

Illinois Report Card Briefing

School Year 2023-24

If you have questions after the call, please contact:

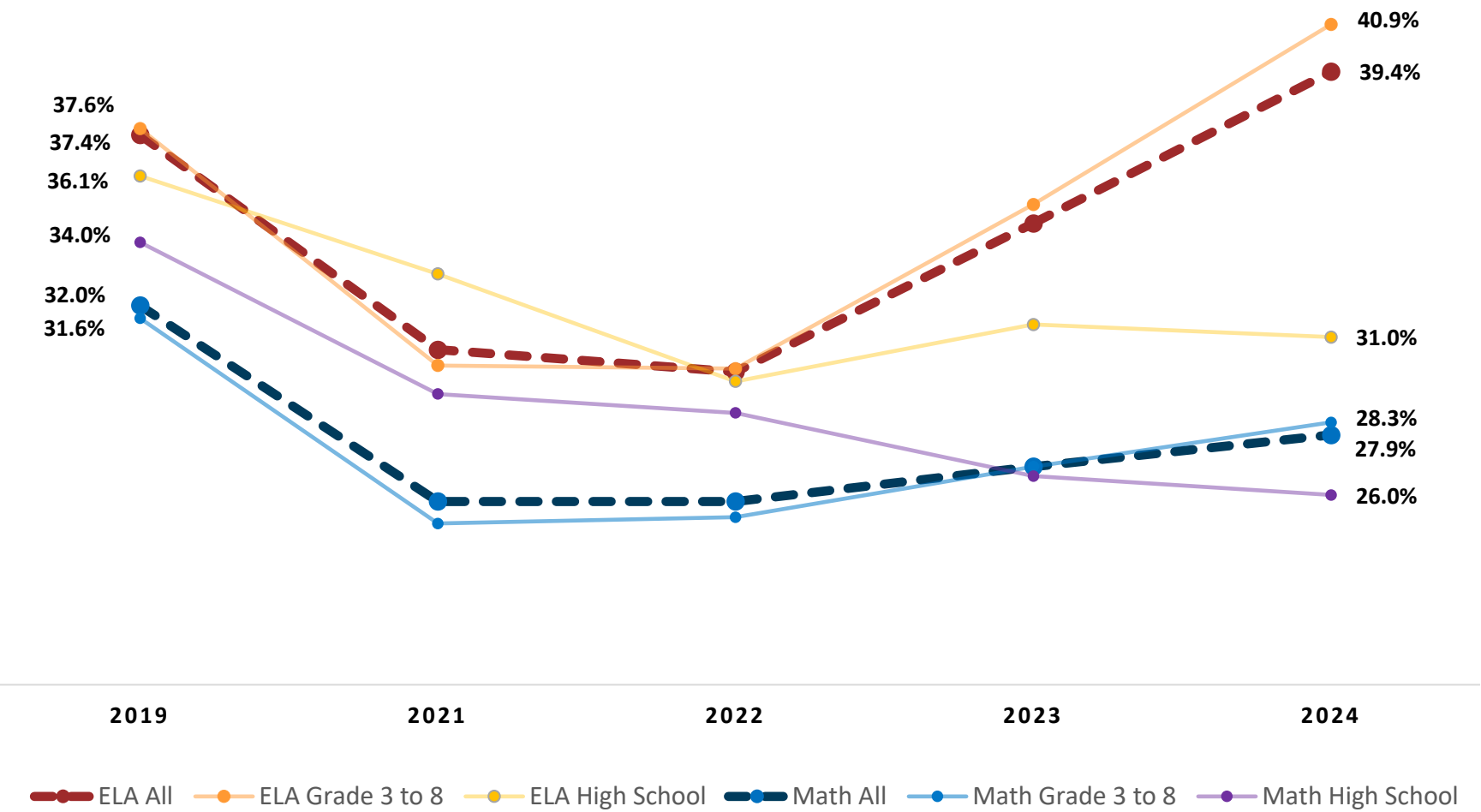
- **Jackie Matthews**, Executive Director of Communications at press@isbe.net or 312-590-4327
- Find additional resources at www.isbe.net/reportcard.

All data and remarks are under embargo until 9 a.m. on October 30.

Note: IllinoisReportCard.com website goes down mid-day on Oct. 29

Nation-Leading Recovery

Assessment Proficiency By Grade Band

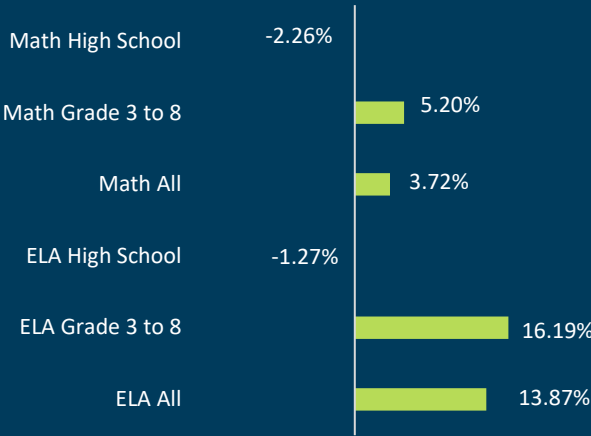


Key Takeaways

ELA proficiency for grades 3-8 at all-time high, exceeding pre-pandemic levels

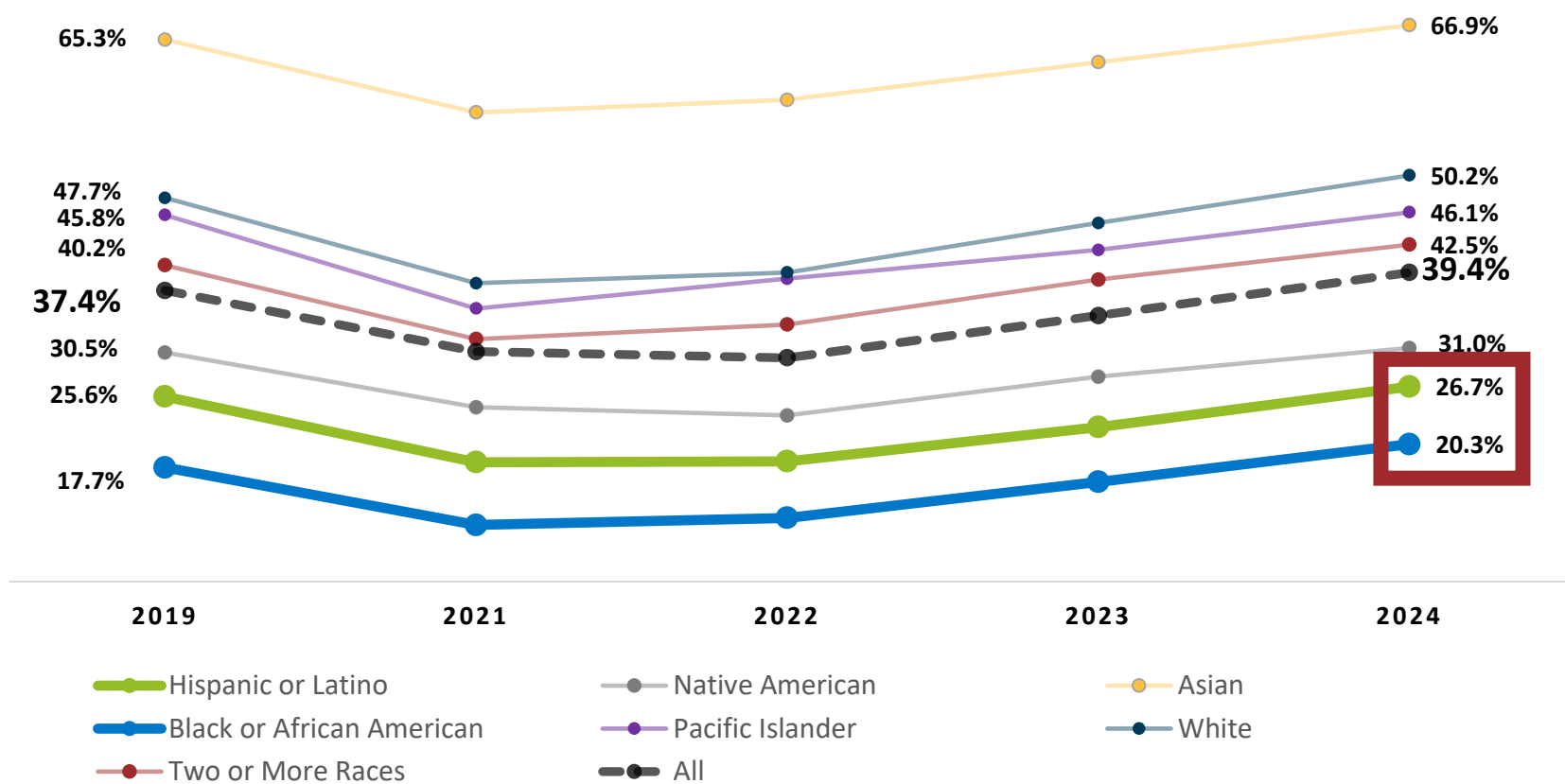
Recovery lagging in math and in high school

