

# Statewide Science Assessment Grades 5 and 8



# Statewide Science Assessment

## Grades 5 and 8

First administered in 2012, the statewide science assessment annually measures student achievement of the *Next Generation Sunshine State Standards* (NGSSS) in science. On January 21, 2014, the State Board of Education established passing scores for NGSSS assessments, as required by Section 1008.22(3), Florida Statutes. The State Board has established the minimum score in Achievement Level 3 as the passing score for the statewide science assessment. Although the designated passing score is the minimum score in Achievement Level 3, state law does not require students to achieve this score to progress to the next grade level.

Descriptions of the Achievement Level definitions that apply to the statewide science assessment are provided below, along with the cut scores that define the Achievement Levels:

- Level 5:** Students at this level demonstrate mastery of the most challenging content of the *Next Generation Sunshine State Standards*.
- Level 4:** Students at this level demonstrate an above satisfactory level of success with the challenging content of the *Next Generation Sunshine State Standards*.
- Level 3:** Students at this level demonstrate a satisfactory level of success with the challenging content of the *Next Generation Sunshine State Standards*.
- Level 2:** Students at this level demonstrate a below satisfactory level of success with the challenging content of the *Next Generation Sunshine State Standards*.
- Level 1:** Students at this level demonstrate an inadequate level of success with the challenging content of the *Next Generation Sunshine State Standards*.

**Statewide Science Assessment Scale Scores (140 to 260)**

Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3 (Passing)	Level 4	Level 5
5	140-184	185-199	200-214	215-224	225-260
8	140-184	185-202	203-214	215-224	225-260

More information about the statewide science assessment is available at <http://fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/fcat2.stml>.

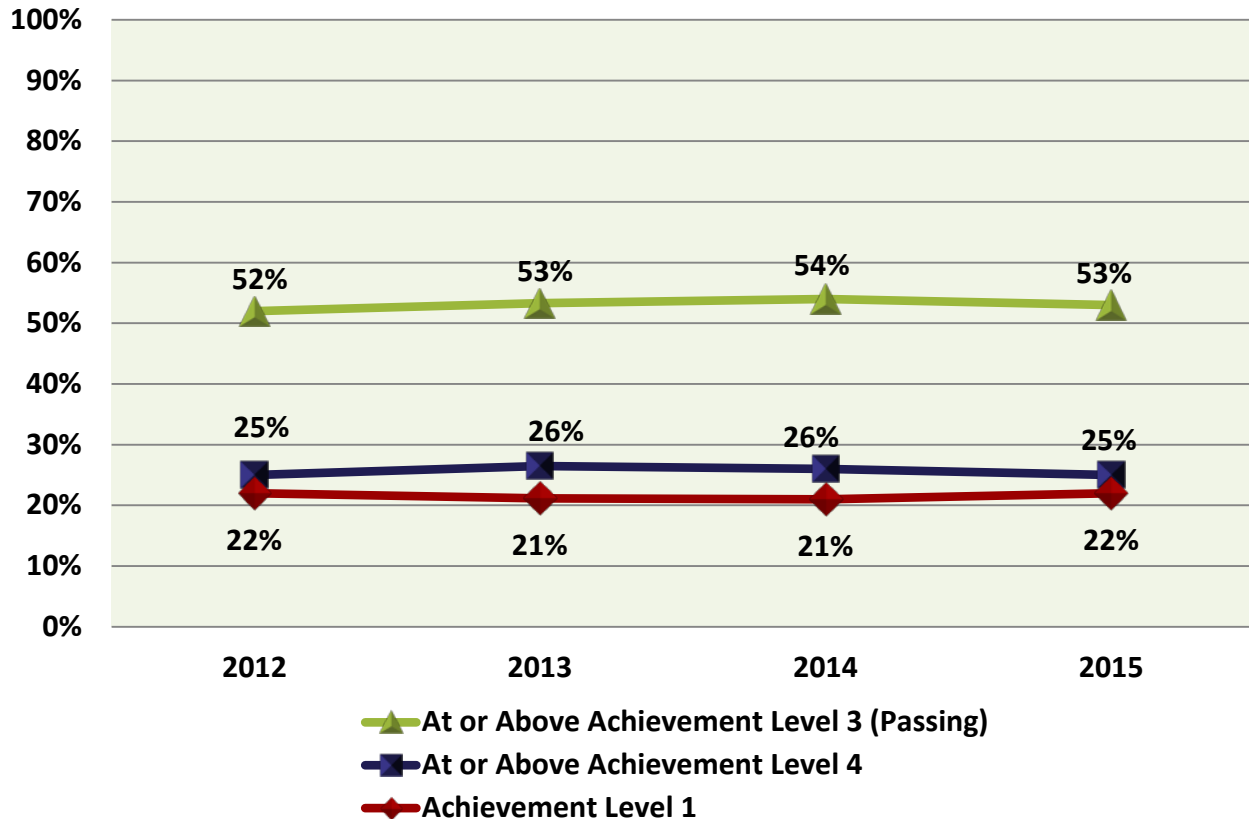
# Statewide Science Assessment

## Grades 5 and 8

### NOTES:

- 1) Percentages displayed in this document for 2014 may reflect minor differences from percentages published in last year's press packet. This is because of routine updates made subsequent to last year's release.
- 2) For the implementation year of each subject area assessment measuring the NGSSS, results were reported as equivalent scores on the prior assessment's scale in order to maintain consistent expectations for student performance during the transition year. This means that the 2012 Science results were reported using the prior assessment's score scale and Achievement Levels because the achievement standards for the NGSSS statewide science assessment had not yet been established. The NGSSS statewide science score scale and Achievement Levels were established by the State Board of Education on December 12, 2012. Scores reported for the 2012 statewide science assessment have been converted, or retrofitted, to the established statewide science assessment score scale and are provided in this media packet so that stakeholders and the general public are able to see what the results would have been if the established score scale and Achievement Levels had been approved and implemented at that time.

