

NJSLA Science Results from Spring 2019 Test Administration

West Orange School District
April 2020 Presentation

New Jersey Student Learning Assessment – Science (NJSLA-Science)

The NJSLA-Science:

- Is a federally required state assessment administered to students in grades 5, 8, and 11
- Provides a snapshot of student performance on the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Science (NJSLS-Science).
- Was developed in collaboration with NJ educators, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), and New Jersey's contracted science vendors
- Is significantly different from the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK) because NJSLS-Science are more rigorous standards and NJSLA-Science focuses on the application of science knowledge and skills rather than memorization of content.

NJSLA Science Performance Levels

NJSLA Science Performance Levels				
Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
5	100-149	150-199	200-242	243-300
8	100-149	150-199	200-230	231-300
11	100-157	158-199	200-249	250-300

Notes: **Students performing at Level 3 and Level 4 are considered proficient and above.**

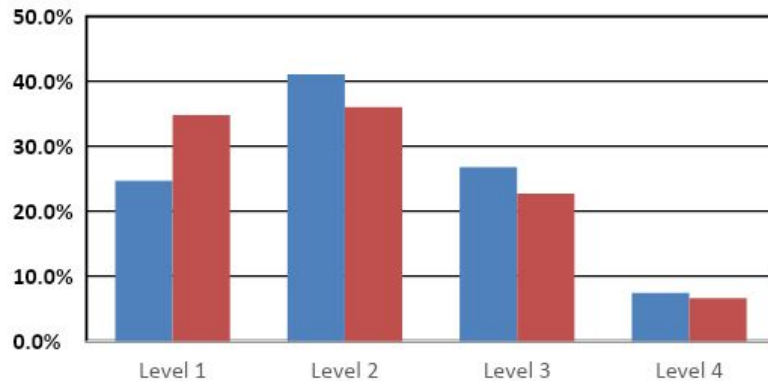
Comparison of **West Orange & State** Spring 2019 NJSLA Science Performance Levels

									Met or Exceeded Expectations	
Grade	Level 1 West Orange	Level 1 State	Level 2 West Orange	Level 2 State	Level 3 West Orange	Level 3 State	Level 4 West Orange	Level 4 State	Level 3 or 4 West Orange	Level 3 or 4 State
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
5	24.7	34.8	41.1	36.0	26.8	22.7	7.4	6.6	34.2	29.2
8	35.0	35.7	46.6	44.5	14.3	15.3	4.1	4.5	18.4	19.8
11	59.1	49.0	21.2	23.6	14.4	19.5	5.3	7.8	19.7	27.3

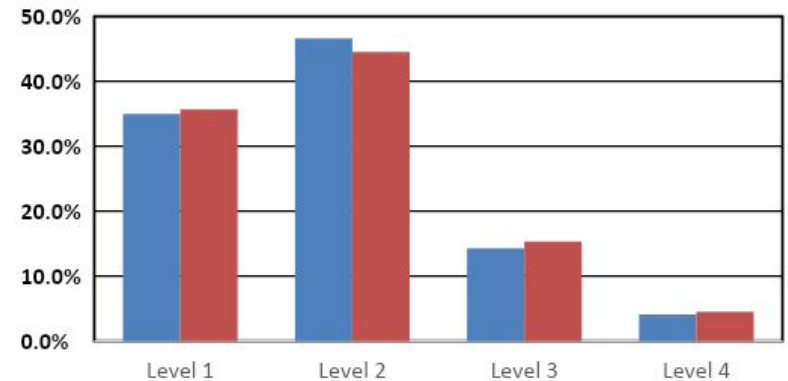
Notes: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Comparison of **West Orange & State** Spring 2019 NJSLA Science Performance Levels

