



**Nevada State Public
Charter School
Authority**

Overview

- An Overview of the SPCSA
- SPCSA-Sponsored Public Charter Schools
- The SPCSA's Strategic Plan
- The 2020-2021 School Year – An Unprecedented Year
- Performance of SPCSA-Sponsored Charter Schools
- Elevating our Focus on Equity



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SPCSA Overview

What are public charter schools?

- ✓ Tuition-free, public schools
- ✓ Students enrolled through a lottery (school may not impose any admission criteria*)
- ✓ Required to take all state assessments (Smarter Balanced, ACT, etc.)
- ✓ Governed by volunteer board of directors
- ✓ May not operate for profit
- ✓ Subject to a performance contract with a charter school sponsor

**Pursuant to NRS 388A.274, a charter school may, with approval from the SPCSA and State Board of Education, be rated under the Alternative Performance Framework schools and restrict enrollment to certain students, including those that are significantly under-credited.*

Creation and Purpose

Created in 2011, the purpose of the State Public Charter School Authority is to:

“ Authorize charter schools of high-quality throughout this State with the goal of expanding the opportunities for pupils in this State, including, without limitation, pupils who are at risk.

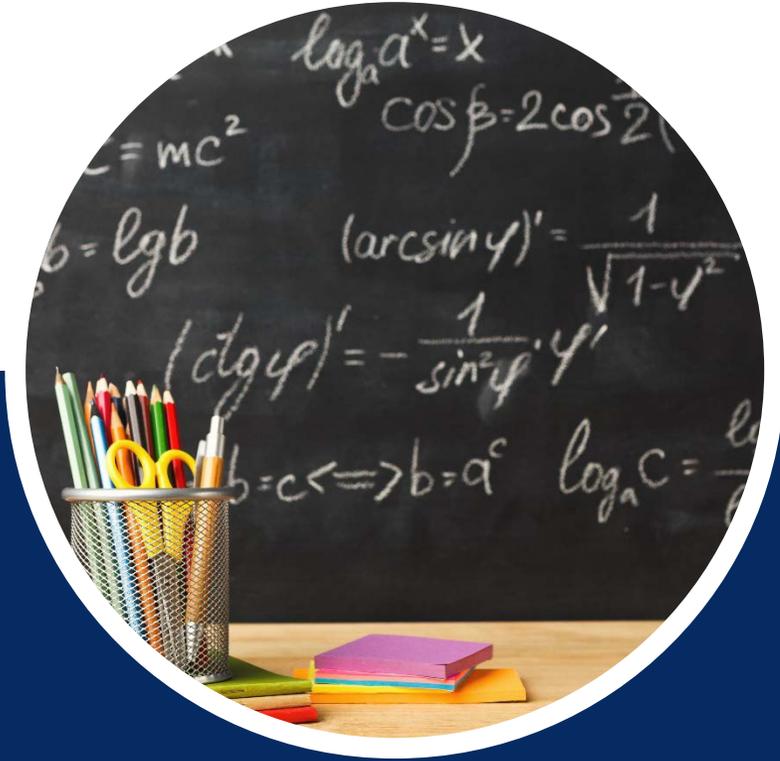
Provide oversight to the charter schools that it sponsors to ensure that those charter schools maintain high educational and operational standards, preserve autonomy and safeguard the interests of pupils and the community.

Serve as a model of the best practices in sponsoring charter schools and foster a climate in this State in which all high-quality charter schools, regardless of sponsor, can flourish. ”

NRS 388A.150

About the State Public Charter School Authority

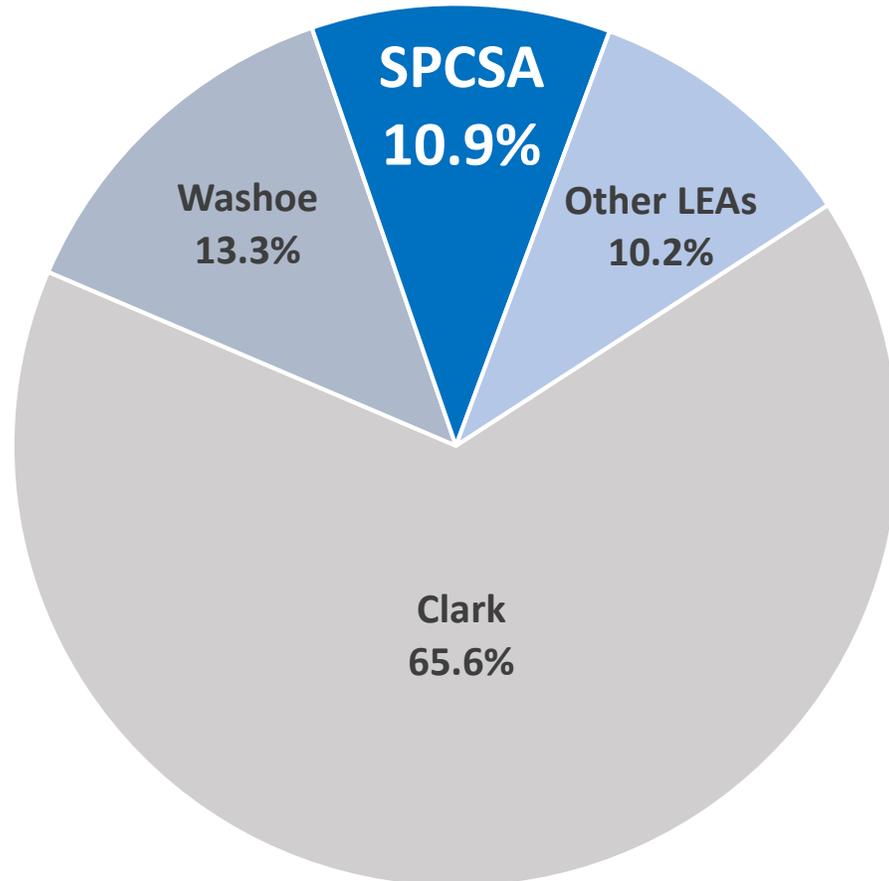
- 9 Member board appointed by Governor, Senate Majority Leader, Speaker of the Assembly, State Board of Education, and Charter School Association of Nevada
- 20 Full time employees who conduct oversight of schools and execute Local Education Agency responsibilities (ex. monitoring, technical assistance, managing grants)
- 2 Offices, one located in Carson City and one located in Las Vegas
- \$30M Estimated pass-through of federal and state grants to schools for fiscal year 2021



Sponsored Schools

Overview of Schools and Students Served

There are 67 schools sponsored by the SPCSA located across five counties: Churchill, Clark, Elko, Washoe, and White Pine. Of the schools sponsored by the SPCSA, about 82% are located in Clark County.



Entity	Enrollment	% of State
State	486633	-
Clark	319293	65.6
Washoe	64988	13.3
SPCSA	53223	10.9
Elko	9609	1.9
Lyon	8823	1.8
Carson	7836	1.6
Douglas	5400	1.1
Nye	5394	1.1
Churchill	3247	0.6
Humboldt	3306	0.6
Lander	1027	0.2
White Pine	1228	0.2
Lincoln	886	0.1
Mineral	572	0.1
Pershing	656	0.1
Storey	448	<0.1
Eureka	324	<0.1
University	234	<0.1
Esmeralda	101	<0.1
Correctional	38	<0.1

SPCSA-Sponsored Schools

By offering a variety of school models, the SPCSA enables Nevada families to choose schools that best align with the needs and interests of their children.

