

National Assessment Trends for 2023



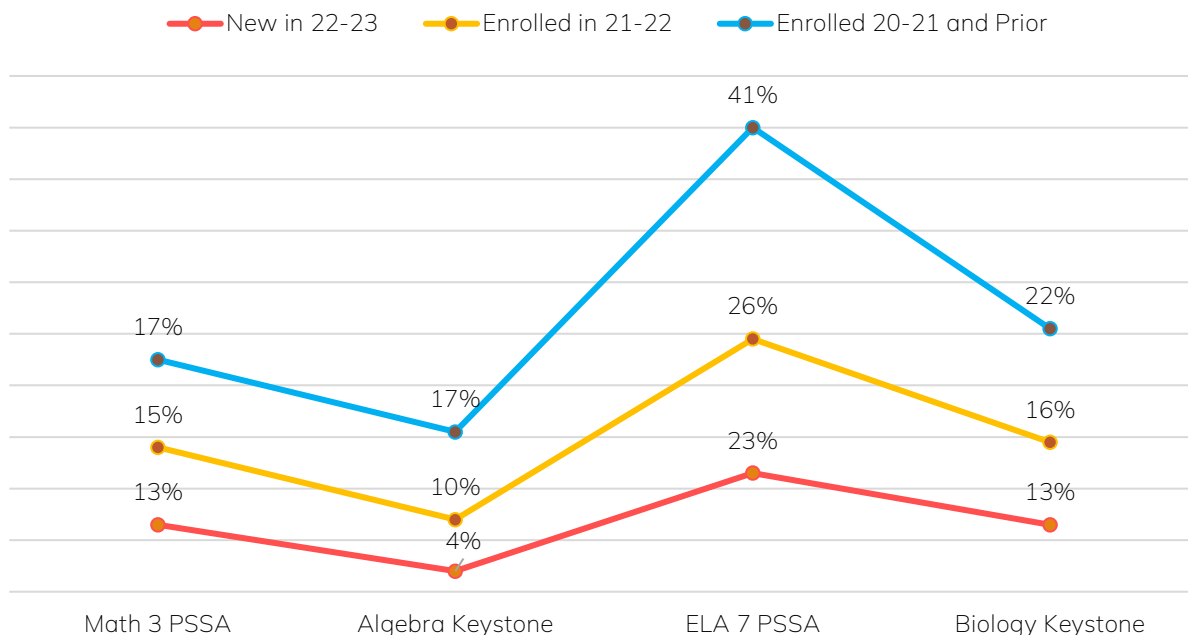
Research released from the National Assessment of Education Progress reveals that Math and Reading performance have hit the lowest levels in decades. Achievement declined nationally across lines of race, class, and geography, most significantly in Math. In Pennsylvania, performance on both Language Arts and Math showed a significant decrease since the previous assessment year. Peggy Car, commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics, commented that “these results show that there are troubling gaps in the basic skills of these students”. Additionally, research from NCES also indicates a correlation between time spent reading for fun and ELA achievement. The study shows a steep decline in students who indicate that they read for fun, with 31% of 13-year-olds stating that they “never or hardly ever” read for enjoyment. (*National Center for Education Statistics, Nation’s Report Card, nces.gov*)

