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2004–05
California High
School Exit
Examination
(CAHSEE)

Summary of Results

California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)

Summary of 2004–05 Test Results

Background

- State law authorized the development of the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE), which students in California public schools would have to pass to earn a high school diploma beginning in the 2005–06 school year.
- The CAHSEE is designed to ensure that all high school graduates have achieved a solid foundation of knowledge and skills in English-language arts and mathematics, based on state-adopted content standards.
- All public high school students must take the CAHSEE for the first time in grade ten. Students who do not pass the CAHSEE in grade ten will have up to five additional opportunities to take the part(s) not passed.
- CAHSEE results from administrations prior to the 2003-04 school year are not to be compared to results from subsequent administrations due to changes in test content and score scales.

Summary of State Cumulative Results for Grade Eleven Students (Class of 2006)

- Estimates of the number of students in the class of 2006 who have fully met the CAHSEE requirement (i.e., passed both parts of the exam) will be provided by the independent evaluator for the CAHSEE in its annual report to be delivered on September 30, 2005.
- In the class of 2006, an estimated 88 percent of students have passed the English-language arts part of the CAHSEE, and an estimated 88 percent of students have passed the mathematics part of the CAHSEE.
- On the English-language arts part of the CAHSEE, White students have the highest estimated cumulative passing rate (96 percent), and Hispanic/Latino students have the lowest estimated cumulative passing rate (81 percent) by ethnicity.
- On the mathematics part of the CAHSEE, Asian students have the highest estimated cumulative passing rate (96 percent), and African American students have the lowest estimated cumulative passing rate (75 percent) by ethnicity.
- Students in the class of 2006 will have up to three opportunities in grade twelve to take the part(s) of the CAHSEE not yet passed.

Summary of 2004–05 State Results for Grade Ten Students (Class of 2007)

- Nearly one-half million grade ten students took the CAHSEE (English-language arts and mathematics).
- Statewide, 76 percent of grade ten students passed the English-language arts part of the CAHSEE and 74 percent passed the mathematics part.
- Female students passed the English-language arts part of the CAHSEE at a higher rate than male students (females at 81 percent; males at 72 percent).
- Male and female students passed the mathematics part of the CAHSEE at about the same rate (females at 75 percent; males at 73 percent).
- On both parts of the CAHSEE, the passing rates of Asian, Filipino, and White students were higher than the state passing rate.
- On both parts of the CAHSEE, the passing rates of Hispanic/Latino and African American students were lower than the state passing rate.
- On both parts of the CAHSEE, the passing rates of economically disadvantaged students, students receiving special education services, and English learner students were lower than the state passing rate.
- African American students performed better in English-language arts than in mathematics (64 percent in English-language arts; 55 percent in mathematics).
- Hispanic/Latino students performed slightly higher in English-language arts than in mathematics (65 percent in English-language arts, 62 percent in mathematics).
- Students receiving special education services performed slightly higher in English-language arts (33 percent) than in mathematics (30 percent).
- Economically disadvantaged students performed slightly higher in English-language arts (63 percent) than in mathematics (61 percent).
- 2004-05 results for English learners, economically disadvantaged students, and students receiving special education services each showed a 3 percentage point gain over 2003-04 results in the percentage passing English-language arts. These results showed the highest gains between the two years of any reporting category.

Comparison of State Passing Rates for First-Time Test Takers in the Classes of 2006 and 2007

- Students in the class of 2006 took the CAHSEE for the first time as tenth graders in the 2003-04 school year; students in the class of 2007 took the CAHSEE for the first time as tenth graders in the 2004-05 school year.
- Overall, first-time test takers in the class of 2007 passed the mathematics part of the CAHSEE at the same rate as first-time test takers in the class of 2006 (74 percent).
- Overall, first-time test takers in the class of 2007 passed the English-language arts part of the CAHSEE at a slightly higher rate than first-time test takers in the class of 2006 (75 percent for the class of 2006; 76 percent for the class of 2007).
- In each demographic subgroup, first-time test takers in the class of 2007 performed as well or better than students in the class of 2006 on both parts of the CAHSEE.
- The most significant improvements between first-time test takers in the classes of 2006 and 2007 occurred on the English-language arts part of the exam for the following demographic subgroups: Pacific Islander students, Hispanic/Latino students, economically disadvantaged students, students receiving special education services, and English learners.