- Alternative High Schools Serving Under-Credited Students
- Arts Integration Schools
- A Montessori School
- A Sports Leadership and Management School
- A school aimed to meet the needs of young women
- Dual Enrollment High Schools
- Online or Blended Learning Schools
- Classical Education Schools
- STEM/STEAM Schools





Strategic Plan



Vision

Equitable access to diverse, innovative, and high-quality public schools for every Nevada student.

Mission

The SPCSA sponsors, supports, and oversees dynamic and responsive public charter schools that prepare all students for academic, social, and economic success.

STUDENT FOCUSED

We put what is best for students at the center of our work and honor the critical role that families play in student success.



LEADERSHIP

We earn the public's trust by holding our agency to the highest standards and investing in our growth and development.



EXCELLENCE THROUGH IMPROVEMENT

We establish clear, high expectations and constantly seek growth for ourselves and foster improvement for our schools.



OUR VALUES

EQUITY & DIVERSITY

We are committed to ensuring equitable access for students from all backgrounds and value the voices of all members of our community.



TRANSPARENCY

We promote transparent and open communication and make school performance data accessible to all stakeholders.



ACCOUNTABLE AUTONOMY

We provide our charter schools with the autonomy to innovate in the best interests of students while holding them accountable for academic results, financial performance, and legal compliance, so that students, families, and taxpayers can be confident in the quality of the schools we sponsor.

Five-Year Goals

- ✓ Provide families with access to high quality schools
- ✓ Ensure that every SPCSA student succeeds – including those from historically underserved student groups
- ✓ Increase the diversity of students served by SPCSA schools

Strategies



Proactive Oversight



Strategic Growth



Expanded Support



Recognize Progress



The 2020-21 School Year: An Unprecedented Year

An Unprecedented Year

The COVID-19 pandemic created an unprecedented challenge for schools across the country. The SPCSA and sponsored schools have:

- Worked to ensure all students have access to a device and internet to participate in distance or hybrid learning
- Focused on getting students back into school safely and in partnership with teachers and families
- Enhanced communication to ensure that the SPCSA and schools have access to time-sensitive and critical information



MAKING HOMEWORK

Sharing the stories of educators and students

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, there are many bright spots to celebrate:

- High attendance during the initial shut down (~98% daily attendance);
- The graduation rate at SPCSA-sponsored schools increased to 84.2% for the class of 2020 (from 77.8% for the class of 2019); and
- Strong collaboration with NDE and school districts on critical school supports including PPE distribution, TIES Teacher COVID Testing Program, Connective Kids Initiative, and many more.



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School Performance

In the last two years, SPCSA-sponsored schools showed strong growth and overall performance

Nevada School Star Ratings



80%
of SPCSA schools
rated 3 stars or better



66%
of SPCSA schools are
4- and 5-star schools

Graduation Rates



84.2%
4-year graduation rate



6.4 point increase
compared to prior year

20 of 22 high schools
exceeded the statewide graduation rate



Academic Performance Framework

- The SPCSA adopted a new Academic Performance Framework (APF) in 2019 that is based on:
 - School star ratings;
 - Performance comparisons to the local school district and nearby school; and
 - Enrollment diversity compared to the local school district.
- While much of the APF could not be calculated for the 2019-20 school year due to the lack of star ratings, the SPCSA updated school reports with the 2019-20 enrollment data.
 - More than half of schools earned bonus points for a 25% or greater improvement in enrollment rates of economically disadvantaged students (FRL), students with disabilities (IEP), or English Learners (ELLs).

Site Evaluations

- The SPCSA conducts site evaluations at each school campus, at minimum, in the first, third and fifth years of the charter contract.
- Each site evaluation involves document submissions, classroom observations and focus groups.
- For the 2020-21 school year, the SPCSA has 42 site evaluations scheduled, with 24 complete as of January 2021.

Organizational Performance Framework

- The SPCSA approved a new Organizational Performance Framework (OPF) in 2019 with five major categories:
 - Education Program
 - Financial Management and Oversight
 - Governance and Reporting
 - Students and Employees
 - School Environment
- The Organizational Framework takes into account over 40 annual compliance requirements and is focused on answering the question: *Is the organization effective and well run?*
- For the 2019-2020 school year, 100% of schools met standards on the Organizational Performance Framework

Financial Performance Framework

- The SPCSA approved a new Financial Performance Framework (FPF) in 2019 with four near-term measures and four sustainability measures.
- The Financial Framework is focused on answering the question: *Is the school financially viable?*
- Of the 34 sponsored charter schools in the SPCSA portfolio for FY20, 26 earned “Meets Standard” ratings in at least six of the eight indicators. Additionally, 12 schools met performance standards under all eight indicators, and all SPCSA-sponsored schools met the performance standard under the Debt Default measure.
- SPCSA staff is recommending 3 Notices of Concern for financial performance in FY20



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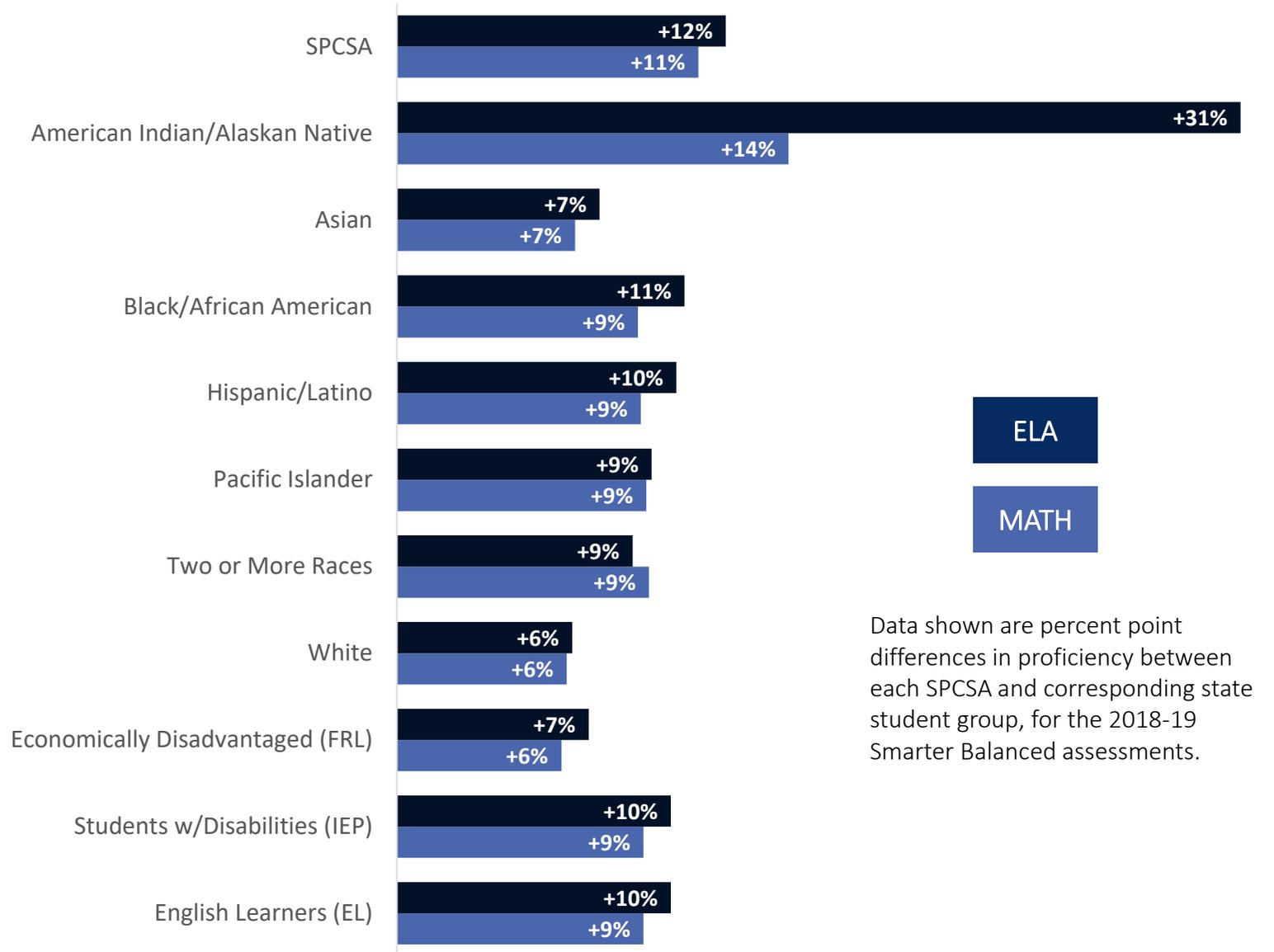
Our Focus on Equity



