



**Pennsylvania
Department of
Education**

Student Achievement in Pennsylvania

2006-07 PSSA and AYP Results



Edward G. Rendell
Governor

Dr. Gerald L. Zahorchak
Secretary of Education

PA Students Are Making Gains

- Student achievement continues to rise. More students are on grade level today in reading and math at the elementary, middle and high school levels than they were five years ago. Nearly 7 in 10 PA students are on track for success.
- Pennsylvania is meeting its No Child Left Behind achievement targets at all grade levels in reading and in math. Despite an increase in the number of grades and performance targets, 92% of school districts and 77% of schools met all of their AYP targets this year.
- Investment matters. Pennsylvania's achievement targets are increasing in the 2007-08 school year -- and it is more important than ever to invest in the programs that are proven to work and to provide the essential supports so schools can succeed.

Pennsylvania Students Achieving

- **2007 Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) shows student achievement in Pennsylvania continues to rise.**
- **In 2007 grades 3-8 and 11 were tested for the second year.**
- **69.2% of Pennsylvania students are now on grade level in math.**
- **67.7% of Pennsylvania students are now on grade level in reading.**



Pennsylvania Students Exceeded NCLB Targets

45% above proficient in math

Math	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
3rd graders	*	*	*	80.2%	82.7%	78.5%
4th graders	*	*	*	*	77.2%	78.0%
5th graders	53.1%	56.3%	61.8%	69.0%	66.9%	71.0%
6th graders	*	*	*	*	68.0%	69.6%
7th graders	*	*	*	*	66.5%	67.2%
8th graders	51.7%	51.3%	57.9%	62.9%	62.2%	67.9%
11th graders	49.6%	49.1%	49.1%	50.9%	52.0%	53.7%

* = no test administered

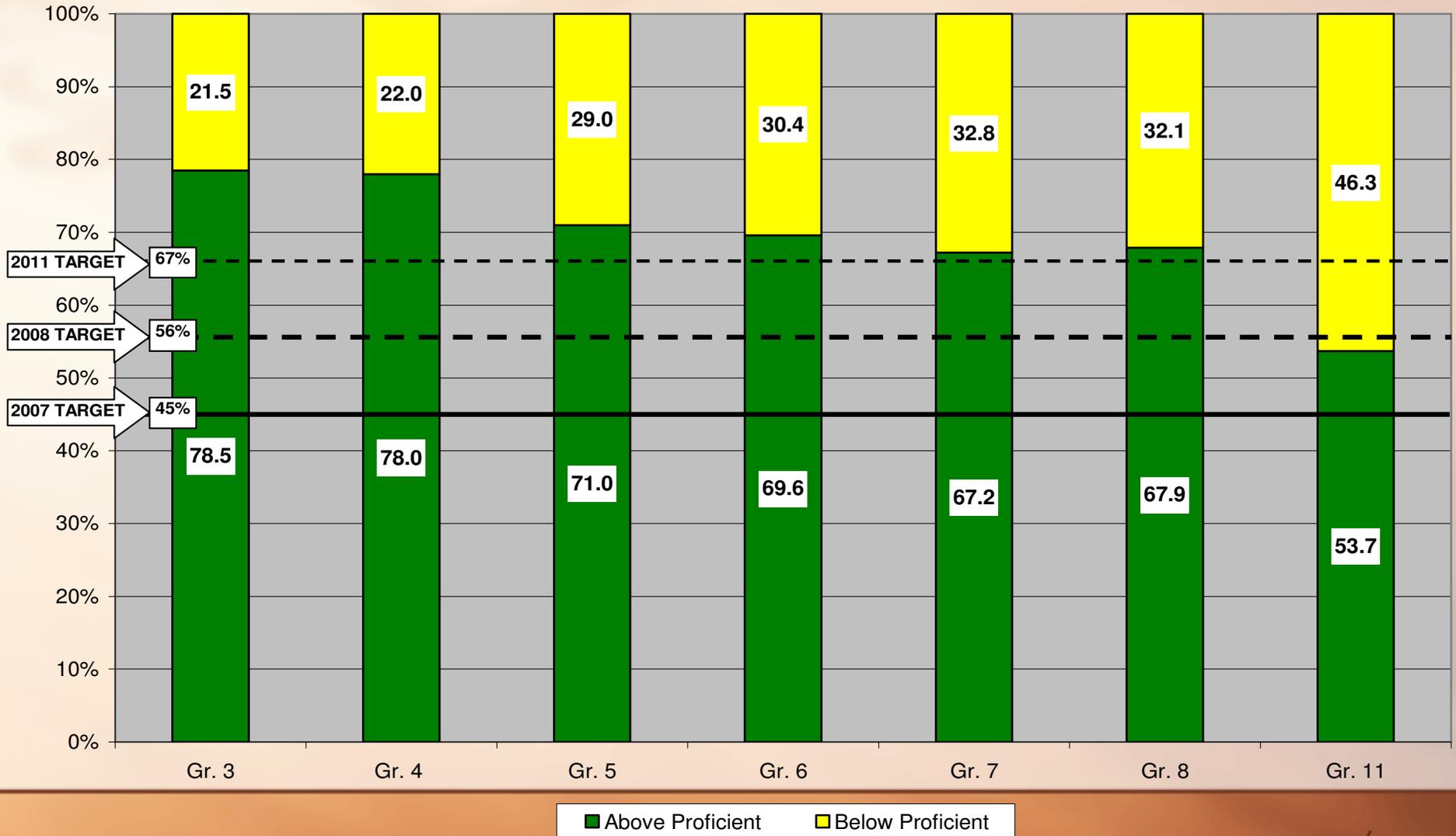
Pennsylvania Students Exceeded NCLB Targets