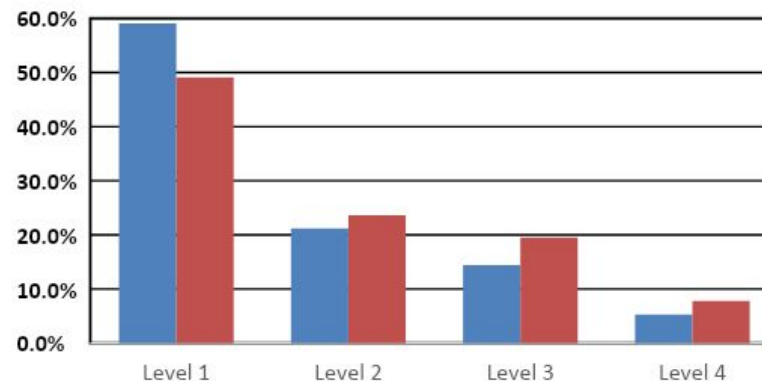
**2019 NJSLA-Science Performance Levels
Grade 5**



**2019 NJSLA-Science Performance Levels
Grade 8**



**2019 NJSLA-Science Performance Levels
Grade 11**



Notes: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

West Orange

Number of Students Tested in Spring 2019 NJSLA Administrations **Science**

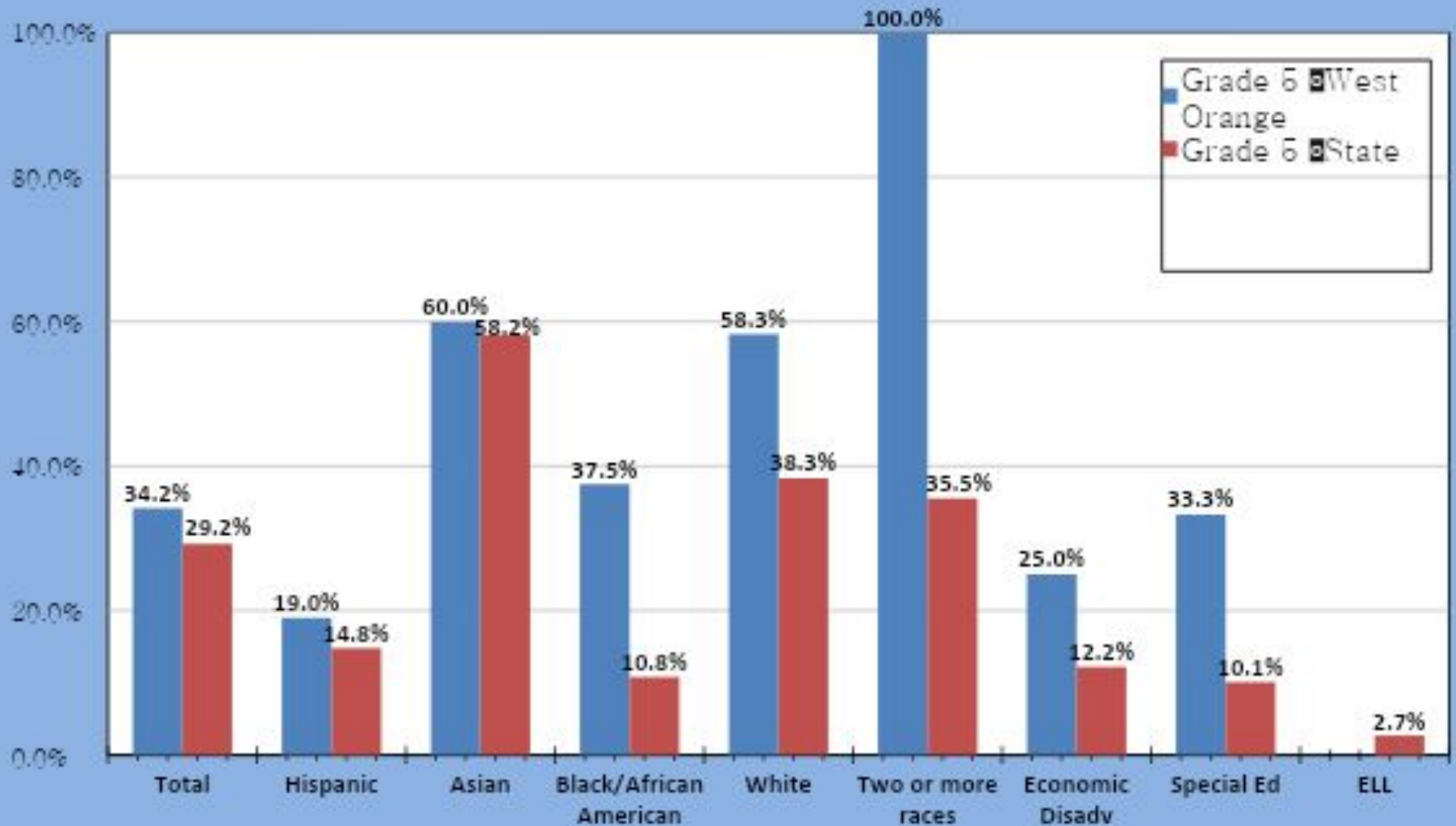
Grade	# of Students Tested 2019
5	511
8	489
11	132
Total	1,132

