

Smarter Balanced Assessments

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What's New about the Test

- Computer based
- Computer adaptive
- Assesses knowledge in a different way
- New performance bands and reporting

Computer Adaptive Testing

- What is CAT :
 - Answer Correctly → Harder Question
 - Answer Incorrectly → Easier Question
- Provides better information and increased accuracy
- More precise information about achievement vs “fixed form” where all students see the same questions

How:

- Students get the questions in the appropriate range for them
 - up to 2 grade levels above or below grade level
- Before, for those at the top and the bottom we couldn't tell
 - How far ahead? How far behind?

Assesses Different Skills

- Problem Solving Perseverance
- Application of Knowledge
- Listening
- Reading Complex Texts
- Research
- Real-world Math Tasks

Sample Mathematics Test Item: Old vs. New

Solve for x .

$$6\frac{2}{8} + 3\frac{5}{8} = x$$

(A) $7\frac{2}{8}$

(B) $9\frac{7}{8}$

(C) $9\frac{2}{8}$

(D) $18\frac{7}{8}$

VS

Jared is testing how much weight a bag can hold. He plans to put juice bottles into three bags. He wants each bag to have a total weight within the given range.

- Drag juice bottles into each bag so that the weight is within the given range.
- Leave the bag empty if the given range is not possible using juice bottles.

Between 6 lb and 7 lb **Between 10 lb and 11 lb** **Between 14 lb and 15 lb**

Sample English Language Arts Test Item: Old vs. New

Which two words are synonyms for heap?

- (A) pile
- (B) row
- (C) corner
- (D) mound
- (E) pattern

VS

Read the sentences from the passage.

As he neared the hollow tree he heard a growing hum. He made a similar noise and he saw one or two bees land on his bear suit.

What does the use of the word similar suggest? Pick **two** choices.

- Coyote was surprised and made an unusual sound.
- The sound Coyote made was meant to calm the bees.
- Coyote made a sound like a bear growling to tease the bees.
- The sound Coyote made blended in with the sound of the bees.
- The sound Coyote made was very loud to scare away the bees.

New Problem Types: Challenging Tasks – 5th Grade Math



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Your class is going to plant vegetables in a section of the local community garden. The garden manager has provided an area to plant the vegetables as follows:

The total area for the class to plant vegetables will be a rectangle 40 feet long and 30 feet wide.

The class has decided to plant four rectangular sections of the class garden with vegetables according to this plan:

- **1/4 of the garden will be planted with carrots.**
- **1/6 of the garden will be planted with potatoes.**
- **1/8 of the garden will be planted with broccoli.**
- **1/12 of the garden will be planted with corn.**

In this task, you will analyze the class plan and determine an alternate plan that will help make the most use of the available area.

“Analyze the class plan and determine an alternative that will help make the most of the available area “

1

Using the connect line tool, draw rectangles on this model of the garden to represent the four rectangular sections for planting vegetables according to the class plan. The garden model is divided into 5 feet by 5 feet sections.

- Use whole number side lengths.
- Each square on the model represents 1 square foot.
- Drag the correct label that shows the vegetable for each section.

- Drawn from real life
- Requires multiple steps
- No one right answer

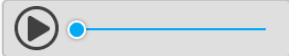
New Problem Types: Listening Questions – 7th Grade ELA



Listen to the presentation

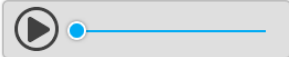
A Human Wall for Baby Turtles

Listen to the presentation. Then answer the questions.



Click to hear the meaning of the word below.

Instinct



Audio glossaries for words above grade level

Asks students to provide evidence for answers

22

The following question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

Part A

What is the **most likely** reason the author made the presentation?

- Ⓐ to explain how animals' natural behavior can be harmful
- Ⓑ to give an example of humans helping animals
- Ⓒ to prove that city lights are harmful to turtles
- Ⓓ to teach a lesson on the life cycle of turtles

