1999-2000 District Composite Report

Avoyelles Parish

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Introduction

The passage of the Children First Act in 1988 ushered in a new era of data collection, analysis, and reporting about the overall quality and condition of education in Louisiana. Implemented in 1990, this major piece of legislation mandated the publication of the *Progress Profiles (School Report Cards, District Composite Report,* and the *State Report)* with three main objectives: (1) to provide information about schools to parents and the general public, (2) to provide a basis for educational planning, and (3) to increase educational accountability at all levels.

The Children First Act through its *Progress Profiles* program also became the impetus toward the introduction of the statewide school accountability system, which was implemented in fall of 1999. The School Accountability System, replacing the old *Progress Profiles* program, is one that is dually focused by featuring assessment of school performance and emphasizing school improvement. The Accountability system in its second year of operation has been successful in prompting focus on accountability and school improvement efforts, thereby fostering an increased awareness of the importance of these efforts to our state. The resulting accountability reports have become an important mechanism for disseminating information on the status and performance of public education in the state of Louisiana.

The development and production of the accountability reports are overseen by the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE), Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. The accountability reports were founded on the premise that educational improvement is most successful when parents, school staff, and policymakers have access to accurate information on a wide range of factors believed to influence student learning. The indicators included in the accountability reports were carefully selected because they

- have been demonstrated through school effectiveness research to be related to student learning;
- represent key features of schooling that can be influenced by parents, school staff, and policymakers, and thus are useful for school improvement purposes; and
- yield the maximum amount of accurate and essential information possible without posing undue reporting burdens at either the school or district level.

Accountability Reports

To offer the most comprehensive overview possible and serve the specific needs of varied audiences, the Department of Education has provided three levels of reporting.

1. *School Report Cards* are tailored to the needs of parents and the general public, as well as school administrators and other key personnel. Given the differences in perspective audiences as well as the differences in the intended use of this information, two School Report Cards are developed and disseminated on an annual basis. The School Report Card for Parents is written with the average parent and others of the general public in mind. The School Report Card for Principals, written to convey school level information to school administrators, is somewhat more technical in content. Both School Report Cards provide an excellent overview of the school's performance and progress toward achieving the State's established ten- and twenty-year goals. Copies of the report cards are delivered to the principals for distribution to all parents.

2. *District Composite Reports* are produced for all 66 Louisiana public school districts on an annual basis. The most detailed and comprehensive of the three levels of reporting, these reports which contain longitudinal data on all indicators including the accountability performance results, are intended to serve as an effective tool to aid policymakers and district administrators in identifying opportunities for school improvement.

3. The *Louisiana State Education Progress Report* is best suited to the needs of the general reader. It provides a succinct overview of the major characteristics of Louisiana education based on accountability results and the analysis supporting indicators. This report is produced annually.

To understand the content of the *District Composite Report*, a thorough introduction of the school accountability system and its implementation is necessary.

School Accountability System

The School Accountability system was implemented in the fall of 1999, with an initial focus on schools containing grade levels kindergarten through eighth (K-8). Schools containing grades 9-12, or what is better known as the high school grades, will be captured by the new high school accountability model, which is expected to be implemented in the fall of 2001. Under the accountability system, each school's effectiveness and progress are measured based on results from statewide testing programs (LEAP 21 and The Iowa Tests), school attendance, and the dropout data. The accountability system is based on a two-year accountability cycle; this year's data reflect an interim year.

The School Performance Scores (SPS) released in the fall of 2000 were calculated for 1,173 schools using the 1999-2000 test data with the 1998-1999 attendance and dropout data. The SPS for each school is a weighted composite index, using 60% weight for the LEAP 21 tests, 30% weight for The Iowa Tests, and a total of 10% for the attendance and dropout results. A school must have both types of test data (at least one grade of LEAP 21 and one grade of The Iowa Tests) to receive an SPS.

A school that does not meet this requirement must be either "paired" or "shared" with another school in the district. Once the identification of the "pairing or sharing" arrangements has been made, this decision is binding for 10 years. If a school is lacking grade level test results from either the criterion-referenced test (CRT) or norm-referenced test (NRT), but not both, it must "share" with another school that has at least one grade level of that particular test. In this case, the shared test results (one grade only) from the second school will be used in formulating the SPS for the first school. Each school will have a unique and separate SPS. When a school has no test data at all or has an insufficient number of students taking the tests, it will then be "paired" with another school. *Pairing* will mean that in formulating the SPS, all test results, attendance, and dropouts of the paired schools are combined together. The schools will essentially receive the same SPS.

The annually-calculated SPS is a strong indicator of school performance. The maximum upper range for the SPS is between 236.4 and 266.7, depending on each school's grade levels that take The Iowa Tests. An SPS of 100 indicates that a school has reached the State's 10-year goal, while a score of 150 indicates achievement of the State's 20-year goal. Once the SPS for each accountability school was calculated, a two-year Growth Target was set, defining the minimum expected growth that a school must achieve in order to be on track for meeting the State's 10-year goal in the 2008-2009 school year. There are five accountability cycles between now and the year 2009. We are currently in accountability cycle one with the schools expected to meet their first two-year growth target in 2001.

Based on the 1998-1999 SPS, each school was assigned a performance category. Since this year (1999-2000) represents an interim year for accountability cycle one, new school performance categories will not be assigned until next year. Therefore, the 1998-1999 baseline performance categories and SPS ranges presented below are still valid.

1998-1999 School Performance Category Assignment

School Performance Category	SPS Range
School of Academic Excellence	150.0 or Above
School of Academic Distinction	125.0 – 149.9
School of Academic Achievement	100.0 – 124.9
Academically Above the State Average	69.4 – 99.9
Academically Below the State Average	30.1 – 69.3
Academically Unacceptable School	30 or Below

Longitudinal Analysis: Tracking School Progress Over Time

Up to six years of data (the current year and the five previous years) are presented in the *District Composite Report*. Each year, this report is updated by adding the most current year's data and deleting the data that are more than six years old. The *School Report Cards* and the *Louisiana State Education Progress Report*, on the other hand, present only the most current year of data, giving parents and policymakers a very concise and current snapshot of education performance.

Incorporating longitudinal data in the *District Composite Report* enables policy makers to anticipate changes in educational outcomes, not just describe them (Smith, 1988). However, longitudinal reporting does complicate the presentation of data. To assist policy makers in interpreting data, tables in the *District Composite Report* have been formatted as follows:

1. *Cross-sectional data* (i.e., for any given year) are presented vertically in columns. School-to-school comparisons can be made within any given year by scanning up and down columns.
2. *Longitudinal data* are presented horizontally in rows. An individual school's progress on any single indicator can be charted over time by scanning left-to-right across columns.
3. Schools are listed in *sequential order*, based on school site code and school category.

To facilitate longitudinal and cross-sectional tracking of individual schools, the LDE has included in all the tables the six digit site code assigned to all public schools. In instances for which certain data may not be available for a school, the tilde symbol (~) will be displayed. There are also some tables for which the presence of data is "not applicable" because of the design requirements of the accountability model and the phasing in of the new criterion-referenced tests. In these cases, the notation "N/A" will be displayed.

1998-99 As Baseline Year

The 1998-1999 school year has become a new baseline year for this report for several reasons. First, it was the year when the first phase of the statewide school accountability system went into effect and when each public school with a grade in the K-8 range received a School Performance Score and a School Performance Category. Secondly, the newly designed criterion-referenced testing program (LEAP 21) went into effect for students in grades 4 and 8. In addition, the type of tests given at the elementary and middle school grades also changed. In previous years students in grades 3, 5, and 7 took the old CRT while students in grades 4, 6, and 8 took The Iowa Tests. In 1998-99, students in grades 4 and 8 began taking the new CRT while students in grades 3, 5, 6, 7, and 9 took The Iowa Tests. And finally, the *Developmental Reading Assessment* (*DRA*) was given for the first time statewide. This testing schedule allowed educators across the state to measure students' reading abilities uniformly. For these reasons, this report starts with the 1998-99 school year as its first year and the 1999-2000 school year as its second year. Longitudinal data for the prior years are still accessible through the 1997-1998 *District Composite Reports* available on the LDE web site (www.louisianaschools.net).

School Categorization

School category comparison statistics are presented by district and for the state as a whole for those indicators that are not reported by grade level. The indicators with category averages include class size, attendance, suspension and expulsion. This homogeneous grouping of schools by level of instruction fosters probably the fairest comparisons. The 1,173 Louisiana public schools have been placed into one of the four categories of *Elementary, Middle/Junior High, High,* and *Combination.* The specific definition for each school category is provided in Part 2 of this report.

The Challenge: Accurate and Reliable Reporting

Measurement is a process involving both theoretical as well as empirical considerations. Most assuredly, research based on the inadequate measurement of indicators does not result in a greater understanding of the particular indicator (Carmines and Zeller, 1979). Though it is widely recognized that the best educational policy is made when officials have

access to accurate information, the use of inaccurate or unreliable data is more dangerous than no information at all. Recognizing this possibility for misunderstanding, the LDE has made every effort to ensure the reliability and validity of the data reported in the accountability reports. Prior to release and publication, LDE and district staff examine each indicator through a meticulous data correction and verification process.

The accountability program has grown substantially over the past several years. The LDE has executed an elaborate process for data verification and analyses to ensure that quality is an intrinsic part of each accountability report.

Organization of this Report

As mentioned earlier, this report is intended to be used as a diagnostic and analysis tool. To facilitate analysis of the information contained, this report has been organized into five sections, each encompassing a series of related educational indicators.

- *Section 1. District Summary.* The summary tables in this section offer district-level information for all indicators including the school accountability results. In addition to quick-reference tables on various indicators, district socioeconomic, demographic, and financial data are also included to give a more complete picture of Louisiana school districts. School performance is influenced by community socioeconomic characteristics and by the level of local financial support for public education. Section 1, therefore, presents socioeconomic and financial indicators ranging from parish per capita income and unemployment rates to district revenue, expenditures, and average teacher salaries.

- *Section 2. School Characteristics and Accountability Information.* The context within which students are educated and the level of educational resources available to them impact learning and performance results. Section 2 provides a quick summary of each school's accountability results (i.e., school performance score, school performance category, and two year growth target). This section also focuses on key educational "inputs" and resources at the school level: i.e., the size of the student body and faculty, the school's category (e.g., elementary schools, middle schools, etc.), class sizes, and the academic preparation of faculty.

- *Section 3. Student Participation.* For students to receive an education, they must first have the opportunity to learn; thus, the extent to which students are present and actively engaged in schooling is of vital importance (Oakes, 1989). Section 3 presents three indicators that provide some measure of student participation: attendance, dropouts, and suspensions/ expulsions.

- *Section 4. Student Achievement.* Section 4 reports three types of school-level outputs: student performance on (1) reading level evaluations for grades 2 and 3, which assess students' abilities to read and comprehend on grade level; (2) criterion-referenced tests (CRTs), which measure students' performance on state-prescribed curricula; and (3) norm-referenced tests (NRTs), which indicate how Louisiana students compare with other students nationally. The reading level evaluation results are based on the *Developmental Reading Assessment* (*DRA*), which is a uniform examination used statewide for the first time in the 1998-99 school year. The CRT results reported for grades 4 and 8 are based on Louisiana's new criterion-referenced testing program (LEAP for the 21st Century) implemented in the spring of 1999. The Graduation Exit Examination (GEE), designed for high school students, is administered in grades 10 and 11. The NRT results, which are also part of the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP), reflect student performance utilizing two tests. The first test, the *Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS)*, is administered to students in grade 3, 5, 6, and 7; and the second, the *Iowa Tests of Educational Development (ITED)*, is administered to students in grade 9.

- *Section 5. College Readiness.* One goal of elementary-secondary schooling is to ensure that those students seeking an advanced education are adequately prepared for college. This report presents two indicators of college readiness: (1) student performance on the American College Test (ACT), a national test commonly used for college placement purposes; and (2) the percentage of high school graduates who take remedial or developmental courses as first-time college freshmen.

A brief narrative introduces each indicator presented in this report and is organized as follows:

- an introduction to the indicator and its significance in the study and/or promotion of student learning;
- a description of how data are organized in the accompanying table(s);
- definitions of key terms, where applicable;
- formulas/equations used to calculate statistics, where applicable; and
- the source(s) of the data presented.

A glossary at the end of this report provides operational definitions for key terms.

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Section 1. District Summary

District Summary Overview 1-1
District Indicator Summary Results 1-2
Parish Socioeconomic And Demographic Profile 1-12
District Financial Profile 1-14

District Summary Overview

This section presents district-level information on a variety of education indicators and is organized into three parts. The first part provides summary results for the four groups of data indicators presented in this report. The four groups for which district-level summary results have been generated are (1) School Characteristics and Accountability Information, (2) Student Participation, (3) Student Achievement, and (4) College Readiness.

The second part of this section presents an overview of the parish's socioeconomic and demographic makeup. The socioeconomic and demographic composition may shed light on household situations and thus the educational system of a school district. Issues such as income, poverty rate, single parent households, and teen pregnancy affect family function, which is strongly linked to achievement.

The third part of this section offers a financial overview of the district. Financial information regarding educational revenues and expenditures will broaden the understanding of how public school districts function. This kind of information is worthy, as it serves to provide additional contextual background for the interpretation of educational indicators.

District Indicator Summary Results

This section presents the district-level results for the four groups of education indicators. The overall objective of this section is to provide the readers with a brief summary of the district's performance in the four areas as described below.

1) **School Characteristics and Accountability Information:** A summary of the district's accountability results (i.e., school performance scores, school performance categories, and the two-year growth targets). Other key educational "inputs" and resources at the school level such as the size of the student body and faculty, the school's category (e.g., elementary schools, middle schools, etc.), class size, and the academic preparation of the faculty are presented in tables 1a through 1d.

2) **Student Participation:** District-level summary results on three key student participation indicators including attendance, dropouts, and suspensions and expulsions in tables 2a through 2c.

3) **Student Achievement:** District-level summary results on four types of output indicators. These indicators include (1) reading-level evaluation results for 2nd and 3rd graders, which assess students' abilities to read and comprehend on grade level; (2) criterion-referenced tests (CRT), which measure students' performance on state-prescribed curricula; (3) norm-referenced tests (NRT), which compare the performance of students in Louisiana with that of students nationally; and (4) the Graduation Exit Examination (GEE), which measures academic performance of high school students. These indicators can be found in tables 3a through 3d.

4) **College Readiness:** District-level summary results on two key indicators of college readiness: (1) student performance on the American College Test (ACT), a national test commonly used for college placement purposes; and (2) number and percent of high school graduates who enroll in developmental/remedial courses as first-time college freshmen.

District Indicator Summary Results

School Characteristics and Accountability Information

	Table 1a: Schools in Avoyelles Parish					
	1998-99	**1999-00**	**2000-01**	**2001-02**	**2002-03**	**2003-04**
Total Number of Schools	13	13				
October 1 Membership	7,479	7,408				
Number of Faculty	477	514				

	Table 1b: Schools by Performance Category											
	1998-99		**1999-00**		**2000-01**		**2001-02**		**2002-03**		**2003-04**	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
School of Academic Excellence	0.0	0	N/A	N/A								
School of Academic Distinction	0.0	0	N/A	N/A								
School of Academic Achievement	0.0	0	N/A	N/A								
Academically Above the State Average	22.2	2	N/A	N/A								
Academically Below the State Average	77.8	7	N/A	N/A								
Academically Unacceptable School	0.0	0	N/A	N/A								
Number of Schools*	100.0	9	N/A	N/A								

* For 1998-99, schools with grades K-8 were included in the accountability system.

	Table 1c: Faculty Degree Data											
	1998-99		**1999-00**		**2000-01**		**2001-02**		**2002-03**		**2003-04**	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
Faculty with a Master's Degree or Higher	29.8	142	30.0	154								

~ = Unavailable Data

N/A = Not Applicable: Performance Category and Growth Targets are assigned once every two years.

