

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF CAAP RESULTS

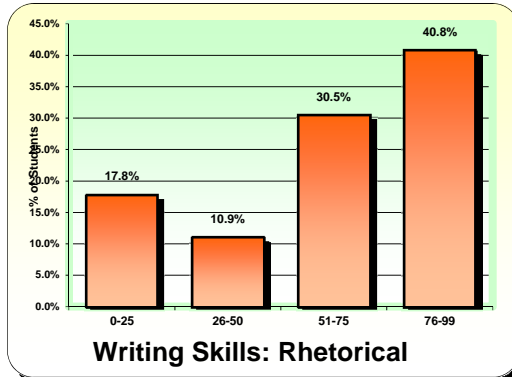
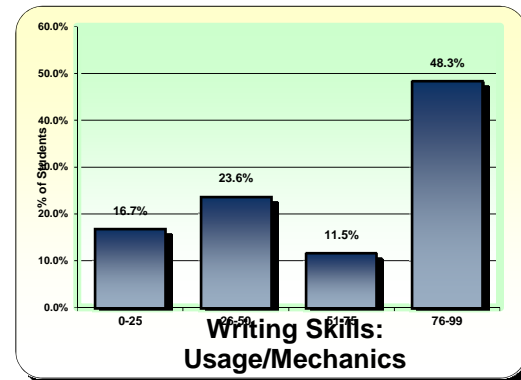
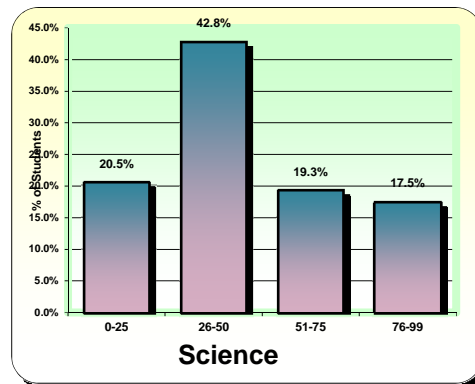
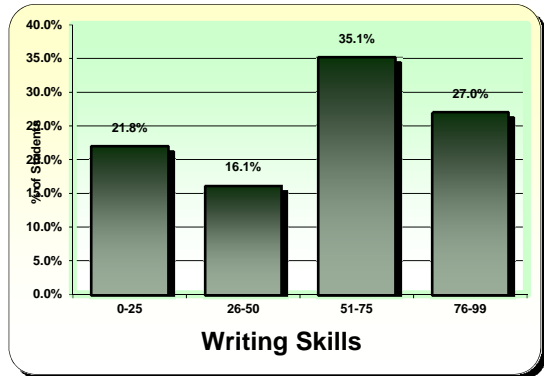
Southeastern Louisiana University

