

SANTA CLARA COUNTY  OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Dr. Charles Weis
Superintendent of Schools

August 17, 2009

TO: Charles Weis, Ph.D., County Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Linda Aceves, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services Branch
Dale Russell, Ed.D., Director, Assessment and Accountability
Diana Wilmot, Ph.D, Coordinator, Assessment & Accountability
Dan Mason, Research Analyst, Assessment and Accountability

SUBJECT: August 18, 2009 CST Release

The California Department of Education (CDE) released the 2009 California Standards Tests (CST) results to districts; they are scheduled for public release on August 18, 2009. CST scores are used to calculate Academic Performance Index (API) and are compared to Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) accountability targets (See Appendix for AYP accountability targets). AYP and API reports are scheduled for public release on September 2, 2009.

Dr. Dale Russell and Linda Aceves from our office have analyzed the data and their findings are presented in two parts: Part 1 compares performance of Santa Clara County (SCC) students with all California (CA) students; Part 2 summarizes performance of students in SCC on the CSTs from 2003 to 2009 overall and for selected ethnic subgroups. Spring 2009 data are also analyzed for SCC students who are Economically Disadvantaged (Econ Dis.), English Learners, Disabled (DI) and five ethnic subgroups.

Note: Student counts used to calculate percentages are shown on page twenty-three.

Part 1: Santa Clara County Compared to California

This section details the following findings for the 2009 CSTs:

- (1) Comparison between SCC and CA students scoring proficient or above for ELA, Mathematics, Science, and History/Social Science,
- (2) Comparison between SCC and CA subgroups scoring proficient or above for ELA and Mathematics.

		2009 Santa Clara County & California Findings	Figure
English-Language Arts (ELA)	Overall	61% of SCC students scored proficient or above compared to 50% statewide.	Figure 1
	All Subgroups	For all subgroups, except Hispanic and Filipino, a higher percentage of SCC students scored proficient or above than students statewide.	Figure 2
Mathematics	Overall	66% of SCC students scored proficient or above compared to 57% statewide.	Figure 1
	All Subgroups	For all subgroups, except Hispanic, Filipino and Economically Disadvantaged, a higher percentage of SCC students (grades 2-7) scored proficient or above than students statewide.	Figure 3
Science	Overall	A higher percentage of SCC students scored proficient or above than students statewide.	Figure 4
History/ Social Science	Overall	A higher percentage of SCC students scored proficient or above than students statewide.	Figure 5

Part 2: Santa Clara County Scores Over Time

This section details four major findings for each CST:

- (1) Percent of SCC students scoring proficient or above on the 2009 CST,
- (2) Differences across SCC subgroups performance on the 2009 CST,
- (3) Grade level trends, and
- (4) Ethnic Subgroup trends over time.

English-Language Arts			
		2009 Santa Clara County Findings	Figure
2009 Snapshot	Overall	61% of SCC students scored proficient or above.	Figure 1
	All Subgroups	A greater percentage of Asian and White students scored at proficient or above than the other subgroups.	Figure 2
Trends	Grade Level	All SCC grades improved from 2008 to 2009. 4 th graders showed the greatest improvement from 2003 to 2009 (+18 percentage points).	Figure 6
	Ethnic Subgroups	The trend of Asian and White students scoring higher than other ethnic subgroups has been consistent over the past seven years. All subgroups are improving over time. From 2003 to 2009, the achievement gap between White and Hispanic students stayed the same and the achievement gap between Asian and Hispanic students increased by 2 percentage points.	Figure 7

Mathematics			
		2009 Santa Clara County Findings	Figure
2009 Snapshot	Overall	66% of SCC students (grades 2-7) were proficient or above.	Figure 1
		SCC student performance ranged from 29% to 70% proficient or above on end-of-course (EOC) mathematics tests.	Figure 9
	All Subgroups	A greater percentage of Asian and White students scored at proficient or above than the other subgroups.	Figure 10
Trends	Grade Level/ EOC	All SCC grades improved from 2008 to 2009, except grade 7.	Figure 8
		5 th graders showed the greatest improvement over the seven-year period (+20 percentage points). Proficiency has improved over time in all end-of-course math tests (except General Math).	Figure 9
	Ethnic Subgroups	Though Asian and White students have consistently scored higher than all other ethnic subgroups, all ethnic subgroups have improved over time. From 2003 to 2009, the achievement gap between Hispanic and Asian students decreased by 7 percentage points and the gap between Hispanic and White students decreased by 6 percentage points.	Figure 11

Science			
		2009 Santa Clara County Findings	Figure
2009 Snapshot	Overall	60% percent of SCC students (grades 5, 8, and 10) scored proficient or above on the grade level science tests.	Figure 4
		Student performance ranged from 34% to 62% proficient or above on end-of-course (EOC) science tests.	Figure 12
	All Subgroups	A greater percentage of Asian and White students scored at proficient or above than the other subgroups.	Figure 13 Figure 14
Trends	Grade Level/ EOC	Students improved in all areas of science from 2008 to 2009. 5 th graders showed the greatest improvement over the six-year period (+25 percentage points)	Figure 12
	Ethnic Subgroups	Asian and White students scored higher than all other ethnic subgroups on the fifth grade Science test. This trend has been consistent over the past six years. Performance of Hispanic students stayed the same (33% proficient or above) from 2008 to 2009.	Figure 15

History/Social Science			
		2009 Santa Clara County Findings	Figure
2009 Snapshot	Overall	53% of SCC 8 th grade students scored proficient or above. 49% of students were proficient or above in World History. 55% were proficient or above in U.S. History.	Figure 16
	All Subgroups	A greater percentage of Asian and White students scored at proficient or above than the other subgroups.	Figure 17
Trends	Grade Level/ EOC	Students taking the U.S. History CST showed the greatest improvement over the seven-year period (+12 percentage points).	Figure 16
	Ethnic Subgroups	Though Asian and White eighth grade students have consistently scored higher than all other ethnic subgroups, all subgroups have improved over the last six years.	Figure 18

The number of SCC students taking higher level courses (i.e., Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Biology, Chemistry and Physics) has increased in the past six years. Despite the increase in numbers of students taking the higher level tests, the percent of students scoring proficient or above has also increased. During the same time, the number of students taking General Math has decreased by 41%.

	2004 % Proficient or Above and Students Tested (n)	2009 % Proficient or Above and Students with Scores (n)	Six-Year Difference (n)	2004-2009 Percent Change in Students taking Test	Change in Students Scoring Proficient or Above (% points) 2004-2009
Algebra I	26% (22,853)	38% (29,276)	6,423	28%	+12
Geometry	35% (14,409)	39% (17,452)	3,043	21%	+4
Algebra II	33% (9,808)	42% (12,660)	2,852	29%	+9
Biology/Life Sciences	47% (16,765)	55% (21,354)	4,589	27%	+8
Chemistry	38% (10,537)	48% (12,515)	1,978	19%	+10
Physics	46% (3,119)	62% (4,851)	1,732	56%	+16
General Mathematics	28% (12,108)	29% (7,145)	4,963	-41%	+1

Figure 1

**Santa Clara County vs. California
 2009 CST English-Language Arts and Mathematics
 Students Percent Proficient or Above**