## Grade 5 Statewide Science Assessment By Achievement Level

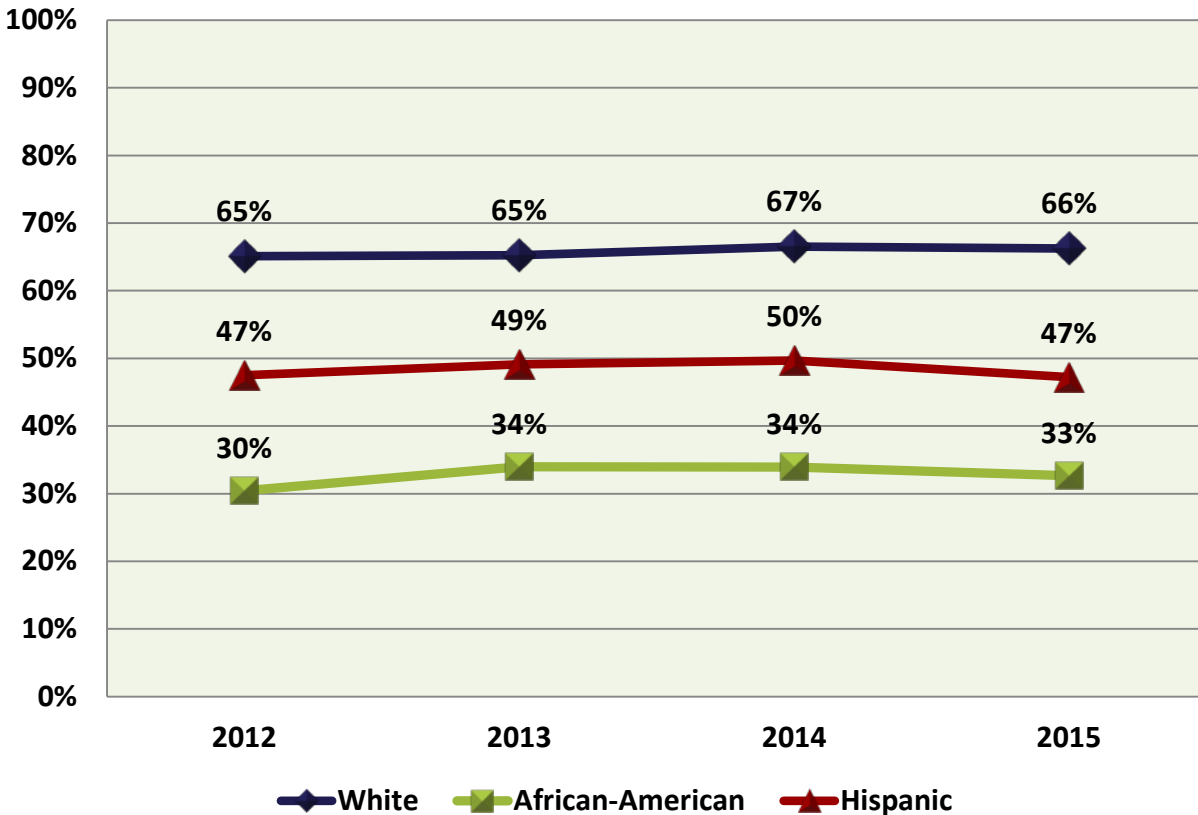


The percentage of grade 5 students scoring at or above Achievement Level 3 on the statewide science assessment increased 1 percentage point from 2012 and decreased 1 percentage point from 2014.

In 2015, 53 percent of students in grade 5 were performing at or above Achievement Level 3 (Passing) on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 54 percent in 2014, equal to 53 percent in 2013 and an increase from 52 percent in 2012. In 2015, 25 percent of students in grade 5 were performing at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 26 percent in 2014 and 2013 and equal to 25 percent in 2012. In 2015, 22 percent of students in grade 5 were performing at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment. This is an increase from 21 percent in 2014 and 2013 and equal to 22 percent in 2012.

Source: Bureau of K-12 Student Assessment  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

## Grade 5 Statewide Science Assessment At or Above Achievement Level 3 (Passing)

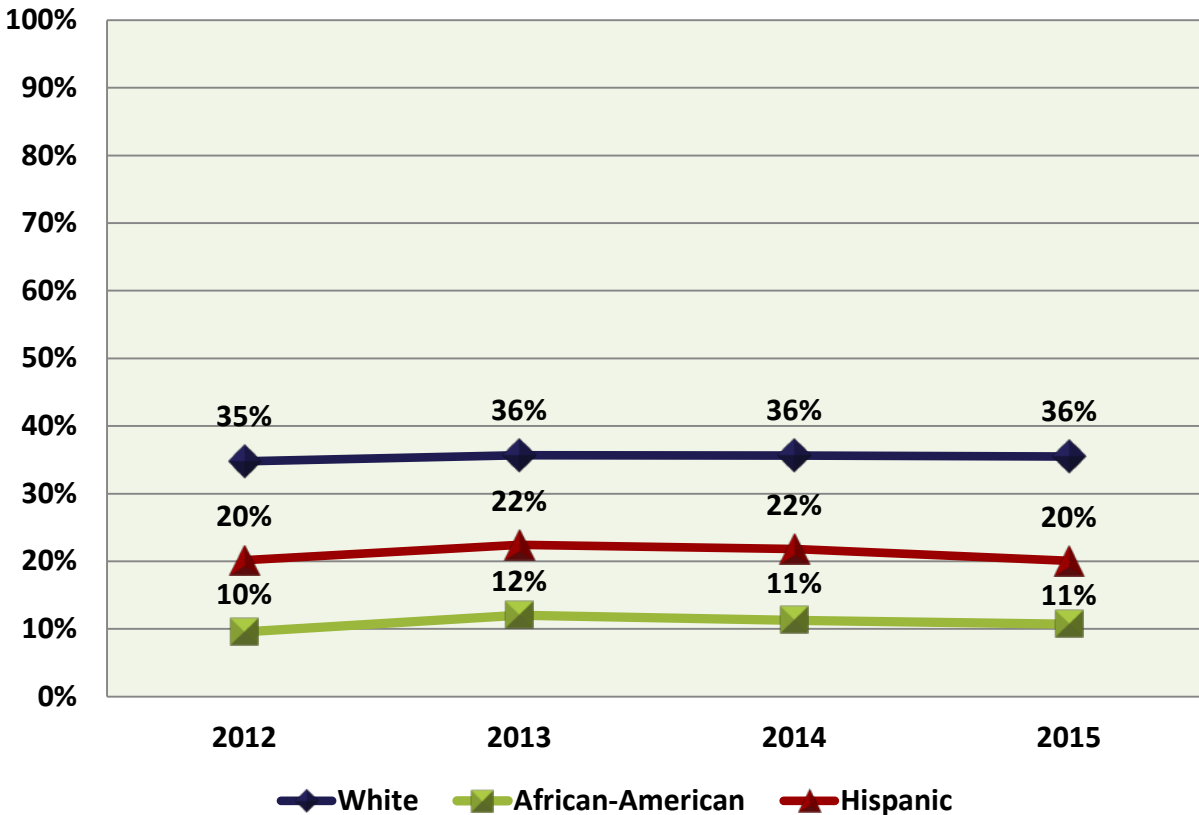


The percentage of grade 5 White and African-American students scoring at or above Achievement Level 3 on the statewide science assessment in 2015 is 1 and 3 percentage points higher, respectively, than in 2012, but is a 1 percentage-point decrease from 2014.

In 2015, 66 percent of White students in grade 5 were performing at or above Achievement Level 3 (Passing) on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 67 percent in 2014 and an increase from 65 percent in 2013 and 2012. In 2015, 47 percent of Hispanic students in grade 5 were performing at or above Achievement Level 3 (Passing) on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 50 percent in 2014, 49 percent in 2013 and equal to 47 percent in 2012. In 2015, 33 percent of African-American students in grade 5 were performing at or above Achievement Level 3 (Passing) on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 34 percent in 2014 and 2013 and an increase from 30 percent in 2012.

