

The New York State School District Report Card for South Colonie Central School District

An Overview of Academic Performance



February 2000



The University of the State of New York
The State Education Department

March 5, 2000

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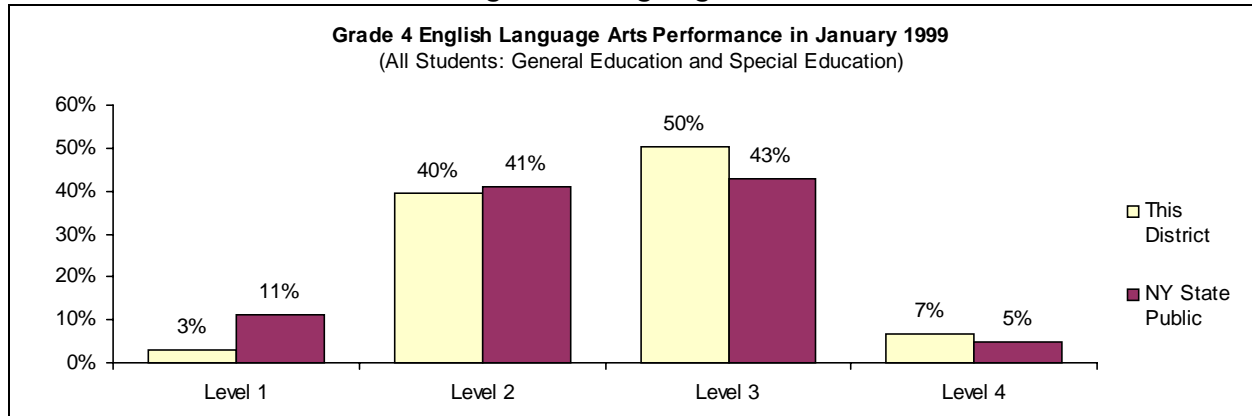
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Grade 4

English Language Arts



Performance in This District		Counts of Students							Mean Score	
		Not Tested			Tested					
		IEP ¹	ELL ²	Absent ³	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4		Total
Jan 1999	General Education		0	6	6	150	216	30	402	653
	Special Education	0	0	2	8	26	8	0	42	623
	All Students	0	0	8	14	176	224	30	444	650

Grade 4 English Language Arts Levels - Listening, Reading, and Writing Standards

Level 4 (692-800)	These students exceed the standards and are moving toward high performance on the Regents examination. They show superior knowledge and skill for each standard for elementary students, and proficient intermediate-level skills in listening, reading and writing. Students show thorough understanding of written and oral text. Students' writing is well organized, with minor errors that do not interfere with readability.
Level 3 (645-691)	These students meet the standards and, with continued steady growth, should pass the Regents examination. They show knowledge and skill for each standard for elementary students, and show some intermediate-level skills in listening, reading and writing. Students show understanding of written and oral text. Students' writing is generally focused and organized, with minor errors that do not interfere with readability.
Level 2 (603-644)	These students need extra help to meet the standards and pass the Regents examination. They show some knowledge and skill for each standard for elementary students, but none of the intermediate-level skills in listening, reading and writing. Students show partial understanding of written and oral text. Students' writing has some focus and basic organization and uses simple sentences and vocabulary. Errors sometimes interfere with readability.
Level 1 (455-602)	These students have serious academic deficiencies. They show no evidence of any proficiency in one or more of the elementary standards and incomplete proficiency in all three of the standards. Students show minimal understanding of written and oral text. Students' writing is brief, general, or uses repetitive statements, and reveals difficulty in organizing thoughts. Errors interfere with readability.

Performance of English Language Learners (ELL)

English language learners (ELL), formerly referred to as limited English proficient (LEP), are students for whom English is a second language. Schools assist these students in learning English so they can participate effectively in the academic program. ELL students without sufficient proficiency in English are not required to take the grade 4 ELA test.² Their progress in learning English is measured, using standardized tests, and reported.