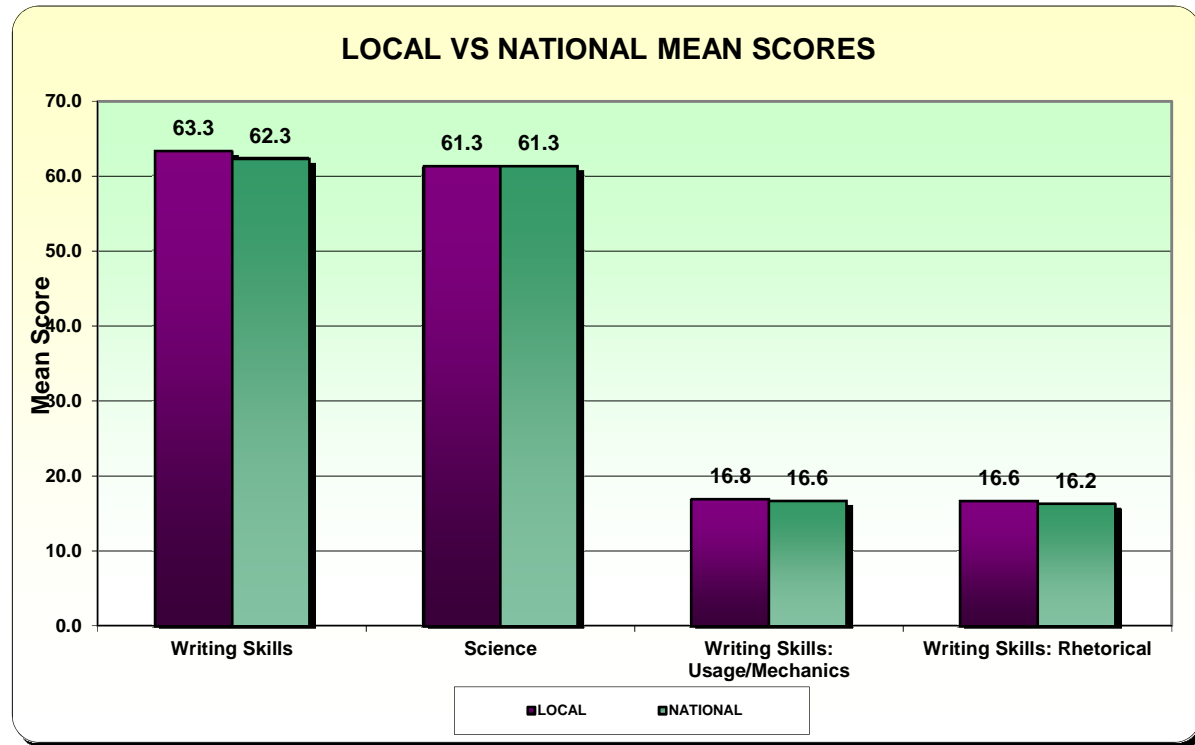
March 2017

PERFORMANCE RESULTS

TESTS	n-COUNT	LOCAL		NATIONAL		Percentile Rank, Students at or Below - See Charts Below			
		MEAN	SD	MEAN*	SD	0-25	26-50	51-75	76-99
Writing Skills	174	63.3	5.3	62.3	5.2	21.8%	16.1%	35.1%	27.0%
Science	192	61.3	5.2	61.3	5.6	20.5%	42.8%	19.3%	17.5%
Writing Skills: Usage/Mechanics	174	16.8	2.6	16.6	2.6	16.7%	23.6%	11.5%	48.3%
Writing Skills: Rhetorical	174	16.6	2.5	16.2	2.7	17.8%	10.9%	30.5%	40.8%

* Based on CAAP Norms, CAAP Tested Seniors





ACT's Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP) was administered at Southeastern in March 2017. The CAAP is a standardized, nationally normed assessment that helps institutions evaluate their general education outcomes. It was administered in a total of 24 capstone courses or senior level seminar courses across all majors. Two modules were administered across the courses, Writing Skills and Science, and every effort was made to administer each module proportionally across colleges. Overall, 340 students.

CAAP

Content Analysis Report

SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY

Institution Code: 1608

Institution Type: 4-Year

Subgroup: none

Test Date: Spring 2017

Normative Group: National 4-year Colleges

Introduction

This report provides information intended to help postsecondary institutions better identify specific content areas in which their students are strong or weak relative to a normative group of students.

Results within this report are generated after several crucial steps:	For each CAAP test that your students have taken:
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Students in both the local and normative groups (or, cohorts) are classified into proficiency groups according to whether scale scores for a given CAAP test were in the top 25%, middle 50%, or bottom 25% of their cohort.2. For each CAAP test that a given student has taken (e.g., Mathematics, Reading, Writing Skills, Science, or Critical Thinking), item responses (correct or incorrect) are used to compute the percentage of items answered correctly within each content category.3. For each student proficiency group, students' percent-correct scores on items within content categories are then averaged, resulting in the percent of items correctly answered. This information is presented in this report's figures.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Results for content categories are presented separately for the normative group and local cohorts of students. Note that the normative group represents students who have tested using a specific CAAP test form within the past three years. Local and normative group percents enable you to compare your students' performance to that of users in the normative group.2. In this report's figures, proficiency group results are presented adjacent to one another. This enables you to compare content category performance for your students among levels of proficiency.3. Results reflect major content categories within each CAAP test. For instance, the CAAP Reading test is composed of Referring Skills and Reasoning Skills content categories. Through a comparison of the percent of items correct across content categories, you can determine your students' relative strengths and weaknesses for each specific content category.

Science

The CAAP Science Test is a 45-item test designed to measure students' knowledge and skills in science. The contents of the test are drawn from biological sciences (e.g., biology, botany, and zoology), chemistry, physics, and the physical sciences (e.g., geology, astronomy, and meteorology). The test emphasizes scientific knowledge and reasoning skills commonly encountered in a postsecondary science curriculum, rather than a high level of skill in mathematics or reading.

Executive Summary

This report contains results from CAAP Science form 13-A. Valid scores were obtained for 166 students. Table S-1 below shows differences in percentages between the local and normative groups. Differences with magnitudes less than 5%, between 5% and 10%, and greater than 10% are considered negligible, moderate, and substantial, respectively. Negative differences indicate areas where local students had more difficulty with content category items than did the normative group, whereas positive differences indicate that local students found items easier than did the normative group.

