



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

**State Board of Education Meeting
Naples, Florida**

Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE) Presentation

September 14, 2018

QUALITY COUNTS RANKED

FLORIDA

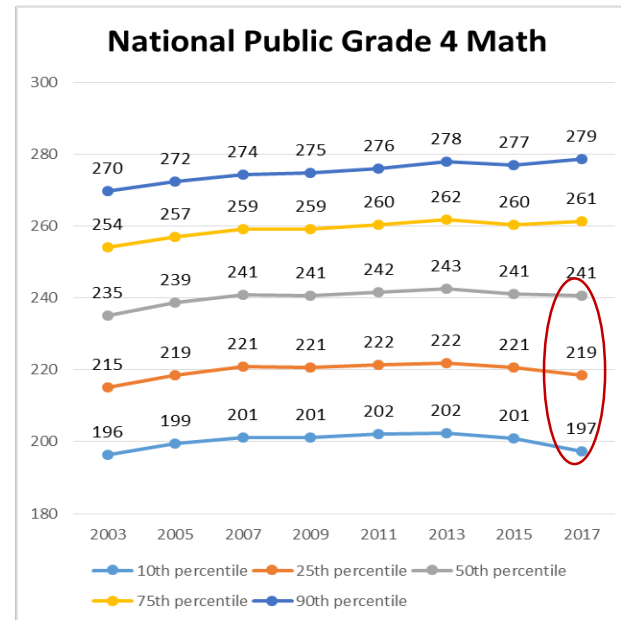
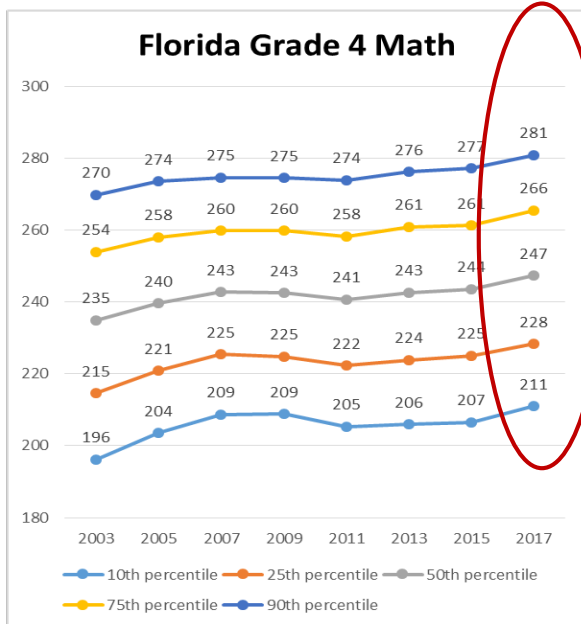
4TH IN THE NATION

FOR K-12 STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

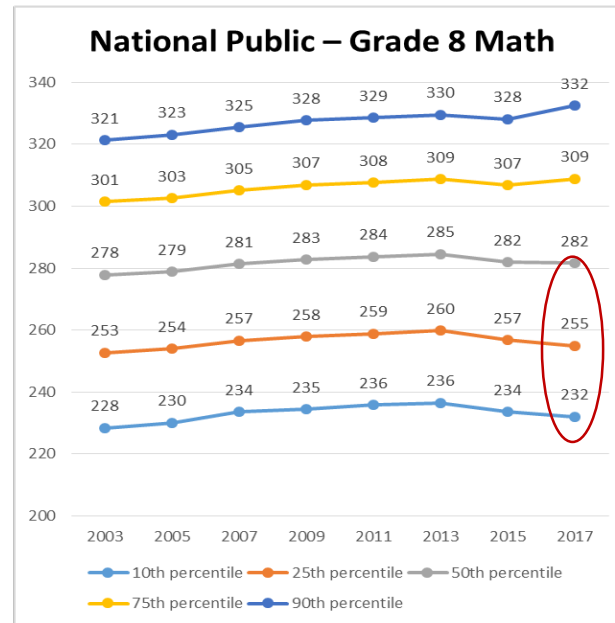
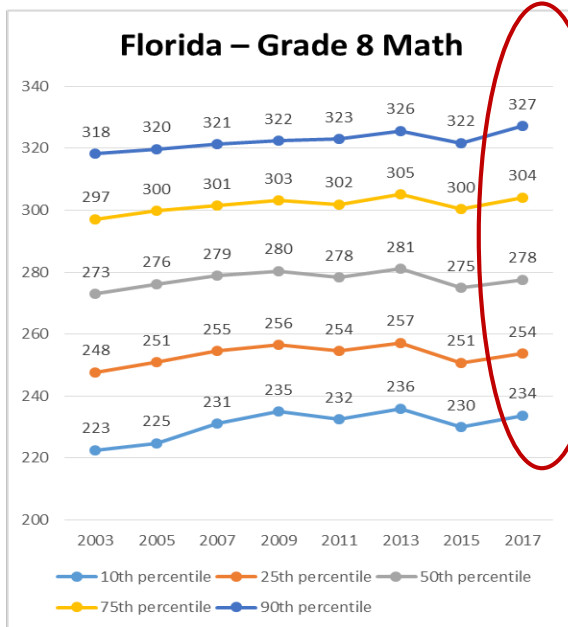
FLORIDA OUTPERFORMS THE NATION



