

2025 Student Assessment Data

An Update by State Superintendent Chris Reykdal



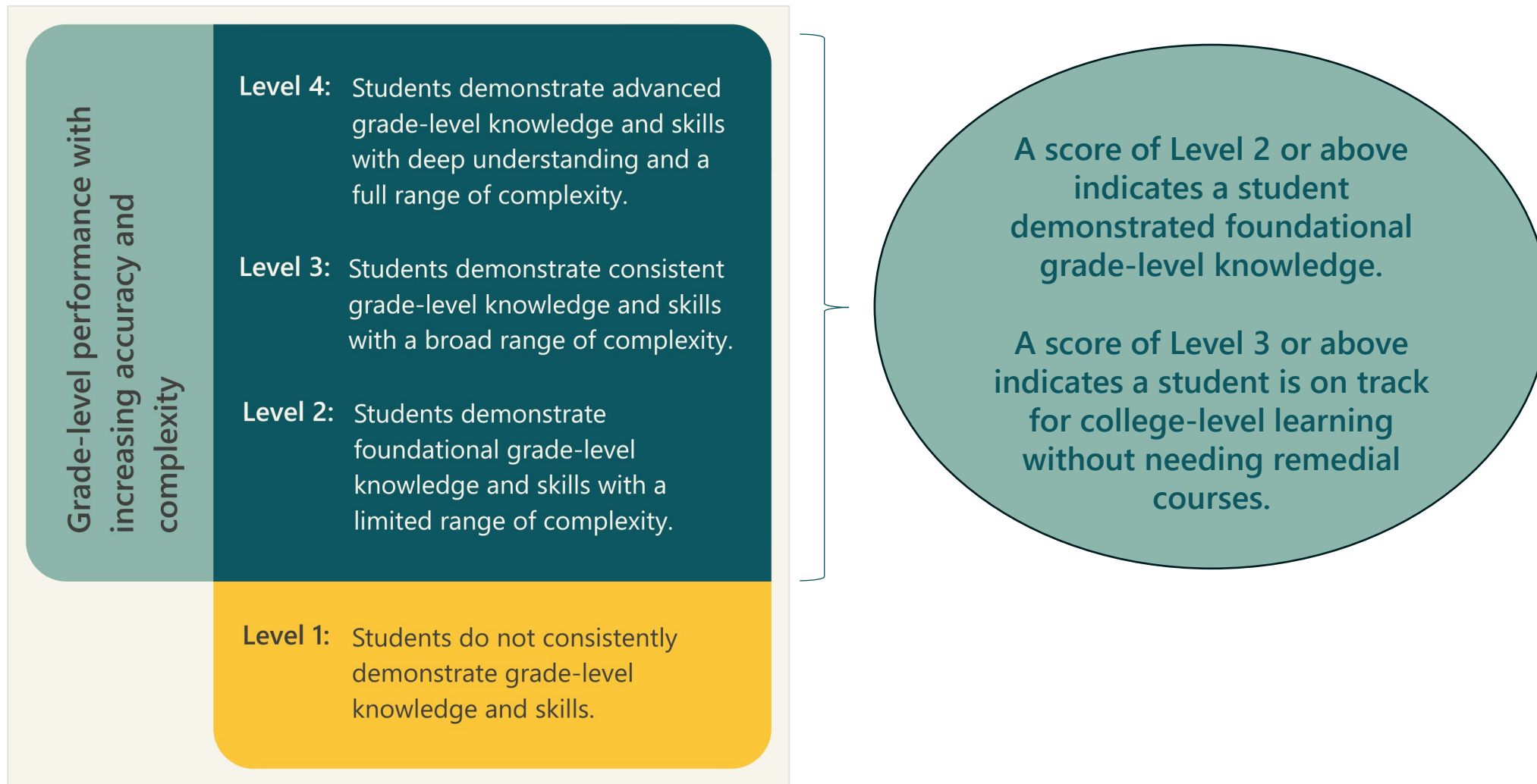
Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Key Takeaways

1. Washington students perform consistent with, and even better than, their peers across the nation.
2. Scores improved or remained steady in all grade levels in Math and nearly all grade levels in English Language Arts.
3. The rate of year-over-year progress has returned to what it was pre-pandemic.
4. There are persistent gaps that we must address.
5. Washington is going to double-down on our focus on math.



Smarter Balanced Assessment: What Do the Scores Mean?



John Braun: Instead of failing our children, focus on making their lives better



Sen. John Braun poses for a photo outside The Chronicle in Centralia on Thursday, July 17. FILE PHOTO

Posted Friday, August 15, 2025 5:05 pm

Commentary by Sen. John Braun, R-Centralia


In November 2020, about eight months into the COVID-19 pandemic, I called attention to how classroom closures were causing academic, emotional and social harm to the majority of K-12 students across the state — especially



WA Senate Republicans @WashingtonSRC · Feb 23
Education Facts: Over 100 school districts in **Washington State** have seen student enrollment declines of more than 10% in the past 20 years.

69% of students **are** not up to reading standards, while 70% **are** behind in math. Homeschooling is sharply on the rise.

High pay, low test scores: WA teachers earn most when adjusted for cost of living


 **The Center Square**

 **Brandi Kruse**
October 10, 2024

[Overview](#) [Comments](#)

While test scores are in the toilet and enrollment is down, the State Board of Education is making "equity" its top priority for 2025.

 **Washington State Republican Party** · Follow
March 6

"OSPI doesn't need more rope to hang our students. They are failing math performance standards at 70%, says WAGOP Chairman and Rep. **Jim Walsh**, urging a NO vote on SHB 1827. "We need local control of education. OSPI is in crisis. It is in no shape to take on additional responsibilities for setting education policies or oversight."

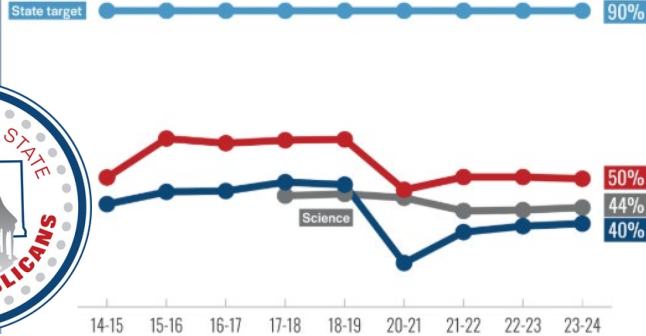
LYNNWOOD TIMES

Fewer than half of Washington students are hitting grade level




PERFORMANCE

State Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA)
% of students performing at grade level



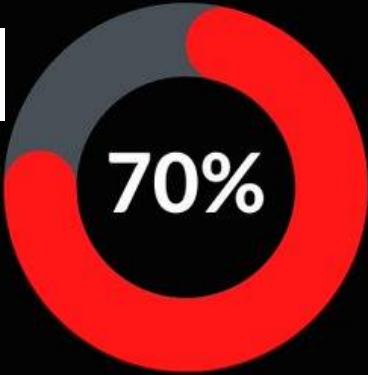
 **Washington State Republican Party** · Follow
February 24

Washington public schools are among the best funded in the country. Yet, under Superintendent Chris Reykdal, students are failing in math and reading. Don't give anothe... See more

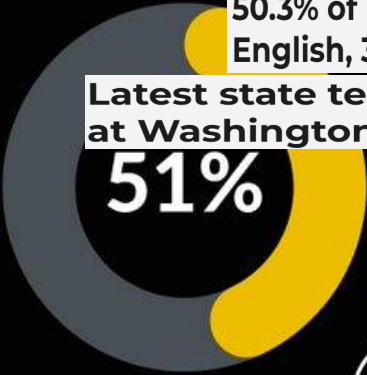
 **Future 42** @future42org · Apr 7
"4th grade reading, 8th grade math scores continue to plunge in WA despite more spending"

And all **Washington** OSPI could respond with was "we need more money." No, really...

