

TESTING BRIEF
End-of-Course Tests (EOCT)

Winter 2009
November 30, 2009 – January 8, 2010

Georgia law (O.C.G.A. §20-2-281) states “the State Board of Education shall adopt end-of-course assessments for students in grades 9 through 12 for all core subjects to be determined by the state board.” The purposes of the End-of-Course Tests are to assess student achievement in the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) in the designated core courses and to provide diagnostic data to improve student achievement. Definitions for student achievement as defined by Georgia teachers at the Meets Standard performance level and the Exceeds Standard performance level are outlined in the EOCT Interpretive Guide and on the Individual Student Report for each content area.

The EOCT assess only a sample of the knowledge and skills that educators agree comprise a complete curriculum for each subject. Georgia students have opportunities to learn – and are expected to master – much more than the tests address. The Georgia Performance Standards are the source of the knowledge and skills assessed on the End-of-Course Tests in the content areas of English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies.

Administration of the End-of-Course Tests supports Goal 1 of the Superintendent’s Strategic Plan: Increase high school graduation rate, decrease high-school dropout rate, and increase post-secondary enrollment rate. This is achieved through providing an effective assessment system that is aligned with the Georgia Performance Standards and designed to improve student achievement.

KEY FINDINGS – LANGUAGE ARTS

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

- Seventy-nine (79) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for Ninth Grade Literature and Composition.
- When comparing the Winter 2009 scores to the Winter 2008 scores, the percent of students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by five (5) percentage points in Ninth Grade Literature and Composition.
- The percent of students achieving the exceeds standard performance level in Ninth Grade Literature and Composition increased by one (1) percentage point from Winter 2008 to Winter 2009.
- Since the inception of the Ninth Grade Literature & Composition EOCT as a GPS-based test in Winter 2005, the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard has increased by nineteen (19) percentage points.
- The 2009 - 2010 Strategic Plan target for the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard on the Ninth Grade Literature and Composition EOCT was 79%. This target was met.

AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

- Eighty-three (83) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for American Literature and Composition.
- When comparing the Winter 2009 scores to the Winter 2008 scores, the percent of students meeting or exceeding the standard remained the same in American Literature and Composition.
- The percent of students achieving the exceeds standard performance level in American Literature and Composition increased by two (2) percentage points from Winter 2008 to Winter 2009.
- Since the inception of the American Literature & Composition EOCT as a GPS-based test in Winter 2005, the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard has increased by six (6) percentage points.
- The 2009 - 2010 Strategic Plan target for the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard on the Ninth Grade Literature and Composition EOCT was 88%. This target was not met.

KEY FINDINGS – SCIENCE

BIOLOGY

- Sixty-four (64) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for Biology.
- When comparing the Winter 2009 scores to the Winter 2008 scores, the percent of students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by two (2) percentage points in Biology.
- The percent of students achieving the exceeds standard performance level in Biology increased by one (1) percentage point from Winter 2008 to Winter 2009.
- Since the inception of the Biology EOCT as a GPS-based test in Winter 2005, the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard has increased by fourteen (14) percentage points.
- The 2009 - 2010 Strategic Plan target for the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard on the Biology EOCT was 66%. This target was not met.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

- Seventy (70) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for Physical Science.
- When comparing the Winter 2009 scores to the Winter 2008 scores, the percent of students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by six (6) percentage points in Physical Science.
- The percent of students achieving the exceeds standard performance level in Physical Science increased by two (2) percentage points from Winter 2008 to Winter 2009.
- Since the inception of the Physical Science EOCT as a GPS-based test in Winter 2005, the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard has increased by sixteen (16) percentage points.
- The 2009 - 2010 Strategic Plan target for the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard on the Physical Science EOCT was 69%. This target was exceeded.

