

# Louisiana Dropout Profile



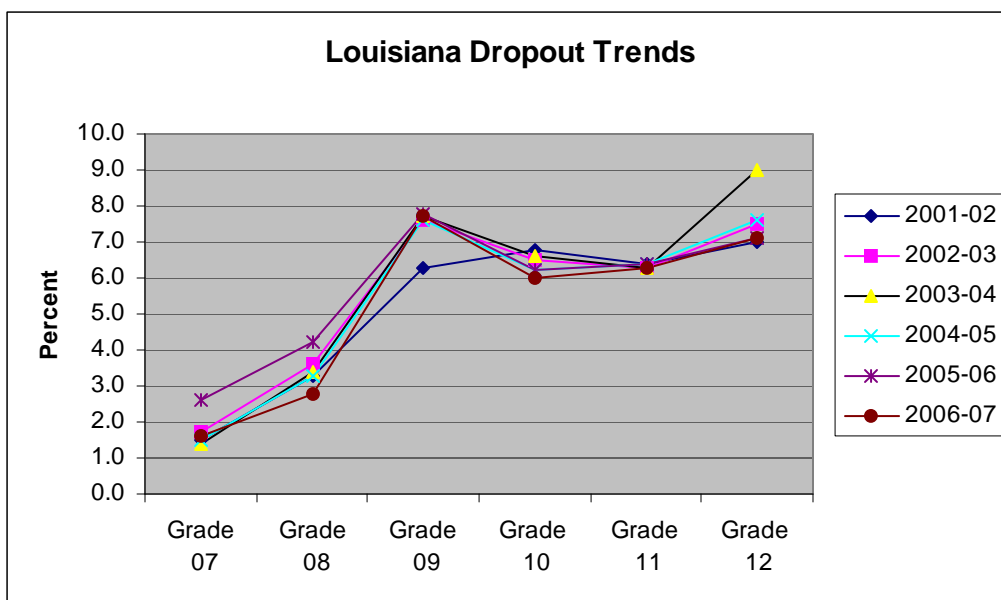
Prepared for  
**Louisiana's Promise State Dropout Summit**  
**October 28, 2008**

Prepared by  
**Cecil J. Picard Center for Child Development and Lifelong Learning**  
**University of Louisiana at Lafayette**

## Louisiana Dropout Trends (Percentages)

Number of students counted as dropouts divided by total

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Grade 7	1.5	1.7	1.4	1.5	2.6	1.6
Grade 8	3.3	3.6	3.4	3.3	4.2	4.2
Grade 9	6.3	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.8	7.8
Grade 10	6.8	6.5	6.6	6.2	6.2	6.2
Grade 11	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.4
Grade 12	7.0	7.5	9.0	7.6	7.1	7.1
Louisiana State Total (All Grades)	6.6	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.9	6.9



Source: Louisiana Department of Education

## Education Weekly's Public High School Graduation Rates, Class of 2005

An estimate of the percentage of 9th graders who complete high school on time with a regular diploma. In keeping with the definition of a graduate established by the federal No Child Left Behind Act, these counts include only students receiving standard high school diplomas as graduates.

