

Academic Outcomes

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE SCORES AND LETTER GRADES

The percentage of all public school students enrolled in failing schools in New Orleans¹ dropped from 62 percent prior to Hurricane Katrina, to 6 percent in the fall of 2014. At the same time, the percentage of students enrolled in A and B rated schools increased from 13 percent to 37 percent (see figure A).

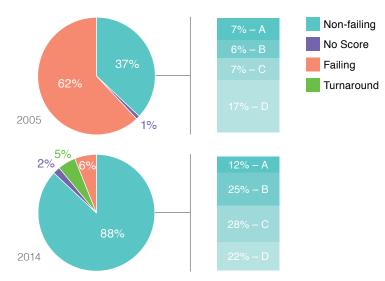
HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

The percentage of students in grades 9–12 enrolled in failing schools in New Orleans dropped from 66 percent prior to Hurricane Katrina, to 10 percent in the fall of 2014. Likewise, 53 percent of high school students now attend an A or B rated school, up from 20 percent in 2004 (see figure B).

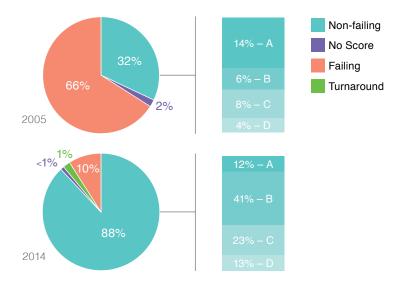
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT RANKING

Since 2004–05, New Orleans has moved up in Louisiana's district rankings,³ from 67 out of 68 districts (second to last) to 41 out of 69 districts (see figure C).

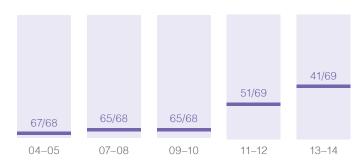




B. High School Enrollment by Letter Grade, Grades 9 – 12



C. New Orleans District Performance Ranking



ACADEMIC OUTCOMES (CONT.)

TEST SCORES

To assess student and school performance for 3rd through 8th grade, Louisiana used the LEAP tests (4th and 8th grade) and iLEAP tests (3rd grade and 5th—7th grade, beginning in 2006–07) through the 2013–14 school year.⁴

High school students in 2004–05 were required to take the state's Graduate Exit Exam (GEE). By 2013–14, Louisiana had transitioned to End-of-Course tests and had also added the ACT to its high school assessments.

Proficiency on State Tests

Looking at all grades and tests, New Orleans increased the percentage of students proficient on state tests by 27 percentage points, from 35 percent in 2004–05, to 62 percent in 2013-14. The gap between New Orleans and the state average is closing, from 23 points in 2004–05 to 6 points in 2013–14 (see figure D).

African-American Student Performance

The percentage of African-American students in New Orleans proficient on state tests increased 27 percentage points between 2004–05 and 2013–14, from 32 percent to 59 percent. African-American students in New Orleans closed the gap with the state average in 2010–11 and have outperformed the state ever since.

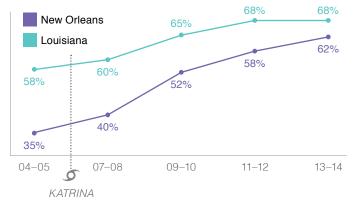
Performance of Students with Disabilities

Since 2004-05, the percentage of New Orleans students with disabilities⁵ achieving proficiency on state tests has increased by 38 percentage points and is now two points below the state average.

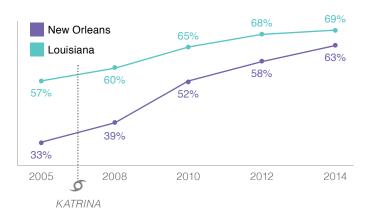
Elementary and Middle School Performance - LEAP and iLEAP

In 2004–05, only one-third of New Orleans students were proficient—scoring Basic or above—on state assessments. The statewide average in 2004–05 was 57 percent. In 2013–14, 63 percent of New Orleans students were proficient on LEAP or iLEAP, a gain of 30 percentage points, and the gap with the state average was reduced from 24 percentage points to 6 percentage points (see figure E).

D. Percentage Proficient on State Tests (all students, all grades, all tests)



E. Percentage of Students Proficient on LEAP and iLEAP



HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMANCE: STANDARDIZED TESTS

GEE and EOC

Between 2004–05 and 2010–11, the last year the GEE was given in all subjects, ⁶ New Orleans steadily increased the percentage of students proficient on the test from 39 percent to 57 percent and closed the gap with the state average from 21 percentage points, to 7 percentage points.

Louisiana transitioned to EOCs over several years, beginning with the 2010–11 freshman class. Since then, New Orleans has increased the percentage of students proficient on EOCs from 39 percent to 59 percent, and reduced the gap with the state average from 10 percentage points to 3 percentage points (see figure F).

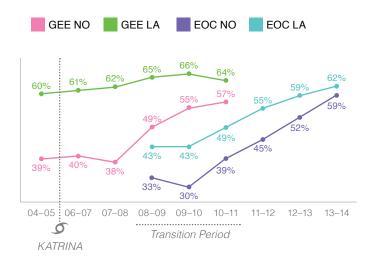
ACT Scores

From 2004–05 to 2013–14, New Orleans' composite ACT score increased 1.4 points, from 17 to 18.4. Growth in average ACT scores continued despite the requirement that all high school students take the ACT beginning in 2012–13, not just college-bound students. Louisiana's average composite ACT score went from 19.8 in 2004–05 to 19.3 in 2013–14 (see figure G).

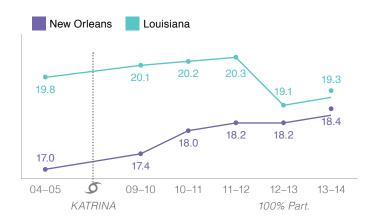
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F. Percentage of Students Proficient on GEE and EOCs



G. Composite ACT Scores for New Orleans and the State



- 4 Beginning in the 2014–15 school year, students are assessed using a combination of LEAP, iLEAP, and PARCC tests.
- 5 Students with Disabilities includes any student with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

¹ Data labeled "New Orleans" include all RSD and OPSB schools, both direct-run and charter. Unless otherwise noted, data labeled "New Orleans" does not include Type 2 statewide charters located in New Orleans. This distinction applies throughout the document.

² Schools in Louisiana receive an annual School Performance Score (SPS) based on student achievement, academic indicators, and measures of career and college readiness. Based on the SPS, the Louisiana Department of Education assigns a letter grade to each school. In 2005, schools were given stars (1 to 5) not letter grades; for the purpose of comparison, 4 and 5 stars = A, 3 = B, 2 = C, 1 = D, and "Academically Unacceptable" = F. In 2014, T schools are schools in the first or second year of Turnaround. Read more about Louisiana's School Performance Scores and letter grades.

³ School districts in Louisiana receive an annual District Performance Score (DPS) based on the performance of every student in that district. The DPS is calculated according to the same methodology as School Performance Scores but includes all students, all tests, and all grade levels (including students that attended schools closed at the end of the year) for the entire district.

^{3 2010-11} was the last year students took the GEE in all 4 subjects: English, math, science and social studies. In 2011-12, students took tests in only two subjects: science and social studies.