

TESTING BRIEF

End-of-Course Tests Spring 2008 April 28, 2008 – June 6, 2008

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 purpose of the End-of-Course Tests is to assess student achievement in the Quality Core Curriculum and Georgia Performance Standards in the designated eight 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 Quality Core Curriculum is the source of the knowledge and skills assessed on the Math tests. The Georgia Performance Standards are the source of the knowledge and skills assessed on the Science, Language Arts, and Social Studies tests.

KEY FINDINGS – LANGUAGE ARTS

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

- A total of 99,298 students were assessed in Ninth Grade Literature and Composition.
- Seventy-three (73) percent of Georgia’s ninth grade students met or exceeded the standard for Ninth Grade Literature and Composition.
- The mean scale score for Ninth Grade Literature and Composition was 418.**

AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

- A total of 81,120 students were assessed in American Literature and Composition.
- Eighty-four (84) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for American Literature and Composition.
- The mean scale score for American Literature and Composition was 430.**

KEY FINDINGS – SCIENCE

BIOLOGY

- A total of 98,462 students were assessed in Biology.
- Sixty-two (62) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for Biology.
- The mean scale score for Biology was 415.**

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

- A total of 66,959 students were assessed in Physical Science.
- Sixty-three (63) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for Physical Science.
- The mean scale score for Physical Science was 421.**

KEY FINDINGS – SOCIAL STUDIES

U.S. HISTORY

- A total of 86,117 students were assessed in U.S. History
- Fifty-nine (59) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for U.S. History.
- The mean scale score for U.S. History was 410.*

ECONOMICS/BUSINESS/FREE ENTERPRISE

- A total of 47,373 students were assessed in Economics/Business/Free Enterprise.
- Sixty-eight (68) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for Economics/Business/Free Enterprise.
- The mean scale score for Economics/Business/Free Enterprise was 420.*

** For Ninth Grade Literature, American Literature, Biology, Physical Science, U. S. History and Economics/Business/Free Enterprise, a scale score of 400 is necessary to meet standard. A scale score of 450 or higher is necessary to exceed standard. The Ninth Grade Literature, American Literature, Biology, and Physical Science tests were aligned with the Georgia Performance Standards, beginning with the 05/06 school year. The U.S. History and Economics/Business/Free Enterprise tests were aligned with the Georgia Performance Standards beginning with the 07/08 school year. With the transition from the Quality Core Curriculum (QCC) to the new Georgia Performance Standards (GPS), both the content and the performance

standard for these tests changed. When this occurs, it is appropriate to establish a new scale to describe performance. It is important to note that the new GPS based EOCT are not comparable to previous QCC-based tests.

KEY FINDINGS – MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA I

- A total of 88,652 students were assessed in Algebra I.
- Fifty-five (55) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceeded the standard for Algebra I.
- The mean scale score for Algebra I was 608.*

GEOMETRY

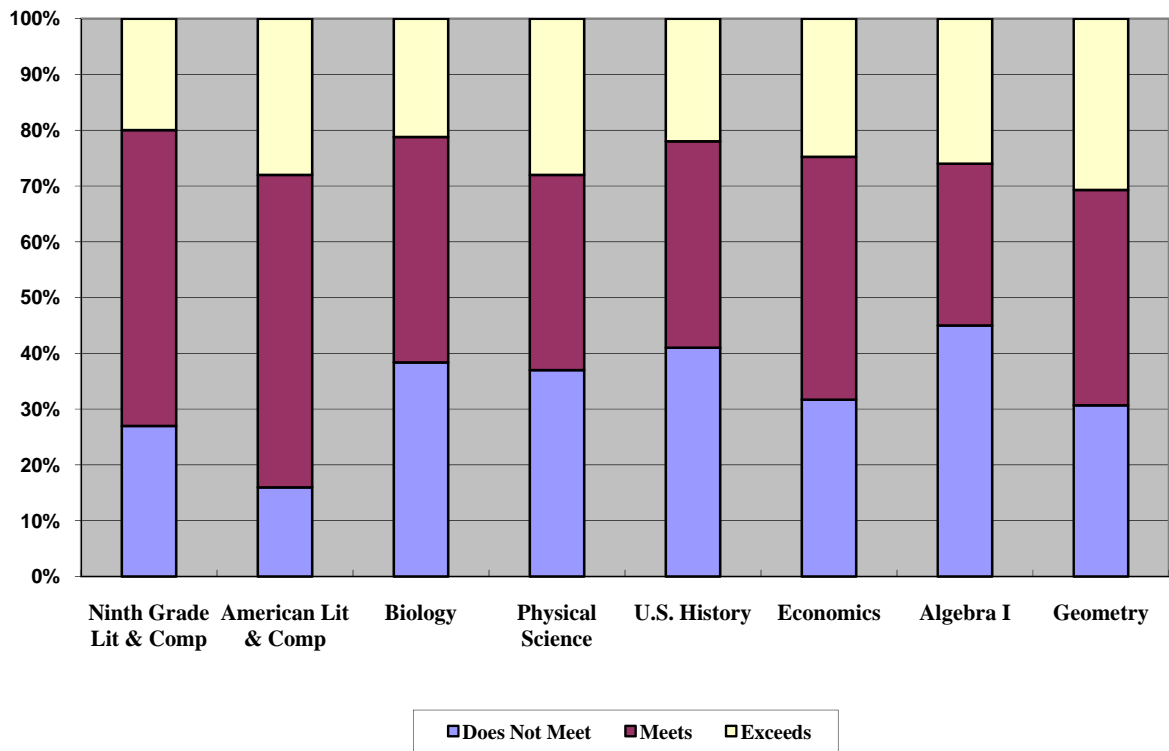
- A total of 80,891 students were assessed in Geometry.
- Sixty-one (61) percent of Georgia’s students met or exceed the standard for Geometry.
- The mean scale score for Geometry was 612.*