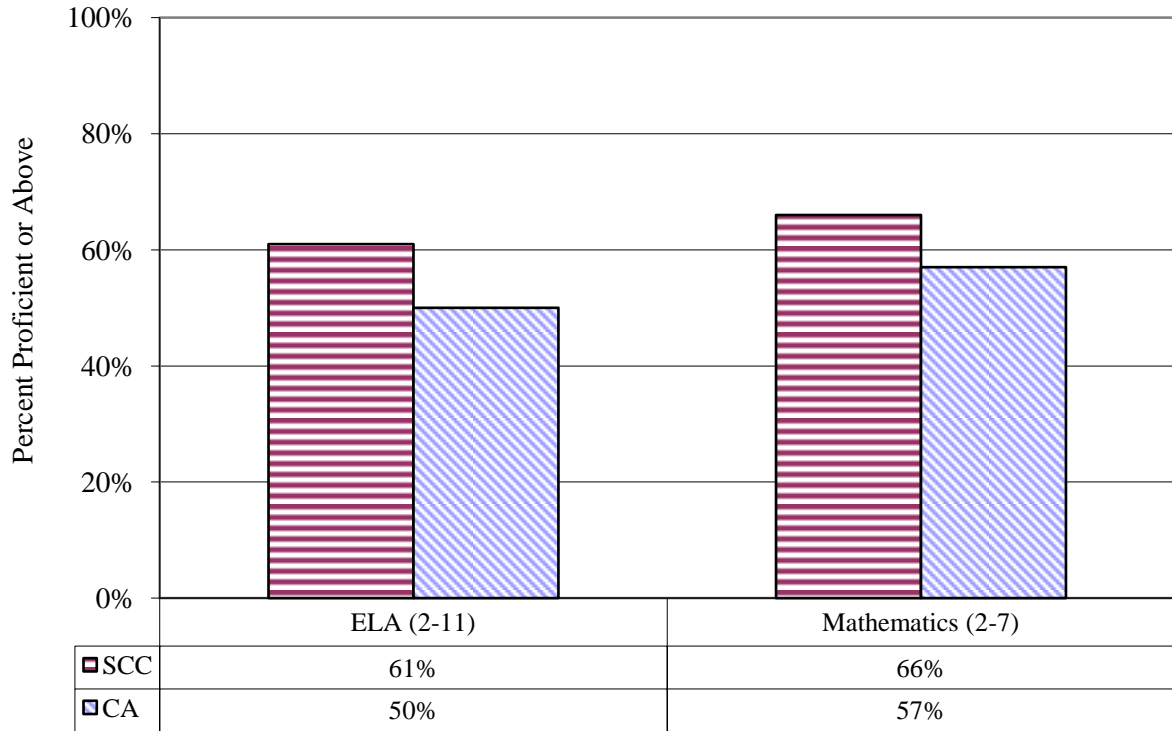


Figure 2

**Santa Clara County vs. California
2009 CST English-Language Arts 2nd to 11th Grade
Students Percent Proficient or Above by Ethnicity**

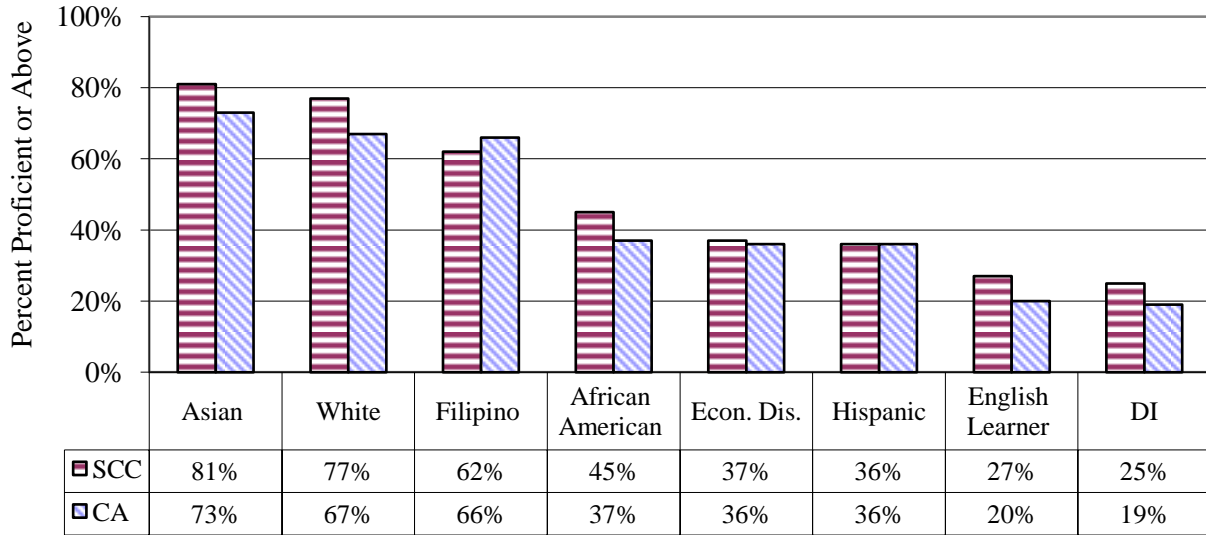


Figure 3

**Santa Clara County vs. California
2009 CST Mathematics 2nd to 7th Grade
Students Percent Proficient or Above by Ethnicity**

