



**Mohammed Choudhury**  
State Superintendent of Schools

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**TO:** Members of the State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Mohammed Choudhury  
**DATE:** December 7, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** Preliminary Data on Early Fall and Kindergarten Readiness Assessments

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**PURPOSE:**

To update the State Board on preliminary data from early fall 2021 assessments and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA).

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The presentation will include information on the assessments administered during the fall including the following topics:

1. Background of the assessment administration for 2020-2021 school year,
2. Prior assessment results,
3. Preliminary data
4. Kindergarten readiness assessment for 2021-2022 school year,
5. Individual Student Report information, and
6. Timeline for results.

**ACTION:**

No action is necessary; for discussion only.



# Early Fall Assessments Preliminary Data

Maryland State Board Meeting  
December 7, 2021

- Background on Early Fall Assessment
- Prior Assessment Results
- Preliminary Data
- Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
- Individual Student Reports
- Timeline for Final Results

Nationally, fewer students are meeting proficiency criteria in English Language arts and mathematics assessments as compared to pre-pandemic assessment trends.

A recent study by Halloran et al. combined Spring 2021 state standardized test scores with data from 12 states showing that pass rates from Spring 2021 declined compared to prior years.

- The study indicated that the mode of instruction (in-person versus hybrid or virtual learning) likely played a role with larger declines in school districts with less in-person instruction.<sup>1</sup>
- The average decline in math was 14.2 percentage points and this decline was estimated to be 10.1 percentage points smaller for districts that were fully in-person.
- The average decline in English language arts was 6.3 percentage points.

<sup>1</sup>Halloran, C., Jack, R., Okun, J. C., & Oster, E. (2021, November). *Pandemic Schooling Mode and Student Test Scores: Evidence from US States*. Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research. doi:10.3386/w29497

# Virtual Learning in 2020-2021: National Snapshot

Texas and Indiana are two examples of what we might expect to see across the country after over a year of pandemic schooling:



## Texas

Algebra I assessments show that in 2021, just 41% of students met grade-level expectations, down 21% from 2019.

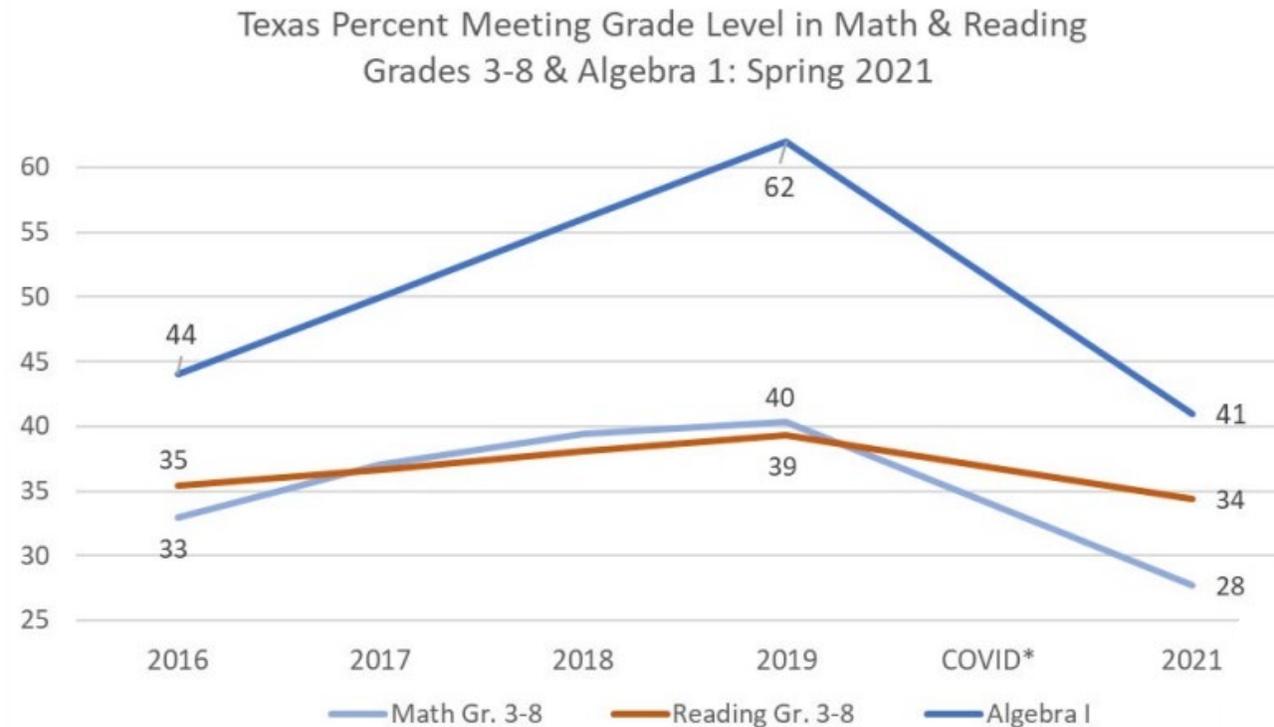


## Indiana

28.6% of students statewide in grades 3-8 tested proficiently in both Math and English in 2021, down nearly 10% from 2019.

## Texas Percent Meeting Grade Level in Math and Reading Trend Data (2016-2021)

The size of these drops is even more startling when viewed over time. The figure shows three years of steady growth in Texas from 2016 to 2019, where grade-level performance grew in math and reading in grades 3 to 8 and in high school Algebra I. The pandemic wiped out those gains and then some.



# Background: Administration of Assessments



- February 22, 2021, the U.S. Department of Education sent guidance to states for flexibility in administration of the federally mandated state assessments for English language arts, mathematics, and science\*.
- As a result of this guidance, on March 4, 2021, the Maryland State Board of Education approved the plan to administer assessments in the early fall of 2021 in a shortened form.

\*<https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-releases-guidance-states-assessing-student-learning-during-pandemic>

# Background: Administration of Assessments



- Students were tested in early fall on the content in their enrolled courses from spring of 2021 in English language arts/literacy, mathematics, and science.
- Quick turnaround data was available to local school systems within 48 hours of students completing the assessments (beginning on September 30, 2021).
- Assessment results are reported by 3 performance levels with proficiency reported as met expectations and exceeded expectations .
- Remote versions of the assessments were available for students attending school virtually.

## Performance Level Scale

 Approached Expectations

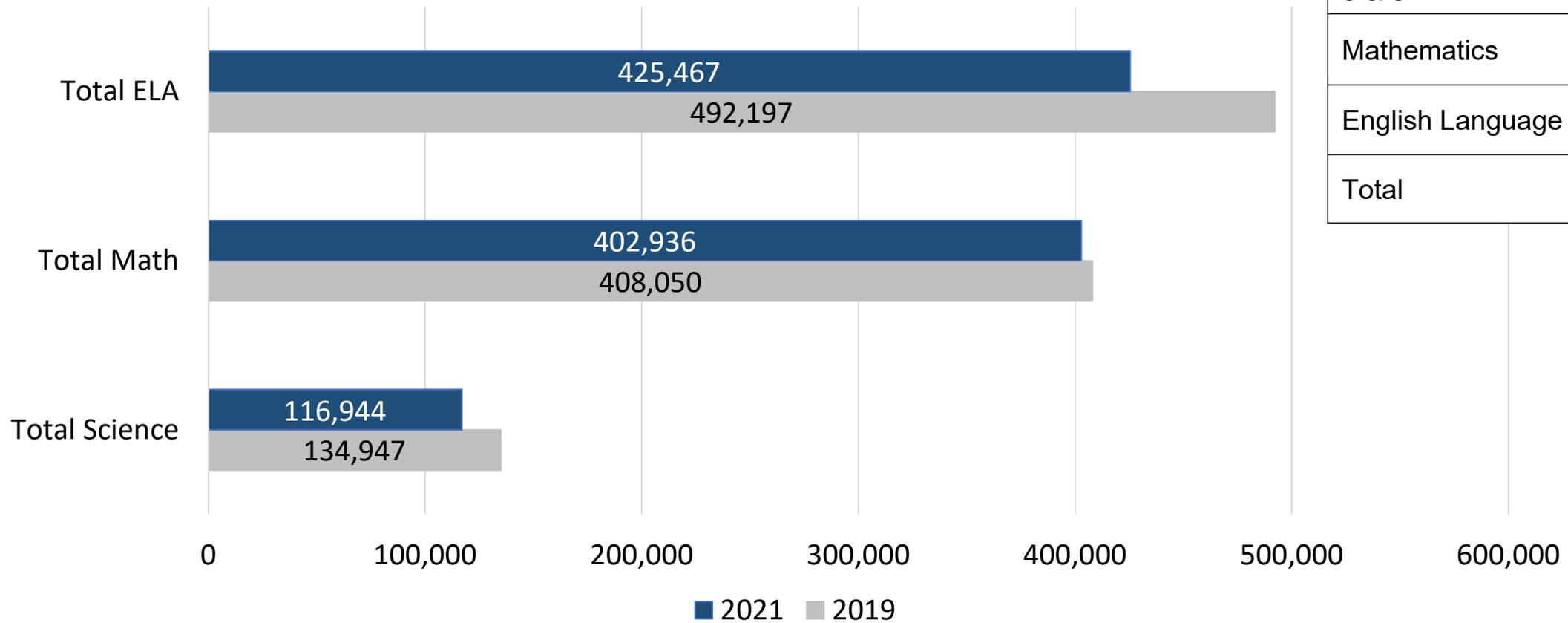
 Met Expectations

 Exceeded Expectations

# Preliminary Data: Total Tests Taken



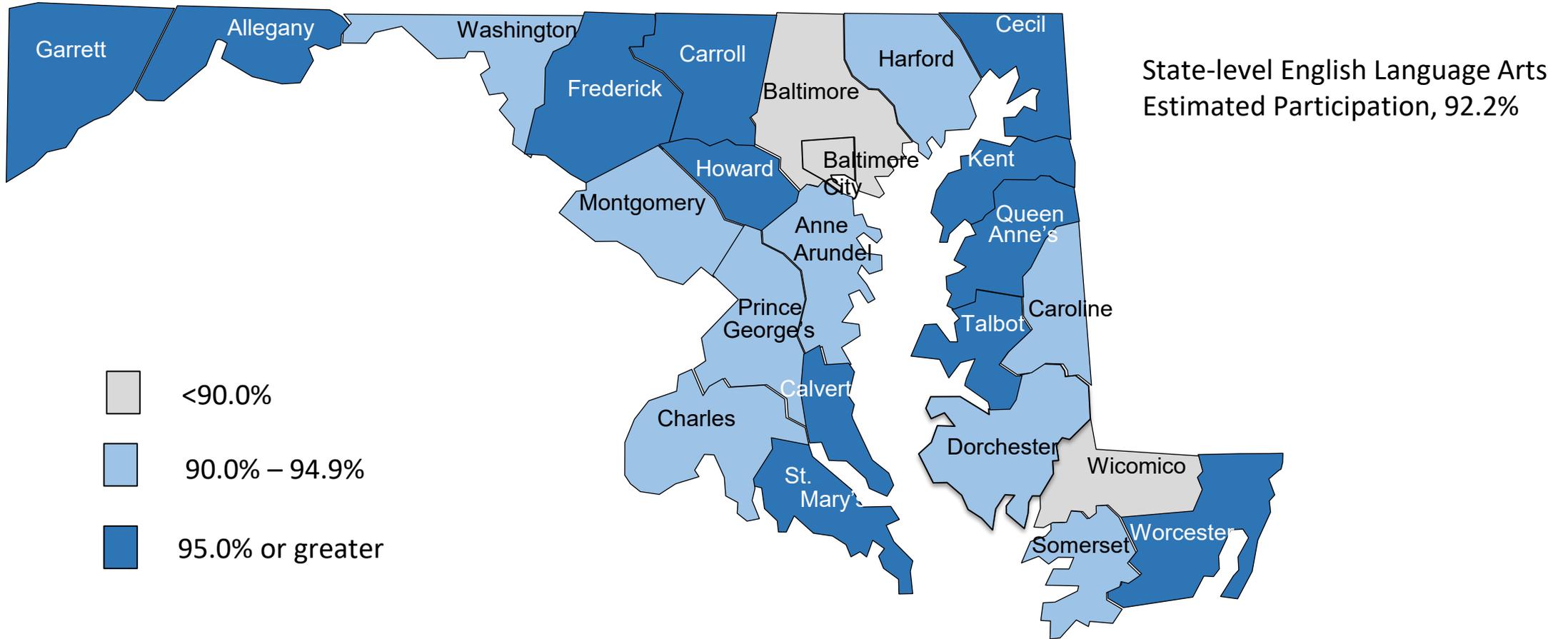
Count\* of Total Tests Taken  
Fall 2021 and SY 2018-2019