	5-Year Trends			2005 All Students	Change 2001 to 2005	State	5-Year Trends		
	2005 All Students	Graduation Rate Class of 2001	Change 2001 to 2005				2005 All Students	Graduation Rate Class of 2001	Change 2001 to 2005
Alabama	61.3	61.6	-0.4	76.5	73.0	Missouri	76.5	73.0	+3.5
Alaska	67.6	64.1	+3.5	75.7	77.4	Montana	75.7	77.4	-1.7
Arizona	73.3	67.3	+6.0	79.6	77.7	Nebraska	79.6	77.7	+1.9
Arkansas	73.2	70.8	+2.4	45.4	54.7	Nevada	45.4	54.7	-9.3
California	70.1	69.2	+0.9	77.1	74.1	New Hampshire	77.1	74.1	+3.1
Colorado	74.2	69.1	+5.0	83.3	83.4	New Jersey	83.3	83.4	-0.1
Connecticut	78.1	76.8	+1.3	54.1	61.4	New Mexico	54.1	61.4	-7.3
Delaware	60.1	64.3	-4.2	68.0	61.8	New York	68.0	61.8	+6.2
District of Columbia	57.6	65.2	-7.5	67.0	63.5	North Carolina	67.0	63.5	+3.5
Florida	60.8	53.0	+7.8	79.2	79.9	North Dakota	79.2	79.9	-0.7
Georgia	58.1	55.5	+2.6	75.9	70.9	Ohio	75.9	70.9	+5.0
Hawaii	67.4	66.0	+1.4	70.8	70.1	Oklahoma	70.8	70.1	+0.7
Idaho	76.6	79.8	-3.2	70.4	73.3	Oregon	70.4	73.3	-2.9
Illinois	76.7	74.8	+1.9	80.4	75.5	Pennsylvania	80.4	75.5	+4.9
Indiana	73.6	72.5	+1.2	71.1	73.5	Rhode Island	71.1	73.5	-2.4
Iowa	82.8	78.7	+4.1	55.6	50.8	South Carolina	55.6	50.8	+4.9
Kansas	74.3	74.3	+0.0	75.6	79.8	South Dakota	75.6	79.8	-4.2
Kentucky	71.5	65.3	+6.2	65.4	57.5	Tennessee	65.4	57.5	+7.9
Louisiana	54.7	64.1	-9.4	68.5	64.9	Texas	68.5	64.9	+3.6
Maine	77.2	72.1	+5.2	78.6	78.5	Utah	78.6	78.5	+0.1
Maryland	73.6	75.3	-1.7	80.2	78.0	Vermont	80.2	78.0	+2.2
Massachusetts	74.7	71.0	+3.6	72.9	72.6	Virginia	72.9	72.6	+0.3
Michigan	70.5	71.0	-0.5	68.8	62.8	Washington	68.8	62.8	+6.0
Minnesota	78.1	78.9	-0.8	72.8	70.7	West Virginia	72.8	70.7	+2.1
Mississippi	61.8	58.0	+3.8	80.5	78.1	Wisconsin	80.5	78.1	+2.3
				74.2	72.4	Wyoming	74.2	72.4	+1.8
				<b>U.S.</b>	<b>68.0</b>		<b>70.6</b>	<b>68.0</b>	<b>+2.6</b>

## Risk Factors (National Dropout Prevention Center):

### School Performance

- Low Achievement
- Retention/Overage for Grade

### School Behavior

- Misbehavior
- Early Aggression

### Early Adult Responsibilities

- High Number of Work Hours
- Parenthood

### School Engagement

- Poor Attendance
- Low Educational Expectation
- Lack of Effort
- Low Commitment to School
- No Extracurricular Participation

### Family Background Characteristics

- Low Socioeconomic Status
- High Family Mobility
- Low Education Level of Parents
- Large Number of Siblings
- Not Living With Both Natural Parents
- Family Disruption

### Family Engagement/Commitment to Education

- Low Education Expectation
- Sibling Has Dropped Out
- Low Contact With School
- Lack of Conversation About School

### Social Attitudes, Values and Behaviors

## Risk Factor: Attendance

### Louisiana Percentage of Student Attendance

School Year	Mean	School Year	Mean
2001	93.8349	2004	93.3651
2002	93.5771	2005	93.2193
2003	93.6731	2006	93.5159
		Total	93.5317

### Attendance Rates for Largest Districts

District	Student Population	Attendance Rate
East Baton Rouge	49,145	92.6%
Jefferson	43,502	93.9%
Caddo	43,019	92.4%
St. Tammany	34,857	94.4%
Calcasieu	32,247	94.1%
Lafayette	30,255	94.9%

### Louisiana Districts With Highest Attendance Rates

District	Student Attendance
Orleans	96.4%
Zachary Community	95.6%
Plaquemines	95.5%
Claiborne	95.3%
St. Charles	95.2%

