

Utah Statewide Scores on the Direct Writing Assessment (DWA) 2009-2010

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The Direct Writing Assessment (DWA) is a criterion-referenced test that is designed to assess the writing skills of students enrolled in the 5th and 8th grades. Beginning in 2010 the DWA was administered online and scored using artificial intelligence. Student responses are scored for each of the six writing traits: ideas & content, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions.

There are five points for each trait, with a total possible score of 30. The DWA proficiency percentage reported here shows the percent of students scoring 18 or higher. Prior to 2010 the DWA was administered to the 6th and 9th grades. This makes 2010 data not comparable to previous years' data.

2010 Direct Writing Assessment (DWA) Results for State of Utah

	DWA	DWA 05		DWA 08	
	Total Tests	% Prof	Total Tests	% Prof	
All Students	43,675	84%	39,836	80%	
African American	700	75%	560	70%	
Asian	760	88%	728	84%	
Caucasian	33,720	86%	31,168	84%	
Hispanic	6,918	75%	6,000	65%	
Native American	579	73%	553	68%	
Pacific Islander	738	82%	633	81%	
Unknown	260	85%	194	82%	
Female	21,298	89%	19,225	87%	
Male	22,377	78%	20,611	74%	
ELL	3,123	62%	2,042	42%	
Not ELL	40,552	85%	37,794	83%	
Econ Disadv	3,123	62%	2,042	42%	
Not Econ Dis	40,552	85%	37,794	83%	
Not SWD	38,429	88%	36,467	84%	
SWD	5,246	52%	3,369	39%	