% Change from 2023-2024



Peak Performance in ELA for All Groups

English Language Arts Proficiency By Race/Ethnicity

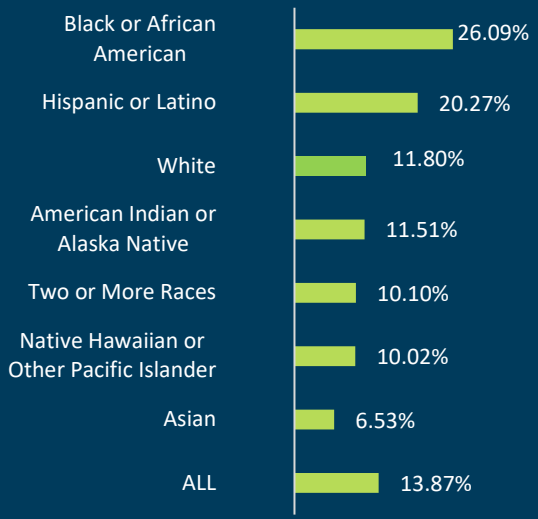


Key Takeaways

Biggest gains for Black & Hispanic students

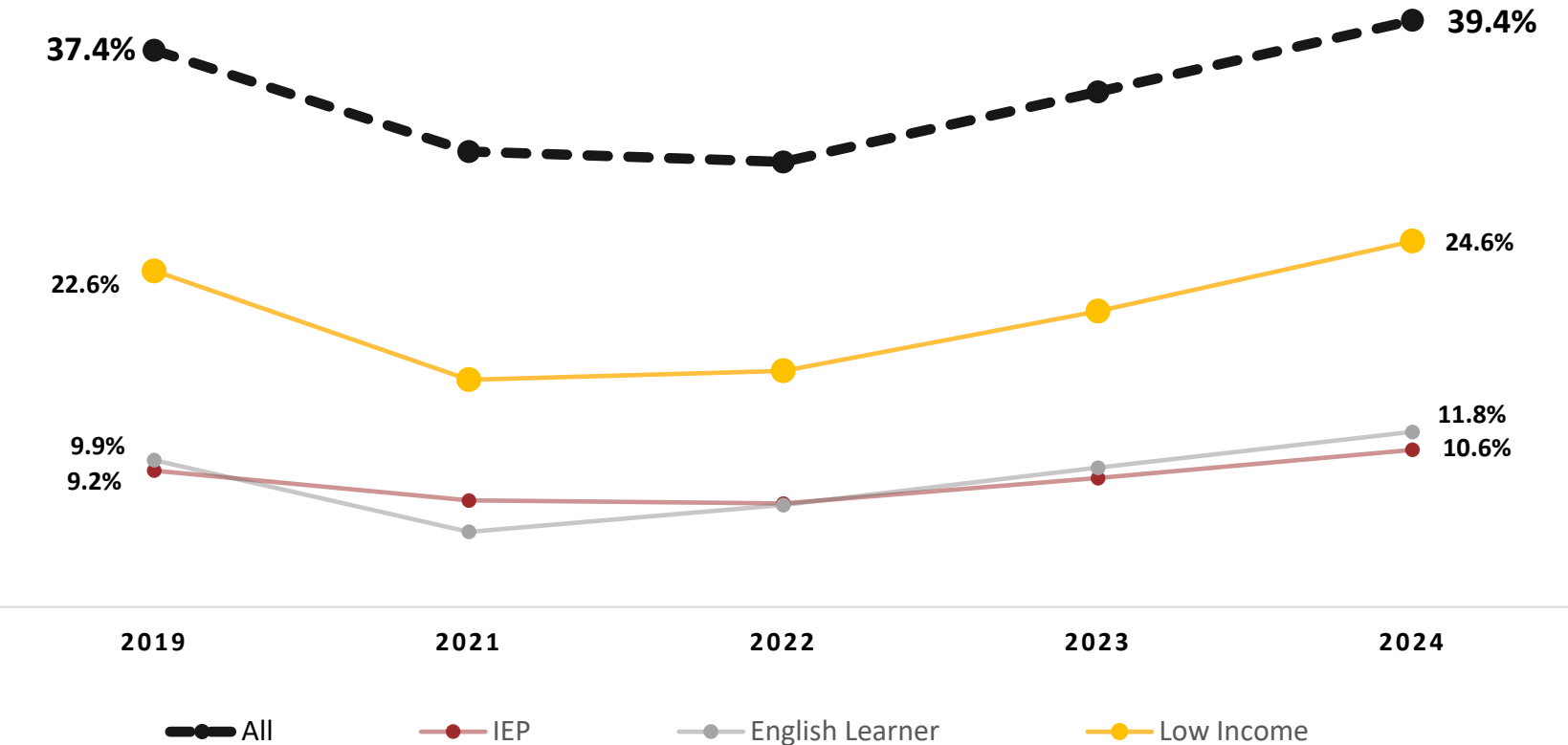
Equity gaps remain

% Change from 2023-2024



All Groups Outperforming Pre-Pandemic

English Language Arts Proficiency by Program

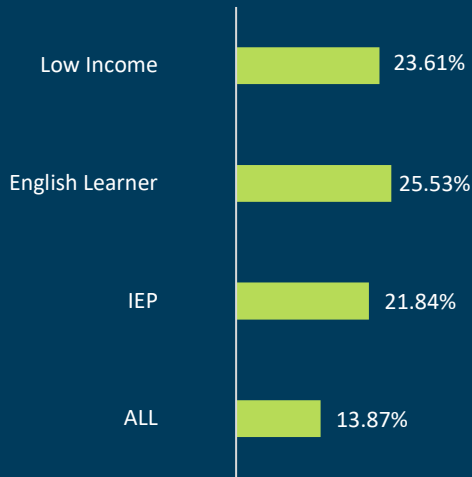


Key Takeaways

Statewide focus on English language arts

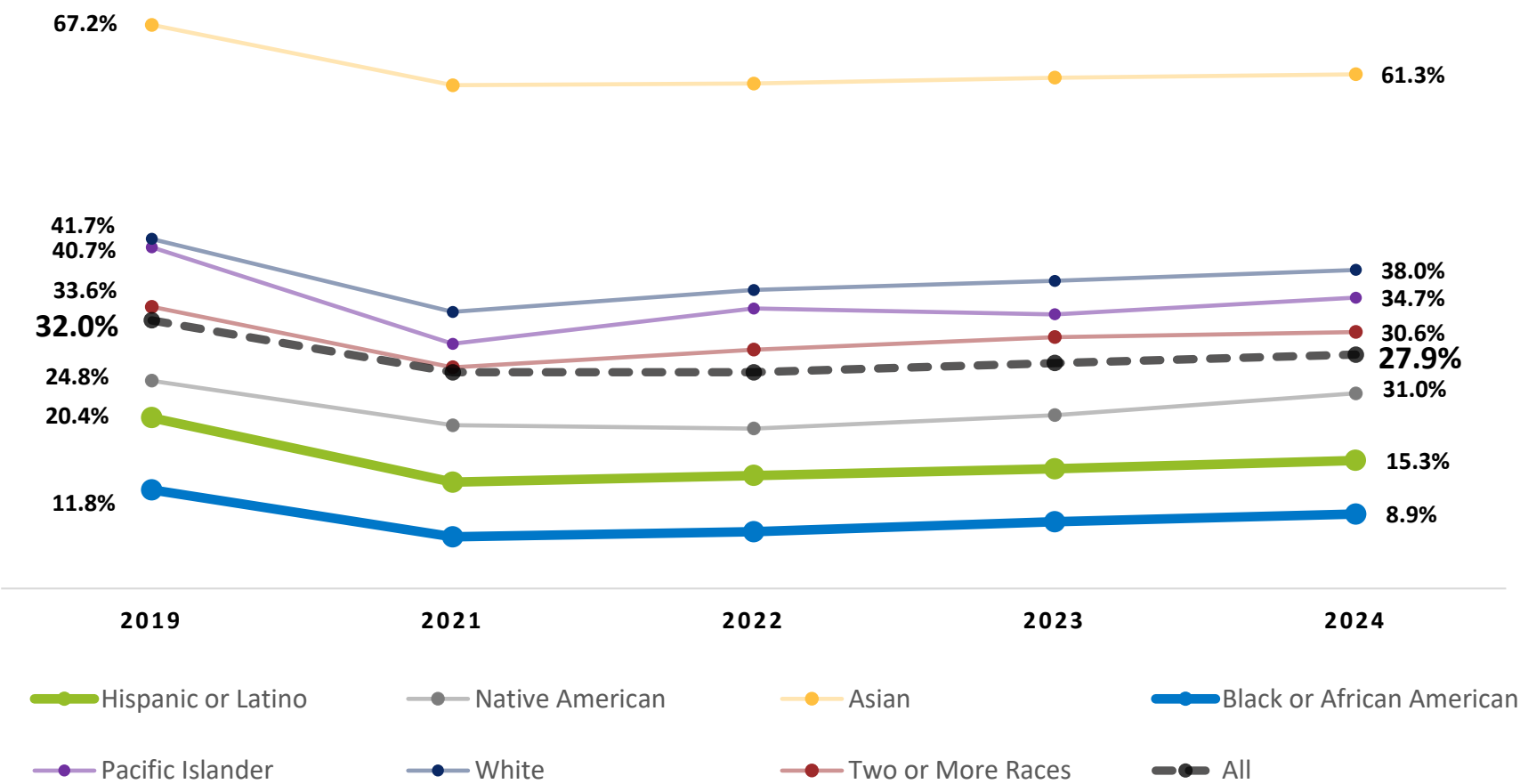
Inequities persist

% Change from 2023-2024



Slight Gains in Math for All Groups

Math Proficiency by Race/Ethnicity

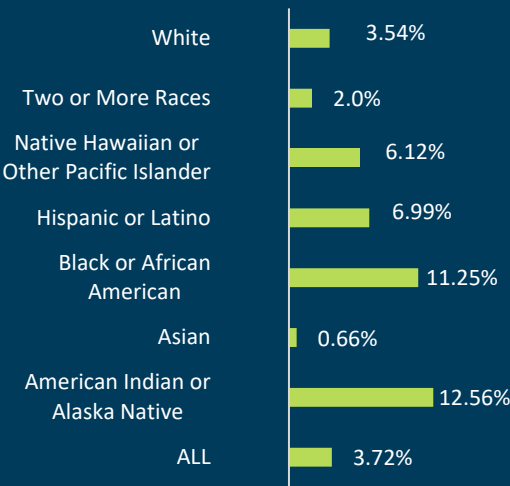


Key Takeaways

ISBE launching statewide math & numeracy plan

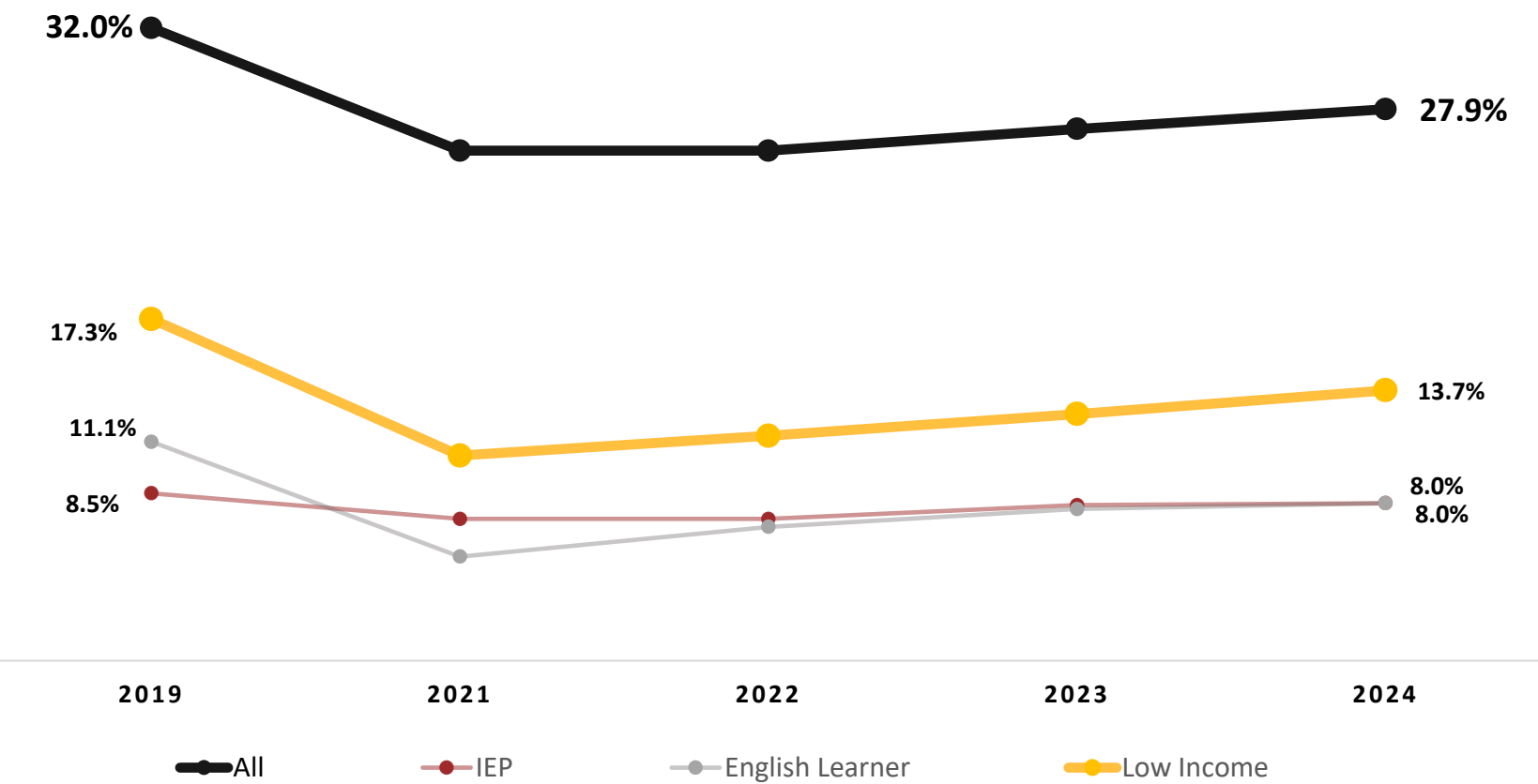
Proficiency for all groups still below pre-pandemic levels

% Change from 2023-2024



Minor Improvements in Math

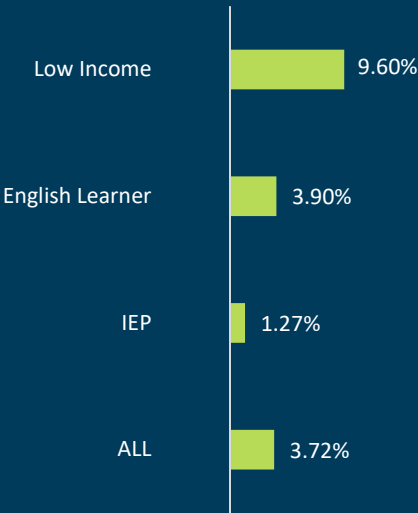
Math Proficiency By Program



Key Takeaways

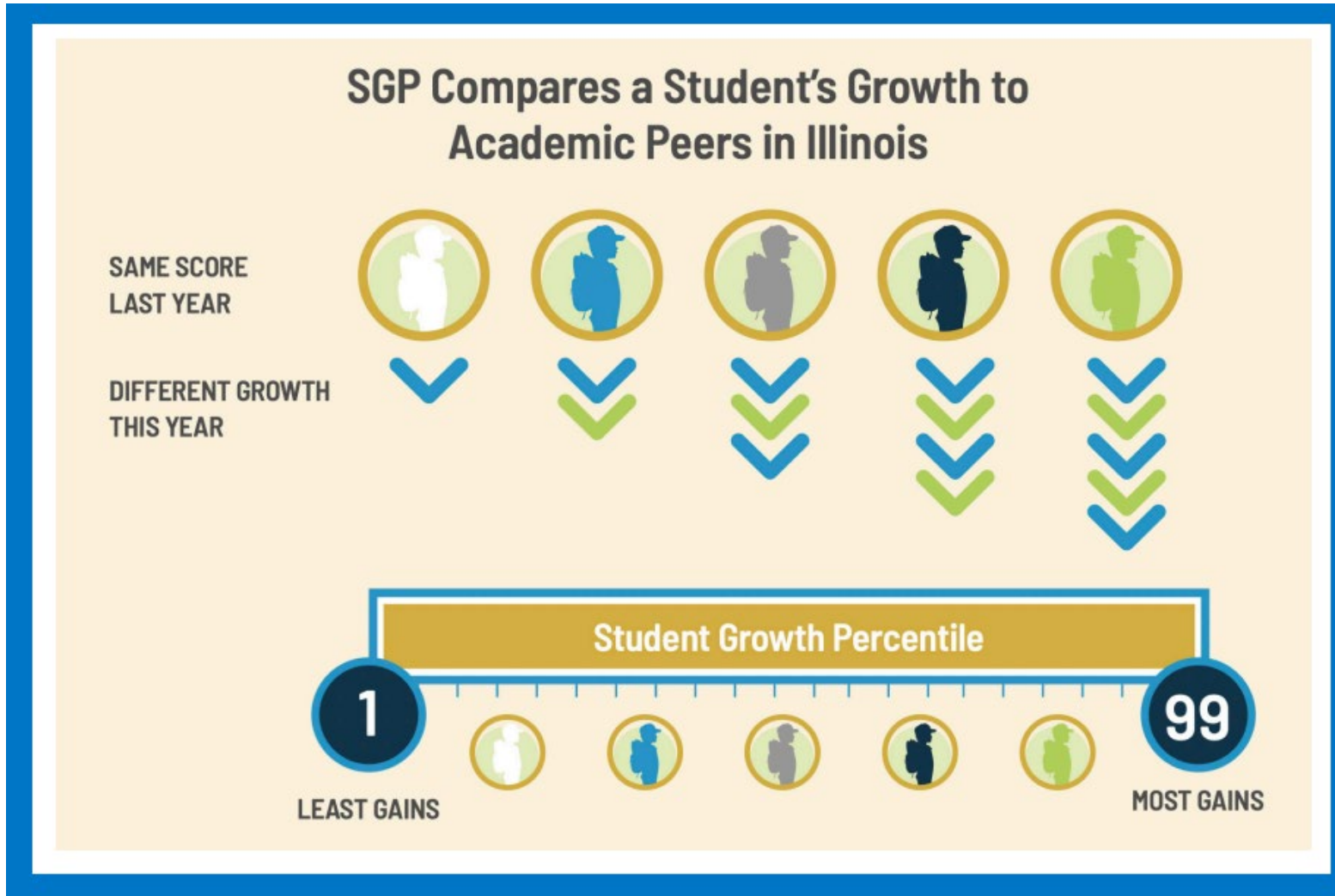
Statewide math & numeracy plan to elevate instruction for all students

% Change from 2023-2024



Students Are Growing Faster Than Ever

Mean Student Growth Percentiles



Key Takeaways

Proficiency is like the height cut off to ride rides at the fair. A child is either tall enough or not.

Growth percentile is a totally different measure that doesn't care how tall they are, just how much they grew over the past year.

Students Are Growing Faster Than Ever

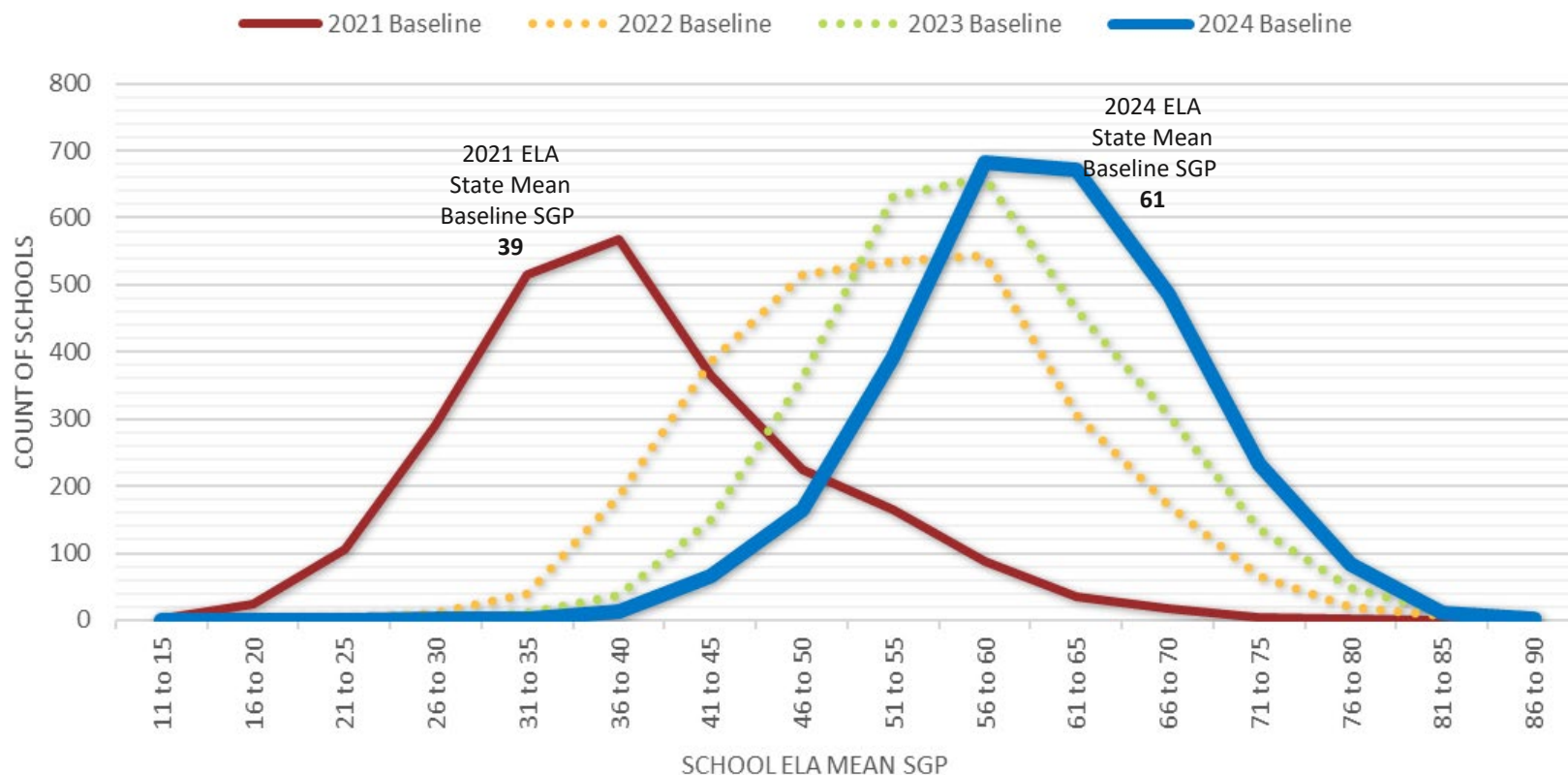
English Language Arts Mean SGP

Key Takeaways

ELA growth continued to accelerate in 2024, thanks to teachers implementing best practices in literacy

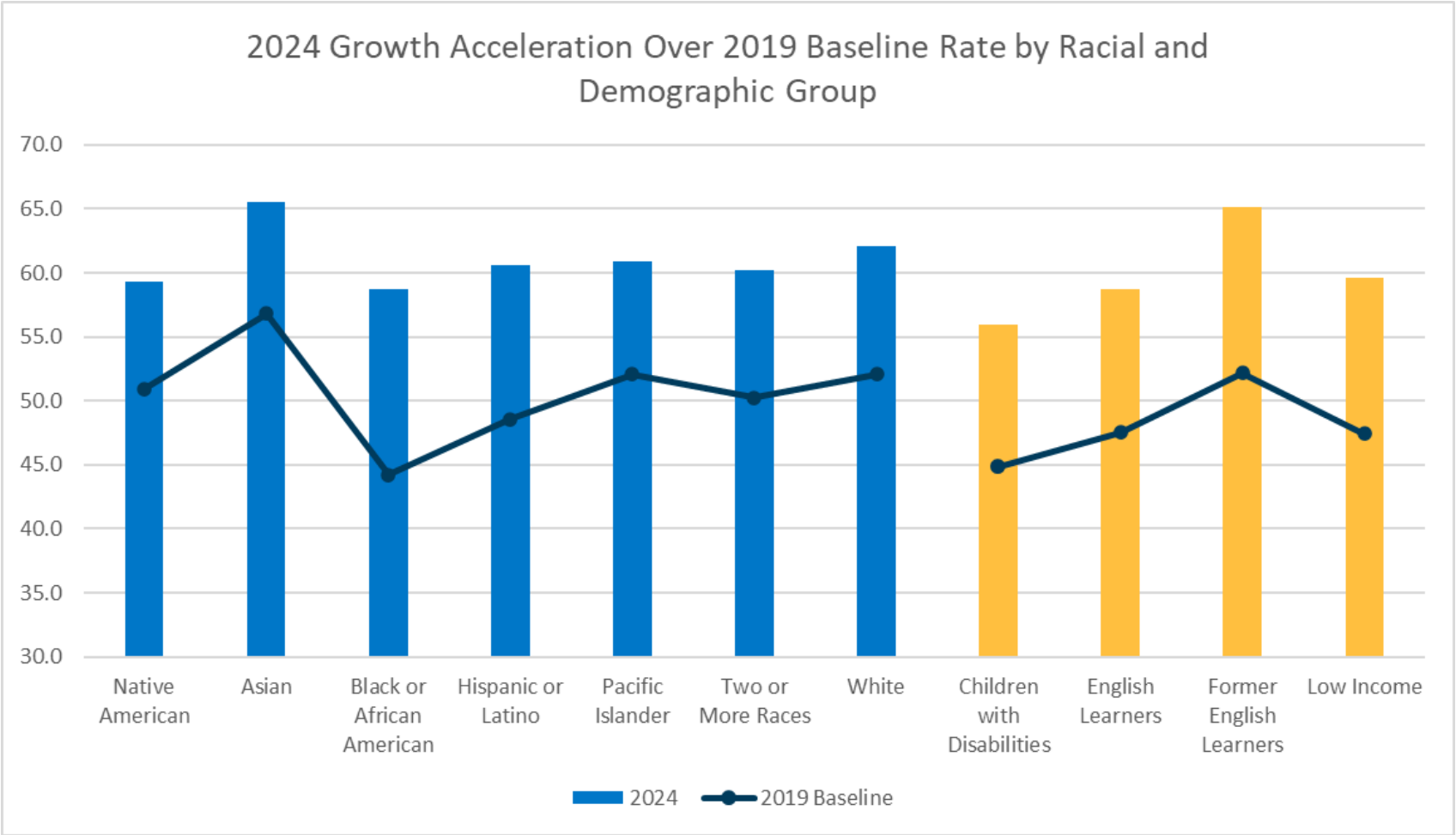
More gains for more students in more schools

Distribution of ELA School Mean Baseline SGPs in 2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024



All Groups Outperforming Baseline

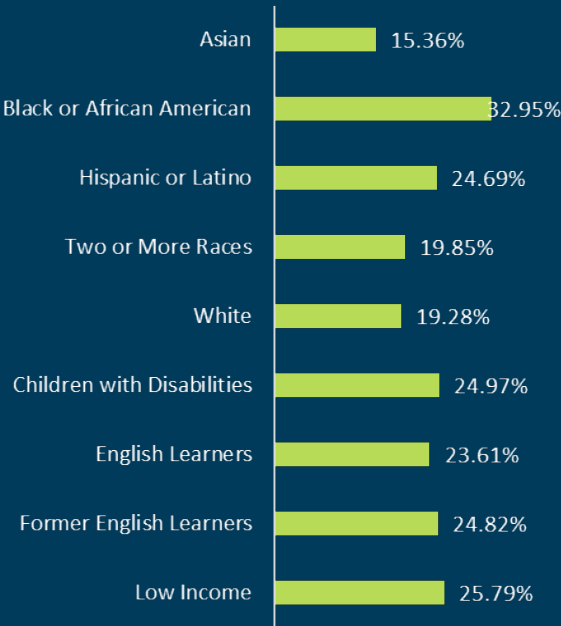
English Language Arts Mean SGP by Race/Ethnicity and Program