## Class Size

Districts With Highest Percentages of Small Classes

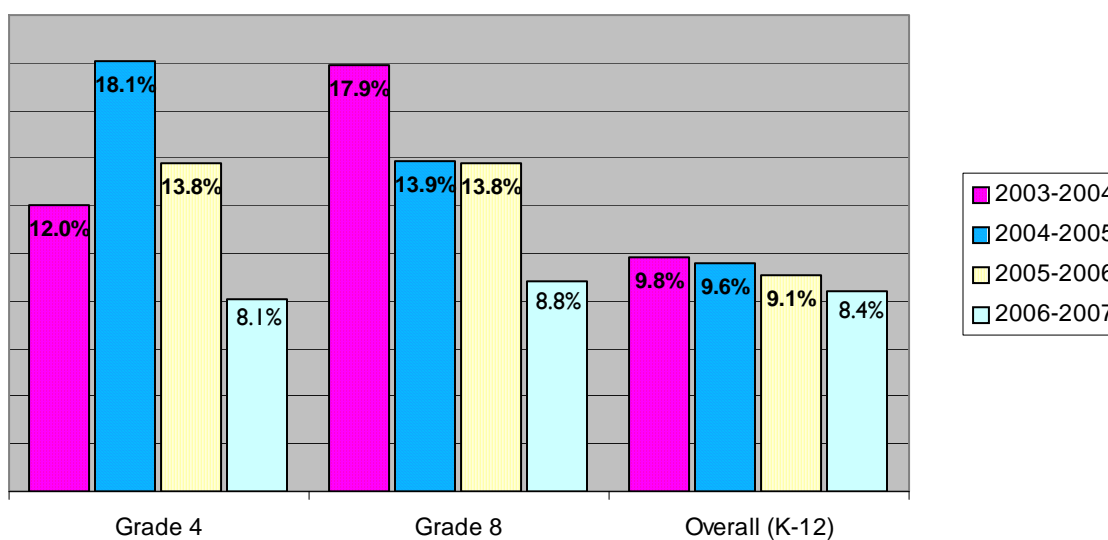
District	Percentage of Classes with 1-20 Students
Cameron	88.9%
Sabine	85.8%
East Carroll	81.4%
Catahoula	80.9%
Bienville	78.8%
Claiborne	78.8%

Districts With Highest Percentages of Large Classes

District	Percentage of Classes with 27 or More Students
St. Bernard	32.6%
Avoyelles	21.4%
Jefferson	17.9%
Ascension	16.5%
Tangipahoa	16.3%
East Baton Rouge	16.0%

## Risk Factor: Student Retention

Retention Rates for Grades 4, 8 and Overall  
2003-2004 through 2006-2007  
Percentage of Students Retained



Source: Louisiana Department of Education

## Risk Factors: Teacher Quality

Highly Qualified Teachers (Percentages)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Louisiana Core Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers	85.6	90.5	91.4	79.6	83.5

Districts with Highest Average Teacher Salaries, 2006-2007

District	Average Teacher Salaries
Jackson	\$53,618
Natchitoches	\$48,144
St. James	\$47,958
St. John the Baptist	\$47,798
West Feliciana	\$46,752

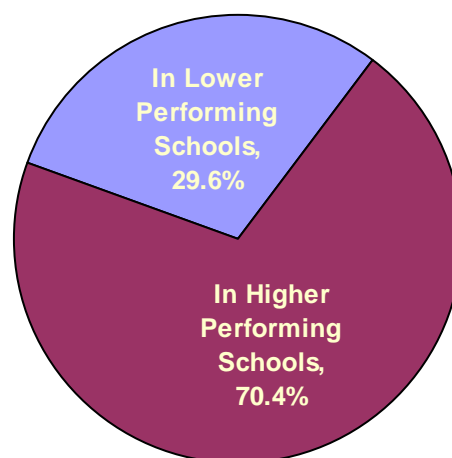
Districts with Lowest Average Teacher Salaries, 2006-2007

District	Average Teacher Salaries
St. Helena	\$28,791
Catahoula	\$31,103
Tensas	\$33,650
East Carroll	\$34,803
Madison	\$35,092

Districts with Highest Percentage of Faculty with a Master's Degree or Higher

District	Percentage of Faculty with a Master's Degree or Higher
Lincoln	50.7%
City of Baker	50.3%
City of Monroe	48.3%
Caldwell	47.7%
Iberville	47.1%

Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers



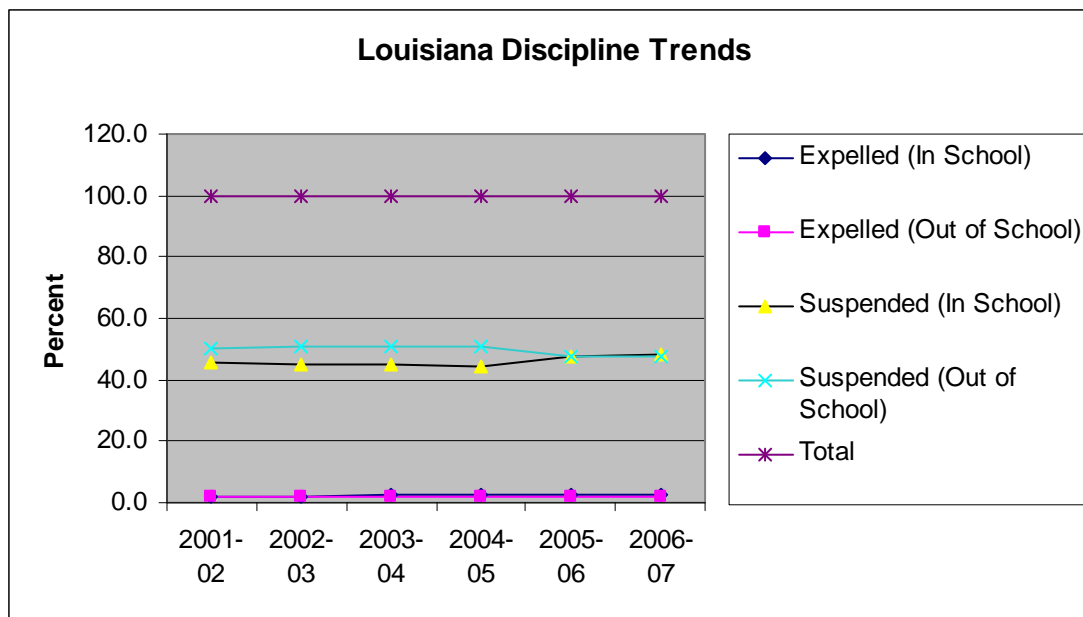
Source: Louisiana Department of Education

