2018-19 School Performance Reports and NJSLA-Science Spring 2019 Results

New Jersey State Board of Education Meeting

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Please note that this PowerPoint presentation has been modified from its original version to be more accessible.

School Performance Reports

The School Performance Reports can be used as a tool to help evaluate whether all students have equitable access to high quality education. Use these reports to:

- **Learn more** about a school or district
- **Start conversations** with school community members
- **Engage** with your school communities to identify where schools are doing well and where they can improve

New to School Performance Reports

The new reports include changes that respond to stakeholder feedback:

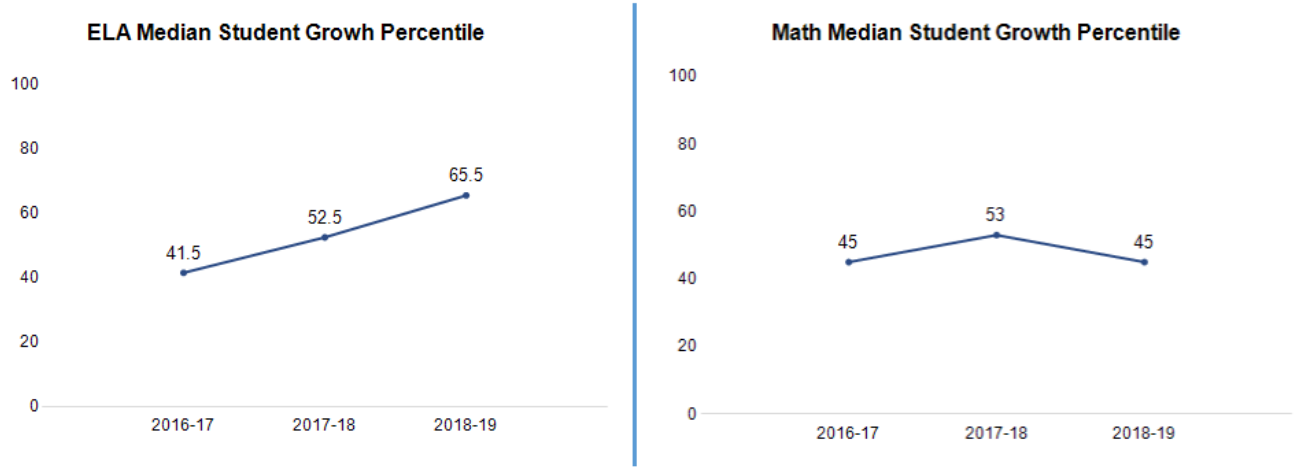
- **Emphasis on progress** with new pages showing progress on student growth, proficiency, and graduation rates over the last three years
- **Expanded data** that allows comparisons between additional student groups (e.g. gender, homeless students, students in foster care) for student growth, chronic absenteeism, graduation rates, and career and technical education program participation
- **More information** including participation in computer science and information technology courses and school-level per-pupil expenditures
- **Additional resources** to help explain where the data in the reports comes from and how it's calculated

New Measures of Progress

The new reports show three years of progress for student growth, proficiency, and graduation rates.

Student Growth Trends and Progress

These graphs illustrate trends in student growth over the last three years. Student growth is measures by median student growth percentile. The table below tells us how student growth over the last three years compares to the state standard of 40-59.5 and to the statewide median.



Performance Measure	2016-17 ELA	2017-18 ELA	2018-19 ELA	2016-17 Math	2017-18 Math	2018-19 Math
Median Student Growth Percentile	41.5	52.5	65.5	45	53	45
Met Standard (40-59.5)?	Met Standard	Met Standard	Exceeds Standard	Met Standard	Met Standard	Met Standard
Statewide: Median Student Growth Percentile	50	50	50	50	50	50

Computer Science Course Participation

The School Performance Reports now include information on students enrolled in Computer Science and Information Technology courses.

The new data can answer questions, such as:

- How many students enrolled in Computer Science courses in grades six through 12?
- In what types of Computer Science and Information Technology courses are students enrolled?
  - e.g. Computer Programming, Computing Systems, Networking, Information Systems
- Are students enrolled in Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or Dual Enrollment courses in this area?

Educator Demographics

The School Performance Reports show the demographics of students, teachers, and administrators for each school, district, and the state overall.

