

TESTING BRIEF
Spring 2010 Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA)
September 1, 2009 - March 31, 2010

The Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA) is designed to meet the mandates of the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* of 2001 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004. Both NCLB and IDEA require that all students, including students with significant cognitive disabilities, have access to a general curriculum that encompasses challenging academic standards. These laws require states to ensure that *all* students are assessed for their progress toward meeting academic standards.

Students with significant cognitive disabilities may be assessed via alternate assessments based on alternate achievement standards. An alternate assessment based on alternate achievement standards allows for the unique learning characteristics of students with significant cognitive disabilities. Alternate assessments may cover a narrower range of content and reflect a different set of expectations than regular assessments. Alternate achievement standards must be clearly linked to the content standards for the grade in which the student is enrolled, although the grade-level content may be reduced in complexity or reflect pre-requisite skills.

The GAA serves as Georgia's alternate assessment based on alternate achievement standards. The GAA is a portfolio of student work that allows participants to showcase the achievement and progress they have made in knowledge and skills aligned to the state's curriculum. Each teacher determines the alternate achievement standard (i.e., expectation) for each student, based on the learning characteristics and needs of the student. The teacher designs the instructional task that provides the student access to the selected state-mandated curriculum standard based on an achievement expectation that is appropriately challenging and purposeful for the student. The 2006-2007 school year was the first operational administration of the redeveloped GAA.

For any grade, kindergarten through 12, where all students are assessed, students with disabilities must participate in the regular assessment or an alternate assessment. Georgia mandates assessment in kindergarten, grades 1–8, and grade 11. For these grades, the GAA is the state provided alternate assessment.

Students eligible to participate in the GAA in grades K–2 must be assessed in English/language arts and mathematics. Students eligible to participate in the GAA in grades 3–8 and 11 must be assessed in English/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

A Stage of Progress (performance level) is assigned to each content area. The Stages of Progress—Extending Progress, Established Progress, and Emerging Progress correspond to Advanced/Exceeds, Proficient/Meets, and Basic/Does Not Meet, respectively.

Due to rounding, the numbers on the charts and tables may not always equal 100%.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE K

English/Language Arts and Mathematics

- Eighty-eight percent (88%) of Georgia’s kindergarten students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts 2010. Ninety percent (90%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts 2009.
- Ninety-four percent (94%) of Georgia’s kindergarten students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010. Ninety-two percent (92%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2009.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 1

English/Language Arts and Mathematics

- Ninety-three percent (93%) of Georgia’s first grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010. Ninety-two percent (92%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2009.
- Ninety-five percent (95%) of first grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010. Ninety-four percent (94%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2009.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 2

English/Language Arts and Mathematics

- Ninety-three percent (93%) of Georgia’s second grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010. Ninety-two percent (92%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2009.
- Ninety-four percent (94%) of Georgia’s second grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010. Ninety-three percent (93%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2009.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 3

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Ninety-two percent (92%) of Georgia’s third grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010. Ninety-two percent (92%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2009.
- Ninety-four (94%) of Georgia’s third grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010. Ninety-three (93%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2009.
- Ninety-eight percent (98%) of Georgia’s third grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010. Ninety-seven percent (97%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2009.
- Ninety-eight percent (98%) of Georgia’s third grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010. Ninety-seven percent (97%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2009.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 4

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Eighty-nine percent (89%) of Georgia’s fourth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010. Eighty-nine percent (89%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2009.
- Ninety-three (93%) of Georgia’s fourth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010. Ninety-one (91%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2009.
- Ninety-eight percent (98%) of Georgia’s fourth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010. Ninety-eight percent (98%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2009.
- Ninety-eight percent (98%) of Georgia’s fourth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010. Ninety-seven percent (97%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2009.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 5

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Ninety-two percent (92%) of Georgia’s fifth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010. Ninety-one percent (91%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2009.
- Ninety-four percent (94%) of Georgia’s fifth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress Mathematics in 2010. Ninety-three (93%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress Mathematics in 2009.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia’s fifth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010. Ninety-nine percent (99%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2009.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia’s fifth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010. Ninety-eight percent (98%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2009.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 6

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Ninety-one percent (91%) of Georgia’s sixth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010. Eighty-three percent (83%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2009.
- Ninety-three percent (93%) of Georgia’s sixth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010. Ninety-two percent (92%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2009.
- Ninety-seven percent (97%) of Georgia’s sixth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010. Ninety-seven percent (97%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2009.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia’s sixth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010. Ninety-seven percent (97%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2009.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 7

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Eighty-nine percent (89%) of Georgia’s seventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010. Eighty-one percent (81%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2009.
- Ninety-one (91%) of Georgia’s seventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010. Ninety-two percent (92%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2009.
- Ninety-eight percent (98%) of Georgia’s seventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010. Ninety-seven percent (97%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2009.
- Ninety-eight percent (98%) of Georgia’s seventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010. Ninety-seven percent (97%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2009.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 8

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Eighty-six percent (86%) of Georgia’s eighth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010. Seventy-five percent (75%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2009.
- Eighty-eight percent (88%) of Georgia’s eighth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010. Eighty-nine percent (89%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2009.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia’s eighth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010. Ninety-eight percent (98%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2009.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia’s eighth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010. Ninety-eight percent (98%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2009.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 11

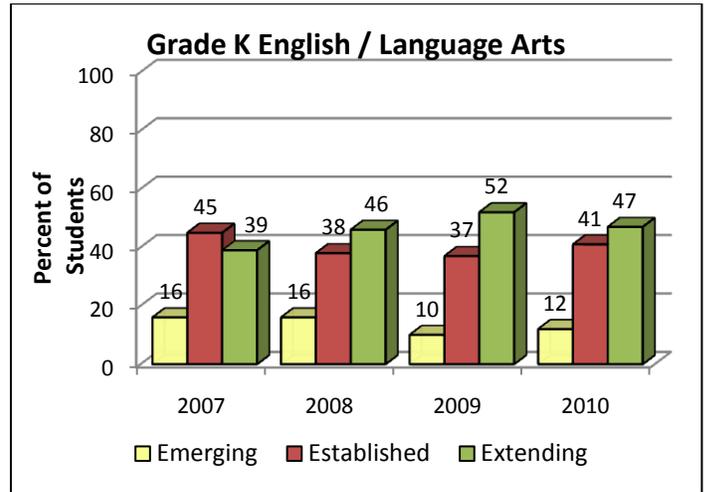
English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Eighty-three percent (83%) of Georgia's eleventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010. Seventy percent (70%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2009.
- Eighty-eight percent (88%) of Georgia's eleventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010. Eighty-nine percent (89%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2009.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia's eleventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010. Ninety-six percent (96%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2009.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia's eleventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010. Ninety-seven percent (97%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2009.

Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding the Standard

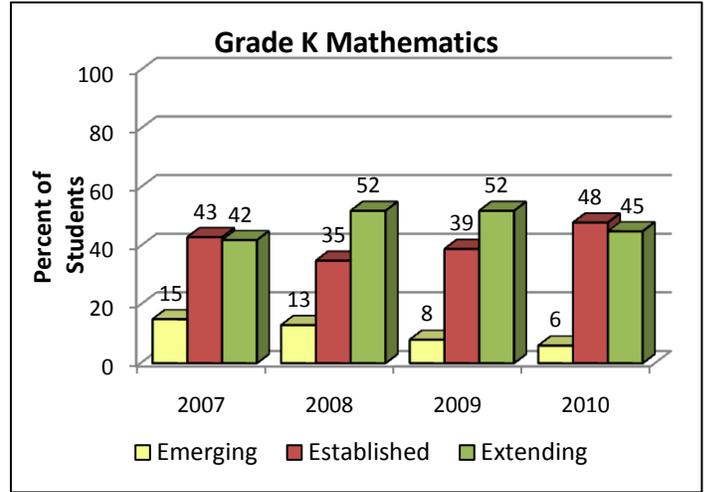
Grade K English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	16	16	10	12
Established	45	38	37	41
Extending	39	46	52	47

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



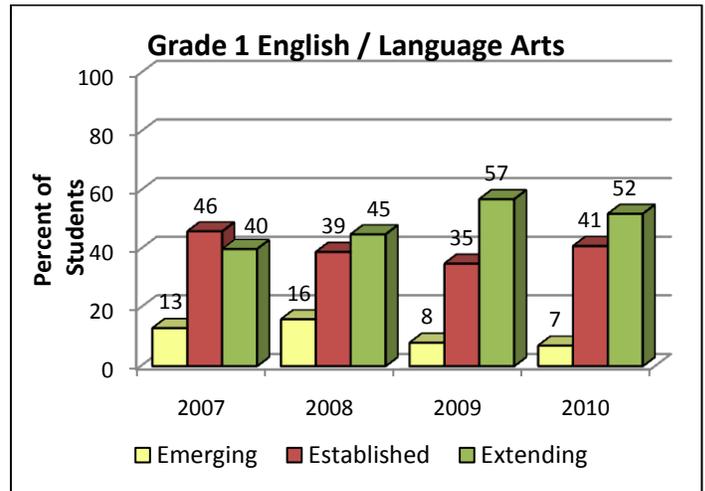
Grade K Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	15	13	8	6
Established	43	35	39	48
Extending	42	52	52	45

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



Grade 1 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	13	16	8	7
Established	46	39	35	41
Extending	40	45	57	52

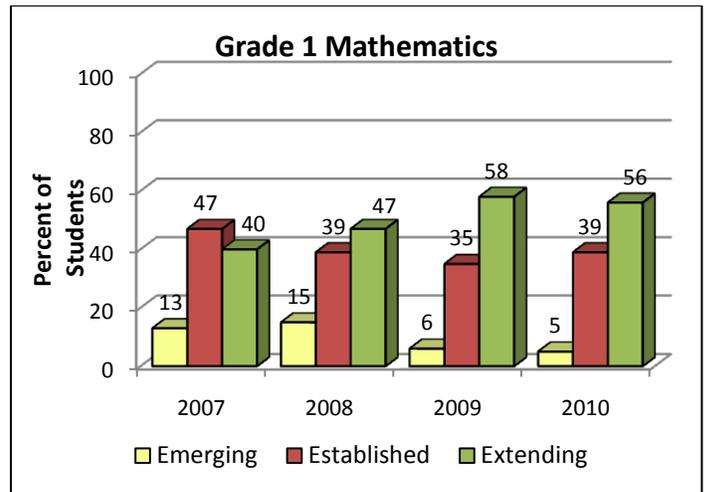
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Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding the Standard

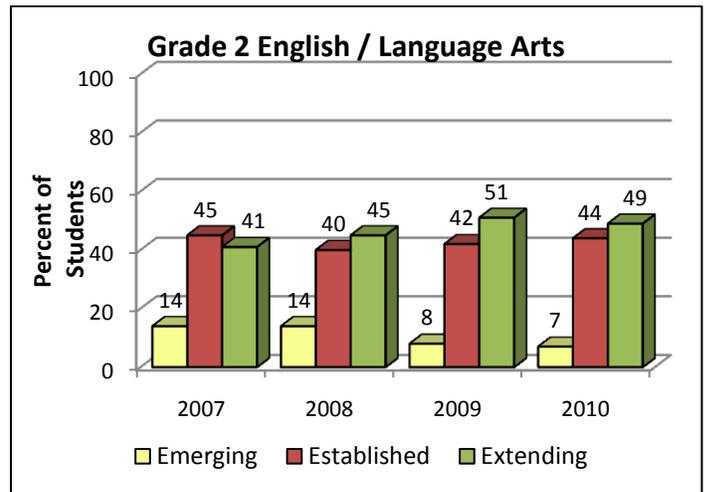
Grade 1 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	13	15	6	5
Established	47	39	35	39
Extending	40	47	58	56