# Risk Factor: Discipline

## Louisiana Discipline Counts and Percents

	2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Expelled (In School)	17,754	2.2	17,521	2.2	20,401	2.4	20,671	2.32	24,768	2.92	25,444	2.84
Expelled (Out of School)	15,392	1.9	17,308	2.1	16,536	1.9	19,189	2.16	14,465	1.71	16,019	1.79
Suspended (In School)	368,813	45.9	363,788	44.8	382,266	45.1	396,105	44.53	405,284	47.85	430,433	48.06
Suspended (Out of School)	401,901	50.0	412,512	50.9	429,222	50.6	453,568	50.99	402,399	47.51	423,783	47.31
Total	803,860	100	811,129	100	848,425	100	889,533	100	846,916	100	895,679	100

(Some students may be counted for multiple offenses.)



Source: Louisiana Department of Education

## Student Responses: Why Louisiana Students Drop Out

	Frequency	Percent
<b>No Reason Given</b>	<b>14,199</b>	<b>86.7</b>
Academic Difficulty	60	0.4
Behavioral Difficulty	69	0.4
Dislike of School Experience	342	2.1
Economic Reasons	20	0.1
Employment	146	0.9
Entered Criminal Justice System	70	0.4
Failed Required Test	10	0.1
Lack of Appropriate Curriculum	2	0.0
Lack of Child Care	5	0.0
Lack of Transportation	5	0.0
Language Difficulty	7	0.0
Marriage	2	0.0
Military	24	0.1
Needed at Home	17	0.1
Parent/Guardian Influence	47	0.3
Poor Relationships with Fellow Students	1	0.0
Poor Student/Staff Relationship	2	0.0
Pregnancy	32	0.2
Religion	1	0.0
Substance Abuse	5	0.0
Health Problems	38	0.2
Reason Unknown	1,244	7.6
Other	35	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,383</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Louisiana Department of Education 2007-08; End of Year data.

## Risk Factors: Demographics

### Louisiana Dropouts by Gender

	Count	Percent
Female	6,686	40.8
Male	9,697	59.2
Total	16,383	100

### Louisiana Dropout **Poverty**

	Count	Percent
Paid Lunch	6,883	42.0
Free Lunch	8,954	54.7
Reduced Lunch	546	3.3
Total	16,383	100

### Louisiana Dropouts by Ethnicity

	Count	Percent
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	120	.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	164	1.0
African American	10,439	63.7
Hispanic	452	2.8
Caucasian	5,208	31.8
Total	16,383	100