Table 1
California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)
Estimated Cumulative Passing Rates for the Class of 2006

ENGLISH-LANGUAGE ARTS

Demographic Subgroup		Estimated Enrollment**	Number Passed in Grade 10	Percent Passed in Grade 10	Number Passed in Grade 11**	Estimated Percent Passed in Grade 11	Number Passed by End of Grade 11**	Estimated Percent Passed by End of Grade 11
ALL STUDENTS		449,606	334,617	75%	61,765	13%	396,382	88%
Gender***	Female	223,652	173,909	79%	28,556	12%	202,465	91%
	Male	225,591	160,540	71%	33,136	15%	193,676	86%
Ethnicity	American Indian/Alaskan Native	4,059	2,990	73%	605	16%	3,595	89%
	Asian	43,582	35,788	85%	4,226	7%	40,014	92%
	Pacific Islander	3,178	2,155	71%	573	15%	2,728	86%
	Filipino	13,772	11,539	87%	1,488	8%	13,027	95%
	Hispanic/Latino	177,429	112,797	62%	30,968	19%	143,765	81%
	African American	35,815	22,386	63%	7,137	19%	29,523	82%
	White	167,124	143,886	88%	15,872	8%	159,758	96%
Economically Disadvantaged Students		174,072	108,407	60%	30,647	20%	139,054	80%
Students Receiving Special Education Services		34,976	11,723	30%	7,014	24%	18,737	54%
English Learner Students		74,772	31,733	39%	16,665	26%	48,398	65%

* Enrollment was estimated by summing (1) the number of students in the class of 2006 who passed this part of the CAHSEE in grade 10; (2) the number of students in the class of 2006 who passed this part of the CAHSEE in grade 11; and (3) the number of grade 11 students who did not pass this part of the CAHSEE during the spring 2005 administration.

** Subgroup data are estimates; school districts have the opportunity to make demographic data corrections.

*** The sum of females and males does not equal the number of all students, due to invalid or blank responses received for this demographic field.

Table 2
California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)
Estimated Cumulative Passing Rates for the Class of 2006

MATHEMATICS

Demographic Subgroup		Estimated Enrollment*	Number Passed in Grade 10	Percent Passed in Grade 10	Number Passed in Grade 11**	Estimated Percent Passed in Grade 11	Number Passed by End of Grade 11**	Estimated Percent Passed by End of Grade 11
ALL STUDENTS		445,735	328,866	74%	61,176	14%	390,042	88%
Gender***	Female	219,873	163,626	74%	29,355	14%	192,981	88%
	Male	225,466	165,070	73%	31,719	14%	196,789	87%
Ethnicity	American Indian/Alaskan Native	3,882	2,776	69%	558	17%	3,334	86%
	Asian	43,856	38,493	91%	3,708	5%	42,201	96%
	Pacific Islander	3,115	2,152	71%	496	14%	2,648	85%
	Filipino	13,787	11,500	87%	1,462	7%	12,962	94%
	Hispanic/Latino	176,946	111,477	61%	31,563	20%	143,040	81%
	African American	34,509	19,302	54%	6,662	21%	25,964	75%
	White	165,013	140,243	87%	15,830	8%	156,073	95%
Economically Disadvantaged Students		173,181	109,146	61%	29,959	19%	139,105	80%
Students Receiving Special Education Services		31,559	10,437	30%	5,574	21%	16,011	51%
English Learner Students		76,527	39,756	49%	16,520	25%	56,276	74%

* Enrollment was estimated by summing (1) the number of grade ten students who passed this portion of the *CAHSEE* during the 2003–04 school year; (2) the number of grade eleven students who passed this portion during the 2004–05 school year; and (3) the number of grade eleven students who did not pass this portion during the spring 2005 administration.

** Subgroup data are estimates; school districts have the opportunity to make demographic data corrections.

*** The sum of females and males does not equal the number of all students, due to invalid or blank responses received for this demographic field.