Washington 8th Graders are **FAILING** in Math



In 2024



In 2019

Source: OSPI

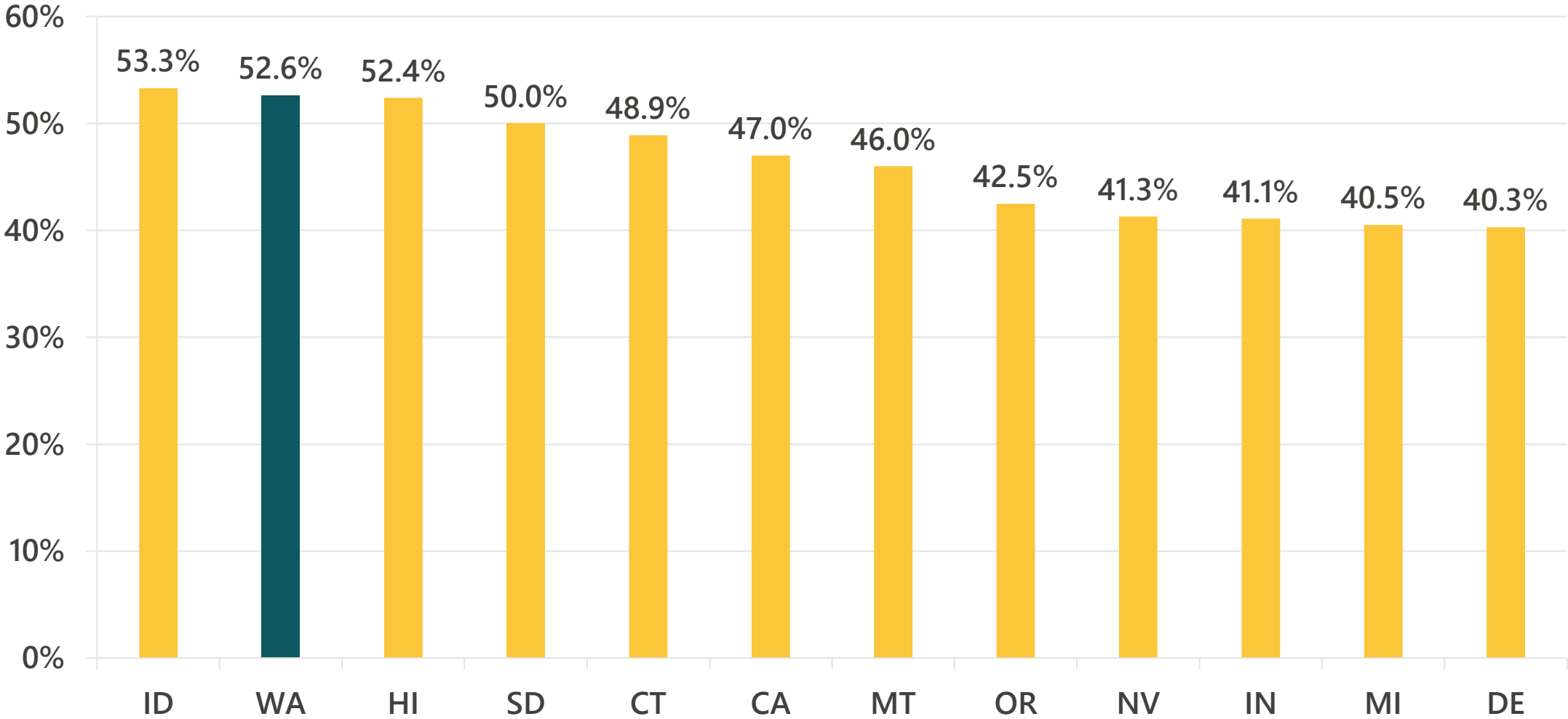
50.3% of Washington public school students at grade level in English, 39.7% in Math

Latest state test scores show massive drop in learning at Washington public schools



ELA Smarter Balanced Scores in the 2023–24 School Year

Students Demonstrating Consistent Grade-Level Knowledge or Above (Level 3 or 4)

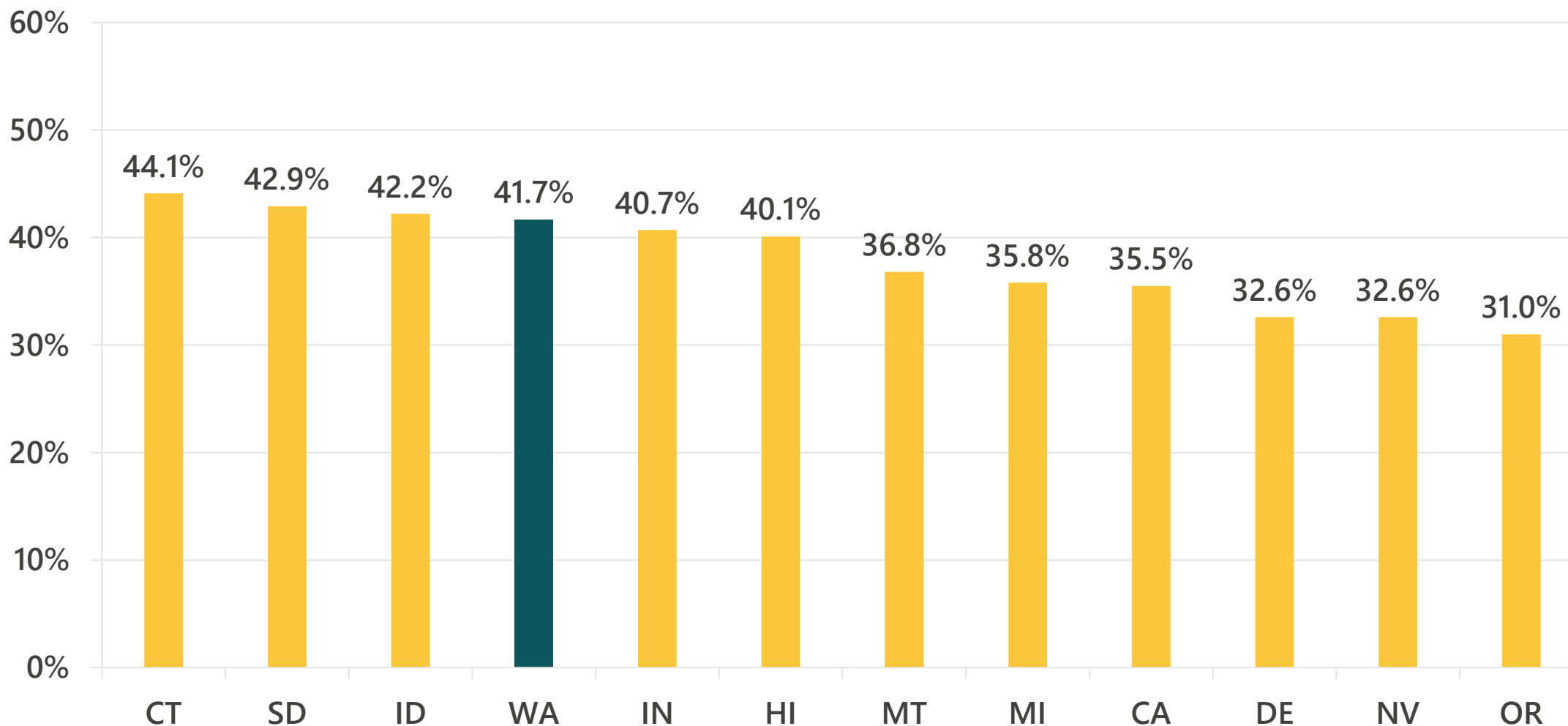


Source: Individual Report Cards of States Who Administer the Smarter Balanced Assessment



Math Smarter Balanced Scores in the 2023–24 School Year

Students Demonstrating Consistent Grade-Level Knowledge or Above (Level 3 or 4)



Source: Individual Report Cards of States Who Administer the Smarter Balanced Assessment



2024 Results from the Nation's Report Card

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

5 states statistically significantly outperformed Washington in 4th grade reading.

4 states statistically significantly outperformed Washington in 8th grade reading.

4 states statistically significantly outperformed Washington in 4th grade math.

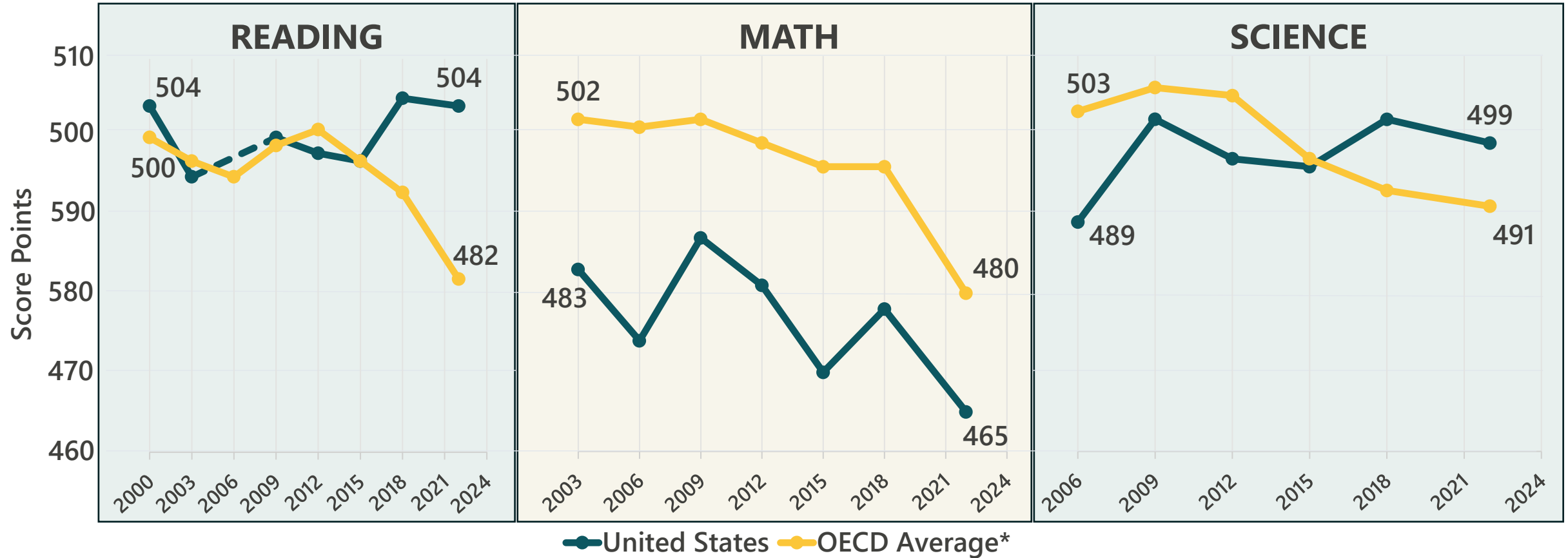
14 states statistically significantly outperformed Washington in 8th grade math.

