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



OVERVIEW OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE IN

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, MATHEMATICS, AND SCIENCE

AND

ANALYSIS OF STUDENT SUBGROUP PERFORMANCE

for

Frazer School

in

Syracuse City School District

February 2005

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Regents of The University

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School Report Card Coordinator Information and Reporting Services Team New York State Education Department Room 863 EBA 89 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12234 E-mail: RPTCARD@mail.nysed.gov The *New York State School Report Card* is an important part of the Board of Regents effort to raise learning standards for all students. It provides information to the public on student performance and other measures of school and district performance. Knowledge gained from the school report card on a school's strengths and weaknesses can be used to improve instruction and services to students.

The New York State School Report Card consists of three parts: the Overview of School Performance in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science and Analysis of Student Subgroup Performance, the Comprehensive Information Report, and the Accountability Status Report. The Overview and Analysis presents performance data on measures required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act: English, mathematics, science, and graduation rate. Performance data on other State assessments can be found in the Comprehensive Information Report. The Accountability Status Report provides information as to whether a school is making adequate progress toward enabling all students to achieve proficiency in English and mathematics.

State assessments are designed to help ensure that all students reach high learning standards. They show whether students are getting the foundation knowledge they need to succeed at the elementary, middle, and commencement levels and beyond. The State requires that students who are not making appropriate progress toward the standards receive academic intervention services.

In the *Overview*, performance on the elementary- and middle-level assessments in English language arts, mathematics, and science is reported in terms of mean scores and the percentage of students scoring at each of the four levels. These levels indicate performance on the standards from seriously deficient to advanced proficiency. Regents examination scores are reported in four score ranges. Scores of 65 to 100 are passing; scores of 55 to 64 earn credit toward a local diploma (with the approval of the local board of education). Though each elementary- and middle-level assessment is administered to students in a specific grade, secondary-level assessments are taken by students when they complete the coursework for the core curriculum. Therefore, the performance of students at the secondary level is measured for a student cohort rather than a group of students at a particular grade level. Students are grouped in cohorts according to the year in which they first entered grade 9.

The assessment data in the *Overview and Analysis* are for all tested students in the school, including general-education students and students with disabilities. In the *Overview*, each school's performance is compared with that of schools similar in grade level, district resources, and student needs as indicated by income and limited English proficiency (LEP) status. Each district's performance is compared with that of all public schools statewide. In the *Analysis*, performance is disaggregated by race/ethnicity, disability status, gender, LEP status, income level, and migrant status.

Explanations of terms referred to or symbols used in this part of the school report card may be found in the glossary on the last page. Further information on the school report card may be found in the guide, *Understanding Your School Report Card: February 2005*, available on the Information and Reporting Services Web site at www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts.

Overview of School Performance in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science

School Profile

Principal: Dean Desantis		Phone: (315)435-4555
Organization Grade Range		Student Enrollment
2003–04	K-8	880

2002–03 School District-wide Total Expenditure per Pupil	\$12,228
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Similar Schools	This school is in Similar Schools Group 5. All schools in this group are elementary level schools in large cities other than New York City. The schools in this group are in the middle range of student needs for elementary level schools in these districts.
Group	

2003–04 Core Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers*

Percent Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers
96%

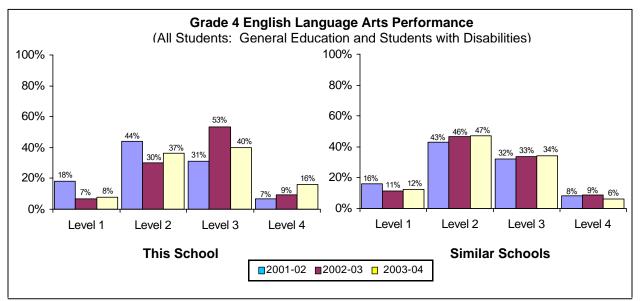
*To meet the federal definition of "highly qualified," public school teachers of core academic subjects must have at least a bachelor's degree and be State certified for and demonstrate subject matter competency in the core academic subject(s) they teach.

2003–04 Teachers with No Valid Teaching Certificate*

Total Number of Teachers	Percent with No Valid Teaching Certificate
66	3%
*	1 11 11

*Includes teachers with a modified temporary license.