District Indicator Summary Results

School Characteristics and Accountability Information

	Table 1d: Class Size Characteristics for Grades K-12											
	1998-99		**1999-00**		**2000-01**		**2001-02**		**2002-03**		**2003-04**	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
Elementary Schools												
Class Size Range 1 - 20	33.8	78	44.7	106								
Class Size Range 21 - 26	60.2	139	52.3	124								
Class Size Range 27 or more	6.1	14	3.0	7								
Middle/Jr. High Schools												
Class Size Range 1 - 20	14.8	53	18.4	71								
Class Size Range 21 - 26	47.3	170	33.9	131								
Class Size Range 27 or more	37.9	136	47.7	184								
High Schools												
Class Size Range 1 - 20	22.0	74	23.7	122								
Class Size Range 21 - 26	48.2	162	43.6	224								
Class Size Range 27 or more	29.8	100	32.7	168								
All Schools												
Class Size Range 1 - 20	22.1	205	26.3	299								
Class Size Range 21 - 26	50.9	471	42.1	479								
Class Size Range 27 or more	27.0	250	31.6	359								

~ = Unavailable Data

District Indicator Summary Results

Student Participation

Table 2a: Student Attendance	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Elementary Schools	94.4	93.9				
Middle/Jr. High Schools	91.8	92.1				
High Schools	90.3	90.4				
Combination Schools	~	~				
All Schools	92.6	92.5				

Table 2b: Student Dropouts	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
Grade 7	~	~	~	~								
Grade 8	2.8	15	~	~								
Grade 9	17.6	148	~	~								
Grade 10	10.3	53	~	~								
Grade 11	8.1	40	~	~								
Grade 12	6.8	29	~	~								
Grades 9 - 12	11.9	270	~	~								

~ = Unavailable Data

District Indicator Summary Results

Student Participation

	Table 2c: Students Suspended and Expelled											
	1998-99		**1999-00**		**2000-01**		**2001-02**		**2002-03**		**2003-04**	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
Elementary Schools												
Suspended (In School)	9.0	320	8.5	320								
Suspended (Out of School)	6.3	224	7.4	278								
Expelled (In School)	0.0	1	0.0	1								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.0	1	0.1	2								
Middle/Jr. High Schools												
Suspended (In School)	18.1	311	25.5	432								
Suspended (Out of School)	30.5	524	31.8	540								
Expelled (In School)	1.8	31	3.1	52								
Expelled (Out of School)	1.8	30	1.8	31								
High Schools												
Suspended (In School)	13.0	298	11.6	269								
Suspended (Out of School)	23.0	528	27.2	629								
Expelled (In School)	0.7	17	1.0	24								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.6	13	1.5	35								
All Schools												
Suspended (In School)	12.3	929	13.1	1,021								
Suspended (Out of School)	16.9	1,276	18.6	1,447								
Expelled (In School)	0.7	49	1.0	77								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.6	44	0.9	68								

~ = Unavailable Data

District Indicator Summary Results

Student Achievement

Table 3a: Developmental Reading Assessment Spring Results	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
Grade 02												
Students Assessed		544		481								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	20.0	109	18.7	90								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	46.5	253	46.2	222								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	33.5	182	35.1	169								
Grade 03												
Students Assessed		523		567								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	34.0	178	22.9	130								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	37.9	198	43.4	246								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	28.1	147	33.7	191								

Table 3b: LEAP 21 Test Results	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
Grade 4 English Language Arts												
Advanced	0.6	3	1.2	6								
Proficient	14.2	72	14.1	73								
Basic	41.8	212	41.3	213								
Approaching Basic	25.2	128	26.2	135								
Unsatisfactory	18.1	92	17.2	89								
Grade 4 Mathematics												
Advanced	0.2	1	0.4	2								
Proficient	3.7	19	7.8	40								
Basic	32.1	163	39.0	201								
Approaching Basic	26.4	134	28.1	145								
Unsatisfactory	37.5	190	24.8	128								

~ = Unavailable Data

District Indicator Summary Results

Student Achievement

	Table 3b: LEAP 21 Test Results											
	1998-99		**1999-00**		**2000-01**		**2001-02**		**2002-03**		**2003-04**	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
Grade 4 Science												
Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.8	4								
Proficient	N/A	N/A	5.6	29								
Basic	N/A	N/A	41.7	215								
Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	35.9	185								
Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	16.1	83								
Grade 4 Social Studies												
Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.2	1								
Proficient	N/A	N/A	6.4	33								
Basic	N/A	N/A	43.2	223								
Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	29.7	153								
Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	20.5	106								
Grade 8 English Language Arts												
Advanced	0.2	1	0.5	2								
Proficient	3.6	17	8.2	34								
Basic	21.8	103	41.7	174								
Approaching Basic	44.6	211	37.6	157								
Unsatisfactory	29.8	141	12.0	50								
Grade 8 Mathematics												
Advanced	0.4	2	2.2	9								
Proficient	2.3	11	3.6	15								
Basic	29.0	137	38.1	159								
Approaching Basic	25.6	121	24.5	102								
Unsatisfactory	42.7	202	31.7	132								
Grade 8 Science												
Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
Proficient	N/A	N/A	11.3	47								
Basic	N/A	N/A	30.7	128								
Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	28.3	118								
Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	29.7	124								

~ = Unavailable Data

N/A = Not Applicable: Science and Social Studies components of the LEAP 21 test were first administered to 4th and 8th graders in Spring 2000.

District Indicator Summary Results

Student Achievement

Table 3b: LEAP 21 Test Results

Grade 8 Social Studies	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.2	1								
Proficient	N/A	N/A	5.5	23								
Basic	N/A	N/A	38.1	159								
Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	26.6	111								
Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	29.5	123								

Table 3c: Graduation Exit Examination (GEE) Results
Percent of Students Passing and Number of Students Tested

	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
English Language Arts	91	384	85	443								
Mathematics	81	343	75	440								
Written Composition	93	383	97	431								
Science	83	345	79	385								
Social Studies	90	375	88	385								

~ = Unavailable Data

N/A = Not Applicable: Science and Social Studies components of the LEAP 21 test were first administered to 4th and 8th graders in Spring 2000.

District Indicator Summary Results

Student Achievement

Table 3d: The Iowa Test Results
Percent of Students by National Quartiles and Percentile Rank of Average Standard Scores

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Grade 03							
	Fourth Quartile	7.3	15.8				
	Third Quartile	26.0	30.3				
	Second Quartile	36.6	35.5				
	First Quartile	30.1	18.4				
	Percentile Rank	39	50				
Grade 05							
	Fourth Quartile	9.3	9.4				
	Third Quartile	18.1	19.9				
	Second Quartile	36.1	44.3				
	First Quartile	36.5	26.5				
	Percentile Rank	37	40				
Grade 06							
	Fourth Quartile	9.8	11.0				
	Third Quartile	17.0	20.6				
	Second Quartile	31.5	40.1				
	First Quartile	41.7	28.3				
	Percentile Rank	35	41				
Grade 07							
	Fourth Quartile	5.8	9.6				
	Third Quartile	18.0	22.3				
	Second Quartile	35.0	32.9				
	First Quartile	41.2	35.2				
	Percentile Rank	33	38				
Grade 09							
	Fourth Quartile	11.0	8.0				
	Third Quartile	19.7	20.5				
	Second Quartile	26.3	32.5				
	First Quartile	43.0	38.9				
	Percentile Rank	35	35				

~ = Unavailable Data

The four quartiles comprise the following ranges of percentile ranks: 1-24 (first quartile), 25-49 (second quartile), 50-74 (third quartile), and 75-99 (fourth quartile).

District Indicator Summary Results

College Readiness

	Table 4a: American College Test (ACT) Results					
	1998-99	**1999-00**	**2000-01**	**2001-02**	**2002-03**	**2003-04**
ACT Average Composite Score	18.7	19.2				

	Table 4b: First-Time College Freshmen Performance											
	1998-99		**1999-00**		**2000-01**		**2001-02**		**2002-03**		**2003-04**	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
Number of High School Graduates[1]		335		354								
HS Graduates Who Were First-Time College Freshmen	37.3	125	42.4	150								
First-Time Freshmen Enrolled in College Developmental Courses	48.8	61	46.0	69								

[1] Represents graduates from the previous school year

~ = Unavailable Data

Parish Socioeconomic And Demographic Profile

The socioeconomic and demographic composition of the parish may shed light on household situations and thus the educational system of a school district. Issues such as income, poverty rate, single parent households, and teen pregnancy affect family function, which is strongly linked to achievement. This section examines state- and national-level information for each parish's socioeconomic and demographic indicator presented.

Definitions

- *Education Attainment* is divided into three levels:
  1. Less than high school degree: persons of compulsory school attendance age or above who are not enrolled in school and are not high school graduates.
  2. High school degree: persons whose highest degree is a high school diploma or its equivalent and those who have attempted some college or have received an associate degree. Persons who completed the twelfth grade but did not receive a diploma are not included.
  3. Bachelor's degree or higher: persons who have received a college, university, or professional degree.

  These data are supplied by the 1990 Bureau of the Census.

- *Per capita income* is the average income computed for every man, woman, and child in a particular group. The Census Bureau derived per capita income by dividing the total income of a particular group by the total population in that group (excluding patients or inmates in institutional quarters). These data are supplied by the Northeast Louisiana University, Center for Business and Economic Research.

- *Population by Race* is divided into three major groups: white, black, and "other." The "other" category consists of Native Americans and Asian/Pacific Islanders. It should be noted that, according to the 1990 Bureau of Census data, Hispanic origin can be viewed as the ancestry, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person's parents or ancestors before their arrival in the United States. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race and are, therefore, included in the categories of white, black, and "other."

- *Teen Pregnancy Rate* is the total number of teenage girls under the age of 19 divided by the total number of pregnant women. These data are supplied by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals.

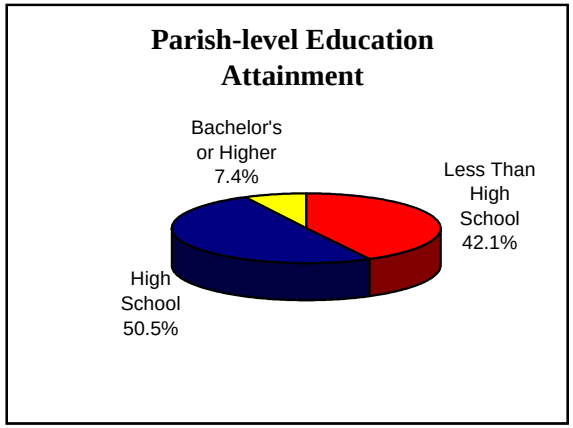
- *Single Parent Household Rate* is the number of single parent households divided by the total number of households. These data are supplied by the 1990 Bureau of the Census.

- *Unemployment rate* is the total number of persons not working, who are available and seeking work, regardless of age, as a percentage of the civilian labor force. This information is considered the official unemployment rate and is typically cited in comparisons. These data are supplied by the Department of Labor.

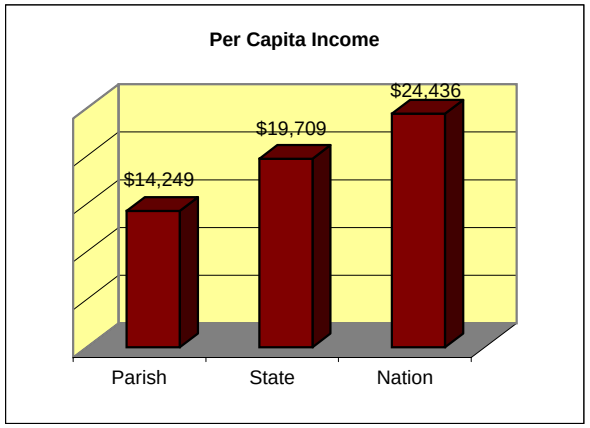
- *Poverty Threshold* is revised to allow for changes in the cost of living as reflected in the Consumer Price Index. According to the 1990 Bureau of the Census data, the average poverty threshold for a family of four persons was $12,674.

Avoyelles Parish Socioeconomic and Demographic Overview

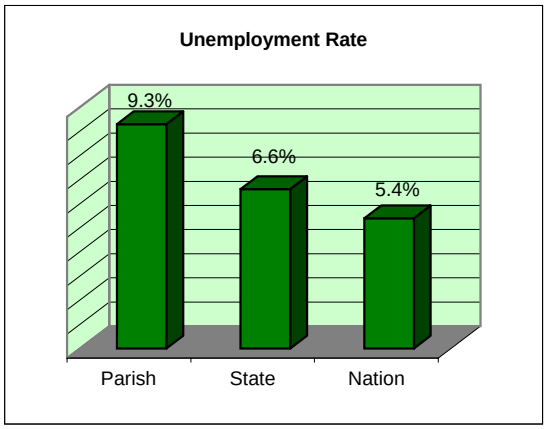
As each school district works toward its educational vision and goals, social and economic factors within the parish may directly or indirectly affect the educational experience of students. An overview of the relevant demographic and socioeconomic profile of each parish places the education indicator data presented in this report in the proper context. These data provide a socioeconomic and demographic profile of the parish as a whole, not the public school district. In preparing this section, every effort was made to obtain the most recent data available for each indicator.



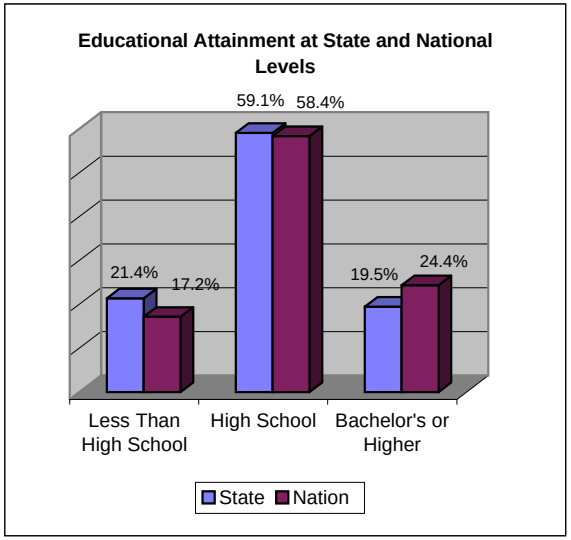
Source: US Bureau of Census, 1990.



Sources: University of Louisiana at Monroe, Center for Business and Economic Research, 1996.



Sources: Bureau of Labor and Statistics, U.S. Dept of Labor, 1996.



Source: US Census Current Population Report, March 1998.

Population by Race

	White	Black	Other
Parish	72.3%	27.0%	0.6%
State	67.3%	30.8%	1.9%
Nation	83.9%	12.3%	3.8%

Source: US Bureau of Census, 1990.

Teen Pregnancy

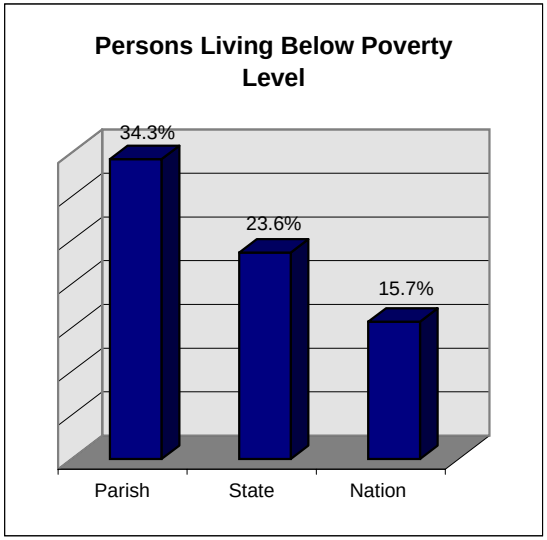
	Parish	State	Nation
Teen Pregnancy Rate	19.0%	18.9%	12.9%

Source: Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, 1996.

Single Parenthood

	Parish	State	Nation
Single Parent Households	17.3%	19.1%	14.8%

Source: US Bureau of Census, 1990.



Source: University of Louisiana at Monroe, Center for Business and Economic Research, 1993.

District Financial Profile

Financial information broadens the understanding of how public school districts function and provides additional context for the interpretation of educational indicators. The two major components of the financial information are revenues and expenditures.

Definitions

- *Revenues*: Governmental funds appropriated for public education. Revenues are received from four main sources:
  1. Local: monies collected directly by a district through taxes (ad valorem, sales, and use taxes), bonds, revenues from other local government units, tuition, transportation fees, earnings of investments, food service, and community service.
  2. State: monies received from the state government through Louisiana's Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) formula, grants-in-aid, and specific programs such as the Early Childhood Program.
  3. Federal: monies received from the federal government through a variety of programs such as Title I, Impact Aid Fund, Reserve Officer Training Corps Program (ROTC), Headstart Programs, School Food Service, Adult Basic Education, and Special Education.
  4. District revenues per pupil: total revenues divided by the adjusted October 1 funded student membership.
- *Expenditures*: Charges incurred, whether paid or unpaid, which benefit the current fiscal year. Total expenditures include the following categories:*
  1. Instructional expenditures: monies spent for classroom instruction, pupil support, and instructional staff support.
  2. Non-instructional expenditures: monies spent for school administration, business services, operations and maintenance, transportation, food services, enterprises, and community services.
  3. Facility acquisition and construction services: monies spent for activities concerned with acquiring land and buildings, remodeling buildings, constructing buildings and additions to buildings, initially installing or extending service systems and other built-in equipment, and improving sites.
  4. District expenditures per pupil*: current expenditures minus debt service divided by the adjusted October 1 funded membership (See footnote for further explanation.)

An additional item frequently of interest to the public is *average salary of full-time teachers.* Average salary calculations include full-time classroom teachers and librarians; special education teachers, aides, guidance counselors, and part-time teachers are not included. This information is different from *average salary of full-time teachers*, which is an average of all teachers' salaries in the district.

Note: Some districts' financial data may be adjusted after the publication of this report because of audits. The financial information in this section is based on the December 1, 1999, figures provided by the Office of Management and Finance, LDE.

***Operation Definitions supporting "District Expenditures Per Pupil"**

Current Expenditures = Total expenditures minus equipment, facilities acquisitions and construction services costs, and debt service costs.

Debt Services = Servicing the debt of the LEA, including payments of both principal and interest.

Debt service and other long-term obligations are not included in expenditure figures because these monies provide services during multiple years and should not be attributed to only one year.

