

Approved: 1/17/01 Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ralph Tanner at 9:00 a.m. on January 11, 2001 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Ben Barrett, Legislative Research  
Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes  
Ann Deitcher, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Chairman Tanner introduced Commissioner of Kansas State Board of Education, Andy Tomkins. He spoke to the Committee of Kansas Education 1999-2000: A Solid Foundation For a New Century. **(Attachment 1)**.

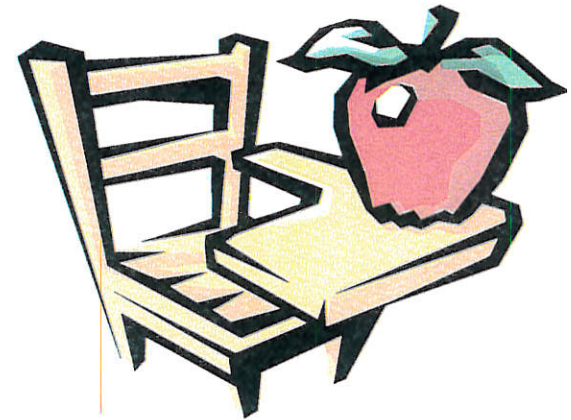
Commissioner Tomkins said that attendance was not a problem in Kansas schools. One of the things that was a problem, however was motivation in high school students. One of the things he pointed out was how they were starting to focus on early childhood initiative to increase school readiness and school success. He said that some kids come to school with 1/3 the words as the other kids.

Speaking in regard to the shortages of teachers, he said they needed them in special education, mathematics, science, music, counseling, librarians, business and industrial technology and school and district leadership.

A question was asked in regard to home schooling and the problem of tracking truants. Commissioner Tomkins said there was no specific law in requiring home teachers to comply with registering of students being taught in the home. They are asked to complete forms to provide information on these students but many do not.

The Chair introduced Representative Loganbill who replaces Representative Aldritt on the Education Committee. Also introduced was Representative Huebert, another member of the Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40. The next morning is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16, 2001.



House Education Committee

Date: 1/11/01

Attachment # 1-1

# Kansas Education 1999-2000: A Solid Foundation For A New Century

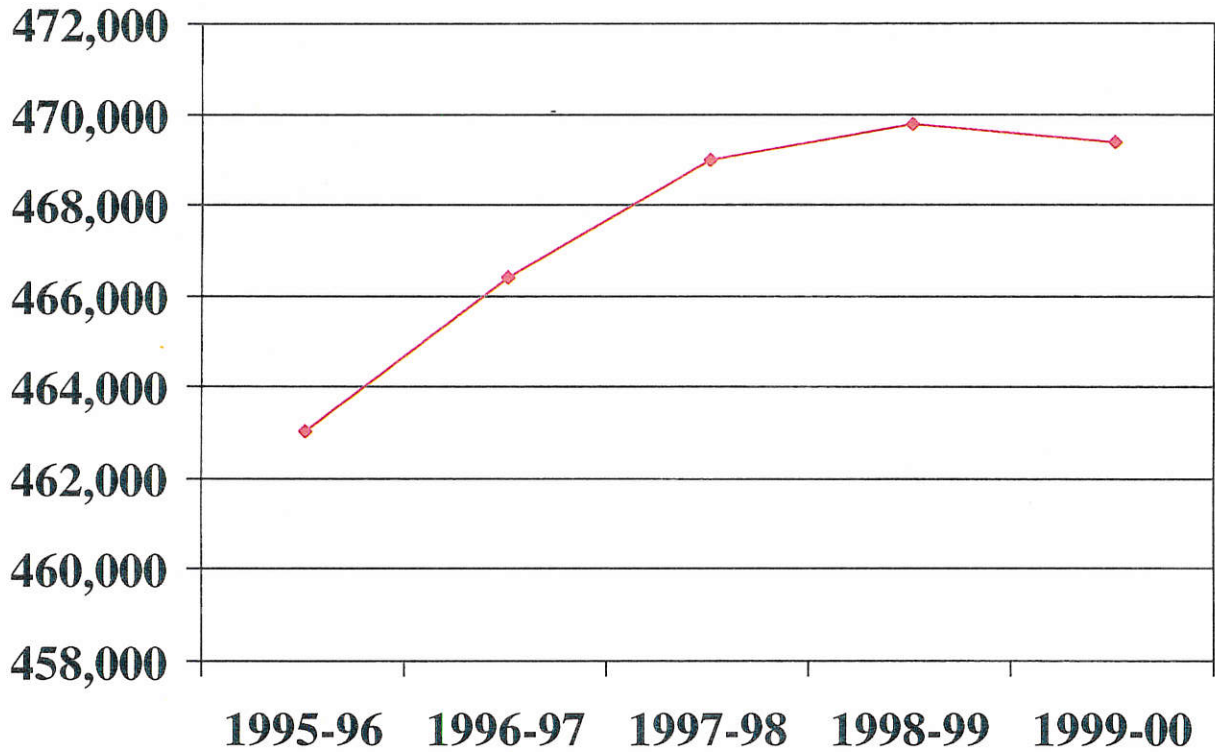
Presentation For House Education  
Committee

January 11, 2001

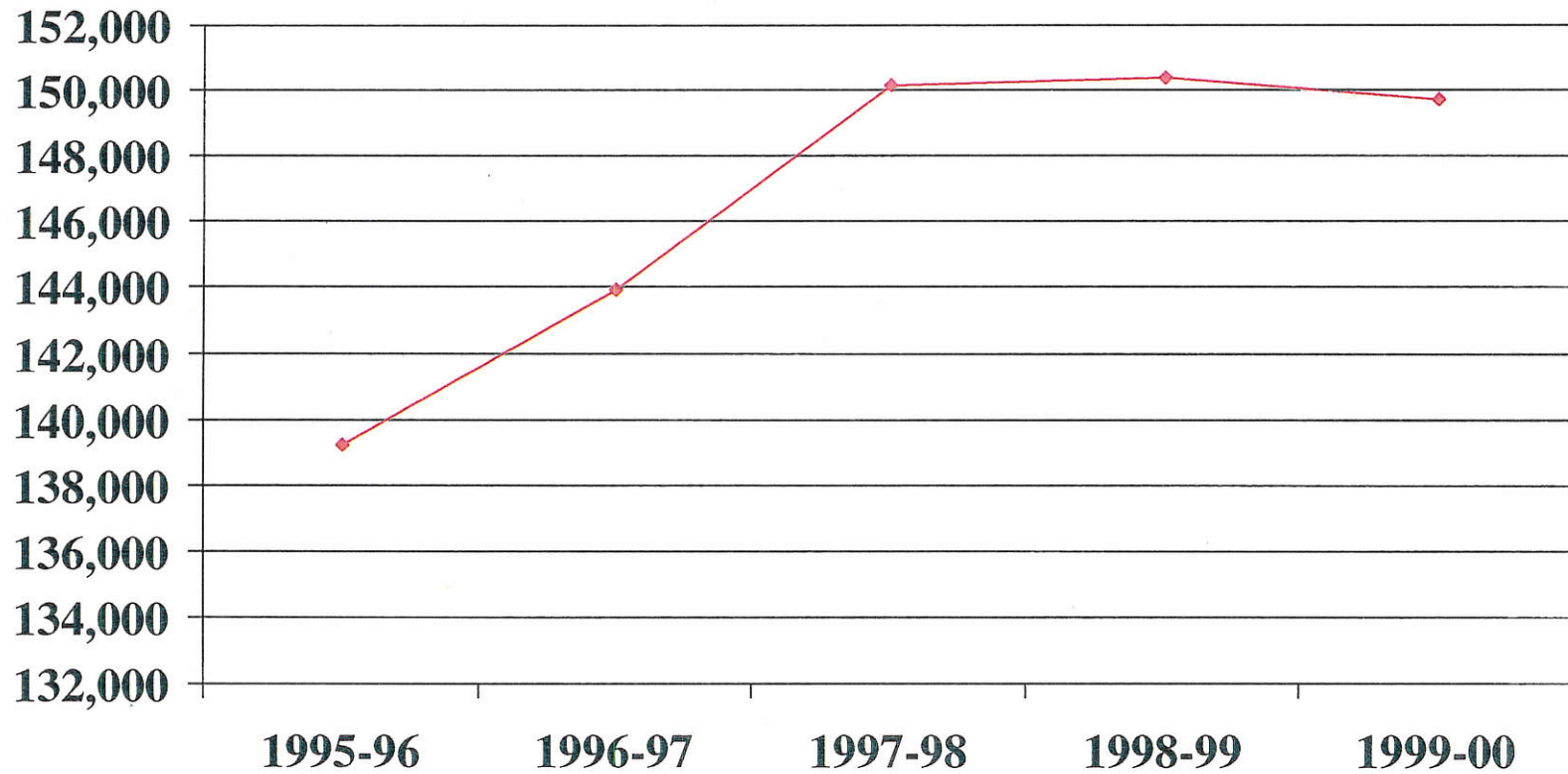
# What are our major responsibilities?

