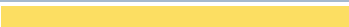
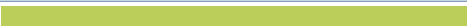



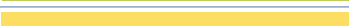



South Carolina

School Management	C	
Finance	B	
Staffing: Hiring & Evaluation	B	
Staffing: Removing Ineffective Teachers	B	
Data	B	
Pipeline to Postsecondary	C	
Technology	C	
State Reform Environment	?	
Gold Stars		

School Management. South Carolina does an average job managing its schools in a way that encourages thoughtful innovation. The state has solid academic standards and sanctions low-performing schools. However, 92% of teachers report that routine duties and paperwork interfere with teaching.

Finance. Overall, South Carolina earns a good grade in this category. While the state gets a very low mark for the simplicity of its state funding mechanism, it receives an above-average score for the online accessibility of its financial data. South Carolina also has a performance pay program for teachers.

Staffing: Hiring & Evaluation. South Carolina receives an above-average mark for its teacher hiring and evaluation system. Thirteen percent of teachers enter the profession through an alternative certification program, the same as the national average. South Carolina also requires incoming teachers to pass basic skills and subject-knowledge tests.

Staffing: Removing Ineffective Teachers. South Carolina receives an above-average score on the ability to remove poor-performing teachers from the classroom. Only 15% of principals say that teacher unions or associations are a barrier to the removal of ineffective teachers, which is 46 percentage points below the national average of 61%. However, 55% of principals report that tenure is a barrier to removing poor-performing teachers.

Data. South Carolina gets an above-average mark for its state data system. The state has a teacher-identifier system with the ability to match teachers to students and provides educators with access to an interactive school-level database for analysis.

Pipeline to Postsecondary. South Carolina receives a mediocre mark for its efforts to improve college and career readiness. Eighty percent of its schools report dual-enrollment programs, which allow students to earn high school and college credits simultaneously. That is 15 percentage points above the national average of 65%. However, the state does not require a college- and career-ready diploma.

Technology. South Carolina receives an average grade in this category. While the state has established a virtual school, it does not offer a computer-based assessment. The state also needs to significantly improve how it evaluates its return on investments in technology.

State Reform Environment. There are few reliable state-by-state data on local education advocacy and research efforts—a reflection of the lack of overall commitment to this issue. As a result, we are unable to issue a meaningful grade. However, South Carolina factors a reliable graduation rate into its accountability system and supports common academic standards.