KEY FINDINGS – SOCIAL STUDIES

U.S. HISTORY

- Fifty-two (52) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for U.S. History.
- When comparing the Winter 2009 scores to the Winter 2008 scores, the percent of students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by three (3) percentage points in U.S. History.
- The percent of students achieving the exceeds standard performance level in U.S. History increased by four (4) percentage points from Winter 2008 to Winter 2009.
- Since the inception of the U.S. History EOCT as a GPS-based test in Winter 2007, the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard has increased by four (4) percentage points.
- The 2009 - 2010 Strategic Plan target for the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard on the U.S. History EOCT was 62%. This target was not met.

ECONOMICS/BUSINESS/FREE ENTERPRISE

- Seventy (70) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for Economics/Business/Free Enterprise.
- When comparing the Winter 2009 scores to the Winter 2008 scores, the percent of students meeting or exceeding the standard remained the same in Economics.
- The percent of students achieving the exceeds standard performance level in Economics increased by three (3) percentage points from Winter 2008 to Winter 2009.
- Since the inception of the Economics EOCT as a GPS-based test in Winter 2007, the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard has increased by seven (7) percentage points.
- The 2009 - 2010 Strategic Plan target for the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard on the Economics EOCT was 72%. This target was not met.

KEY FINDINGS – MATHEMATICS

MATHEMATICS I: ALGEBRA I/GEOMETRY/DATA ANALYSIS AND PROBABILITY*

- Sixty-one (61) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for Mathematics I.
- The percent of students achieving at the exceeds standard performance level in Mathematics I was nine (9) percent.
- The 2009-2010 Strategic Plan target for the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard on the Mathematics I EOCT was 60%. This target was exceeded.

MATHEMATICS II: ALGEBRA II/GEOMETRY/DATA ANALYSIS AND PROBABILITY*

- Sixty-five (65) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for Mathematics II.
- The percent of students achieving at the exceeds standard performance level in Mathematics II was thirteen (13) percent.
- The 2009-2010 Strategic Plan target for the percentage of students meeting and exceeding the standard on the Mathematics II EOCT was 60%. This target was exceeded.

ALGEBRA I**

- Thirty-seven (37) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for Algebra I.
- When comparing the Winter 2009 scores to the Winter 2008, the percent of students meeting or exceeding the standard decreased by three (3) percentage points in Algebra I.
- The percent of students achieving the exceeds standard performance level in Algebra remained the same from Winter 2008 to Winter 2009.

GEOMETRY**

- Thirty-nine (39) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for Geometry.
- When comparing the Winter 2009 scores to the Winter 2008, the percent of students meeting or exceeding the standard decreased by twelve (12) percentage points in Geometry.
- The percent of students achieving the exceeds standard performance level in Geometry decreased by six (6) percentage points from Winter 2008 to Winter 2009.

*The Winter 2009 EOCT marks the first operational administration of the GPS-based Mathematics I and II EOCT.

**Participants in the Algebra I and Geometry EOCT represent a smaller group of students that were enrolled in high school prior to Fall 2008. These two tests are aligned to the Quality Core Curriculum (QCC) which has been replaced by the GPS. The Winter 2009 administration was the last opportunity for students to take the Algebra I EOCT. The Geometry EOCT will continue to be available through July 2010.

KEY FINDINGS – ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

When comparing the Winter 2009 scores to Winter 2008, the percent of English Language Learners (ELL) students meeting or exceeding the standard increased across multiple subject specific tests:

- In Ninth Grade Literature and Composition the percent of ELL students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by one (1) percentage point.
- In American Literature and Composition the percent of ELL students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by four (4) percentage points.
- In Biology the percent of ELL students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by six (6) percentage points.
- In Physical Science the percent of ELL students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by five (5) percentage points.
- In Economics the percent of ELL students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by seven (7) percentage points.