Reach Student Success

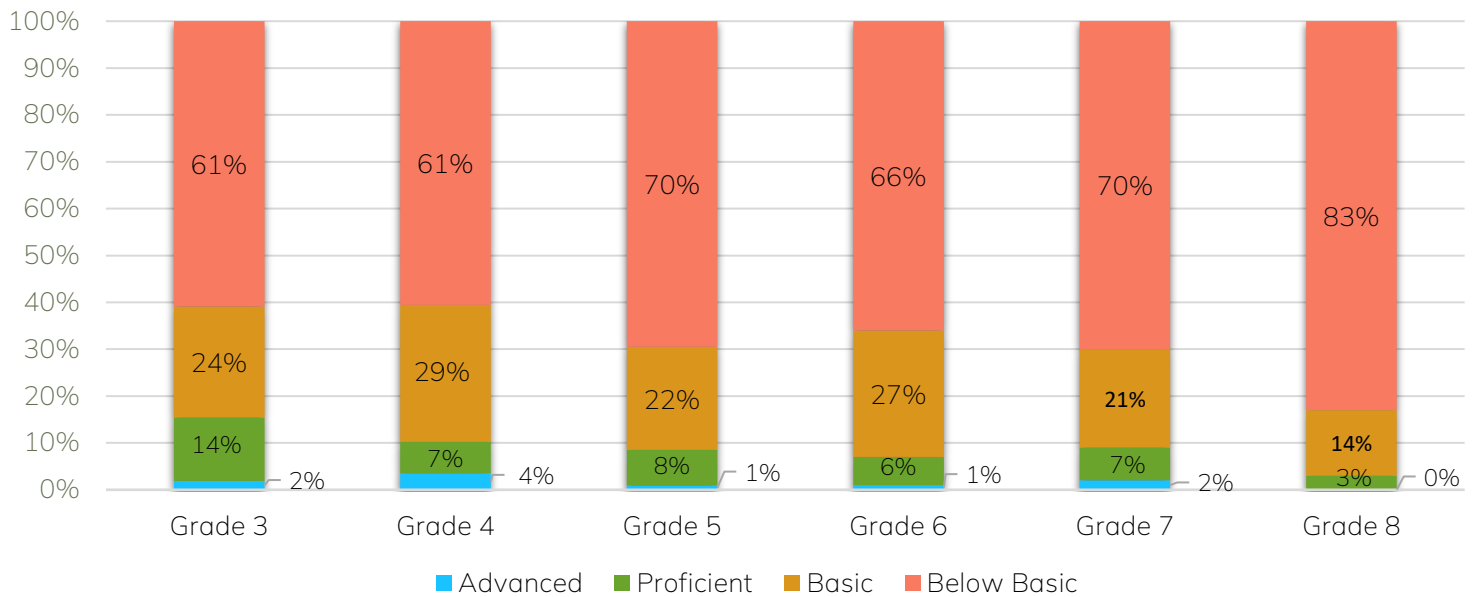


Similar to the national assessment trends, Reach’s student assessment data demonstrates deficiencies in Math and Language Arts skills. Reach students come to our school seeking a new learning environment and we are responsible for helping all students close the gap. Data on our students’ performance on state standardized exams shows that in every grade and subject on the PSSAs and Keystones, students who have been enrolled at Reach for two or more years have a higher average performance score than students who have been enrolled for less than two years. This suggests that the longer a Reach student remains enrolled with us (>2 years), the higher they perform on state assessments. This data demonstrates that Reach is providing a rich and rigorous education through personalized instruction, which is helping students to close learning gaps and grow in Math, Science, and Language Arts skills.