Source: National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)



Assessment Scores of 15-Year-Olds Over Time: United States vs. Worldwide

Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)



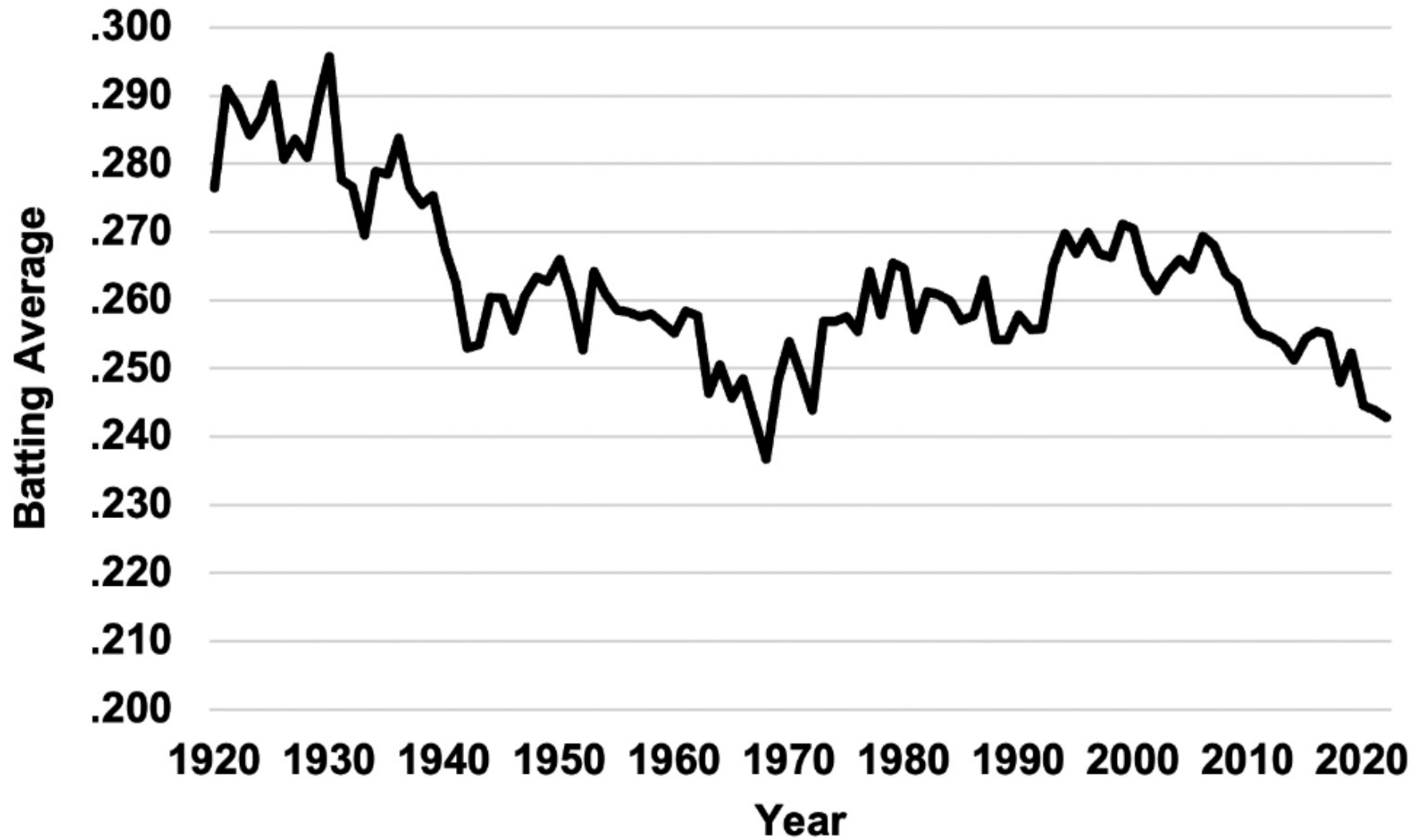
*The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) is an Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)-led assessment of 15-year-old students' knowledge and skills. The OECD consists of 37 democracies with market-based economies.



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Source: Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Figure 1. Batting Average, 1920–2022