English Language Arts



		Counts of Students					
Performance at This School	Level 1 455–602	Level 2 603–644	Level 3 645–691	Level 4 692–800	Total Tested	Mean Score	
Jan–Feb 2002	11	27	19	4	61	639	
Feb 2003	3	13	23	4	43	654	
Feb 2004	5	23	25	10	63	649	

Elementa	Elementary-Level English Language Arts Levels — Listening, Reading, and Writing Standards				
Level 4	These students exceed the standards and are moving toward high performance on the Regents examination.				
Level 3	These students meet the standards and, with continued steady growth, should pass the Regents examination.				
Level 2	These students need extra help to meet the standards and pass the Regents examination.				
Level 1	These students have serious academic deficiencies.				

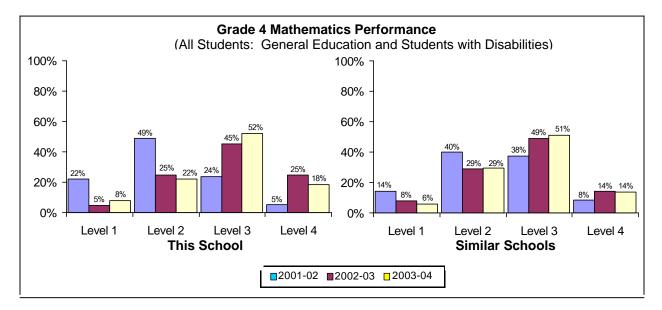
Performance of Limited English Proficient Students Taking the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) as the Measure of English Language Arts Achievement

Grade 4	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Total Tested
2004	1	2	2	6	11

Performance of Students with Severe Disabilities on the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) in English

Elementary Level	AA–Level 1	AA–Level 2	AA–Level 3	AA–Level 4	Total Tested
2003–04	#	#	#	#	3

Mathematics



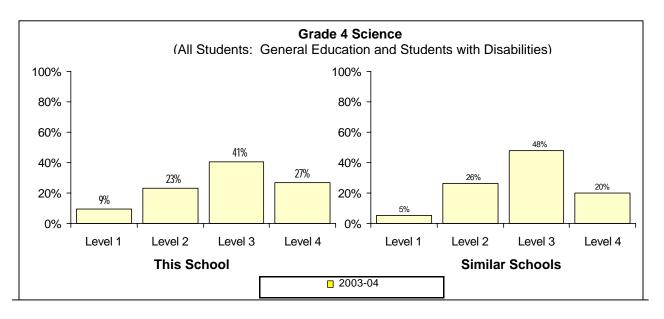
		Counts of Students					
Performance at This School	Level 1 448–601	Level 2 602–636	Level 3 637–677	Level 4 678–810	Total Tested	Mean Score	
May 2002	13	29	14	3	59	622	
May 2003	2	11	20	11	44	651	
May 2004	6	17	40	14	77	651	

	Elementary-Level Mathematics Levels — Knowledge, Reasoning, and Problem-Solving Standards				
Level 4	These students exceed the standards and are moving toward high performance on the Regents examination.				
Level 3	13 These students meet the standards and, with continued steady growth, should pass the Regents examination.				
Level 2	These students need extra help to meet the standards and pass the Regents examination.				
Level 1	These students have serious academic deficiencies.				

Performance of Students with Severe Disabilities on the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) in Mathematics

Elementary Level	AA–Level 1	AA–Level 2	AA–Level 3	AA–Level 4	Total Tested
2003–04	#	#	#	#	3

Science*



Counts of Students							
Performance at This School	Level 1 0–44	Level 2 45–64	Level 3 65–84	Level 4 85–100	Total Tested	Mean Score	
May 2004	7	17	30	20	74	71	