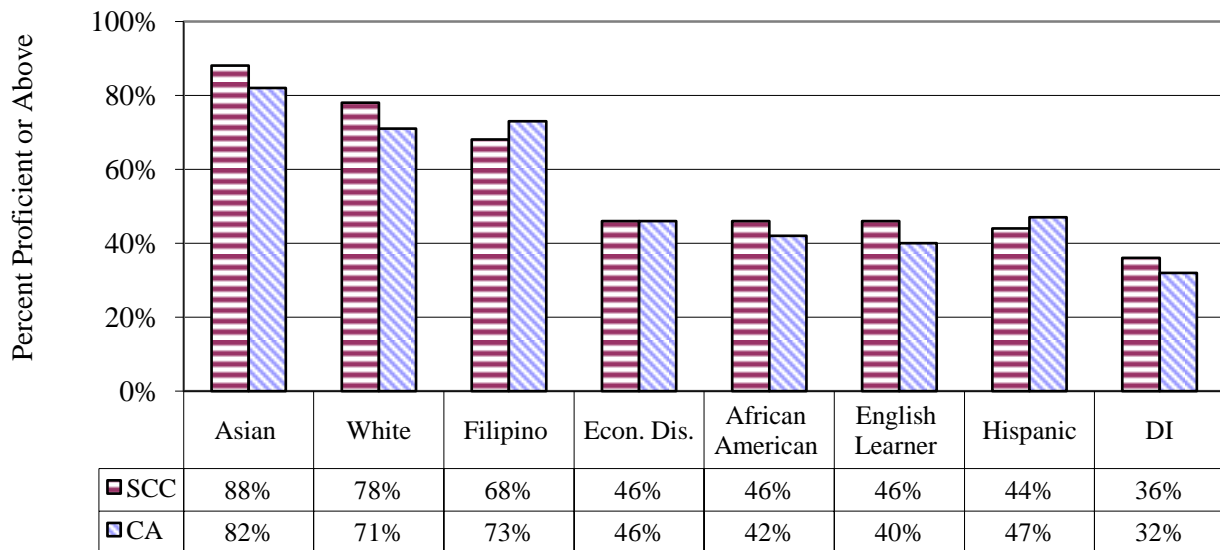


Figure 4

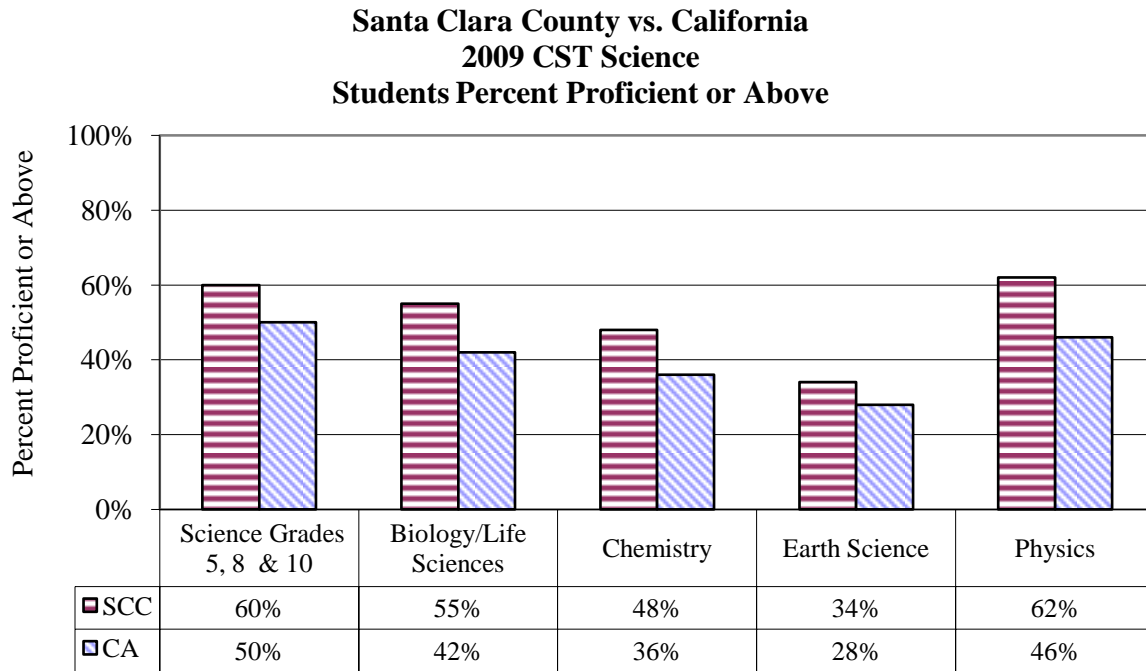


Figure 5

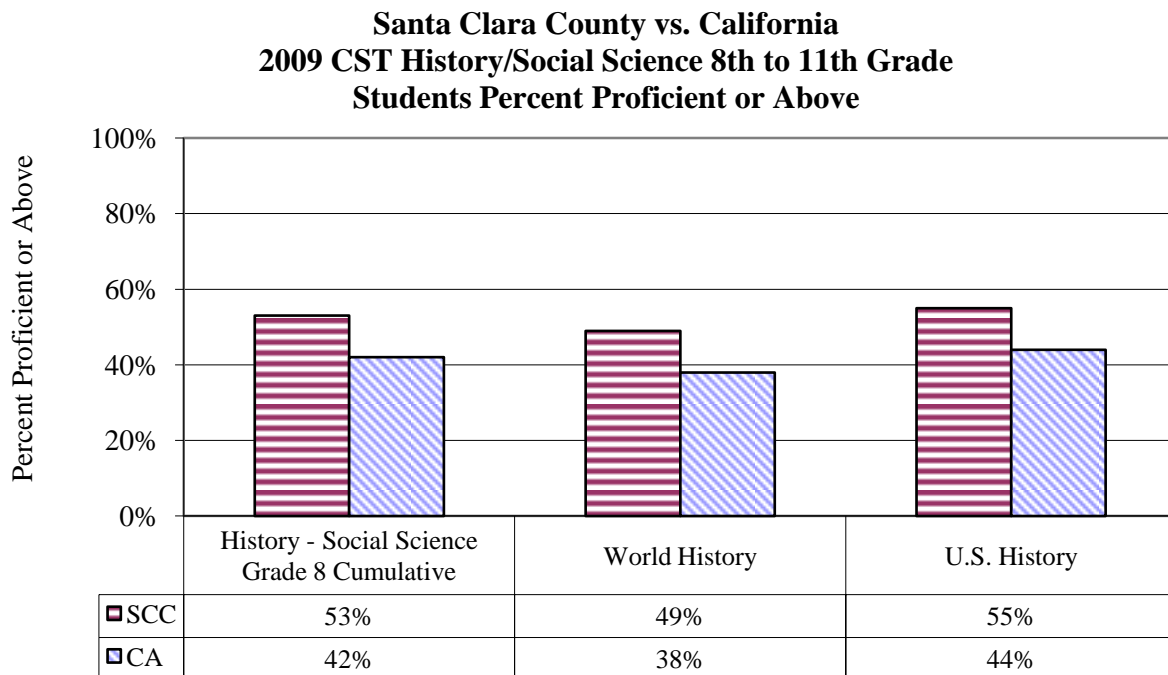


Figure 6

**Santa Clara County
2003 to 2009 CST English-Language Arts
Students Percent Proficient or Above by Grade Level**

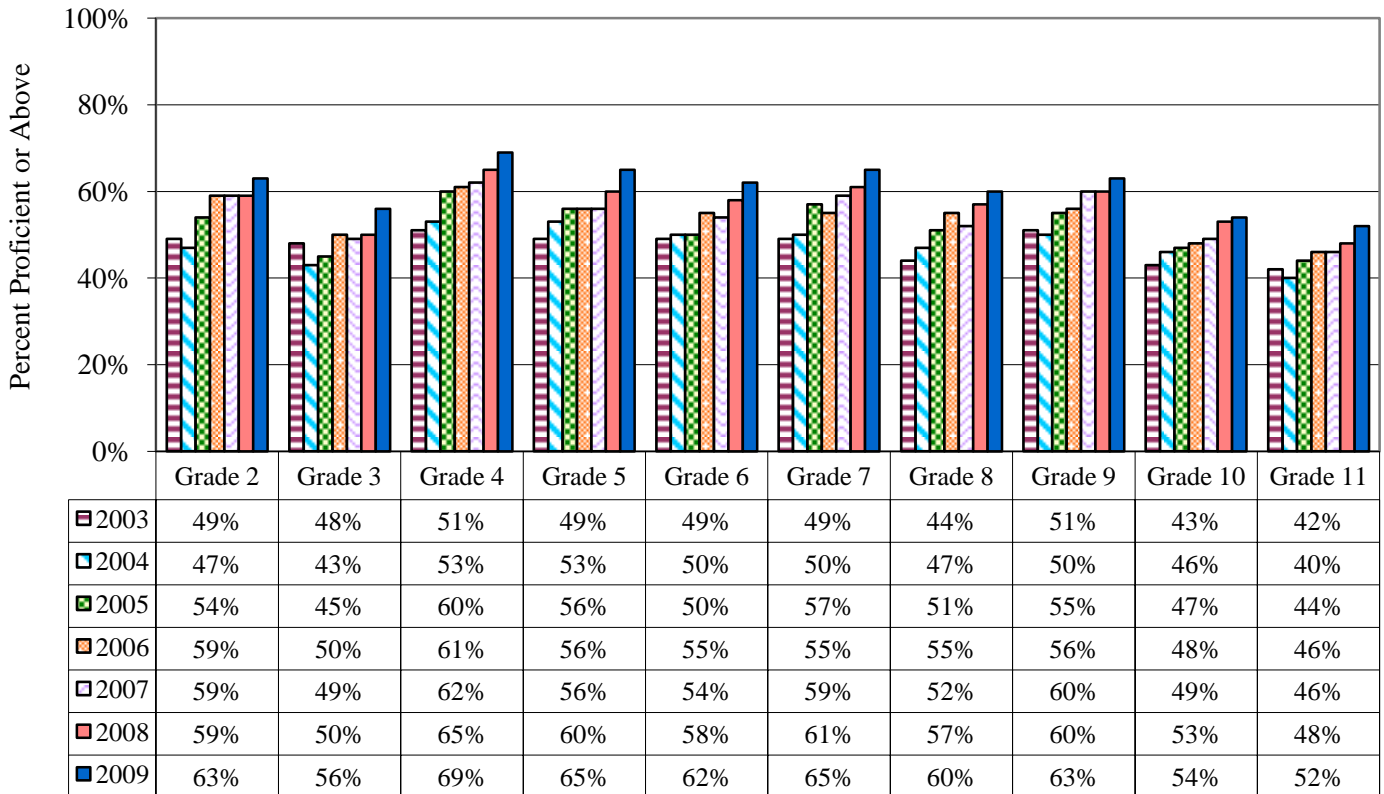


Figure 7

**Santa Clara County
2003 to 2009 CST English/Language Arts 2nd to 11th Grade
Selected Student Subgroups Percent Proficient or Above**