* For Algebra I and Geometry, a scale score of 600 is necessary to meet standard. A scale score of 630 or higher demonstrates a performance level of exceeds standard. The Algebra I and Geometry EOCT continue to be aligned to the Quality Core Curriculum (QCC)

Percent in Performance Level - Georgia EOCT – Spring 2008

Performance Level	Ninth Grade Literature and Composition	American Literature and Composition	Biology	Physical Science	U.S. History	Economics	Algebra I	Geometry
Exceeds Standard	20	28	21	28	22	25	26	27
Meets Standard	53	56	40	35	37	44	29	34
Does Not Meet	27	16	38	37	41	32	45	39

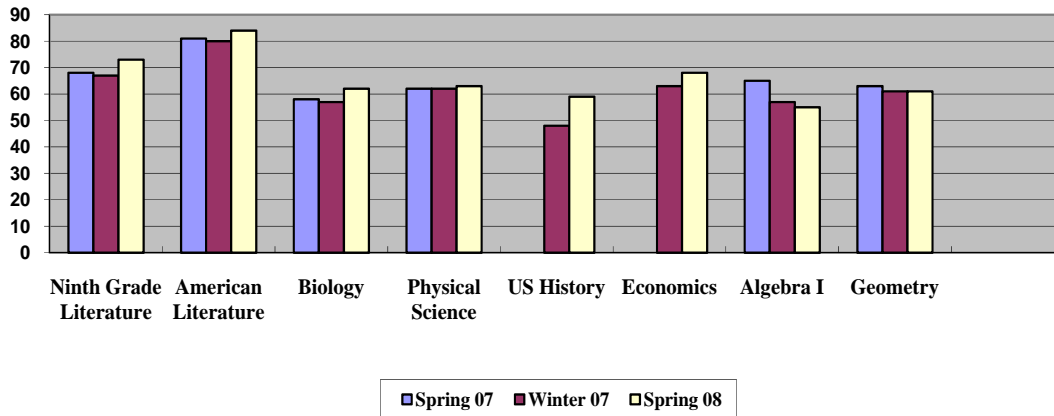
Percent in Performance Level - Spring 2008



Historical Performance of Students on the Georgia EOCT

	Percent of Students Meeting and Exceeding Standard on EOCT		
	Spring 2007	Winter 2007	Spring 2008
Ninth Grade Literature	68	67	73
American Literature	81	80	84
Biology	58	57	62
Physical Science	62	62	63
U.S. History	*	48	59
Economics	*	63	68
Algebra I	65	57	55
Geometry	63	61	61

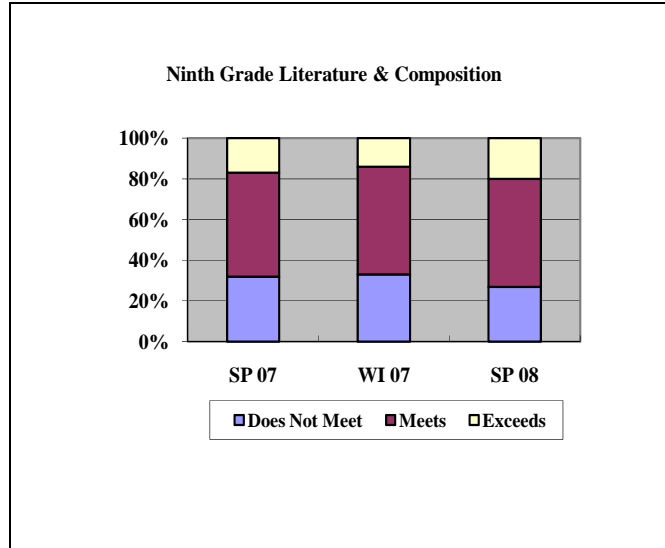
EOCT Historical Comparisons



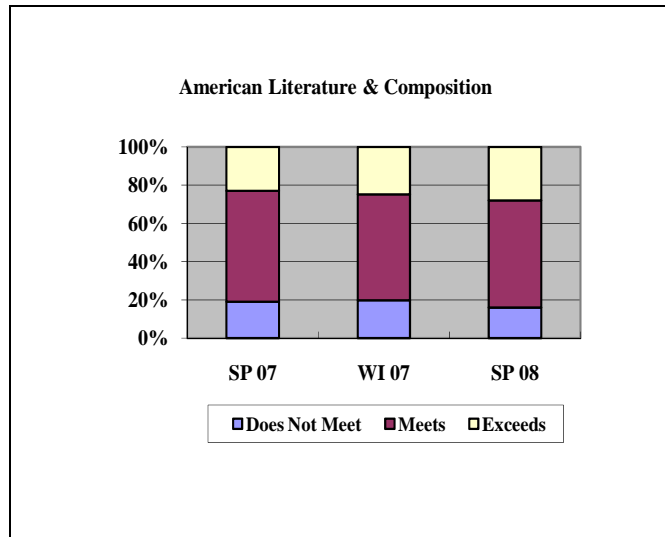
*Spring 2007 QCC EOCT cannot be compared to Winter 2007 and Spring 2008 GPS-based assessments.