When comparing the scores from Winter 2009 to the scores from the inception of the GPS-based EOCT, the percent of ELL students meeting or exceeding the standard increased across multiple subject specific tests:

- In Ninth Grade Literature and Composition the percent of ELL students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by twenty-one (21) percentage points.
- In American Literature and Composition the percent of ELL students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by fifteen (15) percentage points.
- In Biology the percent of ELL students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by eighteen (18) percentage points.
- In Physical Science the percent of ELL students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by twenty-seven (27) percentage points.
- In Economics the percent of ELL students meeting or exceeding the standard increased by eleven (11) percentage points.

KEY FINDINGS – STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

When comparing the Winter 2009 scores to Winter 2008, the percent of Students with Disabilities meeting or exceeding standard increased in two subject specific tests:

- In Biology the percent of Students with Disabilities meeting or exceeding the standard increased by one (1) percentage point.
- In Physical Science the percent of Students with Disabilities meeting or exceeding the standard increased by seven (7) percentage points.

When comparing the scores from Winter 2009 to the scores from the inception of the GPS-based EOCT, the percent of Students with Disabilities meeting or exceeding the standard increased across multiple subject specific tests:

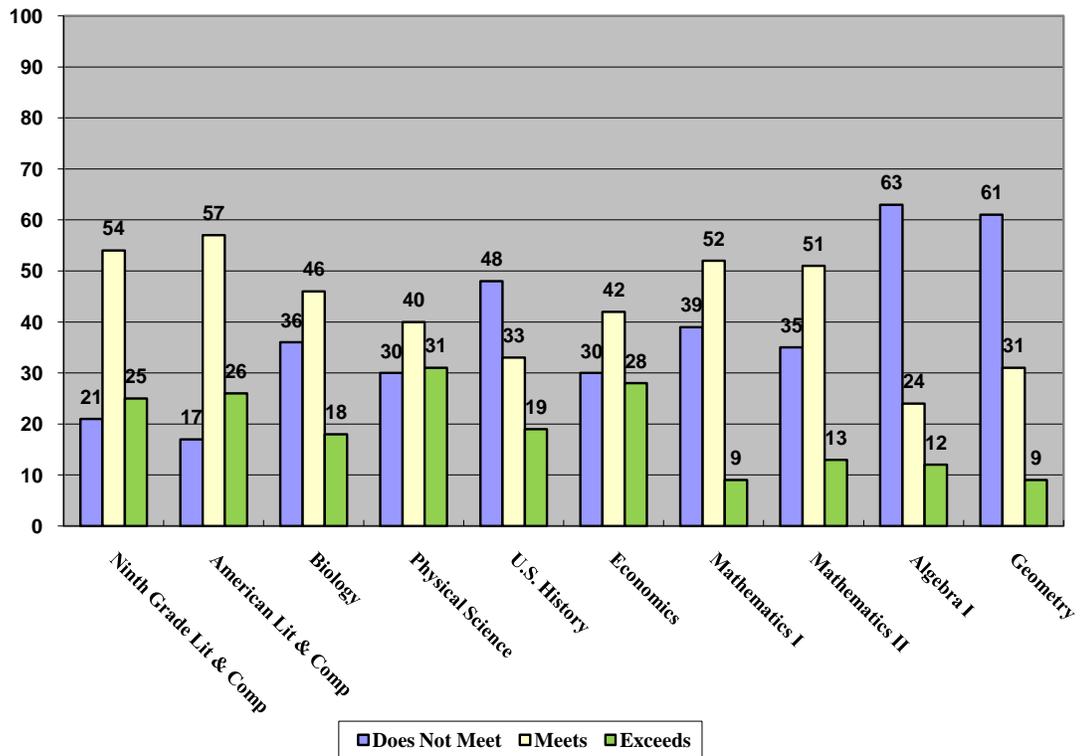
- In Ninth Grade Literature and Composition the percent of Students with Disabilities meeting or exceeding the standard increased by eighteen (18) percentage points.
- In American Literature and Composition the percent of Students with Disabilities meeting or exceeding the standard increased by eighteen (18) percentage points.
- In Biology the percent of Students with Disabilities meeting or exceeding the standard increased by fourteen (14) percentage points.
- In Physical Science the percent of Students with Disabilities meeting or exceeding the standard increased by twenty (20) percentage points.
- In U.S. History the percent of Students with Disabilities meeting or exceeding the standard increased by four (4) percentage points.
- In Economics the percent of Students with Disabilities meeting or exceeding the standard increased by six (6) percentage points.

