

## MICHIGAN

# Majority of school districts ahead in statewide testing

by: [Iz Martin](#)

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LANSING, Mich. (WLNS) — The next generation of Michiganders improved across the board in their state test scores from Spring 2022.

According to the [Michigan Department of Education](#), on average, from third to seventh grade, 54.5% of school districts increased their achievement scores in English language arts (ELA) and 4.0% of districts stayed the same as compared to last year.

For mathematics, on average from third to seventh grades, 55.9% of school districts increased their achievement scores and 7.4% of districts stayed the same.

### Count of Districts or PSAs That Had a Change in Proficiency from 2021 to 2022

GRADE	SUBJECT	INCREASED PROFICIENCY	%	NO CHANGE	%	DECREASED PROFICIENCY	%	TOTAL ENTITIES*
3	ELA	420	54.8%	27	3.5%	319	41.6%	766
4	ELA	449	58.1%	35	4.5%	289	37.4%	773
5	ELA	450	57.8%	27	3.5%	301	38.7%	778
6	ELA	441	56.9%	32	4.1%	302	39.0%	775
7	ELA	340	44.8%	32	4.2%	387	51.0%	759
3	Mathematics	449	58.5%	35	4.6%	284	37.0%	768
4	Mathematics	452	58.4%	55	7.1%	267	34.5%	774
5	Mathematics	452	58.2%	62	8.0%	263	33.8%	777
6	Mathematics	431	55.7%	69	8.9%	274	35.4%	774
7	Mathematics	370	48.7%	64	8.4%	325	42.8%	759

\*Entities had to have a valid district aggregate score on M-STEP in both 2021 and 2022 to be included in this analysis.

*Last year was a stronger year for our children, given the courageous work of our students and staff, but we continue to have a lot of room for improvement. Supported by an extraordinary fiscal year 2023 budget recently negotiated by Governor Whitmer and the state legislature, this school year will be critical to the growth and achievement of our students.”*

**STATE SUPERINTENDENT DR. MICHAEL RICE**

Participation across the Great Lakes State in taking the 2022 M-STEP was more than 95%, while only around 70% of students took the M-STEP in 2021.

**Statewide 2022 M-STEP Results**  
(Percent Proficient or Above)

SUBJECT	GRADE TESTED	SPRING 2021	SPRING 2022	SUBJECT	GRADE TESTED	SPRING 2021	SPRING 2022
ELA	3	42.8%	41.6%	Math	3	42.3%	41.5%
ELA	4	44.2%	43.4%	Math	4	36.5%	36.7%
ELA	5	43.7%	43.1%	Math	5	29.6%	30.0%
ELA	6	38.6%	37.6%	Math	6	28.6%	28.4%
ELA	7	40.7%	37.7%	Math	7	32.3%	30.2%
ELA	8	63.6%	59.7%	Math	8	36.0%	36.2%
ELA	11	56.6%	51.6%	Math	11	34.5%	30.0%
Science*	5	N/A	38.2%	Social Studies	5	15.6%	15.5%
Science*	8	N/A	36.3%	Social Studies	8	25.9%	26.3%
Science*	11	N/A	38.0%	Social Studies	11	43.7%	35.9%

\*Due to standard setting with low participation numbers for the science assessments in 2021, performance levels and cut scores had to be reset in 2022. This requires a new starting point for science score trends in 2022.

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While the numbers are looking good across the board, a [report](#) from Michigan State University’s [Education Police Innovation Collaborative](#) is showing that third-graders were behind in their reading scores.

Around 5,650 students had reading scores low enough that they could be required to repeat third grade.

Director of EPIC [Katharine Strunk](#) says this is evidence that students will need additional support to recover from the educational impacts brought on by the pandemic.

“More than anything, this shows us that the pandemic has taken a toll on many of Michigan’s students, and more are struggling with literacy in the third grade than were prior to the pandemic,” Strunk said. “Michigan’s schools and students will need increased investments and support to recover academically.”

In the spring of 2022, more students scored below 1252, the state-determined benchmark for one grade level behind in reading.

Being one grade level behind means they could be held back under Michigan’s Read by Grade Three law.