

TESTING BRIEF

Spring 2011 Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA)

September 6, 2010 - March 30, 2011

The Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA) is designed to meet the mandates of the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* of 2001 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004. Both NCLB and IDEA require that all students, including students with significant cognitive disabilities, have access to a general curriculum that encompasses challenging academic standards. These laws require states to ensure that *all* students are assessed for their progress toward meeting academic standards.

Students with significant cognitive disabilities may be assessed via alternate assessments based on alternate achievement standards. An alternate assessment based on alternate achievement standards allows for the unique learning characteristics of students with significant cognitive disabilities. Alternate assessments may cover a narrower range of content and reflect a different set of expectations than regular assessments. Alternate achievement standards must be clearly linked to the content standards for the grade in which the student is enrolled, although the grade-level content may be reduced in complexity or reflect pre-requisite skills.

The GAA serves as Georgia's alternate assessment based on alternate achievement standards. The GAA is a portfolio of student work that allows participants to showcase the achievement and progress they have made in knowledge and skills aligned to the state's curriculum. Each teacher determines the alternate achievement standard (i.e., expectation) for each student, based on the learning characteristics and needs of the student. The teacher designs the instructional task that provides the student access to the selected state-mandated curriculum standard based on an achievement expectation that is appropriately challenging and purposeful for the student. The 2006-2007 school year was the first operational administration of the redeveloped GAA.

For any grade, kindergarten through 12, where all students are assessed, students with disabilities must participate in the regular assessment or an alternate assessment. Georgia mandates assessment in kindergarten, grades 3–8, and grade 11. For these grades, the GAA is the state provided alternate assessment. Due to budgetary constraints, grades 1 and 2 were not administered during the 2010-2011 school year.

Students eligible to participate in the GAA in kindergarten must be assessed in English/language arts and mathematics. Students eligible to participate in the GAA in grades 3–8 and 11 must be assessed in English/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

A Stage of Progress (performance level) is assigned to each content area. The Stages of Progress—Extending Progress, Established Progress, and Emerging Progress correspond to Advanced/Exceeds, Proficient/Meets, and Basic/Does Not Meet, respectively.

Due to rounding, the numbers on the charts and tables may not always equal 100%.

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KEY FINDINGS – GRADE K

English/Language Arts and Mathematics

- Ninety-four percent (94%) of Georgia’s kindergarten students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts 2011. Eighty-eight percent (88%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts 2010.
- Ninety-six percent (96%) of Georgia’s kindergarten students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2011. Ninety-four percent (94%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 3

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Ninety percent (90%) of Georgia’s third grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2011. Ninety-two percent (92%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010.
- Ninety-five percent (95%) of Georgia’s third grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2011. Ninety-four percent (94%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia’s third grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2011. Ninety-eight percent (98%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010.
- One hundred percent (100%) of Georgia’s third grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2011. Ninety-eight percent (98%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010.

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KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 4

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Ninety percent (90%) of Georgia’s fourth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2011. Eighty-nine percent (89%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010.
- Ninety-three percent (93%) of Georgia’s fourth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2011. Ninety-three percent (93%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia’s fourth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2011. Ninety-eight percent (98%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia’s fourth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2011. Ninety-eight percent (98%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 5

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Eighty-seven percent (87%) of Georgia’s fifth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2011. Ninety-two percent (92%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010.
- Ninety-two percent (92%) of Georgia’s fifth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress Mathematics in 2011. Ninety-four percent (94%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress Mathematics in 2010.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia’s fifth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2011. Ninety-nine percent (99%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia’s fifth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2011. Ninety-nine percent (99%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010.

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KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 6

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Eighty-seven percent (87%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2011. Ninety-one percent (91%) of Georgia's sixth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010.
- Ninety-three percent (93%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2011. Ninety-three percent (93%) of Georgia's sixth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2011. Ninety-seven percent (97%) of Georgia's sixth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010.
- Ninety-nine percent (99%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2011. Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia's sixth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010.

KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 7

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Eighty-six percent (86%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2011. Eighty-nine percent (89%) of Georgia's seventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010.
- Ninety-two percent (92%) of Georgia's seventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2011. Ninety-one percent (91%) of Georgia's seventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010.
- Ninety-eight percent (98%) of Georgia's seventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2011. Ninety-eight percent (98%) of Georgia's seventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010.
- Ninety-eight percent (98%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2011. Ninety-eight percent (98%) of Georgia's seventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010.

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KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 8

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

- Ninety-one percent (91%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2011. Eighty-six percent (86%) of Georgia's eighth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010.
- Ninety percent (90%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2011. Eighty-eight percent (88%) of Georgia's eighth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010.
- Ninety-eight percent (98%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2011. Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia's eighth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010.
- Ninety-eight percent (98%) achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2011. Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia's eighth grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010.