Percent in Performance Level - Georgia EOCT – Winter 2009

Performance Level*	Ninth Grade Lit. and Composition	American Lit. and Composition	Biology	Physical Science	U.S. History	Economics	Mathematics I	Mathematics II	Algebra	Geometry
Does Not Meet	21	17	36	30	48	30	39	35	63	61
Meets Standard	54	57	46	40	33	42	52	51	24	31
Exceeds Standard	25	26	18	31	19	28	9	13	12	9

*Due to rounding, content area performance levels may not sum up to 100%.

Percent in Performance Level - Winter 2009

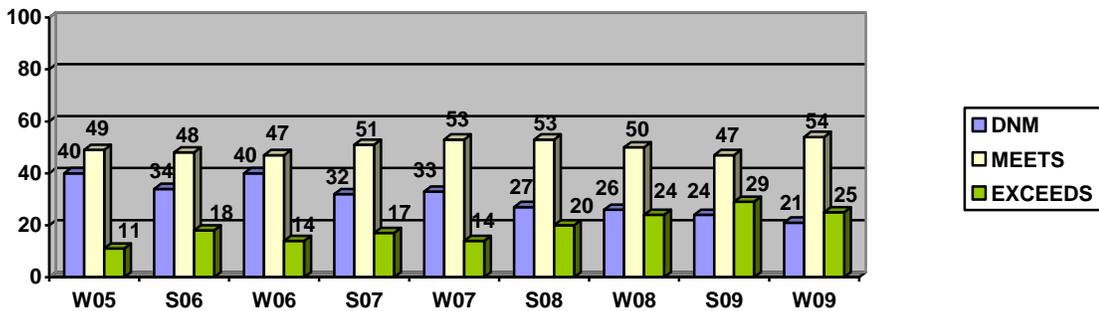


Historical Performance by Subject on the Georgia EOCT

Ninth Grade Literature & Composition

Performance Levels*	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09
Does Not Meet	40	34	40	32	33	27	26	24	21
Meets	49	48	47	51	53	53	50	47	54
Exceeds	11	18	14	17	14	20	24	29	25

*Due to rounding, content area performance levels may not sum up to 100%.



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

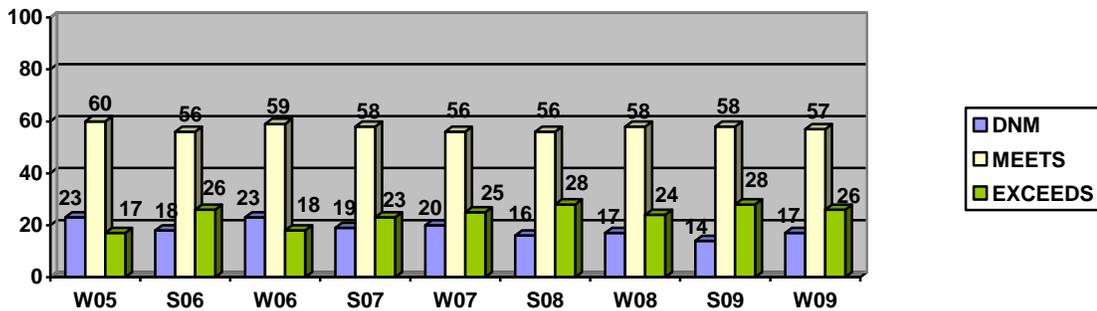
Ninth Grade Literature and Composition	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the Standard									Change W05 to W09
	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09	
All Students	60	66	60	68	67	73	74	76	79	+19
English Language Learners	19	15	19	21	27	24	39	35	40	+21
Students with Disabilities	20	25	22	28	28	33	38	38	38	+18
Asian	72	83	72	86	81	87	85	87	81	+9
Black	45	50	45	54	55	60	64	66	70	+25
Hispanic	48	53	49	56	59	63	70	67	76	+28
Native American/Alaskan	42	62	53	63	61	69	65	78	76	+34
White	73	79	74	81	79	84	84	86	87	+14
Multiracial	64	72	69	74	76	79	72	75	81	+17

