

Academic Year 2020-21 Quarter 1

Secondary Course Grade Distribution Data

This report summarizes the course grade distribution data at the secondary level collected for the first 39 school days of the current school year 2020-21 (first quarter) compared with the first quarter of last school year (2019-20). The grades reported in the tables and figures that follow are for credit-bearing classes. In the most current school year, the high school is on a 4x4 schedule (as opposed to a traditional schedule in 2019-20) resulting in fewer courses taken by students in quarter one. In 2019-20 there were 119 additional grades of “P” and 32 in 2020-21.

Key Findings:

- The largest year-to-year difference is in the percentage of failing (F) grades at the secondary level, which increased from 10% in 2019 to 20% in 2020 (see Table 1; Figure 1 by level).
- The ratios of F grades were highest among Hispanic (30%) and EL (34%) students with both tripling or near tripling the percentage of F grades in the prior year (see Tables 2a&b; Figures 2-5 by level).
- There were large observed group differences in the students with 2 or more Ds/Fs by race/ethnicity and program (see Tables 4a&b). For example, almost 2 out of 3 Hispanic students earned 2 or more Ds/Fs (≥ 1 at high school given adjustment) compared to under 1/4 of White students. More than 70% of EL students earned 2 or more Ds/Fs (≥ 1 at high school given adjustment) in fall 2020.
- The percentage of students with 2 or more Ds/Fs increased by 16 percentage points at the middle school level (see Table 5).
- More than a third of high school students had Ds/Fs in 2019. Due to the revised 4x4 high school schedule, methodology was adjusted for 2020 for a more accurate comparison. With this adjustment almost half of high school students (48%) had a D/F for the first quarter (see Table 5).
- Grade distribution was fairly consistent across subject areas. Almost a quarter of grades in Language Arts, Math, and Science were Fs (see Figure 8; Table 6).

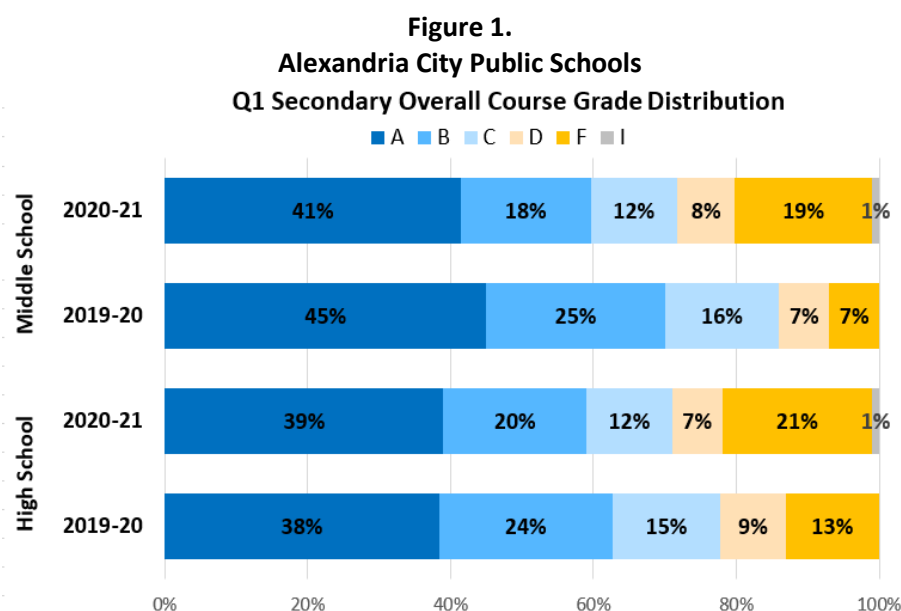


Figure 2.
Alexandria City Public Schools
Q1 Middle School D & F Distribution by Race/Ethnicity

