



Santa Clara County Office of Education

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County Superintendent of Schools

October 16, 2024

TO: Jessica Bonduris, Ed.D., Associate Superintendent
FROM: Deann Walsh, Manager, Assessment & Accountability
Dan Mason, Manager, Assessment & Accountability
SUBJECT: 2024 Santa Clara County Summative Assessment Results

The following provides an analysis of Santa Clara County’s Smarter Balanced Assessment and California Science Test (CAST) results. During the Spring of 2024, the Smarter Balanced Summative English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA) and Mathematics (math) assessments were administered to students in Grades 3-8 and 11. Concurrently, CAST was administered to students in grades 5, 8 and high school (students in grades 10-12 are eligible to take the test once).

The following tables and figures illustrate performance on the assessments by: Percentages of students who Met or Exceeded Standard; percentages of students at the four performance levels (Standard Exceeded, Standard Met, Standard Nearly Met, and Standard Not Met); and percentage of students at Below Standard on the areas/domains within the assessments. Comparisons are made between the county and statewide results, the county’s results over time, student groups, and grade levels.

To preserve space, the following abbreviations are used in the data visualizations.

All	All Students
Am. Ind.	American Indian or Alaska Native
Black	Black or African American
Latino	Hispanic or Latino
Pac. Is.	Pacific Islander
Two+	Two or More Races
EL	English Learner
Not EL	Not English Learner (Fluent English Proficient & English Only)

CA	California
SCC	Santa Clara County
SWD	Reported Disabilities
Not SWD	No Reported Disabilities
Foster	Foster Youth
Homeless	Homeless Youth
SED	Socioeconomically Disadvantaged
Not SED	Not Socioeconomically Disadvantaged

OVERALL COUNTY AND STATE RESULTS

At the aggregate level of all students, Santa Clara County students continued to outperform students statewide in ELA, math, and science. In 2024, 59.2% of Santa Clara County students met or exceeded standard in ELA, compared to 47.0% of students statewide (a difference of 12.2 percentage points). Yet, compared to the 2022 ELA results, Santa Clara County’s 2024 rate declined by 1.4 percentage points, while the statewide rate remained flat (a decline of 0.1 percentage point).

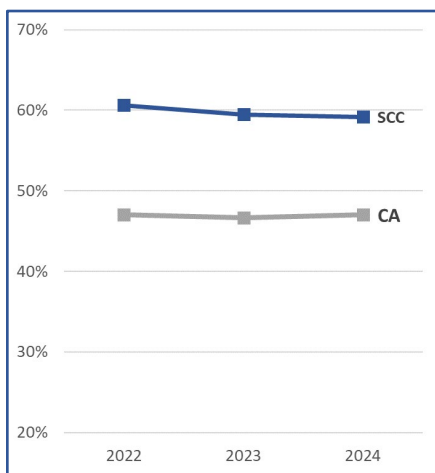
In math, Santa Clara County students outperformed statewide students by 16.6 percentage points (52.1% of Santa Clara County students met or exceeded standard versus 35.5% in California). When compared to the 2022 math results, Santa Clara County’s students improved by 0.7 percentage points, while students statewide improved by 2.1 percentage points.

In science, Santa Clara County students outperformed statewide students by 16.3 percentage points (47.0% of Santa Clara County students met or exceeded standard in science versus 30.7% in California). When compared to the 2022 science results, Santa Clara County’s students declined by 0.4 percentage points, while the statewide student results improved by 1.2 percentage points.

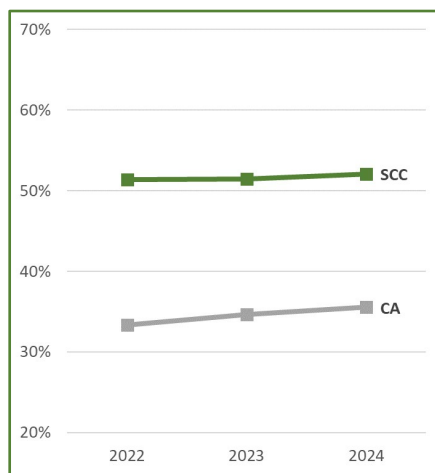
Table 1: Santa Clara County and California Students Who Met or Exceeded Standard on the Smarter Balanced Summative ELA and Math Assessments and the California Science Test; 2022 - 2024

	English-Language Arts				Mathematics				Science			
	2022	2023	2024	22-24 (+ / -)	2022	2023	2024	22-24 (+ / -)	2022	2023	2024	22-24 (+ / -)
SCC	60.6%	59.5%	59.2%	-1.4	51.4%	51.4%	52.1%	+0.7	47.4%	46.6%	47.0%	-0.4
CA	47.1%	46.7%	47.0%	-0.1	33.4%	34.6%	35.5%	+2.1	29.5%	30.2%	30.7%	+1.2

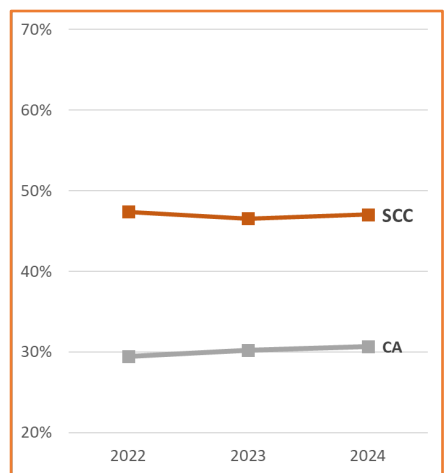
English-Language Arts



Mathematics



Science



PERFORMANCE BY RACE/ETHNICITY AND PROGRAM STUDENT GROUPS

Comparison between Santa Clara County and California

Figures 1 through 6 demonstrate that in 2024, most but not all, of Santa Clara County's student groups outperformed the corresponding statewide student groups.