Content	Remote
Science (MISA) Grade 5 & 8	1,611
Mathematics	5,350
English Language Arts	5,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,361</b>

# Preliminary Data: Variation in English Language Arts Estimated Participation by Local School System

## English Language Arts Grades 4 - 9

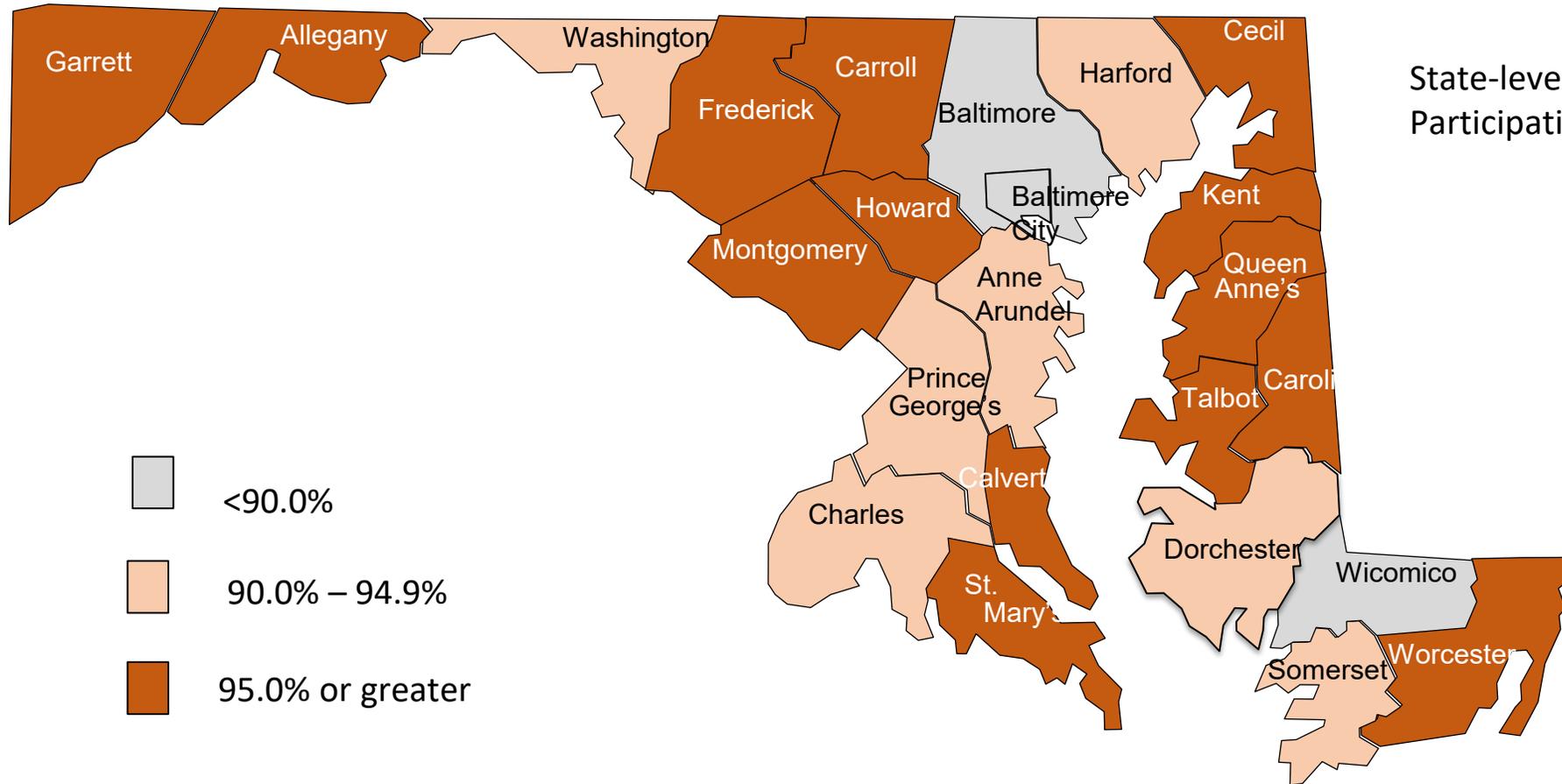


Local School System Range: 81.0% to 98.0%

\*Nonpublic, homeschooled and unknown school/systems not included.

# Preliminary Data: Variation in Mathematics Estimated Participation by Local School System

## Mathematics Grades 4 - 9

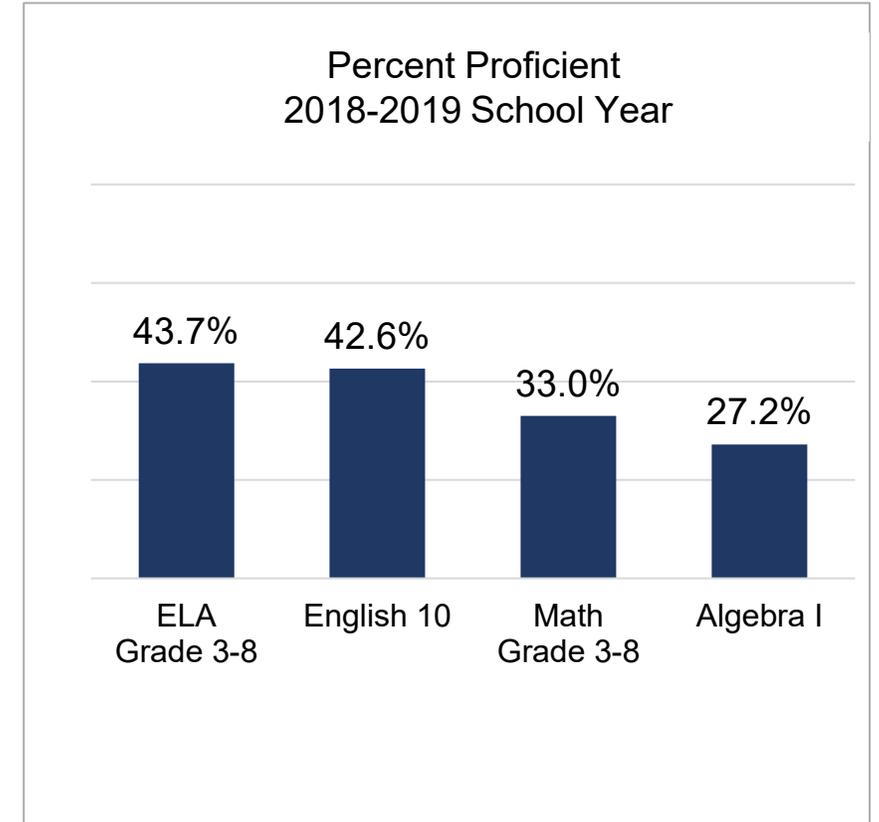
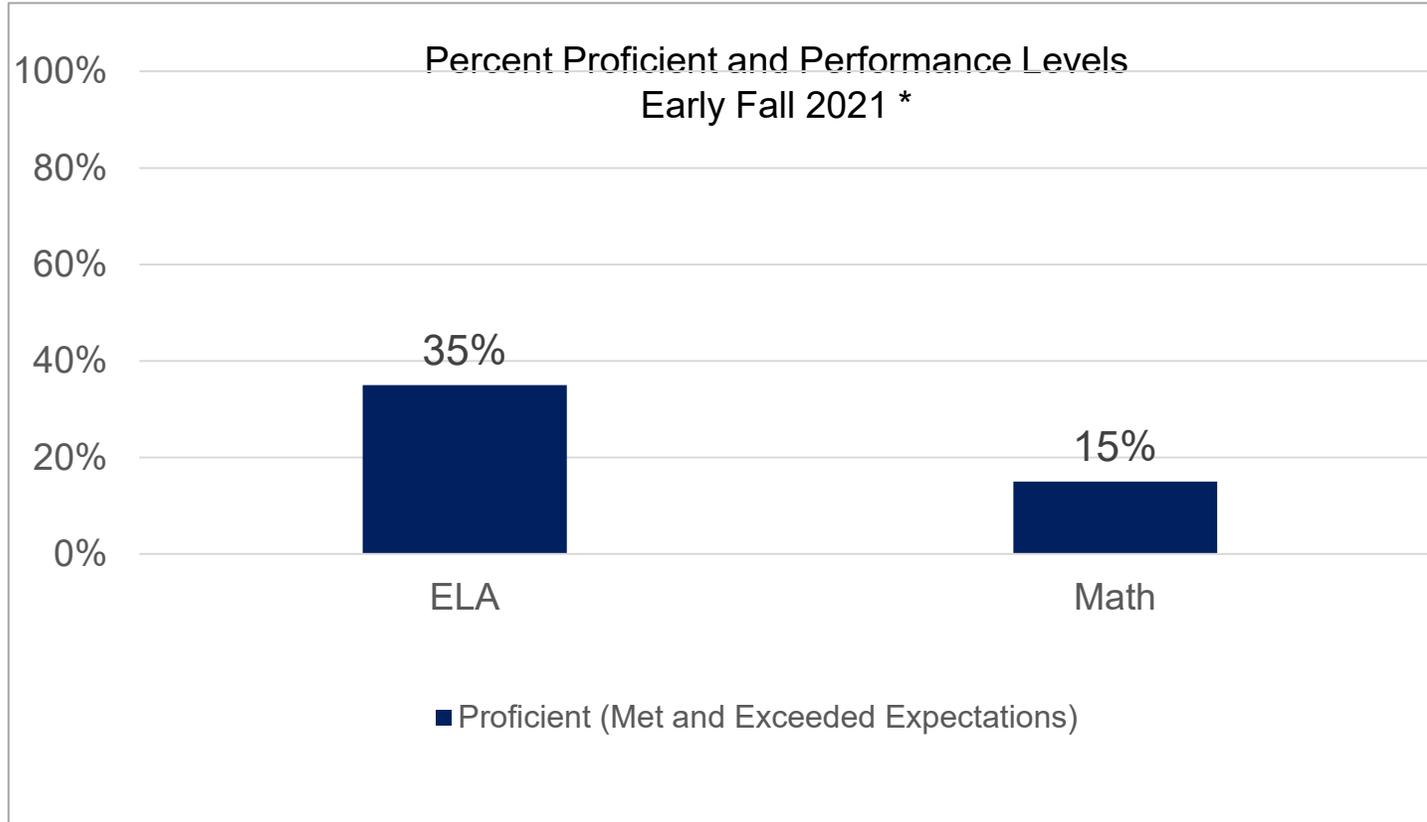


State-level Mathematics Estimated Participation, 92.2%

Local School System Range: 81.2% to 98.0%

\*Nonpublic, homeschooled and unknown school/systems not included.