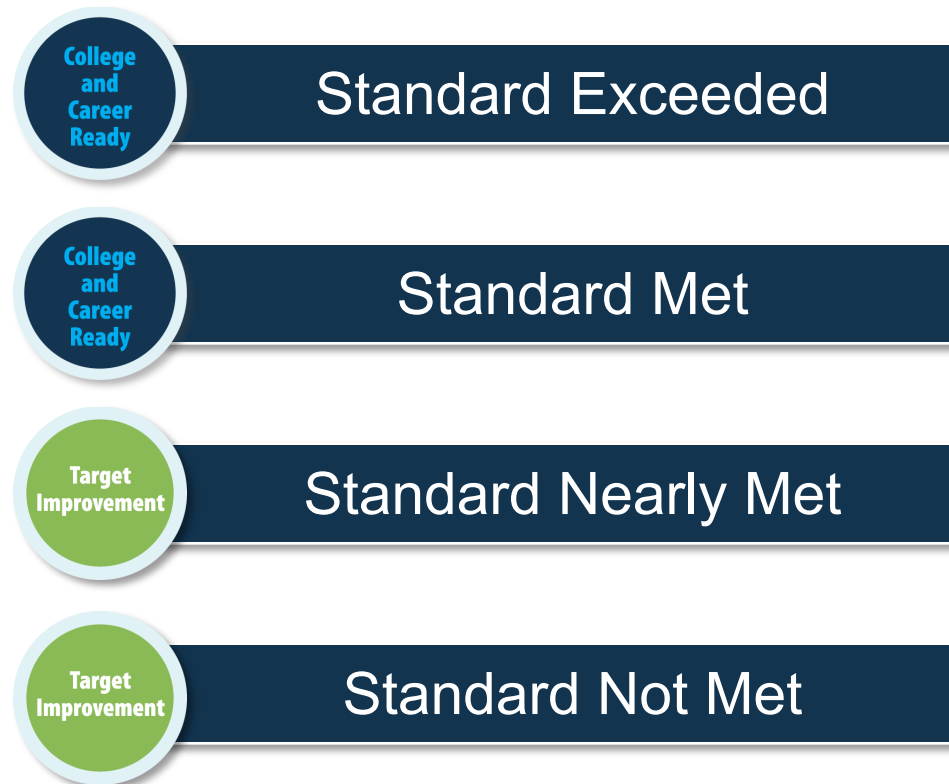
Part B

Which detail from the presentation **best** supports your answer in part A?

- Baby turtles are born on the same beach as their mothers.
- Baby turtles go towards bright light because of their instincts.
- The baby turtles were guided to the ocean by a wall of people.
- Lights from houses, hotels, and airports make turtles go the wrong way.

New Performance Bands -- Overall Scores – 4 Levels

English Language Arts and Mathematics



New Details – Claim Level (subscores) – 3 levels of performance



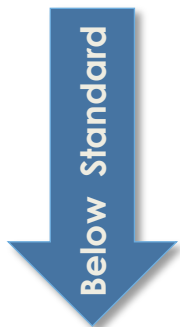
Above Standard

- English Language Arts
 1. Reading
 2. Writing
 3. Speaking & Listening
 4. Research/Inquiry



At/Near Standard

- Mathematics
 1. Concepts & Procedures
 2. Problem Solving & Modeling & Data Analysis
 3. Communicating Reasoning