- Figure 1 (ELA by race/ethnic groups)
- Figure 2 (ELA by student program groups)
- Figure 3 (Math by race/ethnic groups)
- Figure 4 (Math by student program groups)
- Figure 5 (Science by race/ethnic groups)
- Figure 6 (Science by student program groups)

Historically, Santa Clara County's Hispanic/Latino and Filipino students have not performed as well as the corresponding statewide groups on the summative assessments, and this trend continued in 2024.

- ELA - Thirty two percent of Santa Clara County Hispanic/Latino students met or exceeded standard versus 37% of California Hispanic/Latino students. Sixty seven percent of Santa Clara County Filipino students met or exceeded standard versus 71% of California Filipino students. See Figure 1.
- Math - Twenty one percent of Santa Clara County Hispanic/Latino students met or exceeded standard versus 24% of California Hispanic/Latino students. Fifty three percent of Santa Clara County Filipino students met or exceeded standard versus 58% of California Filipino students. See Figure 3.
- Science - Santa Clara County Hispanic/Latino and Filipino students performed closer to, but still slightly lower than, California Hispanic/Latino and Filipino students. Nineteen percent of Santa Clara County Hispanic/Latino students met or exceeded standard versus 20% of California Hispanic/Latino students. Forty nine percent of Santa Clara County Filipino students met or exceeded standard versus 50% of California Filipino students. See Figure 5.

Gaps within Santa Clara County

While Santa Clara County has relatively high overall performance results, student group disaggregation reveals considerable achievement gaps by race/ethnicity and program participation. Figures 1, 3, and 5 show that Santa Clara County Asian, White, Two or More Races, or Filipino students significantly outperformed Santa Clara County Hispanic/Latino, Black, Pacific Islander, or American Indian students. In the most extreme case, 82% of Santa Clara County Asian students met or exceeded standard in math, compared to 21% of the county's Hispanic/Latino students.

Figures 2, 4, and 6 show that Santa Clara County students with a program association (i.e., Socioeconomically Disadvantaged, English Learners, Students with Disabilities, Homeless, and Foster Youth) perform significantly lower than their peers who are not associated with these programs. In the two most extreme cases, students who are not English Learners outperformed English Learners by 57 percentage points in ELA (70% vs. 13% met or exceeded standard) and by 52 percentage points in science (56% vs. 4% met or exceeded standard).

Figure 1: 2024 Santa Clara County and California Smarter Balanced Summative ELA Assessment Results by Race/Ethnicity; Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard

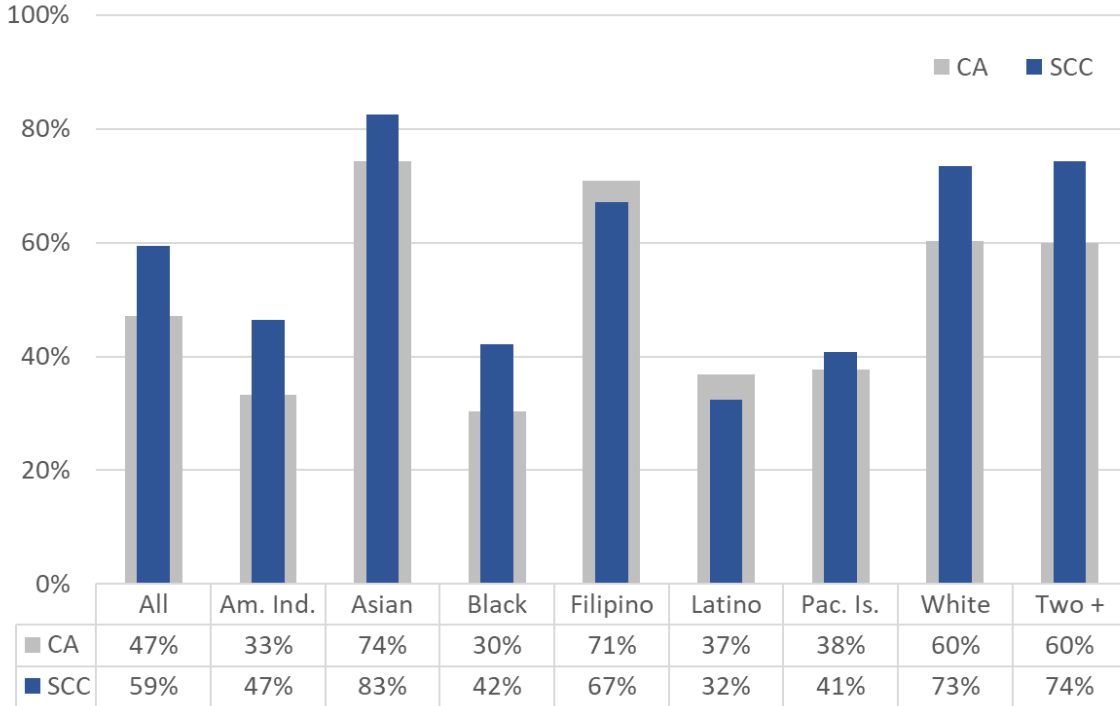


Figure 2: 2024 Santa Clara County and California Smarter Balanced Summative ELA Assessment Results by Student Program Groups; Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard

