

Methodology

Data Sources

- 2015-16 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) English language arts/literacy (English) and mathematics results.
- 2014-15 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) English language arts/literacy (English) and mathematics results were used to calculate the difference in proficiency rates between the two years of test data.
- California Department of Education (CDE) Public School Directory database.
- Student Enrollment in School Year 2015-16 through the California Department of Education's website.
- Student Enrollment Breakdown by Racial/Ethnic Group and Economic Status for School Year 2015-16. This information was obtained through a data request to the California Department of Education.

School Sample

The school sample is limited to traditional charter and public schools serving students between grades K-12, as defined by CDE. For example, the sample does not include juvenile court schools, schools determined to have selective admissions, or alternative independent study schools.

Criteria for Inclusion

The schools highlighted in our lists of top-performing schools for low-income African-American and low-income Latino students meet the following criteria:

- The percentage of low-income African American or low-income Latino students tested in the school was equal to or higher than the state's average percentage of low-income African American (4.2%) or low-income Latino students (43.2%); and
- The proficiency rate for the given student group (i.e., low-income African American or low-income Latino students) in English or math on the 2015-16 CAASPP was equal to or higher than the state average for all students in the given school type (elementary, middle or high) and subject (English or math); and
- The participation rate (the number of students tested divided by the number of students enrolled in a school) was at least 95% when rounded.

A more detailed methodology is available on the report landing page on our website: www.innovateschools.org/topschools.