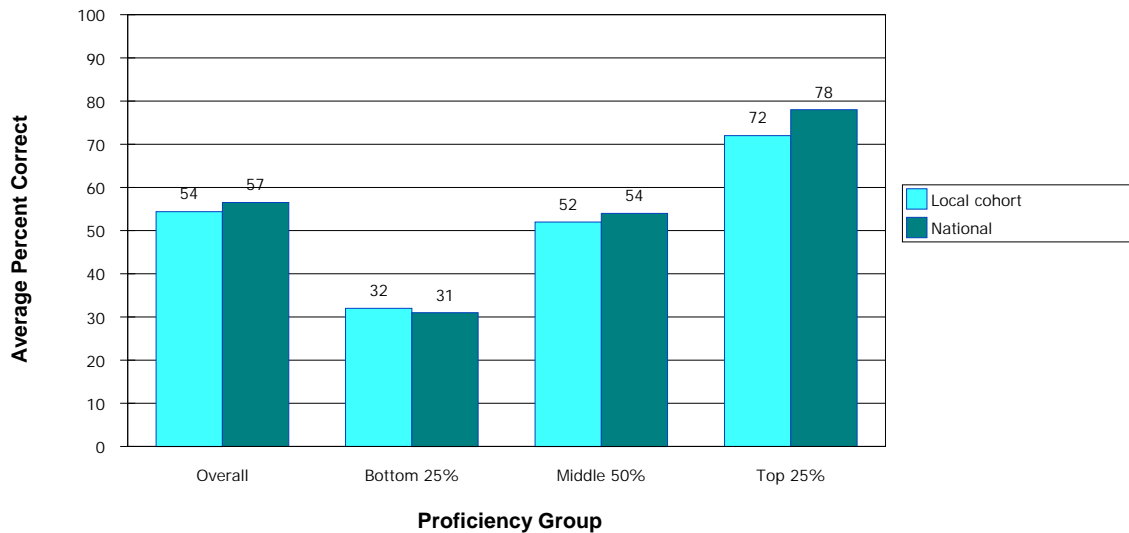
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Table S-1: Science Comparison Highlights

Content Category	Local-Normative Group Differences in Percent Correct		
	Bottom 25%	Middle 50%	Top 25%
Analysis	1%	- 2%	- 6%
Generalization	9%	7%	1%
Understanding	0%	-12%	- 4%

Science Content Area: Analysis

Figure S-1: Average Percent of Correct Answers in Analysis



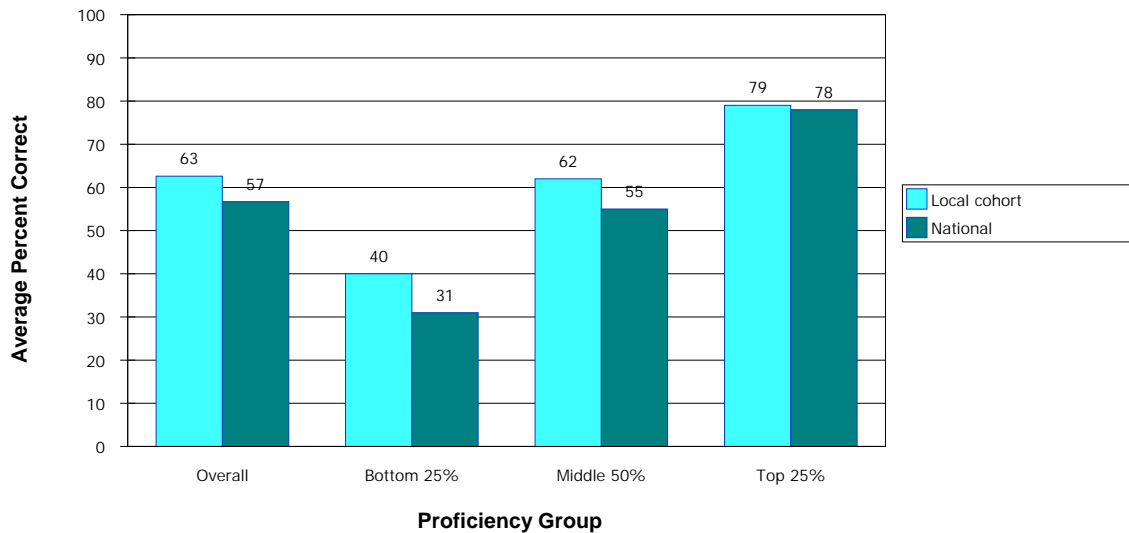
Interpretation Guide

The results in Figure S-1 are based on your students' responses to the Analysis items on the CAAP Science test. There are 23 items in this content category, constituting approximately 51% of the Science test. Items in this category assess students' ability to process information needed to formulate hypotheses and draw appropriate conclusions. These items also assess students' capabilities in evaluating scientific information to determine whether it supports a given hypothesis or conclusion. Students are also assessed regarding their ability to evaluate, compare, and contrast experimental designs or viewpoints, and to specify alternative ways of testing hypotheses.