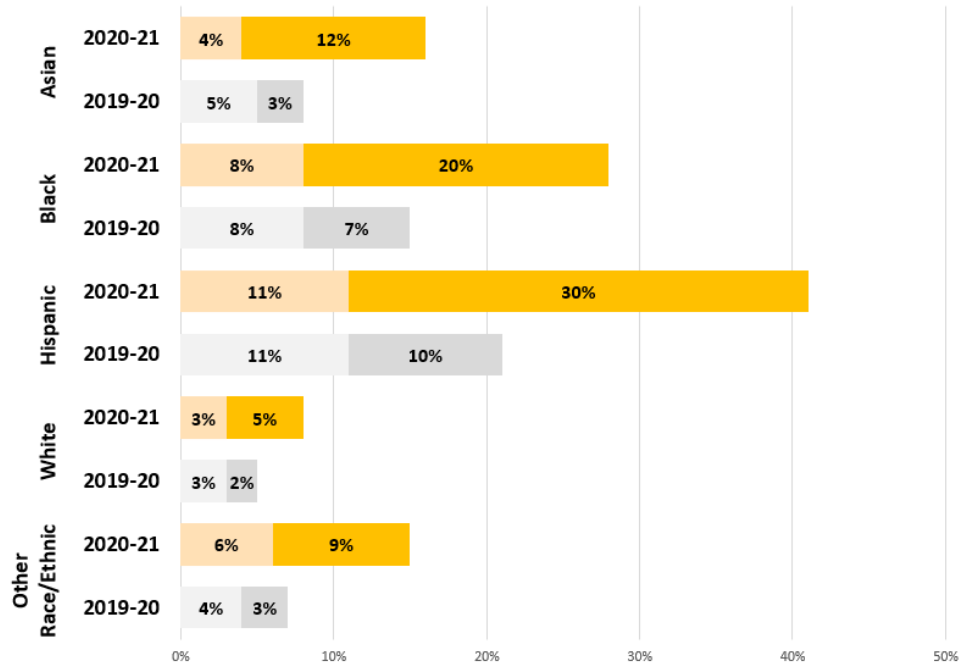


Figure 3.
Alexandria City Public Schools
Q1 High School D & F Distribution by Race/Ethnicity

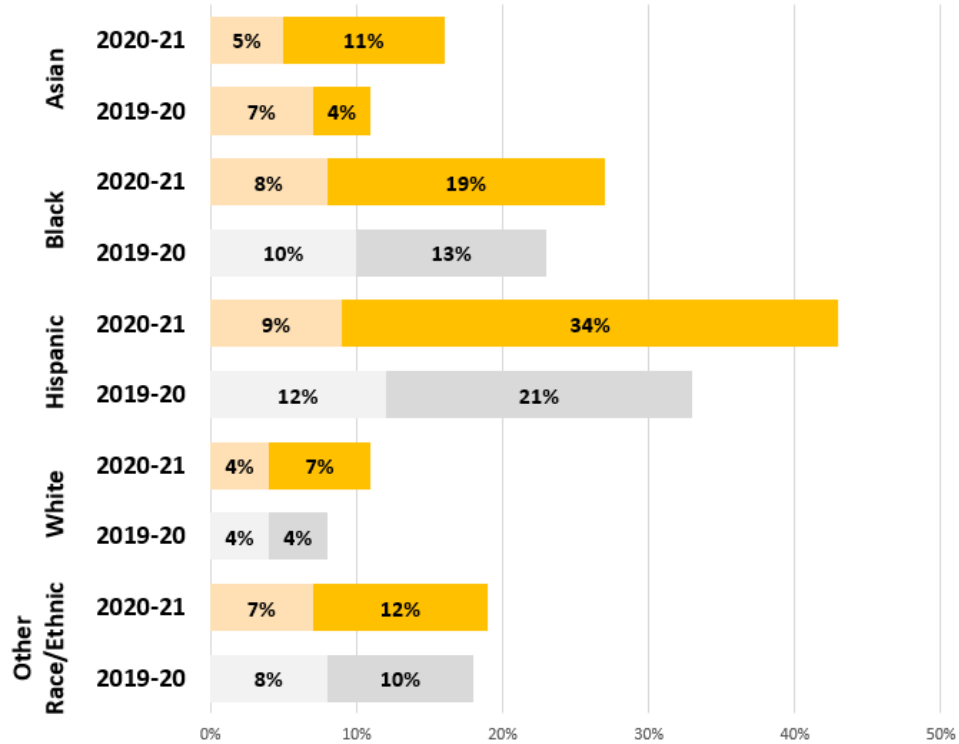


Figure 4.
Alexandria City Public Schools
Q1 Middle School D & F Distribution by Special Program

