

FACT SHEET

New York Common Core: Advancing Student Achievement

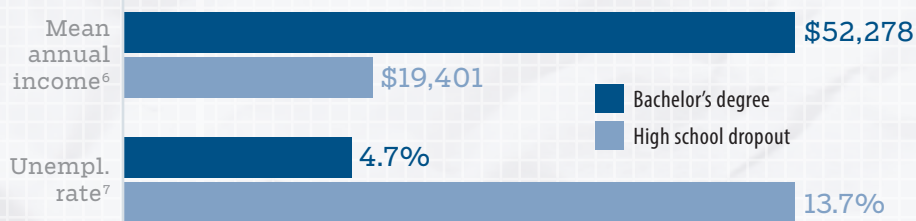
Across the country, too many of today's high school graduates are not ready for college or the workforce. According to a recent study, one out of four high school graduates require remedial education to enroll in college courses. The Common Core State Standards will help prepare students throughout the nation for success in college and careers.

New York's students deserve a high-quality and robust education

Today, nearly every high-paying job requires some postsecondary education or training. In order to compete for 21st century jobs, New York's students need a strong academic base that prepares them for success in the knowledge-based economy.

But currently, the system in New York is failing to help all students achieve their full potential. New York's high school graduation rate lags 12.5 percent behind the nation's highest-performing state.¹ And even more alarmingly, New York's college graduation rate among adults lags 15 percent behind America's highest-performing state.²

In New York, adults with a bachelor's degree earn more than twice as much as high school dropouts.

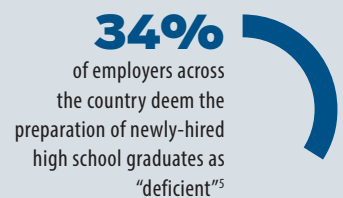
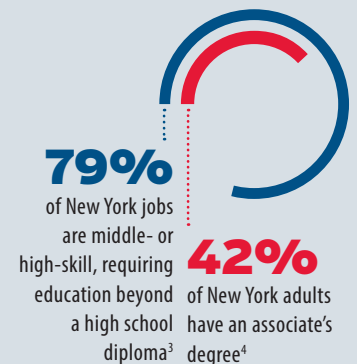


If we want New York's students to achieve, we need to expect more

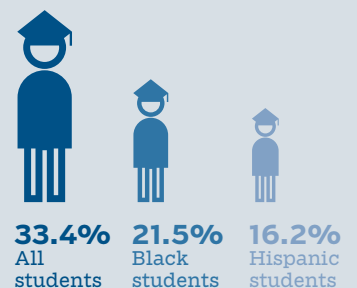
The Common Core State Standards, or CCSS, provide a new path for teachers to develop a more rigorous curriculum and raise the bar for students to become active learners and independent thinkers.

Recognizing the dire need to advance student achievement, New York's leaders worked with education officials from across the county to draft a new set of standards to promote critical thinking and problem solving. New York initially adopted the Common Core State Standards in 2010 and joined 44 other states and the District of Columbia in raising the bar for student achievement in math and reading.⁹ By raising expectations and providing support to help students reach them, children in New York will be better prepared with the knowledge and skills needed to prosper in higher education and future careers.

New York's students are not prepared for future high-skilled jobs

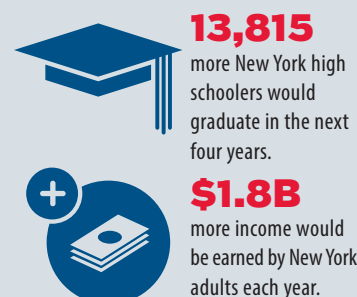


College graduation rates among New York adults⁸



Low standards are costing New York

If New York's high school graduation rate matched the national average:¹⁰



Next-generation assessments are needed for a next-generation workforce

Better preparation and K-12 assessments are critical for student success in college and a career. Currently in New York, gaps between state- and nationally reported reading and math scores make it near impossible for teachers and parents to know how students are performing in comparison to their peers in other states and across the globe.

Example: How the Common Core can create a higher standard for student achievement



3RD GRADE: OLD NEW YORK TEST¹⁵

What number is seven hundred sixty?

- A) 76
- B) 706
- C) 760
- D) 7,006



3RD GRADE: COMMON CORE¹⁶

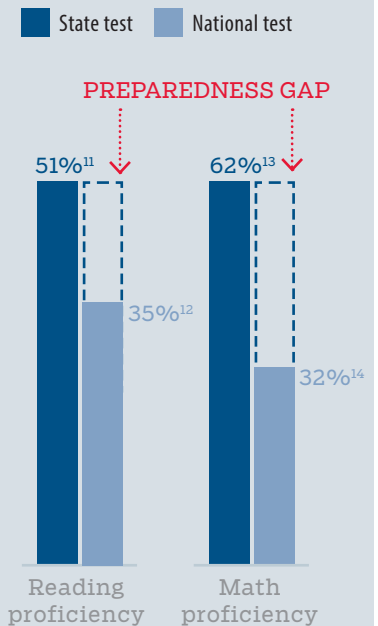
Click on all the equations that are true.

