Utah State Office of Education Direct Writing Assessment (DWA) Results

State - Student Proficiency Report

	6th Grade Test						9th Grade Test					
	2006		2007		2008		2006		2007		2008	
	Number	% Prof	Number	% Prof	Number	% Prof	Number	% Prof	Number	% Prof	Number	% Prof
All Students	37,744	80.47 %	39,329	76.04 %	40,349	66.02 %	37,963	84.37 %	38,663	84.44 %	38,338	86.97 %
Ethnicity												
Asian	596	83.89 %	615	81.63 %	700	74.29 %	647	88.25 %	653	86.83 %	718	90.11 %
African American	572	69.06 %	566	61.66 %	564	53.55 %	486	68.31 %	485	75.67 %	519	76.88 %
Caucasian	30,405	82.95 %	31,408	79.09 %	31,809	68.76 %	31,185	87.24 %	31,239	87.56 %	30,539	89.73 %
Hispanic	4,962	68.30 %	5,398	61.39 %	5,902	52.86 %	4,361	68.06 %	4,823	68.75 %	5,180	73.09 %
American Indian	559	61.18 %	536	58.21 %	567	48.32 %	651	66.97 %	698	66.33 %	651	73.89 %
Pacific Islander	534	81.84 %	575	78.78 %	618	71.52 %	529	82.04 %	592	80.57 %	593	86.17 %
Ethnicity Undeclared	116	74.14 %	231	58.01 %	189	56.08 %	104	79.81 %	173	61.27 %	138	85.51 %
English Language Learners												
ELL	4,519	68.29 %	4,657	60.94 %	3,673	44.87 %	3,831	68.29 %	3,910	66.73 %	2,483	62.26 %
Non-ELL	33,225	82.12 %	34,672	78.07 %	36,676	68.13 %	34,132	86.18 %	34,753	86.44 %	35,855	88.68 %
Gender												
Female	18,472	86.73 %	19,162	82.84 %	19,428	74.91 %	18,511	88.64 %	18,752	88.68 %	18,577	90.28 %
Male	19,272	74.46 %	20,167	69.58 %	20,921	57.76 %	19,452	80.31 %	19,911	80.45 %	19,761	83.87 %
Students with Disabilities												
Students with Disabilities	4,866	42.79 %	4,200	35.40 %	4,750	28.36 %	3,947	49.76 %	3,297	50.14 %	3,701	57.90 %
Students without Disabilities	32,878	86.04 %	35,129	80.90 %	35,599	71.04 %	34,016	88.39 %	35,366	87.64 %	34,637	90.08 %
Economically Disadvantaged												
Economically Disadvantaged	13,237	71.57 %	13,078	64.86 %	13,189	55.53 %	11,521	74.02 %	11,071	74.01 %	10,798	77.96 %
Non-Economically Disadvantaged	24,507	85.27 %	26,251	81.61 %	27,160	71.11 %	26,442	88.88 %	27,592	88.63 %	27,540	90.51 %
Migrant												
Migrant	261	60.54 %	257	48.25 %	238	47.48 %	192	49.48 %	223	59.19 %	190	73.16 %
Non-Migrant	37,483	80.60 %	39,072	76.22 %	40,111	66.13 %	37,761	84.56 %	38,440	84.59 %	38,148	87.04 %

The Direct Writing Assessment (DWA) is a Criterion-Referenced test that is designed to assess the writing skills of students enrolled in 6th and 9th grades.

The DWA is scored using an analytic scoring method. That is, student responses are scored for each of the six writing traits. The scoring rubric focuses the six components of writing: ideas & content, organization fluency, and conventions.

Student proficiency is based on the DWA total score. The total score range is from one to thirty, based on six sub-scores with five points possible for each.

The DWA proficiency percentage reported here shows the percent of students passing at a proficient or higher level (18 and higher)

** Note - Due to the fact that the DWA is based on a single question, there can be a statistically significant variance in 'percent proficient' from year to year. Because of this, care should be taken when comparing