



**SY2011-2012
DC CAS Test Integrity
April 12th 2013**

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DC CAS TESTING 2012 OVERVIEW



- The District of Columbia Comprehensive Assessment System (DC CAS) is administered annually to approximately 32,000 students in 3rd through 8th Grades and 10th Grade
- Students are tested in Mathematics, Reading, Composition, Science, and Biology
- In April 2012, the DC CAS was administered in 243 schools across the District
- DC CAS scores are used for many high-stakes decisions

PREVENTIVE MEASURES



The administration of the tests included a strategic series of preventive, detection, and investigative measures:

- Enhanced training for LEA test chairpersons
- 104 schools were monitored by OSSE during the testing window
- Testing “Violation Form” title was changed to “Incident Reports” to encourage communication on testing irregularities with LEAs
- Test security seals were placed on test booklets
- Material tracking procedures were implemented

DETECTION



- Forensic analysis was conducted using four flagging criteria:
 - Wrong-to-right Erasures
 - DC CAS Student Growth Percentile
 - Within-Testing Group Variance
 - Score Drops
- When testing groups are flagged in 2 of the 4 criteria, or when consecutive years of wrong-to-right erasures occurs, OSSE initiates investigations
- Of 2,688 tested groups, OSSE flagged 41 testing groups in 25 schools within 14 LEAs
 - 18 DCPS Testing Groups in 10 schools
 - 23 PCS Testing Groups in 15 schools

INVESTIGATION



- Prior to SY10-11, once notified by OSSE, LEAs conducted their own investigations
- For the second consecutive year OSSE has hired A&M, an independent vendor, to conduct investigations
- SY11-12 DC CAS Test Integrity was modified to include a heightened investigative process by adding new key identifiers to the methodology and A&M recommendations on the administration of DC CAS testing
- A total of 41 testing groups were investigated in 25 schools within 14 LEAs

INVESTIGATION PROCESS



OSSE generated roster of 2012 testing groups to investigate

- OSSE received wrong-to-right erasure results from CTB/McGraw Hill
- OSSE identified testing groups from 2011 with unusual score drops
- OSSE ran analysis of low variation and extraordinary growth within testing group
- OSSE flagged testing groups for investigation

OSSE provided vendor with list of testing groups and forensic data

- A&M reviewed OSSE test documents
- OSSE identified students
- OSSE and A&M discussed investigative protocols
- A&M conducted the investigations
- A&M gave OSSE reports of findings
- OSSE made final determinations

OSSE FLAGGING METHODOLOGY

Robust Methodology



Achievement Metrics

Use multiple measures of student-level performance on the 2012 test

Answer Sheet Analyses

CTB identifies testing groups with unusual rates of wrong-to-right erasures

1

DC CAS Growth Percentile

Testing groups are flagged for unusually high MGPs from DC CAS '11 to DC CAS '12

2

Low Within-Class Variation Flag

Testing groups are flagged for low within class variation in scores

3

a. Wrong-to-right erasures 2012

Testing groups are flagged for wrong-to-right erasures in 2012 by CTB

b. Wrong-to-right erasures 2011

Testing groups are flagged for wrong-to-right erasures in 2011 by CTB

4

Score Drops

Testing groups are flagged whose 2011 cohort had significant score drops in 2012



Testing Groups identified if 2 of 4 measures flagged or multiple years of erasure flags

OVERVIEW OF INVESTIGATION DURING SCHOOL VISITS



- Documented review of test binders, which included:
 - test plan
 - signature sheets
 - observer forms
 - staff non-disclosure agreements
- Interviews with select individuals including:
 - Principal
 - Test Coordinator
 - Test Administrators
 - Proctors
 - Other staff involved in testing where relevant
 - DCPS assigned observers where relevant
 - Students from 2012 flagged testing groups
- Follow-up visits and interviews occurred when additional information was needed

