

Statewide Cycle II Executive Summary Results

Grade 3 New Jersey Assessment of Knowledge and Skills Spring 2006

The spring 2006 grade 3 New Jersey Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (NJ ASK) consisted of two content areas: Language Arts Literacy and Mathematics. The NJ ASK is designed to give an early indication of the progress students are making in mastering the knowledge and skills described in the Core Curriculum Content Standards. The results are to be used by schools and districts to identify strengths and weaknesses in their educational programs. It is anticipated that this process will lead to improved instruction and better alignment with the Core Curriculum Content Standards. The results may also be used, along with other indicators of student progress, to identify those students who may need instructional support in any of the content areas. This support, which could be in the form of individual or programmatic intervention, would be a means to address any identified knowledge or skill gaps.

The NJ ASK scores are reported as scale scores in each of the content areas. The scores range from 100-199 (Partially Proficient), 200-249 (Proficient), and 250-300 (Advanced Proficient). The scores of students who are included in the Partially Proficient level are considered to be below the state minimum of proficiency and those students may be most in need of instructional support.

The NJ ASK was administered in March 2006. From a total third grade student population of 102,583, valid scores were obtained in Language Arts Literacy from 100,680 students, with 259 students not present and 1034 voids (unscorable due to illness, other difficulties during testing, or an insufficient number of items answered in a given content area). Valid scores were obtained in Mathematics from 101,602 students, with 243 not present and 140 voids.

This executive summary includes two tables summarizing statewide test results for the 2006 grade 3 administration of the NJ ASK. Table 3.1 presents results for Language Arts Literacy and Table 3.2 presents results for Mathematics. Results are presented for the following student groups: all, special education, and limited English proficient (LEP) students. LEP is further broken out by the following groups: LEP current and former, LEP current, and LEP former. Data are also summarized for several demographic variables including: gender, ethnicity, and economic status. The tables include the number of students enrolled, not present, voided, and with valid scale scores. In addition, the tables present mean scale score and the percent of students in each performance category (i.e., Partially Proficient, Proficient, and Advanced Proficient).

The tables that follow are derived from the statewide performance data of the Cycle II report. Note that the enrollment is based on the number of students with scannable test booklets. Also, students coded as multiple ethnicity and those whose ethnicity was unspecified are counted as Other. The percentage of students in the combined category, Proficient or Advanced Proficient, is calculated by subtracting the percentage of students in Partially Proficient from one hundred. The percentages may not total to one hundred due to rounding. Following are highlights of the 2006 third grade assessment results.

Grade 3 Language Arts Literacy Results:

- Of the 100,680 grade 3 students with valid scale scores in Language Arts Literacy in spring 2006, 17.5% scored in Partially Proficient, 79.0% scored in Proficient and 3.4% scored in Advanced Proficient (Table 3.1).
- **Special Education** 52.8% of special education grade 3 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Table 3.1).
- **Limited English Proficient, Current and Former** 58.0% of total limited English proficient grade 3 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Table 3.1).
- **Current Limited English Proficient** 48.2% of current limited English proficient grade 3 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Table 3.1).
- **Former Limited English Proficient** 75.3% of former limited English proficient grade 3 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Table 3.1).
- **Gender** 86.5% of female compared to 78.6% of male grade 3 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Table 3.1).
- **Ethnicity** For performance by grade 3 ethnic groups in 2006, students scoring in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy ranged from 92.0% of Asian students to 66.4% of African American students. The percentage of Proficient and Advanced Proficient for all other race/ethnic groups fell between Asians and African Americans (Table 3.1).
- **Economic Status** 66.7% of economically disadvantaged grade 3 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Table 3.1).
- The mean scale score for all grade 3 students on the Language Arts Literacy test in spring 2006 was 218.3 (Table 3.1).

Grade 3 Mathematics Results:

- Of the 101,602 grade 3 students with valid scale scores in Mathematics in spring 2006, 13.1% scored in Partially Proficient, 55.7% scored in Proficient and 31.1% scored in Advanced Proficient (Table 3.2).
- **Special Education** 70.9% of special education grade 3 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics (Table 3.2).