Note: "Students Tested" represents individual valid test scores for Science.

SUBGROUP COMPARISON OF WEST ORANGE & STATE

NJSLA SCIENCE GRADE 5

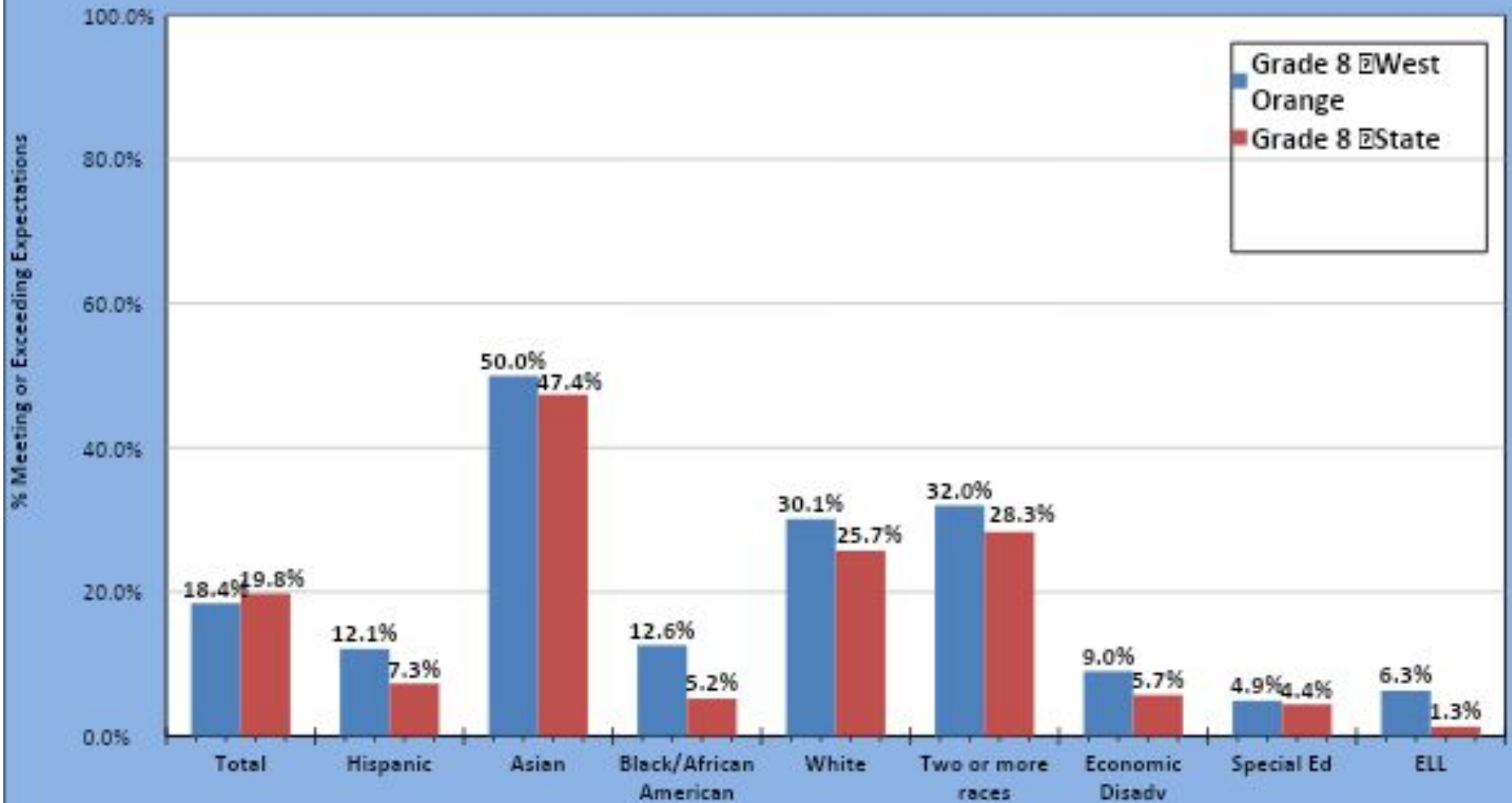
2019 NJSLA - Science Grade 5: Subgroup Comparison of West Orange and State



