

Highlights of October 2003 Achievement Test

Preliminary Results - Third-Grade Reading

INTRODUCTION

To meet the requirements of Ohio Senate Bill 1, Ohio House Bill 3, and the Federal No Child Left Behind legislation, Ohio is in the process of developing a new series of achievement tests. The first of these tests, the Third-Grade Achievement Test in reading, was administered for the first time during the week of October 6-10, 2003. The test will also be administered March 8-12, 2004 and July 5-26, 2004. If a student takes both the October and March tests, the higher score will be used for accountability purposes. Only students who do not achieve a proficient (or higher) score in October or March should participate in the summer administration. The "third-grade guarantee," which defines possible actions a district may take for students who fail to achieve at least a Basic score, applies to this test. The "fourth-grade guarantee" is no longer in force.

LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE

Table 1 provides the raw scores for the October 2003 test associated with scaled scores for each of the five performance levels.

Table 1. Raw scores corresponding to scaled score ranges.

Level	Scaled Scores	Raw Scores
Advanced	432 and above	43-49
Accelerated	415-431	38-42
Proficient	400-414	33-37
Basic	385-399	25-32
Limited	384 and below	0-24

Note: The minimum possible scaled score on this administration was 261 and the maximum possible scaled score was 498.

TEST RESULTS

Table 2 presents a summary of student performance for the October 2003 test. A total of 131,701 Ohio public school students participated. This figure includes students enrolled in community schools, the Ohio School for the Blind, and the Ohio School for the Deaf. Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEP) and/or Limited English Proficiency (LEP) are included in the figures.

Table 2. Results from the October 2003 administration.

Level	Number	Percent
Advanced	20,605	15.6%
Accelerated	26,984	20.5%
Proficient	23,183	17.6%
Basic	26,199	19.9%
Limited	34,730	26.4%

Over half (53.7%) of the students achieved at least a Proficient score on this test.

Table 3 summarizes results disaggregated by gender. A greater proportion of girls (57.3%) than boys (50.5%) reached proficient or higher levels.

Table 3. Results disaggregated by gender.

Level	Female		Male	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Advanced	11,322	17.6%	9,265	13.8%
Accelerated	13,930	21.7%	13,008	19.4%
Proficient	11,533	18.0%	11,583	17.3%
Basic	12,720	19.8%	13,392	20.0%
Limited	14,649	22.8%	19,860	29.6%
Total	64,154		67,108	

Note: Gender information was not available for 439 students.

Table 4 summarizes results disaggregated by ethnicity. A greater proportion of Asian/Pacific Islander (70.2%) and White (60.0%) students than Hispanic (34.8%) and African-American (27.8%) students reached proficient or higher levels.

Table 4. Results disaggregated by ethnicity.

Level	Asian/Pacific Islander		African- American		Hispanic		White	
	Number	Pct.	Number	Pct.	Number	Pct.	Number	Pct.
Advanced	518	30.2%	937	4.3%	198	6.6%	18,386	18.3%
Accelerated	429	25.0%	2,242	10.2%	406	13.6%	23,082	23.0%
Proficient	257	15.0%	2,931	13.3%	436	14.6%	18,738	18.7%
Basic	264	15.4%	5,063	23.0%	634	21.2%	19,221	19.2%
Limited	248	14.5%	10,837	49.2%	1,311	43.9%	20,931	20.9%
Total	1,716		22,010		2,985		100,358	