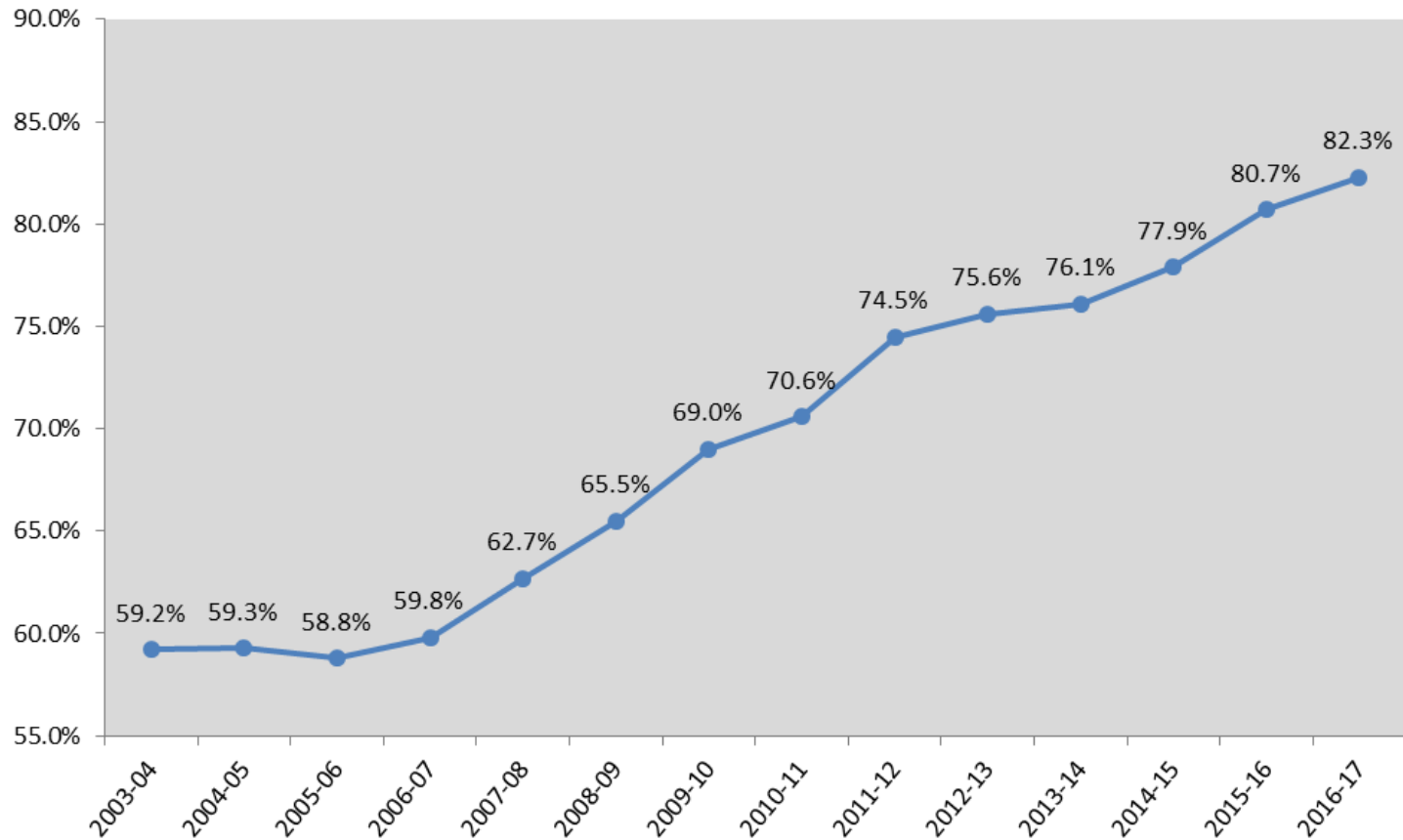
Florida's NAEP Scores Increased at all Levels while the Nation's Lowest Performers Decreased