Key Takeaways

ELA growth most accelerated for Black and low-income students

ELA % Change from 2019-2024

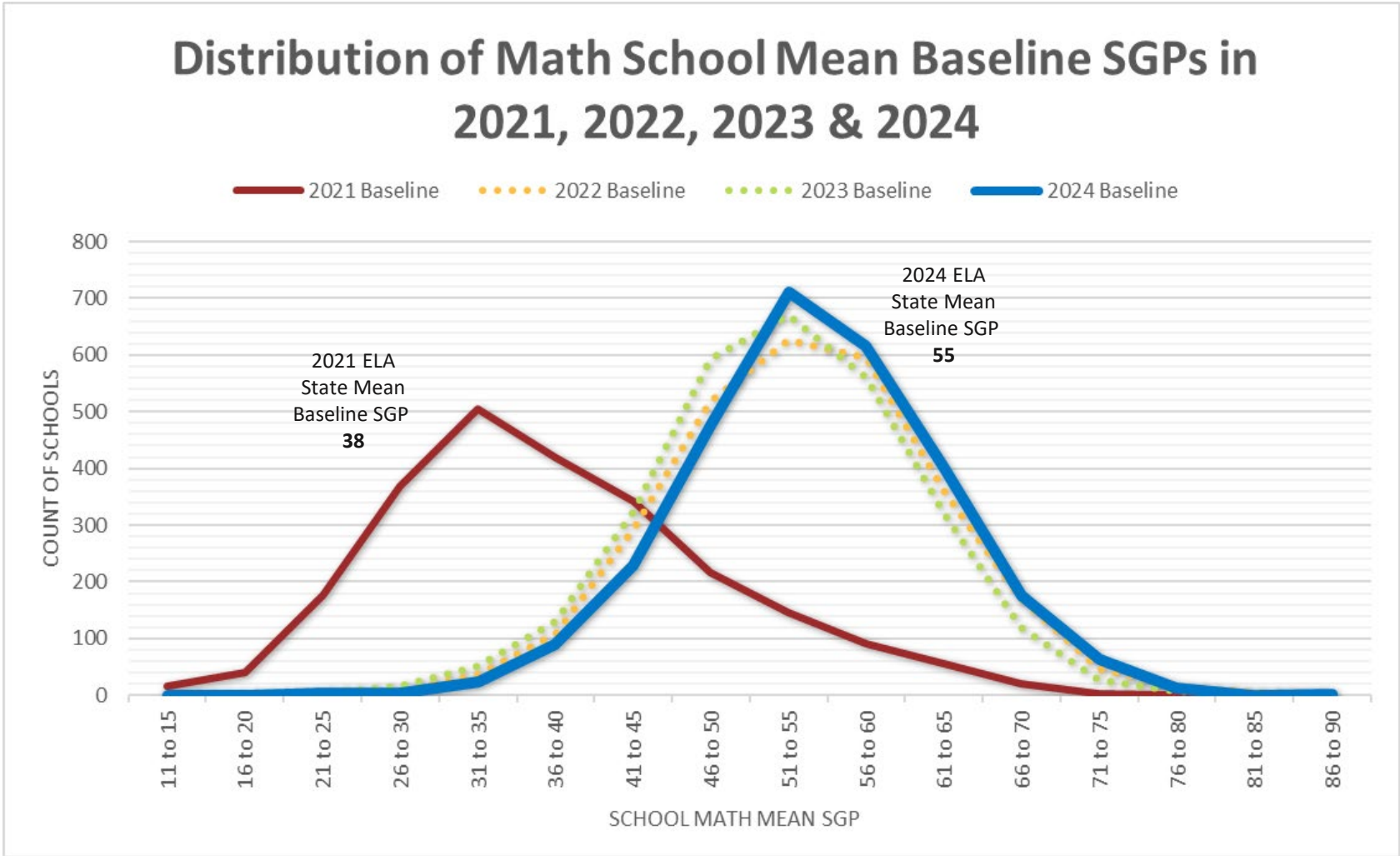


Math Growth Picking Up Speed

Math Mean SGP

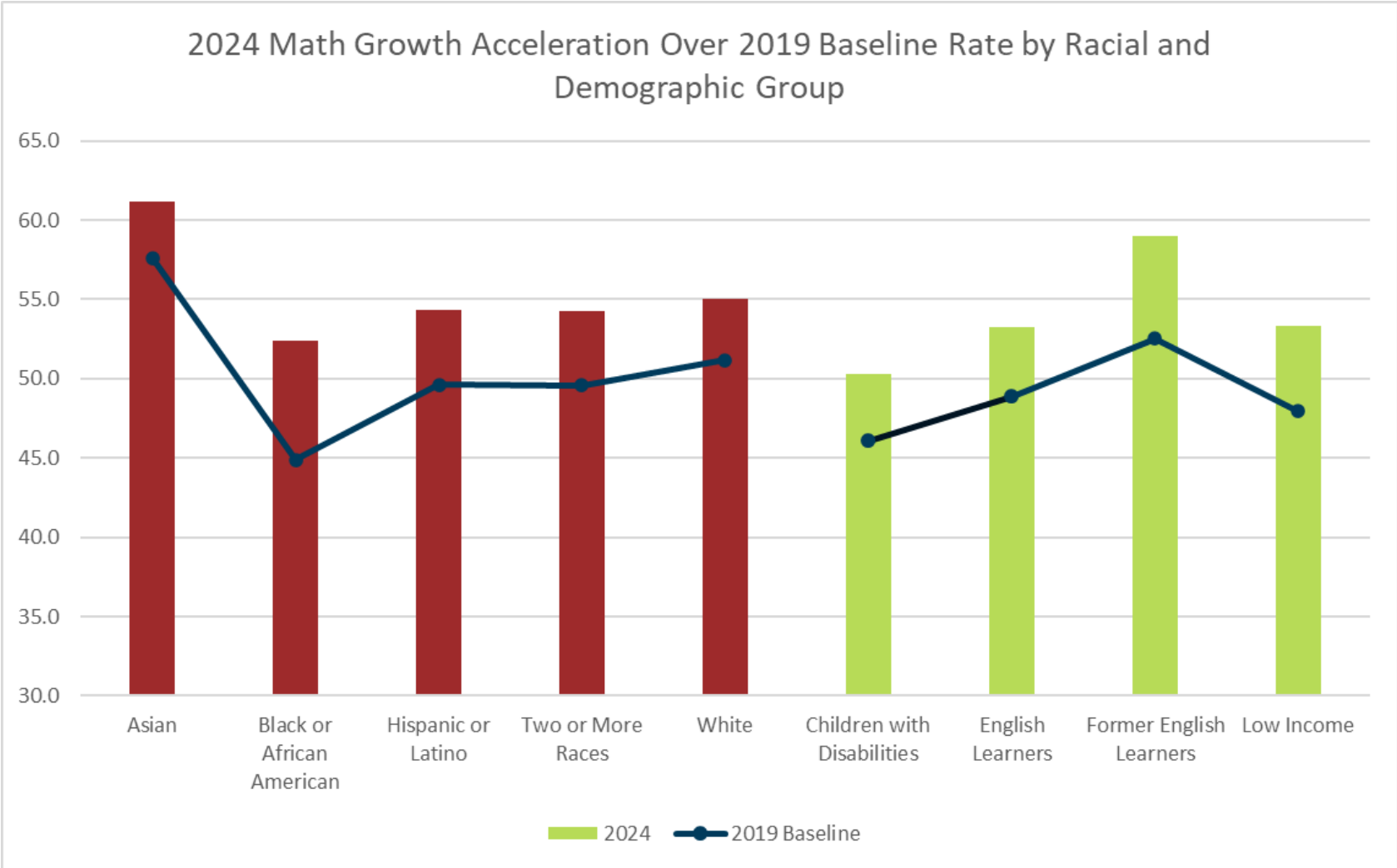
Key Takeaways

Math growth continues to accelerate, but not as quickly as ELA



Math Growth Picking Up Speed

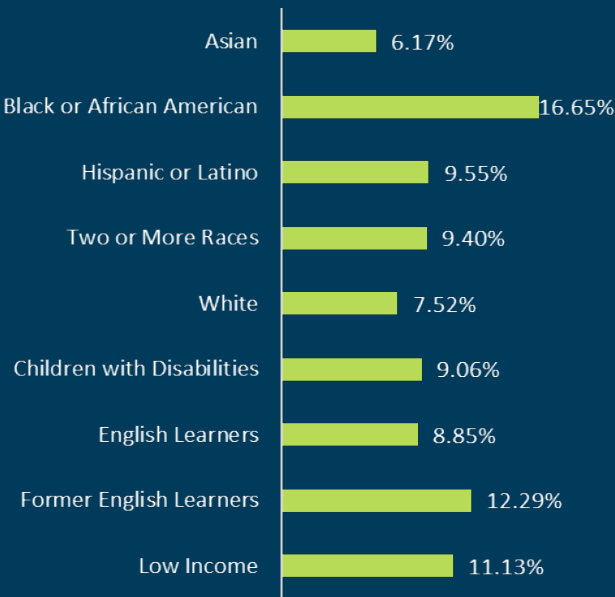
Math Mean SGP



Key Takeaways

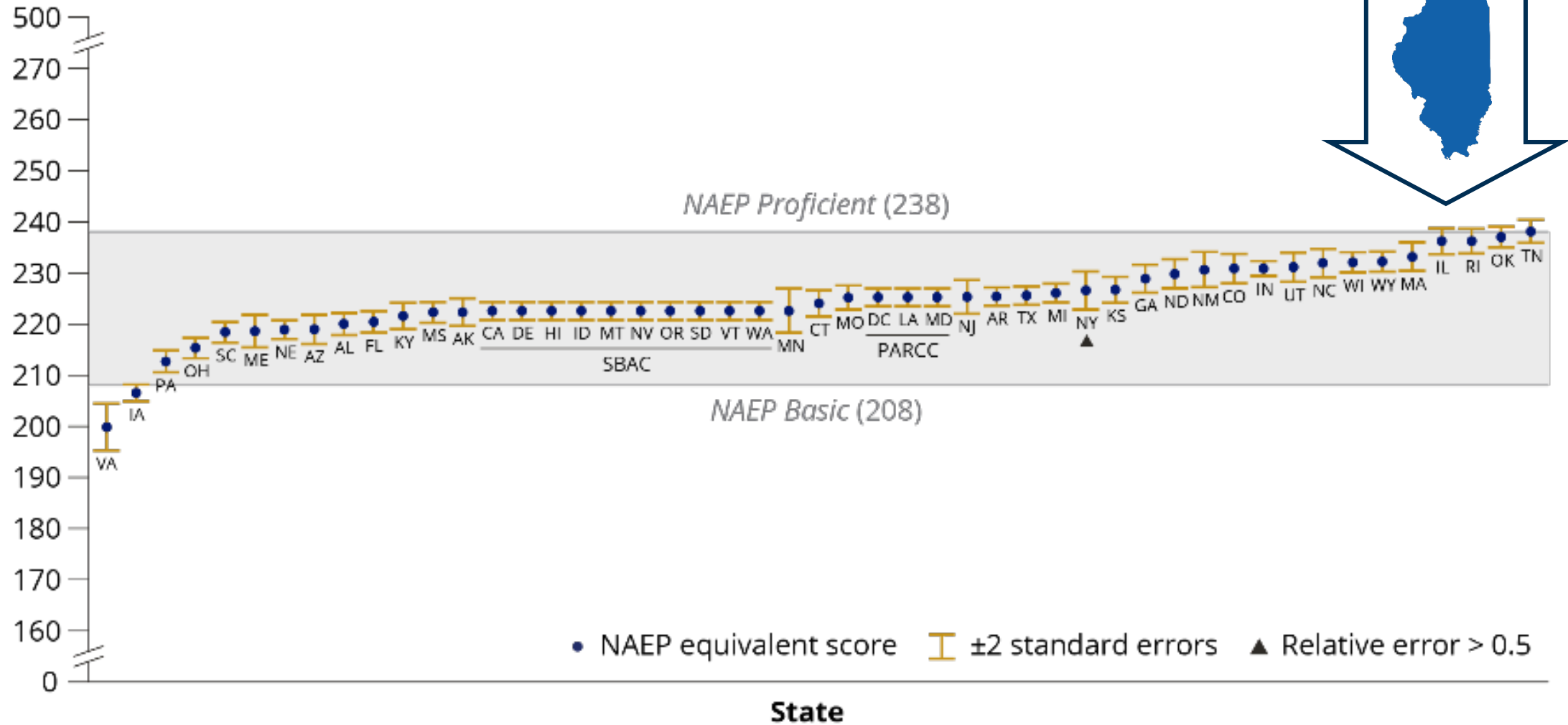
Math growth most accelerated for Black, low-income and former EL students

Math % Change from 2019-2024



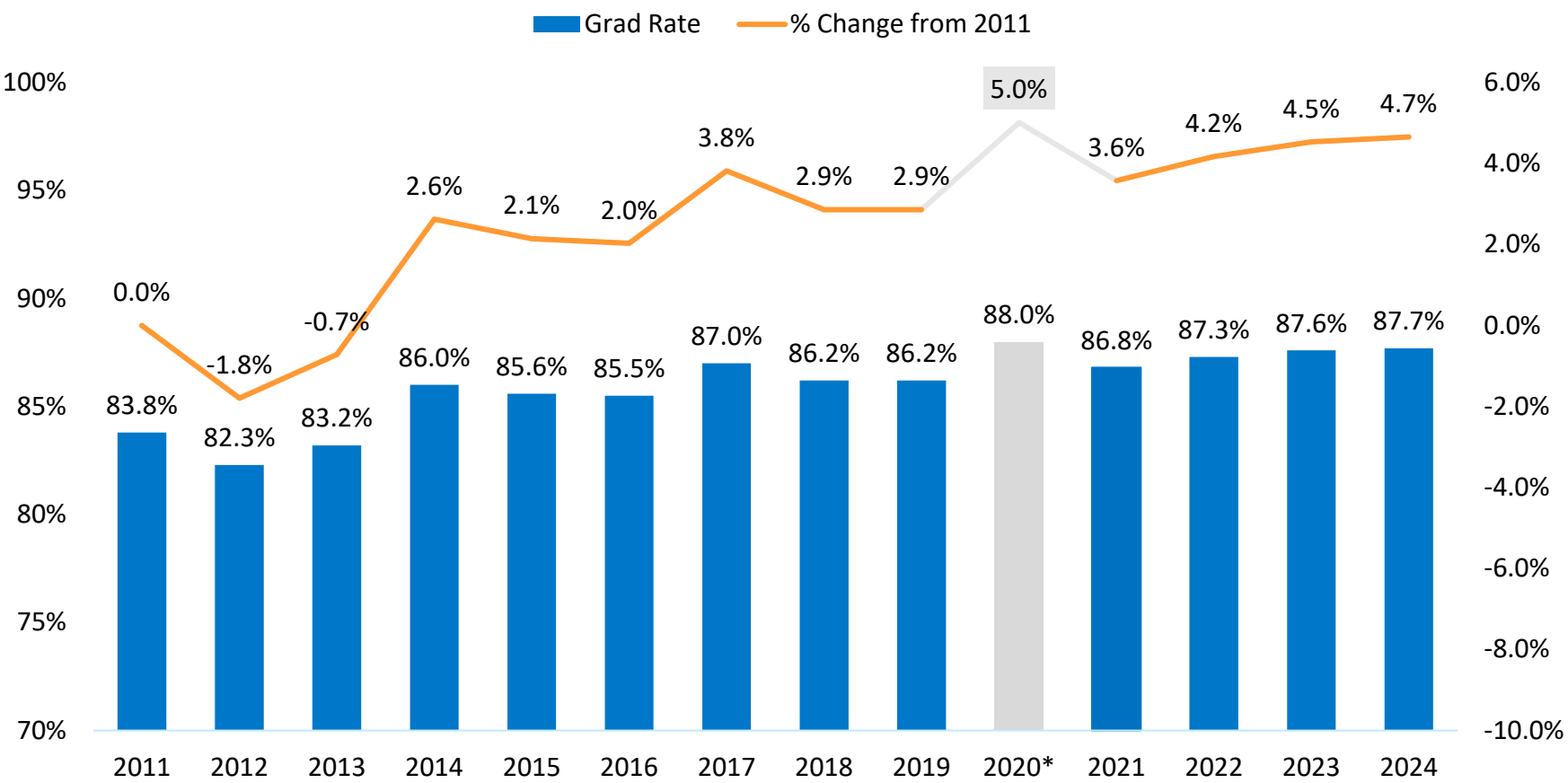
Illinois has 4th most restrictive benchmarks for proficiency

NAEP equivalent score



Highest Graduation Rate on Record

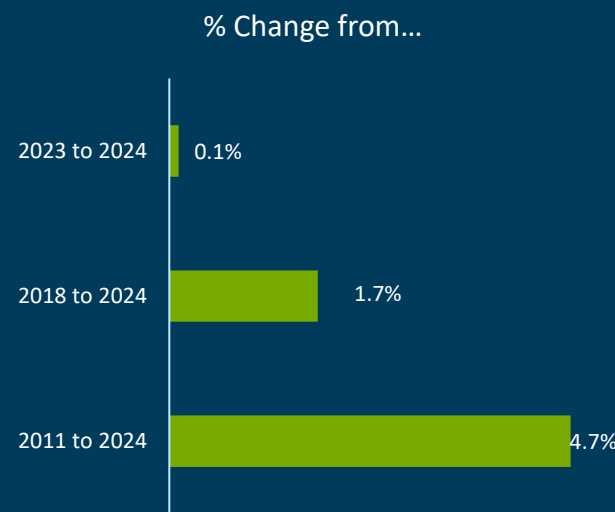
Four-Year Graduation Rate & Percent Change Since 2011



*2020 graduation rate artificially inflated due to emergency action to reduce most graduation requirements by one semester.

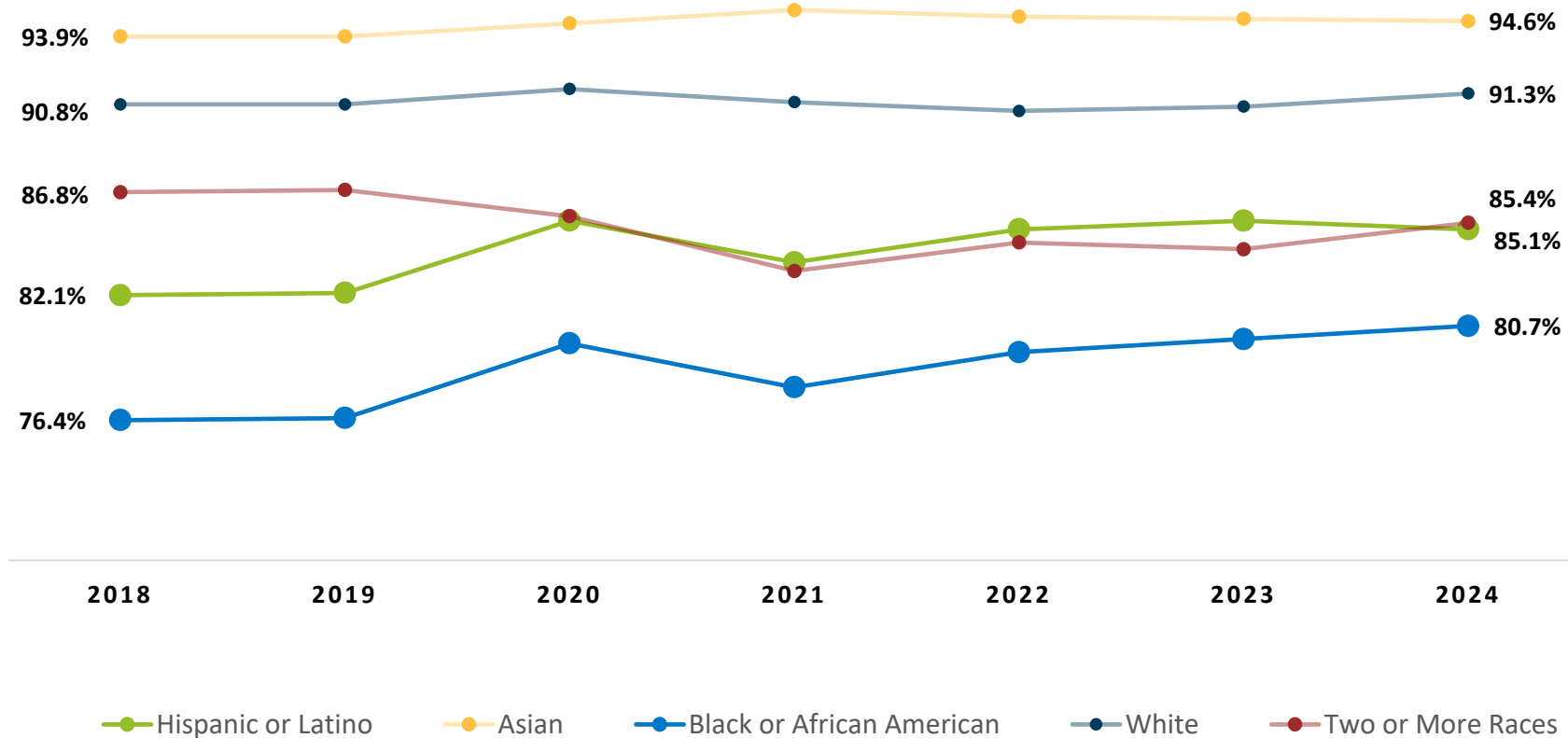
Key Takeaways

***Evidence-Based
Funding &
accountability system
supporting gains
since 2018***



Biggest Gains for Black Students

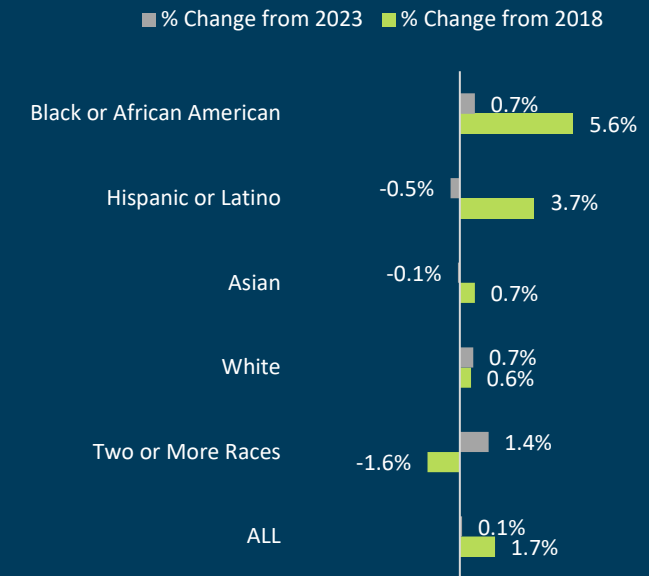
Four-Year Graduation Rate by Race/Ethnicity



*2020 graduation rate artificially inflated due to emergency action to reduce most graduation requirements by one semester.

