

FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TEST (FCAT)

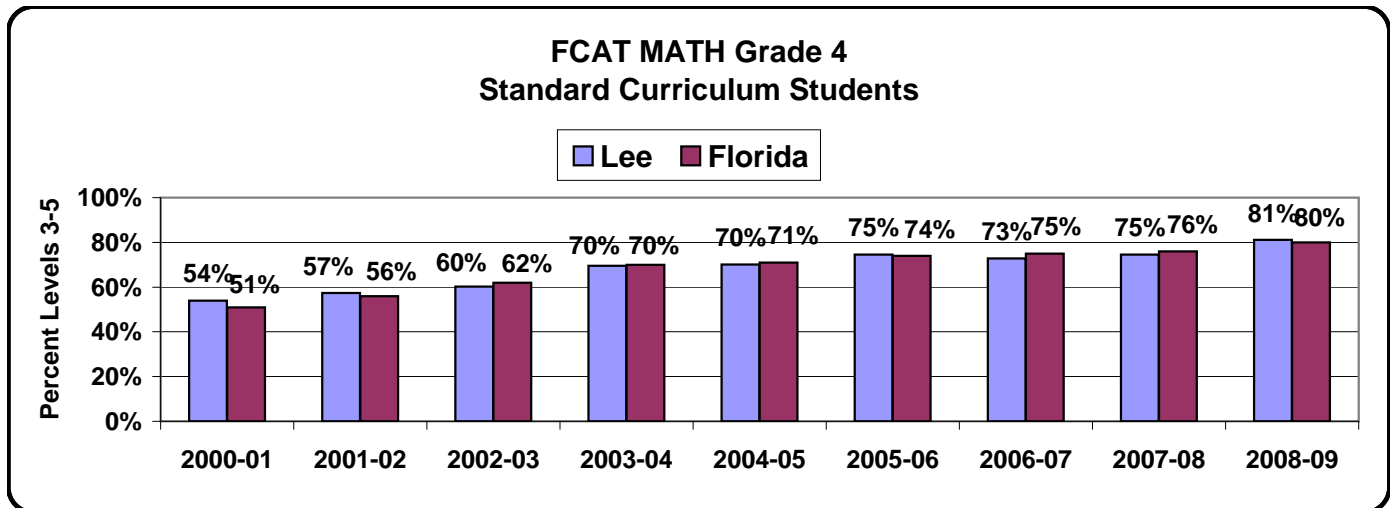
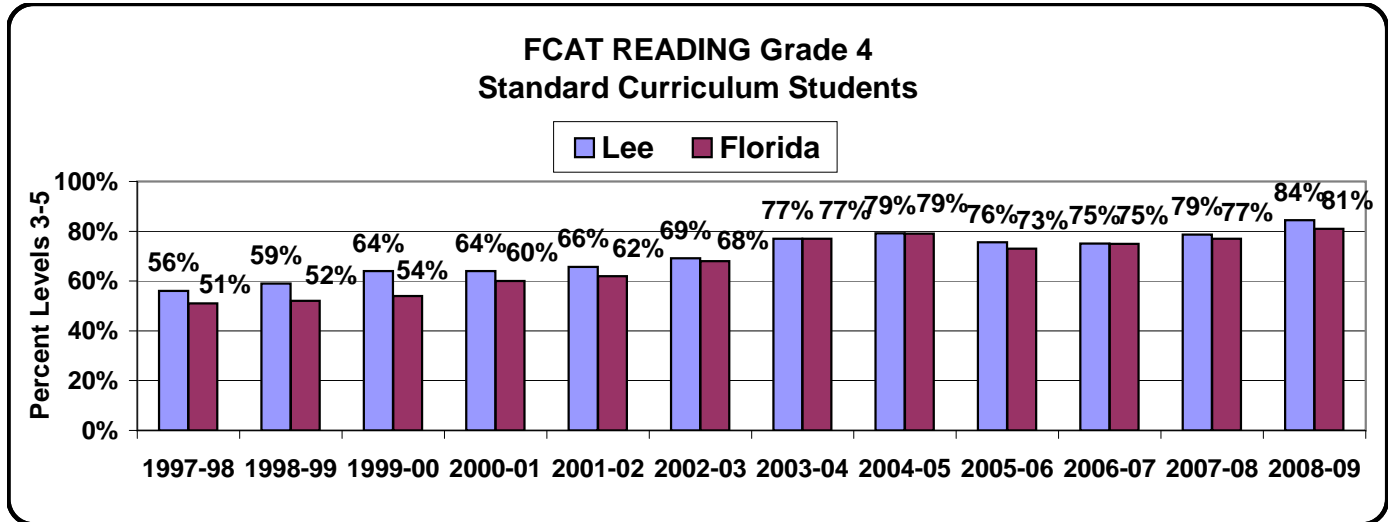
The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, or FCAT, is part of a state-wide initiative to raise academic standards for students in the State of Florida. FCAT, started in the 1997-98 school year, is a standardized, criterion-referenced test that focuses on reading and mathematics skills which are outlined in the Sunshine State Standards (the state prescribed description of skills that students in Florida should learn). The reading section evaluates students' ability to understand the meaning of informational and literary passages. In the math section, students need to be able to do basic math operations and answer questions utilizing measurement, geometry, algebra, and data analysis. Because the test contains multiple choice and open-ended questions, students are challenged to perform what are called "higher order thinking skills" like drawing conclusions, providing evidence to support an answer, making predictions, etc.