54% above proficient in reading

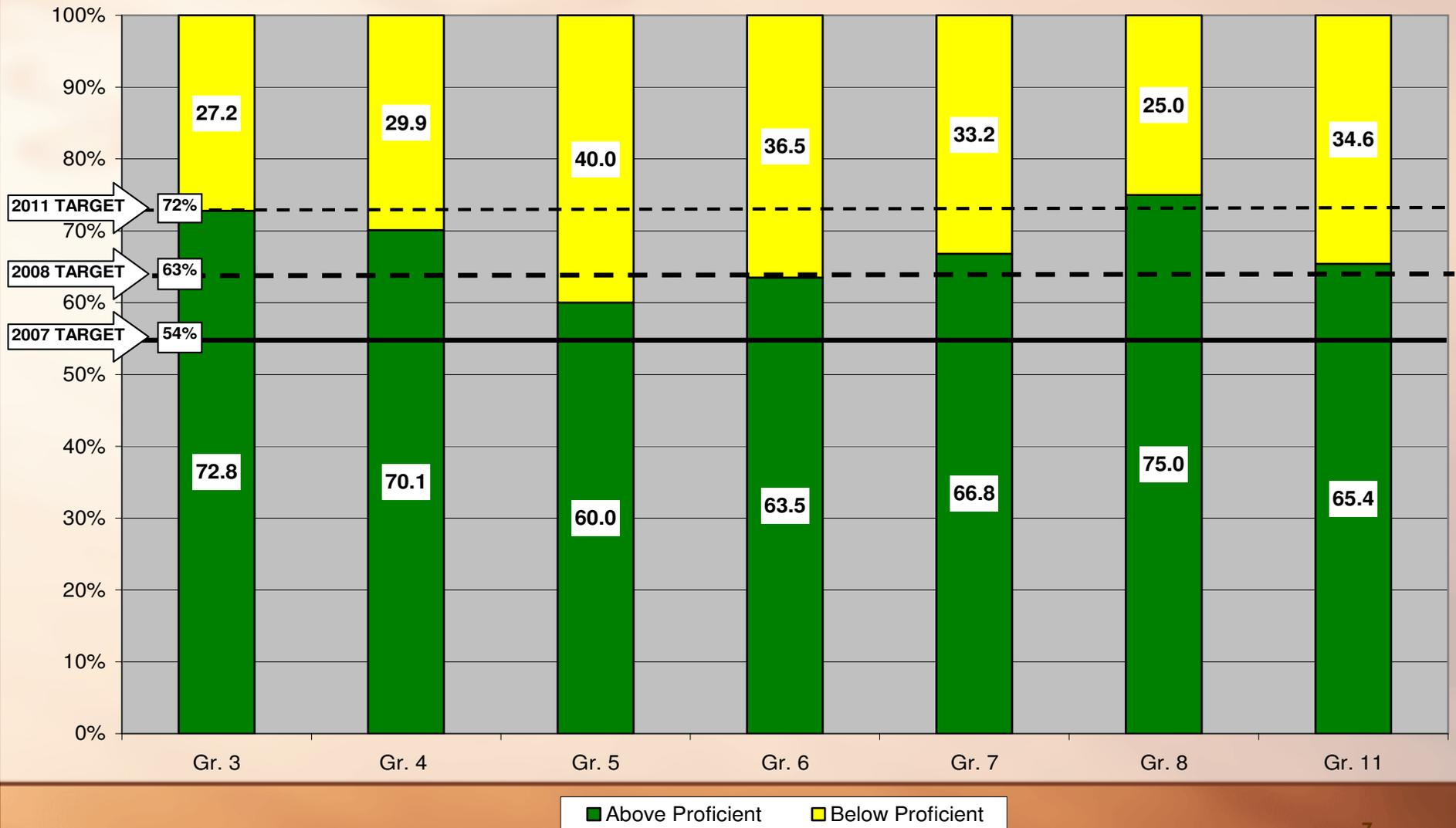
Reading	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
3 rd graders	*	*	*	68.2%	69.0%	72.8%
4 th graders	*	*	*	*	68.1%	70.1%
5 th graders	57.0%	58.0%	62.7%	64.2%	60.6%	59.9%
6 th graders	*	*	*	*	65.9%	63.5%
7 th graders	*	*	*	*	68.1%	66.8%
8 th graders	58.8%	63.4%	68.9%	64.1%	70.6%	75.0%
11 th graders	59.0%	59.2%	60.8%	65.0%	65.1%	65.4%

