

Maryland School Assessments Update

Maryland State Board
of Education

August 26, 2008

MSA Changes Minimal

- 15 to 28 minutes out of three hours testing eliminated from reading
 - 28 minutes grades 3 and 4
 - 15 to 16 minutes grades 5 through 8
- Cohort improvements in 2007 continue into 2008
- Greatest improvements were where significant instructional work was done...
 - Special Education
 - English Language Learners
 - Baltimore City and Prince George's County

2008 MSA Mirrored 2007

SAME.....

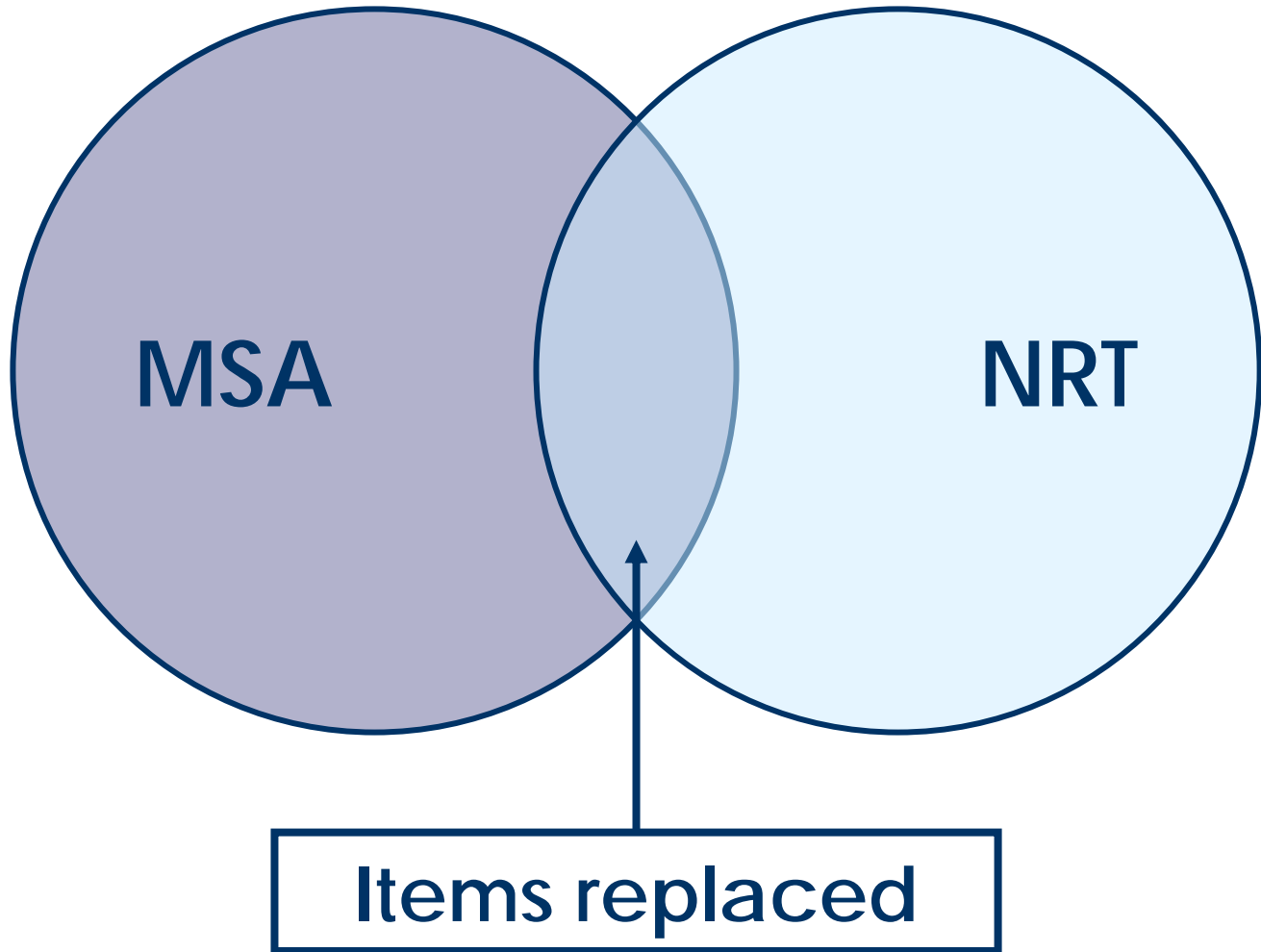
- **Tested content identical to past**
- **Number of questions exactly the same**
- **Kinds of questions exactly the same**
- **Rigor of questions and test exactly the same**

2008 MSA Mirrored 2007

NEW...