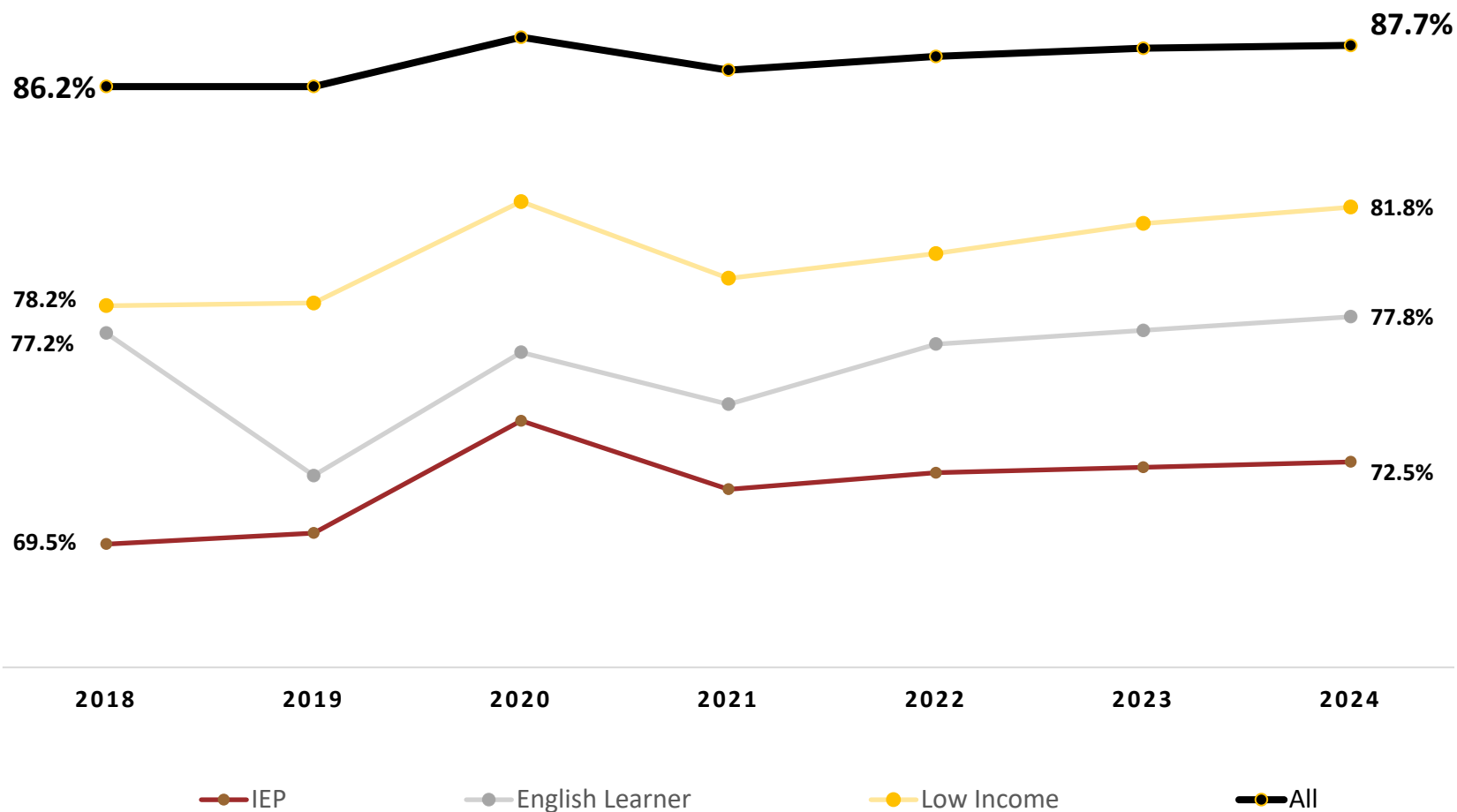
Key Takeaways

Six-year trend of rising graduation rates for Black students



Biggest Gains for Low-Income Students

Four-Year Graduation Rate by Program

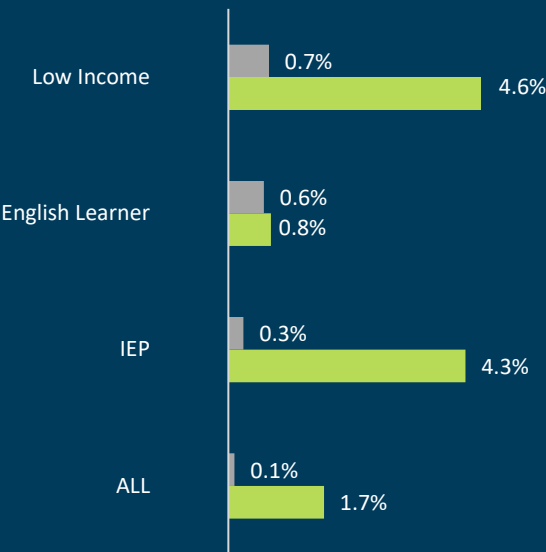


*2020 graduation rate artificially inflated due to emergency action to reduce most graduation requirements by one semester.

Key Takeaways

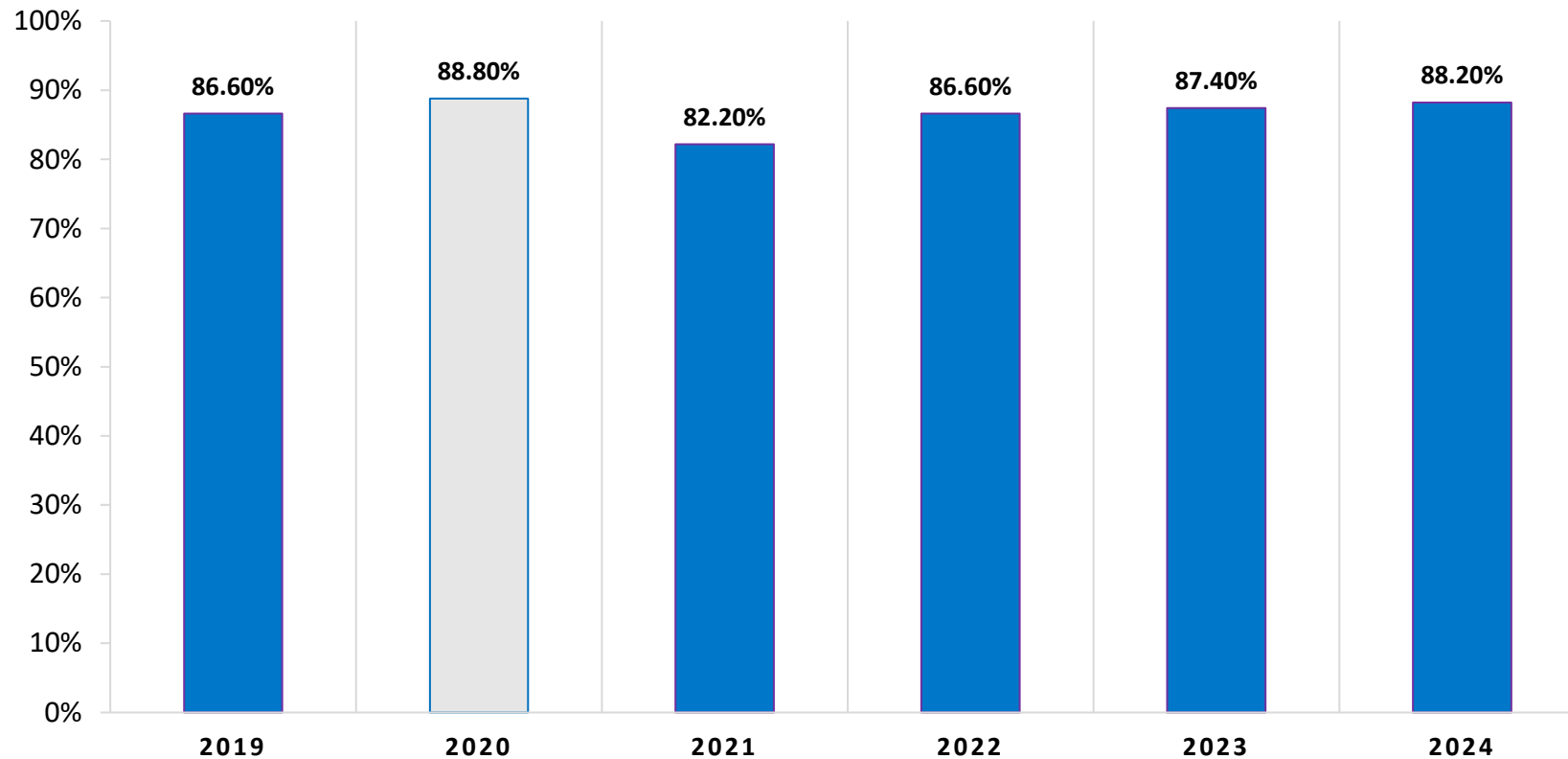
Students with IEPs remain eligible for services until end of school year in which they turn 22 or until graduation

■ % Change from 2023 ■ % Change from 2018



Steady Increases Post-Pandemic

Ninth Graders on Track to Graduate



*2020 rate of ninth graders on track artificially high due to ISBE guidance for schools to use pass/incomplete instead of letter grades in spring 2020.

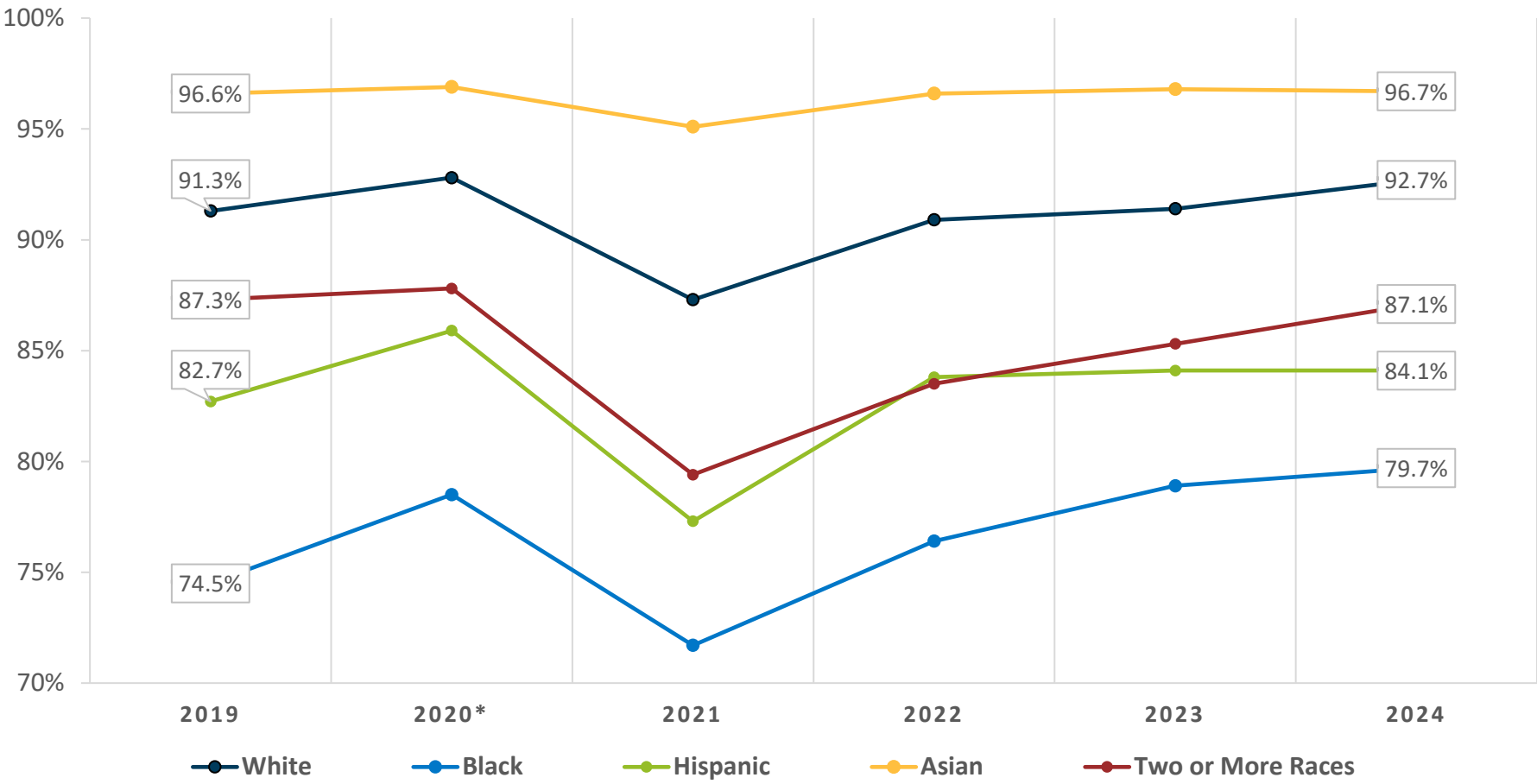
Key Takeaways

Students on track are four times as likely to graduate from high school

On track means having earned at least five full-year course credits and no more than one semester F in a core course

Biggest Gains for Black Students

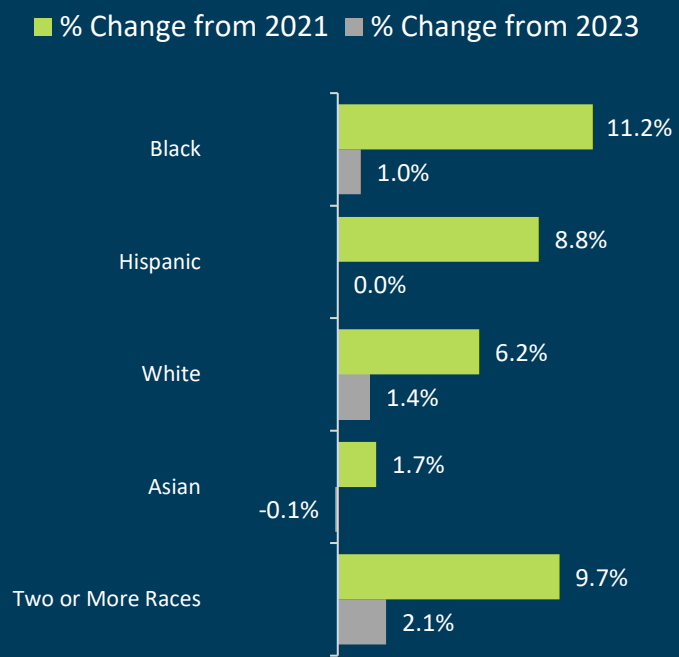
Ninth Graders on Track to Graduate By Race/Ethnicity



*2020 rate of ninth graders on track artificially high due to ISBE guidance for schools to use pass/incomplete instead of letter grades in spring 2020.