* = no test administered

Pennsylvania On Track to Meet Next Year's Higher Targets in Math

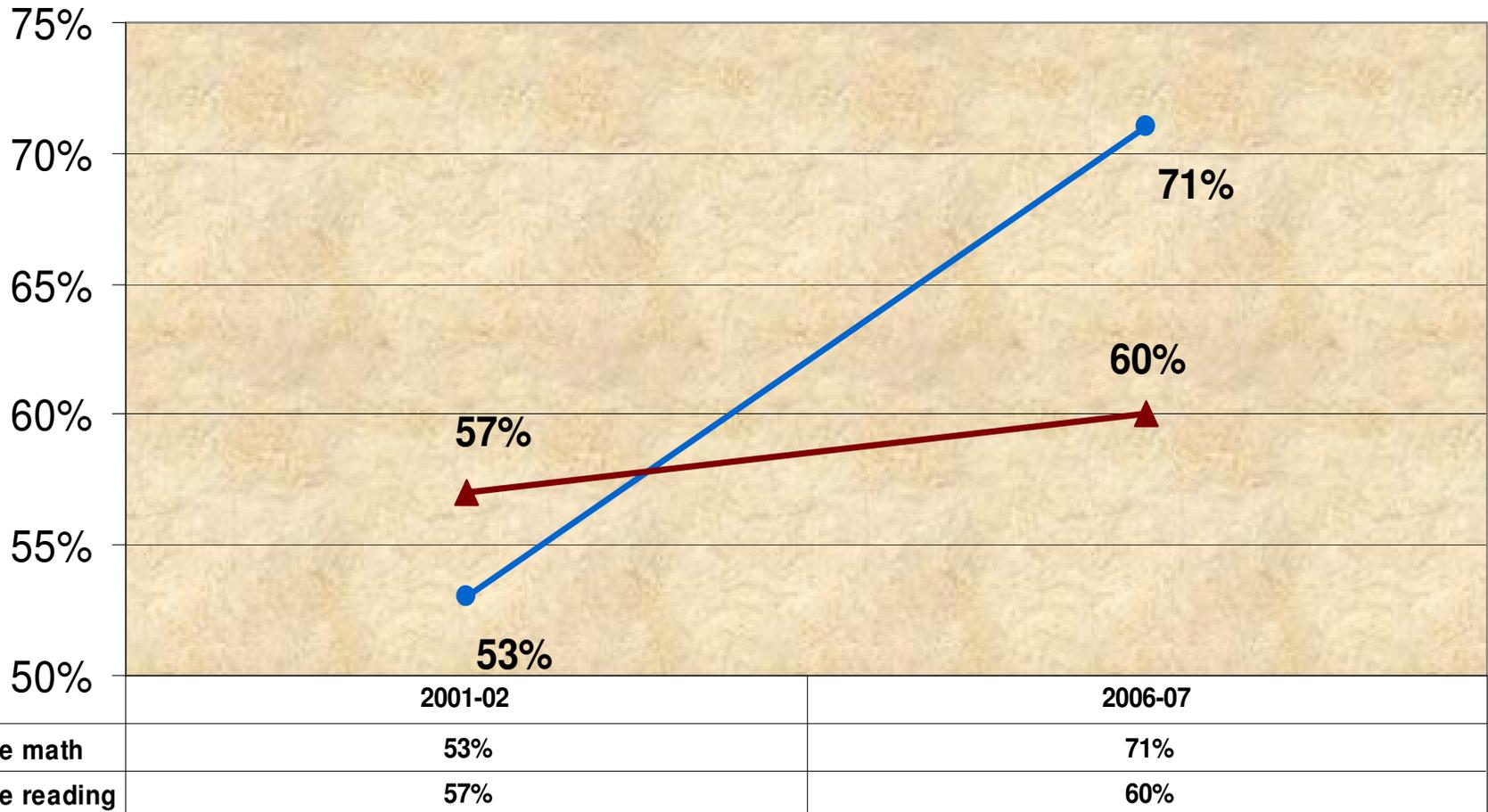


Pennsylvania On Track to Meet Next Year's Higher Targets in Reading