Grade 4	English Proficiency Below Effective Participation Level	Making Appropriate Progress
January 1999	0	0

¹ These students with disabilities were exempt from this test because of their disability. This exemption is stated in their Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

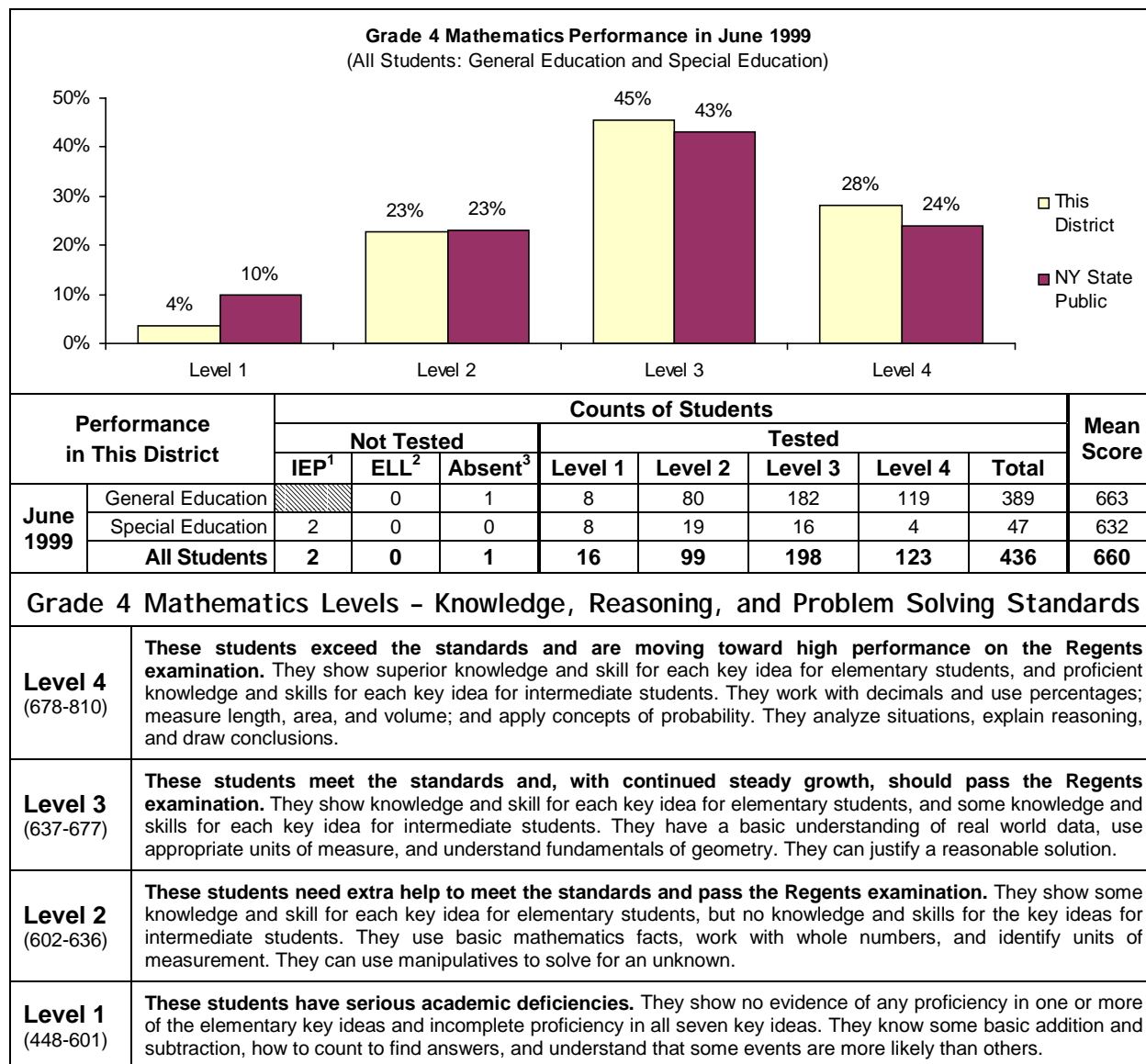
² These students were not required to take the grade 4 ELA test because they were English Language Learners (ELL) who perform below the 30th percentile on another appropriate English reading assessment. Other grade 4 ELL students must take this test.