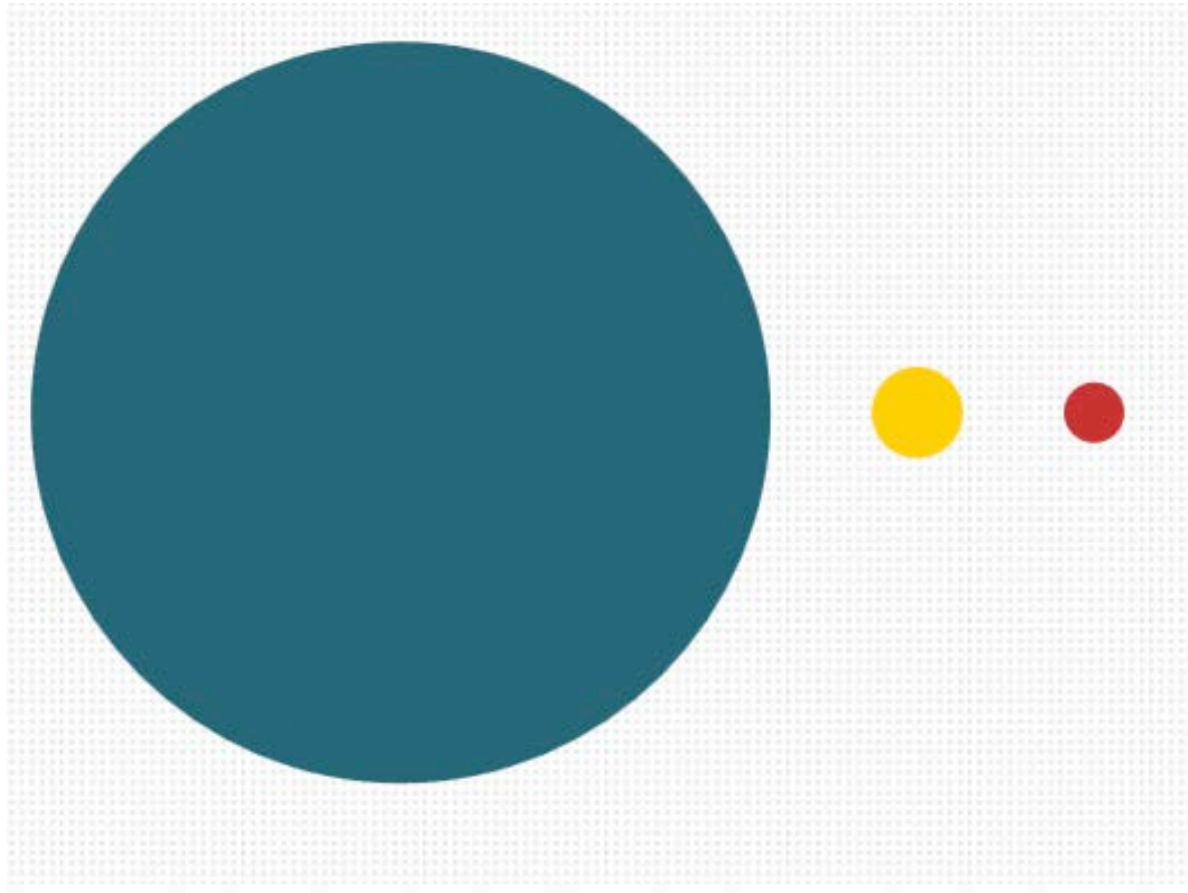
RESULTS



- Confirmed cases of impropriety represent a very small percentage of public schools and testing groups in D.C.
- The number of schools with critical findings increased from last year due to tightened investigatory process

	Testing Groups	Schools
DC CAS Testing	2,688	243
Flagged for Investigation	41 (1.5%)	25 (10.2%)
Critical Violations	18 (0.6%)	11 (4.5%)