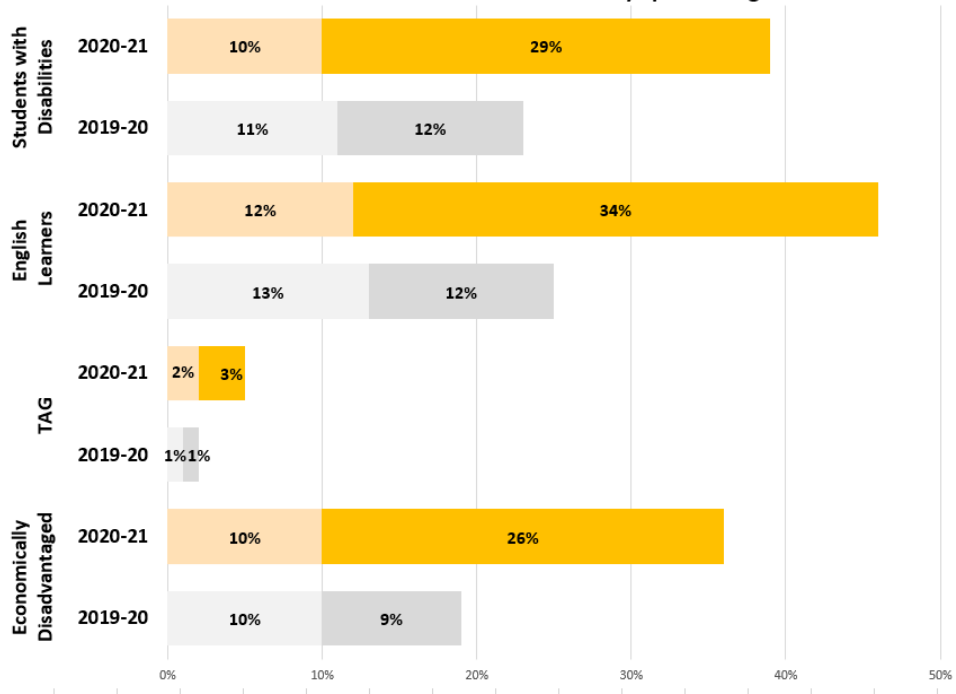


Figure 5.
Alexandria City Public Schools
Q1 High School D & F Distribution by Special Program