# Preliminary State Level Data: English Language Arts and Mathematics



Search in dist

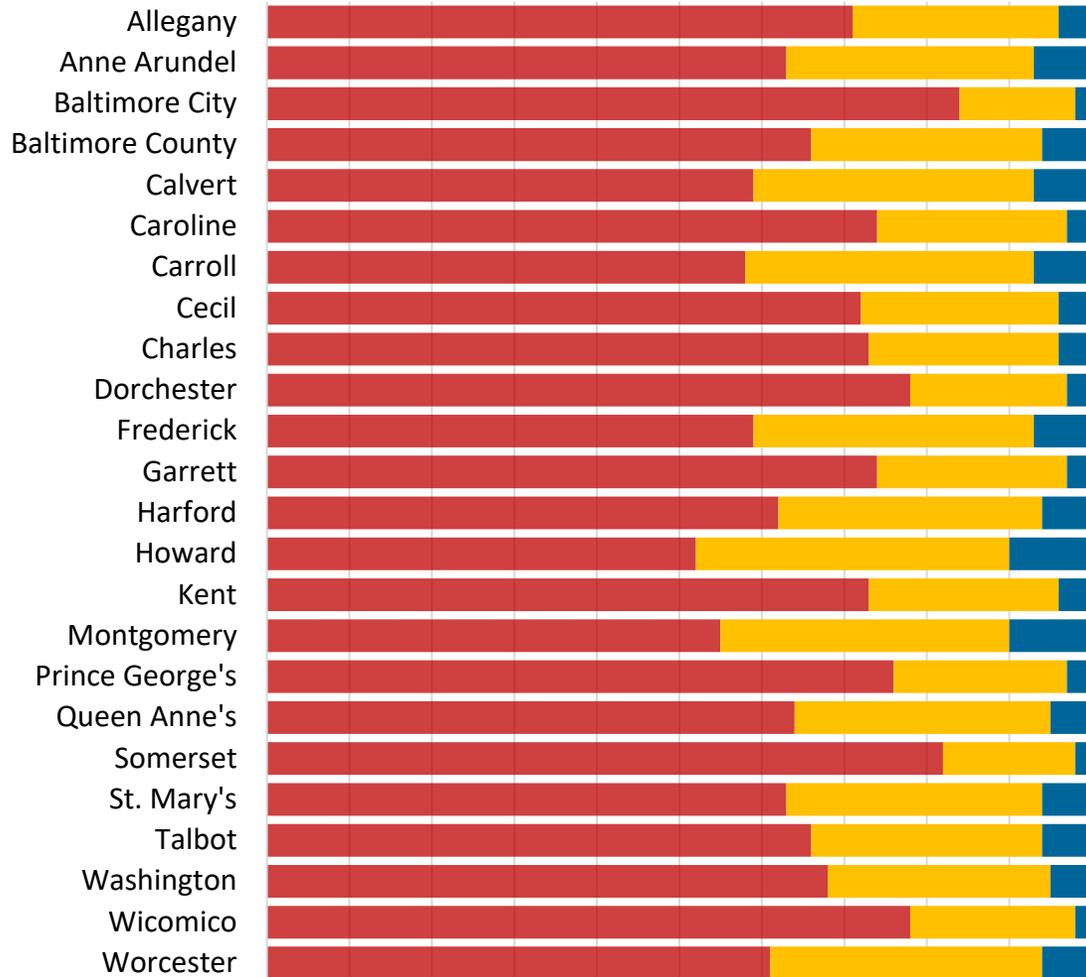
Maryland
65%
29%
6%
85%
10%
5%

ELA
Math

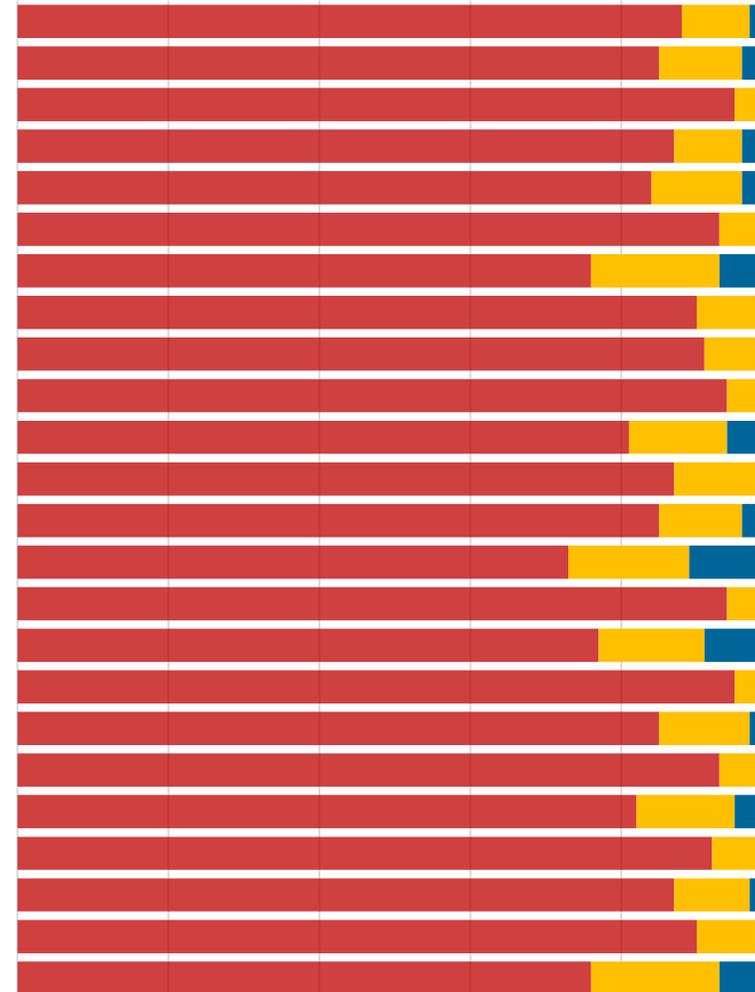
# Preliminary English Language Arts and Mathematics Data by Local School System



### English Language Arts\*



### Mathematics\*



Local School Systems show a range of preliminary results by performance level

All Local School Systems have at least 50% of students scoring at performance level 1 in both ELA and mathematics



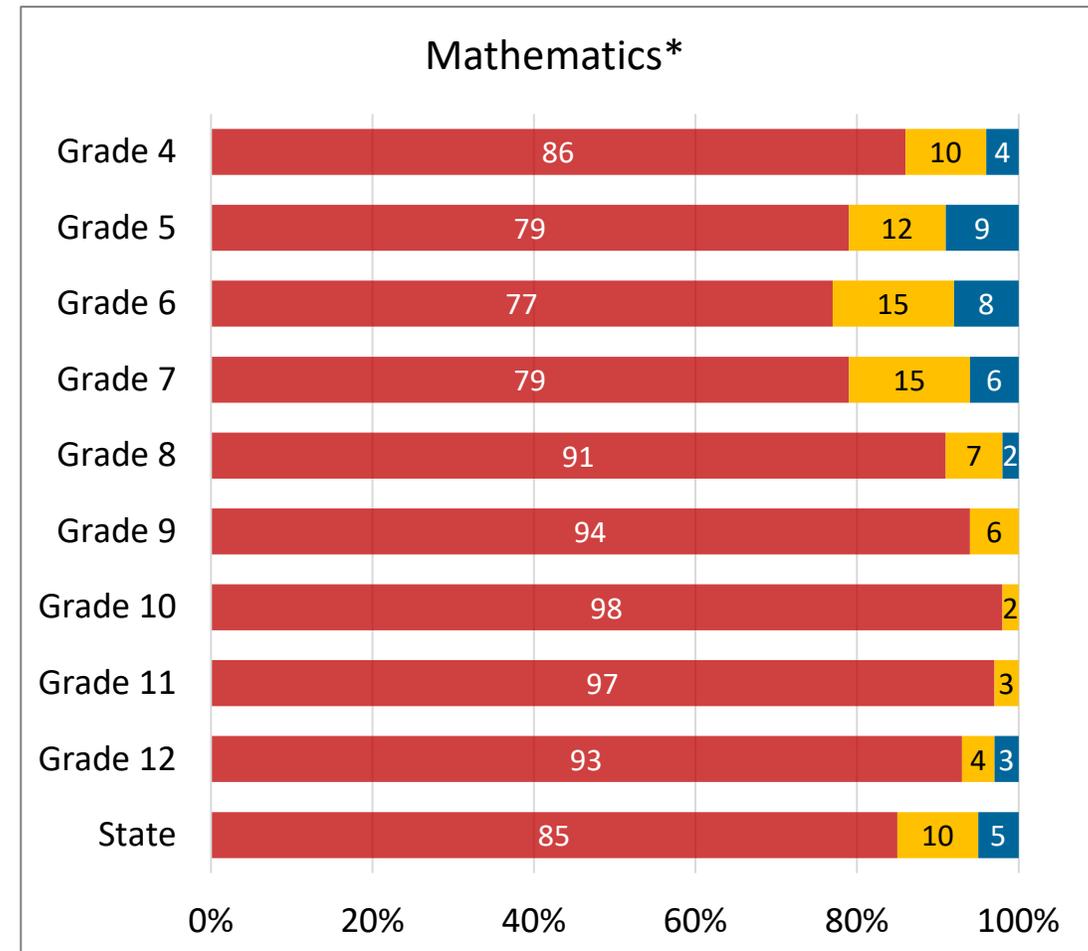
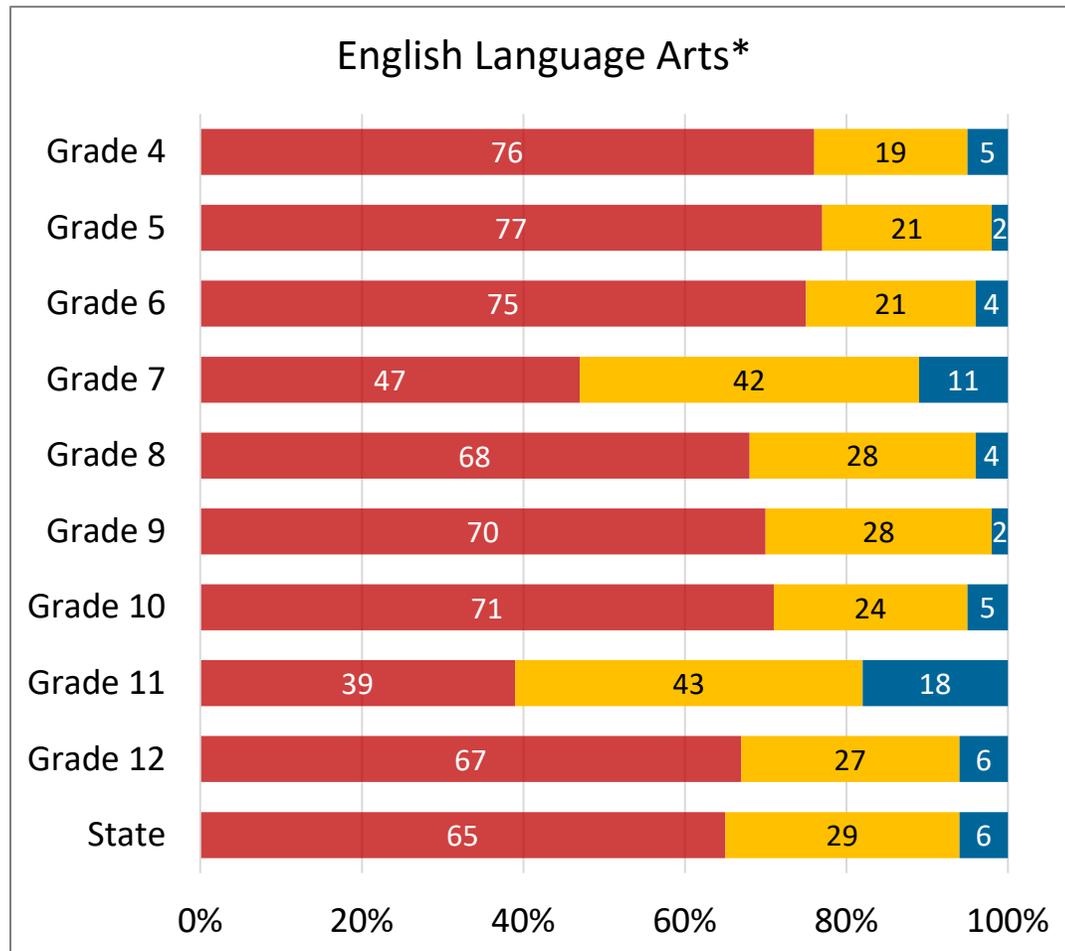
# Preliminary State Level English Language Arts and Mathematics Data by Grade



