



K-12 Learning Loss and Federal COVID Relief Funds

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Research Overview

- What is learning loss, how is it measured, and what is its extent?
- What practices and programs are in place or will be in place to combat learning loss?
- How have the federal COVID relief funds been implemented to address learning loss?

Learning Loss





What Is Learning Loss?

- Azevedo *et al* (2021)
 - “Learning that will not take place while schools are closed” AND “the already acquired learning that will be lost or forgotten when students lose their engagement with the educational system.”
- NC State Plan for ARP ESSER (ESSER III) Fund (June 24, 2021)
 - “academic impact of lost instructional time”



What Does Learning Loss Look Like?

- Hippel (2019)
 - Early Childhood Longitudinal Study: students lose 2 weeks of reading and math in their first summer and lose 2 weeks of reading in second summer but gain in math.
 - Measures of Academic Progress (MAP): students lose one month of reading and math in their first summer and lose 3 months of reading and math in second summer.
- Brookings Institute (2017)
 - Scores declined over summer by one month's worth of school-year learning.
 - Declines were sharper for math than for reading.



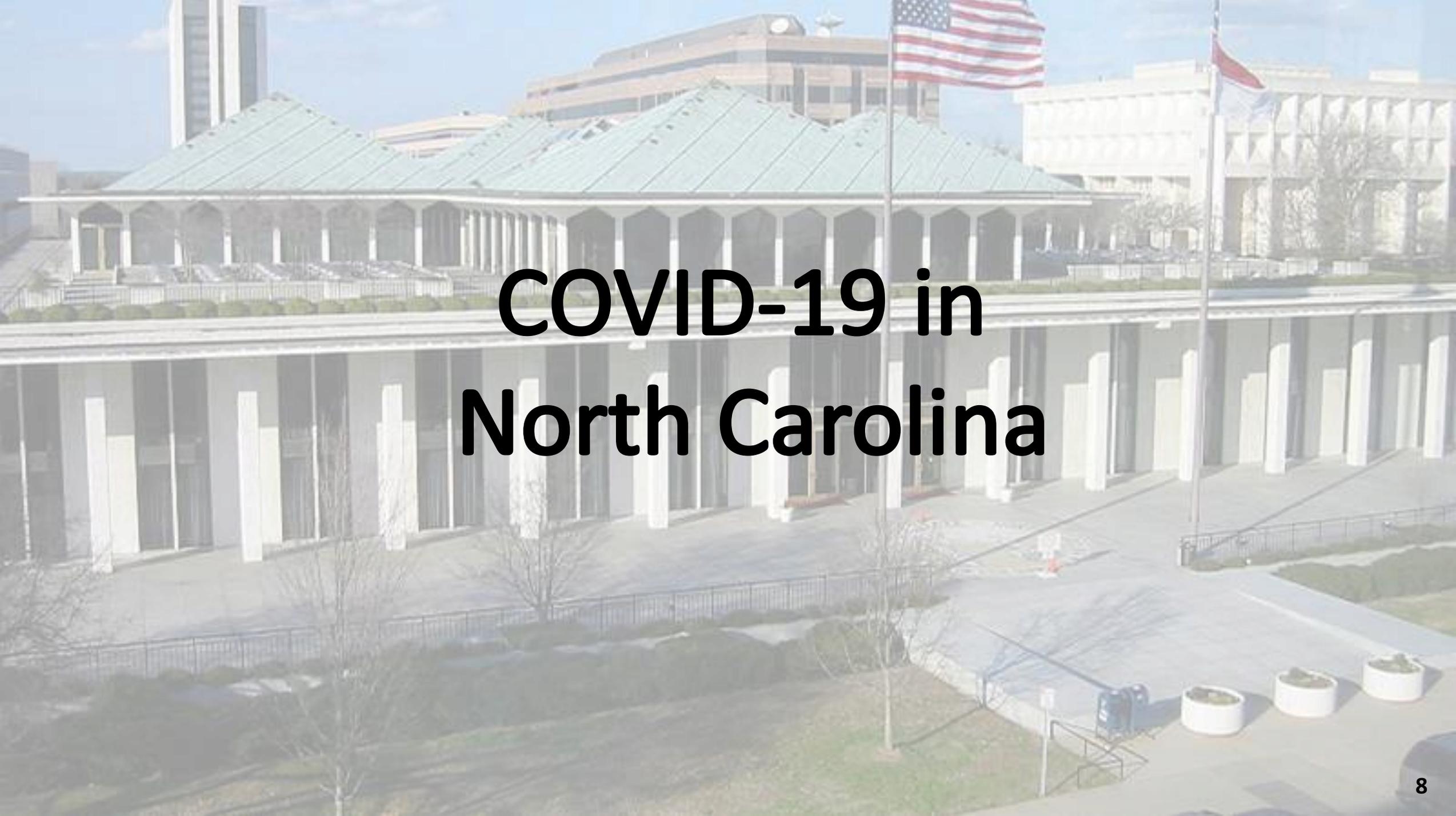
How Is Learning Measured?

