In 2011, grade 4 students had an average essay score of 4.0, grade 8 students had an average essay score of 4.2, and grade 10 students had an average essay score of 4.0 on FCAT Writing.

Note: The dashed line (- - -) indicates that changes were made to the FCAT Writing assessment in 2010. When reviewing FCAT Writing results from 2010 and beyond, comparisons to previous years’ writing scores should be avoided. This caution is given for two reasons. First, beginning in 2010, each essay was scored by one rater. In previous years, two raters were used and the scores were averaged. A student could have received a half-point score, such as 4.5, whereas since 2010 no half-point scores are possible. Second, beginning in 2010, each student within the same grade level was required to write an essay using the same mode of writing (narrative, expository, or persuasive). In previous years, there were two modes assessed at each grade level with half of the students responding to each mode. For example, the 2011 Grade 4 FCAT Writing assessment required all students to write an expository essay. In 2009, half of the students wrote a narrative essay, and half of the students were required to write an expository essay.
In 2011, 81 percent of grade 4 students, 82 percent of grade 8 students, and 75 percent of grade 10 students scored at or above 4 on FCAT Writing.

Note: The dashed line (- - -) indicates that changes were made to the FCAT Writing assessment in 2010. When reviewing FCAT Writing results from 2010 and beyond, comparisons to previous years' writing scores should be avoided. This caution is given for two reasons. First, beginning in 2010, each essay was scored by one rater. In previous years, two raters were used and the scores were averaged. A student could have received a half-point score, such as 4.5, whereas since 2010 no half-point scores are possible. Second, beginning in 2010, each student within the same grade level was required to write an essay using the same mode of writing (narrative, expository, or persuasive). In previous years, there were two modes assessed at each grade level with half of the students responding to each mode. For example, the 2011 Grade 4 FCAT Writing assessment required all students to write an expository essay. In 2009, half of the students wrote a narrative essay, and half of the students were required to write an expository essay.