- Accredit schools
- License educators
- Administer state and federal programs
- Distribute funds appropriated by state and federal governments
- Carry out statutory duties

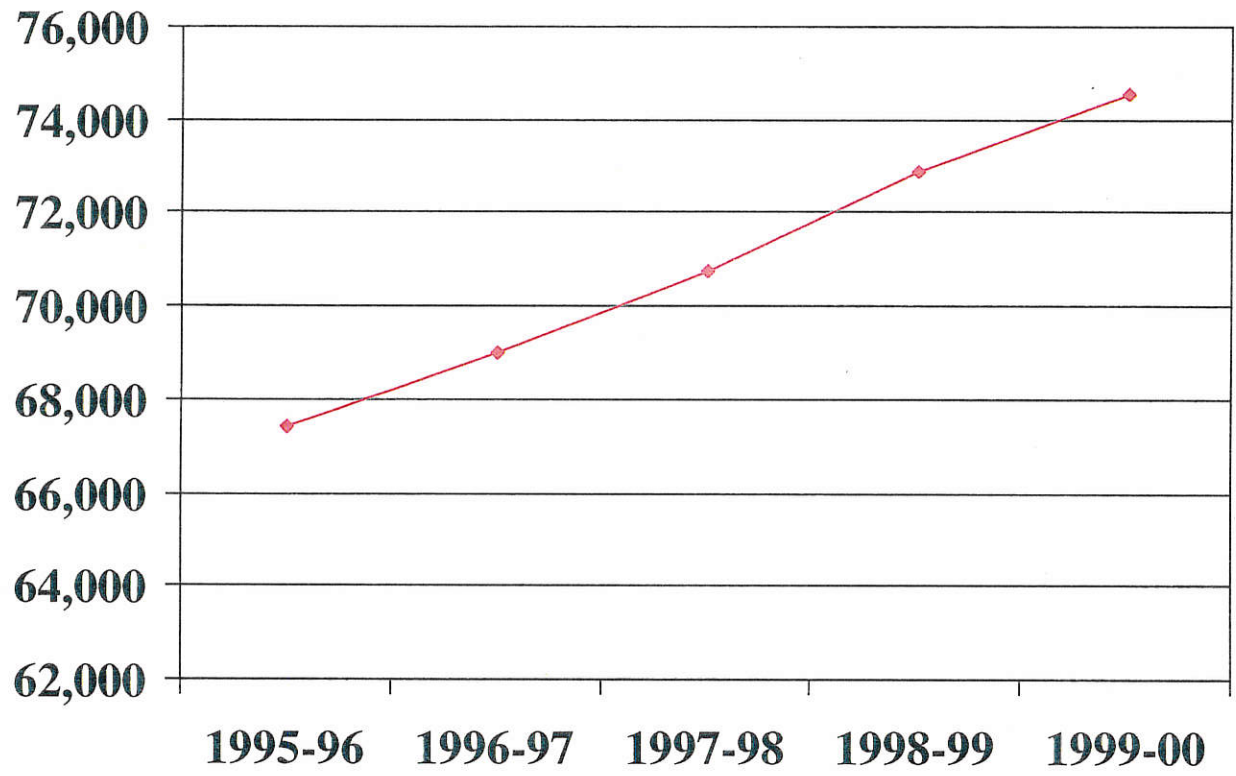
# What is our five year enrollment trend for all students?



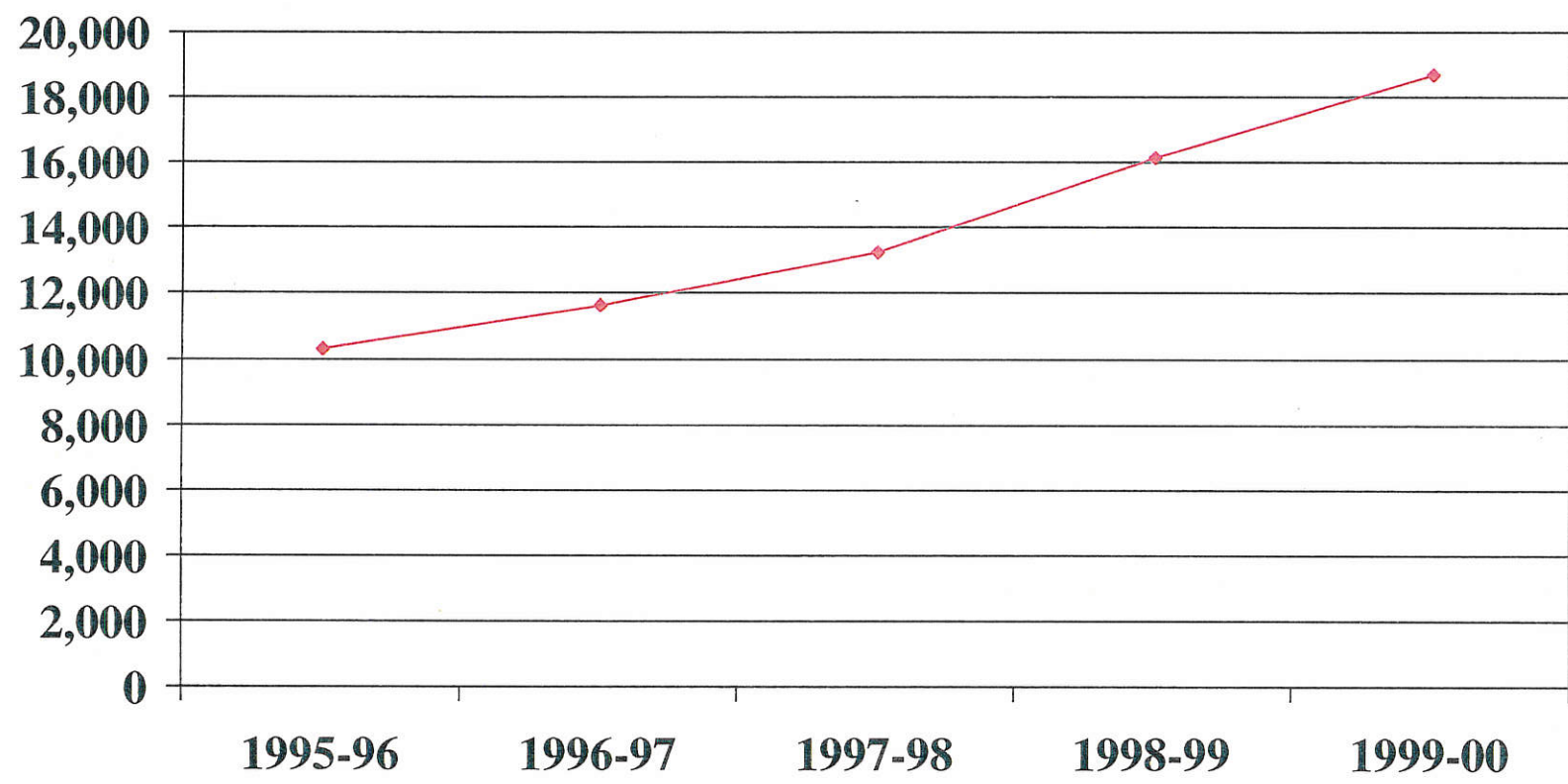
# What is our five year enrollment trend in disadvantaged?



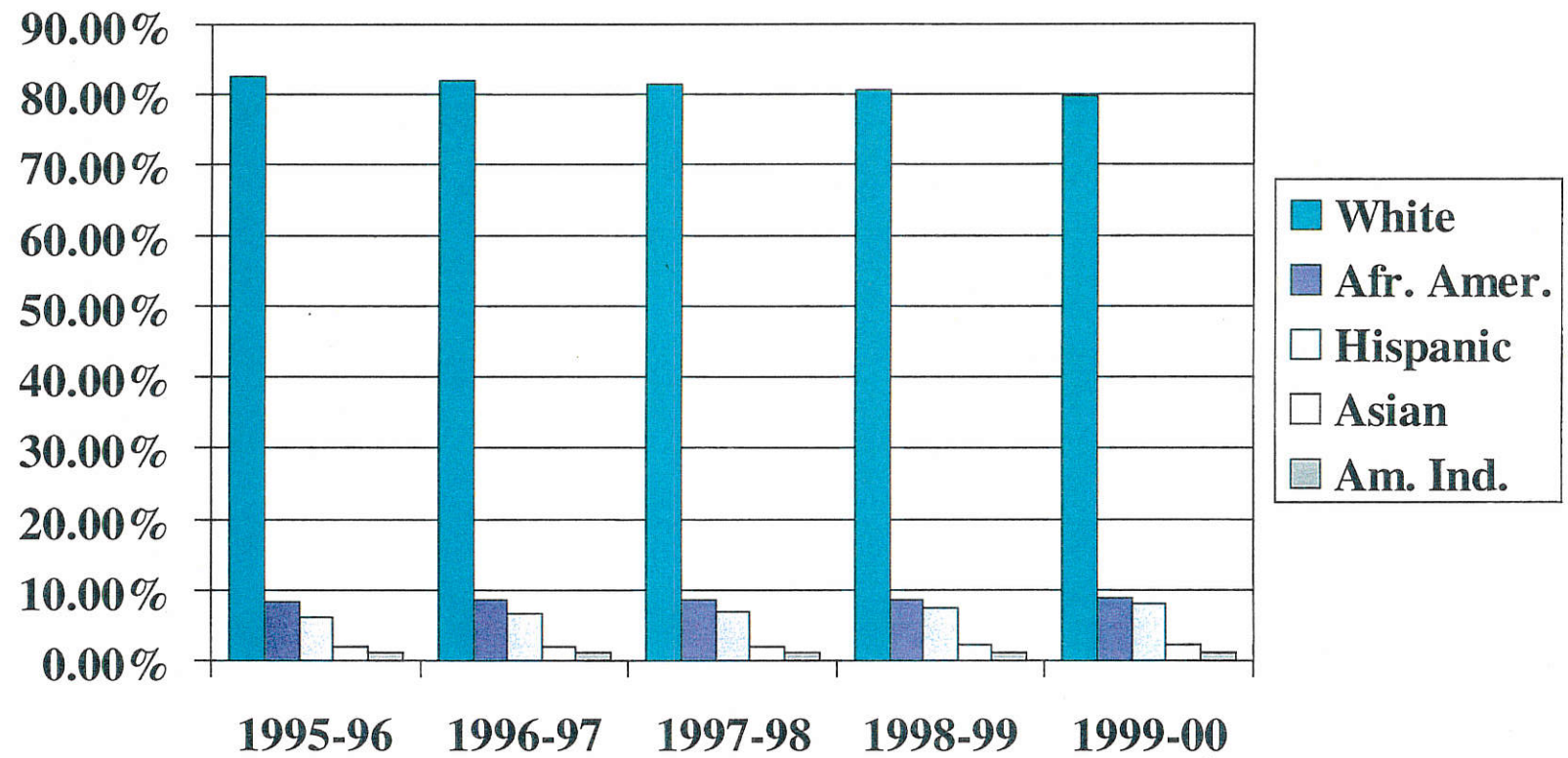
# What is our five year enrollment trend in special education?