- Student-Level Accountability
 - End of Grade (EOG) and End of Course (EOC) tests
 - ACT test
 - Gr 3 Beginning of Grade (BOG) assessment
 - English Language Proficiency Test
 - NC Check-in



Historical Ways to Address Traditional Learning Loss

- Summer Learning Programs
- Small Group Tutoring
- After-School Programs



COVID-19 in North Carolina



Funding Timeline

March 2020

ESSER I
\$396 Million
CARES Act

December 2020

ESSER II
\$1.6 Billion
CRRSA

March 2021

ESSER III
\$3.6 Billion
ARP Act

May 2020
\$396 Million
S.L. 2020-4
(HB 1043)

February 2021
\$1.4 Billion
S.L. 2021-1
(SB 36)

March 2021
\$160 Million
10% State Reserve
S.L. 2021-3
(HB 196)

May 2021
\$3.2 Billion
S.L. 2021-25
(HB 172)

November 2021
\$360 Million
10% State Reserve
S.L. 2021-180
(SB 105)

An aerial photograph of a large, modern university building with a prominent green roof. The building features a long, covered walkway with white columns. In the foreground, there is a courtyard with a paved area, some small trees, and a few white planters. An American flag is visible on a tall pole to the right. The overall scene is captured in a slightly dim, blue-tinted light, suggesting an overcast day or early morning/late afternoon.

2019-2020 Academic Year



What Happened?

- For the 2019-2020 school year, the US Dept. Of Ed. and S.L. 2020-3 waived standardized testing and the requirement to report state accountability and growth measures.
- CARES Act funding was released to facilitate the abrupt transition to online instruction.



Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund—ESSER I

- \$396 Million
 - \$357 Million (90%) → LEAs
 - Based on Title I allocation
 - \$40 Million (10%) → State Reserve
- Utilization of LEA Funds:
 - PPE and Sanitization Supplies
 - Technology
 - Bonus pay



Jump Start and Remediation Program Summer 2020

Summer 2020	Eligible for Jumpstart Reading	Eligible for Jumpstart Math	Attended Summer Jumpstart Reading	Attended Summer Jumpstart Math
Grade K-4	188,336	123,767	55,165	41,643