Historical Performance by Subject on the Georgia EOCT

Ninth Grade Literature and Composition			
Performance Level	Percent of Students		
	SP 07	WI 07	SP 08
Exceeds	17	14	20
Meets	51	53	53
Does Not Meet	32	33	27

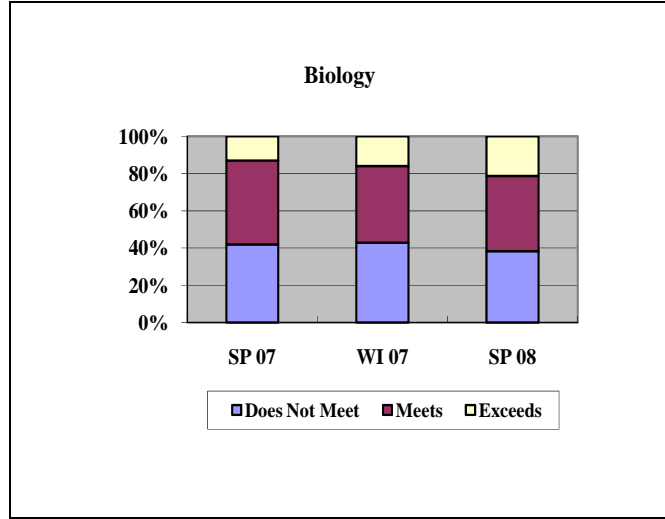


American Literature and Composition			
Performance Level	Percent of Students		
	SP 07	WI 07	SP 08
Exceeds	23	25	28
Meets	58	56	56
Does Not Meet	19	20	16

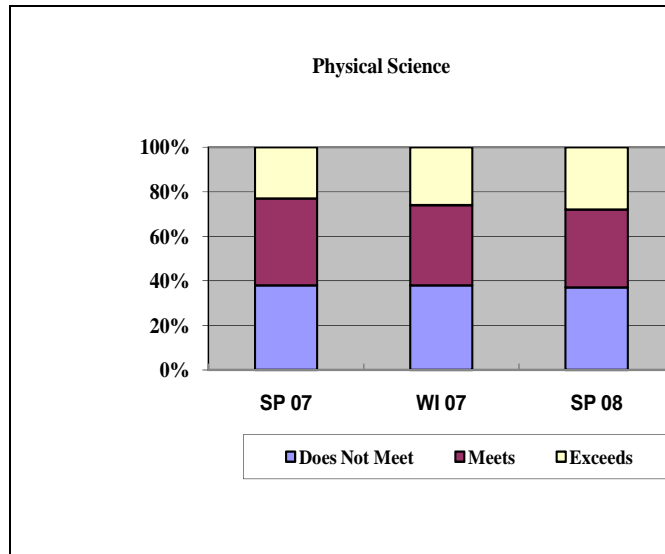


Historical Performance by Subject on the Georgia EOCT

Biology			
Performance Level	Percent of Students		
	SP 07	WI 07	SP 08
Exceeds	13	16	21
Meets	45	41	40
Does Not Meet	42	43	38

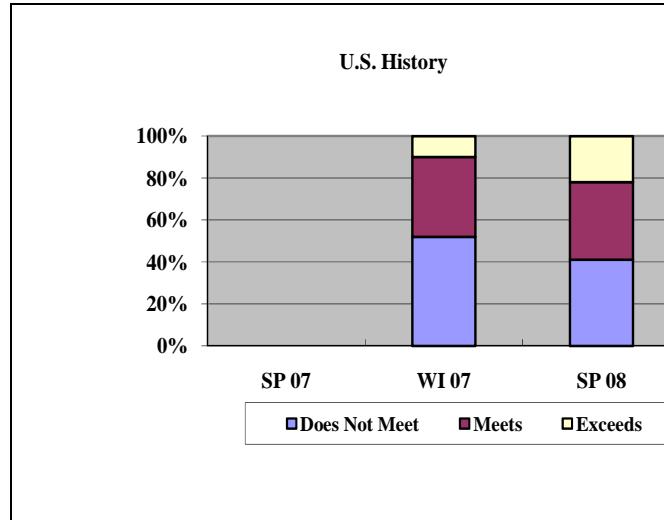


Physical Science			
Performance Level	Percent of Students		
	SP 07	WI 07	SP 08
Exceeds	23	26	28
Meets	39	36	35
Does Not Meet	38	38	37

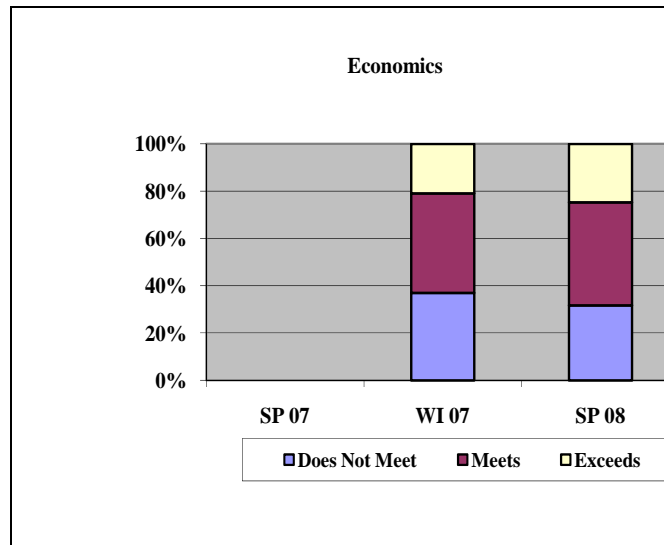


Historical Performance by Subject on the Georgia EOCT

U.S. History			
Performance Level	Percent of Students		
	SP 07	WI 07	SP 08
Exceeds	*	10	22
Meets	*	38	37
Does Not Meet	*	52	41



