

K-12 Learning Loss and Federal COVID Relief Funds

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Research Overview

- What is learning loss, how is it measured, and what is its extent?
- What practices and programs are in place or will be in place to combat learning loss?
- How have the federal COVID relief funds been implemented to address learning loss?

Learning Loss





What Is Learning Loss?

- Azevedo *et al* (2021)
 - “Learning that will not take place while schools are closed” AND “the already acquired learning that will be lost or forgotten when students lose their engagement with the educational system.”
- NC State Plan for ARP ESSER (ESSER III) Fund (June 24, 2021)
 - “academic impact of lost instructional time”



What Does Learning Loss Look Like?

- Hippel (2019)
 - Early Childhood Longitudinal Study: students lose 2 weeks of reading and math in their first summer and lose 2 weeks of reading in second summer but gain in math.
 - Measures of Academic Progress (MAP): students lose one month of reading and math in their first summer and lose 3 months of reading and math in second summer.
- Brookings Institute (2017)
 - Scores declined over summer by one month's worth of school-year learning.
 - Declines were sharper for math than for reading.



How Is Learning Measured?

- Student-Level Accountability
 - End of Grade (EOG) and End of Course (EOC) tests
 - ACT test
 - Gr 3 Beginning of Grade (BOG) assessment
 - English Language Proficiency Test
 - NC Check-in



Historical Ways to Address Traditional Learning Loss

- Summer Learning Programs
- Small Group Tutoring
- After-School Programs

A photograph of the North Carolina State Capitol building, featuring a prominent green-tiled roof and a series of white columns. An American flag flies on a tall pole to the right. The text "COVID-19 in North Carolina" is overlaid in large, bold, black letters in the center of the image.

COVID-19 in North Carolina



Funding Timeline

March 2020

ESSER I
\$396 Million
CARES Act

December 2020

ESSER II
\$1.6 Billion
CRRSA

March 2021

ESSER III
\$3.6 Billion
ARP Act




May 2020
\$396 Million
S.L. 2020-4
(HB 1043)

February 2021
\$1.4 Billion
S.L. 2021-1
(SB 36)

March 2021
\$160 Million
10% State Reserve
S.L. 2021-3
(HB 196)

May 2021
\$3.2 Billion
S.L. 2021-25
(HB 172)

November 2021
\$360 Million
10% State Reserve
S.L. 2021-180
(SB 105)



2019-2020 Academic Year



What Happened?

- For the 2019-2020 school year, the US Dept. Of Ed. and S.L. 2020-3 waived standardized testing and the requirement to report state accountability and growth measures.
- CARES Act funding was released to facilitate the abrupt transition to online instruction.



Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund—ESSER I

- \$396 Million
 - \$357 Million (90%) → LEAs
 - Based on Title I allocation
 - \$40 Million (10%) → State Reserve
- Utilization of LEA Funds:
 - PPE and Sanitization Supplies
 - Technology
 - Bonus pay



Jump Start and Remediation Program Summer 2020

Summer 2020	Eligible for Jumpstart Reading	Eligible for Jumpstart Math	Attended Summer Jumpstart Reading	Attended Summer Jumpstart Math
Grade K-4	188,336	123,767	55,165	41,643