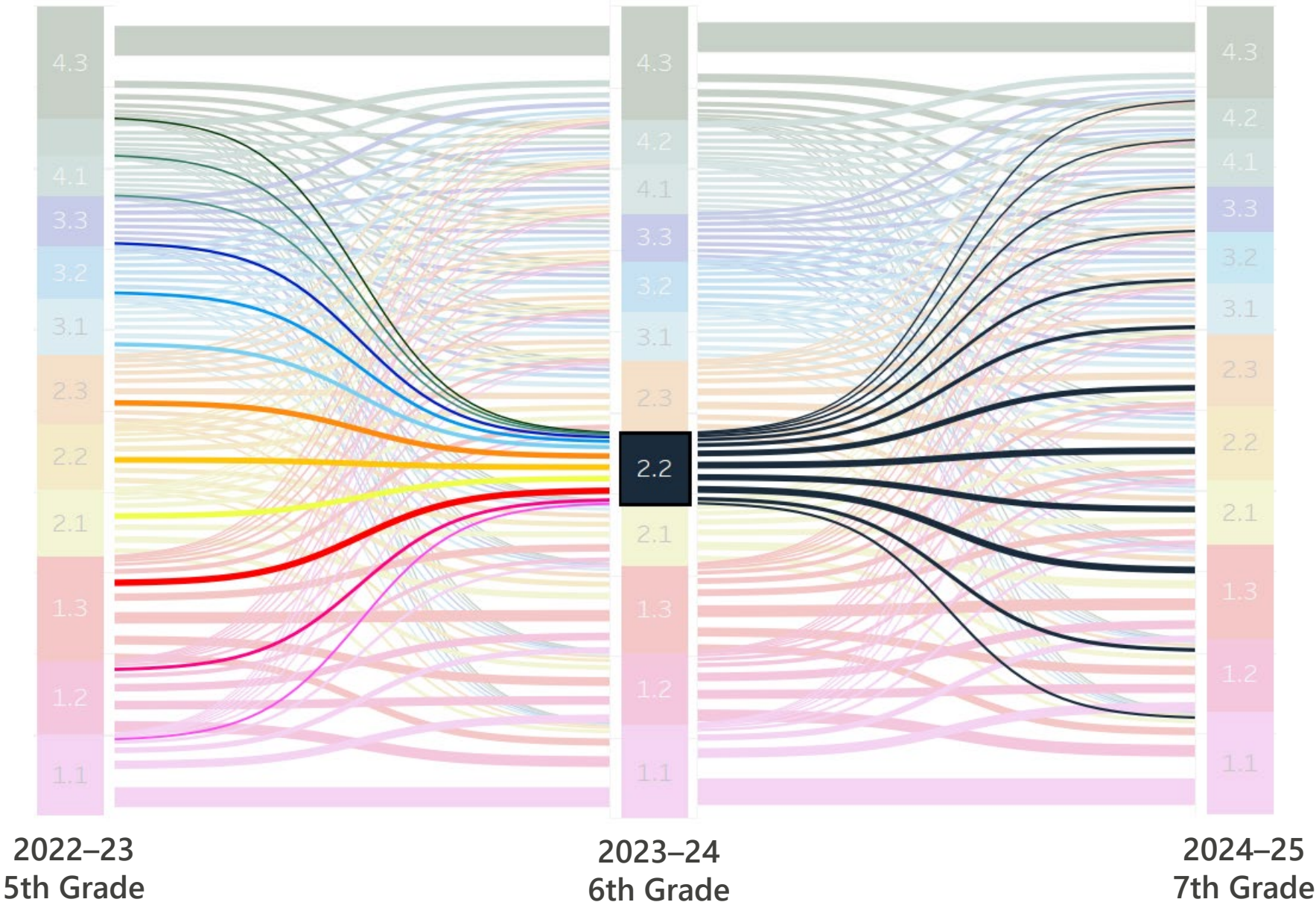


Source: Society for American Baseball Research



State Assessments Are Point-in-Time Measures of Student Performance

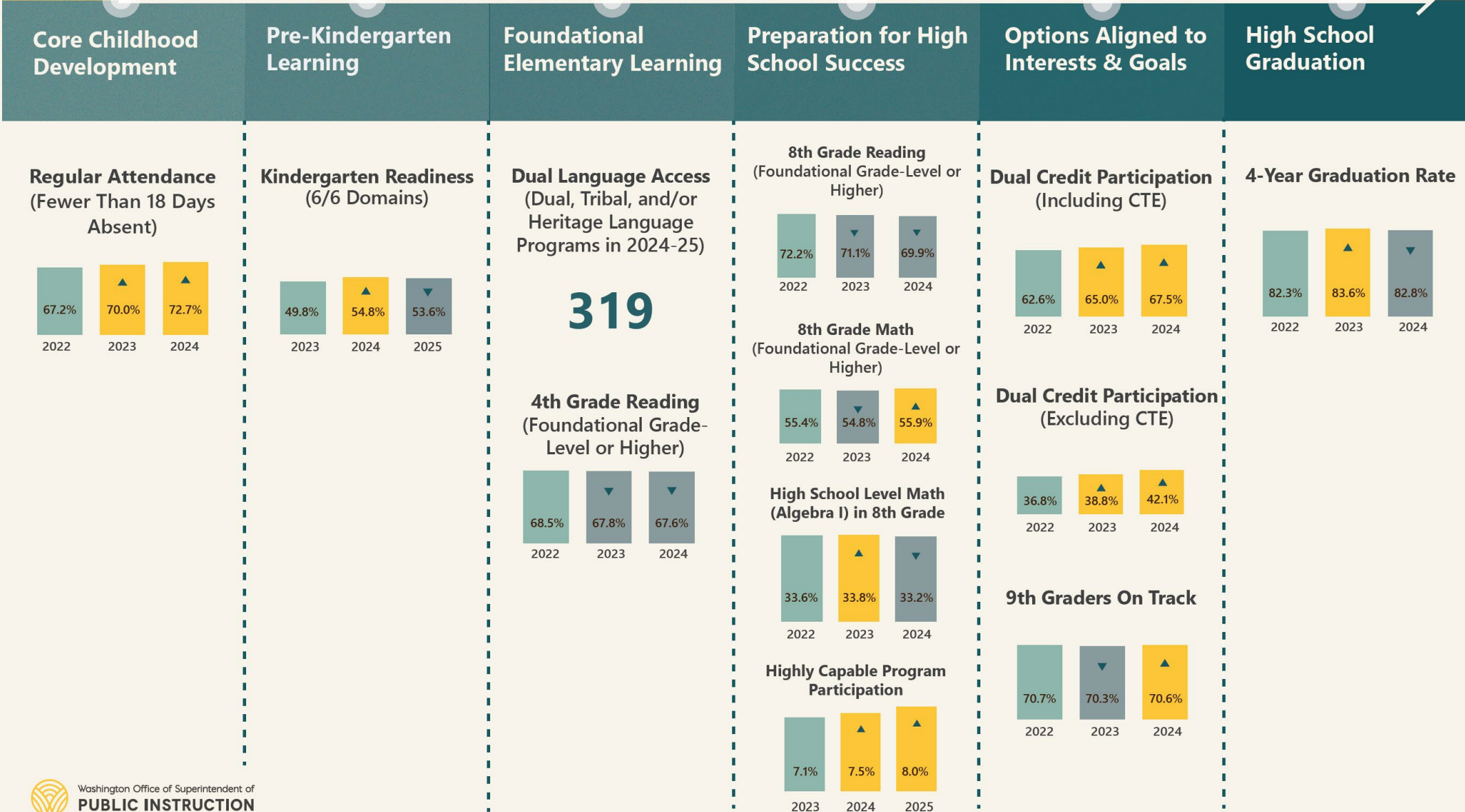
Individual Student
Performance on
State Math Assessments
Over Time



Source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Annual Snapshot on Student Opportunity and Outcomes - 2025

A Closer Look into OSPI's Key Focus Areas from Early Learning to Graduation



Students Who Attend School More Often Perform Better on State Assessments

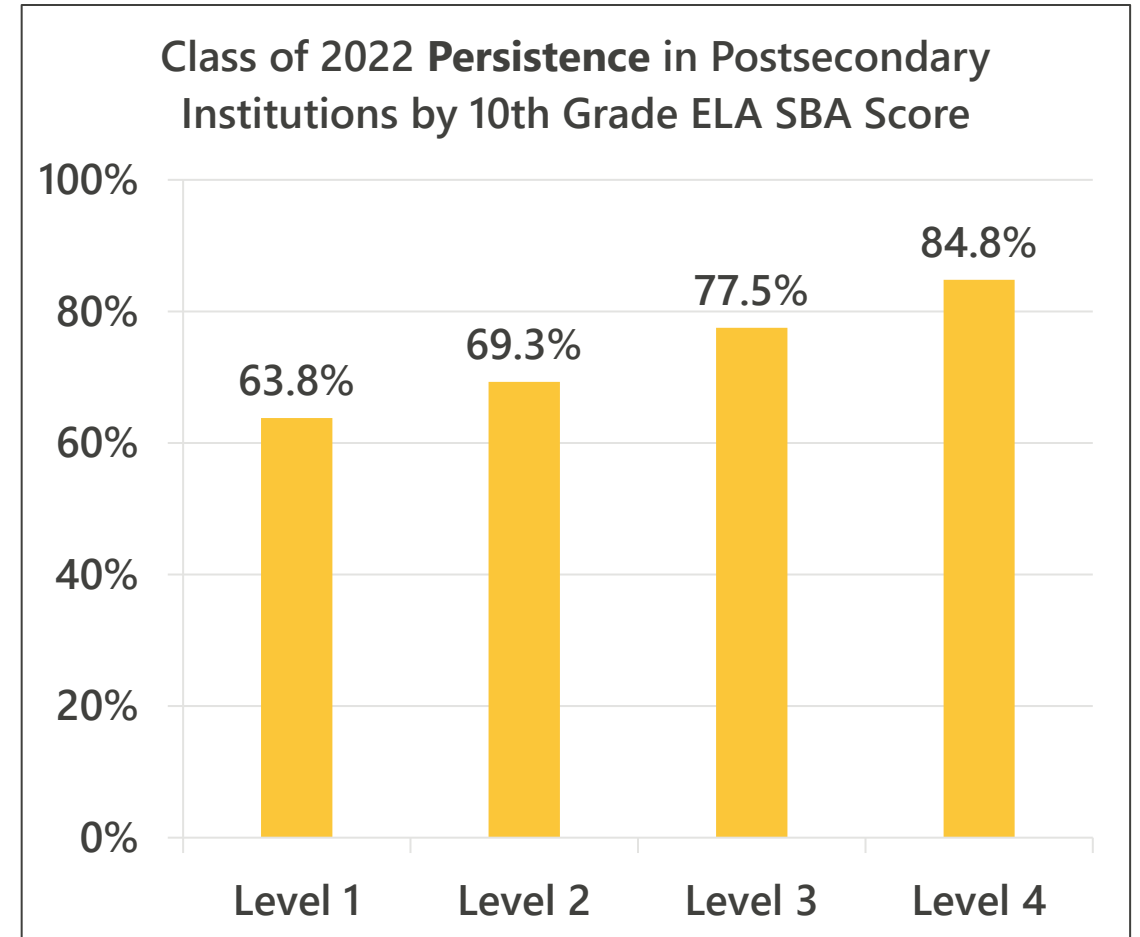
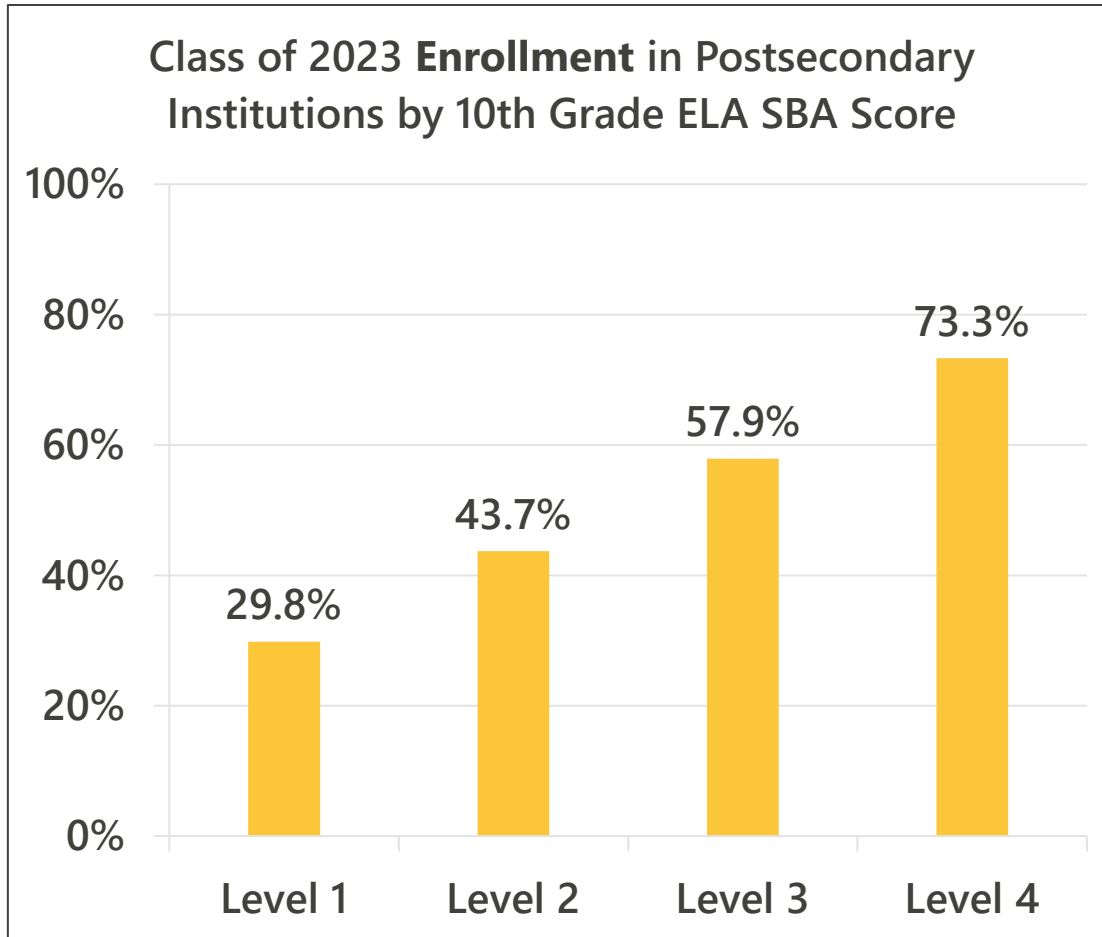
Performance on Assessment in 2024	Regular Attendance in 2023–24 School Year ELA	Regular Attendance in 2023–24 School Year Math
Advanced Grade-Level Knowledge (Level 4)	87%	89%
Consistent Grade-Level Knowledge (Level 3)	80%	83%
Foundational Grade-Level Knowledge (Level 2)	74%	77%
Below Grade-Level Knowledge (Level 1)	67%	66%



Reads as: Among students who performed at Level 4 on the ELA state assessment, 87% were regular attenders.

