



2017 RESULTS: NATIONAL ASSESSMENT FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS (NAEP)

- Denver Public Schools' students are performing at levels similar to most of their peers in participating urban districts and large cities.
- Stronger results in reading reflect the district's focused investments in literacy and emphasis on improved instruction for students learning English.
- Wide achievement gaps among our students, including Hispanic students and those in poverty, underscore the urgency of DPS' continuing focus to improve supports for all kids.
- On a relative basis, our students performed significantly stronger on the statewide CMAS/PARCC assessments than they did on the NAEP.

BARGOED UNTIL APRIL 10

DPS PARTICIPATION IN NAEP

- DPS was one of 27 urban districts volunteering to participate in the 2017 assessments in grades 4 and 8 reading and math.
- The results provide a first look at how DPS compares to these districts as well as students in cities of 250,000 residents or more, Colorado and the nation.

- NAEP results: <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/>
- Studies documenting DPS student growth: [Education Resource Strategies 2017 report](#) and [2017 results of the Colorado Measures of Academic Success](#).

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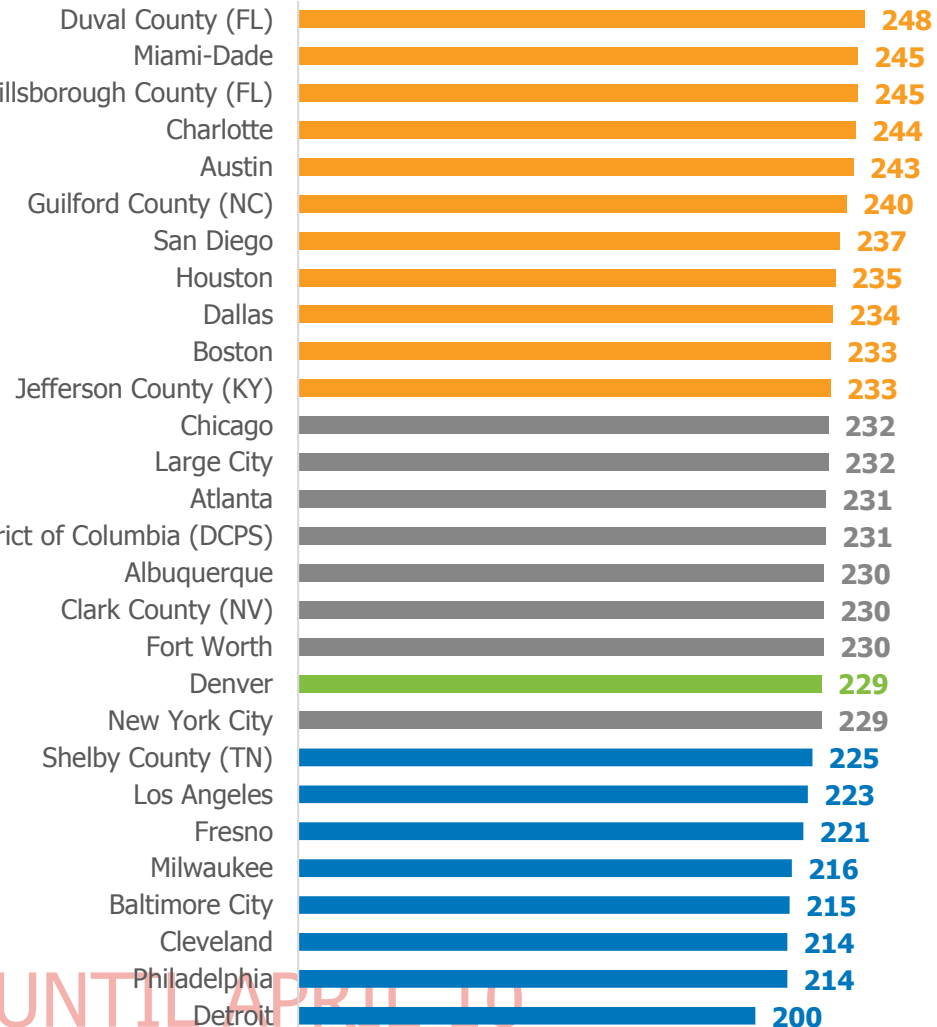
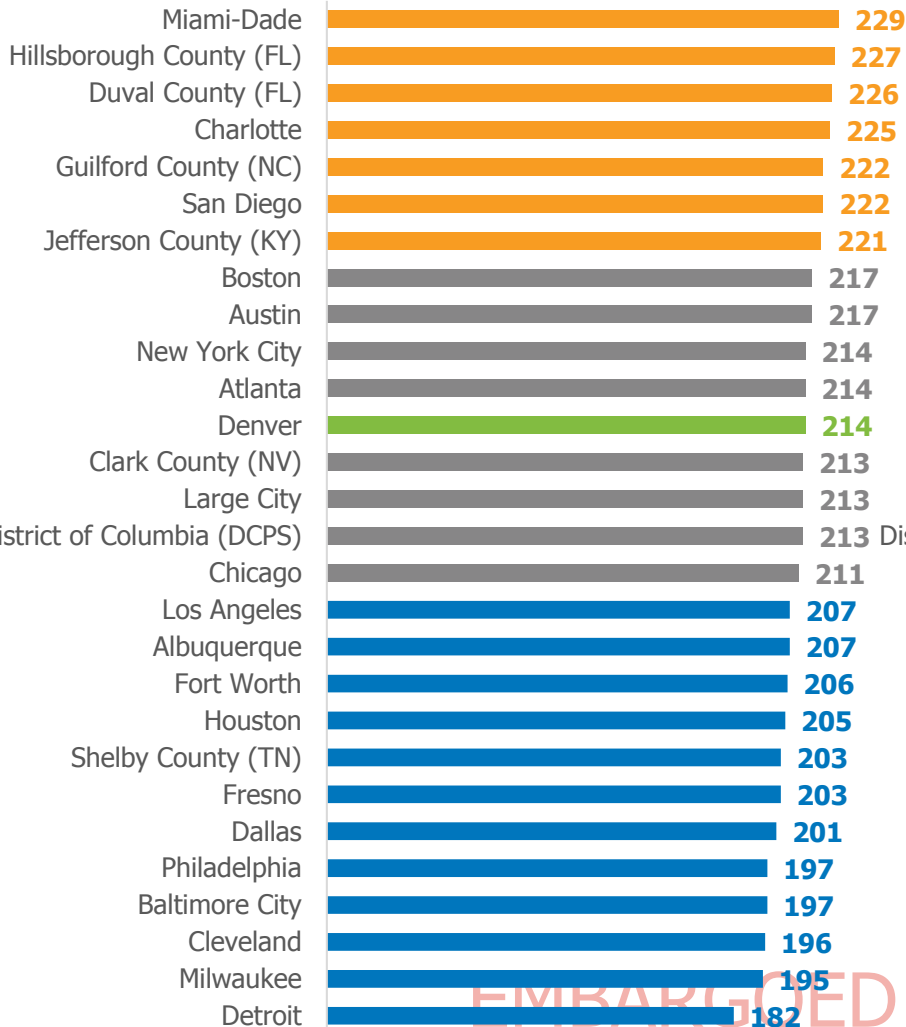


DPS performance: 4th-grade reading, math

Key: **Orange** = significantly higher performance, **grey** = similar performance and **blue** = significantly lower performance in comparison to DPS. Numbers are average test scale score.