³ These students were enrolled at the time of testing, but were not present to complete some part of the ELA assessment.

To protect student confidentiality, the pound character (#) appears when fewer than five students in a group were tested. If fewer than five were tested in one subgroup, then counts appear only in the "All Students" category.

Grade 4

Mathematics



1 These students with disabilities were exempt from this test because of their disability. This exemption is stated in their Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

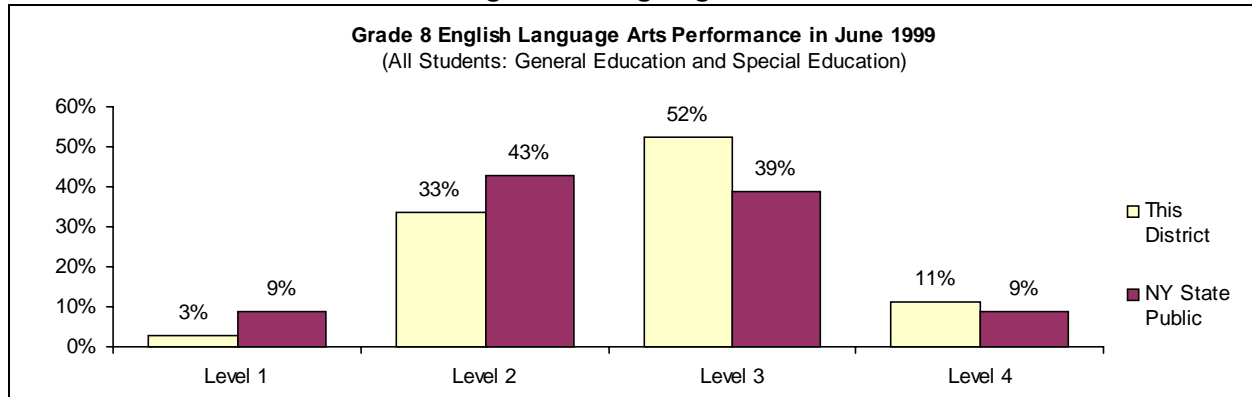
2 These students were not required to take this test because they were English language learners (ELL) who performed below the 30th percentile on an appropriate English reading assessment and there was no test form available in their native language. Other ELL students must take this test, but may take an alternative language form if such is available.

3 These students were enrolled at the time of testing, but were not present to complete some part of the mathematics assessment.

To protect student confidentiality, the pound character (#) appears when fewer than five students in a group were tested. If fewer than five were tested in one subgroup, then counts appear only in the "All Students" category.

Grade 8

English Language Arts



Performance in This District		Counts of Students							Mean Score	
		Not Tested			Tested					
		IEP ¹	ELL ²	Absent ³	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4		Total
June 1999	General Education		0	3	3	112	242	53	410	714
	Special Education	0	0	0	11	45	4	0	60	676
	All Students	0	0	3	14	157	246	53	470	709

Grade 8 English Language Arts Levels - Listening, Reading, and Writing Standards

Level 4 (739-830)	These students exceed the standards and are moving toward high performance on the Regents examination. They show superior knowledge and skill for each standard for intermediate students, and proficient commencement-level skills in listening, reading and writing. Students show thorough understanding of intermediate written and oral text. Students' writing is consistently well organized, insightful, and thoroughly developed, with sophisticated and effective language and few or no errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation.
Level 3 (701-738)	These students meet the standards and, with continued steady growth, should pass the Regents examination. They show knowledge and skill for each standard for intermediate students, and some commencement-level skills in listening, reading and writing. Students show general understanding of intermediate level written and oral text. Students' writing is generally organized and developed, with minor errors that do not interfere with readability.
Level 2 (662-700)	These students need extra help to meet the standards and pass the Regents examination. They show some knowledge and skill for each standard for intermediate students. Students show partial understanding of intermediate-level written and oral text. Students' writing has some focus and basic organization and uses simple sentences and vocabulary. Errors sometimes interfere with comprehension.
Level 1 (527-661)	These students have serious academic deficiencies. They show no evidence of any proficiency in one or more of the standards for intermediate students and incomplete proficiency in all three of the standards. Students show minimal understanding of intermediate-level written and oral text. Students' writing is brief, general, or uses repetitive statements, and reveals difficulty in organizing thoughts. Errors interfere with both readability and comprehension.