FCAT is now administered to all students in grades 3 – 10 and results are reported publicly in summary form as well as part of the State Accountability Report (school grading). Generally, scores are reported as percentages of students in each of five achievement levels (Level 1 = lowest, Level 5 = highest), and specifically the percentage of students scoring in Levels 3-5 (Level 3 is considered on grade level).

Passing the 10th grade FCAT reading and math test is now required to receive a regular diploma for all those students who entered 9th grade in the fall of 1999 or later. Students have multiple opportunities to pass in their junior and senior years if they do not pass FCAT on the first attempt.

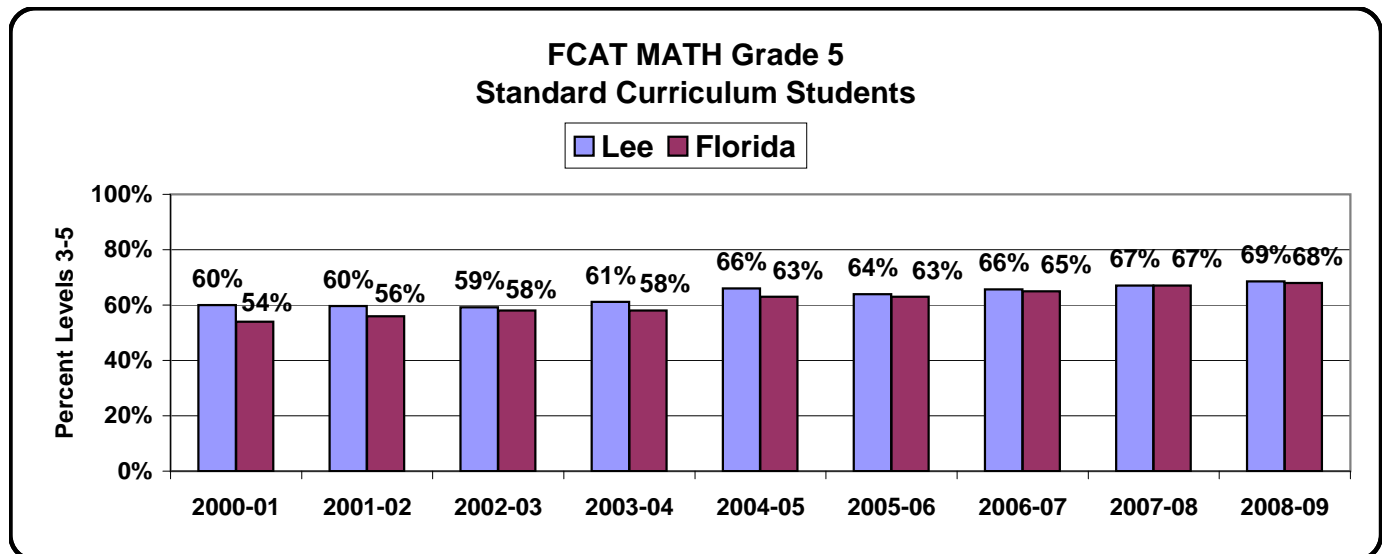