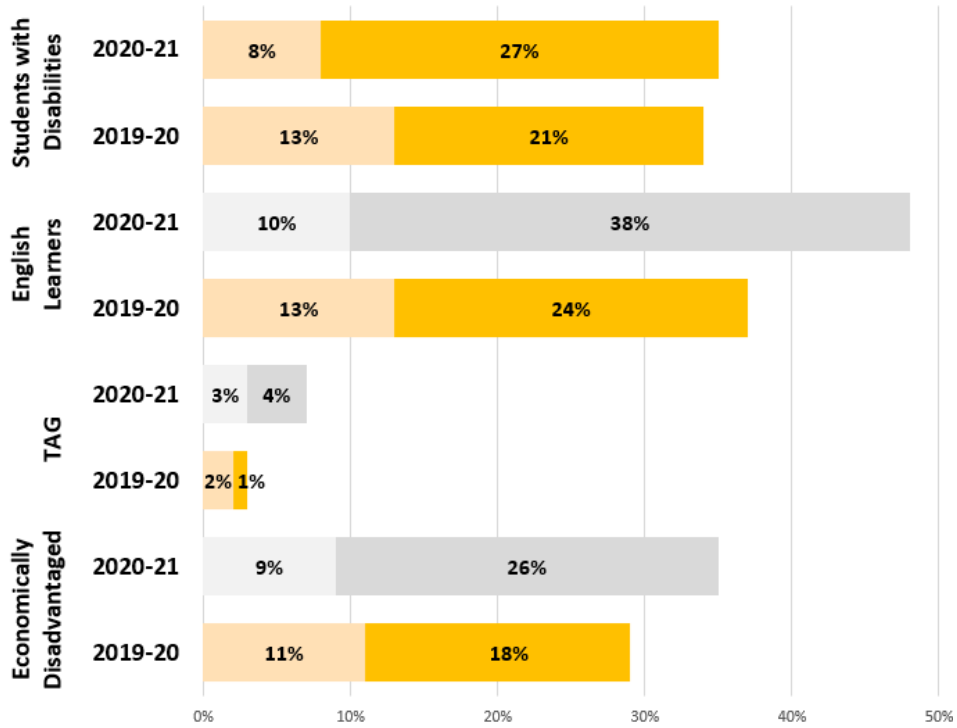


Figure 6.
Alexandria City Public Schools
Fall 2020 Q1 Secondary Overall Course Grade Distribution by Subject Area

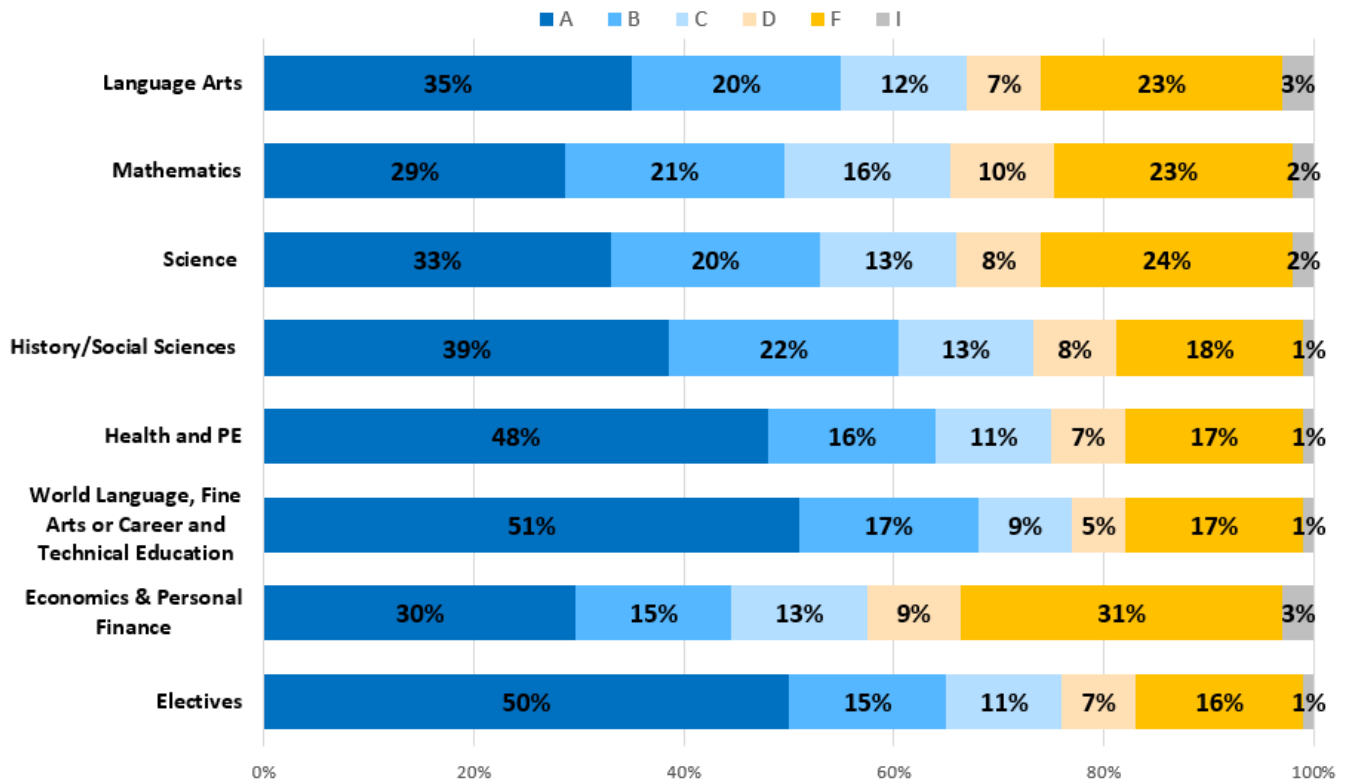


TABLE 1
Alexandria City Public Schools
Comparison of Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 Q1 Secondary
Overall Course Grade Distribution