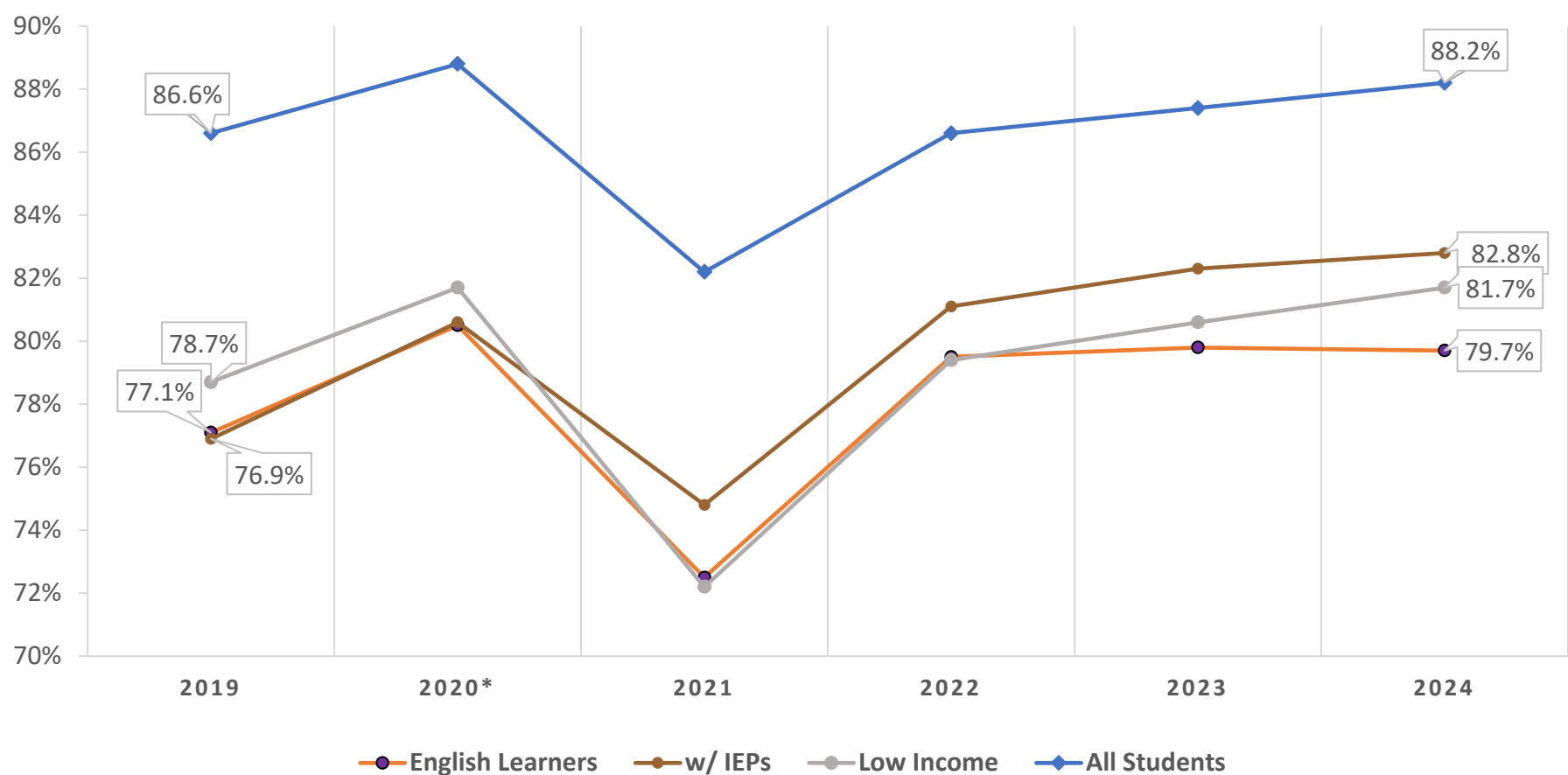
Key Takeaways

Indicator of narrowing gap in graduation rates



All Groups Exceed Pre-Pandemic

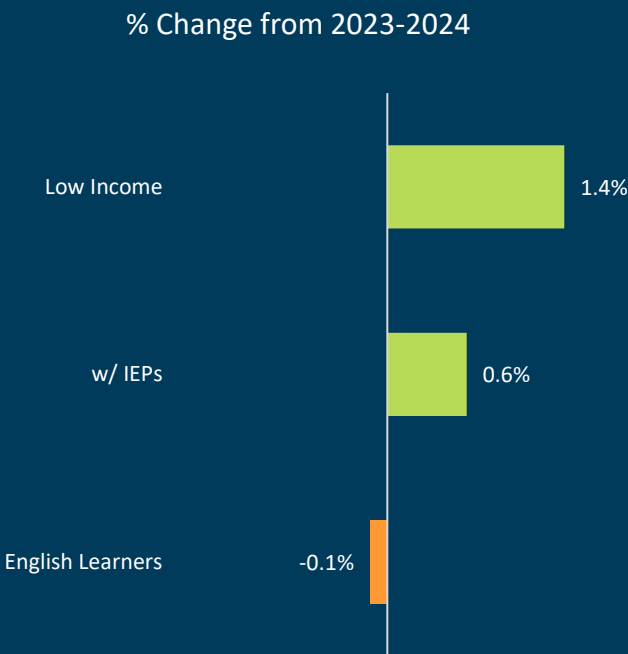
Ninth Graders on Track to Graduate By Program



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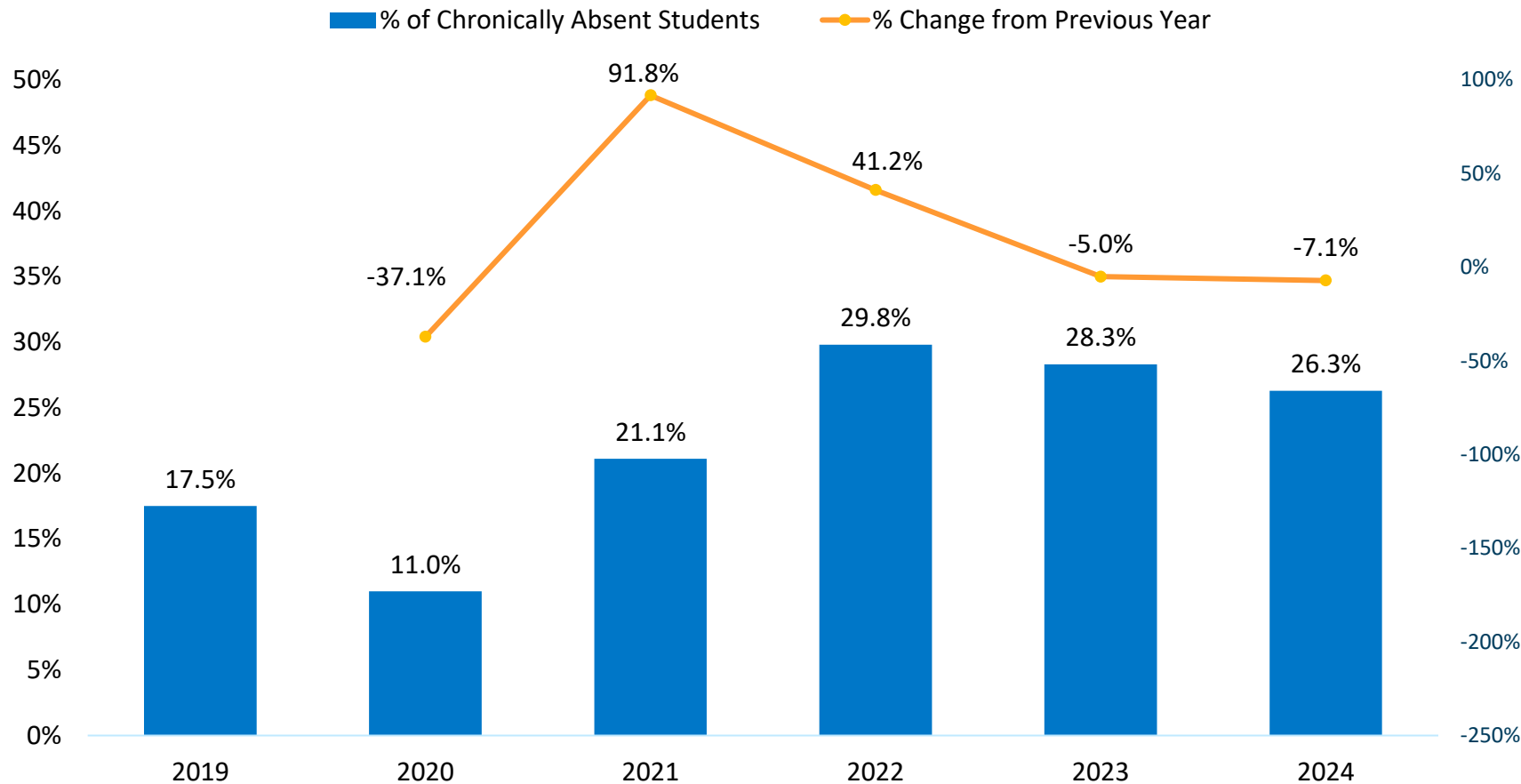
Key Takeaways

Biggest improvement for low-income students



Steady Progress in Chronic Absenteeism

Students Who Missed 10% or More of School Year



Key Takeaways

Chronic absenteeism improved by 7%

Statewide focus on individualized student-family interventions & mental health programs

Chronic absenteeism still high **nationwide**

Michigan: 29.5%

Colorado: 27.7%

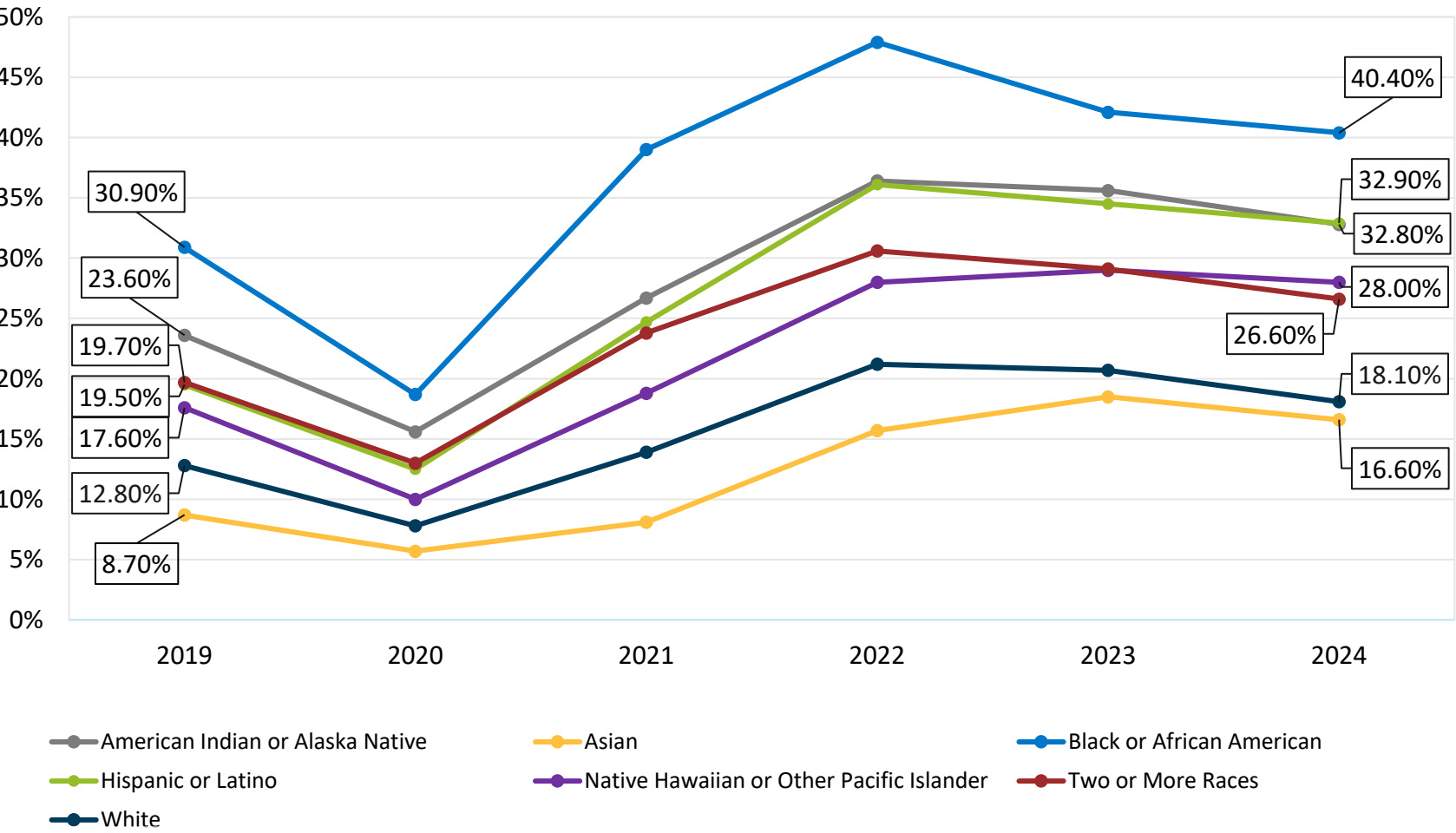
New Mexico: 32.8%

Chronic absenteeism counts unexcused **and** ***excused*** absences

**2020 chronic absenteeism artificially low due to Act of God days and remote learning in spring 2020 without consistent definitions and reporting of student attendance.*

Improvement for All Groups

Chronic Absenteeism By Race/Ethnicity

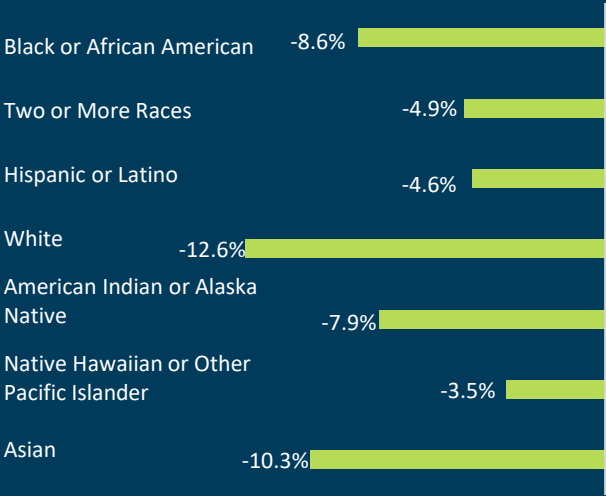


**2020 chronic absenteeism artificially low due to Act of God days and remote learning in spring 2020 without consistent definitions and reporting of student attendance.*

Key Takeaways

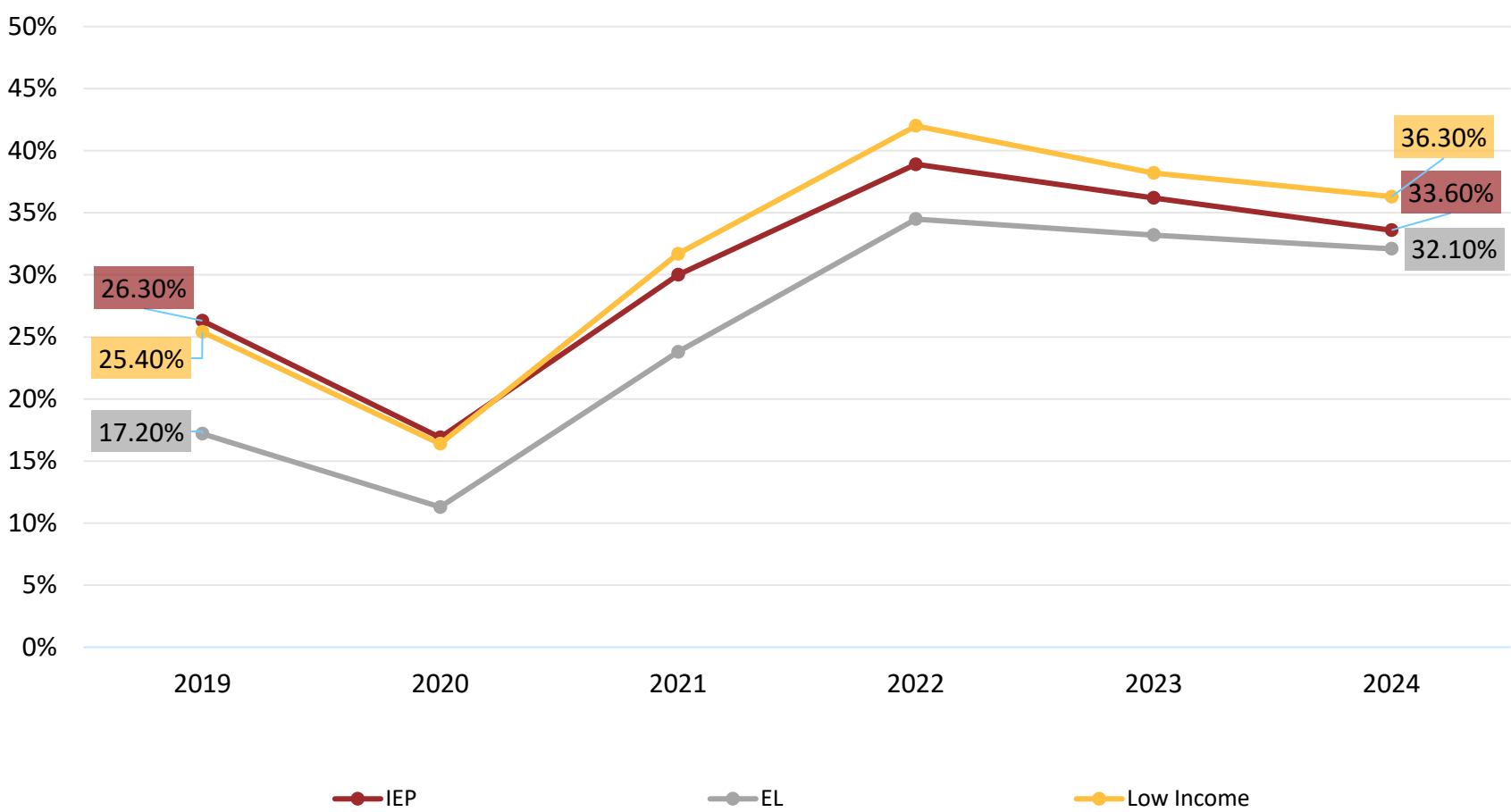
Chronic absenteeism improving but still very high for Black students

% Change from 2023-2024



Improvement for All Groups

Chronic Absenteeism By Program



**2020 chronic absenteeism artificially low due to Act of God days and remote learning in spring 2020 without consistent definitions and reporting of student attendance.*