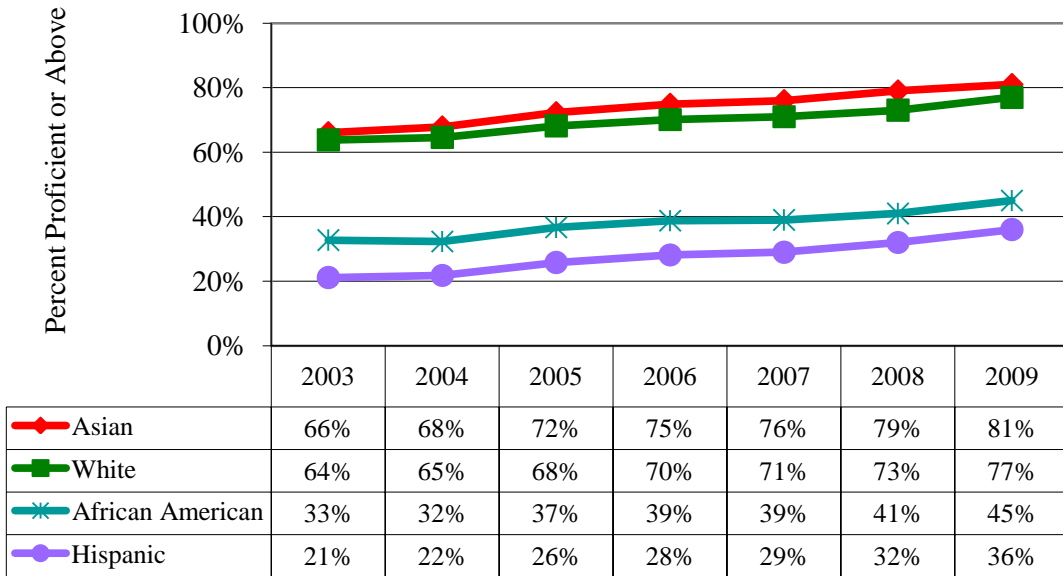


Figure 8

**Santa Clara County
2003 to 2009 CST Mathematics
Students Percent Proficient or Above by Grade Level**

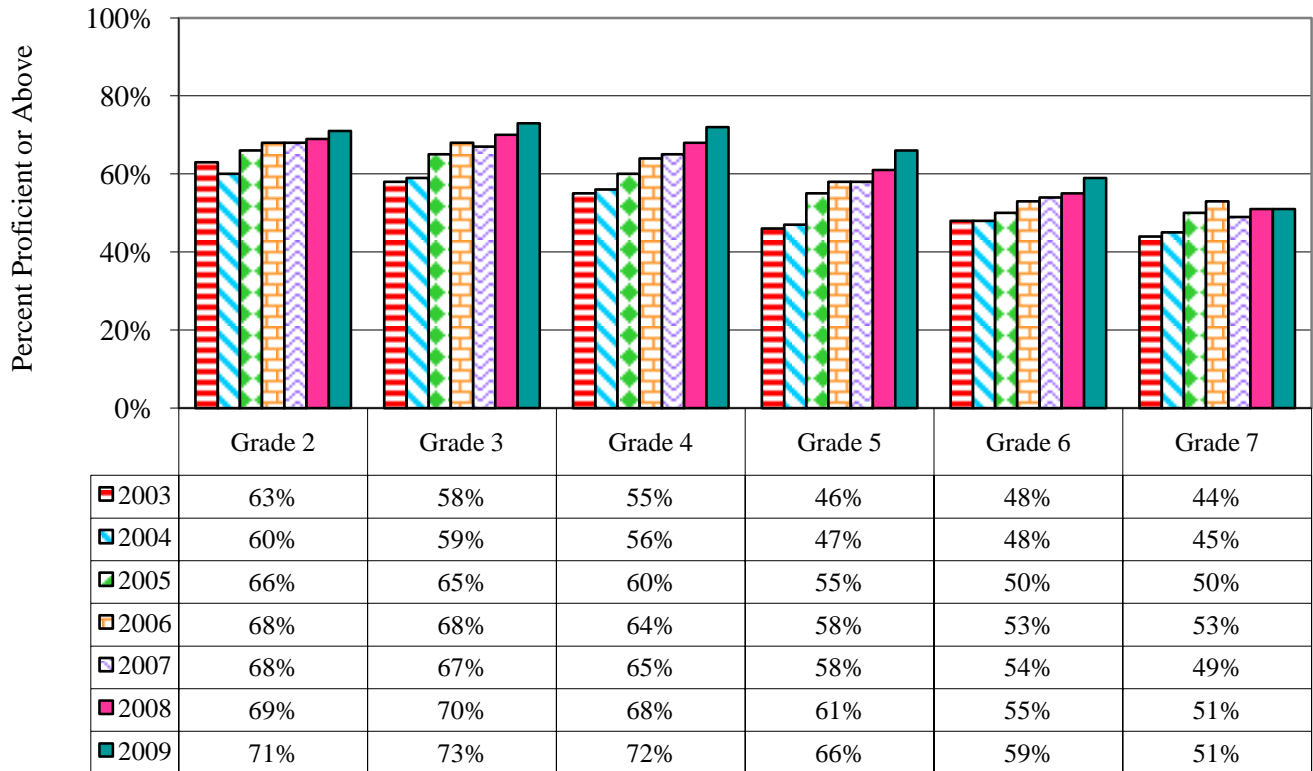


Figure 9

**Santa Clara County 2004 to 2009 CST
High School End of Course Math Assessments
Students Percent Proficient or Above**

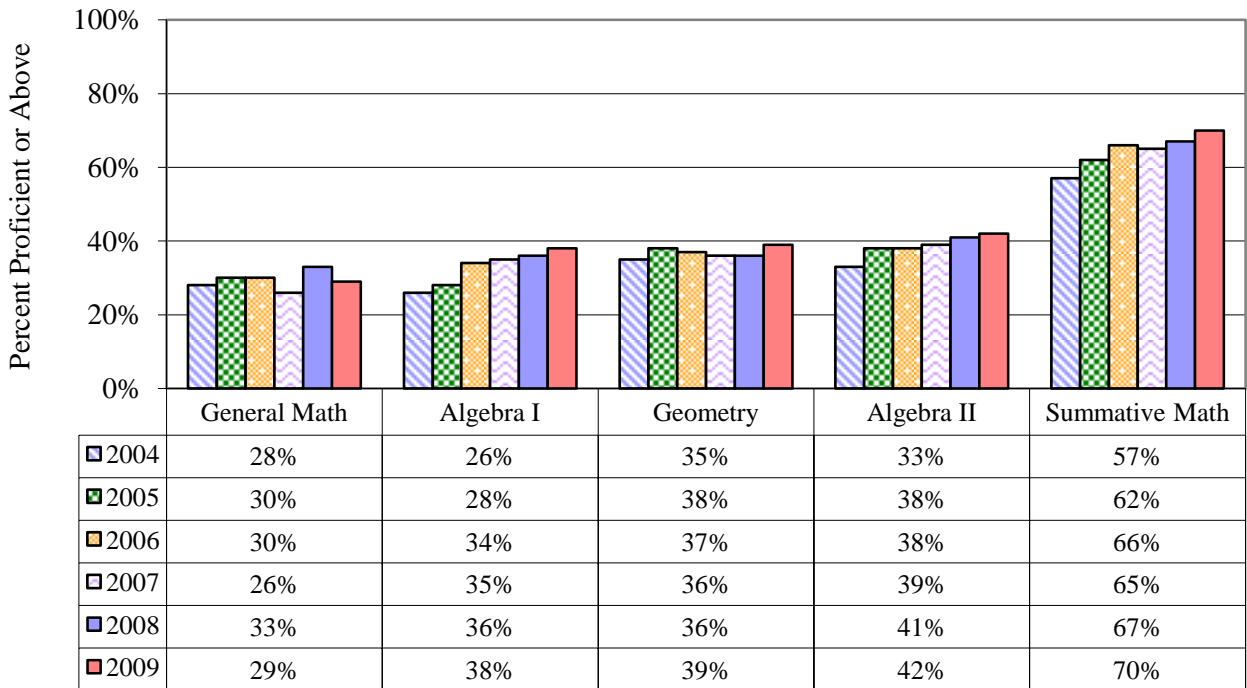


Figure 10

**Santa Clara County
2008 CST Mathematics
Students Percent Proficient or Above by Subgroup**