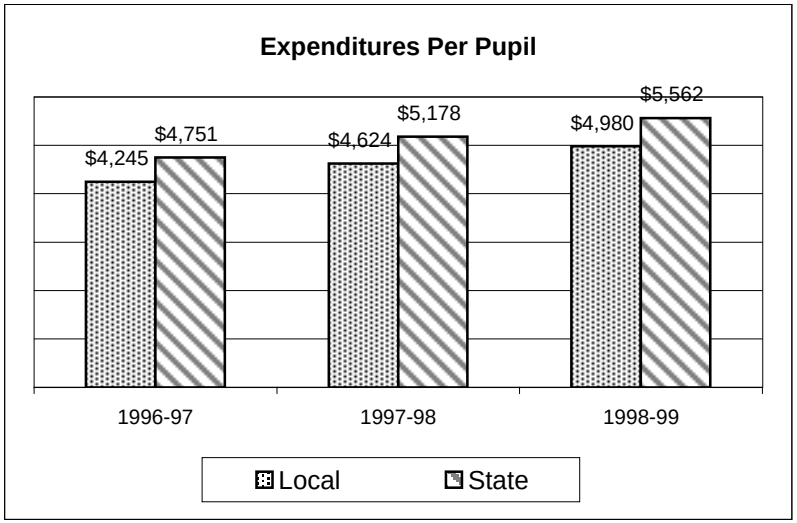
Avoyelles Parish Financial Profile

District Revenue by Source									
	1996-97			1997-98			1998-99		
Revenue Source	Amount	% of District Total	State Average %	Amount	% of District Total	State Average %	Amount	% of District Total	State Average %
Local	$6,196,466	17.8%	37.4%	$6,834,358	18.2%	37.6%	$7,276,497	18.9%	37.4%
State	$22,899,120	65.7%	50.8%	$24,505,435	65.3%	51.0%	$25,400,494	66.0%	50.9%
Federal	$5,760,366	16.5%	11.8%	$6,170,337	16.4%	11.4%	$5,812,001	15.1%	11.6%
Total	**$34,855,952**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**$37,510,130**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**$38,488,992**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**

Adjusted October 1 Student Membership		
1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
7,506	7,412	7,270

Revenues Per Pupil			
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Local Average	$4,644	$5,061	$5,294
State Average	$5,296	$5,818	$6,171

Teacher Salaries		
Year	Local Average Salary	State Average Salary
1996-97	$26,400	$29,025
1997-98	$28,678	$31,131
1998-99	$28,747	$32,384



Notes:

1. District financial data may be adjusted as a result of audits conducted by the Louisiana Department of Education.
2. Percentages may not total to 100% due to rounding.
3. Revenue per pupil and operating expenditures per pupil are based on adjusted October 1 funded student membership.

Section 2. School Characteristics And Accountability Information

School Characteristics and Accountability Information Overview 2-1
School Characteristics and Accountability Information 2-2
Faculty with a Master's Degree or Higher 2-11
Class Size Characteristics 2-13

School Characteristics and Accountability Information Overview

This section focuses on school accountability results as well as on key educational "input" indicators and resources available at the school level. The first part of this section presents specific accountability information such as the school performance score for each year, the school performance category for the current accountability cycle, the two-year growth target, and the pairing and sharing status of the school. Additional information identifying the school type, school grade structure, membership figures, and the number of faculty are also included.

The second part of this section illustrates the academic preparation of the faculty within each school. As detailed in later pages, this information, derived from educational attainment levels of faculty, is presented as a count of faculty members who possess a master's degree or higher.

The third part of this section presents information on the school class sizes. This information is organized into three class size ranges with number and percent of classes in each range provided.

To help the reader comprehend the accountability results more effectively, a thorough discussion of Louisiana's accountability model is presented within the "School Characteristics and Accountability Information" section of this report.

References

Franklin, B.J. and Glascock, C.H. (1994, November). School configuration: Which configuration is best? Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Mid-South Educational Research Association, Nashville, Tenn.

Louisiana Department of Education, *Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators (Bulletin 741)*, Baton Rouge, La.

LDE researchers have explored the relationship between school configuration and indicators related to student participation and testing. Middle school students perform significantly lower in grades 6 and 7 for all indicators than grades 6 and 7 students in elementary or combination (K-12) schools (Franklin and Glascock, 1994).

School Characteristics and Accountability Information

School Definition

To interpret school-level data correctly in its proper context, one must have a clear understanding of the definition of a school. For purposes of this report, the following definition applies.

School – an institution that provides preschool, elementary, and/or secondary instruction; has one or more grade groupings or is ungraded; has one or more teachers to give instruction or care; is located in one or more buildings; and has an assigned administrator(s). (LDE and the National Center for Educational Statistics, NCES)

School Categorization

As mentioned in the Introduction Section, in order to facilitate an equitable comparison of school performance results, this report categorizes the Louisiana public schools into the following four types based on their grade level composition:

- *Elementary*—any school whose grade structure falls within the PK-8 range that excludes grades in the 9-12 range, and which does not fit the definition for middle/junior high.
- *Middle/junior high*—any school whose grade structure falls within the 4-9 range, which includes grades 7 or 8, and which excludes grades in the PK-3 and 10-12 ranges.
- *High*—any school whose grade structure falls within the 6-12 range and includes grades in the 10-12 range, or any school that contains only grade 9.
- *Combination*—any school whose grade structure falls within the PK-12 range and that is not described by any of the above definitions. These schools generally contain some grades in the K-6 range and some grades in the 9-12 range. Examples would include grade structures such as K-12; K-3, 9-12; and 4-6, 9-12. Nongraded schools (schools with no grade structure) are also considered combination schools.

The number of schools included in the State's and districts' averages has increased this year beyond what is typically due to the opening of new schools and restructuring of others. This increase is part of an ongoing effort by the LDE to include all eligible schools in the accountability model. Specifically, the number of schools at the district and state levels has increased as several alternative schools have been added to the school selection process. Several university laboratory and charter schools have also been added to the state calculations.

If a school has been re-categorized due to a change in grade structure, that school's longitudinal data will appear in more than one category. For example, if Central High School had grades 9-12 for 1998-99, its longitudinal data for 1998-99 would appear in the high school category. But if Central High School underwent a change in grade structure and had grades K-12 for 1999-00, its longitudinal data for 1999-00 would appear in the combination school category. The high school section would refer to the combination school section for data from 1999-00, and the combination school section would refer to the high school section for data from 1998-99.

School Accountability System

The School Accountability system was implemented in the fall of 1999, with an initial focus on schools containing grade levels kindergarten through eighth (K-8). Schools containing grades 9-12, or what is better known as the high school grades, will be captured by the new high school accountability model, which is expected to be implemented in the fall of 2001. Under the accountability system, each school's effectiveness and progress are measured based on results from statewide testing programs (LEAP 21 and The Iowa Tests), school attendance, and the dropout data. The accountability system is based on a two-year accountability cycle; this year's data reflect an interim year.

School Performance Scores (SPS) were calculated for 1,173 schools using the 1999-2000 test data with the 1998-1999 attendance and dropout data. The SPS for each school is a weighted composite index, using 60% weight for the LEAP 21 tests, 30% weight for The Iowa Tests, and a total of 10% for the attendance and dropout results. A school must have both types of test data (at least one grade of LEAP 21 and one grade of The Iowa Tests) to receive an SPS.

A school that does not meet this requirement must be either "paired" or "shared" with another school in the district. Once the identification of the "pairing or sharing" arrangements has been made, this decision is binding for 10 years. If a school lacks grade level test results from either the CRT or NRT test, but not both, it must "share" with another school that has at least one grade level of that particular test. In this case, the shared test results (one grade only) from the second school will be used in formulating the SPS for the first school. Each school will have a unique and separate SPS. When a school has no test data at all or has an insufficient number of students taking the tests, it will then be "paired" with another school. *Pairing* will mean that in formulating the SPS, all test results, attendance, and dropouts of the paired schools are combined together. The schools will essentially receive the same SPS.

The SPS is calculated yearly. The maximum upper range for the SPS is between 236.4 and 266.7, depending on each school's grade levels that take The Iowa Tests. An SPS of 100 indicates that a school has reached the State's 10-year goal, while a score of 150 indicates achievement of the State's 20-year goal. Once the SPS for each accountability school was calculated, a two-year Growth Target was set, defining the minimum expected growth that a school must achieve in order to be on track for meeting the State's 10-year goal in 2008-2009 school year. There are five accountability cycles between now and the year 2009. We are currently in Accountability Cycle One with the schools expected to meet their first two-year growth target in 2001.

Based on the 1998-1999 SPS, each school was assigned a performance category. Since 1999-00 represents an interim year for accountability cycle one, new school performance categories will not be assigned until next year. Therefore, the 1998-1999 baseline performance categories and SPS ranges presented below are still valid.

1998-1999 School Performance Category Assignment

School Performance Category	SPS Range
School of Academic Excellence	150.0 or Above
School of Academic Distinction	125.0 – 149.9
School of Academic Achievement	100.0 – 124.9
Academically Above the State Average	69.4 – 99.9
Academically Below the State Average	30.1 – 69.3
Academically Unacceptable School	30 or Below

Definitions

A description of each data element to be used in the following section is provided below:

- *Grade structure* refers to the various educational grade levels that a school contains and for which instruction is provided (i.e. K-8, or Kindergarten grade through Grade 8).
- *October 1 Membership* is the total number of students enrolled in a school on October 1 of the current school year.
- *Number of Faculty* is the total number of school-based instructional personnel employed at a school.
- *School Type* is the classification of schools into one of the following four categories of schools. The categories are elementary, middle/junior high, high, or combination schools.
- *School Performance Score (SPS)* is the primary measure of a school's overall performance. (See the introduction section for more detail.)

- *School Performance Category* is the category that describes a school's level of performance based on its SPS. (See the introduction section for more detail.)
- *Two-year SPS Goal* is the school performance score a school must make every two years to reach the State's 10 year and 20 year goals.
- *Baseline* is the level of school performance against which progress is measured; the baseline determines the school's growth target.

Table 5

School Characteristics and Accountability Information of Avoyelles Parish

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005003	**Bunkie Elementary School**						
	Grade Structure	PK,K-5,NG	PK,K-5,NG				
	October 1 Membership	656	614				
	Number of Faculty	44	43				
	School Type	Elementary	Elementary				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	62.8	61.2				
	School Performance Category *	5	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	69.8	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				
005004	**Bunkie High School**						
	Grade Structure	9-12,NG	9-12,NG				
	October 1 Membership	739	711				
	Number of Faculty	43	43				
	School Type	High	High				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	~	~				
	School Performance Category *	~	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	~	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				
005005	**Bunkie Middle School**						
	Grade Structure	6-8,NG	6-8,NG				
	October 1 Membership	496	516				
	Number of Faculty	32	39				
	School Type	Middle/Jr. High	Middle/Jr. High				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	43.3	61.3				
	School Performance Category *	5	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	54.1	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				

~ = Unavailable Data PK = Pre-kindergarten NG = Nongraded

* Performance Categories 1 = School of Academic Excellence 2 = School of Academic Distinction 3 = School of Academic Achievement
4 = Academically Above the State Average 5 = Academically Below the State Average 6 = Academically Unacceptable School

N/A = Not Applicable: Performance Category and Growth Targets are assigned once every two years.

Table 5

School Characteristics and Accountability Information of Avoyelles Parish

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005007	**Cottenport Elementary School**						
	Grade Structure	PK,K-5,NG	PK,K-5,NG				
	October 1 Membership	524	501				
	Number of Faculty	41	47				
	School Type	Elementary	Elementary				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	66.0	77.2				
	School Performance Category *	5	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	72.5	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				
005012	**LaFargue Elementary School**						
	Grade Structure	PK,K-5,NG	PK,K-5				
	October 1 Membership	612	613				
	Number of Faculty	36	40				
	School Type	Elementary	Elementary				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	73.4	80.1				
	School Performance Category *	4	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	78.6	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				
005014	**Mansura Middle School**						
	Grade Structure	6-8,NG	6-8,NG				
	October 1 Membership	495	499				
	Number of Faculty	33	38				
	School Type	Middle/Jr. High	Middle/Jr. High				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	57.2	73.3				
	School Performance Category *	5	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	65.5	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				

~ = Unavailable Data PK = Pre-kindergarten NG = Nongraded

* Performance Categories 1 = School of Academic Excellence 2 = School of Academic Distinction 3 = School of Academic Achievement
4 = Academically Above the State Average 5 = Academically Below the State Average 6 = Academically Unacceptable School

N/A = Not Applicable: Performance Category and Growth Targets are assigned once every two years.

Table 5

School Characteristics and Accountability Information of Avoyelles Parish

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005015	**Marksville Elementary School**						
	Grade Structure	PK,K-5,NG	PK,K-5,NG				
	October 1 Membership	829	818				
	Number of Faculty	52	56				
	School Type	Elementary	Elementary				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	66.6	70.8				
	School Performance Category *	5	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	73.0	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				
005016	**Marksville High School**						
	Grade Structure	9-12,NG	9-12,NG				
	October 1 Membership	780	835				
	Number of Faculty	50	54				
	School Type	High	High				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	~	~				
	School Performance Category *	~	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	~	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				
005017	**Marksville Middle School**						
	Grade Structure	6-8,NG	6-8,NG				
	October 1 Membership	639	602				
	Number of Faculty	39	36				
	School Type	Middle/Jr. High	Middle/Jr. High				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	56.8	74.5				
	School Performance Category *	5	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	65.3	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				

~ = Unavailable Data PK = Pre-kindergarten NG = Nongraded

* Performance Categories 1 = School of Academic Excellence 2 = School of Academic Distinction 3 = School of Academic Achievement
4 = Academically Above the State Average 5 = Academically Below the State Average 6 = Academically Unacceptable School

N/A = Not Applicable: Performance Category and Growth Targets are assigned once every two years.

Table 5

School Characteristics and Accountability Information of Avoyelles Parish

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005018	**Avoyelles High School**						
	Grade Structure	9-12,NG	9-12,NG				
	October 1 Membership	666	646				
	Number of Faculty	39	38				
	School Type	High	High				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	~	~				
	School Performance Category *	~	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	~	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				
005019	**Plaucheville Elementary School**						
	Grade Structure	PK,K-5	PK,K-5				
	October 1 Membership	575	559				
	Number of Faculty	34	39				
	School Type	Elementary	Elementary				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	70.6	77				
	School Performance Category *	4	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	76.4	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				
005020	**Riverside Elementary School**						
	Grade Structure	PK,K-5,NG	PK,K-5				
	October 1 Membership	468	494				
	Number of Faculty	30	37				
	School Type	Elementary	Elementary				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	63.3	75.8				
	School Performance Category *	5	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	70.2	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				

~ = Unavailable Data PK = Pre-kindergarten NG = Nongraded

* Performance Categories 1 = School of Academic Excellence 2 = School of Academic Distinction 3 = School of Academic Achievement
4 = Academically Above the State Average 5 = Academically Below the State Average 6 = Academically Unacceptable School

N/A = Not Applicable: Performance Category and Growth Targets are assigned once every two years.

Table 5

School Characteristics and Accountability Information of Avoyelles Parish

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005024	**ALERT School**						
	Grade Structure	1-12	1-12				
	October 1 Membership	~	0				
	Number of Faculty	4	4				
	School Type	Combination	Combination				
	School Performance Score (SPS)	~	0				
	School Performance Category *	~	N/A				
	Two Year SPS Goal	~	N/A				
	Paired and/or Shared Status	No	No				

~ = Unavailable Data PK = Pre-kindergarten NG = Nongraded

* Performance Categories 1 = School of Academic Excellence 2 = School of Academic Distinction 3 = School of Academic Achievement
4 = Academically Above the State Average 5 = Academically Below the State Average 6 = Academically Unacceptable School

N/A = Not Applicable: Performance Category and Growth Targets are assigned once every two years.

Table 5

School Characteristics and Accountability Information of Avoyelles Parish

	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
District												
Total Number of Schools		13		13								
October 1 Membership		7,479		7,408								
Number of Faculty		477		514								
Schools by Performance Category	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
School of Academic Excellence	0.0	0	N/A	N/A								
School of Academic Distinction	0.0	0	N/A	N/A								
School of Academic Achievement	0.0	0	N/A	N/A								
Academically Above the State Average	22.2	2	N/A	N/A								
Academically Below the State Average	77.8	7	N/A	N/A								
Academically Unacceptable School	0.0	0	N/A	N/A								
Number of Schools†	100.0	9	N/A	N/A								
State												
Total Number of Schools		1,507		1,533								
October 1 Membership		766,274		755,207								
Number of Faculty		53,933		55,432								
Schools by Performance Category	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
School of Academic Excellence	0.1	1	N/A	N/A								
School of Academic Distinction	1.3	15	N/A	N/A								
School of Academic Achievement	7.9	94	N/A	N/A								
Academically Above the State Average	44.0	524	N/A	N/A								
Academically Below the State Average	42.0	500	N/A	N/A								
Academically Unacceptable School	4.8	57	N/A	N/A								
Number of Schools†	100.0	1,191	N/A	N/A								

† For 1998-99, schools with grades K-8 were included in the accountability system.

~ = Unavailable Data PK = Pre-kindergarten NG = Nongraded

* Performance Categories 1 = School of Academic Excellence 2 = School of Academic Distinction 3 = School of Academic Achievement
4 = Academically Above the State Average 5 = Academically Below the State Average 6 = Academically Unacceptable School

N/A = Not Applicable: Performance Category and Growth Targets are assigned once every two years.

Faculty with a Master's Degree or Higher

Perhaps the most vital educational resource available to students is the school faculty. One indicator of faculty preparation is the level of academic training the staff has completed.

Data Presentation

Table 6, Faculty with a Master's Degree or Higher, presents the number and percent of faculty attaining a master's degree or higher. Data are presented for all faculty members in all schools in each district. Schools are presented in site code order. District and state totals are presented for comparison purposes.

Definition

- *Faculty*—school-based instructional personnel. In addition to full-time classroom teachers, these individuals include principals, assistant principals, guidance counselors, librarians, and other instructional/administrative staff.

The formula used to compute the percentage of faculty who have a master's degree or higher is presented below. Itinerant staff members who are employed at multiple school sites are counted at each school in which they teach, but are counted only once in district and state percentages.

Data Sources

Site-based personnel—district-reported data submitted to the Louisiana Department of Education via the *Profile of Educational Personnel* (PEP).

Faculty degree status—district-reported data submitted to the Louisiana Department of Education via the *Profile of Educational Personnel* (PEP).