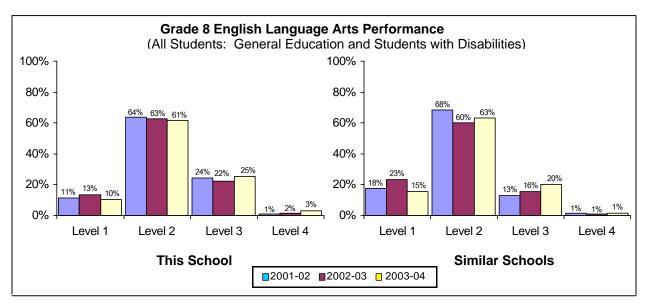
Elementa	Elementary-Level Science Levels —					
Knowledge, Reasoning, and Problem-Solving Standards						
Level 4	Level 4 These students exceed the standards and are moving toward high performance on the Regents examination.					
Level 3	These students meet the standards and, with continued steady growth, should pass the Regents examination.					
Level 2	These students need extra help to meet the standards and pass the Regents examination.					
Level 1	These students have serious academic deficiencies.					

Performance of Students with Severe Disabilities on the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) in Science

Elementary Level	AA–Level 1	AA–Level 2	AA–Level 3	AA–Level 4	Total Tested
2003–04	#	#	#	#	2

*Only one year of data is shown because a new assessment in elementary-level science was administered for the first time in 2003–04.

English Language Arts



	Counts of Students						
Performance at This School	Level 1 527–659	Level 2 660–698	Level 3 699-737	Level 4 738-830	Total Tested	Mean Score	
March 2002	14	79	30	1	124	686	
	Level 1 527–657	Level 2 658–696	Level 3 697–736	Level 4 737–830	Total Tested		
January 2003	15	70	25	2	112	683	
January 2004	14	83	34	4	135	686	

Middle-L	Middle-Level English Language Arts Levels — Listening, Reading, and Writing Standards						
Level 4	These students exceed the standards and are moving toward high performance on the Regents examination.						
Level 3	These students meet the standards and, with continued steady growth, should pass the Regents examination.						
Level 2	These students need extra help to meet the standards and pass the Regents examination.						
Level 1	These students have serious academic deficiencies.						

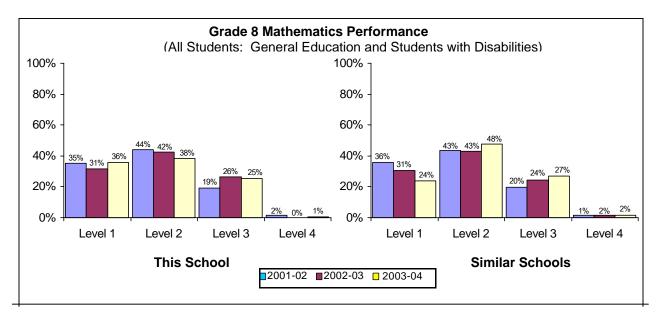
Performance of Limited English Proficient Students Taking the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) as the Measure of English Language Arts Achievement

Grade 8	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Total Tested
2004	3	1	1	7	12

Performance of Students with Severe Disabilities on the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) in English

Grade 8	AA–Level 1	AA–Level 2	AA–Level 3	AA–Level 4	Total Tested
2003–04	#	#	#	#	4

Mathematics



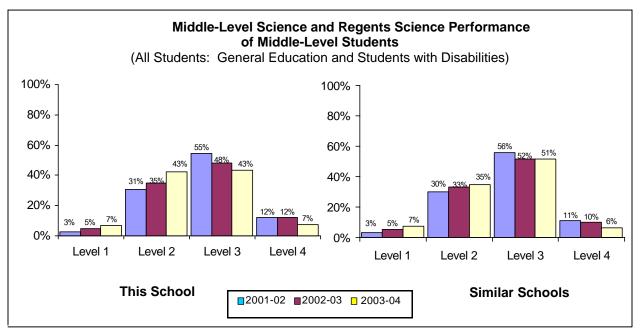
Performance at This School	Level 1 517–680	Level 2 681–715	Level 3 716–759	Level 4 760–882	Total Tested	Mean Score
May 2002	41	51	22	2	116	691
May 2003	37	50	31	0	118	696
May 2004	52	56	37	1	146	691

Middle-L	Middle-Level Mathematics Levels — Knowledge, Reasoning, and Problem-Solving Standards						
Level 4	These students exceed the standards and are moving toward high performance on the Regents examination.						
Level 3	These students meet the standards and, with continued steady growth, should pass the Regents examination.						
Level 2	These students need extra help to meet the standards and pass the Regents examination.						
Level 1	These students have serious academic deficiencies.						