Table 3
California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)
Comparison of Passing Rates for First-Time Test
Takers in the Classes of 2006 and 2007

ENGLISH-LANGUAGE ARTS

Demographic Subgroup		Class of 2006		Class of 2007*	
		Number Tested as Tenth Graders	Percent Passed as Tenth Graders	Number Tested as Tenth Graders	Percent Passed as Tenth Graders
ALL STUDENTS		448,005	75%	460,670	76%
Gender**	Female	220,042	79%	226,171	81%
	Male	227,600	71%	233,865	72%
Ethnicity	American Indian/Alaskan Native	4,070	73%	4,158	73%
	Asian	42,247	85%	42,476	86%
	Pacific Islander	3,021	71%	3,222	75%
	Filipino	13,229	87%	13,498	88%
	Hispanic/Latino	182,703	62%	191,490	65%
	African American	35,733	63%	38,153	64%
	White	162,719	88%	163,190	89%
Economically Disadvantaged Students		180,446	60%	190,160	63%
Students Receiving Special Education Services		38,468	30%	39,607	33%
English Learner Students		80,909	39%	82,610	42%

* Subgroup data are estimates; school districts have the opportunity to make demographic data corrections.

** The sum of females and males does not equal the number of all students, due to invalid or blank responses received for this demographic field.

Table 4
California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)
Comparison of Passing Rates for First-Time Test
Takers in the Classes of 2006 and 2007

MATHEMATICS

Demographic Subgroup		Class of 2006		Class of 2007*	
		Number Tested as Tenth Graders	Percent Passed as Tenth Graders	Number Tested as Tenth Graders	Percent Passed as Tenth Graders
ALL STUDENTS		446,264	74%	458,338	74%
Gender**	Female	219,712	74%	225,656	75%
	Male	226,178	73%	232,039	73%
Ethnicity	American Indian/Alaskan Native	4,005	69%	4,109	69%
	Asian	42,180	91%	42,332	92%
	Pacific Islander	3,019	71%	3,197	72%
	Filipino	13,223	87%	13,472	87%
	Hispanic/Latino	182,485	61%	190,795	62%
	African American	35,435	54%	37,889	55%
	White	161,605	87%	162,032	87%
Economically Disadvantaged Students		179,878	61%	189,154	61%
Students Receiving Special Education Services		35,146	30%	36,956	30%
English Learner Students		80,795	49%	81,994	49%

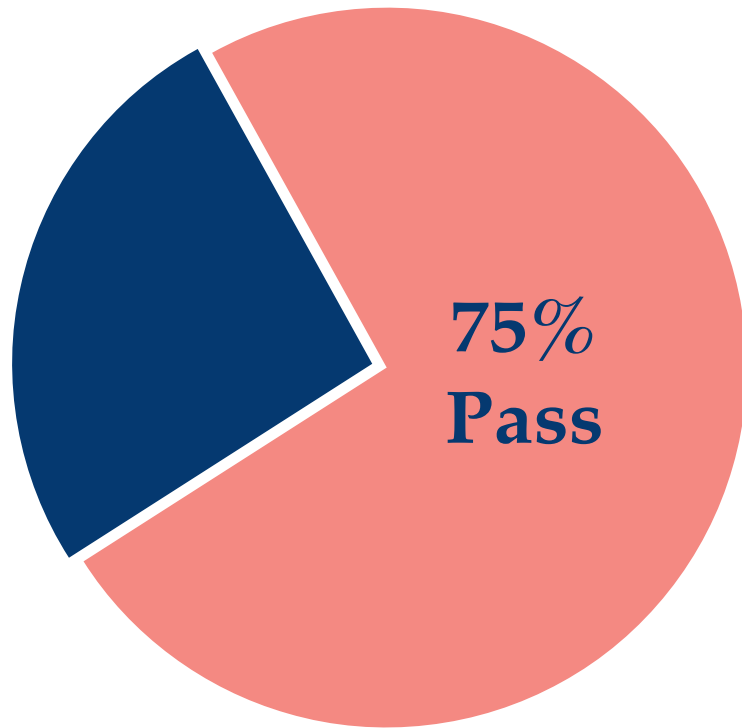
* Subgroup data are estimates; school districts have the opportunity to make demographic data corrections.

** The sum of females and males does not equal the number of all students, due to invalid or blank responses received for this demographic field.