# What is our five year enrollment trend in bilingual?



# What is our five year enrollment trend for minorities?





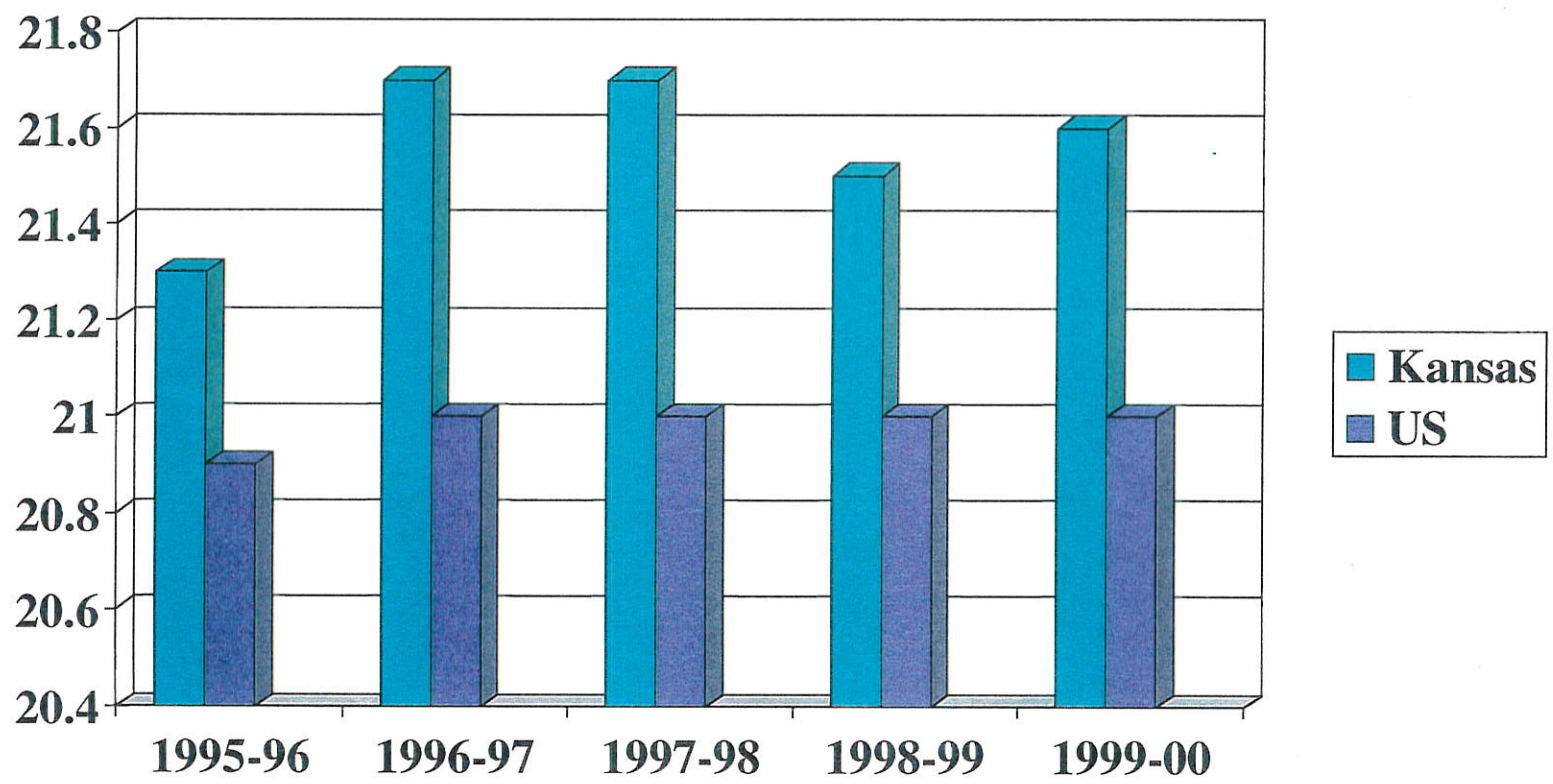
## What are some other school district demographic indicators?

- Range in district enrollment is from 54 to 45,360 with a median of 539
- Approximately two of every three school districts are experiencing declining enrollment
- Size in square miles of a district range from 8.5 to 992 with a median of 228

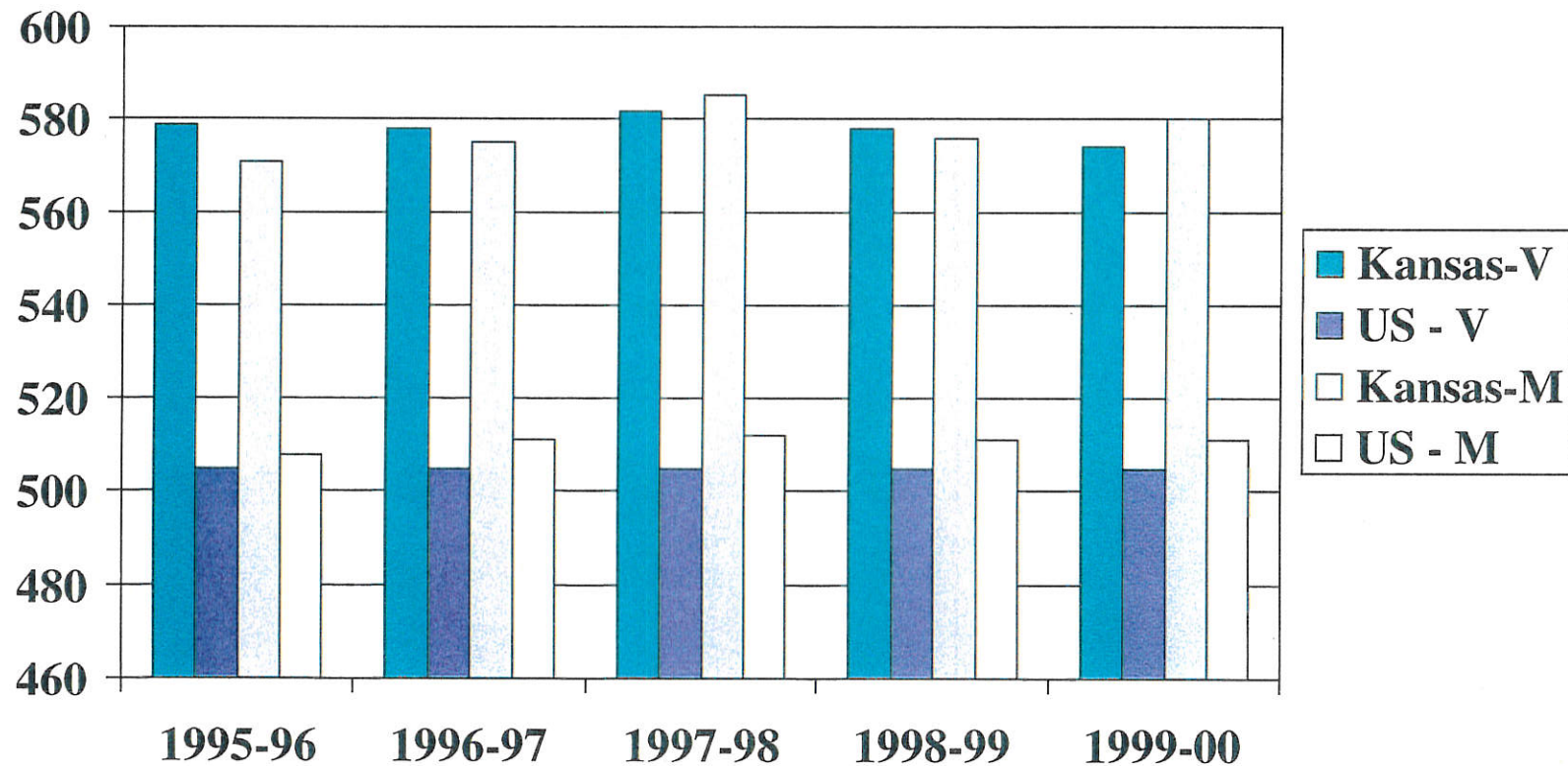
## How has our educational system been recognized nationally?