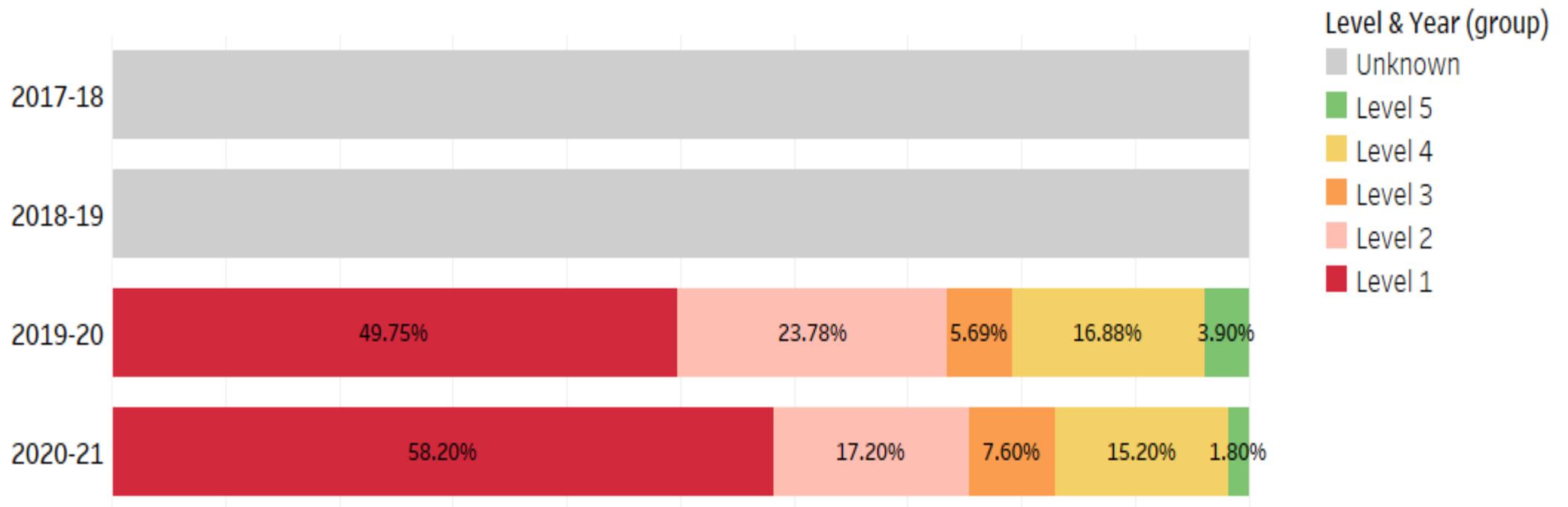
An aerial photograph of a large, modern university building with a prominent green roof. The building features a long, covered walkway with a series of white columns. In the foreground, there is a courtyard with a paved area, some small trees, and a few white planters. An American flag is visible on a tall pole to the right. The overall scene is captured in a slightly dim, blue-tinted light, suggesting an overcast day or early morning/late afternoon.

2020-2021 Academic Year



Establishing The Gaps

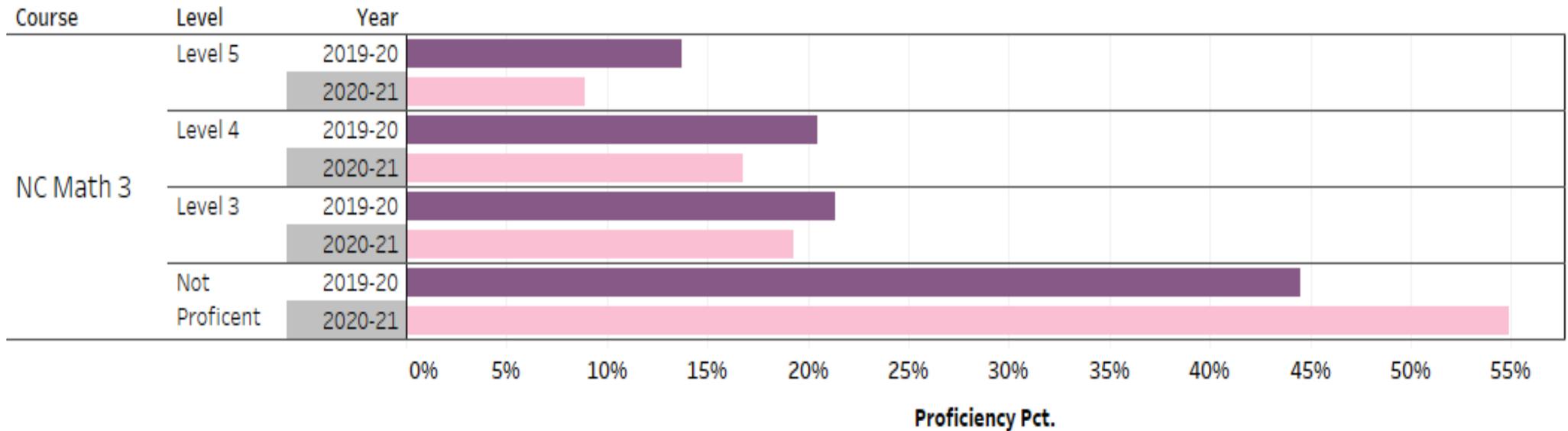
Beginning of Grade 3 Reading Proficiency Test





