

May 21, 2010

**TO:** Charles Weis, Ph.D., Superintendent

**FROM:** Linda Aceves, Chief Academic Officer, Educational Services Branch  
Dan Mason, Research Analyst, Assessment and Accountability

**SUBJECT:** 2009-10 California English Language Development Test (CELDT) Annual Assessment Results

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The following is a summary of annual CELDT assessment results for Santa Clara County (SCC). The CELDT assessment is used for initial identification of all students whose primary language is not English. It is also given annually to identify English Learners (EL's) until they are reclassified as Fluent English Proficient (R-FEP).

CELDT covers listening, speaking, reading and writing skills for kindergarten through twelfth grade. CELDT scores are reported on five performance levels, from Beginning to Advanced. The 2009-10 administration included the implementation of reading and writing domains for kindergarten and first grade - however performance levels were not available at this time. State Board of Education (SBE) criteria for EL language proficiency require students to attain an overall CELDT level of at least Early Advanced while being at Intermediate or above in each skill area. School districts must use individual CELDT results as one of four criteria when considering reclassifying English learners. Additional measures that must be considered are the comparison of the student's performance in basic skills against an empirically established range of performance in basic skills based upon the performance of English proficient students of the same age, teacher evaluation, and parent or guardian opinion and consultation.

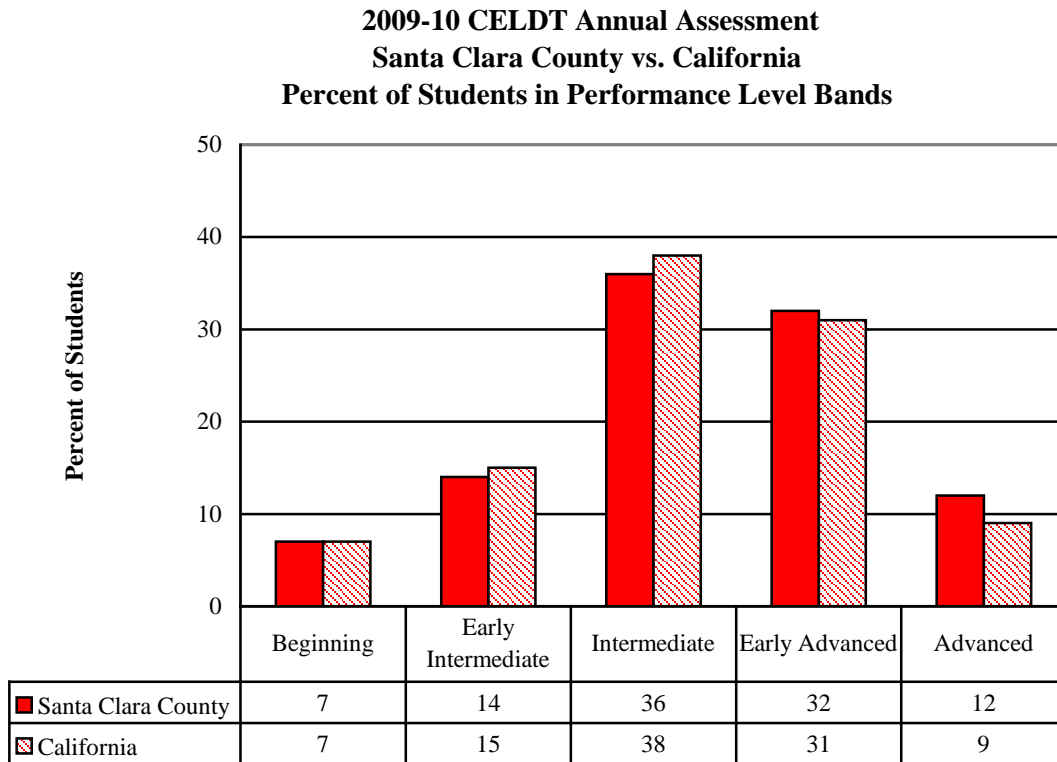
The 2006-07 version of the CELDT assessment incorporated a new scale, which reflected an increased difficulty level and incorporated cut points that better align the CELDT performance levels with California's English Language Development (ELD) standards. With the 2009-10 CELDT scores, there are now three years of valid and unadjusted comparisons to the 2006-07 CELDT administration and its increased rigor.

