



  
 INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE  
 Los Angeles Unified School District

September 4, 2012

TO: Members, Board of Education  
John E. Deasy, Superintendent

FROM:   
Cynthia Lim, Executive Director  
Office of Data and Accountability

SUBJECT: 2012 STATEWIDE COMPARISON ON STANDARDIZED TESTING AND REPORTING (STAR)

The statewide scores for the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) program were released last Friday on August 31, 2012 by the California Department of Education (CDE). This informative provides comparisons of LAUSD's proficiency on the California Standards Tests (CST) compared to the statewide average. Comparisons to other urban districts in California are also provided for third grade English language arts and Algebra .

In the state of California, a total of 4,690,721 students were tested in the spring of 2012. LAUSD made up 9% of the students tested with 440,828 tested. Across the state, proficiency rates increased in both English language arts and Mathematics. LAUSD's gains exceeded the state's gains in English language arts and in Mathematics. While proficiency rates in LAUSD remain lower than the state average, LAUSD's growth in percentage points exceeded the state's between 2011 and 2012. Statewide, scores improved by three percentage points in English language arts while LAUSD gained four percentage points. In Mathematics, statewide scores improved by one percentage point while LAUSD gained by two percentage points.

Compared to 2006, LAUSD has gained 18 percentage points in English language arts, compared to 15 percentage points statewide. In Mathematics, LAUSD has gained 14 percentage points since 2006, while the statewide gain was 10 percentage points.

Table 1: *Gains in Overall Proficiency in English Language Arts and Mathematics Between 2011 and 2012*

	Percent Proficient or Advanced							Percentage Point Gain	
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	11-'12	06-'12
<b>English Language Arts</b>									
LAUSD	30	31	34	38	41	44	48	4	18
California	42	43	46	50	52	54	57	3	15
<b>Mathematics</b>									
LAUSD	31	31	35	37	39	43	45	2	14
California	41	41	43	46	48	50	51	1	10

In English language arts, statewide proficiency rates in each of the grade levels tested were higher than LAUSD. However, at nearly every grade level, the District met or exceeded the percentage point gains of the state. Grade 5 was the only grade level that did not meet or exceed the gains of the state.

Table 2: *Gains in Proficiency in English Language Arts Between 2011 and 2012*

		California		One Year Change	LAUSD		One Year Change
Subject	CST	2011	2012	'11-'12	2011	2012	'11-'12
English Language Arts	Grade 2	56	58	2	52	56	4
	Grade 3	46	48	2	40	43	3
	Grade 4	64	67	3	57	62	5
	Grade 5	59	63	4	51	54	3
	Grade 6	55	59	4	42	47	5
	Grade 7	57	62	5	44	49	5
	Grade 8	57	59	2	42	47	5
	Grade 9	55	57	2	37	40	3
	Grade 10	48	50	2	36	39	3
	Grade 11	45	48	3	37	40	3

In Mathematics, gains in proficiency rates in Grades 4, 6, and 7 exceeded the statewide gains. Additionally, students tested in Algebra and Geometry exceeded the statewide gains. In Grade 2, LAUSD's proficiency rate decreased by three percentage points. At the state level, proficiency also decreased by two percentage points.

While proficiency rates at the state level are higher than LAUSD, proficiency rates for Grade 3 are within one percentage point of the state average.

Table 3: *Gains in Proficiency in Mathematics Between 2011 and 2012*

		California		One Year Change	LAUSD		One Year Change
Math	Grade 2	66	64	-2	60	57	-3
	Grade 3	68	69	1	67	68	1
	Grade 4	71	71	0	67	68	1
	Grade 5	63	65	2	60	60	0
	Grade 6	53	55	2	41	44	3
	Grade 7	50	52	2	36	40	4
	General Math	28	28	0	23	23	0
	Algebra I	32	34	2	24	27	3
	Geometry	31	32	1	17	20	3
	Algebra 2	33	34	1	17	17	0
	HS Summative	55	53	-2	37	36	-1

In Science, gains at elementary and middle schools exceeded the state’s gains. In high school science, LAUSD exceeded state gains in Grade 10 Life Science and Biology.

Table 4: *Gains in Proficiency in Science Between 2011 and 2012*

		California		One Year Change	LAUSD		One Year Change
Science	Grade 5	58	59	1	51	54	3
	Grade 8	63	66	3	51	56	5
	Grade 10	50	53	3	35	39	4
	ICS I	20	20	0	13	13	0
	Biology	49	52	3	31	35	4
	Chemistry	38	43	5	16	19	3
	Physics	52	52	0	29	29	0
	Earth Sci.	35	38	3	31	31	0

In Social Science, gains were on par with statewide averages. In LAUSD, Grade 8 Social Science and World History grew by two percentage points and US History grew by one percentage point. These gains mirrored the statewide gains.

Table 5: *Gains in Proficiency in Social Science Between 2011 and 2012*

		California		One Year Change	LAUSD		One Year Change
History	Grade 8	50	52	2	41	43	2
	World History	44	46	2	28	30	2
	US History	48	49	1	37	38	1

### THIRD GRADE PROFICIENCY

Proficiency in English language arts in 3rd grade is a key indicator of future academic success. One of the metrics on LAUSD’s Performance Meter is to increase the percentages of students scoring proficient or advanced in third grade. Third grade proficiency rates increased from 40% to 43% in LAUSD, an increase of three percentage points. The statewide average was a gain of two percentage points. Compared to other urban districts in California, LAUSD’s percentage point gain was among the highest, along with San Bernardino. Proficiency rates decreased in four urban districts: San Jose, Pasadena, Fresno and Pomona.

San Jose had the highest percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade with 53%. LAUSD ranked higher than six other urban districts at 43%.

Table 6: *Gains in Proficiency in Third Grade English Language Arts Between 2011 and 2012*

<b>3rd Grade English Language Arts</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>1 Year Change</b>
San Jose	54	53	-1
San Diego	50	52	2
San Francisco	50	51	1
California	46	48	2
Pasadena	47	46	-1
<b>LAUSD</b>	40	43	3
Oakland	42	42	0
Sacramento	40	41	1
Fresno	36	35	-1
Santa Ana	32	33	1
Pomona	35	32	-3
San Bernardino	26	29	3

### PROFICIENCY IN ALGEBRA

Another metric on LAUSD's Performance Meter is to increase the percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced in Algebra. LAUSD gained three percentage points over the past year, from 24% to 27%. This includes all students tested in Algebra regardless of grade level. LAUSD's gains exceeded the statewide average of two percentage points. Two other urban districts exceeded the statewide gains: Fresno with a three percentage point gain and San Bernardino with a five percentage point gain.

Table 7: *Gains in Proficiency in Algebra Between 2011 and 2012*

<b>Algebra I</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>1 Year Change</b>
San Francisco	39	39	0
San Diego	35	36	1
California	32	34	2
Sacramento	32	33	1
San Jose	36	32	-4
Santa Ana	32	32	0
<b>LAUSD</b>	24	27	3
Fresno	22	25	3
Pasadena	24	22	-2
San Bernardino	17	22	5
Oakland	18	21	3
Pomona	18	18	0

STAR data reports for all schools and districts in California are now posted on the CDE website at <http://star.cde.ca.gov/star2012/index.aspx>. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (213) 241-2460.

c: Michelle King  
Jaime Aquino  
Matt Hill  
Donna Muncey  
Lydia Ramos  
Tom Waldman  
Mark Hovatter  
Steve Zipperman  
Dave Holmquist