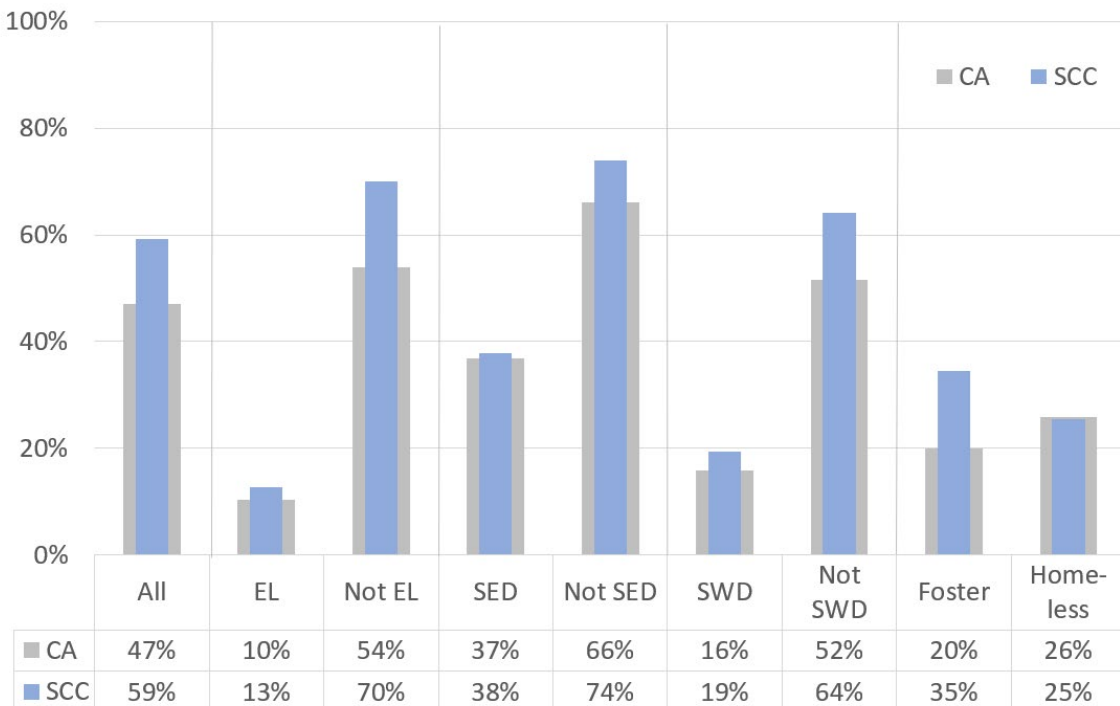


Figure 3: 2024 Santa Clara County and California Smarter Balanced Summative Math Assessment Results by Race/Ethnicity; Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard

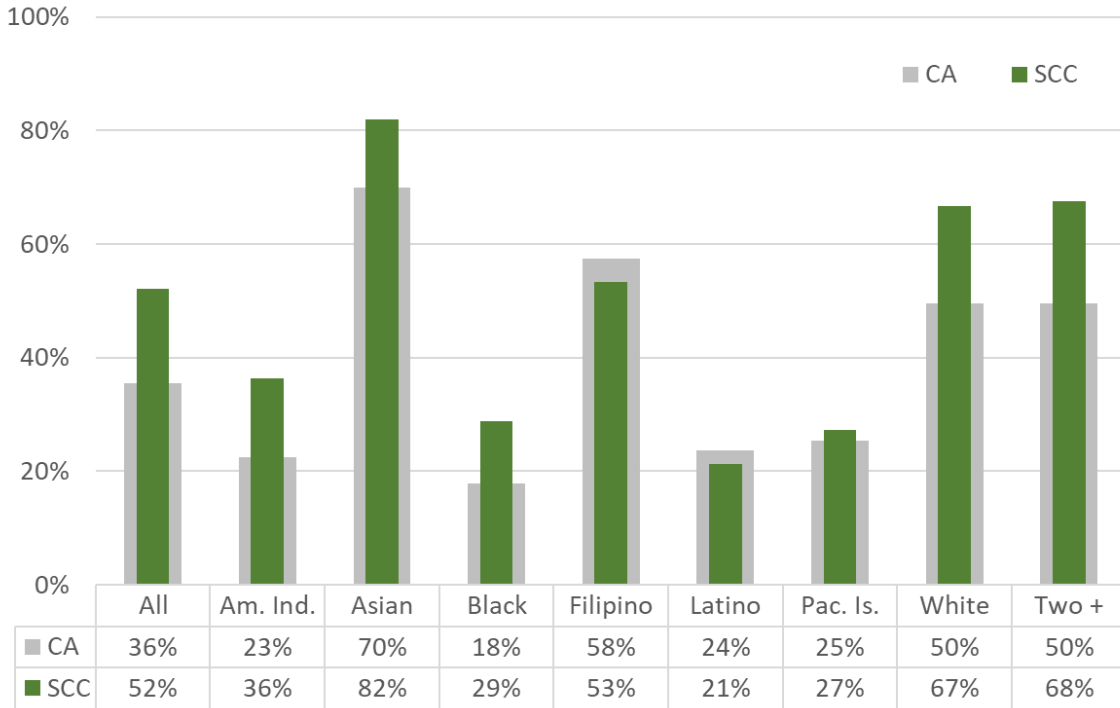


Figure 4: 2024 Santa Clara County and California Smarter Balanced Summative Math Assessment Results by Student Program Groups; Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard

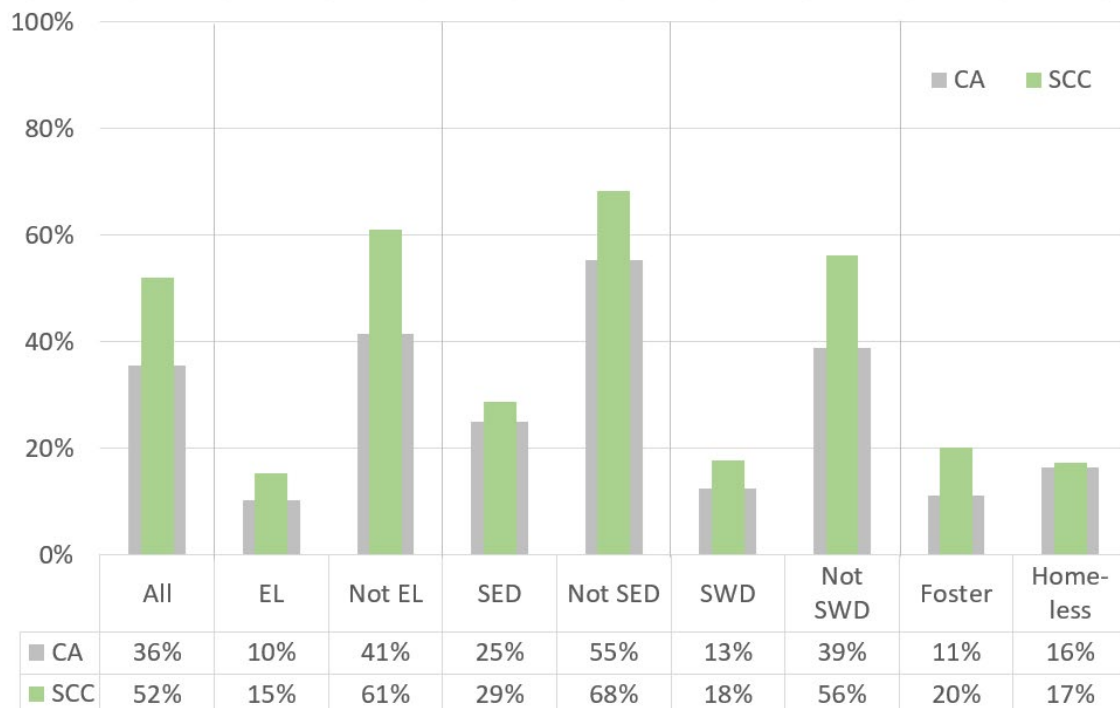


Figure 5: 2024 Santa Clara County and California Science Test Results by Race/Ethnicity; Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard

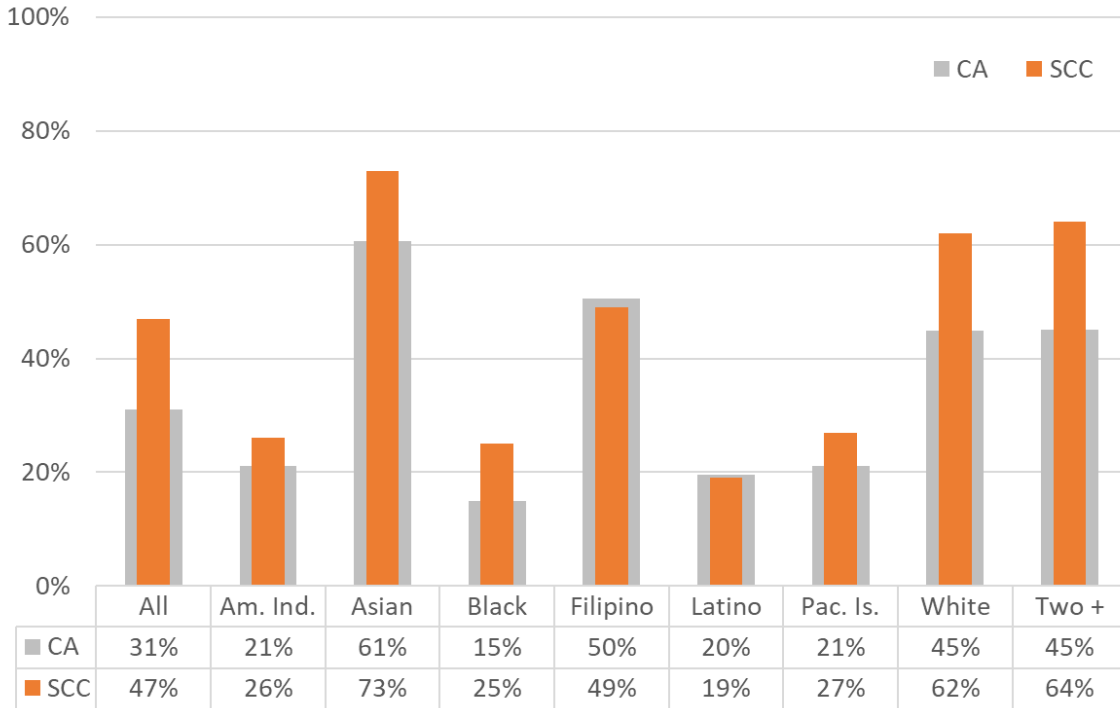
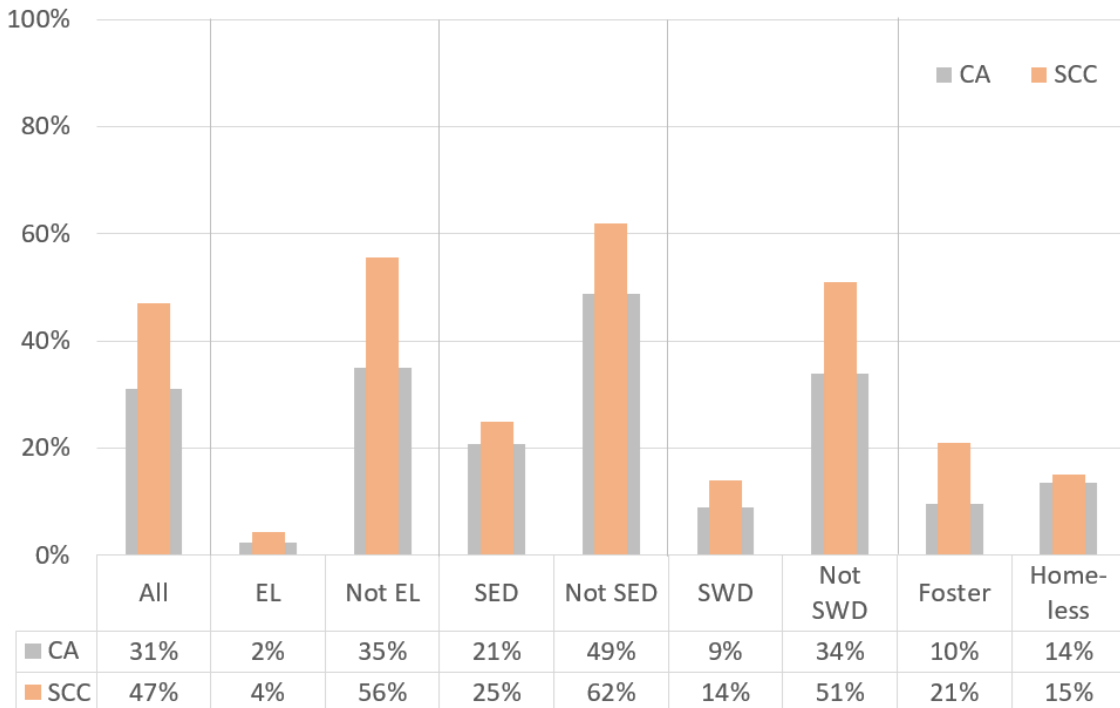