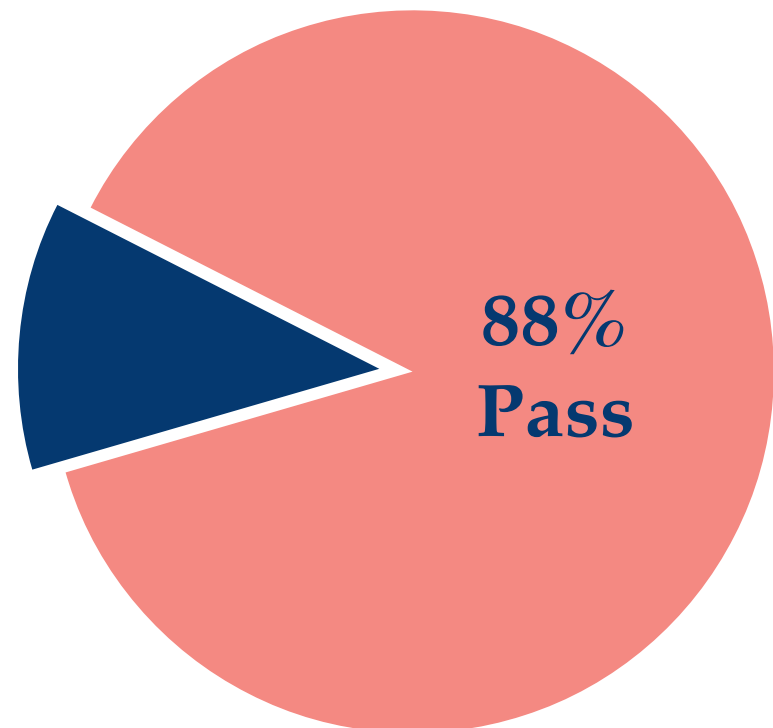
CHART 1

California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)
Estimated Cumulative Passing Rates for the Class of 2006