Overall results and results for the bottom 25%, middle 50%, and top 25% of total CAAP Science scores for the local and normative groups are provided. This is to enable you to compare bottom, middle, and top students in the local cohort to the bottom, middle, and top students in the normative group. Any differences less than 5%, between 5% and 10%, and greater than 10% are considered negligible, moderate, and substantial, respectively.

Science Content Area: Generalization

Figure S-2: Average Percent of Correct Answers in Generalization



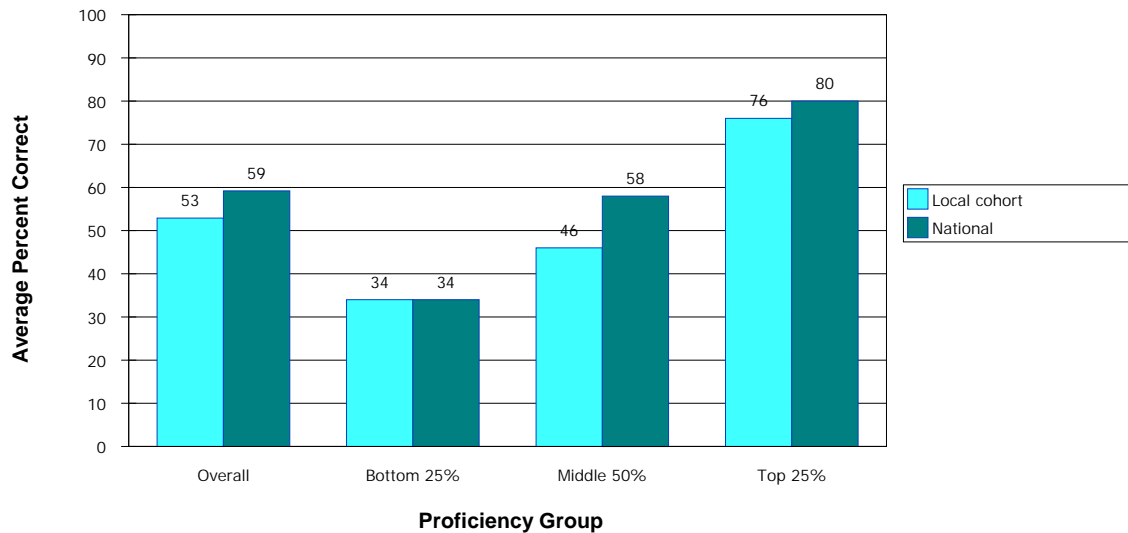
Interpretation Guide

The results in Figure S-2 are based on your students' responses to the Generalization items on the CAAP Science test. There are 13 items in this content category, constituting approximately 29% of the Science test. These items assess students' ability to extend given information to a broader or different context, to generate models that are consistent with given information, and to develop new procedures to gain additional information. Also tested is their ability to go beyond given information to predict outcomes based on that information.

Overall results and results for the bottom 25%, middle 50%, and top 25% of total CAAP Science scores for the local and normative groups are provided. This is to enable you to compare bottom, middle, and top students in the local cohort to the bottom, middle, and top students in the normative group. Any differences less than 5%, between 5% and 10%, and greater than 10% are considered negligible, moderate, and substantial, respectively.

Science Content Area: Understanding

Figure S-3: Average Percent of Correct Answers in Understanding



Interpretation Guide

The results in Figure S-3 are based on your students' responses to the Understanding items on the CAAP Science test. There are nine items in this content category, constituting approximately 20% of the Science test. Items in this category assess students' knowledge and skills relevant to their understanding of scientific concepts and assumptions, and their ability to identify and evaluate components of an experimental design or process. Also tested are students' abilities to identify and evaluate data presented in graphs, figures, or tables, and to translate given data into alternate forms.

Overall results and results for the bottom 25%, middle 50%, and top 25% of total CAAP Science scores for the local and normative groups are provided. This is to enable you to compare bottom, middle, and top students in the local cohort to the bottom, middle, and top students in the normative group. Any differences less than 5%, between 5% and 10%, and greater than 10% are considered negligible, moderate, and substantial, respectively.