- **Limited English Proficient, Current and Former** 71.9% of total limited English proficient grade 3 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics (Table 3.2).
- **Current Limited English Proficient** 66.0% of current limited English proficient grade 3 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics (Table 3.2).
- **Former Limited English Proficient** 84.5% of former limited English proficient grade 3 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics (Table 3.2).
- **Gender** 86.9% of both female and male grade 3 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics (Table 3.2).
- **Ethnicity** For performance by grade 3 ethnic groups in 2006, students scoring in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics ranged from 95.6% of Asian students to 72.4% of African American students. The percentage of Proficient and Advanced Proficient for all other race/ethnic groups fell between Asians and African Americans (Table 3.2).
- **Economic Status** 75.4% of economically disadvantaged grade 3 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics (Table 3.2).
- The mean scale score for all grade 3 students on the Mathematics test in spring 2006 was 231.6 (Table 3.2).

Reporting Rules for Data File:

The accompanying state summary data file contains the same type of information shown in the statewide summary tables included with this executive summary. Please note that there may be small differences between the state summary data file and the Cycle II reports issued to districts. In order to safeguard student confidentiality, certain information is suppressed in the state summary file according to the following reporting rules:

- Data are not reported where the number of students with valid scale scores for a particular group is less than 11.
- Data are not reported where demographic groups are mutually exclusive (e.g., gender) and there are one or two students with a valid scale score in one of the groups (e.g., male).
- Data are not reported when it is otherwise possible to identify individual student performance.

TABLE 3.1**STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS SPRING 2006 -- GRADE 3****Language Arts Literacy**

		Number of Students Enrolled	Number Not Present	Number of Voids	Number of Valid Scale Scores	Scale Score Mean	Percent Partially Proficient	Percent Proficient	Percent Advanced Proficient
Total	All Students	102583	259	1034	100680	218.3	17.5%	79.0%	3.4%
Education Status	Special Education Students	14920	62	176	14072	199.1	47.2%	52.1%	0.7%
Limited English Proficient	Limited English Proficient Students (Current and Former)	6715	74	698	5930	201.9	42.0%	57.2%	0.8%
	Current Limited English Proficient Students	4565	72	697	3786	196.3	51.8%	47.5%	0.7%
	Former Limited English Proficient Students	2150	2	1	2144	211.9	24.7%	74.3%	1.1%
Gender	Female	49883	99	424	49151	222.1	13.5%	81.3%	5.2%
	Male	52670	146	610	51516	214.7	21.4%	76.9%	1.7%
Ethnicity	American Indian	113	5	0	107	217.5	18.7%	79.4%	1.9%
	Asian	7818	26	131	7623	227.6	8.0%	83.6%	8.4%
	Black	17797	60	193	17407	206.8	33.6%	65.6%	0.9%
	Hispanic	19261	83	516	18542	208.9	29.6%	69.4%	1.0%
	Pacific Islander	325	0	3	320	224.6	9.1%	85.0%	5.9%
	White	56468	64	172	55935	223.8	9.9%	85.7%	4.4%
	Other	801	21	19	746	217.3	17.8%	79.8%	2.4%
Economic Status	Economically Disadvantaged	31112	111	586	30243	206.7	33.3%	66.0%	0.7%
	Non-Economically Disadvantaged	71471	148	448	70437	223.3	10.8%	84.6%	4.6%

TABLE 3.2**STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS SPRING 2006 -- GRADE 3****Mathematics**

		Number of Students Enrolled	Number Not Present	Number of Voids	Number of Valid Scale Scores	Scale Score Mean	Percent Partially Proficient	Percent Proficient	Percent Advanced Proficient
Total	All Students	102583	243	140	101602	231.6	13.1%	55.7%	31.1%
Education Status	Special Education Students	14920	86	67	14169	216.3	29.1%	53.7%	17.2%
Limited English Proficient	Limited English Proficient Students (Current and Former)	6715	17	9	6676	216.8	28.1%	55.0%	17.0%
	Current Limited English Proficient Students	4565	17	9	4529	211.7	34.0%	53.0%	13.0%
	Former Limited English Proficient Students	2150	0	0	2147	227.6	15.5%	59.2%	25.3%
Gender	Female	49883	102	38	49535	231.2	13.1%	56.8%	30.1%
	Male	52670	137	101	52045	232.0	13.1%	54.8%	32.1%
Ethnicity	American Indian	113	1	0	111	227.0	18.9%	53.2%	27.9%
	Asian	7818	11	5	7764	245.7	4.4%	42.3%	53.3%
	Black	17797	93	56	17513	215.9	27.6%	58.2%	14.3%
	Hispanic	19261	49	20	19073	222.3	21.0%	59.3%	19.6%
	Pacific Islander	325	0	1	322	240.0	6.8%	49.4%	43.8%
	White	56468	76	56	56047	237.7	7.2%	55.7%	37.1%
	Other	801	13	2	772	231.7	15.2%	49.6%	35.2%
Economic Status	Economically Disadvantaged	31112	123	68	30753	218.9	24.6%	58.6%	16.8%
	Non-Economically Disadvantaged	71471	120	72	70849	237.1	8.2%	54.5%	37.3%