Below Standard

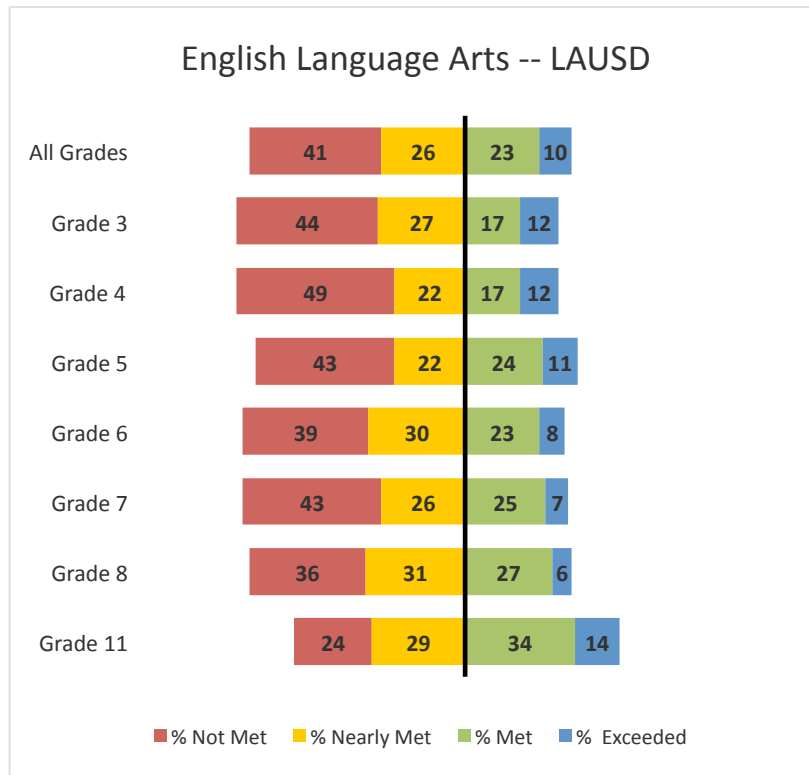
Results: Last Year's vs. This Year's

- Scores and achievement levels from the Smarter Balanced assessments **cannot and should not** be compared with data from STAR or CAHSEE.
 - Different standards are assessed.
 - Different assessment methods and score scales are used.
 - Different levels of cognitive rigor are assessed.
- **It's Like Apples and Oranges – you can't compare**
- **The previous test measured different skills, in a different way**

Smarter Balanced Assessment Results -- LAUSD Schools

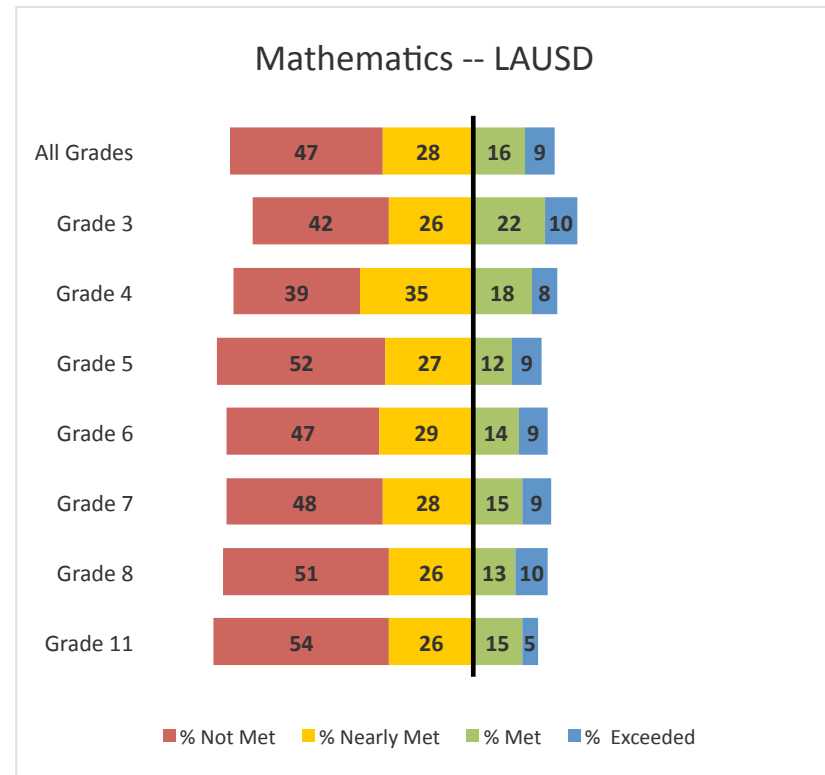
33% Met or Exceeded Standards, All Grades

(State Average = 44%)



25% Met or Exceeded Standards, All Grades

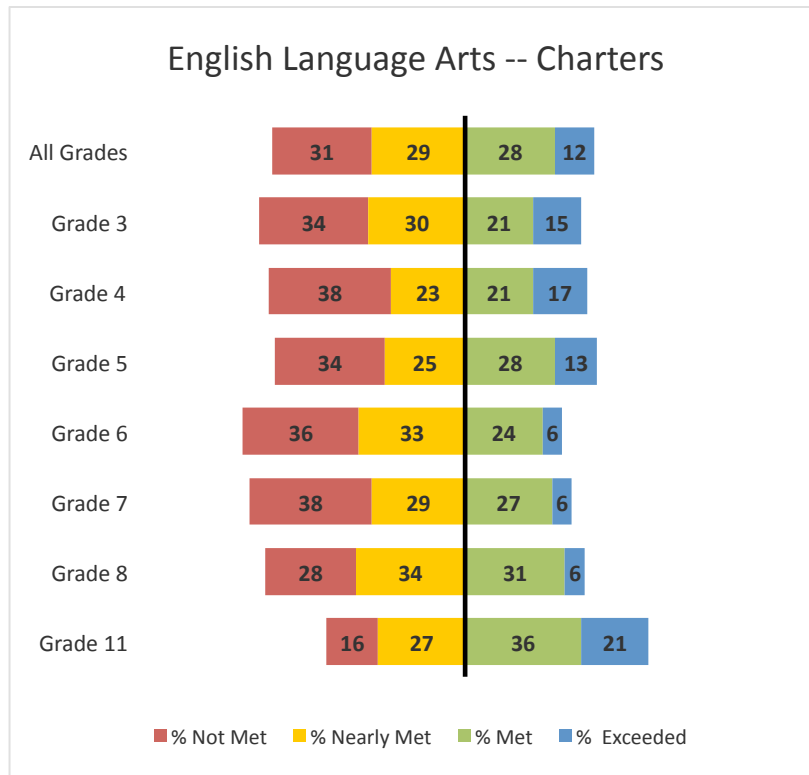
(State Average = 33%)



