

EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE OF MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

2024 REPORT

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PREPARED FOR:

The SC Education Oversight Committee

20 May 2024



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contents of the Educational Performance of Military-Connected Students in South Carolina found in this report have been produced and published as required by Act 289, the Military Family Quality of Life Enhancement Act, which was passed by the South Carolina General Assembly in 2014. The purpose of Act 289 is to, “enhance quality of life issues for members of the armed forces” (2014).

The report provides critical areas of insight to include federal, state, and local level reporting, academic performance, graduation rates, school attendance, demographics, and Military Student Identifier (MSI) data collected from PowerSchool. Report findings and recommendations will be presented to the Academic Standards and Assessments Subcommittee on 20 May 2024; additionally, report findings and recommendations will be presented and briefed to the on 10 June 2024. Recommendations are included for future policies, procedures, and legislation to better support military-connected students and families such as enforcing Military-Connected Student reporting, continuing collaboration and partnerships with state and local military-connected stakeholders while working to close data gaps to continuously enhance quality of life issues for South Carolina’s military-connected community.



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Acknowledgements

The report's author gratefully acknowledges the support of military-connected student support professionals and organizations for their contributions to the integrity and development of this report.

To date, the Palmetto State's collaboration efforts have yielded high performance numbers that are steadily growing by creating a climate of trust through relationship-building. South Carolina continues to raise the bar on progress for our military-connected students through the support of Governor McMaster, state legislators, and many more state and community leaders.

With sincere appreciation to the following report contributors:

Riley Dixon, *Data Engineer* South Carolina Education Oversight Committee

Jason Fowler, *Military Affairs Coordinator* South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs

Sue Lopez, *Instructional Design* Military Child Education Coalition

Dr. Kim Priester, *South Carolina Commissioner* Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission, *Office of Student Support Services* South Carolina Department of Education

Ashley Schlicht, *State Coordinator for South Carolina* Military Child Education Coalition

Dana Yow, *Executive Director* South Carolina Education Oversight Committee

BACKGROUND

In 2014, the General Assembly passed Act 289, the Military Family Quality of Life Enhancement Act. The Act's purpose is to "enhance many quality of life issues for members of the armed forces" (Act 289 Preamble). Part V requests the SC Education Oversight Committee (EOC) to develop an annual report on the educational performance of military-connected children:

The Education Oversight Committee, working with the State Board of Education, is directed to establish a comprehensive annual report concerning the performance of military connected children who attend primary, elementary, middle, and high schools in this State. The comprehensive annual report must be in a reader-friendly format, using graphics wherever possible, published on the state, district, and school websites, and, upon request, printed by the school districts. The annual comprehensive report must address at least attendance, academic performance in reading, math, and science, and graduation rates of military connected children.

Federal Military-Connected Student (MCS) Requirements

The Every Student Succeeds Act codified the recognition of military-connected students as a district subgroup for reporting purposes which mandates the use of a Military Student Identifier (MSI). According to the Military Child Education Coalition (2023):

Schools regularly disaggregate student demographic and performance data to determine program effectiveness to identify areas requiring attention or resources and to detect students in need of specific academic assistance. MSI data provide an additional dimension that more finely attunes the schools' programs to respond to the needs of children.

The MSI is essential to improve and personalize academic and social/emotional responses for the unique military student population which is highly likely to move and frequently change schools during their K-12 education years.

By effectively using MSI, schools can also consider programs that recognize contributions of the military to their community as they do for other groups.

WHAT IS MCS?

According to the Military Connected Student Indicator Erratum (2023) “Students who are military connected: status as a student with a parent who is a member of the armed forces on active duty or serves on full-time National Guard duty, where “armed forces,” “active duty,” and “full-time National Guard duty” have the same meanings given them in 10 U.S.C. 101(a)(4), 101(d)(1), and 101(d)(5).”

Federal Military-Connected Student (MCS) Requirements (continued)

Table 1. Military-Connected Student Codes PowerSchool is the current South Carolina Student Information System (SIS)

Code	Meaning
00 or blank	Neither Parent nor Guardian is serving in any military service.
01	A Parent or Guardian is serving in the National Guard but is not deployed.
02	A Parent or Guardian is serving in the Reserves but is not deployed.
03	A Parent or Guardian is serving in the National Guard and is currently deployed.
04	A Parent or Guardian is serving in the Reserves and is currently deployed.
05	A Parent or Guardian is serving in the military on active duty but is not deployed.
06	A Parent or Guardian is serving in the military on active duty and is currently deployed.
07	The student's Parent or Guardian died while on active duty within the last year.
08	The student's Parent or Guardian was wounded while on active duty within the last year.

Per definition of MCS, students identified by Code 00, 01, or 02 are not considered MCS.