### **Santa Clara County Compared to California (CA)**

- From 2006-07 to 2009-10, the number of Santa Clara County students taking the CELDT Annual assessment increased by 12% (51,382 vs. 57,360). During the same time period, the number of students tested statewide on the CELDT decreased by 1% (1,311,112 vs. 1,292,131).
- Santa Clara County had a higher percent of students at the CELDT Advanced level than the state did (12% vs. 9%) (see figure 1).

- From 2006-07 to 2009-10, the percent of Santa Clara County students testing at the Advanced level grew from 8% to 12% and the percent of students testing at the Early Advanced level grew from 26% to 32% (see figure 3).
- Santa Clara County had a higher percentage of students meeting the SBE CELDT criterion for English Proficiency compared to the state (41% vs. 37%) (see figure 4). In 2006-07 the difference was 31% vs. 29%, respectively.
- SCC students easily outpaced CA in meeting the CELDT Criterion in the lower grade spans (K-2 and 3-5) but were much closer to the CA rates in the upper grade spans (6-8 and 9-12) (see figure 6)
- Though SCC has a higher rate than CA of students meeting the CELDT Criterion, SCC also has a higher percent of non-Spanish test takers that raise the SCC rate. Two-thirds (67%) of SCC CELDT takers are Spanish speakers compared to 85% statewide (see figure 9). Because Spanish speakers under-perform all other language groups in SCC and CA, having a significantly lower percent of Spanish speaking test takers benefits SCC in comparisons to CA.
- There is a CELDT achievement gap in CA and SCC between Spanish speaking EL students and all other EL students. Spanish speaking students make up two thirds of SCC test takers and 34% of them met the CELDT Criterion. The remaining one third of SCC EL students met the CELDT Criterion at a rate of 55% (see figures 7 and 8).

