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

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Multicultural Institute

in

Buffalo City School District

April 2006

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Regents of The University

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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: April 2006*, 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: Elzie Fisher		Phone: (716)816-3240
Organization 2004–05	Grade Range	Student Enrollment
	PK-8	875

2003–04 School District-wide Total Expenditure per Pupil	$14,048

Similar Schools Group	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.

2004–05 Core Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers*

Total Number of Core Classes	Percent Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers
93	91%

*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.

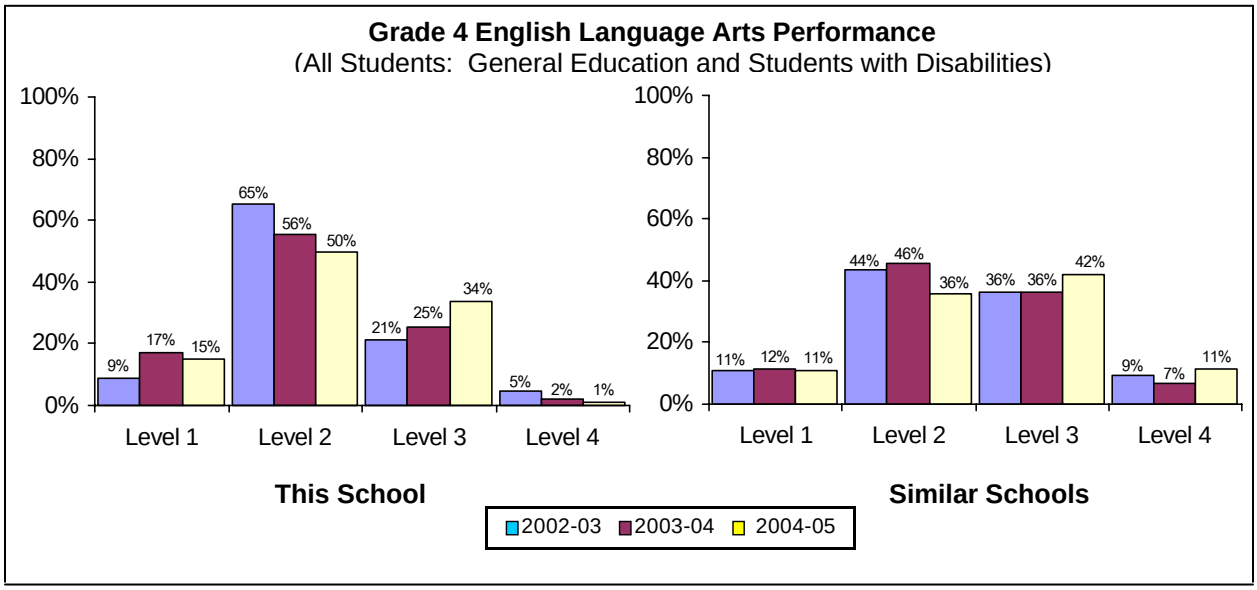
2004–05 Teachers with No Valid Teaching Certificate*

Total Number of Teachers	Percent with No Valid Teaching Certificate
62	2%

*Includes teachers with a modified temporary license.

Elementary Level

English Language Arts



Percentages less than 0.51 will appear as zero because of rounding.

Performance at This School	Counts of Students					Mean Score
	Level 1 455–602	Level 2 603–644	Level 3 645–691	Level 4 692–800	Total Tested	
Feb 2003	9	67	22	5	103	635
Feb 2004	17	55	25	2	99	628
Feb 2005	14	46	31	1	92	633