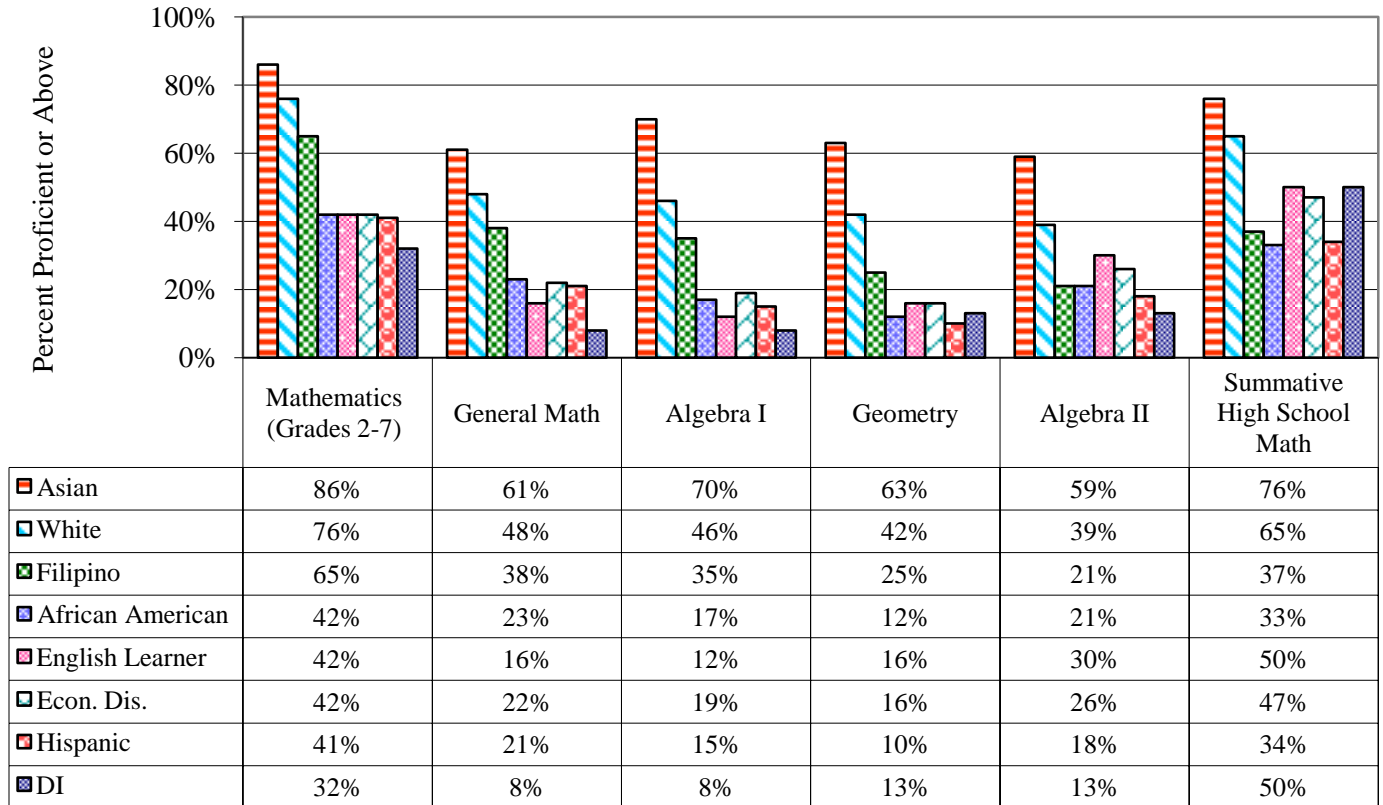


Figure 11

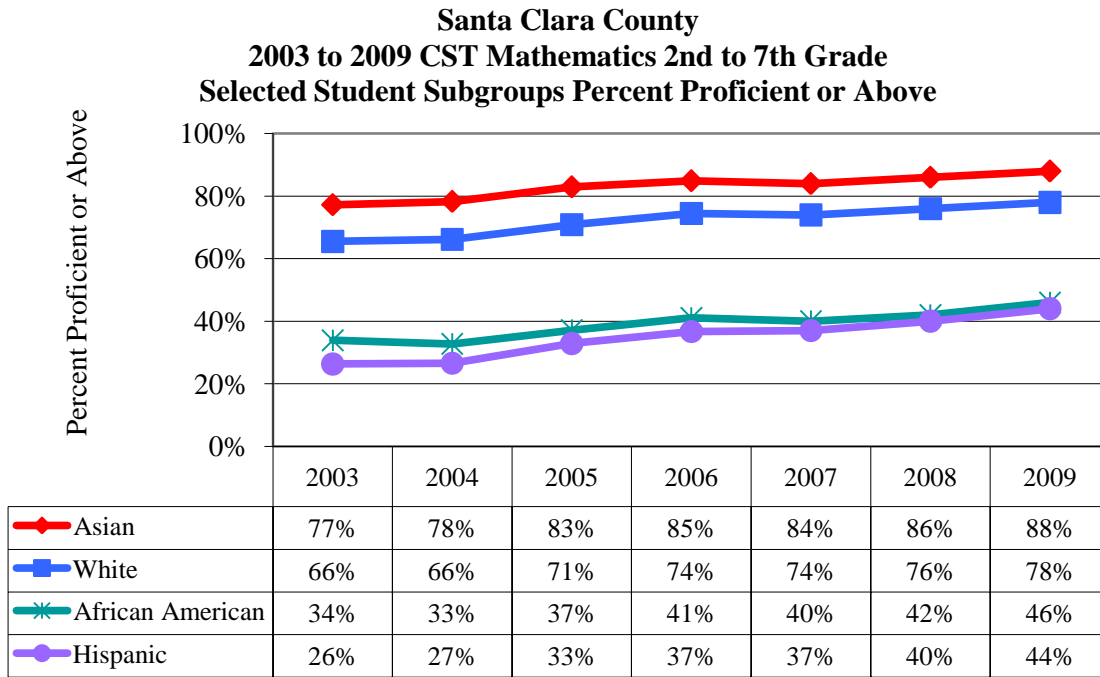
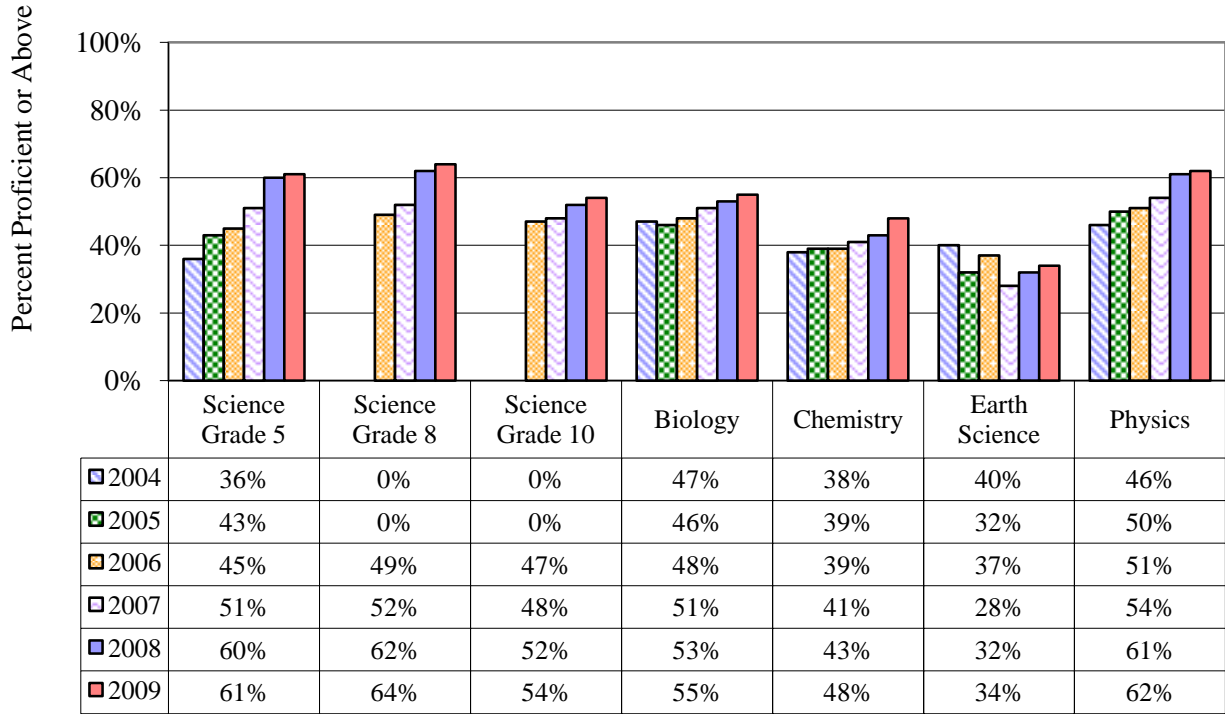


Figure 12

**Santa Clara County 2004 to 2009 CST Science
Grades 5, 8, 10 and High School End of Course Assessment
Students Percent Proficient or Above**



** No test administered

Figure 13

**Santa Clara County
2009 Grade 5, Grade 8, and Grade 10 Science (Life Science)
Students Percent Proficient or Above by Subgroup**