- Replaced small number of NRT items with identical questions
- Eliminated irrelevant NRT test questions
- Small reduction in testing time

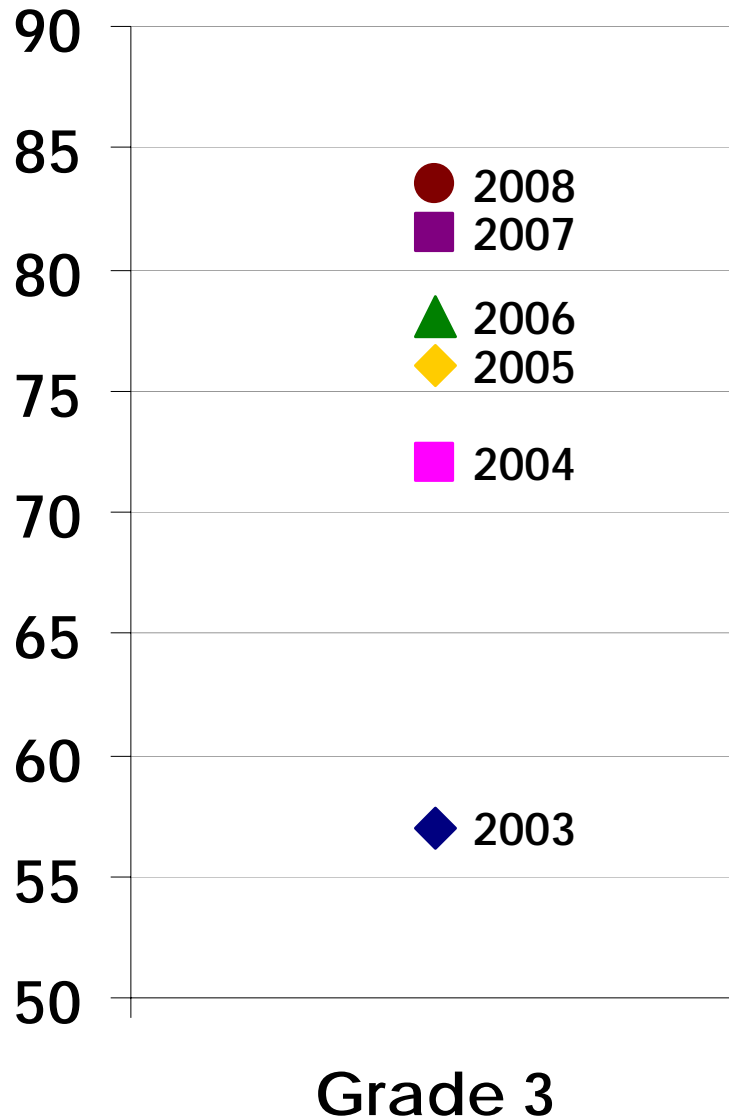
MSA Background



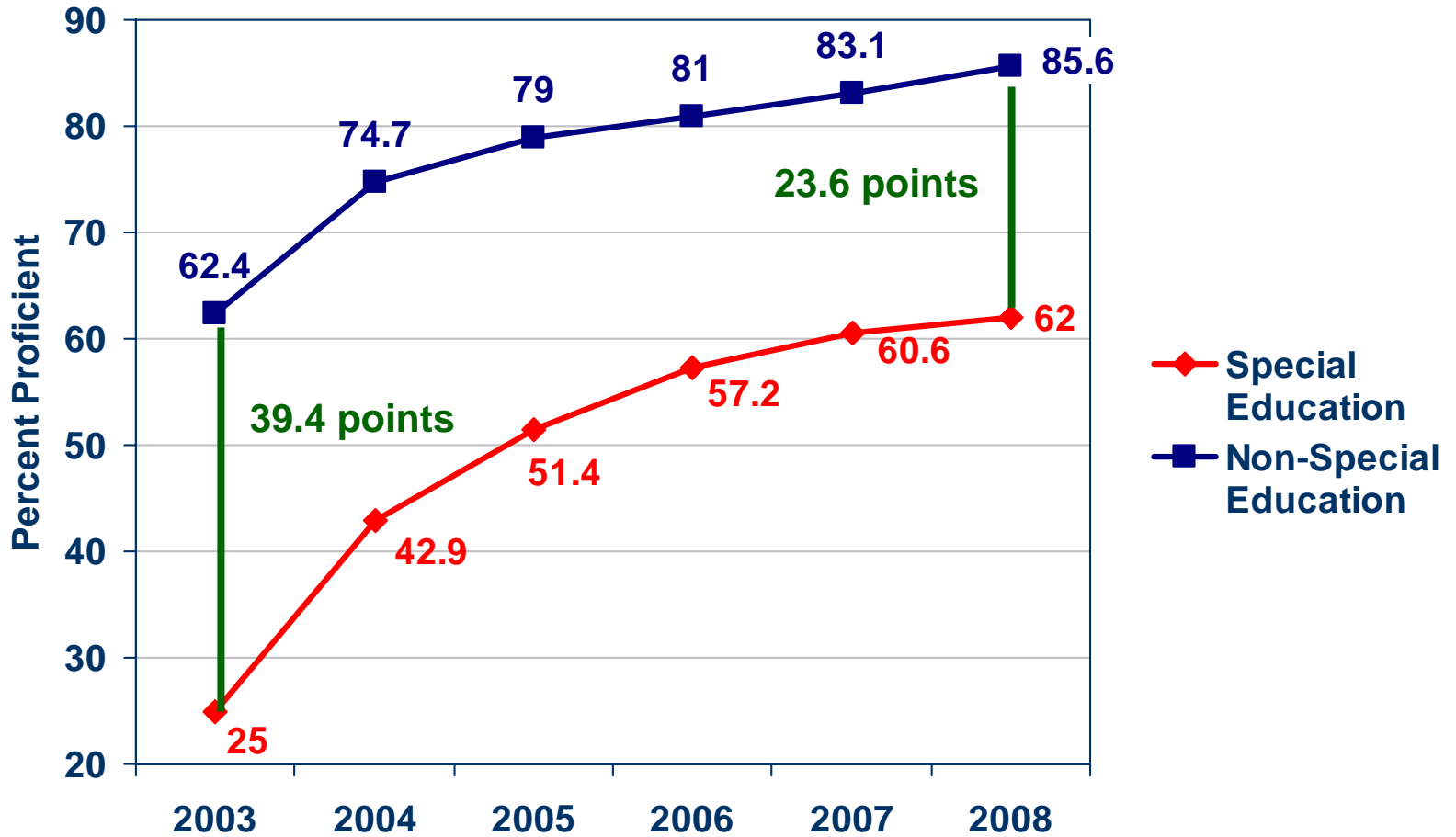
Improvements were predictable

- Each year, the cohort begins higher than the one before it.
- Both special education and non-special education students improved similarly.
- Reading and math improvement patterns were similar.
- 2008 improvements reflect the kinds of gains seen in past years.

