

# Strategic Goal 1:

To Ensure All Students Are College  
and Career Ready

## Objective 1:

Georgia Writing Assessment

**Report Date:**

July 2, 2014

# Objective, Baseline & Target

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**Objective:** To increase the percentage of students meeting or exceeding the standard in writing as measured by the GWA administered in grade 5.

**Baseline:** SY 2012-13: 74%

**Target:** By SY 2016-17, 83% of students in grade 5 will meet or exceed the standard as measured by GWA.

# Background Information

# Grade 5 Writing Assessment

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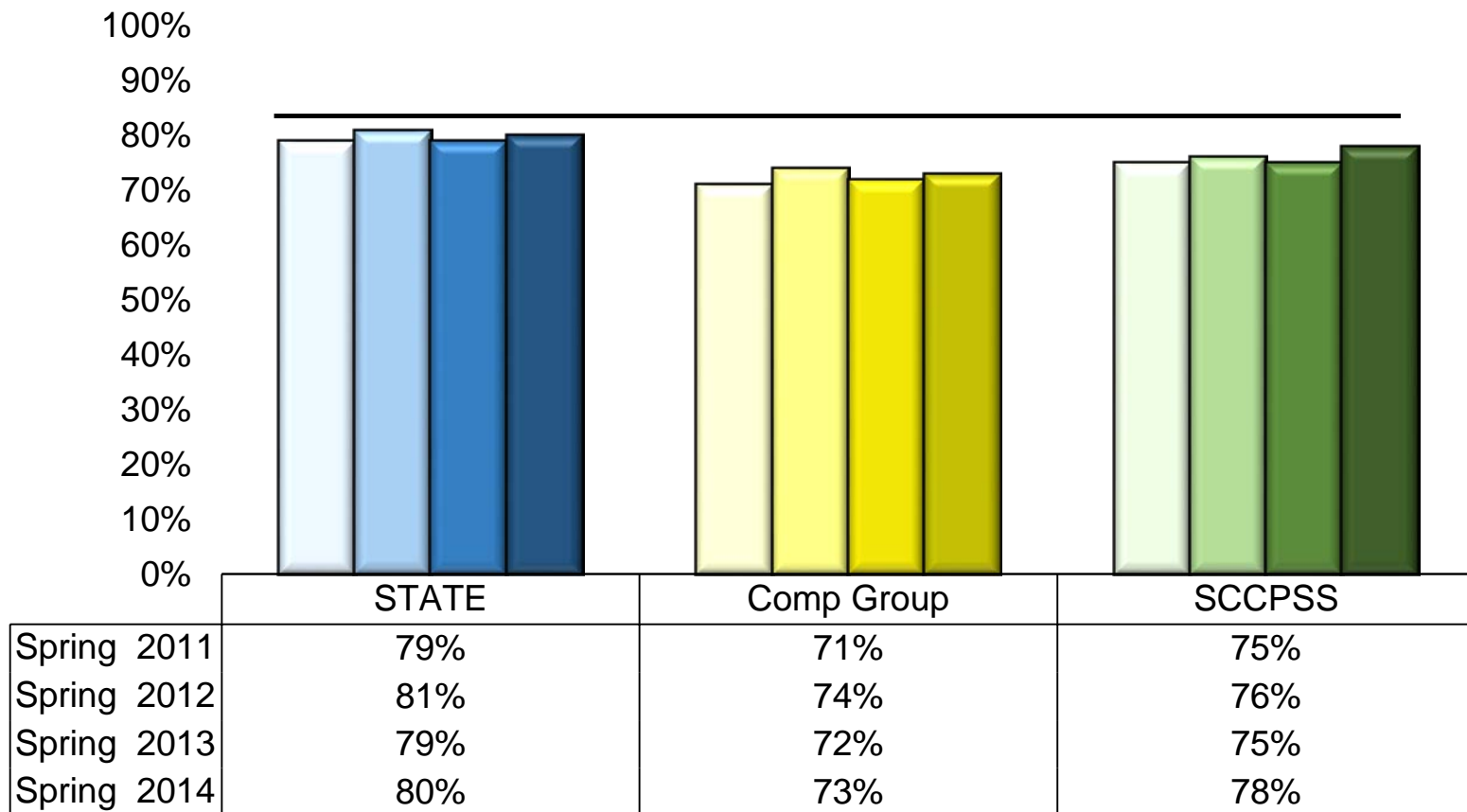
- The Georgia Grade 5 Writing Assessment evaluates students' response to an assigned prompt on either an informational, narrative or persuasive writing topic.
- Students are given one of the three writing genres and are required to write a composition which supports, develops and organizes the tone for the paper.
- Performance scale scores are: Does Not Meet (<200), Meets (200-249), and Exceeds (≥250).