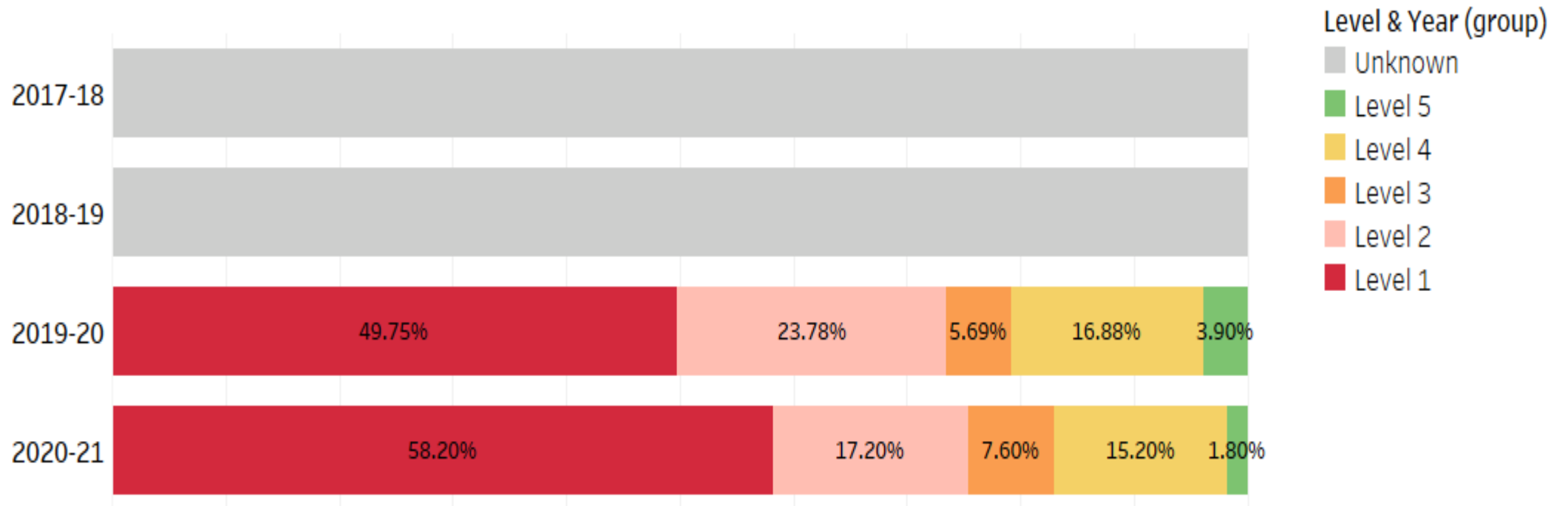


2020-2021 Academic Year



Establishing The Gaps

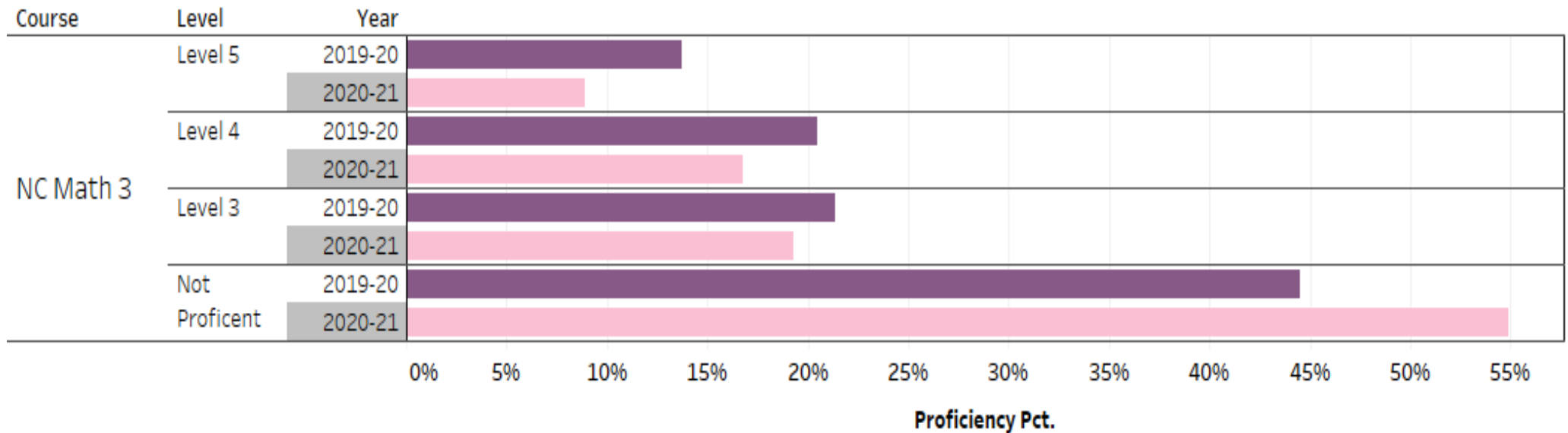
Beginning of Grade 3 Reading Proficiency Test