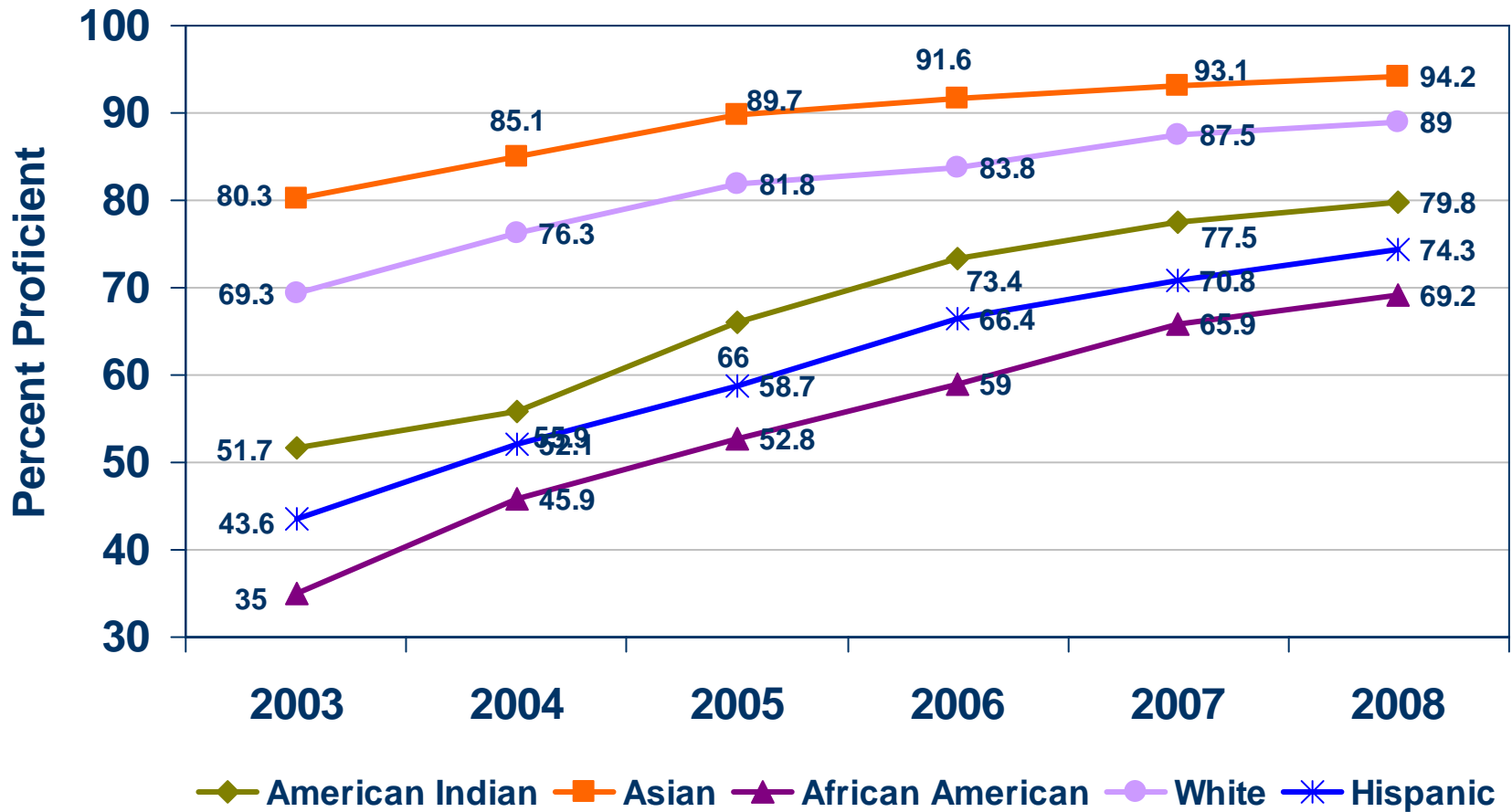
Elementary Reading Gains



Grade 3 Reading: Special Education



Grade 5 Math: All Races

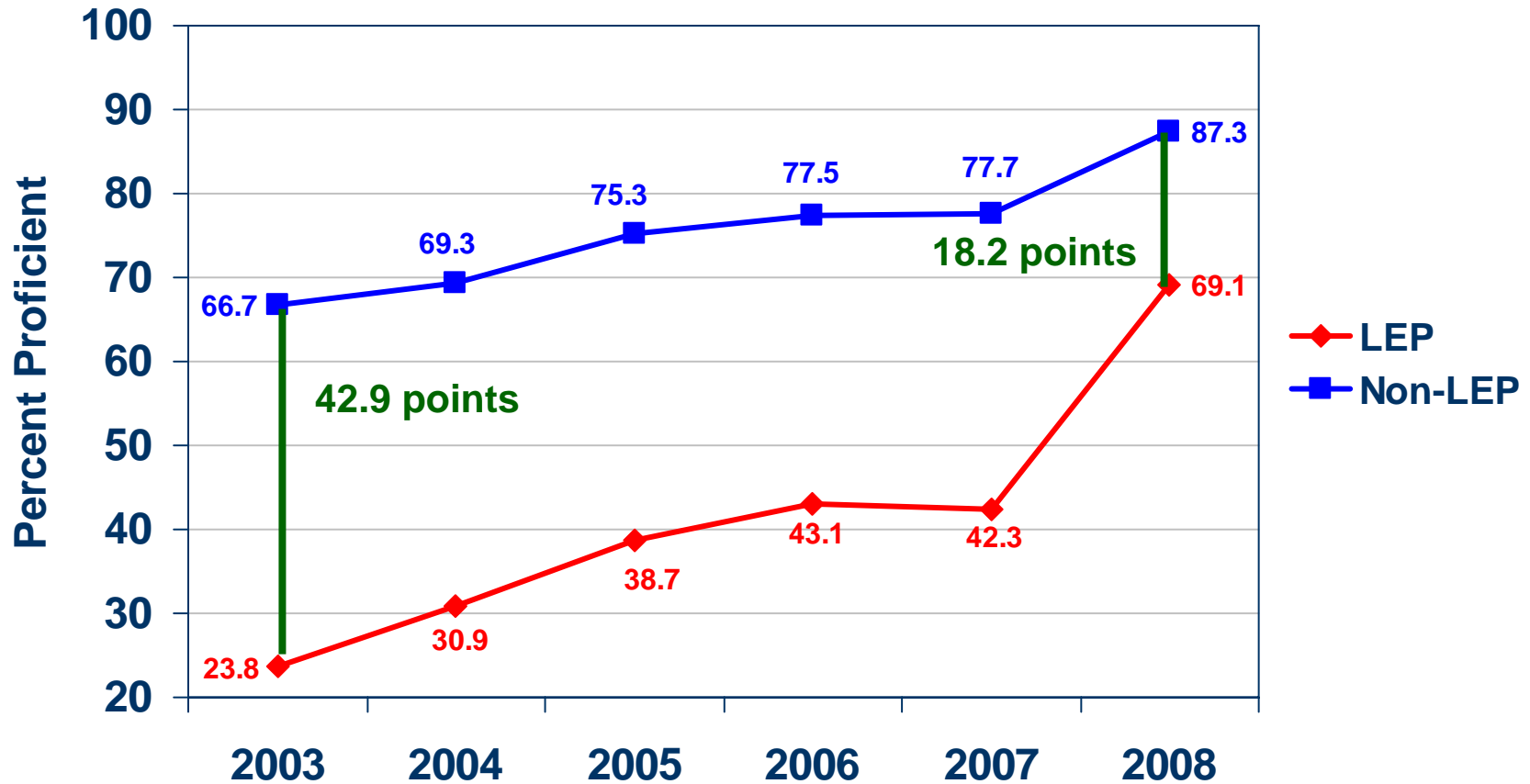


Maryland State Assessments (MSA) Update

Questions &
Discussion

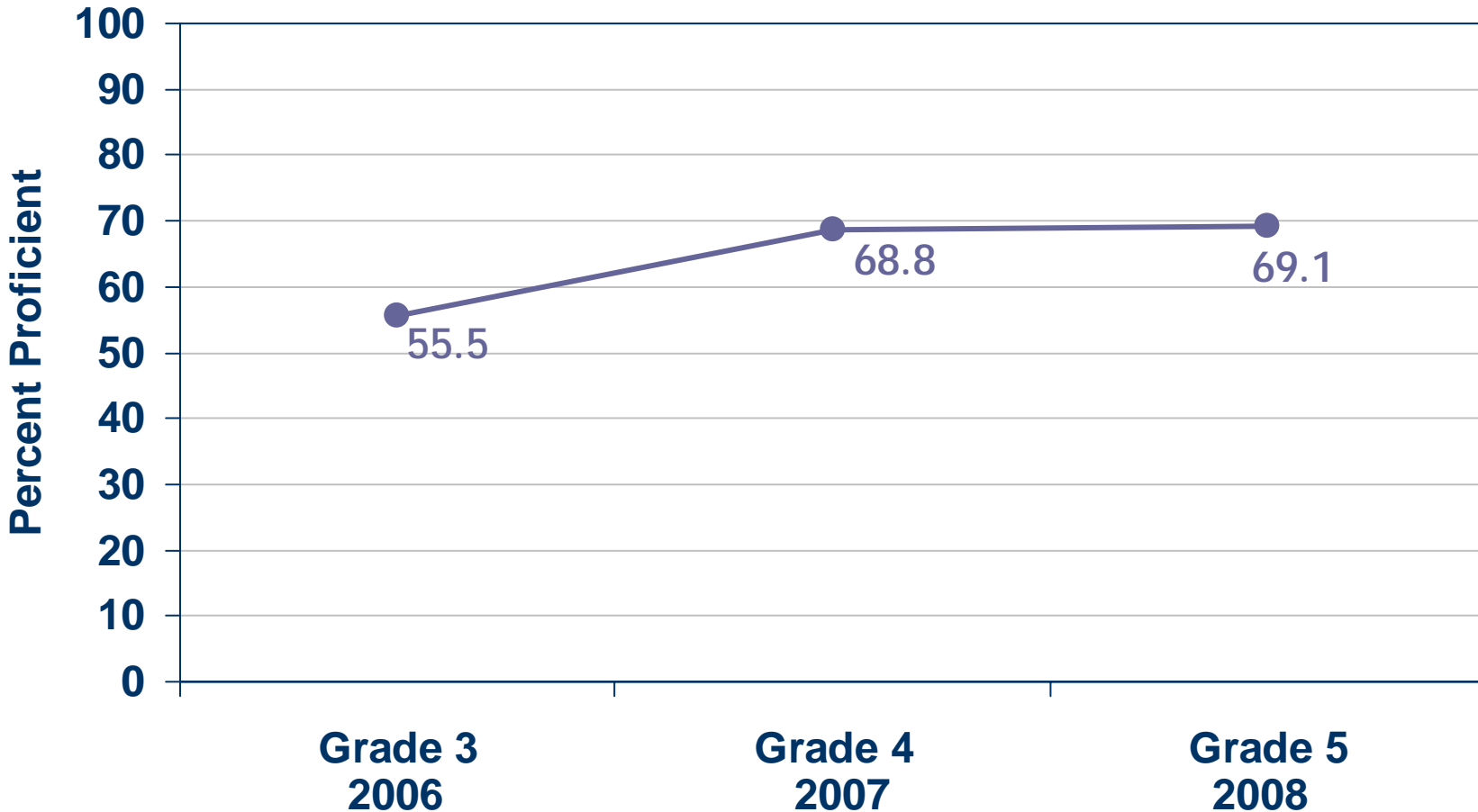
The Achievement Gap

Grade 5 Reading: LEP



LEP Grade 5 Reading:

2007 performance as 4th graders
presage 2008 success



Reading Test Time Changes vs. Differences Grades 3 and 4

	2007		2008	
	Testing Time	% Proficient	Testing Time	% Proficient
Grade 3	178	80.5	150 (-28 min.)	83 (+2.5%)
Grade 4	178	86	149 (-29 min.)	88.5 (+2.5%)

Reading Test Time Changes vs. Cohort Test Score Change: Grades 6, 7 & 8

	Testing Time Changes			Cohort Improvement Over 2007				
	2007	2008	Time (min.)	2007		2008		Dif.
				Gr.	Score	Gr.	Score	
Grade 6	173	157	-16	5	76.7	6	81.8	+5.1
Grade 7	173	158	-15	6	76.6	7	81.2	+4.6
Grade 8	173	158	-15	7	70.2	8	72.8	+2.6