SUBGROUP COMPARISON OF WEST ORANGE & STATE

NJSLA SCIENCE GRADE 8

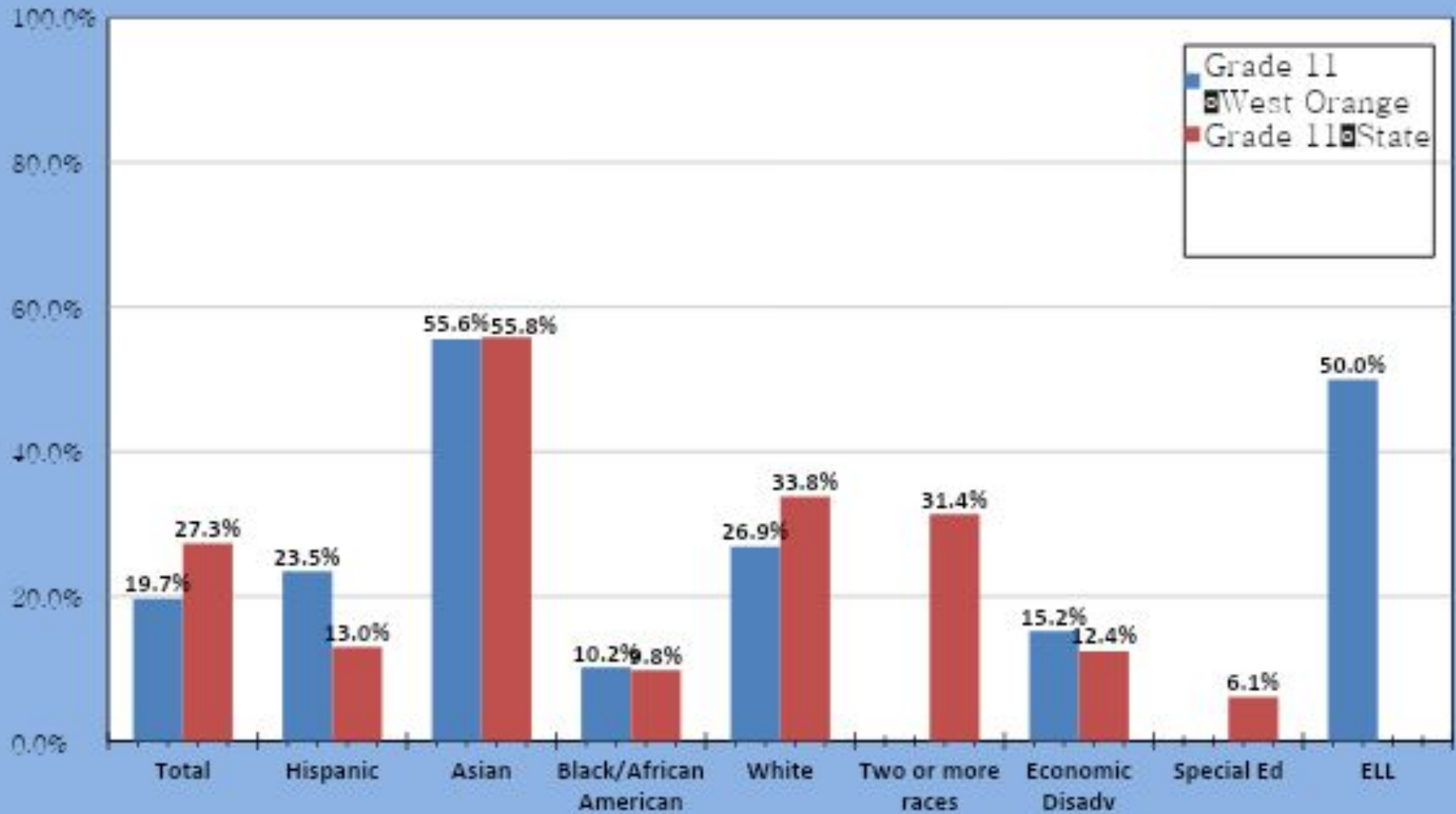
2019 NJSLA - Science Grade 8: Subgroup Comparison of West Orange and State