Performance of Students with Severe Disabilities on the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) in Mathematics

Middle Level	AA–Level 1	AA–Level 2	AA–Level 3	AA–Level 4	Total Tested
2003–04	#	#	#	#	3

Science



Performance at This School			Mean Score				
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Total Tested	Mean Score
June 2002	Middle-Level Science	3	36	64	14	117	70
June 2002	Regents Science	0	0	0	0	0	0
January/	Middle-Level Science	5	37	51	13	106	68
June 2003	Regents Science	0	0	0	0	0	0
January/	Middle-Level Science	9	57	58	10	134	65
June 2004	Regents Science	0	0	0	0	0	0

Middle-L	evel Science Levels — Knowledge, Reasoning, and Problem-Solving Standards*
Level 4	These students exceed the standards on the middle-level science test and are moving toward high performance on the Regents examinations <u>or</u> score 85–100 on a Regents science examination.
Level 3	These students meet the standards on the middle-level science test and, with continued steady growth, should pass the Regents examinations <u>or</u> score 65–84 on a Regents science examination.
Level 2	These students need extra help to meet the standards for middle-level science and to pass the Regents examinations <u>or</u> score 55–64 on a Regents science examination.
Level 1	These students have serious academic deficiencies as evidenced in the middle-level science test <u>or</u> score 0–54 on a Regents science examination.

*Students may demonstrate proficiency in middle-level science by scoring at Level 3 or above on the middle-level science test or by scoring 65 or above on a Regents examination in science.

Performance of Students with Severe Disabilities on the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) in Science

Middle-Level	AA–Level 1	AA–Level 2	AA–Level 3	AA–Level 4	Total Tested
2003–04	#	#	#	#	4

Analysis of Student Subgroup Performance

Historically, on State assessments the average performance of Black, Hispanic, and Native American students has been lower than that of White and Asian students. Similarly, students from low-income families have not performed as well as those from higher income families. A high priority of the Board of Regents is to eliminate these gaps in student performance. In addition, Title I of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act includes explicit requirements "to ensure that students served by Title I are given the same opportunity to achieve to high standards and are held to the same high expectations as all students in each State."

This section of the school report card provides performance data for two years by racial/ethnic group, disability status, gender, English proficiency status, income level, and migrant status. The purpose of the student subgroup analyses is to determine if students who perform below the standards in any school tend to fall into particular groups, such as minority students, limited English proficient students, or economically disadvantaged students. If these analyses provide evidence that students in one of the groups achieve at a lower level than other students, the school and community should examine the reasons for this lower performance and make necessary changes in curriculum, instruction, and student support services to remedy these performance gaps. If your school did not report data for the 2003–04 school year for a subject and grade, a table showing data for subgroups in that subject and grade will not be included in the *Analysis*.

English Language Arts

		200	2–03		2003–04				
Student Subgroup	TotalPercentages of TestedTotalStudents Scoring at Levels				Total	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels			
	Tested	2–4	3–4	4	Tested	2–4	3–4	4	
Results by Race/Ethnicity									
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0%	0%	0%	1	s	S	S	
Black	15	87%	33%	0%	22	95%	55%	14%	
Hispanic	2	s	s	s	4	s	S	s	
Asian or Pacific Islander	9	S	S	S	14	100%	79%	29%	
White	17	94%	76%	12%	22	82%	41%	9%	
Total	43	93%	63%	9%	63	92%	56%	16%	
Small Group Totals (s)	11	100%	82%	18%	5	100%	60%	20%	
Results by Disability Status									
General-education students	33	100%	70%	12%	44	100%	68%	23%	
Students with disabilities	10	70%	40%	0%	19	74%	26%	0%	
Total	43	93%	63%	9%	63	92%	56%	16%	
Results by Gender									
Female	17	88%	59%	12%	32	91%	59%	28%	
Male	26	96%	65%	8%	31	94%	52%	3%	
Total	43	93%	63%	9%	63	92%	56%	16%	
Results by English Proficiency	Status								
English proficient	43	93%	63%	9%	58	91%	55%	16%	
Limited English proficient	0	0%	0%	0%	5	100%	60%	20%	
Total	43	93%	63%	9%	63	92%	56%	16%	
Results by Income Level									
Economically disadvantaged	34	91%	59%	12%	62	S	S	S	
Not disadvantaged	9	100%	78%	0%	1	s	S	s	
Total	43	93%	63%	9%	63	92%	56%	16%	
Results by Migrant Status									
Migrant family	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%	
Not migrant family	43	93%	63%	9%	63	92%	56%	16%	
Total	43	93%	63%	9%	63	92%	56%	16%	