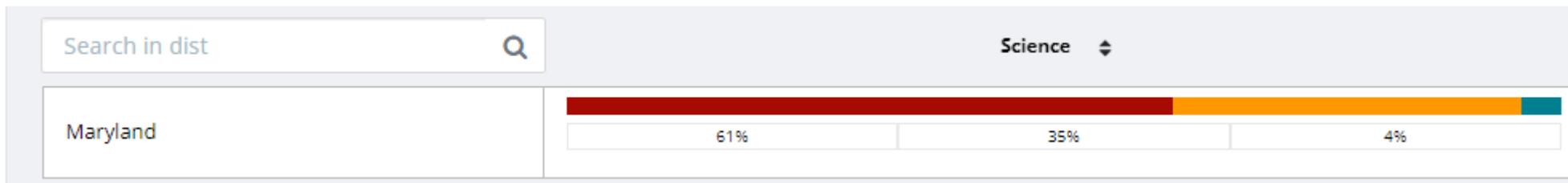
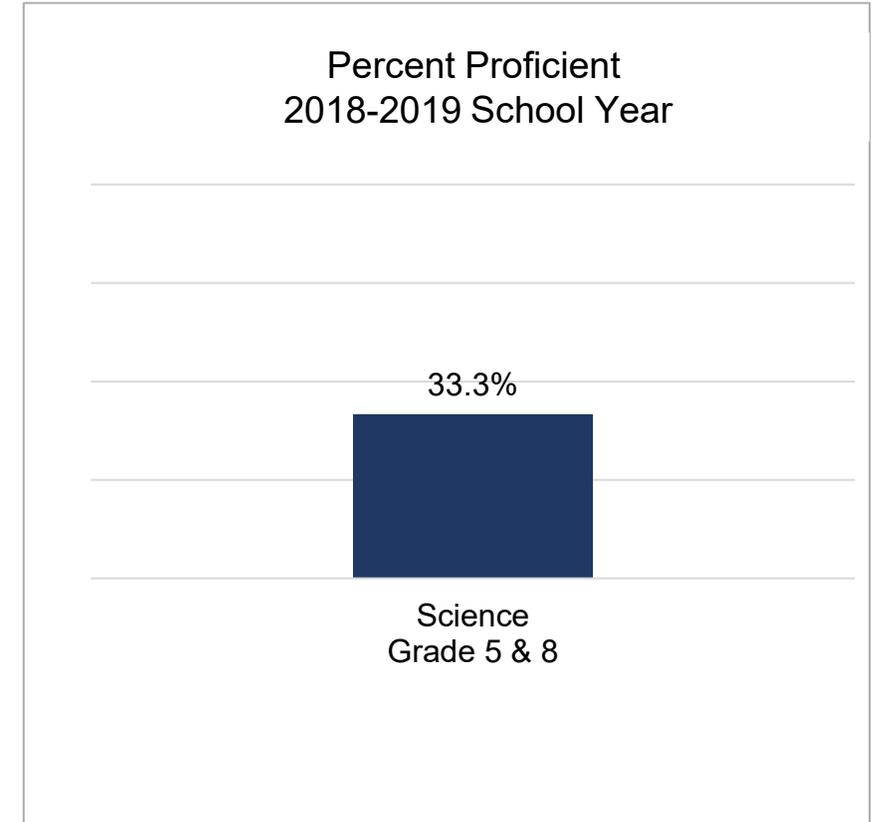
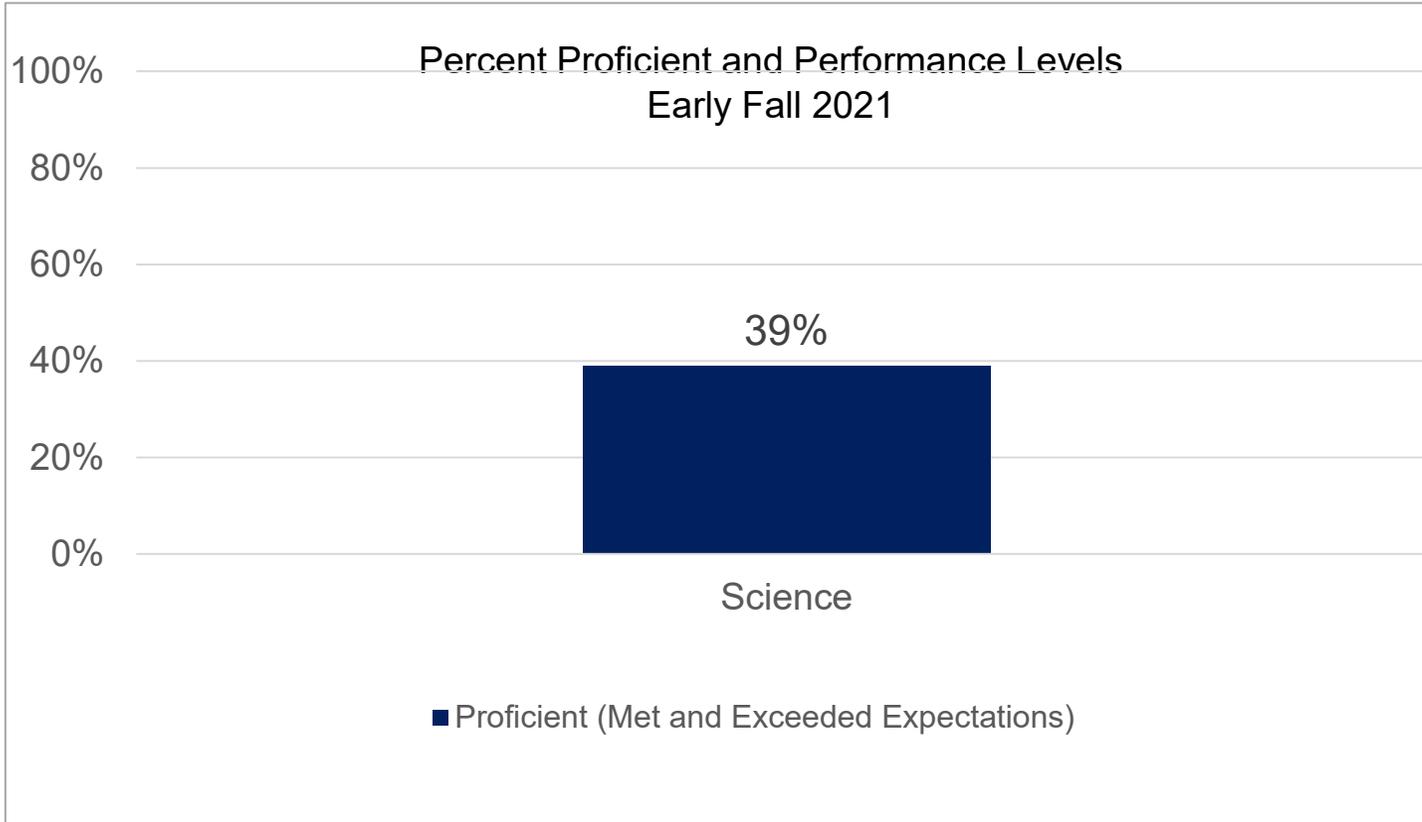
Reported grade is the enrollment grade in the fall of 2021-2022 school year.

Students were tested on content from the courses they were enrolled in during the spring of 2021.

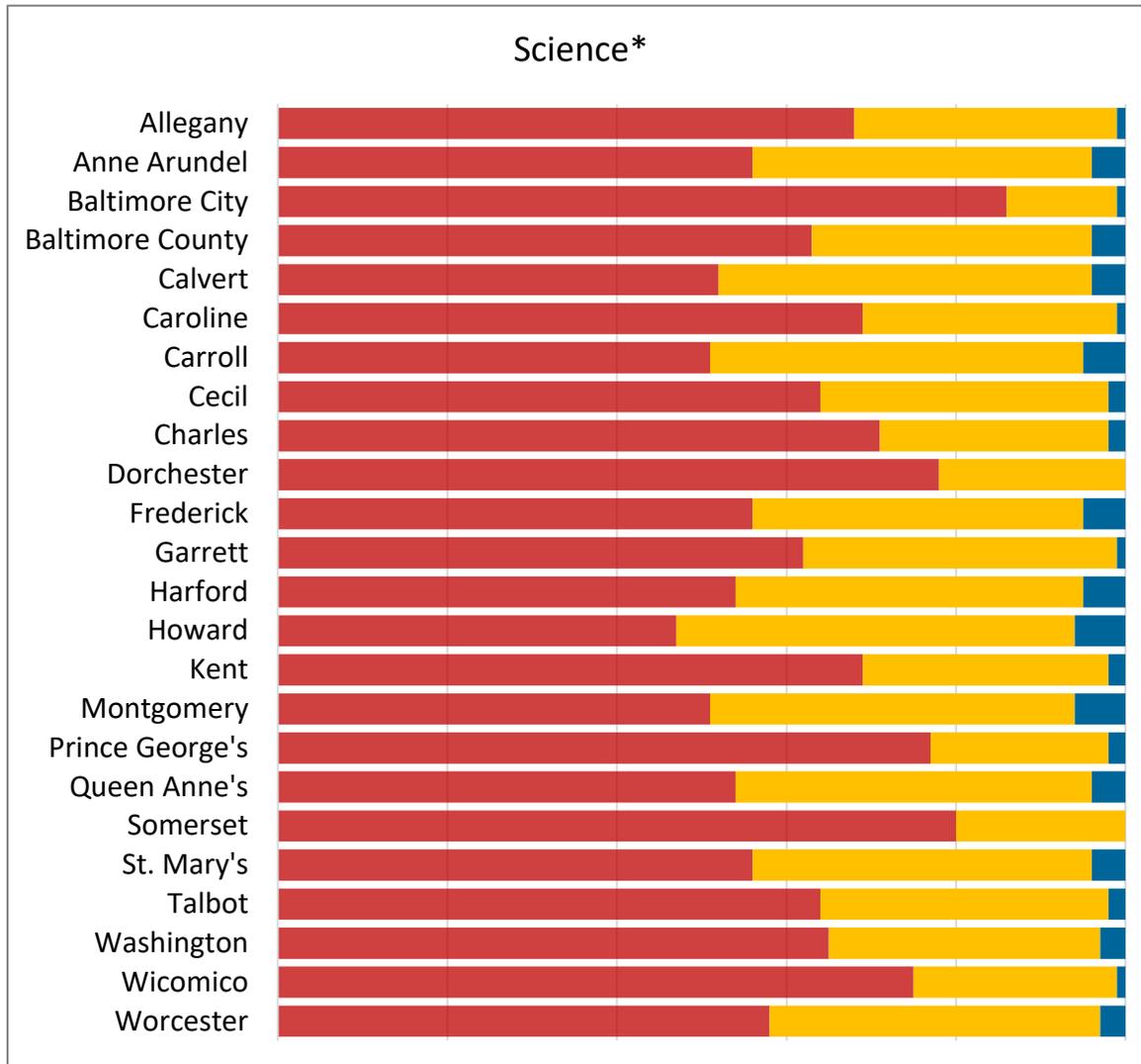
For example, grade 4 students in the fall of 2021 took the English Language Arts and mathematics grade 3 assessment.