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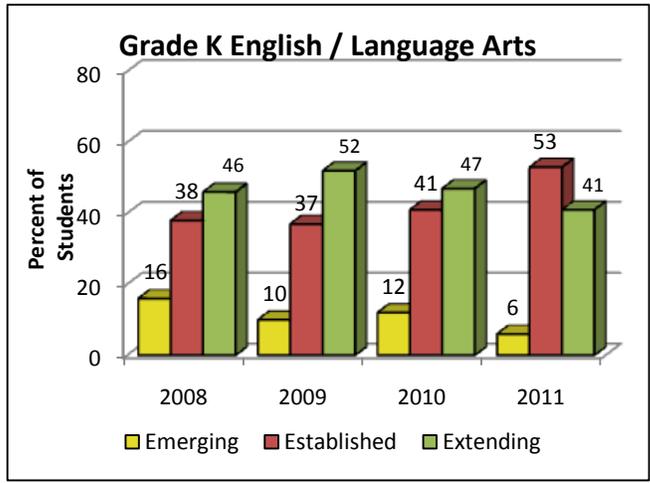
KEY FINDINGS – GRADE 11

English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

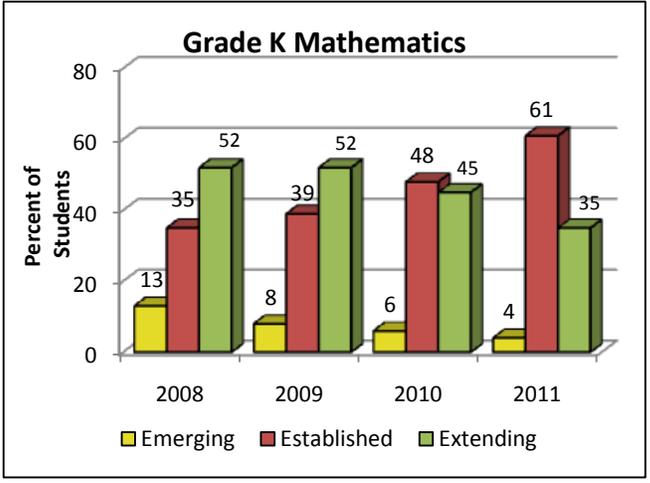
- Eighty-seven percent (87%) of Georgia's eleventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2011. Eighty-three percent (83%) of Georgia's eleventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in English/Language Arts in 2010.
- Eighty-eight percent (88%) of Georgia's eleventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2011. Eighty-eight percent (88%) of Georgia's eleventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Mathematics in 2010.
- Eighty-nine percent (89%) of Georgia's eleventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2011. Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia's eleventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Science in 2010.
- Ninety-two percent (92%) of Georgia's eleventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2011. Ninety-nine percent (99%) of Georgia's eleventh grade students achieved Established Progress or Extending Progress in Social Studies in 2010.

Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

Grade K English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	16	10	12	6
Established	38	37	41	53
Extending	46	52	47	41

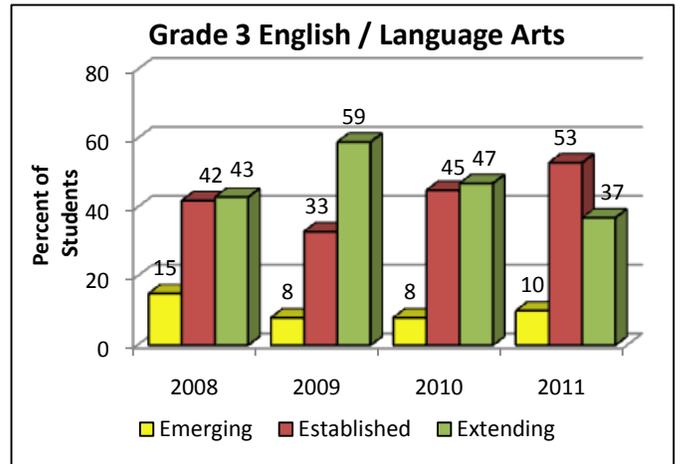


Grade K Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	13	8	6	4
Established	35	39	48	61
Extending	52	52	45	35