English-Language Arts



**Sophomores
2003-04**

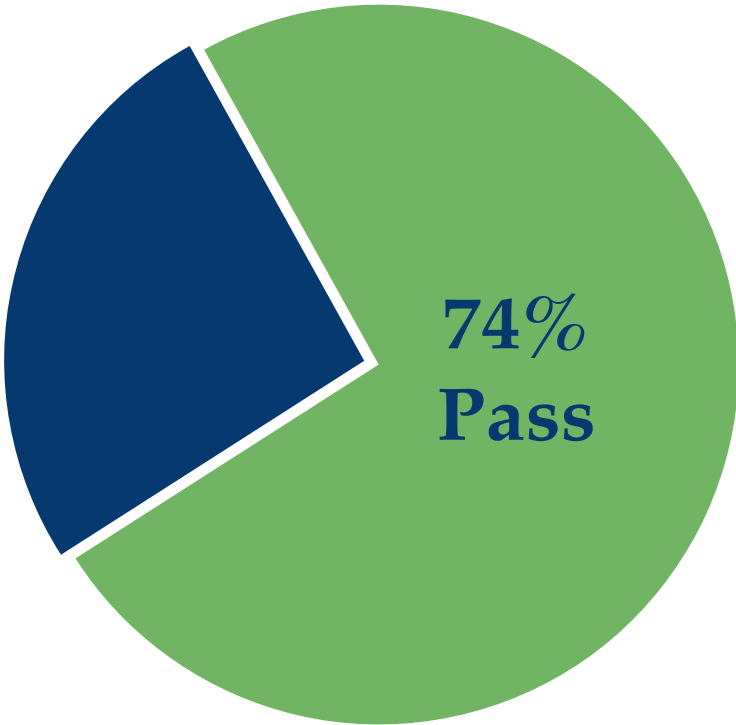


**Juniors
2004-05**

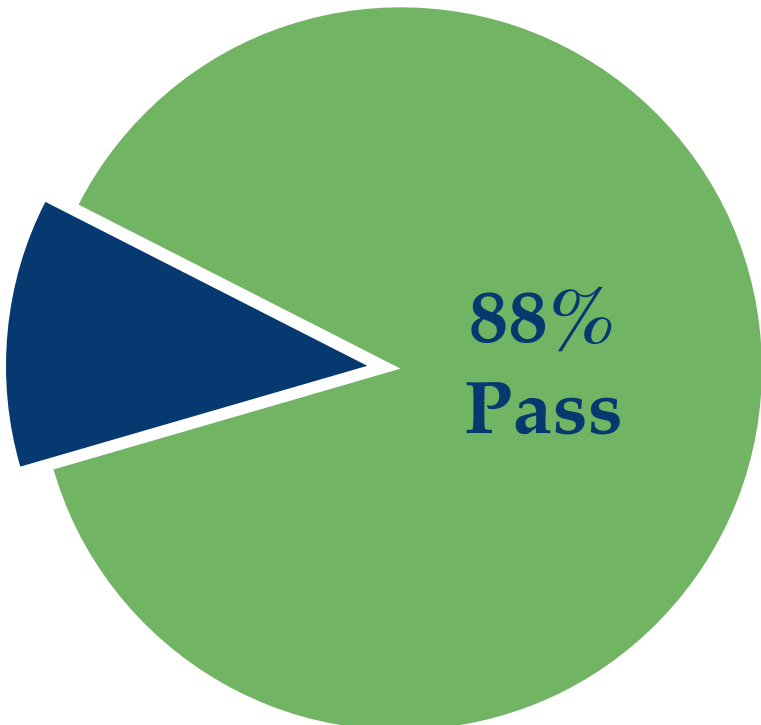
CHART 2

California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)
Estimated Cumulative Passing Rates for the Class of 2006