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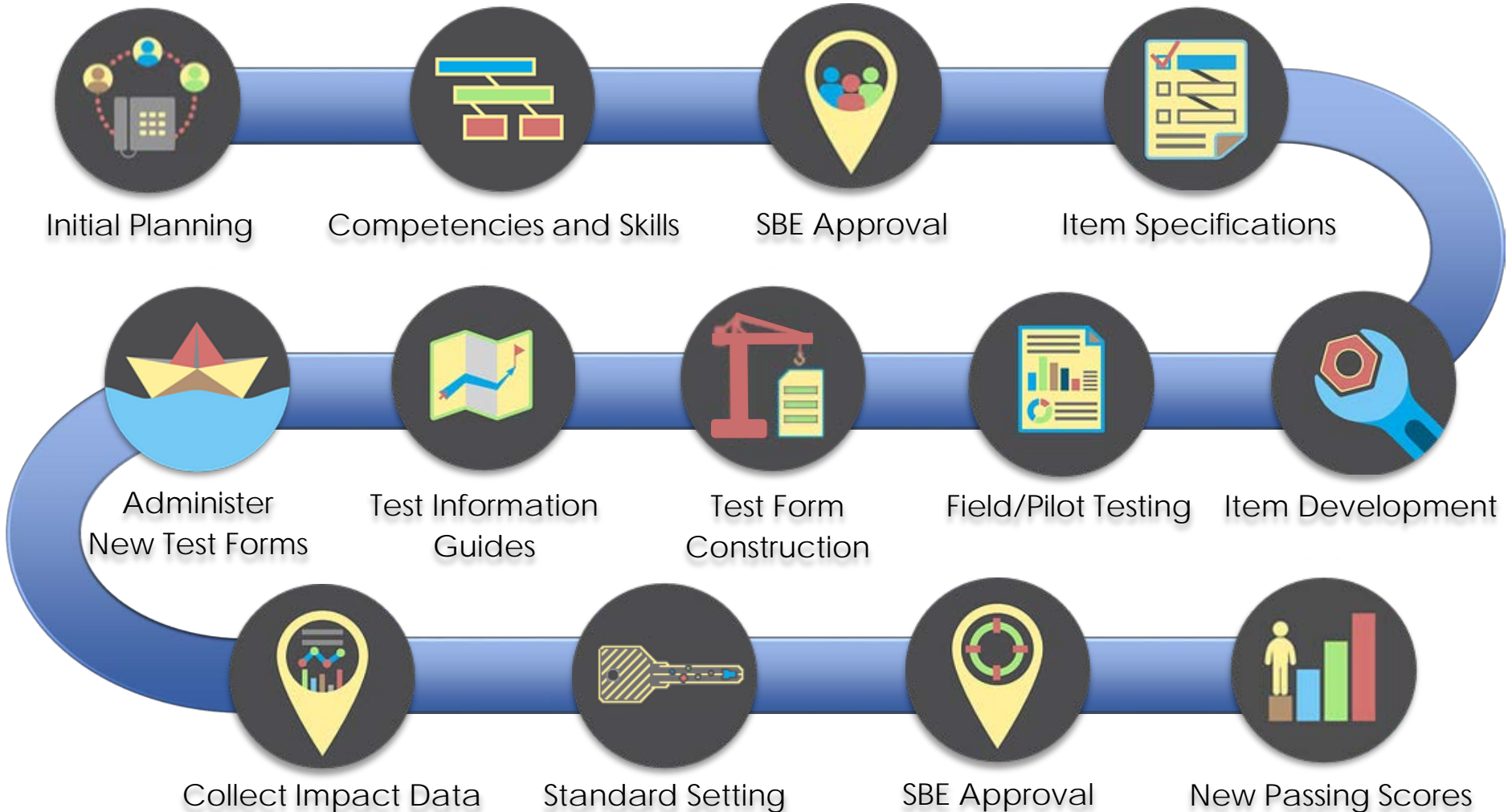
Florida's Graduation Rate is at a 14-Year High