Method of Calculation

Formula Used to Calculate Percent of Faculty with a Master's Degree or Higher

$$\text{Percent of Faculty with a Master's Degree or Higher} = \frac{\text{Number of Faculty with a Master's Degree or Higher}}{\text{Total Number of Faculty at All Education Levels}} \times 100$$

Table 6

Faculty with a Master's Degree or Higher

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005003	Bunkie Elementary School	20.5	9	27.9	12								
005004	Bunkie High School	27.9	12	32.6	14								
005005	Bunkie Middle School	40.6	13	30.8	12								
005007	Cottenport Elementary School	34.1	14	36.2	17								
005012	LaFargue Elementary School	27.8	10	22.5	9								
005014	Mansura Middle School	24.2	8	31.6	12								
005015	Marksville Elementary School	21.2	11	21.4	12								
005016	Marksville High School	36.0	18	38.9	21								
005017	Marksville Middle School	28.2	11	22.2	8								
005018	Avoyelles High School	41.0	16	36.8	14								
005019	Plaucheville Elementary School	32.4	11	35.9	14								
005020	Riverside Elementary School	26.7	8	21.6	8								
005024	ALERT School	25.0	1	25.0	1								
District		29.8	142	30.0	154								
State		39.1	21,090	38.0	21,056								

~ = Unavailable Data

Class Size Characteristics

Small classes generally allow more time for pupil-teacher interaction; therefore, they are instrumental in promoting student learning, especially at the lower elementary grades. In recognition of that fact, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education has set specific limits on the maximum size of classes at various grade levels *(Bulletin 741)*. The maximum enrollment in grades K-3 is 26 students, while in grades 4-12 the maximum enrollment is 33 students. The limits do not apply to activity classes such as physical education, chorus, and band.

Data Presentation

Tables 7a, 7b, 7c, and 7d (Class Size Characteristics for Elementary, Middle/Junior High, High, and Combination Schools, respectively) present the number and percentage of classes that fall within various class size ranges. This report provides the class size information for grades K-12, non-graded by three ranges: 1-20, 21-26, and 27+. Category percentages are provided for comparison purposes. Data are presented for all schools in each district, with schools presented by category and in site code order. District and state percentages are presented for comparison of all schools. Since 1993-94, district and state percentages based on school category also have been provided.

Definition

- *Class*—a grouping of children under the primary supervision and instruction of an individual teacher for all or part of the instructional day, as reported for the purposes of the *Annual School Report* (ASR) and as identified by a specific ASR course code.

Method of Calculation

The following criterion was applied to *Annual School Report (ASR)* data to determine which classes should be included/excluded from the class size calculations:

- Activity classes (which have a maximum allowable student count greater than 33) are excluded because their inclusion in the computation would skew the results.

Data Source

District-reported data from the *Annual School Report* (ASR).

Formulas Used to Calculate Percent of Classes in Each of the Specific Class Size Ranges

$$\textit{Percent of Classes in Specific Class Size Range} = \frac{\textit{Number of Classes in Specific Class Size Range}}{\textit{Total Number of Classes}} \times 100^{*}$$

*Note: Because of school categorization, the numerator and denominator will vary. For example, Percent of Classes in Elementary Schools in Specific Class Size Range = (Number of Classes in Elementary Schools in Specific Class Size Range / Total Number of Classes in Elementary Schools) X 100.

Table 7a: Class Size Characteristics

Elementary Schools

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005003	**Bunkie Elementary School**												
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	32.6	14	59.5	25								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	58.1	25	40.5	17								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	9.3	4	~	~								
005007	**Cottenport Elementary School**												
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	40.0	16	48.7	19								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	57.5	23	46.2	18								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	2.5	1	5.1	2								
005012	**LaFargue Elementary School**												
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	37.5	12	29.0	11								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	59.4	19	71.1	27								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	3.1	1	~	~								
005015	**Marksville Elementary School**												
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	16.3	8	28.3	13								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	83.7	41	65.2	30								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	~	~	6.5	3								
005019	**Plaucheville Elementary School**												
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	28.6	10	34.3	12								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	48.6	17	60.0	21								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	22.9	8	5.7	2								
005020	**Riverside Elementary School**												
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	56.3	18	70.3	26								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	43.8	14	29.7	11								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 7a: Class Size Characteristics

Elementary Schools

	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
District (Elementary Schools)												
Class Size Range 1 - 20	33.8	78	44.7	106								
Class Size Range 21 - 26	60.2	139	52.3	124								
Class Size Range 27 or more	6.1	14	3.0	7								
District (All Schools)												
Class Size Range 1 - 20	22.1	205	26.3	299								
Class Size Range 21 - 26	50.9	471	42.1	479								
Class Size Range 27 or more	27.0	250	31.6	359								
State (Elementary Schools)												
Class Size Range 1 - 20	36.5	11,901	44.1	15,027								
Class Size Range 21 - 26	50.4	16,434	43.1	14,713								
Class Size Range 27 or more	13.1	4,285	12.8	4,368								
State (All Schools)												
Class Size Range 1 - 20	36.9	44,332	40.3	49,539								
Class Size Range 21 - 26	38.5	46,247	36.3	44,702								
Class Size Range 27 or more	24.6	29,539	23.4	28,786								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 7b: Class Size Characteristics

Middle/Jr. High Schools

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005005	**Bunkie Middle School**												
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	12.0	12	15.3	18								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	34.0	34	29.7	35								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	54.0	54	55.1	65								
005014	**Mansura Middle School**												
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	20.2	24	20.2	24								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	51.3	61	26.0	31								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	28.6	34	53.8	64								
005017	**Marksville Middle School**												
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	12.1	17	19.5	29								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	53.6	75	43.6	65								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	34.3	48	36.9	55								
District (Middle/Jr. High Schools)													
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	14.8	53	18.4	71								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	47.3	170	33.9	131								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	37.9	136	47.7	184								
District (All Schools)													
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	22.1	205	26.3	299								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	50.9	471	42.1	479								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	27.0	250	31.6	359								
State (Middle/Jr. High Schools)													
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	29.8	9,029	32.1	9,961								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	39.6	11,994	39.3	12,189								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	30.7	9,294	28.6	8,849								
State (All Schools)													
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	36.9	44,332	40.3	49,539								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	38.5	46,247	36.3	44,702								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	24.6	29,539	23.4	28,786								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 7c: Class Size Characteristics

High Schools

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005004	**Bunkie High School**												
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	~	~	23.4	37								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	~	~	38.6	61								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	~	~	38.0	60								
005016	**Marksville High School**												
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	25.6	46	26.9	54								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	51.1	92	44.3	89								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	23.3	42	28.9	58								
005018	**Avoyelles High School**												
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	18.0	28	20.0	31								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	44.9	70	47.7	74								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	37.2	58	32.3	50								
District (High Schools)													
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	22.0	74	23.7	122								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	48.2	162	43.6	224								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	29.8	100	32.7	168								
District (All Schools)													
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	22.1	205	26.3	299								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	50.9	471	42.1	479								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	27.0	250	31.6	359								
State (High Schools)													
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	37.5	18,477	39.1	19,814								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	31.8	15,697	31.2	15,786								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	30.7	15,144	29.7	15,009								
State (All Schools)													
	Class Size Range 1 - 20	36.9	44,332	40.3	49,539								
	Class Size Range 21 - 26	38.5	46,247	36.3	44,702								
	Class Size Range 27 or more	24.6	29,539	23.4	28,786								

~ = Unavailable Data

Section 3. Student Participation

Student Participation Overview 3-1
Student Attendance 3-2
Students Suspended and Expelled 3-7
Student Dropouts 3-15

Student Participation Overview

This section presents school-level data that captures information about student participation. It is essential that students participate in their learning; to learn, students must be first be present to receive instruction. Students who are frequently absent miss valuable instruction and are more likely to perform poorly. In fact, research has consistently shown that of all school-level indicators presented in this document, student attendance is the single most important predictor of student achievement.

The Student Participation data elements that will be presented in this section are Student Attendance, Student Suspension and Expulsion and Student Dropouts. In all cases, attempts are made to present the most recent student data. However, data collection and management efforts are impacted by system, logistical and human limitations. For this very reason, current year dropout data are not available for use in this report. The dropout data presented in this report are prior year's data (1998-1999).

Of all the School Report Card *indicators studied, student attendance yields the strongest positive relationship with average test scores. This finding is especially evident in secondary schools with higher attendance. These schools show a marked increase in the percentage of students passing the Graduation Exit Exam (Franklin and Crone, 1993).*

According to LDE research, the percent of student dropouts has a strong negative correlation with test scores and attendance, and a positive correlation with school size. Thus, schools with low average test scores and low average attendance generally experience high dropout rates. Larger schools (those with enrollments of roughly 700 or more students) exhibit higher dropout rates than do smaller schools (Franklin and Crone, 1993).

References

Franklin, B. J. and Crone, L. J. (1993). *Louisiana Progress Profiles.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Atlanta, Ga.

Student Attendance

More than a decade ago, American schools were challenged by *A Nation at Risk* to do whatever necessary to reduce the amount of instructional time lost to absenteeism (Bennett, 1988). As educators have long recognized, occasional absences cause some learning disruption, but frequent student absences can severely reduce academic progress (Bamber, 1979).

The percent of student attendance reflects the percentage of time the average student is present within the total number of instructional days. Since 1993-94, attendance has been calculated to the nearest half day.

Data Presentation

This report presents the percent of student attendance for all grades (K-12, non-graded) in the school, district, and state, based on the school category. Tables 8a, 8b, 8c, and 8d—Student Attendance— present the percent of student attendance for each school in the district. District and state percentages are presented for comparison of all schools. Schools are presented by category and in site code order.

It should be noted that, for purposes of this report, the percent of students in attendance represents the current year's data; however, the accountability attendance index displayed in previous publications was based on previous year's attendance data due to data collection timelines.

Definitions

- *Aggregate days attendance*—the total number of days that students are *present* at the school site over the course of the school year.
- *Aggregate days membership*—the total number of days that students are *enrolled* (but not necessarily *present* at the school site) over the course of the school year.
- *Day of attendance*—effective with the 1992-93 school year, when a student "(1) is physically present at a school site or is participating in an authorized school activity and (2) is under the supervision of authorized personnel. This definition extends to students who are homebound, assigned to and participating in drug rehabilitation programs that contain a State-approved education component, or participating in school-authorized field trips." (Bulletin 741)

  "Students who meet the above criteria and are present at the school site for more than 25% but not more than 50% of the student's instructional day shall be credited with a half day of attendance. Those who meet the above criteria and are present for more than 50% of the student's instructional day are credited with a whole day of attendance. Students who are not physically present or who are participating for 25% or less of their instructional day will be considered absent for reporting purposes. Absences, whether excused or unexcused, shall be counted as an absence for reporting to the Department." *(Bulletin 741)*

  The above definition refers to the "amount" of time receiving instruction that is required to be considered in attendance. This definition was piloted for the 1992-93 school year and has been in effect statewide since the 1993-94 school year.
- *Percent of student attendance*—the ratio of aggregate days student attendance to aggregate days membership.

Method of Calculation

The formulas used in calculating percent of student attendance are presented on the following page.

Data Sources

The attendance indicator is based on district-reported data submitted to the Louisiana Department of Education via the *Student Information System* (SIS).

References

Bamber, C. (1979). Student and teacher absenteeism. *Phi Delta Kappa Fastback. 126*, 12.

Bennett, W. J. (1988). *American Education - Making It Work.* 17. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

Louisiana Department of Education. *Handbook for Louisiana School Administrators (Bulletin 741).* Baton Rouge, La.: Author.

Formulas Used to Calculate Percent of Student Attendance

School-level Aggregation

$$\textit{Percent of Student Attendance} = \frac{\textit{Aggregate Days of Attendance}}{\textit{Aggregate Days of Membership}} \times 100$$

District-level Aggregation

$$\textit{Percent of Student Attendance} = \frac{\textit{Total Aggregate Days of Attendance for All Schools in the District}}{\textit{Total Aggregate Days of Membership for All Schools in the District}} \times 100^{*}$$

State-level Aggregation

$$\textit{Percent of Student Attendance} = \frac{\textit{Total Aggregate Days of Attendance for All Schools in the State}}{\textit{Total Aggregate Days of Membership for All Schools in the State}} \times 100^{*}$$

*Note: Because of school categorization, the numerator and denominator will vary. For example, Percent of Student Attendance in Elementary Schools = (Aggregate Days of Attendance for All Elementary Schools / Aggregate Days of Membership for All Elementary Schools) X 100.

Table 8a: Percent of Student Attendance

Elementary Schools

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005003 Bunkie Elementary School	94.3	93.9				
005007 Cottenport Elementary School	94.7	94.9				
005012 LaFargue Elementary School	94.3	93.8				
005015 Marksville Elementary School	94.4	93.9				
005019 Plaucheville Elementary School	94.7	93.6				
005020 Riverside Elementary School	94.1	93.5				
District (Elementary Schools)	94.4	93.9				
District (All Schools)	92.6	92.5				
State (Elementary Schools)	95.2	95.5				
State (All Schools)	93.5	94.0				

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 8b: Percent of Student Attendance

Middle/Jr. High Schools

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005005 Bunkie Middle School	92.0	92.1				
005014 Mansura Middle School	92.5	93.1				
005017 Marksville Middle School	91.1	91.3				
District (Middle/Jr. High Schools)	91.8	92.1				
District (All Schools)	92.6	92.5				
State (Middle/Jr. High Schools)	92.8	93.4				
State (All Schools)	93.5	94.0				

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 8c: Percent of Student Attendance

High Schools

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005004 Bunkie High School	89.4	90.8				
005016 Marksville High School	90.9	90.1				
005018 Avoyelles High School	90.5	90.4				
District (High Schools)	90.3	90.4				
District (All Schools)	92.6	92.5				
State (High Schools)	90.9	91.5				
State (All Schools)	93.5	94.0				

~ = Unavailable Data

Students Suspended and Expelled

Student suspension harms not only students by depriving them of valuable instruction, but also communities, the individual school, and school district (Garibaldi, 1978).

Data Presentation

Tables 9a, 9b, 9c, and 9d present the number and percent of students suspended and the number and percent of students expelled for each school in the district. School category statistics are provided at the district and state level for comparison purposes. Schools are listed by category and in site code order. It should be pointed out that the "students suspended" number reflects the number of students at the school site who were suspended at least once during the school year (unduplicated count).

Definitions

- *Cumulative Enrollment*—the sum of all students enrolled in a school or district for at least one school day during the course of the school year, used as the denominator for calculating school- and district-level suspension and expulsion percents.
- *In-school Expulsion*—a student temporarily removed from his/her usual classroom placement to an alternative setting for a period of time specified by the LEA; no interruption of instructional services occurs.
- *In-school Suspension*—a student temporarily removed from his/her usual classroom placement to an alternative setting for a minimum of one complete school day; no interruption of instructional services occurs.
- *Out-of-school Expulsion*—the removal (exit) of a student from school for a determined number of days with no provision of instructional services.
- *Out-of-school Suspension*—a student temporarily prohibited from participating in his/her usual placement within school, with no provision of instructional service; only suspensions resulting in removal for at least one full day are included.

Method of Calculation

Suspensions and expulsions are calculated for students enrolled in grades PK-12 and non-graded. The formulas listed at the bottom of this page were used to calculate the desired school- and district-level percentages for each school category, as well as district-level percentages for all schools.

Data Sources

The suspension and expulsion indicators are based on district-reported data submitted to the Louisiana Department of Education via the *Student Information System* (SIS).

Schools which report comparatively high suspension rates tend to serve more low-income students than those which report low suspension rates. Suspension rates tend to be higher among large schools. Middle schools and high schools report higher suspension rates than schools with other grade configurations. Finally, class enrollments are larger in high-suspension schools (Kennedy, 1993). This research is further supported by Franklin and Glascock (1994), who found that suspension rates are significantly higher in middle schools than in elementary or combination (K-12) schools.

References

Garibaldi, A. M. (1978). *In-School Alternatives to Suspension: Conference Report.* Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

Kennedy, E. (1993). *A study of out-of-school suspensions and expulsions in Louisiana public schools.* Report to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Baton Rouge, La.: Louisiana Department of Education.

Formulas Used to Calculate Percent of Students Suspended, Expelled

School-level Aggregation

$$\textit{Percent of Students Suspended} = \frac{\textit{Number of Students Suspended (unduplicated count)}}{\textit{Cumulative Enrollment}} \times 100$$

$$\textit{Percent of Students Expelled} = \frac{\textit{Number of Students Expelled (unduplicated count)}}{\textit{Cumulative Enrollment}} \times 100$$

District-level Aggregation

$$\textit{Percent of Students Suspended} = \frac{\textit{Total Number of Students Suspended for All Schools in the District (unduplicated count)}}{\textit{Cumulative Enrollment for All Schools in the District}} \times 100^{*}$$

$$\textit{Percent of Students Expelled} = \frac{\textit{Total Number of Students Expelled for All Schools in the District (unduplicated count)}}{\textit{Cumulative Enrollment for All Schools in the District}} \times 100^{*}$$

*Note: Because of school categorization, the numerator and denominator will vary. For example, Percent of Elementary Students Suspended = (Number of Elementary Students Suspended / Cumulative Elementary Student Enrollment) X 100.