Figure 6: 2024 Santa Clara County and California Science Test Results by Student Program Groups; Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard



Santa Clara County Bright Spots

From 2023 to 2024, the performance of Santa Clara County socioeconomically disadvantaged students increased on each assessment; with the percentages meeting or exceeding standard improving from 36% to 38% in ELA, from 25% to 29% in math, and from 23% to 25% in science. See Table 2.

Though the numbers of Santa Clara County Foster Youth are relatively small when compared to the sizes of other student groups, the substantial increases from 2023 to 2024 of Foster Youth performance are very worthy of recognition as a bright spot. The percentages of Santa Clara County Foster Youth students meeting or exceeding standard grew from 16% to 35% in ELA, from 13% to 20% in math, and from 7% to 21% in science. See Table 2.

Table 2: Santa Clara County Socioeconomically Disadvantaged and Foster Youth Students Who Met or Exceeded Standard on the Smarter Balanced Summative ELA and Math Assessments and the California Science Test; 2023 - 2024

	ELA		Math		Science	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
SED	36%	38%	25%	29%	23%	25%
Foster	16%	35%	13%	20%	7%	21%

STUDENT PERFORMANCE BY GRADE LEVELS

In 2024, 59% of Santa Clara County students met or exceeded standard in ELA. When disaggregated by grade level, there is an ascending pattern with the percentages of students who met or exceeded standard ranging from a low of 54% (3rd Grade) to a high of 66% (11th Grade). As illustrated in Figure 7, the ELA results have a general upward trajectory with percentages of students meeting and exceeding standards increasing across grade levels.

In 2024, 52% of students in Santa Clara County met or exceeded standard in math. The math pattern of grade level performance is the opposite of the ELA pattern, with the percentage of students meeting or exceeding standard ranging from a high of 58% (3rd Grade) to a low of 46% (11th Grade). As illustrated in Figure 8, math results have a general downward trend with the percentage of students meeting and exceeding standard steadily decreasing as the grade level increases.

In 2024, 47% of students in Santa Clara County met or exceeded standard in science. When disaggregated by grades 5, 8 and high school (students in grades 10, 11 or 12 who took the 2024 science assessment), the percentage of students meeting or exceeding standard were remarkably similar: 47% for grade 5, 48% for grade 8, and 47% for high school. See Figure 9.

Figure 7: 2024 Santa Clara County Smarter Balanced Summative ELA Assessment Results by Grade Level, Percent of Students by Performance Levels