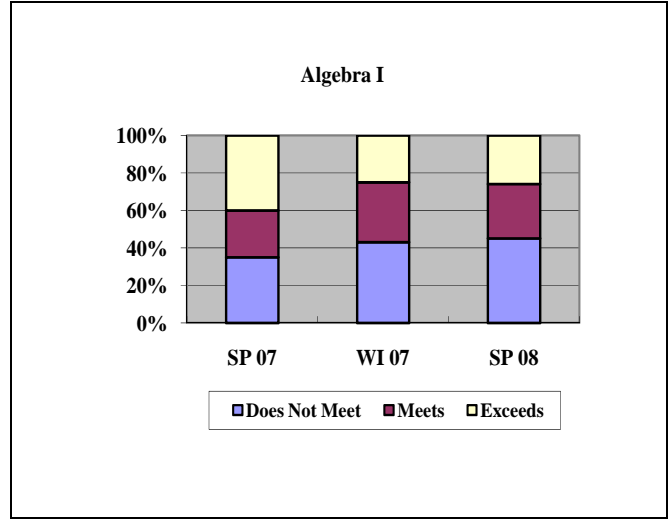
Economics			
Performance Level	Percent of Students		
	SP 07	WI 07	SP 08
Exceeds	*	21	25
Meets	*	42	44
Does Not Meet	*	37	32



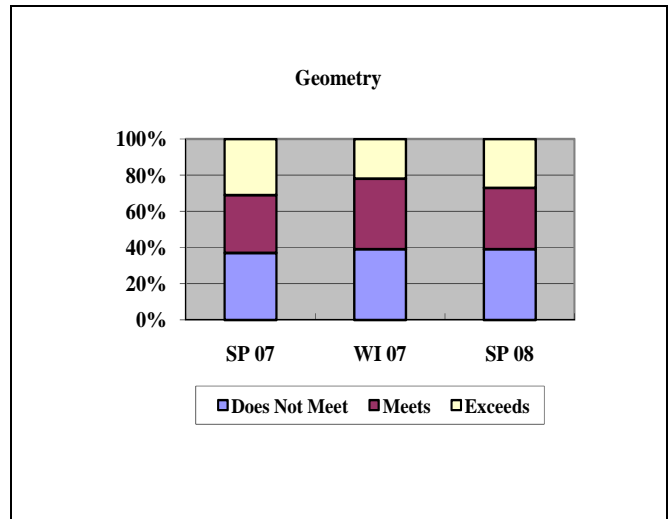
*Spring 2007 QCC EOCT cannot be compared to Winter 2007 and Spring 2008 GPS-based assessments.

Historical Performance by Subject on the Georgia EOCT

Algebra I			
Performance Level	Percent of Students		
	SP 07	WI 07	SP 08
Exceeds	40	25	26
Meets	25	32	29
Does Not Meet	35	43	45



Geometry			
Performance Level	Percent of Students		
	SP 07	WI 07	SP 08
Exceeds	31	22	27
Meets	32	39	34
Does Not Meet	37	39	39

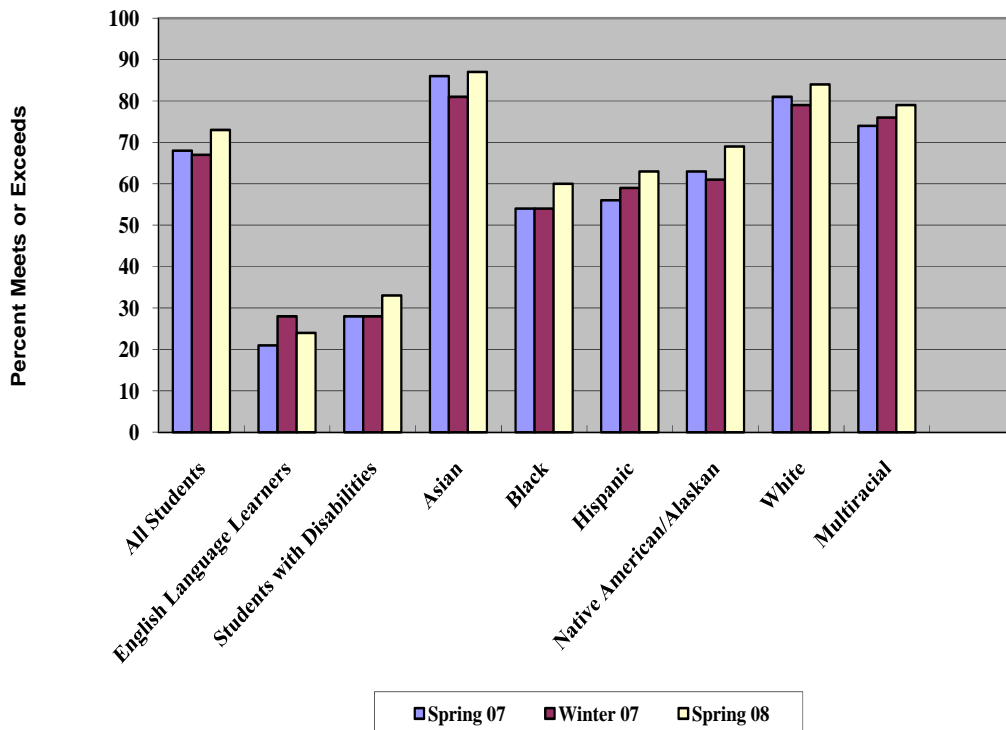


Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

(Because of rounding, all disaggregated charts may not appear consistent with historical data.)