STATE MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENT REPORTING

Table 2. Population of Military-Connected Students in South Carolina by School Year (SY)

Data collected within the Student Information System

Military Connection	MCS School Year District Level Counts (180-Day Enrollment Data)				
	SY 2018-2019	SY 2019-2020	SY 2020-2021	SY 2021-2022	SY 2022-2023
Active Duty Military, Not Deployed	9,314	9,672	9,540	9,465	10,778
*National Guard, Not Deployed	2,631	3,027	3,896	3,256	3,311
*Reserves, Not Deployed	2,075	2,308	2,276	2,257	2,748
Active Duty Military, Wounded within last year	591	1,087	1,368	1,430	1,131
Active Duty Military, Currently Deployed	1021	1,081	1,065	1,117	1,134
National Guard, Currently Deployed	506	543	525	502	583
Reserves, Currently Deployed	295	368	369	420	360
Active Duty Military, Deceased within last year	82	151	190	188	176
Totals:	16,515	18,237	19,229	18,635	20,221

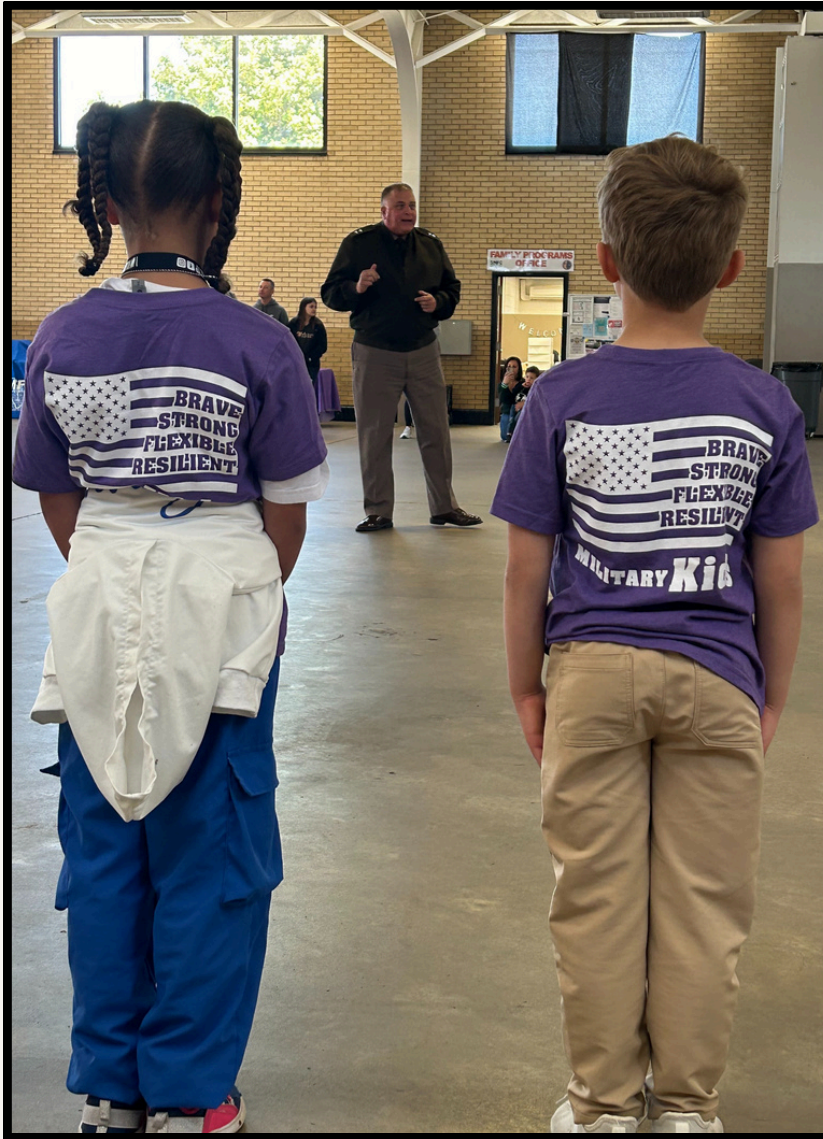
*While included in the totals above, *National Guard, Not Deployed* and *Reserves, Not Deployed* are not considered as military-connected students.

To date, there is no standard collection method and/or reporting standard for collecting student military-connected status by state, although a common practice of data collection is via a parent or guardian survey. South Carolina collects information about deceased and wounded military personnel so that appropriate school personnel can assist families and students who have experienced loss and grief. **Based on the data collected within the Student Information System and summarized above in Table 2, the population of military-connected students within the past five years, beginning in SY 2018-2019 to SY 2022-2023, has increased by 19.9%.**



LOCAL LEVEL REPORTING

PowerSchool serves as South Carolina's current Student Information System (SIS) which collects data related to MCS. District implementation and collection methods vary, making the accurate collection of all MCS an ongoing challenge. Twenty-five School Districts reported 0 MCS within SIS.



“14,162 military-connected students were reported by school districts to the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) in school year 2022-2023 based off of 180-day enrollment period.”