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



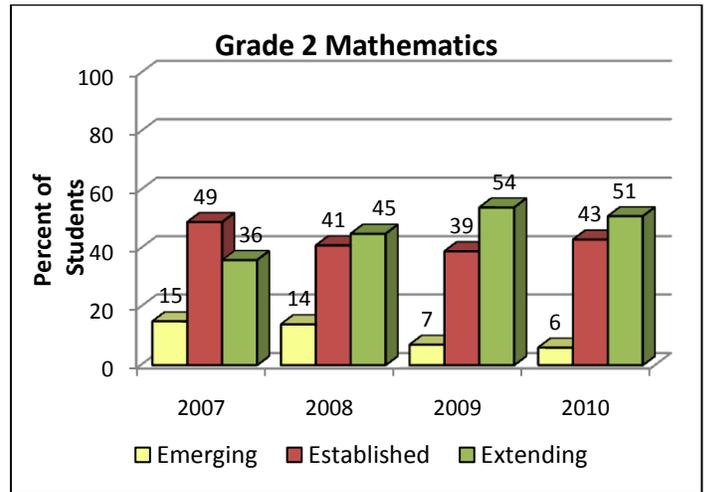
Grade 2 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	14	14	8	7
Established	45	40	42	44
Extending	41	45	51	49

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



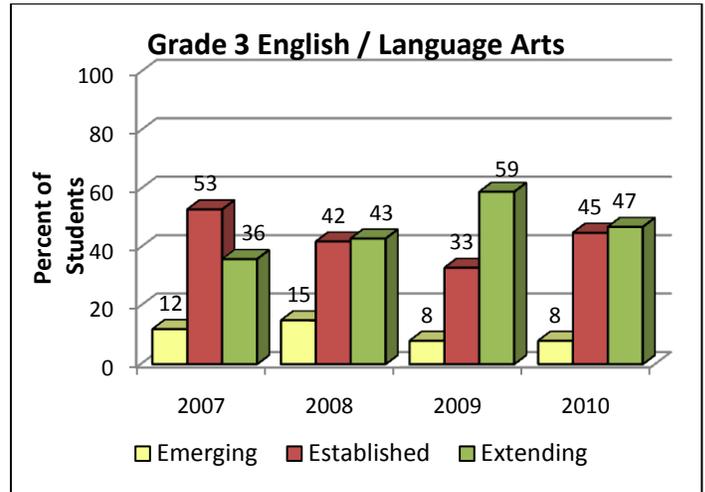
Grade 2 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	15	14	7	6
Established	49	41	39	43
Extending	36	45	54	51

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.

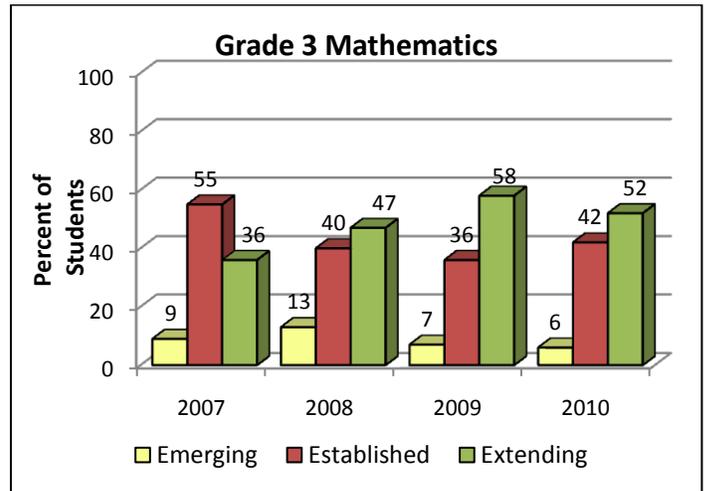


Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding the Standard

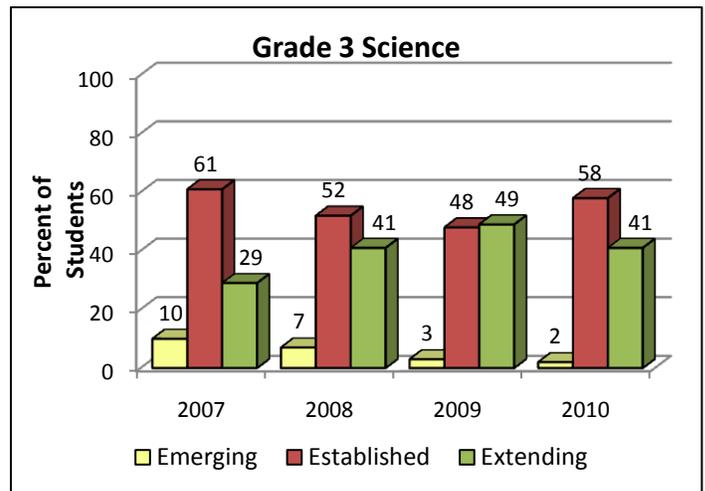
Grade 3 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	12	15	8	8
Established	53	42	33	45
Extending	36	43	59	47
Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.				



Grade 3 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	9	13	7	6
Established	55	40	36	42
Extending	36	47	58	52
Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.				



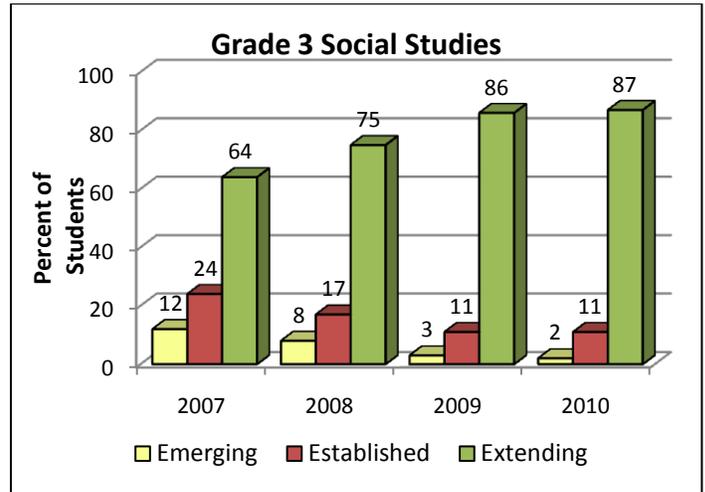
Grade 3 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	10	7	3	2
Established	61	52	48	58
Extending	29	41	49	41
Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.				



Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding the Standard

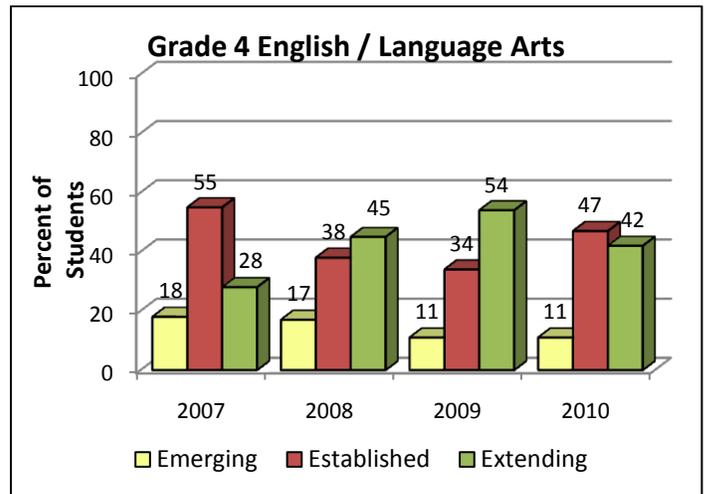
Grade 3 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	12	8	3	2
Established	24	17	11	11
Extending	64	75	86	87

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



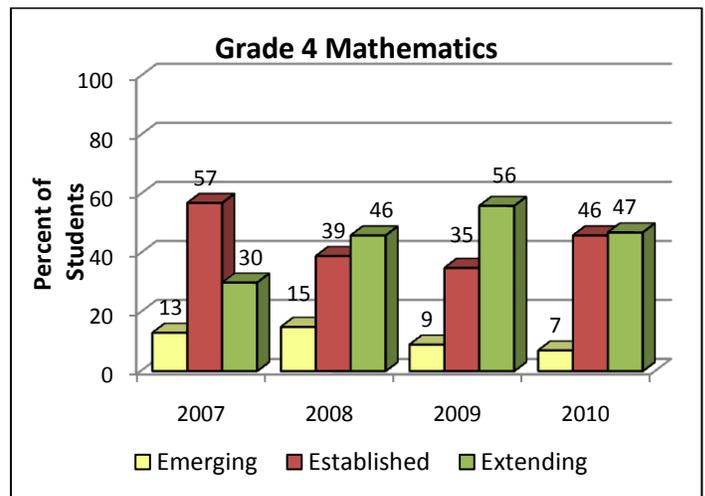
Grade 4 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	18	17	11	11
Established	55	38	34	47
Extending	28	45	54	42

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



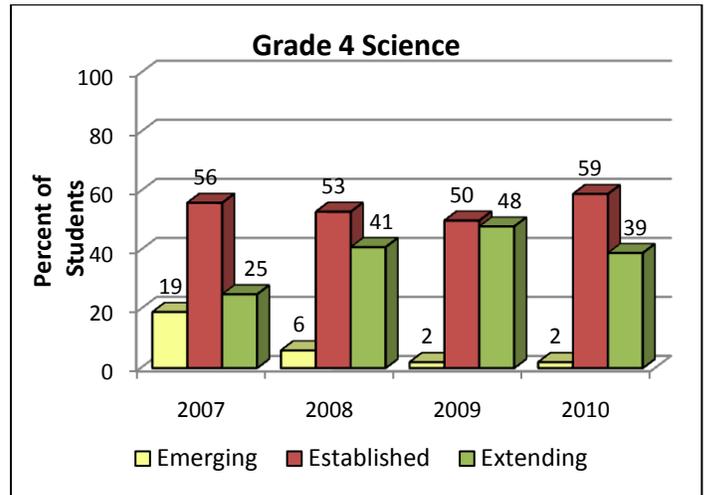
Grade 4 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	13	15	9	7
Established	57	39	35	46
Extending	30	46	56	47

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.

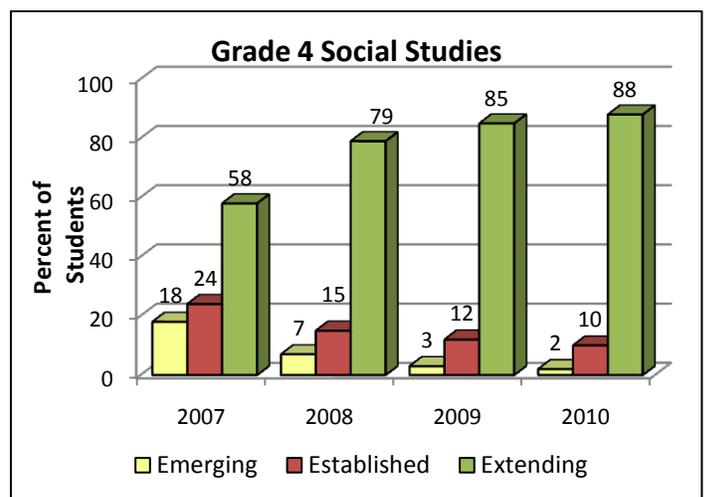


Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding the Standard

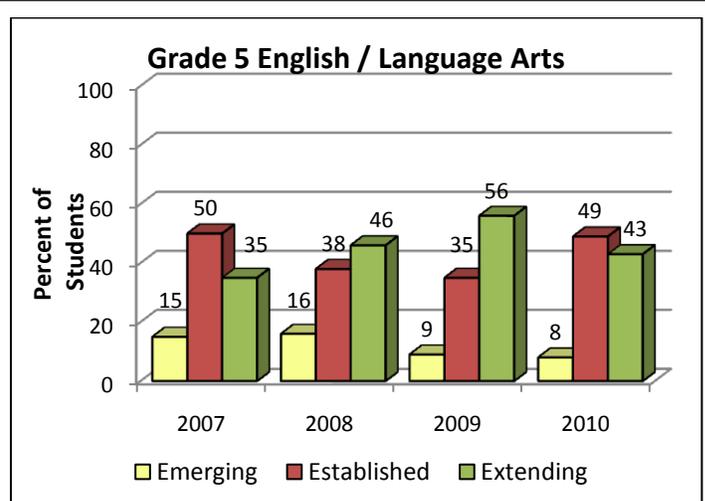
Grade 4 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	19	6	2	2
Established	56	53	50	59
Extending	25	41	48	39
Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.				



