

Research Brief

Loudoun County Public Schools

LOUDOUN, VA

Virginia Students Excel on Geometry and English Reading End-of-Course Tests

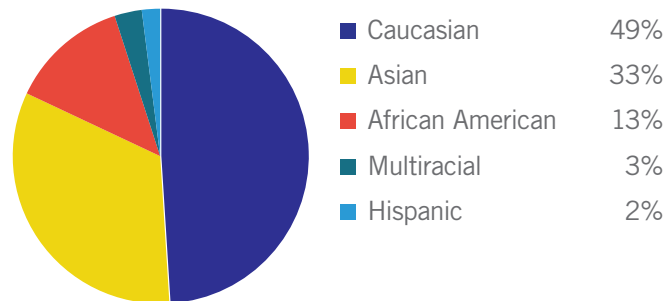
Evaluation Overview

Grades: 6–11

Model: Flex Model

Measure: Virginia End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments

Sample Demographics



District Overview

Located 30 miles northwest of Washington, D.C., Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) is the fastest growing school division in Virginia. The district serves 68,289 students in 82 schools. Approximately 44 percent of students are minorities and 13 percent are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.

Implementation

In spring 2012, LCPS began searching for a new online provider for its summer school program. Previously, the district had offered face-to-face summer school courses, but wanted to adopt a program that would give students and staff more flexibility. Many students could not take face-to-face summer school courses due to scheduling issues. The district selected Edgenuity and its instructional services team because of its extensive course offerings and highly qualified teaching staff. They liked that courses could be offered any time, anywhere.

That summer, LCPS piloted Edgenuity's English and Geometry courses in a six-week summer school program. Students accessed courses at home on their personal computers. Edgenuity's Instructional Services offered online instructional support, provided web-based tutoring and concept demonstration, and monitored student engagement, progress, and achievement.

Study Sample

Sixty-three 6th grade through 11th grade students comprise the Geometry EOC sample described in this report. Of these, 49 percent were Caucasian, 33 percent were Asian, 13 percent were African-American, 3 percent were multiracial, and 2 percent were Hispanic. These 63 students all took an Edgenuity online Geometry course during the summer of 2012.

Thirty-five 10th grade students comprise the English Reading EOC sample described in this report. Of these, 65 percent were Caucasian, 26 percent were Asian, 6 percent were multiracial, and 3 percent were Hispanic. These 35 students all took an Edgenuity online English 11 course during the summer of 2012.

Measures

Edgenuity Program Data

Edgenuity's Web Administrator tracks student engagement, achievement, and progress data. This study collected data on the total number of attempted courses, the total number of courses completed, and the average overall grade of students.

Virginia End-of-Course Tests

Virginia's Standards of Learning End-of-Course (EOC) tests are used to evaluate students' knowledge and skills at the end of a course. Students take EOC tests in Reading, Writing, Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, Virginia and U.S. History, World History I, World History II, and World Geography at the conclusion of each high school course. EOC assessments report student scale scores and achievement as one of three performance levels (Pass/Advanced, Pass/Proficient, or Fail/Does Not Meet). This report presents data from Edgenuity students who took the July 2012 administrations of the Geometry and English Reading EOC assessments.

Results

Participation Level

Course usage data was collected and analyzed for the 63 LCPS students who took the Edgenuity Geometry course and the subsequent Geometry EOC test. Likewise, course usage data was collected and analyzed for the 35 LCPS students who took the Edgenuity English 11 course and the subsequent English Reading EOC test. Table 1 provides descriptive data on program use. Overall, Geometry students spent an average of 127 hours in their Edgenuity course and earned an average overall grade of 90%. English 11 students spent an average of 84 hours in their Edgenuity course and earned an average overall grade of 92%.

Virginia End-of-Course Tests

Data revealed that students participating in Edgenuity courses outperformed their district and state peers on the 2012 Virginia Geometry and English Reading EOC assessments. Most notably, while 90 percent of LCPS students using Edgenuity passed the spring 2012 Virginia EOC Geometry test, only 74 percent of students did statewide.