Establishing The Gaps

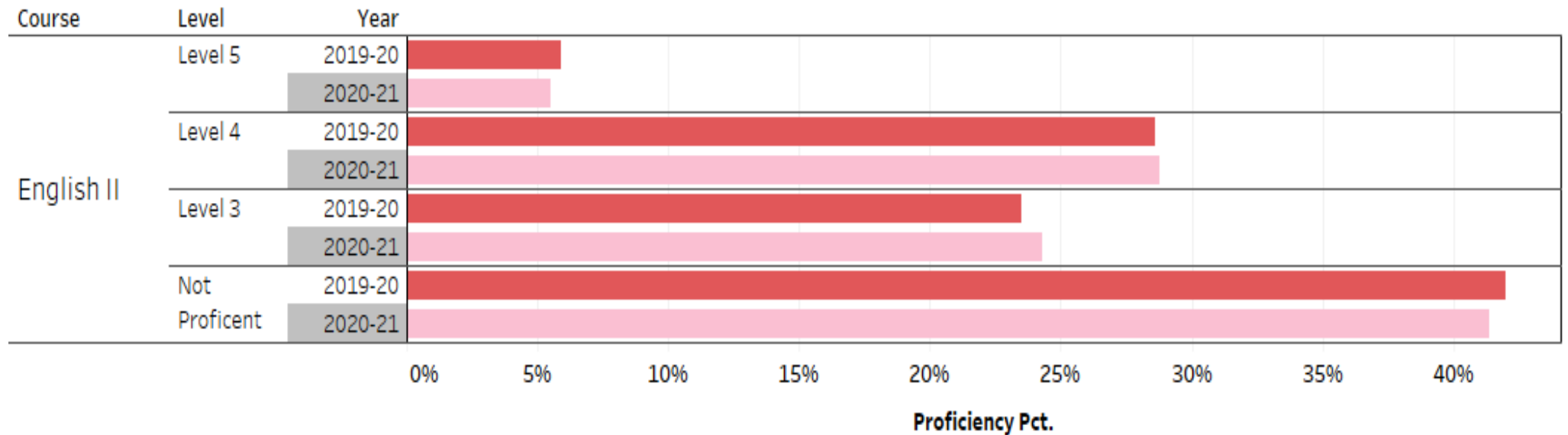
End-of-Course Tests





Establishing The Gaps

End-of-Course Tests





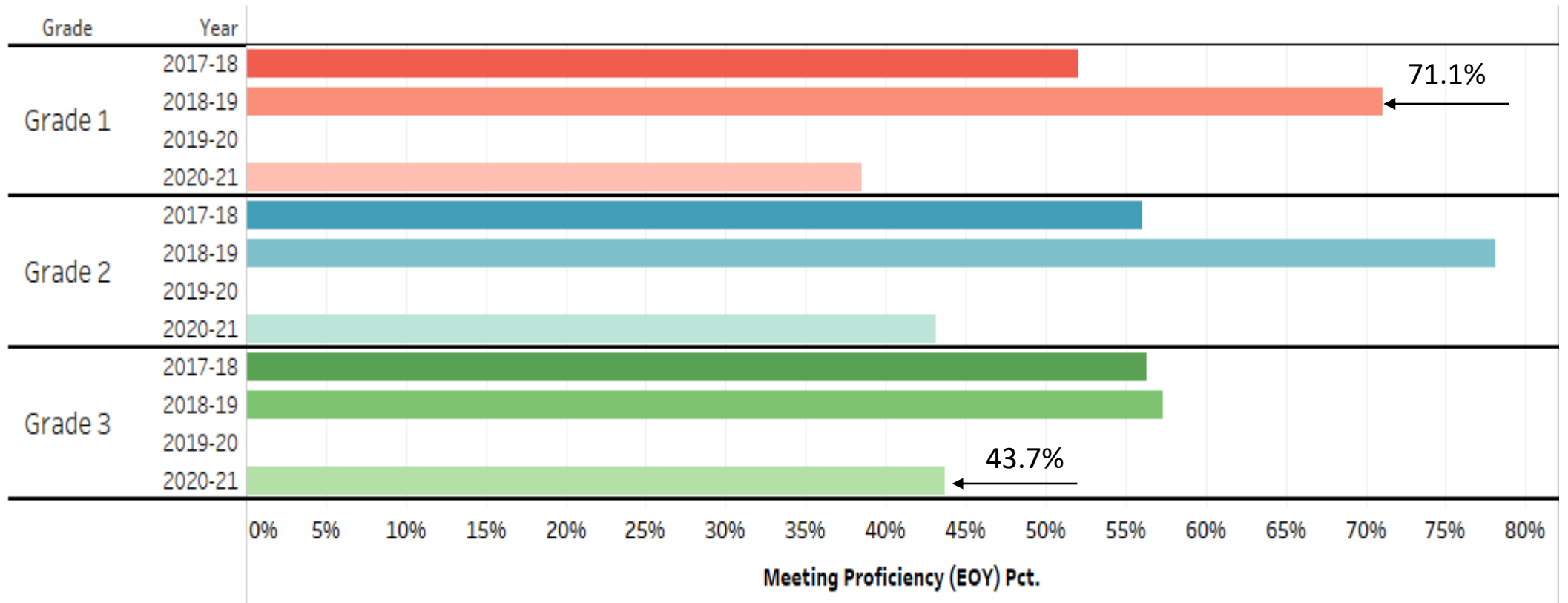
Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund—ESSER II