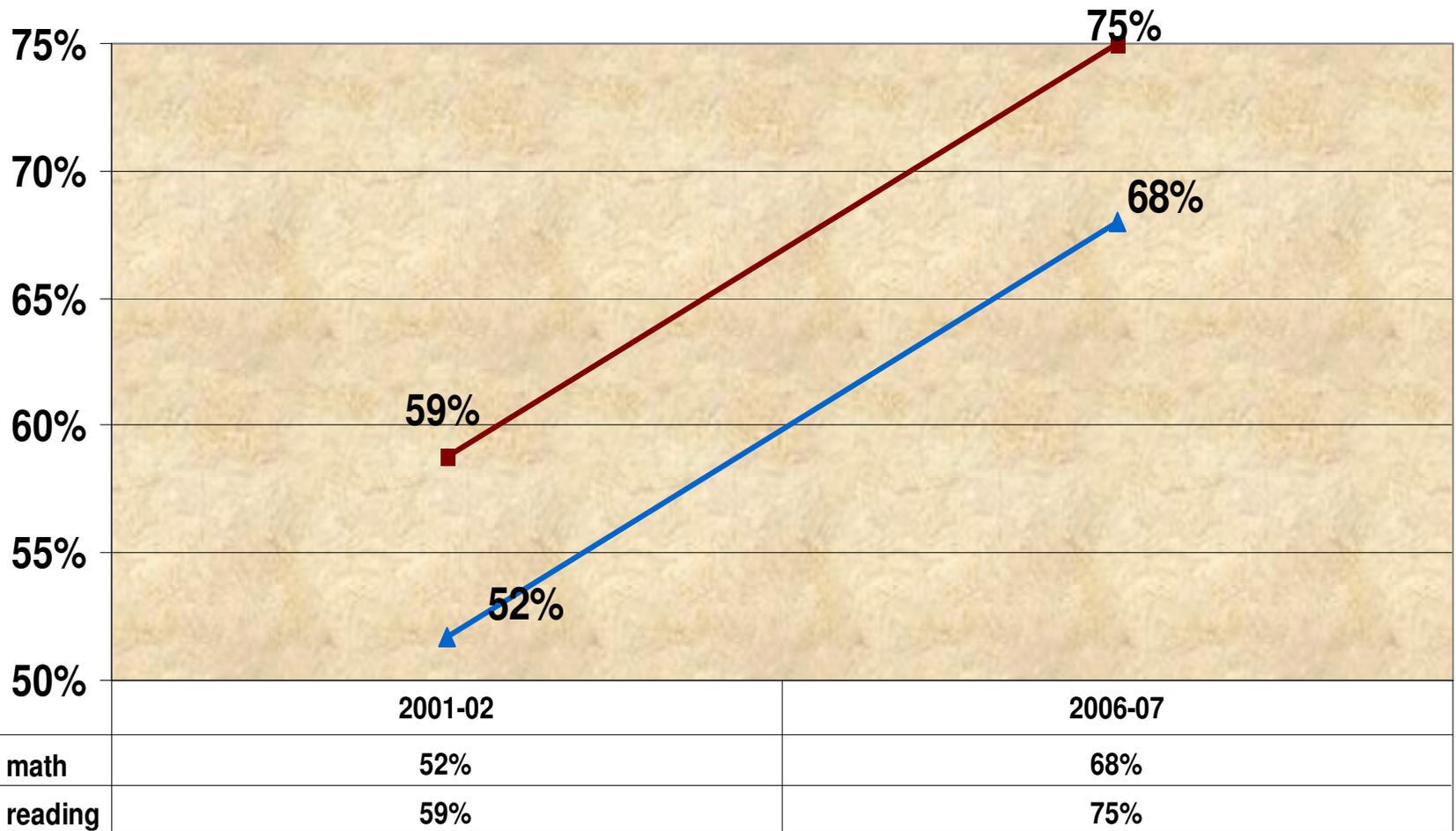
Student Achievement Continues to Rise

5th grade sees large gain in math, progress in reading since 2002



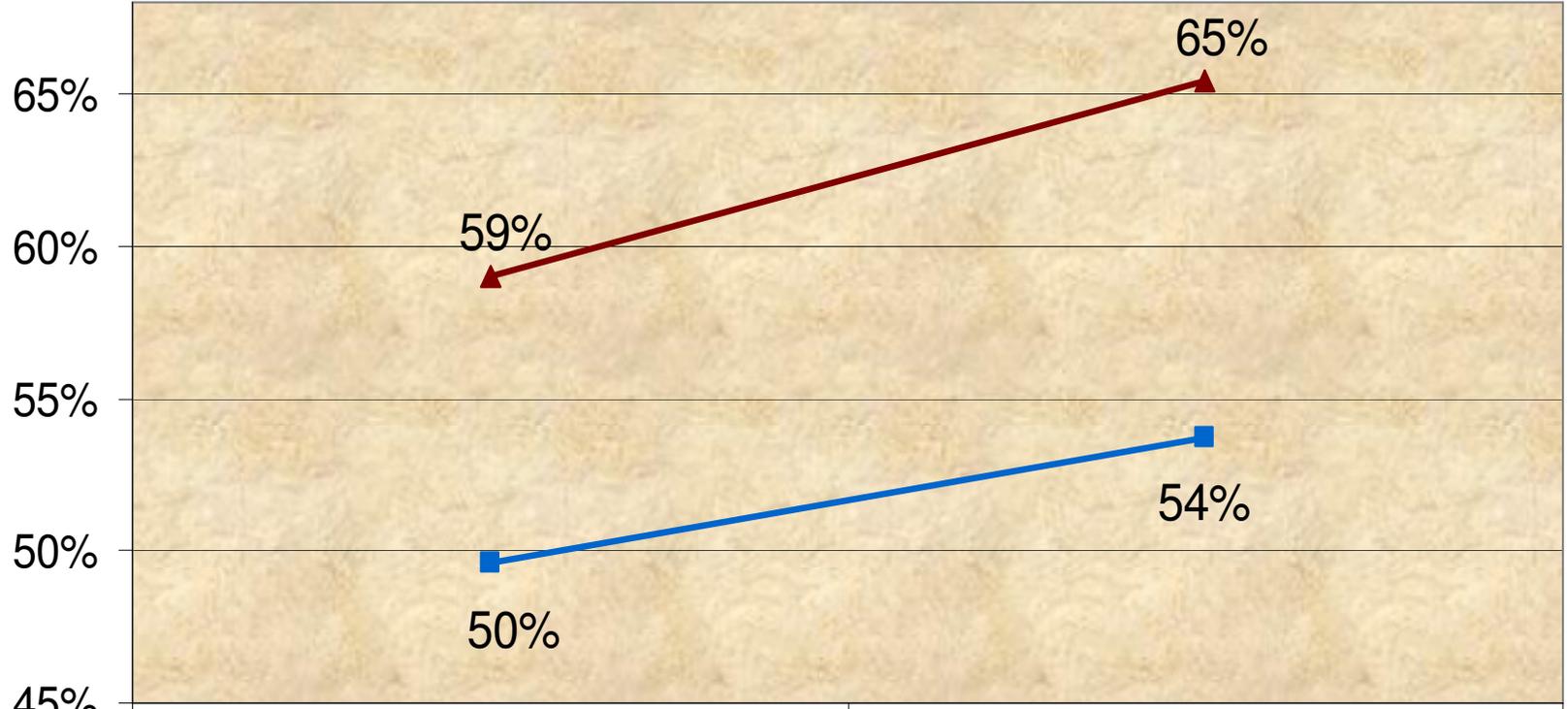
Student Achievement Continues to Rise