	Academic Year	A %	B %	C %	D %	F %	I %	Total n
Middle School	2019-20	45%	25%	16%	7%	7%	0%	23,721
	2020-21	41%	18%	12%	8%	19%	1%	22,996
	% pt. Δ +/-	-4	-7	-4	+1	+12	+1	-725
High School	2019-20	38%	24%	15%	9%	13%	0%	27,245
	2020-21	39%	20%	12%	7%	21%	1%	16,601
	% pt. Δ +/-	+1	-4	-3	-2	+7	+1	-10,644
Total	2019-20	41%	25%	15%	8%	10%	0%	50,966
	2020-21	40%	19%	12%	8%	20%	1%	39,597
	% pt. Δ +/-	-1	-6	-3	0	+10	+1	-11,369

TABLE 2a
Alexandria City Public Schools
Comparison of Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 Q1 Middle School
Overall Course Grade Distribution by Student Group

Group Category	Student Group	Academic Year	A %	B %	C %	D %	F %	I %	Total n
Gender	Male	2019-20	40%	26%	18%	8%	8%	0%	11,976
		2020-21	36%	19%	13%	9%	21%	2%	11,820
	Female	2019-20	50%	24%	14%	6%	5%	0%	11,745
		2020-21	47%	18%	11%	7%	17%	1%	11,176
Race/ Ethnicity	Asian	2019-20	52%	25%	14%	5%	3%	0%	990
		2020-21	52%	19%	11%	4%	12%	1%	1,042
	Black	2019-20	39%	28%	18%	8%	7%	0%	6,350
		2020-21	38%	19%	14%	8%	20%	1%	6,077
	Hispanic	2019-20	34%	26%	20%	11%	10%	0%	9,366
		2020-21	26%	17%	14%	11%	30%	2%	8,995
	White	2019-20	65%	23%	8%	3%	2%	0%	6,294
		2020-21	64%	20%	8%	3%	5%	0%	6,028
	Other Race/Ethnic	2019-20	60%	24%	9%	4%	3%	0%	721
		2020-21	56%	18%	10%	6%	9%	1%	854
Special Programs	Students with Disabilities	2019-20	30%	25%	22%	11%	12%	0%	2,191
		2020-21	24%	18%	16%	10%	29%	3%	2,233
	English Learners	2019-20	26%	26%	23%	13%	12%	0%	5,397
		2020-21	21%	15%	15%	12%	34%	3%	5,027
	TAG	2019-20	75%	19%	5%	1%	1%	0%	4,925
		2020-21	73%	16%	6%	2%	3%	0%	4,839
	Economically Disadvantaged	2019-20	35%	27%	19%	10%	9%	0%	14,975
		2020-21	30%	18%	14%	10%	26%	2%	13,228
Middle School	Total	2019-20	45%	25%	16%	7%	7%	0%	23,721
		2020-21	41%	18%	12%	8%	19%	1%	22,996

TABLE 2b
Alexandria City Public Schools
Comparison of Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 Q1 High School
Overall Course Grade Distribution by Student Group