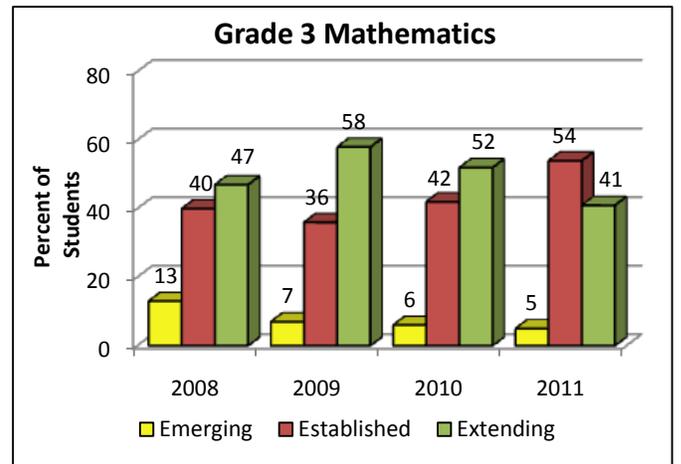


Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

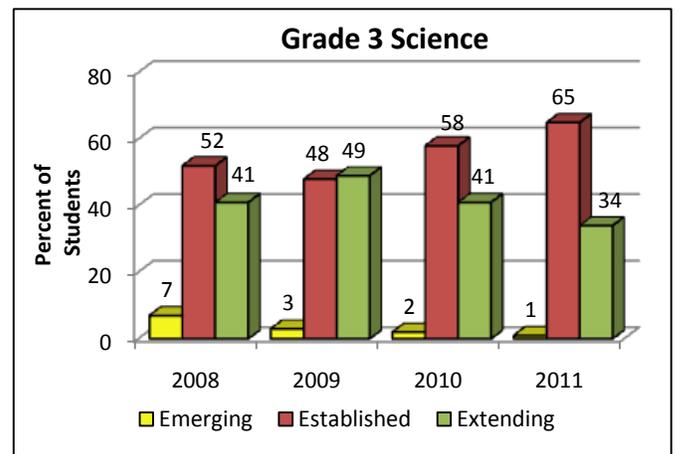
Grade 3 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	15	8	8	10
Established	42	33	45	53
Extending	43	59	47	37



Grade 3 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	13	7	6	5
Established	40	36	42	54
Extending	47	58	52	41

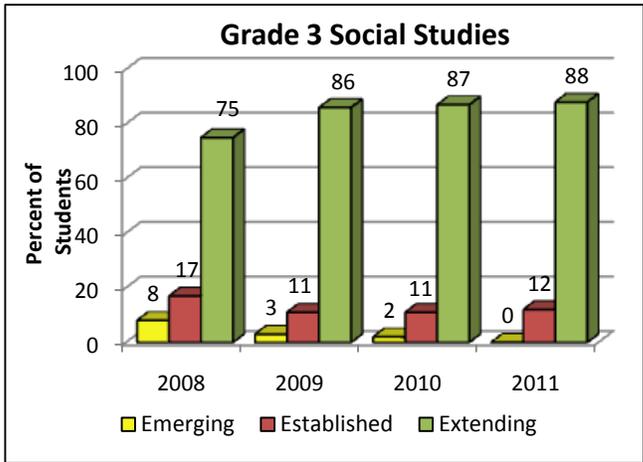


Grade 3 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	7	3	2	1
Established	52	48	58	65
Extending	41	49	41	34



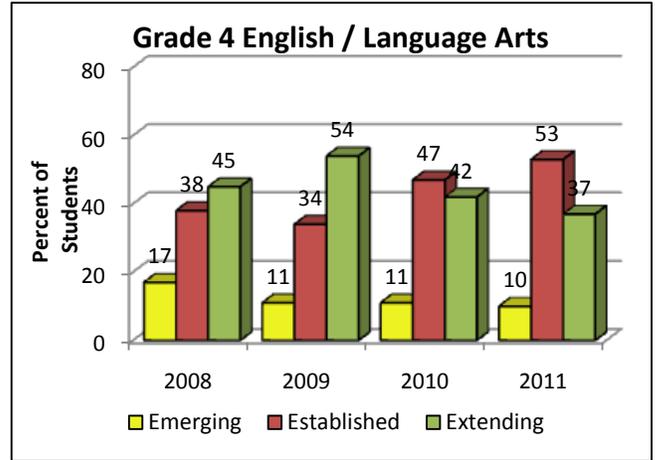
Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

Grade 3 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	8	3	2	0
Established	17	11	11	12
Extending	75	86	87	88