- Ranked in top 10 on academic achievement by American Legislative Exchange Council
- Ranked as one of the top four in the nation for combined ACT and SAT scores by College Board and ACT, Inc.
- Ranked in top 6 by National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education
- Ranked as number 9 for technology sophistication by Market Data Retrieval

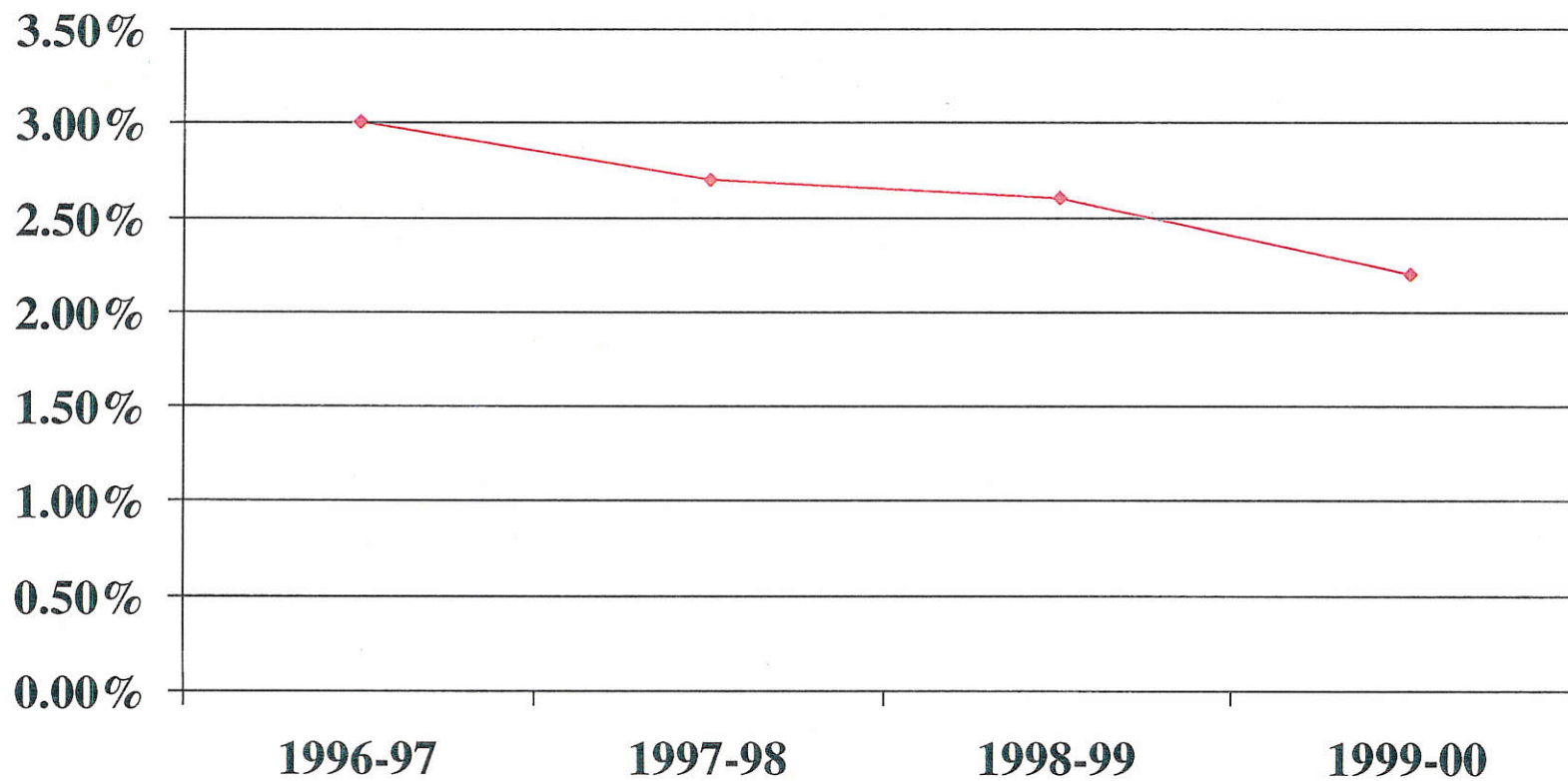
# How have our students done on the ACT test compared to the nation?



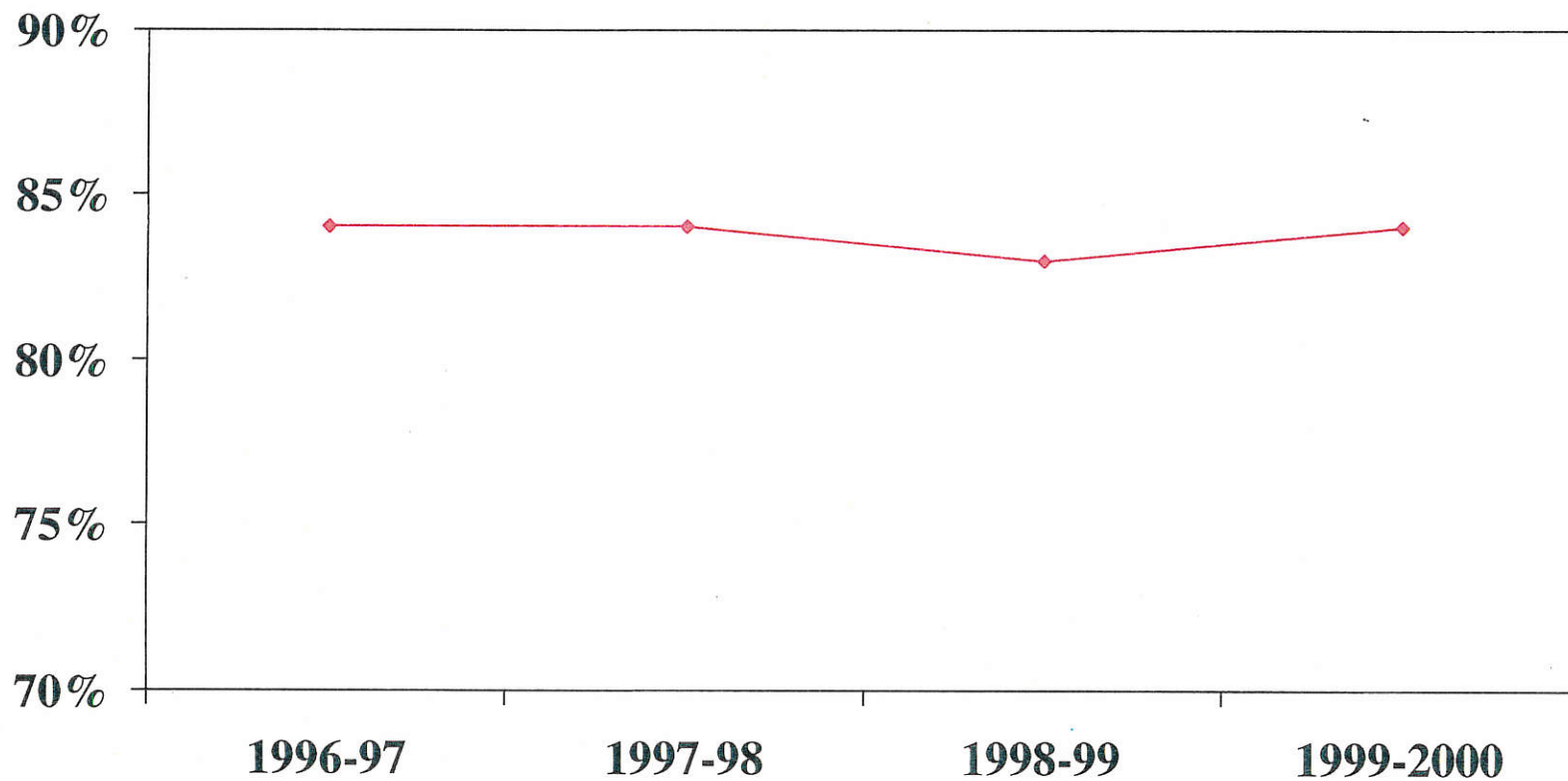
# How have our students done on the SAT test compared to the nation?



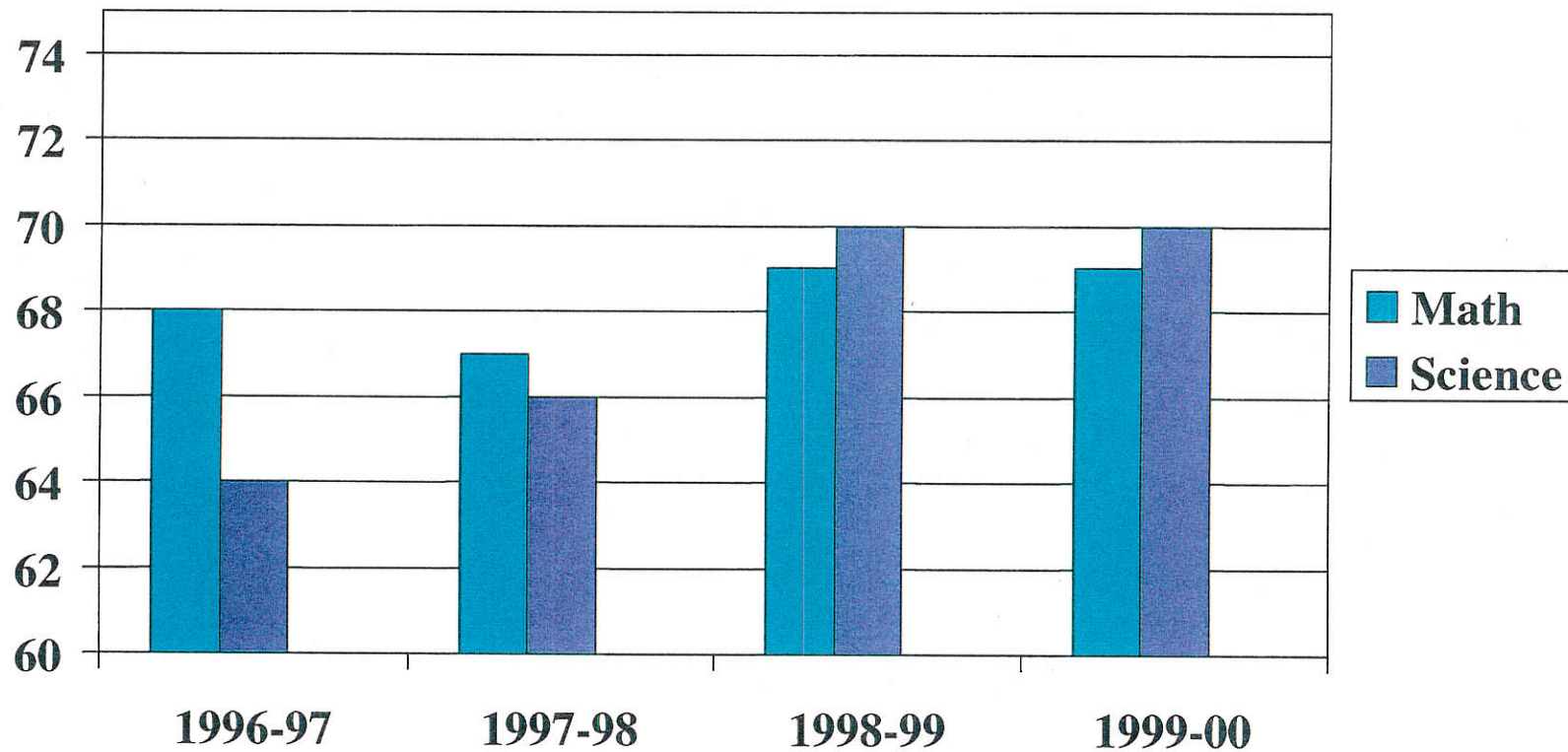
# What is our four year trend in dropout rate?