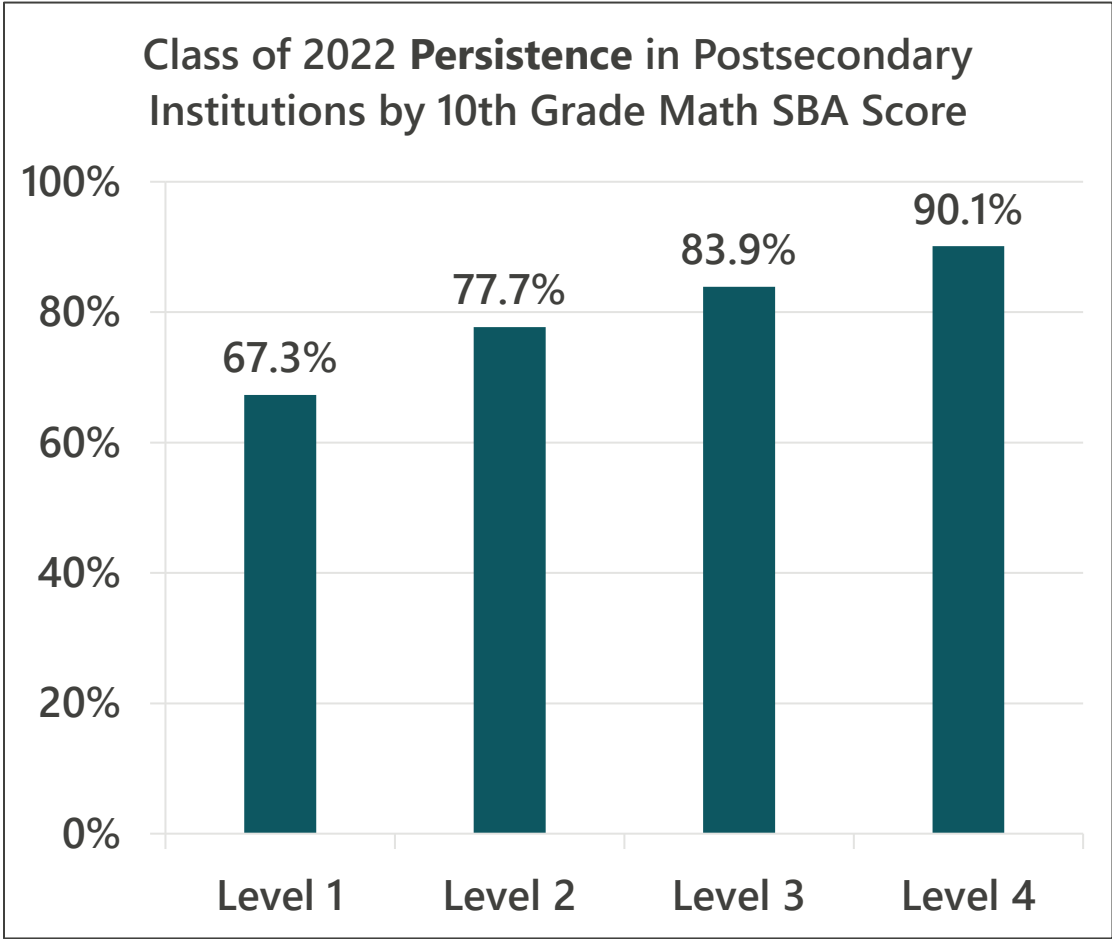
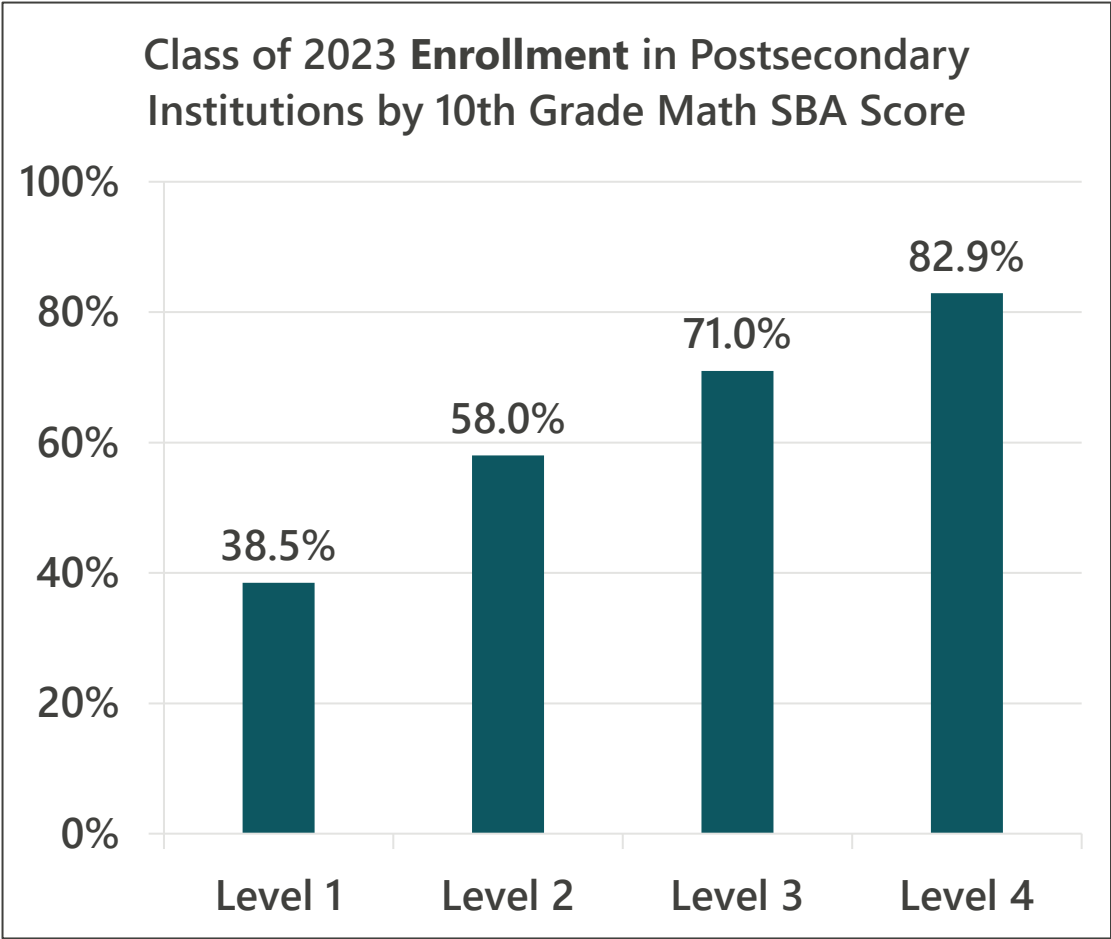
Source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Students Performing at All Levels on ELA State Assessment Enroll and Persist in Colleges and Universities After High School