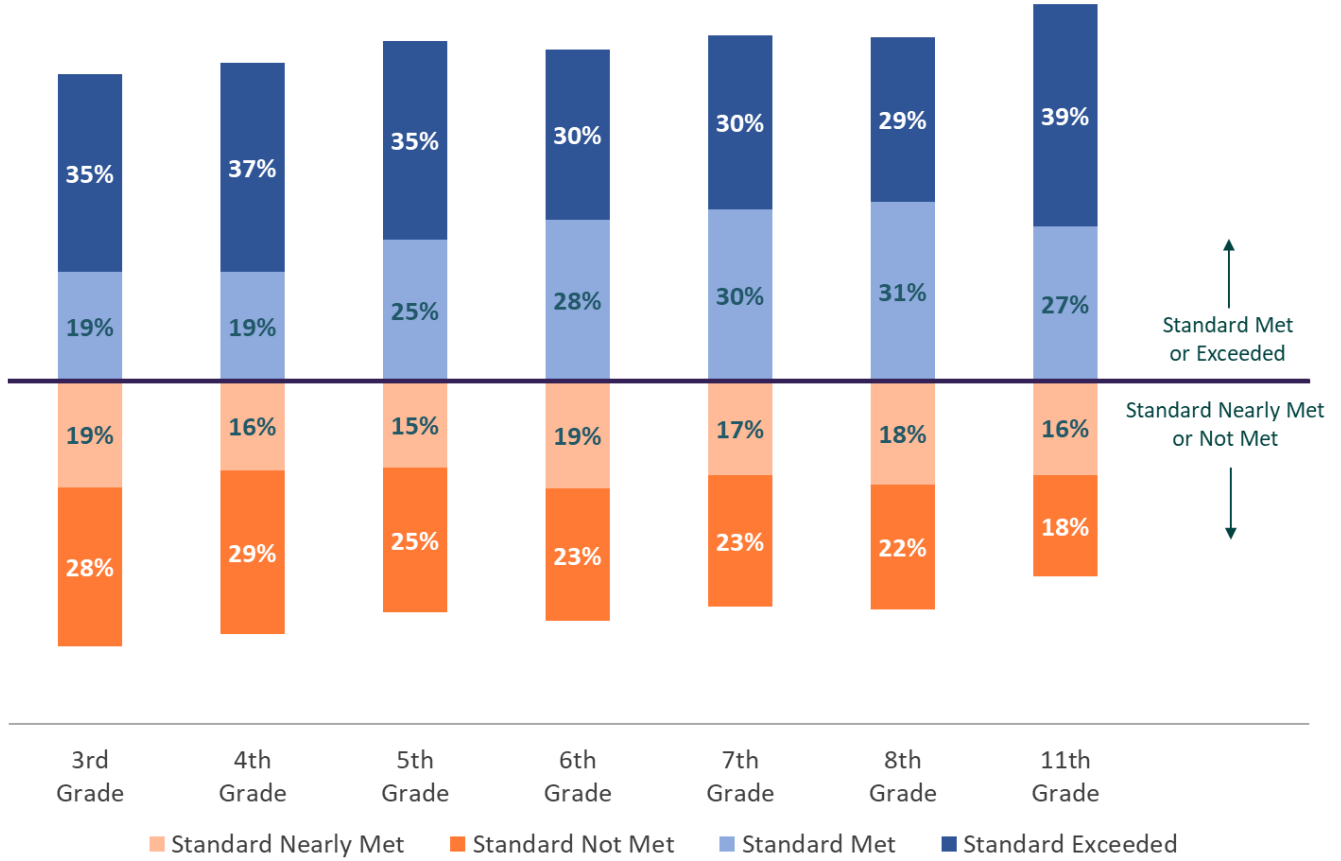


Figure 8: 2024 Santa Clara County Smarter Balanced Summative Math Assessment Results by Grade Level, Percent of Students by Performance Levels

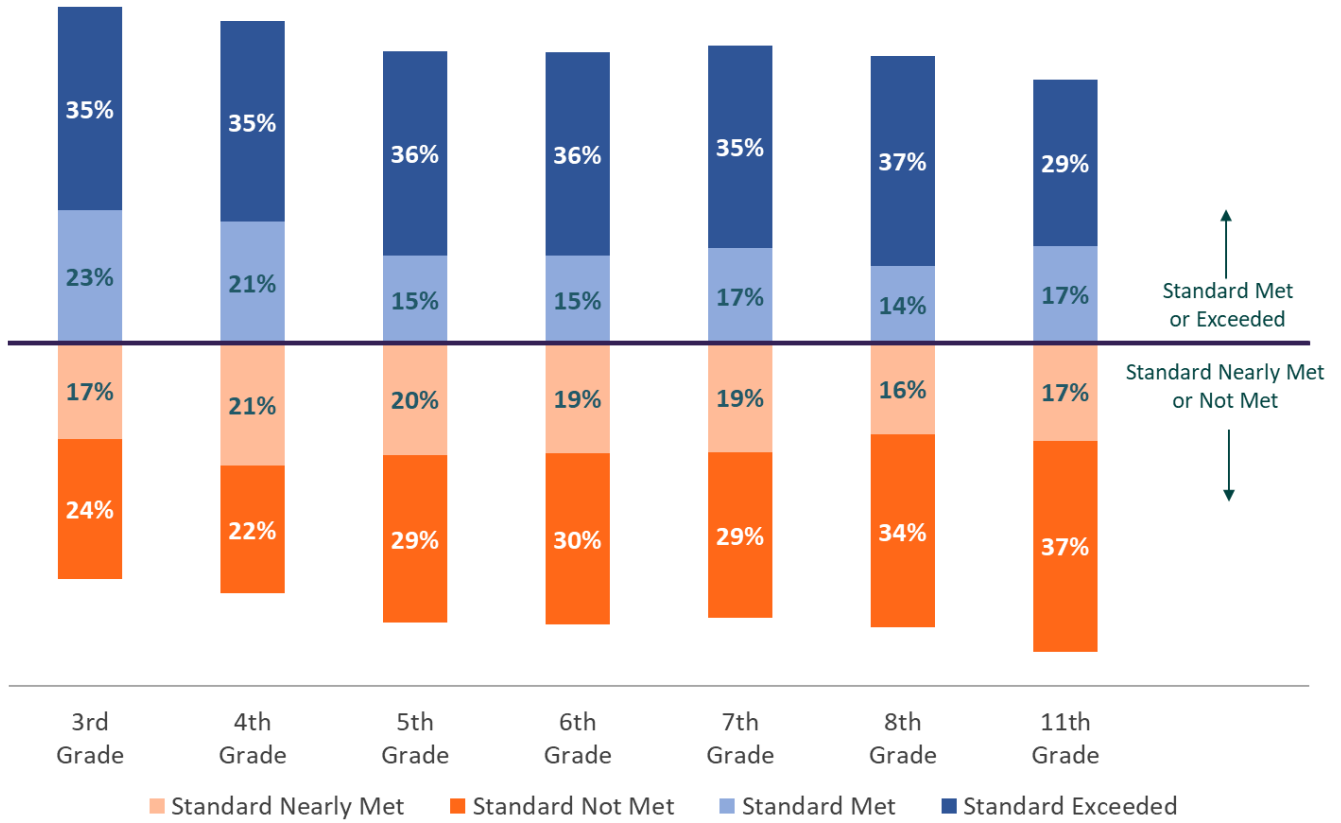
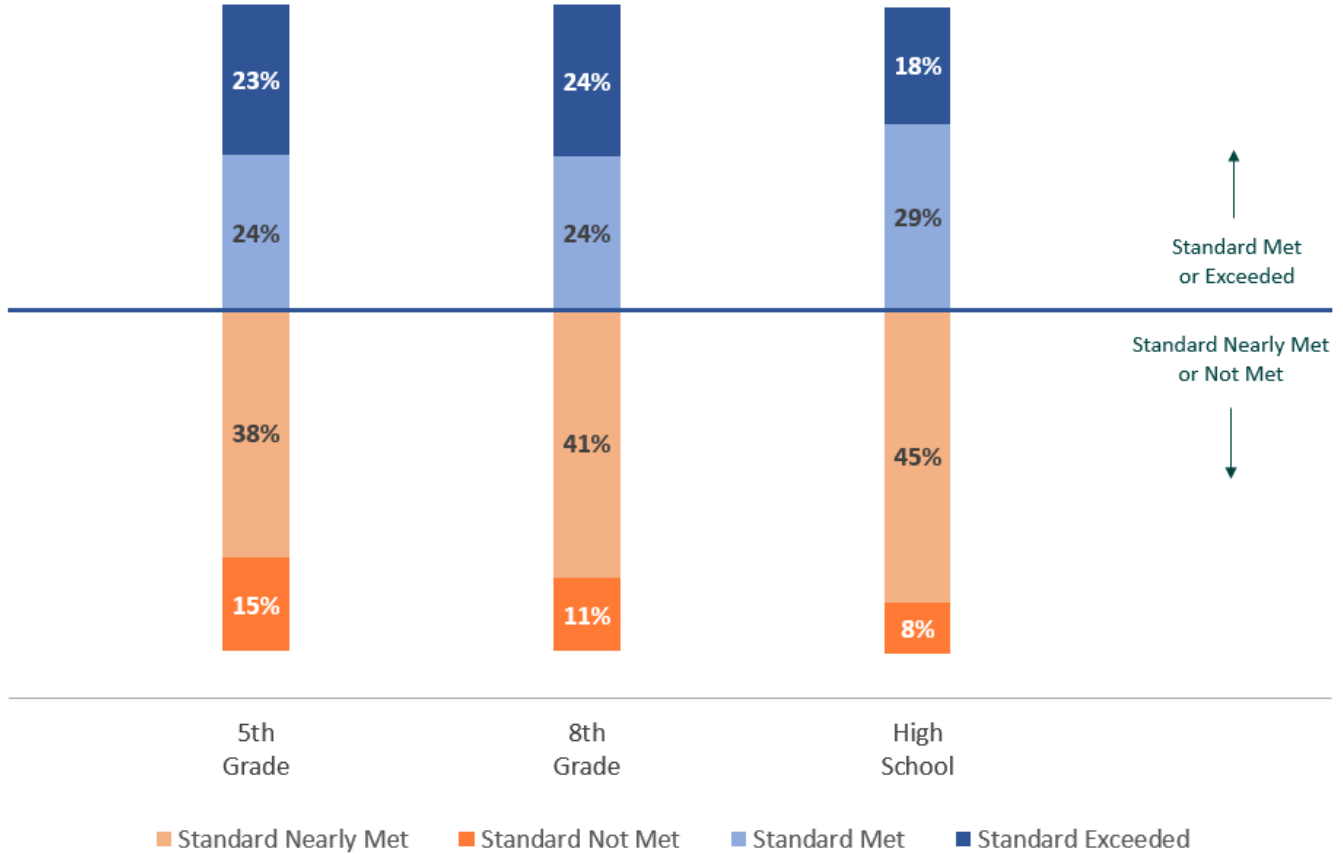