Mathematics

		200	2–03		2003–04				
Student Subgroup	Total Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels				Total	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels			
	Tested	2–4	3–4	4	Tested	2–4	3–4	4	
Results by Race/Ethnicity									
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0%	0%	0%	1	S	S	s	
Black	16	94%	38%	0%	24	92%	71%	13%	
Hispanic	2	s	S	S	7	S	S	S	
Asian or Pacific Islander	9	S	S	S	22	95%	82%	32%	
White	17	94%	82%	18%	23	91%	65%	17%	
Total	44	95%	70%	25%	77	92%	70%	18%	
Small Group Totals (s)	11	100%	100%	73%	8	88%	50%	0%	
Results by Disability Status									
General-education students	33	100%	85%	33%	55	98%	78%	25%	
Students with disabilities	11	82%	27%	0%	22	77%	50%	0%	
Total	44	95%	70%	25%	77	92%	70%	18%	
Results by Gender									
Female	17	100%	76%	24%	36	92%	78%	19%	
Male	27	93%	67%	26%	41	93%	63%	17%	
Total	44	95%	70%	25%	77	92%	70%	18%	
Results by English Proficiency	Status		•	•					
English proficient	44	95%	70%	25%	61	93%	74%	16%	
Limited English proficient	0	0%	0%	0%	16	88%	56%	25%	
Total	44	95%	70%	25%	77	92%	70%	18%	
Results by Income Level			•	•					
Economically disadvantaged	35	94%	66%	23%	73	S	S	S	
Not disadvantaged	9	100%	89%	33%	4	S	S	S	
Total	44	95%	70%	25%	77	92%	70%	18%	
Results by Migrant Status									
Migrant family	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%	
Not migrant family	44	95%	70%	25%	77	92%	70%	18%	
Total	44	95%	70%	25%	77	92%	70%	18%	

Science*

	2003–04							
Student Subgroup	Total Tested	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels						
	Testeu	2–4	3–4	4				
Results by Race/Ethnicity								
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1	S	S	S				
Black	21	95%	71%	24%				
Hispanic	7	S	S	S				
Asian or Pacific Islander	22	91%	68%	36%				
White	23	87%	61%	26%				
Total	74	91%	68%	27%				
Small Group Totals (s)	8	88%	75%	13%				
Results by Disability Status								
General-education students	55	95%	82%	31%				
Students with disabilities	19	79%	26%	16%				
Total	74	91%	68%	27%				
Results by Gender		•		•				
Female	36	92%	67%	28%				
Male	38	89%	68%	26%				
Total	74	91%	68%	27%				
Results by English Proficiency S	Status							
English proficient	58	93%	74%	28%				
Limited English proficient	16	81%	44%	25%				
Total	74	91%	68%	27%				
Results by Income Level								
Economically disadvantaged	70	S	S	S				
Not disadvantaged	4	S	s	S				
Total	74	91%	68%	27%				
Results by Migrant Status								
Migrant family	0	0%	0%	0%				
Not migrant family	74	91%	68%	27%				
Total	74	91%	68%	27%				

*Only one year of data is shown because a new assessment in elementary-level science was administered for the first time in 2003–04.

