

News You Can Use

New York City Students Thrive with *Everyday Mathematics*[®]

Achievement Gap Between City and State Average Narrows

Students in the nation's largest district are achieving more success in math using *Everyday Mathematics*. New York City Public School District has more than 1.1 million students taught in more than 1,400 separate schools in all five boroughs of New York City. In 2002, the city school system was reorganized and control of the school system was given to Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who began reorganization and reform efforts.

Part of that reform effort has included the use of *Everyday Mathematics* since 2003, and results are positive.

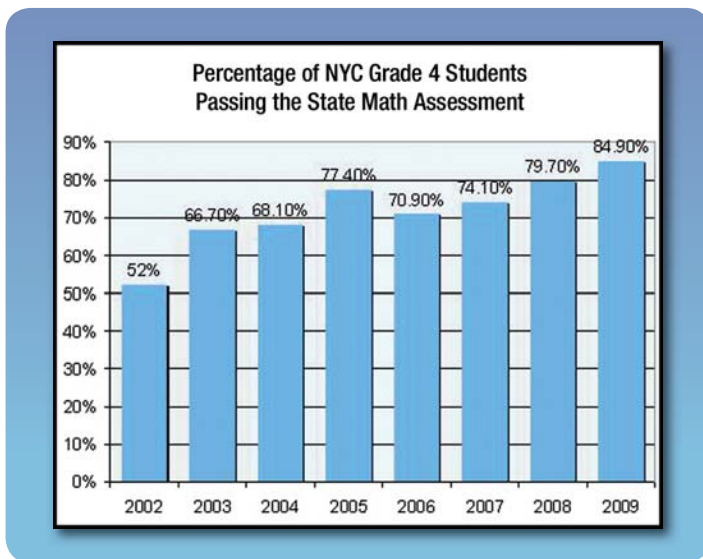
This past school year, elementary students in New York City continued to make gains on the state math assessment. Each year, they close the achievement gap with peers throughout the state.

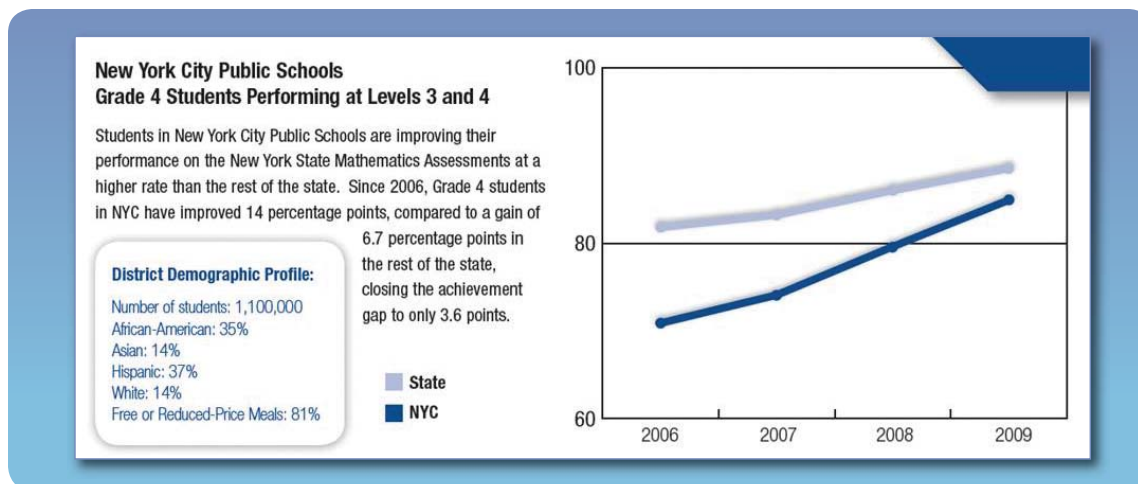
At the end of the 2008-2009 school year, 81.8 percent of New York City students in Grades 3 to 8 met or exceeded grade-level math standards, compared to 88.9 percent of students in the rest of the state. The gap has narrowed by:

- 2.3 percentage points in Grade 3
- 3.6 points in Grade 4
- 4.0 points in Grade 5

Across Grades 3 to 8, just 7.1 percentage points separate city students from their peers statewide. That gap narrowed by nearly one-third since last year and has been cut almost in half in the last three years.

Grade 4 results illustrate the improvement over time. In 2002, before *Everyday Mathematics* was implemented, just 52 percent of Grade 4 students passed the state math assessment. After starting *Everyday Mathematics*, that percentage rose by more than 14 percentage points in just one year, to 66.7 percent passing math. In 2009, it reached an all time high with 84.9 percent of Grade 4 students passing the state math assessment.





“*Everyday Mathematics*[®] prepares our students for both state exams and real life. It equips them for success.”

In an official statement, Mayor Bloomberg said, “Our students have made great progress in math, building on the gains of recent years. We’ve put our children first and focused on results—and all New Yorkers should be very proud of what our schools are achieving.”

Chancellor Joel Klein, who oversees the district, stated, “Working together, we are making a real difference in outcomes for New York City’s public school children. We’ve set high standards, created strong academic interventions for struggling students, held schools responsible for results, and given educators the tools they need to assess how well they’re doing and how well students are progressing.”

Response across the nation has also been strong. United Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten said, “[These scores] speak to money well spent ... in addition to qualified teachers, schools have used a consistent math curriculum,

and the resources to offer students things like extra tutoring and academic intervention services.”

Spotlight on Public School 135, The Bellaire School

One school that has thrived with *Everyday Mathematics* is the Bellaire School (Public School 135) in Queens. In 2007, Principal George Hadjoglou published a letter to the editor in the *New York Daily News*. He writes, “[*Everyday Mathematics*] is getting results. The latest test scores from the National Assessment of Education Progress were irrefutable on this point. As a *Daily News* editorial pointed out nearly 80 percent of the fourth grade students tested at or above basic proficiency, a major gain since 2003.”

Bellaire’s math scores mirror the district’s improvements. For the second year in a row, 95 percent of Grade 3 students passed math, while 92 percent in both Grades 4 and 5 passed. All three grade levels exceeded the state average, making Bellaire School a high achieving elementary.

Principal Hadjoglou concludes, “*Everyday Mathematics* prepares our students for both state exams and real life. It equips them for success.”

For more information...

For more information on New York City results on the New York State Mathematics Test (Grades 3–8), visit: schools.nyc.gov/Accountability/YearlyTesting/TestResults/MathTestResults/default.htm