Ninth Grade Literature & Composition	Percent of Students Meeting and Exceeding Standard			
	Spring 2007	Winter 2007	Spring 2008	Change from SP07 to SP08
All Students	68	67	73	+5
English Language Learners	21	28	24	+3
Students with Disabilities	28	28	33	+5
Asian	86	81	87	+1
Black	54	54	60	+6
Hispanic	56	59	63	+7
Native American/Alaskan	63	61	69	+6
White	81	79	84	+3
Multiracial	74	76	79	+5

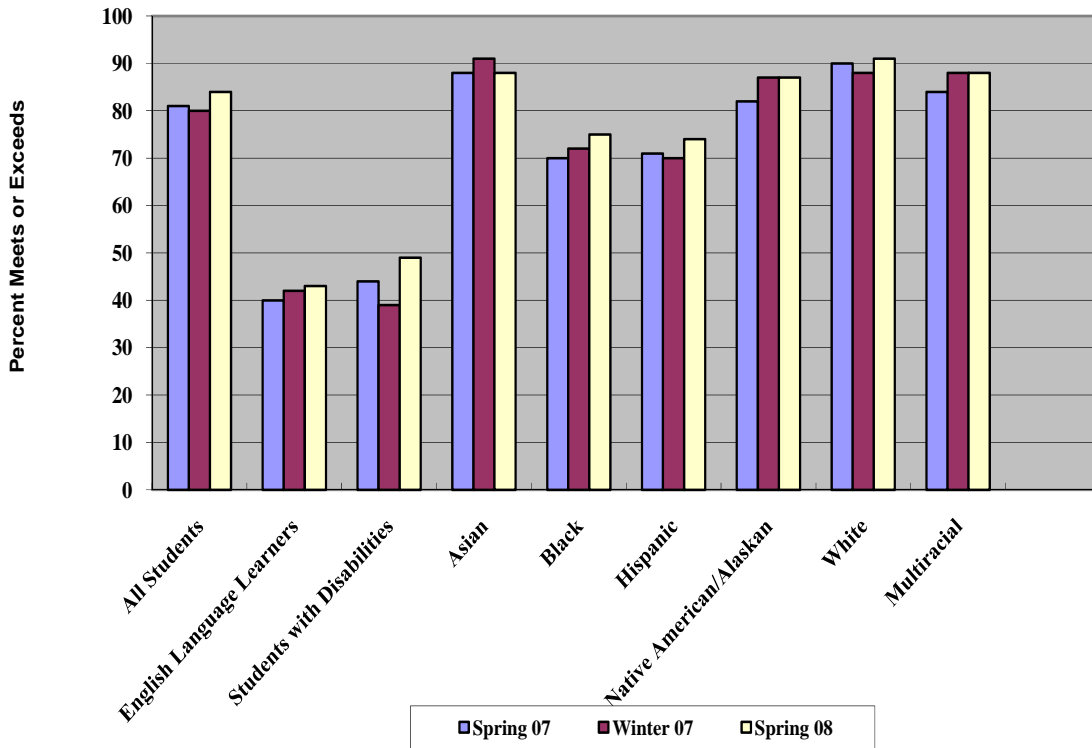
Ninth Grade Literature & Composition



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

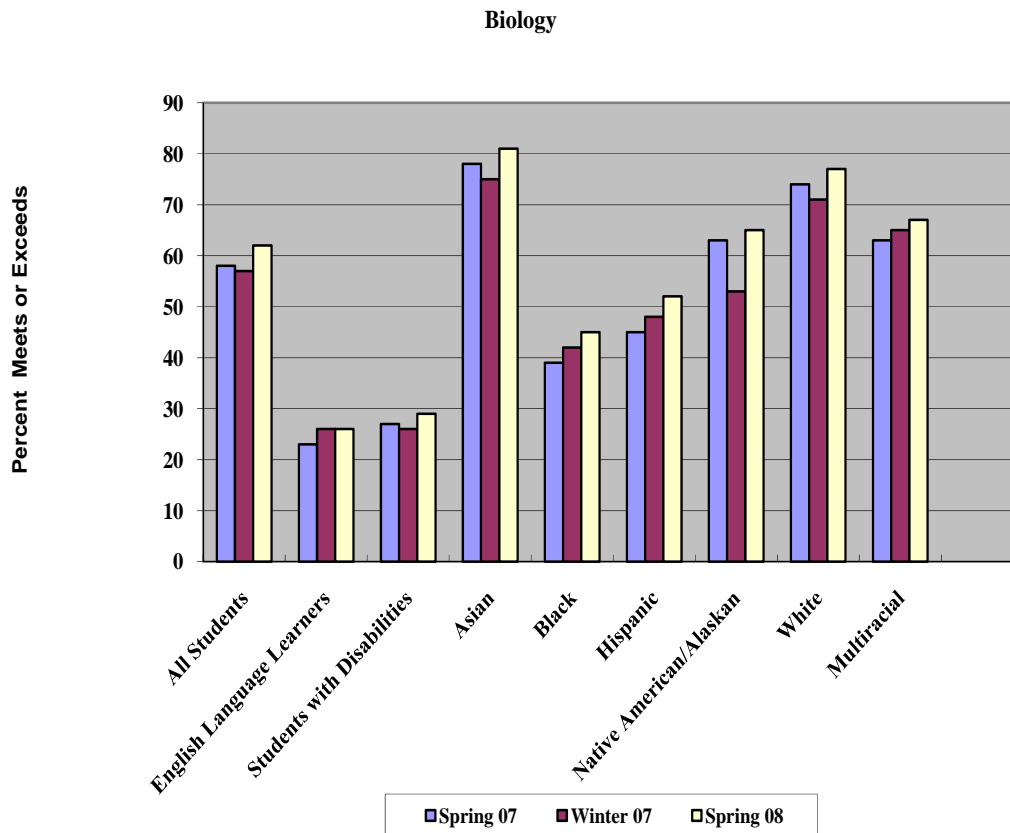
American Literature & Composition	Percent of Students Meeting and Exceeding Standard			
	Spring 2007	Winter 2007	Spring 2008	Change from SP 07 to SP 08
All Students	81	80	84	+3
English Language Learners	40	42	43	+3
Students with Disabilities	44	39	49	+5
Asian	88	91	88	No Change
Black	70	72	75	+5
Hispanic	71	70	74	+3
Native American/Alaskan	82	87	87	+5
White	90	88	91	+1
Multiracial	84	88	88	+4