Smarter Balanced Assessment Results -- Independent Charter Schools

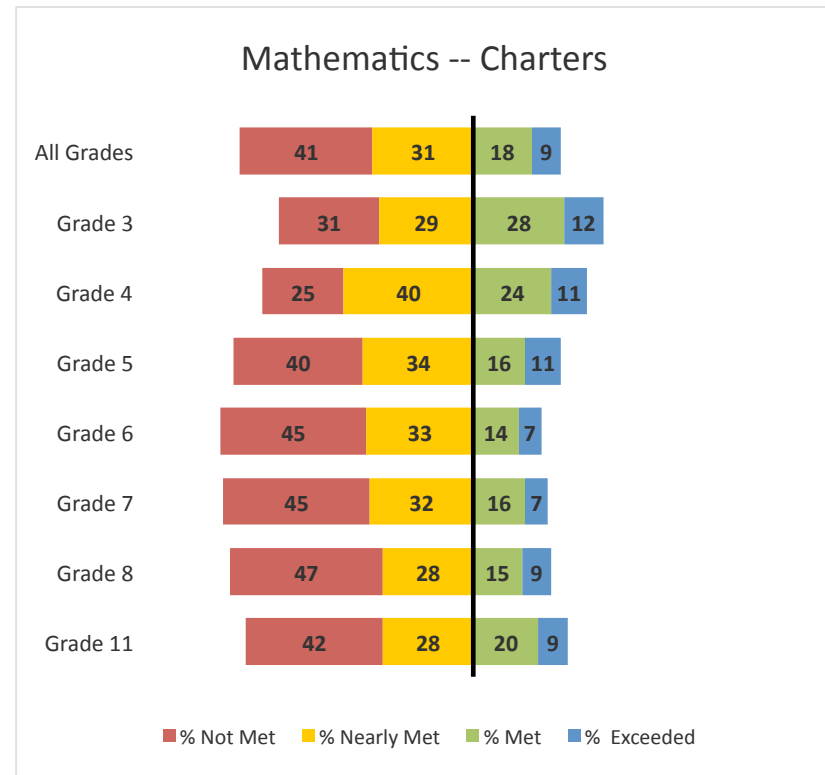
39% Met or Exceeded Standards, All Grades

(State Average = 44%)



28% Met or Exceeded Standards, All Grades

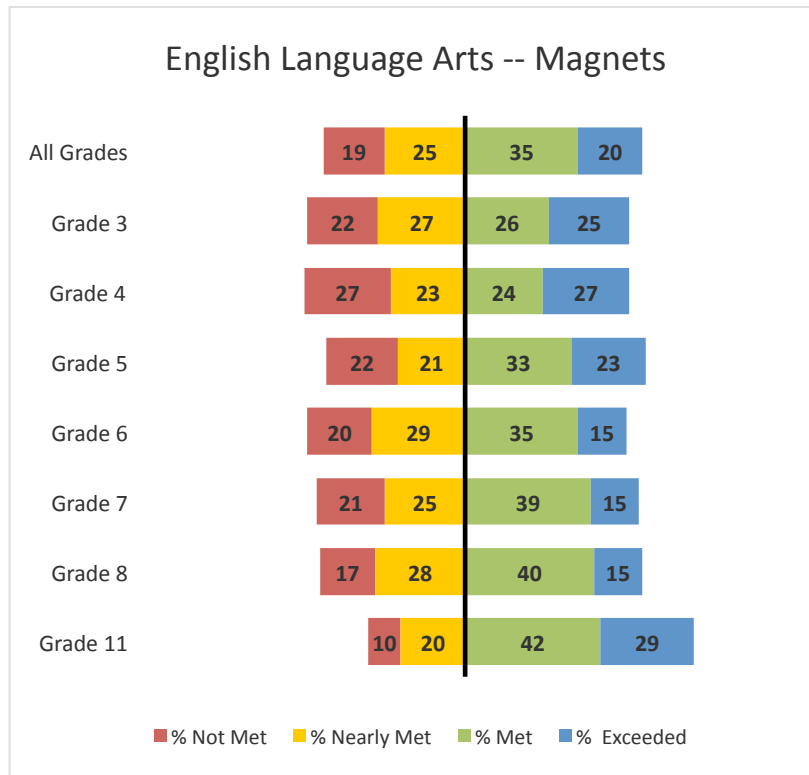
(State Average = 33%)