Grade 4 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	18	7	3	2
Established	24	15	12	10
Extending	58	79	85	88
Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.				

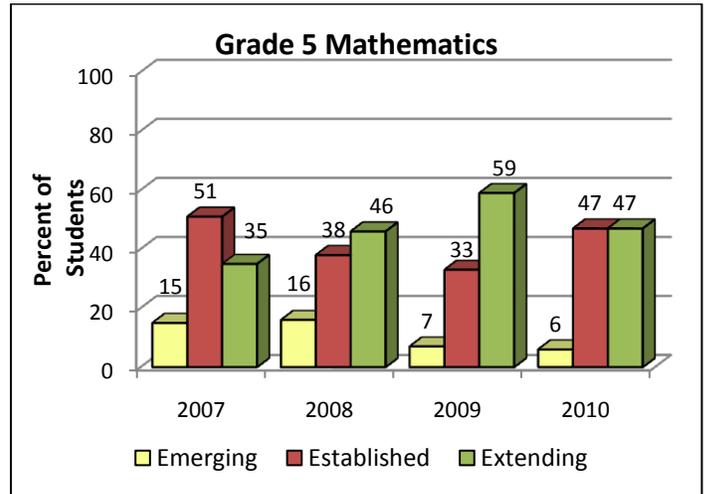


Grade 5 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	15	16	9	8
Established	50	38	35	49
Extending	35	46	56	43
Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.				

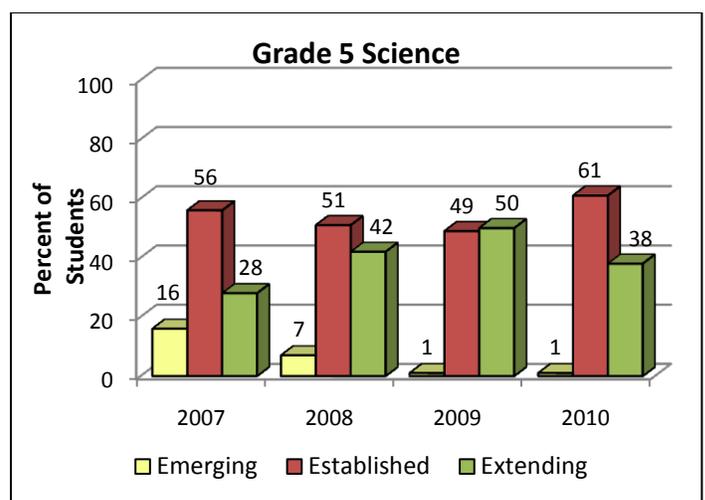


Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding the Standard

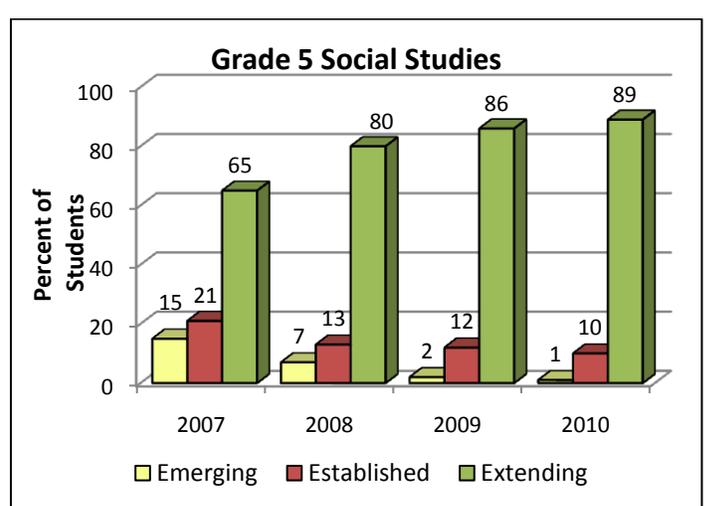
Grade 5 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	15	16	7	6
Established	51	38	33	47
Extending	35	46	59	47
Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.				



Grade 5 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	16	7	1	1
Established	56	51	49	61
Extending	28	42	50	38
Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.				



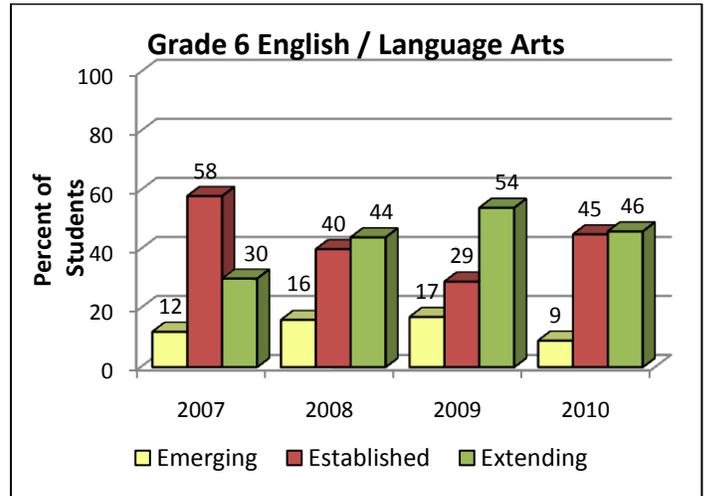
Grade 5 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	15	7	2	1
Established	21	13	12	10
Extending	65	80	86	89
Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.				



Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding the Standard

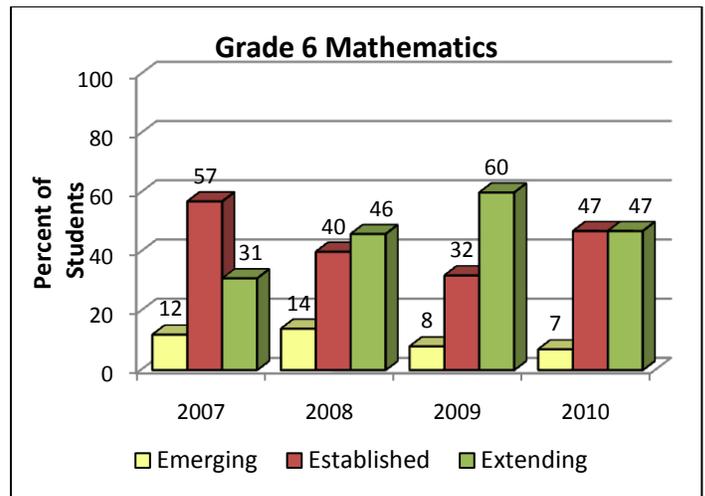
Grade 6 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	12	16	17	9
Established	58	40	29	45
Extending	30	44	54	46

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



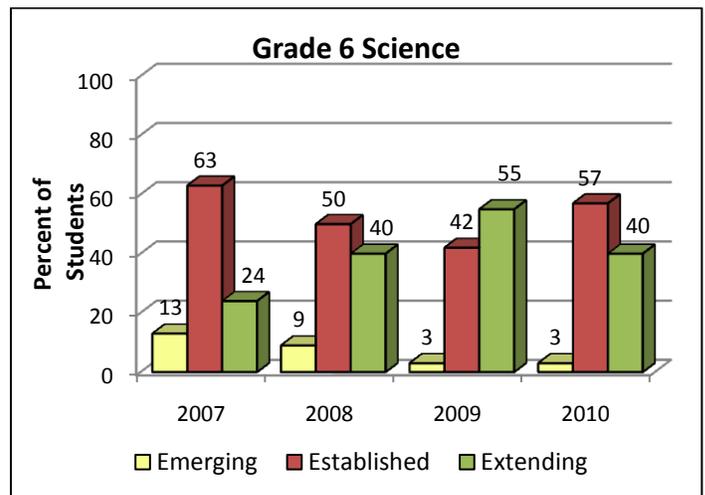
Grade 6 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	12	14	8	7
Established	57	40	32	47
Extending	31	46	60	47

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



Grade 6 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	13	9	3	3
Established	63	50	42	57
Extending	24	40	55	40

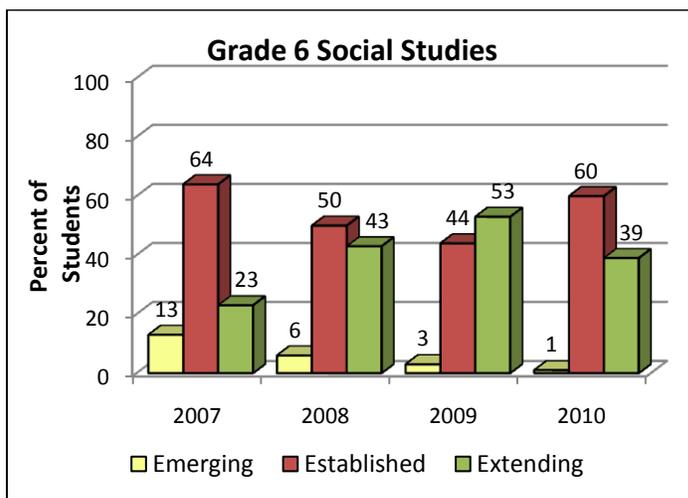
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Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding the Standard

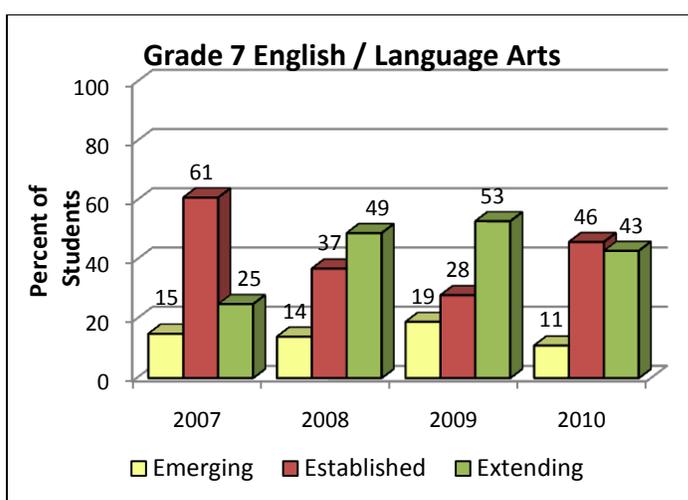
Grade 6 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	13	6	3	1
Established	64	50	44	60
Extending	23	43	53	39

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



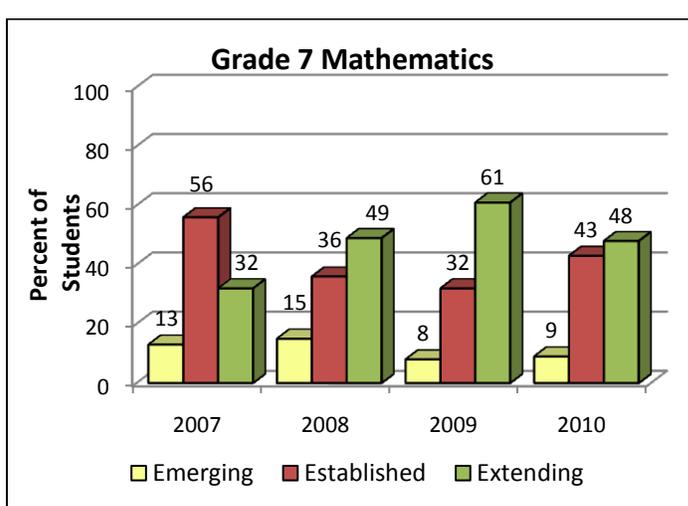
Grade 7 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	15	14	19	11
Established	61	37	28	46
Extending	25	49	53	43