Beginning SY 2014-15, the Grade 5 Writing Assessment will become a component of the language arts section of the Georgia Milestones Assessment System.

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# Percentage of Students That Meets/Exceeds: Four Year Comparison



— Target (83%)

Shading of chart color from lightest to darkest represents progression of years



# Percentage of Students That Meets/Exceeds: Subgroup Comparison

	Spring 2011	Spring 2012	Spring 2013	Spring 2014	1 Yr Chg	4 Yr Chg
Asian	80%	90%	82%	98%	16	18
Black	71%	72%	72%	73%	1	2
Hispanic	78%	76%	75%	83%	8	5
White	84%	82%	79%	86%	7	2
Multi-Ethnic	76%	78%	77%	77%	0	1
Male	68%	70%	68%	72%	4	4
Female	83%	82%	81%	83%	2	0

 Represents an increase

# Objective, Baseline & Target

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**Objective:** To increase the percentage of students meeting or exceeding the standard in writing as measured by the GWA administered in grade 8.

**Baseline:** SY 2012-13: 73%

**Target:** By SY 2016-17, 82% of students in grade 8 will meet or exceed the standard as measured by GWA.

# Background Information

## Grade 8 Writing Assessment

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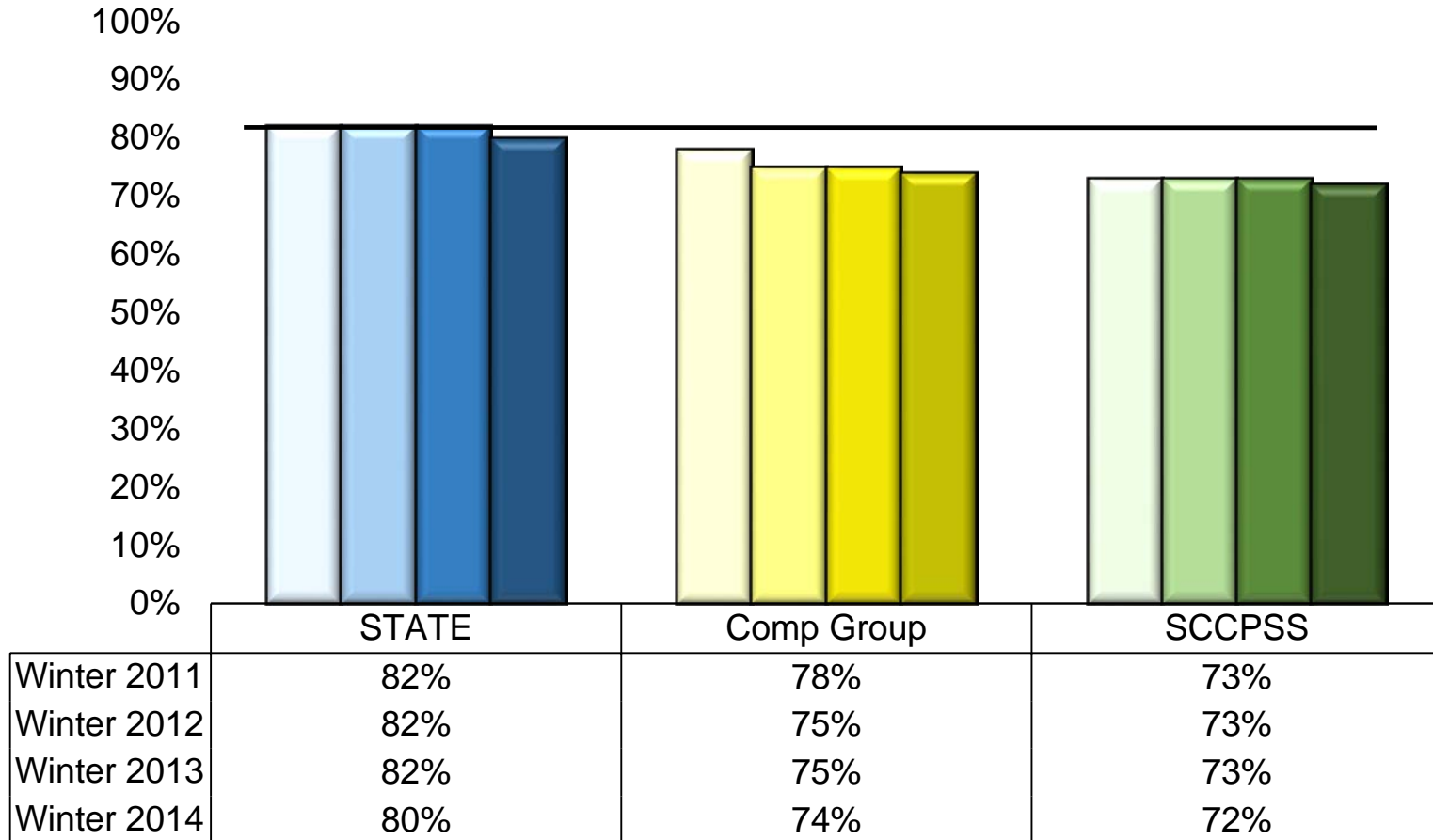
- The Georgia Grade 8 Writing Assessment evaluates students' response to an assigned prompt on either an expository or persuasive writing topic.
- Students are given one of the two writing genres and are required to write a composition which supports, develops and organizes the tone for the paper.
- Performance scale scores are: Does Not Meet (<200), Meets (200-249), and Exceeds (≥250).