Source: Bureau of PK-20 Reporting and Accessibility  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

## Grade 5 Statewide Science Assessment At or Above Achievement Level 4

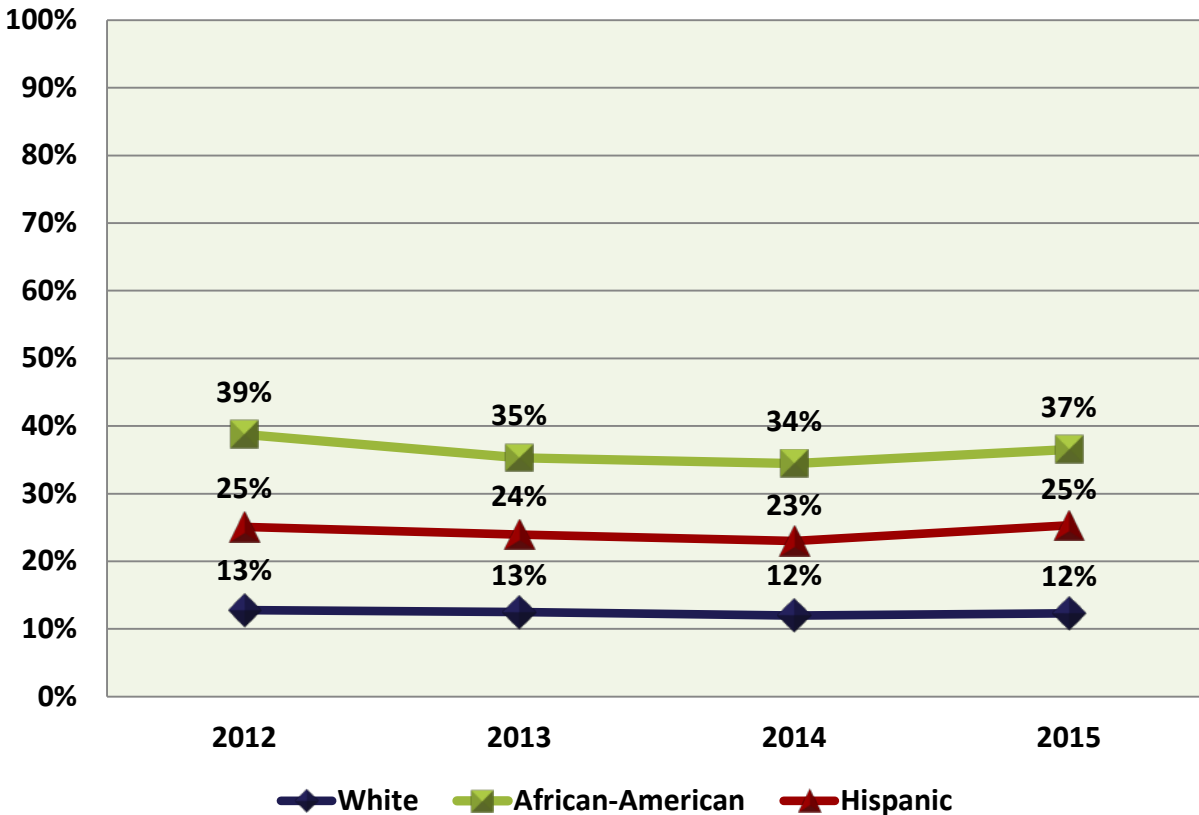


The percentage of grade 5 White and African-American students scoring at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment in 2015 is 1 percentage point higher than in 2012 but is equal to performance in 2014.

In 2015, 36 percent of White students in grade 5 were performing at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment. This is equal to 36 percent in 2014 and 2013 and an increase from 35 percent in 2012. In 2015, 20 percent of Hispanic students in grade 5 were performing at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 22 percent in 2014 and 2013 and equal to 20 percent in 2012. In 2015, 11 percent of African-American students in grade 5 were performing at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment. This is equal to 11 percent in 2014, a decrease from 12 percent in 2013 and an increase from 10 percent in 2012.

Source: Bureau of PK-20 Reporting and Accessibility  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

## Grade 5 Statewide Science Assessment Achievement Level 1

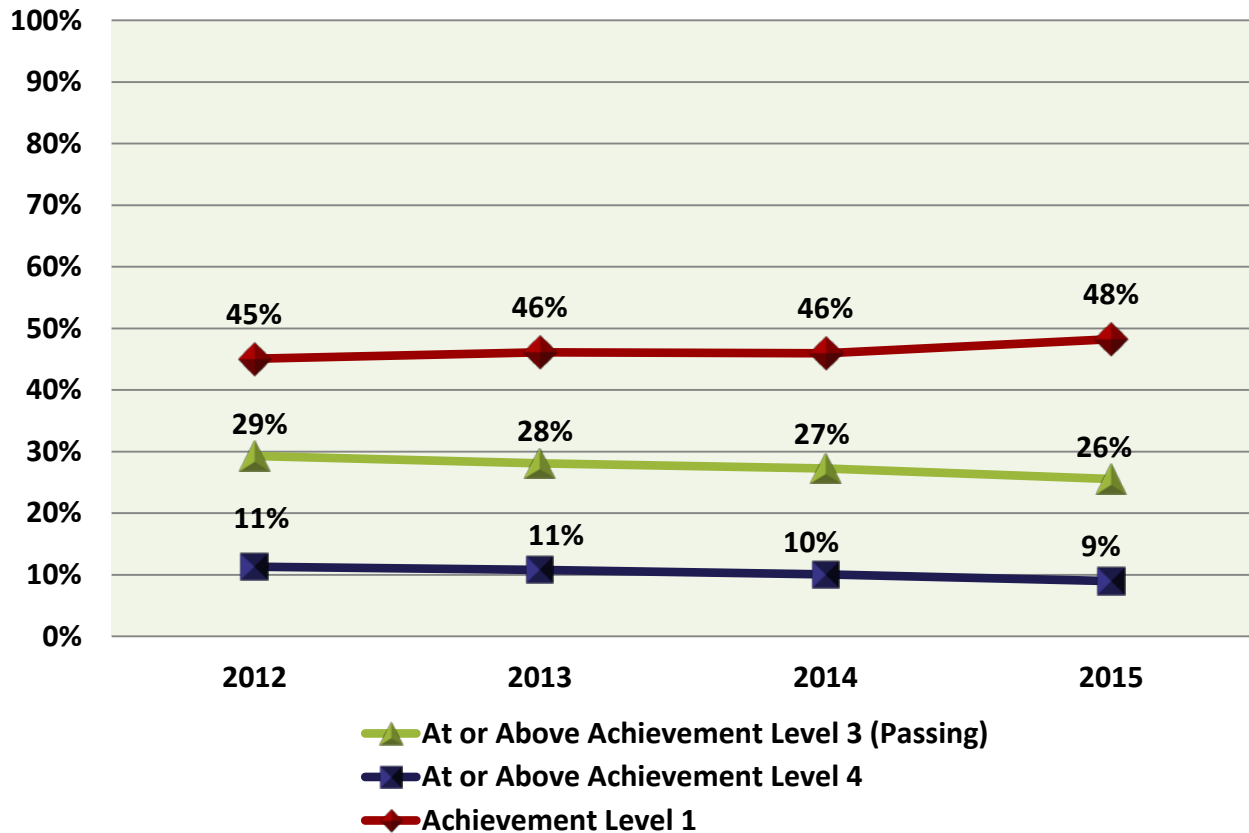


The percentage of grade 5 White students scoring at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment in 2015 is the same as in 2014 while the percentage of Hispanic and African-American students scoring at Achievement Level 1 increased 2 and 3 percentage points, respectively.

In 2015, 12 percent of White students in grade 5 were performing at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment. This is the same as 12 percent in 2014 and a decrease from 13 percent in 2013 and 2012. In 2015, 25 percent of Hispanic students in grade 5 were performing at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment. This is an increase from 23 percent in 2014 and 24 percent in 2013 and equal to 25 percent in 2012. In 2015, 37 percent of African-American students in grade 5 were performing at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment. This is an increase from 34 percent in 2014 and 35 percent in 2013 and a decrease from 39 percent in 2012.