Writing Skills

The CAAP Writing Skills Test is a 72-item test designed to measure students' understanding of the conventions of standard written English in punctuation, basic grammar and usage, sentence structure, strategy, organization, and style. A range of passage types is used to provide a variety of rhetorical situations similar to those found in a postsecondary curriculum.

Executive Summary

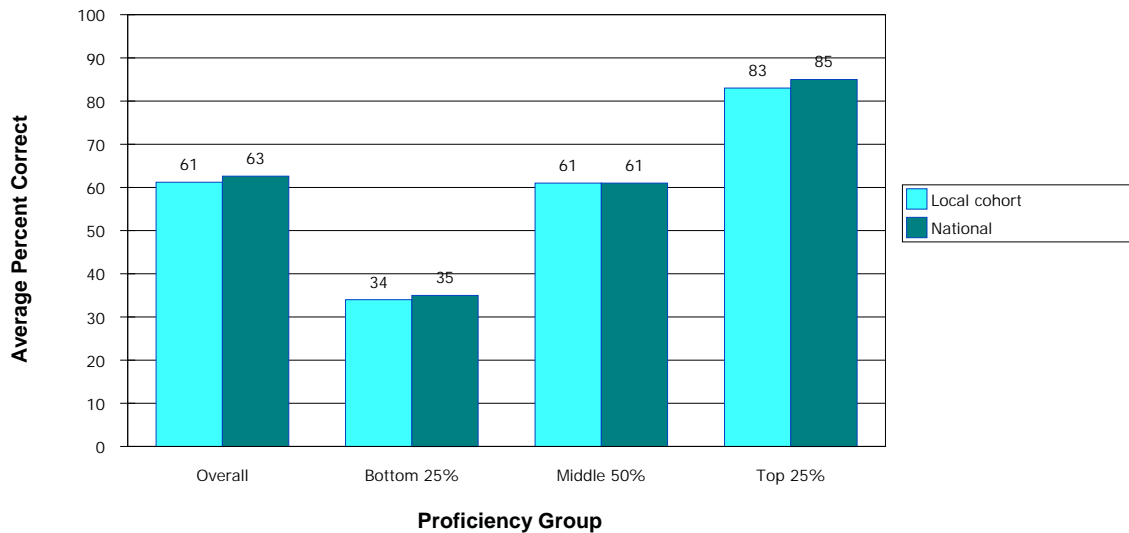
This report contains results from CAAP Writing Skills form 13-A. Valid scores were obtained for 174 students. Table W-1 belows shows differences in percentages between the local and normative groups. Differences with magnitudes less than 5%, between 5% and 10%, and greater than 10% are considered negligible, moderate, and substantial, respectively. Negative differences indicate areas where local students had more difficulty with content category items than did the normative group, whereas positive differences indicate that local students found items easier than did the normative group.

N

Table W-1: Writing Skills Comparison Highlights			
Content Category	Local-Normative Group Differences in Percent Correct		
	Bottom 25%	Middle 50%	Top 25%
Punctuation	- 1%	0%	- 2%
Basic Grammar and Usage	9%	7%	3%
Sentence Structure	8%	13%	7%
Strategy	1%	3%	2%
Organization	- 3%	- 2%	- 3%
Style	- 4%	1%	- 3%