TESTING GROUPS INVESTIGATED



2,688
DC CAS
Testing Groups

41
Testing Groups
Flagged for
Investigations

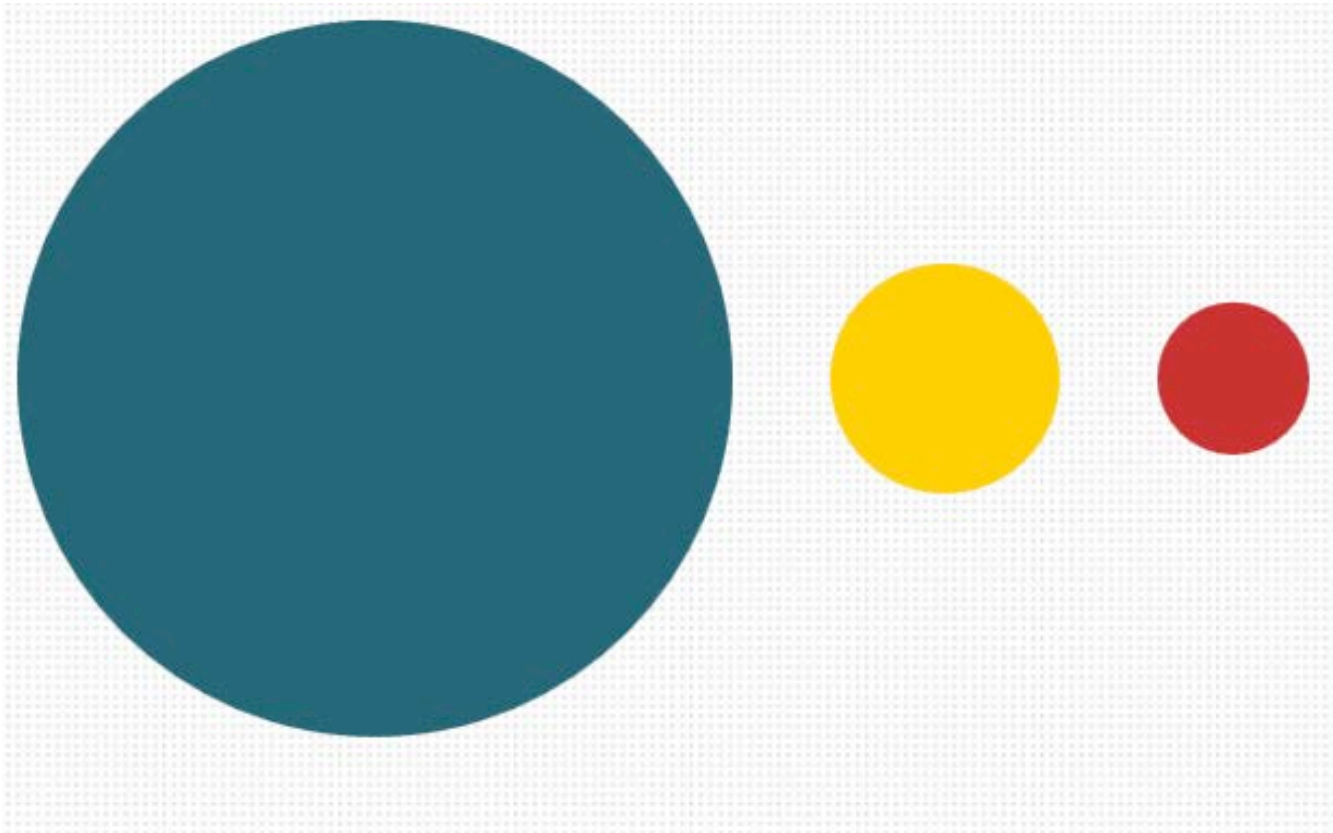
18
Testing Groups with
Critical Violations

Total

Flagged for Investigations

Critical Violations

SCHOOLS INVESTIGATED



243
Schools

25
Schools Flagged
for Investigations

11
Schools with
Critical Violations

Total | Flagged for Investigations | Critical Violations

CLASSIFICATION OF FINDINGS



Critical

Test tampering or academic fraud (e.g. providing students answers, use of electronic devices when prohibited)

Moderate

Defined violations NOT test tampering or academic fraud (e.g. refusal to sign non disclosure agreements, use of cell phones)

Minor

Test administration errors (e.g. incomplete or missing documents, inconsistent applications of test procedures)

SCHOOL FINDINGS BY TYPE OF FLAG



- **Critical (11 Schools)**

- DCPS – Beers ES
- DCPS – Brightwood EC
- DCPS – Hendley ES
- DCPS – Kenilworth ES
- DCPS – Langdon ES
- DCPS – Miner ES
- DCPS – Winston EC
- PCS – Arts and Technology Academy
- PCS – Community Academy-Amos I
- PCS – Hope Community-Lamond
- PCS – Meridian

- **Moderate (4 Schools)**

- DCPS – Eaton
- PCS – MM Bethune
- PCS – National Collegiate Prep
- PCS – William Doar

- **Minor (1 School)**

- PCS – EL Haynes

- **No Findings (9 Schools)**

SAMPLE OF CONSEQUENCES FROM FINDINGS



Critical

- Invalidation of test scores
- Letter of Reprimand
- Corrective action

Moderate

- Letter of Reprimand
- Corrective action

Minor

- Letter of guidance
- Corrective action

99.4% OF D.C. TESTING GROUPS ARE PLAYING BY THE RULES

Critical Findings	Proportion	Percent
	18 of 2,688 Test Groups	0.6%

- Implemented tighter enforcement of protocols
- Enhanced flagging criteria
- Focused efforts on serious infractions
- Critical violations found in 18 testing groups
- Over 300 interviews were conducted by A&M