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



Grade 7 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	13	15	8	9
Established	56	36	32	43
Extending	32	49	61	48

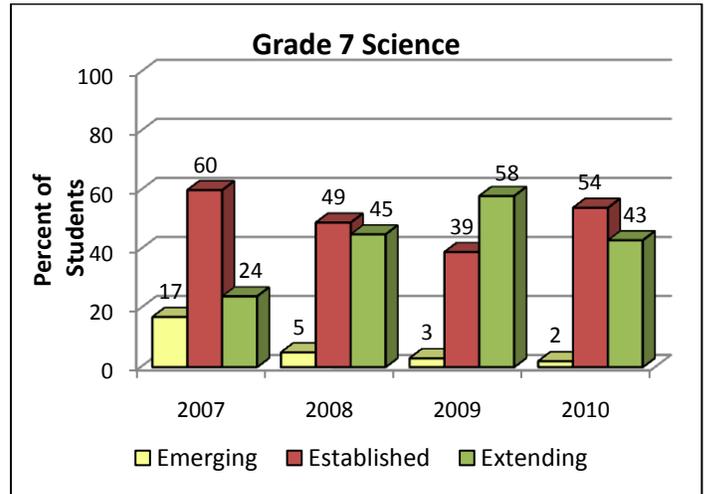
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Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding the Standard

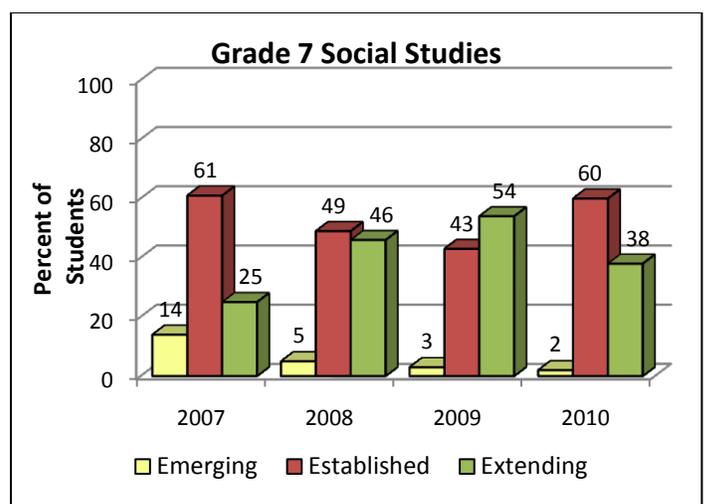
Grade 7 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	17	5	3	2
Established	60	49	39	54
Extending	24	45	58	43

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



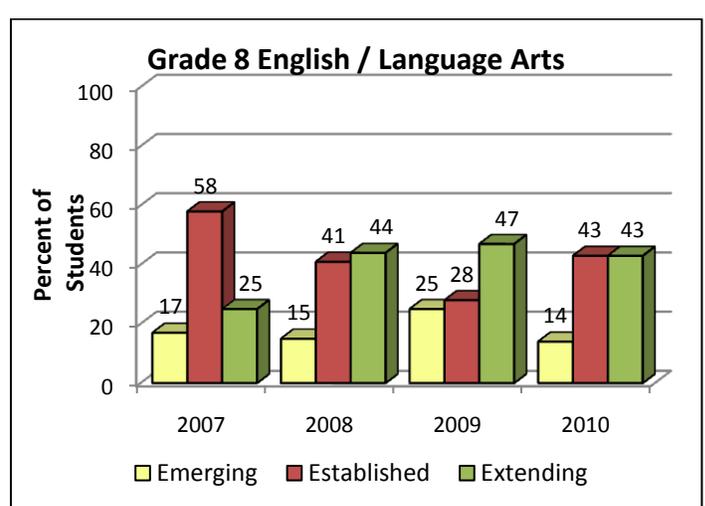
Grade 7 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	14	5	3	2
Established	61	49	43	60
Extending	25	46	54	38

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



Grade 8 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	17	15	25	14
Established	58	41	28	43
Extending	25	44	47	43

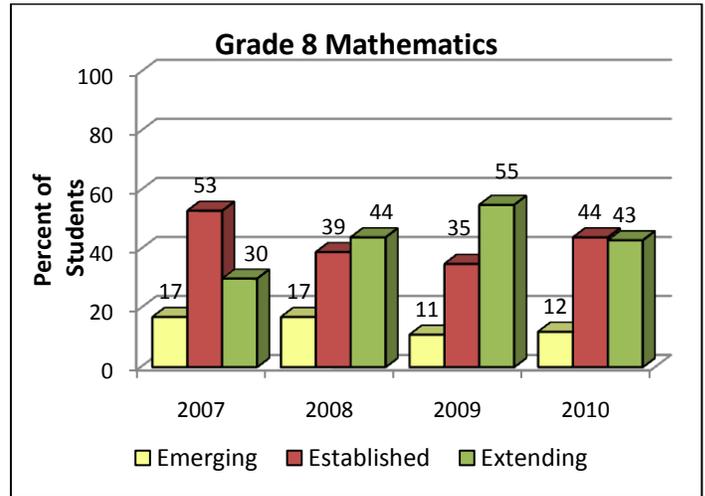
Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding the Standard

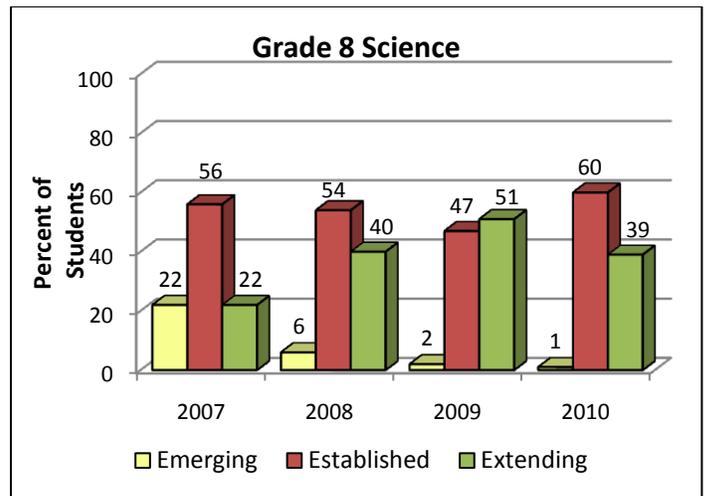
Grade 8 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	17	17	11	12
Established	53	39	35	44
Extending	30	44	55	43

