

Akron Public Schools 2005-06 State Report Card

THE HIGHLIGHTS

Akron Public Schools continues to make incredible academic progress on the state's report card. Maintaining a rating of Continuous Improvement for two years required intense focus and measurement of each child's progress throughout the year with the emphasis on every child making significant improvement.

Measures of Success

There are four ways to measure a district's success:

- ◆ **Indicators:** The state report card contains 25 indicators. A district's rating can be determined by the number met. APS met 7.
- ◆ **Performance Index:** Akron's 85.8 points earned a Continuous Improvement rating – just 4.2 points from Effective.
- ◆ **Performance Index Improvement:** Improvement of 10 percent over two years is necessary to meet this measurement. Akron improved 10.5 percent.
- ◆ **Adequate Yearly Progress:** This measures the achievement of each student group including race and ethnicity. Akron met AYP in half of the subgroups and made significant improvement in each subgroup.

Higher Expectations + Focus = Continuous Improvement

The state report card has changed annually since its inception and will change again next year. Students are now tested in reading and math in grades three through eight. Next year, science and social studies will be added in grades five and eight and writing in grade seven.

As well as academic changes, APS is operating on a reduced budget due to the loss of a May ballot issue and five years of incessant budget cuts. Akron Public Schools cut more than \$40 million from the budget, including 580 teaching and administrative jobs.

Despite these obstacles, we are working hard to ensure our students receive a quality education. The following is a summary of the progress our district and schools have made on the 2005-06 report card.

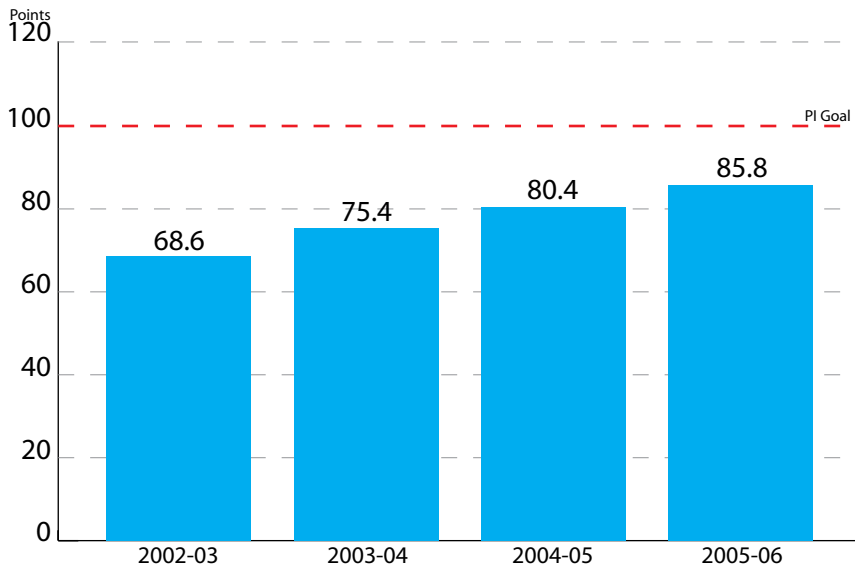
District Highlights

District Rating: Continuous Improvement earned through Performance Index score

Performance Index:

- ◆ 85.8 points (missed Effective rating by 4.2 points)
- ◆ 25% increase over three years
- ◆ From 68.6 in 2002-03 to 85.8 points in 2005-06

Performance Index Score



Performance Index is a weighted average of performance levels across each tested subject and grade. The Performance Index is on a scale of 0 to 120 points, and 100 is the goal. APS increased its PI score by 25 percent over the past three years.

