

Financing Special Education in New Jersey

New Jersey School Boards Association

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State Academic Assessment of Students with Disabilities

Special Education 2005 HS Proficiency Assessment Passage Rates

High School Proficiency Test: Language					
DFG	SE Enroll Lang	SE PP Lang	SE P Lang	SE AP Lang	SE Scale Lang
A	249.00	72	28	0	169
B	480.00	57	42	1	188
CD	515.00	55	43	2	191
DE	933.00	39	59	2	202
FG	823.00	40	58	2	202
GH	1,248.00	29	67	4	210
I	1,411.00	19	74	7	217
J	347.00	15	75	10	222

High School Proficiency Test: Math					
DFG	SE Enroll Math	SE PP Math	SE P Math	SE AP Math	SE Scale Math
A	242.00	86	13	0	173
B	450.00	69	29	3	187
CD	487.00	71	25	4	188
DE	902.00	58	37	5	198
FG	800.00	55	40	5	198
GH	1,198.00	43	48	9	206
I	1,387.00	36	51	13	212
J	341.00	25	52	22	222

Researchers anticipated that the results of the Assessment of Skills and Knowledge for Grades 3 and 4 (ASK 3; ASK 4), the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment (GEPA), and the High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) could be used as a measure of effectiveness in this study. However, district-by-district data are not consistently available due to the suppression of scores in grades in which enrollment is low. Therefore, only the statewide assessment figures could be examined.

Above are charts illustrating special education students' results in language arts and math on the HSPA. The charts break down results by district factor group (DFG) – an indicator of socio-economic status, ranging from A (lowest) to J (highest). Below are similar charts for the ASK 3, the ASK 4 and the GEPA. The percentage of special education students scoring at proficient and advanced proficient levels on ASK 3 language arts ranged from 29.0% in DFG A to 82.4% in DFG J. The ASK 3 language

Special Education 2005 Assessment Passage Rates

NJ Assessment of Skills and Knowledge - Grade 3									
DFG	SE Enroll	SE PP Lang	SE P Lang	SE AP Lang	SE Scale Lang	SE PP Math	SE P Math	SE AP Math	SE Scale Math
A	2,523.00	70.5	29.3	0.2	184.4	57	36.5	6.6	196.3
B	1,581.00	54.3	45.5	0.2	194.3	41	47.1	11.8	207.8
CD	1,475.00	53.6	46.1	0.4	194.6	43.8	43.8	12.4	206.5
DE	2,038.00	41.7	57.5	0.8	201.6	31.8	54.7	13.5	213.7
FG	1,908.00	35.3	63.9	0.9	205	30.5	55	14.4	215.4
GH	1,922.00	34.2	64.2	1.6	206	29.5	53.6	16.9	217.1
I	2,732.00	25	73.3	1.7	210.5	22.9	56.4	20.8	221.8
J	510.00	17.6	80.4	2	215.4	16.4	58.5	25.1	227.6

NJ Assessment of Skills and Knowledge - Grade 4									
DFG	SE Enroll	SE PP Lang	SE P Lang	SE AP Lang	SE Scale Lang	SE PP Math	SE P Math	SE AP Math	SE Scale Math
A	3,038.00	72.2	27.8	0	180.3	64.2	30.3	5.5	188.1
B	1,817.00	65	34.9	0.1	187.7	55.6	36	8.4	196.1
CD	1,670.00	59.3	40.4	0.3	190.6	50.9	40.5	8.6	199.8
DE	2,120.00	49.6	49.9	0.5	196.6	41.4	44.5	14.1	207.2
FG	2,090.00	47.4	52.3	0.3	198.5	39.7	45.6	14.7	208.5
GH	2,143.00	41.3	56.9	1.8	201.8	36.1	45.6	18.3	212.5
I	2,890.00	33	65.6	1.4	205.8	29.8	52.8	17.3	216.1
J	579.00	24.9	73.8	1.3	210.2	25	53.3	21.6	221.3

Grade Eight Proficiency Test									
DFG	SE Enroll	SE PP Lang	SE P Lang	SE AP Lang	SE Scale Lang	SE PP Math	SE P Math	SE AP Math	SE Scale Math
A	3,745.00	90.5	9.5	0	167	92.6	7	0.4	167.9
B	2,340.00	82.5	17.3	0.1	175.8	85.2	14.1	0.6	174.9
CD	1,886.00	78.9	21	0.1	178.2	81.9	17	1.1	177.1
DE	2,396.00	70.9	28.8	0.3	184.8	78.3	19.8	1.8	181.8
FG	2,180.00	68	31.6	0.4	186.6	73.2	24.7	2.1	185.2
GH	2,036.00	60.6	38.7	0.7	190.8	71.3	25.5	3.2	186.3
I	2,778.00	49.7	49.4	0.9	196.4	60	34.6	5.5	193.9
J	519.00	33.5	63.7	2.8	205.9	45	44.4	10.6	205.6

arts proficient/advanced proficient levels increased incrementally along with districts' socio-economic status. The ASK 3 math scores generally followed the same pattern, except that the percentage of students scoring at proficient/advanced proficient levels was slightly higher in DFG B (58.9%) than in DFG CD (56.2%).

Ask 4 results showed a similar pattern in both language arts and math, but at slightly lower proficient/advanced proficient levels. GEPA results also reflect the same pattern. However, proficient/advanced proficient levels for the eighth-grade assessment are substantially lower than for the other exams. On the language arts section, for example, they range from 9.5% in DFG A to 66.5% in DFG J. The same trend – higher proficiency/advanced proficiency levels as socio-economic increases – is also reflected in the High School Proficiency Assessment, with language arts proficient/advanced proficient levels ranging from 28% (DFG A) to 85% (DFG J) and math from 13% to 74%.