SACRAMENTO LITERACY FOUNDATION
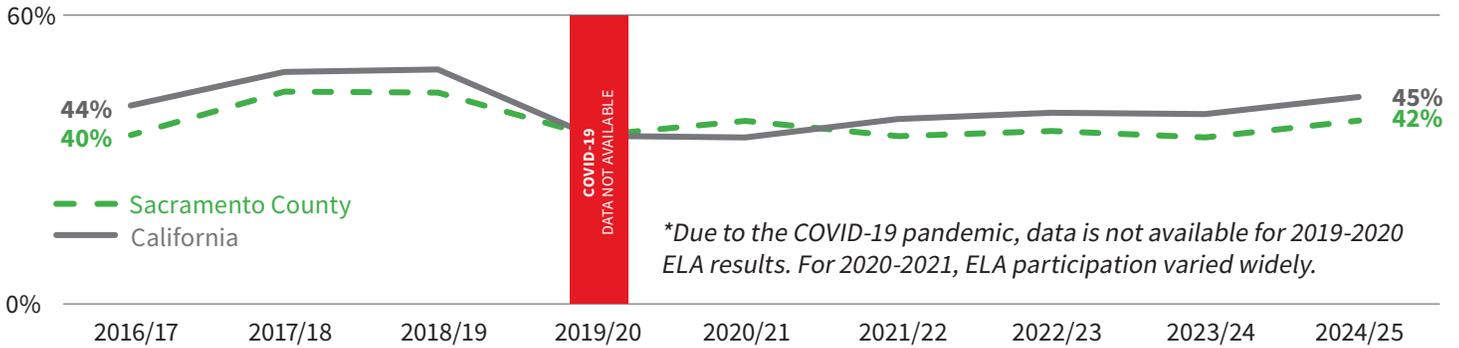
Sacramento County | 2024-2025 School Year
LITERACY REPORT CARD
LITERACY INDICATORS | TRENDS

These graphs compare trends for California and Sacramento County on key literacy indicators. Trend years are based on the most current data available. *See Page 2 for additional definitions and sources.*
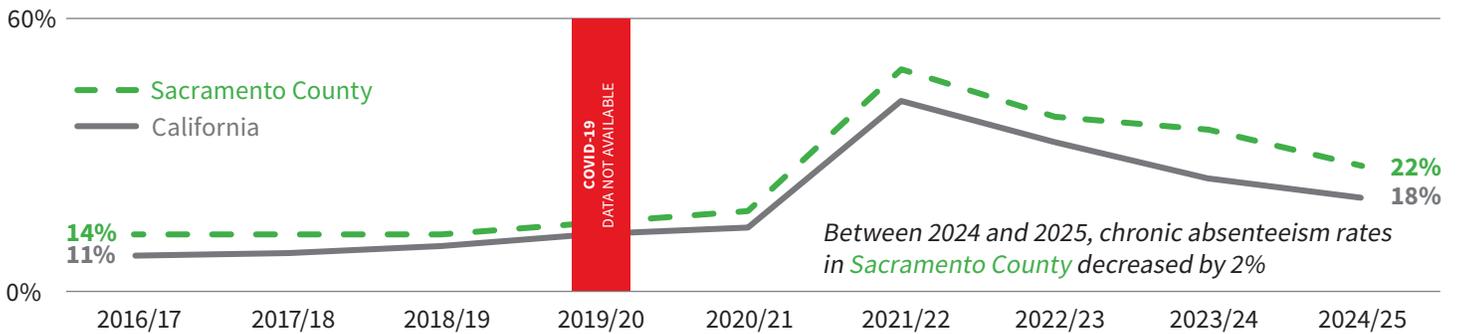
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) Percent of students who met/exceeded CAASPP ELA standards.

ELA PROFICIENCY | 3RD GRADERS

- - - Sacramento County
——— California

COVID-19 DATA NOT AVAILABLE

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, data is not available for 2019-2020 ELA results. For 2020-2021, ELA participation varied widely.

44% / 40% (2016/17) ... 45% / 42% (2024/25)

CHRONIC ABSENCES Percent of students reported chronically absent per enrollment.

CHRONICALLY ABSENT STUDENTS

- - - Sacramento County
——— California

COVID-19 DATA NOT AVAILABLE

Between 2024 and 2025, chronic absenteeism rates in Sacramento County decreased by 2%

14% / 11% (2016/17) ... 22% / 18% (2024/25)

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION Percent of children ages 3-4 enrolled in preschool.