The SPCSA is focused on enabling equitable access to high quality public charter schools

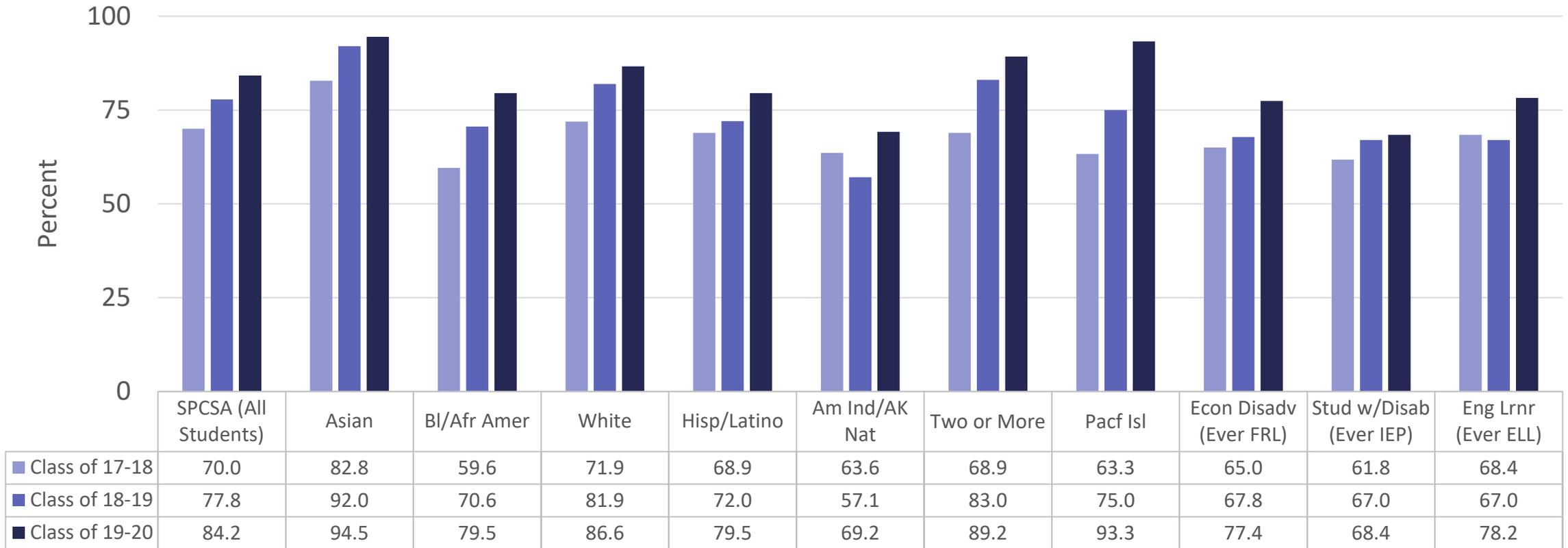
- On the most recent administration of the Smarter Balanced Math and ELA assessments, all SPCSA student groups outperformed their respective state student groups.
- However, like many educational institutions, opportunity gaps persist.
- The SPCSA has been focused on serving a population representative of the state and has seen progress.
- The SPCSA has taken on several initiatives focused on enabling equitable access and strong academic outcomes for all student groups.

All SPCSA Student Groups Outperformed their State Peers in 3rd-8th Grade Math and ELA



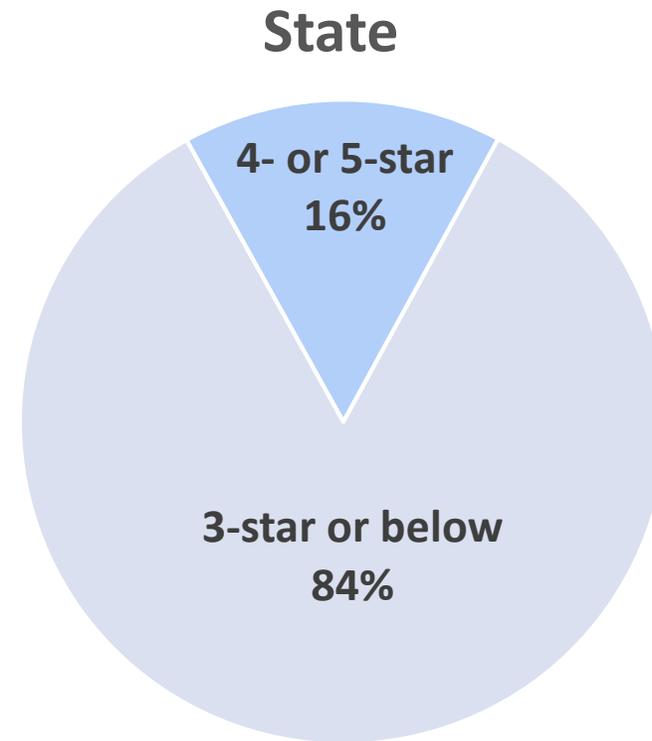
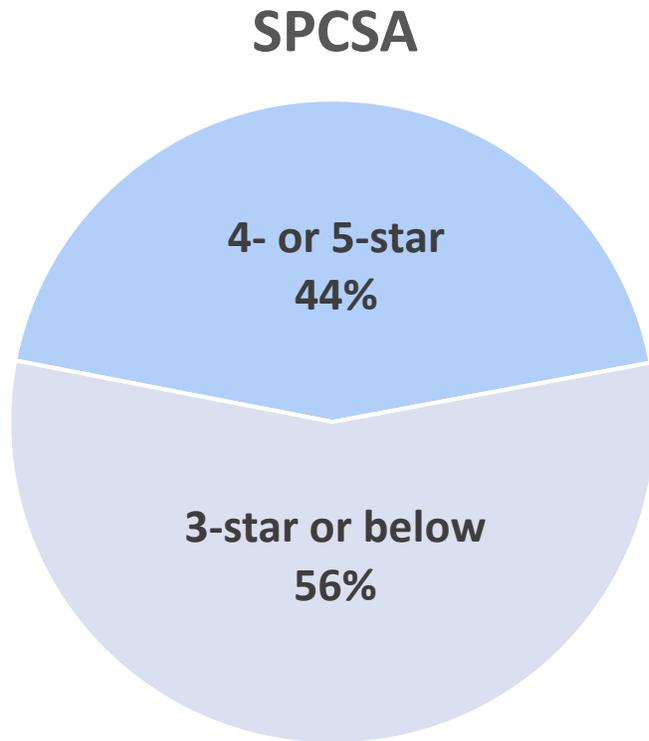
Data shown are percent point differences in proficiency between each SPCSA and corresponding state student group, for the 2018-19 Smarter Balanced assessments.