Table 3. Population of Military-Connected Students by District Districts highlighted in **purple** are Purple Star Schools (please see page 16); Districts reporting less than 20 MCS are not included in the table below to protect student privacy. *Indicates South Carolina Public Charter Schools

District Name	# of MCS	District Name	# of MCS
Aiken	458	Lexington 2	45
Anderson 1	237	Lexington/ Richland 5	322
Beaufort	1,056	Newberry	27
Berkeley	1,639	Oconee	91
Charleston	714	Orangeburg	76
Chesterfield	69	Pickens	89
Darlington	145	Richland 1	58
Dillon 4	33	Richland 2	2,976
Dorchester 2	1,405	Spartanburg 2	60
Edgefield	40	Sumter	814
Florence 1	364	York 3	81
Florence 2	21	York 4	38
Florence 3	61	SC Public Charter School District	307
Georgetown	106	Charter Institute at Erskine	135
Greenville	63		
Horry	1,537	*Liberty Steam	37
Kershaw	779	*PACE Academy	
Lancaster	74		
Lexington 1	551		

Table 4. School Districts with Largest Population of Military-Connected Students

Table highlights top twenty largest numbers of MCS from greatest to least.

District Name	# of MCS
Richland 2	2,976
Berkeley	1,639
Horry	1,532
Dorchester 2	1,405
Beaufort	1,056
Sumter	814
Kershaw	779
Charleston	714
Lexington 1	551
Aiken	458
Florence 1	364
Lexington/ Richland 5	364
SC Public School District	307
Anderson 1	237
Darlington	145
Charter Institute at Erskine	135
Georgetown	106
Oconee	91
Pickens	89
York 3	81

DEMOGRAPHICS OF MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS

Demographics of Military-Connected Students in South Carolina are listed below in Tables 5, 6, and 7 compared to Non-MCS Student Population

Table 5. Racial Make-Up

	MCS	Non-MCS
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.32%	.28%
Asian	1.17%	1.79%
Black or African American	26.08%	31.36%
Hispanic or Latino	14.50%	12.98%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.44%	0.125%
Multiple Categories Reported	9.02%	5.70%
White	48.46%	47.76%

Table 6. Percentages by Grade

Grade Level	MCS	Non-MCS
K	7.22%	7.82%
1	7.60%	8.25%
2	7.42%	8.02%
3	7.46%	7.96%
4	7.45%	7.77%
5	7.58%	8.16%
6	7.69%	7.86%
7	7.83%	7.87%
8	8.15%	8.02%
9	9.41%	8.14%
10	8.35%	8.08%
11	6.85%	6.02%
12	6.98%	6.04%

Table 7. Advanced Placement Exam Passage

	MCS	Non-MCS
Gifted and Talented	16.01%	15.66%
Student with a Disability (SWD)	12.77%	14.76%
Limited English Proficient (LEP)	4.09%	9.48%
Pupil in Poverty (PIP)	28.28%	62.06%
Foster Care	*	0.46%
Homeless	0.37%	1.53%
Migrant	*	0.05%



- * indicates a number count of less than 20 (not displayed to protect student privacy)

Academic Performance of Military-Connected Students - KRA

This section compares the 2022-2023 school year performance of MCS to Non-MCS in South Carolina across various *measures*, including the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA), SC READY and SC PASS tests, End-of-Course Examination Program (EOCEP), Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations, and High School Graduation Rates.

Table 8. MCS and Non-MCS KRA Performance

	MCS	Non-MCS
Demonstrating Readiness	45.34%	37.96%
Approaching Readiness	36.01%	34.14%
Emerging Readiness	18.15%	27.24%

KRA Performance of MCS and Non-MCS

KRA measures readiness in
1) Social Foundations
2) Language/Literacy
3) Mathematics and
4) Physical Well-Being.
During the 2022-2023 school year, MCS demonstrated readiness at a rate of 45.34% compared to 37.96% of Non-MCS students as shown in Table 8.



Tables 8, 9, and 10 Measures Acronyms:

- KRA** Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
- EOCEP** End-of-Course Examination Program
- AP** Advanced Placement

Academic Performance of Military-Connected Students: SC Ready and SCPASS

The South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Assessments (SC READY) program is a statewide assessment designed to measure student performance in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics for grades 3 - 8. The South Carolina Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) is another statewide assessment program that focuses solely on assessing science at 4th and 6th grades. During the 2022-2023 School Year, MCS were more likely to score Meets or Exceeds in Mathematics, ELA and Science.

Table 9. 2022-2023 School Year SC READY and SC PASS Performance

	Student Group	Count	% Does Not Meet	% Approaches	% Meet	% Exceeds	% Meets or Exceeds
SC Ready Math	MCS	6,308	67.26%	67.26%	67.26%	67.26%	67.26%
	Non-MCS	340,066	21.57%	24.87%	24.91%	28.65%	53.56%
SC Ready ELA	MCS	6,306	19.68%	28.85%	26.94%	24.53%	51.47%
	Non-MCS	340,154	31.06%	28.43%	20.83%	19.68%	40.51%
SC PASS Science	MCS	2,073	21.85%	19.92%	29.96%	28.27%	58.23%
	Non-MCs	111,819	33.70%	21.70%	24.48%	20.12%	44.60%

Academic Performance of Military-Connected Students - EOCEP

The End-of-Course Exams Performance (EOCEP) of MCS and Non-MCS section provides an overview and measures student performance on end-of-course exams for gateway courses that are awarded units of credit in English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. EOCEP examination scores have historically counted for 20% of a student's final grade in gateway courses. To date, defined gateway courses include Algebra 1, Biology 1, English 2 and United States History and the Constitution.