Mathematics



**Sophomores
2003-04**



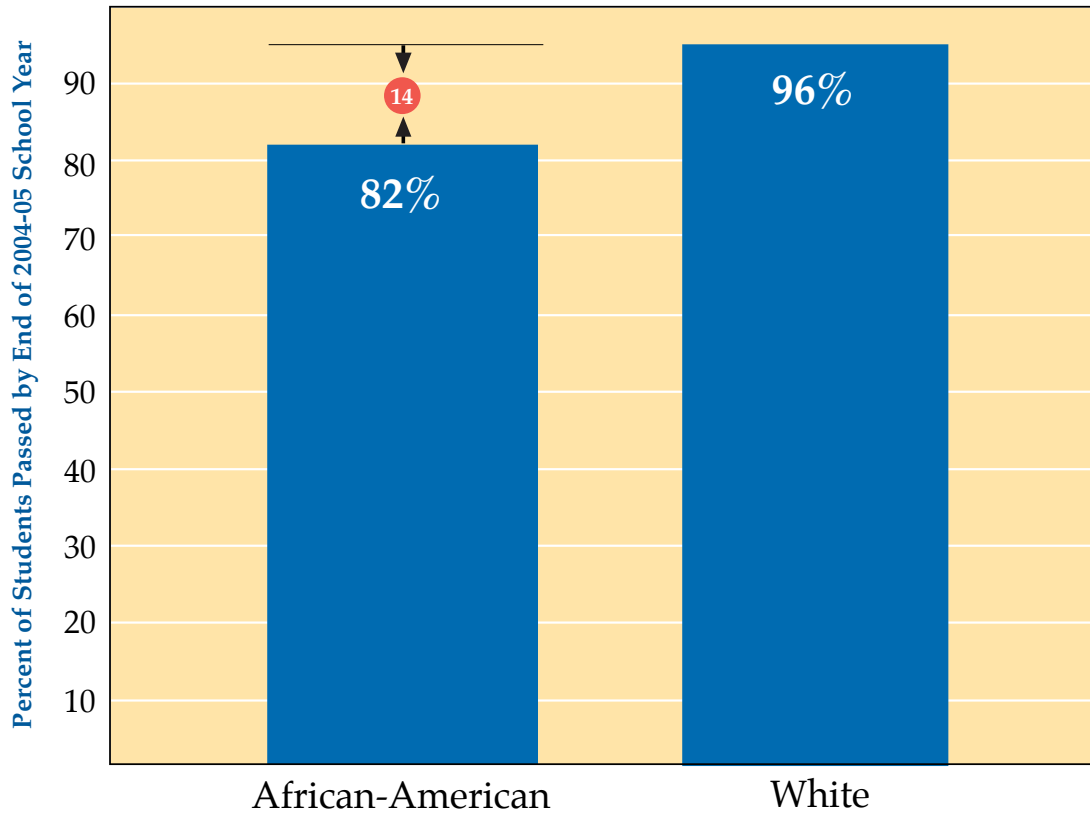
**Juniors
2004-05**

CHART 3

Achievement Gap—CAHSEE African-American to White Students