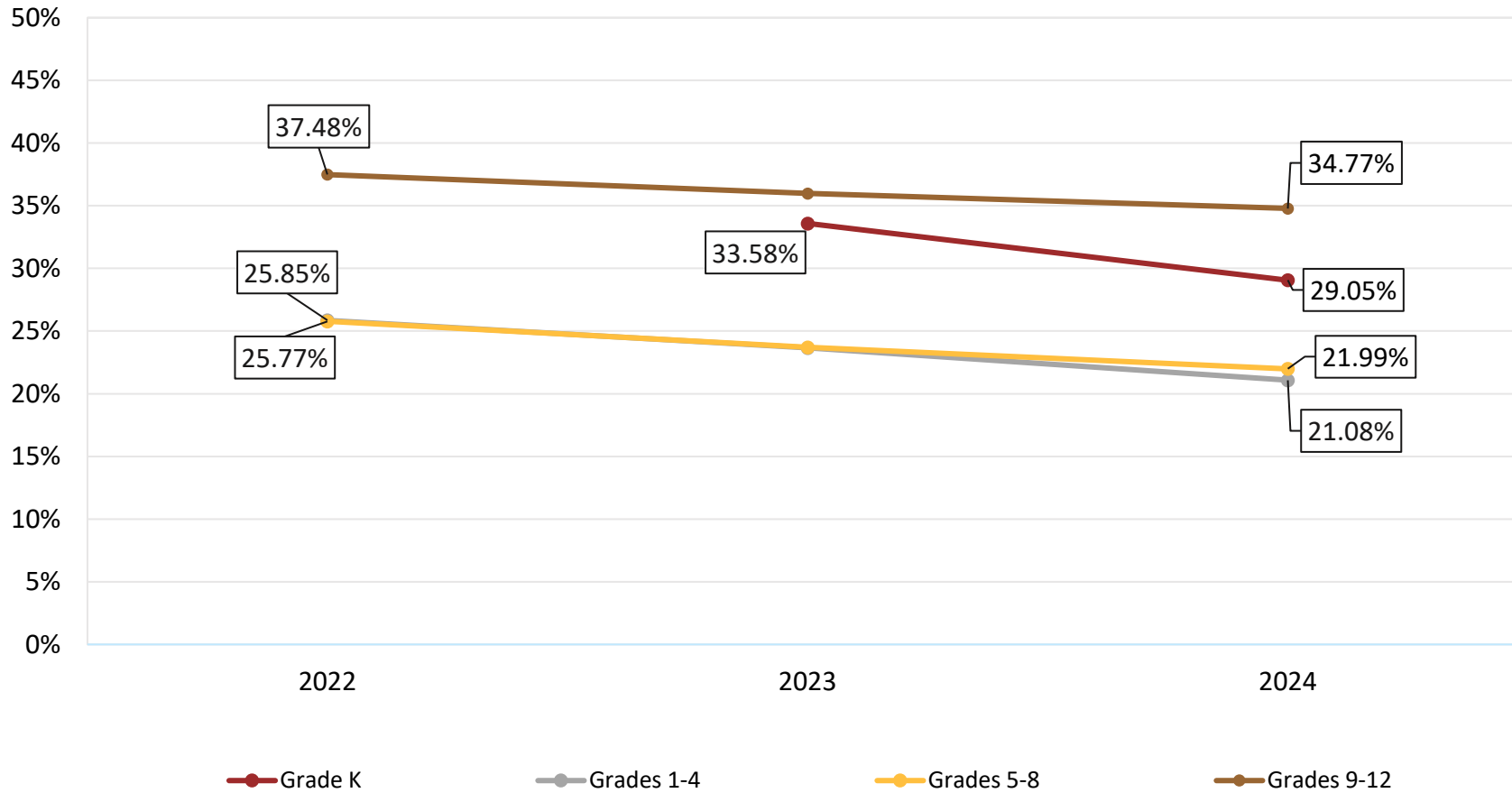
Key Takeaways

Biggest improvement for students with IEPs



Absenteeism Highest in High School

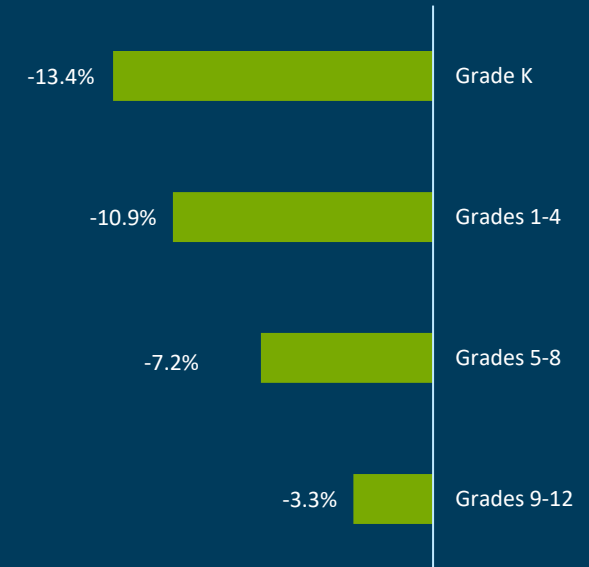
Chronic Absenteeism By Grade Band



Key Takeaways

Improvement in absenteeism also slowest in high school

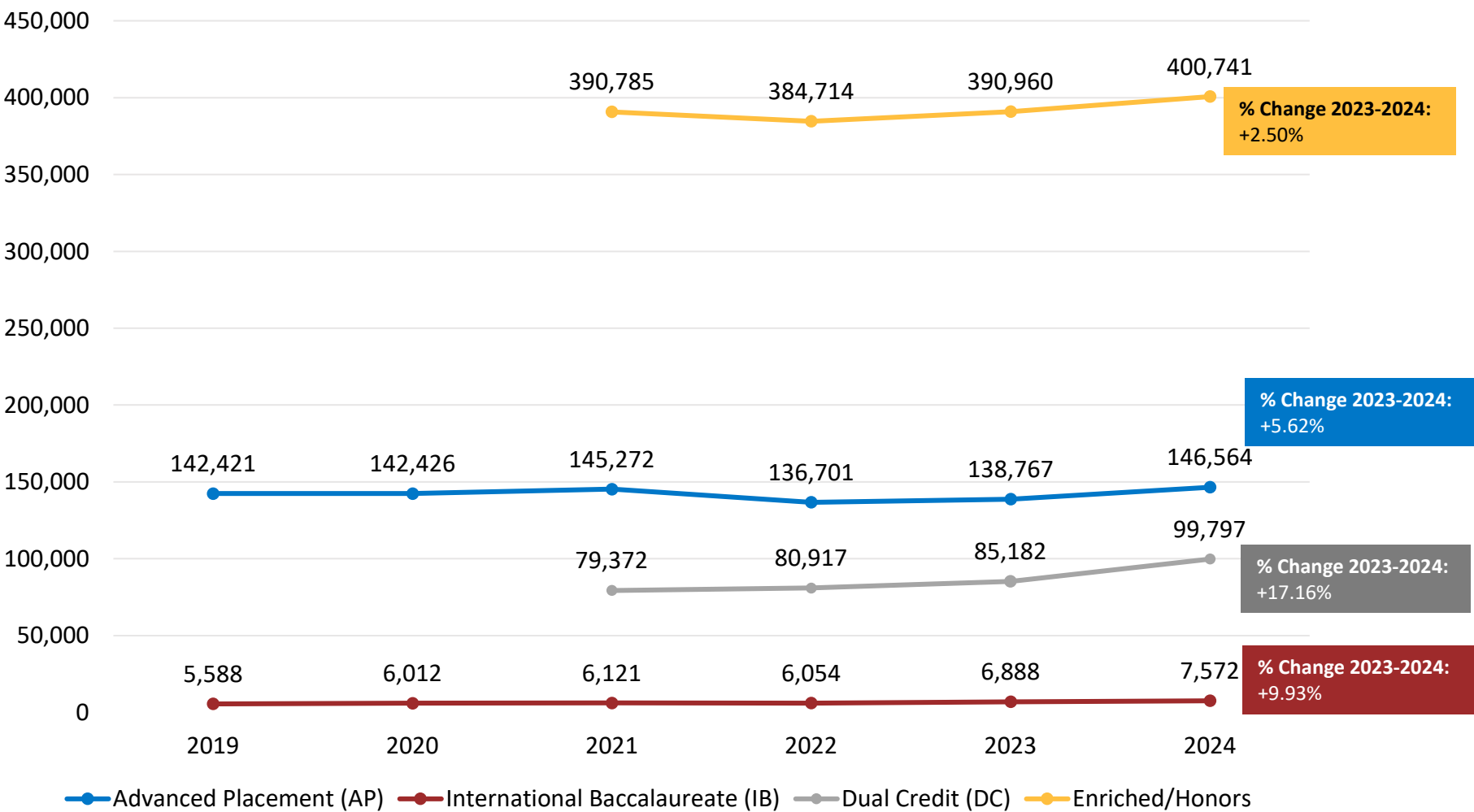
% Change from 2023-2024



**2020 chronic absenteeism artificially low due to Act of God days and remote learning in spring 2020 without consistent definitions and reporting of student attendance.*

Growing Participation in Advanced Coursework

Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Dual Credit (DC), or Enriched/Honors



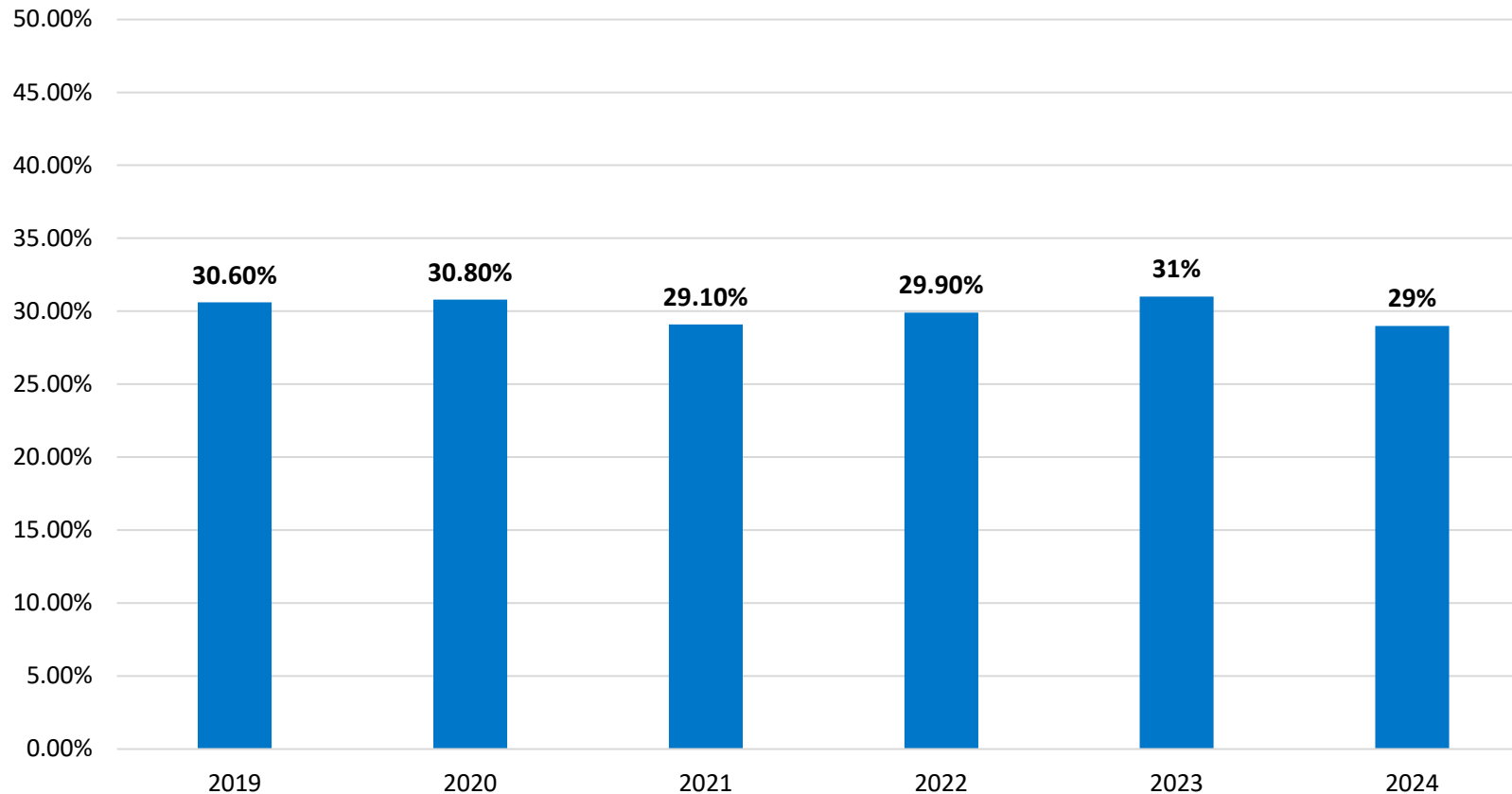
Key Takeaways

Biggest increase in students taking dual credit

Expect to see continued gains, especially for underrepresented students, due to Accelerated Placement Act

Steady Rate of 8th Graders Passing Algebra I

Percent of 8th graders who successfully completed Algebra I or higher by 8th grade



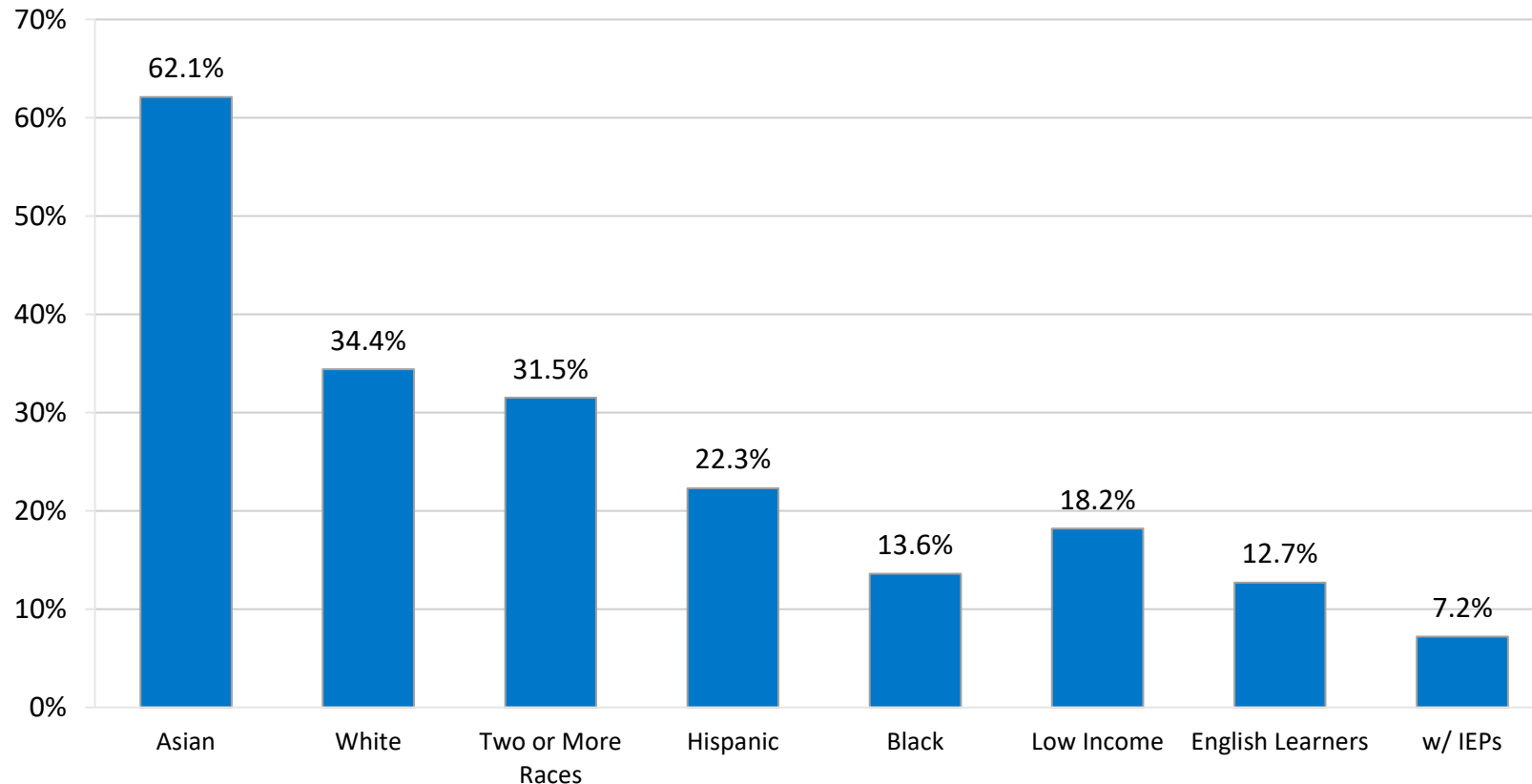
Key Takeaways

Algebra by 8th grade makes taking calculus in high school possible and functions as gateway to STEM majors and careers

Algebra I considered advanced in 8th grade – not part of grade-level standards

Equity Gaps in 8th Graders Passing Algebra I

2024 Rate of 8th Graders Passing Algebra I by Race/Ethnicity and Program



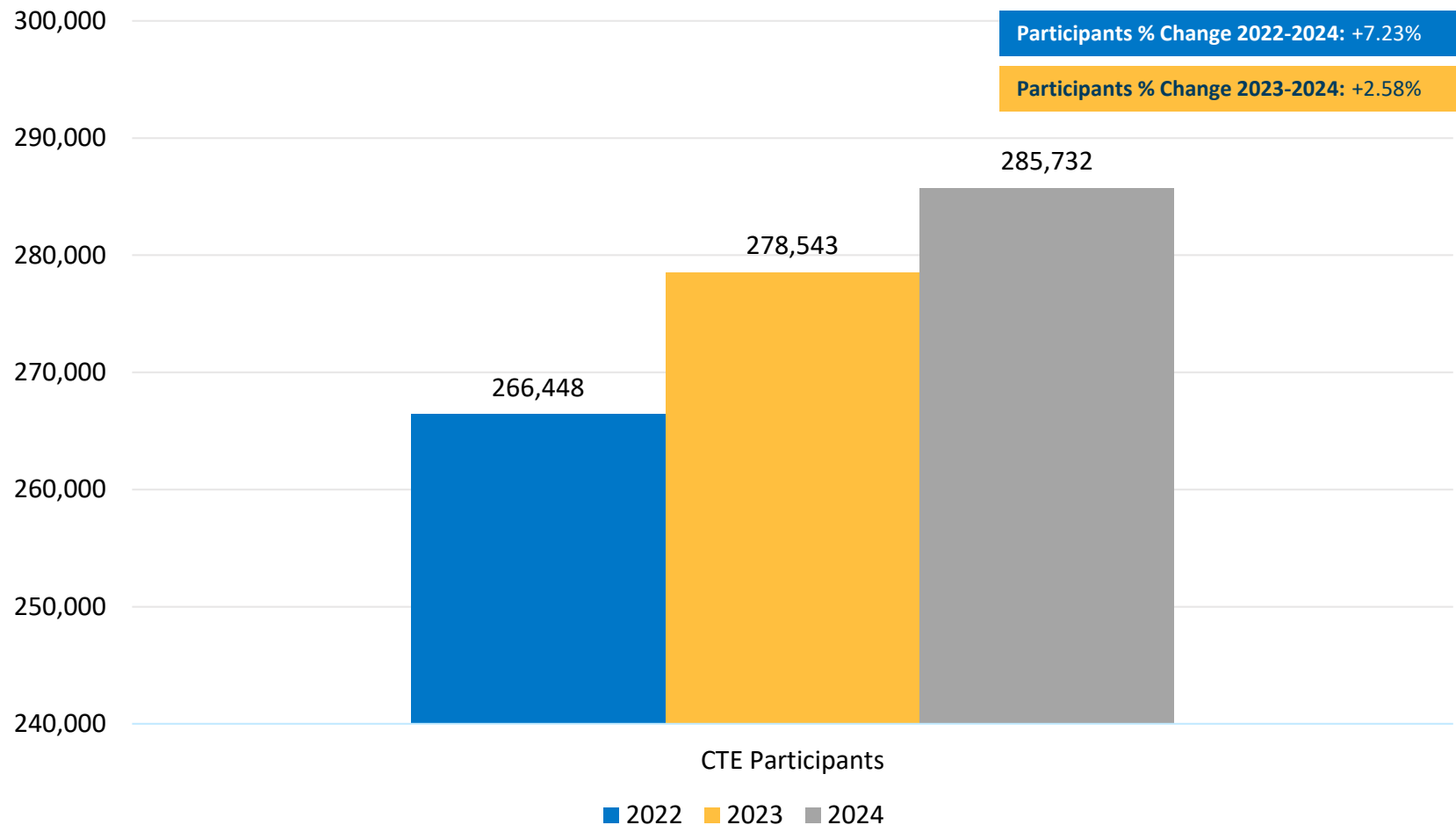
Key Takeaways

Large gaps between student groups in accessing and succeeding in Algebra I in 8th grade