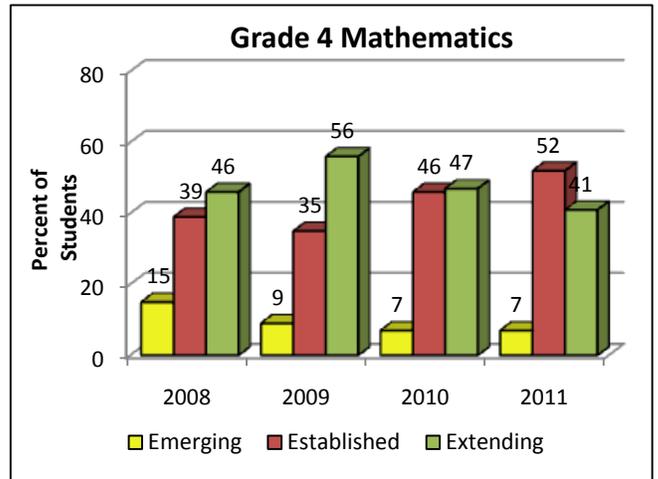


Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

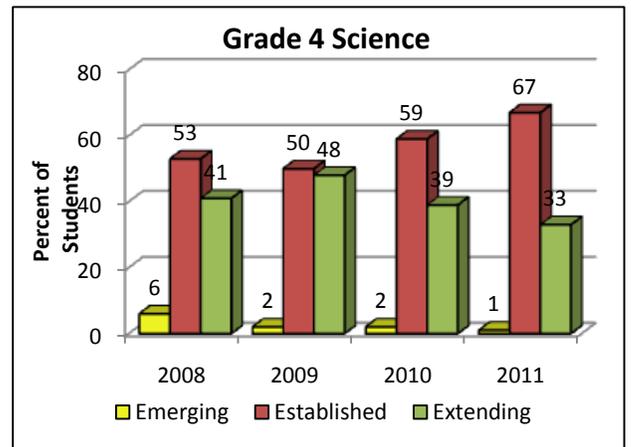
Grade 4 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	17	11	11	10
Established	38	34	47	53
Extending	45	54	42	37



Grade 4 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	15	9	7	7
Established	39	35	46	52
Extending	46	56	47	41

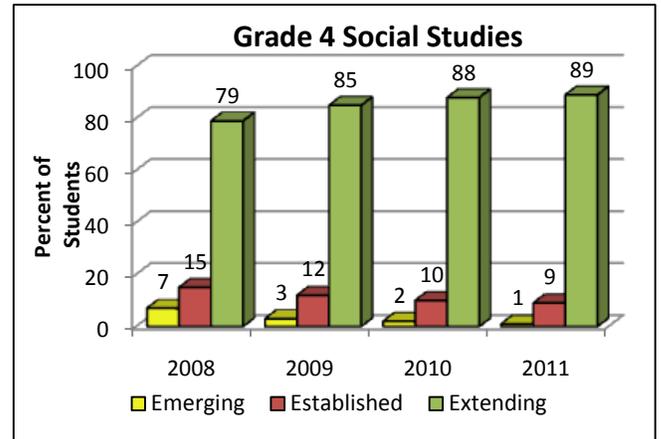


Grade 4 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	6	2	2	1
Established	53	50	59	67
Extending	41	48	39	33



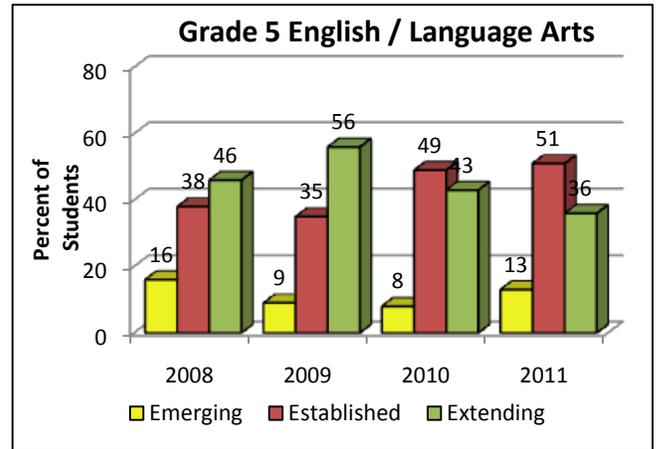
Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

Grade 4 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	7	3	2	1
Established	15	12	10	9
Extending	79	85	88	89