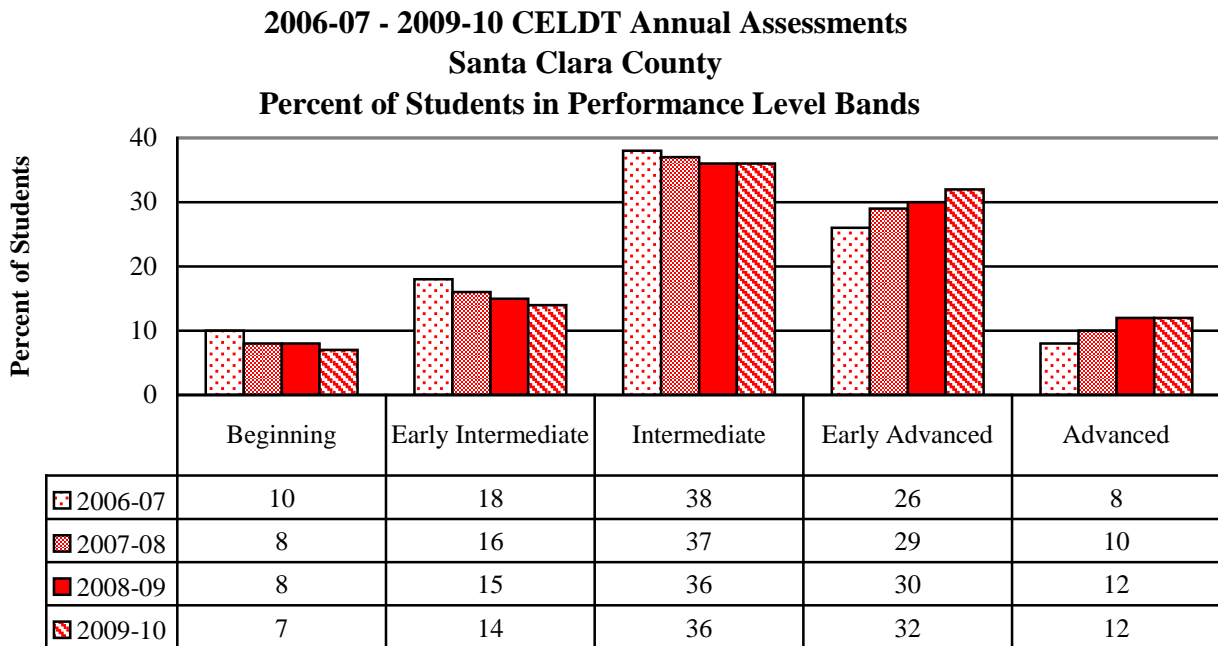
**Figure 1:**



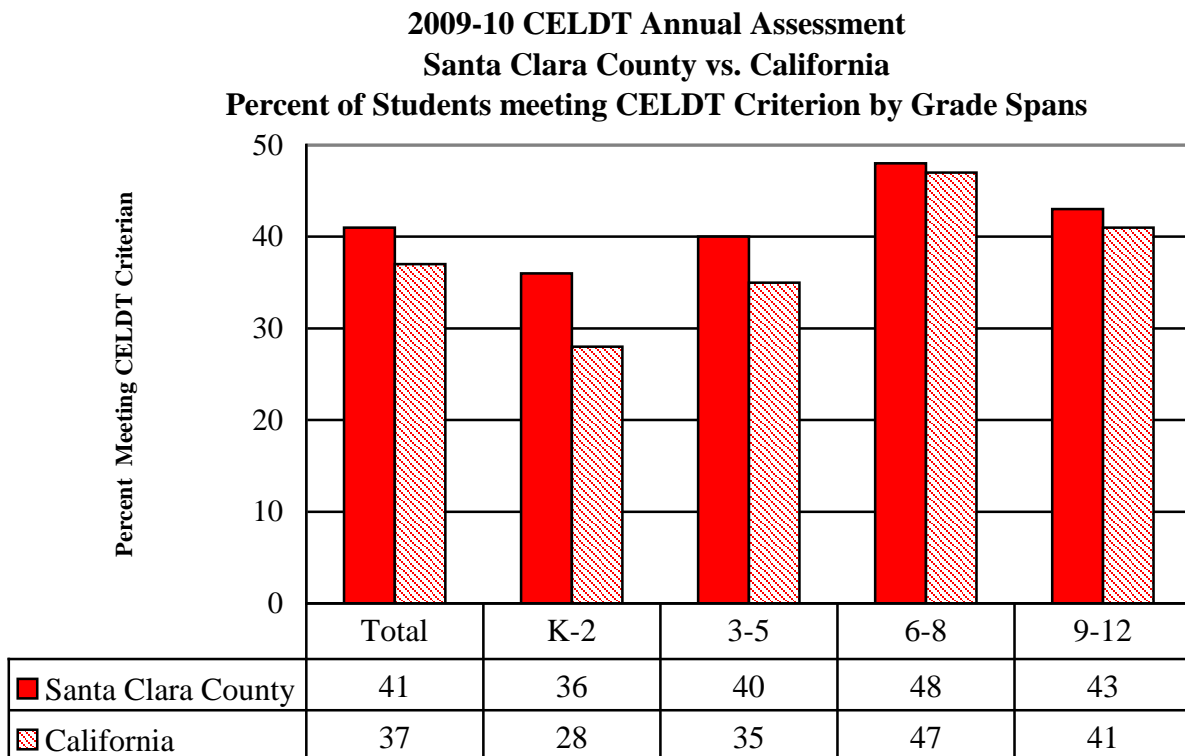
**Figure 2: 2009-10 SCC and CA Students by Performance Level**