Comparison of Passing Rates for Class of 2006

English-Language Arts



Mathematics

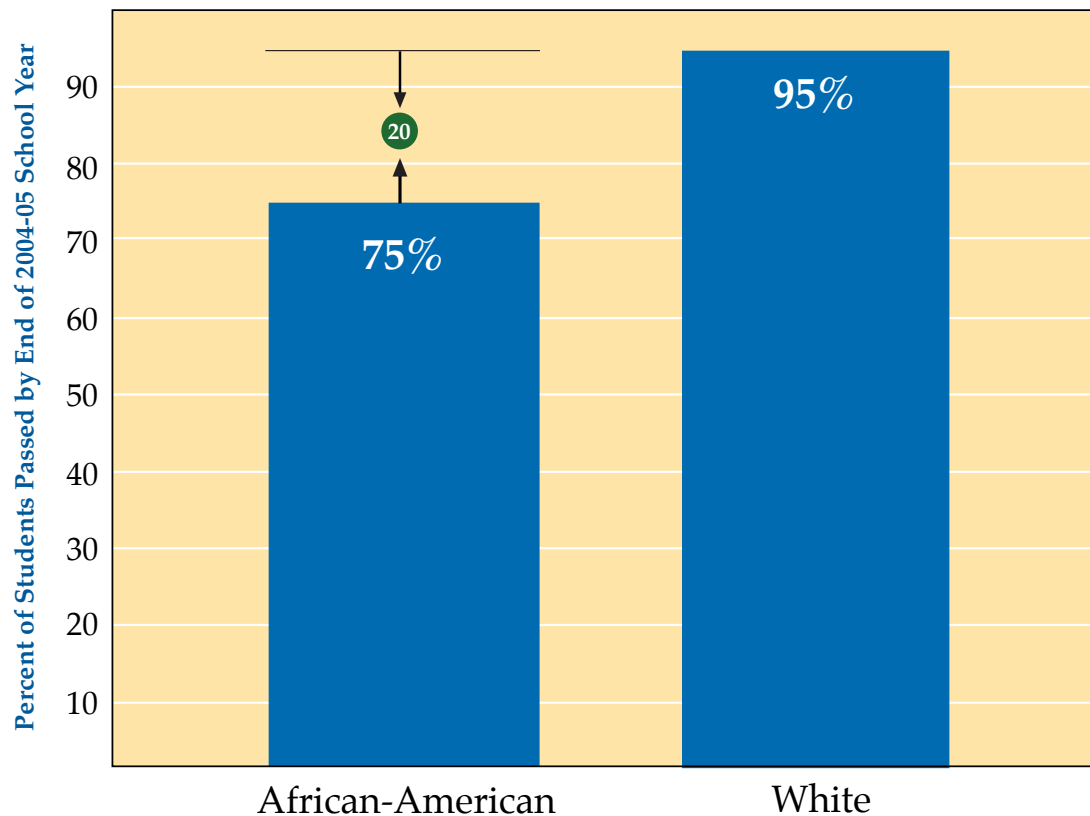
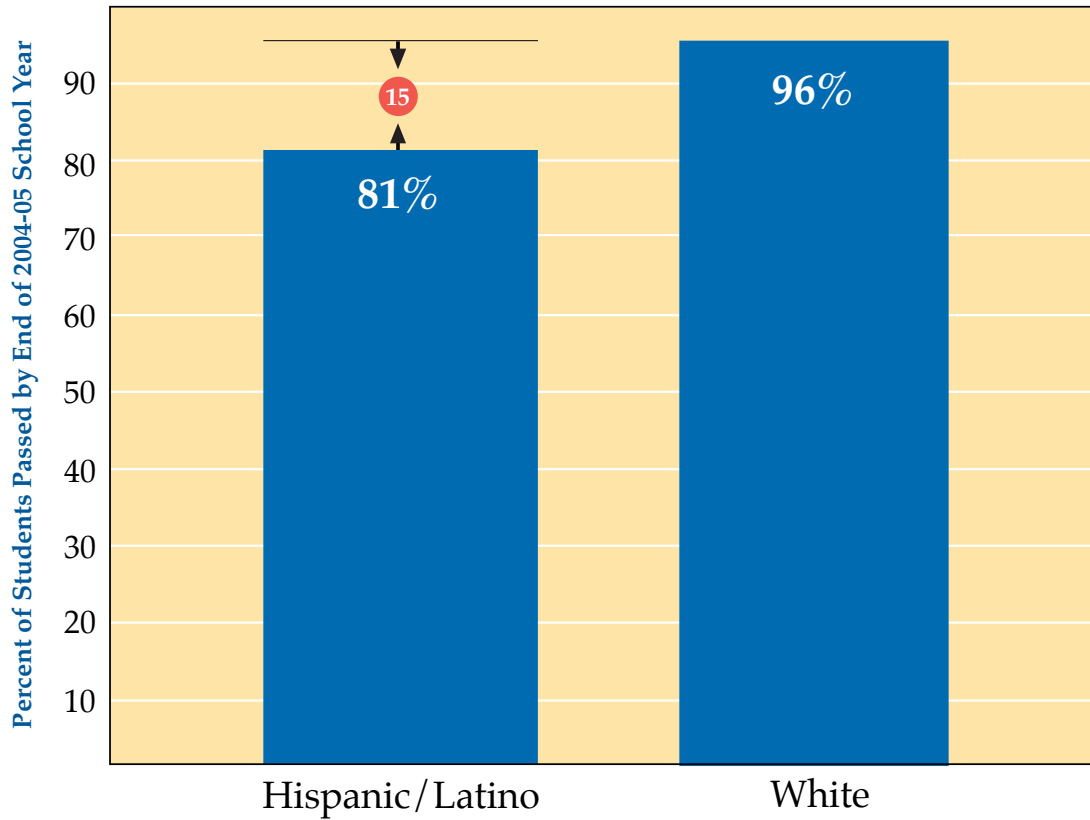