Group Category	Student Group	Academic Year	A %	B %	C %	D %	F %	I %	Total n
Gender	Male	2019-20	33%	24%	17%	11%	16%	0%	14,255
		2020-21	32%	20%	13%	8%	26%	2%	8,416
	Female	2019-20	44%	25%	14%	7%	10%	0%	12,990
		2020-21	45%	20%	11%	7%	16%	1%	8,185
Race/ Ethnicity	Asian	2019-20	54%	24%	10%	7%	4%	1%	1,092
		2020-21	52%	21%	10%	5%	11%	1%	780
	Black	2019-20	33%	26%	18%	10%	13%	0%	7,184
		2020-21	36%	22%	15%	8%	19%	1%	4,290
	Hispanic	2019-20	27%	22%	17%	12%	21%	0%	11,143
		2020-21	25%	16%	13%	9%	34%	2%	6,638
	White	2019-20	57%	25%	10%	4%	4%	1%	7,112
		2020-21	59%	22%	8%	4%	7%	1%	4,449
	Other Race/Ethnic	2019-20	41%	28%	12%	8%	10%	1%	714
		2020-21	43%	23%	14%	7%	12%	1%	444
Special Programs	Students with Disabilities	2019-20	26%	21%	20%	13%	21%	0%	2,384
		2020-21	30%	18%	13%	8%	27%	4%	1,671
	English Learners	2019-20	23%	21%	18%	13%	24%	0%	6,654
		2020-21	21%	15%	14%	10%	38%	2%	3,841
	TAG	2019-20	66%	24%	6%	2%	1%	0%	4,716
		2020-21	64%	22%	6%	3%	4%	1%	3,067
	Economically Disadvantaged	2019-20	30%	24%	18%	11%	18%	0%	16,544
		2020-21	31%	19%	14%	9%	26%	2%	8,596
High School	Total	2019-20	38%	24%	15%	9%	13%	0%	27,245
		2020-21	39%	20%	12%	7%	21%	1%	16,601

TABLE 3
Alexandria City Public Schools
Comparison of Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 Q1 Secondary
Course Grade Distribution by School

	Academic Year	A %	B %	C %	D %	F %	I %	Total n
Patrick Henry	2019-20	46%	28%	15%	7%	5%	0%	1,216
	2020-21	39%	20%	14%	8%	18%	0%	1,483
Jefferson Houston	2019-20	43%	28%	17%	8%	4%	0%	1,911
	2020-21	36%	20%	15%	9%	20%	0%	1,467
Francis C. Hammond	2019-20	40%	27%	18%	8%	7%	0%	10,020
	2020-21	36%	17%	13%	9%	22%	3%	9,469
George Washington	2019-20	50%	24%	13%	7%	7%	0%	10,574
	2020-21	47%	19%	11%	7%	16%	0%	10,577
Middle School Total	2019-20	45%	25%	16%	7%	7%	0%	23,721
	2020-21	41%	18%	12%	8%	19%	1%	22,996
Minnie Howard	2019-20	40%	24%	14%	9%	12%	0%	6,550
	2020-21	38%	20%	12%	7%	21%	1%	4,056
T. C. King Street	2019-20	38%	25%	15%	9%	13%	0%	20,164
	2020-21	39%	20%	12%	7%	21%	2%	12,351
T. C. Satellite	2019-20	32%	25%	16%	9%	17%	0%	315
	2020-21	19%	15%	12%	10%	45%	0%	110
Chance for Change	2019-20	13%	21%	13%	12%	41%	0%	216
	2020-21	15%	20%	24%	12%	29%	0%	84
High School Total	2019-20	38%	24%	15%	9%	13%	0%	27,245
	2020-21	39%	20%	12%	7%	21%	1%	16,601
Total	2019-20	41%	25%	15%	8%	10%	0%	50,966
	2020-21	40%	19%	12%	8%	20%	1%	39,597

TABLE 4a
Alexandria City Public Schools
Comparison of Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 Q1 Middle School Students
Earning 2 or More Ds or Fs by Student Group

Category	Student Group	2 or More Ds/Fs		% pt. Δ +/-
		2019-20 % (n)	2020-21 % (n)	
Gender	Male	32% (567)	48% (836)	+16
	Female	21% (372)	38% (634)	+17
Race/Ethnicity	Asian	16% (24)	27% (41)	+11
	Black	29% (270)	46% (417)	+17
	Hispanic	39% (557)	65% (874)	+26
	White	8% (73)	12% (108)	+4
	Other Race/Ethnic	17% (18)	27% (33)	+10
	Special Populations	Students with Disabilities	43% (151)	61% (221)
	English Learners	45% (382)	72% (546)	+27
	TAG	3% (24)	9% (64)	+6
	Economically Disadvantaged	36% (810)	57% (1,129)	+21
Middle School	Total¹	27% (938)	43% (1,469)	+16
Division	Total¹	32% (2,428)	46% (3,443)	+14

¹Analysis was conducted using a course enrollment file, which yielded a slight variation in sum no greater than 3.