<b>CELDT Performance Level</b>	<b>Santa Clara County</b>	<b>California</b>
Beginning	3,970	95,208
Early Intermediate	8,086	190,219
Intermediate	20,416	492,681
Early Advanced	18,193	397,089
Advanced	6,695	116,934
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,360</b>	<b>1,292,131</b>

**Figure 3:**

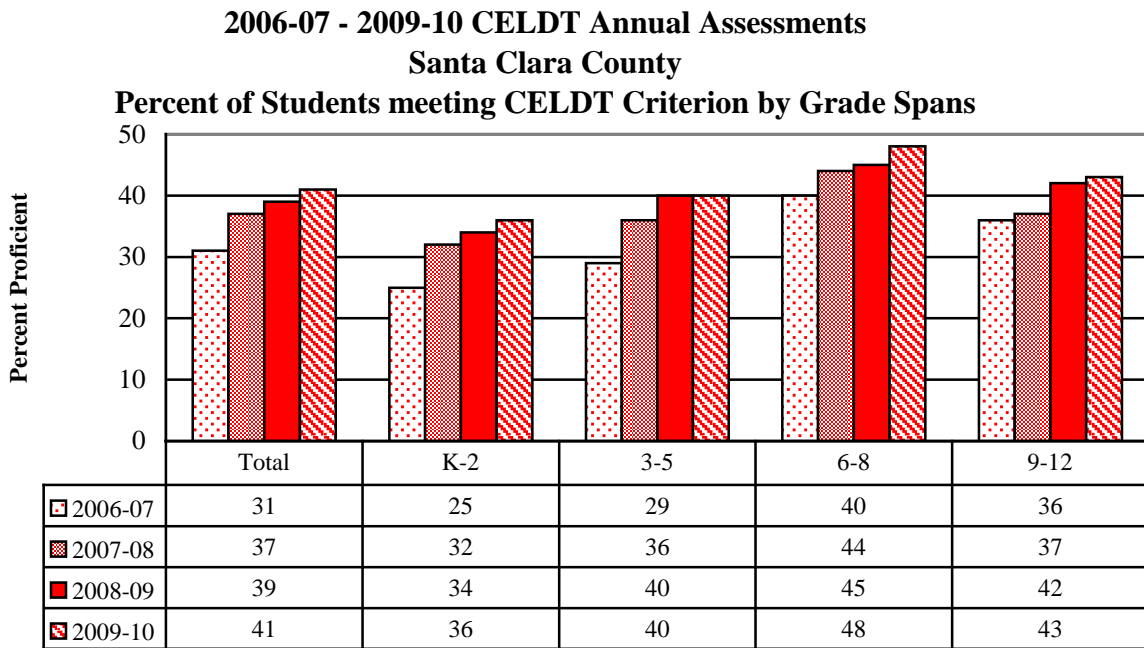


**Figure 4:**



\*The CELDT Criterion is an overall score of early advanced or higher and scores for each domain (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) at intermediate or higher.