Statewide math & numeracy plan must center equity

Growing Participation in CTE

High School Students Enrolled in Career and Technical Education



Key Takeaways

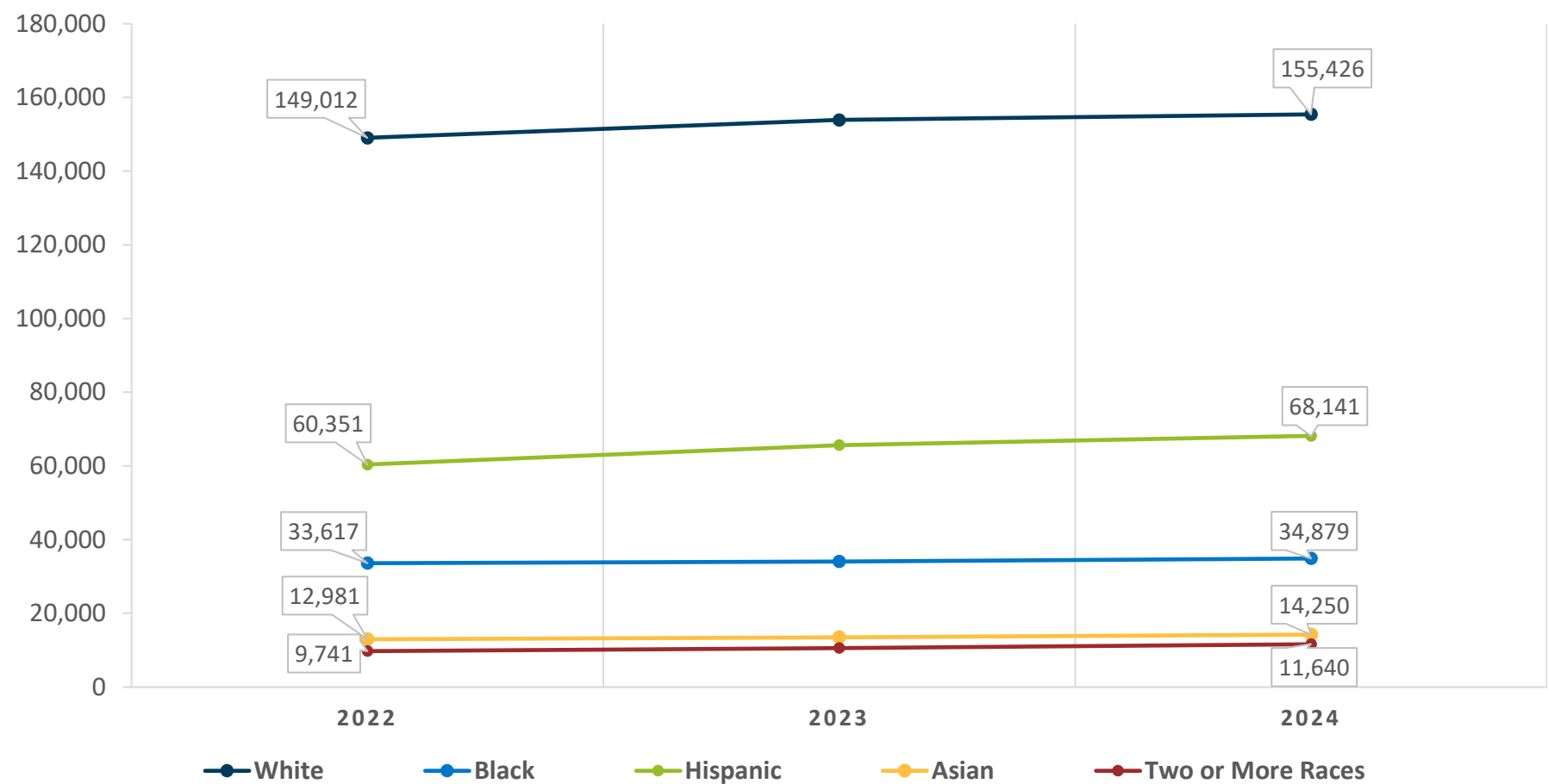
***CTE participants
see higher
graduation rate***

***\$10 million increase in
funding in FY 2025***

***New, more
equitable funding
formula***

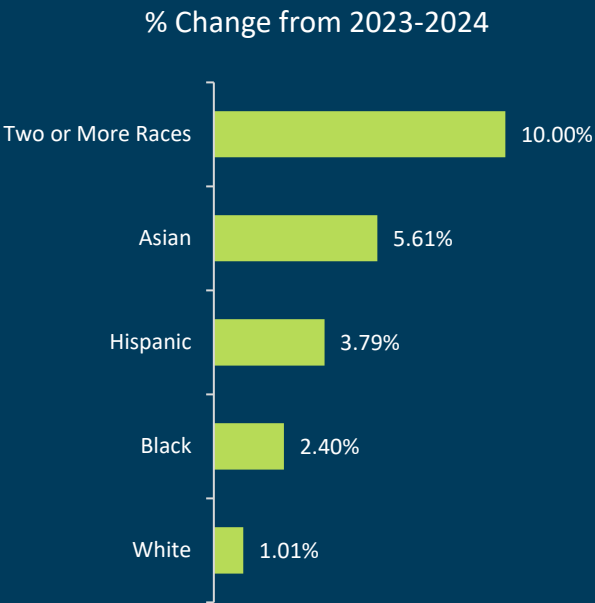
CTE Participation Growing in All Groups

Career and Technical Education Participants by Race/Ethnicity*



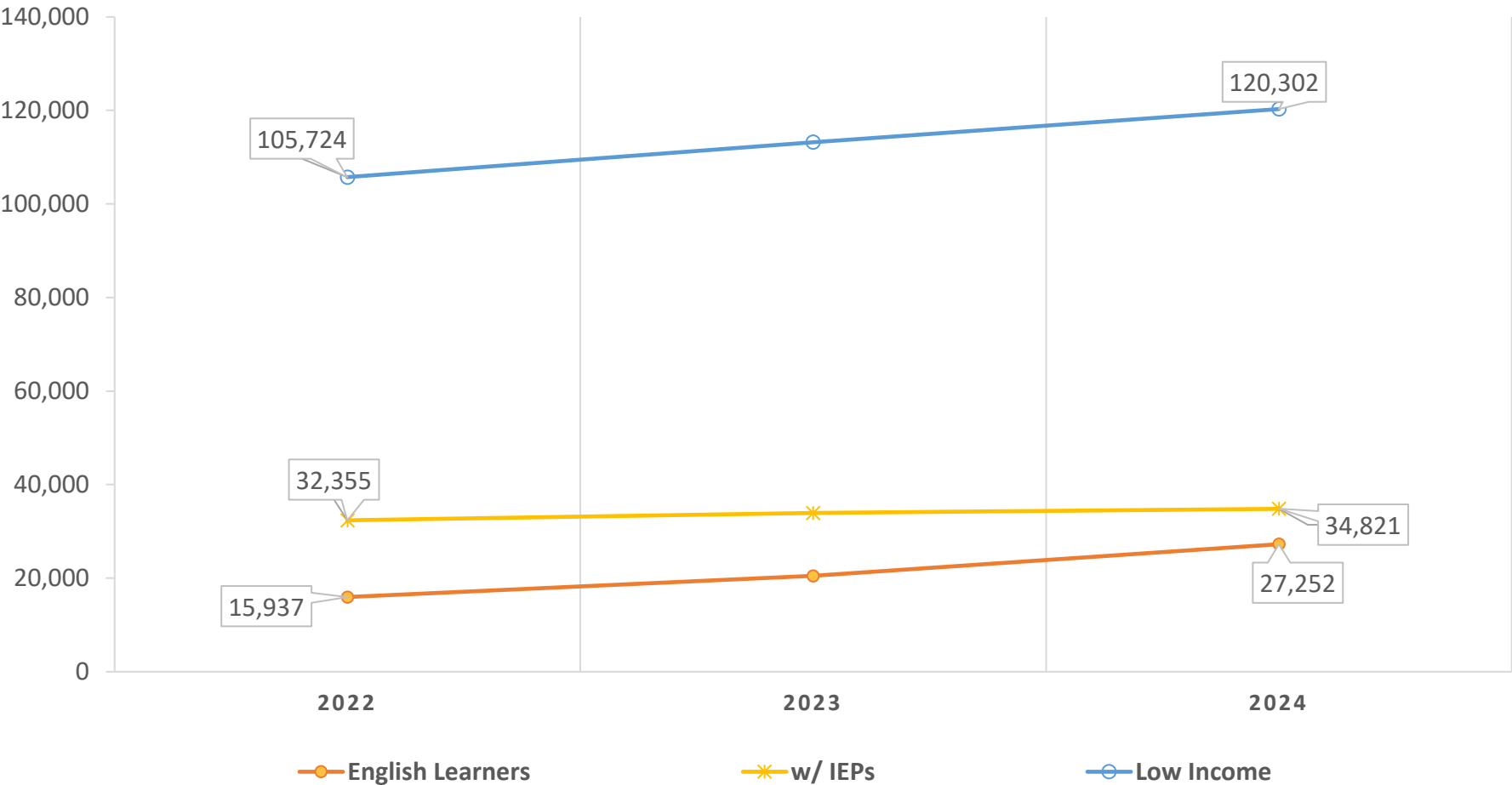
Key Takeaways

Biggest growth among student groups also seeing increasing enrollment



CTE Participation Growing in All Groups

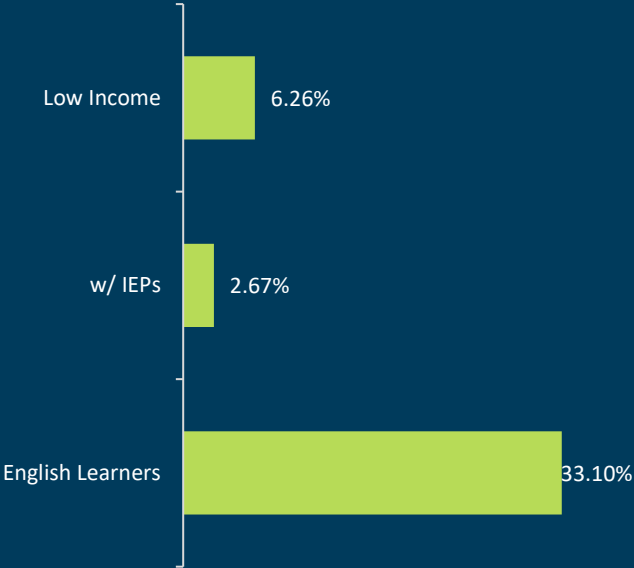
CTE Participants by Student Program



Key Takeaways

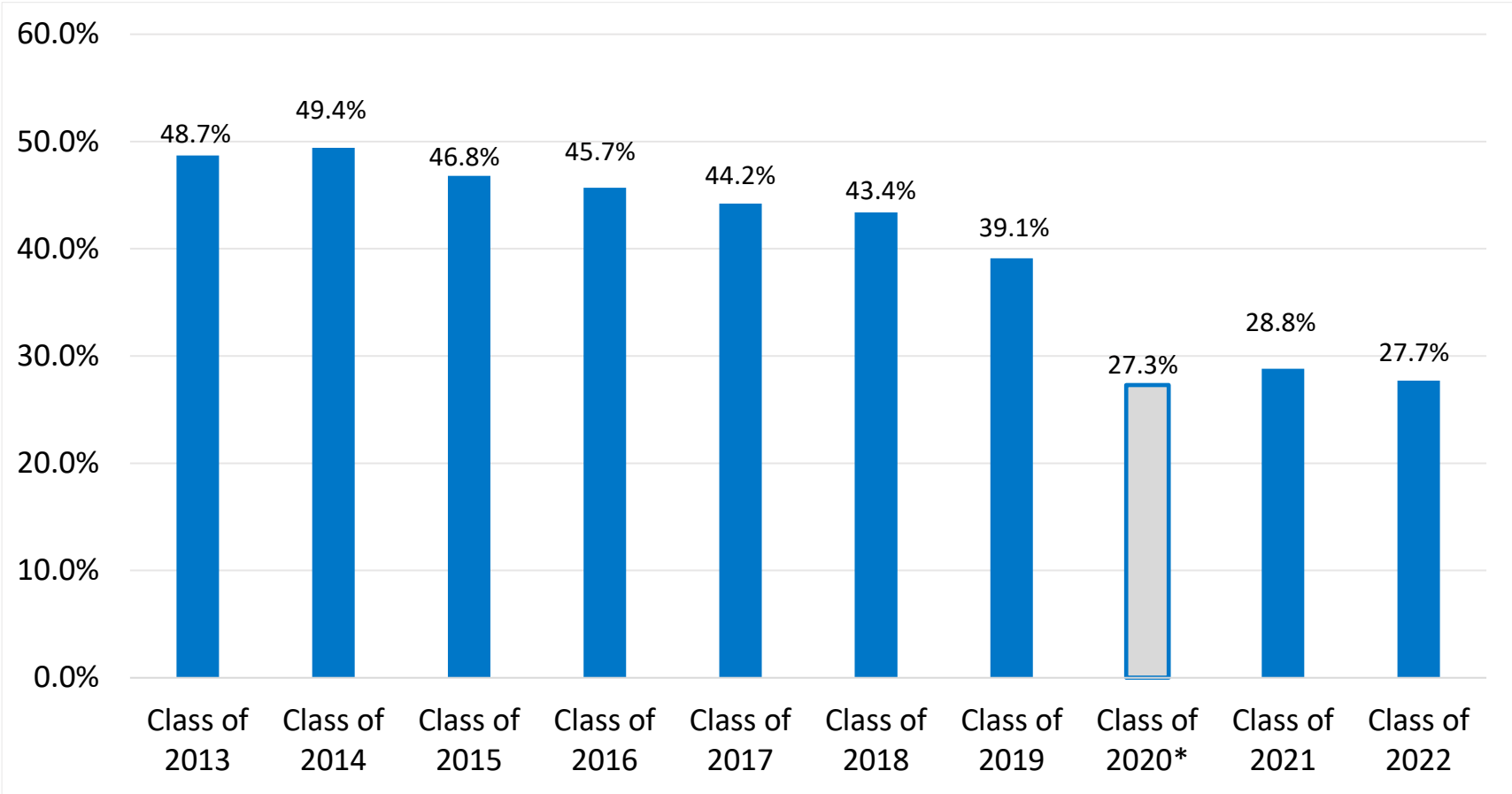
English Learner participation up by one-third

% Change from 2023-2024



Illinois Has Cut Remediation Rate by 44% since 2014

Percentage of high school graduates who attended an Illinois community college and were enrolled in remedial courses



*2020 remediation artificially deflated due to emergency action and pandemic restrictions

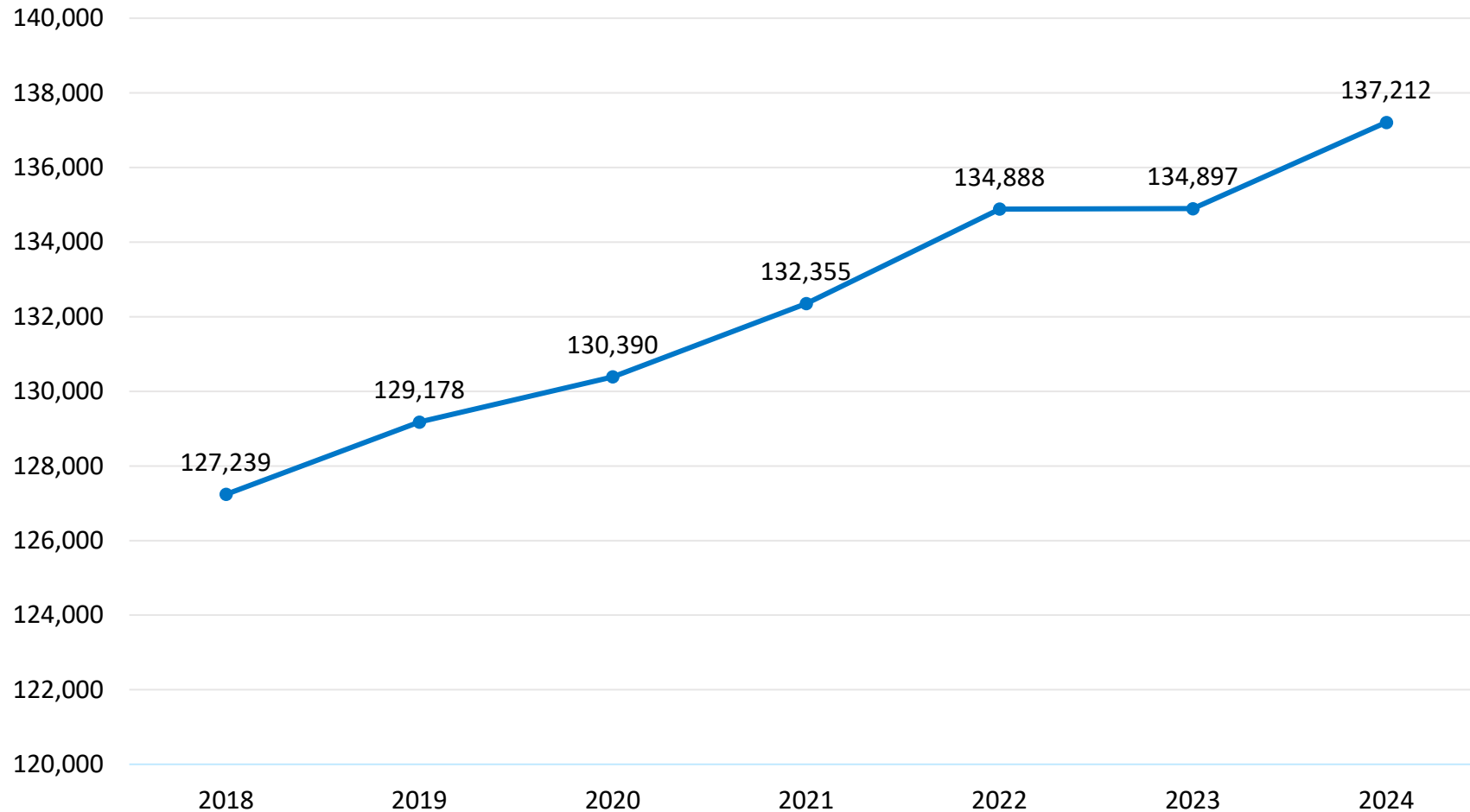
Key Takeaways

Statewide implementation of Transitional Math and English in high schools guarantees passing students placement into credit-bearing courses

