FCAT Achievement Levels

The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test® (FCAT) measures student performance on selected benchmarks in reading, mathematics, writing, and science that are defined by the Sunshine State Standards (SSS). The SSS articulate *challenging content* that Florida students are expected to know and be able to do. The SSS were developed in seven content areas and were adopted by the State Board of Education in May 1996. All public schools are expected to teach students the content found in the SSS.

Achievement levels describe the success a student has achieved on the Florida Sunshine State Standards tested on the FCAT Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Writing+ assessments. Achievement levels were first reported for FCAT Science in spring 2006 and FCAT Writing+ in spring 2007.

Achievement levels based on both scale scores and developmental scale scores range from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest).[1] Achievement Level Policy Definitions apply to all FCAT subjects.

Achievement Level Policy Definitions	
Level 5	This student has success with the most challenging content of the *Sunshine State Standards*. A student scoring in Level 5 answers most of the test questions correctly, including the most challenging questions.
Level 4	This student has success with the challenging content of the *Sunshine State Standards*. A student scoring in Level 4 answers most of the test questions correctly, but may have only some success with questions that reflect the most challenging content.
Level 3	This student has partial success with the challenging content of the *Sunshine State Standards*, but performance is inconsistent. A student scoring in Level 3 answers many of the test questions correctly but is generally less successful with questions that are the most challenging.
Level 2	This student has limited success with the challenging content of the *Sunshine State Standards*.
Level 1	This student has little success with the challenging content of the *Sunshine State Standards*.

[1] Scale scores are reported for all FCAT SSS subjects and range from 100 (lowest) to 500 (highest). Developmental Scale Scores (DSS) are only reported for FCAT SSS Reading and Mathematics and range from 0 to about 3000 across grades 3 through 10. DSS link two years of student FCAT data that track student progress over time. Students should receive higher scores as they move from grade-to-grade according to their increased achievement. DSS cannot be determined for FCAT Science and Writing+ because students are not tested in these subjects at each grade level.

FCAT Achievement Levels

FCAT Reading

FCAT Reading Developmental Scale Scores					
Grade	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Level 4**	**Level 5**
3	86 - 1045	1046 - 1197	1198 - 1488	1489 - 1865	1866 - 2514
4	295 - 1314	1315 - 1455	1456 - 1689	1690 - 1964	1965 - 2638
5	474 - 1341	1342 - 1509	1510 - 1761	1762 - 2058	2059 - 2713
6	539 - 1449	1450 - 1621	1622 - 1859	1860 - 2125	2126 - 2758
7	671 - 1541	1542 - 1714	1715 - 1944	1945 - 2180	2181 - 2767
8	886 - 1695	1696 - 1881	1882 - 2072	2073 - 2281	2282 - 2790
9	772 - 1771	1772 - 1971	1972 - 2145	2146 - 2297	2298 - 2943
10	844 - 1851	1852 - 2067	2068 - 2218	2219 - 2310	2311 - 3008
FCAT Reading Scale Scores					
Grade	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Level 4**	**Level 5**
3	100 - 258	259 - 283	284 - 331	332 - 393	394 - 500
4	100 - 274	275 - 298	299 - 338	339 - 385	386 - 500
5	100 - 255	256 - 285	286 - 330	331 - 383	384 - 500
6	100 - 264	265 - 295	296 - 338	339 - 386	387 - 500
7	100 - 266	267 - 299	300 - 343	344 - 388	389 - 500
8	100 - 270	271 - 309	310 - 349	350 - 393	394 - 500
9	100 - 284	285 - 321	322 - 353	354 - 381	382 - 500
10	100 - 286	287 - 326	327 - 354	355 - 371	372 - 500

FCAT Mathematics

FCAT Mathematics Developmental Scale Scores					
Grade	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Level 4**	**Level 5**
3	375 - 1078	1079 - 1268	1269 - 1508	1509 - 1749	1750 - 2225
4	581 - 1276	1277 - 1443	1444 - 1657	1658 - 1862	1863 - 2330
5	569 - 1451	1452 - 1631	1632 - 1768	1769 - 1956	1957 - 2456
6	770 - 1553	1554 - 1691	1692 - 1859	1860 - 2018	2019 - 2492
7	958 - 1660	1661 - 1785	1786 - 1938	1939 - 2079	2080 - 2572
8	1025 - 1732	1733 - 1850	1851 - 1997	1998 - 2091	2092 - 2605
9	1238 - 1781	1782 - 1900	1901 - 2022	2023 - 2141	2142 - 2596
10	1068 - 1831	1832 - 1946	1947 - 2049	2050 - 2192	2193 - 2709
FCAT Mathematics Scale Scores					
Grade	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Level 4**	**Level 5**
3	100 - 252	253 - 293	294 - 345	346 - 397	398 - 500
4	100 - 259	260 - 297	298 - 346	347 - 393	394 - 500
5	100 - 287	288 - 325	326 - 354	355 - 394	395 - 500
6	100 - 282	283 - 314	315 - 353	354 - 390	391 - 500
7	100 - 274	275 - 305	306 - 343	344 - 378	379 - 500
8	100 - 279	280 - 309	310 - 346	347 - 370	371 - 500
9	100 - 260	261 - 295	296 - 331	332 - 366	367 - 500
10	100 - 286	287 - 314	315 - 339	340 - 374	375 - 500

FCAT Achievement Levels

FCAT Science

The Spring 2006 FCAT administration marked the first time FCAT SSS Science scores were reported by Achievement Levels. FCAT SSS Science Achievement Levels were approved by the State Board of Education on March 21, 2006.

FCAT Science Scale Scores					
Grade	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Level 4**	**Level 5**
5	100 - 272	273 - 322	323 - 376	377 - 416	417 - 500
8	100 - 269	270 - 324	325 - 386	387 - 431	432 - 500
11	100 - 278	279 - 323	324 - 379	380 - 424	425 - 500

FCAT Writing+

The Spring 2007 FCAT administration marked the first time FCAT SSS Writing+ performance was reported by Achievement Levels based on scale scores. For FCAT Writing+, students receive a whole-test score between 100 and 500 as well as a sub-score on a rubric of one to six for the essay. FCAT SSS Writing+ Achievement Levels were approved by the State Board of Education on January 25, 2007.

FCAT Writing+ Scale Scores					
Grade	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Level 4**	**Level 5**
4	100-239	240-289	290-364	365-426	427-500
8	100-249	250-298	299-355	356-415	416-500
10	100-249	250-299	300-341	342-402	403-500