Reading

Math



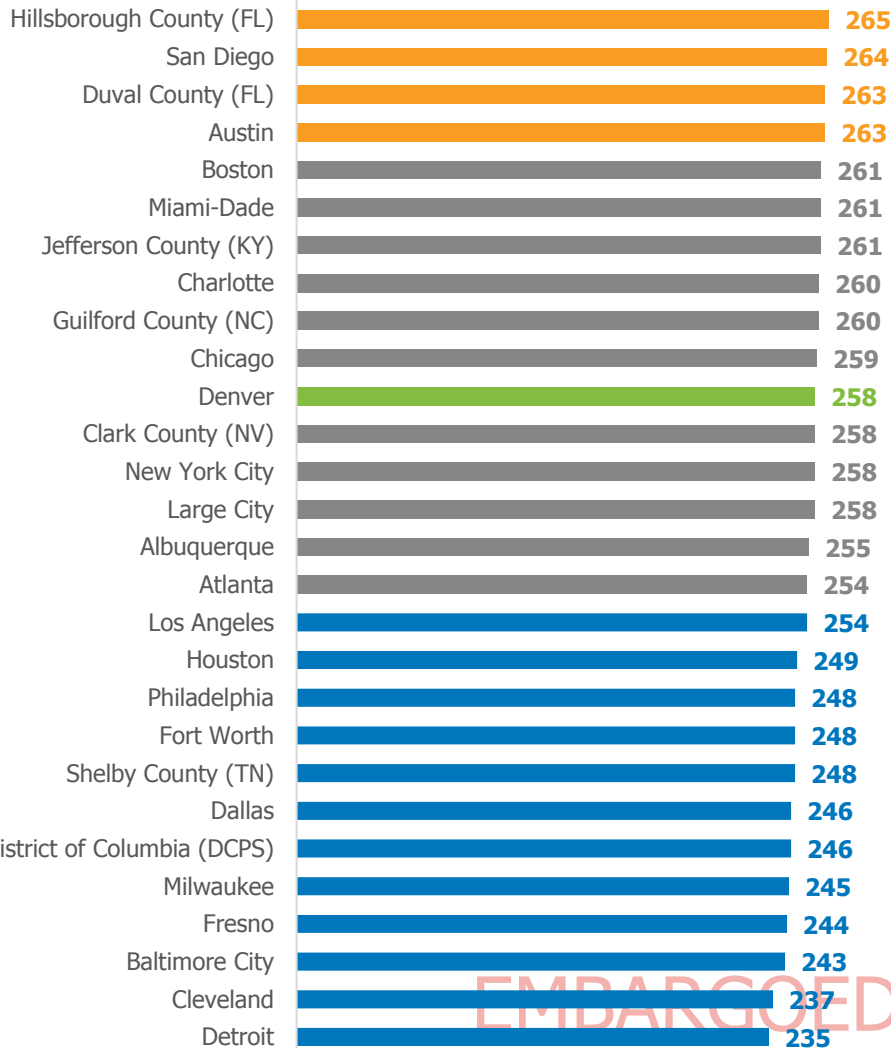
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• NAEP uses "Large City" as a comparison group for the 27 urban districts. It includes students from public schools in all participating districts and in all large central cities not participating in the urban district assessment.

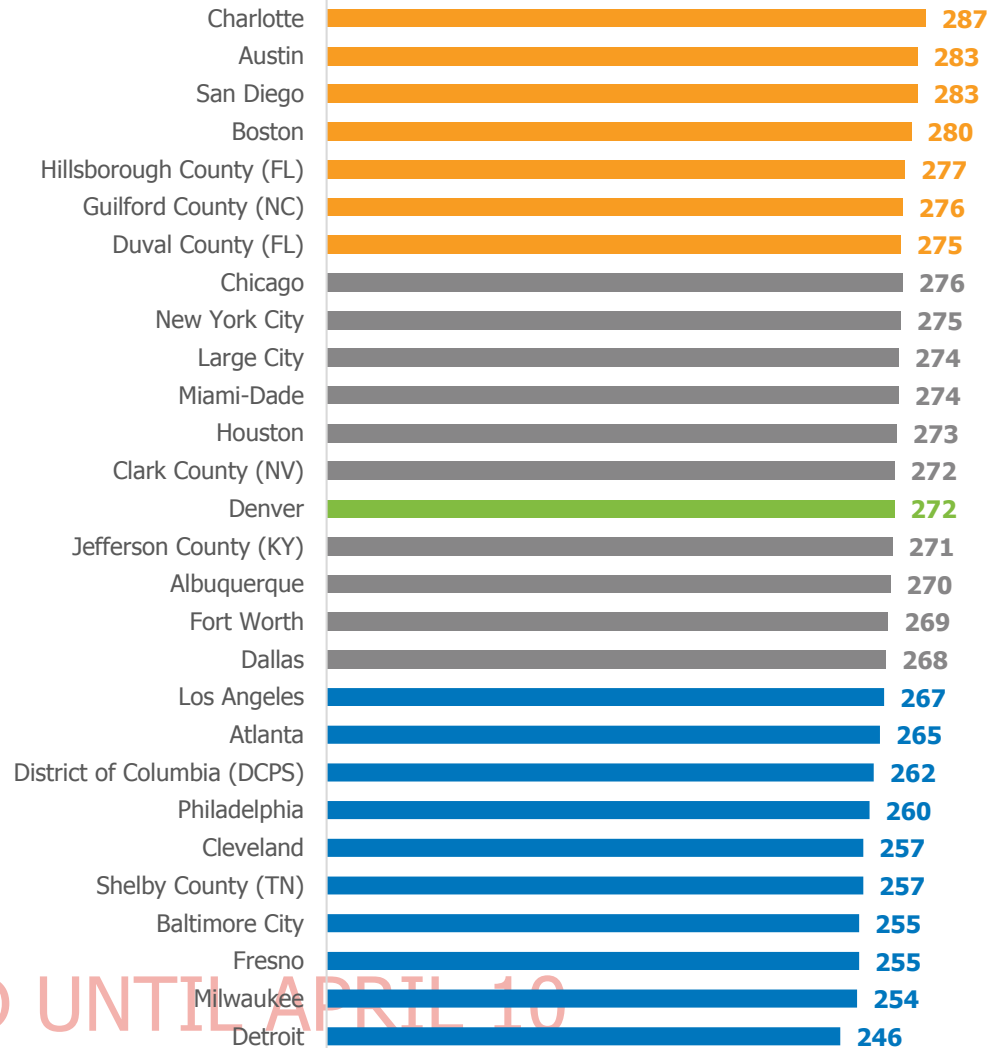
DPS performance: 8th-grade reading, math

Key: **Orange** = significantly higher performance, **grey** = similar performance and **blue** = significantly lower performance in comparison to DPS. Numbers are average test scale score.

Reading



Math



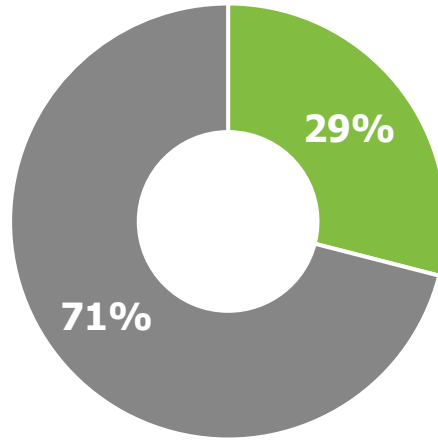
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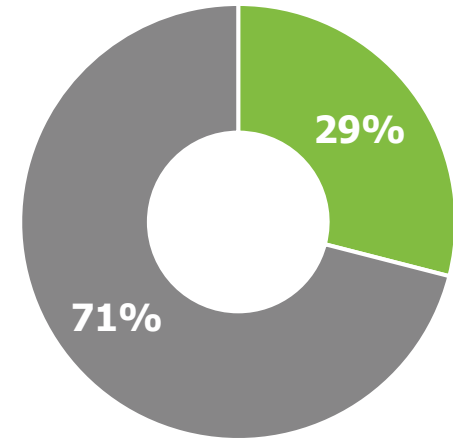
What does this mean in terms of reading proficiency?

29% of DPS fourth-graders and eighth-graders performed at or above proficient in reading, similar to their peers in large U.S. cities.