Establishing The Gaps

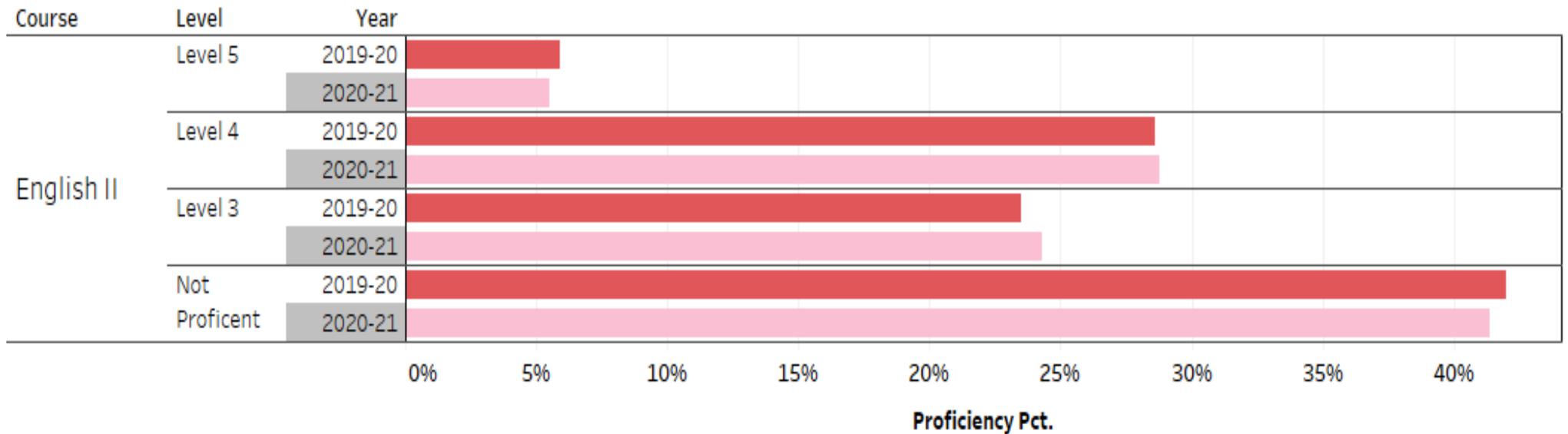
End-of-Course Tests





Establishing The Gaps

End-of-Course Tests





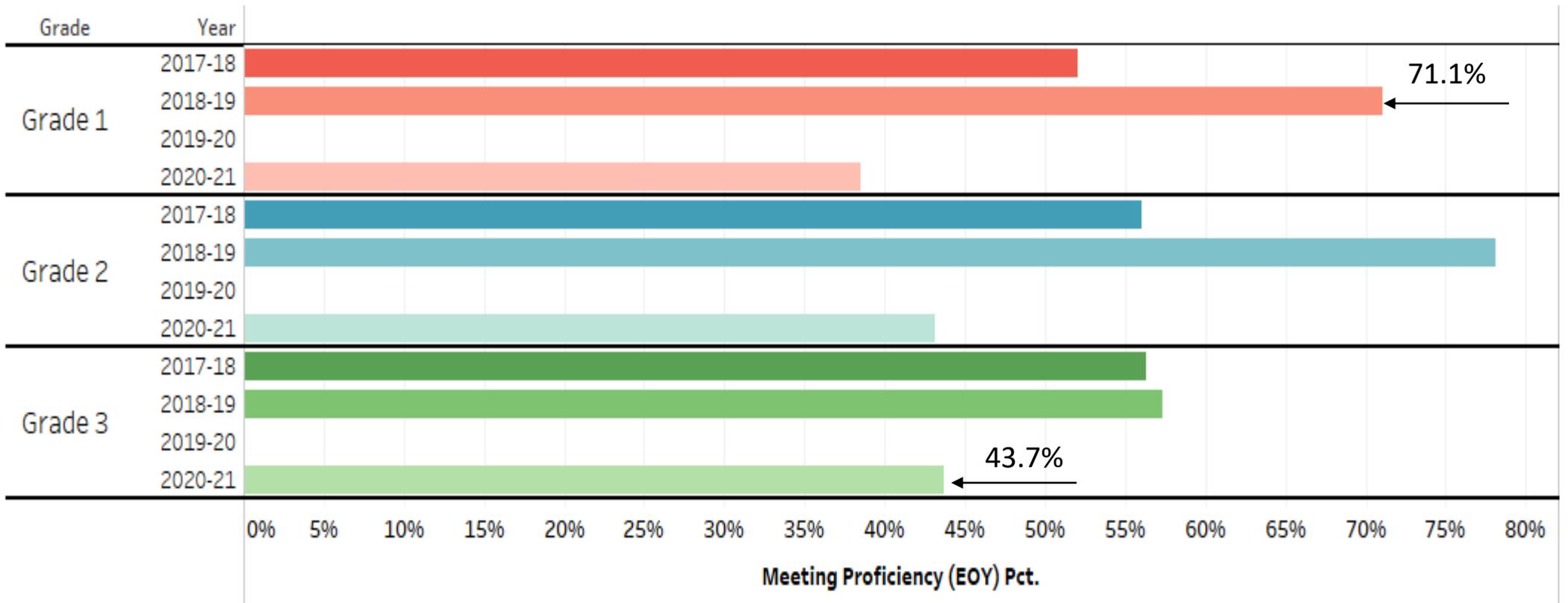
Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund—ESSER II