Source: Bureau of PK-20 Reporting and Accessibility  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

## Grade 5 Statewide Science Assessment By Achievement Level Students with Disabilities



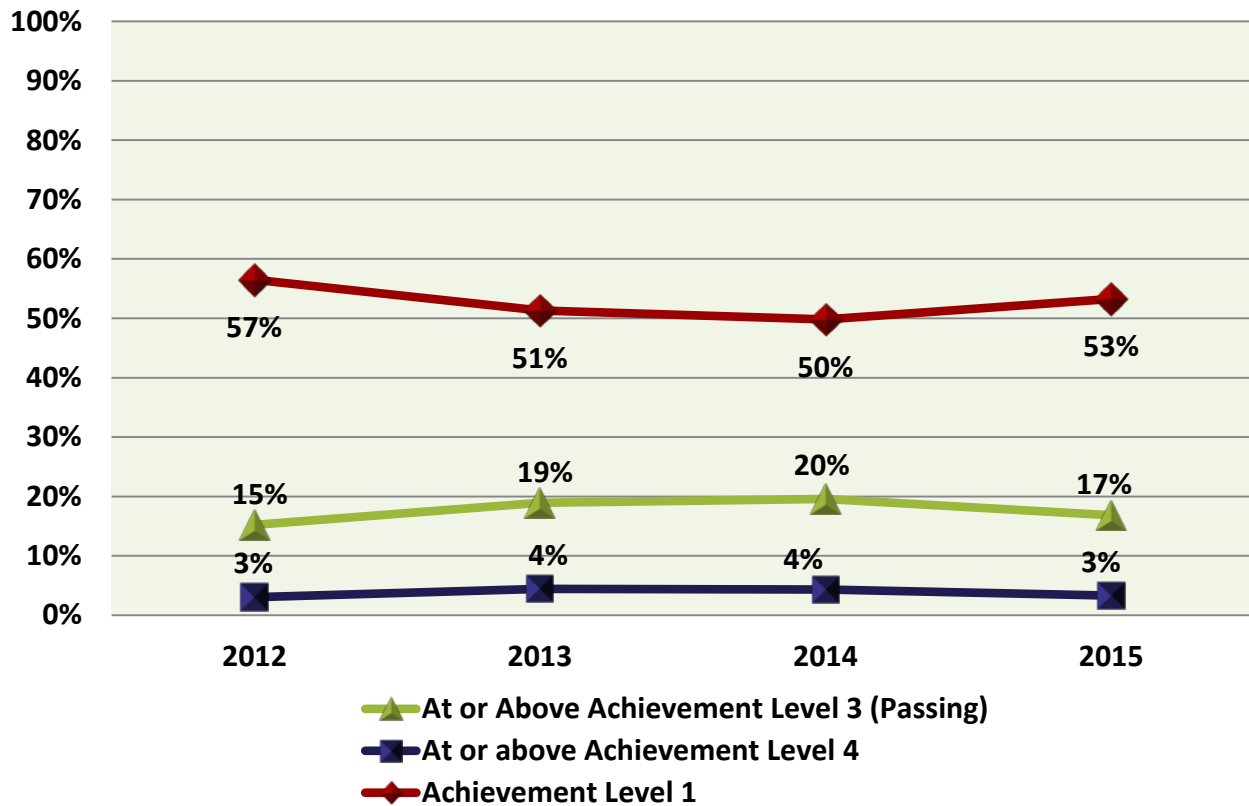
The percentage of grade 5 Students with Disabilities who scored at or above Achievement Level 3 on the statewide science assessment decreased by 1 percentage point in 2015.

In 2015, 26 percent of Students with Disabilities in grade 5 were performing at or above Achievement Level 3 (Passing) on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 27 percent in 2014, 28 percent in 2013 and 29 percent in 2012. In 2015, 9 percent of Students with Disabilities in grade 5 were performing at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 10 percent in 2014 and 11 percent in 2013 and 2012. In 2015, 48 percent of Students with Disabilities in grade 5 were performing at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment. This is an increase from 46 percent in 2014 and 2013 and 45 percent in 2012.

Source: Bureau of PK-20 Reporting and Accessibility  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015



## Grade 5 Statewide Science Assessment By Achievement Level English Language Learners

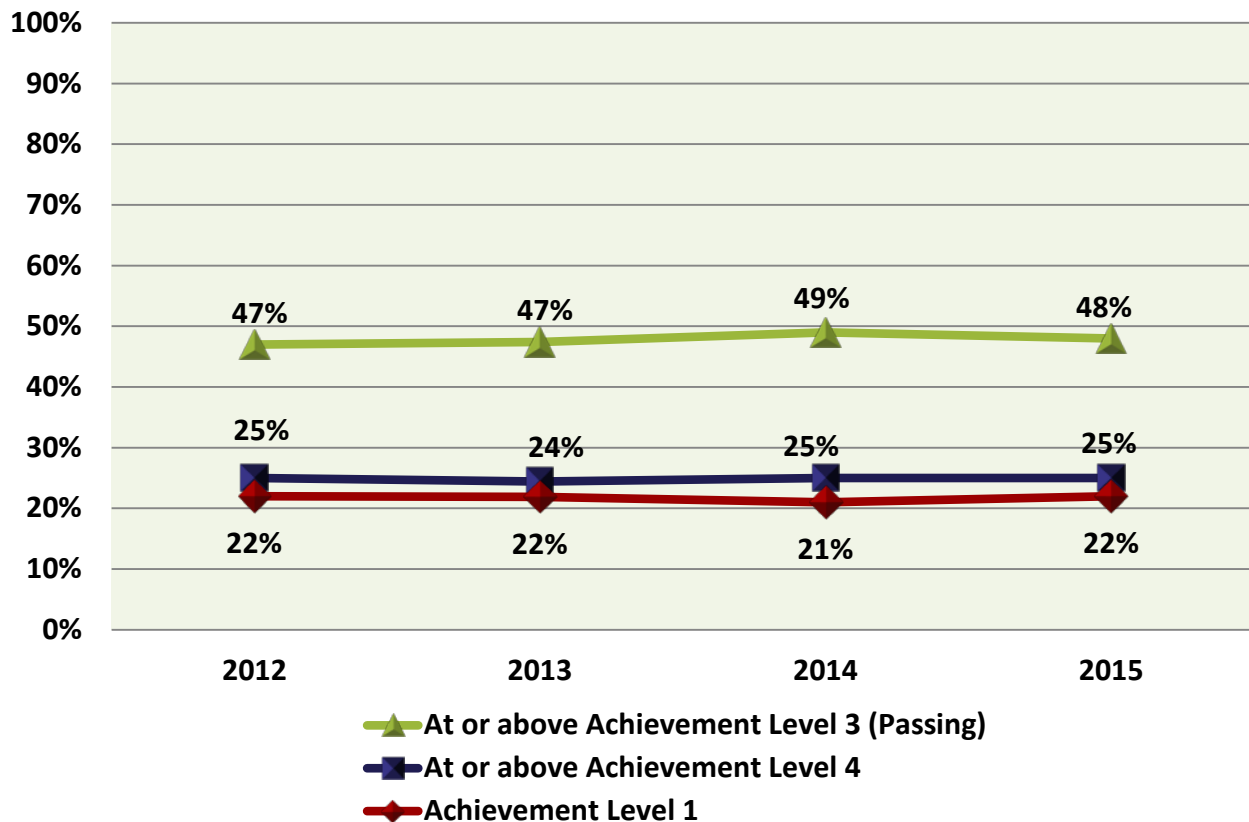


In 2015, the percentage of grade 5 English Language Learners scoring at or above Achievement Level 3 on the statewide science assessment was 2 percentage points greater than in 2012, but it decreased 3 percentage points from 2014.