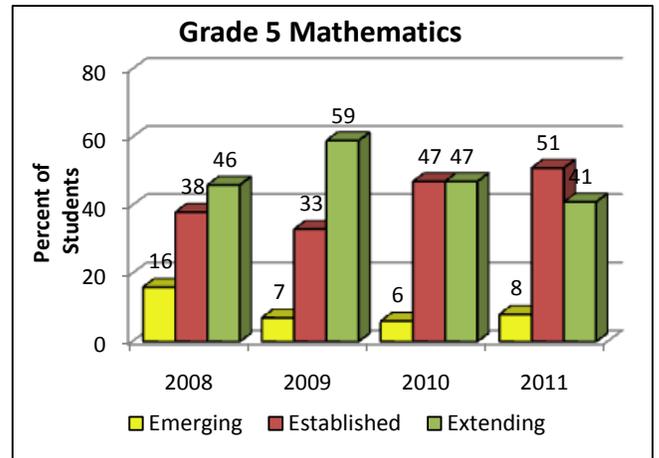


Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

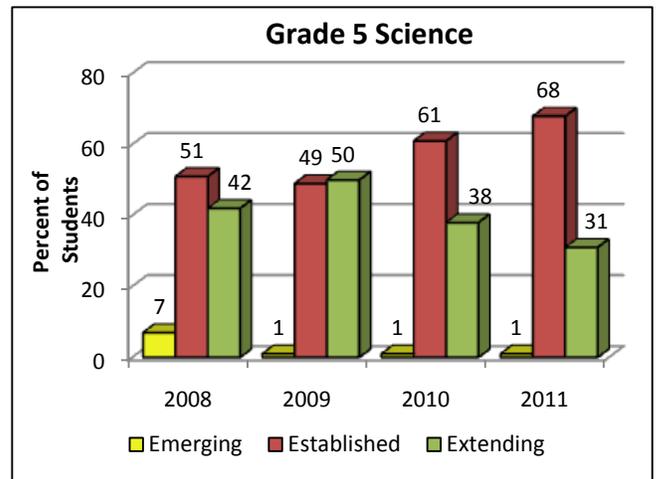
Grade 5 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	16	9	8	13
Established	38	35	49	51
Extending	46	56	43	36



Grade 5 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	16	7	6	8
Established	38	33	47	51
Extending	46	59	47	41

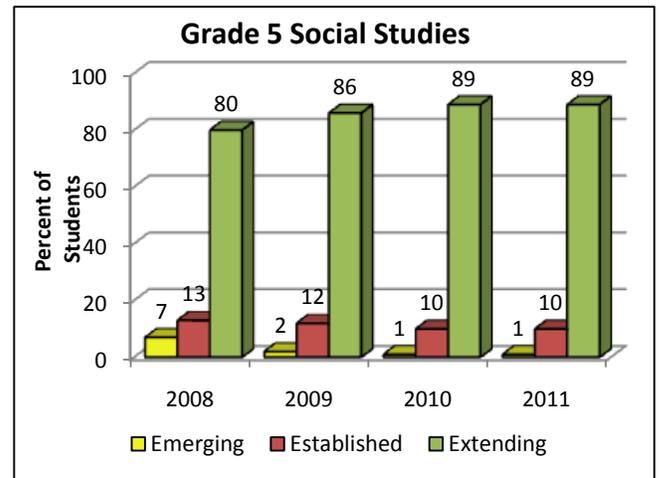


Grade 5 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	7	1	1	1
Established	51	49	61	68
Extending	42	50	38	31



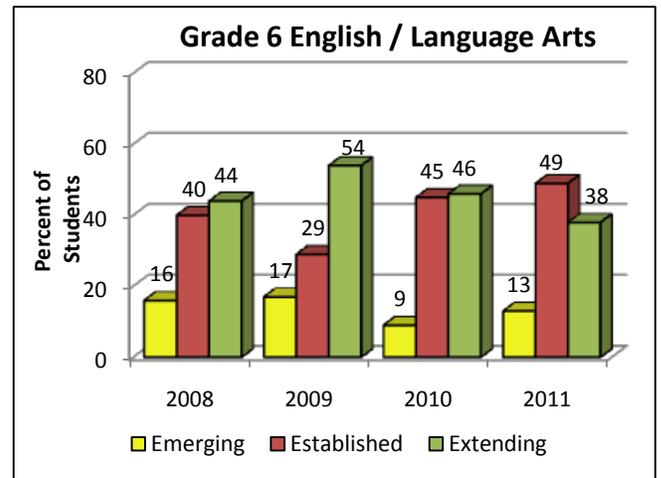
Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

Grade 5 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	7	2	1	1
Established	13	12	10	10
Extending	80	86	89	89