Over the Last 3 Years Student Groups have Shown Improvement in Graduation Rates



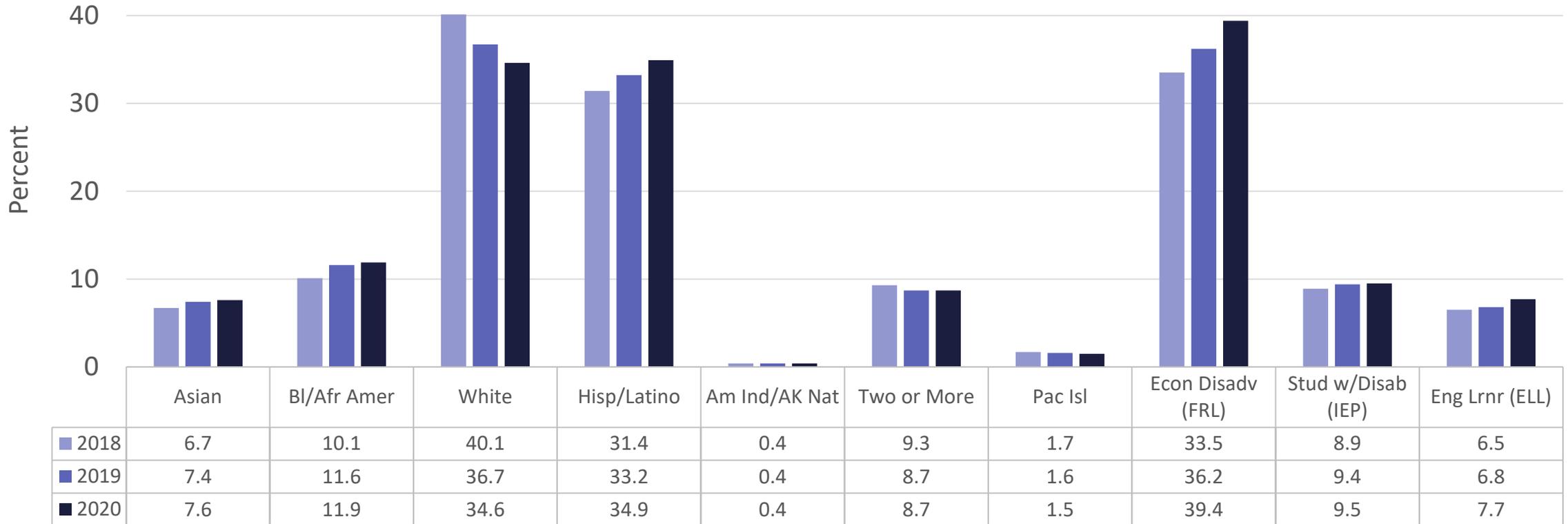
“Ever” denotes students were part of that population during their high school career.

SPCSA Title I Schools are More Likely to be Rated 4 or 5 Stars



The most recent school star ratings are shown (from 2018-19). State data do not include SPCSA schools.

The SPCSA's Demographics Show Steady Progress Towards Alignment with the State



Enrollment rates are from the Nevada Department of Education October 1 validation day of the respective year.

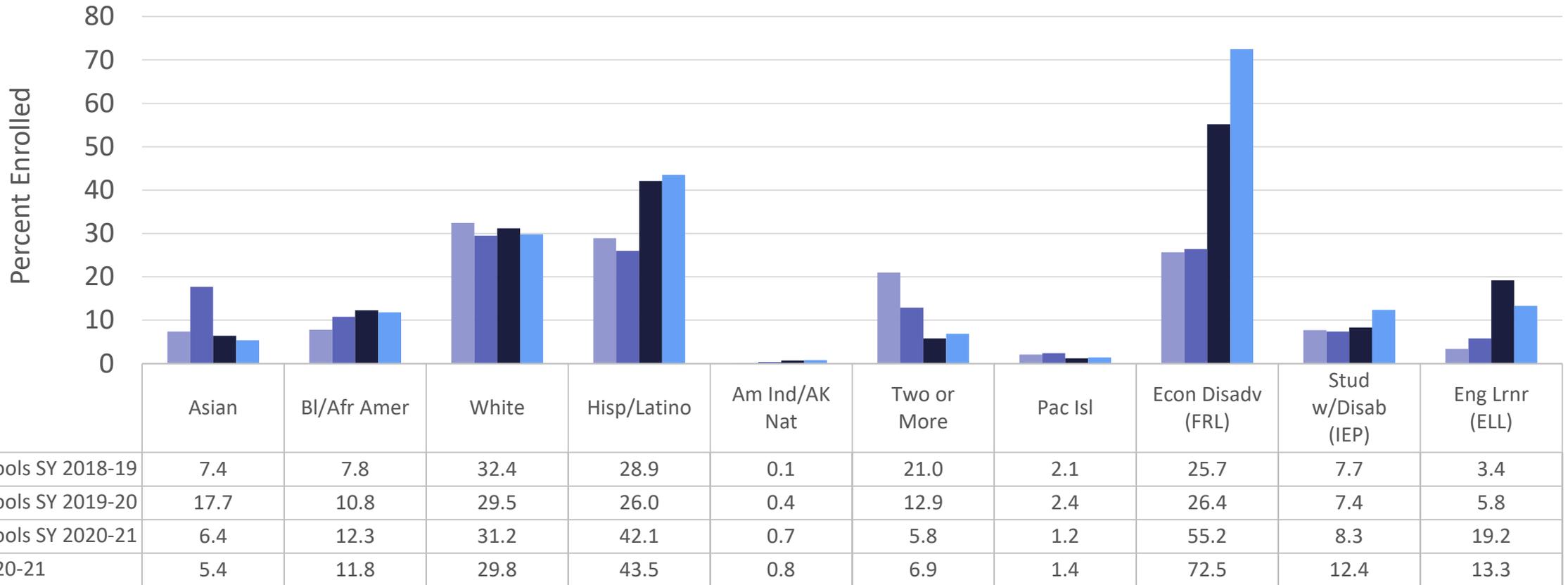
Needs Assessment and Growth Management Plan