American Literature & Composition



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

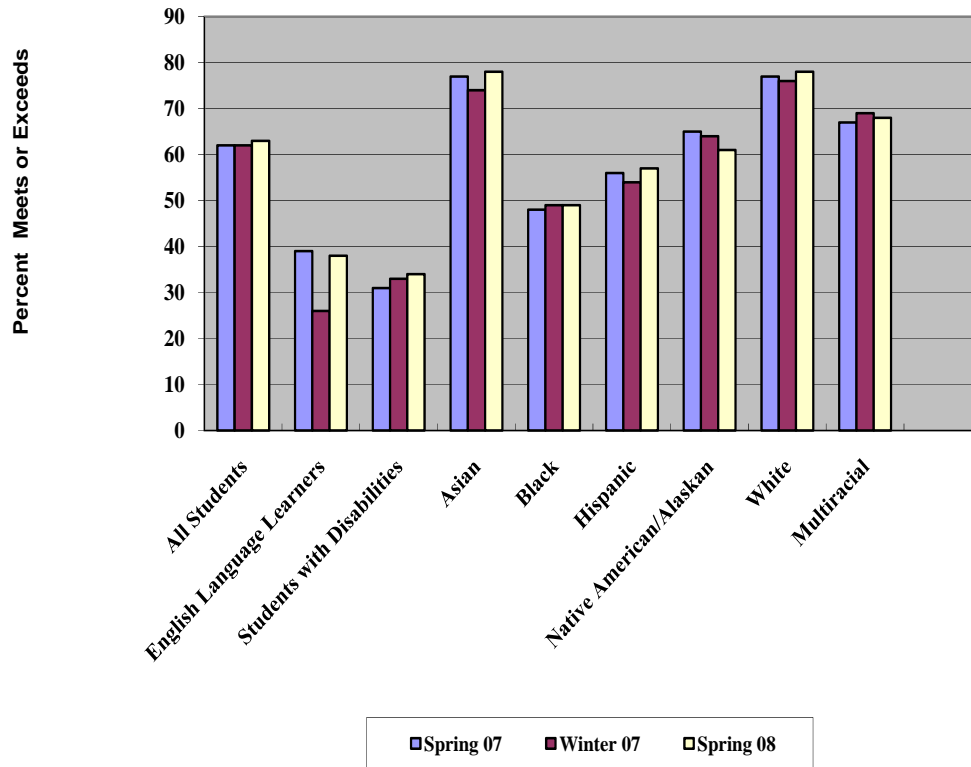
Biology	Percent of Students Meeting and Exceeding Standard			
	Spring 2007	Winter 2007	Spring 2008	Change from SP 07 to SP 08
All Students	58	57	62	+4
English Language Learners	23	26	26	+3
Students with Disabilities	27	26	29	+2
Asian	78	75	81	+3
Black	39	42	45	+6
Hispanic	45	48	52	+7
Native American/Alaskan	63	53	65	+2
White	74	71	77	+3
Multiracial	63	65	67	+4



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

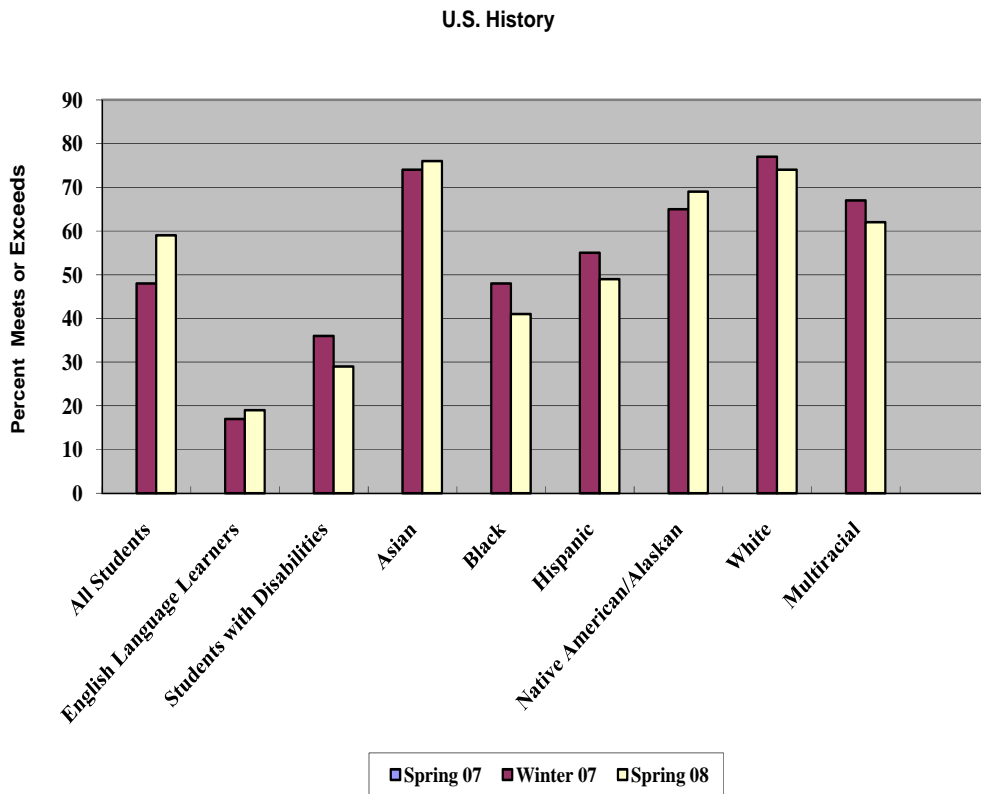
Physical Science	Percent of Students Meeting and Exceeding Standard			
	Spring 2007	Winter 2007	Spring 2008	Change from SP 07 to SP 08
All Students	62	62	63	+1
English Language Learners	39	26	38	-1
Students with Disabilities	31	33	34	+3
Asian	77	74	78	+1
Black	48	49	49	+1
Hispanic	56	54	57	+1
Native American/Alaskan	65	64	61	-4
White	77	76	78	+1
Multiracial	67	69	68	+1