### Rate of Live Births\* to Teens (Aged 15-19 Years) in Louisiana, Neighboring States and the United States, 2005

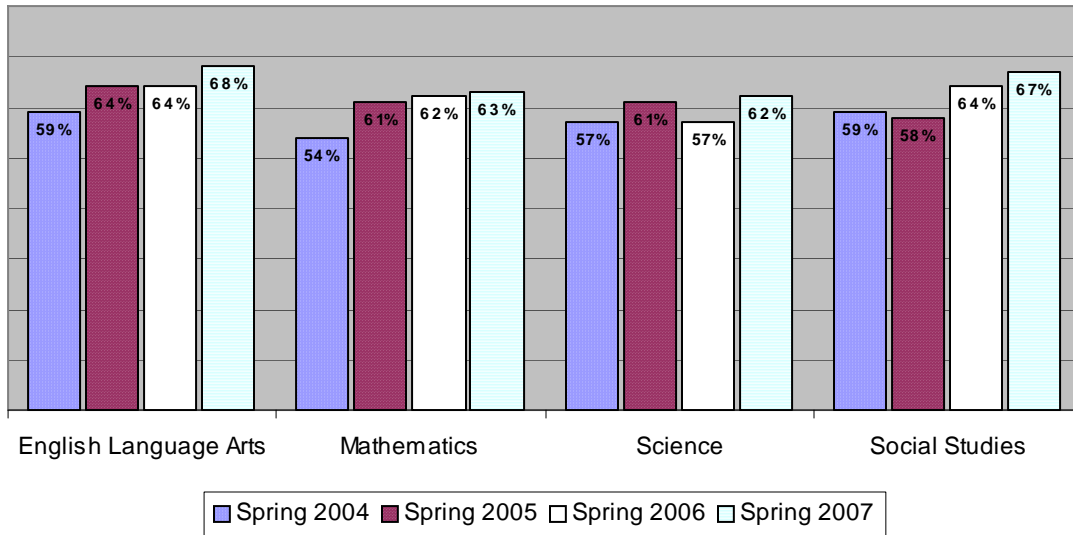
State	Birth Rate	National Ranking
Alabama	52	10
Arkansas	60	4
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>6</b>
Mississippi	62	2
Texas	63	1
<b>United States</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>—</b>

\*Rates per 1,000 population of females aged 15-19  
Source: National Center for Health Statistics, 2007

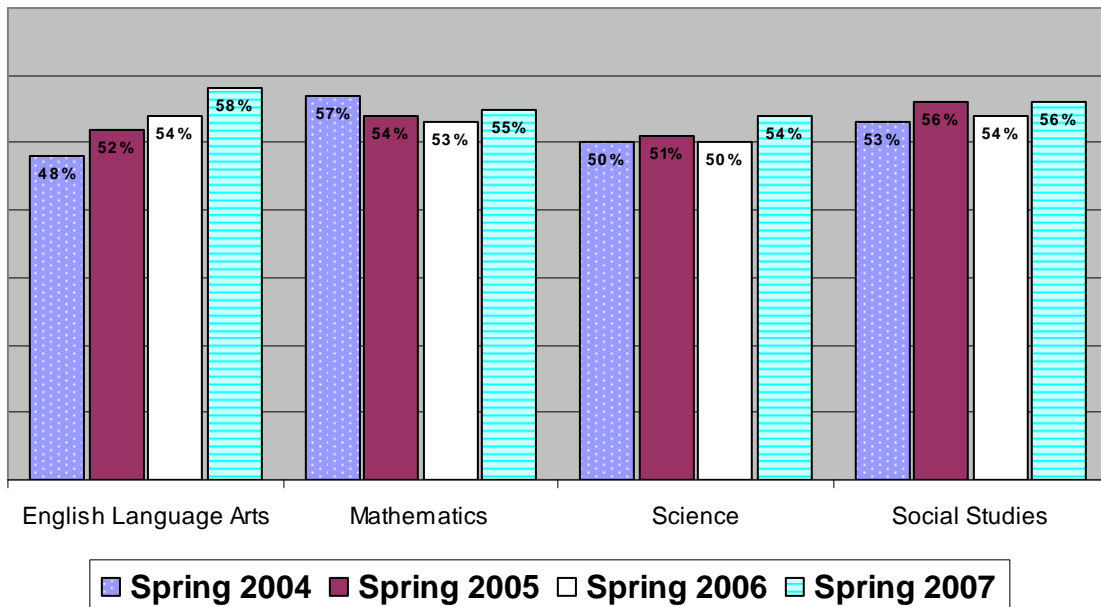
Gender, poverty and ethnicity counts were taken from the LA Department of Education 2007-08 End of Year report as of October 2008. Final counts may differ upon district appeal.