Statewide Cycle II Executive Summary Results

Grade 4 New Jersey Assessment of Knowledge and Skills Spring 2006

The spring 2006 grade 4 New Jersey Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (NJ ASK) consisted of three content areas: Language Arts Literacy, Mathematics, and Science. The NJ ASK is designed to give an early indication of the progress students are making in mastering the knowledge and skills described in the Core Curriculum Content Standards. The results are to be used by schools and districts to identify strengths and weaknesses in their educational programs. It is anticipated that this process will lead to improved instruction and better alignment with the Core Curriculum Content Standards. The results may also be used, along with other indicators of student progress, to identify those students who may need instructional support in any of the content areas. This support, which could be in the form of individual or programmatic intervention, would be a means to address any identified knowledge or skill gaps.

The NJ ASK scores are reported as scale scores in each of the content areas. The scores range from 100-199 (Partially Proficient), 200-249 (Proficient), and 250-300 (Advanced Proficient). The scores of students who are included in the Partially Proficient level are considered to be below the state minimum of proficiency, and those students may be most in need of instructional support.

The NJ ASK was administered in March 2006. From a total fourth grade student population of 102,725, valid scores were obtained in Language Arts Literacy from 100,880 students, with 275 students not present and 959 voids (unscorable due to illness, other difficulties during testing, or an insufficient number of items answered in a given content area). Valid scores were obtained in Mathematics from 101,659 students, with 236 not present and 242 voids. Valid scores were obtained in Science from 101,636 students, with 437 not present and 99 voids.

This executive summary includes three tables summarizing statewide test results for the 2006 administration of the grade 4 NJ ASK. Table 4.1 presents results for Language Arts Literacy, Table 4.2 presents results for Mathematics, and Table 4.3 presents results for Science. Results are presented for the following student groups: all, special education, and limited English proficient (LEP) students. LEP is further broken out by the following groups: LEP current and former, LEP current, and LEP former. Data are also summarized for several demographic variables including: gender, ethnicity, and economic status. The tables include the number of students enrolled, not present, voided, and with valid scale scores. In addition, the tables present mean scale score and the percent of students in each performance category (i.e., Partially Proficient, Proficient, and Advanced Proficient).

The tables that follow are derived from the statewide performance data of the Cycle II report. Note that the enrollment is based on the number of students with scannable test booklets. Also, students coded as multiple ethnicity and those whose ethnicity was unspecified are counted as Other. The percentage of students in the combined category, Proficient or Advanced Proficient, is calculated by subtracting the percentage of students in Partially Proficient from one hundred. The percentages may not total to one hundred due to rounding.

Following are highlights of the 2006 fourth grade assessment results.

Grade 4 Language Arts Literacy Results:

- Of the 100,880 grade 4 students with valid scale scores in Language Arts Literacy in spring 2006, 20.0% scored in Partially Proficient, 76.2% scored in Proficient and 3.8% scored in Advanced Proficient (Table 4.1).
- **Special Education** 48.8% of special education grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Table 4.1).
- **Limited English Proficient, Current and Former** 53.5% of total limited English proficient grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Table 4.1).
- **Current Limited English Proficient** 44.4% of current limited English proficient grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Table 4.1).
- **Former Limited English Proficient** 67.7% of former limited English proficient grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Table 4.1).
- **Gender** 84.4% of female compared to 75.8% of male grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Table 4.1).
- **Ethnicity** For performance by grade 4 ethnic groups in 2006, students scoring in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy ranged from 91.2% of Asian students to 62.9% of African American students. The percentage of Advanced Proficient and Proficient for all other race/ethnic groups fell between Asians and African Americans (Table 4.1).
- **Economic Status** 62.7% of economically disadvantaged grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Table 4.1).
- The mean scale score for all grade 4 students on the Language Arts Literacy test in spring 2006, was 215.6 (Table 4.1).