In 2015, 17 percent of English Language Learners in grade 5 were performing at or above Achievement Level 3 (Passing) on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 20 percent in 2014 and 19 percent in 2013 and an increase from 15 percent in 2012. In 2015, 3 percent of English Language Learners in grade 5 were performing at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 4 percent in 2014 and 2013 and the same as 3 percent in 2012. In 2015, 53 percent of English Language Learners in grade 5 were performing at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment. This is an increase from 50 percent in 2014 and 51 percent in 2013 and a decrease from 57 percent in 2012.

Source: Bureau of PK-20 Reporting and Accessibility  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

## Grade 8 Statewide Science Assessment By Achievement Level

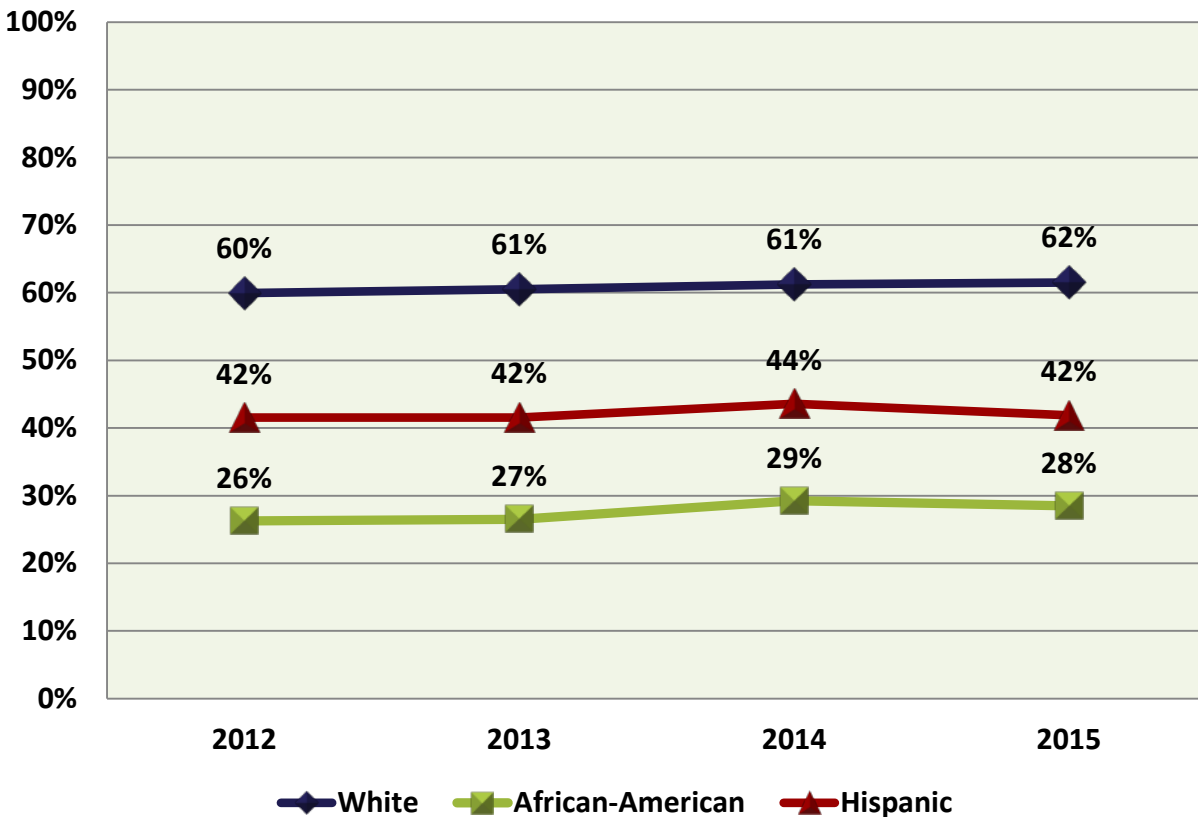


The percentage of grade 8 students scoring at or above Achievement Level 3 on the statewide science assessment increased 1 percentage point from 2012 to 2015 but decreased 1 percentage point from 2014 to 2015.

In 2015, 48 percent of students in grade 8 were performing at or above Achievement Level 3 (Passing) on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 49 percent in 2014 and an increase from 47 percent in 2013 and 2012. In 2015, 25 percent of students in grade 8 were performing at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment. This is equal to 25 percent in 2014, an increase from 24 percent in 2013 and equal to 25 percent in 2012. In 2015, 22 percent of students in grade 8 were performing at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment. This is an increase from 21 percent in 2014 and equal to 22 percent in 2013 and 2012.

Source: Bureau of K-12 Student Assessment  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

