

State Test Score Trends Through 2008-09, Part 4: Is Achievement Improving and Are Gaps Narrowing for Title I Students?

PENNSYLVANIA

Achievement Gaps between Non-Title I and Title I students by Mean Scale Scores (MSS)												
				Gra	ide 8		High School					
	Year span	Start year	End year	Avg gain MSS*	Year span	Start year	End year	Avg gain MSS*	Year span	Start year	End year	Avg gain MSS*
READING	06-09				02-09				02-09			
Non-Title I		1390	1420	10.0		1340	1530	27.1		1330	1390	8.6
Title I		1220	1270	16.7		1160	1360	28.6		1170	1220	7.1
MATH	06-09				02-09				02-09			
Non-Title I		1450	1500	16.7		1350	1440	12.9		1330	1370	5.7
Title I		1300	1360	20.0		1180	1320	20.0		1180	1200	2.9

Table reads: In 2006, the mean scale score on the state 4th grade reading test was 1390 for non-Title I students and 1220 for Title I students. In 2009, the mean scale score in 4th grade reading was 1420 for non-Title I students and 1270 for Title I students. Between 2006 and 2009, the mean scale score improved at an average yearly rate of 10.0 points for non-Title I students and improved at an average yearly rate of 16.7 points for Title I students, indicating a narrowing of the achievement gap for Title I students at grade 4.

Note: The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) is scaled with a minimum score of 700 and no maximum.

Achievement Gaps between Non-Title I and Title I students by Percentages Proficient (PP)												
				Gra	ade 8		High School					
	Year span	Start PP	End PP	Avg annual gain*	Year span	Start PP	End PP	Avg annual gain*	Year span	Start PP	End PP	Avg annual gain*
READING	06-09				02-09				02-09			
Non-Title I		79%	81%	0.7		65%	84%	2.7		62%	69%	1.0
Title I		45%	54%	3.0		27%	63%	5.1		29%	41%	1.7
MATH	06-09				02-09				02-09			
Non-Title I		85%	88%	1.0		58%	76%	2.6		52%	59%	1.0
Title I		60%	68%	2.7		20%	51%	4.4		23%	32%	1.3

Table reads: In 2006, 79% of non-Title I 4th graders and 45% of Title I 4th graders scored at the proficient level on the state reading test. In 2009, 81% of non-Title I 4th graders and 54% of Title I 4th graders scored at the proficient level in reading. Between 2006 and 2009, the percentage proficient improved at an average rate of 0.7 percentage points per year for non-Title I students and 3.0 percentage points per year for Title I students, indicating a narrowing of the achievement gap for Title I students at grade 4.

^{*}Numbers in these columns are subject to rounding error.