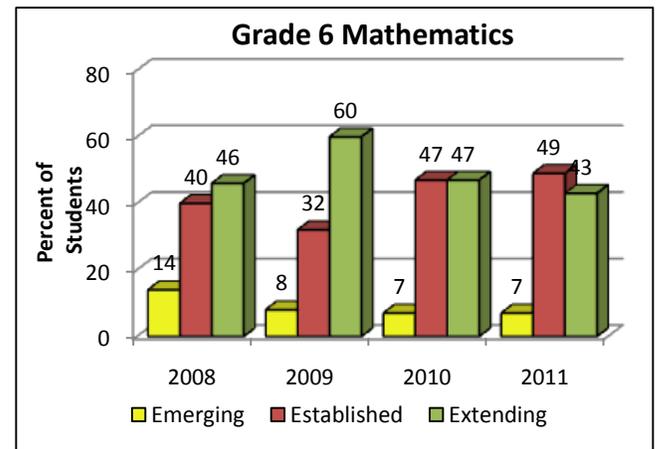


Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

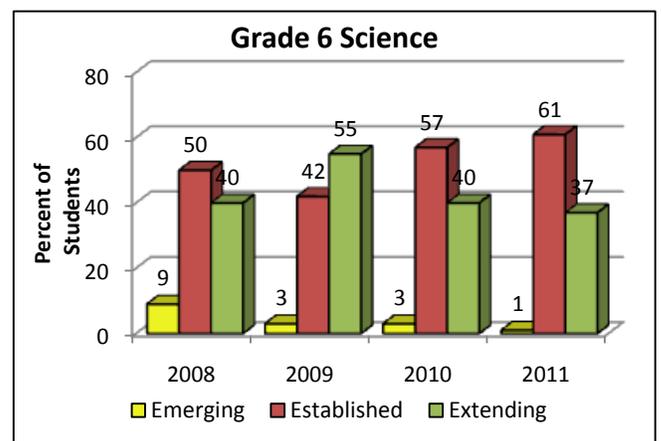
Grade 6 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	16	17	9	13
Established	40	29	45	49
Extending	44	54	46	38



Grade 6 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	14	8	7	7
Established	40	32	47	49
Extending	46	60	47	43

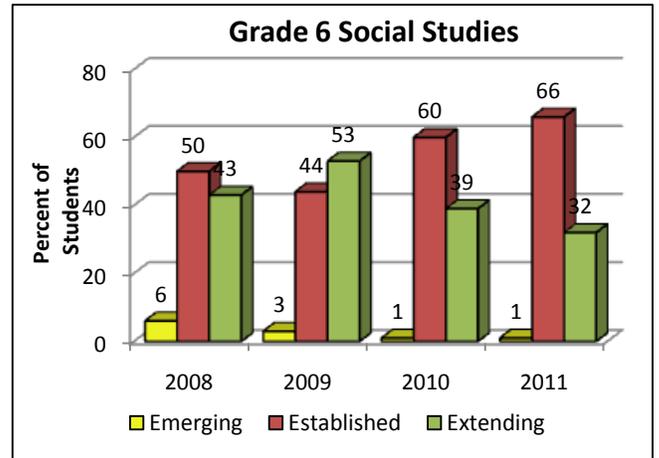


Grade 6 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	9	3	3	1
Established	50	42	57	61
Extending	40	55	40	37



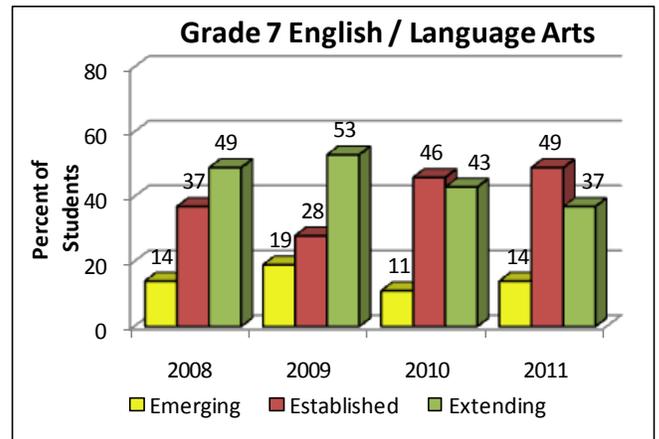
Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

Grade 6 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	6	3	1	1
Established	50	44	60	66
Extending	43	53	39	32

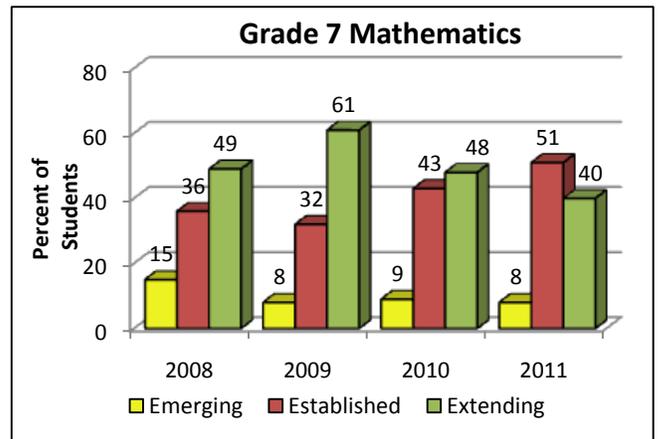


Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

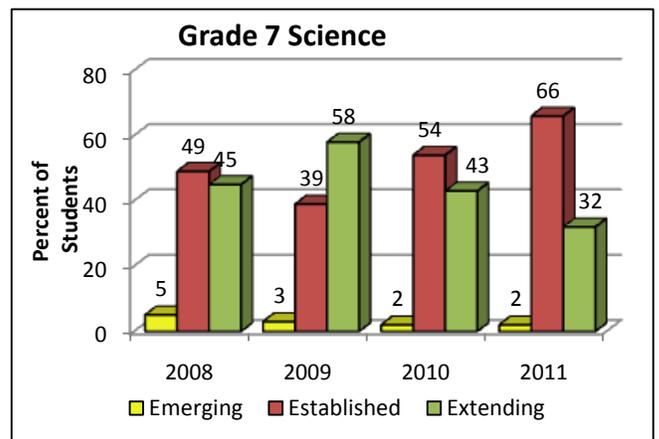
Grade 7 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	14	19	11	14
Established	37	28	46	49
Extending	49	53	43	37