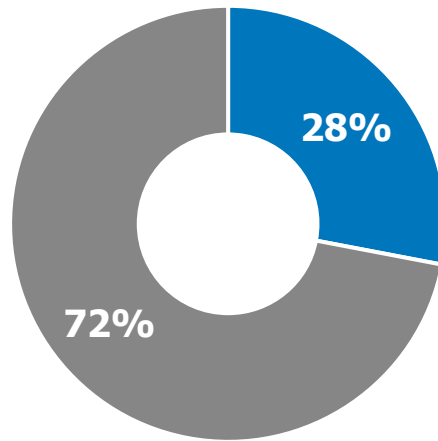
**DPS
4TH Grade**



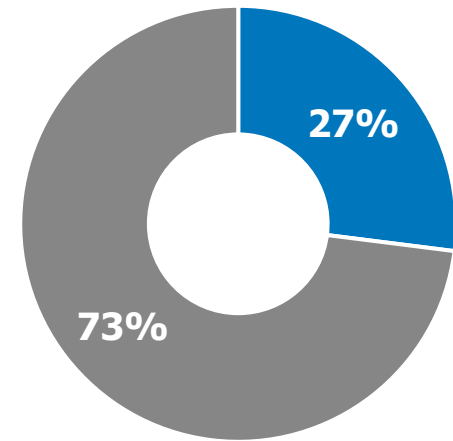
**DPS
8TH Grade**



**Large City
4TH Grade**



**Large City
8TH Grade**

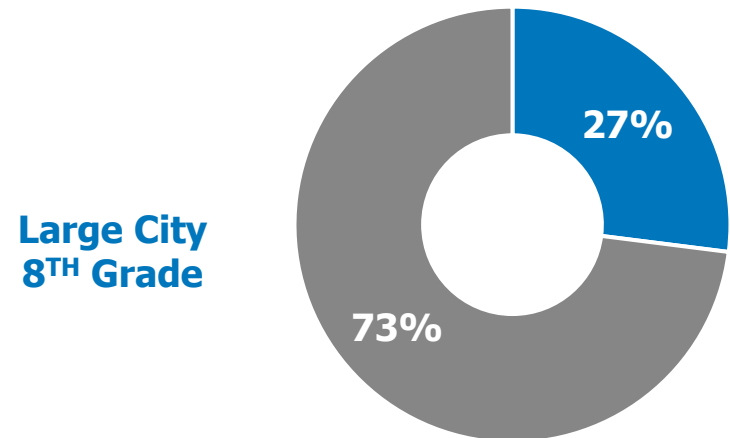
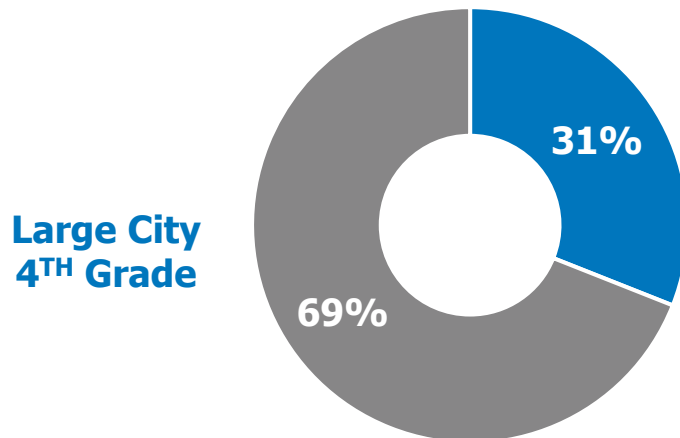
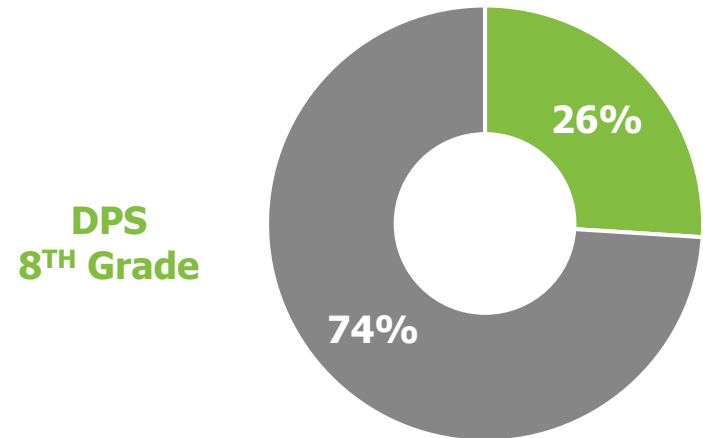
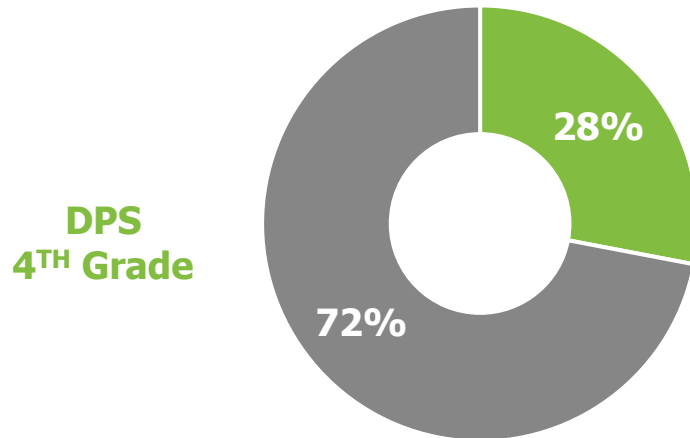


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- NAEP data is not comparable to results of other assessments. On the NAEP, proficient means students demonstrate solid academic performance and competency over challenging subject matter.

What does this mean in terms of math proficiency?

About a quarter of DPS fourth-graders and eighth-graders performed at or above proficient in math, similar to their peers in large U.S. cities.