Historical Performance by Subject on the Georgia EOCT

American Literature & Composition

Performance Levels*	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09
Does Not Meet	23	18	23	19	20	16	17	14	17
Meets	60	56	59	58	56	56	58	58	57
Exceeds	17	26	18	23	25	28	24	28	26

*Due to rounding, content area performance levels may not sum up to 100%.



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

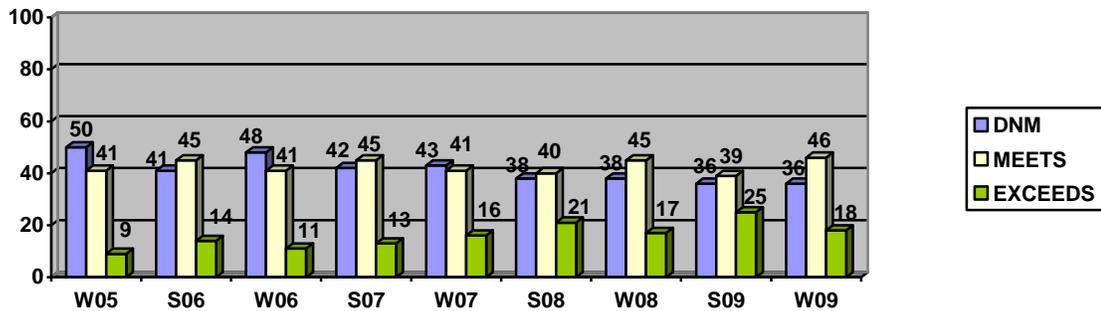
American Literature and Composition	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the Standard									Change W05 to W09
	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09	
All Students	77	82	77	81	80	84	83	86	83	+6
English Language Learners	32	38	34	40	43	43	43	53	47	+15
Students with Disabilities	33	40	36	44	39	49	52	53	51	+18
Asian	83	88	87	88	91	88	86	91	85	+2
Black	65	71	66	70	72	75	76	79	76	+11
Hispanic	66	71	68	71	70	74	77	79	81	+15
Native American/Alaskan	77	84	83	82	86	87	92	89	82	+5
White	86	90	87	90	88	91	90	92	90	+4
Multiracial	80	87	81	84	88	88	76	85	85	+5

Historical Performance by Subject on the Georgia EOCT

Biology

Performance Levels*	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09
Does Not Meet	50	41	48	42	43	38	38	36	36
Meets	41	45	41	45	41	40	45	39	46
Exceeds	9	14	11	13	16	21	17	25	18

*Due to rounding, content area performance levels may not sum up to 100%.