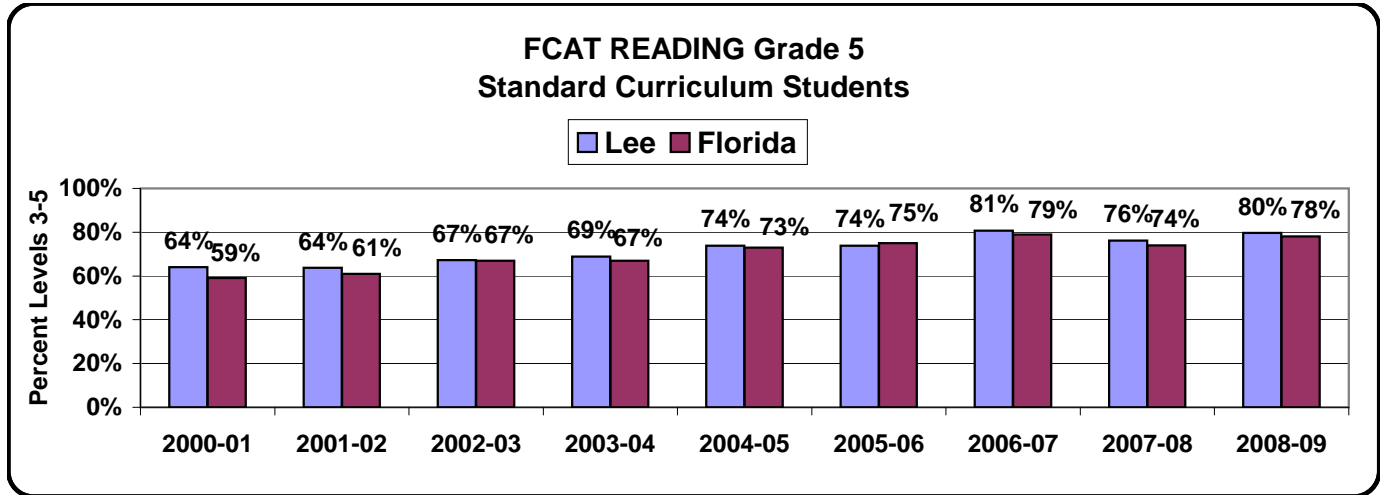
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

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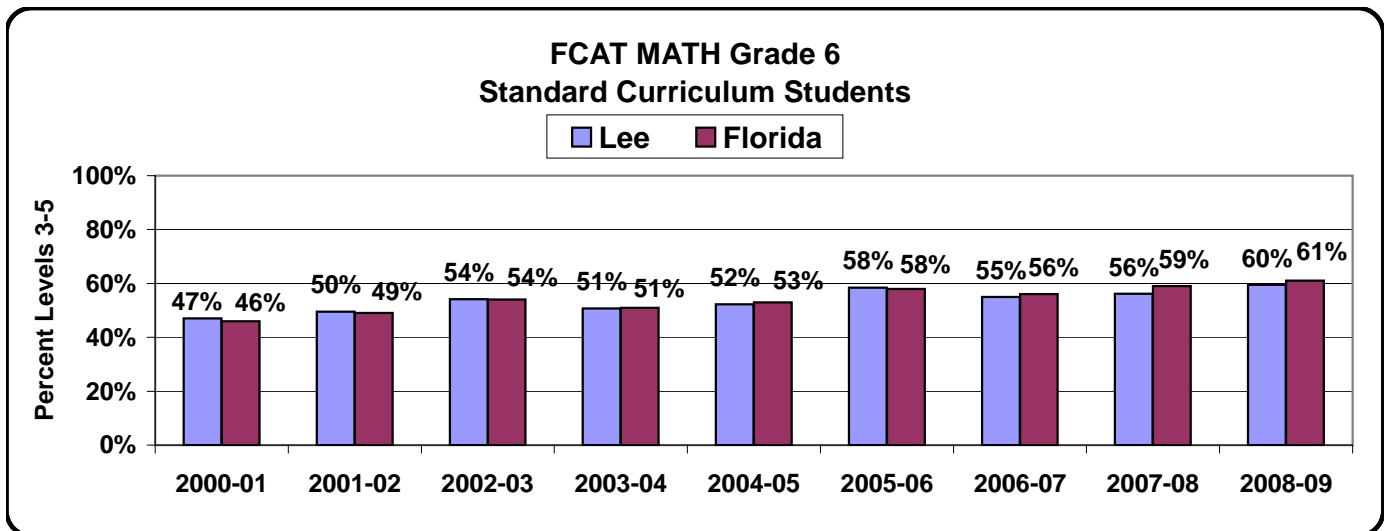
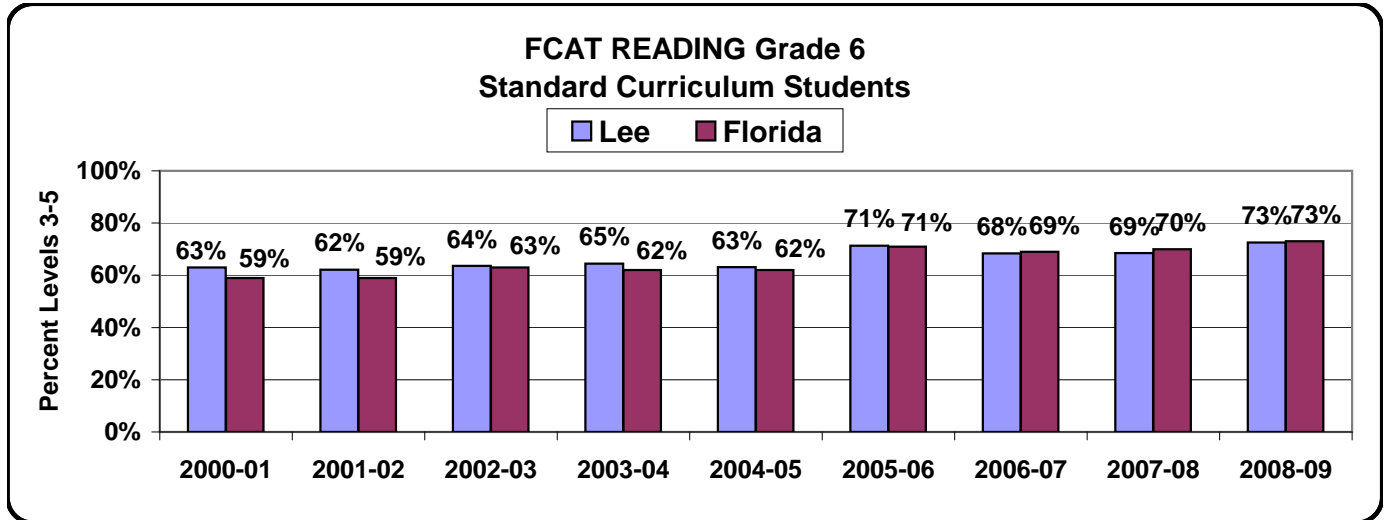
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MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

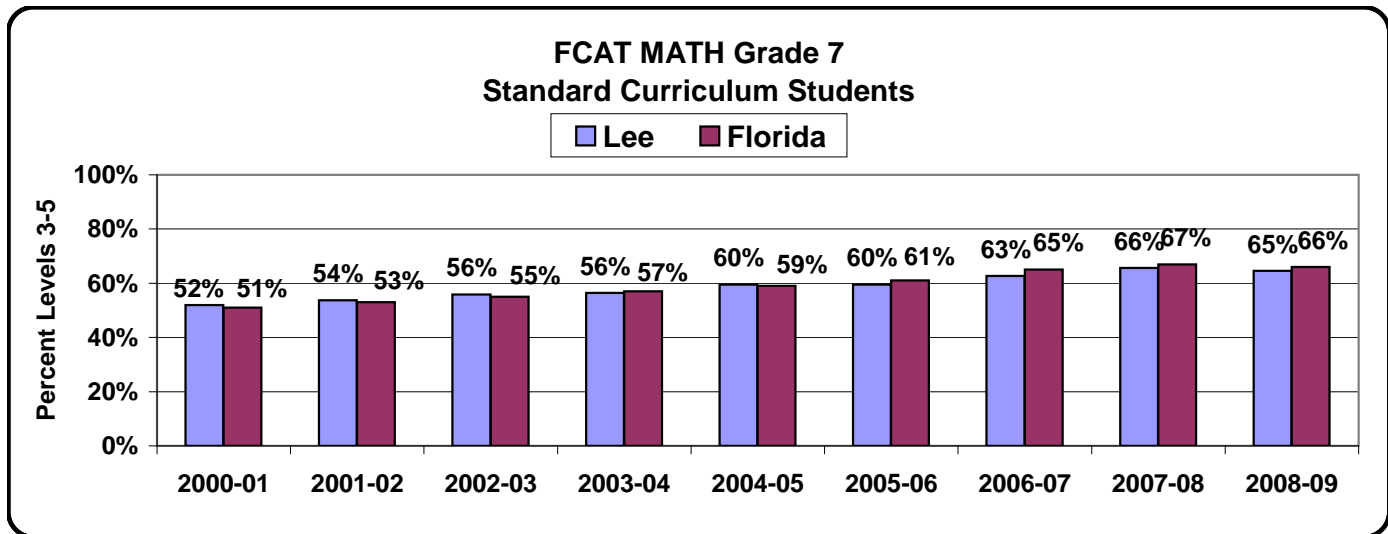
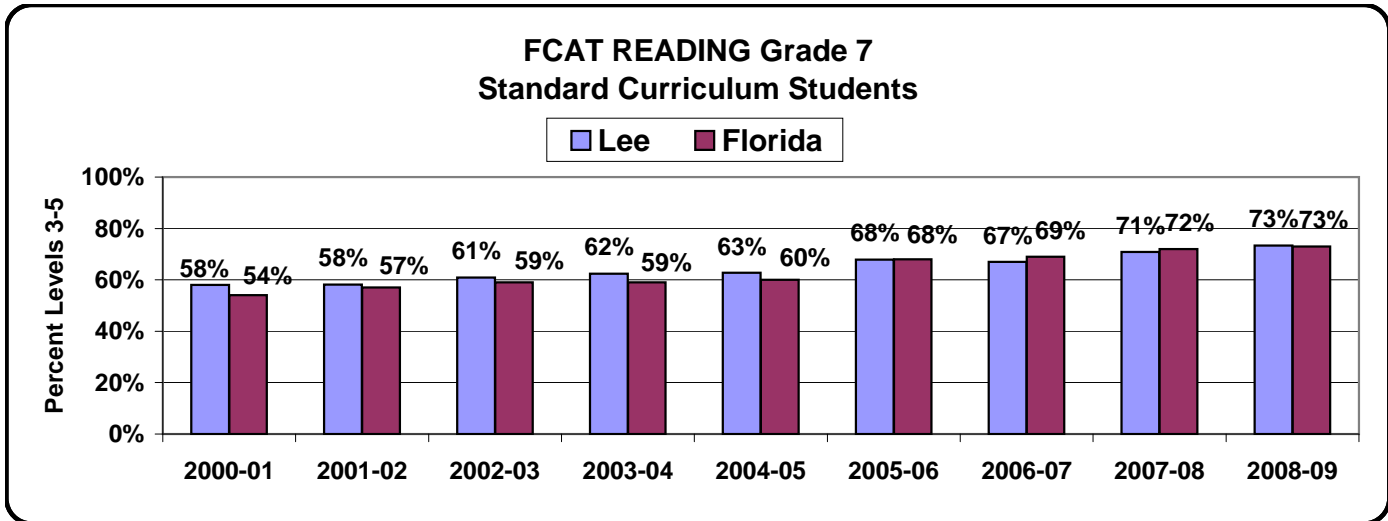
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The School District of Lee County, Florida