**Figure 5:**



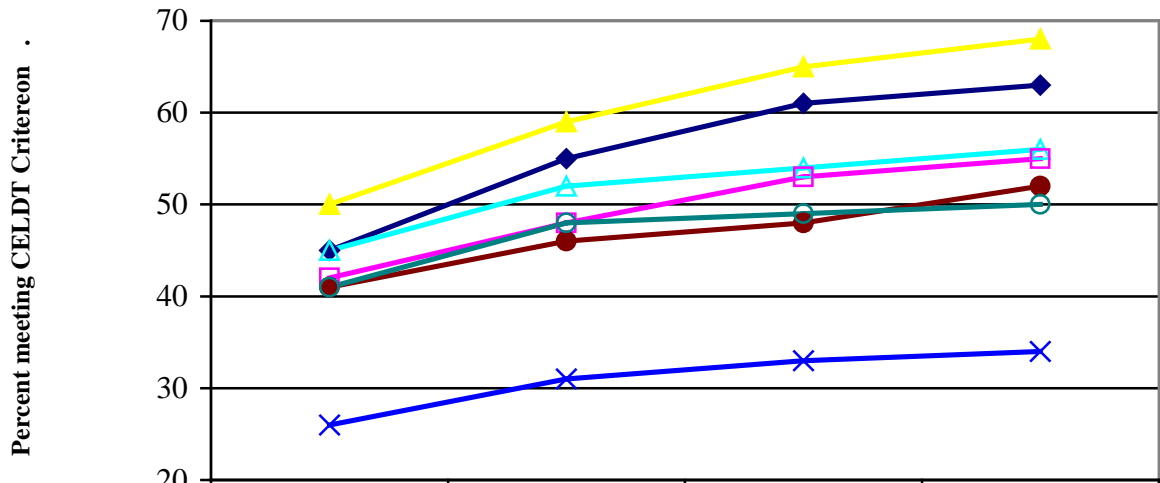
\*The CELDT Criterion is an overall score of early advanced or higher and scores for each domain (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) at intermediate or higher.

**Figure 6: 2009-10 Students Tested and meeting CELDT Criterion by Grade Spans**

		<b>K-2</b>	<b>3-5</b>	<b>6-8</b>	<b>9-12</b>	<b>Total</b>
Santa Clara County	Students Tested	18,587	18,582	10,618	9,573	57,360
	Number Proficient	6,748	7,413	5,112	4,120	23,393
	Percent Proficient	36%	40%	48%	43%	41%
California	Students Tested	354,084	411,281	258,155	268,611	1,292,131
	Number Proficient	99,109	143,354	121,313	110,234	474,010
	Percent Proficient	28%	35%	47%	41%	37%

**Figure 7:**

**2006-07 - 2009-10 CELDT Annual Assessments  
 Santa Clara County  
 Percent of Students meeting CELDT Criterion by Primary Language**



	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
—▲— Mandarin (Putonghua)	50	59	65	68
—◆— Korean	45	55	61	63
—△— Cantonese	45	52	54	56
—□— Other	42	48	53	55
—●— Pilipino (Tagalog)	41	46	48	52
—○— Vietnamese	41	48	49	50
—×— Spanish	26	31	33	34

\*The CELDT Criterion is an overall score of early advanced or higher and scores for each domain (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) at intermediate or higher.

**Figure 8: Number of Students Tested and meeting CELDT Criterion by Language**

Primary Language	SCC Students Tested	SCC Students Proficient	SCC Percent Proficient	CA Percent Proficient
Spanish	38,835	13,298	34%	35%
Vietnamese	7,168	3,609	50%	51%
Other	6,248	3,464	55%	43%
Pilipino (Tagalog)	1,833	953	52%	52%
Mandarin (Putonghua)	1,608	1,088	68%	62%
Cantonese	967	541	56%	51%
Korean	701	440	63%	62%

**Figure 9: Number and Percent of SCC Students Tested by Language**

<b>Primary Language</b>	<b>SCC Students Tested</b>	<b>Percent of SCC Students Tested</b>	<b>CA Students Tested</b>	<b>Percent of CA Students Tested</b>
Spanish	38,227	67%	1,103,351	85%
Vietnamese	6,882	12%	30,494	2%
Other	6,192	11%	100,899	8%
Pilipino (Tagalog)	1,891	3%	18,226	1%
Mandarin (Putonghua)	1,613	3%	9,628	1%
Cantonese	972	2%	17,394	1%
Korean	785	1%	12,139	1%
Total	57,360	100%	1,292,131	100%

**Figure 10: Comparison of Proficiency Level by Test**

<b>CELDT</b>	<b>CST</b>
Advanced	Advanced
Early Advanced	Proficient
Intermediate	Basic
Early Intermediate	Below Basic
Beginning	Far Below Basic