Smarter Balanced Assessment Results -- Magnet Centers and Schools

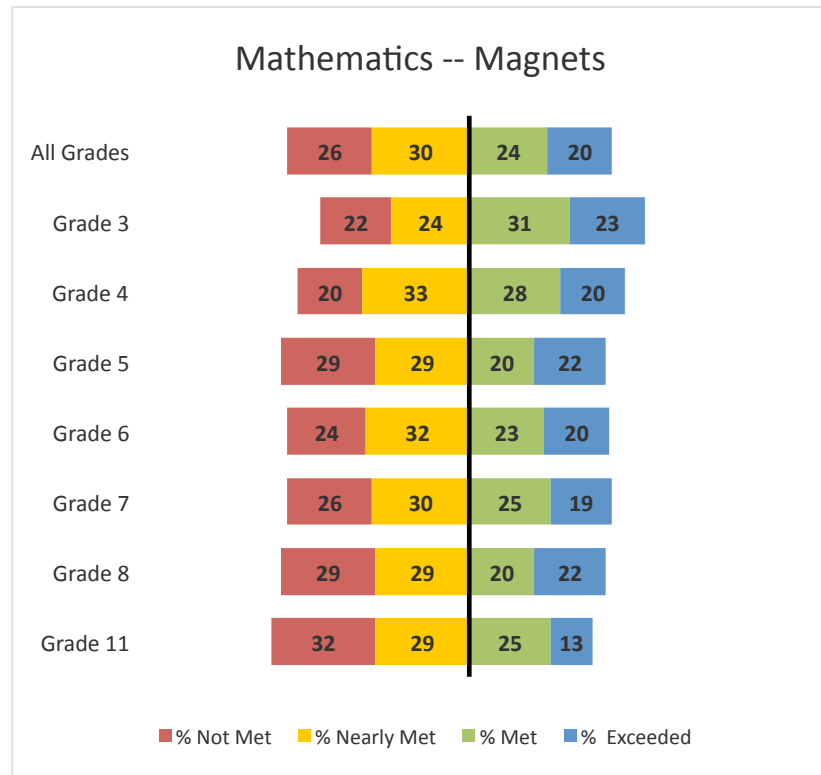
55% Met or Exceeded Standards, All Grades

(State Average = 44%)