Performance of English Language Learners (ELL)

English language learners (ELL), formerly referred to as limited English proficient (LEP), are students for whom English is a second language. Schools assist these students in learning English so they can participate effectively in the academic program. ELL students without sufficient proficiency in English are not required to take the grade 4 ELA test.² Their progress in learning English is measured, using standardized tests, and reported.

Grade 8	English Proficiency Below Effective Participation Level	Making Appropriate Progress
June 1999	0	0

1 These students with disabilities were exempt from this test because of their disability. This exemption is stated in their Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

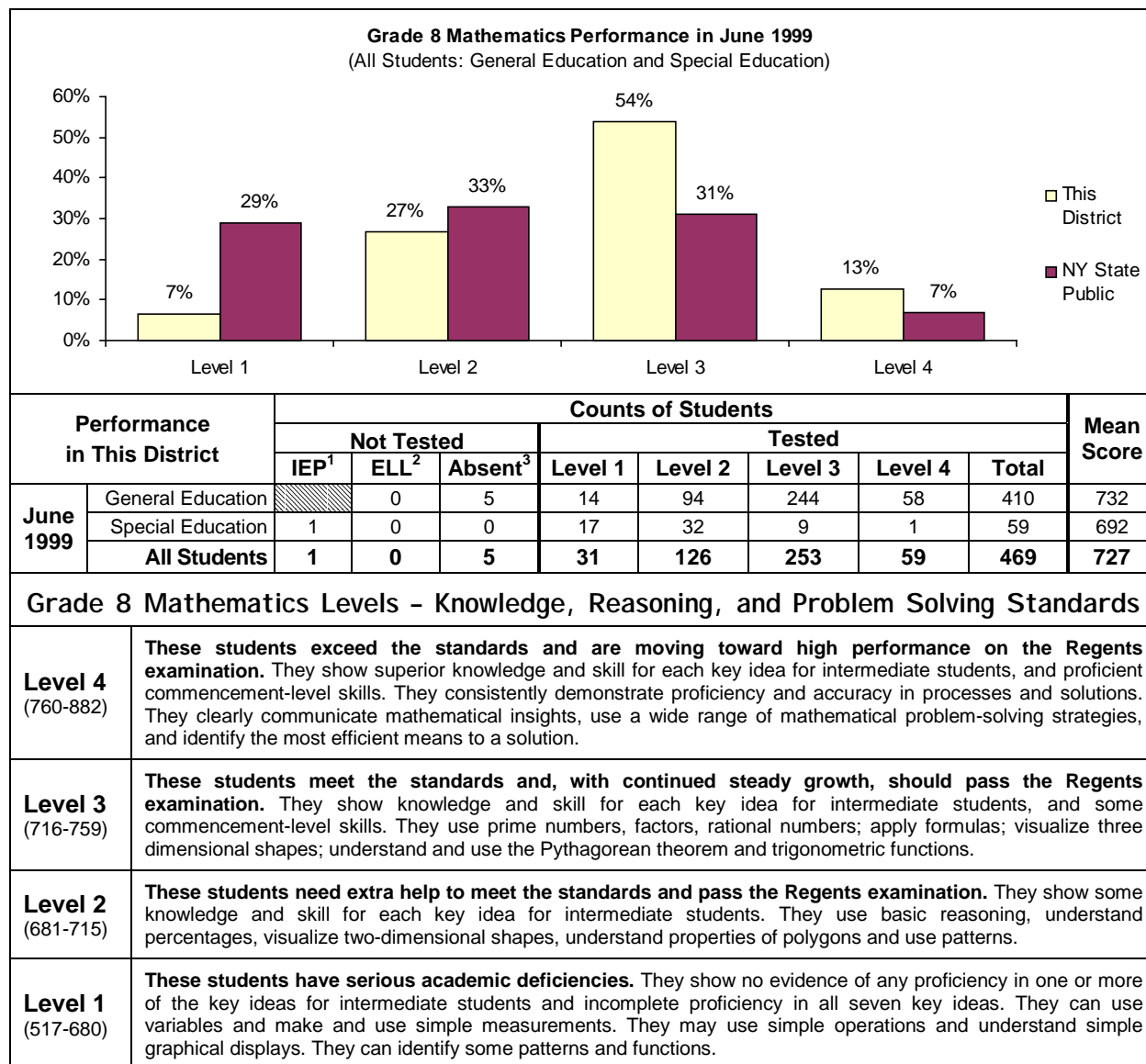
2 These students were not required to take the grade 4 ELA test because they were English Language Learners (ELL) who performed below the 30th percentile on another appropriate English reading assessment. Other grade 4 ELL students must take this test.