- $8 \times 9 = 81$
- $54 \div 9 = 24 \div 6$
- $7 \times 5 = 25$
- $8 \times 3 = 4 \times 6$
- $49 \div 7 = 56 \div 8$

American students score well below their peers in other countries, and are not expected to know critical math and reading skills as early as their global counterparts. Common Core will help ensure our students are receiving the world-class education they deserve.

The preparedness gap in New York

While a majority of students are deemed proficient on state exams, performance on national exams tells a different story.



There is broad support for Common Core in New York and across the country

67% OF TEACHERS

in New York believe the Common Core standards will improve students' ability to think critically and use reasoning skills.¹⁷

“When you come in with a big change, there’s normally fits and starts, and it’s a little jerky, so that’s to be expected... nationwide [Common Core is] where the county’s going, that’s the state of the art.

GOV. ANDREW CUOMO (D-NY)¹⁸

“The new Common Core... will empower students to achieve at higher levels in the years ahead.

NYC MAYOR MICHAEL BLOOMBERG¹⁹

“If the country retreats from the Common Core reforms, it will be surrendering the field to competitors that have already left it behind in math and science education, which are essential to participation in the 21st-century work force.

THE NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL BOARD²⁰

Endnotes

- 1 U.S. Census Bureau, “2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates,” Census ID S1501 (last accessed November 2013).
- 2 Ibid.
- 3 National Skills Coalition, “Middle-Skill Jobs State-by-State: New York,” available at http://www.nationalskillscoalition.org/resources/fact-sheets/state-fact-sheets/middle-skill/nsc_middleskills_newyork.pdf (last accessed November 2013).
- 4 U.S. Census Bureau, “2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates,” Census ID S1501 (last accessed November 2013).
- 5 Civic Enterprises and Corporate Voices for Working Families, “Across the Great Divide: Perspectives of CEOs and College Presidents on America’s Higher Education and Skills Gap” (2011), available at http://www.civicenterprises.net/MediaLibrary/Docs/across_the_great_divide.pdf.
- 6 U.S. Census Bureau, “2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates,” Census ID B20004.
- 7 U.S. Census Bureau, “2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates,” Census ID B23006.
- 8 U.S. Census Bureau, “2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates,” Census ID S1501.
- 9 “Forty-five states, the District of Columbia, four territories, and the Department of Defense Education Activity have adopted the Common Core State Standards,” available at <http://www.corestandards.org/in-the-states>.
- 10 Center for American Progress projections based on U.S. Census Bureau, “2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates” and Department of Education high school graduation data.
- 11 U.S. Department of Education, “Consolidated State Performance Reports,” available at <http://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/consolidated/index.html> (last accessed November 2013).
- 12 National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2013 Reading Assessment, generated using the NAEP Data Explorer, available at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata/>.
- 13 U.S. Department of Education, “Consolidated State Performance Reports.”
- 14 National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2013 Reading Assessment, generated using the NAEP Data Explorer, available at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata/>.
- 15 “New York State Testing Program, Mathematics Test Book 1, Grade 3,” May 5–7, 2010, available at <http://www.nysedregents.org/grade3/mathematics/20100505book1w.pdf>.
- 16 PARCC, “Grade 3 Mathematics (Fluency),” available at <http://parcconline.org/samples/mathematics/grade-3-mathematics-fluency> (last accessed November 2013).
- 17 Scholastic, “Primary Sources 2013 Preview: New York,” available at <http://www.scholastic.com/primarysources/2013preview/state-ny.htm> (last accessed November 2013).
- 18 Karen DeWitt, “Cuomo supports Common Core standards,” New York Now, October 24, 2013, available at <http://nynow.org/post/cuomo-supports-common-core-standards>.
- 19 Mike Bloomberg, “NYC Announces Student Results on New, More Rigorous State Tests Aligned to Common Core Learning Standards,” August 7, 2013, available at <http://www.mikebloomberg.com/index.cfm?objectid=59C982F3-C29C-7CA2-F74C-88A54CFC0898>.
- 20 Editorial Board, “Moving Ahead With Common Core,” The New York Times, April 20, 2013, available at <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/21/opinion/sunday/moving-ahead-with-common-core.html>.