Grade 4 Mathematics Results:

- Of the 101,659 grade 4 students with valid scale scores in Mathematics in spring 2006, 17.6% scored in Partially Proficient, 41.2% scored in Proficient and 41.1% scored in Advanced Proficient (Table 4.2).

- **Special Education** 59.5% of special education grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics (Table 4.2).
- **Limited English Proficient, Current and Former** 62.3% of total limited English proficient grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics (Table 4.2).
- **Current Limited English Proficient** 55.4% of current limited English proficient grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics (Table 4.2).
- **Former Limited English Proficient** 75.5% of former limited English proficient grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics (Table 4.2).
- **Gender** 82.2% of female compared to 82.5% of male grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics (Table 4.2).
- **Ethnicity** For performance by grade 4 ethnic groups in 2006, students scoring in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics ranged from 93.7% of Asian students to 63.4% of African American students. The percentage of Advanced Proficient and Proficient for all other race/ethnic groups fell between Asians and African Americans (Table 4.2).
- **Economic Status** 67.5% of economically disadvantaged grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics (Table 4.2).
- The mean scale score for all grade 4 students on the Mathematics test in spring 2006 was 232.8 (Table 4.2).

Grade 4 Science Results:

- Of the 101,636 grade 4 students with valid scale scores in Science in spring 2006, 17.7% scored in Partially Proficient, 54.5% scored in Proficient and 27.8% scored in Advanced Proficient (Table 4.3).
- **Special Education** 69.0% of special education grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Science (Table 4.3).
- **Limited English Proficient, Current and Former** 51.0% of total limited English proficient grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Science (Table 4.3).
- **Current Limited English Proficient** 42.7% of current limited English proficient grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Science (Table 4.3).

- **Former Limited English Proficient** 66.8% of former limited English proficient grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Science (Table 4.3).
- **Gender** 80.7% of female compared to 83.8% of male grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Science (Table 4.3).
- **Ethnicity** For performance by grade 4 ethnic groups in 2006, students scoring in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Science ranged from 91.7% of Asian students to 63.0% of African American students. The percentage of Advanced Proficient and Proficient for all other race/ethnic groups fell between Asians and African Americans (Table 4.3).
- **Economic Status** 64.6% of economically disadvantaged grade 4 students in 2006 scored in Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Science (Table 4.3).
- The mean scale score for all grade 4 students on the Science test in spring 2006 was 227.9 (Table 4.3).

Reporting Rules for Data File

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- Data are not reported where the number of students with valid scale scores for a particular group is less than 11.
- Data are not reported where demographic groups are mutually exclusive (e.g., gender) and there are one or two students with a valid scale score in one of the groups (e.g., male).
- Data are not reported when it is otherwise possible to identify individual student performance.

TABLE 4.1**STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS SPRING 2006 -- GRADE 4****Language Arts Literacy**

		Number of Students Enrolled	Number Not Present	Number of Voids	Number of Valid Scale Scores	Scale Score Mean	Percent Partially Proficient	Percent Proficient	Percent Advanced Proficient
Total	All Students	102725	275	959	100880	215.6	20.0%	76.2%	3.8%
Education Status	Special Education Students	16437	70	203	15553	194.3	51.2%	48.3%	0.5%
Limited English Proficient	Limited English Proficient Students (Current and Former)	5712	79	662	4960	197.2	46.5%	52.5%	1.0%
	Current Limited English Proficient Students	3762	76	658	3017	191.1	55.6%	43.6%	0.8%
	Former Limited English Proficient Students	1950	3	4	1943	206.7	32.3%	66.3%	1.3%
Gender	Female	50163	102	393	49457	219.8	15.6%	78.5%	5.8%
	Male	52532	163	562	51411	211.6	24.2%	73.9%	1.9%
Ethnicity	American Indian	117	0	0	117	212.1	27.4%	69.2%	3.4%
	Asian	7831	14	102	7684	226.0	8.8%	81.9%	9.2%
	Black	17610	69	153	17262	203.5	37.1%	62.0%	0.9%
	Hispanic	18537	96	484	17834	205.4	33.3%	65.7%	1.0%
	Pacific Islander	235	0	1	233	221.8	9.4%	82.8%	7.7%
	White	57665	79	195	57077	221.1	12.2%	83.0%	4.9%
	Other	730	17	24	673	216.0	22.0%	73.6%	4.5%
Economic Status	Economically Disadvantaged	30336	133	557	29437	203.1	37.3%	61.8%	0.9%
	Non-Economically Disadvantaged	72389	142	402	71443	220.8	12.9%	82.1%	5.1%