Double digit gains in 8th grade reading and math since 2002



Student Achievement Continues to Rise

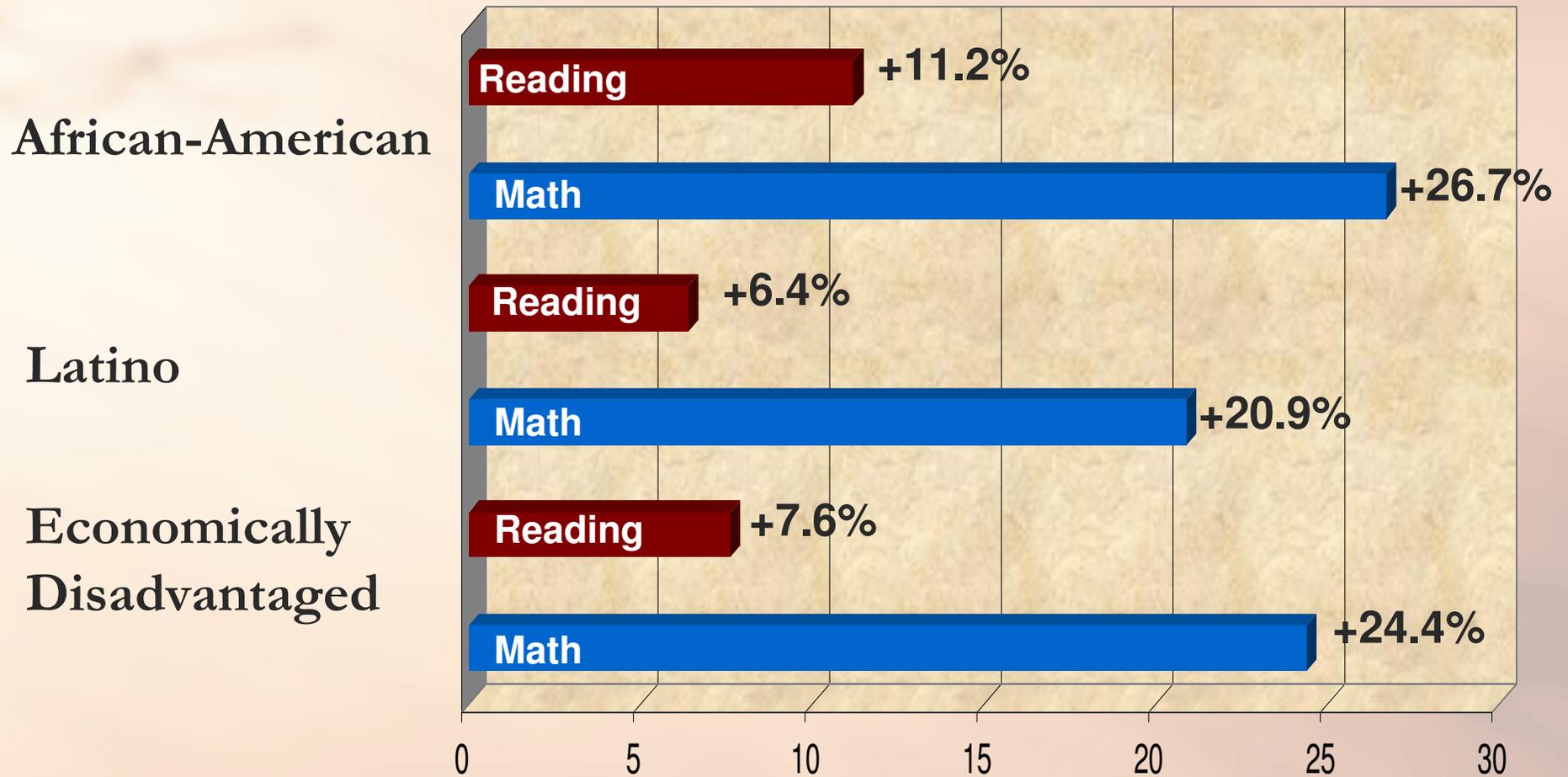
PA making progress in boosting high school achievement