- Initial **Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment** approved by Authority on July 26, 2019
 - Revised in December of 2019 to include updated star ratings and enrollment data
 - Third iteration presented to Authority on January 22, 2021 for approval
- Initial **Growth Management Plan** approved by Authority on December 13, 2019 and transmitted to NDE and LCB on December 24, 2019
 - Discussed at Legislative Committee on education meetings in January, February, and March of 2020
 - Updated Growth Management Plan approved by Authority, incorporating legislator feedback, on April 24, 2020

Needs Assessment Implementation

- Adjusted SPCSA new school application process and materials to incorporate Needs Assessment
- Regularly conducted proactive outreach to prospective applicants to ensure they understood the requirement to align to Needs Assessment
- Of 15 applications for new charter schools received since passage of AB 462, 5 have been approved

New SPCSA Schools that opened in School Year 2020-21 are More Reflective of State Enrollment Rates



Enrollment rates are from the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) October 1 validation day of the respective year. New schools in SY 2018-19 include CASLV Eastgate, Legacy Cadence, NSHS Meadowood, NSHS Sunrise, Somerset Aliante, and Somerset Skye Canyon. New schools in SY 2019-20 include Legacy SW, NSHS SW, Pinecrest Sloan Canyon, and Signature Prep. New schools in SY 2020-21 include Amplus Acad Rainbow, Explore Acad, GALS, Mater East, NSHS Dtnw Henderson, NSHS NW, and Pinecrest Northern NV.

Recent SPCSA Equity Initiatives

- Since the spring of 2020, the SPCSA has been working to elevate our focus on equity throughout our work, examples include:
 - Requiring schools to discuss culturally responsive practices during site evaluations
 - Examining SPCSA-wide discipline data by student group
 - Requiring prospective new and expanding schools to describe restorative justice practices and efforts to close opportunity gaps and address disproportionate discipline practices
 - Gathering information on school-based efforts to conduct training on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to determine if there is a need for SPCSA-wide training



Appendix

Star Ratings

3-Year Star Rating Trend

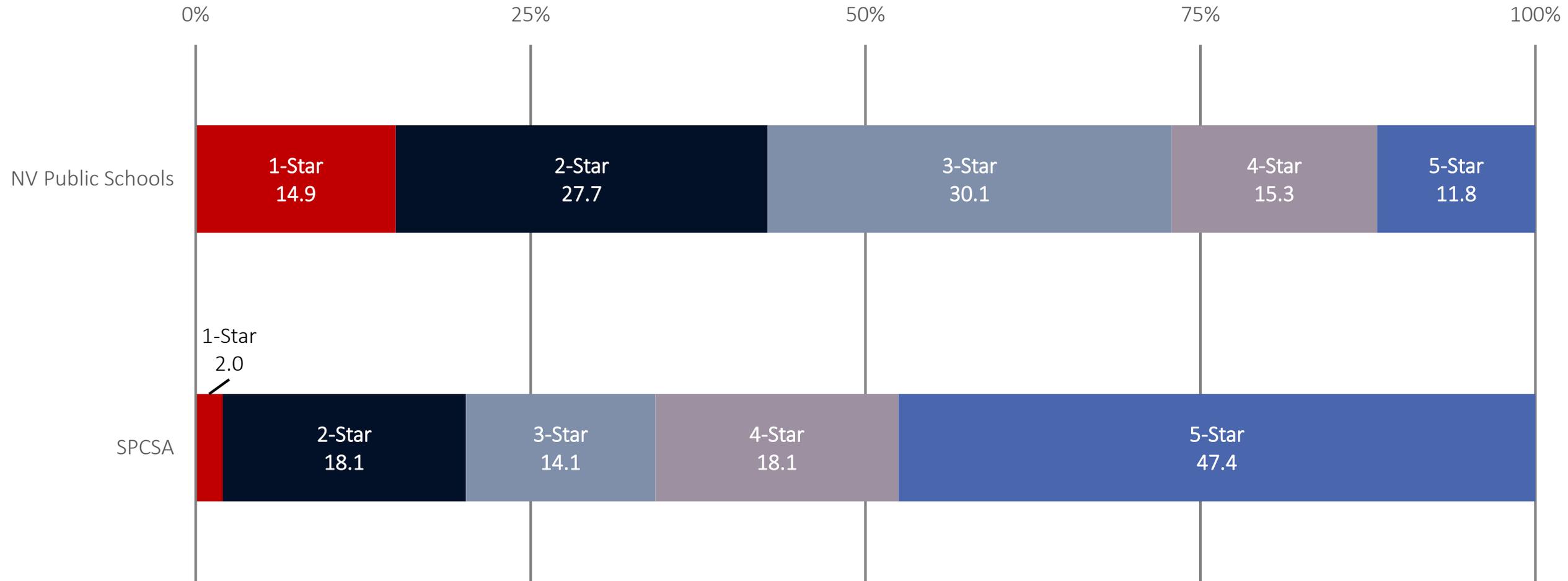
SPCSA 3-Year Trend: Star Rating Percentages



2019-20 data include schools that were open in 2019-20; these ratings were “carried over” from 2018-19 by the Nevada Department of Education.

Star Rating Comparison

Nevada vs. SPCSA: 2019-20 Star Rating Percentages

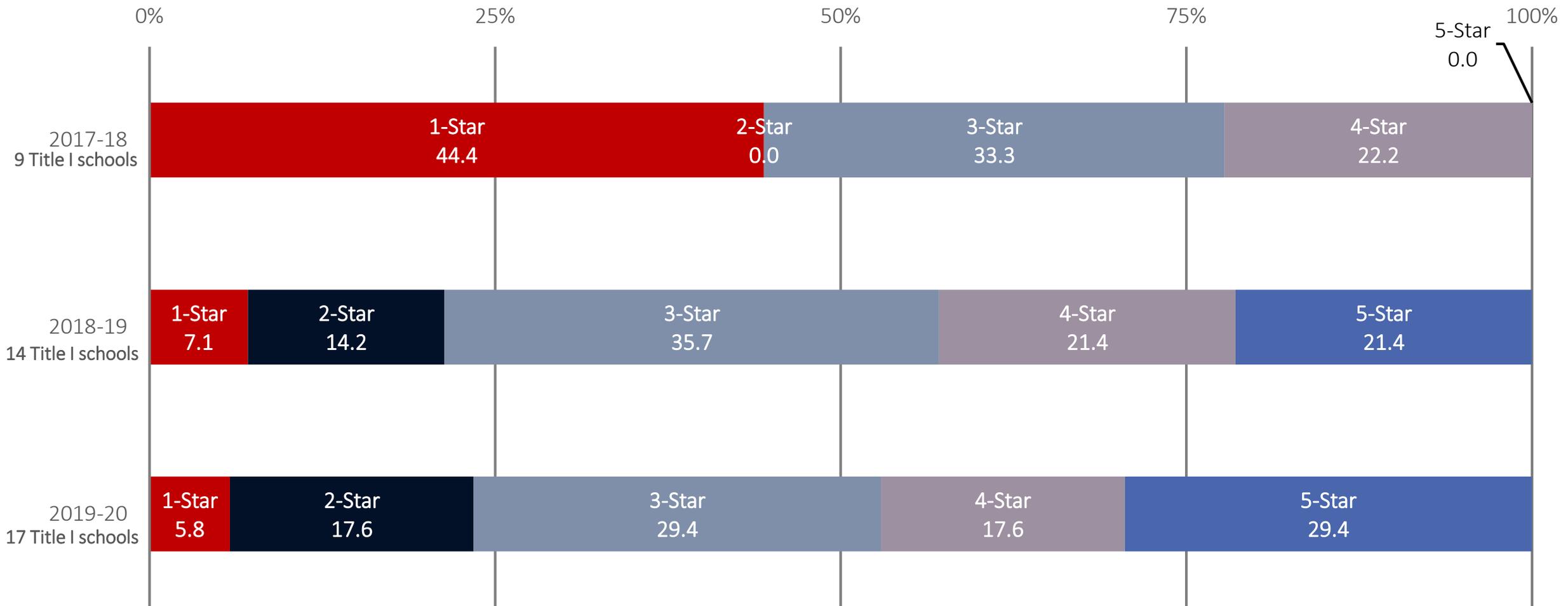


NV Public Schools includes all districts except SPCSA and ASD.