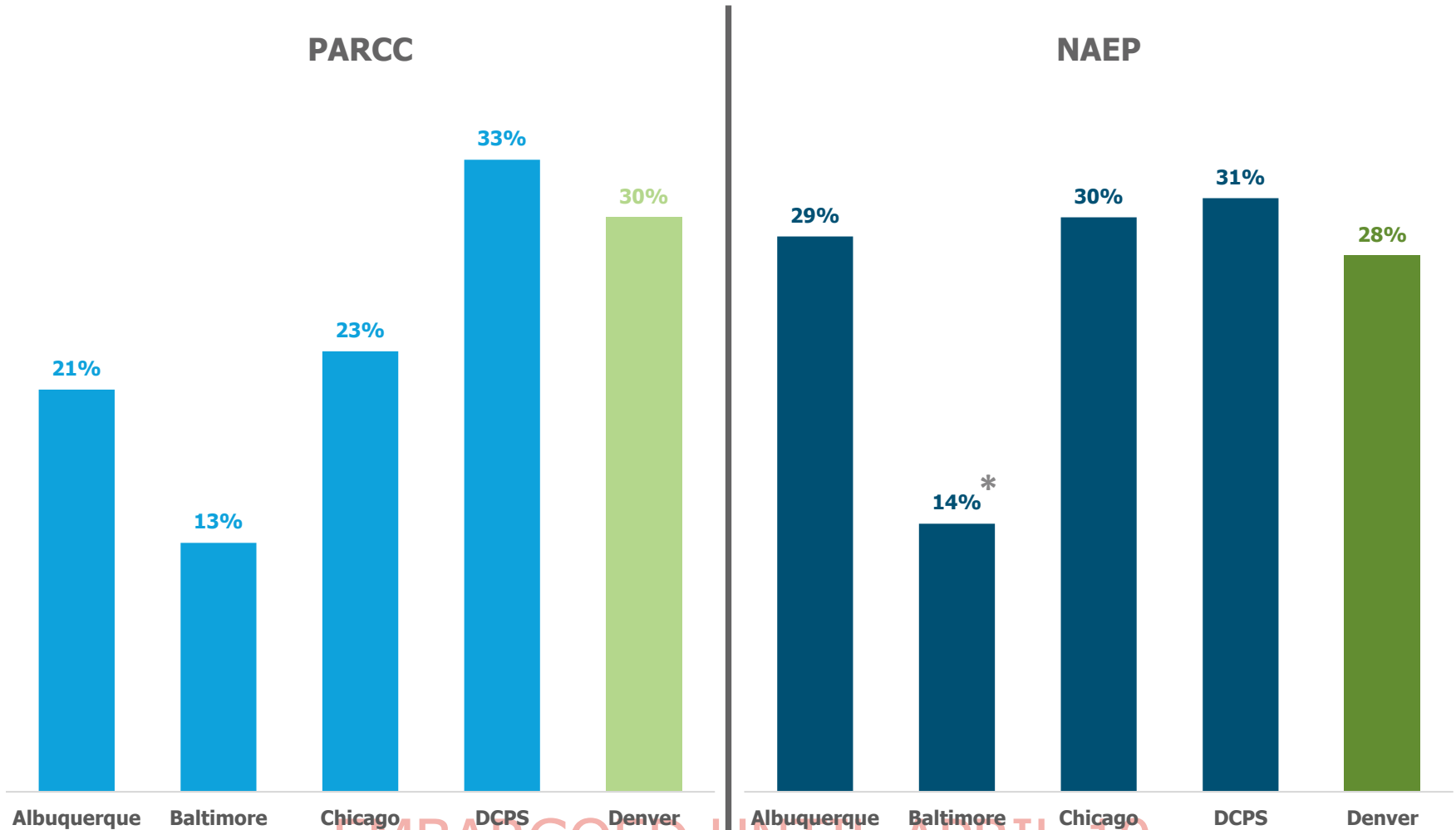


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Grade 4 math proficiency on PARCC and NAEP

No PARCC district significantly outperformed **DPS** in 4th-grade math on NAEP.



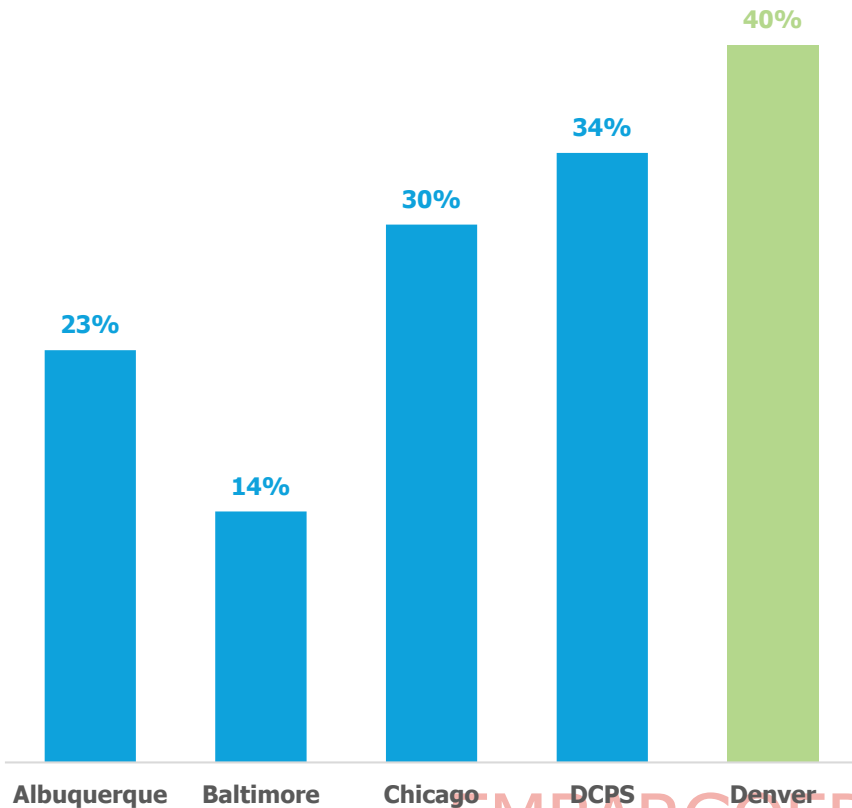
EMBARGOED UNTIL APRIL 10

- PARCC: % Meets or Exceeds Expectations. PARCC in Colorado is part of the state CMAS assessment.
- NAEP: % At or Above Proficiency
- *Significantly different from DPS

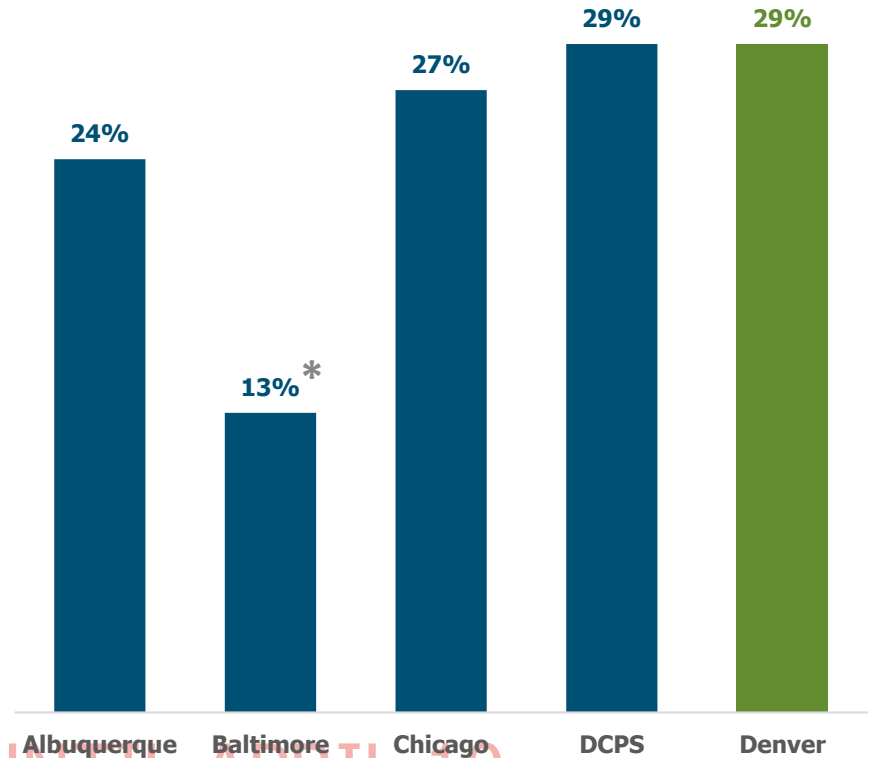
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PARCC



