

The purpose of this data match was to identify DCFS students attending Lancaster School District public schools. The match found 341 DCFS students who were enrolled in Lancaster SD public schools in March 2009, comprising a small portion of the 15,094 students in Lancaster SD overall.

**Table 1**  
**Students Enrolled in Lancaster School District (03/2009)**

Total DCFS students enrolled	341
- DCFS students who are in Out-Of-Home Placement	232
- DCFS students who are receiving In-Home Services	109
Total Lancaster SD students	15,094

### Demographics

Students were distributed among three types of schools: elementary, middle, and community day schools. Among DCFS students, a higher percentage attended elementary and community day schools (71.3 % and 1.5%, respectively), and a lower percentage attended middle schools (27.3%) compared to Lancaster SD. Within Lancaster SD overall, 65.5% of students attended elementary schools, 33.8% were in middle schools, and 0.7% were in community day schools.

**Table 2**  
**Distribution by School Type**

School type	DCFS		Lancaster SD	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Elementary School	243	71.3%	9,880	65.5%
Middle School	93	27.3%	5,108	33.8%
Community Day School	5	1.5%	106	0.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>15,094</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Grade Level

The highest percentages of DCFS students were found in Kindergarten and fourth grade in 2009 (15.8% and 12.0% respectively), while percentages in Lancaster SD overall were fairly evenly spread across all grades, ranging from 10.9% to 11.8% (with the exception of Kindergarten). The lowest percentages of DCFS students were in grades 6 and 7, at 9.1% and 8.2%, while Kindergarten had the lowest percentage of students (9.8%) in Lancaster SD overall.

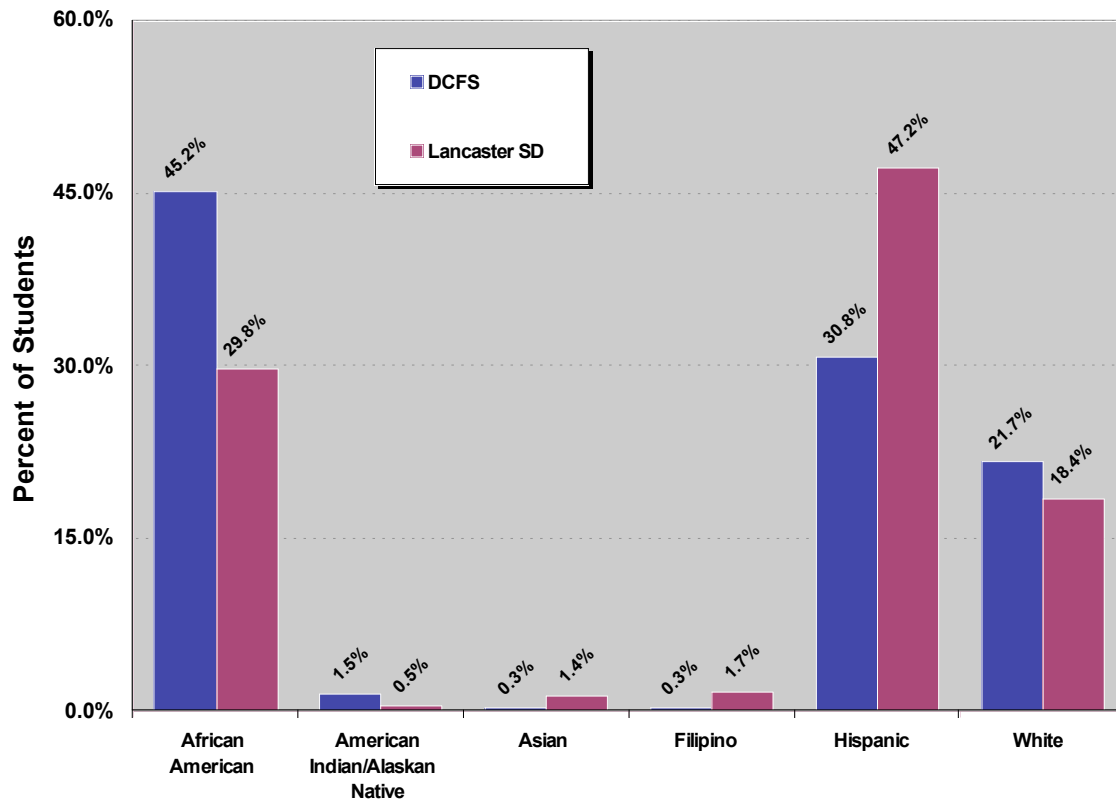
**Table 3**  
**Distribution by Grade Level**