SUBGROUP COMPARISON OF WEST ORANGE & STATE

NJSLA SCIENCE GRADE 11

2019 NJSLA - Science Grade 11: Subgroup Comparison of West Orange and State



Frequently Asked Questions

Why did we need a new test?

- A new test was needed to measure the State's new, more rigorous science standards (NJSL-Science) that are informing classroom instruction.
- The NJSL-Science standards were adopted by the State in 2014. The timeline for transition to the new standards for districts required full implementation in grades 6-12 by September 2016 and full implementation in grades K-5 by September 2017.

Does a student have to pass the NJSLA-Science to graduate?

- The NJSLA-Science is not a state graduation assessment requirement.

Why do NJSLA-Science scores look different from those of the previous state science tests?

- The NJSLA-Science assessment reflects new expectations outlined in the new science standards, the NJSLS-Science, which focuses on the application of science knowledge and skills.
- The prior assessment, New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK), emphasized the memorization of content.

How can schools and districts use data from the NJSLA-Science?

- The NJSLA-Science data should be used to evaluate the district's science curriculum and school and classroom instruction.
- This data, in combination with classroom level data collected through formative, summative, and benchmark assessments, can provide schools and districts feedback on students' strengths and weaknesses with particular skills.
- The reports can be used as a catalyst for conversation and exploration of questions such as, but not limited to;
 - What do the patterns in the data suggest about the effectiveness of our program for English Language Learners, students who receive special education services, gifted and talented, general education students, and/or students who qualify for free or reduced lunches?
 - What do the patterns in the data suggest about the allocation of time and resources to our science program?

What resources are available for further support?

- The NJDOE Office of Standards has a repository of various resources to help support educators and districts with the implementation of the NJSLS-Science:
 - <https://www.nj.gov/education/aps/cccs/science/mc.htm>
- NJSLSA-Science practice tests are also available online at the following site:
 - <https://measinc-nj-science.com/>
- The NJDOE plans to continue to develop additional resources, such as K-12 instructional units based on the 2020 NJSLS-Science and connect educators with free resources and course materials.