Grade 7 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	15	8	9	8
Established	36	32	43	51
Extending	49	61	48	40

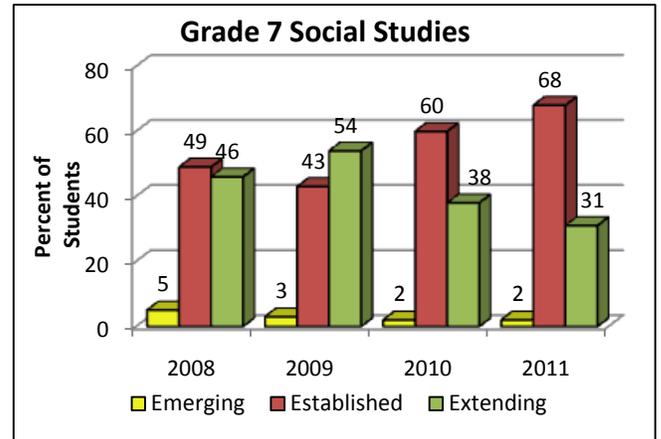


Grade 7 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	5	3	2	2
Established	49	39	54	66
Extending	45	58	43	32



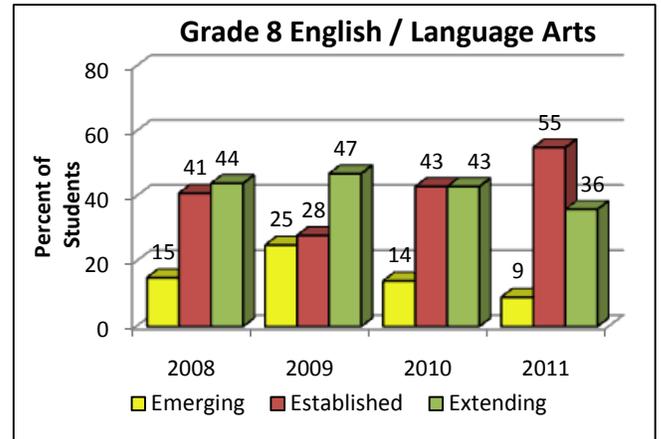
Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

Grade 7 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	5	3	2	2
Established	49	43	60	68
Extending	46	54	38	31

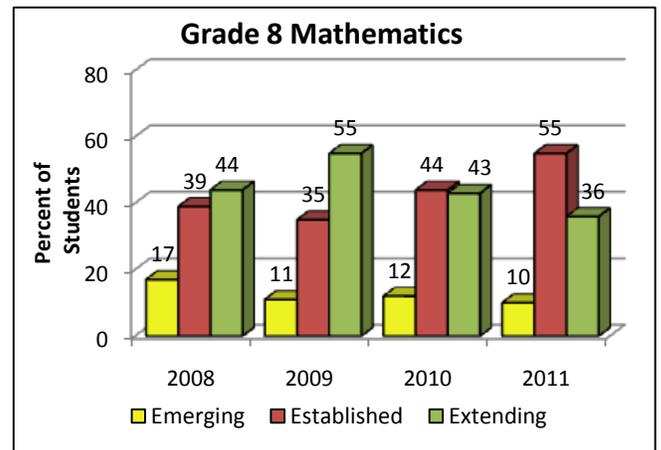


Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

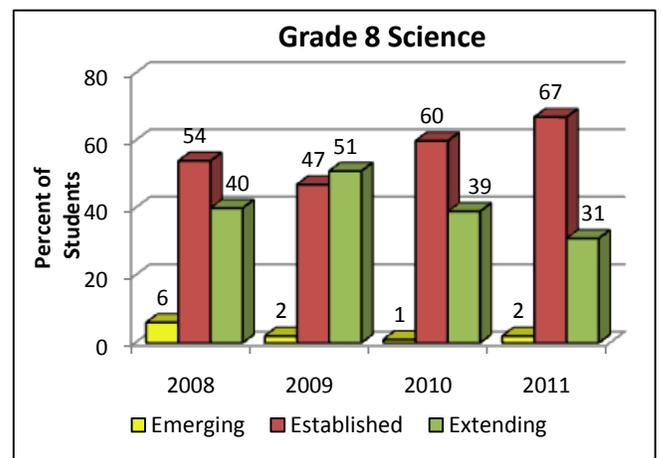
Grade 8 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	15	25	14	9
Established	41	28	43	55
Extending	44	47	43	36