Physical Science



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

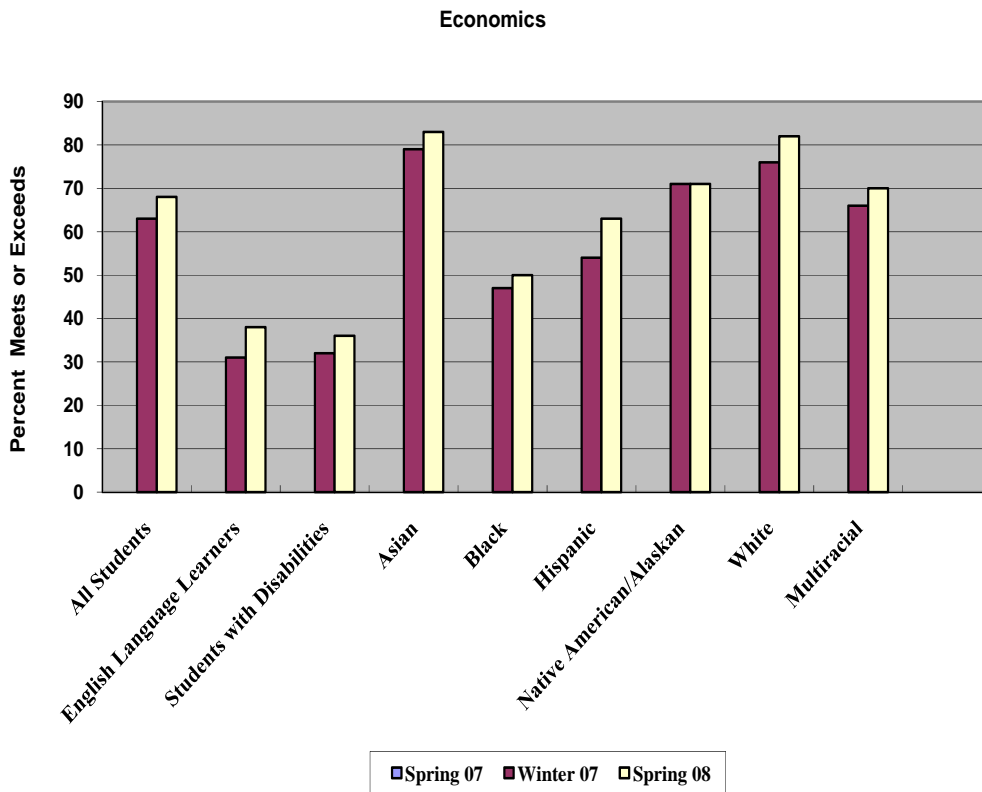
U.S. History	Percent of Students Meeting and Exceeding Standard			
	Spring 07	Winter 07	Spring 08	Change from WI 07 to SP 08
All Students	*	48	59	+11
English Language Learners	*	17	19	+2
Students with Disabilities	*	23	29	+6
Asian	*	51	76	+25
Black	*	33	41	+8
Hispanic	*	40	49	+9
Native American/Alaskan	*	46	69	+23
White	*	60	74	+14
Multiracial	*	54	62	+8



*Spring 2007 QCC EOCT cannot be compared to Winter 2007 and Spring 2008 GPS-based assessments.

Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

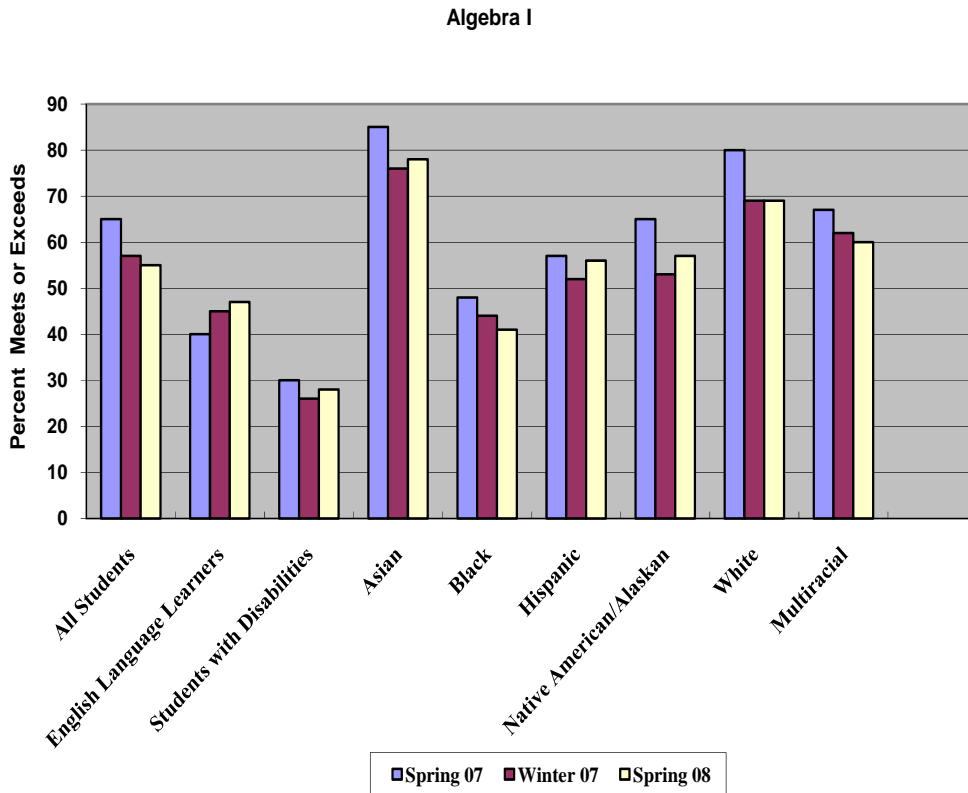
Economics	Percent of Students Meeting and Exceeding Standard			
	Spring 07	Winter 07	Spring 08	Change from WI 07 to SP 08
All Students	*	63	68	+5
English Language Learners	*	31	38	+7
Students with Disabilities	*	32	36	+4
Asian	*	79	83	+4
Black	*	47	50	+3
Hispanic	*	54	63	+9
Native American/Alaskan	*	71	71	No Change
White	*	76	82	+6
Multiracial	*	66	70	+4



*Spring 2007 QCC EOCT cannot be compared to Winter 2007 and Spring 2008 GPS-based assessments.