Table 10 outlines the performance of military-connected students on end-of-course exams for the 2022-2023 school year. During the school year, MCS out-performed all students state-wide on EOCEP exams in Algebra 1, English 2, Biology 1 and United States History and the Constitution.

Table 10. EOCEP Performance

Subject	SY	# of MCS	Mean Score	% Passing (A, B or C)	# of Non-MCS	Mean Score	% Passing (A, B or C)
Algebra I	2022-23	1,125	73.38	57.42%	64,993	69.31	45.26%
English II	2022-23	1,111	81.73	79.30%	60,962	77.82	67.86%
Biology I	2022-23	1,091	71.62	53.80%	63,102	66.93	43.17%
US. History & the Constitution	2022-23	859	71.97	54.37%	54,706	67.56	44.82%



Photo courtesy of the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs

Academic Performance of Military-Connected Students - Graduation Rates

Graduation Rates are calculated from the graduation cohort base file for the 2022-2023 SY. The graduation cohort included all students whose first year in high school occurred three full years prior to the school year being measured. Students are only removed from the cohort for reasons of student death, emigration, transfer to prison, or juvenile facility following adjudication and properly documented transfer out of the state.

Table 11. Graduation Rates

School Year	MCS	Non-MCS
2022-2023	93.18%	83.93%
2021-2022	94.30%	83.90%
2020-2021	91.40%	83.20%
2019-2020	90.80%	82.00%
2018-2019	86.90%	81.10%



The data found below in Table 12 was provided by the South Carolina Department of Education; the statistics were pulled from PowerSchool to compute MCS and Non-MCS attendance rates. State-wide average percentage of Non-MCS attendance rates was 93.04% while MCS attendance was 93.65%.

Table 12. Attendance Rates

	MCS	Non-MCS
Average Days Absent	10	11.49
Average Days Attended	93.65%	93.04%

PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS (PSS)

The Purple Star School (PSS) Program is a statewide initiative that recognizes school districts and campuses which show a concerted and intentional commitment to military-connected families by providing extra support, resources and focus. The Purple Star School Program is overseen and managed by the South Carolina Department of Education's subcommittee, the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission. The Purple Star School Program is designed to prepare schools to better understand and respond to the educational and social-emotional challenges military-connected children face during their transition to a new school and keep them on track to be college, workforce, and life-ready (2024).

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) adopted the Purple Star School (PSS) Program initiative in August 2019 to recognize districts and campuses who actively strive to show a major commitment to military-connected families through targeted supports and resources. The PSS Program is designed to prepare schools and educators to better understand, respond and meet educational needs, to include social-emotional challenges which military-connected children face during school transitions.

The Purple Star School Program is currently undergoing a strategic development plan to ensure the PSS Program's integrity and implementation while the overarching goal is to secure a standard operating procedure so that South Carolina's military-connected students receive a concerted effort of support from state and local leadership through a streamlined and efficient process.

As of 10 October 2023, 38 states have PSS designation programs, covering more than 550 school districts and 2,700 schools from elementary to high school while there are four states which have proposed legislation (2024). As of 1 May 2024, South Carolina has 13 school districts and two public charter schools that have earned PSS designation.



Findings & Recommendations

Table 13. Comparatives of Military-Connected Student Population in South Carolina from (1) School Year (SY) 2018-2019 to SY 2022-2023 & (2) SY 2021-2022 to SY 2022-2023.

Data presented below is collected in the South Carolina Student Information System (SIS) and based on 180-Day Enrollment. **Not included in MCS population designation.*

Military Connection	PERCENTAGES					
	SY 2018-2019	SY 2022-2023	%	SY 2021-2022	SY 2022-2023	%
Active Duty Military, Not Deployed	9,314	10,778	15.72%	9,465	10,778	13.87%
*National Guard, Not Deployed	2,631	3,311	25.85%	3,256	3,311	1.68%
*Reserves, Not Deployed	2,075	2,748	32.43%	2,257	2,748	21.75%
Active Duty Military, Wounded within last year	591	1,131	91.37%	1,430	1,131	-20.9%
Active Duty Military, Currently Deployed	1021	1,134	11.07%	1,117	1,134	1.52%
National Guard, Currently Deployed	506	583	15.22%	502	583	16.14%
Reserves, Currently Deployed	295	360	22.03%	420	360	-14.29%
Active Duty Military, Deceased within last year	82	176	114.63%	188	176	-6.68%
Totals:	16,515	20,221	22.44%	18,635	20,221	8.51%



Findings & Recommendations (continued)

Finding One: Areas of concern are noted from the 2019 - 2024 (5 year period): Active Duty Military, injured within last year with an increase of 91.37%; Active Duty Military, deceased within last year is 114.63% and the percentage increase of the combined military fields (codes 1-8) has increased 21.8%.