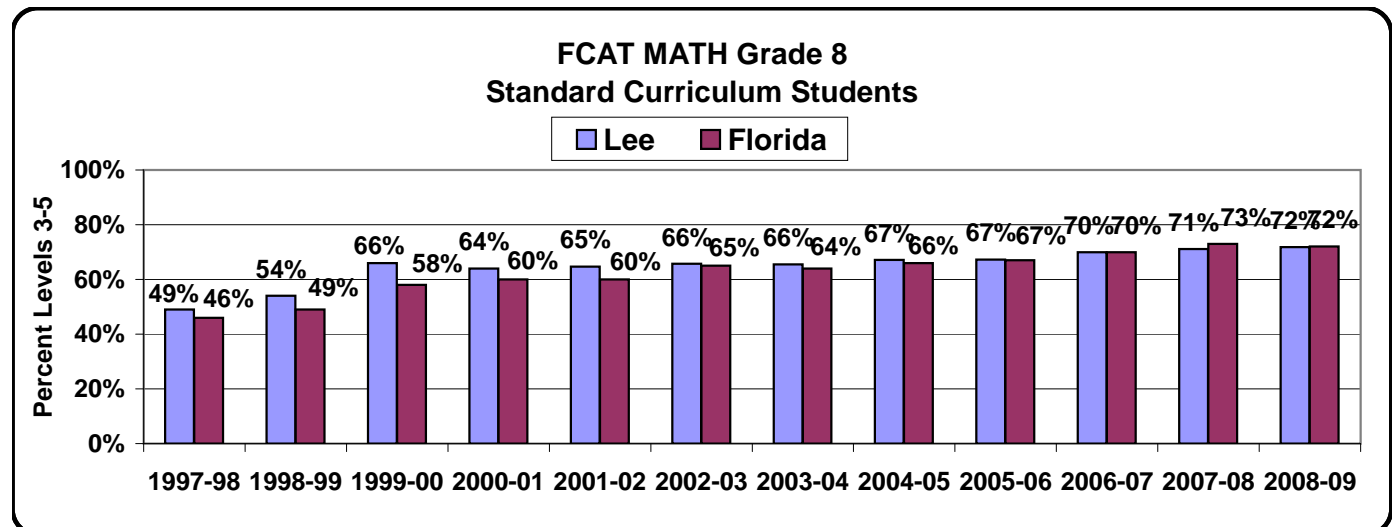
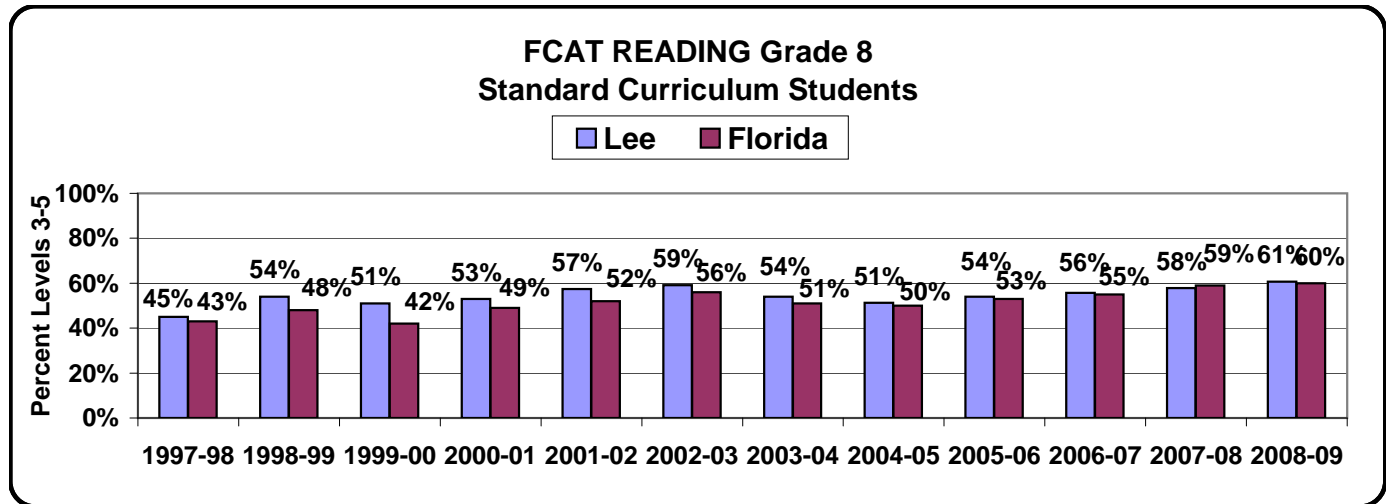
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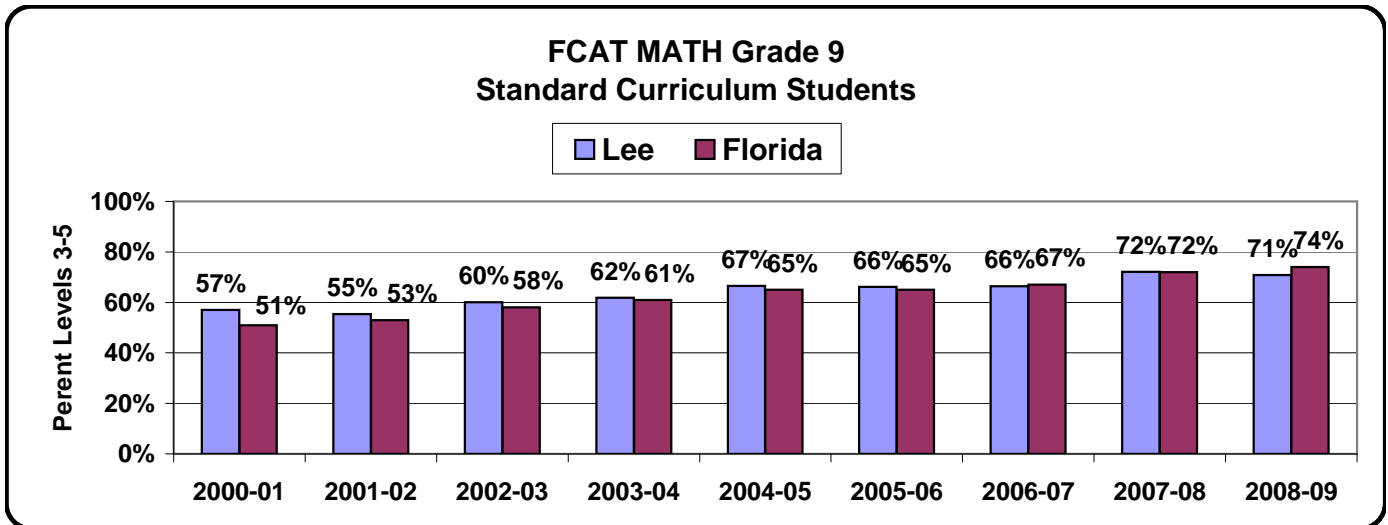
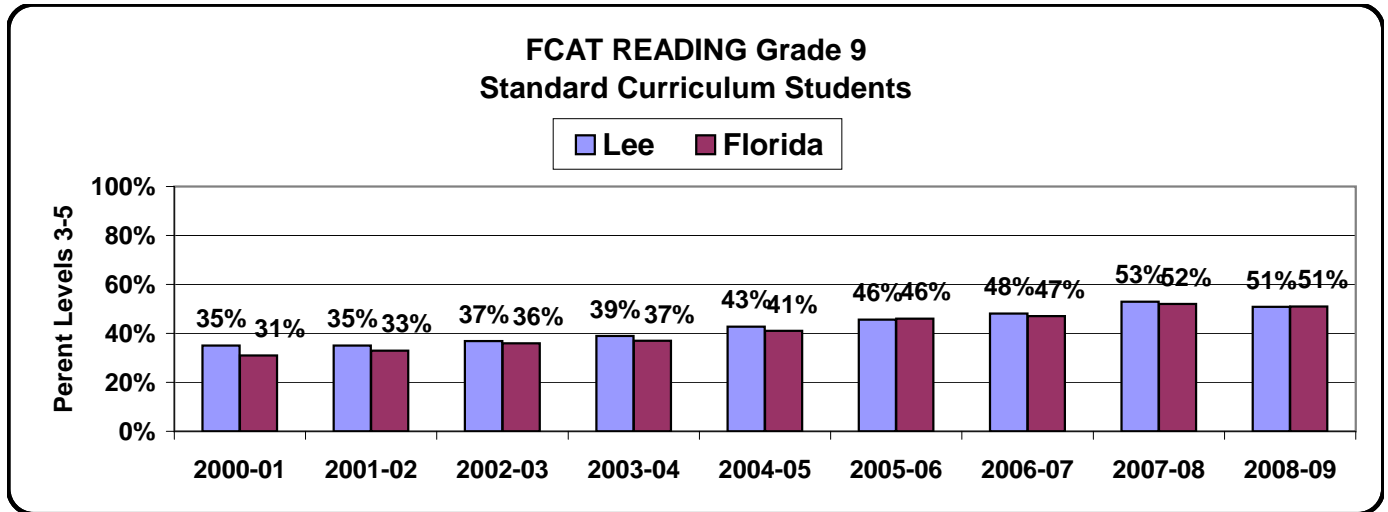
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