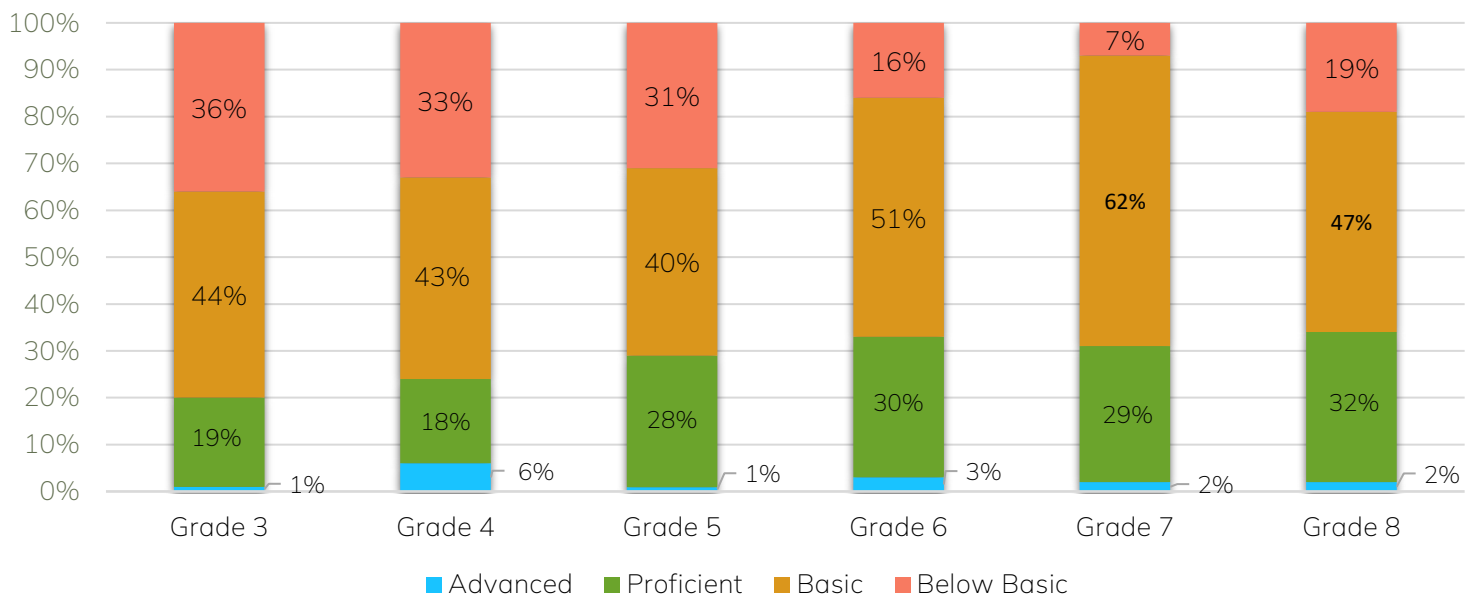
Performance by Years Enrolled at Reach



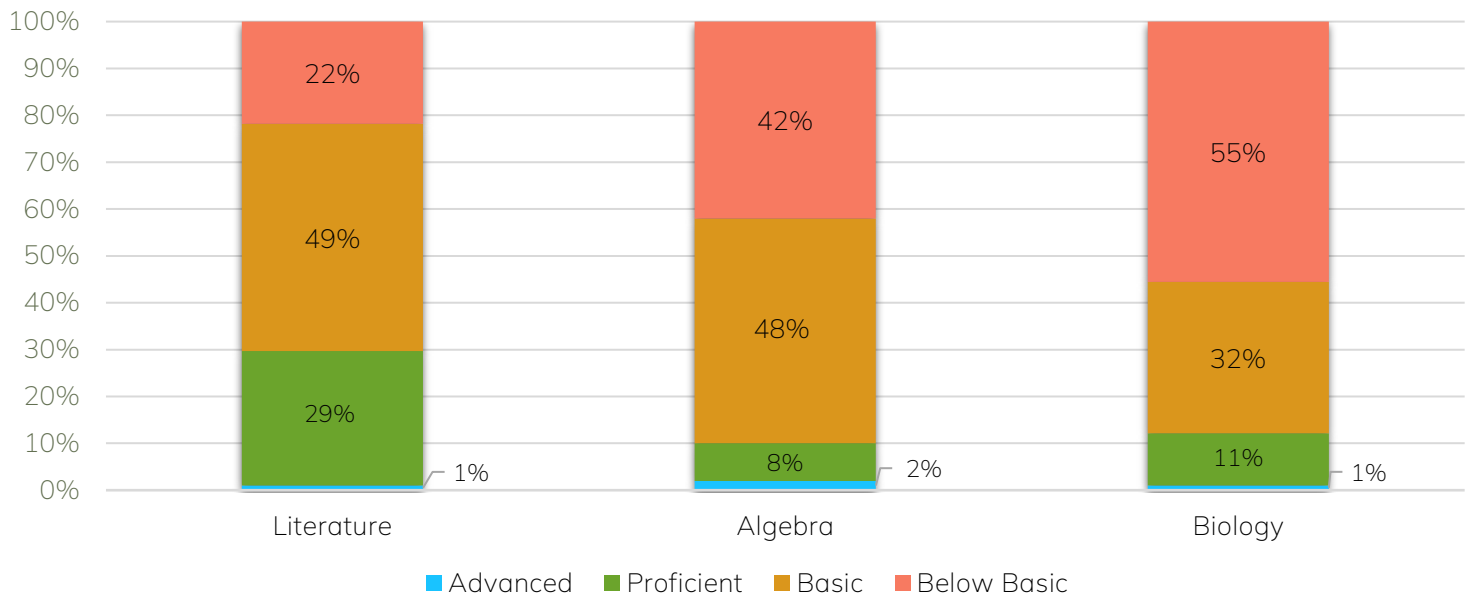
Math PSSA Results 2023



ELA PSSA Results 2023



Keystone Exam Results 2023



Summary Considerations

- Overall, Reach's combined proficiency on state assessments for 2023 is 31% proficiency in English/Language Arts and 9% proficiency in Math. In considering growth between years, Reach's Math/Algebra proficiency remained relatively consistent, however we did observe a slight decrease in ELA proficiency (-6%). It is important to note that changes to the point distribution on the ELA tests occurred between 2022 and 2023, and this is a significant consideration when evaluating overall scores and growth by standard.
- While 2023 state assessment data has not yet been made publicly available, historical averages for cyber charter school proficiency in Pennsylvania tend to fall around 23% in ELA and 8% in Math. Notably, about 65% of Reach's tested population attended and completed state testing in 2023.
- While the Pennsylvania Department of Education requires that all students complete these standardized assessments, the Reach vision of inspiring and nurturing future success for all students emphasizes real-world learning, including STEM, career readiness, flexible instruction, and authentic internal assessments for learning. Reach believes that students can demonstrate learning and mastery through a variety of ways, including through our benchmarking program. In 2023, Reach students, on average, remediated over a year's worth of below-grade level skills in Math and demonstrated 10% growth throughout the year in English Language Arts proficiency.