

## **2008 Reading, Mathematics, and Science FCAT Results Fact Sheet**

### **General**

- The Reading and Mathematics Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) was first administered to grades 3 through 10 in 2001 and the results from that initial administration continue to serve as the benchmark for long-term comparisons of student academic progress with the Sunshine State Standards (SSS).
- The Science FCAT was first administered to grades 5, 8 and 10 in 2003; the high school test was changed to grade 11 in 2005.
- FCAT Reading, Mathematics and Science SSS results are reported in Achievement Levels, which are based on scale scores and developmental scale scores.
- Achievement Levels range from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) and represent the level of success a student has achieved in these subject areas.
- A student scoring at or above Achievement Level 3 is considered to be performing at or above grade level.
- Detailed descriptions of each Achievement Level can be found at <http://fcat.fldoe.org/pdf/fcAchievementLevels.pdf>.

### **Overall**

- This year, 60 percent of students in grades 3 through 10 are reading at or above grade level. This is an increase of two percentage points compared to last year and 13 percentage points since 2001.
- This year, 66 percent of students in grades 3 through 10 are demonstrating mathematics skills at or above grade level. This is an increase of three percentage points compared to last year and 16 percentage points since 2001.

### **Third Grade Results**

#### **Reading**

- This year, 72 percent of third-graders are reading at or above grade level, a three percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of third-graders reading at or above grade level has increased 15 percentage points.

#### **Mathematics**

- This year, 76 percent of third-graders are performing mathematics at or above grade level, a two percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of third-graders demonstrating mathematics skills at or above grade level has increased 24 percentage points.

### **Fourth Grade Results**

#### **Reading**

- This year, 70 percent of fourth-graders are reading at or above grade level, a two percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of fourth-graders reading at or above grade level has increased 17 percentage points.

#### Mathematics

- This year, 71 percent of fourth-graders are performing mathematics at or above grade level, a two percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of fourth-graders demonstrating mathematics skills at or above grade level has increased 26 percentage points.

### **Fifth Grade Results**

#### Reading

- This year, 67 percent of fifth-graders are reading at or above grade level, a five percentage point decrease compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of fifth-graders reading at or above grade level has increased 15 percentage points.

#### Mathematics

- This year, 61 percent of fifth-graders are performing mathematics at or above grade level, a two percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of fifth-graders demonstrating mathematics skills at or above grade level has increased 13 percentage points.

#### Science

- This year, 43 percent of fifth-graders are achieving in science at or above grade level, a one percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2003, the percent of fifth-graders achieving in science at or above grade level has increased 15 percentage points.

### **Sixth Grade Results**

#### Reading

- This year, 63 percent of sixth-graders are reading at or above grade level, a one percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of sixth-graders reading at or above grade level has increased 11 percentage points.

#### Mathematics

- This year, 53 percent of sixth-graders are performing mathematics at or above grade level, a three percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of sixth-graders demonstrating mathematics skills at or above grade level has increased 13 percentage points.

### **Seventh Grade Results**

#### Reading

- This year, 65 percent of seventh-graders are reading at or above grade level, a two percentage point increase compared to last year.

- Since 2001, the percent of seventh-graders reading at or above grade level has increased 18 percentage points.

#### Mathematics

- This year, 61 percent of seventh-graders are performing mathematics at or above grade level, a two percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of seventh-graders demonstrating mathematics skills at or above grade level has increased 16 percentage points.

### **Eighth Grade Results**

#### Reading

- This year, 53 percent of eighth-graders are reading at or above grade level, a four percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of eighth-graders reading at or above grade level has increased 10 percentage points.

#### Mathematics

- This year, 67 percent of eighth-graders are performing mathematics at or above grade level, a four percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of eighth-graders demonstrating mathematics skills at or above grade level has increased 12 percentage points.

#### Science

- This year, 40 percent of eighth-graders are achieving in science at or above grade level, a two percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2003, the percent of eighth-graders achieving in science at or above grade level has increased 12 percentage points.

### **Ninth Grade Results**

#### Reading

- This year, 46 percent of ninth-graders are reading at or above grade level, a five percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of ninth-graders reading at or above grade level has increased 18 percentage points.

#### Mathematics

- This year, 65 percent of ninth-graders are performing mathematics at or above grade level, a five percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of ninth-graders demonstrating mathematics skills at or above grade level has increased 19 percentage points.

### **Tenth Grade Results**

#### Reading

- This year, 38 percent of tenth-graders are reading at or above grade level, a four percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of tenth-graders reading at or above grade level has increased one percentage point.

### Mathematics

- This year, 69 percent of tenth-graders are performing mathematics at or above grade level, a four percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2001, the percent of tenth-graders demonstrating mathematics skills at or above grade level has increased 10 percentage points.

### **Eleventh Grade Results**

#### Science

- This year, 38 percent of eleventh-graders are achieving in science at or above grade level, a one percentage point increase compared to last year.
- Since 2005, the percent of eleventh-graders achieving in science at or above grade level has increased five percentage points.

### **Narrowing the Achievement Gap**

#### Hispanic Reading and Mathematics Achievement

- Since 2001, the percent of Hispanic students in grades 3 through 10 reading at or above grade level has increased 19 percentage points (35 percent to 54 percent) compared to a 12 percentage point increase for White students (59 percent to 71 percent).
  - This represents a seven percentage point narrowing of the achievement gap between Hispanic and White students in reading.
- Since 2001, the percent of Hispanic students in grades 3 through 10 performing mathematics at or above grade level has increased 20 percentage points (41 percent to 61 percent) compared to a 13 percentage point increase for White students (63 percent to 76 percent).
  - This represents a seven percentage point narrowing of the achievement gap between Hispanic and White students in mathematics.

#### African-American Reading and Mathematics Achievement

- Since 2001, the percent of African-American students in grades 3 through 10 reading at or above grade level has increased 15 percentage points (26 percent to 41 percent) compared to a 12 percentage point increase for White students (59 percent to 71 percent).
  - This represents a three percentage point narrowing of the achievement gap between African-American and White students in reading.
- Since 2001, the percent of African-American students in grades 3 through 10 performing mathematics at or above grade level has increased 20 percentage points (26 percent to 46 percent) compared to a 13 percentage point increase for White students (63 percent to 76 percent).
  - This represents a seven percentage point narrowing of the achievement gap between African-American and White students in mathematics.