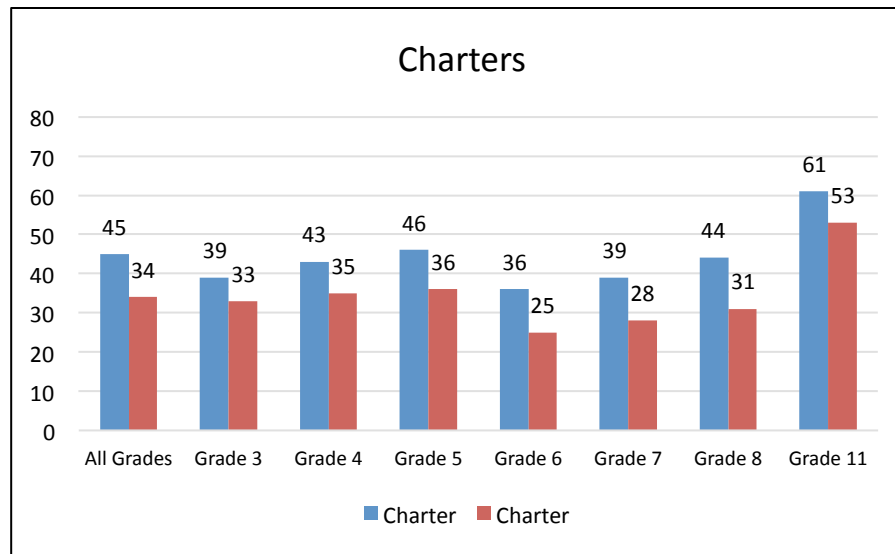
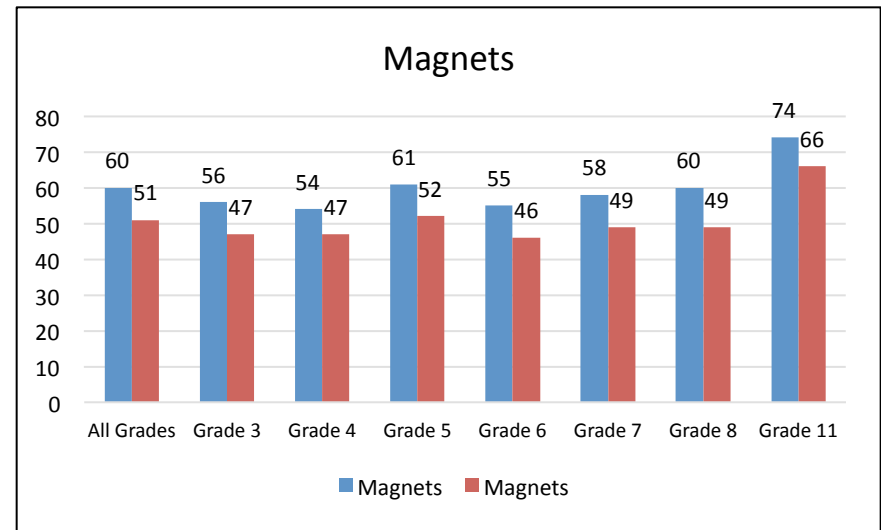
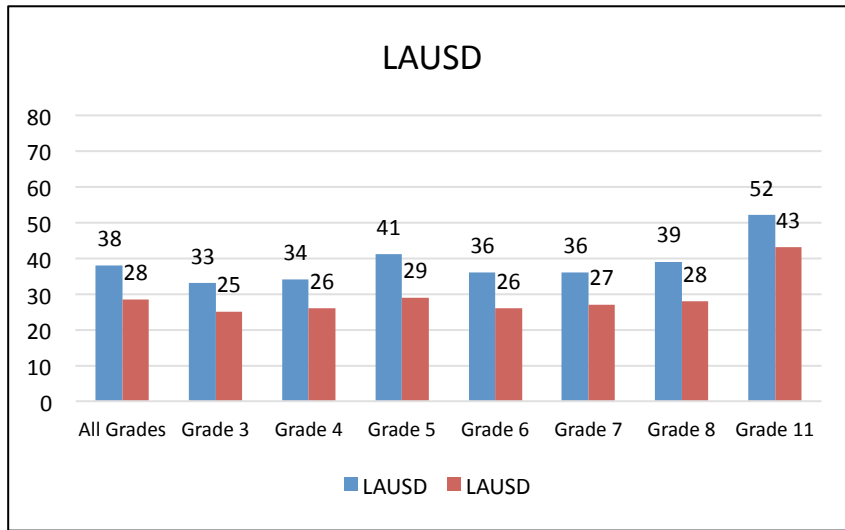