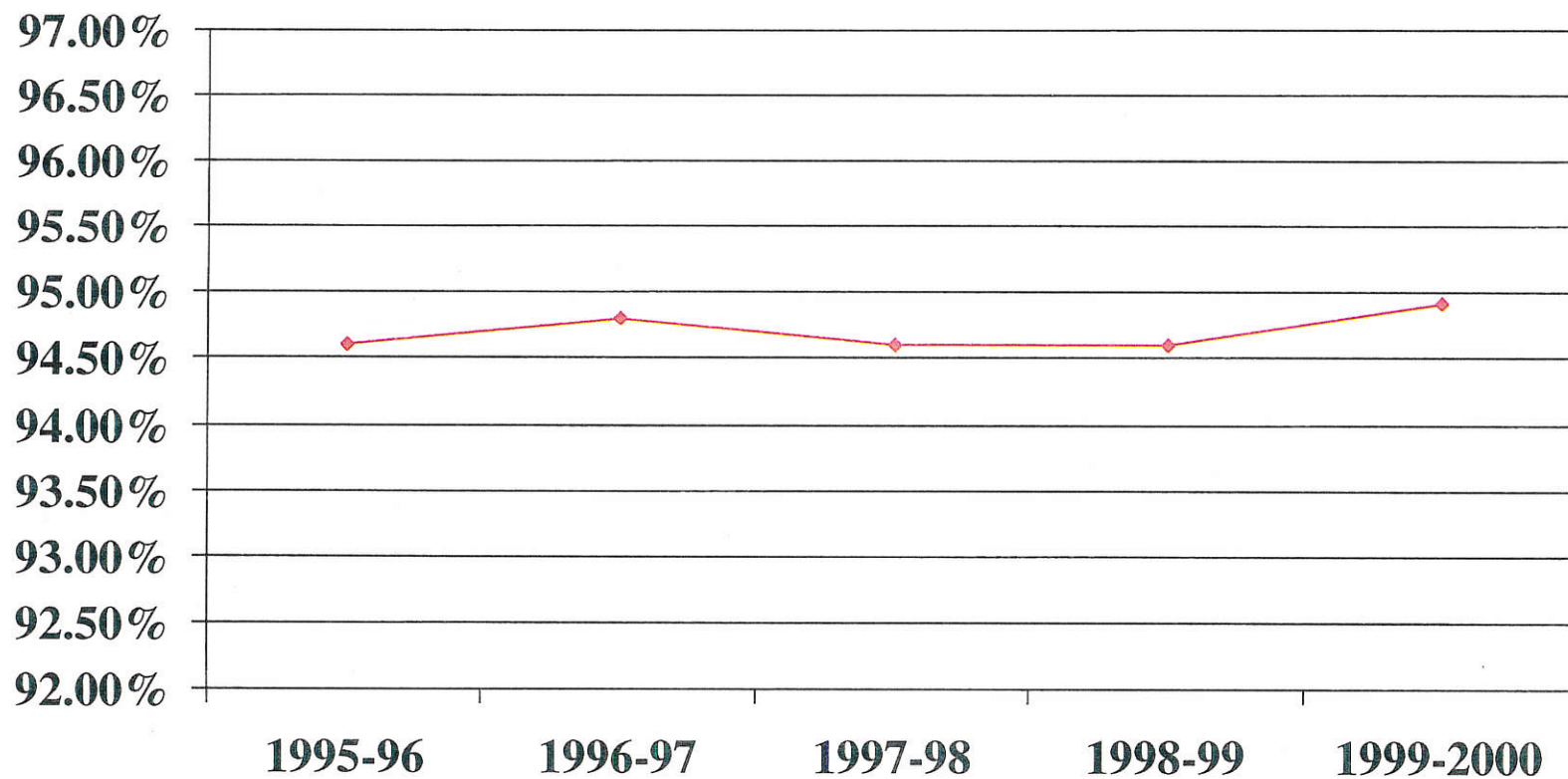
# What is our four year trend in high school graduation rate?



