
WASL High School – 1999 to 2009

WASL: Overview

The Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) is a criterion-referenced test specifically aligned to state standards. Unlike most standardized tests, which are all multiple choice, the WASL is a mix of multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-response questions. The WASL is used to meet testing requirements under the federal No Child Left Behind Act. WASL scores determine whether a school, a district or the state has met Adequate Yearly Progress.

Starting in 2008, students must pass the High School WASL in the areas of Reading and Writing to get a high-school diploma. Students will have five opportunities to pass these sections of the test. Recently, Gov. Chris Gregoire signed a law that delayed until 2013 a requirement that students pass the math and science portions before receiving a diploma.

WASL: High School Test

The high school WASL tests mathematics, reading, writing and science skills and was first made operational in 1999. The high school science WASL became operation in 2003.

The mathematics test will consist of 42 items, resulting in 65 points. Items are written at a ninth grade or lower readability. The mathematics section consist of concepts and procedures (number sense, measurement, geometric sense, probability and statistics, and algebraic sense) and four fundamental processes (solves

problems, reasons logically, communicates understanding, and makes connections).

The high school reading test consists of 37 items, resulting in 52 points. On every Reading WASL at every grade level, each test form includes six passages-50% literary passages and 50% informational passages. Each Reading WASL always has one "pair" that can be a poem and a story, an informational passage and another informational passage or a literary passage and an informational passage. Whatever the pairing, the two passages are all linked by a similar subject or idea. Students are then asked to compare and contrast ideas across texts.

High School students are asked to write to two prompts aimed at expository and persuasive responses.

The science WASL consists of 45 items, resulting in a 66-point test. Tests include about six scenarios with five to eight items associated with each and several stand alone items.

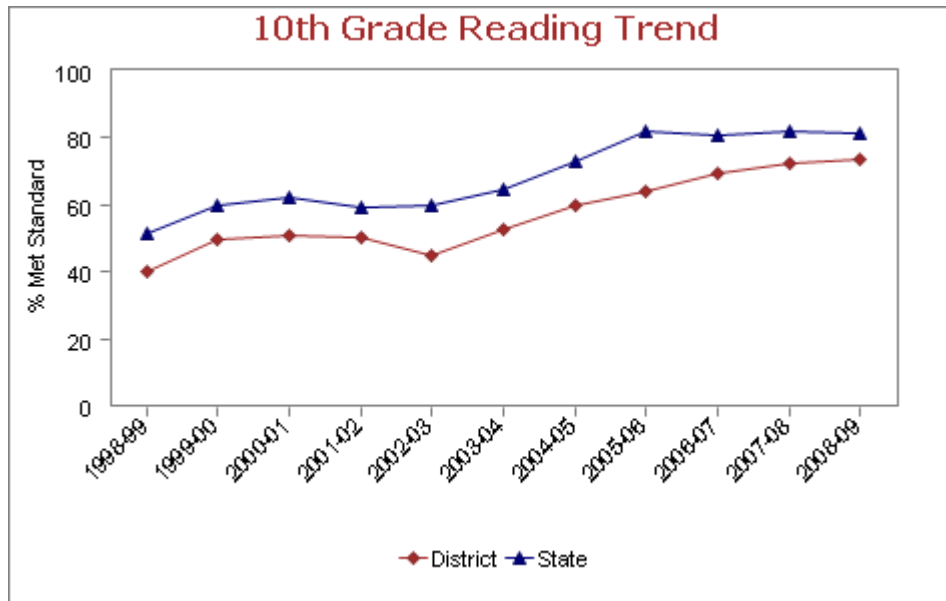
Frequently Asked Questions about the WASL:

<http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/WASL/FAQ.aspx>

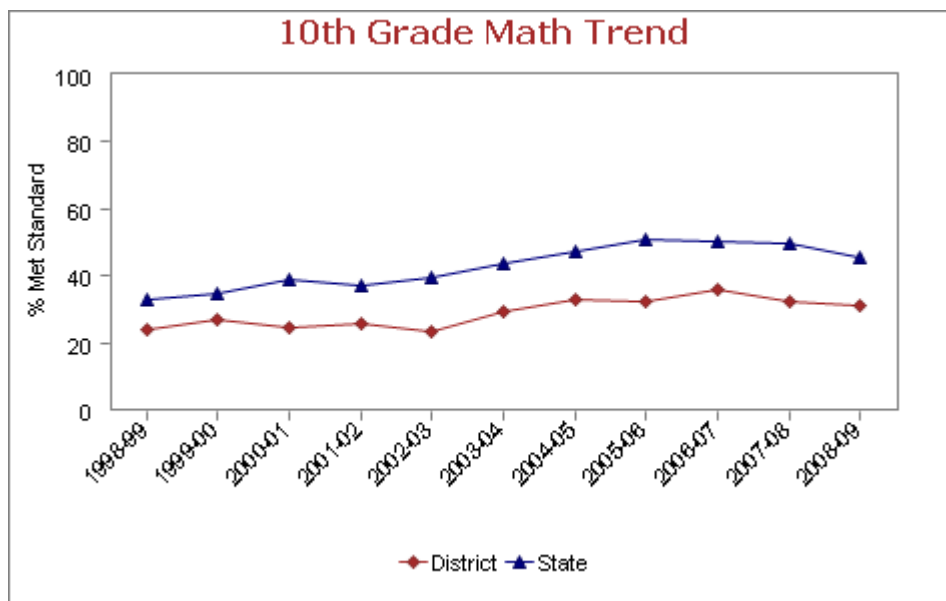
Information regarding WASL test and item specifications:

<http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/WASL/testspec.aspx>

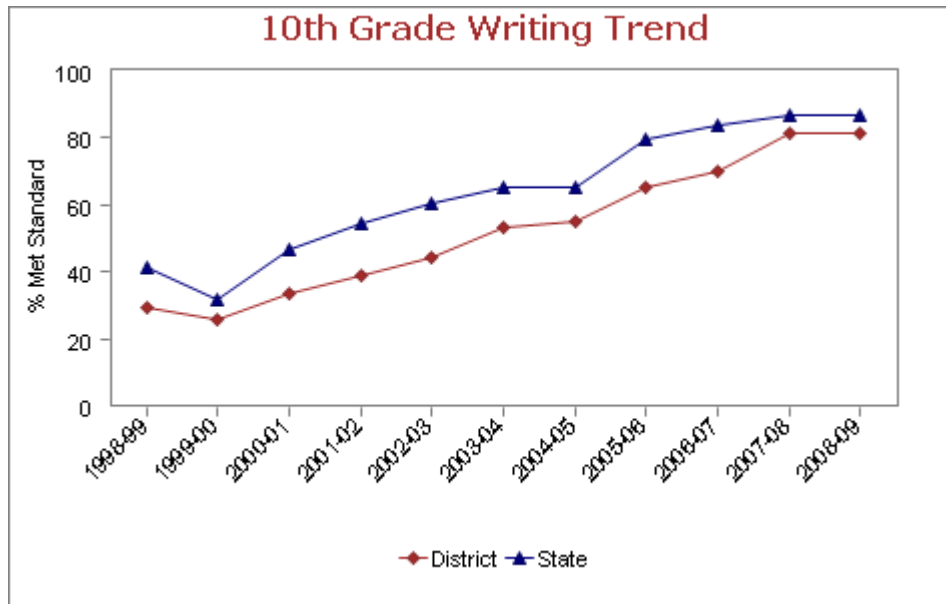
Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)
Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard 10th Grade **Reading**
District and State Comparison – Spring 1999 to 2009



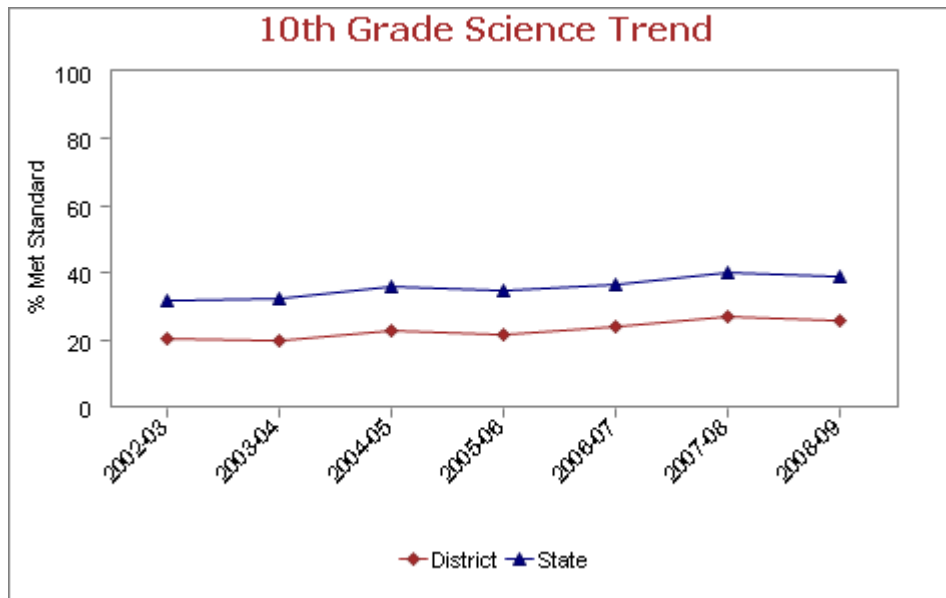
Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)
Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard 10th Grade **Mathematics**
District and State Comparison – Spring 1999 to 2009



Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)
Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard 10th Grade **Writing**
District and State Comparison – Spring 1999 to 2009



Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)
Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard 10th Grade **Science**
District and State Comparison – Spring 2003 to 2009



**Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)
Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard 10th Grade **Reading** – Spring 1999 to 2009**

	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09
Foss	45.8	58.7	53.3	48.0	47.0	57.8	64.1	61.5	76.8	74.6	66.4
Lincoln	28.8	34.5	38.0	38.6	33.3	45.1	46.4	45.1	53.1	62.2	69.8
Mt. Tahoma	21.5	37.1	48.3	50.2	44.7	41.9	60.7	63.4	69.6	70.6	70.7
Stadium	55.6	65.1	64.3	61.4	58.2	69.3	73.0	88.5	76.7	79.1	75.7
Wilson	49.1	62.9	64.5	54.7	54.3	59.3	66.1	72.8	78.2	76.3	78.5
Oakland	17.6	8.1	30.8	42.6	21.7	18.9	13.4	18.2	30.1	57.1	73.3
SOTA*	-	-	-	78.7	77.8	91.1	84.8	90.1	93.0	87.1	92.6

District	40.3	49.8	50.8	50.4	45.2	52.8	59.6	63.9	69.6	72.4	73.4
State	51.4	59.8	62.4	59.2	59.9	64.4	72.9	82.0	80.6	81.8	81.2

**Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)
Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard 10th Grade **Mathematics** – Spring 1999 to 2009**

	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09
Foss	29.6	36	27.3	27.8	26.4	32.7	36.0	33.9	41.3	26.9	23.7
Lincoln	13.5	14	15.4	12.3	13.4	22.5	18.8	16.3	17.1	18.4	16.9
Mt. Tahoma	8	8.7	20.4	17.8	23.1	23.7	31.2	26.1	30.8	21.6	21.4
Stadium	39.8	41.5	34.9	36.3	32.9	40.1	50.8	62.1	48.9	59.9	47.7
Wilson	27.9	35	32.9	29.8	27.3	32.4	30.1	32.8	40.7	34.7	39.9
Oakland	2.9	8.1	0.0	3.7	4.8	3.6	5.2	2.4	3.7	5.7	10.0
SOTA*	-	-	-	51.3	44.4	63.1	54.5	47.5	64.1	46.3	51.7

District	24.0	26.8	24.7	25.5	23.1	29.4	32.8	32.3	36.0	32.2	30.9
State	33.0	35.0	38.9	37.3	39.4	43.9	47.5	51.0	50.2	49.6	45.4

**Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)
Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard 10th Grade **Writing** – Spring 1999 to 2009**

	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09
Foss	35.9	31.4	35.5	34.7	48.2	61.6	60.6	64.5	76.1	85.0	79.4
Lincoln	20	12.8	20.6	24.4	32.6	47.3	44.1	49.3	50.9	68.9	70.3
Mt. Tahoma	12.1	13.1	30.4	34.3	36.7	43.0	48.8	59.3	68.1	83.7	85.7
Stadium	39.9	43.2	47.9	51.1	61.1	66.1	69.2	91.4	79.1	85.7	80.3
Wilson	38.1	29.8	41.3	48.6	52.2	58.0	61.4	75.8	84.3	89.8	87.6
Oakland	5.9	8.1	10.3	18.5	19.3	17.8	16.0	40.0	34.6	57.1	90.0
SOTA*	-	-	-	68.6	92.9	94.7	80.0	86.4	93.5	95.9	95.4

District	29.3	25.6	33.3	38.8	44.4	53.4	54.8	65.5	69.9	81.6	81.3
State	41.1	31.7	46.9	54.3	60.4	65.2	65.2	79.8	83.6	86.8	86.7

**Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)
Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard 10th Grade Science – Spring 1999 to 2009**

	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09
Foss	-	-	-	-	19.3	17.2	22.3	17.8	23.2	27.4	20.1
Lincoln	-	-	-	-	12.7	12.0	9.9	9.3	8.6	11.0	16.0
Mt. Tahoma	-	-	-	-	17.4	10.4	18.1	15.9	21.7	18.1	12.3
Stadium	-	-	-	-	30.0	32.6	43.1	48.6	28.8	48.8	44.4
Wilson	-	-	-	-	23.2	26.8	20.8	19.8	31.5	27.4	23.6
Oakland	-	-	-	-	4.8	0.0	2.0	2.3	2.0	0.0	0.0
SOTA*	-	-	-	-	55.0	57.3	44.5	37.7	58.9	47.1	53.7
District	-	-	-	-	20.1	20.0	22.8	21.3	23.9	26.8	25.7
State	-	-	-	-	31.8	32.2	35.8	35.0	36.3	40.0	38.8

* The School for the Arts first enrolled 10th grade students in 2002.

** First operational administration of the science assessment was in 2003.

Numbers represent the percent of all enrolled students, less those students exempt from testing, scoring at or above the state performance standard.