44% Met or Exceeded Standards, All Grades

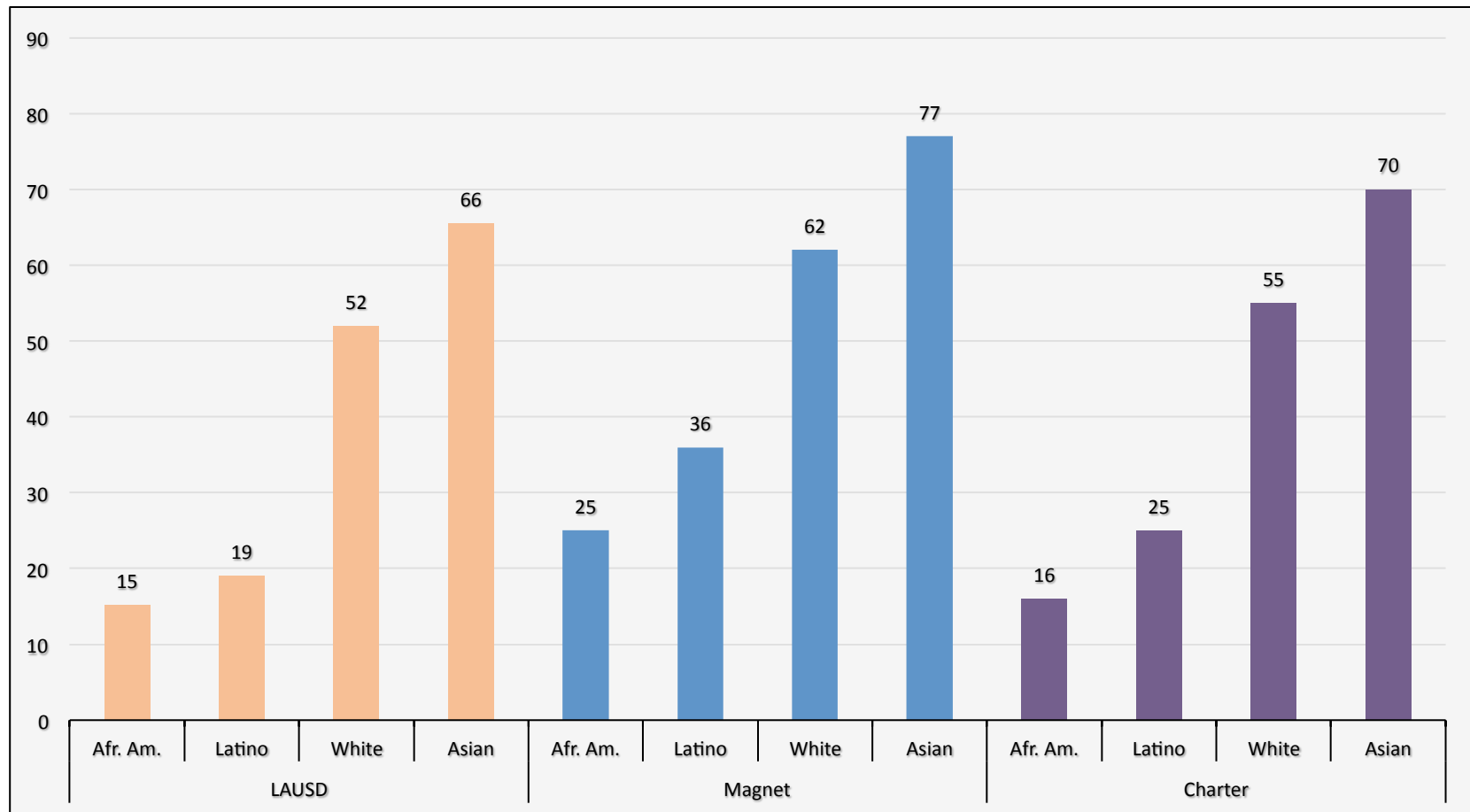
(State Average = 33%)



In English Language Arts, females scored higher than males, in Math – no difference

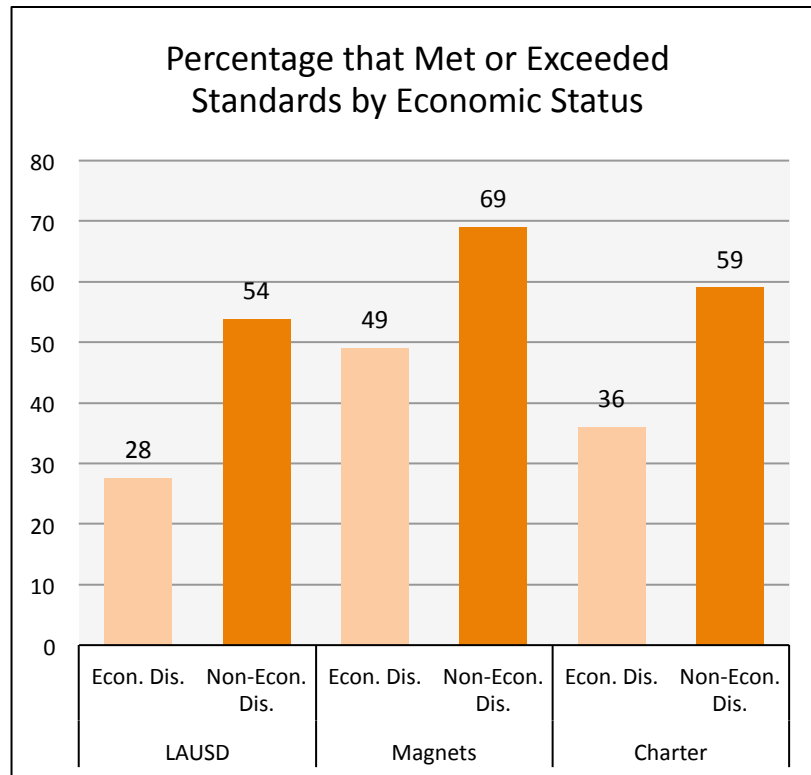


Across all types of schools, Asian and White students out-perform African-American and Latino students