2019-20 SPCSA data include schools that were open in 2019-20; these ratings were “carried over” from 2018-19 by the Nevada Department of Education.

3-Year Star Rating Trend – Title I Schools

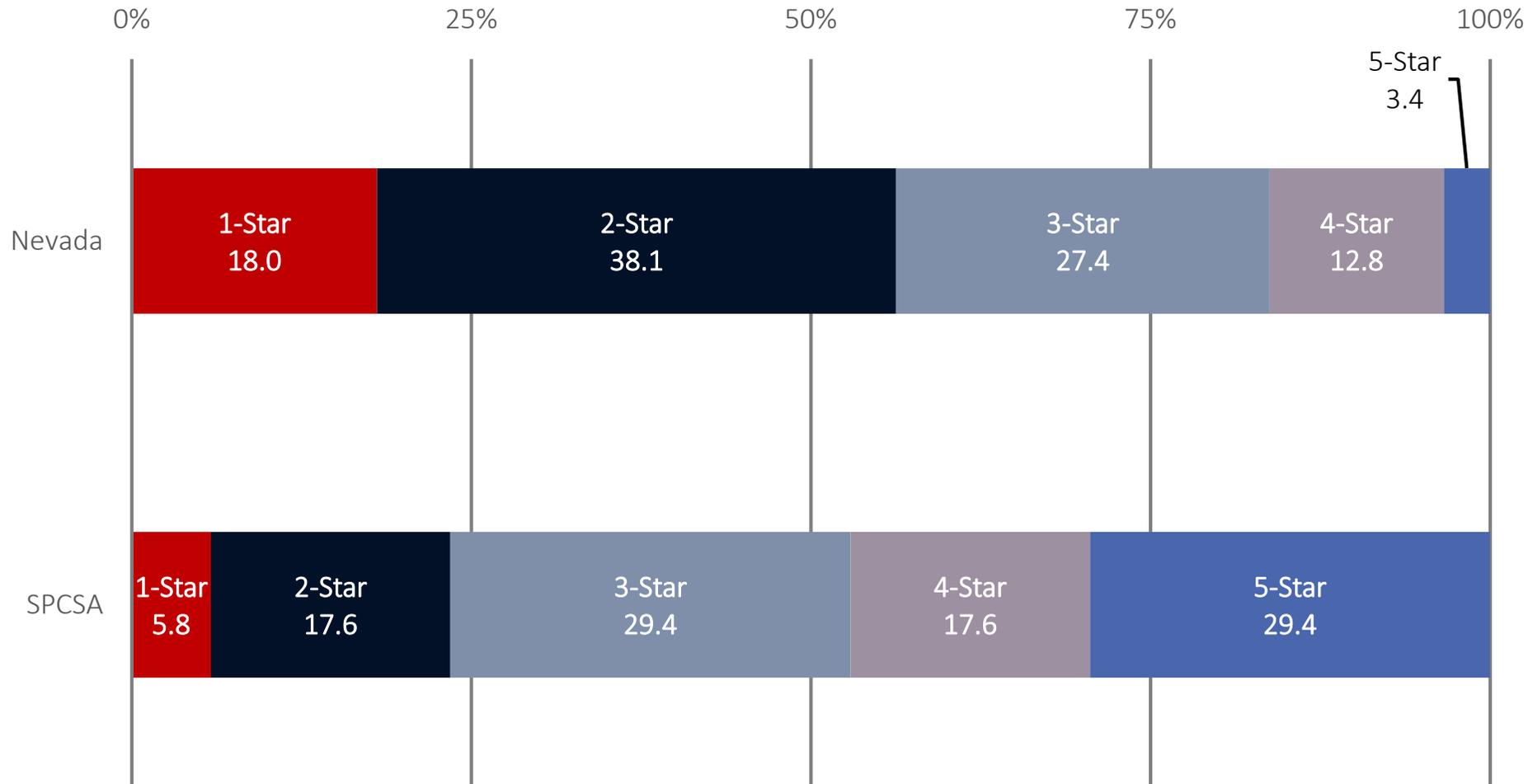
SPCSA 3-Year Trend: Title I Schools Star Rating Percentages



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Star Rating Comparison – Title I Schools

Nevada vs. SPCSA: 2019-20 Title I Schools Star Rating Percentages



Nevada includes all districts except SPCSA and ASD.

2019-20 SPCSA data include schools that were open in 2019-20; these ratings were “carried over” from 2018-19 by the Nevada Department of Education.

Most Recent Star Ratings by School (2019-20 SY)

School	Star Rating
Alpine Acad HS	3
American Prep Acad ES*	2
American Prep Acad HS*	2
American Prep Acad MS*	5
Beacon Acad HS	1
CASLV Centennial ES	4
CASLV Centennial MS	5
CASLV Eastgate ES	4
CASLV Eastgate MS	5
CASLV Nellis AFB ES	2
CASLV Nellis AFB MS	5
CASLV Sandy Ridge HS	5
CASLV Sandy Ridge MS	5
CASLV Tamarus ES	NR
CASLV Windmill ES	4
CASLV Windmill MS	5
Discovery Hillpoint ES	4
Discovery Hillpoint MS	4
Discovery Sandhill ES	2
Discovery Sandhill MS	2
Doral Cactus ES	5
Doral Cactus MS	5
Doral Fire Mesa ES	5

School	Star Rating
Doral Fire Mesa MS	5
Doral North NV ES	5
Doral North NV MS	5
Doral Red Rock ES	5
Doral Red Rock HS	NR
Doral Red Rock MS	4
Doral Saddle ES	4
Doral Saddle MS	5
Doral W Pebble ES	5
Doral W Pebble MS	5
DP Agassi ES	2
DP Agassi HS	NR
DP Agassi MS	5
EIAA ES	2
EIAA MS	5
Equipo Acad HS	4
Equipo Acad MS	5
Founders Acad ES	4
Founders Acad HS	3
Founders Acad MS	5
Freedom Classical ES	2
Freedom Classical MS	4
Futuro Acad ES	NR

School	Star Rating
Honors Acad ES	3
Honors Acad MS	5
Imagine Mtn View ES	3
Imagine Mtn View MS	4
Leadership Acad HS	3
Leadership Acad MS	3
Learning Bridge ES	4
Learning Bridge MS	5
Legacy Cadence ES	2
Legacy Cadence MS	5
Legacy N. Valley ES	2
Legacy N. Valley MS	3
Mater Bonanza ES	3
Mater Bonanza MS	4
Mater Mtn Vista ES	4
Mater Mtn Vista MS	5
Mater North NV ES	3
Mater North NV MS	5
Nevada Virtual Acad HS	3
Nevada Virtual Acad MS	3
NSHS Downtown HS	5
NSHS Henderson HS	5
NSHS Meadowood HS	NR