# What is our four year trend in passing advanced math and science courses?

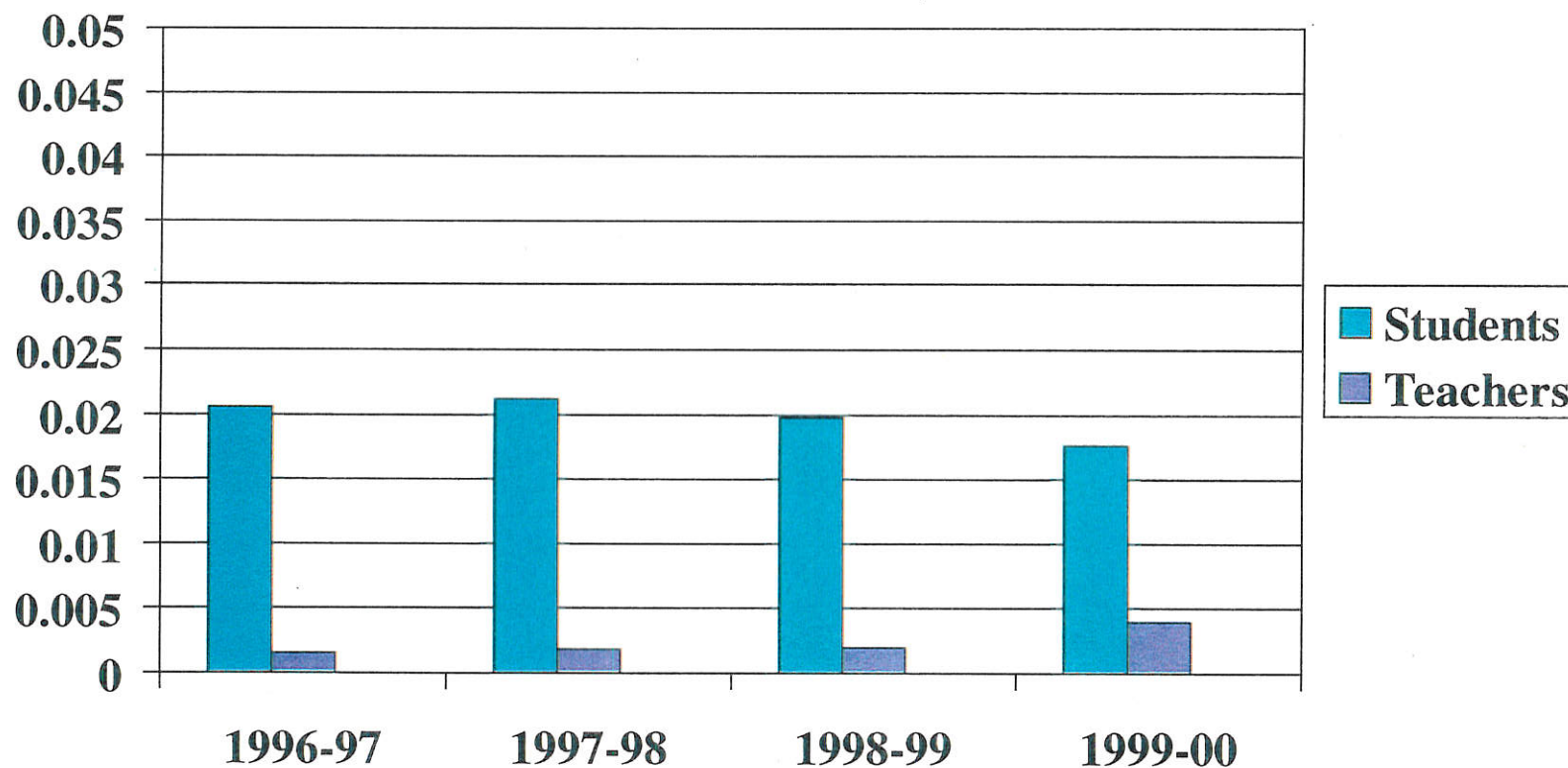


# What is our five year trend for attendance rates?

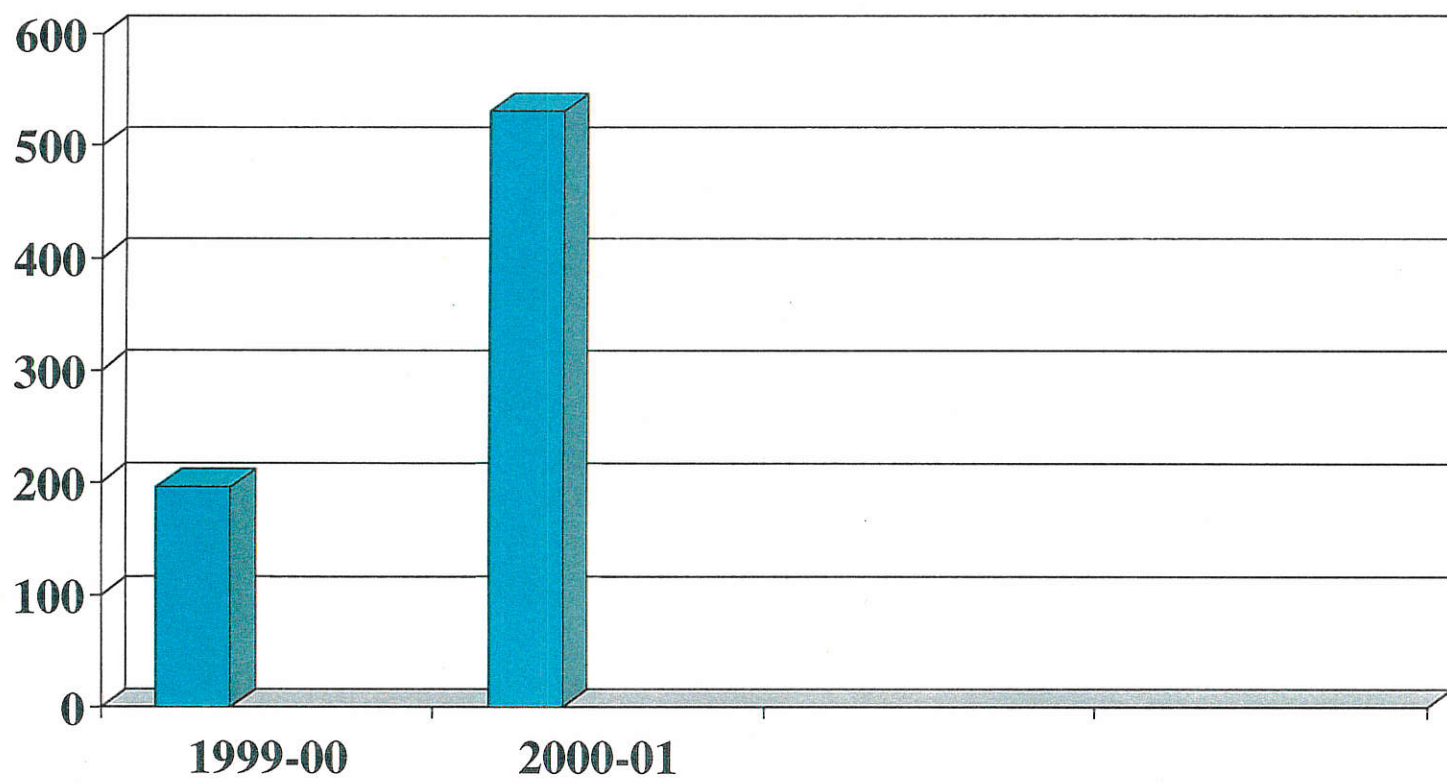




# What is our four year trend in acts of violence against students and teachers?



How many teacher vacancies have we had at the beginning of the past two school years?



# In what areas are we experiencing our greatest shortages?

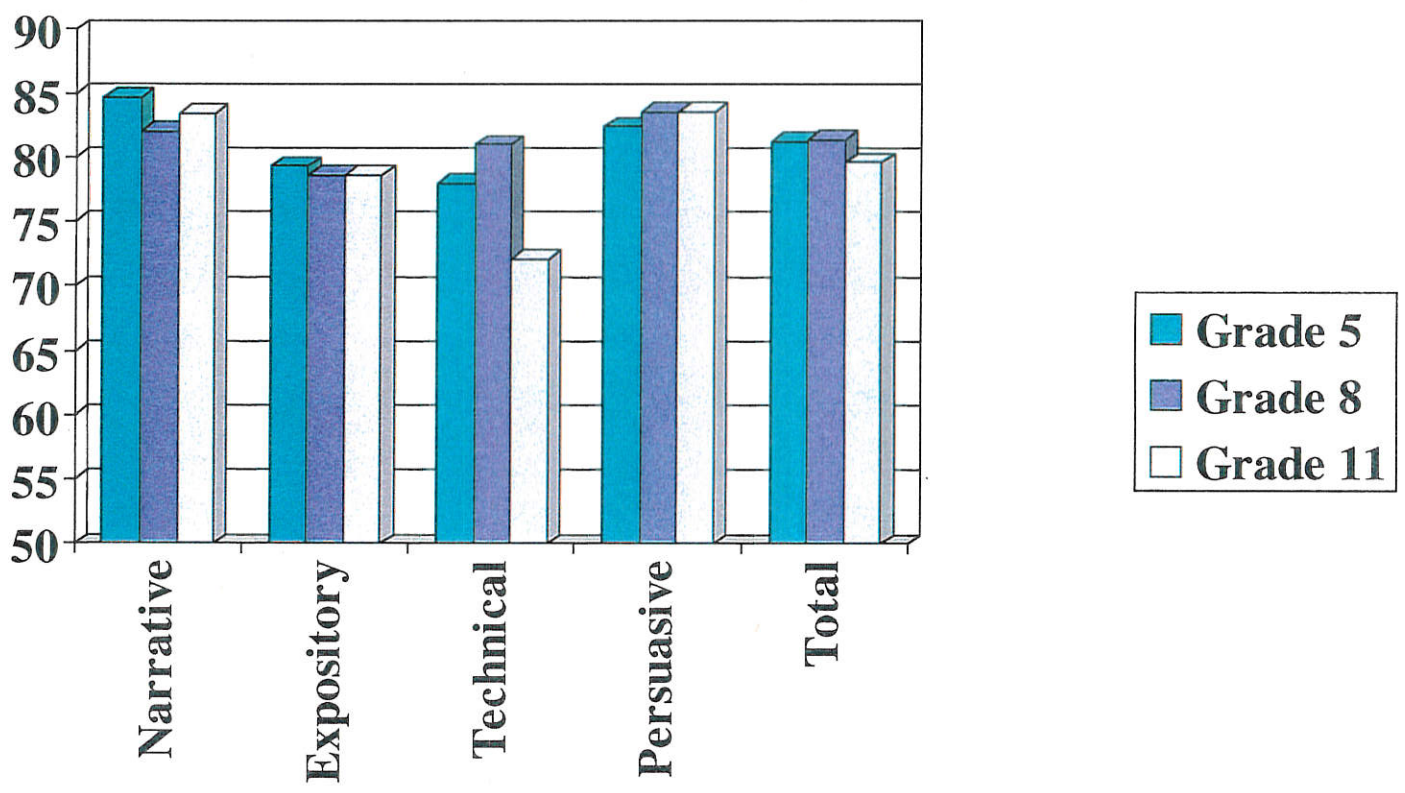
- Special education
- Mathematics
- Science
- Music
- Counseling
- Librarians
- Business and industrial technology
- School and district leadership

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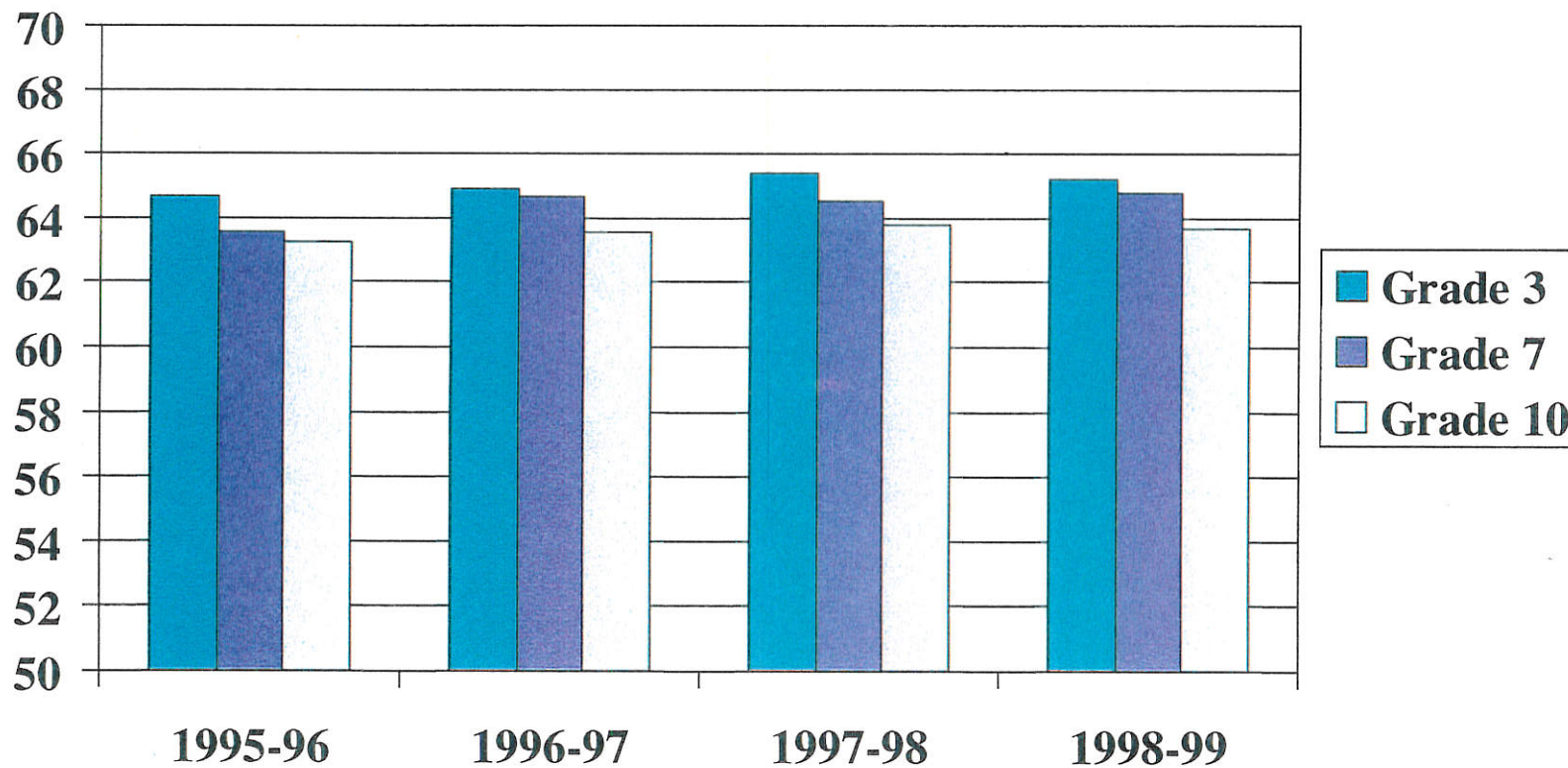
## What subjects are tested in the state program, how often, and at what grades?