3 These students were enrolled at the time of testing, but were not present to complete some part of the ELA assessment.

To protect student confidentiality, the pound character (#) appears when fewer than five students in a group were tested. If fewer than five were tested in one subgroup, then counts appear only in the "All Students" category.

Grade 8

Mathematics



1 These students with disabilities were exempt from this test because of their disability. This exemption is stated in their Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

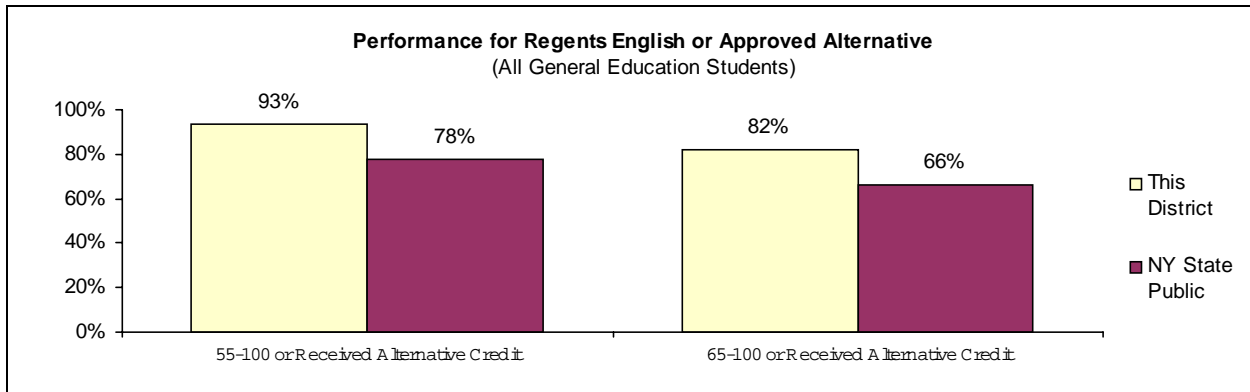
2 These students were not required to take this test because they are English language learners (ELL) who perform below the 30th percentile on an appropriate English reading assessment and there was no test form available in their native language. Other ELL students must take this test, but may take an alternative language form if such is available.

3 These students were enrolled at the time of testing, but were not present to complete some part of the mathematics assessment.