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT

- - - Sacramento County
——— California

COVID-19 DATA NOT AVAILABLE

49% / 49% (2016/17) ... 50% / 46% (2024/25)
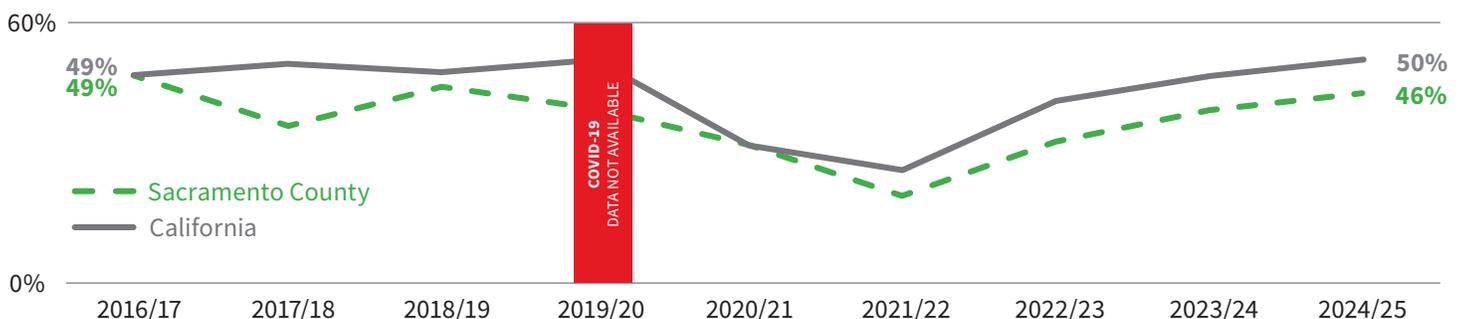
LITERACY INSIGHTS

This is the seventh annual report card detailing Sacramento County Literacy rates. The California Literacy Map details 3rd grade reading rates measured by the California Department of Education. We are focused on the 3rd grade because children "LEARN TO READ" through the 3rd grade. In the 4th grade children are expected to "READ TO LEARN". A 3rd grade student who is not proficient in reading will become a 4th grade student who struggles in all subjects.

WHAT THE RESULTS SHOW:

- The 2024-2025 report shows that more kids cannot read at grade-level than can in Sacramento County and California.
- The 2024-2025 report shows a 1.5% increase in 3rd grade reading proficiency.
- The 2024-2025 report shows a 2% decrease in chronic absenteeism. Chronic Abscenteeism has has been a top priority for all districts.
- The 2024-2025 report shows preschool enrollment is up 2%. Preschool helps kids become kindergarten ready.
- In 2023-2024 only 217 kids received 1:1 tutoring and 142 kids received small group tutoring at their school sites from contracted literacy programs. We did not measure 2024-2025 but anecdotally, we do not see an increase in programming.

LITERACY PHILANTHROPY IN SACRAMENTO

Right now, there are very few early literacy providers in Sacramento and congruently there is very little philanthropy dedicated to early literacy. We reviewed the Big Day of Giving results from 2024 and 2025 by comparing mission categories and we continue to see a philanthropic gap between the reading crisis and the support provided to remedy the crisis. Last year, 2025, the Education category had 13% of the participating nonprofit organizations (or 109) and received 8% of all funds raised on the Big Day. Of those 109 education nonprofits, eleven nonprofit organizations (1.3%) are addressing early childhood literacy, and they received 1.8% of all funds raised on the Big Day. Data from 2024 was nearly the same. This philanthropic gap in literacy funding will have to change. In the next few years, we need to increase investments in one-on-one and small group literacy tutoring interventions.

Equally as problematic is having very few literacy tutoring programs established in our school districts. We need more programs that give struggling students the extra tutoring help they need to succeed as readers. Over the next several years, as we grow our programming endowment, and as schools adopt evidence- based teaching instruction due to new legislation, we will look to support evidence-based tutoring programs.

DEFINITIONS OF LITERACY INDICATORS & SOURCES

Early Childhood Education: The percent of children ages three to four who are enrolled in school (i.e., nursery school, preschool). *Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, Table S1401: School Enrollment https://data.census.gov/cedsci/*

Chronic Absence: Chronic absenteeism rate. Students are determined to be chronically absent if they were enrolled for a total of 30 days or more at the selected reporting level during the academic year and they were absent for 10% or more of the days they were expected to attend. CDE began tracking this data in 2016/17. *Source: California Department of Education, DataQuest https://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/*

Note: Chronic Absenteeism replaced Truancy as a measure of school attendance in 2016. Truancy is no longer reported in DataQuest.

English Language Arts (ELA) Proficiency | 3rd Grade/All Grades: California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) outcomes are reported in terms of four levels of achievement: Level 1 (standard not met), Level 2 (standard nearly met), Level 3 (standard met), and Level 4 (standard exceeded). These correspond to a set of achievement level descriptors that are aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and the Smarter Balanced assessment. Based on their CAASPP scaled scores, students fall into one of the four categories of performance. Students performing at Level 3 (standard met) and Level 4 (standard exceeded) are considered on track to demonstrating the knowledge and skills necessary for college and career readiness. *Source: California Department of Education, CAASPP https://caaspp.cde.ca.gov/*

Total Youth Ages 0-17 in County: The total number of children and youth in Sacramento County aged 0-17 years old. *Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, Table B09001: Population Under 18 Years by Age https://data.census.gov*