All colleges and universities also developing plans to reduce remediation

More Teachers Than Ever Before

Total Filled Teacher Positions Statewide



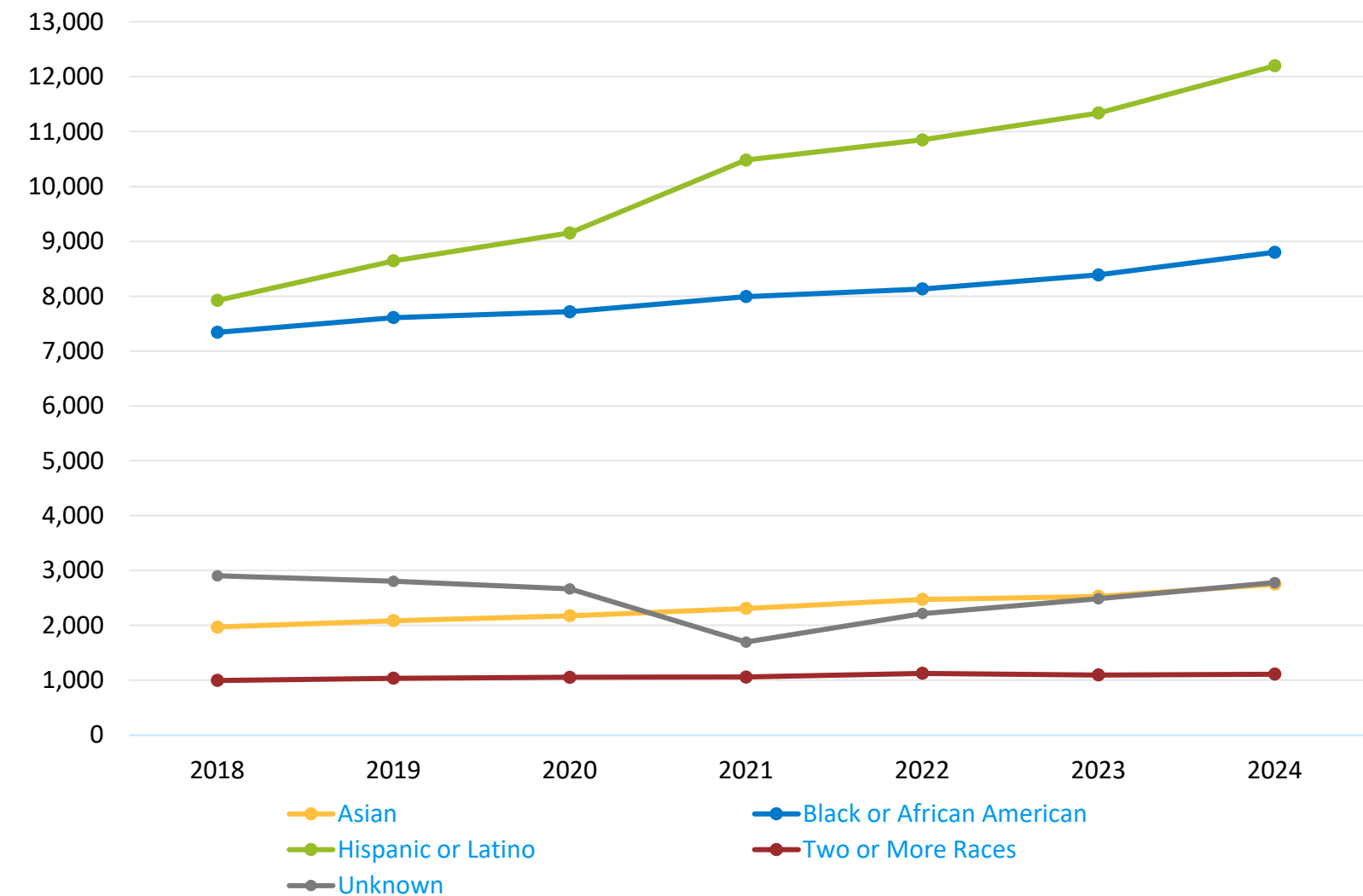
Key Takeaways

Evidence of the State's successful teacher recruitment & retention initiatives

Teacher Vacancy Grants
“The Answer is Teaching”
Marketing Campaign
CTE Education Career
Pathways Grants
Educators Rising
Affinity Groups
Short-Term Approvals
Paraprofessional to
Teacher Apprenticeship
Improvements to Licensure
Content Exams
Scholarships

Increasing Teacher Diversity

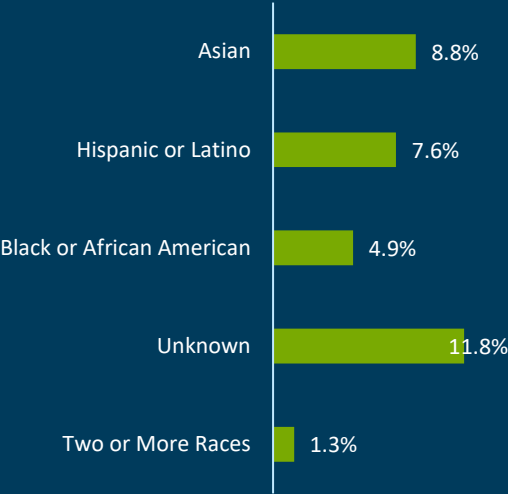
Total Teachers by Race/Ethnicity, Omitting White



Key Takeaways

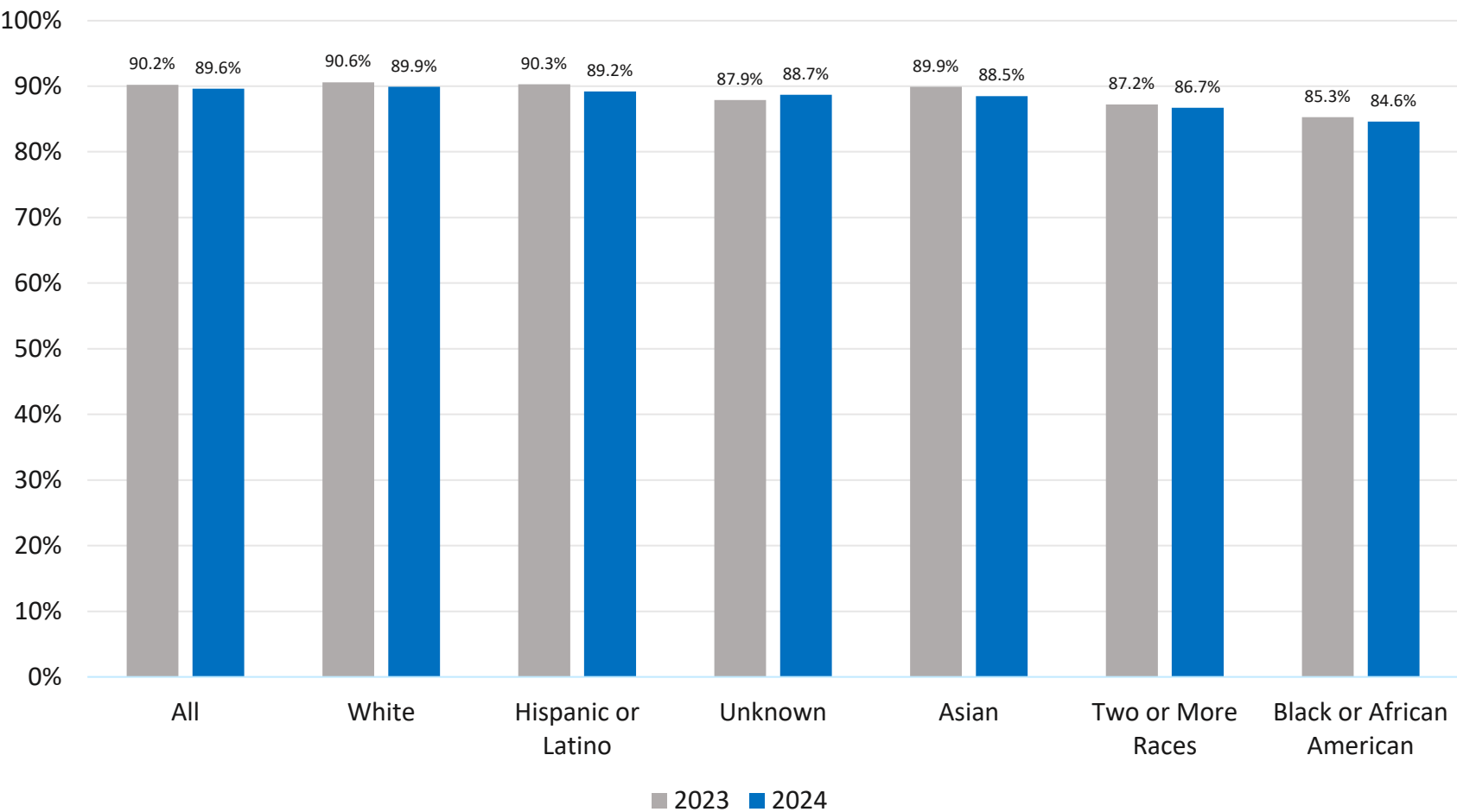
Illinois praised nationally for successful efforts to increase teacher diversity

% Change from 2023 to 2024



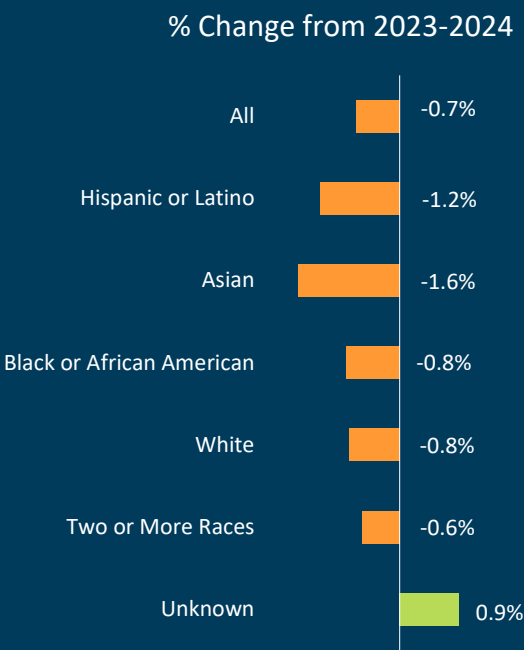
Black Teachers Retained at Lowest Rate

Three-Year Average Teacher Retention within Same District
By Race/Ethnicity



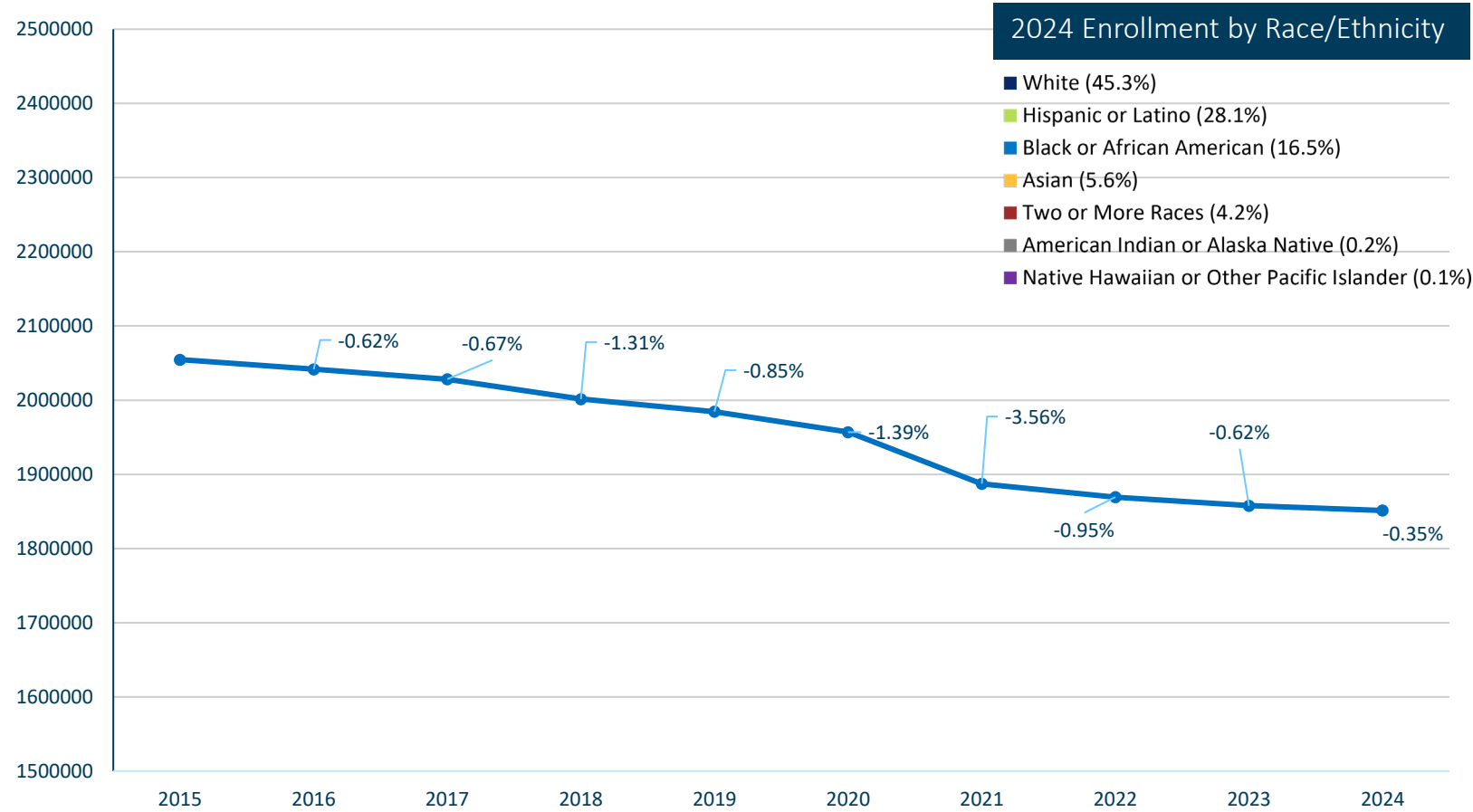
Key Takeaways

Slight decrease in teacher retention across all groups



Asian, Hispanic & Multiracial Student Enrollment Increasing

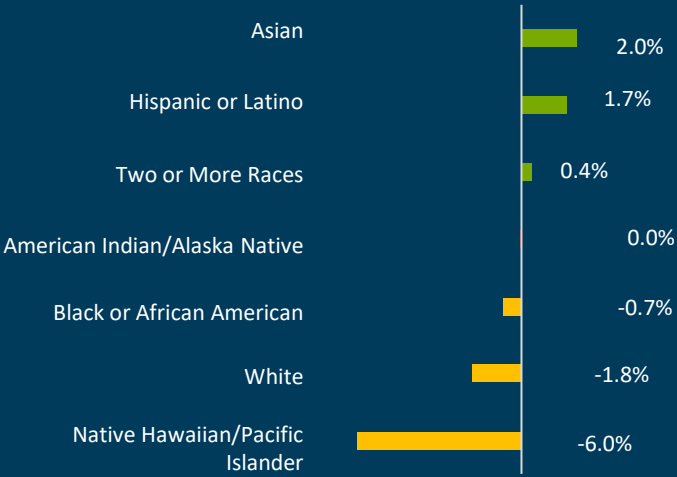
Overall Enrollment with Year-to-Year Percent Change



Key Takeaways

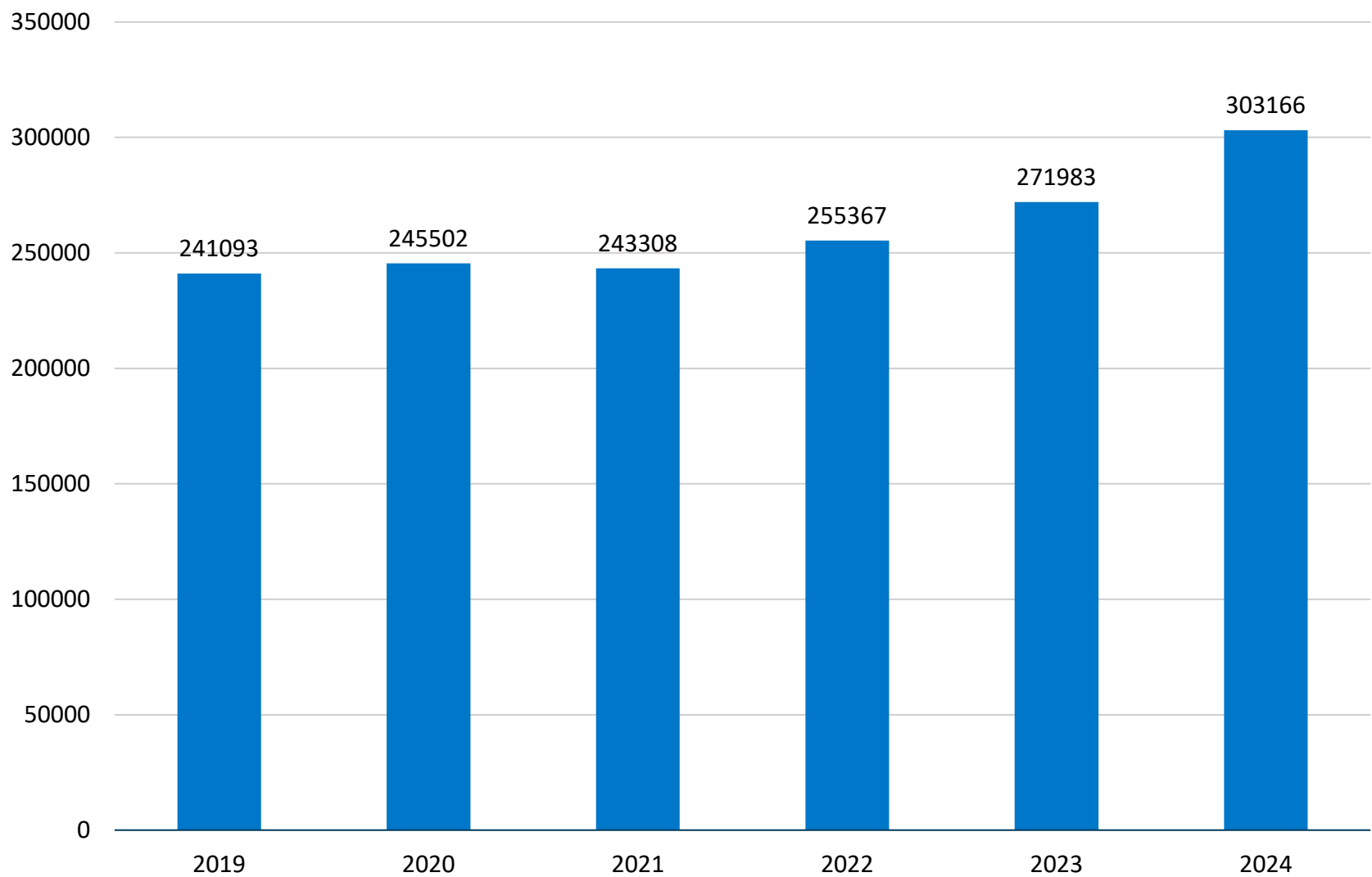
Declining enrollment trend stabilizing, tracks with declining birth rate nationwide

% Change in Enrollment 2023 to 2024



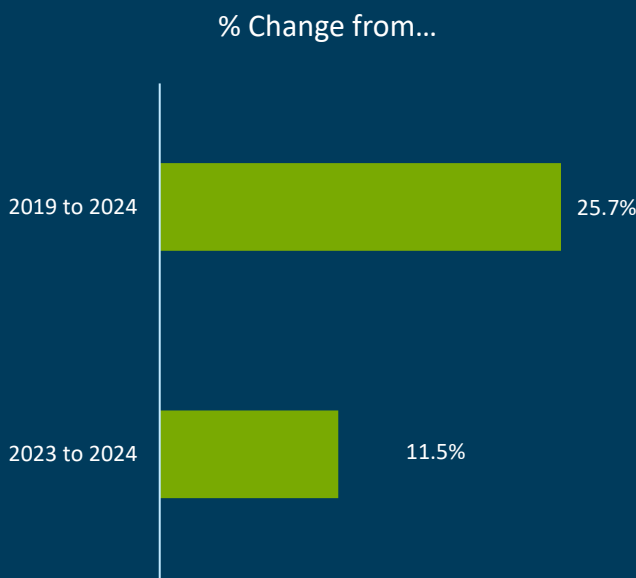
Big Increase in English Learners

English Learner Enrollment



Key Takeaways

Biggest jump in English Learner enrollments in the past five years



2024 Illinois Report Card

Key Takeaways Recap

- English language arts proficiency for grades 3-8 hits highest level ever, exceeding pre-pandemic rate, due to educators statewide focusing on literacy.
- Recovery lagging in math and in high school. State launching numeracy plan & adding growth percentile calculation for high schools.
- Highest graduation rate on record, driven by gains for Black and low-income students.
- Steady progress in reducing chronic absenteeism. Chronic absenteeism highest in high school and for Black students.
- More students taking advanced coursework, especially dual credit, and enrolling in Career and Technical Education. Rate of 8th graders passing Algebra I flat.
- Rate of students needing remedial courses in community college hits all-time low.
- More teachers than ever before. Teacher diversity increasing, but Black teachers retained at lowest rate.
- Enrollment increasing among Asian, Hispanic, multiracial, and English Learner students.
- Equity gaps persist.