Recommendation. Monitor the increase of MCS in SC schools, especially those who have experienced loss or trauma. Work with school-based liaisons and health professionals with specialized training to both identify these students and effectively support them.

Finding Two: Due to the lack of a uniform Military Student Identifier collection protocol at the national level, states experience the inability to accurately capture and report MCS. Until processes are in place to identify military-connected students, the accuracy of MCS reporting will continue to create ongoing reporting challenges. Per the 2023 Findings and Recommendations (Adgerdon, 2023), a six-bulleted presentation of data fails to utilize the Military Student Identifier; this reinforces the need for policies to formalize a standard MSI protocol.

Recommendation. Work to incentivize school-based reporting of MCS within school district student information systems; better data quality will allow state policymakers to make decisions using better data.

Recommendation. In collaboration with the SC Dept of Veterans Affairs, include MCS as filter on the SC Education Data Dashboard, allowing the general public to see data related this student group. By surfacing the data visually, districts who currently do not report will be incentivized to change internal practices to improve data collection and quality.

MILITARY SUPPORT RESOURCES

Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3)

According to the South Carolina Department of Education (2021):

All states, including South Carolina, have joined the Interstate Compact regarding Educational Opportunity for Military Children to ease the transition for students and to ensure that there are no barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families because of frequent moves and deployment of their parents. Former Governor Mark Sanford signed the Compact on June 11, 2010 and it became law in South Carolina on July 1, 2010.

As a member of the Interstate Commission, South Carolina has a seat at the table to discuss with other member states the Articles of the Compact and identify best practices to ensure the educational issues associated with military families during their transitions are successfully addressed.

MIC3 Students are children of the following:

- Active-duty members of the uniformed services including members of the National Guard and Reserve on active-duty orders (Title 10)
- Members or Veterans who are medically discharged or retired for one year
- Members who die on active duty, for a period of one year after death
- Uniformed members of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the United States Public Health Services (USPHS).



South Carolina - Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission, please visit:
<https://mic3.net › state › south-carolina>

Military Support References (continued)

Military Spouse Teacher Certification. To assist educators who may be required to change residence and employment on short notice due to military service, the Office of Educator Services provides expedited processing of certification applications for spouses of active duty military service members assigned to South Carolina.

Military Honor Cords Ceremony for SC High School Seniors. The SC Department of Education hosts an annual appreciation ceremony to publicly recognize high school seniors who will be or have enlisted in the U.S. Armed Forces or attending a military service academy. Seniors who have chosen to serve our country are presented with white and blue graduation honor cords that they wear during their high school graduation ceremonies.

Purple Up! (April). April is designated as the Month of the Military Child or *Purple Up! For Military Kids*. Nationally, states and school districts celebrate the important role of military children through special events and wearing the color purple.



Purple Star School Military Liaisons

School District/School	Point of Contact	Email Address
Aiken	Sondra Thomas	sthomas@acpsd.net
Anderson	Charity Kurlas	kurlasc@apps.anderson1.org
Beaufort	Latoshia Middleton	latoshia.middleton@beaufort.k12.sc.us
Berkeley	Kylon Middleton	middletonkylon@bcsdschools.net
Charleston	Antoinette Green	antoinette_green@charleston.k12.sc.us
Dorchester 2	Karean Troy	ktroy@dorchester2.k12.sc.us
Edgefield	Jerrilyn Harmon	jgharmon@edgefield.k12.sc.us
Horry	Velna Allen	vallen@horrycountyschools.net
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Lexington 1	Zan Tracy Pender	zpender@lexington1.net
Liberty Steam Public Charter School	Micah Vaughn & Shereza Middleton	mvaughn@libertysteamcharter.org smiddleton@libertysteamcharter.org
PACE Academy Public Charter School	Brandon Riley & Adrian Peay	brandon.reilly@choosepace.org adrian.peay@choosepace.org
Richland 1	David Jackson	david.jackson@richlandone.org
Richland 2	Kelsie Carter	kecarter@richland2.org
Sumter	Tamara Collier	tamara.collier@sumterschools.net

Military Support References (continued)

School Liaison Officers serve as a POC for military families and students transitioning to new communities and schools. They are also a resource for schools and school districts. To view a list of school liaison officers by branch, visit: <https://www.dodea.edu/education/partnership-and-resources/department-defense-school-liaison-program>

Fort Jackson School Liaison. Provides ongoing educational support for military-connected schools. This comprehensive website provides information about public and private schools, homeschooling, and local school districts
<https://jackson.armymwr.com/programs/school-liaison-officer>

Shaw Air Force Base is home to the 20th Fighter Wing, Headquarters Nine Air Force, the United States Army Central Command and several associate units. School Liaison information is found in the following website:
<https://www.thebestfss.com/family-youth/school-liaison-officer>

Marine Corps Air Station and the Marine Corps Recruit Depot The School Liaison Program (SLP) builds bridges for the academic success of military dependent children by obtaining educational information and assistance from local school districts. Additional information may be accessed at the following website:
<https://southcarolina.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/child-and-youth/school-liaison>