- Reading - Annually at Grades 5, 8, 11
- Writing - Biennially at Grades 5, 8, 11
- Mathematics - Annually at Grades 4, 7, 10
- Science - Biennially at Grades 4, 7, 10
- Social Studies - Biennially at Grades 6, 8, 11

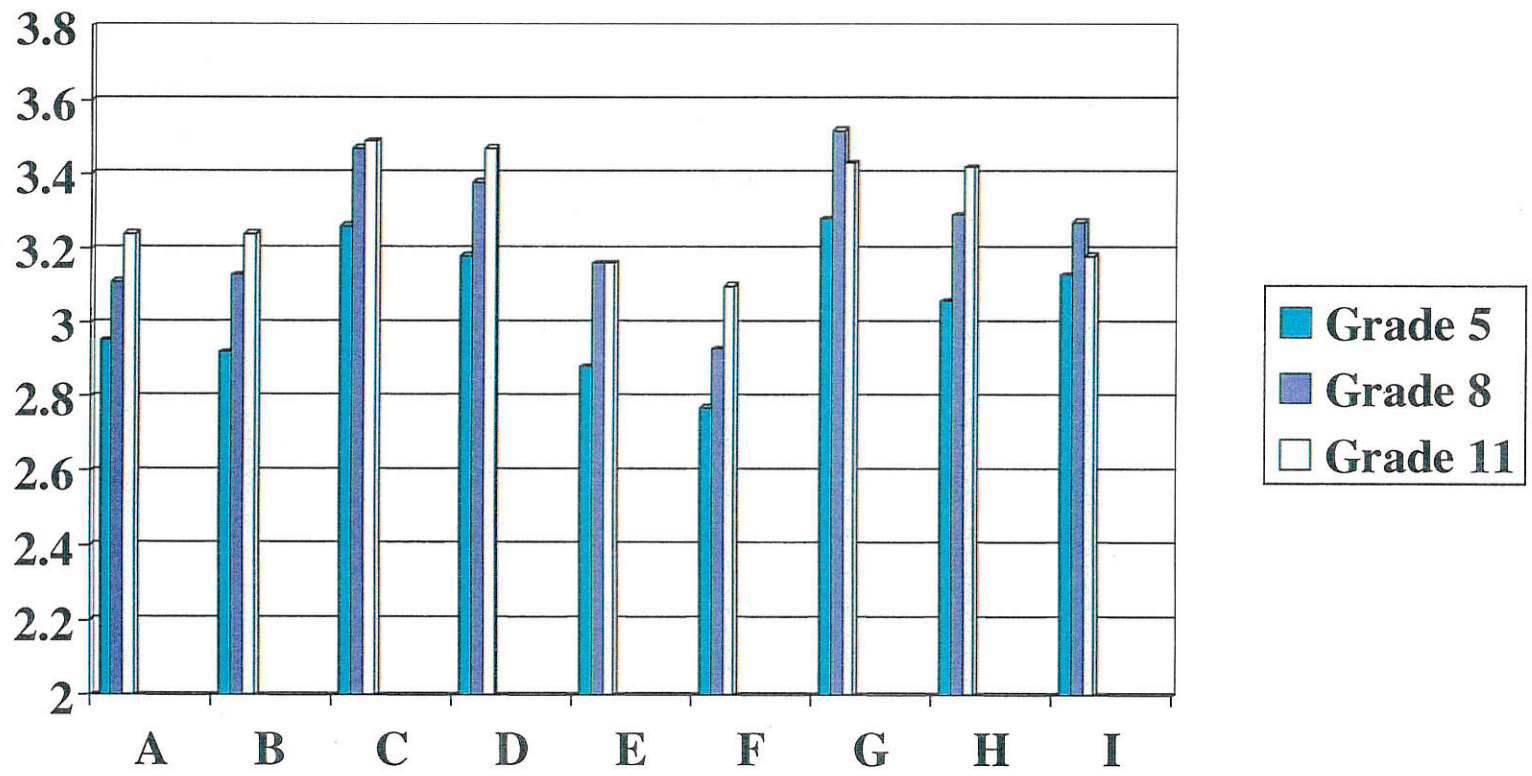
# What were our results on the 1999-2000 state assessments in reading?



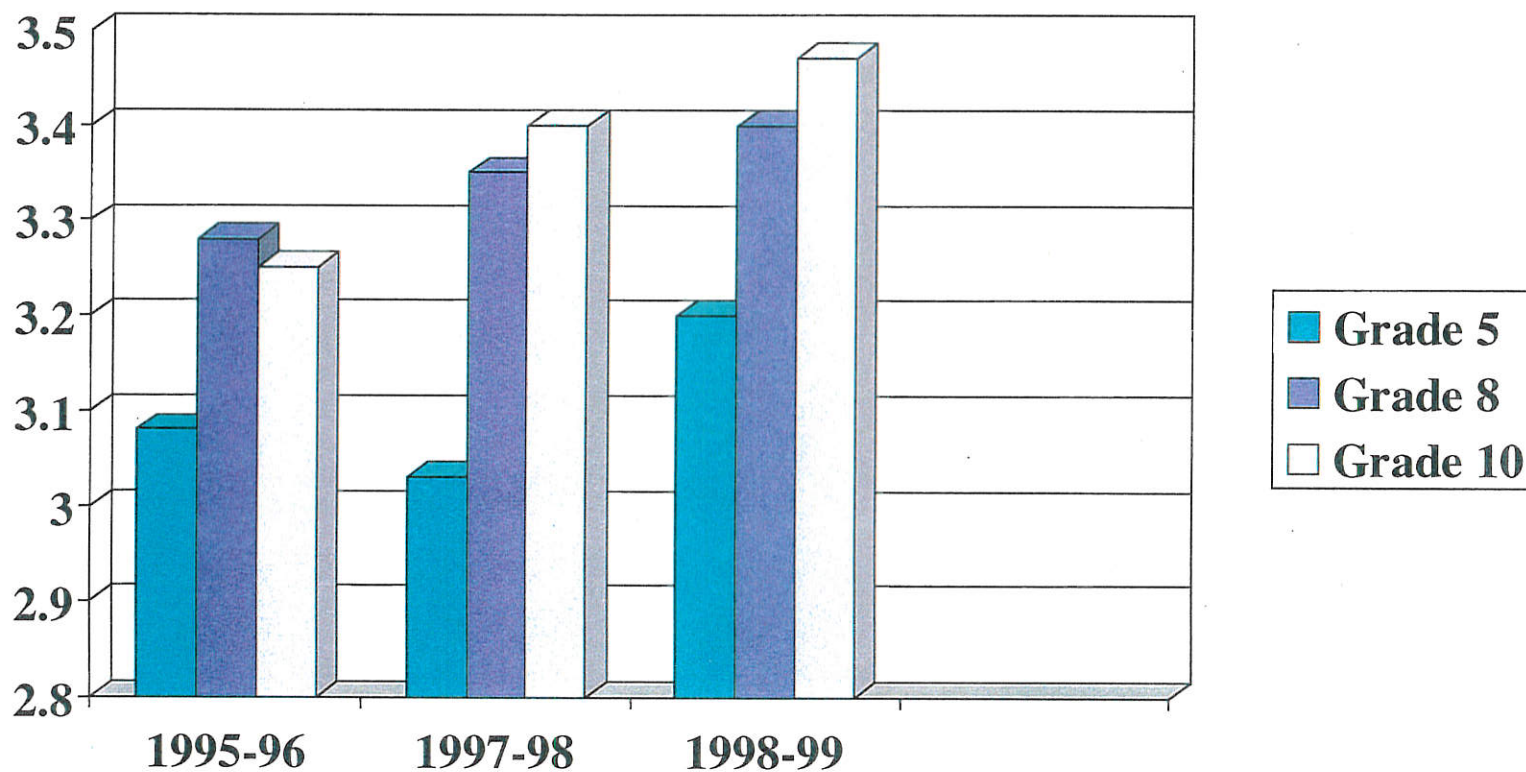
# What trend in reading achievement did we see in the previous program?