# Risk Factors: Student Achievement

Fourth Grade LEAP Test Results by Subject  
 Spring 2004 through Spring 2007  
 Percentage of Students Scoring at the Basic or Higher Achievement Levels



Eighth Grade LEAP Test Results by Subject  
 Spring 2004 through Spring 2007  
 Percentage of Students Scoring at the Basic or Higher Achievement Levels



Source: Louisiana Department of Education

## District Indicator Results *Student Achievement*

		Grade 4 LEAP Test Results											
		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
<b>State</b>													
<b>English Language Arts</b>													
	Advanced	3.1	1,891	1.0	595	2.6	1,575	2.7	1,669	3.8	1,983	3.5	1,783
	Mastery*	15.6	9,442	12.9	7,952	17.8	10,629	18.3	11,331	15.9	8,354	19.7	9,953
	Basic	38.3	23,234	44.1	27,128	38.9	23,249	42.7	26,401	44.4	23,302	45.1	22,773
	Approaching Basic	28.8	17,490	25.9	15,898	22.2	13,285	22.0	13,607	20.2	10,622	19.3	9,741
	Unsatisfactory	14.2	8,646	16.1	9,921	18.4	11,007	14.2	8,768	15.7	8,260	12.3	6,211
<b>Mathematics</b>													
	Advanced	2.1	1,293	2.6	1,592	2.0	1,195	2.6	1,619	4.2	2,181	3.6	1,795
	Mastery*	10.4	6,291	13.0	8,007	13.4	7,988	14.6	9,002	17.7	9,311	12.9	6,533
	Basic	38.2	23,212	41.3	25,390	38.2	22,814	43.4	26,789	40.2	21,088	46.5	23,462
	Approaching Basic	24.6	14,930	23.3	14,324	23.0	13,714	20.8	12,868	20.7	10,849	20.4	10,291
	Unsatisfactory	24.7	14,966	19.8	12,170	23.5	14,033	18.6	11,477	17.3	9,082	16.6	8,371
<b>Science</b>													
	Advanced	3.5	2,098	1.8	1,100	1.4	852	4.1	2,528	2.6	1,378	2.5	1,246
	Mastery*	10.9	6,617	12.3	7,526	13.4	7,986	12.8	7,880	12.2	6,405	13.6	6,834
	Basic	42.0	25,500	36.6	22,451	42.1	25,135	44.5	27,430	42.4	22,249	45.7	23,030
	Approaching Basic	29.1	17,630	35.4	21,720	28.9	17,244	28.6	17,612	28.8	15,090	27.0	13,613
	Unsatisfactory	14.5	8,819	14.0	8,627	14.2	8,505	10.1	6,234	14.0	7,343	11.3	5,692
<b>Social Studies</b>													
	Advanced	1.1	650	1.7	1,018	1.4	841	1.3	773	1.8	925	2.5	1,262
	Mastery*	8.0	4,855	11.6	7,102	13.9	8,296	8.9	5,510	13.3	6,991	12.9	6,524
	Basic	45.4	27,339	45.5	27,950	43.7	26,123	47.7	29,419	48.6	25,495	51.6	26,006
	Approaching Basic	24.9	15,125	25.0	15,345	21.7	12,942	24.6	15,196	20.1	10,528	18.5	9,340
	Unsatisfactory	20.6	12,481	16.3	10,006	19.3	11,510	17.5	10,760	16.2	8,508	14.4	7,271

Source: Louisiana Department of Education

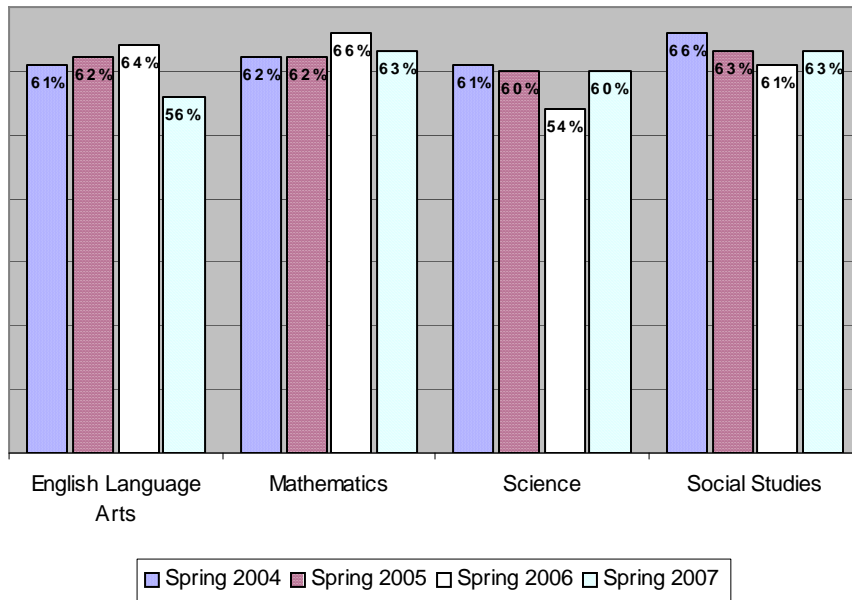
## District Indicator Results Student Achievement