English Language Arts

		200	2–03		2003–04				
Student Subgroup	TotalPercentages of TestedStudents Scoring at Levels			Total	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels				
	Tested	2–4 3–4		4	Tested	2–4	3–4	4	
Results by Race/Ethnicity									
American Indian/Alaskan Native	4	s	S	S	4	S	S	s	
Black	28	86%	14%	0%	42	83%	21%	0%	
Hispanic	5	S	S	S	14	79%	21%	0%	
Asian or Pacific Islander	23	91%	30%	0%	10	S	S	S	
White	52	87%	25%	4%	65	95%	32%	5%	
Total	112	87%	24%	2%	135	90%	28%	3%	
Small Group Totals (s)	9	78%	33%	0%	14	93%	36%	7%	
Results by Disability Status									
General-education students	92	93%	29%	2%	117	93%	32%	3%	
Students with disabilities	20	55%	0%	0%	18	67%	0%	0%	
Total	112	87%	24%	2%	135	90%	28%	3%	
Results by Gender									
Female	53	85%	25%	4%	73	93%	33%	3%	
Male	59	88%	24%	0%	62	85%	23%	3%	
Total	112	87%	24%	2%	135	90%	28%	3%	
Results by English Proficiency	Status								
English proficient	112	87%	24%	2%	135	90%	28%	3%	
Limited English proficient	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%	
Total	112	87%	24%	2%	135	90%	28%	3%	
Results by Income Level									
Economically disadvantaged	77	86%	18%	0%	107	88%	22%	3%	
Not disadvantaged	35	89%	37%	6%	28	96%	50%	4%	
Total	112	87%	24%	2%	135	90%	28%	3%	
Results by Migrant Status									
Migrant family	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%	
Not migrant family	112	87%	24%	2%	135	90%	28%	3%	
Total	112	87%	24%	2%	135	90%	28%	3%	

Mathematics

		200	2–03		2003–04				
Student Subgroup	TotalPercentages of TestedTotalStudents Scoring at Levels			Total	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels				
	Tested	2–4	3–4	4	Tested	2–4	3–4	4	
Results by Race/Ethnicity									
American Indian/Alaskan Native	4	S	S	S	4	S	S	S	
Black	26	42%	8%	0%	40	35%	8%	0%	
Hispanic	5	S	S	S	17	53%	6%	0%	
Asian or Pacific Islander	26	81%	46%	0%	16	S	S	S	
White	57	74%	25%	0%	69	77%	33%	0%	
Total	118	69%	26%	0%	146	64%	26%	1%	
Small Group Totals (s)	9	78%	33%	0%	20	90%	55%	5%	
Results by Disability Status									
General-education students	96	72%	28%	0%	129	64%	29%	1%	
Students with disabilities	22	55%	18%	0%	17	71%	0%	0%	
Total	118	69%	26%	0%	146	64%	26%	1%	
Results by Gender									
Female	53	64%	17%	0%	75	60%	24%	1%	
Male	65	72%	34%	0%	71	69%	28%	0%	
Total	118	69%	26%	0%	146	64%	26%	1%	
Results by English Proficiency	Status								
English proficient	117	S	S	S	133	63%	23%	1%	
Limited English proficient	1	S	S	S	13	77%	54%	0%	
Total	118	69%	26%	0%	146	64%	26%	1%	
Results by Income Level									
Economically disadvantaged	79	66%	23%	0%	117	62%	22%	1%	
Not disadvantaged	39	74%	33%	0%	29	72%	41%	0%	
Total	118	69%	26%	0%	146	64%	26%	1%	
Results by Migrant Status									
Migrant family	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%	
Not migrant family	118	69%	26%	0%	146	64%	26%	1%	
Total	118	69%	26%	0%	146	64%	26%	1%	