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

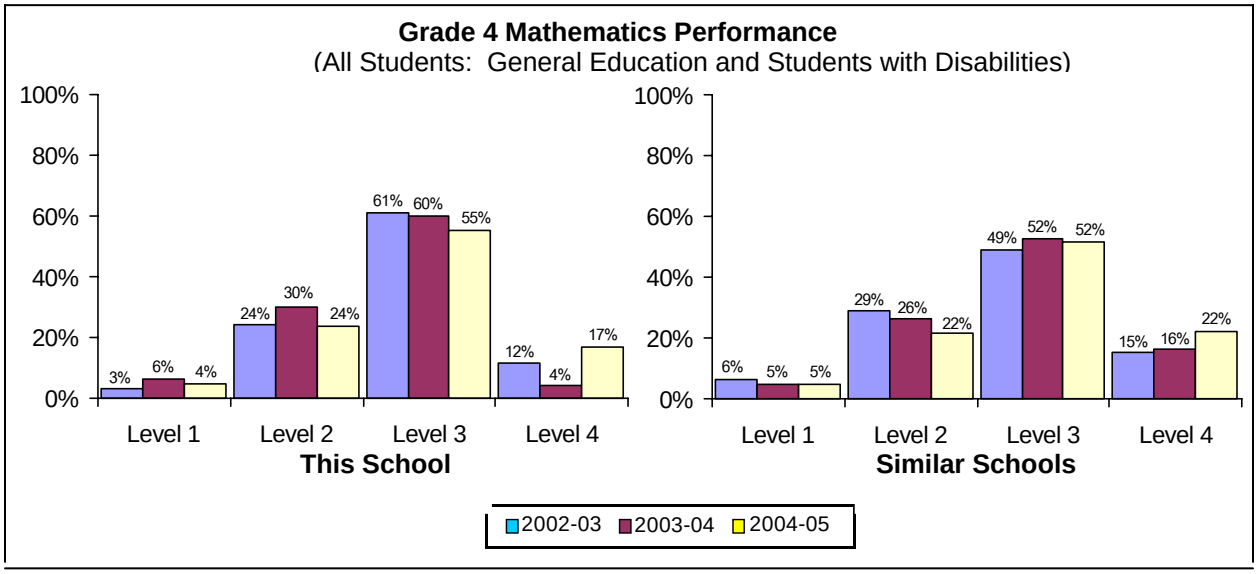
Grade 4	Level 1	Level 2	Levels 3 & 4	Total Tested
2005	0	0	0	0

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
2004–05	0	0	0	0	0

Elementary Level

Mathematics



Percentages less than 0.51 will appear as zero because of rounding.

Performance at This School	Counts of Students					Mean Score
	Level 1 448–601	Level 2 602–636	Level 3 637–677	Level 4 678–810	Total Tested	
May 2003	3	25	63	12	103	649
May 2004	6	29	58	4	97	644
May 2005	4	21	49	15	89	649

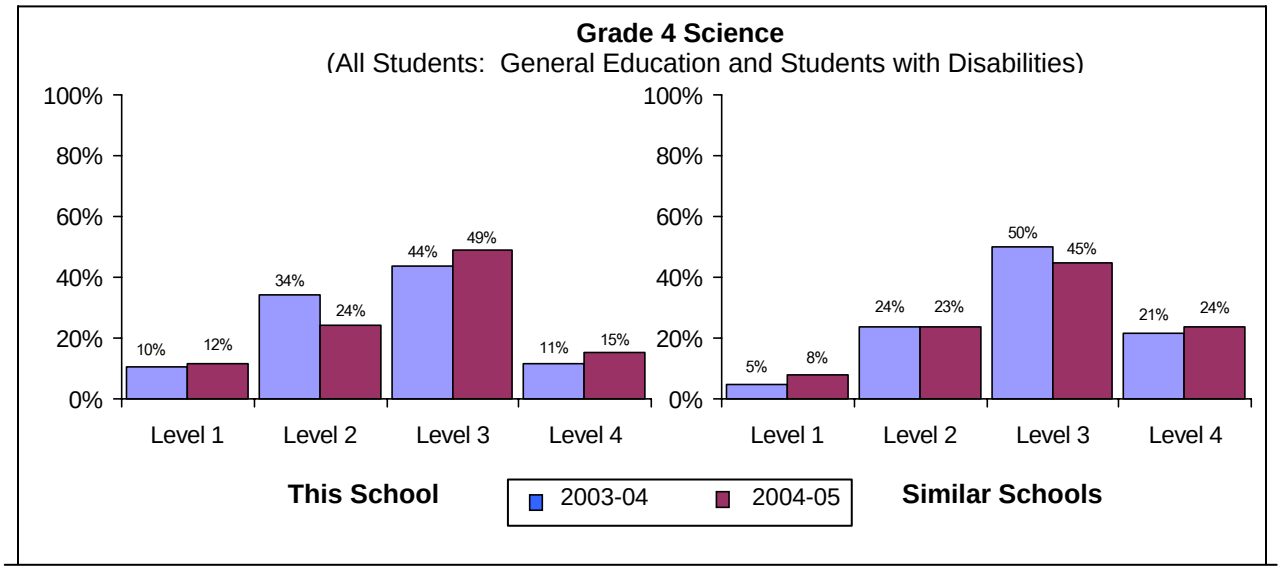
Elementary-Level Mathematics Levels — Knowledge, Reasoning, and Problem-Solving Standards	
Level 4	These students **exceed the standards** and are moving toward high performance on the Regents examination.
Level 3	These students **meet the standards** and, with continued steady growth, should pass the 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
2004–05	0	0	0	0	0

