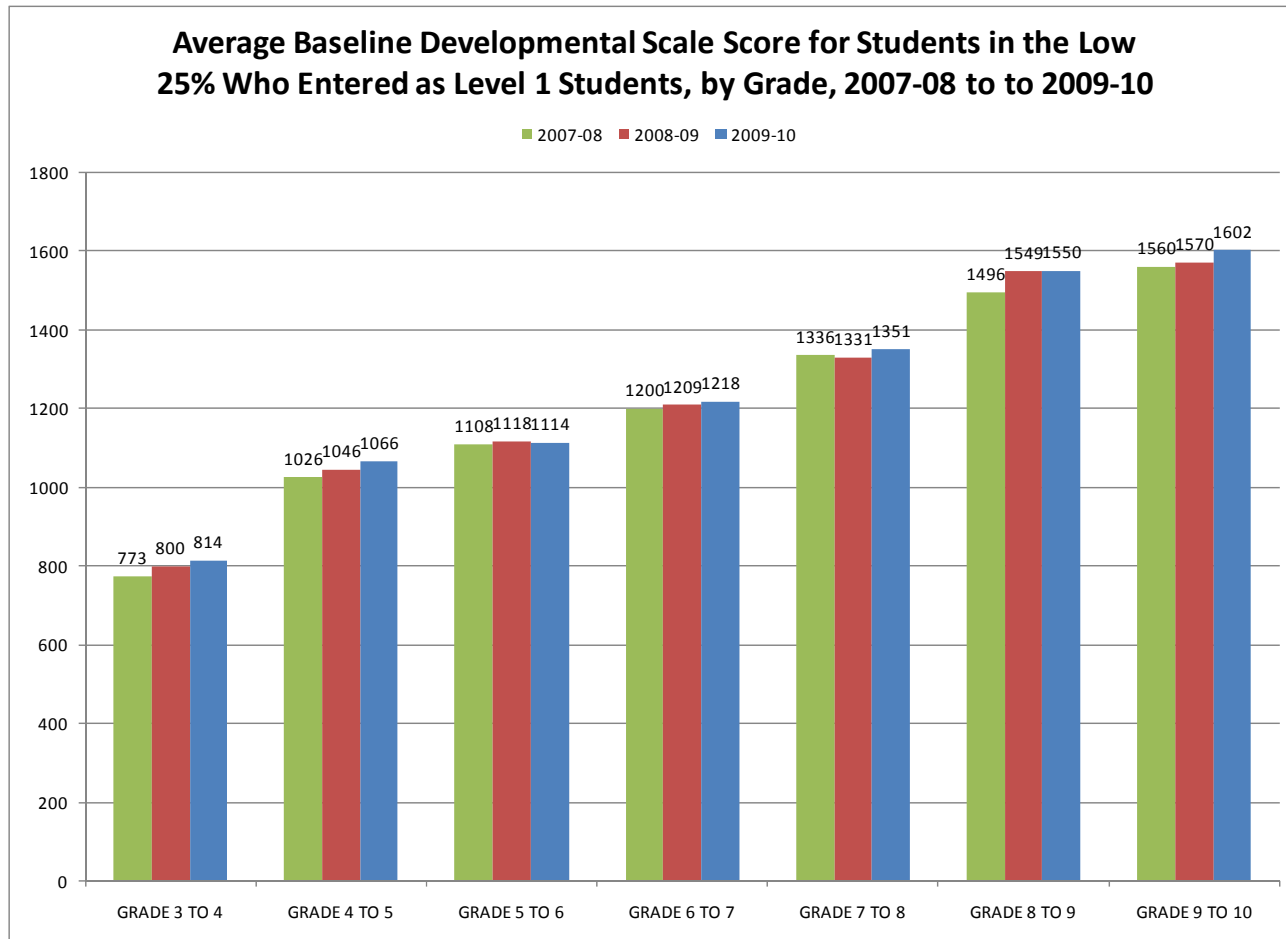


- Over the last three years, the composition of the bottom 25% of students in elementary school for reading has been changing. The bottom 25% has become:
 - Less Level 1; in other words, a smaller percentage of the lowest performing students entered 4th and 5th grade as Level 1 students in 2010 (48% in 2008; 41% in 2010).
 - More Level 2 and 3; in other words, a greater percentage of the lowest performing students entered 4th and 5th grade as Level 2 or 3 students than two years ago.



- Not only is the composition of the bottom 25% of students changing, but the characteristics of students within each achievement level are changing, as well.
- In 2010, in nearly every grade level (all except Grade 6), Level 1 students within the bottom 25% entered their respective grade levels at a higher level of performance than Level 1 students two years ago.
- For example, among students who entered 4th grade in 2010 after scoring a Level 1 in 3rd grade, their beginning developmental scale score on the FCAT Reading exam was 41 points higher, on average, than similar students in 2008 (814 DSS score vs. 773 DSS score).