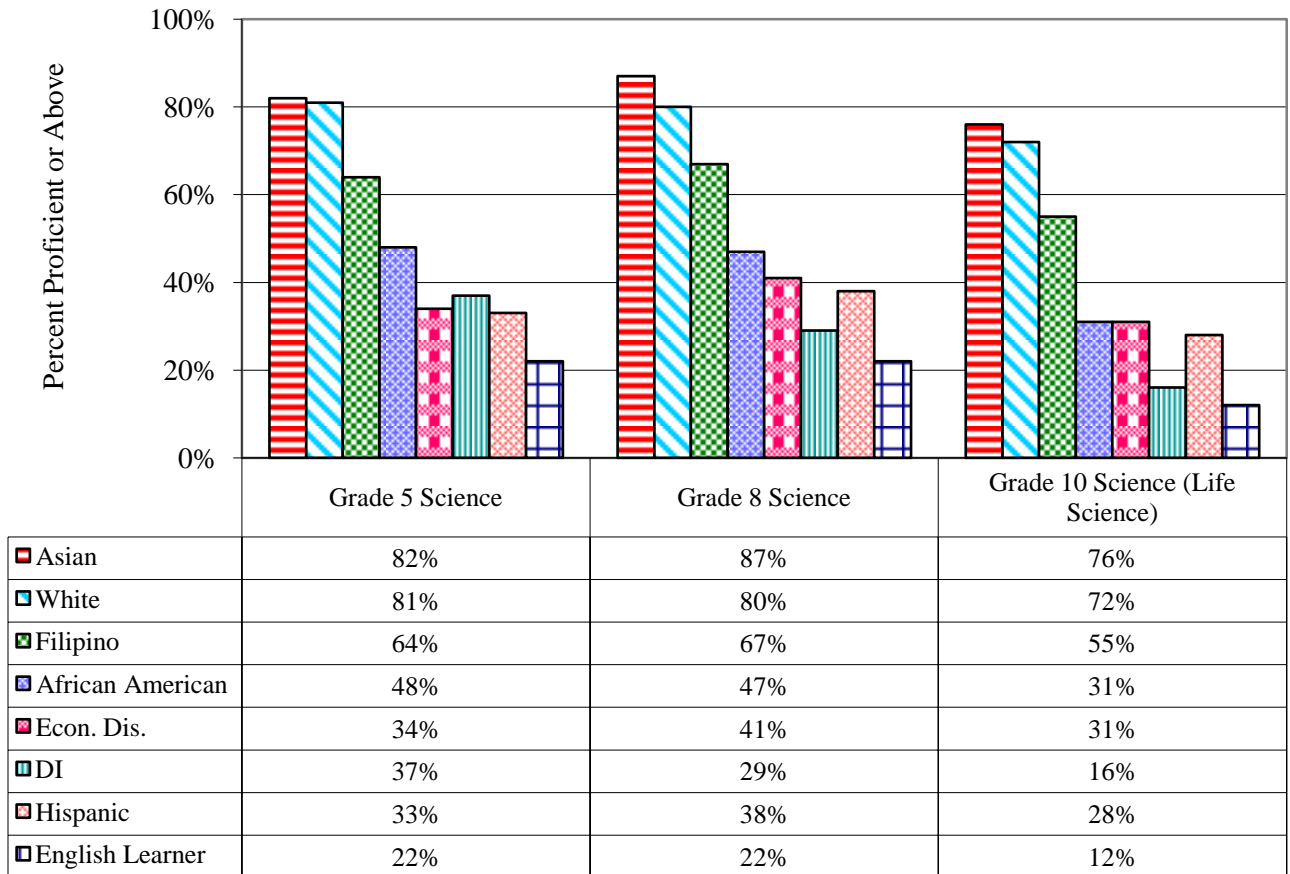


Figure 14

**Santa Clara County
2009 CST Science: High School Tests
Students Percent Proficient or Above by Subgroup**

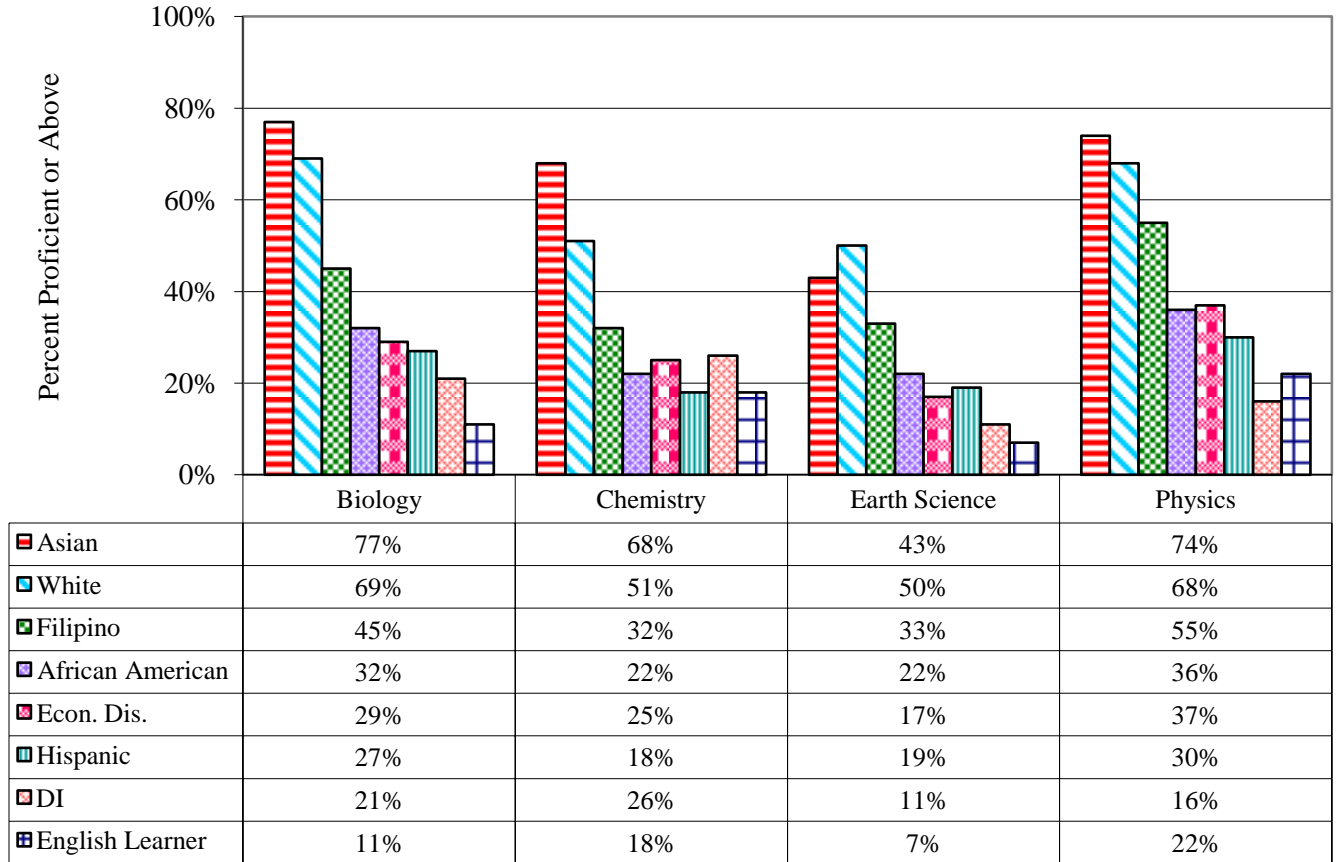


Figure 15

**Santa Clara County
2004 to 2009 CST Science 5th Grade
Selected Student Subgroups Percent Proficient or Above**

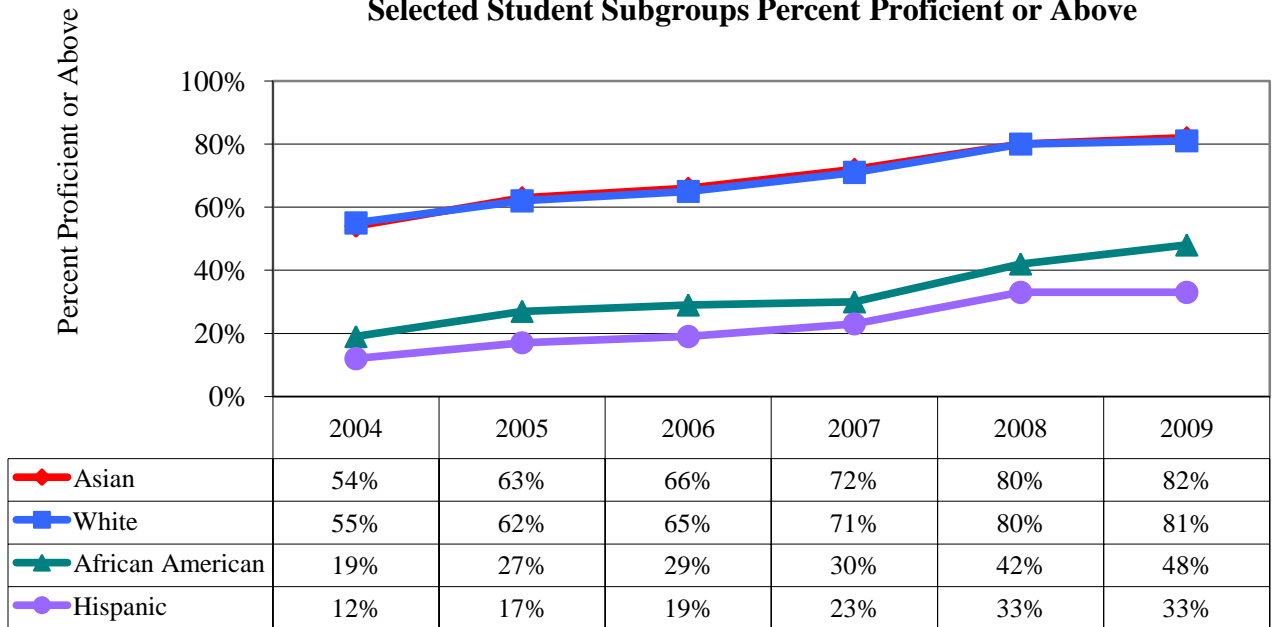


Figure 16

**Santa Clara County
2003 to 2009 CST History/Social Science 8th Grade through 11th Grade
Students Percent Proficient or Above**