NAEP

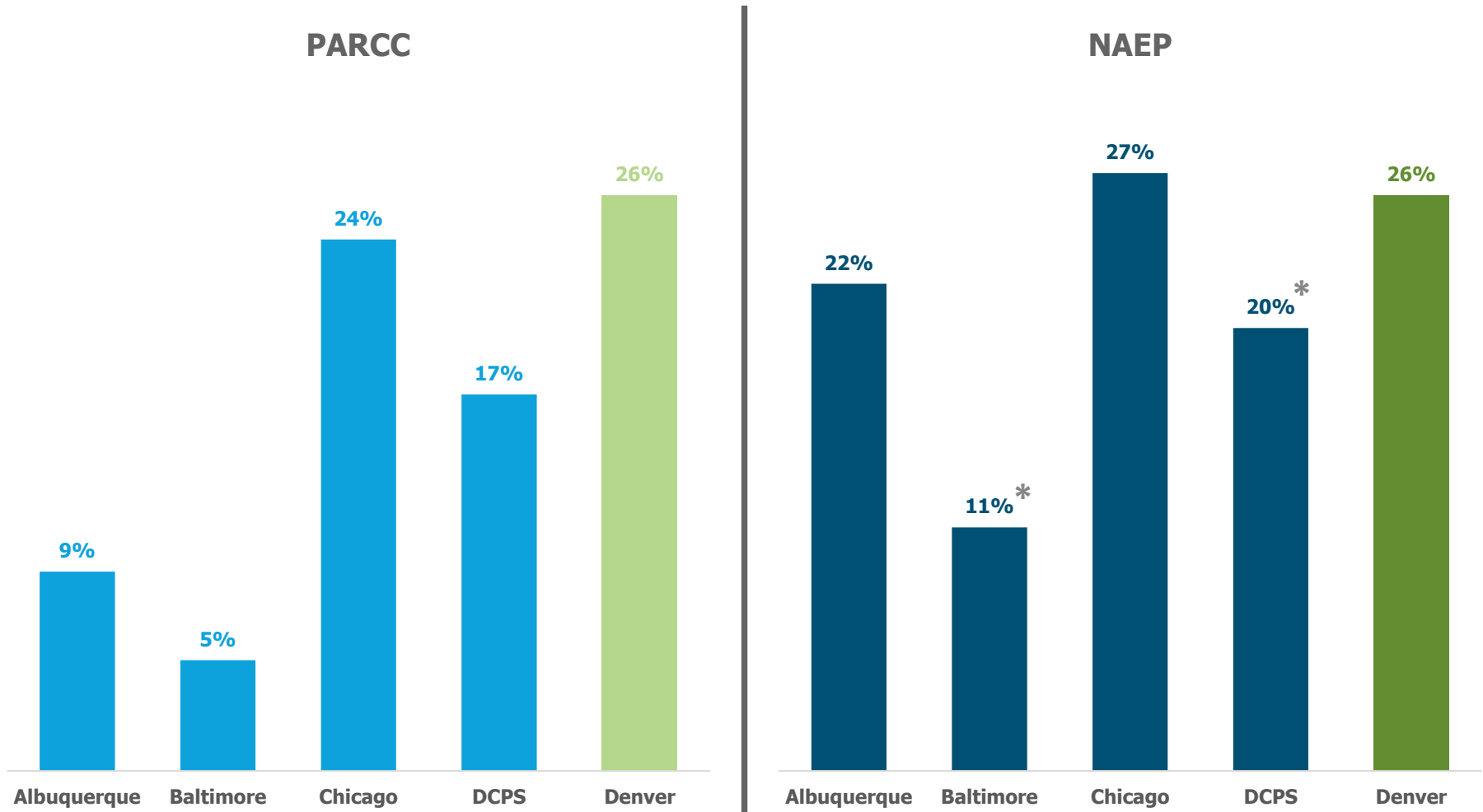


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Grade 8 math proficiency on PARCC and NAEP

No PARCC district significantly outperformed **DPS** in 8th-grade math on NAEP.



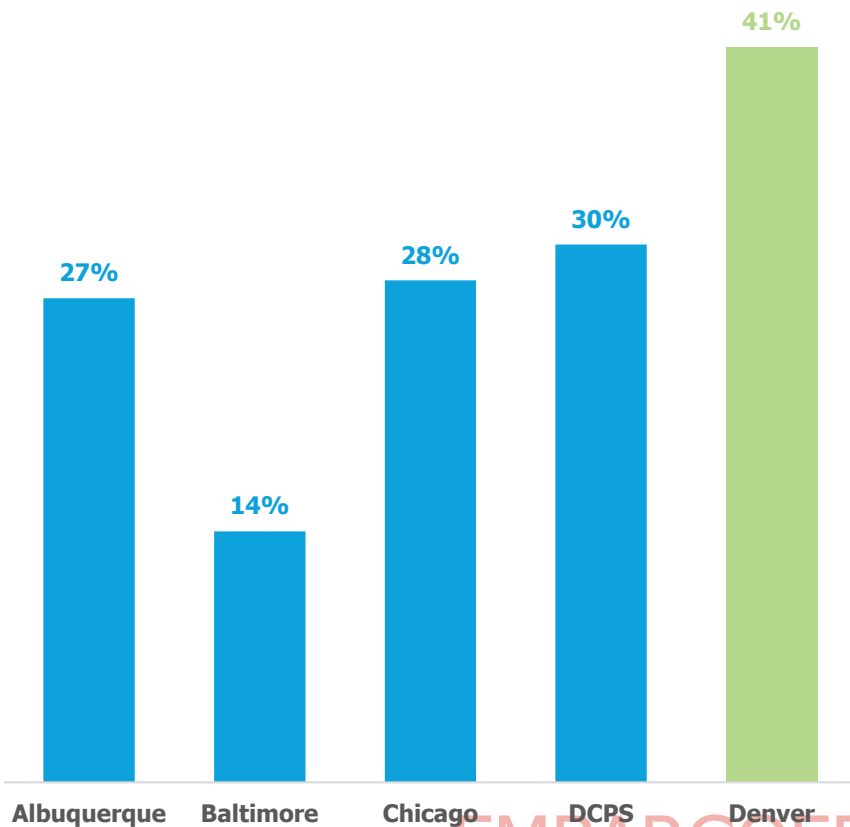
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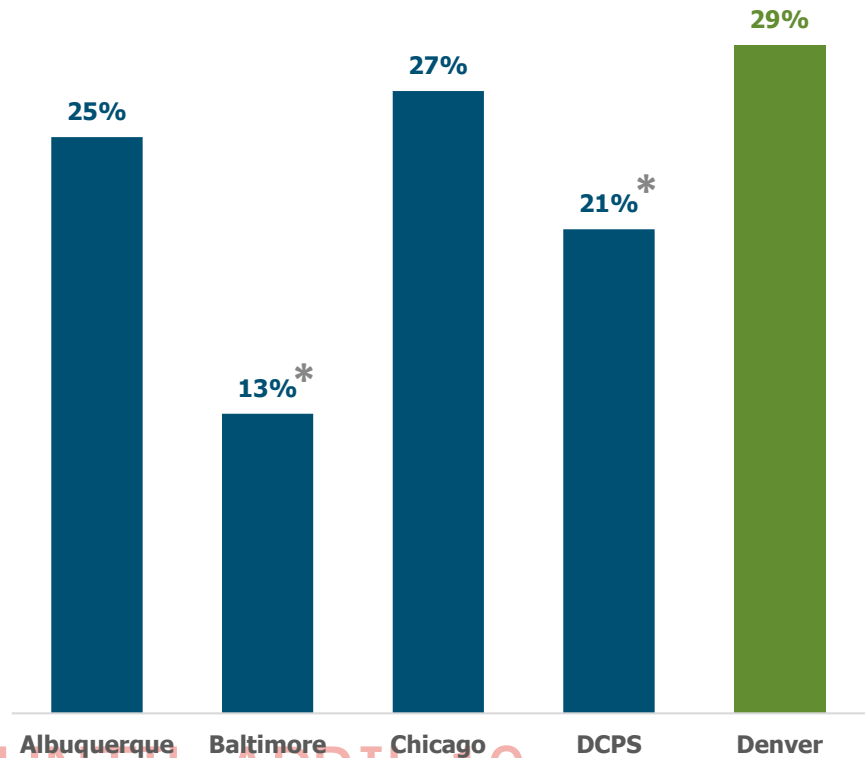
Grade 8 reading proficiency on PARCC and NAEP