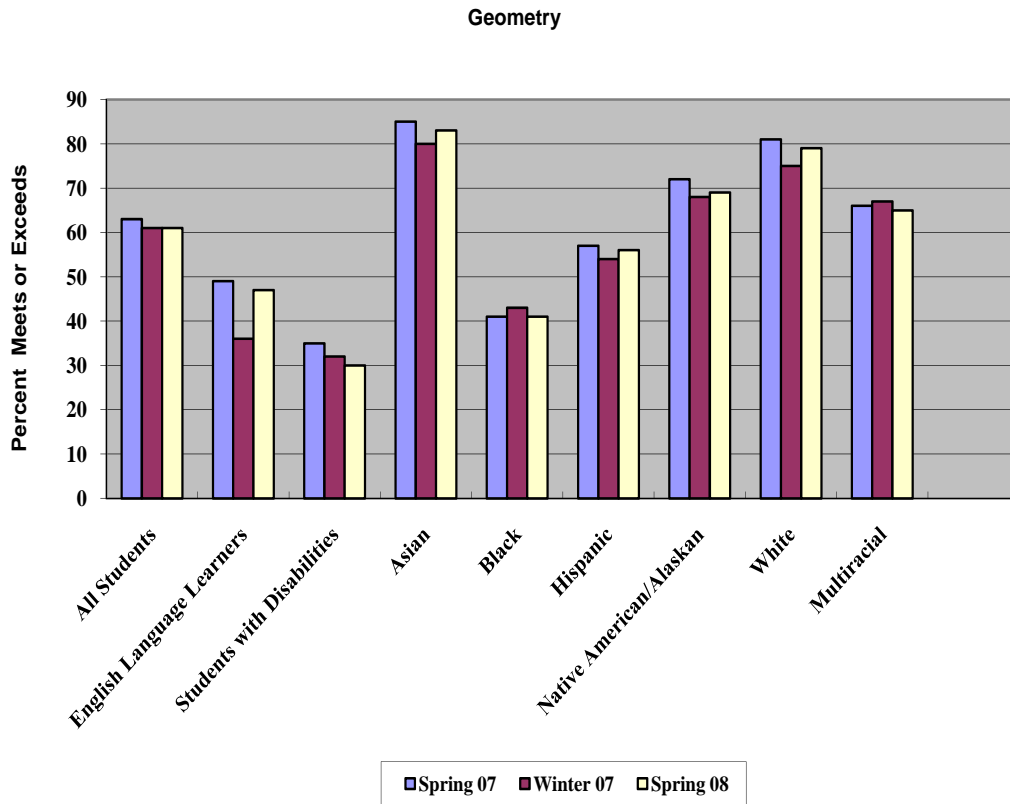
Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

Algebra I	Percent of Students Meeting and Exceeding Standard			
	Spring 07	Winter 07	Spring 08	Change from SP 07 to SP 08
All Students	65	57	55	-10
English Language Learners	40	45	47	+7
Students with Disabilities	30	26	28	-2
Asian	85	76	78	-7
Black	48	44	41	-7
Hispanic	57	52	56	-1
Native American/Alaskan	65	53	57	-8
White	80	69	69	-11
Multiracial	67	62	60	-7



Historical Performance of Sub-Groups on the Georgia EOCT

Geometry	Percent of Students Meeting and Exceeding Standard			
	Spring 07	Winter 07	Spring 08	Change from SP 07 to SP 08
All Students	63	61	61	-2
English Language Learners	49	36	47	-2
Students with Disabilities	35	32	30	-5
Asian	85	80	83	-2
Black	41	43	41	No Change
Hispanic	57	54	56	-1
Native American/Alaskan	72	68	69	-3
White	81	75	79	-2
Multiracial	66	67	65	-1



Number of Tests Administered

Spring 08*	Total tests	Electronic
9 th Literature & Comp.	98,874	18,571
American Literature	80,564	18,907
Algebra I	88,272	9,733
Geometry	80,690	7,867
U.S. History	85,749	19,967
Economics	43,505	15,499
Physical Science	66,627	7,785
Biology	98,102	21,636
TOTAL	642,383	119,965

* Figures include Feb. and Mar online mid-month administrations

Winter 07*	Total tests	Electronic
9 th Literature & Comp.	31,405	4,848
American Literature	30,317	6,896
Algebra I	19,731	4,354
Geometry	22,819	5,113
U.S. History	24,773	6,180
Economics	45,376	17,717
Physical Science	24,654	3,288
Biology	34,743	7,178
TOTAL	233,818	55,574

* Figures include Aug., Sept, Oct., and Nov. online mid-month administrations

Mid-Month Electronic	February 2008	March 2008	Mid-Month Totals
9 th Literature & Comp	334	249	583
American Literature	329	295	624
Algebra I	264	227	491
Geometry	177	153	330
U.S. History	259	228	487
Economics	415	3,548	3,963
Physical Science	279	206	485
Biology	286	214	500
Totals	2,343	5,120	7,463