- \$1.6 Billion
 - \$1.4 Billion (90%) → LEAs
 - Based on Title I allocation
 - \$160 Million (10%) → State Reserve
- Learning Loss Allowed but Not Required
- Utilization of and Plan for LEA Funds:
 - Bonus pay
 - PPE and Sanitization Supplies



Understanding The Gaps

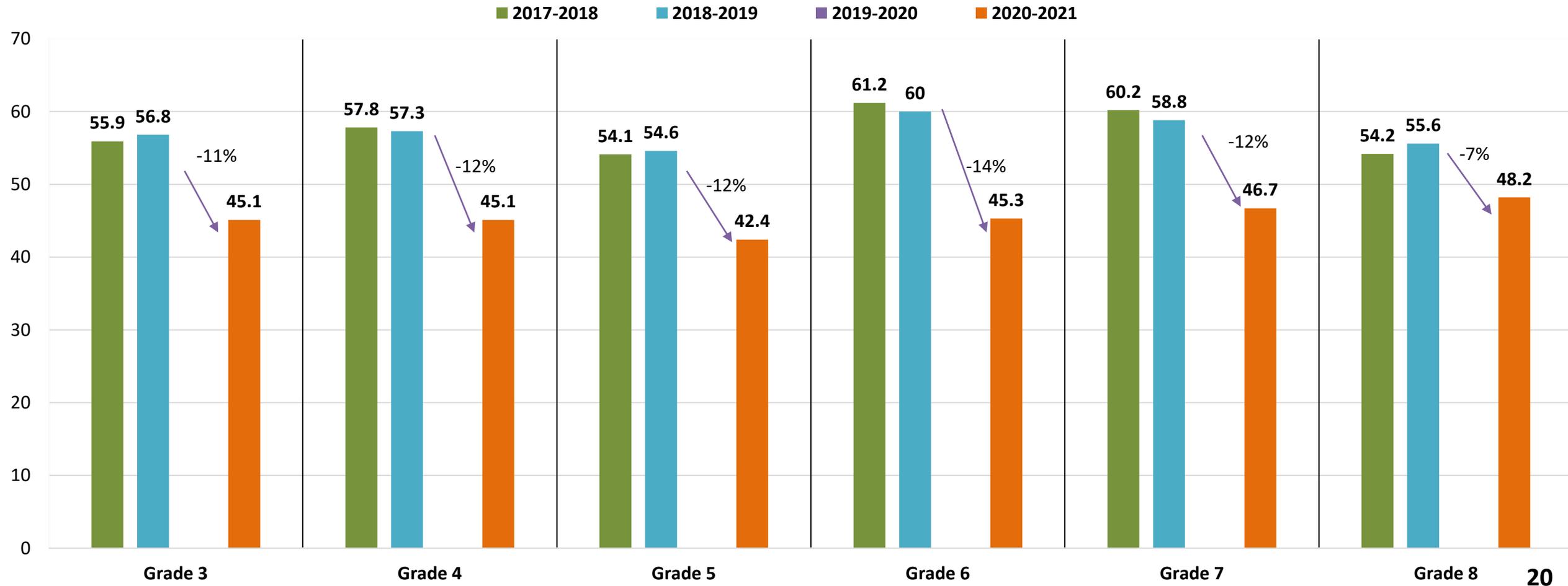
Meeting Proficiency (EOY)