Elementary Level

Science*



Percentages less than 0.51 will appear as zero because of rounding.

Performance at This School	Counts of Students					Mean Score
	Level 1 0–44	Level 2 45–64	Level 3 65–84	Level 4 85–100	Total Tested	
May 2004	10	33	42	11	96	67
May 2005	10	21	42	13	86	68

Elementary-Level Science 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**.

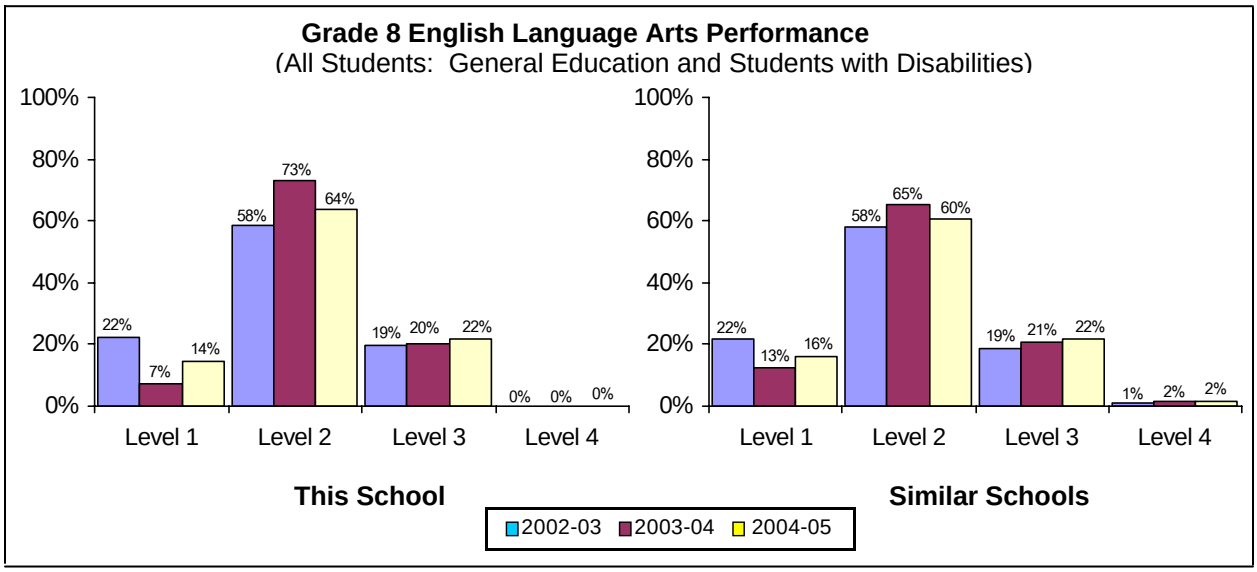
Performance of Students with Severe Disabilities on the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) in Science

Elementary Level	AA–Level 1	AA–Level 2	AA–Level 3	AA–Level 4	Total Tested
2004–05	0	0	0	0	0

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

Middle Level

English Language Arts



Percentages less than 0.51 will appear as zero because of rounding.