Writing Skills Content Area: Punctuation

Figure W-1: Average Percent of Correct Answers in Punctuation



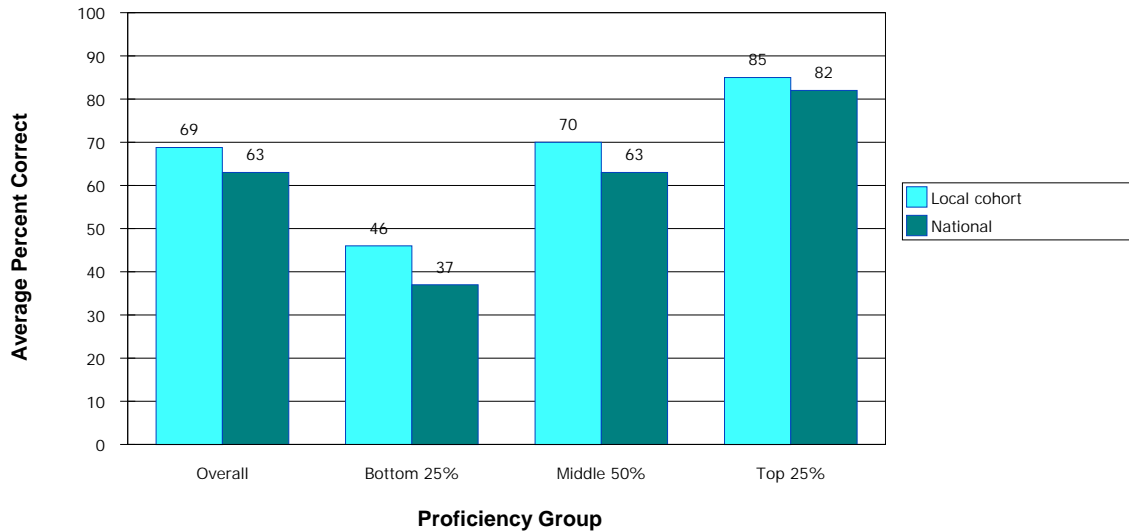
Interpretation Guide

The results in Figure W-1 are based on your students' responses to the Punctuation items on the CAAP Writing Skills test. There are seven items in this content category, constituting approximately 10% of the Writing Skills test. Items in this category assess students' knowledge and skills in the use and placement of commas, colons, semicolons, dashes, parentheses, apostrophes, and quotation, question, and exclamation marks.

Overall results and results for the bottom 25%, middle 50%, and top 25% of total CAAP Writing Skills scores for the local and normative groups are provided. This is to enable you to compare bottom, middle, and top students in the local cohort to the bottom, middle, and top students in the normative group. Any differences less than 5%, between 5% and 10%, and greater than 10% are considered negligible, moderate, and substantial, respectively.

Writing Skills Content Area: Basic Grammar and Usage

Figure W-2: Average Percent of Correct Answers in Basic Grammar and Usage



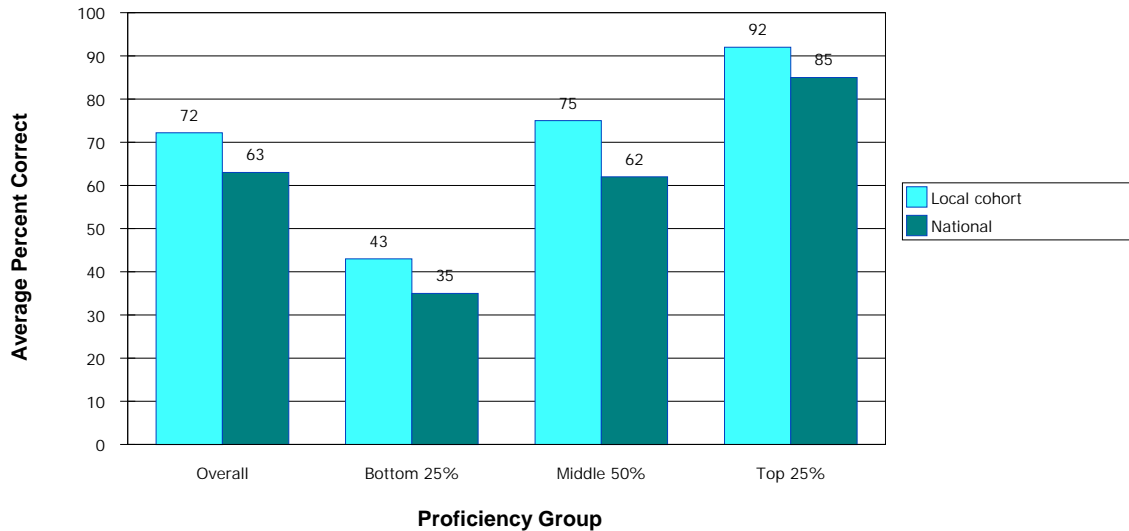
Interpretation Guide

The results in Figure W-2 are based on your students' responses to the Basic Grammar and Usage items on the CAAP Writing Skills test. There are eight items in this content category, constituting approximately 11% of the Writing Skills test. Items in this category assess students' knowledge and use of the various parts of speech, including adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, subjects, verbs, and pronouns. Skills assessed include the ability to recognize proper agreement between subject and verb and between pronouns and their antecedents.

Overall results and results for the bottom 25%, middle 50%, and top 25% of total CAAP Writing Skills scores for the local and normative groups are provided. This is to enable you to compare bottom, middle, and top students in the local cohort to the bottom, middle, and top students in the normative group. Any differences less than 5%, between 5% and 10%, and greater than 10% are considered negligible, moderate, and substantial, respectively.

