

FACT SHEET

Ohio Common Core: Advancing Student Achievement

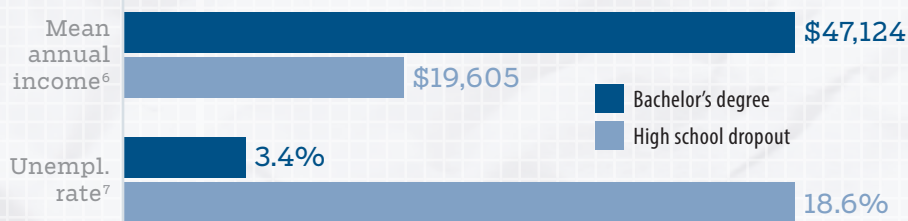
Across the country, too many of today's high school graduates are not ready for college or the workforce. According to a recent study, one out of four high school graduates require remedial education to enroll in college courses. The Common Core State Standards will help prepare students throughout the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

Ohio'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, Ohio's students need a strong academic base that prepares them for success in the knowledge-based economy.

But currently, the system in Ohio is failing to help all students achieve their full potential. 28,000 Ohio students between the ages of 16 and 19 dropped out of high school in 2011.¹ And even more alarmingly, Ohio's college graduation rate among adults lags 12 percent behind the national average.²

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

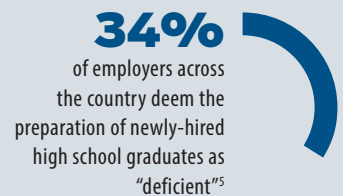
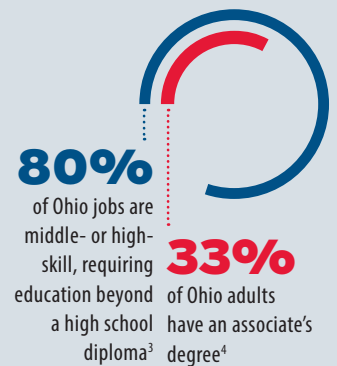


If we want Ohio's students to achieve, we need to expect more

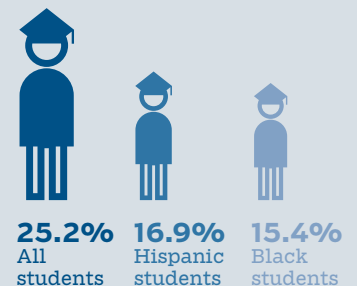
The Common Core State Standards, or CCSS, provide a new path for teachers to develop a more rigorous curriculum and raise the bar for students to become active learners and independent thinkers.

Recognizing the dire need to advance student achievement, Ohio's leaders worked with education officials from across the county to draft a new set of standards to promote critical thinking and problem solving. Ohio 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 Ohio will be better prepared with the knowledge and skills needed to prosper in higher education and future careers.

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

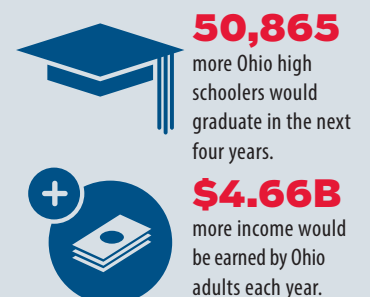


College graduation rates among Ohio adults⁸



Low standards are costing Ohio

If Ohio's high school graduation rate matched the best performing state: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 Ohio, 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 OHIO TEST¹⁵

Which is equal to $40 + 5$?

- A) 9×5
- B) $49 - 6$
- C) $28 + 25$



3RD GRADE: COMMON CORE¹⁶

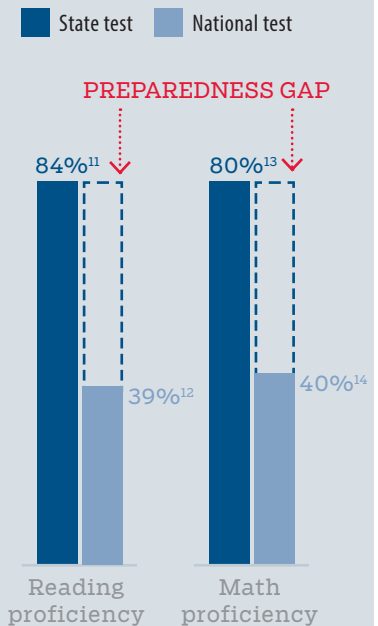
Click on all the equations that are true.

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

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 Ohio

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 Ohio and across the country

73% OF TEACHERS

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

All of the educators and superintendents I've talked to think this is the best thing to happen to education in Ohio in years, because it gets rid of some of the fluff, focuses on real solid basics and has a structure that builds on itself each year.

REP. GERALD STEBELTON (R-OH)¹⁸

What might have seemed like high standards in the past are no longer sufficient. That is why Ohio has participated with other states over the past several years to develop the Common Core, meant to be more-rigorous set of education standards that will prepare our students for these new expectations.

RICHARD C. LEWIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION, COLUMBUS¹⁹

What you need to know as a parent is that the standards provide parents with clearer expectations for what their children should be able to know when they graduate or advance from high school or advance on from grade to grade. When parents are involved and know what their kids are doing in the classroom, kids just do better.

OHIO PTA PAST-PRESIDENT DEBBIE TIDWELL²⁰

Endnotes

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