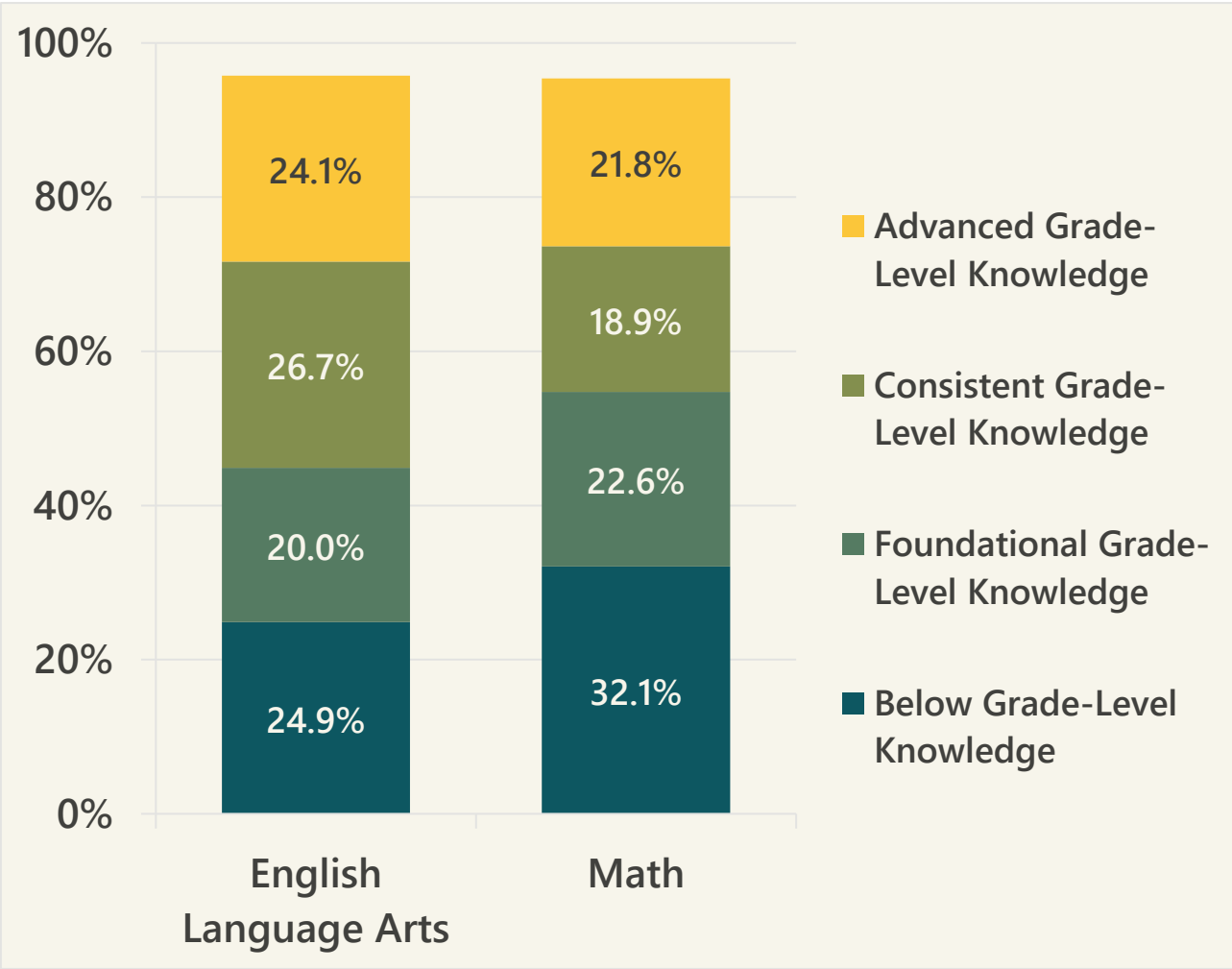
Source: Washington State Education Research & Data Center (ERDC)

Students Performing at All Levels on Math State Assessment Enroll and Persist in Colleges and Universities After High School



Source: Washington State Education Research & Data Center (ERDC)

Student Performance Relative to Grade-Level Standards in 2025



How many students demonstrated foundational grade-level knowledge or above?

ELA: 70.9%

Math: 63.3%

Source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Assessment Scores in ELA and Math Remain Steady

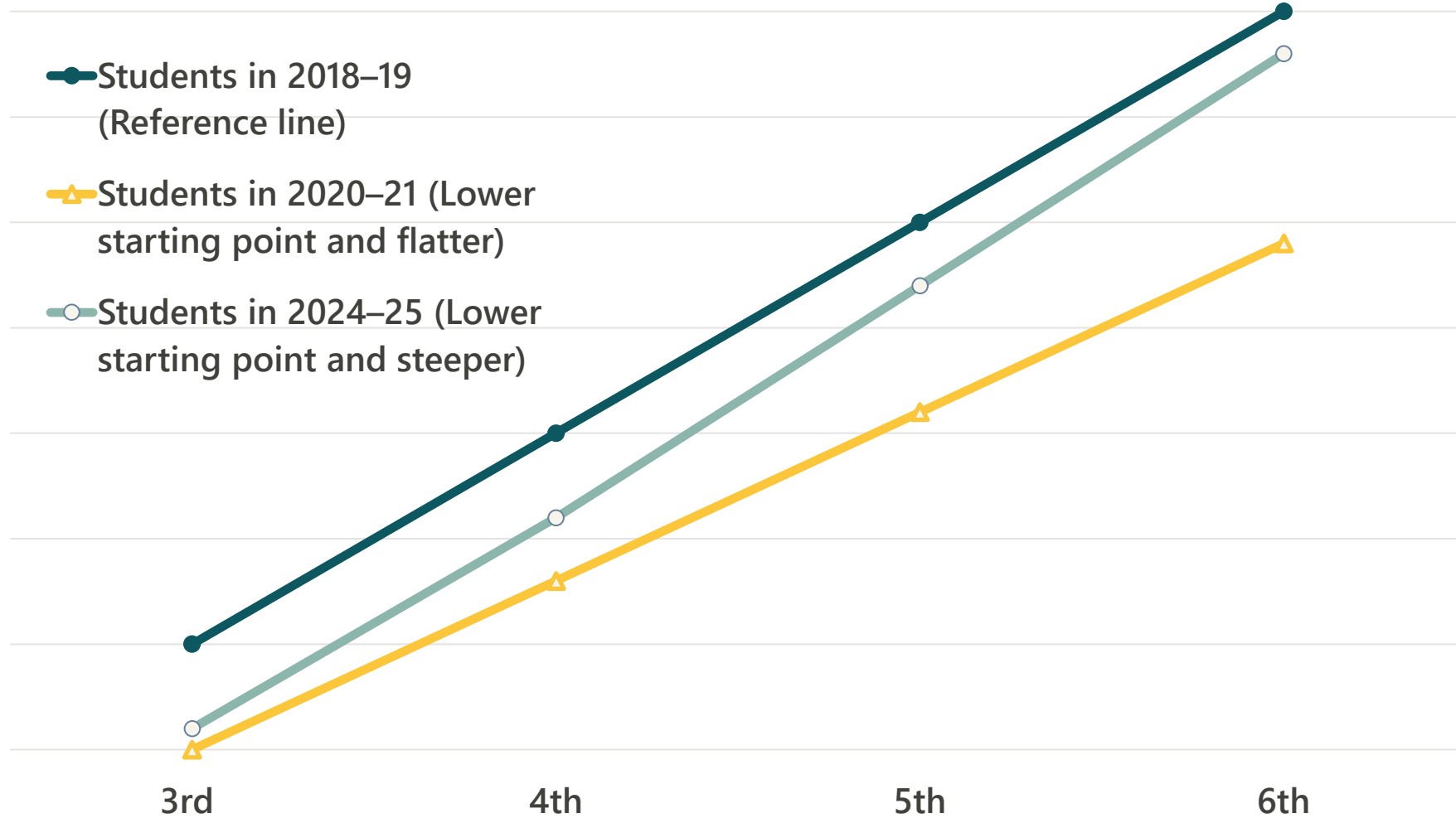
Change in Students Demonstrating Foundational Grade-Level Knowledge from 2024 to 2025

Subject / Grade	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	10th
ELA	-0.1%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.3%	-1.1%
Math	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.7%	1.5%	1.1%