Figure 9: 2024 Santa Clara County California Science Test Results by Grade Level, Percent of Students by Performance Levels



RESULTS BY AREAS/DOMAINS

In addition to the four performance levels associated with the comprehensive ELA, math, and science assessments (Standard Exceeded, Standard Met, Standard Nearly Met, and Standard Not Met), there are also three performance levels (Above Standard, Near Standard, and Below Standard) for ELA areas, math areas, and science domains that are embedded within each comprehensive assessment.

For these areas/domains, comparisons between the performance of Santa Clara County student groups reveal similar patterns as have been observed with the comprehensive assessments. Tables 3-6 detail the percentages of Santa Clara County students who performed below standard on the areas/domains. Color coding has been provided to highlight the data points of relatively lesser to greater concern.

Table 3 details the percentages of Santa Clara County student groups that performed below standard within the four ELA areas: Reading, Writing, Listening, and Research/Inquiry. Overall, students struggled most with Writing, with approximately 1 in 4 students performing below standard, and performed highest in Listening, with only 1 in 8 students performing below standard. In comparison to all students, Hispanic/Latino students had almost twice the rate of students below standard across all four areas. Similarly, English Learners, Socioeconomically Disadvantaged Students, Students with Disabilities, Foster Youth and Homeless Youth were below standard at rates that were significantly higher than their peers not associated with these programs.

Table 3: 2024 Santa Clara County Smarter Balanced Summative ELA Assessment Results by Area, Percent of Students Below Standard

ELA	Reading	Writing	Listening	Research/ Inquiry
All	19%	24%	13%	15%
Am. Ind.	24%	32%	17%	19%
Asian	7%	8%	6%	6%
Black	27%	36%	18%	22%
Filipino	13%	13%	10%	9%
Latino	35%	43%	22%	27%
Pac. Is.	33%	31%	21%	24%
White	10%	13%	7%	8%
Two +	10%	13%	8%	9%
EL	50%	60%	32%	39%
Not EL	12%	15%	9%	9%
SED	32%	39%	20%	25%
Not SED	11%	13%	8%	8%
SWD	48%	61%	32%	40%
Not SWD	16%	19%	11%	12%
Foster	41%	53%	23%	28%
Homeless	43%	54%	28%	34%

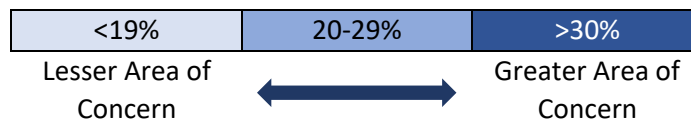
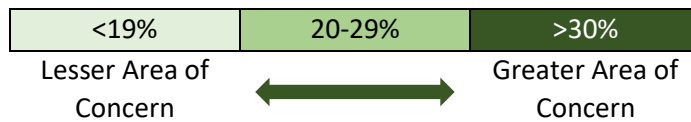


Table 4 details the percentages of Santa Clara County student groups that performed below standard within the three math areas: Concepts and Procedures, Problem Solving and Modeling & Data Analysis, and Communicating Reasoning. Overall, students were challenged most by Concepts and Procedures, with 29% of students performing below standard. This trend was consistent across all student groups, with as high as 64% of Students with Disabilities and Homeless Youth performing below standard in Concepts and Procedures.