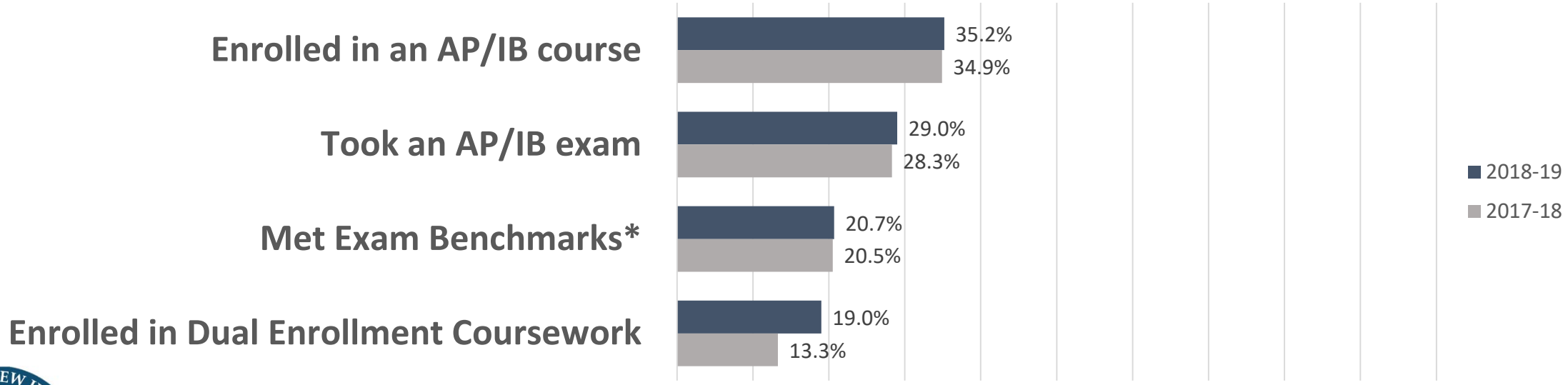
The data can answer questions, such as:

- What percentage of students, teachers and administrators are female or male?
- What percentage of students, teachers and administrators are white, Hispanic, black or African American, Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, or Two or More Races?

Advanced Coursework

New Jersey was recently ranked sixth in the Nation with 29.6% of the Class of 2019 scoring a 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement (AP) exam during high school.

The School Performance Reports include information on AP and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses and exams, as well as dual enrollment participation, for students in grades 11 and 12.



*AP exams with scores of 3 or higher, IB exams with scores of 4 or higher

More Supports Available than Ever Before

The NJDOE has developed a series of **optional resources** to support communities in understanding the reports, including:

- A **sample letter** superintendents can send to their communities
- A **PowerPoint template** to present data
- **One-page guides** for administrators, educators, and community members to help communities understand and reflect on data
- **Reference guides** for the Detailed and Summary Reports
- New **guides to understanding** graduation rates and student growth

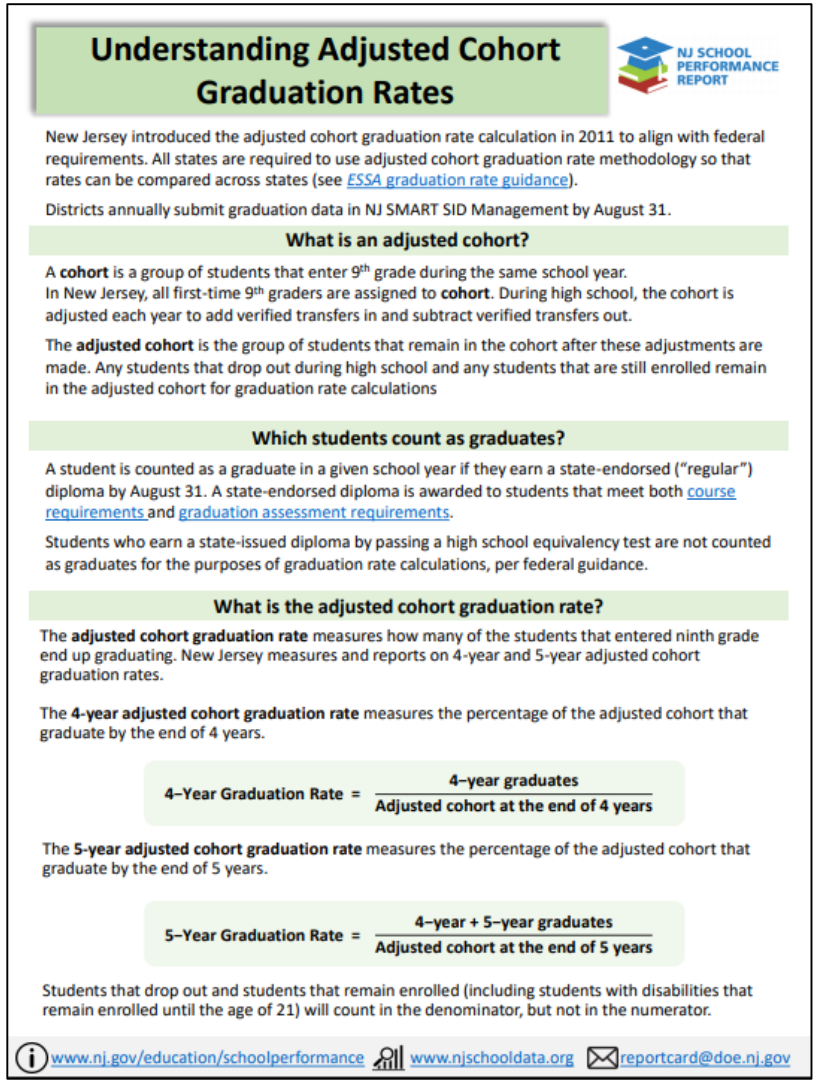
Questions on these guides include:

- Is there evidence of **equitable access** to:
  - ✓rigorous and diverse coursework?
  - ✓career-based learning?
  - ✓visual and performing arts?
  - ✓other opportunities that meet the needs and interests of all students?
- How has the **student population changed**? Have our programs, policies, and instruction changed along with demographic shifts?
- Where are we meeting our **identified goals**? Where are we falling short? Why?

New Graduation Rate Guide

NJDOE developed a new "Understanding Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates" resource that will be released this year along with the School Performance Reports and 2019 graduation rate data.

It explains how graduation rates are calculated, answers common questions, and walks through examples of how four-year and five-year graduation rates are calculated.



Understanding Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates

NJ SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT

New Jersey introduced the adjusted cohort graduation rate calculation in 2011 to align with federal requirements. All states are required to use adjusted cohort graduation rate methodology so that rates can be compared across states (see *ESSA* graduation rate guidance).

Districts annually submit graduation data in NJ SMART SID Management by August 31.

What is an adjusted cohort?

A **cohort** is a group of students that enter 9th grade during the same school year.
In New Jersey, all first-time 9th graders are assigned to **cohort**. During high school, the cohort is adjusted each year to add verified transfers in and subtract verified transfers out.

The **adjusted cohort** is the group of students that remain in the cohort after these adjustments are made. Any students that drop out during high school and any students that are still enrolled remain in the adjusted cohort for graduation rate calculations

Which students count as graduates?

A student is counted as a graduate in a given school year if they earn a state-endorsed ("regular") diploma by August 31. A state-endorsed diploma is awarded to students that meet both course requirements and graduation assessment requirements.

Students who earn a state-issued diploma by passing a high school equivalency test are not counted as graduates for the purposes of graduation rate calculations, per federal guidance.

What is the adjusted cohort graduation rate?

The **adjusted cohort graduation rate** measures how many of the students that entered ninth grade end up graduating. New Jersey measures and reports on 4-year and 5-year adjusted cohort graduation rates.

The **4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate** measures the percentage of the adjusted cohort that graduate by the end of 4 years.

$$\text{4–Year Graduation Rate} = \frac{\text{4–year graduates}}{\text{Adjusted cohort at the end of 4 years}}$$

The **5-year adjusted cohort graduation rate** measures the percentage of the adjusted cohort that graduate by the end of 5 years.