Source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction



Student Growth has Returned to Pre-Pandemic Levels

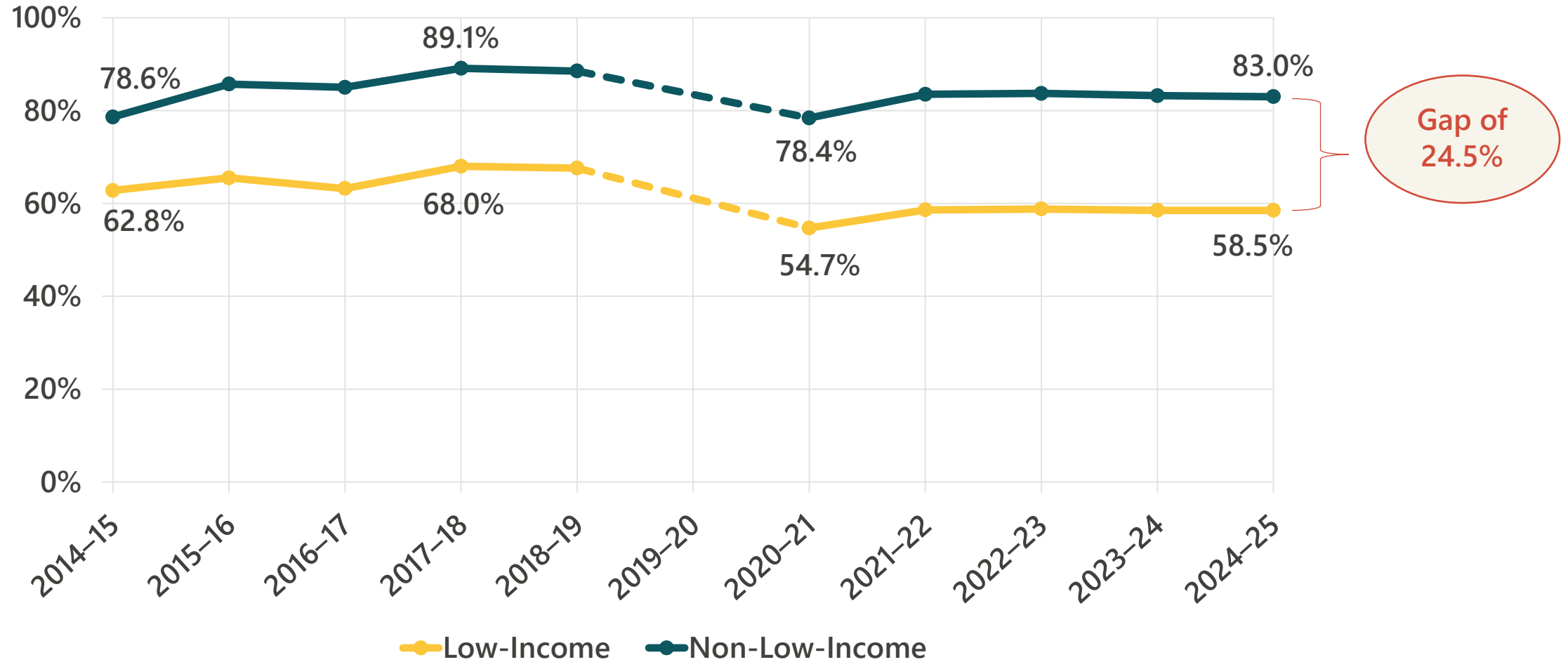


Source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction



Income Level Achievement Gaps Persist in ELA

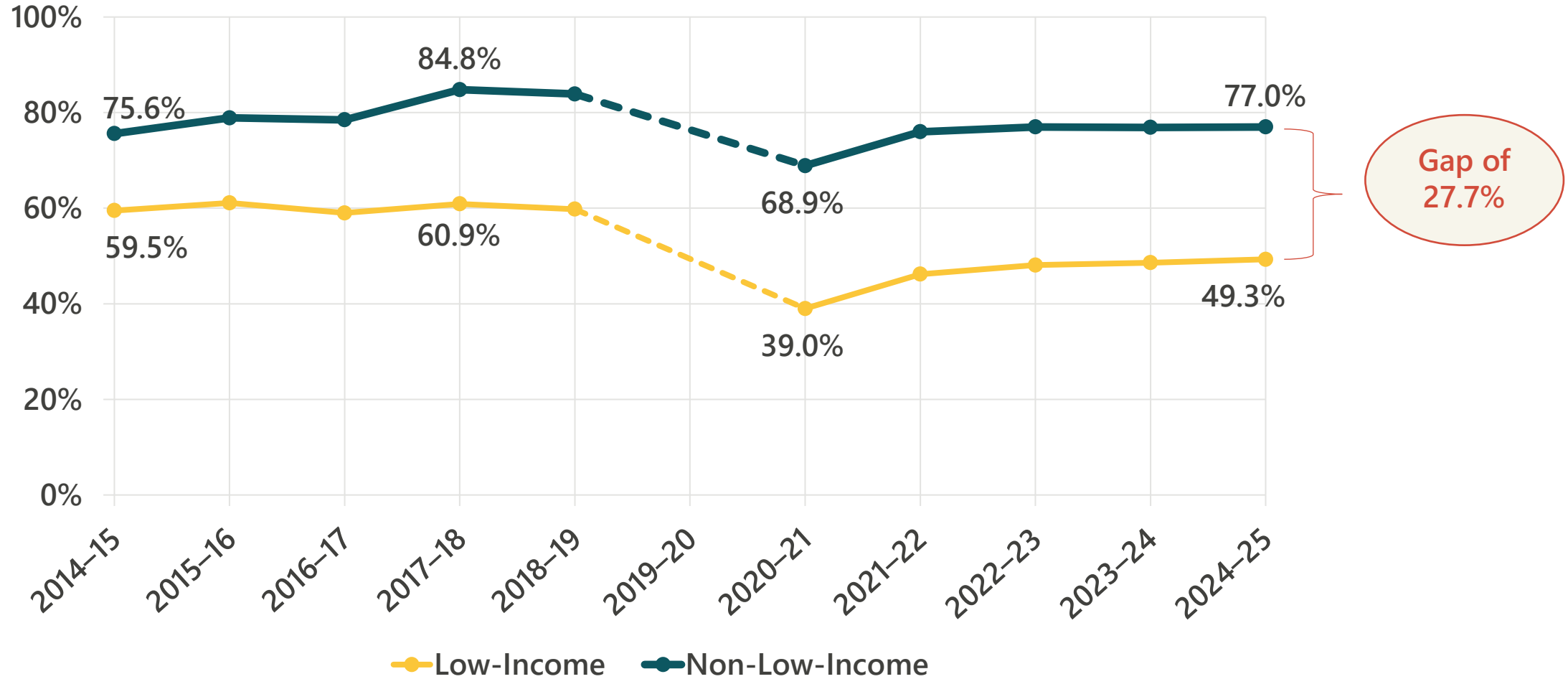
Students Demonstrating Foundational Grade-Level Knowledge Over Time



Source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Income Level Achievement Gaps Persist in Math

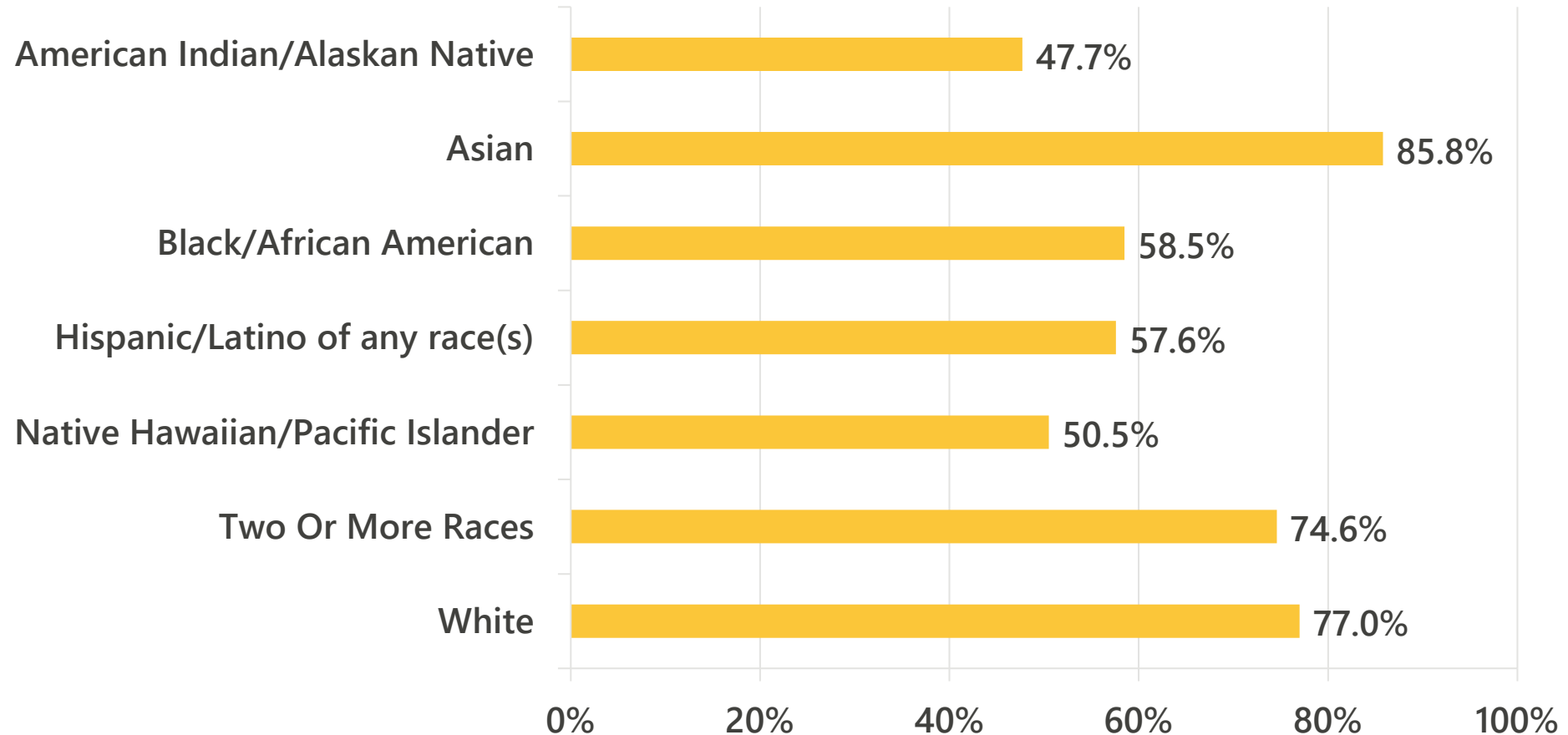
Students Demonstrating Foundational Grade-Level Knowledge Over Time



Source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Achievement Gaps Persist in ELA for Students of Color