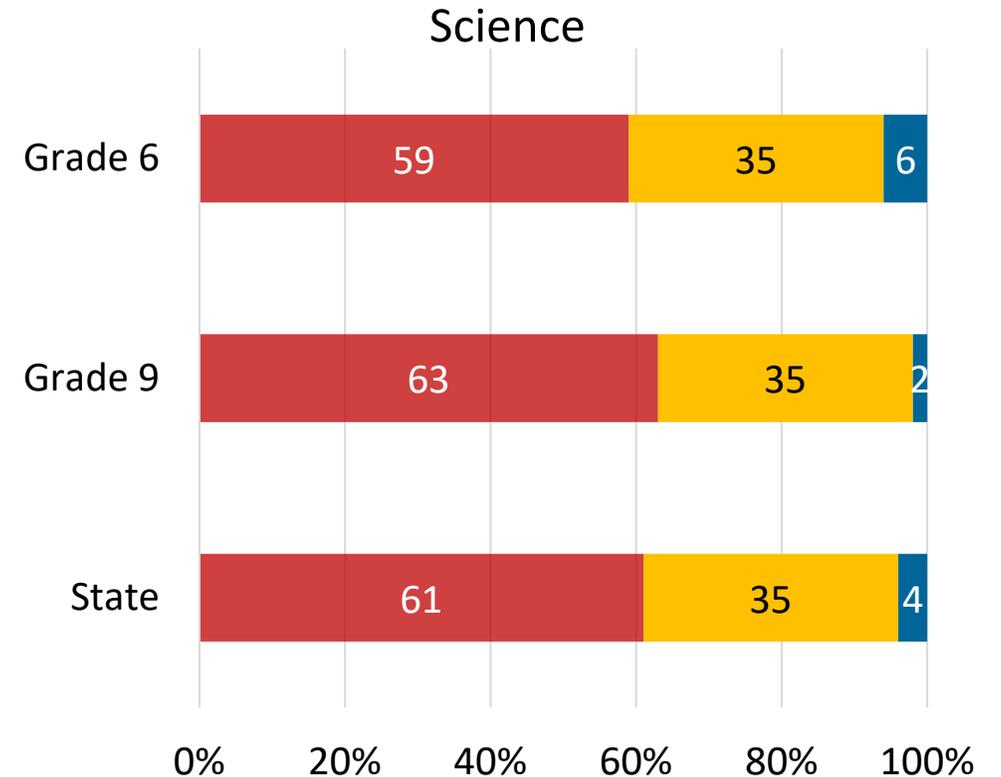
# Preliminary State Level Data: Maryland Integrated Science Assessment Grades 5 & 8



# Preliminary Science Data by Local School System and Grade



Reported grade is the enrollment grade in the fall of 2021-2022 school year. Students were tested on content from the courses they were enrolled in during the spring of 2021.



# Kindergarten Readiness Assessment State Results

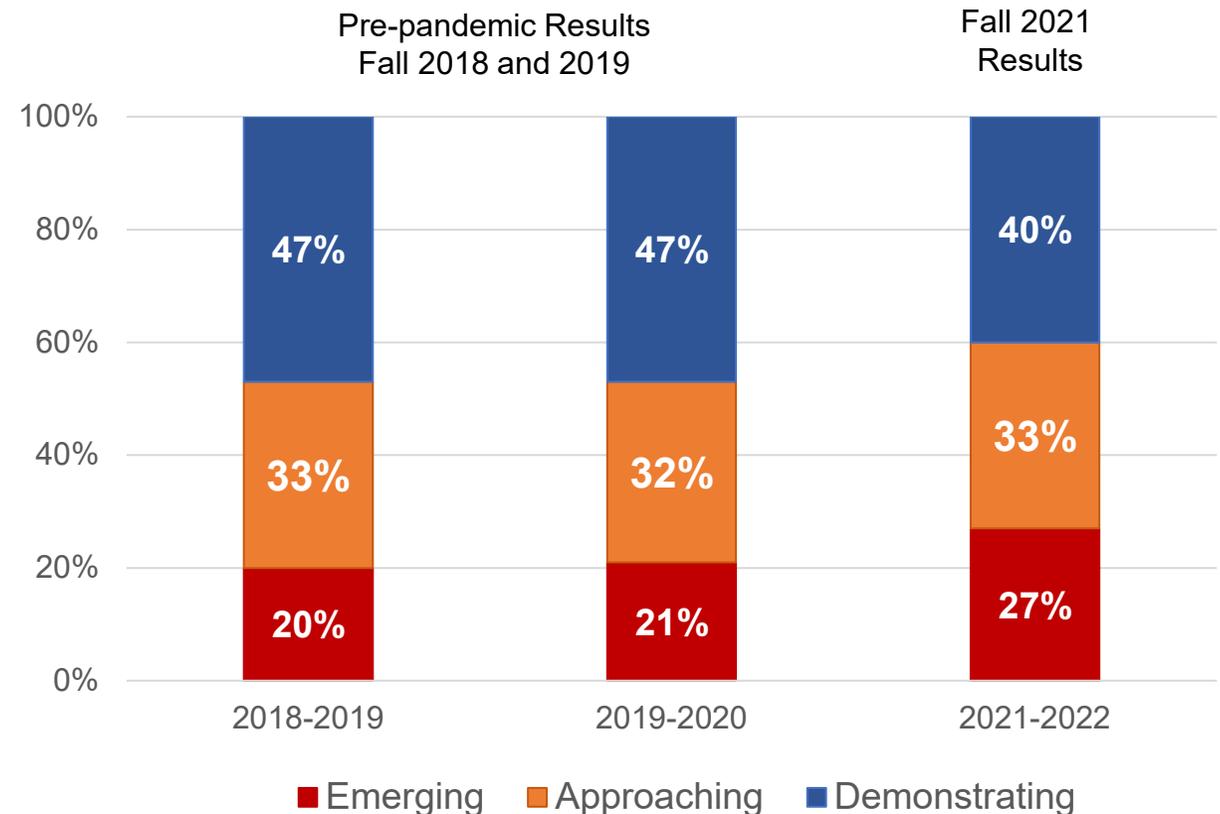
The Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) measures the knowledge, skills, and behaviors at kindergarten entry. **Kindergarteners are determined to be:**

**Demonstrating Readiness** – consistently demonstrate the foundational skills and behaviors that enable a child to fully participate in the kindergarten curriculum.

**Approaching Readiness** – exhibit some of the foundational skills and behaviors that are needed to participate in the kindergarten curriculum.

**Emerging Readiness** – show minimal foundational skills and behaviors that prepare them to meet kindergarten expectations.

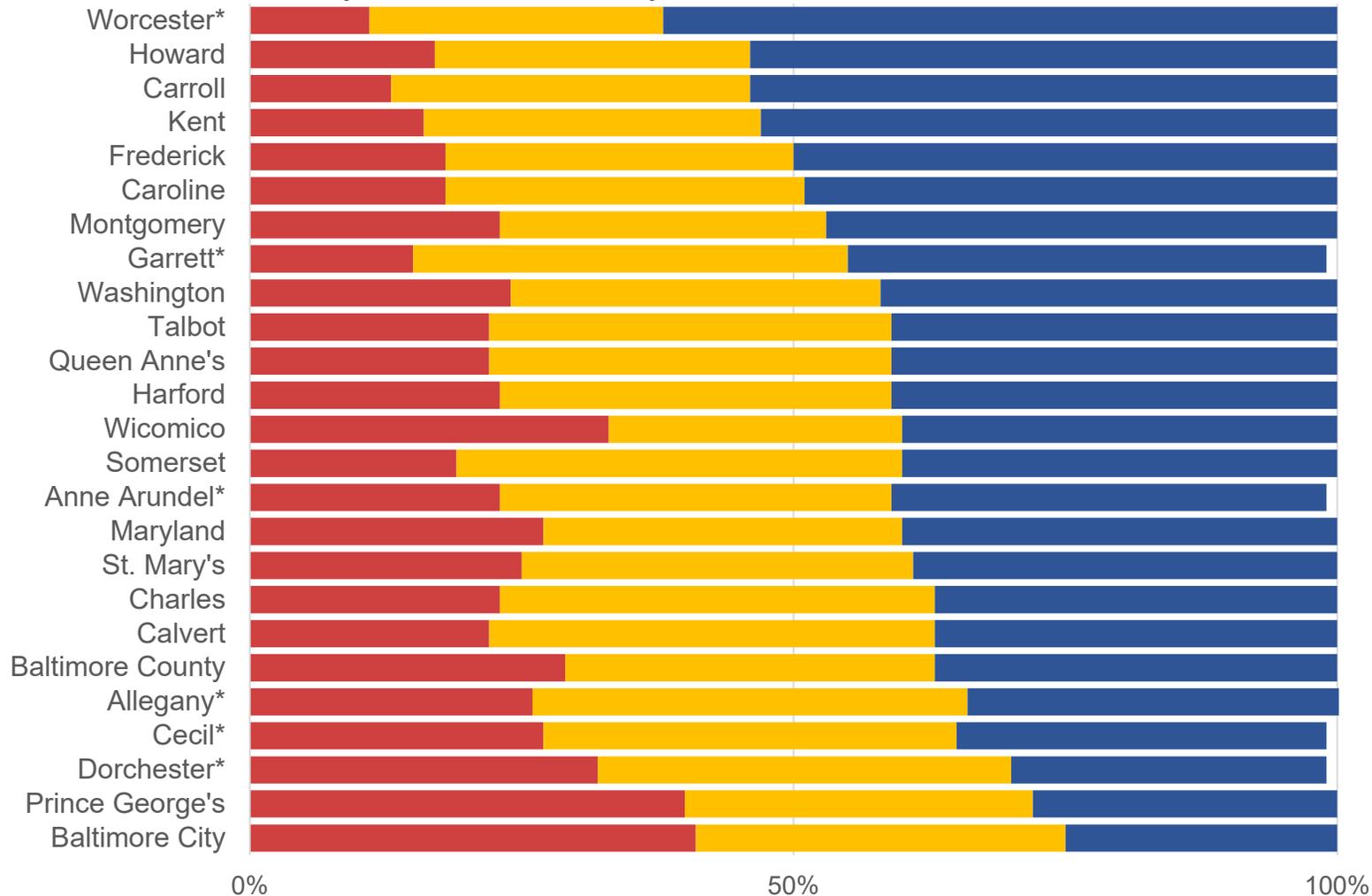
Maryland state results show a decrease in the percent of kindergarteners demonstrating readiness from 47% to 40%.