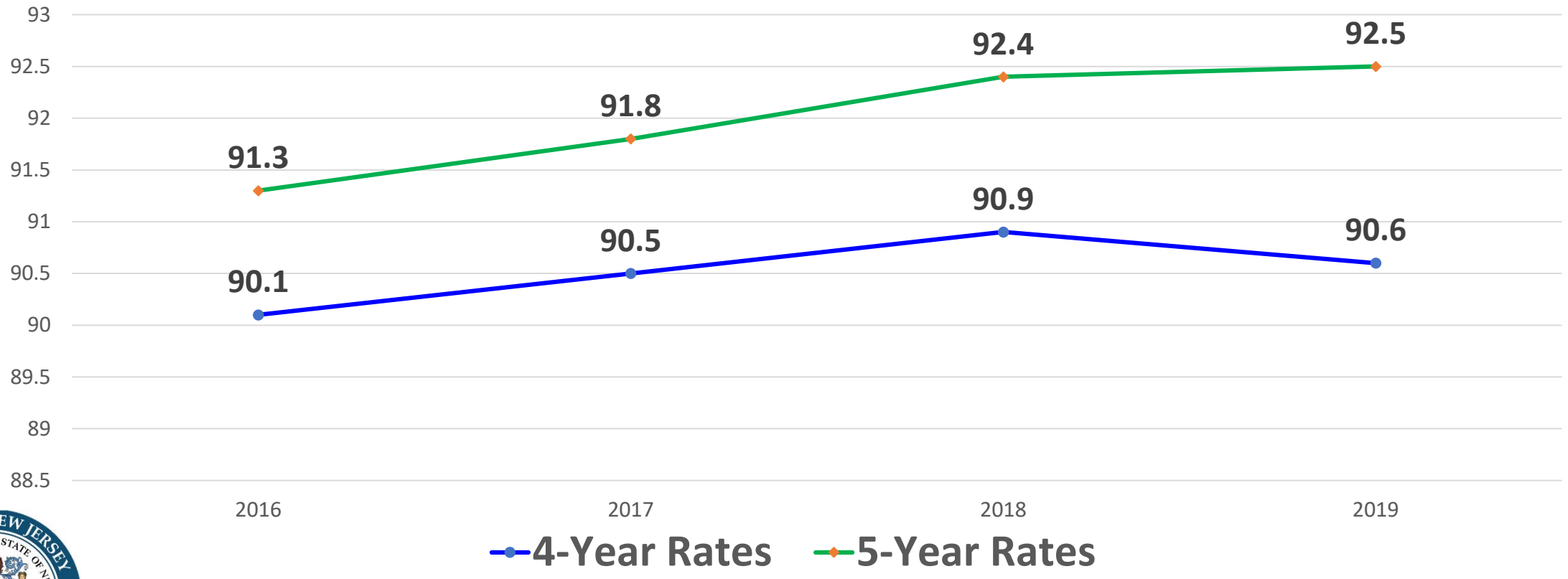
$$\text{5–Year Graduation Rate} = \frac{\text{4–year + 5–year graduates}}{\text{Adjusted cohort at the end of 5 years}}$$

Students that drop out and students that remain enrolled (including students with disabilities that remain enrolled until the age of 21) will count in the denominator, but not in the numerator.

www.nj.gov/education/schoolperformance www.njschooldata.org reportcard@doe.nj.gov

2019 Graduation Rate

The 2019 4-year graduation rate is 90.6% and the 5-year rate is 92.5%.