Students Demonstrating Foundational Grade-Level Knowledge in 2025

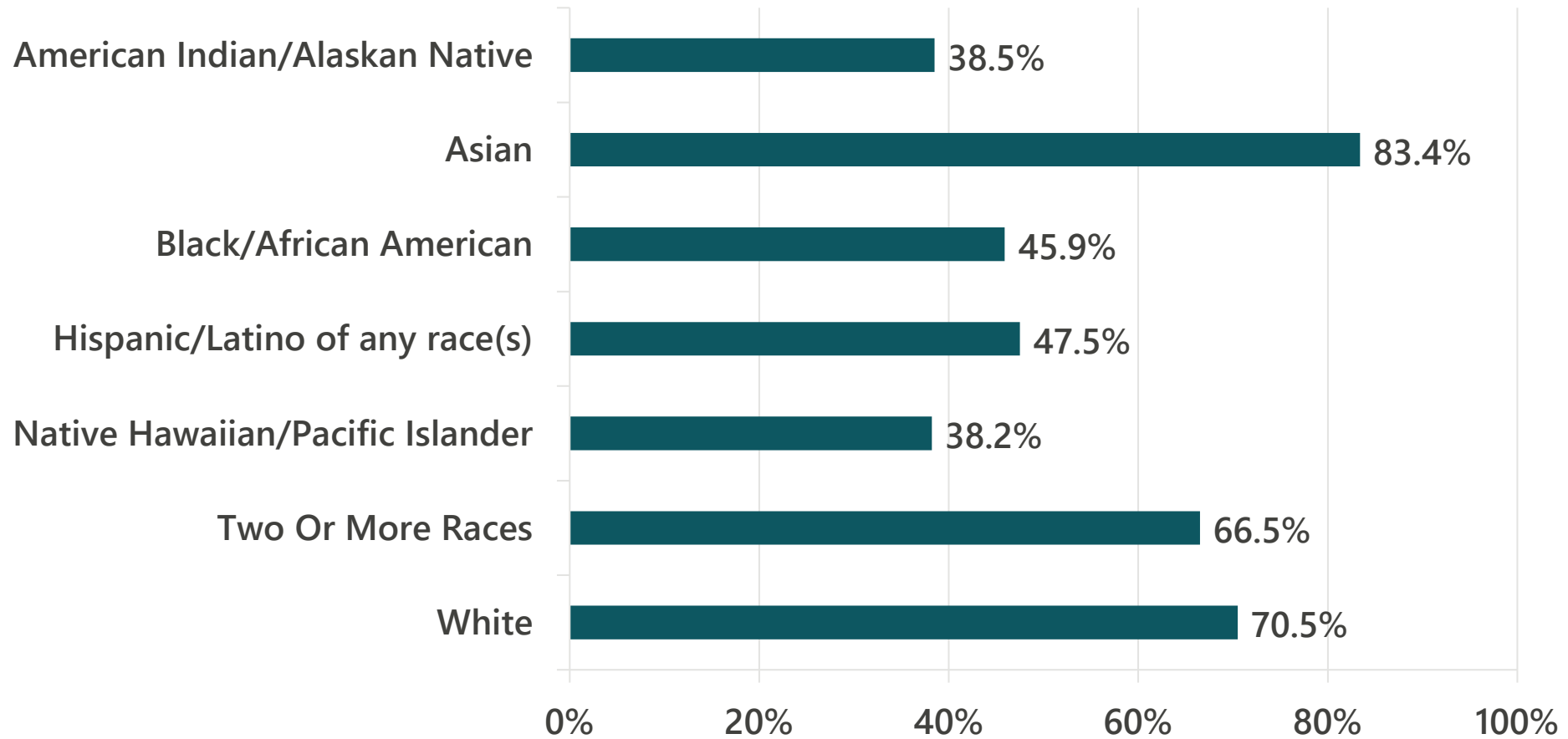


Source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction



Achievement Gaps Persist in Math for Students of Color

Students Demonstrating Foundational Grade-Level Knowledge in 2025

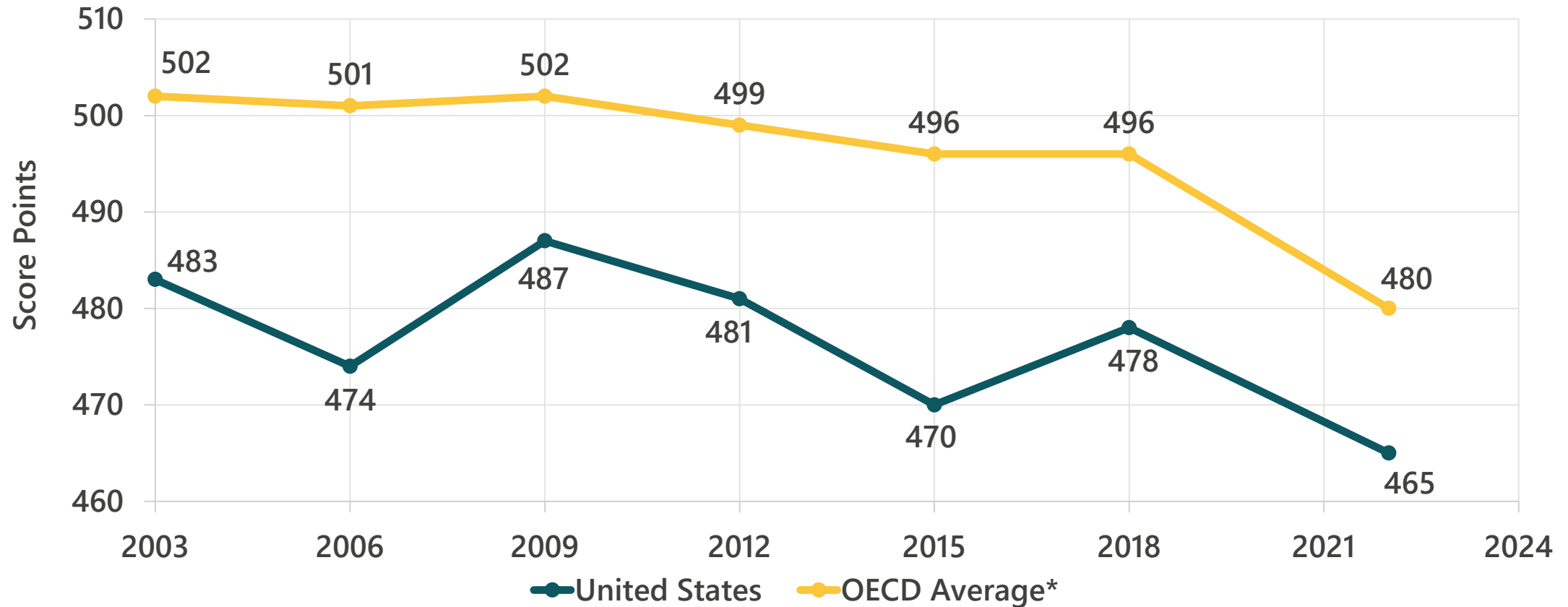


Source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction



Math Assessment Scores of 15-Year-Olds Over Time: United States vs. Worldwide

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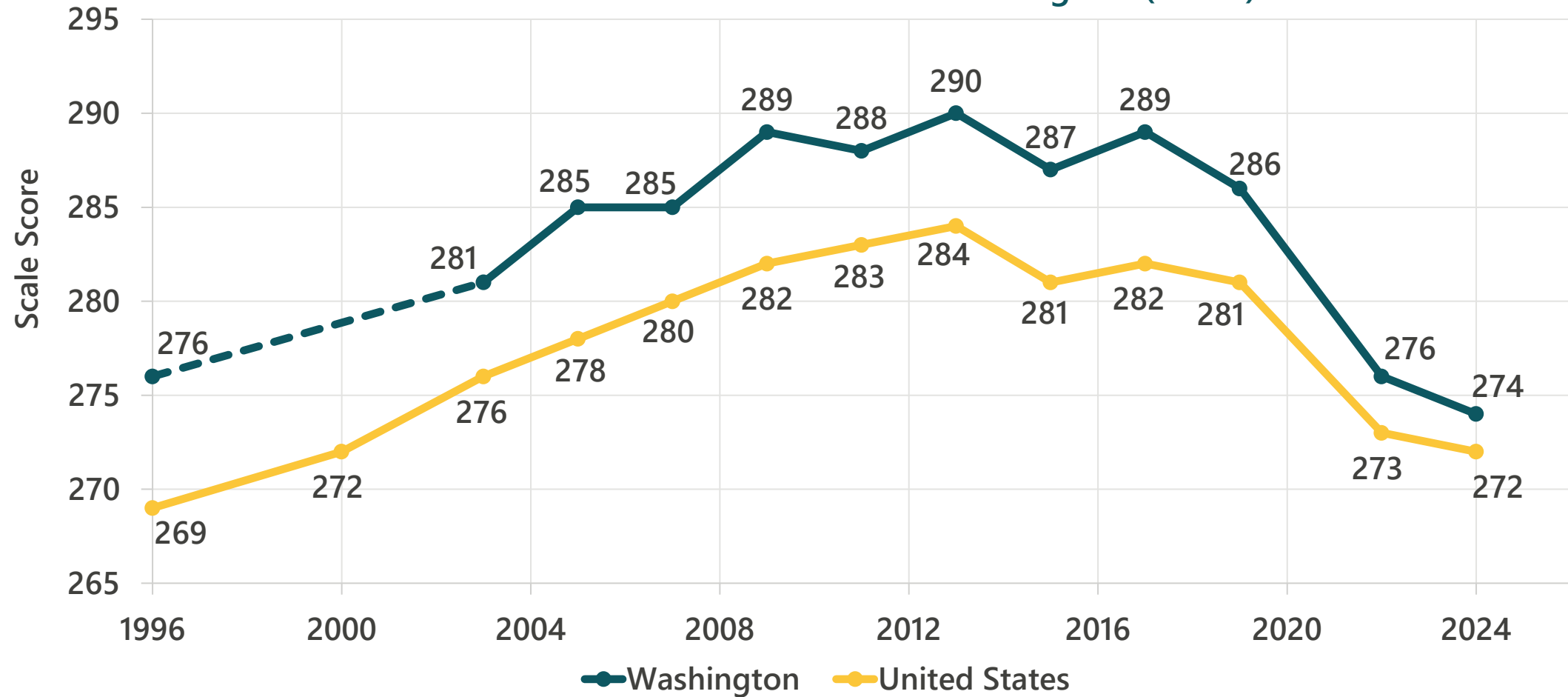
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Source: Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)



8th Grade Math Assessment Scores Over Time: Washington vs. United States

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)



Source: National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)



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Questions