Grade	DCFS		Lancaster SD	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Kindergarten	54	15.8%	1,486	9.8%
1	40	11.7%	1,651	10.9%
2	34	10.0%	1,680	11.1%
3	35	10.3%	1,730	11.5%
4	41	12.0%	1,655	11.0%
5	39	11.4%	1,701	11.3%
6	31	9.1%	1,683	11.2%
7	28	8.2%	1,729	11.5%
8	39	11.4%	1,779	11.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>15,094</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Ethnicity

Almost one of every two DCFS students (45.2%) were African American or Black, compared to 29.8% for Lancaster SD overall. Conversely, Latino students accounted for 30.8% of DCFS students but 47.2% of Lancaster SD's total student population. Asian students represented a smaller percentage of the student population for DCFS compared to Lancaster SD as a whole (0.3% vs. 1.4%), while White students comprised a larger percentage of the DCFS population compared to Lancaster SD overall (21.7% vs. 18.4%).

**Figure 1**  
**Distribution by Ethnicity**



**Gender**

The proportions of male and female DCFS students in Lancaster SD were 51.6% and 48.4% respectively, almost identical to the percentages for Lancaster SD students overall at 51.4% and 48.6%.

**Table 4**  
**Distribution by Gender**

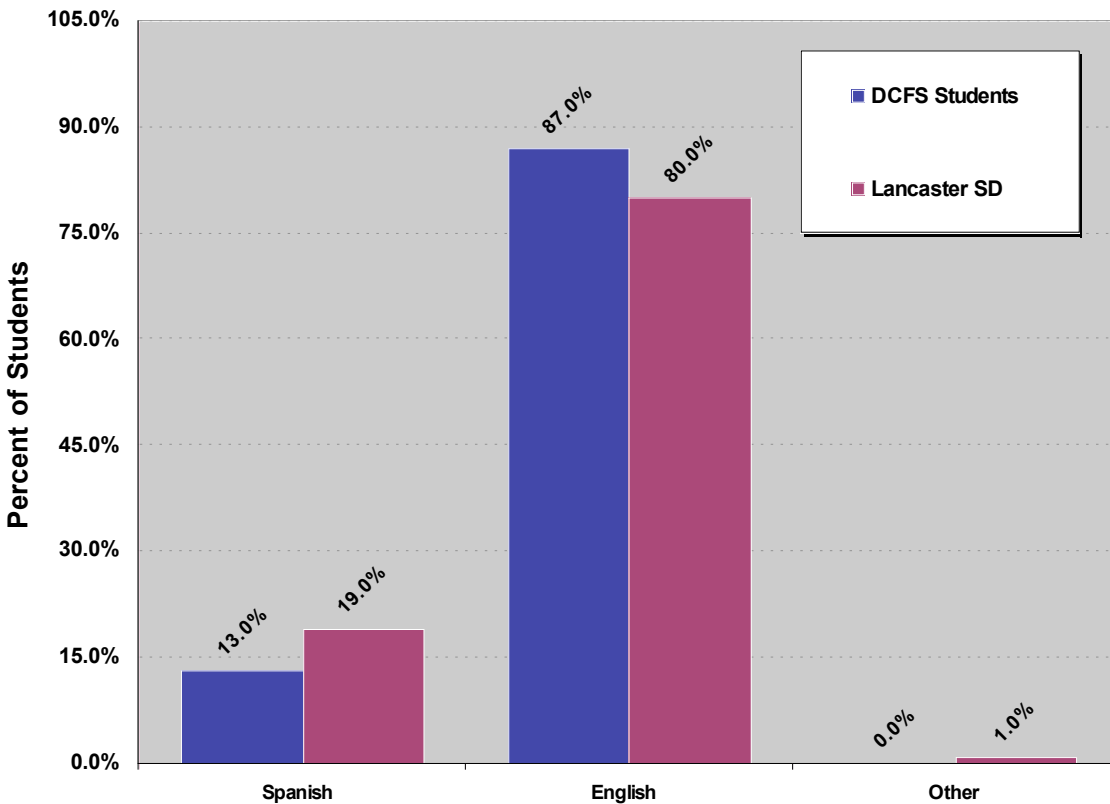
Gender	DCFS		Lancaster SD	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female	165	48.4%	7,341	48.6%
Male	176	51.6%	7,753	51.4%
Total	341	100.0%	15,094	100.0%