## Grade 8 Statewide Science Assessment At or Above Achievement Level 3 (Passing)

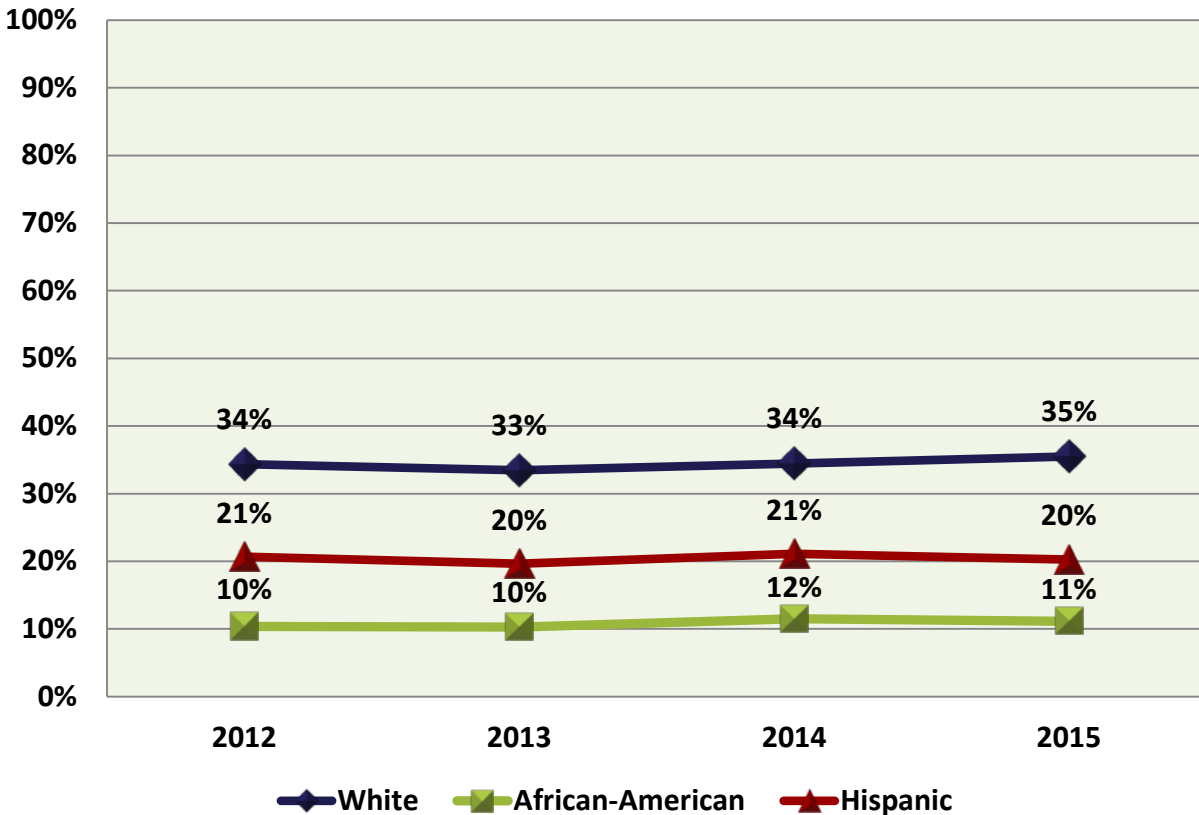


In 2015, the percentage of grade 8 White and African-American students scoring at or above Achievement Level 3 on the statewide science assessment was 2 percentage points higher than in 2012. The percentage of grade 8 White students scoring at or above Achievement Level 1 in science increased by 1 percentage point in 2015 over the prior year.

In 2015, 62 percent of White students in grade 8 were performing at or above Achievement Level 3 (Passing) on the statewide science assessment. This is an increase from 61 percent in 2014 and 2013 and 60 percent in 2012. In 2015, 42 percent of Hispanic students in grade 8 were performing at or above Achievement Level 3 (Passing) on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 44 percent in 2014 and equal to 42 percent in 2013 and 2012. In 2015, 28 percent of African-American students in grade 8 were performing at or above Achievement Level 3 (Passing) on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 29 percent in 2014 and an increase from 27 percent in 2013 and 26 percent in 2012.

Source: Bureau of PK-20 Reporting and Accessibility  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

## Grade 8 Statewide Science Assessment At or Above Achievement Level 4

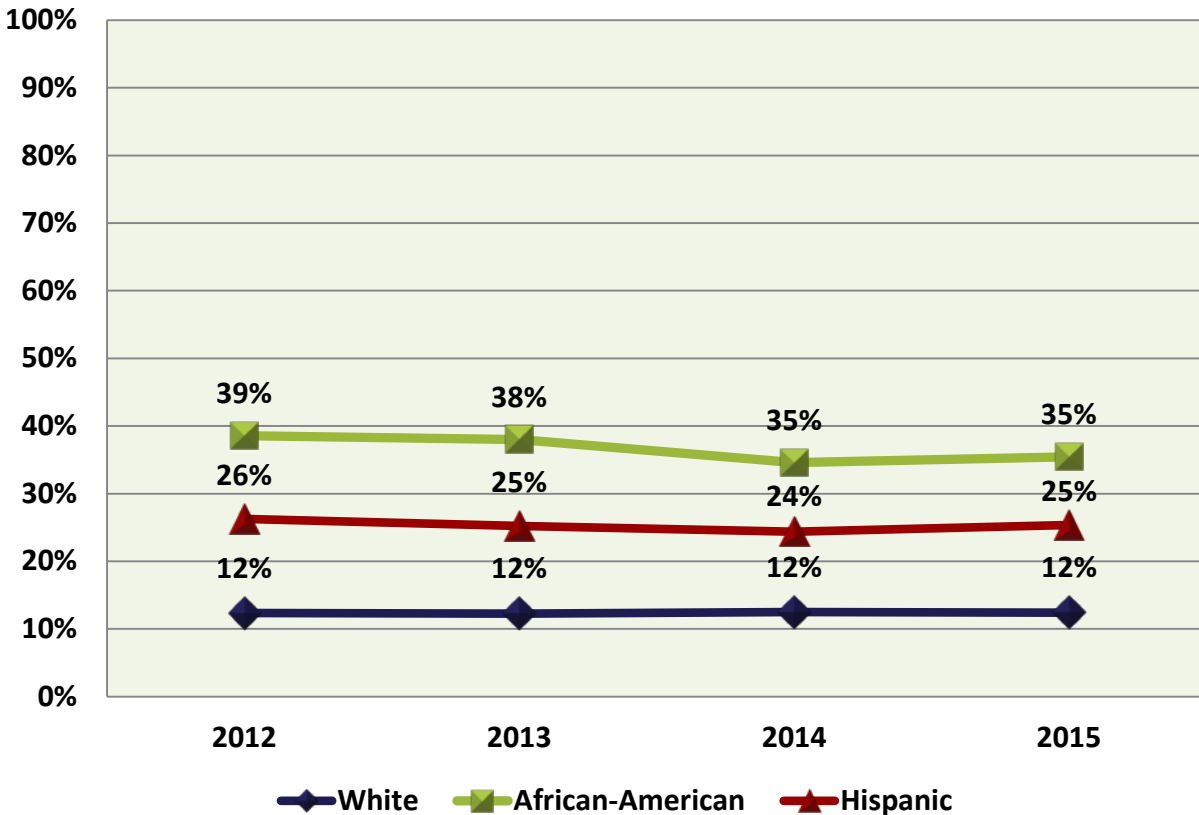


In 2015, the percentage of grade 8 White and African-American students scoring at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment increased 1 percentage point over 2012 performance. The percentage of grade 8 White students scoring at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment increased 1 percentage point from 2014 to 2015.

In 2015, 35 percent of White students in grade 8 were performing at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment. This is an increase from 34 percent in 2014, 33 percent in 2013 and 34 percent in 2012. In 2015, 20 percent of Hispanic students in grade 8 were performing at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 21 percent in 2014, the same as 20 percent in 2013 and a decrease from 21 percent in 2012. In 2015, 11 percent of African-American students in grade 8 were performing at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 12 percent in 2014 and an increase from 10 percent in 2013 and 2012.

Source: Bureau of PK-20 Reporting and Accessibility  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