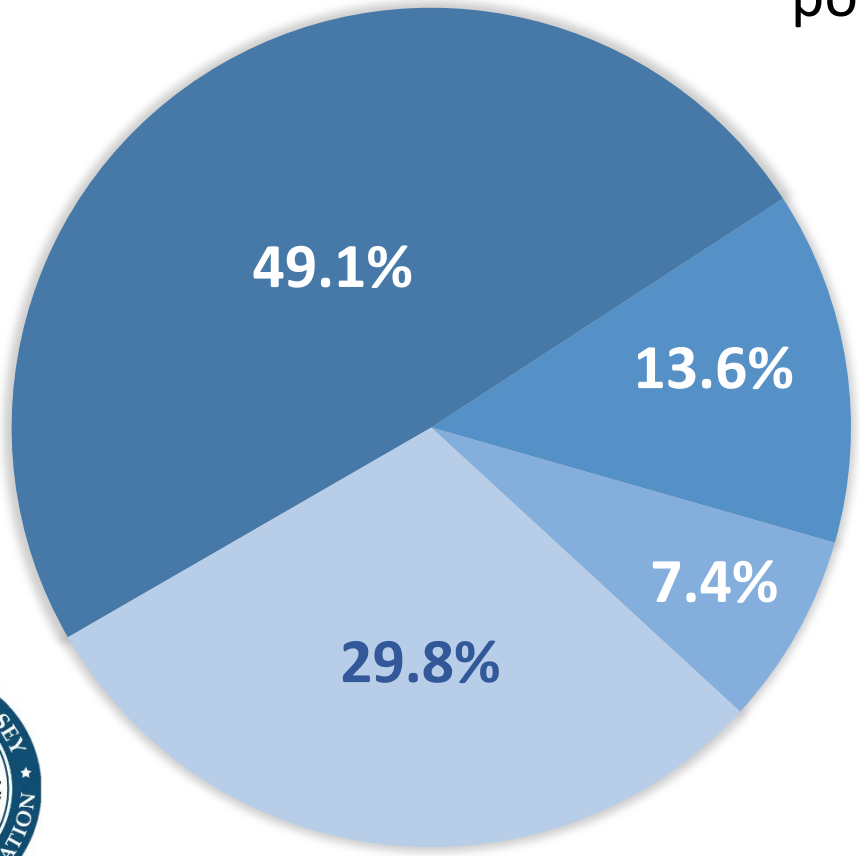
Graduation Cohort Breakdown

The 2019 cohort has a higher number of non-graduating continuing students, compared to the 2018 cohort. The number of students that dropped out has remained consistent.

Adjusted Cohort Breakdown	Cohort 2019 Count	Cohort 2019 Percentage	Cohort 2018 Count	Cohort 2018 Percentage
Graduates	96,591	90.6%	96,955	90.9%
Continuing students in grade 12	2,966	2.8%	2,774	2.6%
Continuing students in grades 9-11	1,419	1.3%	1,377	1.3%
Students that dropped out	3,380	3.2%	3,371	3.2%
Students with unverified transfers	2,314	2.2%	2,169	2.0%
Adjusted Cohort Total	**106,670**		**106,646**	

Meeting Graduation Assessment Requirements

Cohort 2019 4-year graduates could meet graduation requirements in English language arts (ELA) and Math by passing statewide assessments or through alternate pathways (i.e. alternative assessments, Individualized Education Program (IEP) requirements, or portfolio appeals).



- 49.1% used statewide assessment to meet graduation requirement for ELA & Math
- 13.6% used statewide assessment to meet ELA graduation requirement and used alternate pathways for Math
- 7.4% used statewide assessment to meet Math graduation requirement and used alternate pathways for ELA
- 29.8% used alternate pathways to meet graduation requirement for both ELA & Math

Graduation Assessment Requirement Details

This table shows specifically how students in Cohort 2019 met graduation assessment requirements for ELA and mathematics

Pathway	ELA	Mathematics
Statewide Assessment	62.8%	56.5%
Substitute Competency Test	25.9%	29.3%
Portfolio Appeals Process	5.6%	7.2%
Alternative Requirements specified in IEP	5.6%	6.8%
Unknown	0.1%	0.1%