■ 11th grade math	50%	54%
▲ 11th grade reading	59%	65%

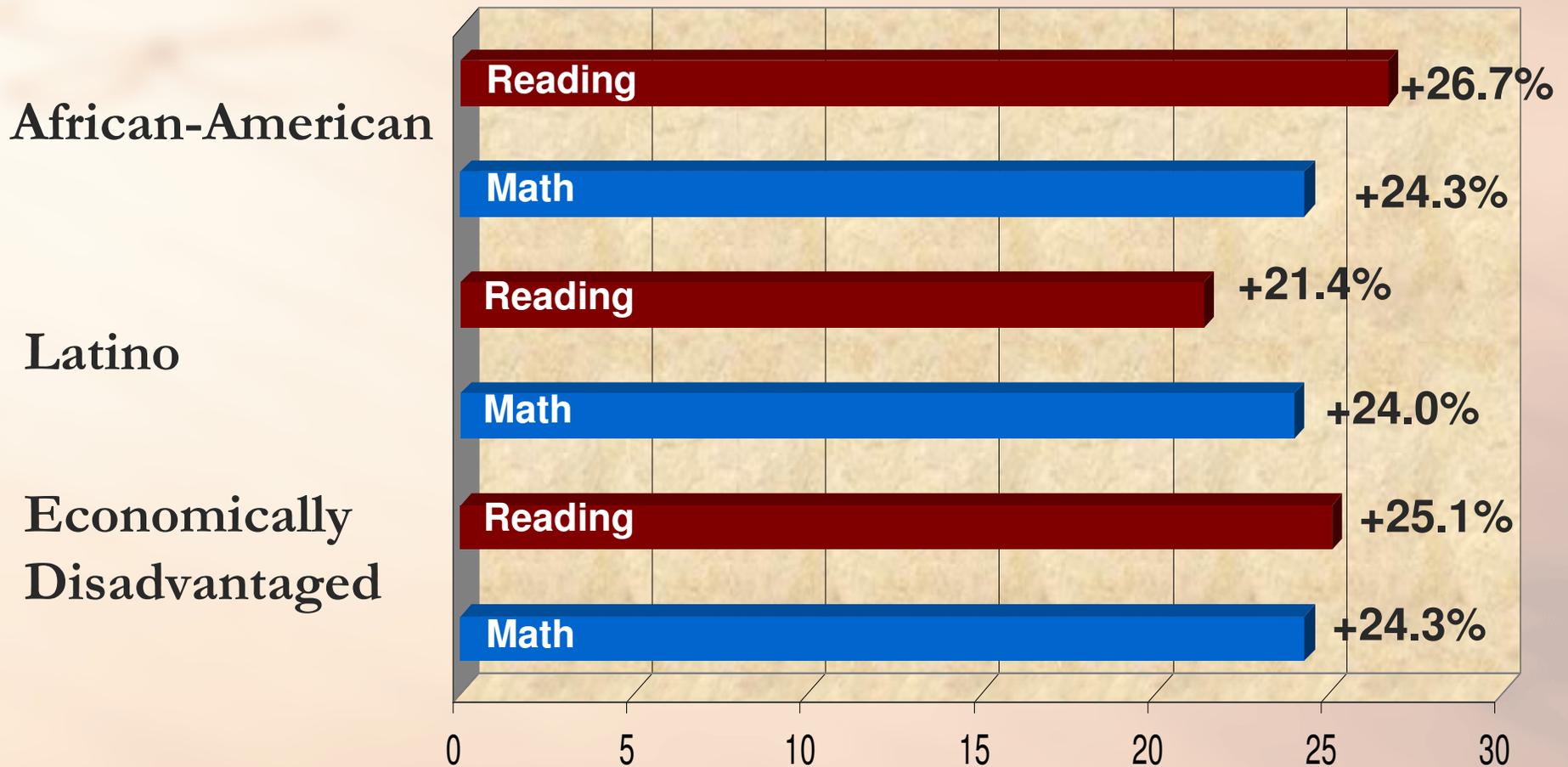
All Pennsylvania Students Making Gains

Increases in 5th grade students performing on grade level 2001-02 to 2006-07



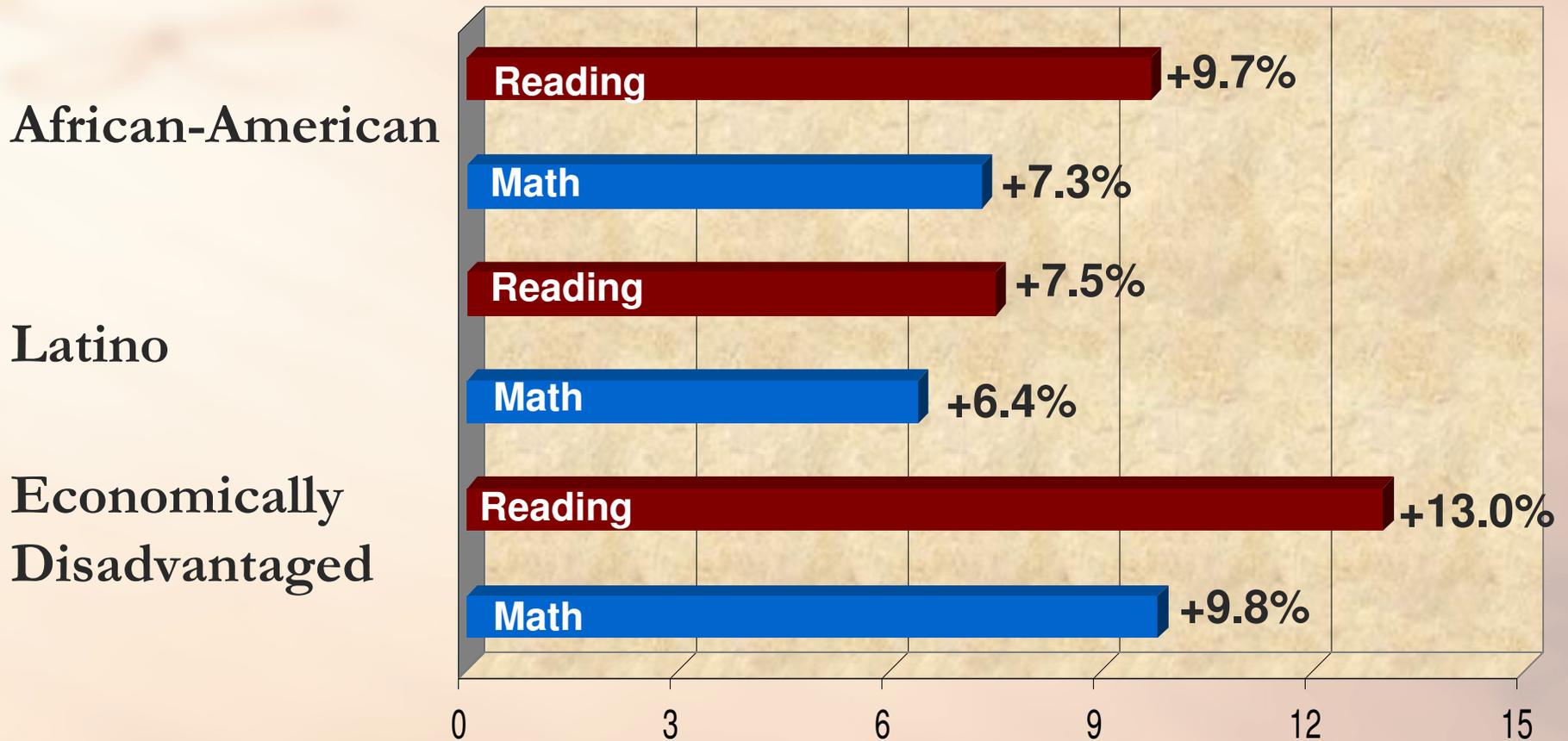
All Pennsylvania Students Making Gains

Increases in 8th grade students performing on grade level 2001-02 to 2006-07



All Pennsylvania Students Making Gains

Increases in 11th grade students performing on grade level 2001-02 to 2006-07



Pennsylvania is Closing the Achievement Gap

Since 2002

- The gap between white and African-American students has closed by 10.2 percentage points for 5th grade math;
- The gap between white and Latino students has closed by 8.5 percentage points for 8th grade math; and
- The gap between economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged students has closed by 8.6 percentage points for 8th grade reading.

Pennsylvania Proves That Special Education Students Can Achieve At High Levels

Special education (IEP) students percent above proficient 2001-02 to 2006-07.

	2001-02	2006-07	GROWTH
5 th Grade Math	16.9%	37.4%	20.5%
5 th Grade Reading	15.4%	23.3%	7.9%
8 th Grade Math	10.4%	25.9%	15.5%
8 th Grade Reading	13.2%	33.4%	20.2%
11 th Grade Math	9.9%	11.8%	1.9%
11 th Grade Reading	13.6%	18.6%	5.0%

Investments Matter

- **Project 720 - Improving our High Schools**

24% more students on grade level in math... but only 1 in 4 high schools are currently participating.