## Grade 8 Statewide Science Assessment Achievement Level 1

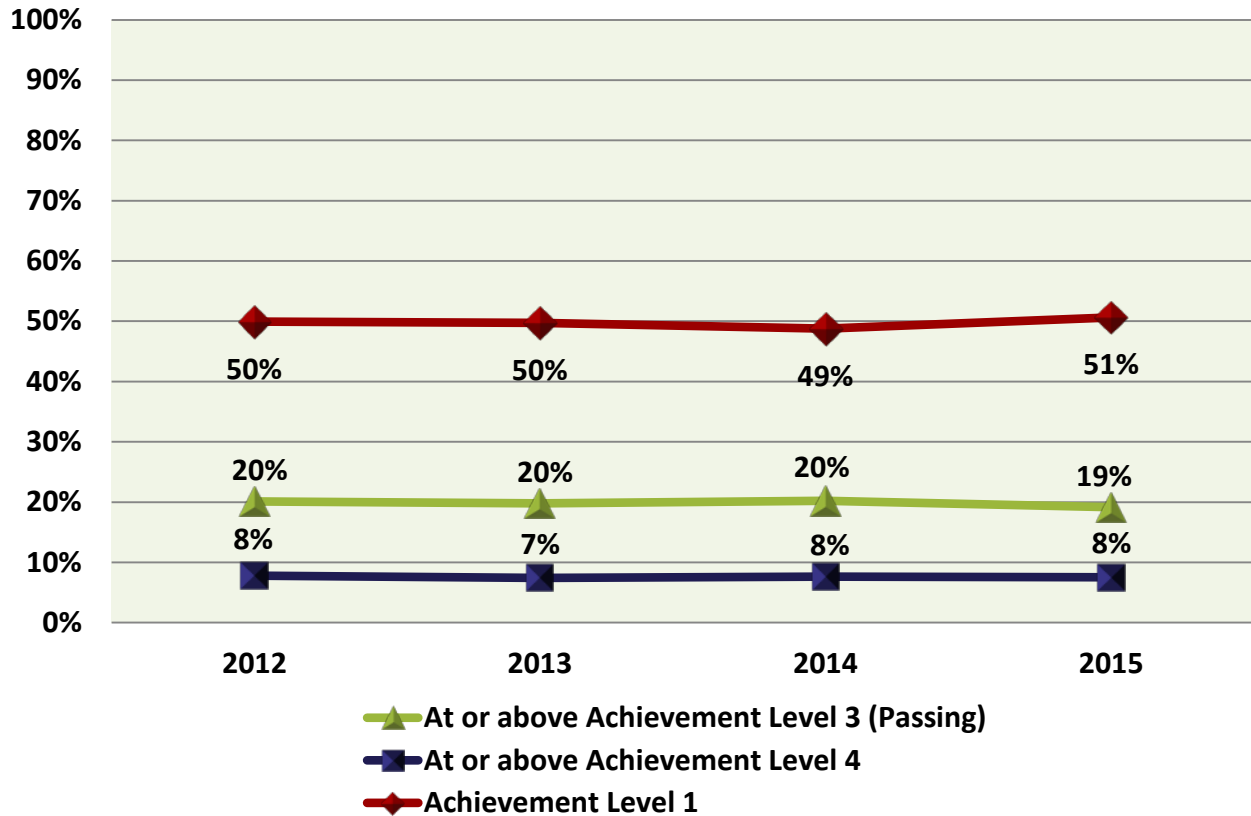


The percentage of grade 8 Hispanic and African-American students scoring at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment decreased from 2012 to 2015 by 1 and 4 percentage points, respectively. The percentage of White students scoring at Achievement Level 1 remained unchanged.

In 2015, 12 percent of White students in grade 8 were performing at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment. This is equal to 12 percent in 2014, 2013 and 2012. In 2015, 25 percent of Hispanic students in grade 8 were performing at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment. This is an increase from 24 percent in 2014, equal to 25 percent in 2013 and a decrease from 26 percent in 2012. In 2015, 35 percent of African-American students in grade 8 were performing at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment. This is equal to 35 percent in 2014 and a decrease from 38 percent in 2013 and 39 percent in 2012.

Source: Bureau of PK-20 Reporting and Accessibility  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

## Grade 8 Statewide Science Assessment By Achievement Level Students with Disabilities

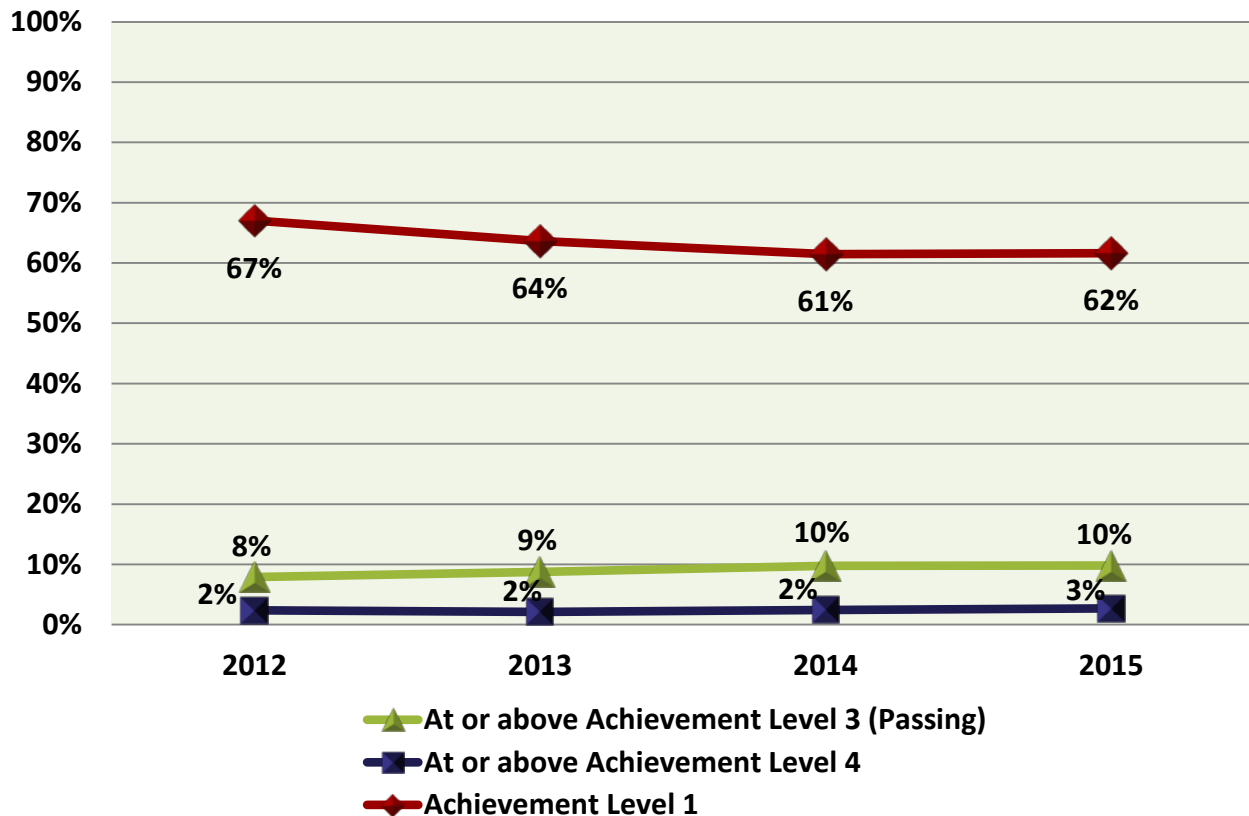


The percentage of grade 8 Students with Disabilities who scored at or above Achievement Level 3 on the statewide science assessment decreased by 1 percentage point from 2014 to 2015.

In 2015, 19 percent of Students with Disabilities in grade 8 were performing at or above Achievement Level 3 (Passing) on the statewide science assessment. This is a decrease from 20 percent in 2014, 2013 and 2012. In 2015, 8 percent of Students with Disabilities in grade 8 were performing at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment. This is consistent with 8 percent in 2014, an increase from 7 percent in 2013 and equal to 8 percent in 2012. In 2015, 51 percent of Students with Disabilities in grade 8 were performing at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment. This is an increase from 49 percent in 2014 and 50 percent in 2013 and 2012.

Source: Bureau of PK-20 Reporting and Accessibility  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

## Grade 8 Statewide Science Assessment By Achievement Level English Language Learners



The percentage of grade 8 English Language Learners scoring at or above Achievement Level 3 on the statewide science assessment increased 2 percentage points from 2012 to 2015.