Program at a Glance

- Established by the Legislature
- General Knowledge Test, Professional Education Test, and a Subject Area Examination are required for certification
- All tests are aligned to the SBE-approved K–12 student standards
- 38 Computer-Based Testing centers in Florida and 249 around the country
- 90 military test sites, including overseas bases
- Anyone can take an FTCE or FELE test (no program or administrative requirements)

FTCE Test Development Process: 13 Steps and 2 Years



Who Provided Input for Test Development?

- Over 1,600 individual Subject Matter Experts
 - 60 K–12 School Districts
 - 10 State Universities
 - 21 State Colleges
 - 20 Private Colleges
 - 772 K–12 classroom-based teachers
 - All Florida demographics represented

What is the General Knowledge (GK) Test?

The General Knowledge Test assesses a basic foundation for instruction for teachers at all levels of teaching and instruction, and the competencies and skills assessed by the test *are aligned by law to state standards.*

Program vs Non-Program Pass Rates For General Knowledge Subtests 2015–2016

General Knowledge (GK) Subtest	Program		Non-Program		Overall	
	N	% Pass	N	% Pass	N	% Pass
GK Subtest 1: Essay	5,127	75.7%	22,958	63.8%	28,085	65.9%
GK Subtest 2: English Language Skills	5,146	79.1%	23,131	63.1%	28,277	66.0%
GK Subtest 3: Reading	5,189	68.9%	23,235	55.7%	28,424	58.1%
GK Subtest 4: Mathematics	5,289	71.4%	23,447	54.0%	28,736	57.2%

Sample General Knowledge Test Question

English Language Skills Subtest

Choose the most effective word or phrase within the context suggested by the sentence.

Before they left work that day, they _____ the incident to the insurance company.

- A. renounced
- B. relented
- C. related
- D. reserved

Sample General Knowledge Test Questions

Mathematics Subtest

The regular price of a computer is \$1200 and the regular price of a printer is \$300. An electronics store has a promotion that offers a 40% discount on the printer when the computer is purchased at the regular price. What is the total cost of the computer and the printer at the promotional price?

- A. \$1320
- B. \$1380
- C. \$1460
- D. \$1500

The children in a family are ages 2, 2, 6, 12, 16, 19, and 20. What is the mean of the children's ages?

- A. 2
- B. 11
- C. 12
- D. 18

Florida Courts Upheld the State’s Educator Certification Exams

- “By raising the standards for demonstrating mastery of the writing skills tested by the GK essay test, the GK essay test better aligns with increasingly rigorous SBE-approved student standards for written performance. ***This policy change is reasonable and within the purview of the SBE.***”
- “...Moreover, raising the standards for writing skills required to pass the GK essay was appropriate to align the FTCE with SBE-adopted student standards, ***which have increased the focus on, and raised the expectations for, student achievement in writing.***”

- FL Administrative Law Judge, October 2017

Other Ways to Satisfy Requirements

- Valid National Board certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS)
- Valid, standard certificate from another U.S. state, territory, or Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA)
- Valid certificate issued by the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE)
- Passing scores on Graduate Record Examinations (GRE®) revised General Test
- 2 years, full-time college teaching experience or the equivalent

College and District Resources

- [Faculty Resources](#)
- Includes faculty-relevant information regarding
 - Understanding FTCE/FELE test content
 - Assistance to candidates in preparing for the exams
 - Interpreting candidate score reports
 - Purchasing vouchers
- [Curriculum Mapping Tool](#), including tutorial and blank map documents. Potential uses:
 - Faculty self-evaluation of curriculum
 - Program-level evaluation of curriculum
 - University-level interdisciplinary cooperation

Resources for FTCE Examinees

- [Test Information Guides](#)
 - For all tests; include sample tests, test blueprints, and references
- [CBT Tutorials](#)
 - Explains to examinees what to expect on test day
- [Examinee Preparation Videos](#)
 - Overview of test-taking preparation and strategies

[Facts](#)

- Tells the FTCE story; how tests are developed and scored, etc.

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