- **Distinguished Educators – Support for Struggling Districts**

7 of 11 of the most academically challenged school districts now meeting all AYP targets.

- **Need to Accelerate Progress in Order to Meet Higher Achievement Targets**

2,000 schools need to make gains, state must invest in proven programs.

The Bottom Line:

Student Achievement Is On The Rise

- **Over 200,000 more students are above proficiency in math this year – as compared to 2002.**
- **Almost 130,000 more students are above proficiency in reading this year – as compared to 2002.**
- **The achievement gap between student subgroups is narrowing and PA is reaching special education students, who are the most difficult to educate.**
- **Our investments are paying off and show that even more work remains.**

Focusing On Success For All Students

- This year's results hold schools accountable for more student subgroups (racial and ethnic minorities, low-income students and students requiring special education) than ever before -- helping PA focus on boosting achievement for every student.
- In PA, a subgroup only counts for AYP if it has at least 40 students -- ensuring fairness and confidentiality.
- The number of schools with 3 or more subgroups increased from 443 to 1,244, a 76% increase, from last year to this year.

	2005-06	2006-07
African-American Subgroups	18.8% of schools	25.3% of schools
Economically Disadvantaged Subgroups	47.5% of schools	66.1% of schools
IEP Subgroups	14.5% of schools	43.5% of schools

PA School Districts Are Meeting AYP Targets