Table 9a: Students Suspended and Expelled

Elementary Schools

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005003	**Bunkie Elementary School**												
	Suspended (In School)	18.8	124	21.0	141								
	Suspended (Out of School)	15.8	104	17.6	118								
	Expelled (In School)	0.0	0	0.0	0								
	Expelled (Out of School)	0.0	0	0.0	0								
005007	**Cottenport Elementary School**												
	Suspended (In School)	3.3	17	5.8	32								
	Suspended (Out of School)	9.7	50	8.0	44								
	Expelled (In School)	0.2	1	0.0	0								
	Expelled (Out of School)	0.0	0	0.0	0								
005012	**LaFargue Elementary School**												
	Suspended (In School)	1.4	9	3.2	21								
	Suspended (Out of School)	1.7	11	2.9	19								
	Expelled (In School)	0.0	0	0.0	0								
	Expelled (Out of School)	0.2	1	0.0	0								
005015	**Marksville Elementary School**												
	Suspended (In School)	15.3	129	12.3	107								
	Suspended (Out of School)	4.7	40	7.8	68								
	Expelled (In School)	0.0	0	0.0	0								
	Expelled (Out of School)	0.0	0	0.1	1								
005019	**Plaucheville Elementary School**												
	Suspended (In School)	4.6	27	2.2	13								
	Suspended (Out of School)	0.8	5	2.5	15								
	Expelled (In School)	0.0	0	0.0	0								
	Expelled (Out of School)	0.0	0	0.2	1								
005020	**Riverside Elementary School**												
	Suspended (In School)	3.7	17	1.1	6								
	Suspended (Out of School)	3.0	14	2.8	15								
	Expelled (In School)	0.0	0	0.2	1								
	Expelled (Out of School)	0.0	0	0.0	0								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 9a: Students Suspended and Expelled

Elementary Schools

	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
District (Elementary Schools)												
Suspended (In School)	9.0	320	8.5	320								
Suspended (Out of School)	6.3	224	7.4	278								
Expelled (In School)	0.0	1	0.0	1								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.0	1	0.1	2								
District (All Schools)												
Suspended (In School)	12.3	929	13.1	1,021								
Suspended (Out of School)	16.9	1,276	18.6	1,447								
Expelled (In School)	0.7	49	1.0	77								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.6	44	0.9	68								
State (Elementary Schools)												
Suspended (In School)	3.4	12,975	3.6	14,134								
Suspended (Out of School)	5.1	19,705	5.0	19,639								
Expelled (In School)	0.1	190	0.1	350								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.1	214	0.1	228								
State (All Schools)												
Suspended (In School)	8.1	63,578	8.3	65,115								
Suspended (Out of School)	10.5	82,290	9.6	74,907								
Expelled (In School)	0.2	1,779	0.3	2,127								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.5	3,601	0.4	2,839								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 9b: Students Suspended and Expelled

Middle/Jr. High Schools

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005005	**Bunkie Middle School**												
	Suspended (In School)	24.4	131	31.7	176								
	Suspended (Out of School)	36.5	196	35.1	195								
	Expelled (In School)	1.3	7	4.3	24								
	Expelled (Out of School)	2.4	13	2.7	15								
005014	**Mansura Middle School**												
	Suspended (In School)	6.2	33	15.0	80								
	Suspended (Out of School)	31.5	168	29.3	156								
	Expelled (In School)	2.3	12	2.1	11								
	Expelled (Out of School)	1.9	10	0.9	5								
005017	**Marksville Middle School**												
	Suspended (In School)	21.7	147	27.8	179								
	Suspended (Out of School)	24.2	164	30.0	193								
	Expelled (In School)	1.8	12	2.6	17								
	Expelled (Out of School)	1.0	7	1.7	11								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 9b: Students Suspended and Expelled

Middle/Jr. High Schools

	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
District (Middle/Jr. High Schools)												
Suspended (In School)	18.1	311	25.5	432								
Suspended (Out of School)	30.5	524	31.8	540								
Expelled (In School)	1.8	31	3.1	52								
Expelled (Out of School)	1.8	30	1.8	31								
District (All Schools)												
Suspended (In School)	12.3	929	13.1	1,021								
Suspended (Out of School)	16.9	1,276	18.6	1,447								
Expelled (In School)	0.7	49	1.0	77								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.6	44	0.9	68								
State (Middle/Jr. High Schools)												
Suspended (In School)	16.4	21,735	15.7	22,378								
Suspended (Out of School)	19.4	25,751	16.5	23,542								
Expelled (In School)	0.6	756	0.6	918								
Expelled (Out of School)	1.1	1,482	0.8	1,151								
State (All Schools)												
Suspended (In School)	8.1	63,578	8.3	65,115								
Suspended (Out of School)	10.5	82,290	9.6	74,907								
Expelled (In School)	0.2	1,779	0.3	2,127								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.5	3,601	0.4	2,839								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 9c: Students Suspended and Expelled

High Schools

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005004	**Bunkie High School**												
	Suspended (In School)	23.8	183	20.2	152								
	Suspended (Out of School)	32.3	248	34.8	262								
	Expelled (In School)	0.9	7	1.2	9								
	Expelled (Out of School)	0.4	3	2.0	15								
005016	**Marksville High School**												
	Suspended (In School)	3.2	27	1.7	15								
	Suspended (Out of School)	18.5	156	24.9	217								
	Expelled (In School)	0.4	3	0.9	8								
	Expelled (Out of School)	0.5	4	1.1	10								
005018	**Avoyelles High School**												
	Suspended (In School)	12.5	88	14.6	103								
	Suspended (Out of School)	18.1	127	22.0	155								
	Expelled (In School)	1.0	7	1.0	7								
	Expelled (Out of School)	0.8	6	1.4	10								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 9c: Students Suspended and Expelled

High Schools

	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
District (High Schools)												
Suspended (In School)	13.0	298	11.6	269								
Suspended (Out of School)	23.0	528	27.2	629								
Expelled (In School)	0.7	17	1.0	24								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.6	13	1.5	35								
District (All Schools)												
Suspended (In School)	12.3	929	13.1	1,021								
Suspended (Out of School)	16.9	1,276	18.6	1,447								
Expelled (In School)	0.7	49	1.0	77								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.6	44	0.9	68								
State (High Schools)												
Suspended (In School)	11.8	27,296	12.3	26,567								
Suspended (Out of School)	14.9	34,314	13.5	29,224								
Expelled (In School)	0.3	701	0.4	810								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.8	1,797	0.6	1,317								
State (All Schools)												
Suspended (In School)	8.1	63,578	8.3	65,115								
Suspended (Out of School)	10.5	82,290	9.6	74,907								
Expelled (In School)	0.2	1,779	0.3	2,127								
Expelled (Out of School)	0.5	3,601	0.4	2,839								

~ = Unavailable Data

Student Dropouts

Students who drop out of school deprive our country of potentially valuable human resources (Hershaff, 1980). Research indicates that dropping out of school has negative consequences both for the individual who drops out and for society (Curry, Payson, and Sandhu, 1990).

Over the last 20 years, there has been a general increase in high school completion rates. Despite these gains, dropout rates remain at unacceptably high levels. The monitoring of high school dropout rates provides one measure of our progress in increasing the educational attainment of the state's youth. Unfortunately, determining the exact number of students who actually drop out of school is extremely difficult due to lack of uniformity in reporting the reasons students exit from their respective school systems.

Data Presentation

Table 10, Student Dropouts, presents by grade level the number and percent of students who have dropped out of school for grades 7-12. District and state percents are also presented for the various grade levels. Data are presented by school site code for all schools in the district whose grade structure includes grade seven or higher. As found throughout this publication, district and state numbers and percents are offered for comparison purposes.

Definitions

- *Cumulative Enrollment*—the sum of all students enrolled in a school or district for at least one school day during the course of the school year, used as the denominator for calculating school- and district-level suspension and expulsion percents.
- *Dropout Denominator*—cumulative enrollment plus any dropouts not included in cumulative enrollment (e.g., reported non-reported summer dropouts).
- *Dropout*—the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES, 1999) defines a dropout in the following manner. A *school dropout* is an individual who was enrolled in school at some time during the previous school year, was not enrolled at the beginning of the current school year, has not graduated from high school or completed an approved educational program, and does not meet any of the following exclusionary conditions:
    - death;
    - temporary absence due to suspension or illness; or
    - transfer to another public school district*, private school, or state- or district-approved education program.

    For the purpose of this definition,

    - a school year is the 12-month period of time beginning with the normal opening of school in the fall (operationally set as October 1st), with dropouts from the previous summer reported for the year and grade for which they fail to enroll;
    - an individual has graduated from high school or completed an approved education program upon receipt of formal recognition from school authorities; and
    - a state- or district-approved education program may include special education programs, home-based instruction, and school-sponsored secondary (but NOT adult) programs leading to a GED or some other certification differing from the regular diploma" (NCES, 1993).

    * Refers to a district outside Louisiana.

Method of Calculation

Louisiana's school- and district-level student dropout percents are calculated by dividing the total number of student dropouts in each grade for grades 7-12 by the dropout denominator for that grade. The formulas used to produce percent of student dropouts are presented at the bottom of this page.

Data Sources

The dropout indicator is based on district-reported data submitted to the Louisiana Department of Education via the *Student Information System* (SIS).

References

Curry, B. A., Payson, James and Sandhu, Daya S. (1990). Efficacy of a university designed dropout prevention program for at-risk adolescents of Louisiana. *Louisiana Education Research Journal*. XVI:1, 52.

National Center for Education Statistics (1993). *Dropout rates in the United States: 1993*. U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Research and Improvement. Government Printing Office: Washington, DC.

Formulas Used to Calculate Percent of Student Dropouts

(Grades 7-12)

School-level Aggregation

$$\text{Percent of Student Dropouts (By Grade Level)} = \frac{\text{Number of Student Dropouts (By Grade Level)}}{\text{Dropout Denominator (By Grade Level)}} \times 100$$

District-level Aggregation

$$\text{Percent of Student Dropouts (By Grade Level)} = \frac{\text{Total Number of Student Dropouts (By Grade Level) For All Schools in the District}}{\text{Dropout Denominator (By Grade Level) For All Schools in the District}} \times 100$$

State-level Aggregation

$$\text{Percent of Student Dropouts (By Grade Level)} = \frac{\text{Total Number of Student Dropouts (By Grade Level) For All Schools in the State}}{\text{Dropout Denominator (By Grade Level) For All Schools in the State}} \times 100$$

Table 10: Student Dropouts

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005004	**Bunkie High School**												
	Grade 9	16.1	45	~	~								
	Grade 10	15.4	25	~	~								
	Grade 11	7.2	12	~	~								
	Grade 12	2.3	3	~	~								
005005	**Bunkie Middle School**												
	Grade 8	3.2	5	~	~								
005014	**Mansura Middle School**												
	Grade 8	2.9	5	~	~								
005016	**Marksville High School**												
	Grade 9	19.4	61	~	~								
	Grade 10	8.5	18	~	~								
	Grade 11	9.4	16	~	~								
	Grade 12	8.9	14	~	~								
005017	**Marksville Middle School**												
	Grade 8	2.5	5	~	~								
005018	**Avoyelles High School**												
	Grade 9	16.7	42	~	~								
	Grade 10	6.9	10	~	~								
	Grade 11	7.6	12	~	~								
	Grade 12	8.5	12	~	~								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 10: Student Dropouts

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
District													
	Grade 7	~	~	~	~								
	Grade 8	2.8	15	~	~								
	Grade 9	17.6	148	~	~								
	Grade 10	10.3	53	~	~								
	Grade 11	8.1	40	~	~								
	Grade 12	6.8	29	~	~								
	Grades 9 - 12	11.9	270	~	~								
State													
	Grade 7	2.1	1,309	~	~								
	Grade 8	2.9	1,703	~	~								
	Grade 9	10.3	7,181	~	~								
	Grade 10	9.6	5,572	~	~								
	Grade 11	8.5	4,185	~	~								
	Grade 12	8.8	3,985	~	~								
	Grades 9 - 12	9.4	20,923	~	~								

~ = Unavailable Data

Section 4. Student Achievement

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Developmental Reading Assessment Results 4-2
Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) – LEAP 21 Test Results 4-8
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Student Achievement Overview

This section presents the test results for many of the assessments performed in Louisiana. For many years, assessment results have been used by both state and local educators for a variety of purposes such as planning instruction, determining individual students' needs, and as part of the criteria for graduation from Louisiana public high schools. In recent years the focus on test results in Louisiana has increased with the implementation of new State policies, including the accountability model and high stakes testing.

The first part of this section presents the results of the *Developmental Reading Assessment* (*DRA*) for grades 2 and 3. The *DRA* is a reading ability assessment used to identify students in need of individualized reading instruction.

The second part of this section presents the results of the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program for the 21st Century (LEAP 21) tests, the new Louisiana criterion-referenced tests. The LEAP 21, administered to students in grades 4 and 8, is used to measure how well students have mastered the recently mandated State content standards.

The third part of this section presents the results of the Graduation Exit Examination (GEE), another Louisiana criterion-referenced test. The GEE is administered to students in grades 10 and 11. Students must pass all five components of the GEE to graduate from a public high school in Louisiana in addition to having 23 Carnegie units of academic credit.

The fourth part of this section presents the results of the Louisiana norm-referenced test, The Iowa Tests, administered to students in grades 3, 5, 6, 7, and 9. The Iowa Tests are a nationally normed, standardized achievement test battery. For all tests included in the Student Achievement section, results are shown for all public schools in the district with available scores. The district and state results are presented for comparison purposes.

Developmental Reading Assessment Results

The ability to read is essential to survive in our society. Many children learn to read quickly and efficiently once exposed to formal instruction. However, for some students this skill acquisition is not an easy task. It is critical that these children receive high quality instruction, which emphasizes language and literacy skills during their first years of school. In 1997, the Louisiana Legislature began funding a K-3 Reading and Mathematics Initiative, which focuses on providing prevention, intervention, and remediation for these students. A separate piece of legislation required that the number of students reading below grade level in all second and third grades throughout the state be reported at the beginning of each school year.

In 1998, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (SBESE) approved the ***Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA*)** as the reading ability assessment instrument to be used uniformly statewide. The *DRA* measures two major aspects of reading that are critical to independence as a reader: (a) accuracy of oral reading, and (b) comprehension through reading and re-telling of narrative stories. This assessment, an essential part of the K-3 Reading and Mathematics Initiative, is designed to identify students at-risk of reading failure and to help guide individualized instruction. Teachers administer the *DRA* on a one-on-one basis to students.

The *DRA* was first administered in the 1998-99 school year. First-grade students are tested in the spring semester only, while second- and third-grade students are assessed both in the fall and spring semesters. The results shown in this report are based on the spring assessments.

The following students were evaluated and included in the *DRA* assessment results:

- all regular education students enrolled as of October 1;
- all special education students whose IEPs designate that they are in a specially designed, regular instructional program;
- all Limited English Proficient (LEP) students who were enrolled in and who completed at least two full consecutive academic years in an English-speaking school (including kindergarten);
- students in alternative programs or placements which are addressing regular curriculum standards; and
- all disabled students according to Section 504.

Data Presentation

Tables 11a and 11b present the spring *Developmental Reading Assessment* spring results for grades 2 and 3, respectively. These results present the number and percent of students reading below, on, and above their grade levels. This information is provided for each public school in the district, with schools listed in site code order. District and state results are presented for comparison purposes.

Method of Calculation

The formulas used to compute the percents of students reading below, on, and above their grade levels are presented on the following page.

Data Source

The *DRA* data used in the *District Composite Report* are based on student-level data submitted by the districts to the Louisiana Department of Education, Division of School Standards, Accountability, and Assistance.

Formulas Used to Calculate Percents of Students Reading Below, On, and Above Their Grade Levels

$$\textit{Percent of Students Reading Below Grade Level} = \frac{\textit{Number of Students Reading Below Grade Level}}{\textit{Total Number of Students Assessed in that Grade}} \times 100$$

$$\textit{Percent of Students Reading On Grade Level} = \frac{\textit{Number of Students Reading On Grade Level}}{\textit{Total Number of Students Assessed in that Grade}} \times 100$$

$$\textit{Percent of Students Reading Above Grade Level} = \frac{\textit{Number of Students Reading Above Grade Level}}{\textit{Total Number of Students Assessed in that Grade}} \times 100$$

Table 11a: Developmental Reading Assessment Spring Results - Grade 2

Percent and Number of Students Reading Below, On, or Above Grade Level

	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005003 Bunkie Elementary School												
Students Assessed		99		82								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	29.3	29	32.9	27								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	44.4	44	51.2	42								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	26.3	26	15.9	13								
005007 Cottenport Elementary School												
Students Assessed		76		64								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	23.7	18	28.1	18								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	32.9	25	29.7	19								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	43.4	33	42.2	27								
005012 LaFargue Elementary School												
Students Assessed		97		84								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	13.4	13	4.8	4								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	39.2	38	54.8	46								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	47.4	46	40.5	34								
005015 Marksville Elementary School												
Students Assessed		127		115								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	19.7	25	22.6	26								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	68.5	87	60.0	69								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	11.8	15	17.4	20								
005019 Plaucheville Elementary School												
Students Assessed		78		74								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	20.5	16	20.3	15								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	50.0	39	29.7	22								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	29.5	23	50.0	37								
005020 Riverside Elementary School												
Students Assessed		67		62								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	11.9	8	0.0	0								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	29.9	20	38.7	24								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	58.2	39	61.3	38								

~ = Unavailable data

Table 11a: Developmental Reading Assessment Spring Results - Grade 2

Percent and Number of Students Reading Below, On, or Above Grade Level

	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
District												
Students Assessed		544		481								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	20.0	109	18.7	90								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	46.5	253	46.2	222								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	33.5	182	35.1	169								
State (Public)												
Students Assessed		54,246		54,108								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	23.5	12,737	22.3	12,038								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	41.4	22,460	37.7	20,393								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	35.1	19,049	40.1	21,677								

~ = Unavailable data

Table 11b: Developmental Reading Assessment Spring Results - Grade 3

Percent and Number of Students Reading Below, On, or Above Grade Level

	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005003 Bunkie Elementary School												
Students Assessed		85		95								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	42.4	36	30.5	29								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	40.0	34	39.0	37								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	17.6	15	30.5	29								
005007 Cottenport Elementary School												
Students Assessed		80		77								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	32.5	26	31.2	24								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	17.5	14	31.2	24								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	50.0	40	37.7	29								
005012 LaFargue Elementary School												
Students Assessed		86		103								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	17.4	15	11.6	12								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	45.3	39	46.6	48								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	37.2	32	41.8	43								
005015 Marksville Elementary School												
Students Assessed		121		129								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	31.4	38	23.3	30								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	57.9	70	53.5	69								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	10.7	13	23.3	30								
005019 Plaucheville Elementary School												
Students Assessed		88		81								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	40.9	36	24.7	20								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	28.4	25	46.9	38								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	30.7	27	28.4	23								
005020 Riverside Elementary School												
Students Assessed		63		82								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	42.9	27	18.3	15								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	25.4	16	36.6	30								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	31.7	20	45.1	37								

~ = Unavailable data

Table 11b: Developmental Reading Assessment Spring Results - Grade 3

Percent and Number of Students Reading Below, On, or Above Grade Level

	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
District												
Students Assessed		523		567								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	34.0	178	22.9	130								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	37.9	198	43.4	246								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	28.1	147	33.7	191								
State (Public)												
Students Assessed		53,469		54,201								
Students Reading Below Their Grade Level	30.3	16,185	24.5	13,274								
Students Reading On Their Grade Level	37.1	19,815	37.9	20,553								
Students Reading Above Their Grade Level	32.7	17,469	37.6	20,374								

~ = Unavailable data

Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) – LEAP 21 Test Results

The **LEAP for the 21st Century** tests (or **LEAP 21**), Louisiana's new criterion-referenced tests (CRTs) measure how well a student has mastered the State content standards. These tests, which are administered to students in grades 4 and 8, will be phased in at the high school level beginning in the spring of 2001. The old high school CRT, or the Graduation Exit Examination (GEE), is not yet administered in its new format. The old GEE will continue to be given until the new format is completely phased in. The old and new high school exit exams are further explained in the next part of the Student Achievement section. The LEAP 21 English Language Arts and Mathematics tests were first administered in the spring of 1999 with the initial administration of the Science and Social Studies tests in the spring of 2000.