Performance at This School	Counts of Students					Mean Score
	Level 1 527–657	Level 2 658–696	Level 3 697–736	Level 4 737–830	Total Tested	
January 2003	17	45	15	0	77	675
January 2004	6	62	17	0	85	683
January 2005	10	44	15	0	69	680

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

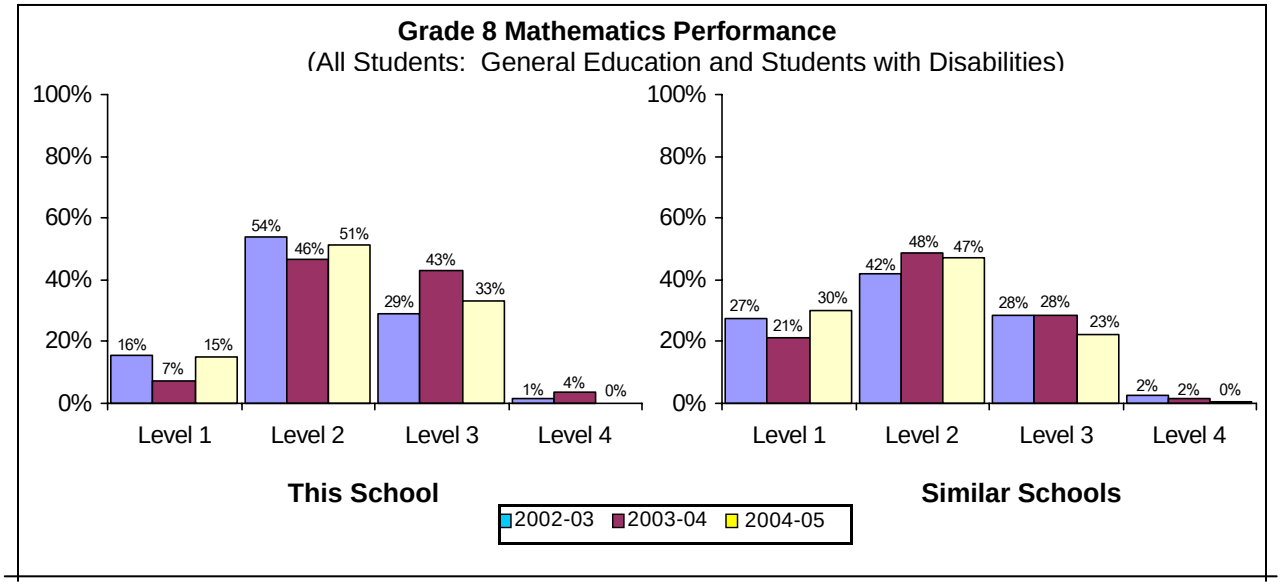
Grade 8	Level 1	Level 2	Levels 3 & 4	Total Tested
2005	0	0	0	0

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

Middle Level	AA–Level 1	AA–Level 2	AA–Level 3	AA–Level 4	Total Tested
2004–05	0	0	0	0	0

Middle Level

Mathematics



Percentages less than 0.51 will appear as zero because of rounding.

Performance at This School	Counts of Students					Mean Score
	Level 1 517–680	Level 2 681–715	Level 3 716–759	Level 4 760–882	Total Tested	
May 2003	12	41	22	1	76	704
May 2004	6	39	36	3	84	714
May 2005	11	37	24	0	72	704