NJSLA-Science Test Implementation Timeline

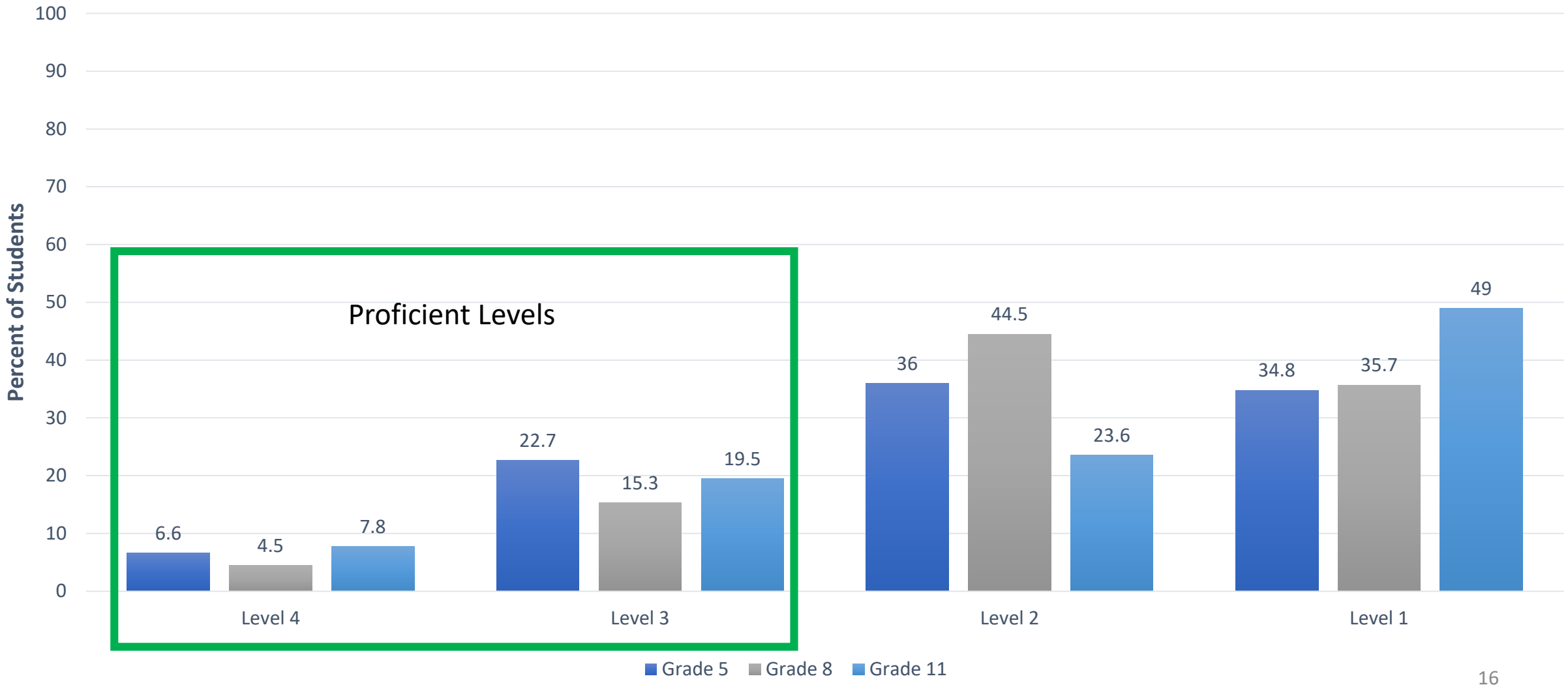
2014	The New Jersey Student Learning Standards–Science (NJSLS-Science) adopted
2016	Districts expected to have aligned curriculum and instruction to the NJSLS-Science
2018	NJSLA-Science Field testing
2019	Operational testing and standard setting by New Jersey Department of Education staff, 38 educators, and testing vendors; cut scores were adopted by the New Jersey State Board of Education in October
2020	Release of Spring 2019 results and resources and State Board considers revised NJSLS-Science for adoption
2022	Results of NJSLS-Science Spring 2021 will be used for district accountability (NJQSAC)

New Jersey Student Learning **Assessment** – Science (NJSLA-Science)

The NJSLA-Science:

- Is a federally required state assessment administered to students in grades 5, 8, and 11
- Provides a snapshot of student performance on the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Science (NJSLS-Science).
- Was developed in collaboration with NJ educators, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), and New Jersey's contracted science vendors
- Is significantly different from the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJASK) because NJSLS-Science are more rigorous standards and NJSLA-S focuses on the application of science knowledge and skills rather than memorization of content.

Percent of Students in Each Performance Level by Grade



Science Next Steps and Resources

- The scores from the 2019 administration should be used in conjunction with local assessment results and educator input to drive internal discussions on the implementation plan of science curriculum.
- NJDOE will again collaborate with the Partnership for Collaborative Professional Learning to develop K-12 instructional units based on 2020 NJSLS-Science, will connect educators with free resources such as OpenSciEd course materials, and will update Science Model Curriculum.

Reports Release

This week, school districts are previewing embargoed School Performance Reports, NJSLA-Science student and school-level results, and various resources to drive conversations and analysis

Next week, NJDOE will release this year's School Performance Reports on www.njschooldata.org, which reflect the 2018-19 school year and include:

- Detailed and Summary Reports for all public schools and districts
- Statewide detailed report
- Databases containing all the data in the School Performance Reports
- Supporting resource documents

Appendix A: NJSLA-S Cut Scores Adopted by the State Board (October 2, 2019 Meeting)

Grades	Level 2 Cut Score		Level 3 Cut Score		Level 4 Cut Score		Total Points Possible
	Raw Score	% of Points Correct	Raw Score	% of Points Correct	Raw Score	% of Points Correct	
Grade 5	25	42%	39	65%	49	82%	60
Grade 8	20	29%	40	57%	52	74%	70
Grade 11	31	40%	45	58%	60	77%	78