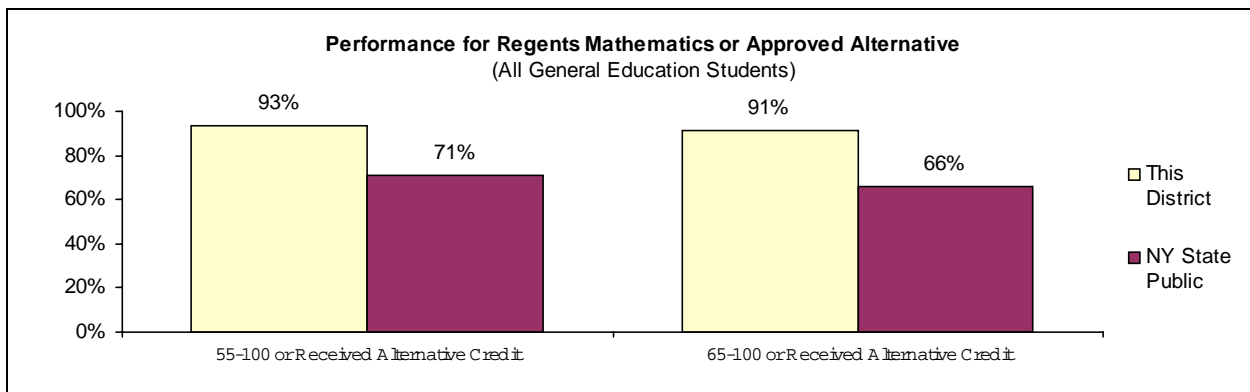
To protect student confidentiality, the pound character (#) appears when fewer than five students in a group were tested. If fewer than five were tested in one subgroup, then counts appear only in the "All Students" category.

Cohort Performance

This cohort includes all students enrolled in this district in June 1999 who first entered grade 9 in September 1996. General education students in this cohort must pass the Regents English examination to earn a high school diploma.¹ Special education students who do not pass the Regents English examination may meet this graduation requirement by passing the Regents Competency Tests in both reading and writing. Students in this cohort are not required to pass a Regents mathematics examination to earn a local diploma.



Counts of Students	General Education	Special Education	All Students
September 1996 Grade 9 First-Time Students	336	42	378
Students Tested	322	31	353
Students with High Score From 55 To 100	314	15	329
Students with High Score From 65 To 100	275	9	284
Received Credit For An Approved Alternative Assessment	0	0	0



Counts Of Students In Secondary Program for Three Years	General Education	Special Education	All Students
September 1996 Grade 9 First-Time Students	336	42	378
Students Tested	324	19	343
Students with High Score From 55 To 100	313	16	329
Students with High Score From 65 To 100	306	14	320
Received Credit For An Approved Alternative Assessment	0	0	0

¹ Students who score 55 to 64 may earn a local diploma with the approval of the local school board. Only the highest score of each student is counted, regardless of how many times or in which years the student may have taken the examination.

To protect student confidentiality, the pound character (#) appears when there are fewer than five students in a group. If fewer than five special-education students were reported, then counts appear only in the "General-Education" category.

School District Profile

Superintendent: Dr. Thomas Brown			Phone: (518)869-3576	
Organization 1998-99		School Staff (both full- and part-time)		
Grade Range	Student Enrollment	Count of Teachers	Count of Other Professionals	Count of Paraprofessionals
K-12	5,767	435	55	183

Public Total Expenditure per Pupil	1997-98
This School District	\$9,014
New York State	\$9,810

District Student Enrollment			
Grade Levels	October 1998	Grade Levels	October 1998
Pre-Kindergarten	16	Grade 7	474
Kindergarten	413	Grade 8	482
Grade 1	398	Grade 9	480
Grade 2	440	Grade 10	477
Grade 3	471	Grade 11	416
Grade 4	438	Grade 12	393
Grade 5	444	Ungraded Elementary with Disabilities	0
Grade 6	441	Ungraded Secondary with Disabilities	0

Student Demographics	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99		
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	NY Statewide Public Percent
English Language Learners	38	0.7%	38	0.7%	33	0.6%	7.5%
Eligible For Free Lunch	508	9.6%	524	9.9%	546	10.2%	38.5%

Need / Resource Capacity Group	The Education Department groups school districts for policy analysis based on certain demographic factors. This is a school district with average student needs in relation to district resource capacity.
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