Joint Base Charleston. The Department of Air Force Liaison Program connects schools, families, and community services to enhance K-12 educational opportunities for military children. Visit the following website for more information:
<https://www.jbcharleston.com/school-liaison>

Upcoming Academic Transition Support Metrics

To support the seamless transition of MCS, the Office of Student Intervention Services helps students and their families navigate grading measurements and point systems, age cutoffs for kindergarten entry, and social studies/history (and other subject credits). Other issues that impact the transitions of MCS and military-connected families are also included. The office is beginning to categorize and quantify the issues which are most common for MCS and their families. These new metrics will aim to assist in the development of targeted MCS policy recommendations.

Military Support References (continued)

MILITARY INSTALLATION POINTS OF CONTACT	
DAF School Liaison Program Manager 628th Force Support Squadron Joint Base Charleston	Chris Gerry christopher.gerry@us.af.mil
DAF School Liaison Program Manager (PreK-12) 628th Force Support Squadron Joint Base Charleston	Jennifer Ohmer jennifer.ohmer@us.af.mil
U.S. Army Fort Jackson School Liaison Officer, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation/Child & Youth Services	Fred Henley fred.c.henley.naf@army.mil
Shaw Air Force Base School Liaison Program Manager 20th Force Support Squadron	Deborah MacQueen deborah.macqueen@us.af.mil
MCAS Beaufort-Parris Island School Liaison Program	Kim Wiley kimberly.wiley@usmc.mil



Photo courtesy of the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs

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APPENDICES

- A. Historical (2018 - 2023) Military-Connected Student Annual Report Findings and Recommendations RE: Military Student Identifier (MSI)
- B. Numbers of National Guard Dependents by School District
- C. Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) Fiscal Year 2025 State Totals

APPENDIX A: Historical (2018 - 2023) Military-Connected Student Annual Report Findings and Recommendations RE: Military Student Identifier (MSI):

According to Dr. Couch, findings from the **2018** report were as follows, “As a state, South Carolina continues to under report the number of military-connected students, but the difference in numbers reported at the state and at national level is closing. Over the past two years, there has been a 23% increase in the number of military-connected students reported in PowerSchool” (South Carolina Education Oversight Committee, 2018).

2019 “National, state and local district collection of military-connected student data continues to be inconsistent. ESSA requires the disaggregation of student-level data, including military-connected students. When this requirement is fully implemented, data collection should become more consistent and accurate ... Data related to military-connected students are collected and reported by districts in PowerSchool” according to the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee, 2019).

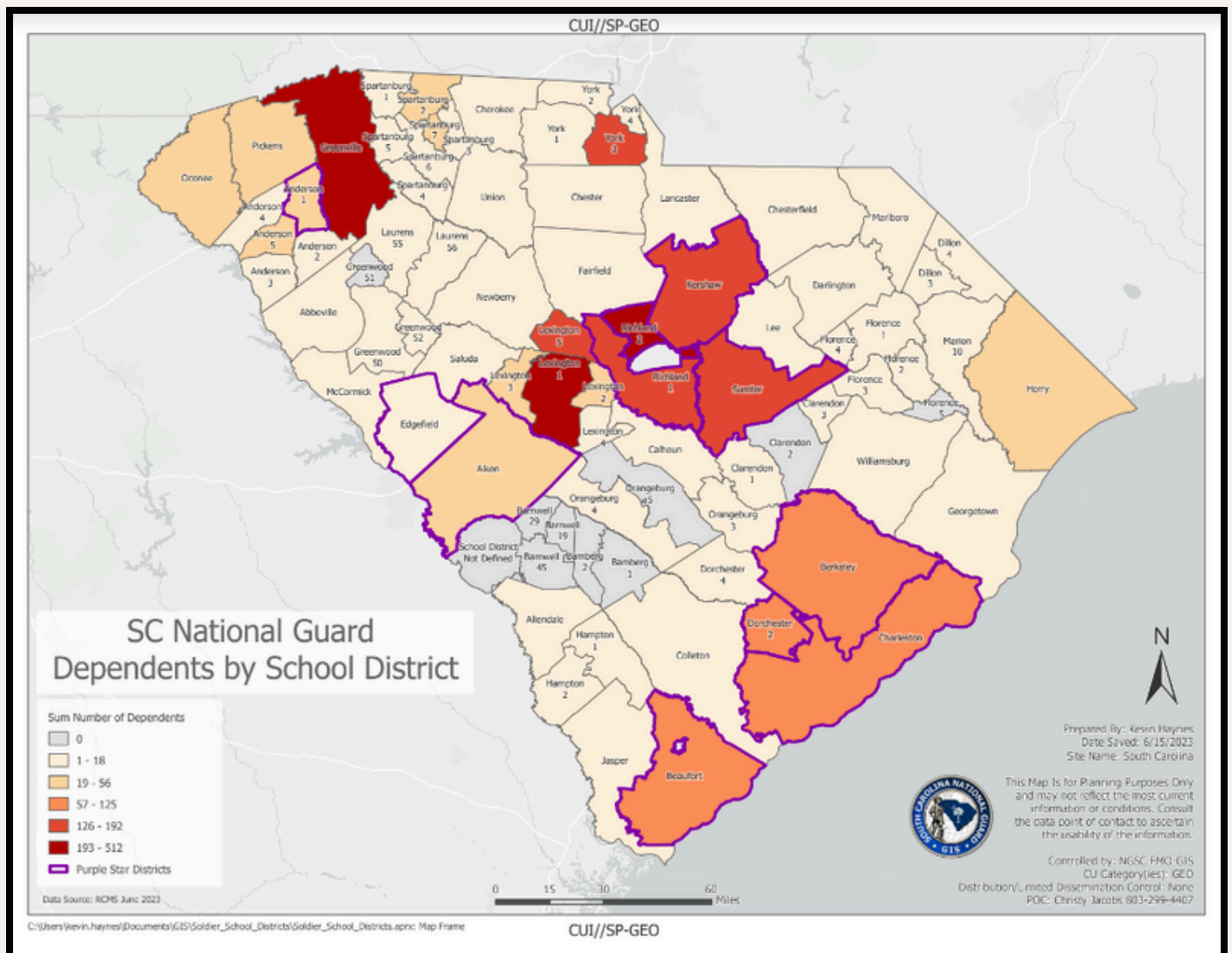
In **2020**'s report, “There was significant improvement in district reporting of military-connected students from 2016-17 to 2018-19 school years. Families and educators need to continue assisting with the reporting of this data, so district and school staff can identify students who may need additional support services. Military-connected students live with perpetual challenges presented by frequent moves, parental and sibling deployments, and additional transitions that include reintegration and dealing with profoundly changed parents. The well-being of these children depends heavily on a network of supportive adults who are trained to identify early signs of emotional, physical, and academic challenges.”