The new LEAP 21 tests differ from the previous CRT tests in the areas described below.

- The LEAP 21 tests are directly aligned with the State's content standards; by law these tests must be as rigorous as those of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).
  - The new English Language Arts tests have longer reading passages and a greater variety of item types. Some constructed-response questions require written responses to what the students read, and students in each grade must write a composition in response to a writing prompt.
  - The new Mathematics tests reflect greater difficulty, with a broader and more challenging range of test items and problem types. For example, there are open-ended problems as well as problems with more than one solution and/or more than one path to a solution.
  - The new Science tests contain multiple-choice questions that assess students' comprehension of science concepts and the process of inquiry. Short-answer items and essay questions allow students to demonstrate a deeper understanding of science and to apply scientific knowledge. Grade 4 students complete and draw conclusions from a comprehensive science task while grade 8 students respond to a written scenario.
  - The new Social Studies tests challenge students to expand their thinking across the boundaries of the four core disciplines in social studies by assessing their knowledge, conceptual understanding, and application of skills in geography, civics, economics, and history. Some constructed-response questions require higher-order thinking in a social studies context.
- Students will no longer receive "pass/fail" but instead will receive one of five achievement ratings:
  - *Advanced*–demonstrates superior performance beyond the proficient level of mastery.
  - *Proficient*–demonstrates competency over challenging subject matter and is well-prepared for the next level of schooling.
  - *Basic*–demonstrates only the fundamental knowledge and skills needed for the next level of schooling.
  - *Approaching Basic*–partially demonstrates the fundamental knowledge and skills needed for the next level of schooling.
  - *Unsatisfactory*–does not demonstrate the fundamental knowledge and skills needed for the next level of schooling.

In the spring of 2000, the LEAP 21 tests became high stakes tests for fourth and eighth graders. To be promoted fully to the fifth or ninth grade at the end of the 1999-2000 school year, students had to score at the "Approaching Basic" achievement level or above on both the English Language Arts and the Mathematics LEAP 21 tests. Intensive summer school was offered for students who scored at the "Unsatisfactory" achievement level, with a retest opportunity at the end of the summer school session. Local school systems were given the authority to grant appeals and waivers based on certain circumstances.

All students take the LEAP 21 tests, except for students whose Individual Education Plans (IEPs) indicate that they have met the participation criteria for alternate assessment or for out-of-level assessment, which began in the 1999-2000 school year. Also, Limited English Proficient (LEP) students who are determined to be eligible for a deferment from testing are not required to take the tests.

Data Presentation

Tables 12a–12h provide LEAP 21 test results for grades 4 and 8. The tables reflect both the number and percent of students who score at each

achievement level for each subject area. Furthermore, the data presented are LEAP 21 scores for all students included in the accountability LEAP 21 index score at each school. As a result, the data in the *District Composite Report* may not match the data contained in reports issued by the testing contractor.

Differences may exist because of the following reasons. First, students with LEAP 21 index scores of zero are included in the "Unsatisfactory" achievement level. Zero scores are assigned to eligible and non-exempt students who did not take the test and to students with testing irregularities. Second, students from Option I alternative schools are included in the results of their home school. Finally, if a school had insufficient data for one grade, the presented results will include scores from the shared grade of another school.

Definition

- *Criterion-referenced tests (CRTs)*–tests that produce a score that tells how individuals/schools perform in achieving established criteria.

Data Source

The LEAP 21 results are based on student-level data provided to the Louisiana Department of Education by Data Recognition Corporation (DRC), the testing contractor for the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program for the 21st Century tests (LEAP 21) for grades 4 and 8.

Table 12a: LEAP 21 Test Results - Grade 4 English Language Arts

Percent and Number of Students by Achievement Levels

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005003	**Bunkie Elementary School**												
	Advanced	0.0	0	2.4	2								
	Proficient	17.0	16	12.2	10								
	Basic	36.2	34	31.7	26								
	Approaching Basic	26.6	25	25.6	21								
	Unsatisfactory	20.2	19	28.0	23								
005007	**Cottenport Elementary School**												
	Advanced	1.5	1	0.0	0								
	Proficient	12.1	8	15.7	11								
	Basic	47.0	31	40.0	28								
	Approaching Basic	19.7	13	25.7	18								
	Unsatisfactory	19.7	13	18.6	13								
005012	**LaFargue Elementary School**												
	Advanced	1.0	1	2.2	2								
	Proficient	15.0	15	20.2	18								
	Basic	45.0	45	43.8	39								
	Approaching Basic	25.0	25	27.0	24								
	Unsatisfactory	14.0	14	6.7	6								
005015	**Marksville Elementary School**												
	Advanced	1.0	1	0.0	0								
	Proficient	9.1	9	11.7	14								
	Basic	41.4	41	45.8	55								
	Approaching Basic	28.3	28	20.8	25								
	Unsatisfactory	20.2	20	21.7	26								
005019	**Plaucheville Elementary School**												
	Advanced	0.0	0	1.1	1								
	Proficient	19.0	16	13.3	12								
	Basic	41.7	35	47.8	43								
	Approaching Basic	26.2	22	23.3	21								
	Unsatisfactory	13.1	11	14.4	13								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 12a: LEAP 21 Test Results - Grade 4 English Language Arts

Percent and Number of Students by Achievement Levels

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005020	**Riverside Elementary School**												
	Advanced	0.0	0	1.5	1								
	Proficient	12.5	8	12.3	8								
	Basic	40.6	26	33.8	22								
	Approaching Basic	23.4	15	40.0	26								
	Unsatisfactory	23.4	15	12.3	8								
District													
	Advanced	0.6	3	1.2	6								
	Proficient	14.2	72	14.1	73								
	Basic	41.8	212	41.3	213								
	Approaching Basic	25.2	128	26.2	135								
	Unsatisfactory	18.1	92	17.2	89								
State													
	Advanced	1.4	797	1.8	1,002								
	Proficient	14.7	8,451	14.4	8,114								
	Basic	39.0	22,376	39.4	22,230								
	Approaching Basic	24.1	13,845	24.8	13,993								
	Unsatisfactory	20.7	11,872	19.7	11,111								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 12b: LEAP 21 Test Results - Grade 4 Mathematics

Percent and Number of Students by Achievement Levels

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005003	**Bunkie Elementary School**												
	Advanced	1.1	1	0.0	0								
	Proficient	5.3	5	4.9	4								
	Basic	31.9	30	30.5	25								
	Approaching Basic	25.5	24	31.7	26								
	Unsatisfactory	36.2	34	32.9	27								
005007	**Cottenport Elementary School**												
	Advanced	0.0	0	0.0	0								
	Proficient	3.0	2	7.1	5								
	Basic	24.2	16	42.9	30								
	Approaching Basic	24.2	16	28.6	20								
	Unsatisfactory	48.5	32	21.4	15								
005012	**LaFargue Elementary School**												
	Advanced	0.0	0	1.1	1								
	Proficient	4.0	4	12.4	11								
	Basic	39.0	39	43.8	39								
	Approaching Basic	26.0	26	20.2	18								
	Unsatisfactory	31.0	31	22.5	20								
005015	**Marksville Elementary School**												
	Advanced	0.0	0	0.0	0								
	Proficient	2.0	2	3.3	4								
	Basic	34.3	34	43.3	52								
	Approaching Basic	28.3	28	24.2	29								
	Unsatisfactory	35.4	35	29.2	35								
005019	**Plaucheville Elementary School**												
	Advanced	0.0	0	1.1	1								
	Proficient	6.0	5	10.0	9								
	Basic	35.7	30	38.9	35								
	Approaching Basic	22.6	19	33.3	30								
	Unsatisfactory	35.7	30	16.7	15								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 12b: LEAP 21 Test Results - Grade 4 Mathematics

Percent and Number of Students by Achievement Levels

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005020	**Riverside Elementary School**												
	Advanced	0.0	0	0.0	0								
	Proficient	1.6	1	10.8	7								
	Basic	21.9	14	30.8	20								
	Approaching Basic	32.8	21	33.8	22								
	Unsatisfactory	43.8	28	24.6	16								
District													
	Advanced	0.2	1	0.4	2								
	Proficient	3.7	19	7.8	40								
	Basic	32.1	163	39.0	201								
	Approaching Basic	26.4	134	28.1	145								
	Unsatisfactory	37.5	190	24.8	128								
State													
	Advanced	1.7	1,003	1.6	884								
	Proficient	7.8	4,473	10.0	5,631								
	Basic	31.7	18,157	37.2	20,980								
	Approaching Basic	24.0	13,755	23.0	12,981								
	Unsatisfactory	34.8	19,931	28.3	15,960								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 12c: LEAP 21 Test Results - Grade 4 Science

Percent and Number of Students by Achievement Levels

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005003	**Bunkie Elementary School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	1.2	1								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	4.9	4								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	28.0	23								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	41.5	34								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	24.4	20								
005007	**Cottenport Elementary School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	1.4	1								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	4.3	3								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	44.3	31								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	31.4	22								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	18.6	13								
005012	**LaFargue Elementary School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	2.2	2								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	10.1	9								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	58.4	52								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	19.1	17								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	10.1	9								
005015	**Marksville Elementary School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	4.2	5								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	40.0	48								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	39.2	47								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	16.7	20								
005019	**Plaucheville Elementary School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	3.3	3								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	36.7	33								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	47.8	43								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	12.2	11								

~ = Unavailable Data

N/A = Not Applicable: Science and Social Studies components of the LEAP 21 test were first administered to the 4th and 8th graders in Spring 2000.

Table 12c: LEAP 21 Test Results - Grade 4 Science

Percent and Number of Students by Achievement Levels

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005020	**Riverside Elementary School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	7.7	5								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	43.1	28								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	33.8	22								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	15.4	10								
District													
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.8	4								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	5.6	29								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	41.7	215								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	35.9	185								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	16.1	83								
State													
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	1.1	638								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	10.9	6,156								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	39.6	22,330								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	30.1	16,990								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	18.2	10,288								

~ = Unavailable Data

N/A = Not Applicable: Science and Social Studies components of the LEAP 21 test were first administered to the 4th and 8th graders in Spring 2000.

Table 12d: LEAP 21 Test Results - Grade 4 Social Studies

Percent and Number of Students by Achievement Levels

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005003	**Bunkie Elementary School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	6.1	5								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	31.7	26								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	32.9	27								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	29.3	24								
005007	**Cottenport Elementary School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	1.4	1								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	10.0	7								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	35.7	25								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	31.4	22								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	21.4	15								
005012	**LaFargue Elementary School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	7.9	7								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	58.4	52								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	24.7	22								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	9.0	8								
005015	**Marksville Elementary School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	4.2	5								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	42.5	51								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	27.5	33								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	25.8	31								
005019	**Plaucheville Elementary School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	1.1	1								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	42.2	38								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	33.3	30								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	23.3	21								

~ = Unavailable Data

N/A = Not Applicable: Science and Social Studies components of the LEAP 21 test were first administered to the 4th and 8th graders in Spring 2000.

Table 12d: LEAP 21 Test Results - Grade 4 Social Studies

Percent and Number of Students by Achievement Levels

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005020	**Riverside Elementary School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	12.3	8								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	47.7	31								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	29.2	19								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	10.8	7								
District													
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.2	1								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	6.4	33								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	43.2	223								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	29.7	153								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	20.5	106								
State													
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.9	495								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	10.1	5,702								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	42.2	23,775								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	23.0	12,986								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	23.8	13,426								

~ = Unavailable Data

N/A = Not Applicable: Science and Social Studies components of the LEAP 21 test were first administered to the 4th and 8th graders in Spring 2000.

Table 12e: LEAP 21 Test Results - Grade 8 English Language Arts

Percent and Number of Students by Achievement Levels

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005005	**Bunkie Middle School**												
	Advanced	0.7	1	0.0	0								
	Proficient	2.2	3	5.3	6								
	Basic	19.3	26	37.2	42								
	Approaching Basic	35.6	48	42.5	48								
	Unsatisfactory	42.2	57	15.0	17								
005014	**Mansura Middle School**												
	Advanced	0.0	0	0.7	1								
	Proficient	3.9	6	8.9	12								
	Basic	21.9	34	37.8	51								
	Approaching Basic	49.0	76	39.3	53								
	Unsatisfactory	25.2	39	13.3	18								
005017	**Marksville Middle School**												
	Advanced	0.0	0	0.6	1								
	Proficient	4.4	8	9.6	16								
	Basic	23.5	43	48.8	81								
	Approaching Basic	47.5	87	33.7	56								
	Unsatisfactory	24.6	45	7.2	12								
District													
	Advanced	0.2	1	0.5	2								
	Proficient	3.6	17	8.2	34								
	Basic	21.8	103	41.7	174								
	Approaching Basic	44.6	211	37.6	157								
	Unsatisfactory	29.8	141	12.0	50								
State													
	Advanced	1.1	577	1.2	615								
	Proficient	11.2	6,035	14.1	7,512								
	Basic	31.5	17,005	38.9	20,777								
	Approaching Basic	35.9	19,358	33.1	17,652								
	Unsatisfactory	20.3	10,928	12.8	6,829								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 12f: LEAP 21 Test Results - Grade 8 Mathematics

Percent and Number of Students by Achievement Levels

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005005	**Bunkie Middle School**												
	Advanced	0.0	0	0.9	1								
	Proficient	3.7	5	2.7	3								
	Basic	21.5	29	30.1	34								
	Approaching Basic	24.4	33	26.5	30								
	Unsatisfactory	50.4	68	39.8	45								
005014	**Mansura Middle School**												
	Advanced	0.6	1	3.7	5								
	Proficient	0.0	0	2.2	3								
	Basic	27.1	42	45.2	61								
	Approaching Basic	27.7	43	22.2	30								
	Unsatisfactory	44.5	69	26.7	36								
005017	**Marksville Middle School**												
	Advanced	0.5	1	1.8	3								
	Proficient	3.3	6	5.4	9								
	Basic	36.1	66	38.6	64								
	Approaching Basic	24.6	45	25.3	42								
	Unsatisfactory	35.5	65	28.9	48								
District													
	Advanced	0.4	2	2.2	9								
	Proficient	2.3	11	3.6	15								
	Basic	29.0	137	38.1	159								
	Approaching Basic	25.6	121	24.5	102								
	Unsatisfactory	42.7	202	31.7	132								
State													
	Advanced	1.3	713	2.6	1,370								
	Proficient	4.4	2,359	4.8	2,575								
	Basic	33.3	17,927	38.8	20,718								
	Approaching Basic	21.3	11,498	21.5	11,478								
	Unsatisfactory	39.7	21,360	32.2	17,193								

~ = Unavailable Data

Table 12g: LEAP 21 Test Results - Grade 8 Science

Percent and Number of Students by Achievement Levels

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005005	**Bunkie Middle School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	4.4	5								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	20.4	23								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	28.3	32								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	46.9	53								
005014	**Mansura Middle School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	13.3	18								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	26.7	36								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	33.3	45								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	26.7	36								
005017	**Marksville Middle School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	14.5	24								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	41.6	69								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	24.7	41								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	19.3	32								
District													
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	11.3	47								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	30.7	128								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	28.3	118								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	29.7	124								
State													
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.6	309								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	14.6	7,766								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	30.5	16,274								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	27.7	14,769								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	26.6	14,176								

~ = Unavailable Data

N/A = Not Applicable: Science and Social Studies components of the LEAP 21 test were first administered to the 4th and 8th graders in Spring 2000.