Science

		====	2–03		2003–04				
Student Subgroup	Total Testad		Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels			Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels			
	Tested	2–4	3–4	4	Tested	2–4	3–4	4	
Results by Race/Ethnicity									
American Indian/Alaskan Native	4	S	S	S	4	S	S	S	
Black	23	91%	30%	0%	36	92%	36%	3%	
Hispanic	4	S	S	S	16	94%	31%	0%	
Asian or Pacific Islander	24	96%	75%	17%	13	S	S	S	
White	51	96%	67%	18%	65	92%	65%	12%	
Total	106	95%	60%	12%	134	93%	51%	7%	
Small Group Totals (s)	8	100%	63%	0%	17	100%	47%	6%	
Results by Disability Status									
General-education students	85	99%	69%	15%	119	94%	51%	8%	
Students with disabilities	21	81%	24%	0%	15	87%	47%	0%	
Total	106	95%	60%	12%	134	93%	51%	7%	
Results by Gender							•		
Female	50	98%	52%	6%	69	94%	48%	3%	
Male	56	93%	68%	18%	65	92%	54%	12%	
Total	106	95%	60%	12%	134	93%	51%	7%	
Results by English Proficiency State	JS						•		
English proficient	106	95%	60%	12%	124	93%	53%	6%	
Limited English proficient	0	0%	0%	0%	10	100%	20%	20%	
Total	106	95%	60%	12%	134	93%	51%	7%	
Results by Income Level							•		
Economically disadvantaged	74	95%	55%	11%	106	93%	45%	5%	
Not disadvantaged	32	97%	72%	16%	28	93%	71%	18%	
Total	106	95%	60%	12%	134	93%	51%	7%	
Results by Migrant Status			•	•	•		•		
Migrant family	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%	
Not migrant family	106	95%	60%	12%	134	93%	51%	7%	
Total	106	95%	60%	12%	134	93%	51%	7%	

Glossary

Accountability Cohort: An accountability cohort is all students, regardless of grade status, who were enrolled in school on BEDS day two years after the year in which they first entered grade 9, or, in the case of ungraded students with disabilities, the year in which they reached their seventeenth birthday. (For example, the 1999 accountability cohort consists of all students who first entered grade 9 in the fall of 1999 who were enrolled on October 3, 2001). Certain students are not included in the school accountability cohort. Cohort is defined in Section 100.2 (p) (8) of the Commissioner's Regulations.

Component Retests: Component retests were offered in Regents English and Mathematics A to certain students who were at risk of not meeting the State learning standards. Component retesting is the process by which a student who has failed a Regents examination in English or Mathematics A twice is retested only on the areas of the learning standards in which the student has been proven deficient. Component retesting eliminates the need for the student to retake the full Regents examination multiple times. Students who earn credit through component retesting are counted as if they scored in the 55–64 range or in the 65–84 range on the Regents examination, as determined by the component retest results.

Counts of Students Tested: "Counts of Students Tested" includes only students who completed sufficient test questions to receive a score.

Graduation-Rate Cohort: Graduation-rate cohort for each year includes all students in the accountability cohort in the previous year plus all students excluded from that accountability cohort solely because they transferred to a general education development (GED) program.

Limited English Proficient (LEP) Students: Schools provide special English instruction to students for whom English is a second language so they can participate effectively in the academic program. In 2002–03 and in previous years, students were considered LEP if, by reason of foreign birth or ancestry, they spoke a language other than English and (1) either understood and spoke little or no English or (2) scored at or below the 40th percentile on an English language assessment instrument. Beginning in 2003–04, students are considered LEP if, by reason of foreign birth or ancestry, they speak a language other than English and (1) either understand and speak little or no English or (2) score below a state-designated level of proficiency on the Language Assessment Battery-Revised (LAB-R) or the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT). The United States Department of Education has approved the use of the NYSESLAT as the required measure of language arts proficiency for LEP students in grades 4 and 8 who have attended school in the United States (not including Puerto Rico) for fewer than three consecutive years and for LEP students who have attended for four or five years and have received an exemption from the general assessment requirement.

New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA): The district Committee on Special Education designates students with severe disabilities who meet criteria established in Commissioner's Regulations to take the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA).

Student Confidentiality/Suppressed Data (# and s): To ensure student confidentiality, the Department does <u>not</u> publish data for groups with fewer than five students or data that would allow readers to easily determine the performance of a group with fewer than five students. In the *Overview*, the pound character (#) appears when fewer than five students in a group were tested. In the *Analysis*, when fewer than five students in a group (e.g., Hispanic) were tested, percentages of tested students scoring at various levels are suppressed for that group and the next smallest group. Suppressed data are indicated with an **(s)**. However, the performance of tested students in these groups is aggregated and shown in the Small Group Total row.

Validity and Reliability of Small Group Data: It is important that programmatic decisions are based on valid and reliable data. Data for fewer than 30 students in a group may be neither valid nor reliable. If a school does not have 30 students in a grade or a subgroup in a given year, the school should evaluate results for students in this group over a period of years to make programmatic decisions.