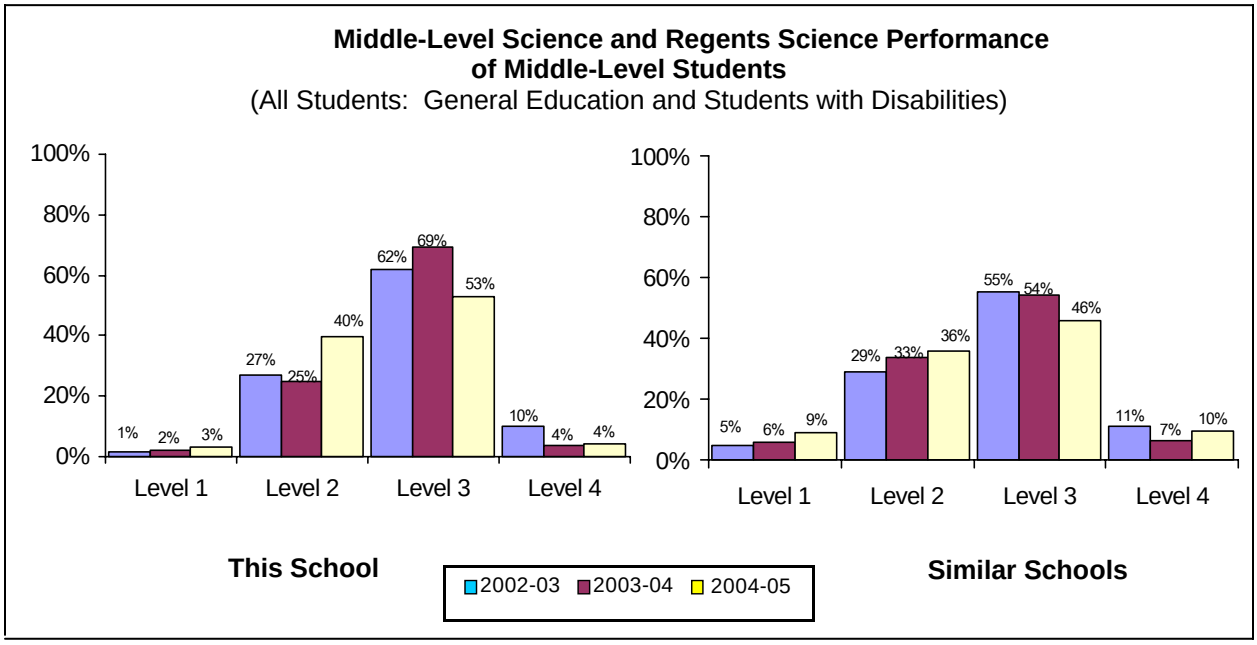
Middle-Level Mathematics Levels — Knowledge, Reasoning, and Problem-Solving Standards	
Level 4	These students **exceed the standards** and are moving toward high performance on the Regents examination.
Level 3	These students **meet the standards** and, with continued steady growth, should pass the Regents 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
2004–05	0	0	0	0	0

Middle Level

Science



Percentages less than 0.51 will appear as zero because of rounding.

Performance at This School		Counts of Students Tested					Mean Score
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Total Tested	
January/ June 2003	Middle-Level Science	1	19	44	7	71	69
	Regents Science	0	0	0	0	0	0
January/ June 2004	Middle-Level Science	2	21	59	3	85	66
	Regents Science	0	0	0	0	0	0
January/ June 2005	Middle-Level Science	2	27	36	3	68	65
	Regents Science	0	0	0	0	0	0

Middle-Level 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 ***or*** 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 ***or*** 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 ***or*** score 55–64 on a Regents science examination.
Level 1	These students have **serious academic deficiencies** as evidenced in the middle-level science test ***or*** 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
2004–05	0	0	0	0	0

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 2004–05 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*.

Elementary Level

English Language Arts

Student Subgroup	2003–04				2004–05			
	Total Tested	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels			Total Tested	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels		
		2–4	3–4	4		2–4	3–4	4
Results by Race/Ethnicity								
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2	s	s	s	2	s	s	s
Black	90	83%	28%	2%	85	85%	35%	1%
Hispanic	0	0%	0%	0%	1	s	s	s
Asian or Pacific Islander	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
White	7	s	s	s	4	s	s	s
Total	99	83%	27%	2%	92	85%	35%	1%
Small Group Totals **(s)**	9	78%	22%	0%	7	86%	29%	0%
Results by Disability Status								
General-education students	80	89%	31%	3%	75	89%	43%	1%
Students with disabilities	19	58%	11%	0%	17	65%	0%	0%
Total	99	83%	27%	2%	92	85%	35%	1%
Results by Gender								
Female	44	86%	30%	2%	44	86%	36%	0%
Male	55	80%	25%	2%	48	83%	33%	2%
Total	99	83%	27%	2%	92	85%	35%	1%
Results by English Proficiency Status								
English proficient	99	83%	27%	2%	92	85%	35%	1%
Limited English proficient	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Total	99	83%	27%	2%	92	85%	35%	1%
Results by Income Level								
Economically disadvantaged	89	82%	28%	2%	79	82%	32%	0%
Not disadvantaged	10	90%	20%	0%	13	100%	54%	8%
Total	99	83%	27%	2%	92	85%	35%	1%
Results by Migrant Status								
Migrant family	0	0%	0%	0%	1	s	s	s
Not migrant family	99	83%	27%	2%	91	s	s	s
Total	99	83%	27%	2%	92	85%	35%	1%

