



FCAT Achievement Levels

The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test[®] (FCAT) measures student performance on selected benchmarks in reading, mathematics, writing, and science that are defined by the Sunshine State Standards (SSS). The SSS articulate *challenging content* that Florida students are expected to know and be able to do. The SSS were developed in seven content areas and were adopted by the State Board of Education in May 1996. All public schools are expected to teach students the content found in the SSS.

Achievement levels describe the success a student has achieved on the Florida Sunshine State Standards tested on the FCAT Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Writing+ assessments. Achievement levels were first reported for FCAT Science in spring 2006 and FCAT Writing+ in spring 2007.

Achievement levels based on both scale scores and developmental scale scores range from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest).¹ Achievement Level Policy Definitions apply to all FCAT subjects.

| Achievement Level Policy Definitions | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Level 5 | This student has success with the most challenging content of the <i>Sunshine State Standards</i> . A student scoring in Level 5 answers most of the test questions correctly, including the most challenging questions. |
| Level 4 | This student has success with the challenging content of the <i>Sunshine State Standards</i> . A student scoring in Level 4 answers most of the test questions correctly, but may have only some success with questions that reflect the most challenging content. |
| Level 3 | This student has partial success with the challenging content of the <i>Sunshine State Standards</i> , but performance is inconsistent. A student scoring in Level 3 answers many of the test questions correctly but is generally less successful with questions that are the most challenging. |
| Level 2 | This student has limited success with the challenging content of the <i>Sunshine State Standards</i> . |
| Level 1 | This student has little success with the challenging content of the <i>Sunshine State Standards</i> . |

¹ Scale scores are reported for all FCAT SSS subjects and range from 100 (lowest) to 500 (highest). Developmental Scale Scores (DSS) are only reported for FCAT SSS Reading and Mathematics and range from 0 to about 3000 across grades 3 through 10. DSS link two years of student FCAT data that track student progress over time. Students should receive higher scores as they move from grade-to-grade according to their increased achievement. DSS cannot be determined for FCAT Science and Writing+ because students are not tested in these subjects at each grade level.

FCAT Achievement Levels

FCAT Reading

| FCAT Reading Developmental Scale Scores | | | | | |
|---|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Grade | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 |
| 3 | 86 - 1045 | 1046 - 1197 | 1198 - 1488 | 1489 - 1865 | 1866 - 2514 |
| 4 | 295 - 1314 | 1315 - 1455 | 1456 - 1689 | 1690 - 1964 | 1965 - 2638 |
| 5 | 474 - 1341 | 1342 - 1509 | 1510 - 1761 | 1762 - 2058 | 2059 - 2713 |
| 6 | 539 - 1449 | 1450 - 1621 | 1622 - 1859 | 1860 - 2125 | 2126 - 2758 |
| 7 | 671 - 1541 | 1542 - 1714 | 1715 - 1944 | 1945 - 2180 | 2181 - 2767 |
| 8 | 886 - 1695 | 1696 - 1881 | 1882 - 2072 | 2073 - 2281 | 2282 - 2790 |
| 9 | 772 - 1771 | 1772 - 1971 | 1972 - 2145 | 2146 - 2297 | 2298 - 2943 |
| 10 | 844 - 1851 | 1852 - 2067 | 2068 - 2218 | 2219 - 2310 | 2311 - 3008 |
| FCAT Reading Scale Scores | | | | | |
| Grade | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 |
| 3 | 100 - 258 | 259 - 283 | 284 - 331 | 332 - 393 | 394 - 500 |
| 4 | 100 - 274 | 275 - 298 | 299 - 338 | 339 - 385 | 386 - 500 |
| 5 | 100 - 255 | 256 - 285 | 286 - 330 | 331 - 383 | 384 - 500 |
| 6 | 100 - 264 | 265 - 295 | 296 - 338 | 339 - 386 | 387 - 500 |
| 7 | 100 - 266 | 267 - 299 | 300 - 343 | 344 - 388 | 389 - 500 |
| 8 | 100 - 270 | 271 - 309 | 310 - 349 | 350 - 393 | 394 - 500 |
| 9 | 100 - 284 | 285 - 321 | 322 - 353 | 354 - 381 | 382 - 500 |
| 10 | 100 - 286 | 287 - 326 | 327 - 354 | 355 - 371 | 372 - 500 |