TABLE 4.2

STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS SPRING 2006 -- GRADE 4

Mathematics

		Number of Students Enrolled	Number Not Present	Number of Voids	Number of Valid Scale Scores	Scale Score Mean	Percent Partially Proficient	Percent Proficient	Percent Advanced Proficient
Total	All Students	102725	236	242	101659	232.8	17.6%	41.2%	41.1%
Education Status	Special Education Students	16437	84	126	15639	208.9	40.5%	39.5%	20.0%
Limited English Proficient	Limited English Proficient Students (Current and Former)	5712	21	13	5668	212.4	37.7%	39.7%	22.5%
	Current Limited English Proficient Students	3762	17	10	3725	205.8	44.6%	37.4%	17.9%
	Former Limited English Proficient Students	1950	4	3	1943	224.9	24.5%	44.2%	31.3%
Gender	Female	50163	90	94	49768	232.2	17.8%	42.4%	39.7%
	Male	52532	133	148	51878	233.5	17.5%	40.1%	42.4%
Ethnicity	American Indian	117	0	0	117	228.9	22.2%	37.6%	40.2%
	Asian	7831	6	8	7786	251.6	6.3%	27.5%	66.2%
	Black	17610	79	94	17315	211.2	36.6%	45.0%	18.4%
	Hispanic	18537	60	47	18312	220.4	27.7%	45.7%	26.6%
	Pacific Islander	235	0	0	234	243.0	7.7%	38.0%	54.3%
	White	57665	76	91	57198	240.8	10.2%	40.6%	49.2%
	Other	730	15	2	697	232.9	19.9%	37.2%	42.9%
Economic Status	Economically Disadvantaged	30336	121	137	29884	215.7	32.5%	44.8%	22.7%
	Non-Economically Disadvantaged	72389	115	105	71775	239.9	11.5%	39.8%	48.8%

TABLE 4.3**STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS SPRING 2006 -- GRADE 4****Science**

		Number of Students Enrolled	Number Not Present	Number of Voids	Number of Valid Scale Scores	Scale Score Mean	Percent Partially Proficient	Percent Proficient	Percent Advanced Proficient
Total	All Students	102725	437	99	101636	227.9	17.7%	54.5%	27.8%
Education Status	Special Education Students	16437	146	60	15678	214.3	31.0%	53.2%	15.8%
Limited English Proficient	Limited English Proficient Students (Current and Former)	5712	43	8	5652	200.0	49.0%	42.5%	8.5%
	Current Limited English Proficient Students	3762	35	8	3710	193.7	57.3%	35.7%	7.0%
	Former Limited English Proficient Students	1950	8	0	1942	212.0	33.2%	55.4%	11.4%
Gender	Female	50163	179	30	49767	225.7	19.3%	55.8%	24.9%
	Male	52532	250	69	51851	230.0	16.2%	53.2%	30.6%
Ethnicity	American Indian	117	0	0	117	225.0	20.5%	57.3%	22.2%
	Asian	7831	13	6	7781	241.0	8.3%	46.3%	45.3%
	Black	17610	141	35	17315	208.9	37.0%	53.2%	9.8%
	Hispanic	18537	110	17	18296	212.4	32.5%	54.6%	12.9%
	Pacific Islander	235	0	0	234	234.7	11.1%	53.4%	35.5%
	White	57665	161	37	57195	236.8	8.5%	56.0%	35.6%
	Other	730	12	4	698	227.0	20.3%	49.4%	30.2%
Economic Status	Economically Disadvantaged	30336	216	53	29875	210.1	35.4%	53.5%	11.1%
	Non-Economically Disadvantaged	72389	221	46	71761	235.3	10.4%	54.8%	34.8%