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PARCC



NAEP

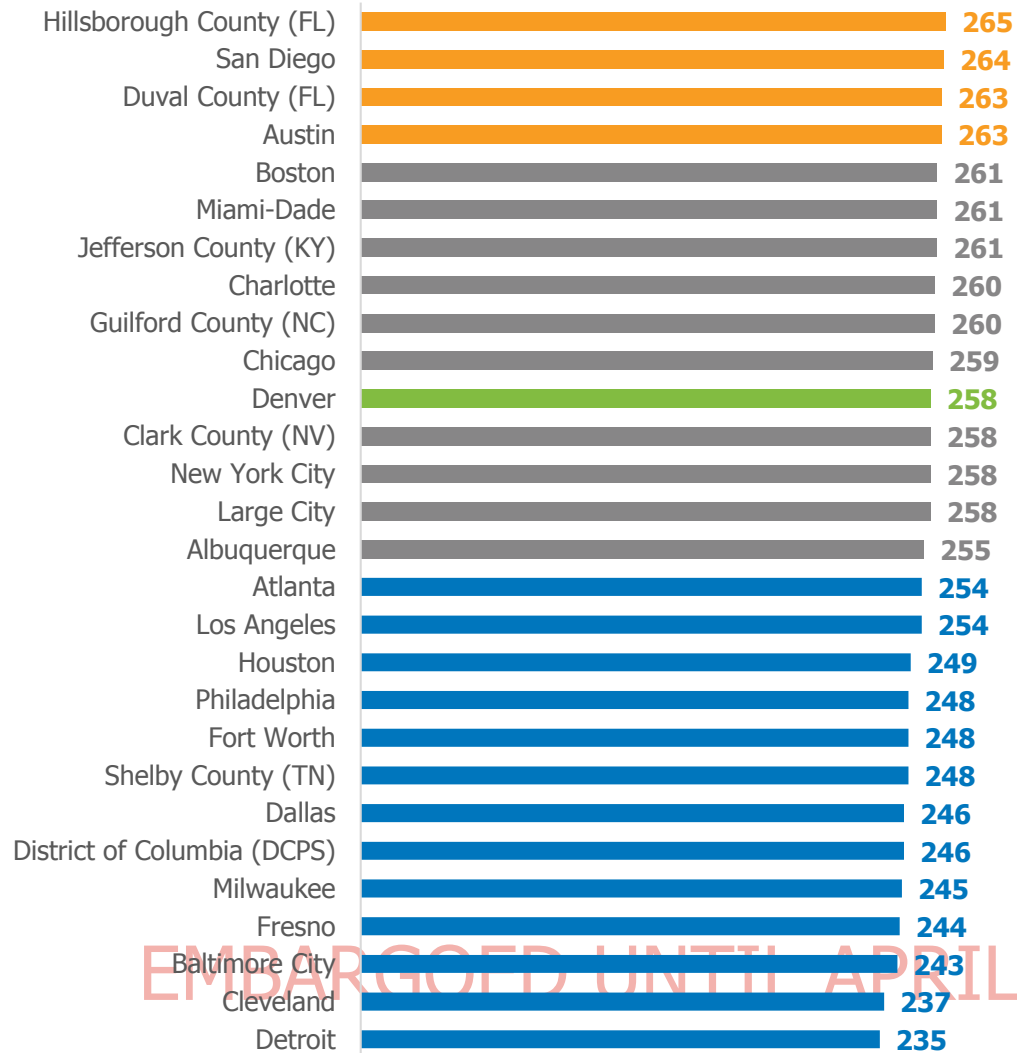


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Highlight: Eighth-grade reading performance

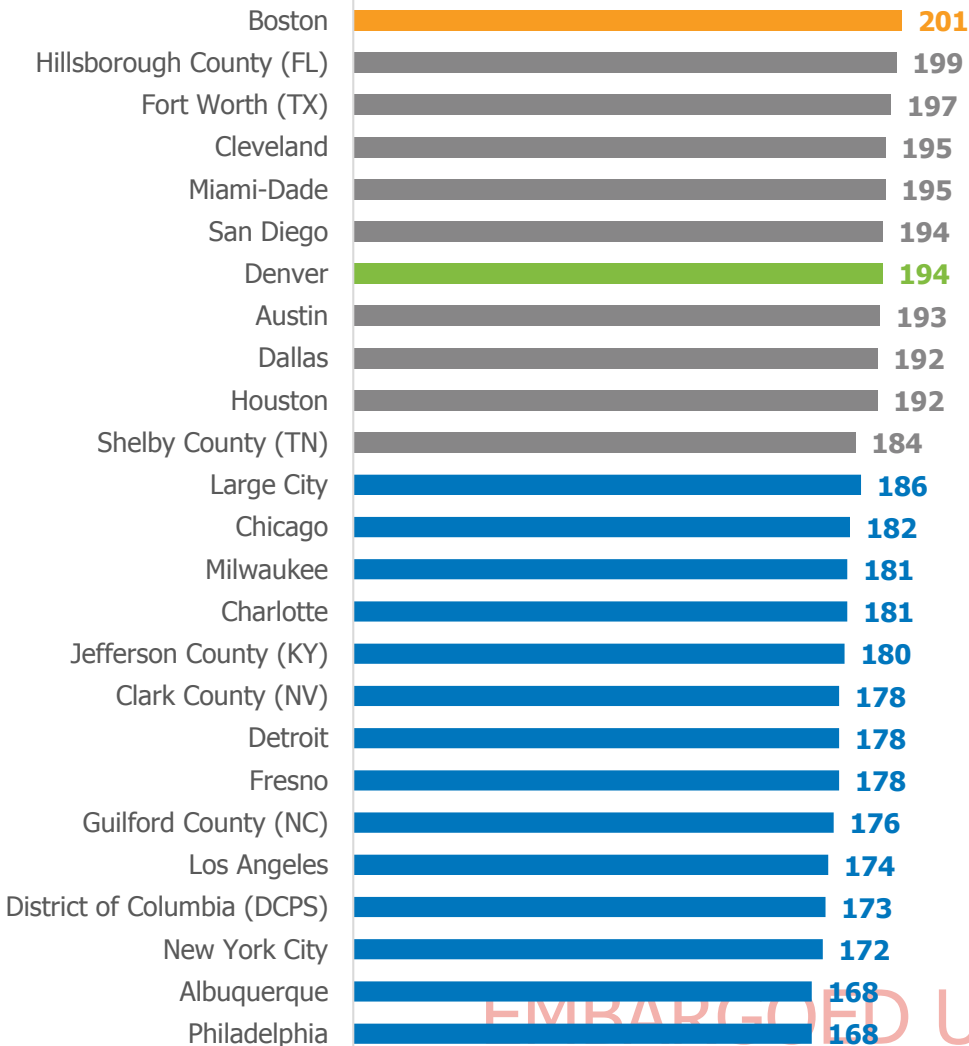
Only 4 districts performed *significantly higher* than *DPS*, 10 districts performed *similarly* and 12 districts performed *significantly lower*.



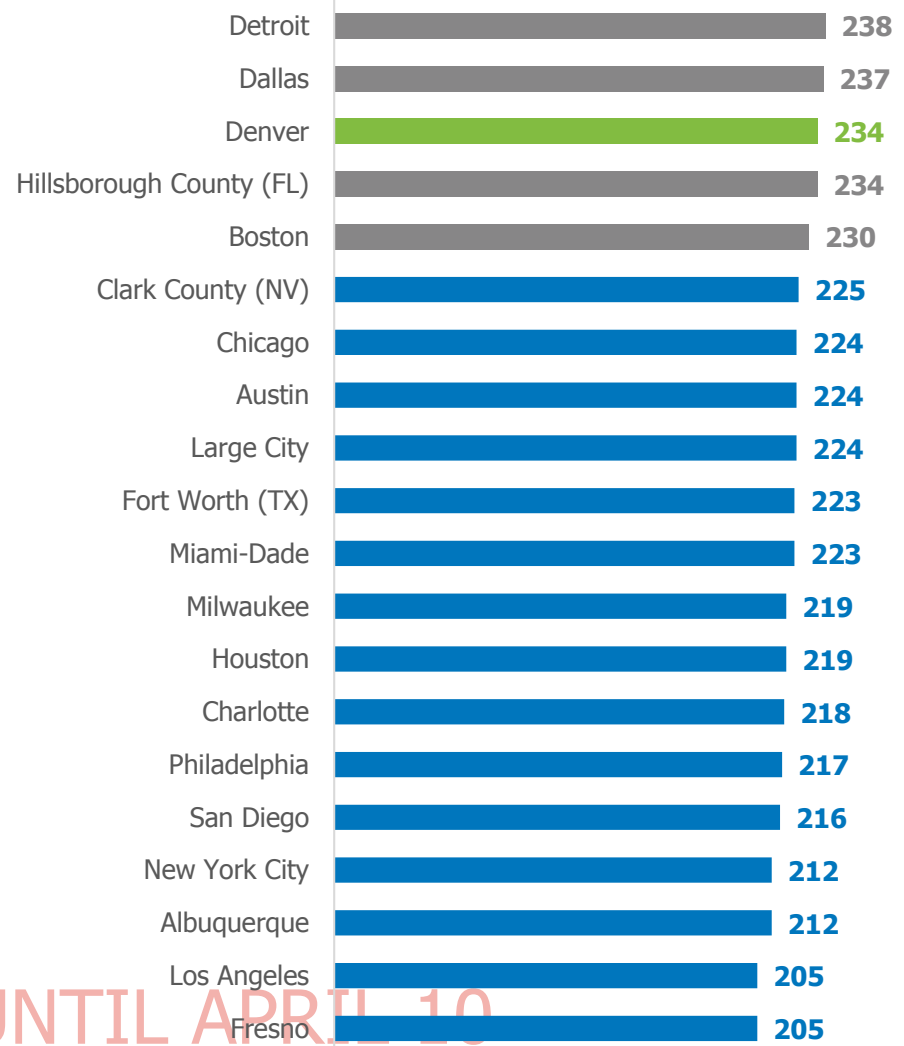
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Highlight: DPS English language learners performed in the top half of all districts in reading in grades 4,8