FCAT Mathematics

| FCAT Mathematics Developmental Scale Scores | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Grade | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 |
| 3 | 375 - 1078 | 1079 - 1268 | 1269 - 1508 | 1509 - 1749 | 1750 - 2225 |
| 4 | 581 - 1276 | 1277 - 1443 | 1444 - 1657 | 1658 - 1862 | 1863 - 2330 |
| 5 | 569 - 1451 | 1452 - 1631 | 1632 - 1768 | 1769 - 1956 | 1957 - 2456 |
| 6 | 770 - 1553 | 1554 - 1691 | 1692 - 1859 | 1860 - 2018 | 2019 - 2492 |
| 7 | 958 - 1660 | 1661 - 1785 | 1786 - 1938 | 1939 - 2079 | 2080 - 2572 |
| 8 | 1025 - 1732 | 1733 - 1850 | 1851 - 1997 | 1998 - 2091 | 2092 - 2605 |
| 9 | 1238 - 1781 | 1782 - 1900 | 1901 - 2022 | 2023 - 2141 | 2142 - 2596 |
| 10 | 1068 - 1831 | 1832 - 1946 | 1947 - 2049 | 2050 - 2192 | 2193 - 2709 |
| FCAT Mathematics Scale Scores | | | | | |
| Grade | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 |
| 3 | 100 - 252 | 253 - 293 | 294 - 345 | 346 - 397 | 398 - 500 |
| 4 | 100 - 259 | 260 - 297 | 298 - 346 | 347 - 393 | 394 - 500 |
| 5 | 100 - 287 | 288 - 325 | 326 - 354 | 355 - 394 | 395 - 500 |
| 6 | 100 - 282 | 283 - 314 | 315 - 353 | 354 - 390 | 391 - 500 |
| 7 | 100 - 274 | 275 - 305 | 306 - 343 | 344 - 378 | 379 - 500 |
| 8 | 100 - 279 | 280 - 309 | 310 - 346 | 347 - 370 | 371 - 500 |
| 9 | 100 - 260 | 261 - 295 | 296 - 331 | 332 - 366 | 367 - 500 |
| 10 | 100 - 286 | 287 - 314 | 315 - 339 | 340 - 374 | 375 - 500 |



FCAT Achievement Levels

FCAT Science

The Spring 2006 FCAT administration marked the first time FCAT SSS Science scores were reported by Achievement Levels. FCAT SSS Science Achievement Levels were approved by the State Board of Education on March 21, 2006.

| FCAT Science Scale Scores | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Grade | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 |
| 5 | 100 - 272 | 273 - 322 | 323 - 376 | 377 - 416 | 417 - 500 |
| 8 | 100 - 269 | 270 - 324 | 325 - 386 | 387 - 431 | 432 - 500 |
| 11 | 100 - 278 | 279 - 323 | 324 - 379 | 380 - 424 | 425 - 500 |

FCAT Writing+

The Spring 2007 FCAT administration marked the first time FCAT SSS Writing+ performance was reported by Achievement Levels based on scale scores. For FCAT Writing+, students receive a whole-test score between 100 and 500 as well as a sub-score on a rubric of one to six for the essay. FCAT SSS Writing+ Achievement Levels were approved by the State Board of Education on January 25, 2007.

| FCAT Writing+ Scale Scores | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Grade | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 |
| 4 | 100-239 | 240-289 | 290-364 | 365-426 | 427-500 |
| 8 | 100-249 | 250-298 | 299-355 | 356-415 | 416-500 |
| 10 | 100-249 | 250-299 | 300-341 | 342-402 | 403-500 |