Minutes from the **2021** South Carolina Education Oversight Committee meeting stated, “Every Student Succeeds Act or ESSA requires the identification and collection of Military-Connected Student data. Data reported by the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) regarding military-connected students are based on district entry of student information into the student information system.”

The following was listed as a **2022** number one recommendation, “Identifying military-connected students provides educators with critical information about students who are highly likely to move and frequently change schools, necessitating specialized attention of transitions and resources. EOC recommends staff work with school districts data personnel to identify the barriers in data collection and reporting of MCS. County and zip code level DEERS data will assist in the investigations” per the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee (2022).

In **2023**, the following was listed as second of the top six report findings, “Consistency in reporting to local, state, and federal institutions vary among institutions in SC concerning MCS. Efforts should be made to capture MCS more effectively” and “There is no standard collection and reporting standard for collecting student military-connected status by state, although all typically collect it via a survey of parents and guardians” (South Carolina Education Oversight Committee, 2023).

APPENDIX B. Numbers of National Guard Dependents by School District



APPENDIX C: Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) Fiscal Year 2025 State Projection Totals

State	Army	Navy	Marines	Aforce	SForce	CGuarc	*USPHS	*NOAA	Total	No TH	FY25 DUES w/TH	DIFF
AL	5,970	547	258	2,201	115	745	15	1	9,852	\$ 11,330	\$ 11,330	\$ -
AK	3,456	61	18	3,845	5	946	218	0	8,549	\$ 9,831	\$ 9,831	\$ -
AZ	2,886	678	1,331	4,762	43	37	403	0	10,140	\$ 11,661	\$ 11,661	\$ -
AR	466	201	83	1,722	2	30	10	0	2,514	\$ 2,891	\$ 2,891	\$ -
CA	5,712	29,186	11,296	6,730	579	2,080	180	3	55,766	\$ 64,131	\$ 64,131	\$ -
CO	12,173	778	313	4,297	1,451	72	127	0	19,211	\$ 22,093	\$ 22,093	\$ -
CT	273	2,086	66	84	0	424	15	1	2,949	\$ 3,391	\$ 3,391	\$ -
DE	147	69	21	1,268	0	52	10	0	1,567	\$ 1,802	\$ 2,300	\$ (498)
DC	247	236	70	299	27	91	41	0	1,011	\$ 1,163	\$ 2,300	\$ (1,137)
FL	8,262	14,785	1,898	12,572	206	2,693	110	16	40,542	\$ 46,623	\$ 46,623	\$ -
GA	20,992	3,723	771	4,763	39	328	571	0	31,187	\$ 35,865	\$ 35,865	\$ -
HI	8,088	4,644	1,672	2,755	67	638	31	4	17,899	\$ 20,584	\$ 20,584	\$ -
ID	313	204	86	1,303	12	19	26	0	1,963	\$ 2,257	\$ 2,300	\$ (43)
IL	1,475	2,061	393	3,194	17	169	35	0	7,344	\$ 8,446	\$ 8,446	\$ -
IN	1,332	421	214	335	3	64	10	0	2,379	\$ 2,736	\$ 2,736	\$ -
IA	513	117	108	235	2	35	18	0	1,028	\$ 1,182	\$ 2,300	\$ (1,118)
KS	7,947	203	165	1,542	15	77	40	0	9,989	\$ 11,487	\$ 11,487	\$ -
KY	8,200	232	137	240	0	127	68	0	9,004	\$ 10,355	\$ 10,355	\$ -