Table 12h: LEAP 21 Test Results - Grade 8 Social Studies

Percent and Number of Students by Achievement Levels

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005005	**Bunkie Middle School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	23.9	27								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	29.2	33								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	46.9	53								
005014	**Mansura Middle School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.7	1								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	5.9	8								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	40.0	54								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	25.9	35								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	27.4	37								
005017	**Marksville Middle School**												
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.0	0								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	9.0	15								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	47.0	78								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	25.9	43								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	18.1	30								
District													
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.2	1								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	5.5	23								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	38.1	159								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	26.6	111								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	29.5	123								
State													
	Advanced	N/A	N/A	0.6	293								
	Proficient	N/A	N/A	10.1	5,360								
	Basic	N/A	N/A	40.9	21,809								
	Approaching Basic	N/A	N/A	23.7	12,625								
	Unsatisfactory	N/A	N/A	24.7	13,179								

~ = Unavailable Data

N/A = Not Applicable: Science and Social Studies components of the LEAP 21 test were first administered to the 4th and 8th graders in Spring 2000.

Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) – GEE Results

The criterion-referenced test (CRT) given at the secondary level is the **Graduation Exit Examination** (**GEE**). The GEE measures the extent to which students meet State-established, grade-level skill requirements in the five GEE subject area components. The English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, and Written Composition components are initially administered to students at the 10th grade level. However, the first opportunity for students to take the Science and Social Studies components of the GEE is not presented until the 11th grade level.

To graduate from a Louisiana public high school, students must accumulate 23 Carnegie units of academic credit and pass all five components of the GEE. Students who do not achieve the performance standards for any of the five test components have at least two opportunities per year to retake those components, with remedial instruction offered prior to the retest.

All students are required to take the GEE to receive a regular diploma. Scores are reported in the *District Composite Report* for all students who took the GEE for the first time during the spring administration of each year. Since 1995-1996, the *District Composite Report* has reported scores based on all students taking the tests; therefore, previous years' data are not comparable.

The ELA, Mathematics, and Written Composition components of the old GEE were administered for the last time to initial test takers in the spring of 2000. In the spring of 2001, the Science and Social Studies components will be administered to initial test takers for the last time as well.

The new high school CRT is the Graduation Exit Examination for the 21st Century (GEE 21). It will have only four subject area tests: ELA, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The GEE 21 will be of the same rigor as the LEAP 21 administered in grades 4 and 8. The first cohort of students to take the GEE 21 will need to pass only the ELA and Mathematics tests to graduate. In addition to meeting this requirement, subsequent cohorts will have to pass either the Science or the Social Studies tests also. The phasing in of the GEE 21 will begin in the spring of 2001 when the ELA and Mathematics tests are first administered to first-time tenth graders. The Science and Social Studies tests will be administered to first-time eleventh graders beginning in the spring of 2002.

Data Presentation

Table 13 provides the GEE results for first-time GEE test takers. The table presents the GEE results in school site code order for each high school in the district. Also, comparison data are presented for the district and the state. The tables reflect both the number and percent of students passing each GEE subject area component.

Definition

The percent of students passing a specific test is the percent scoring at or above the performance standard that the state has set in that subject area. This number is commonly known as the *attainment rate*.

Data Source

The GEE results are based on student-level data provided to the Louisiana Department of Education by National Computer Systems (NCS), the testing contractor for this portion of the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP).

Table 13: Graduation Exit Examination (GEE) Results

Percent of Students Passing and Number of Students Tested

		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005004	**Bunkie High School**												
	English Language Arts	91	116	86	125								
	Mathematics	72	92	68	124								
	Written Composition	89	111	95	121								
	Science	78	112	74	117								
	Social Studies	92	131	89	117								
005016	**Marksville High School**												
	English Language Arts	92	154	84	173								
	Mathematics	87	146	84	171								
	Written Composition	96	158	98	167								
	Science	90	125	83	154								
	Social Studies	91	126	92	154								
005018	**Avoyelles High School**												
	English Language Arts	90	114	86	145								
	Mathematics	83	105	70	145								
	Written Composition	93	114	99	143								
	Science	81	108	80	114								
	Social Studies	89	118	82	114								
District													
	English Language Arts	91	384	85	443								
	Mathematics	81	343	75	440								
	Written Composition	93	383	97	431								
	Science	83	345	79	385								
	Social Studies	90	375	88	385								
State													
	English Language Arts	85	39,311	81	46,255								
	Mathematics	74	33,871	74	46,180								
	Written Composition	93	41,421	93	44,655								
	Science	80	33,056	81	40,745								
	Social Studies	88	36,496	87	40,686								

~ = Unavailable Data

Norm-Referenced Test (NRT) – The Iowa Tests Results

The Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) utilizes norm-referenced tests (NRTs) for national student comparisons with Louisiana students. In 1998, the test administered to Louisiana students changed from the *California Achievement Test* to the ***Iowa Tests of Basic Skills*** (**ITBS**) and the ***Iowa Tests of Educational Development*** (**ITED**).

The Iowa Tests are a standardized achievement test battery with items presented in a traditional multiple-choice format. A nationally representative group of students took The Iowa Tests under specified directions and certain conditions. Their scores became the norms used to compare individual students and groups of students to students in the nation.

The majority of the tests that make up the Complete Batteries of the *ITBS* for grades 3, 5, 6, and 7 are the same. The tests include Vocabulary, Reading Comprehension, Math Concepts and Estimation, Math Problem Solving and Data Interpretation, Social Studies, Science, Maps and Diagrams and Reference Materials. Third graders are administered the Spelling, Capitalization, Punctuation, and the Usage and Expression tests, which are combined into a Language Total score. Students in grades 5, 6, and 7 are administered the Integrated Writing Skills test. A Mathematics Computation test was administered at only grade 3; Mathematics Computation is not used to calculate the Mathematics Total, Core Total, or the Composite score. The *Iowa Tests of Basic Skills* Composite score is the average of the scores for Reading Total, Language Total or Integrated Writing Skills, Mathematics Total, Social Studies, Science, and Sources of Information Total.

The *ITED* consists of seven tests: Vocabulary, Ability to Interpret Literary Materials, Correctness and Appropriateness of Expression, Ability to Do Quantitative Thinking, Analysis of Social Studies Materials, Analysis of Science Materials, and Uses of Sources of Information. For the *ITED*, a Content Area Reading score is computed based on questions from the tests on Literary Materials, Science, and Social Studies. This score is combined with the Vocabulary test score to obtain the Reading Total score. The *Iowa Tests of Educational Development* Composite score is the average of the Reading Total and the scores for the other six tests.

In spring 2000, approximately 283,000 public school students were given the on-level test. Among them, 194,000 students in grades 3, 5, 6, and 7 took the Complete Batteries of the *ITBS*, Form M. Approximately 51,000 public school students in grade 9 were also tested, taking the Complete Battery of the *ITED*, Form M.

These tests are administered to all students, except for students whose Individual Education Plans (IEPs) indicate that they have met the participation criteria for alternate assessment or for out-of-level assessment, which began in the 1999-2000 school year. Also, Limited English Proficient (LEP) students who are determined to be eligible for a deferment from testing are not required to take the tests. Scores are reported for all students not requiring accommodations to the standardized administration procedures.

Data Presentation

Tables 14a–14e present NRT results for grades 3, 5, 6, 7, and 9, respectively. Test results are shown for all public schools in the district with schools listed in site code order. District, state, and national results are presented for comparison purposes.

The data presented are based on national percentile ranks. A percentile rank is the percent of students in the national norm group who scored at or below a particular score. Data are grouped as follows:

- *Quartile 4*–the percent of students who scored between the 75th and 99th percentile ranks, or in other words, the percent of students in the top 25% of students in the national norm group. If 32 of 100 students scored this high, Quartile 4 would read 32 percent.

- *Quartile 3*–the percent of students who scored between the 50th and the 74th national percentiles.

- *Quartile 2*–the percent of students who scored between the 25th and 49th national percentiles.

- *Quartile 1*–the percent of students who scored between the 1st and 24th national percentiles.

- *Percentile Rank of the Average Standard Score for the National Student Norms*–percentile rank of the average student in the school, district, or state. For example, a percentile rank of 48 for a school means that 48 percent of the students nationally (in the norm group) scored at or below the average score obtained by the students in the school.

Definition

- *Norm-referenced tests (NRTs)*–These tests produce scores that tell how individuals, schools, districts, and the state perform in comparison with the national norm group.

Data Source

The Iowa Tests Results presented here in the DCR are based on school-level data provided to the Louisiana Department of Education, Division of Planning, Analysis, and Information Resources by Riverside Publishing, the testing contractor for The Iowa Tests.

Table 14a: The Iowa Tests Results - Grade 3

Percent of Students by National Quartiles and Percentile Rank of Average Standard Scores

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005003	**Bunkie Elementary School**						
	Fourth Quartile	6.9	3.9				
	Third Quartile	15.3	22.1				
	Second Quartile	33.3	36.4				
	First Quartile	44.4	37.7				
	Percentile Rank	30	36				
005007	**Cottenport Elementary School**						
	Fourth Quartile	6.6	27.5				
	Third Quartile	26.3	40.6				
	Second Quartile	43.4	24.6				
	First Quartile	23.7	7.2				
	Percentile Rank	42	63				
005012	**LaFargue Elementary School**						
	Fourth Quartile	6.0	11.4				
	Third Quartile	34.5	34.1				
	Second Quartile	35.7	42.0				
	First Quartile	23.8	12.5				
	Percentile Rank	43	49				
005015	**Marksville Elementary School**						
	Fourth Quartile	9.3	16.7				
	Third Quartile	31.5	27.8				
	Second Quartile	26.9	38.9				
	First Quartile	32.4	16.7				
	Percentile Rank	42	51				
005019	**Plaucheville Elementary School**						
	Fourth Quartile	6.0	14.9				
	Third Quartile	20.5	32.4				
	Second Quartile	43.4	32.4				
	First Quartile	30.1	20.3				
	Percentile Rank	37	46				

~ = Unavailable Data

The four quartiles comprise the following ranges of percentile ranks: 1-24 (first quartile), 25-49 (second quartile), 50-74 (third quartile), and 75-99 (fourth quartile).

Table 14a: The Iowa Tests Results - Grade 3

Percent of Students by National Quartiles and Percentile Rank of Average Standard Scores

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005020	**Riverside Elementary School**						
	Fourth Quartile	8.6	22.2				
	Third Quartile	24.1	26.4				
	Second Quartile	41.4	34.7				
	First Quartile	25.9	16.7				
	Percentile Rank	41	53				
District							
	Fourth Quartile	7.3	15.8				
	Third Quartile	26.0	30.3				
	Second Quartile	36.6	35.5				
	First Quartile	30.1	18.4				
	Percentile Rank	39	50				
State							
	Fourth Quartile	16.5	19.1				
	Third Quartile	25.8	25.4				
	Second Quartile	29.1	31.0				
	First Quartile	28.6	24.4				
	Percentile Rank	45	47				
Nation							
	Fourth Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Third Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Second Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	First Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Percentile Rank	50.0	50.0				

~ = Unavailable Data

The four quartiles comprise the following ranges of percentile ranks: 1-24 (first quartile), 25-49 (second quartile), 50-74 (third quartile), and 75-99 (fourth quartile).

Table 14b: The Iowa Tests Results - Grade 5

Percent of Students by National Quartiles and Percentile Rank of Average Standard Scores

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005003	**Bunkie Elementary School**						
	Fourth Quartile	3.0	9.3				
	Third Quartile	15.0	13.3				
	Second Quartile	39.0	45.3				
	First Quartile	43.0	32.0				
	Percentile Rank	29	36				
005007	**Cottenport Elementary School**						
	Fourth Quartile	13.8	7.3				
	Third Quartile	12.1	9.1				
	Second Quartile	34.5	52.7				
	First Quartile	39.7	30.9				
	Percentile Rank	37	34				
005012	**LaFargue Elementary School**						
	Fourth Quartile	12.8	11.6				
	Third Quartile	14.1	27.9				
	Second Quartile	30.8	33.7				
	First Quartile	42.3	26.7				
	Percentile Rank	37	43				
005015	**Marksville Elementary School**						
	Fourth Quartile	11.2	5.6				
	Third Quartile	25.0	20.2				
	Second Quartile	32.8	49.4				
	First Quartile	31.0	24.7				
	Percentile Rank	42	38				
005019	**Plaucheville Elementary School**						
	Fourth Quartile	10.1	9.5				
	Third Quartile	19.1	23.8				
	Second Quartile	34.8	39.3				
	First Quartile	36.0	27.4				
	Percentile Rank	39	41				

~ = Unavailable Data

The four quartiles comprise the following ranges of percentile ranks: 1-24 (first quartile), 25-49 (second quartile), 50-74 (third quartile), and 75-99 (fourth quartile).

Table 14b: The Iowa Tests Results - Grade 5

Percent of Students by National Quartiles and Percentile Rank of Average Standard Scores

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005020	**Riverside Elementary School**						
	Fourth Quartile	5.8	14.3				
	Third Quartile	19.2	20.4				
	Second Quartile	50.0	51.0				
	First Quartile	25.0	14.3				
	Percentile Rank	41	48				
District							
	Fourth Quartile	9.3	9.4				
	Third Quartile	18.1	19.9				
	Second Quartile	36.1	44.3				
	First Quartile	36.5	26.5				
	Percentile Rank	37	40				
State							
	Fourth Quartile	16.2	17.6				
	Third Quartile	23.4	25.5				
	Second Quartile	30.8	31.7				
	First Quartile	29.6	25.2				
	Percentile Rank	44	46				
Nation							
	Fourth Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Third Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Second Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	First Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Percentile Rank	50.0	50.0				

~ = Unavailable Data

The four quartiles comprise the following ranges of percentile ranks: 1-24 (first quartile), 25-49 (second quartile), 50-74 (third quartile), and 75-99 (fourth quartile).

Table 14c: The Iowa Tests Results - Grade 6

Percent of Students by National Quartiles and Percentile Rank of Average Standard Scores

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005005	**Bunkie Middle School**						
	Fourth Quartile	7.8	6.0				
	Third Quartile	12.1	18.0				
	Second Quartile	31.9	42.1				
	First Quartile	48.2	33.8				
	Percentile Rank	30	35				
005014	**Mansura Middle School**						
	Fourth Quartile	10.9	11.8				
	Third Quartile	23.8	22.2				
	Second Quartile	28.6	41.2				
	First Quartile	36.7	24.8				
	Percentile Rank	39	42				
005017	**Marksville Middle School**						
	Fourth Quartile	10.4	13.8				
	Third Quartile	15.4	21.0				
	Second Quartile	33.5	37.9				
	First Quartile	40.7	27.2				
	Percentile Rank	34	44				

~ = Unavailable Data

The four quartiles comprise the following ranges of percentile ranks: 1-24 (first quartile), 25-49 (second quartile), 50-74 (third quartile), and 75-99 (fourth quartile).

Table 14c: The Iowa Tests Results - Grade 6

Percent of Students by National Quartiles and Percentile Rank of Average Standard Scores

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
District							
	Fourth Quartile	9.8	11.0				
	Third Quartile	17.0	20.6				
	Second Quartile	31.5	40.1				
	First Quartile	41.7	28.3				
	Percentile Rank	35	41				
State							
	Fourth Quartile	15.9	18.3				
	Third Quartile	24.6	24.8				
	Second Quartile	31.4	32.3				
	First Quartile	28.1	24.7				
	Percentile Rank	45	47				
Nation							
	Fourth Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Third Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Second Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	First Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Percentile Rank	50.0	50.0				

~ = Unavailable Data

The four quartiles comprise the following ranges of percentile ranks: 1-24 (first quartile), 25-49 (second quartile), 50-74 (third quartile), and 75-99 (fourth quartile).

Table 14d: The Iowa Tests Results - Grade 7

Percent of Students by National Quartiles and Percentile Rank of Average Standard Scores

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005005	**Bunkie Middle School**						
	Fourth Quartile	3.0	4.8				
	Third Quartile	9.8	22.4				
	Second Quartile	39.4	33.3				
	First Quartile	47.7	39.5				
	Percentile Rank	28	35				
005014	**Mansura Middle School**						
	Fourth Quartile	10.1	11.0				
	Third Quartile	18.8	27.3				
	Second Quartile	33.3	28.6				
	First Quartile	37.7	33.1				
	Percentile Rank	38	41				
005017	**Marksville Middle School**						
	Fourth Quartile	4.4	12.4				
	Third Quartile	23.2	17.6				
	Second Quartile	33.1	36.5				
	First Quartile	39.2	33.5				
	Percentile Rank	33	38				

~ = Unavailable Data

The four quartiles comprise the following ranges of percentile ranks: 1-24 (first quartile), 25-49 (second quartile), 50-74 (third quartile), and 75-99 (fourth quartile).

Table 14d: The Iowa Tests Results - Grade 7

Percent of Students by National Quartiles and Percentile Rank of Average Standard Scores

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
District							
	Fourth Quartile	5.8	9.6				
	Third Quartile	18.0	22.3				
	Second Quartile	35.0	32.9				
	First Quartile	41.2	35.2				
	Percentile Rank	33	38				
State							
	Fourth Quartile	15.2	17.0				
	Third Quartile	24.1	26.1				
	Second Quartile	31.4	30.0				
	First Quartile	29.4	26.8				
	Percentile Rank	44	46				
Nation							
	Fourth Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Third Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Second Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	First Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Percentile Rank	50.0	50.0				

~ = Unavailable Data

The four quartiles comprise the following ranges of percentile ranks: 1-24 (first quartile), 25-49 (second quartile), 50-74 (third quartile), and 75-99 (fourth quartile).

