

2005 FCAT WRITING RESULTS
DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS AND SUMMARY TABLES

The 2005 FCAT Writing administration included both the familiar essay portion and new multiple choice sections. Because the multiple choice portions of the test on the 2005 administration of the FCAT Writing were being field tested, students will not receive scores for those items. For the 2005 FCAT Writing, student scores will be based entirely on the essay portion.

District 2005 FCAT Writing results are based on the total number of students tested, as follows: 26,594 in grade 4, 28,540 in grade 8, and 28,194 in grade 10, for a total of 83,328. The number tested in 2005 represents a 10% increase in the population of students tested.

Table 1. Combined Average Writing Scores
for 2003, 2004, 2005, and Difference 2004 to 2005, for All Students Tested

| | GRADE 4 | | | | GRADE 8 | | | | GRADE 10 | | | |
|-----------------|---------|------|------|-------------|---------|------|------|-------------|----------|------|------|-------------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Diff. 04-05 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Diff. 04-05 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Diff. 04-05 |
| District | 3.6 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 0 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 0 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 0 |
| State | 3.6 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 0 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 0 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 0 |

Note: Scores range from 1 to 6.

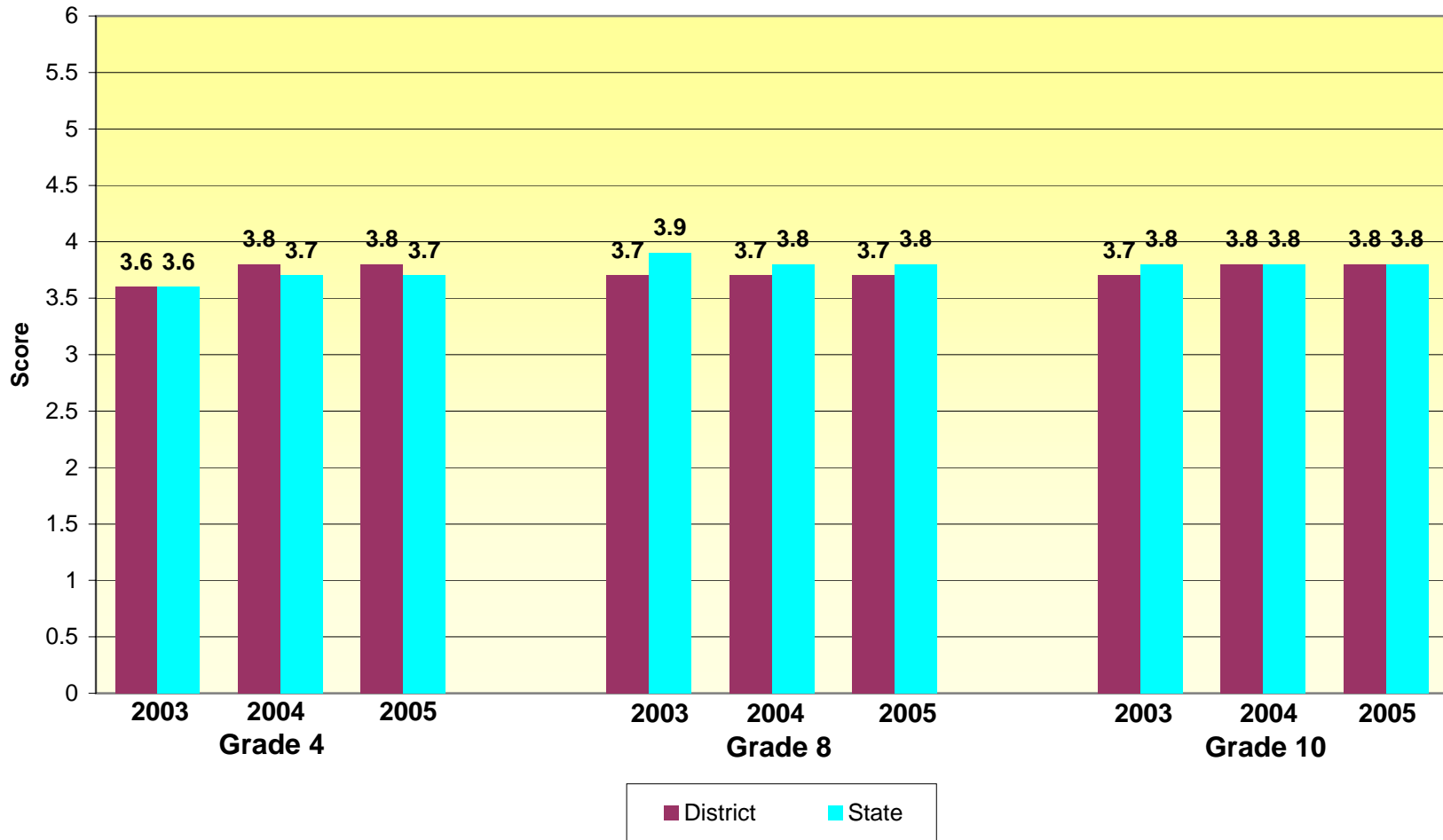
Table 1 provides the following information:

- For both the district and the state, the combined average writing scores remained stable from 2004 to 2005 at all grade levels tested.
- At grade 4, district students performed slightly better than the state average, while the reverse pattern held for grade 8.
- At grade 10, district students equaled the performance of students statewide.

Figure 1 graphically presents district and state combined average writing scores, by grade, for 2003, 2004, and 2005.

Figure 1

**FCAT Writing
Combined Average Scores, Grades 4, 8, 10
2003-2005
District and State Results
All Students Tested**



A-2

The state has defined 3.0 as the FCAT Writing score that students must earn in order to demonstrate proficiency in writing. Table 2, below, provides information on the percent of students attaining scores of 3.0 and above.

Table 2. Percent Scoring 3.0 and Above in Writing for 2003, 2004, 2005, and Difference 2004 to 2005, for All Students Tested

| | GRADE 4 | | | | GRADE 8 | | | | GRADE 10 | | | |
|-----------------|---------|------|------|-------------|---------|------|------|-------------|----------|------|------|-------------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Diff. 04-05 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Diff. 04-05 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Diff. 04-05 |
| District | 88% | 93% | 92% | -1 | 88% | 87% | 90% | +3 | 86% | 89% | 89% | 0 |
| State | 90% | 90% | 90% | 0 | 91% | 89% | 92% | +3 | 88% | 90% | 90% | 0 |

Table 2 provides the following information:

- The percent of district students scoring 3.0 or above decreased at grade 4, increased at grade 8, and remained constant at grade 10.
- The district's grade 4 students outperformed the state in the percent of students scoring 3.0 and above, while the reverse held true at grades 8 and 10.
- At grade 8, district gains in the percent of students scoring 3.0 and above paralleled state gains.

Table 3 provides information on student performance in writing, by prompt type, at each grade level tested. There are two types of prompts at each grade level, but each student is tested on only one prompt. Prompt types are: Expository at grades 4, 8, and 10, Narrative at grade 4, and Persuasive at grades 8 and 10.

Table 3. Average Writing Scores by Prompt Type
for 2003, 2004, 2005, and Difference 2004 to 2005, for All Students Tested

| GRADE 4 | EXPOSITORY | | | | NARRATIVE | | | |
|-------------|------------|------|------|---------------------|------------|------|------|---------------------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Difference 04-05 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Difference 04-05 |
| District | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.8 | + .2 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 3.8 | - .1 |
| State | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.7 | + .1 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 0 |
| GRADE 8 | EXPOSITORY | | | | PERSUASIVE | | | |
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Difference 04-05 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Difference 04-05 |
| District | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.7 | - .1 | 3.7 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 0 |
| State | 3.9 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 0 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 0 |
| GRADE 10 | EXPOSITORY | | | | PERSUASIVE | | | |
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Difference 04-05 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Difference 04-05 |
| District | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 0 | 3.6 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 0 |
| State | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.7 | - .1 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 4.0 | + .1 |

Note: Scores range from 1 to 6.

Table 3 provides the following information:

- The district's average expository score increased at grades 4, decreased at grade 8, and maintained at grade 10.
- The district's average narrative score decreased at grade 4, while the district's average persuasive score remained constant at grades 8 and 10.
- District students outperformed state students on both prompt types at grade 4, and equaled the performance of state students on the expository prompt at grade 10.
- Overall, the performance of district students is very similar to that of students statewide, across all grade levels and prompts.