LA	3,039	627	393	2,489	6	683	29	0	7,266	\$ 8,356	\$ 8,356	\$ -
ME	190	361	35	60	0	333	6	0	985	\$ 1,133	\$ 2,300	\$ (1,167)
MD	6,294	5,487	1,213	4,075	75	1,157	1,233	48	19,582	\$ 22,519	\$ 22,519	\$ -
MA	574	297	151	568	22	585	64	4	2,265	\$ 2,605	\$ 2,605	\$ -
MI	1,233	548	252	344	4	553	34	0	2,968	\$ 3,413	\$ 3,413	\$ -
MN	422	222	105	214	2	69	106	0	1,140	\$ 1,311	\$ 2,300	\$ (989)
MS	787	1,769	167	1,933	11	206	14	2	4,889	\$ 5,622	\$ 5,622	\$ -
MO	4,305	487	505	2,111	2	122	64	3	7,599	\$ 8,739	\$ 8,739	\$ -
MT	167	106	40	1,117	4	11	79	0	1,524	\$ 1,753	\$ 2,300	\$ (547)
NE	372	358	72	2,753	24	4	15	0	3,598	\$ 4,138	\$ 4,138	\$ -
NV	508	672	89	4,591	59	41	13	0	5,973	\$ 6,869	\$ 6,869	\$ -
NH	168	149	33	99	3	121	26	1	600	\$ 690	\$ 2,300	\$ (1,610)
NJ	1,055	448	253	1,947	2	614	59	0	4,378	\$ 5,035	\$ 5,035	\$ -
NM	584	158	96	3,782	100	15	186	0	4,921	\$ 5,659	\$ 5,659	\$ -
NY	7,190	1,090	431	564	15	420	81	0	9,791	\$ 11,260	\$ 11,260	\$ -
NC	23,739	3,945	11,263	3,315	10	1,412	170	2	43,856	\$ 50,434	\$ 50,434	\$ -
ND	108	43	4	2,275	12	3	26	0	2,471	\$ 2,842	\$ 2,842	\$ -
OH	1,465	724	364	3,836	129	350	42	2	6,912	\$ 7,949	\$ 7,949	\$ -
OK	4,726	1,075	184	3,191	15	37	336	0	9,564	\$ 10,999	\$ 10,999	\$ -
OR	444	259	137	186	3	401	63	12	1,505	\$ 1,731	\$ 2,300	\$ (569)
PA	1,803	843	454	654	13	216	88	2	4,073	\$ 4,684	\$ 4,684	\$ -
RI	220	769	126	88	6	148	8	5	1,370	\$ 1,576	\$ 2,300	\$ (725)
SC	4,771	2,035	1,525	3,857	18	553	30	0	12,789	\$ 14,707	\$ 14,707	\$ -
SD	138	42	16	1,154	1	1	92	0	1,444	\$ 1,661	\$ 2,300	\$ (639)
TN	8,392	1,744	215	561	4	129	15	0	11,060	\$ 12,719	\$ 12,719	\$ -
TX	36,855	4,976	1,760	15,406	104	1,235	287	0	60,623	\$ 69,716	\$ 69,000	\$ 716
UT	593	205	134	2,347	25	20	36	0	3,360	\$ 3,864	\$ 3,864	\$ -
VT	65	21	14	34	0	6	3	0	143	\$ 164	\$ 2,300	\$ (2,136)
VA	15,700	35,339	5,917	9,658	686	3,614	368	11	71,293	\$ 81,987	\$ 69,000	\$ 12,987
WA	12,922	8,737	301	2,832	12	820	122	6	25,752	\$ 29,615	\$ 29,615	\$ -
WV	238	108	25	122	3	70	60	2	628	\$ 722	\$ 2,300	\$ (1,578)
WI	762	391	135	265	8	220	30	0	1,811	\$ 2,083	\$ 2,300	\$ (217)
WY	83	43	12	1,151	6	6	24	0	1,325	\$ 1,524	\$ 2,300	\$ (776)
Total	228,364	134,310	45,321	129,726	3,967	22,802	5,737	125	570,352	\$655,905	\$655,951	\$ (46)

Data from USDOD DEERS Database, July 31, 2022

*NOAA and USPHS Data from USDOD DEERS Database, August 19, 2020

Approved November 9, 2023

Threshold (TH):

Minimum: \$2,300

Maximum: \$69,000



SC EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Reporting facts. Measuring change. Promoting progress.

The South Carolina Education Oversight Committee (EOC) is an independent, non-partisan group made up of 18 educators, business persons and elected leaders. Created in 1998, the EOC is dedicated to reporting facts, measuring change, and promoting progress within South Carolina's education system.

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