Grade 8 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	17	11	12	10
Established	39	35	44	55
Extending	44	55	43	36

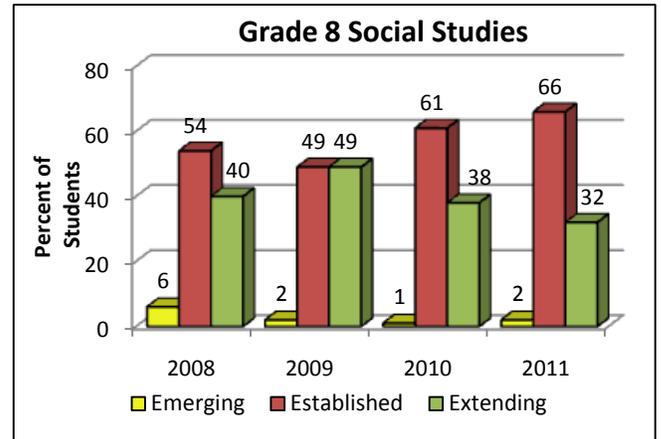


Grade 8 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	6	2	1	2
Established	54	47	60	67
Extending	40	51	39	31



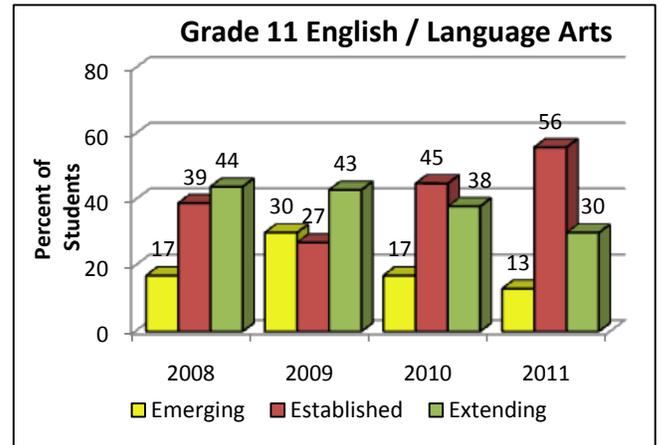
Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

Grade 8 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	6	2	1	2
Established	54	49	61	66
Extending	40	49	38	32

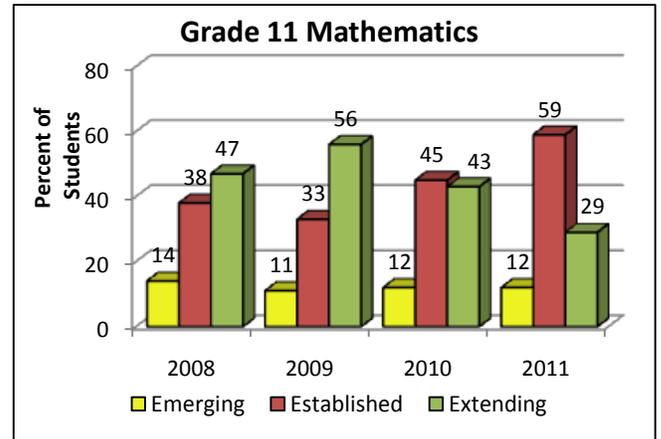


Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

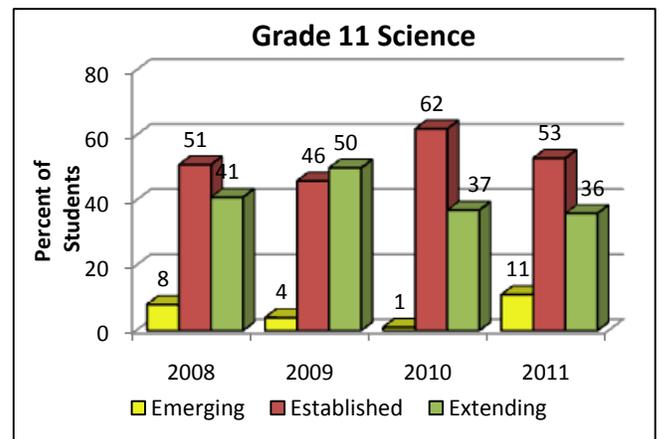
Grade 11 English / Language Arts				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	17	30	17	13
Established	39	27	45	56
Extending	44	43	38	30



Grade 11 Mathematics				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	14	11	12	12
Established	38	33	45	59
Extending	47	56	43	29



Grade 11 Science				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	8	4	1	11
Established	51	46	62	53
Extending	41	50	37	36



Percent Meeting or Exceeding the Standard

Grade 11 Social Studies				
Student Stage of Progress	Percent of Students			
	08	09	10	11
Emerging	8	3	1	8
Established	52	50	64	59
Extending	40	47	34	33

