

NJSLA Science Results: Spring 2019 Administration

Lyndhurst
March 2020

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

New Jersey Student Learning Assessment – Science (NJSLA-Science) cont'd

The NJSLA-Science:

- Is significantly different from the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK) because NJSLA-Science are more rigorous standards and NJSLA-Science focuses on the application of science knowledge and skills rather than memorization of content.
- Spring 2018 served as the NJSLA-Science field test
- Spring 2019 was the first operational administration of the NJSLA-Science assessment and will be the baseline for future assessments

NJSLA-Science Performance Levels

- Level 1: Minimal grade-level understanding
- Level 2: Limited grade-level understanding
- Level 3: Appropriate grade-level understanding
- Level 4: Advanced grade-level understanding

Comparison of **Lyndhurst's** Spring 2019 NJSLA Administrations Science to New Jersey Percentages for 2019

Grade	Level 1, District	Level 1, State	Level 2, District	Level 2, State	Level 3, District	Level 3, State	Level 4, District	Level 4, State
5	29.7	34.8	41	36.0	26.2	22.7	3.1	6.6
8	32.4	35.7	52.5	44.5	14.2	15.3	1	4.5
11	54.5	49.0	31.7	23.6	11.6	19.5	2.1	7.8

Notes: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

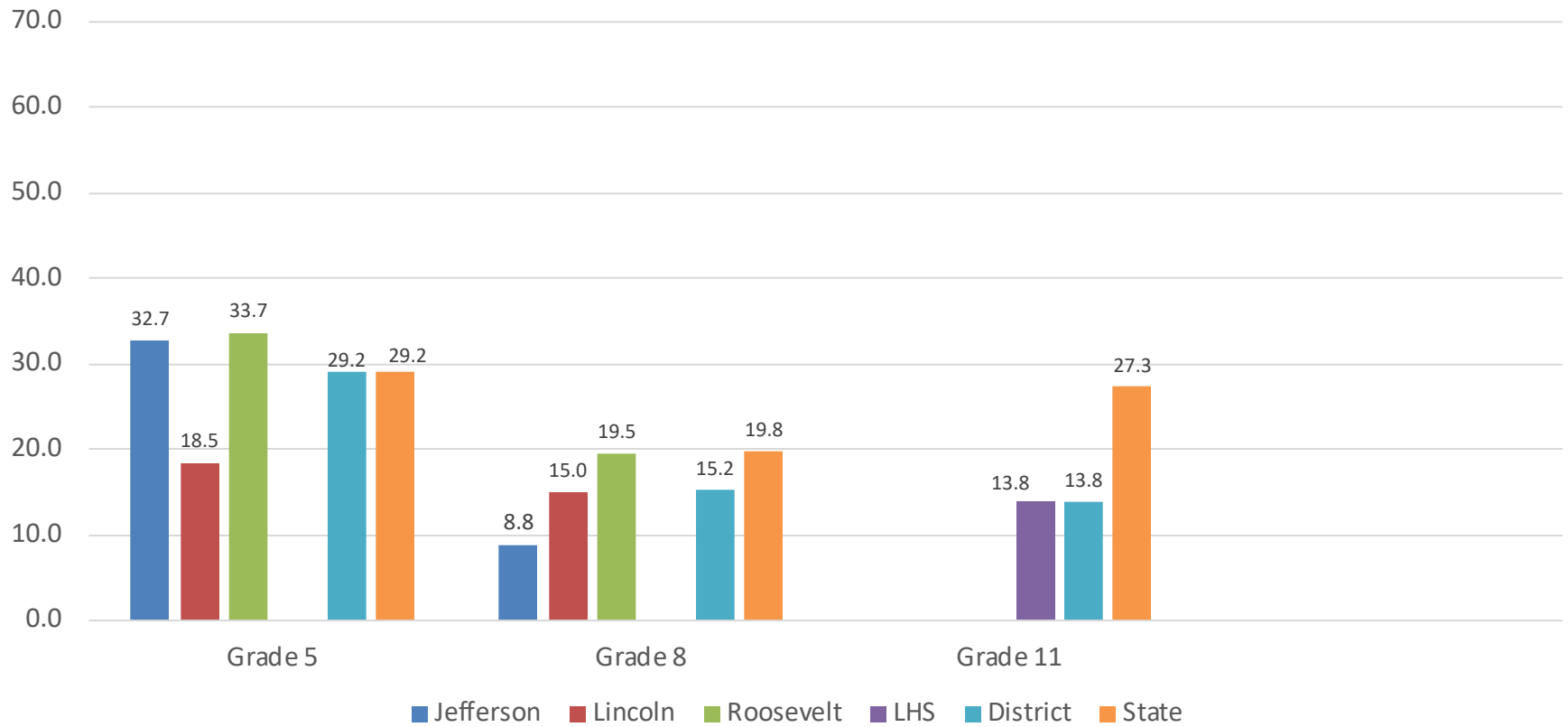
Lyndhurst's
Number of Students Tested
in Spring 2019 NJSLA Administrations
Science

Grade	Students Tested 2019
5	198
8	204
11	189
Total	591

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

2019 Science Building Comparison Performance Levels 3 & 4

Science Building Comparisons



Questions the District Will Use to Reflect Upon NJSLA-Science Data

- What does this NJSLA-Science data identify as the strengths and gaps that exist in our curriculum and instruction?
- According to this NJSLA-Science data, what areas are in need of improvement or enhancement within our district's curricula?
 - How will we address these now?
 - How will we address these in a long-term strategic plan?
- How will we provide additional resources and support for our educators to meet the learning needs of all our students? What are these resources and means of support?

Science Recommendations

- Facilitate vertical and horizontal alignment PD with teachers.
- Grades 6, 7, and 8 - implement new science program *Amplify*.
- Continue NJSL Assessment assemblies and testing environment from 2018-2019.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS)

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.

When will the NJSLA-Science scores be utilized in NJQSAC?

- NJQSAC for school year 2021-2022 will be the first year in which results from the NJSLA-Science will be factored into NJQSAC, utilizing the results from the 2020-2021 administration of the assessment.

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.

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>
- NJSLA-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.

Questions or Concerns

Does anyone have any questions or anything they would like us to provide additional information on?

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