- \$1.6 Billion
 - \$1.4 Billion (90%) → LEAs
 - Based on Title I allocation
 - \$160 Million (10%) → State Reserve
- Learning Loss Allowed but Not Required
- Utilization of and Plan for LEA Funds:
 - Bonus pay
 - PPE and Sanitization Supplies



Understanding The Gaps

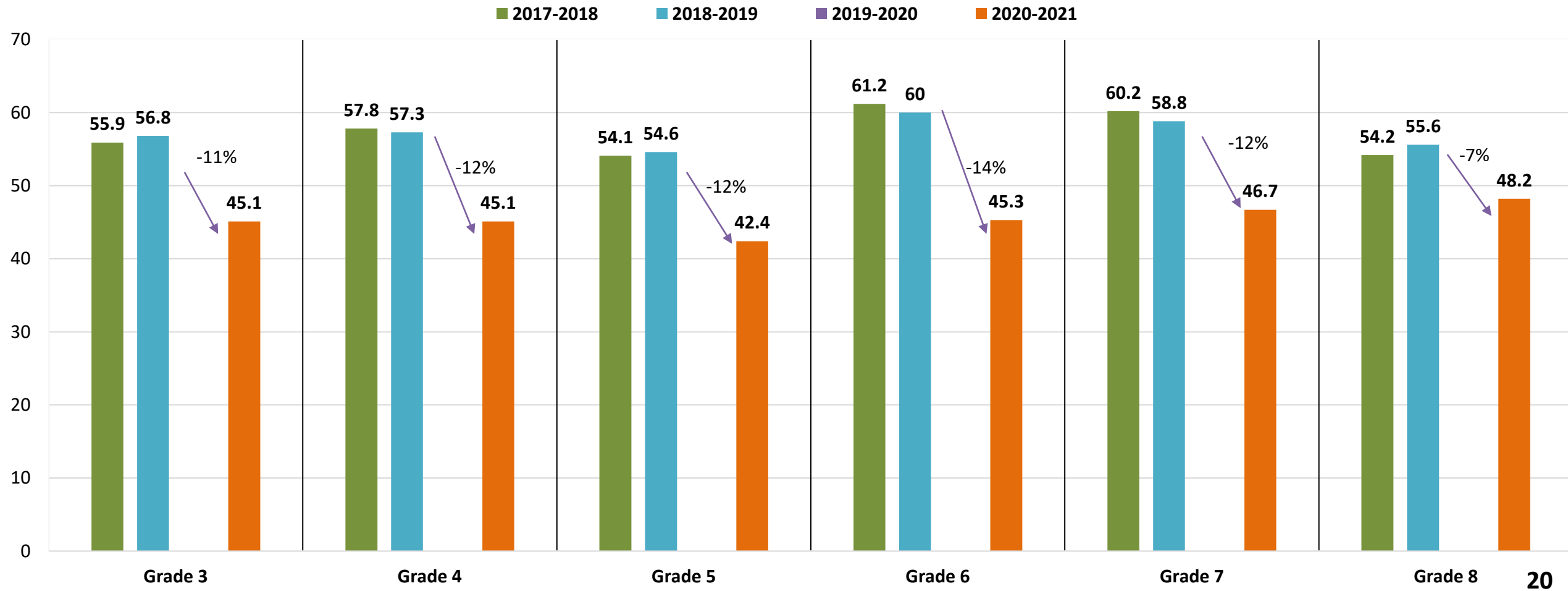
Meeting Proficiency (EOY)