4th Grade Reading



8th Grade Reading

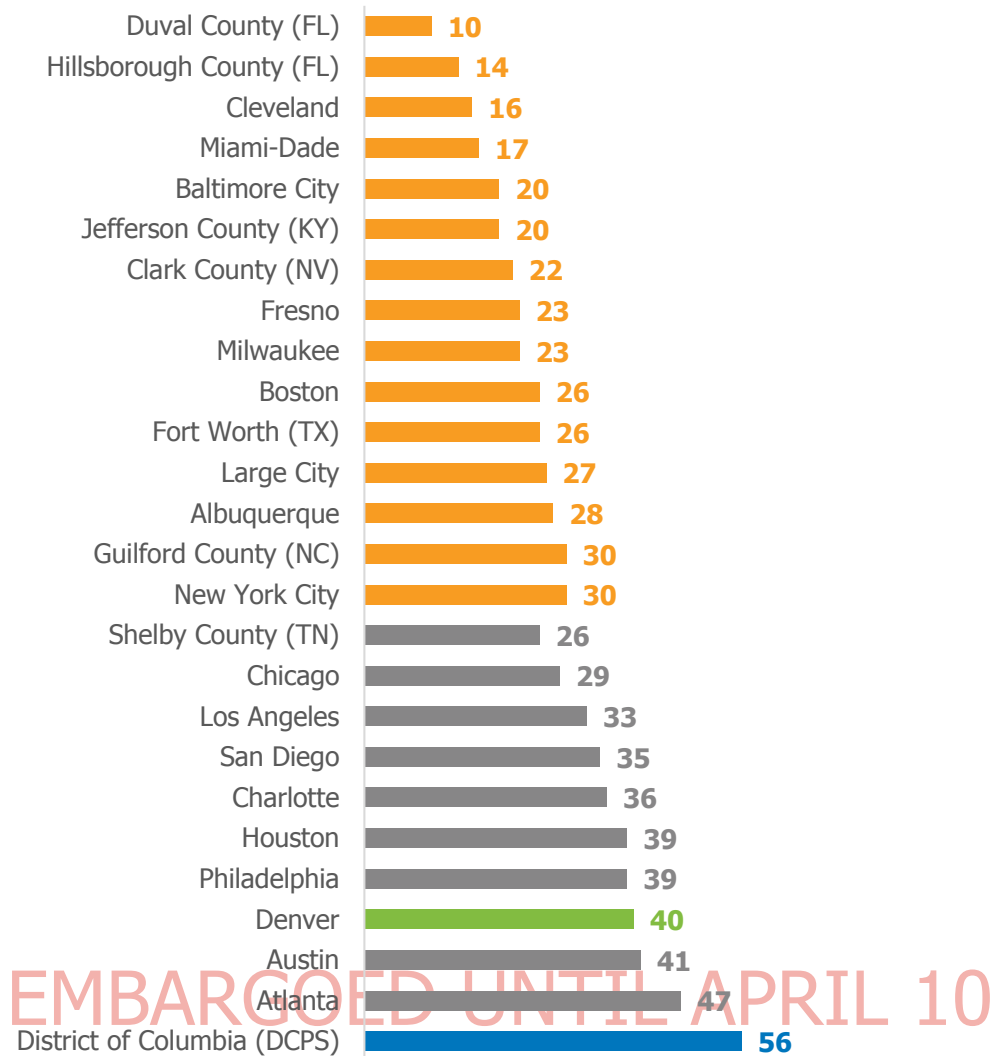


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- Statistical significance is influenced by sample size and variability in scores.
- Some districts may not appear in graphs due to reporting standards not being met.

Challenge: Gaps between Hispanic/white students

Most participating urban districts and large cities had *significantly smaller* Hispanic/white gaps than *DPS*. Below is fourth-grade reading.



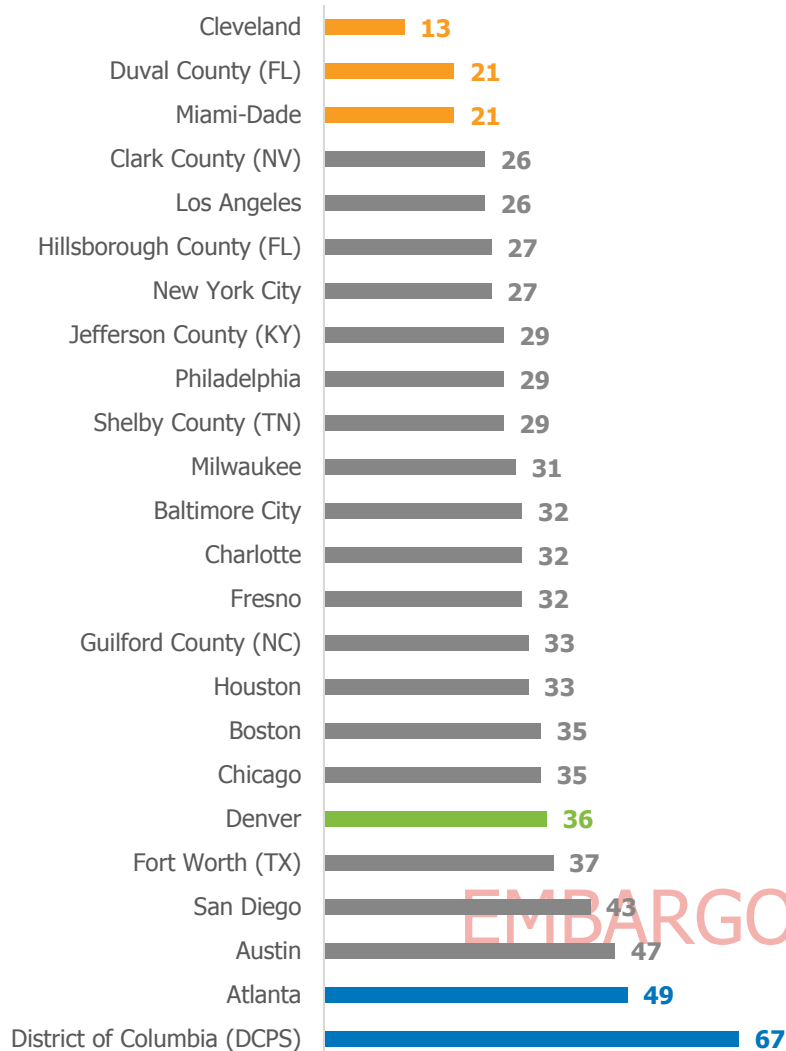
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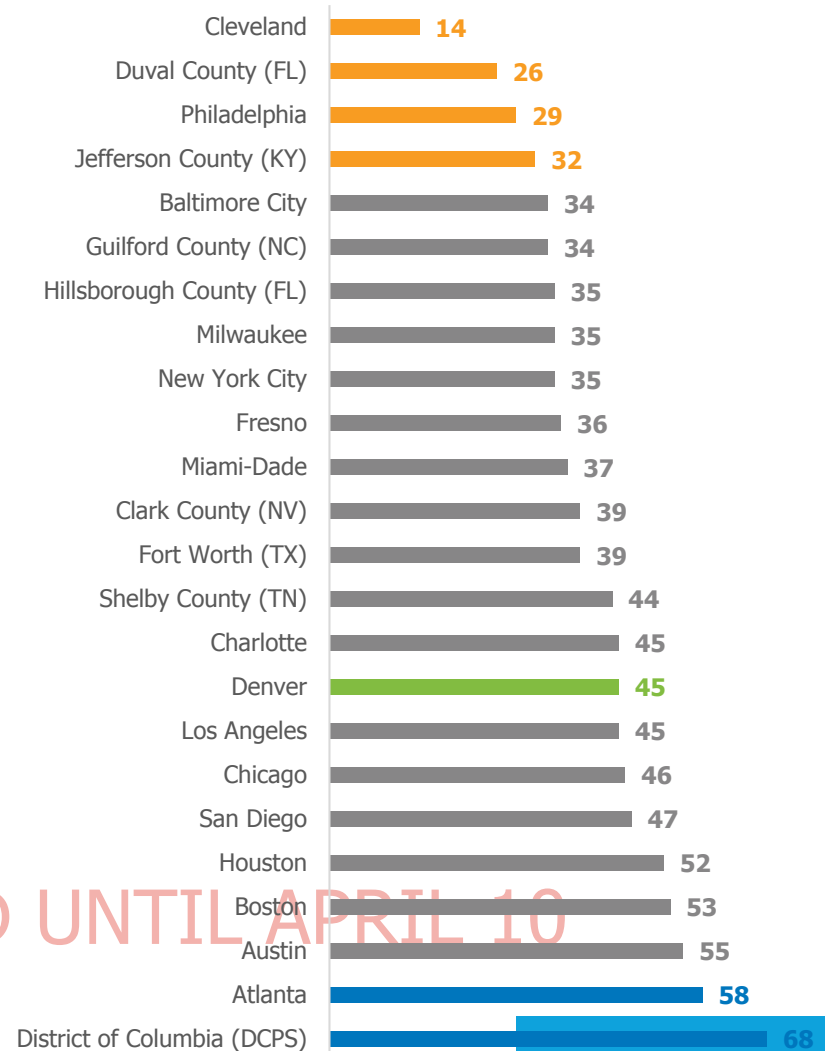
Challenge: Gaps Between Black/White students