Table 14e: The Iowa Tests Results - Grade 9

Percent of Students by National Quartiles and Percentile Rank of Average Standard Scores

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005004	**Bunkie High School**						
	Fourth Quartile	10.2	8.2				
	Third Quartile	20.4	19.7				
	Second Quartile	21.4	32.8				
	First Quartile	48.0	39.3				
	Percentile Rank	34	34				
005016	**Marksville High School**						
	Fourth Quartile	10.2	8.6				
	Third Quartile	17.0	19.0				
	Second Quartile	31.1	29.0				
	First Quartile	41.7	43.3				
	Percentile Rank	34	34				
005018	**Avoyelles High School**						
	Fourth Quartile	12.8	7.0				
	Third Quartile	21.9	23.6				
	Second Quartile	26.2	36.9				
	First Quartile	39.0	32.5				
	Percentile Rank	37	37				

~ = Unavailable Data

The four quartiles comprise the following ranges of percentile ranks: 1-24 (first quartile), 25-49 (second quartile), 50-74 (third quartile), and 75-99 (fourth quartile).

Table 14e: The Iowa Tests Results - Grade 9

Percent of Students by National Quartiles and Percentile Rank of Average Standard Scores

		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
District							
	Fourth Quartile	11.0	8.0				
	Third Quartile	19.7	20.5				
	Second Quartile	26.3	32.5				
	First Quartile	43.0	38.9				
	Percentile Rank	35	35				
State							
	Fourth Quartile	16.5	17.3				
	Third Quartile	24.8	26.2				
	Second Quartile	29.5	29.4				
	First Quartile	29.2	27.1				
	Percentile Rank	44	46				
Nation							
	Fourth Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Third Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Second Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	First Quartile	25.0	25.0				
	Percentile Rank	50.0	50.0				

~ = Unavailable Data

The four quartiles comprise the following ranges of percentile ranks: 1-24 (first quartile), 25-49 (second quartile), 50-74 (third quartile), and 75-99 (fourth quartile).

Section 5. College Readiness

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College Readiness Overview

The data presented in this section offer insight into the quality of college preparation that Louisiana public school graduates have received. Not all students choose to pursue a college education. However, those who decide to go to college should be adequately prepared to succeed in challenging college environments.

The first part of this section contains the American College Test (ACT) data. Composite scores are presented for each school in the district when available. The composite score is created by averaging scores from the ACT English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning tests. The district, state, and national scores are shown for comparison purposes. ACT scores are widely used as an indicator of student preparedness for college. Most Louisiana colleges and universities require entering students to take the ACT for admissions or placement purposes.

The second part of this section contains the First-Time College Freshmen data. This section includes: (1) the number of high school diploma graduates, (2) the number and percentage of these graduates who were first-time college freshmen at a Louisiana college or university, and (3) the percentage of these first-time college freshmen who were enrolled in at least one developmental/remedial course. A higher percentage of students enrolled in developmental/remedial courses suggests that a school is not adequately preparing its students for college or university coursework. The data are presented for all public schools in the district that have a grade 12. Comparison data are also presented at the district and state levels.

American College Test (ACT) Results

The **American College Test** (**ACT**) measures academic achievement in English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning. The English component measures usage and mechanics of standard written English and rhetorical skills. The mathematics component contains primarily algebra and geometry items with some trigonometry items. Students are required to apply reasoning skills to practical problems in mathematics. The reading component is made up of four passages, which are similar to the type of writing encountered in college freshmen courses. Students have to display an understanding of both explicit and implicit information contained in the passages as well as be able to draw appropriate conclusions. The science reasoning component measures higher-order thinking skills as applied to the natural sciences (ACT 2000).

Data Presentation

Table 15 presents average ACT composite scores for each public school in the district having both a twelfth grade and student ACT scores. Schools are shown in school site code order. Comparison data are presented for the district, state, and nation.

Method of Calculation

The ACT composite score for a student is an average score based on the scores for the four ACT assessment tests (English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning). The composite score, which ranges from 1 to 36, is a measure of the student's general educational development across these four subject areas.

The school, district, state, and national ACT scores are the averages of the students' most recently obtained composite scores. Students who were or who would have been members of the graduating class for any given year are included in these averages. In other words, the aggregated composite scores include test scores for (1) twelfth graders who took the test in the current year and (2) twelfth graders who took the test as eleventh graders and elected not to retake it as seniors. If a student took the test in both the eleventh and twelfth grades, only the twelfth grade score has been included in the averages.

The district composite score is based on public school students only. However, the reported statewide ACT score includes both public and nonpublic student scores. This reporting method was deliberately selected to keep state statistics consistent with nationally reported figures, which are based on the combined performance of public and nonpublic students.

Data Source

The ACT indicator is based on data supplied to the Louisiana Department of Education by the testing contractor, American College Testing.

References

American College Testing (2000). ACT Assessment at a Glance. (IC 04020G000). Iowa City, IA: Author.

Table 15: American College Test (ACT) Results

Average Composite Scores

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
005004 Bunkie High School	18.0	18.9				
005016 Marksville High School	19.2	19.5				
005018 Avoyelles High School	19.0	19.1				
District (Public)	18.7	19.2				
State (Public and Nonpublic)	19.6	19.6				
Nation (Public and Nonpublic)	21.0	21.0				

~ = Unavailable Data

First-Time College Freshmen Performance

Information about the number of Louisiana public school students who enrolled as first-time freshmen (FTF) in this State's colleges and universities has been collected since 1987. For the first six years, the Board of Regents oversaw the data collection and distribution of school-level reports. The 1993 Louisiana Legislature recognized that the LDE had an established mechanism, the *Progress Profiles School Report Cards*, to disseminate information about schools to the public. Believing that the FTF data made an important statement about the quality of secondary schooling, the 1993 Legislature took steps to revamp the *FTF Program*. One revision mandated that the FTF information be incorporated into the *Progress Profile School Report Cards* so that it might be more widely accessible to parents.

Since FTF data are provided for only public schools that have grade 12 diploma graduates and such schools may not have received Accountability Reports this year, other reports have been prepared for the high schools. In addition, the information is included in this DCR. Parents can request the FTF information from the high school, or parents may view the FTF findings over the Department's web site.

The Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD, 2000) has indicated a high school education often serves as the minimum credential for entry into the labor market, as well as the foundation for all types of post-secondary programs, including college/university studies. Therefore, the number of high school diploma graduates provides some insight about the size of a school's graduating class.

Since the quality of each high school preparation program can be one factor that impacts whether or not a diploma graduate will be accepted into a college, it is of interest to study the college-going rates of each high school and of each district. The college-going rates estimate the proportion of a high school graduating class that made an immediate transition to an in-state college or university.

Furthermore, if the quality of a high school's program is poor, then the school's diploma graduates, who do enroll in college, may need to complete several developmental/remedial courses prior to enrolling in college credit courses. Thus, when it is found that a large percent of a high school's diploma graduates enrolled in developmental/remedial courses, the high school should take action to improve the preparation and college-readiness of its students.

Data Presentation

Table 16 presents the number and/or percent of students who (1) were diploma graduates from Louisiana public schools and (2) enrolled as full-time first-time freshmen during the following fall semester at any of the State's two- or four-year public and private universities. In this report, all FTF graduated and then enrolled in a Louisiana college/university by the following fall semester. Thus, these recent graduates made an immediate transition to a college or university. The table also reports the number and percent of first-time college freshmen who were enrolled in at least one developmental/remedial course during their first regular semester of college study.

Note: For any given school year, the first-time college freshmen data represent information on the high school diploma graduates from the previous school year. Further, the district results may reflect data from additional schools, which were open during the previous school year. Finally, the State results are based on public and nonpublic schools that had diploma graduates in the previous school year.

Definitions

- *First-time college freshman*—a student who graduates from high school during a given school year and who is enrolled full time in a Louisiana higher education institution (both public and private) the following fall semester. A student must begin the fall semester with fewer than 12 hours of credit previously attempted (not including advanced placement credits and correspondence study) to be considered a first-time freshman.
- *Graduate*—a student who successfully completes a SBESE-approved education program, passes the Graduation Exit Examination (GEE), and thus earns a State-approved diploma. Students who earn GEDs are not included.

- *Developmental/remedial course*—a course designed by a university to prepare students to succeed academically in college-level courses. Developmental/remedial courses may be offered for college credit (i.e., they are taken into consideration in determining whether students are enrolled part time or full time), but do not carry degree credit.

Method of Calculation

The two formulas used in calculating the first-time college freshmen indicator are presented below. The percent of high school graduates who become first-time college freshmen is calculated for public high school diploma graduates who attend in-state colleges or universities.

Data Source

The first-time college freshmen indicator is based on data submitted to the Louisiana Department of Education by Louisiana public and private colleges or universities.

References

Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD). (2000). Education at a Glance. (OECD 2000: Danvers, MA.)

Formulas Used to Calculate First-time College Freshmen Percentages

$$\textit{Percent of High School Graduates Who Were First-time College Freshmen} = \frac{\textit{Number of First-time College Freshmen}}{\textit{Total Number of High School Graduates}} \times 100$$

$$\textit{Percent of First-time College Freshmen Who Enrolled in a Developmental Course} = \frac{\textit{Number of First-time College Freshmen Who Enrolled in a Developmental Course}}{\textit{Total Number of First-time College Freshmen}} \times 100$$

Table 16

First-Time College Freshmen Performance

	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Percent	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
005004 Bunkie High School												
Number of High School Graduates[1]		96		122								
HS Graduates Who Were First-time College Freshmen	52.1	50	41.8	51								
First-time Freshmen Enrolled in College Developmental Course	52.0	26	56.9	29								
005016 Marksville High School												
Number of High School Graduates[1]		134		116								
HS Graduates Who Were First-time College Freshmen	32.1	43	37.9	44								
First-time Freshmen Enrolled in College Developmental Course	46.5	20	47.7	21								
005018 Avoyelles High School												
Number of High School Graduates[1]		105		116								
HS Graduates Who Were First-time College Freshmen	30.5	32	47.4	55								
First-time Freshmen Enrolled in College Developmental Course	46.9	15	34.5	19								
District (Public)												
Number of High School Graduates[1]		335		354								
HS Graduates Who Were First-time College Freshmen	37.3	125	42.4	150								
First-time Freshmen Enrolled in College Developmental Course	48.8	61	46.0	69								
State (Public)												
Number of High School Graduates[1]		38,360		38,038								
HS Graduates Who Were First-time College Freshmen	42.7	16,382	42.2	16,055								
First-time Freshmen Enrolled in College Developmental Course	45.6	7,472	41.7	6,691								

[1] Represents diploma graduates from the previous school year
~ = Unavailable data

Glossary

achievement level—one of the following five LEAP 21 achievement ratings:

- *Advanced*–demonstrates superior performance beyond the proficient level of mastery.
- *Proficient*–demonstrates competency over challenging subject matter and is well-prepared for the next level of schooling.
- *Basic*–demonstrates only the fundamental knowledge and skills needed for the next level of schooling.
- *Approaching Basic*–partially demonstrates the fundamental knowledge and skills needed for the next level of schooling.
- *Unsatisfactory*–does not demonstrate the fundamental knowledge and skills needed for the next level of schooling.

aggregate days attendance—the total number of days that students are *present* at the school site over the course of the school year.

aggregate days membership—the total number of days that students are *enrolled* (but not necessarily *present* at the school site) over the course of the school year.

attainment rate— the percent of students who score at or above the state performance standard on a criterion-referenced test.

baseline—the level of school performance against which progress is measured; the baseline determines the school's growth target.

class—a grouping of children under the primary supervision and instruction of an individual teacher for all or part of the instructional day, as reported for purposes of the *Annual School Report* (ASR) and as identified by a specific ASR course code.

combination school category—any school whose grade structure falls within the PK-12 range and which is not described by any of the other school category definitions. These schools generally contain some grades in the K-6 range and some grades in the 9-12 range. Examples would include grade structures such as K-12; K-3, combined with 9-12; and 4-6, combined with 9-12. Nongraded schools (schools with no grade structure) are also considered combination schools.

criterion-referenced test (CRT)—a test that produces a score that tells how individuals/schools perform in achieving established criteria.

cumulative enrollment—the sum of all students enrolled in a school or district for at least one school day during the course of the school year, used as the denominator for calculating school- and district-level suspension and expulsion percents.

current expenditures—total expenditures minus equipment, facilities acquisitions and construction services costs, and debt services costs.

day of attendance—effective with the 1992-93 school year, when a student "(1) is physically present at a school site or is participating in an authorized school activity and (2) is under the supervision of authorized personnel. This definition extends to students who are homebound, assigned to and participating in drug rehabilitation programs that contain a State-approved education component, or participating in school-authorized field trips." (Bulletin 741)

"Students who meet the above criteria and are present at the school site for 26-50% of the student's instructional day shall be credited with a half day's attendance. Those who meet the above criteria and are present for more than 50% of the student's instructional day are credited with a whole day's attendance. Students who are not physically present or who are participating for 25% or less of their instructional day will be considered absent for reporting purposes. Absences, whether excused or unexcused, shall be counted as an absence for reporting to the Department." (*Bulletin 741*) The definition of the "amount" of time receiving instruction that is required to be in attendance has been in effect statewide since the 1993-94 school year.

debt services—servicing the debt of the LEA, including payments of both principal and interest. Debt service and other long-term obligations are not included in expenditure figures because these monies provide services during multiple years and should not be attributed to only one year.

developmental/remedial course—a course designed by a university to prepare students to succeed academically in college-level courses. Developmental/remedial courses may be offered for college credit (i.e., they are taken into consideration in determining whether students are part-time or full-time) but do not carry degree credit.

dropout—"an individual who was enrolled in school at some time during the previous school year, was not enrolled at the beginning of the current school year, has not graduated from high school or completed an approved educational program, and does not meet any of the following exclusionary conditions: transfer to another public school district outside of Louisiana, private school, or state- or district-approved education program; temporary absence due to suspension or illness; or death." (NCES, 1993)

"For purposes of applying the dropout definition, the definitions below also apply.

1. A school year is defined as the 12-month period of time beginning October 1, with dropouts from the previous summer reported for the year and grade for which they fail to enroll.
2. An individual has graduated from high school or completed a state- or district-approved education program upon receipt of formal recognition from school authorities.
3. A state or district approved program may include special education programs, home-based instruction, and school-sponsored secondary (but ***NOT*** adult) programs leading to a GED or some other certification differing from the regular diploma" (NCES, 1993).

dropout denominator—cumulative enrollment plus any dropouts not included in cumulative enrollment (e.g., reported non-reported summer dropouts).

elementary school category—any school whose grade structure falls within the PK-8 range, which excludes grades in the 9-12 range, and which does not fit the definition for middle/junior high.

faculty—school-based instructional personnel. In addition to full-time classroom teachers, these individuals include principals, assistant principals, guidance counselors, librarians, and other instructional/administrative staff.

first-time college freshman—a student who graduates from high school during a given school year and who is enrolled full time in a Louisiana higher education institution (both public and private) the following fall semester. A student must begin the fall semester with fewer than 12 hours credit previously attempted (not including advanced placement credits and correspondence study) to be considered a first-time freshman.

grade structure—the various educational grade levels that a school contains and for which instruction is provided (i.e., K-8, or Kindergarten through grade 8).

graduate—a student who successfully completes a SBESE-approved education program, passes the Graduation Exit Examination (GEE), and thus earns a State-approved diploma. Students who earn GEDs are not included.

growth label - assigned to a school based upon the school's success in reaching its Growth Target; recognizes improvement. The Growth Labels are as follows:

- Exemplary Academic Growth (a school exceeding its Growth Target by at least 5 points)
- Recognized Academic Growth (a school meeting its Growth Target or exceeding it by less than 5 points)
- Minimal Academic Growth (a school improving some, but not meeting its Growth Target)
- School In Decline (a school not meeting its Growth Target because of a flat or declining School Performance Score).

growth target—represents the progress a school must make every two years to reach the State's 10- and 20-year goals.

high school category—any school whose grade structure falls within the 6-12 range and which includes grades in the 10-12 range, or any school that contains only grade 9.

in-school expulsion—a student temporarily removed from his/her usual classroom placement to an alternative setting for a period of time specified by the LEA; no interruption of instructional services occurs.

in-school suspension—a student temporarily removed from his/her usual classroom placement to an alternative setting for a minimum of one complete school day; no interruption of instructional services occurs.

middle/junior high school category—any school whose grade structure falls within the 4-9 range, which includes grades 7 or 8, and which excludes grades in the PK-3 and 10-12 ranges.

norm-referenced test (NRT)—a test that produces a score that tells how individuals, schools, districts, and the state perform in comparison with the national norm group.

number of faculty—the total number of school-based instructional personnel employed at a school.

October 1 membership—total number of students enrolled in a school on October 1 of the current school year.

out-of-school expulsion—the removal (exit) of a student from school for a determined number of days with no provision of instructional services.

out-of-school suspension—a student temporarily prohibited from participation in his/her usual placement within school, with no provision of instructional service; only suspensions resulting in removal for at least one full day are included.

percent of student attendance—the ratio of aggregate days student attendance to aggregate days membership.

percentile rank of average standard scores for national student norms—percentile rank of the average student in the school, district, or state. For example, a percentile rank of 48 for a school means that 48 percent of the students in the norm group scored at or below the average score obtained by the students in the school.

school—an institution that provides preschool, elementary, and/or secondary instruction; has one or more grade groupings or is ungraded; has one or more teachers to give instruction or care; is located in one or more buildings; and has an assigned administrator(s) (LDE and NCES).

school performance category—the official declaration of school performance in relation to the State's 10-year and 20-year accountability goals. The Performance Categories are as follows:

- Academic Excellence (SPS 150.0 or higher)
- Academic Distinction (SPS 125.0 - 149.9)
- Academic Achievement (SPS 100.0 - 124.9)
- Academically Above Average (SPS equal to or higher than state average and lower than 100.0)
- Academically Below Average (SPS higher than 30.0 and less than state average)
- Academically Unacceptable (SPS 30.0 or lower).

school performance score (SPS)—is the primary measure of a school's overall performance. (See the introduction section for more detail.)

school type—the classification of schools into one of the four categories of schools (elementary, middle/junior high, high, or combination schools).