Indicators:

- ◆ **Report Card Indicators:** APS met 7 of 25 indicators, up from 3 last year
- ◆ **Attendance Indicator:** Met at 93.4%
- ◆ **Graduation Indicator:** Graduation rate is up to 80.3% (state goal is 90%)

Adequate Yearly Progress:

- ◆ AYP not met district-wide
- ◆ 32 of 57 schools met AYP

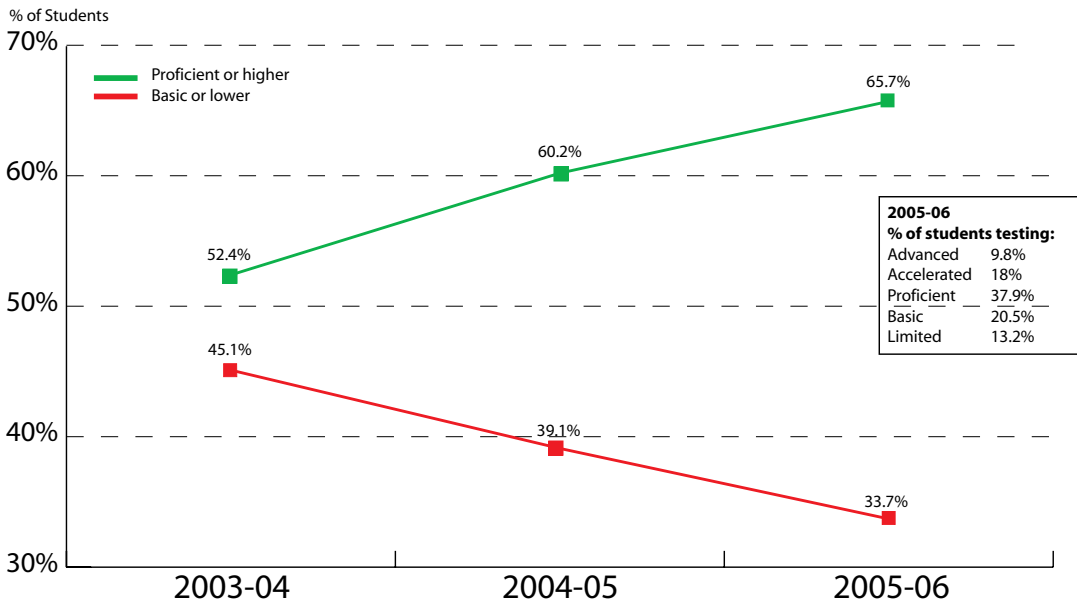
Participation Rate: Met two-year average participation rate in every subgroup

Urban Comparison: Overall, Akron outperformed other urban districts and ranked #1 in:

- ◆ Grade 3 – reading and math
- ◆ Grade 4 – reading, math and writing
- ◆ Grade 5 – reading and math
- ◆ Grade 6 – reading and math
- ◆ Grade 8 – math
- ◆ Grade 10 – science and social studies
- ◆ Graduation rate

Student Score Highlights

More students testing at higher levels: Since 2003-04, **165%** more students are testing at the two highest levels – accelerated and advanced. Fewer students are testing below proficient (down **25%**). The number of students testing at proficient and higher is up **25%**.



Since the 2003-04 school year, 25% more students are testing at the "Proficient" or higher level, while 25% fewer students are testing at the "Basic" or lower level. In addition, the number of students testing at "Accelerated" or "Advanced" has improved by 165% over the past two years! This directly affects the district's "Performance Index" score, which measures academic progress over time. Because Akron Public Schools Performance Index score shows steady improvement, the district is rated as Continuous Improvement.

Test Scores

Reading:

- ◆ District – up 31%
- ◆ Grade 6 – up 45%

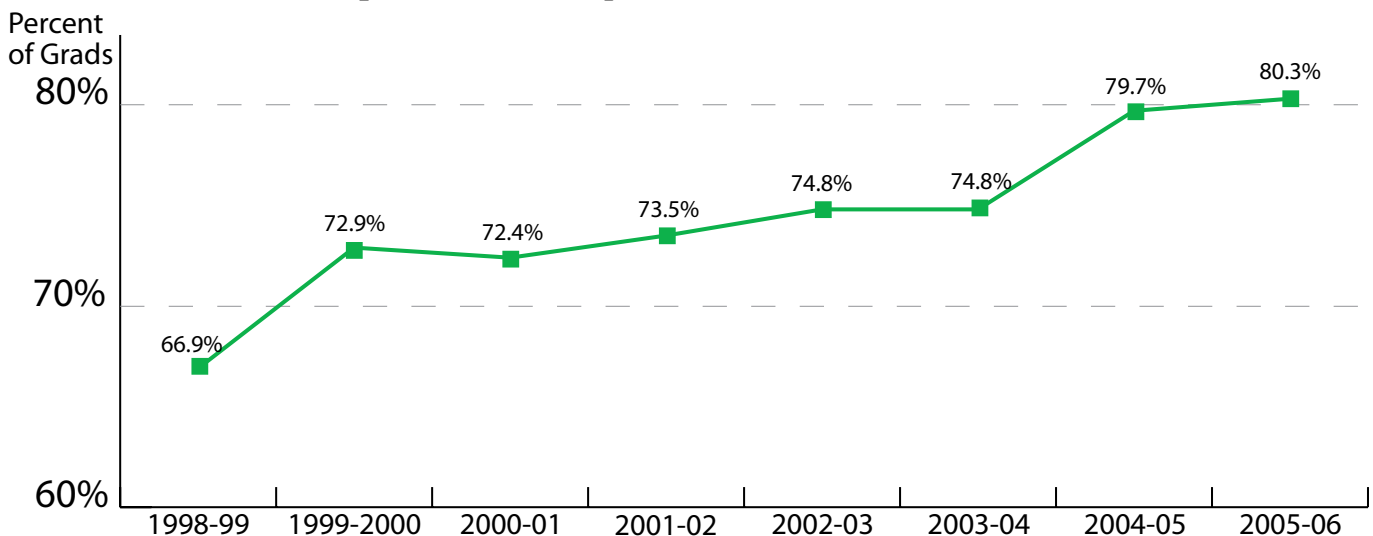
Writing:

- ◆ District – up 22%
- ◆ Grade 4 – up 15%
- ◆ Grade 10 – up 7%

Math: Test scores rose for the district and every grade tested:

- ◆ District – up 76%
- ◆ Grade 3 – up 10%
- ◆ Grade 4 – up 23%
- ◆ Grade 6 – up 13%
- ◆ Grade 7 – up 2%
- ◆ Grade 8 – up 23%
- ◆ Grade 10 – up 3%

Graduation Rate Improves Steadily



School Highlights

Take a look at our schools' rating improvement since the 2002-03 school year!

Rating	Schools Rated As ...			
	2002-03*	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Excellent	1	2	3	3
Effective	4	8	9	16
Continuous Improvement	22	39	32	27
Academic Watch	3	0	9	11
Academic Emergency	24	9	4	0

* Crosby, Lawndale, Jackson and Stewart did not receive building ratings this year.

Continuous Improvement or higher: 46 of 57 Akron schools or 81%

- ◆ **Excellent:** 3 schools
- ◆ **Effective:** 16 schools
- ◆ **Continuous Improvement:** 27 schools
- ◆ **Academic Watch:** 11 schools
- ◆ **Academic Emergency:** No schools

Rating Improvements (compared to 2005)

Improved one rating (17 schools), including:

- ◆ Bettes: Continuous Improvement to Effective
- ◆ Betty Jane: Continuous Improvement to Effective
- ◆ Ellet: Effective to Excellent
- ◆ Essex: Continuous Improvement to Effective
- ◆ Forest Hill: Continuous Improvement to Effective
- ◆ Hyre: Continuous Improvement to Effective
- ◆ Leggett: Continuous Improvement to Effective
- ◆ Litchfield: Continuous Improvement to Effective
- ◆ Sam Salem: Continuous Improvement to Effective

Improved two ratings: Goodyear, Rankin and Robinson improved two ratings from Academic Emergency to Continuous Improvement!

Indicators: 32 schools met more indicators than in 2005