Understanding The Gaps

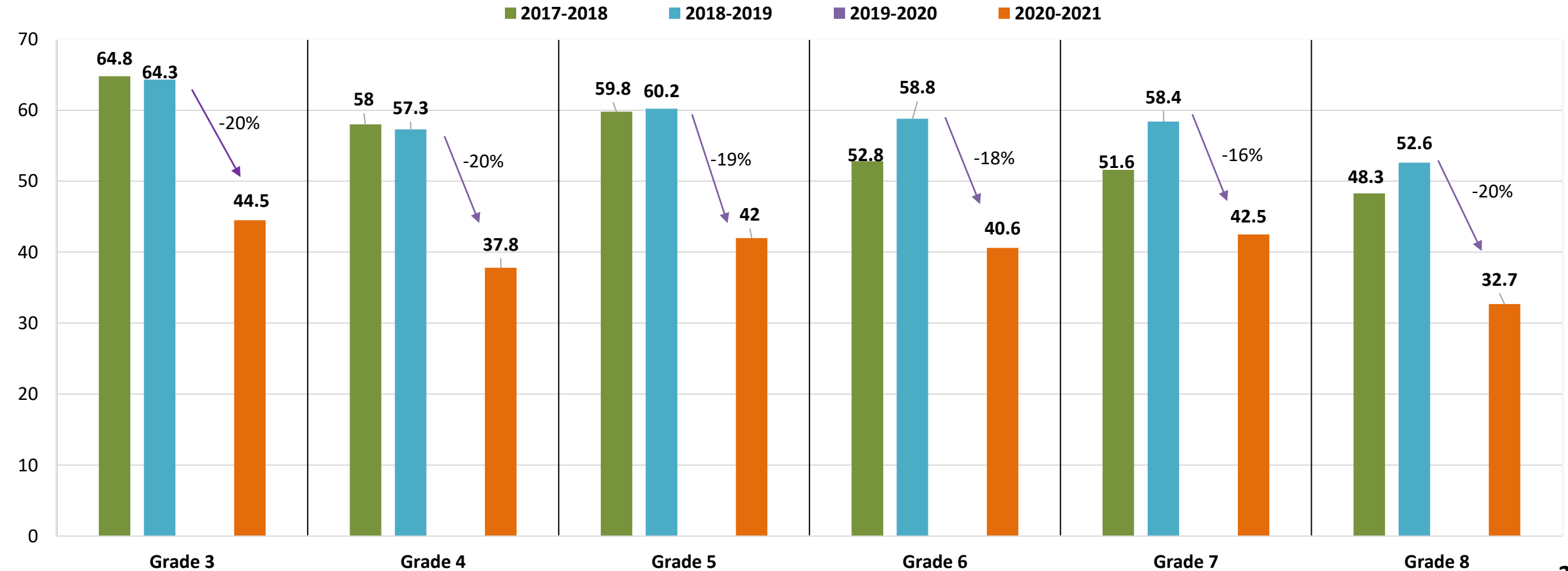
Reading Proficiency





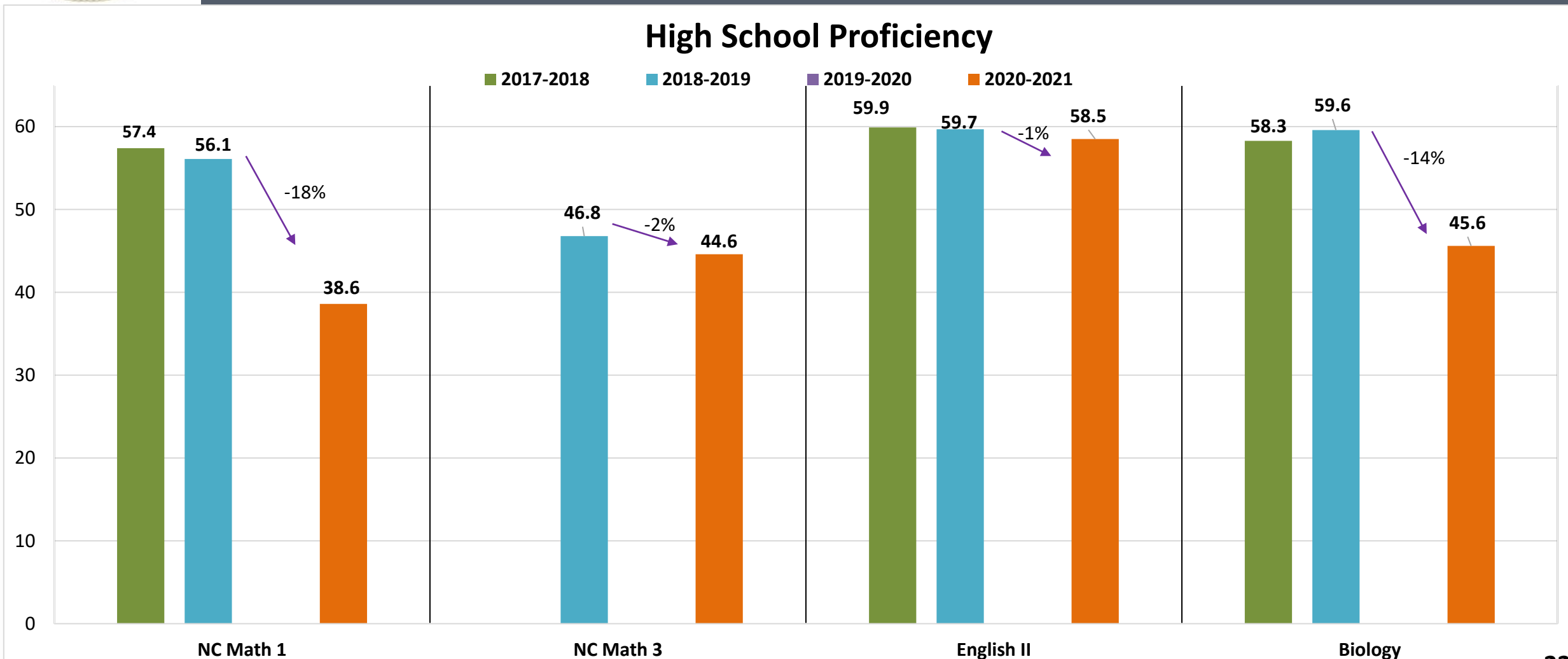
Understanding The Gaps

Math Proficiency





Understanding The Gaps





Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund—ESSER III

- \$3.6 Billion
 - \$3.2 Billion (90%) → LEAs
 - Based on Title I allocation
 - \$360 Million (10%) → State Reserve
- Learning Loss Required
 - 20% of LEA allocation to address learning loss
 - \$36 Million (State Reserve) → During School Programs
 - \$36 Million (State Reserve) → Summer School Programs
- Utilization of and Plan for LEA Funds:
 - Bonus pay



School Extension Learning Recovery and Enrichment Program

- S.L. 2021-7 (HB82) "School Extension Learning Recovery and Enrichment Programs"
 - Prioritize at-risk students
 - Instruction be 150 hours or 30 days
 - Math, reading, science, EOC subjects
 - Enrichment activities



School Extension Learning Recovery and Enrichment Program

Table 13. Students at or above grade level by test period

	Reading		Math	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
All grades	10025 (14.6%)	13188 (19.20%)	19277 (27.54%)	22692 (32.42%)
K-5	7808 (15.22%)	10440 (20.35%)	17048 (32.99%)	19471 (37.68%)
6-8	2217 (12.75%)	2748 (15.80%)	2229 (12.175)	3221 (17.59%)



Summer Reading Camp

Summer 2021	Students Eligible for Reading Camp	Students Attending Reading Camp	Number of Students Proficient After Attending Reading Camp
Grade 1	62,341	18,862 (30% of students)	1,734 (9.2%)
Grade 2	57,610	16,789 (29% of students)	1,463 (8.7%)
Grade 3	37,399	17,317 (46.3% of students)	2,537 (6.8%)



Summary

- Learning loss is not new.
- Learning recovery is a multiple school year process.
- Math and early elementary literacy were hardest hit.
- ESSER II and III funds address learning loss.



How is DPI Addressing Learning Loss?



Office of
LEARNING RECOVERY & ACCELERATION
NC Department of Public Instruction



Moving Forward

- Increased urgency response to learning loss.
- Complete and consistent data collection.
- Increased guidance and monitoring by OLR.
- Increased facilitation of coordination across LEAs and with OLR.



Questions?