



New Century Education

## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH UPDATE

**Curriculum:** Reading

**Student Population:** At Risk, Academically Underperforming

**State:** Florida

**Years:** 2004-2005

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### *New Century Usage Predicts FCAT Reading Gains Among Secondary At Risk Students in an Alternative Program*

#### RESEARCH SUMMARY

**Location:** Sheriff's Boot Camp alternative education program, Polk County, Florida.

**Targeted Student Population:** Secondary students (grades 6 through 10) enrolled in an alternative education Boot Camp.

**Research Design:** All students participated in the New Century Reading intervention daily for the duration of their stay. Individual participation time varied due to program entry and exit.

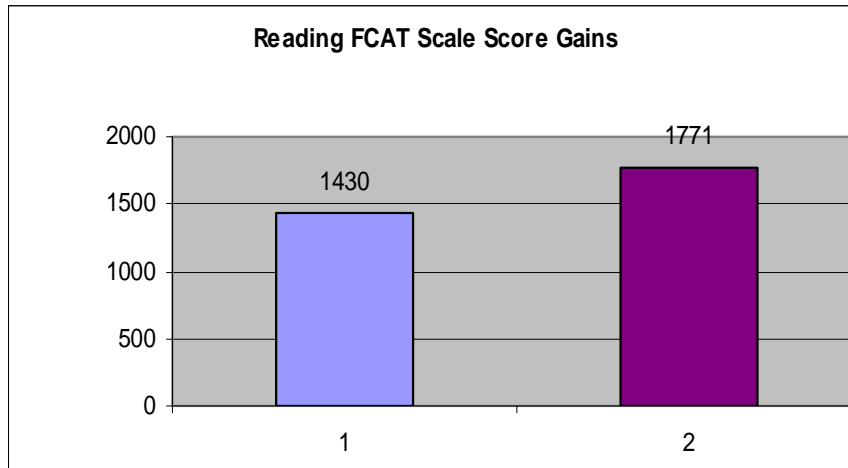
**Assessment Instruments:** Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT), Reading, a criterion referenced test.

**Results:** Due to high turnover inherent in this type of program, only 19 students had both 2004 and 2005 FCAT scores. Between 2004 and 2005 the average FCAT Reading Developmental Scale Score for these students increased from 1430 to 1771 after controlling for grade level. An ANCOVA analysis (with grade level as the covariate) indicated that the more days students were enrolled in the program, the greater the improvement in their FCAT Reading score between 2004 and 2005. The analysis was marginally significant at the .073 level (beta of .372). The ten students who were enrolled less than 108 days (average 39 days) improved an average of 187 points. The nine students who were enrolled more than 108 days (average 181 days) improved an average of 512 points on the Reading FCAT.

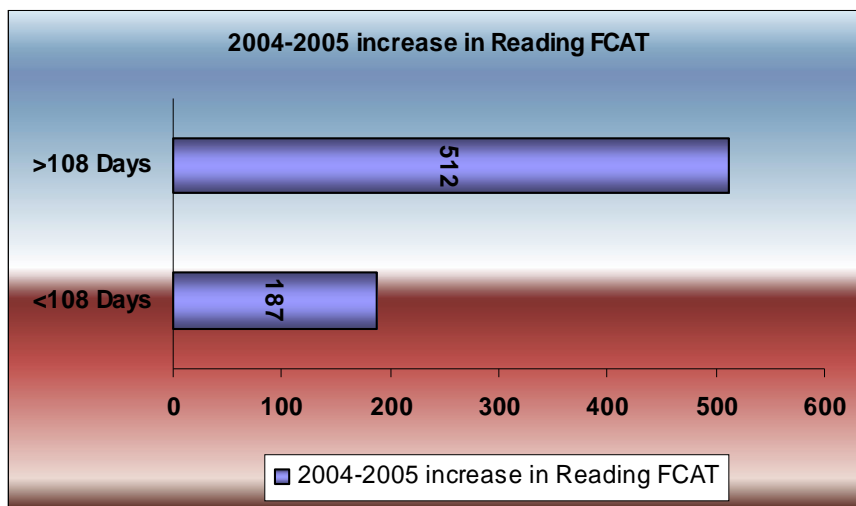


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Mean FCAT Reading Scale Score Gain, All Students



ANCOVA Analysis: Mean 2005 FCAT Reading Scores Adjusted for 2004 Grade Level and Partitioned by Enrollment Group



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