

## Section 4: ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS OF ELL/LEP STUDENTS ON THE ILLINOIS STANDARDS ACHIEVEMENT TEST (ISAT) AND THE PRAIRIE STATE ACHIEVEMENT EXAMINATION (PSAE)

ISAT and PSAE measure individual student achievement relative to the *Illinois Learning Standards*. ELL/LEP students who were transitioned (from ELL program services) to the regular or mainstream school programs, or ELL/LEP students who have been in TBE programs/TPIs for more than five years, are administered one of these tests, depending on their grade levels. In 2007, ISAT reading and mathematics were administered to grades 3-8 and science was administered to grades 4 and 7. PSAE, which is the statewide high school achievement test, was administered to grade 11 students in the subject areas of reading, mathematics, and science.

ISAT and PSAE have four performance levels:

**Exceeds Standards (E):** Student work demonstrates advanced knowledge and skills in the subject. Students creatively apply knowledge and skills to solve problems and evaluate the results.

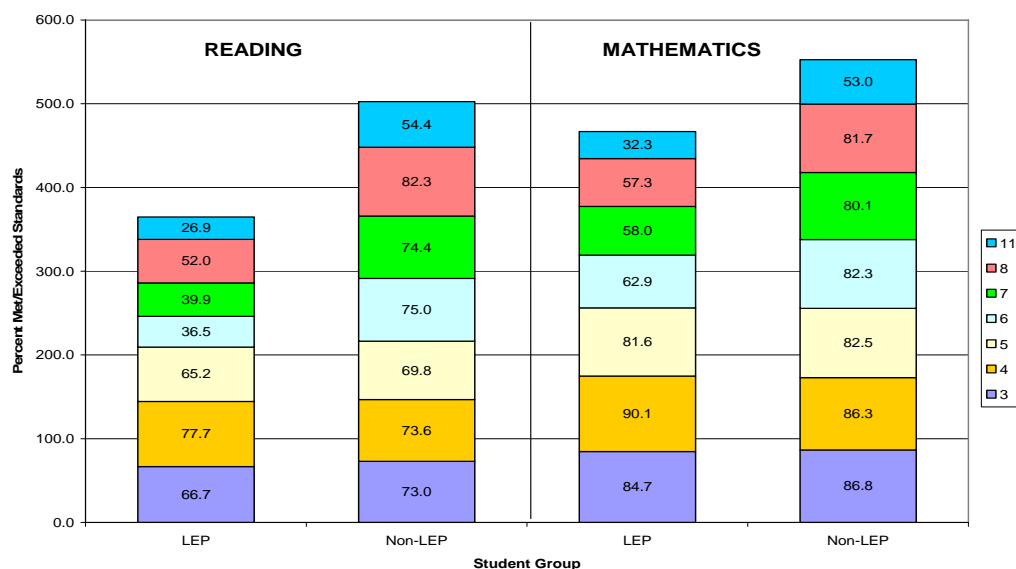
**Meets Standards (M):** Student work demonstrates proficient knowledge and skills in the subject. Students effectively apply knowledge and skills to solve problems.

**Below Standards (B):** Student work demonstrates basic knowledge and skills in the subject. Because of gaps in learning, students apply knowledge and skills in limited ways.

**Academic Warning (W):** Student work demonstrates limited knowledge and skills in the subject. Because of major gaps in learning, students apply knowledge and skills ineffectively.

As shown in Chart 13, non-ELL/LEP students performed significantly better than ELL/LEP students in reading and mathematics, with the exception of grade 4. The difference is particularly pronounced in grade 7 reading and grade 8 mathematics.

**Chart 13 Percentage of ELL/LEP Students Meeting/Exceeding Standards, by Subject, Grade Level, and Student Group: FY07**



As shown in Chart 14, CPS ELL/LEP students performed better than non-CPS ELL/LEP students in reading, according to ISAT results. However, they performed less well in reading and mathematics according to PSAE results. The gaps in reading in favor of CPS ranged from one percentage point to ten percentage points. CPS ELL/LEP students also performed better than non-CPS ELL/LEP students in mathematics, as measured by ISAT, with the exception of grade 6 students.

**Chart 14 Percentage of ELL/LEP Students Meeting/Exceeding Standards, by Subject, Grade Level, and Location: FY07**