**Language Classification**

Language classification data wasn't included in the data match. However, data was provided for their primary language spoken. Of the DCFS students attending school in Lancaster SD, 40 were

listed with Spanish as their primary language (13%). For the remaining 301 students, English was their primary language. This is fairly comparable to the languages spoken by English Learners in Lancaster SD, where 19% were listed as Spanish speakers.

**Figure 2**  
**Distribution by Language Spoken**



**Special Education**

The percentage of current DCFS students enrolled in special education in 2008-09 was 17.3%, almost twice as high as the rate for Lancaster SD overall (9.3%).

**Table 5**  
**Special Education Students**

Enrollment Status	DCFS		Lancaster SD	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
In special education	59	17.3%	1,407	9.3%
Not in special education	282	82.7%	13,687	90.7%
Total enrolled	341	100.0%	15,094	100.0%

### Gifted and Talented (GATE)

Approximately 4.8% of the Lancaster SD student population (751 students) was identified as “gifted and talented”, while only 6 DCFS students (1.8%) were in GATE in 2008-09.

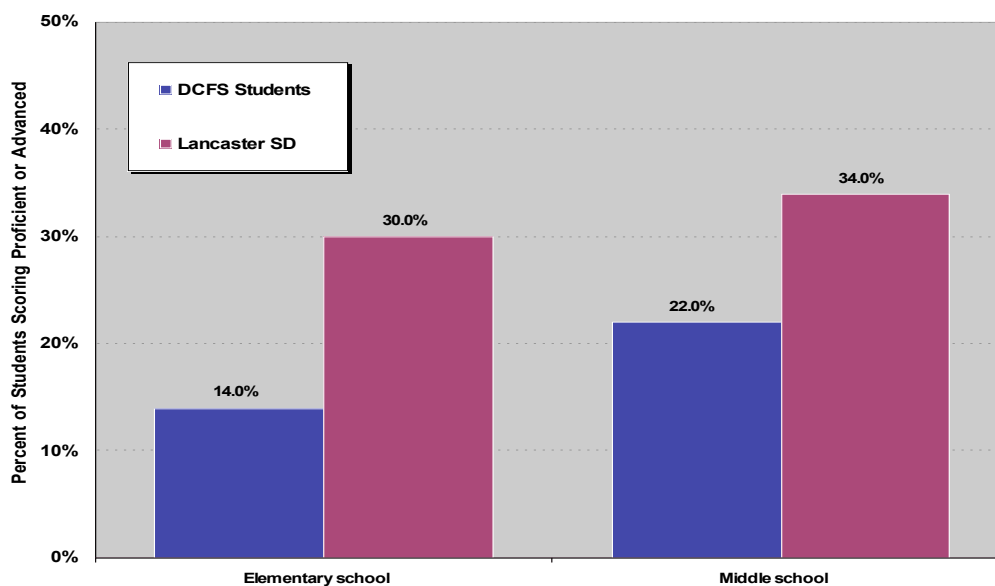
**Table 6**  
**Gifted and Talented Students**

Enrollment Status	DCFS		Lancaster SD	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
In GATE	6	1.8%	743	4.9%
Not in GATE	335	98.2%	14,351	95.1%
Total enrolled	341	100.0%	15,094	100.0%