# Kindergarten Readiness Assessment Results by Local School System



Maryland Local School System KRA Results 2021-2022 School Year



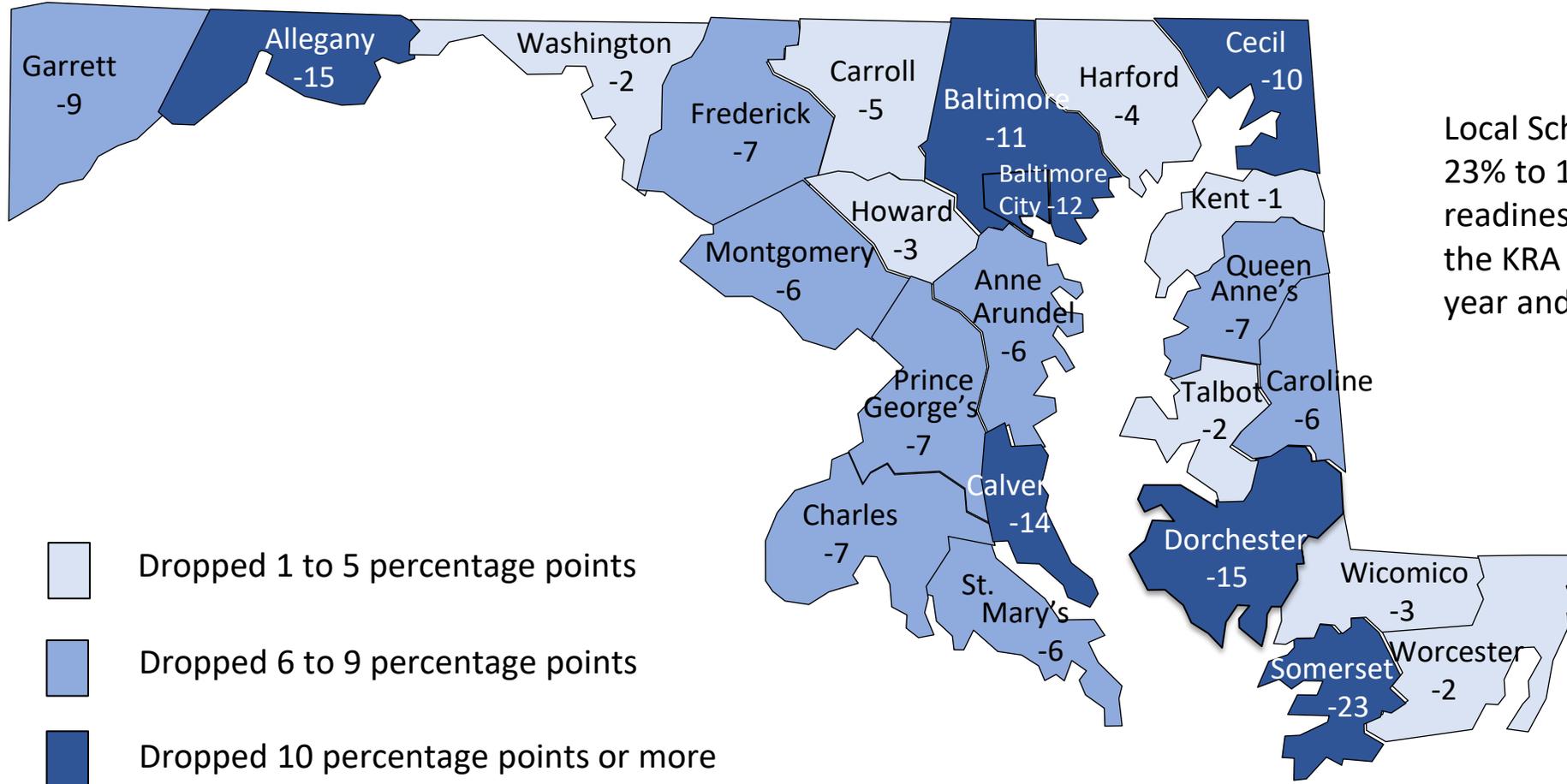
Local School System results show a range of kindergartener readiness.

**Kindergarteners Demonstrating Readiness across systems varies from 25% to 62%.**

- Emerging Readiness
- Approaching Readiness
- Demonstrating Readiness

# Kindergarten Readiness Assessment Results by Local School System

## Percentage Point Change in Students Demonstrating Readiness on the KRA 2020 to 2022



Local School Systems ranged from 23% to 1% drop in demonstrated readiness for Kindergarten based on the KRA between 2019-2020 school year and 2021-2022 school year.

# Assessment Reporting Timeline 2021-2022



Description	October	November	December	January
Test Taker Data Available to Local School Systems				
Preliminary Summary Data Available				
Final Assessment Data Provided to MSDE				
Assessment Data Validated and Readied for Reporting (performance and participation)				
Individual Student Reports (ISRs) Provided to Local School Systems (30-day requirement for LSSs to provide to students)				

Processing of Assessment data by MSDE includes:

Verification of student ID, resolution of identity issues, verification of reportable schools

Reconcile and/or confirm anomalies, duplicates and outliers through QA programming

Import data into state longitudinal data system to support reporting and analysis

GRADE 10 ELA/L

English Language Arts/Literacy Assessment Report, 2020–2021

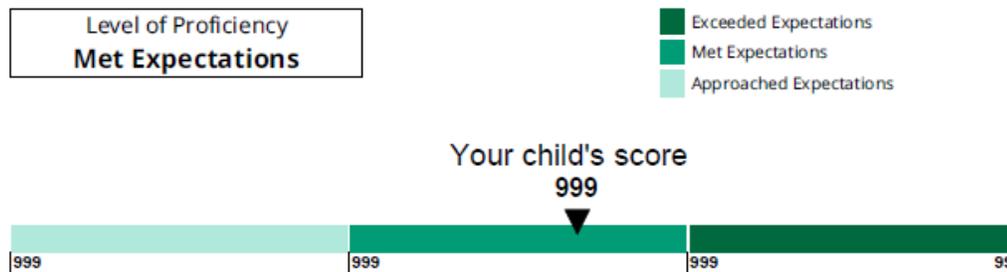
This report shows whether FIRSTNAME demonstrated prior grade level understanding.

This assessment is just one measure of your child's performance. Results from the assessment gives your child's teacher, school, and school system information about their academic performance and provides you with some insight into your child's level of proficiency. These results never stand alone, but should be used with other assessments and classwork when gauging student performance.

Visit the MCAP Portal at <http://support.mdassessments.com> to view tutorials and practice tests.

Sample Individual Student Report (ISR) for ELA/L Grade 10

How Did FIRSTNAME Perform Overall?



How Students in Maryland Performed



The 2021 Spring assessment measures the English Language Arts/Literacy skills and content from the grade your student completed during the 2020-2021 school year. The assessments measure how well students understood grade level material in English Language Arts/Literacy. Students who demonstrate proficiency are on track for the 2021-2022 school year.

Expected distribution to students January 2022

# ELA/L Proficiency Level Descriptions



Descriptions are unique to each grade level - sample of grade 10

## Level 3 Exceeded Expectations

Students performing at this level are able to read grade level texts to expand their conceptual understanding and breadth of vocabulary use; and apply content knowledge, use resources, and word analysis skills to interpret and evaluate the authors. word choice(s). **Students evaluate the use of text structures, literary devices, techniques, and themes to comprehend grade level texts; and integrate knowledge to evaluate and extend understanding of central ideas, concepts, and perspectives.**

## Level 2 Met Expectations

Students performing at this level are able to read grade level texts to expand their vocabulary use to various tasks; and apply knowledge of word structures and context to determine the intended meaning and purpose of words. **Students analyze the use of text structures, literary devices, techniques, and themes to comprehend grade level texts; and explain, compare, and analyze concepts, events, central ideas, and relevant details.**

## Level 1 Approached Expectations

Students performing at this level show some ability to read grade level texts to distinguish between literal and interpretive meaning of words; and apply knowledge of word structures, word relationships, or context to read or understand unfamiliar words in grade level texts. **Students identify text structures, literary devices, techniques, and themes to interact with grade level texts; and identify, compare, or draw inferences about concepts, central ideas, or supporting details.**

GRADE 5 MATHEMATICS

E

Mathematics Assessment Report, 2020–2021

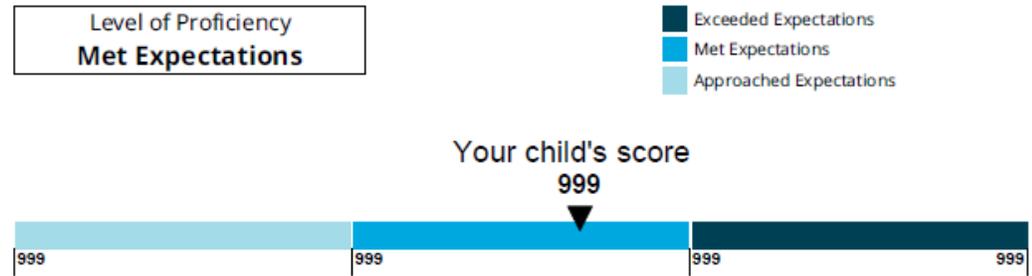
This report shows whether FIRSTNAME demonstrated prior grade level understanding.

This assessment includes questions that measure your child's fundamental skills and knowledge in mathematics and requires students to think critically, solve problems, and support or explain their answers. The assessment is one of several ways to help families and teachers understand how well students are learning.

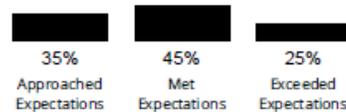
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How Did FIRSTNAME Perform Overall?



How Students in Maryland Performed



The Early Fall assessment measures the mathematics skills and content from the grade your student completed during the 2020-2021 school year. The assessments measure how well students understood grade level material in mathematics. Students who demonstrate proficiency are on track for the 2021-2022 school year.

Expected distribution to students January 2022

Sample Individual Student Report (ISR) for Mathematics Grade 5

# Mathematics Proficiency Level Descriptions



Descriptions are unique to each grade level - sample of grade 5

## Level 3 Exceeded Expectations

A student performing at this **level fluently solves complex problems** involving mathematical operations, fractions, measurement, data, and geometry, and **demonstrates an ability to connect multiple grade-level concepts** in order to conceptualize and apply mathematics to model, reason through, and solve problems efficiently, and relate mathematics to the real world.

## Level 2 Met Expectations

A student performing at this **level fluently solves problems** involving mathematical operations, fractions, measurement, data, and geometry, and **demonstrates an ability to conceptualize and apply mathematics** to model, reason through, and solve problems efficiently, and relate mathematics to the real world.

## Level 1 Approached Expectations

A student performing at this **level solves problems** involving mathematical operations, fractions, measurement, data, and geometry **where the required mathematics is either directly indicated or uses common grade level procedures, and typically needs support in conceptualizing and applying** mathematics to model, reason through, and solve problems efficiently, and in relating mathematics to the real world.

GRADE 8 SCIENCE

Science Assessment Report, 2020–2021

This report shows whether FIRSTNAME met grade band expectations in science and is on track for the next grade band. The items on the assessment measure your child's understanding of concepts and practices in science and require critical thinking to find solutions to problems. The Maryland Integrated Science Assessment is one of several ways to help families and teachers understand how well your child is acquiring science concepts and practices.