Elementary Level

Mathematics

Student Subgroup	2003–04				2004–05			
	Total Tested	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels			Total Tested	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels		
		2–4	3–4	4		2–4	3–4	4
Results by Race/Ethnicity								
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2	s	s	s	1	s	s	s
Black	89	93%	62%	4%	82	96%	72%	17%
Hispanic	0	0%	0%	0%	1	s	s	s
Asian or Pacific Islander	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
White	6	s	s	s	5	s	s	s
Total	97	94%	64%	4%	89	96%	72%	17%
Small Group Totals **(s)**	8	100%	88%	0%	7	86%	71%	14%
Results by Disability Status								
General-education students	77	97%	68%	4%	71	99%	80%	20%
Students with disabilities	20	80%	50%	5%	18	83%	39%	6%
Total	97	94%	64%	4%	89	96%	72%	17%
Results by Gender								
Female	44	91%	57%	2%	42	93%	71%	12%
Male	53	96%	70%	6%	47	98%	72%	21%
Total	97	94%	64%	4%	89	96%	72%	17%
Results by English Proficiency Status								
English proficient	97	94%	64%	4%	89	96%	72%	17%
Limited English proficient	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Total	97	94%	64%	4%	89	96%	72%	17%
Results by Income Level								
Economically disadvantaged	88	93%	61%	5%	75	96%	71%	17%
Not disadvantaged	9	100%	89%	0%	14	93%	79%	14%
Total	97	94%	64%	4%	89	96%	72%	17%
Results by Migrant Status								
Migrant family	0	0%	0%	0%	1	s	s	s
Not migrant family	97	94%	64%	4%	88	s	s	s
Total	97	94%	64%	4%	89	96%	72%	17%

Elementary Level

Science

Student Subgroup	2003–04 Total Tested	2003–04 Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels 2-4	3-4	4	2004–05 Total Tested	2004–05 Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels 2-4	3-4	4
Results by Race/Ethnicity								
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2	s	s	s	1	s	s	s
Black	88	90%	55%	11%	81	89%	63%	16%
Hispanic	0	0%	0%	0%	1	s	s	s
Asian or Pacific Islander	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
White	6	s	s	s	3	s	s	s
Total	96	90%	55%	11%	86	88%	64%	15%
Small Group Totals **(s)**	8	88%	63%	13%	5	80%	80%	0%
Results by Disability Status								
General-education students	76	91%	57%	12%	69	90%	67%	19%
Students with disabilities	20	85%	50%	10%	17	82%	53%	0%
Total	96	90%	55%	11%	86	88%	64%	15%
Results by Gender								
Female	43	86%	51%	12%	42	86%	60%	14%
Male	53	92%	58%	11%	44	91%	68%	16%
Total	96	90%	55%	11%	86	88%	64%	15%
Results by English Proficiency Status								
English proficient	96	90%	55%	11%	86	88%	64%	15%
Limited English proficient	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Total	96	90%	55%	11%	86	88%	64%	15%
Results by Income Level								
Economically disadvantaged	87	90%	53%	13%	74	86%	62%	12%
Not disadvantaged	9	89%	78%	0%	12	100%	75%	33%
Total	96	90%	55%	11%	86	88%	64%	15%
Results by Migrant Status								
Migrant family	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Not migrant family	96	90%	55%	11%	86	88%	64%	15%
Total	96	90%	55%	11%	86	88%	64%	15%

Middle Level

English Language Arts

Student Subgroup	2003–04				2004–05			
	Total Tested	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels			Total Tested	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels		
		2–4	3–4	4		2–4	3–4	4
Results by Race/Ethnicity								
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Black	72	93%	17%	0%	67	s	s	s
Hispanic	3	s	s	s	0	0%	0%	0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
White	10	s	s	s	2	s	s	s
Total	85	93%	20%	0%	69	86%	22%	0%
Small Group Totals **(s)**	13	92%	38%	0%	69	86%	22%	0%
Results by Disability Status								
General-education students	71	94%	21%	0%	59	92%	24%	0%
Students with disabilities	14	86%	14%	0%	10	50%	10%	0%
Total	85	93%	20%	0%	69	86%	22%	0%
Results by Gender								
Female	49	94%	22%	0%	26	73%	23%	0%
Male	36	92%	17%	0%	43	93%	21%	0%
Total	85	93%	20%	0%	69	86%	22%	0%
Results by English Proficiency Status								
English proficient	85	93%	20%	0%	69	86%	22%	0%
Limited English proficient	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Total	85	93%	20%	0%	69	86%	22%	0%
Results by Income Level								
Economically disadvantaged	72	92%	22%	0%	61	85%	23%	0%
Not disadvantaged	13	100%	8%	0%	8	88%	13%	0%
Total	85	93%	20%	0%	69	86%	22%	0%
Results by Migrant Status								
Migrant family	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Not migrant family	85	93%	20%	0%	69	86%	22%	0%
Total	85	93%	20%	0%	69	86%	22%	0%