Writing Skills Content Area: Sentence Structure

Figure W-3: Average Percent of Correct Answers in Sentence Structure



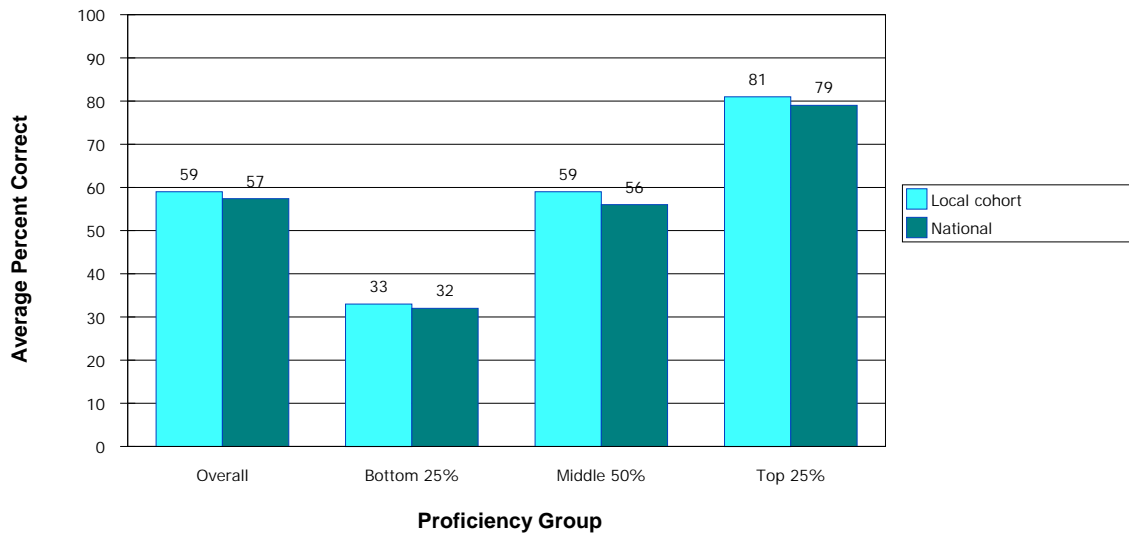
Interpretation Guide

The results in Figure W-3 are based on your students' responses to the Sentence Structure items on the CAAP Writing Skills test. There are 19 items in this content category, constituting approximately 26% of the Writing Skills test. Items in this category assess students' understanding of relationships between and among clauses, their knowledge and skills in the management and placement of modifiers, and in avoiding unnecessary shifts in construction.

Overall results and results for the bottom 25%, middle 50%, and top 25% of total CAAP Writing Skills scores for the local and normative groups are provided. This is to enable you to compare bottom, middle, and top students in the local cohort to the bottom, middle, and top students in the normative group. Any differences less than 5%, between 5% and 10%, and greater than 10% are considered negligible, moderate, and substantial, respectively.

Writing Skills Content Area: Strategy

Figure W-4: Average Percent of Correct Answers in Strategy



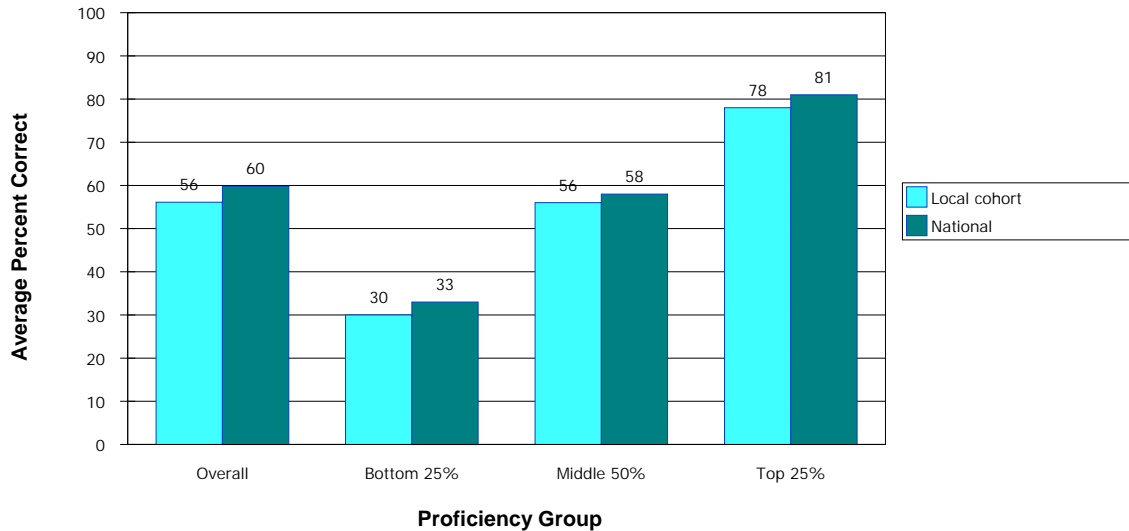
Interpretation Guide

The results in Figure W-4 are based on your students' responses to the Strategy items on the CAAP Writing Skills test. There are ten items in this content category, constituting approximately 14% of the Writing Skills test. Items in this category assess students' understanding of the appropriateness of expression in relation to audience and purpose. Also tested are the student skills in strengthening writing with appropriate supporting material and in choosing effective statements regarding the theme and purpose of a piece of writing.