**How Can You Use This Report?**

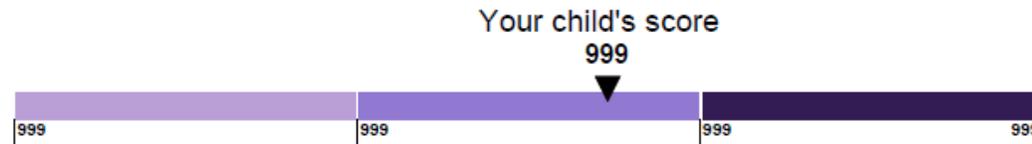
Ask your child's teachers:

- What do you see as my child's strengths and areas for improvement in science?
- How can these assessment results be used to help my child make progress in science?

How Did FIRSTNAME Perform Overall?

Level of Proficiency  
**Met Expectations**

- Exceeded Expectations
- Met Expectations
- Approached Expectations



How Students in Maryland Performed



The Early Fall assessment measures the science content from the grade your student completed during the 2020-2021 school year. The assessments measure how well students understood science concepts tested in grade 8.

Expected distribution to students January 2022

Sample Individual Student Report (ISR) for MISA Grade 8

# Science Proficiency Level Descriptions



Descriptions are unique to each grade level- sample of grade 8

## Level 3 Exceeded Expectations

Students who perform at this level demonstrate an **effective ability to apply scientific thinking** to understand the natural world and apply engineering design to find solutions to problems. Students **demonstrate the ability to think critically about physical and chemical interactions** that affect the world around them; factors that affect organism survival and reproduction; factors that influence the Earth and our solar system; and how to optimize design solutions. **Students apply skills such as asking questions that lead to explanations supported by evidence**, using mathematics to analyze data, and applying scientific ideas to develop, test, compare, and improve design solutions.

## Level 2 Met Expectations

Students who perform at this level demonstrate **the ability to apply scientific thinking** to understand the natural world and apply engineering design to find solutions to problems. Students **demonstrate an understanding of physical and chemical interactions** that affect the world around them; factors that affect organism survival and reproduction; factors that influence the Earth and our solar system; and how to optimize design solutions. Students **use skills such as asking questions that can lead to reasonable predictions**, using mathematics to describe data, and applying scientific ideas to evaluate a design solution.

## Level 1 Approached Expectations

Students who perform at this level are **approaching the ability to apply scientific thinking** to understand the natural world and apply engineering design to find solutions to problems. Students are **developing an understanding of physical and chemical interactions** that affect the world around them; factors that affect organism survival and reproduction; factors that influence the Earth and our solar system; and how to optimize design solutions. Students are **beginning to demonstrate skills such as asking questions** about changes in an investigation, organizing simple data sets that reveal patterns, and identifying scientific evidence used to support a claim.

# Thank You!

GRADE 10 ELA/L

## English Language Arts/Literacy Assessment Report, 2020-2021

This report shows whether FIRSTNAME demonstrated prior grade level understanding.

This assessment is just one measure of your child's performance. Results from the assessment gives your child's teacher, school, and school system information about their academic performance and provides you with some insight into your child's level of proficiency. These results never stand alone, but should be used with other assessments and classwork when gauging student performance.

Visit the MCAP Portal at <http://support.mdassessments.com> to view tutorials and practice tests.

### How Did FIRSTNAME Perform Overall?

Level of Proficiency  
Met Expectations

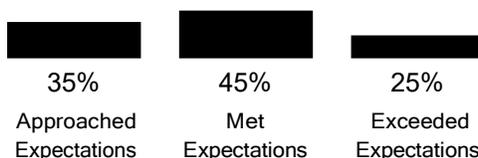
- Exceeded Expectations
- Met Expectations
- Approached Expectations

Your child's score

**999**



### How Students in Maryland Performed



The 2021 Spring assessment measures the English Language Arts/Literacy skills and content from the grade your student completed during the 2020-2021 school year. The assessments measure how well students understood grade level material in English Language Arts/Literacy. Students who demonstrate proficiency are on track for the 2021-2022 school year.

## ELA/L Proficiency Level Descriptions

### Level 3 Exceeded Expectations:

Students performing at this level are able to read grade level texts to expand their conceptual understanding and breadth of vocabulary use; and apply content knowledge, use resources, and word analysis skills to interpret and evaluate the authors' word choice(s). Students evaluate the use of text structures, literary devices, techniques, and themes to comprehend grade level texts; and integrate knowledge to evaluate and extend understanding of central ideas, concepts, and perspectives.

### Level 2 Met Expectations:

Students performing at this level are able to read grade level texts to expand their vocabulary use to various tasks; and apply knowledge of word structures and context to determine the intended meaning and purpose of words. Students analyze the use of text structures, literary devices, techniques, and themes to comprehend grade level texts; and explain, compare, and analyze concepts, events, central ideas, and relevant details.

### Level 1 Approached Expectations:

Students performing at this level show some ability to read grade level texts to distinguish between literal and interpretive meaning of words; and apply knowledge of word structures, word relationships, or context to read or understand unfamiliar words in grade level texts. Students identify text structures, literary devices, techniques, and themes to interact with grade level texts; and identify, compare, or draw inferences about concepts, central ideas, or supporting details.

Learn more about Maryland's College and Career Ready Standards and MCAP Practice Tests  
These rigorous education standards establish a set of shared goals for what students should understand and be able to do in grades K-12 in order to be prepared for success in college and the workplace. You can learn more about Maryland's K-12 standards at

<http://marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/ELA/MCCR.aspx>.

For an opportunity to view sample test items on a Practice Test and interact with the tools and navigation of the test, visit Test Preparation on the MCAP Portal at:

<http://support.mdassessments.com>.

For information on the ELA Program in Maryland Public Schools:

<http://marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/ELA/index.aspx>.

ALGEBRA I

# Mathematics Assessment Report, 2020-2021

This report shows whether FIRSTNAME demonstrated prior understanding of Algebra I concepts.

This assessment includes questions that measure your child's fundamental skills and knowledge in mathematics and requires students to think critically, solve problems, and support or explain their answers. The assessment is one of several ways to help families and teachers understand how well students are learning.

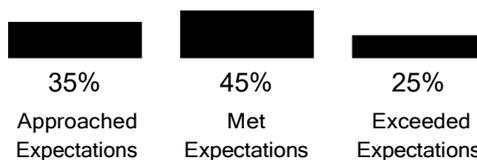
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## How Did FIRSTNAME Perform Overall?



## How Students in Maryland Performed



The 2021 Spring assessment measures the mathematics skills and content from the grade your student completed during the 2020-2021 school year. The assessments measure how well students understood grade level material in mathematics. Students who demonstrate proficiency are on track for the 2021-2022 school year.

## Algebra I Proficiency Level Descriptions

### Level 3 Exceeded Expectations:

A student performing at this level fluently solves complex problems involving number and quantity, algebra, functions, and statistics, and demonstrates an ability to connect multiple grade-level concepts in order to conceptualize and apply mathematics to model, reason through, and solve problems efficiently, and relate mathematics to the real world.

### Level 2 Met Expectations:

A student performing at this level fluently solves problems involving number and quantity, algebra, functions, and statistics, and demonstrates an ability to conceptualize and apply mathematics to model, reason through, and solve problems efficiently, and relate mathematics to the real world.

### Level 1 Approached Expectations:

A student performing at this level solves problems involving number and quantity, algebra, functions, and statistics where the required mathematics is either directly indicated or uses common grade level procedures, and typically needs support in conceptualizing and applying mathematics to model, reason through, and solve problems efficiently, and in relating mathematics to the real world.

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These rigorous education standards establish a set of shared goals for what students should understand and be able to do in grades K-12 in order to be prepared for success in college and the workplace. You can learn more about Maryland's K-12 standards at

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<http://support.mdassessments.com>.

For information on the Mathematics Program in Maryland Public Schools:

<http://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/DCAA/Math/index.aspx>.

GRADE 5 ELA/L

## English Language Arts/Literacy Assessment Report, 2020-2021

This report shows whether FIRSTNAME demonstrated prior grade level understanding. The assessment includes questions that measure your child's foundational skills and knowledge in English Language Arts/Literacy and requires students to read texts closely, think critically, and support or explain their answers.

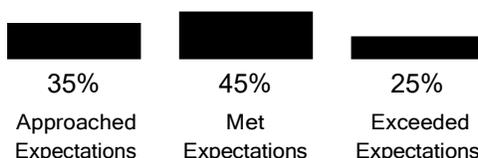
This assessment is just one measure of your child's performance. Results from the assessment gives your child's teacher, school, and school system information about their academic performance and provides you with some insight into your child's level of proficiency. These results never stand alone, but should be used with other assessments and classwork when gauging student performance.

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### How Did FIRSTNAME Perform Overall?



### How Students in Maryland Performed



The Early Fall assessment measures the English Language Arts/Literacy skills and content from the grade your student completed during the 2020-2021 school year. The assessments measure how well students understood grade level material in English Language Arts/Literacy. Students who demonstrate proficiency are on track for the 2021-2022 school year.

## ELA/L Proficiency Level Descriptions

### Level 3 Exceeded Expectations:

Students performing at this level are able to read grade level texts to expand their vocabulary use to various tasks; and apply knowledge of word structure and context to determine the intended meaning and purpose of words. Students analyze the use of text structures, literary devices, techniques, and themes to comprehend grade level texts; and explain, compare, and analyze concepts, events, main ideas, and relevant details.

### Level 2 Met Expectations:

Students performing at this level are able to read grade level texts to distinguish between literal and interpretive meaning of words; and apply knowledge of phonics, word structures, word relationships, and context to read and understand unfamiliar words in grade level texts. Students interpret the use of text structures, literary devices, techniques, and themes to comprehend grade level texts; and explain, compare, and identify, compare, and draw inferences about concepts, main ideas, and supporting details.

### Level 1 Approaching Expectations:

Students performing at this level show some ability to read grade level texts to determine literal and interpretive meaning of words; and apply knowledge of phonics and word relationships to read or understand words in grade level texts. Students recognize text structures, literary devices, techniques, or themes to interact with grade level texts; and identify or draw inferences about concepts, main ideas, or supporting details.

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GRADE 5 MATHEMATICS

E

# Mathematics Assessment Report, 2020-2021

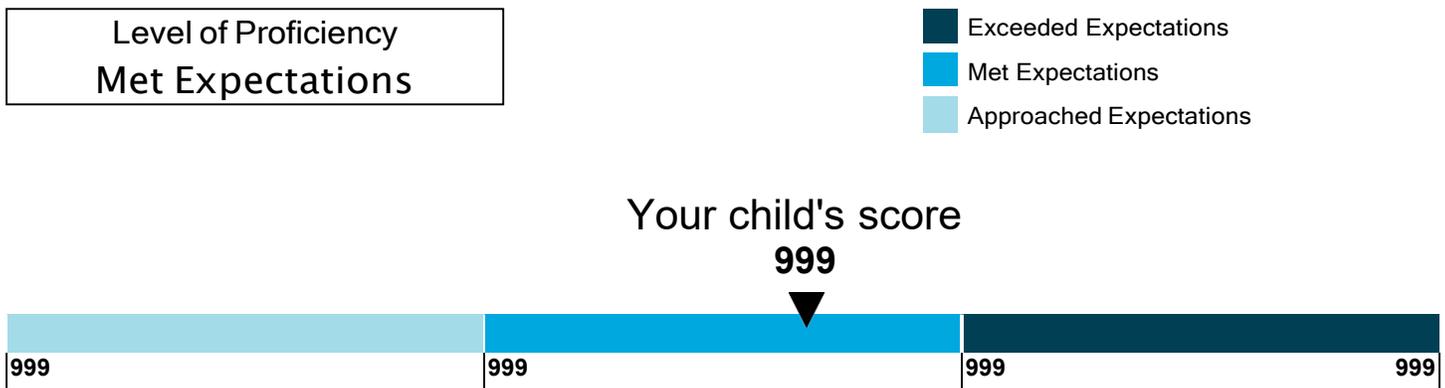
This report shows whether FIRSTNAME demonstrated prior grade level understanding.