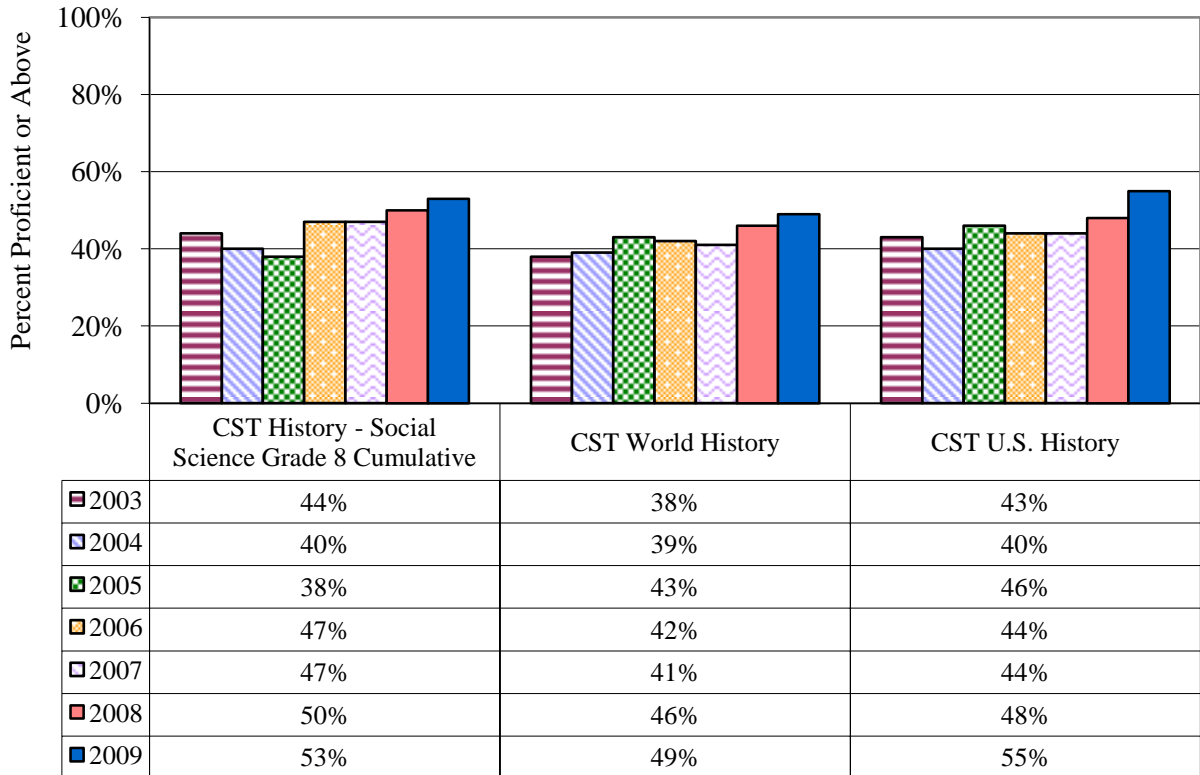


Figure 17

**Santa Clara County
2009 CST History/Social Science 8th Grade and High School History
Students Percent Proficient or Above by Subgroup**

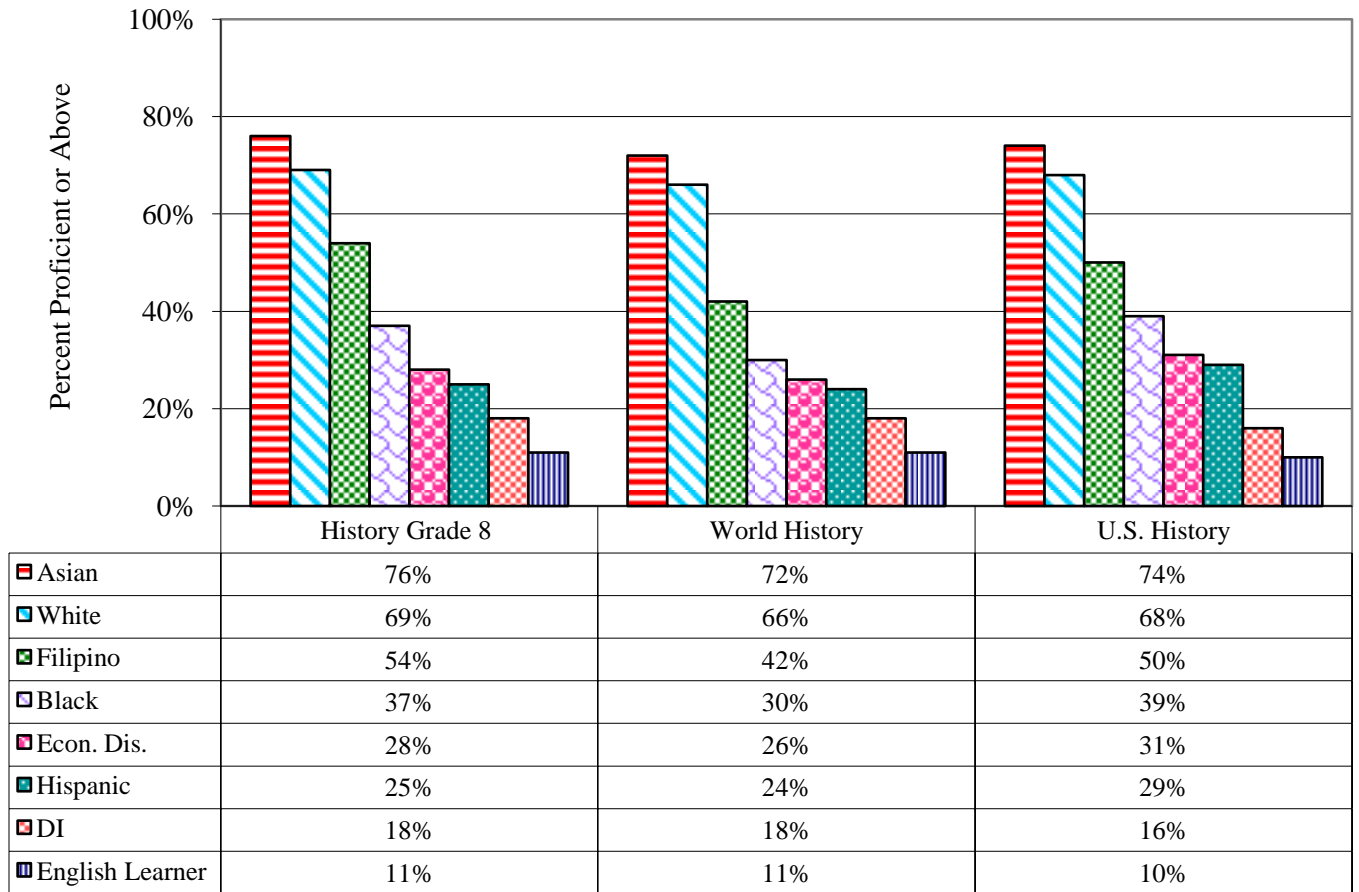
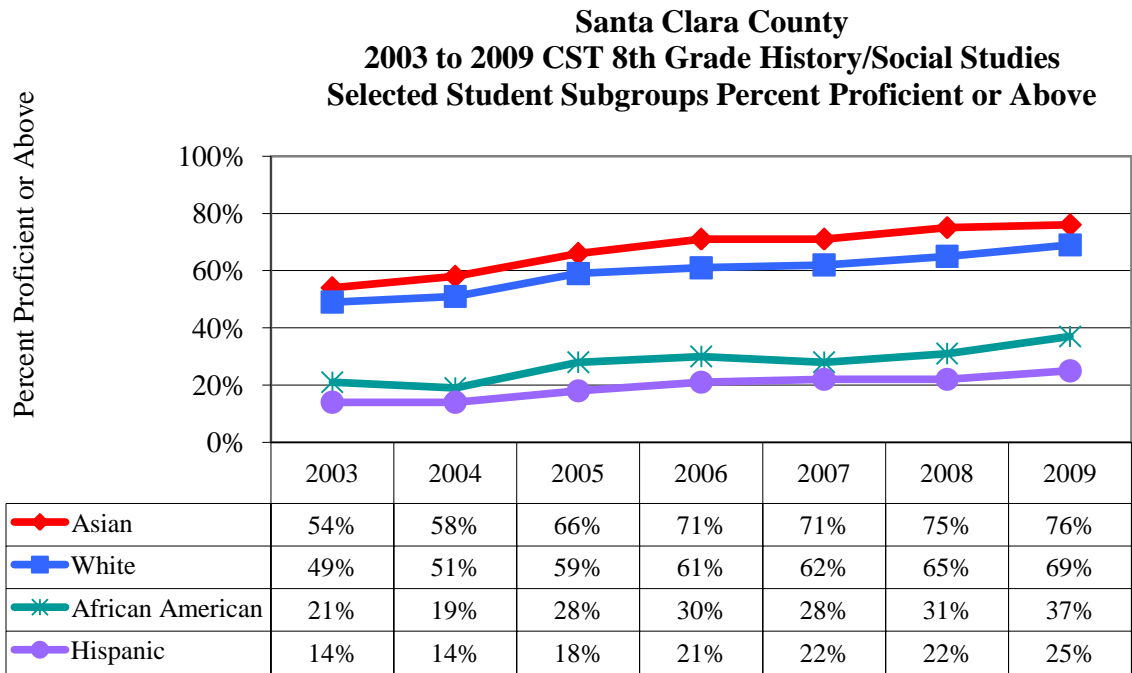
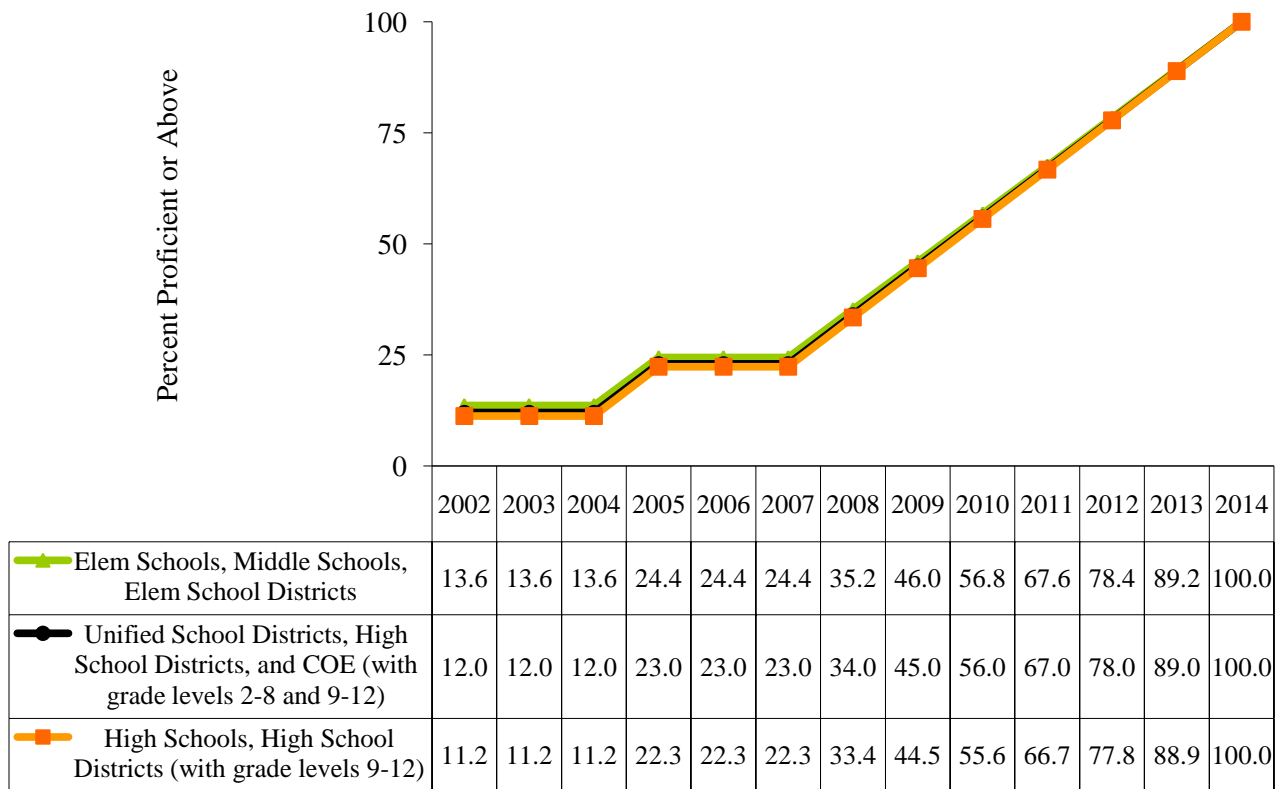