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

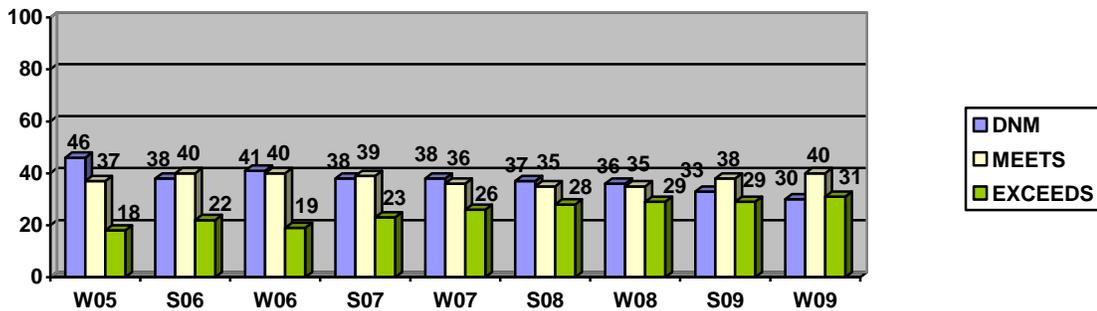
Biology	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the Standard									Change W05 to W09
	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09	
All Students	50	59	52	58	57	62	62	64	64	+14
English Language Learners	14	21	14	23	25	26	26	29	32	+18
Students with Disabilities	19	27	22	27	26	29	32	31	33	+14
Asian	63	76	67	78	74	81	78	82	75	+12
Black	31	41	34	39	41	45	47	47	49	+18
Hispanic	36	45	39	45	48	52	52	54	60	+24
Native American/Alaskan	38	60	47	63	54	65	64	63	70	+32
White	68	76	70	74	71	77	78	79	79	+11
Multiracial	52	64	56	63	66	67	56	60	67	+15

Historical Performance by Subject on the Georgia EOCT

Physical Science

Performance Levels*	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09
Does Not Meet	46	38	41	38	38	37	36	33	30
Meets	37	40	40	39	36	35	35	38	40
Exceeds	18	22	19	23	26	28	29	29	31

*Due to rounding, content area performance levels may not sum up to 100%.



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

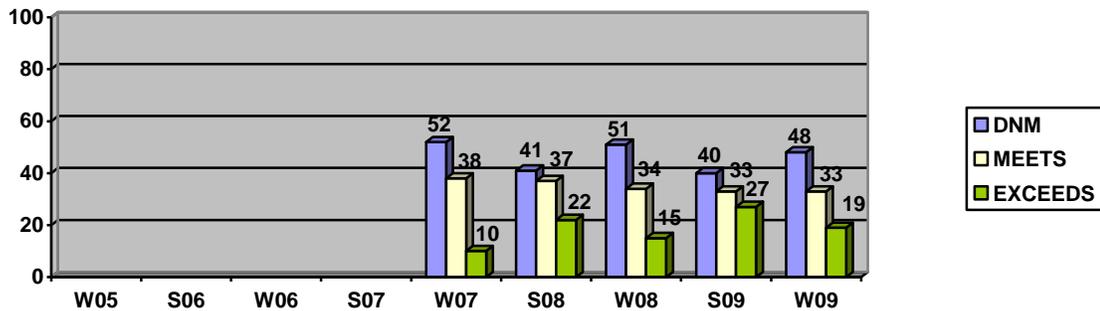
Physical Science	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the Standard									Change W05 to W09
	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09	
All Students	54	62	59	62	62	63	64	67	70	+16
English Language Learners	20	29	34	39	27	38	42	43	47	+27
Students with Disabilities	24	29	30	31	33	34	37	37	44	+20
Asian	69	76	70	77	73	78	76	82	77	+8
Black	40	48	44	48	49	49	53	55	59	+19
Hispanic	43	52	56	56	53	57	58	64	71	+28
Native American/Alaskan	44	62	57	65	64	61	69	68	65	+21
White	69	75	72	77	75	78	76	81	82	+13
Multiracial	55	65	66	67	68	68	57	62	78	+23

Historical Performance by Subject on the Georgia EOCT

U.S. History†

Performance Levels	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09
Does Not Meet	-	-	-	-	52	41	51	40	48
Meets	-	-	-	-	38	37	34	33	33
Exceeds	-	-	-	-	10	22	15	27	19

†The Winter 2007 EOCT marks the first operational administration of the GPS-based US History EOCT.