Table 4: 2024 Santa Clara County Smarter Balanced Summative Math Assessment Results by Area, Percent of Students Below Standard

Math	Concepts and Procedures	Problem Solving and Modeling & Data Analysis	Communicating Reasoning
All	29%	25%	20%
Am. Ind.	42%	37%	28%
Asian	8%	8%	6%
Black	44%	39%	29%
Filipino	22%	20%	16%
Latino	54%	44%	36%
Pac. Is.	44%	38%	29%
White	15%	12%	10%
Two +	17%	14%	12%
EL	62%	56%	44%
Not EL	21%	17%	14%
SED	48%	40%	32%
Not SED	16%	14%	11%
SWD	64%	57%	46%
Not SWD	25%	21%	17%
Foster	61%	44%	39%
Homeless	64%	53%	43%



Finally, Table 5 details the percentages of Santa Clara County student groups that performed below standard within the three science domains: Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Earth and Space Sciences. Santa Clara County students appeared to struggle with the three domains at roughly similar rates both overall and across all student groups. For example, approximately one in three students performed below standard for each of the three domains. Previously noted patterns of significant variation between student groups are evident, ranging from 14% -15% of Asian students performing below standard to 77% - 84% of English Learners performing below standard.

Table 5: 2024 Santa Clara County California Science Test Results by Domain, Percent of Students Below Standard

Science	Life Sciences	Physical Sciences	Earth and Space Sciences
All	36%	35%	33%
Am. Ind.	52%	48%	53%
Asian	15%	14%	14%
Black	54%	54%	51%
Filipino	27%	26%	27%
Latino	61%	60%	57%
Pac. Is.	53%	51%	52%
White	21%	20%	19%
Two +	20%	20%	19%
EL	84%	80%	77%
Not EL	27%	26%	25%
SED	55%	54%	51%
Not SED	23%	22%	21%
SWD	74%	71%	69%
Not SWD	32%	31%	29%
Foster	68%	68%	68%
Homeless	68%	68%	66%

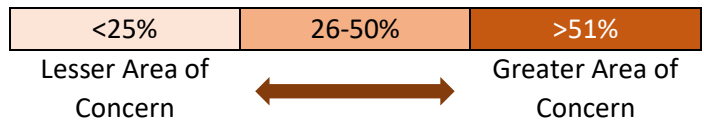


Table 6: Number of Santa Clara County Students by Performance Level for the 2024 Smarter Balanced Summative ELA Assessment

ELA	Total Students Tested with Scores	Total Students Exceeding Standard	Total Students Meeting Standard	Total Students Nearly Meeting Standard	Total Students Not Meeting Standard
All	117,564	39,290	30,269	20,028	27,977
Am. Ind.	290	63	72	75	80
Asian	37,229	20,889	9,836	3,617	2,887
Black	1,969	352	478	433	706
Filipino	4,289	1,421	1,460	817	591
Latino	46,601	5,032	10,076	11,066	20,427
Pac. Is.	481	70	126	109	176
White	18,518	7,665	5,937	2,833	2,083
Two +	8,187	3,798	2,284	1,078	1,027
EL	22,180	638	2,200	4,998	14,344
Not EL	95,333	38,644	28,059	15,019	13,611
SED	48,213	7,424	10,833	10,653	19,303
Not SED	69,351	31,866	19,436	9,375	8,674
SWD	12,893	944	1,551	2,372	8,026
Not SWD	104,671	38,346	28,718	17,656	19,951
Foster	81	11	17	11	42
Homeless	1,629	135	279	301	914

Table 7: Number of Santa Clara County Students by Performance Level for the 2024 Smarter Balanced Summative Math Assessment

Math	Total Students Tested with Scores	Total Students Exceeding Standard	Total Students Meeting Standard	Total Students Nearly Meeting Standard	Total Students Not Meeting Standard
All	119,250	41,346	20,779	22,014	35,111
Am. Ind.	294	64	43	66	121
Asian	37,690	24,043	6,821	3,909	2,917
Black	1,964	248	318	493	905
Filipino	4,307	1,242	1,054	1,044	967
Latino	47,672	3,880	6,295	11,467	26,030
Pac. Is.	477	57	73	130	217
White	18,589	7,927	4,478	3,550	2,634
Two +	8,257	3,885	1,697	1,355	1,320
EL	23,985	1,378	2,322	4,805	15,480
Not EL	95,207	39,959	18,452	17,202	19,594
SED	48,969	6,964	7,105	11,080	23,820
Not SED	70,281	34,382	13,674	10,934	11,291
SWD	12,864	1,189	1,085	1,998	8,592
Not SWD	106,386	40,157	19,694	20,016	26,519
Foster	79	6	10	18	45
Homeless	1,772	134	172	332	1,134

Table 8: Number of Santa Clara County Students by Performance Level for the 2024 California Science Test

Science	Total Students Tested with Scores	Total Students Exceeding Standard	Total Students Meeting Standard	Total Students Nearly Meeting Standard	Total Students Not Meeting Standard
All	52,118	11,251	13,265	21,697	5,905
Am. Ind.	127	11	22	74	20
Asian	16,602	6,472	5,574	3,973	583
Black	898	48	177	516	157
Filipino	2,005	270	716	909	110
Latino	20,677	855	3,021	12,351	4,450
Pac. Is.	199	19	34	114	32
White	8,175	2,438	2,647	2,712	378
Two +	3,435	1,138	1,074	1,048	175
EL	8,683	44	332	5,099	3,208
Not EL	43,386	11,204	12,929	16,566	2,687
SED	21,042	1,502	3,777	11,676	4,087
Not SED	31,076	9,749	9,488	10,021	1,818
SWD	5,367	247	487	2,727	1,906
Not SWD	46,751	11,004	12,778	18,970	3,999
Foster	34	0	7	15	12
Homeless	831	26	100	449	256