Grade 8 LEAP Test Results													
		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
<b>State</b>													
<b>English Language Arts</b>													
Advanced	1.7	866	1.0	559	0.8	411	0.8	413	2.6	1,275	1.1	531	
Mastery*	15.8	8,062	14.3	7,730	9.5	5,055	13.4	7,340	11.8	5,823	12.5	6,077	
Basic	32.0	16,373	36.2	19,625	37.5	19,942	37.9	20,749	39.9	19,659	44.3	21,572	
Approaching Basic	38.6	19,713	32.0	17,360	35.9	19,067	32.2	17,602	34.6	17,044	32.2	15,707	
Unsatisfactory	11.9	6,102	16.5	8,941	16.3	8,672	15.8	8,625	11.0	5,409	10.0	4,860	
<b>Mathematics</b>													
Advanced	1.5	754	3.1	1,657	2.2	1,167	2.2	1,224	2.5	1,293	5.1	2,491	
Mastery*	3.5	1,792	5.4	2,941	5.8	3,076	5.4	2,979	3.9	1,976	5.1	2,502	
Basic	40.4	20,631	41.0	22,243	49.3	26,198	46.0	25,149	46.2	23,662	44.8	21,816	
Approaching Basic	27.9	14,237	21.9	11,847	21.1	11,187	22.2	12,151	24.0	12,277	24.5	11,945	
Unsatisfactory	26.8	13,704	28.6	15,516	21.7	11,511	24.1	13,204	23.4	12,003	20.5	9,978	
<b>Science</b>													
Advanced	1.1	568	0.9	479	1.1	594	1.5	844	1.6	787	1.6	776	
Mastery*	15.4	7,851	13.4	7,256	15.8	8,381	15.3	8,363	11.5	5,580	15.1	7,348	
Basic	34.2	17,415	33.0	17,846	33.1	17,579	34.6	18,922	36.6	17,692	37.4	18,129	
Approaching Basic	28.9	14,742	30.6	16,535	26.8	14,238	29.2	15,962	32.0	15,496	27.7	13,449	
Unsatisfactory	20.4	10,381	22.2	11,984	23.1	12,252	19.3	10,530	18.3	8,847	18.2	8,834	
<b>Social Studies</b>													
Advanced	0.8	404	0.4	210	1.0	541	0.9	511	1.1	510	1.1	552	
Mastery*	9.2	4,682	8.4	4,549	9.9	5,240	11.9	6,499	9.1	4,418	11.2	5,435	
Basic	43.9	22,346	39.9	21,571	42.1	22,319	43.0	23,497	43.6	21,053	43.5	21,080	
Approaching Basic	24.5	12,468	27.2	14,683	26.8	14,184	21.6	11,808	24.8	11,980	24.6	11,913	
Unsatisfactory	21.7	11,040	24.2	13,065	20.2	10,723	22.5	12,279	21.5	10,373	19.6	9,481	

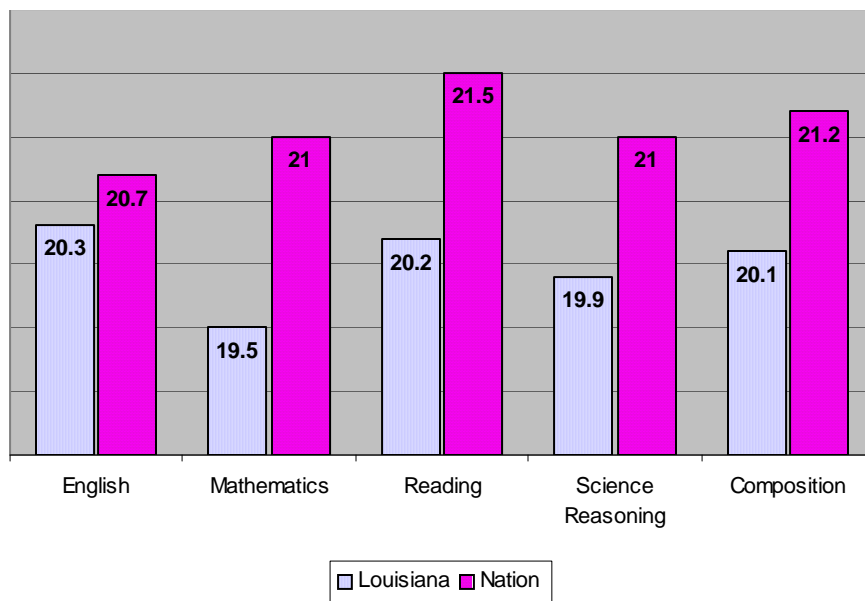
Source: Louisiana Department of Education