Figure 18

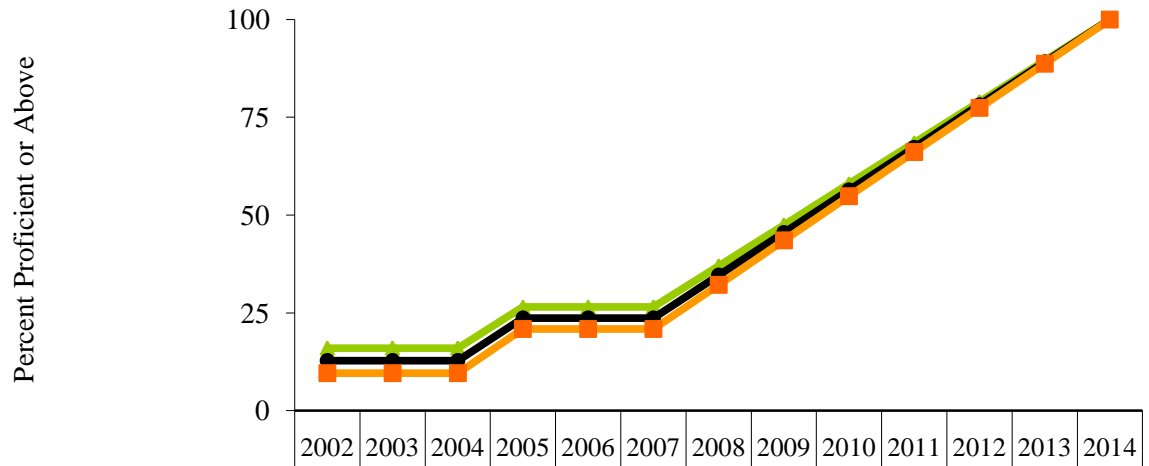


Appendix: AYP Targets

**AYP English/Language Arts Target Percent Proficient or Above
by School/District Level**



**AYP Mathematics Targets Percent Proficient or Above
by School/District Level**



Elem Schools, Middle Schools, and Elem School Districts	16.0	16.0	16.0	26.5	26.5	26.5	37.0	47.5	58.0	68.5	79.0	89.5	100.0
Unified School Districts, High School Districts, and COE (with grade levels 2-8 and 9-12)	12.8	12.8	12.8	23.7	23.7	23.7	34.6	45.5	56.4	67.3	78.2	89.1	100.0
High Schools, High School Districts (with grade levels 9-12)	9.6	9.6	9.6	20.9	20.9	20.9	32.2	43.5	54.8	66.1	77.4	88.7	100.0

Numbers of Students with scores on the 2008 CST by Subject and Course

	SCC	CA
CST English-Language Arts (Grades 2-11)	191,079	4,566,930
CST Mathematics (Grades 2-7)	113,294	2,648,572
CST General Mathematics (Grades 6 & 7 Standards)	7,108	257,805
CST Algebra I	29,167	755,791
CST Integrated Math 1	19	9,929
CST Geometry	17,436	398,592
CST Integrated Math 2	20	4,062
CST Algebra II	12,660	250,823
CST Integrated Math 3	5	1,372
CST Summative High School Mathematics (Grades 9-11)	7,973	123,611
CST History - Social Science Grade 8 Cumulative	19,129	475,162
CST World History	18,775	476,826
CST U.S. History	18,052	435,794
CST Science Grade 5	18,925	438,637
CST Science Grade 8	18,753	462,329
CST Science Grade 10 (Life Science)	18,223	465,918
CST Biology	21,354	533,872
CST Chemistry	12,515	247,071
CST Earth Science	2,925	225,521
CST Physics	4,851	67,760
CST Integrated/Coordinated Science 1	5,434	69,187
CST Integrated/Coordinated Science 2	18	4,635
CST Integrated/Coordinated Science 3	0	1,741
CST Integrated/Coordinated Science 4	0	623