This assessment includes questions that measure your child's fundamental skills and knowledge in mathematics and requires students to think critically, solve problems, and support or explain their answers. The assessment is one of several ways to help families and teachers understand how well students are learning.

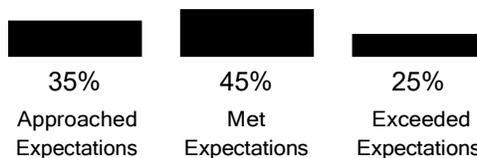
Results from the assessment gives your child's teacher, school, and school system information about their academic performance and provides you with some insight into your child's level of proficiency. These results never stand alone, but should be used with other assessments and classwork when gauging student performance.

Visit the MCAP Portal at <http://support.mdassessments.com> to view tutorials and practice tests.

## How Did FIRSTNAME Perform Overall?



## How Students in Maryland Performed



The Early Fall assessment measures the mathematics skills and content from the grade your student completed during the 2020-2021 school year. The assessments measure how well students understood grade level material in mathematics. Students who demonstrate proficiency are on track for the 2021-2022 school year.

## Mathematics Proficiency Level Descriptions

### Level 3 Exceeded Expectations:

A student performing at this level fluently solves complex problems involving mathematical operations, fractions, measurement, data, and geometry, and demonstrates an ability to connect multiple grade-level concepts in order to conceptualize and apply mathematics to model, reason through, and solve problems efficiently, and relate mathematics to the real world.

### Level 2 Met Expectations:

A student performing at this level fluently solves problems involving mathematical operations, fractions, measurement, data, and geometry, and demonstrates an ability to conceptualize and apply mathematics to model, reason through, and solve problems efficiently, and relate mathematics to the real world.

### Level 1 Approached Expectations:

A student performing at this level solves problems involving mathematical operations, fractions, measurement, data, and geometry where the required mathematics is either directly indicated or uses common grade level procedures, and typically needs support in conceptualizing and applying mathematics to model, reason through, and solve problems efficiently, and in relating mathematics to the real world.

Learn more about Maryland's College and Career Ready Standards and MCAP Practice Tests  
These rigorous education standards establish a set of shared goals for what students should understand and be able to do in grades K-12 in order to be prepared for success in college and the workplace. You can learn more about Maryland's K-12 standards at

<http://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/DCAA/Math/MCCRSM.aspx>..

For an opportunity to view sample test items on a Practice Test and interact with the tools and navigation of the test, visit Test Preparation on the MCAP Portal at:

<http://support.mdassessments.com>.

For information on the Mathematics Program in Maryland Public Schools:

<http://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/DCAA/Math/index.aspx>.

GRADE 5 SCIENCE

# Science Assessment Report, 2020-2021

This report shows whether FIRSTNAME met grade band expectations in science and is on track for the next grade band. The items on the assessment measure your child's understanding of concepts and practices in science and require critical thinking to find solutions to problems. The Maryland Integrated Science Assessment is one of several ways to help families and teachers understand how well your child is acquiring science concepts and practices.

## How Can You Use This Report?

Ask your child's teachers:

- What do you see as my child's strengths and areas for improvement in science?
- How can these assessment results be used to help my child make progress in science?

## How Did FIRSTNAME Perform Overall?

Level of Proficiency  
Met Expectations

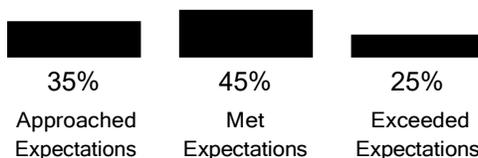
- Exceeded Expectations
- Met Expectations
- Approached Expectations

Your child's score

999



## How Students in Maryland Performed



The Early Fall assessment measures the science content from the grade your student completed during the 2020-2021 school year. The assessments measure how well students understood science concepts tested in grade 5.

## Science Proficiency Level Descriptions

### Level 3 Exceeded Expectations:

Students who perform at this level demonstrate an effective ability to apply scientific thinking to understand the natural world and apply engineering design to find solutions to problems. Students demonstrate the ability to think critically about the effects of chemical reactions, forces, and energy on the world around them; the ways different organisms and the environment interact; the ways the geosphere, biosphere, and hydrosphere interact; and how engineering design can be a regular part of problem solving. Students apply skills such as asking questions that lead to explanations supported by evidence, using mathematics to analyze data, and applying scientific ideas to develop, test, compare, and improve design solutions.

### Level 2 Met Expectations:

Students who perform at this level demonstrate the ability to apply scientific thinking to understand the natural world and apply engineering design to find solutions to problems. Students demonstrate an understanding of the effects of chemical reactions, forces, and energy on the world around them; the ways different organisms and the environment interact; the ways the geosphere, biosphere, and hydrosphere interact; and how engineering design can be a regular part of problem solving. Students use skills such as asking questions that can lead to reasonable predictions, using mathematics to describe data, and applying scientific ideas to evaluate a design solution.

### Level 1 Approached Expectations:

Students who perform at this level are approaching the ability to apply scientific thinking to understand the natural world and apply engineering design to find solutions to problems. Students are developing an understanding of the effects of chemical reactions, forces, and energy on the world around them; the ways different organisms and the environment interact; the ways the geosphere, biosphere, and hydrosphere interact; and how engineering design can be a regular part of problem solving. Students are beginning to demonstrate skills such as asking questions about changes in an investigation, organizing simple data sets that reveal patterns, and identifying scientific evidence used to support a claim.

### How are assessment results used?

Results from the assessment give your child's teacher, school, and school district information about his/her science performance, and provide you with some insight on how your child is meeting expectations. These results never stand alone, but can be used with other assessments and class work when gauging student performance.

Learn more about Maryland's science standards

NGSS website <https://nextgenscience.org>

Science Program on Maryland Public Schools:

<http://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/DCAA/Science/index.aspx>

For information on sample test questions and Practice Tests visit Test Preparation on

<http://support.mdassessments.com>.

GRADE 8 SCIENCE

# Science Assessment Report, 2020-2021

This report shows whether FIRSTNAME met grade band expectations in science and is on track for the next grade band. The items on the assessment measure your child's understanding of concepts and practices in science and require critical thinking to find solutions to problems. The Maryland Integrated Science Assessment is one of several ways to help families and teachers understand how well your child is acquiring science concepts and practices.

## How Can You Use This Report?

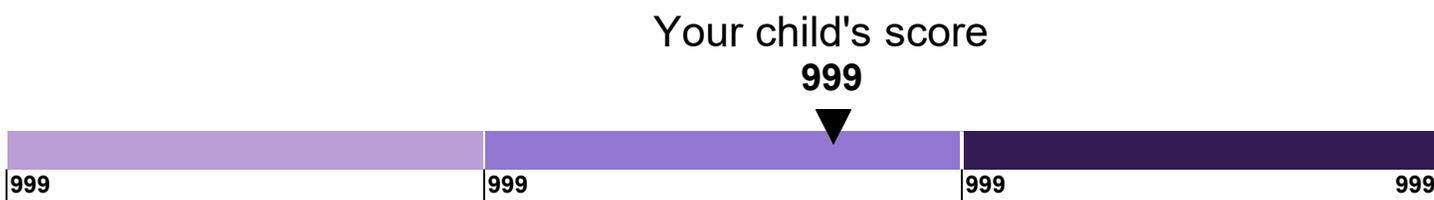
Ask your child's teachers:

- What do you see as my child's strengths and areas for improvement in science?
- How can these assessment results be used to help my child make progress in science?

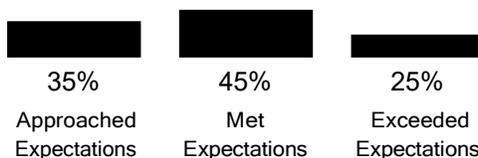
## How Did FIRSTNAME Perform Overall?

Level of Proficiency  
Met Expectations

- Exceeded Expectations
- Met Expectations
- Approached Expectations



## How Students in Maryland Performed



The Early Fall assessment measures the science content from the grade your student completed during the 2020-2021 school year. The assessments measure how well students understood science concepts tested in grade 8.

## Science Proficiency Level Descriptions

### Level 3 Exceeded Expectations:

Students who perform at this level demonstrate an effective ability to apply scientific thinking to understand the natural world and apply engineering design to find solutions to problems. Students demonstrate the ability to think critically about physical and chemical interactions that affect the world around them; factors that affect organism survival and reproduction; factors that influence the Earth and our solar system; and how to optimize design solutions. Students apply skills such as asking questions that lead to explanations supported by evidence, using mathematics to analyze data, and applying scientific ideas to develop, test, compare, and improve design solutions.

### Level 2 Met Expectations:

Students who perform at this level demonstrate the ability to apply scientific thinking to understand the natural world and apply engineering design to find solutions to problems. Students demonstrate an understanding of physical and chemical interactions that affect the world around them; factors that affect organism survival and reproduction; factors that influence the Earth and our solar system; and how to optimize design solutions. Students use skills such as asking questions that can lead to reasonable predictions, using mathematics to describe data, and applying scientific ideas to evaluate a design solution.

### Level 1 Approached Expectations:

Students who perform at this level are approaching the ability to apply scientific thinking to understand the natural world and apply engineering design to find solutions to problems. Students are developing an understanding of physical and chemical interactions that affect the world around them; factors that affect organism survival and reproduction; factors that influence the Earth and our solar system; and how to optimize design solutions. Students are beginning to demonstrate skills such as asking questions about changes in an investigation, organizing simple data sets that reveal patterns, and identifying scientific evidence used to support a claim.

### How are assessment results used?

Results from the assessment give your child's teacher, school, and school district information about his/her science performance, and provide you with some insight into your child's level of proficiency. These results never stand alone, but can be used with other assessments and class work when gauging student performance.

Learn more about Maryland's science standards and the MCAP Practice Test NGSS website <https://nextgenscience.org>

### Science Program on Maryland Public Schools:

<http://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/DCAA/Science/index.aspx>

For an opportunity to view sample test items on a Practice Test and interact with the tools and navigation of the test, visit Test Preparation on the MCAP Portal at:

<http://support.mdassessments.com>.



**2021-2022 Kindergarten Readiness Assessment  
State and Local School System**

	<b>Emerging</b>	<b>Approaching</b>	<b>Demonstrating</b>
Allegany	26%	40%	35%
Anne Arundel	23%	36%	40%
Baltimore City	41%	34%	25%
Baltimore County	29%	34%	37%
Calvert	22%	41%	37%
Caroline	18%	33%	49%
Carroll	13%	33%	54%
Cecil	27%	38%	34%
Charles	23%	40%	37%
Dorchester	32%	38%	29%
Frederick	18%	32%	50%
Garrett	15%	40%	44%
Harford	23%	36%	41%
Howard	17%	29%	54%
Kent	16%	31%	53%
Montgomery	23%	30%	47%
Prince George's	40%	32%	28%
Queen Anne's	22%	37%	41%
St. Mary's	25%	36%	39%
Somerset	19%	41%	40%
Talbot	22%	37%	41%
Washington	24%	34%	42%
Wicomico	33%	27%	40%
Worcester	11%	27%	62%
State of Maryland	27%	33%	40%

NOTE: TOTALS MAY NOT EQUAL THE SUM OF THE COLUMNS DUE TO ROUNDING  
NOVEMBER 2021