TABLE 4b
Alexandria City Public Schools
Comparison of Fall 2019 and Fall 2020¹ Q1 High School Students
Earning Ds or Fs by Student Group

Category	Student Group	2 or More Ds/Fs 2019-20 % (n)	1 or More Ds/Fs 2020-21 % (n)	% pt. Δ +/-
Gender	Male	43% (925)	54% (1,134)	+11
	Female	29% (567)	42% (841)	+13
Race/Ethnicity	Asian	17% (29)	35% (67)	+18
	Black	37% (408)	47% (500)	+10
	Hispanic	51% (892)	66% (1,120)	+15
	White	13% (133)	23% (248)	+10
	Other Race/Ethnic	32% (33)	39% (43)	+7
Special Populations	Students with Disabilities	52% (208)	59% (248)	+7
	English Learners	59% (619)	72% (713)	+13
	TAG	6% (40)	18% (128)	+12
	Economically Disadvantaged	46% (1,178)	58% (1,254)	+12
High School	Total²	36% (1,491)	48% (1,974)	+12
Division	Total²	32% (2,428)	46% (3,443)	+14

¹ For comparability and given the high school's change to 4x4 scheduling for the 2020-21 school year, the numbers reported for Fall 2020 are for students with one or more D or F.

²Analysis was conducted using a course enrollment file, which yielded a slight variation in sum no greater than 3.

TABLE 5
Alexandria City Public Schools
Q1 Students Earning 2 or More Ds or Fs by School

School	2019-20	2020-21	% pt. Δ+/-
	% (n) 2 or More Ds/Fs	% (n) 2 or More Ds/Fs	
Patrick Henry K-8 School (Grades 6-8)	24% (42)	41% (89)	+17
Jefferson-Houston School (Grades 6-8)	27% (65)	46% (94)	+19
Francis C. Hammond Middle School	27% (416)	50% (714)	+23
George Washington Middle School	26% (418)	37% (575)	+11
Middle School Total²	27% (938)	43% (1,469)	+16
School	2 or More Ds/Fs	1 or More Ds/Fs ¹	% pt. Δ+/-
T.C. Minnie Howard	38% (350)	49% (469)	+11
T.C. High School	35% (1,083)	47% (1,458)	+12
T. C. Satellite	35% (30)	72% (33)	+37
Chance for Change	70% (31)	81% (17)	+11
High School Total²	36% (1,491)	48% (1,974)	+12
Division Total²	32% (2,428)	46% (3,443)	+14

¹ For comparability and given the high school's change to 4x4 scheduling for the 2020-21 school year, the numbers reported for Fall 2020 are for students with one or more D or F.

²Analysis was conducted using a course enrollment file, which yielded a slight variation in sum no greater than 3.

TABLE 6
Alexandria City Public Schools
Secondary Course Grade Distribution by Subject Area¹

	Academic Year	A %	B %	C %	D %	F %	I %	Total n
Language Arts	2019-20	31%	28%	19%	10%	12%	0%	7,631
	2020-21	35%	20%	12%	7%	23%	3%	5,818
Mathematics	2019-20	29%	25%	19%	13%	15%	0%	7,326
	2020-21	29%	21%	16%	10%	23%	2%	5,927
Science	2019-20	29%	27%	19%	11%	14%	0%	7,315
	2020-21	33%	20%	13%	8%	24%	2%	5,706
History/Social Sciences	2019-20	35%	27%	18%	9%	10%	0%	7,580
	2020-21	39%	22%	13%	8%	18%	1%	6,088
Health and PE	2019-20	62%	19%	9%	4%	6%	0%	5,651
	2020-21	48%	16%	11%	7%	17%	1%	4,580
World Language, Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education	2019-20	55%	23%	11%	5%	6%	0%	10,726
	2020-21	51%	17%	9%	5%	17%	1%	8,289
Economics & Personal Finance	2019-20	39%	25%	14%	8%	14%	0%	935
	2020-21	30%	15%	13%	9%	31%	3%	536
Electives	2019-20	53%	23%	12%	7%	6%	0%	3,868
	2020-21	50%	15%	11%	7%	16%	1%	2,653
Total	2019-20	41%	25%	15%	8%	10%	0%	51,032
	2020-21	40%	19%	12%	8%	20%	1%	39,597