Middle Level

Mathematics

Student Subgroup	2003–04				2004–05			
	Total Tested	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels			Total Tested	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels		
		2–4	3–4	4		2–4	3–4	4
Results by Race/Ethnicity								
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Black	71	93%	44%	3%	69	s	s	s
Hispanic	3	s	s	s	1	s	s	s
Asian or Pacific Islander	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
White	10	s	s	s	2	s	s	s
Total	84	93%	46%	4%	72	85%	33%	0%
Small Group Totals **(s)**	13	92%	62%	8%	72	85%	33%	0%
Results by Disability Status								
General-education students	71	96%	51%	4%	60	90%	37%	0%
Students with disabilities	13	77%	23%	0%	12	58%	17%	0%
Total	84	93%	46%	4%	72	85%	33%	0%
Results by Gender								
Female	47	94%	45%	4%	28	68%	14%	0%
Male	37	92%	49%	3%	44	95%	45%	0%
Total	84	93%	46%	4%	72	85%	33%	0%
Results by English Proficiency Status								
English proficient	84	93%	46%	4%	72	85%	33%	0%
Limited English proficient	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Total	84	93%	46%	4%	72	85%	33%	0%
Results by Income Level								
Economically disadvantaged	71	92%	41%	1%	62	85%	35%	0%
Not disadvantaged	13	100%	77%	15%	10	80%	20%	0%
Total	84	93%	46%	4%	72	85%	33%	0%
Results by Migrant Status								
Migrant family	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Not migrant family	84	93%	46%	4%	72	85%	33%	0%
Total	84	93%	46%	4%	72	85%	33%	0%

Middle Level

Science

Student Subgroup	2003–04				2004–05			
	Total Tested	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels			Total Tested	Percentages of Tested Students Scoring at Levels		
		2–4	3–4	4		2–4	3–4	4
Results by Race/Ethnicity								
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Black	72	97%	71%	1%	66	s	s	s
Hispanic	3	s	s	s	0	0%	0%	0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
White	10	s	s	s	2	s	s	s
Total	85	98%	73%	4%	68	97%	57%	4%
Small Group Totals **(s)**	13	100%	85%	15%	68	97%	57%	4%
Results by Disability Status								
General-education students	71	97%	76%	4%	58	98%	60%	5%
Students with disabilities	14	100%	57%	0%	10	90%	40%	0%
Total	85	98%	73%	4%	68	97%	57%	4%
Results by Gender								
Female	48	96%	71%	2%	27	93%	37%	0%
Male	37	100%	76%	5%	41	100%	71%	7%
Total	85	98%	73%	4%	68	97%	57%	4%
Results by English Proficiency Status								
English proficient	85	98%	73%	4%	68	97%	57%	4%
Limited English proficient	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Total	85	98%	73%	4%	68	97%	57%	4%
Results by Income Level								
Economically disadvantaged	71	97%	72%	3%	60	98%	60%	5%
Not disadvantaged	14	100%	79%	7%	8	88%	38%	0%
Total	85	98%	73%	4%	68	97%	57%	4%
Results by Migrant Status								
Migrant family	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0%
Not migrant family	85	98%	73%	4%	68	97%	57%	4%
Total	85	98%	73%	4%	68	97%	57%	4%

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 2001 accountability cohort consists of all students who first entered grade 9 in the fall of 2001 who were enrolled on October 8, 2003). Certain students are not included in the school accountability cohort. Cohort is defined in Section 100.2 (p) (16) 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. 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 cognitive 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 *not* 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.