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

US History†	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the Standard									Change W07 to W09
	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09	
All Students	-	-	-	-	48	59	49	60	52	+4
English Language Learners	-	-	-	-	17	19	21	26	17	No Change
Students with Disabilities	-	-	-	-	23	29	27	29	27	+4
Asian	-	-	-	-	51	76	61	78	66	+15
Black	-	-	-	-	33	41	33	43	38	+5
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	39	49	44	50	48	+9
Native American/Alaskan	-	-	-	-	46	69	64	60	49	+3
White	-	-	-	-	60	74	64	74	65	+5
Multiracial	-	-	-	-	54	62	44	59	51	-3

†The Winter 2007 EOCT marks the first operational administration of the GPS-based US History EOCT.

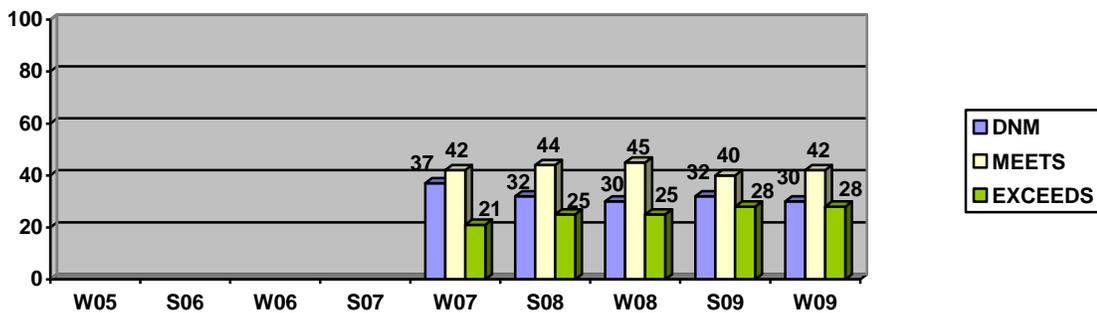
Historical Performance by Subject on the Georgia EOCT

Economics†

Performance Level *	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09
Does Not Meet	-	-	-	-	37	32	30	32	30
Meets	-	-	-	-	42	44	45	40	42
Exceeds	-	-	-	-	21	25	25	28	28

†The Winter 2007 EOCT marks the first operational administration of the GPS-based Economics EOCT.

*Due to rounding, content area performance levels may not sum up to 100%.



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

Economics†	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the Standard									Change W07 to W09
	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09	
All Students	-	-	-	-	63	68	70	68	70	+7
English Language Learners	-	-	-	-	31	38	35	39	42	+11
Students with Disabilities	-	-	-	-	32	36	41	36	38	+6
Asian	-	-	-	-	79	83	83	83	85	+6
Black	-	-	-	-	47	50	56	52	57	+10
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	54	63	61	61	65	+11
Native American/Alaskan	-	-	-	-	71	71	74	72	66	-5
White	-	-	-	-	77	82	82	81	82	+5
Multiracial	-	-	-	-	66	70	66	65	74	+8

†The Winter 2007 EOCT marks the first operational administration of the GPS-based Economics EOCT.

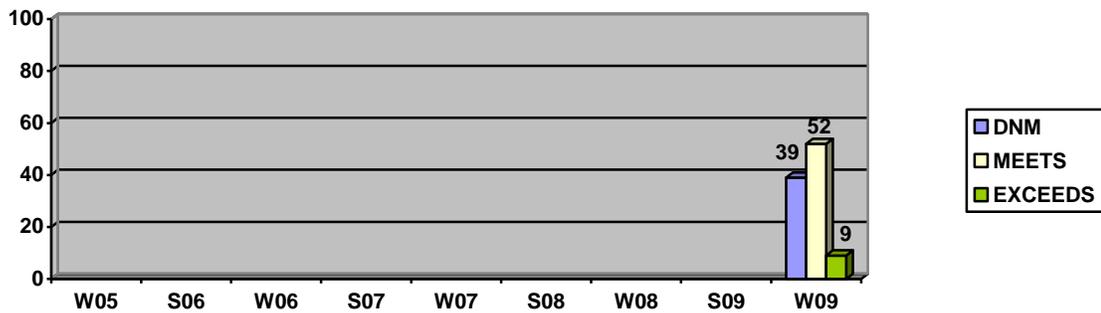
Historical Performance by Subject on the Georgia EOCT

Mathematics I[†]

Performance Levels*	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09
Does Not Meet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
Meets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52
Exceeds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9

[†]The Winter 2009 EOCT marks the first operational administration of the GPS-based Mathematics I EOCT.