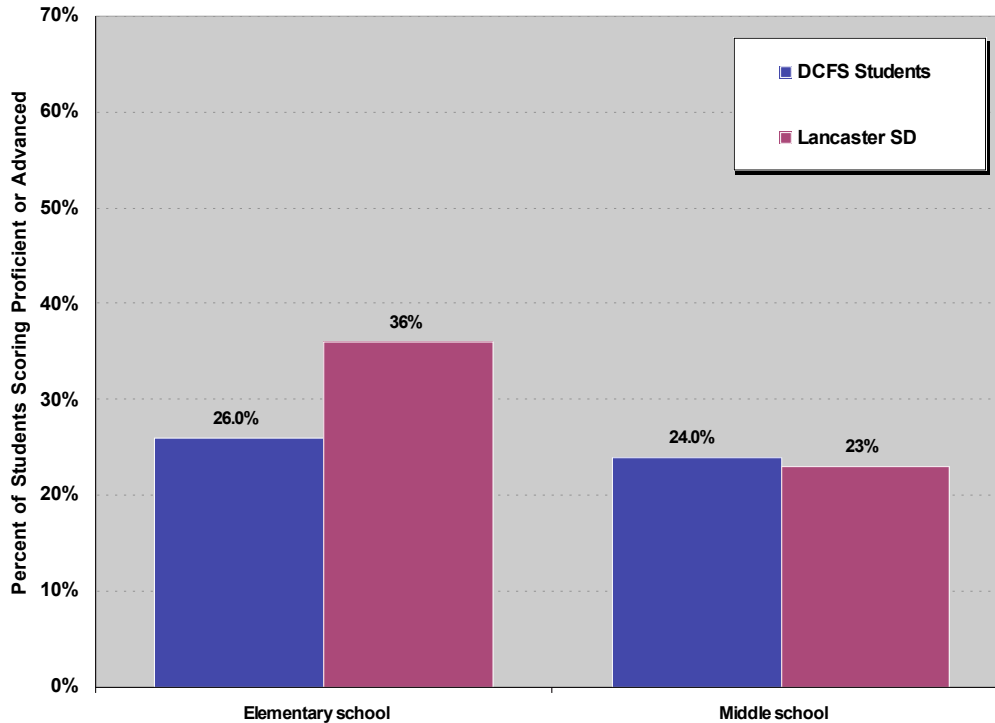
### Achievement Indicators

DCFS students did not perform as well as Lancaster SD students on the California Standards Tests in 2007-08. In English-Language Arts, the percentage of DCFS students (grades 3-5) who scored proficient or advanced was less than half the rate of Lancaster SD students (14% vs. 30%). Math proficiency rates were also lower for DCFS students (26% vs. 36%). ELA rates for middle school students (grades 6-8) showed similar patterns, with 22% of DCFS students proficient in ELA compared to 34% of Lancaster SD students. In math, however, DCFS students had slightly higher proficiency rates than Lancaster SD overall (24% and 23% respectively).

**Figure 3**  
**2007–08 CST English-Language Arts**  
**Percent Proficient and Advanced**



**Figure 4**  
**2007-08 CST Mathematics**  
**Percent Proficient and Advanced**



### Suspensions

From the beginning of the 2008-09 school year through February 2009, 45 DCFS youth in Lancaster SD had been suspended at least once. This represented about one of every seven DCFS students (13.2%). On average, the suspensions lasted about 3.6 days each.

**Table 7**  
**Student Suspensions by Number of Incidents**

Students Suspended	DCFS	
	<i>Students</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<b>No suspensions</b>	296	86.8%
<b>1 suspension incident</b>	24	7.0%
<b>2 suspension incidents</b>	11	3.2%
<b>3+ suspension incidents</b>	10	2.9%
<b>Total</b>	341	100.0%

**DCFS Students Attending School  
in the Lancaster School District,  
2008-09**

School	DCFS			Lancaster School District
	In Home	Placement	Total DCFS	
Amargosa Creek Middle	5	14	19	1,077
Crossroads Community Day	2	3	5	50
Crossroads School (Alternative )	0	0	0	56
Desert View Elementary	7	19	26	905
El Dorado Elementary	5	8	13	756
Endeavour Middle	0	13	13	745
Jack Northrop Elementary	6	21	27	865
Joshua Elementary	11	13	24	823
Lincoln Elementary	4	23	27	818
Linda Verde Elementary	5	14	19	793
Mariposa Elementary	12	8	20	772
Monte Vista Elementary	11	7	18	851
Nancy Cory Elementary	7	5	12	762
New Vista Middle	4	20	24	1,198
Park View Middle	6	13	19	976
Piute Middle	10	8	18	1,112
Sierra Elementary	4	16	20	868
Sunnydale Elementary	0	6	6	673
West Wind Elementary	10	21	31	994
Total	109	232	341	15,094