Beginning SY 2014-15, the Grade 8 Writing Assessment will become a component of the language arts section of the Georgia Milestones Assessment System.

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# Percentage of Students That Meets/Exceeds: Four Year Comparison



— Target (82%)

Shading of chart color from lightest to darkest represents progression of years





# Percentage of Students That Meets/Exceeds: Subgroup Comparison

	Winter 2011	Winter 2012	Winter 2013	Winter 2014	1 Yr Chg	4 Yr Chg
Asian	74%	75%	79%	78%	-1	4
Black	71%	70%	69%	67%	-2	-4
Hispanic	67%	76%	71%	76%	5	9
White	78%	80%	84%	80%	-4	2
Multi-Ethnic	79%	73%	85%	78%	-7	-1
Male	66%	65%	64%	65%	1	-1
Female	81%	81%	81%	79%	-2	-2

 Represents an increase



# Action Items

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- The Division of Academic Affairs will develop TKES walk-throughs/formative observation protocols to effectively monitor implementation of reading and writing strategies aligned to Standard #5: Assessment Uses, Standard #9: Professionalism and Standard #10: Communication.
- The Curriculum and Instruction Department will provide professional development for teachers and school leaders on reading and writing across all content areas to include a school wide effort involving dedicated daily reading and writing time.
- The Curriculum and Instruction Department will research, develop, and enhance writing rubrics that focus on improving expository writing skills using non-fiction reading material.
- Elementary principals will monitor implementation of effective reading and writing strategies using data from districtwide common writing assessments and the TKES walk-through/formative observation protocols to guide and improve instruction.

# Questions

**DISTRICT  
ACCOUNTABILITY  
SYSTEM**

# Data Criteria

## Grade 5 Writing Assessment

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- Data reported based on district and school summary reports provided by the Georgia Center for Assessment.
- Of the 2,746 students tested system-wide on March 5-6, 2014, 41 papers were rated as non-scorable. Non-scorable papers were blank (10), copied (3), incomprehensible (3), illegible (1), limited text (3), or off-topic (21).
- There was a total of 23,634 students tested in the Comp Group and 124,889 tested state-wide.

# Data Criteria

## Grade 8 Writing Assessment

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- Data reported based on district and school summary reports provided by the Georgia Center for Assessment.
- Of the 2,489 students tested system-wide on January, 22-23, 2014, 21 papers were rated as non-scorable. Non-scorable papers were blank (17), illegible (1), limited text (1) or off-topic (2).
- There was a total of 22,703 students tested in the Comp Group and 127,130 tested state-wide.