



NEWS RELEASE

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Standards Tests Results: Small gains, but large achievement gap remains

SAN JOSE, CA – Results of the 2013 California Standards Tests (CST) show that while progress is being made among county students in closing the achievement gap, the gap remains considerable, according to an analysis by the Santa Clara County Office of Education’s Assessment and Accountability Department.

The California Department of Education released the 2013 results today for schools, districts and counties. The scores are used to calculate Academic Performance Index and are compared to Adequate Yearly Progress accountability targets.

Several highlights of the SCCOE analysis:

- Overall, county students continue to outperform their statewide counterparts, with 67 percent of county students scoring proficient or above in ELA, compared to 57 percent statewide; and 72 percent of county scoring proficient or above in math, compared to 63 percent statewide.
- After years of slow but consistent growth, each of four selected ethnic subgroups in the county either had the same proficiency levels as the previous year or dropped by a percentage point in one or both subjects.
- Though the achievement gaps between white students and Hispanic students are still rather wide, they did narrow between 2004 and 2013. For example, in math the gap is down by 9 percentage points since 2004. In spite of that trend, however, the size of the gap is still troubling, at 30 points.

The entire COE analysis can be found at www.sccoe.org.