Most participating urban districts and large cities had Black/white gaps similar to *DPS*. Below is fourth-grade reading.

Reading



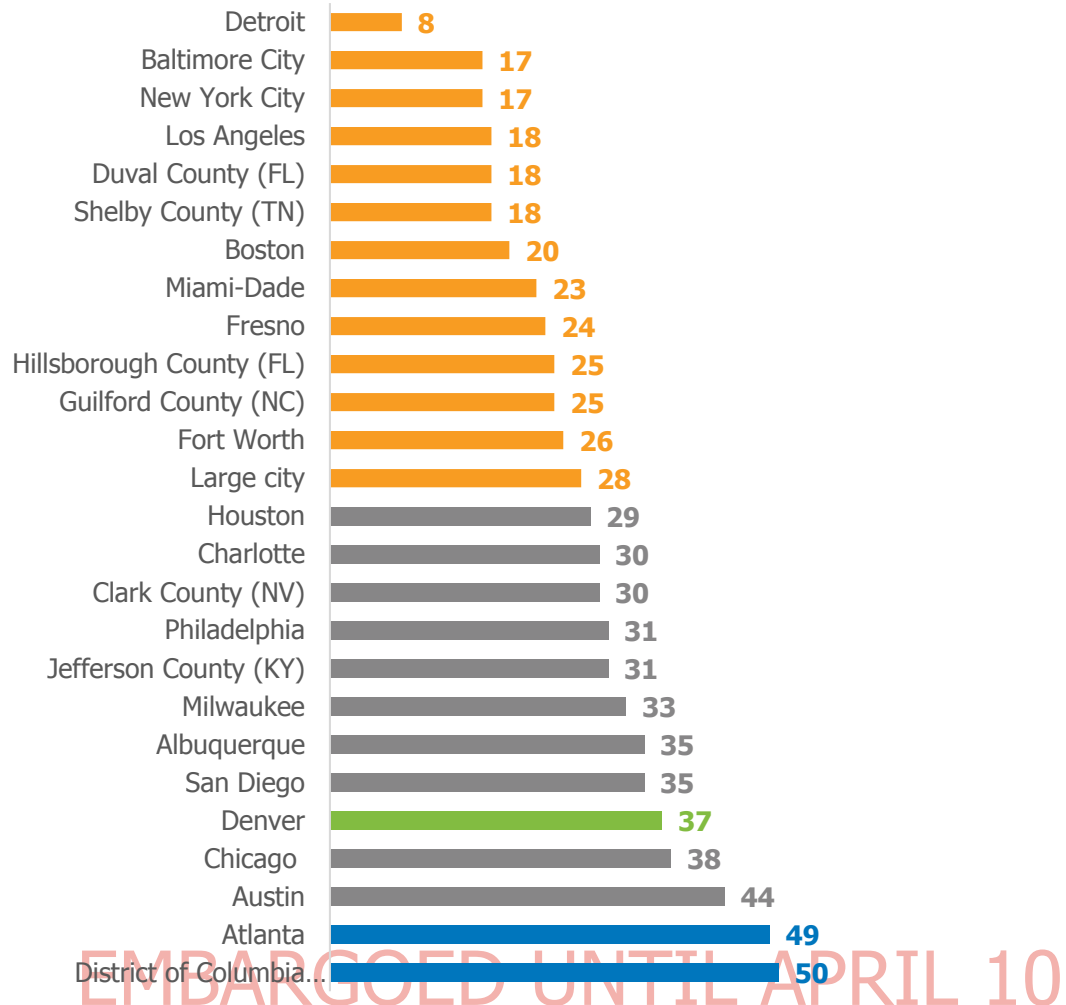
Math



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Challenge: Gaps between FRL/non-FRL students

Most participating urban districts and large cities had *significantly smaller* gaps between students in poverty than *DPS*. Below is fourth-grade reading.



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Focus: Closing the Opportunity Gap

Closing opportunity gaps is one of DPS' top five goals in the district's strategic plan, the Denver Plan 2020. Our key areas of focus include:

- **Increased supports for high-needs students.** *DPS' needs-based student funding formula provides significant additional resources to schools serving higher numbers of students in poverty and English language learners, allowing those schools to offer greater supports and lower class sizes. In addition, these resources allow us to offer summer programs for our students with the most academic need.*
- **Focus on the whole child.** *Funding from the 2016 mill levy is targeted to support the emotional, mental and social needs of our students, a key factor in their academic growth.*
- **Improved training and supports for educators.** *A top instructional priority is supporting teachers in providing the personalized and differentiated instruction to meet the needs of our students in a culturally responsive way, including intensive training in serving our English language learners. The district also provides financial incentives for educators to come to and stay in our highest-poverty schools.*
- **Full-day preschool and kindergarten, and early literacy.** *The district offers, thanks to the Denver Preschool Program and mill-levy funding, free full-day preschool and kindergarten to all low-income families. These early learning opportunities, combined with our focus on early literacy in elementary school, provide a critical early foundation for students.*
- **Outreach to families and community.** *Efforts such as one of the nation's largest parent-teacher home visit program and our Centers for Family Opportunity in Far Northeast and Southwest Denver are providing direct supports to better link families and schools.*

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