*Due to rounding, content area performance levels may not sum up to 100%.



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

Mathematics I [†]	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the Standard									Change W05 to W09
	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09	
All Students	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	61	-
English Language Learners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	-
Students with Disabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	-
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54	-
Native American/Alaskan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52	-
White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75	-
Multiracial	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54	-

[†]The Winter 2009 EOCT marks the first operational administration of the GPS-based Mathematics I EOCT.

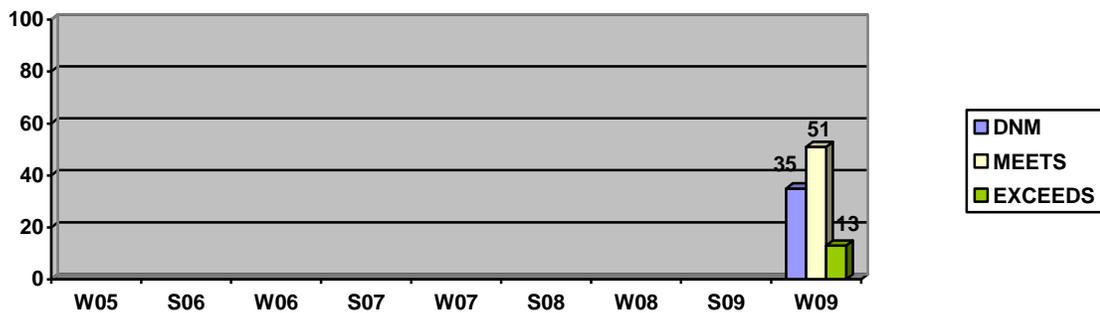
Historical Performance by Subject on the Georgia EOCT

Mathematics II†

Performance Levels*	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09
Does Not Meet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
Meets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51
Exceeds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13

†The Winter 2009 EOCT marks the first operational administration of the GPS-based Mathematics II EOCT.

*Due to rounding, content area performance levels may not sum up to 100%.



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

Mathematics II†	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the Standard									Change W05 to W09
	W05	S06	W06	S07	W07	S08	W08	S09	W09	
All Students	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	-
English Language Learners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	-
Students with Disabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	-
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	86	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	-
Native American/Alaskan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59	-
White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	74	-
Multiracial	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	-

†The Winter 2009 EOCT marks the first operational administration of the GPS-based Mathematics II EOCT.

Number of Tests Administered

Number of Tests Administered in Winter 09			
Subject	Paper-Based	Online*	Total
9 th Literature & Comp.	22,869	5,288	28,157
American Literature & Comp.	22,462	5,541	28,003
Mathematics I	17,201	2,891	20,092
Mathematics II	12,297	2,576	14,873
Algebra I	3,316	1,799	5,115
Geometry	8,818	2,478	11,296
U.S. History	17,536	6,120	23,656
Economics	31,044	18,133	49,177
Physical Science	17,880	3,515	21,395
Biology	25,296	6,465	31,761
Totals	178,719	54,806	233,525

* Figures include August, September, October, and November online mid-month administrations.

Number of Online Mid-Month Administrations					
Subject	Aug. 09	Sept. 09	Oct. 09	Nov. 09	Total
9 th Literature & Comp	322	343	405	306	1,376
American Literature & Comp.	231	236	415	273	1,155
Mathematics I	NA	43	59	104	206
Algebra I	191	209	290	248	938
Geometry	236	177	260	228	901
U.S. History	187	166	257	222	832
Economics	183	223	2,495	398	3,299
Physical Science	135	243	291	221	890
Biology	327	277	355	312	1,271
Totals	1,812	1,874	4,768	2,208	10,662