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



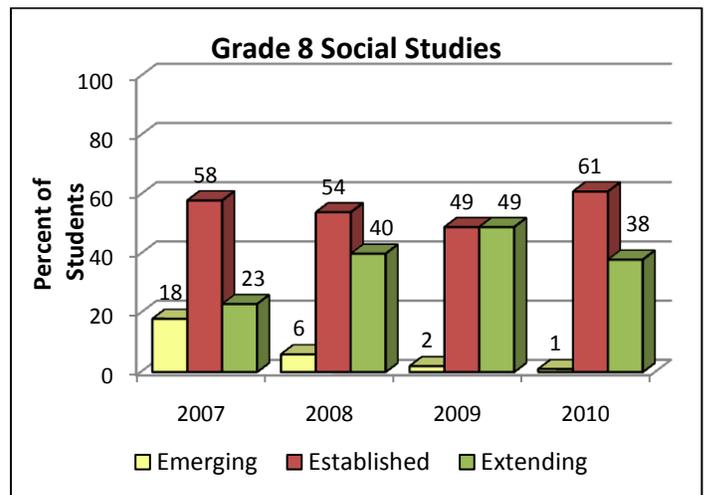
Grade 8 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	22	6	2	1
Established	56	54	47	60
Extending	22	40	51	39

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



Grade 8 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	18	6	2	1
Established	58	54	49	61
Extending	23	40	49	38

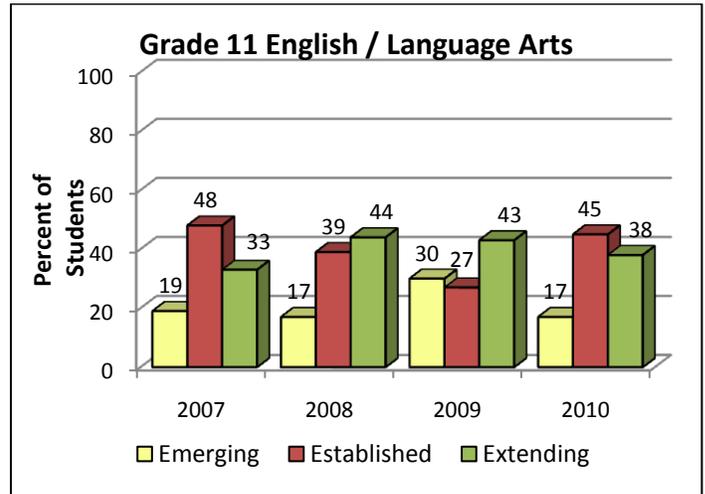
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Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding the Standard

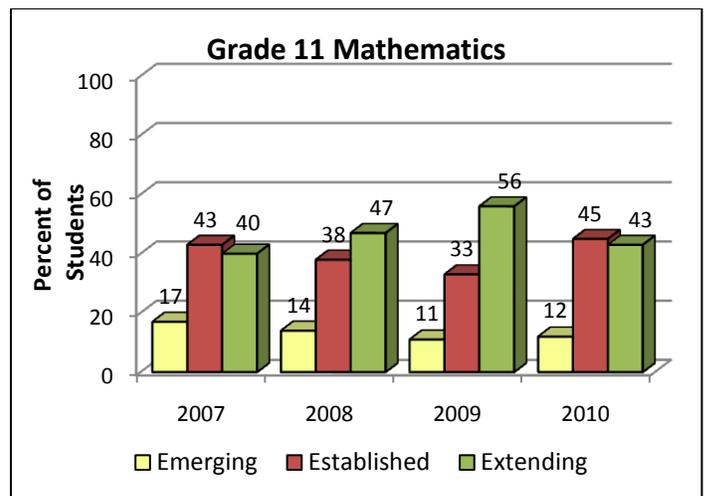
Grade 11 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	19	17	30	17
Established	48	39	27	45
Extending	33	44	43	38

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



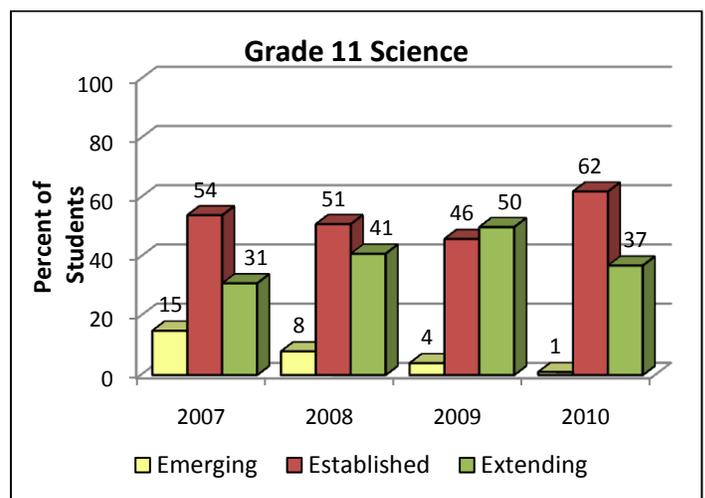
Grade 11 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	17	14	11	12
Established	43	38	33	45
Extending	40	47	56	43

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



Grade 11 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	15	8	4	1
Established	54	51	46	62
Extending	31	41	50	37

Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.



Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding the Standard

Grade 11 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	07	08	09	10
Emerging	15	8	3	1
Established	53	52	50	64
Extending	32	40	47	34
Beginning in 2007, scores are based on the new GAA providing baseline data.				