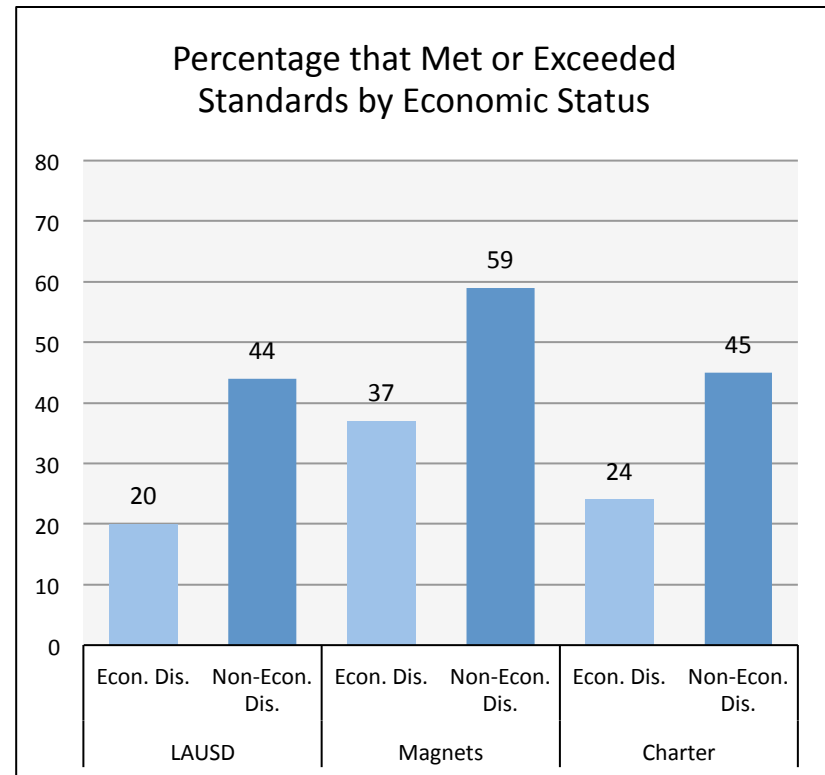


Economically Disadvantaged Students scored lower than Non-Economically Disadvantaged

English Language Arts

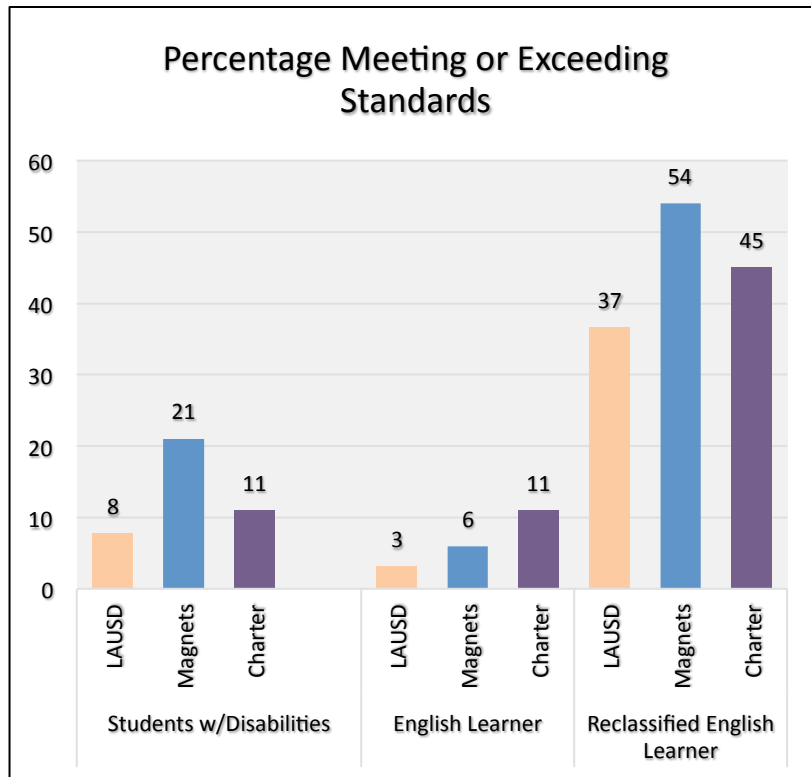


Mathematics



In both ELA and Math, lowest performing subgroups were Students with Disabilities and English Learners

English Language Arts



Mathematics