# What were our results on the 1999-2000 state assessments in writing?

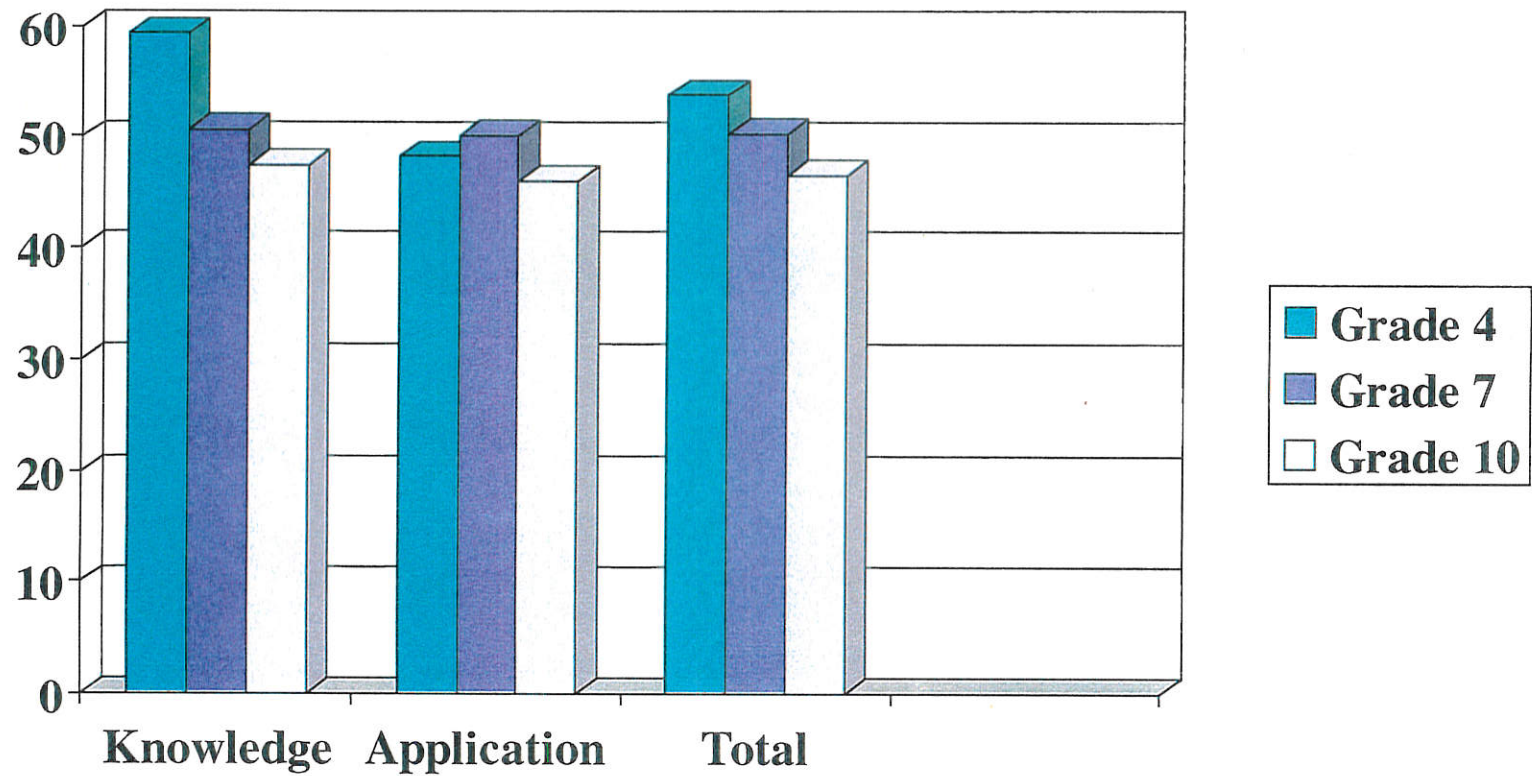


# What trend in writing achievement did we see in the previous program?

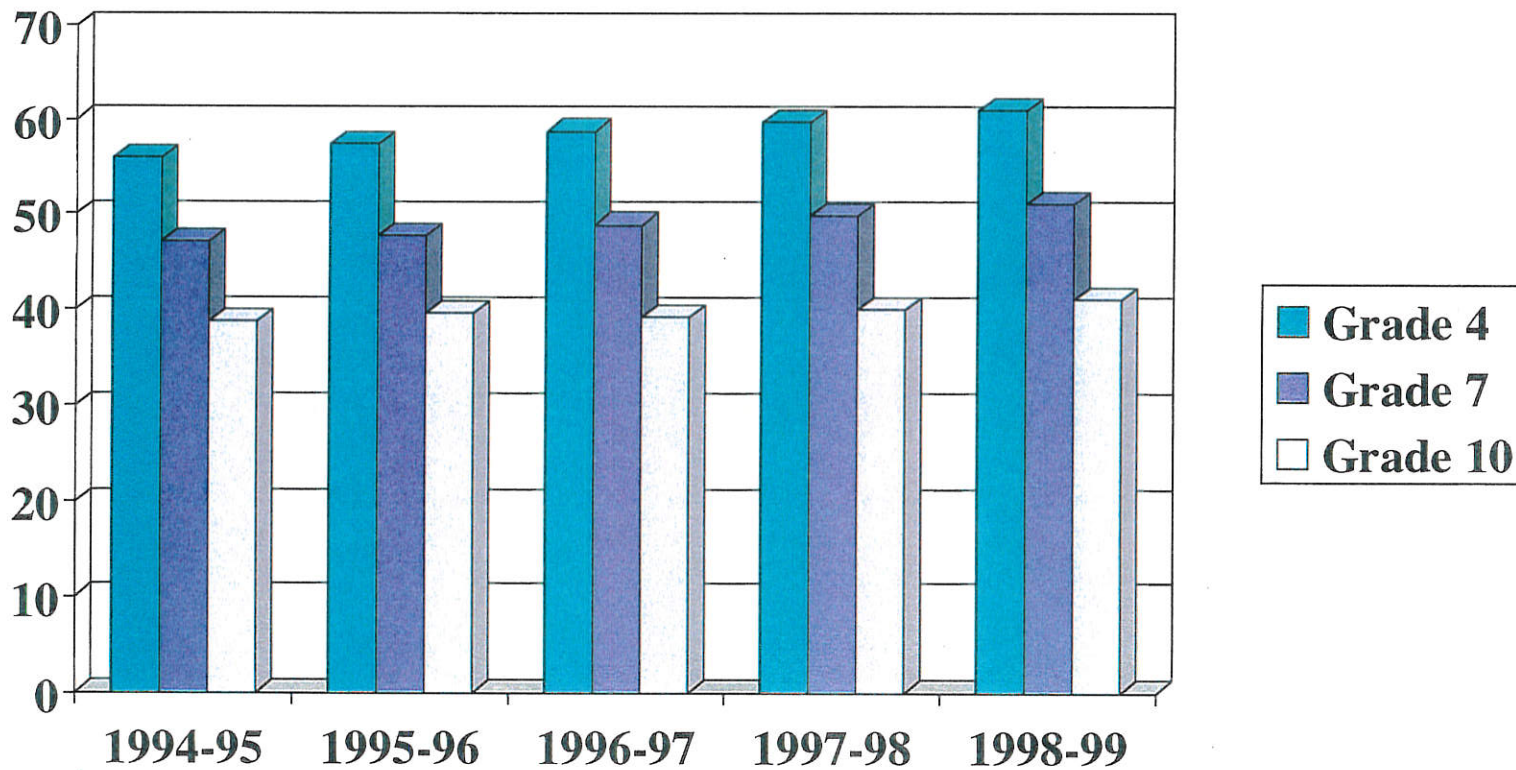




# What were our results on the 1999-2000 state assessments in mathematics?



# What trend in math achievement did we see in the previous program?



# How has the focus of schooling changed?

- Educational opportunity to learning for all
- Focus on the school to focus on the student
- Time is constant and learning variable to learning more constant and time more variable
- Focus on what is offered to what is learned
- Isolated decision-making to collaborative decision-making
- One size fits all to options/choice

# What challenges do we face in helping all students learn well?

- Lack of learning readiness and student motivation leading to an achievement gap for disadvantaged
- Alignment of curriculum with expectations for mathematics
- Loss of opportunity due to effects of declining enrollment
- Shortage of qualified teachers and school leaders
- Lack of ongoing staff development in content areas including technology

## Where are we focusing our efforts to address these challenges?

- Early childhood initiatives to increase school readiness and school success
- Early literacy initiatives to ensure foundation knowledge and skills
- Extended learning time initiatives to increase opportunities for all students to meet high standards
- Alignment of content for educator preparation with academic standards for students

## Where are we focusing our efforts to address these challenges?

- Ongoing professional development of faculty on academic standards
- Ongoing leadership development initiatives focused on learning as well as management
- Additional supports for schools with a high proportion of disadvantaged students
- Development of a technology infrastructure
- Increased flexibility for substitute teachers

## Where are we focusing our efforts to address these challenges?

- Utilization of a web-based educator recruitment system (KEEB)
- Provision of alternative paths for second career people entering education
- A major study of the current accreditation system
- Review of graduation requirements and development of graduation standards

Destiny is not a matter of chance,  
it is a matter of choice.

**William Jennings Bryan**