School	Star Rating
NSHS Summerlin HS	5
NSHS Sunrise HS	NR
NV Connections Acad HS	1
NV Prep ES	2
NV Prep MS	5
NV Rise ES	NR
Oasis Acad ES	5
Oasis Acad HS	5
Oasis Acad MS	5
PAN Cadence ES	4
PAN Cadence HS	NR
PAN Cadence MS	5
PAN Horizon ES	4
PAN Inspirada ES	5
PAN Inspirada MS	5
PAN St. Rose ES	4
PAN St. Rose MS	5
Quest Northwest ES	2
Quest Northwest MS	3
Silver Sands ES	3
Silver Sands MS	5
SLAM Acad HS	NR
SLAM Acad MS	3

School	Star Rating
Somerset Aliante ES	2
Somerset Aliante MS	5
Somerset Lone Mtn ES	5
Somerset Lone Mtn MS	5
Somerset Losee ES	2
Somerset Losee HS	2
Somerset Losee MS	2
Somerset NLV ES	2
Somerset NLV MS	4
Somerset Skye Canyon ES	5
Somerset Skye Canyon MS	5
Somerset Sky Pointe ES	5
Somerset Sky Pointe HS	2
Somerset Sky Pointe MS	5
Somerset Stephanie ES	5
Somerset Stephanie MS	5

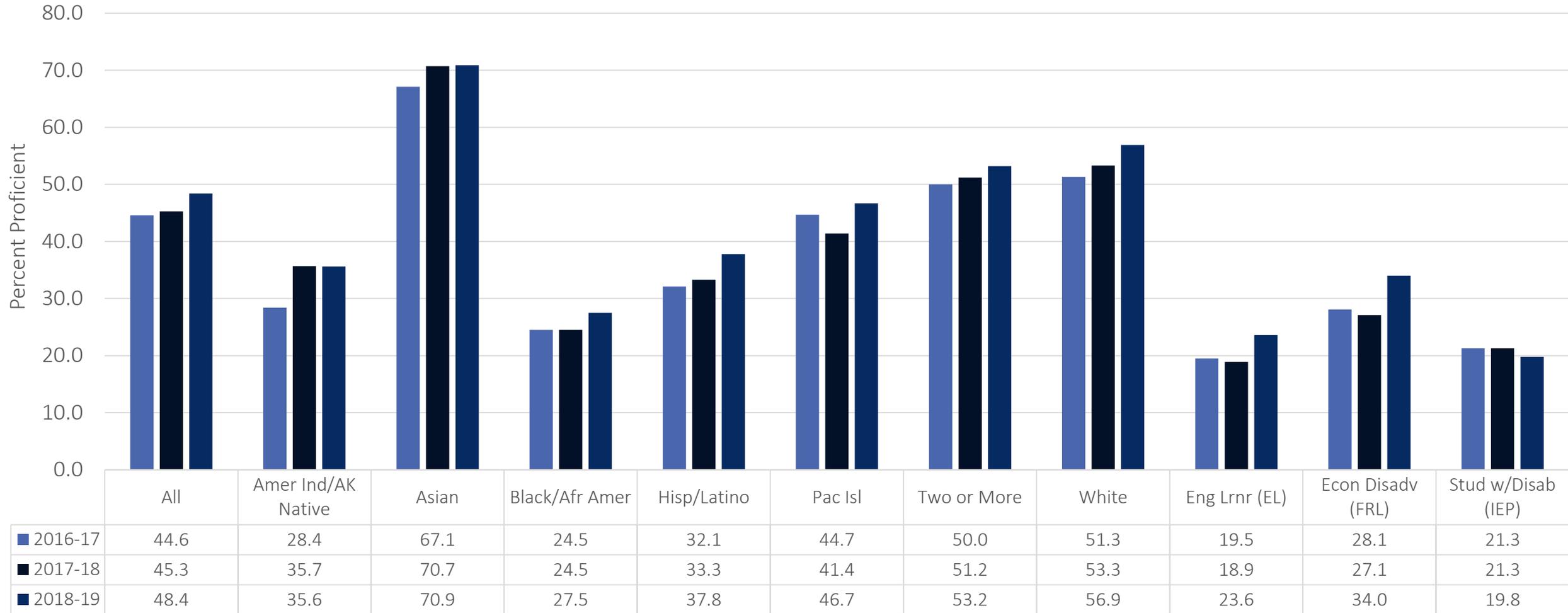
NR = Not Rated

*A name change from American Prep to Amplus was approved by the SPCSA board following the 2019-20 SY; therefore, Amplus is labeled American Prep in the NDE data. 2019-20 ratings were "carried over" from 2018-19 by the Nevada Department of Education.

Proficiency on State Assessments

SPCSA 3-Year Math Proficiency Trend (3rd-8th Grade)

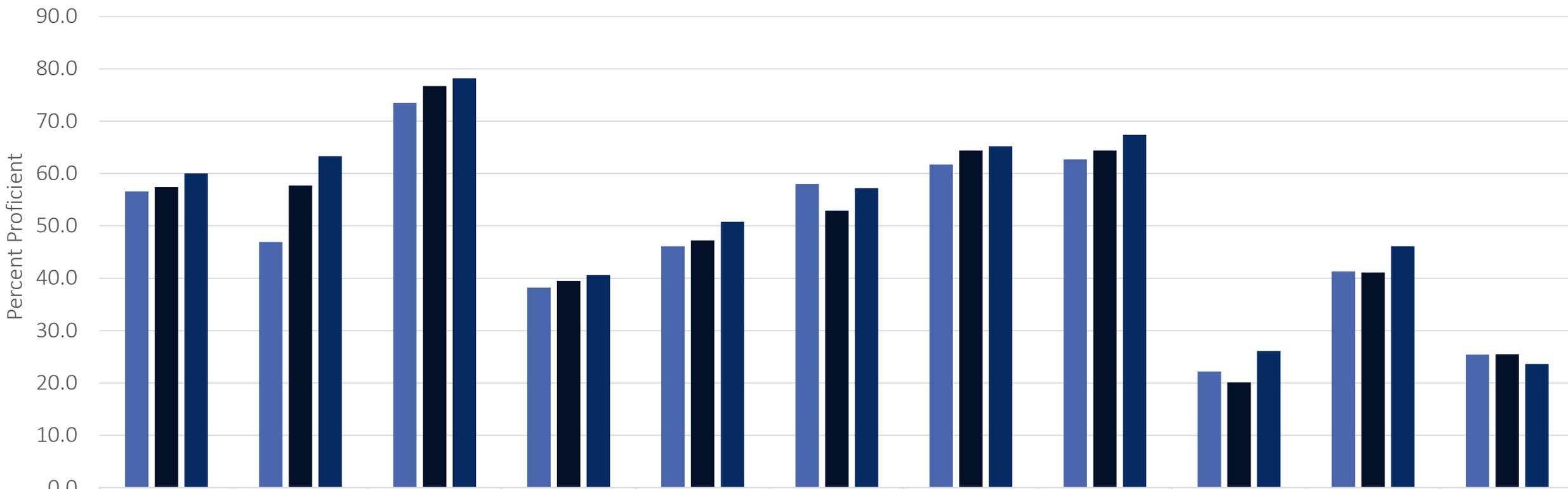
SPCSA 3-Year Trend: Smarter Math Proficiency



Nevada data are from all districts, including SPCSA. ASD schools are not included in SPCSA data as they were local LEA or ASD in the year(s) shown.