This year's Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) results are the first to include all of the grades required by No Child Left Behind: 3 through 8 and 11.

- Even with more performance targets to meet, 92% of Pennsylvania school districts met all of their AYP targets in 2007.

	2006		2007	
	Number of districts	Pct of districts	Number of districts	Percent of districts
Met AYP	452	90.4	452	90.4
Making Progress	24	4.8	8	1.6
Warning	6	1.2	18	3.6
District Improvement 1	4	0.8	0	0.0
District Improvement 2	7	1.4	2	0.4
Corrective Action 1	5	1.0	12	2.4
Corrective Action 2	3	0.6	8	1.6

PA Schools Are Meeting AYP Targets

- Even with more performance targets to meet, 77% of Pennsylvania schools met all of their AYP targets in 2007.

	2006		2007	
	Number of schools	Percent of schools	Number of schools	Percent of schools
Met AYP	2,458	78.8	2,302	74.2
Making Progress	112	3.6	102	3.3
Warning	242	7.8	380	12.2
School Improvement 1	98	3.1	81	2.6
School Improvement 2	50	1.6	53	1.7
Corrective Action 1	82	2.6	44	1.4
Corrective Action 2	79	2.5	142	4.6

The Bottom Line:

PA On Track for Success

We must rise to the challenge

- Student achievement continues to rise. More students are on grade level today in reading and math at the elementary, middle and high school levels than they were five years ago. Nearly 7 in 10 PA students are on track for success.
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Question and Answer



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