Overall results and results for the bottom 25%, middle 50%, and top 25% of total CAAP Writing Skills scores for the local and normative groups are provided. This is to enable you to compare bottom, middle, and top students in the local cohort to the bottom, middle, and top students in the normative group. Any differences less than 5%, between 5% and 10%, and greater than 10% are considered negligible, moderate, and substantial, respectively.

Writing Skills Content Area: Organization

Figure W-5: Average Percent of Correct Answers in Organization



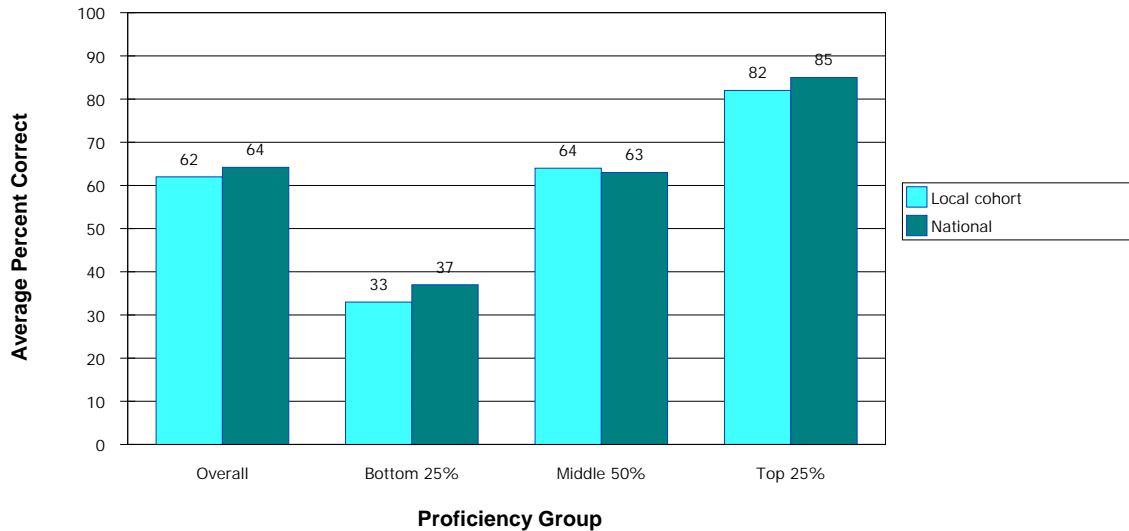
Interpretation Guide

The results in Figure W-5 are based on your students' responses to the Organization items on the CAAP Writing Skills test. There are eleven items in this content category, constituting approximately 15% of the Writing Skills test. Items in this category assess students' understanding of effective organization of ideas in writing, and their skill in evaluating the relevance of statements in particular contexts (e.g., in terms of the order, coherence, or unity of a sample of writing.)

Overall results and results for the bottom 25%, middle 50%, and top 25% of total CAAP Writing Skills scores for the local and normative groups are provided. This is to enable you to compare bottom, middle, and top students in the local cohort to the bottom, middle, and top students in the normative group. Any differences less than 5%, between 5% and 10%, and greater than 10% are considered negligible, moderate, and substantial, respectively.

Writing Skills Content Area: Style

Figure W-6: Average Percent of Correct Answers in Style



Interpretation Guide

The results in Figure W-6 are based on your students' responses to the Style items on the CAAP Writing Skills test. There are 17 items in this content category, constituting approximately 24% of the Writing Skills test. Items in this category assess students' skills in selecting words and images that are precise and appropriate in a given context, and in managing the various sentence elements in ways that are rhetorically effective. Items in this category also assess student's ability to write economically but effectively, to avoid ambiguous pronoun references, and to choose words that fit both meaning and function within text.

Overall results and results for the bottom 25%, middle 50%, and top 25% of total CAAP Writing Skills scores for the local and normative groups are provided. This is to enable you to compare bottom, middle, and top students in the local cohort to the bottom, middle, and top students in the normative group. Any differences less than 5%, between 5% and 10%, and greater than 10% are considered negligible, moderate, and substantial, respectively.