Understanding The Gaps

Reading Proficiency

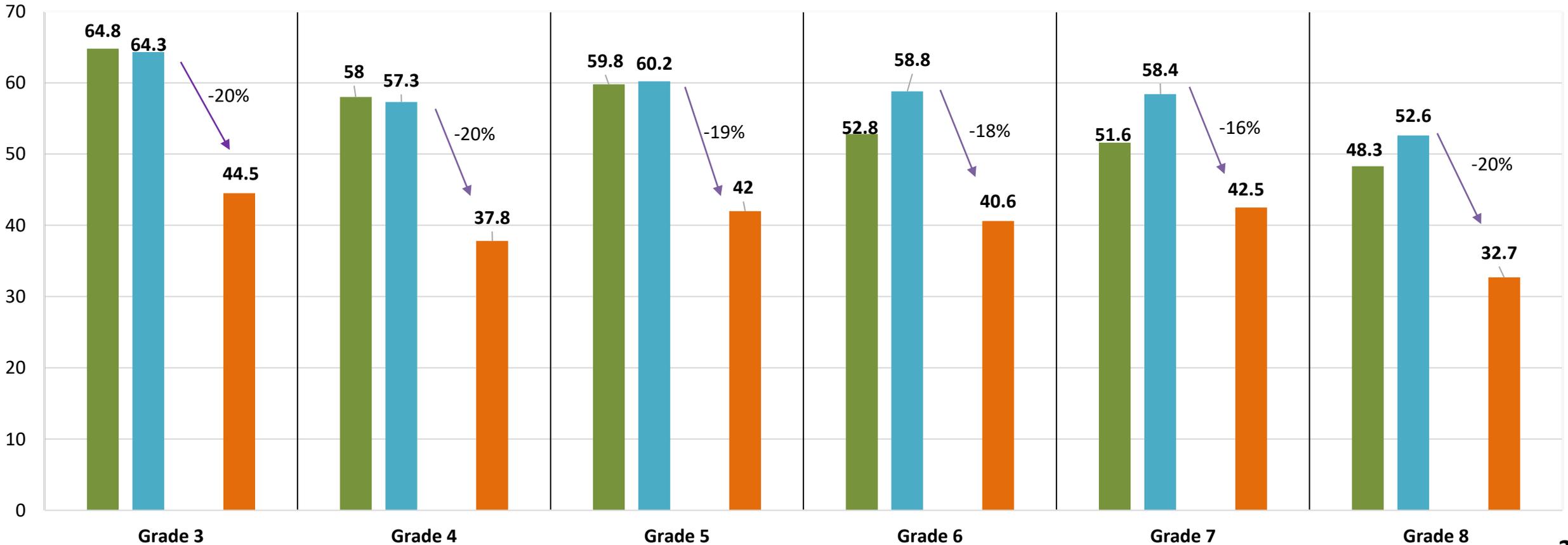




Understanding The Gaps

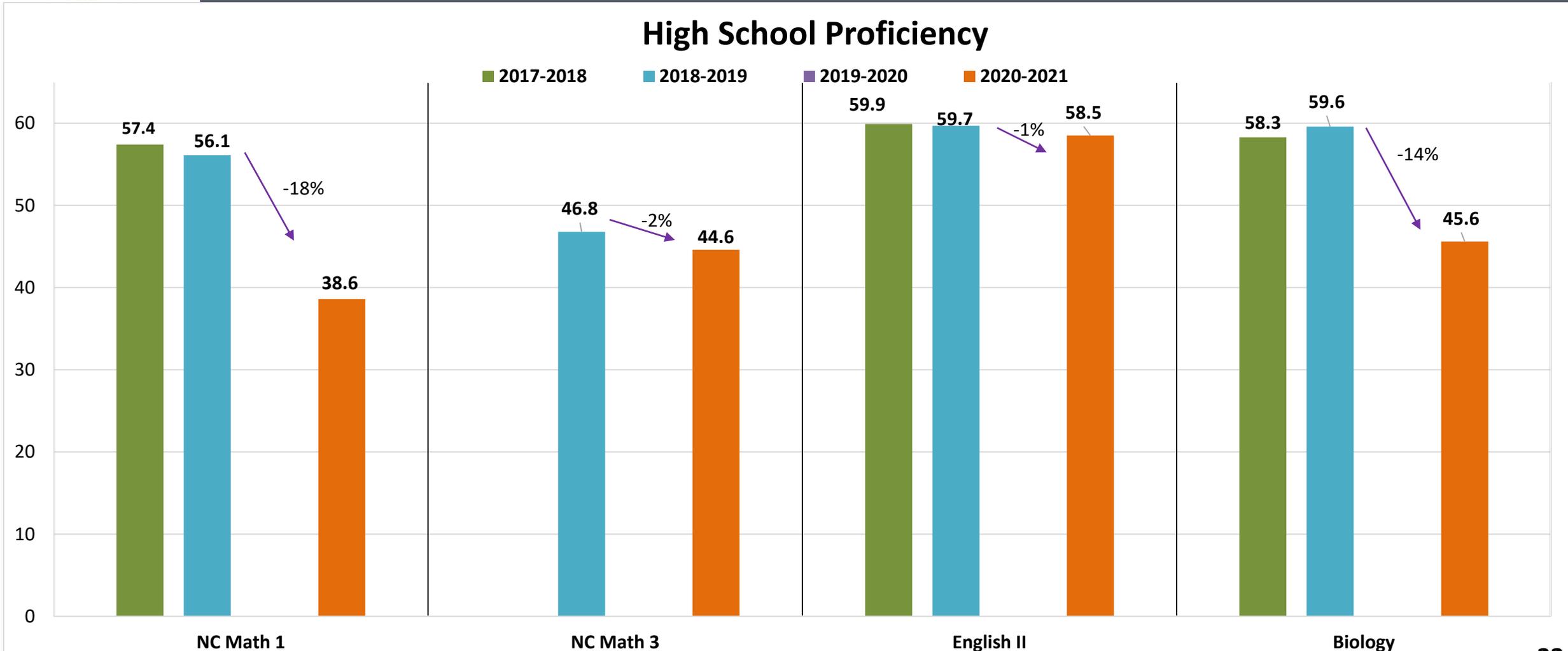
Math Proficiency

■ 2017-2018 ■ 2018-2019 ■ 2019-2020 ■ 2020-2021





Understanding The Gaps





Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund—ESSER III

- \$3.6 Billion
 - \$3.2 Billion (90%) → LEAs
 - Based on Title I allocation
 - \$360 Million (10%) → State Reserve
- Learning Loss Required
 - 20% of LEA allocation to address learning loss
 - \$36 Million (State Reserve) → During School Programs
 - \$36 Million (State Reserve) → Summer School Programs
- Utilization of and Plan for LEA Funds:
 - Bonus pay



School Extension Learning Recovery and Enrichment Program

- S.L. 2021-7 (HB82) "School Extension Learning Recovery and Enrichment Programs"
 - Prioritize at-risk students
 - Instruction be 150 hours or 30 days
 - Math, reading, science, EOC subjects
 - Enrichment activities



School Extension Learning Recovery and Enrichment Program

Table 13. Students at or above grade level by test period

	Reading		Math	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
All grades	10025 (14.6%)	13188 (19.20%)	19277 (27.54%)	22692 (32.42%)
K-5	7808 (15.22%)	10440 (20.35%)	17048 (32.99%)	19471 (37.68%)
6-8	2217 (12.75%)	2748 (15.80%)	2229 (12.175)	3221 (17.59%)



Summer Reading Camp

Summer 2021	Students Eligible for Reading Camp	Students Attending Reading Camp	Number of Students Proficient After Attending Reading Camp
Grade 1	62,341	18,862 (30% of students)	1,734 (9.2%)
Grade 2	57,610	16,789 (29% of students)	1,463 (8.7%)
Grade 3	37,399	17,317 (46.3% of students)	2,537 (6.8%)



Summary

- Learning loss is not new.
- Learning recovery is a multiple school year process.
- Math and early elementary literacy were hardest hit.
- ESSER II and III funds address learning loss.



How is DPI Addressing Learning Loss?



Office of
LEARNING RECOVERY & ACCELERATION
NC Department of Public Instruction



Moving Forward

- Increased urgency response to learning loss.
- Complete and consistent data collection.
- Increased guidance and monitoring by OLR.
- Increased facilitation of coordination across LEAs and with OLR.



Questions?