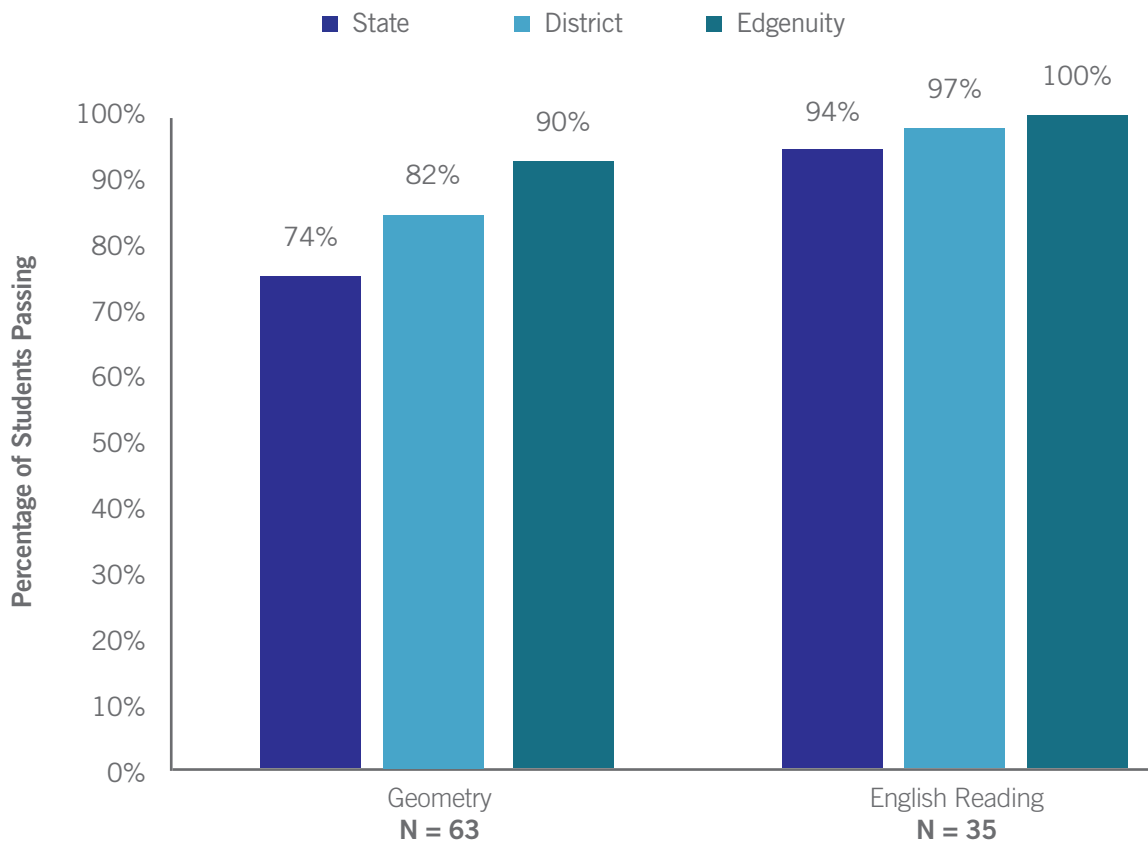
Table 1: Loudoun County Public Schools Edgenuity Students

Edgenuity Course Usage Data: Summer 2012

VA EOC Test Taken in Summer 2012	Edgenuity Course Taken in Summer 2012	Number of Students	Average Percentage of Edgenuity Course Completed	Average Overall Course Grade	Average Total Activity Time (hours)
Geometry	Geometry	63	100%	90%	127
English Reading	English 11	35	98%	92%	84

Graph 1: Loudoun County Public School Students

Percentage of Students Passing the Virginia EOC Test by Subject, Summer 2012



Conclusion

Data indicate that LCPS students participating in Edgenuity courses excelled on two 2012 Virginia EOC tests. Remarkably, 100 percent of students using Edgenuity courses passed the 2012 English Reading EOC test and 90 percent of students passed the 2012 Geometry EOC test. Furthermore, Edgenuity students posted higher passing rates than the state and district pass rates on both assessments.