CHART 4

Achievement Gap—CAHSEE Hispanic/Latino to White Students

Comparison of Passing Rates for Class of 2006

English-Language Arts



Mathematics

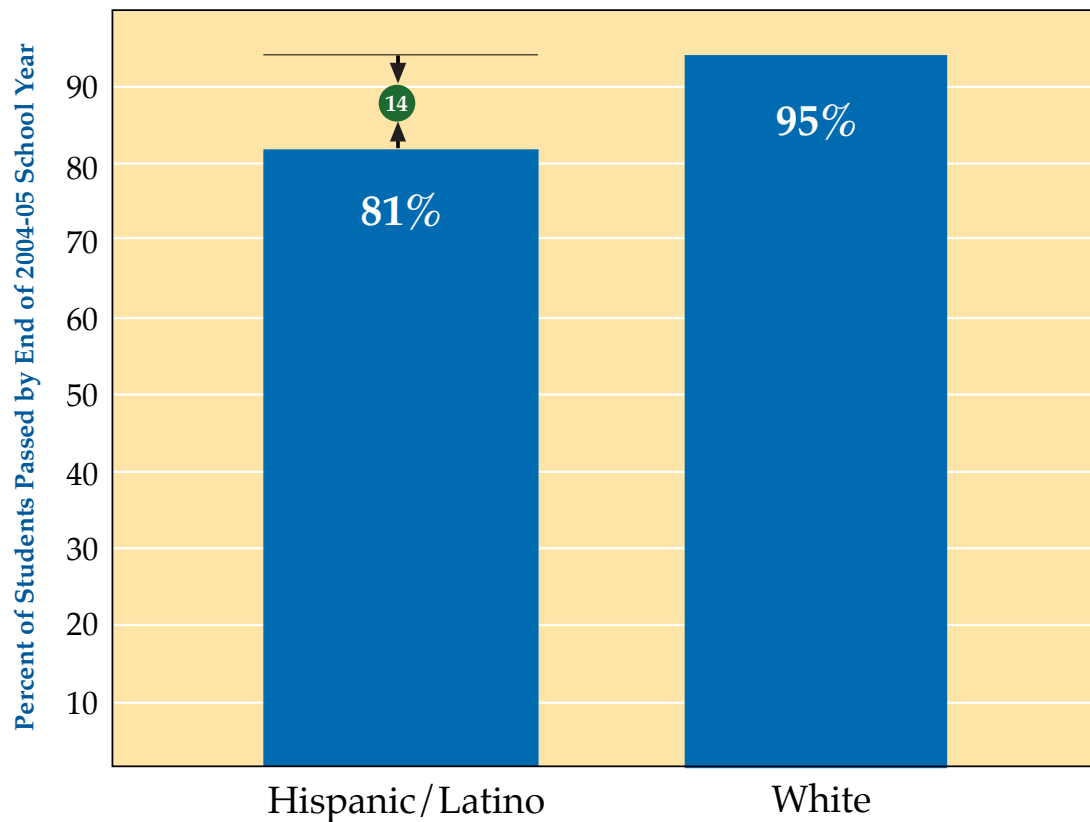


CHART 5

Achievement Gap—CAHSEE Non-Ethnic Students English-Language Arts

Estimated Cumulative Passing Rates for the Class of 2006 Non-Ethnic Subgroups

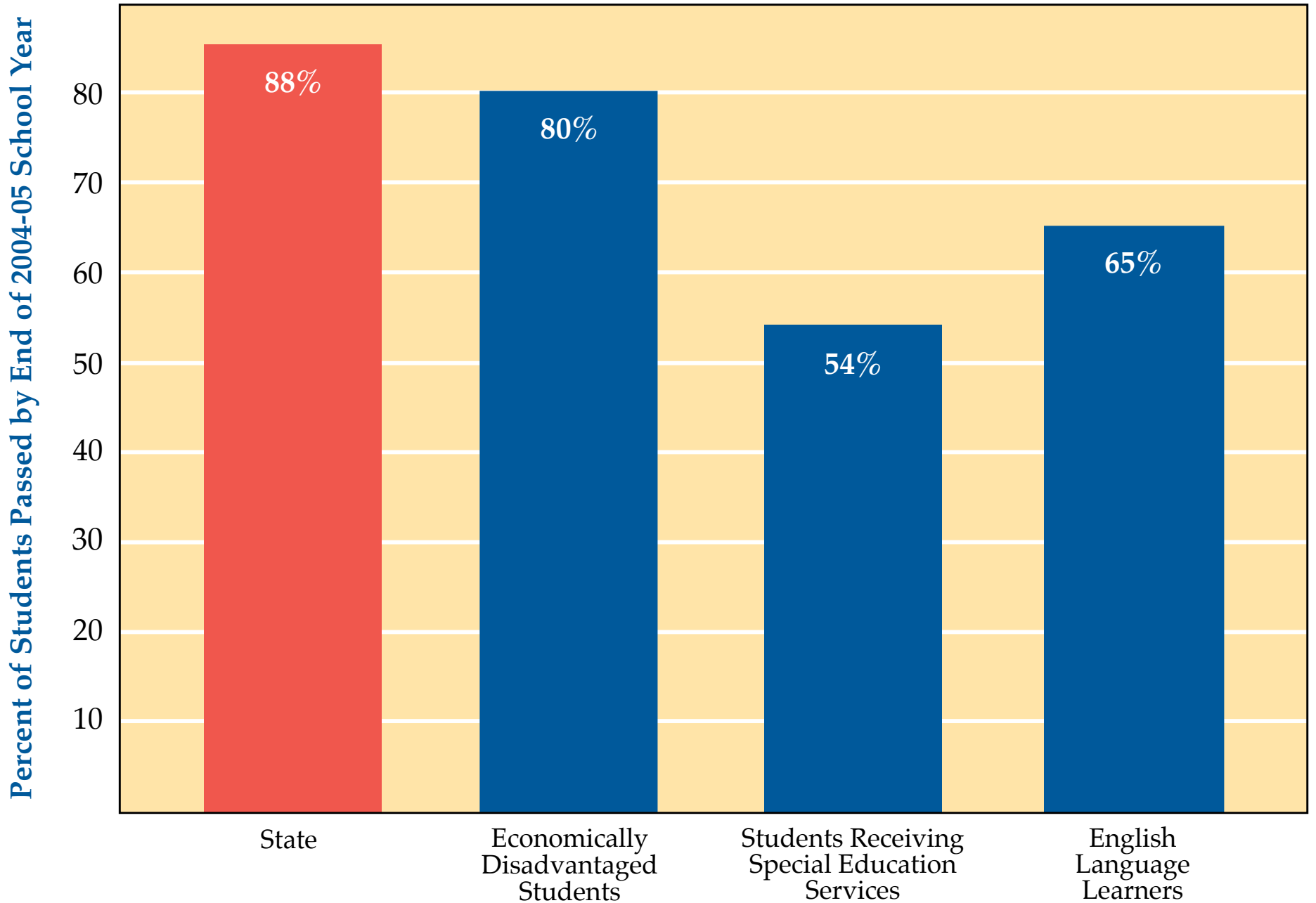


CHART 6

Achievement Gap—CAHSEE Non-Ethnic Students Mathematics

Estimated Cumulative Passing Rates for the Class of 2006 Non-Ethnic Subgroups