# Risk Factors: Student Achievement

Graduation Exit Exam (GEE) Test Results by Subject  
 Spring 2004 through Spring 2007  
 Percentage of Students Scoring at the Basic or Higher Achievement Levels



American College Test (ACT)  
 2007 Results by Subject Area for Louisiana and the Nation



Source: Louisiana Department of Education

## District Indicator Results

### Student Achievement

		Graduation Exit Examination (GEE) Results											
		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>State</b>													
	<b>English Language Arts</b>												
	Advanced	1.5	647	0.8	346	2.3	1,015	1.6	706	1.2	491	1.2	488
	Mastery*	14.5	6,423	10.9	5,033	18.3	8,101	16.4	7,245	13.2	5,260	10.2	4,211
	Basic	41.3	18,321	41.0	18,897	40.2	17,825	44.2	19,471	50.0	19,911	45.1	18,652
	Approaching Basic	23.0	10,223	24.6	11,314	21.3	9,440	23.1	10,166	22.6	8,997	26.8	11,063
	Unsatisfactory	19.8	8,792	22.7	10,450	17.9	7,930	14.7	6,463	13.0	5,191	16.8	6,935
	<b>Mathematics</b>												
	Advanced	6.9	3,060	7.1	3,284	8.3	3,691	7.2	3,149	8.0	3,204	6.7	2,788
	Mastery*	12.6	5,589	15.3	7,038	15.6	6,892	16.3	7,180	16.7	6,648	14.9	6,165
	Basic	34.4	15,279	36.3	16,746	38.0	16,806	38.7	17,044	41.3	16,446	41.7	17,259
	Approaching Basic	15.5	6,909	16.1	7,431	15.3	6,781	14.3	6,300	16.5	6,559	17.1	7,059
	Unsatisfactory	30.6	13,628	25.2	11,603	22.7	10,059	23.5	10,365	17.6	7,011	19.5	8,075
	<b>Science</b>												
	Advanced	2.4	1,055	2.0	823	3.2	1,210	4.0	1,532	3.2	1,146	3.9	1,413
	Mastery*	13.5	5,833	12.9	5,403	16.7	6,254	16.0	6,041	12.1	4,377	15.6	5,698
	Basic	32.0	14,188	39.3	16,470	40.8	15,291	39.6	14,984	38.5	13,950	40.0	14,576
	Approaching Basic	21.7	9,359	23.7	9,926	23.9	8,956	24.2	9,164	28.9	10,474	24.2	8,827
	Unsatisfactory	29.5	12,746	22.1	9,234	15.5	5,801	16.2	6,123	17.3	6,269	16.3	5,927
	<b>Social Studies</b>												
	Advanced	1.0	433	1.7	700	1.1	404	1.3	479	0.8	301	1.6	571
	Mastery*	8.6	3,709	11.6	4,859	11.6	4,339	10.1	3,832	7.6	2,755	10.1	3,687
	Basic	41.5	17,896	44.5	18,629	53.2	19,935	51.2	19,349	52.9	19,144	51.6	18,772
	Approaching Basic	21.3	9,182	22.3	9,317	20.9	7,840	21.4	8,107	22.5	8,153	20.7	7,538
	Unsatisfactory	27.6	11,919	19.9	8,327	13.2	4,957	16.0	6,058	16.1	5,837	16.0	5,838

Source: Louisiana Department of Education

## Special Ed Dropouts

Louisiana Special Education  
Dropouts by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Count	Percentage
American Indian or Alaskan Native	29	.8
Asian or Pacific Islander	6	.2
African American	2,371	67.5
Hispanic	24	.7
Caucasian	1,084	30.8
Total	16,383	100

Louisiana Special Education  
Dropouts by Poverty

	Count	Percentage
Paid Lunch	1,196	34.0
Free Lunch	2,219	63.1
Reduced Pay Lunch	99	2.8
Total	3,514	100

Louisiana Special Education  
Dropouts by Gender

Gender	Count	Percentage
Female	932	26.5
Male	2,582	73.5
Total	3,514	100

Louisiana Special Education  
Dropouts by Placement

Grade	Count	Percentage
07	207	5.9
08	465	13.2
09	1,179	33.6
10	645	18.4
11	443	12.6
12	575	16.4
Total	3,514	100

Special Education counts were taken from LA Department of Education 2007-08 End of Year records as of October 2008. Final counts may differ upon district appeal.