In 2015, 10 percent of English Language Learners in grade 8 were performing at or above Achievement Level 3 (Passing) on the statewide science assessment. This is equal to 10 percent in 2014 and an increase from 9 percent in 2013 and 8 percent in 2012. In 2015, 3 percent of English Language Learners in grade 8 were performing at or above Achievement Level 4 on the statewide science assessment. This is an increase from 2 percent in 2014, 2013 and 2012. In 2015, 62 percent of English Language Learners in grade 8 were performing at Achievement Level 1 on the statewide science assessment. This is an increase from 61 percent in 2014 and a decrease from 64 percent in 2013 and 67 percent in 2012.

Source: Bureau of PK-20 Reporting and Accessibility  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

## Statewide Comparison Report Statewide Science Assessment 2012 to 2015

Grade	Year <sup>1</sup>	Number of Students	Mean Scale Score	Percentage of Students by Achievement Level <sup>2</sup>					Percentage Passing (Level 3 and Above) <sup>2</sup>
				1	2	3	4	5	
5	2012	199,164	200	22	26	27	12	12	52
	2013	195,131	201	21	26	27	12	14	53
	2014	195,645	201	21	25	28	13	13	54
	2015	198,519	200	22	25	27	13	12	53
8	2012	193,401	200	22	31	22	13	12	47
	2013	195,685	200	22	31	23	13	11	47
	2014	197,210	201	21	30	23	14	12	49
	2015	196,521	201	22	30	23	13	12	48

Source: Bureau of K-12 Student Assessment  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

<sup>1</sup> In spring 2012, the NGSSS statewide science assessment was administered for the first time, and results were reported as equivalent scores on the prior assessment's scale in order to maintain consistent expectations for student performance during the transition year. The 2012 scores have been converted, or retrofitted, to the established NGSSS statewide science assessment score scale so that stakeholders and the general public are able to see what the results would have been if the score scale and Achievement Levels had been approved and implemented at that time.

<sup>2</sup> Percentages may not add to 100 or the percentage passing due to rounding.



## Grade 5

### Statewide Science Assessment Results

#### Percentage Comparison by District

District	Percentage Passing (Level 3 and Above)		Percentage Point Change of Students at Level 3 and Above
	2014	2015	
STATEWIDE	54	53	-1
ALACHUA	59	60	1
BAKER	41	42	1
BAY	50	50	0
BRADFORD	46	33	-13
BREVARD	62	58	-4
BROWARD	49	50	1
CALHOUN	61	63	2
CHARLOTTE	53	50	-3
CITRUS	57	62	5
CLAY	62	59	-3
COLLIER	53	52	-1
COLUMBIA	59	59	0
MIAMI DADE	51	49	-2
DESOTO	26	31	5
DIXIE	59	66	7
DUVAL	53	52	-1
ESCAMBIA	53	57	4
FLAGLER	54	50	-4
FRANKLIN	57	49	-8
GADSDEN	43	30	-13
GILCHRIST	56	61	5
GLADES	49	44	-5
GULF	49	58	9
HAMILTON	30	29	-1
HARDEE	48	45	-3
HENDRY	42	34	-8
HERNANDO	53	57	4
HIGHLANDS	40	47	7
HILLSBOROUGH	56	53	-3
HOLMES	53	52	-1
INDIAN RIVER	47	48	1
JACKSON	57	56	-1
JEFFERSON	26	27	1
LAFAYETTE	40	48	8
LAKE	51	51	0
LEE	53	51	-2
LEON	60	55	-5
LEVY	40	48	8

## Grade 5

### Statewide Science Assessment Results

#### Percentage Comparison by District

District	Percentage Passing (Level 3 and Above)		Percentage Point Change of Students at Level 3 and Above
	2014	2015	
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>-1</b>
LIBERTY	56	44	-12
MADISON	30	26	-4
MANATEE	50	45	-5
MARION	52	50	-2
MARTIN	57	56	-1
MONROE	60	61	1
NASSAU	67	68	1
OKALOOSA	62	62	0
OKEECHOBEE	40	36	-4
ORANGE	57	53	-4
OSCEOLA	52	48	-4
PALM BEACH	57	55	-2
PASCO	52	51	-1
PINELLAS	55	54	-1
POLK	47	45	-2
PUTNAM	39	37	-2
ST JOHNS	72	74	2
ST LUCIE	45	43	-2
SANTA ROSA	62	68	6
SARASOTA	66	70	4
SEMINOLE	64	61	-3
SUMTER	60	59	-1
SUWANNEE	45	46	1
TAYLOR	48	41	-7
UNION	52	41	-11
VOLUSIA	62	59	-3
WAKULLA	59	65	6
WALTON	56	56	0
WASHINGTON	48	46	-2

Source: Bureau of K-12 Student Assessment  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015

## Grade 8

### Statewide Science Assessment Results

#### Percentage Comparison by District

District	Percentage Passing (Level 3 and Above)		Percentage Point Change of Students at Level 3 and Above
	2014	2015	
STATEWIDE	49	48	-1
ALACHUA	49	50	1
BAKER	41	48	7
BAY	48	44	-4
BRADFORD	40	33	-7
BREVARD	57	55	-2
BROWARD	47	46	-1
CALHOUN	52	57	5
CHARLOTTE	44	48	4
CITRUS	55	51	-4
CLAY	57	57	0
COLLIER	50	52	2
COLUMBIA	40	44	4
MIAMI-DADE	44	41	-3
DESOTO	29	32	3
DIXIE	50	49	-1
DUVAL	47	46	-1
ESCAMBIA	45	46	1
FLAGLER	49	53	4
FRANKLIN	49	37	-12
GADSDEN	32	22	-10
GILCHRIST	57	57	0
GLADES	49	37	-12
GULF	44	44	0
HAMILTON	14	18	4
HARDEE	33	34	1
HENDRY	36	29	-7
HERNANDO	47	50	3
HIGHLANDS	37	37	0
HILLSBOROUGH	46	46	0
HOLMES	39	47	8
INDIAN RIVER	51	51	0
JACKSON	53	50	-3
JEFFERSON	11	10	-1
LAFAYETTE	47	50	3
LAKE	47	48	1
LEE	48	47	-1
LEON	58	48	-10
LEVY	41	36	-5

## Grade 8

### Statewide Science Assessment Results

#### Percentage Comparison by District

District	Percentage Passing (Level 3 and Above)		Percentage Point Change of Students at Level 3 and Above
	2014	2015	
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>-1</b>
LIBERTY	48	47	-1
MADISON	36	14	-22
MANATEE	47	42	-5
MARION	41	42	1
MARTIN	58	55	-3
MONROE	58	50	-8
NASSAU	60	57	-3
OKALOOSA	63	64	1
OKEECHOBEE	35	31	-4
ORANGE	49	49	0
OSCEOLA	42	39	-3
PALM BEACH	51	53	2
PASCO	52	53	1
PINELLAS	47	51	4
POLK	39	40	1
PUTNAM	35	24	-11
ST. JOHNS	74	76	2
ST. LUCIE	46	43	-3
SANTA ROSA	64	63	-1
SARASOTA	59	58	-1
SEMINOLE	59	57	-2
SUMTER	50	55	5
SUWANNEE	42	48	6
TAYLOR	50	52	2
UNION	57	46	-11
VOLUSIA	55	58	3
WAKULLA	59	49	-10
WALTON	58	57	-1
WASHINGTON	52	46	-6

Source: Bureau of K-12 Student Assessment  
Florida Department of Education, June 2015