SPCSA 3-Year English Language Arts Proficiency Trend (3rd-8th Grade)

SPCSA 3-Year Trend: Smarter ELA Proficiency



	All	Amer Ind/AK Native	Asian	Black/Afr Amer	Hisp/Latino	Pac Isl	Two or More	White	Eng Lnrn (EL)	Econ Disadv (FRL)	Stud w/Disab (IEP)
■ 2016-17	56.6	46.9	73.5	38.2	46.1	58.0	61.7	62.7	22.2	41.3	25.4
■ 2017-18	57.4	57.7	76.7	39.5	47.2	52.9	64.4	64.4	20.1	41.1	25.5
■ 2018-19	60.0	63.3	78.2	40.6	50.8	57.2	65.2	67.4	26.1	46.1	23.6

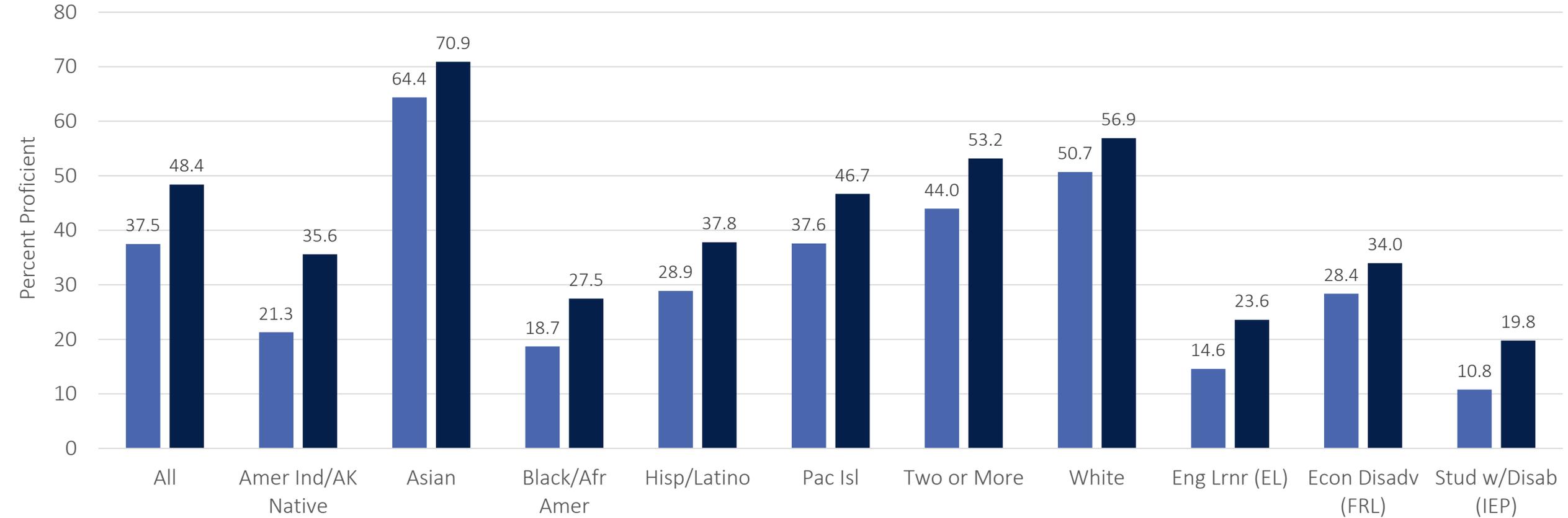
Nevada data are from all districts, including SPCSA.

ASD schools are not included in SPCSA data as they were local LEA or ASD in the year(s) shown.

SPCSA Math Proficiency Comparison to State (3rd-8th Grade)

Nevada vs. SPCSA: 2018-19 Smarter Math Proficiency

■ Nevada ■ SPCSA



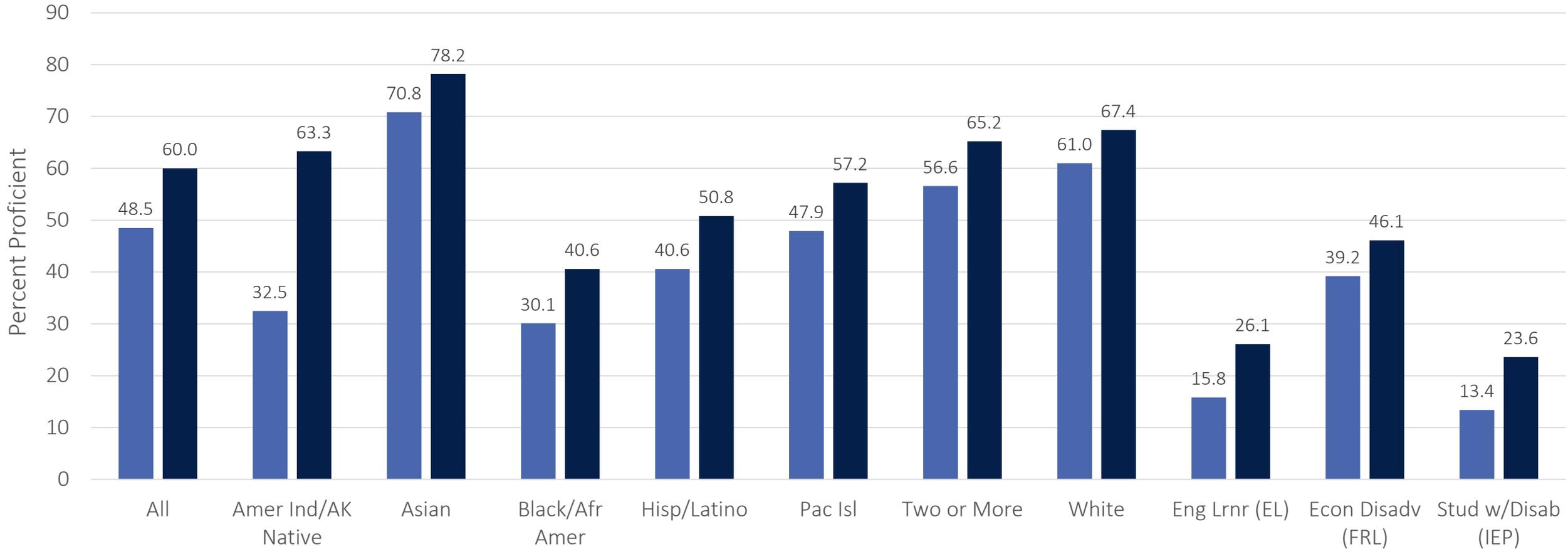
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SPCSA English Language Arts Proficiency Comparison to State (3rd-8th Grade)

Nevada vs. SPCSA: 2018-19 Smarter ELA Proficiency

■ Nevada ■ SPCSA

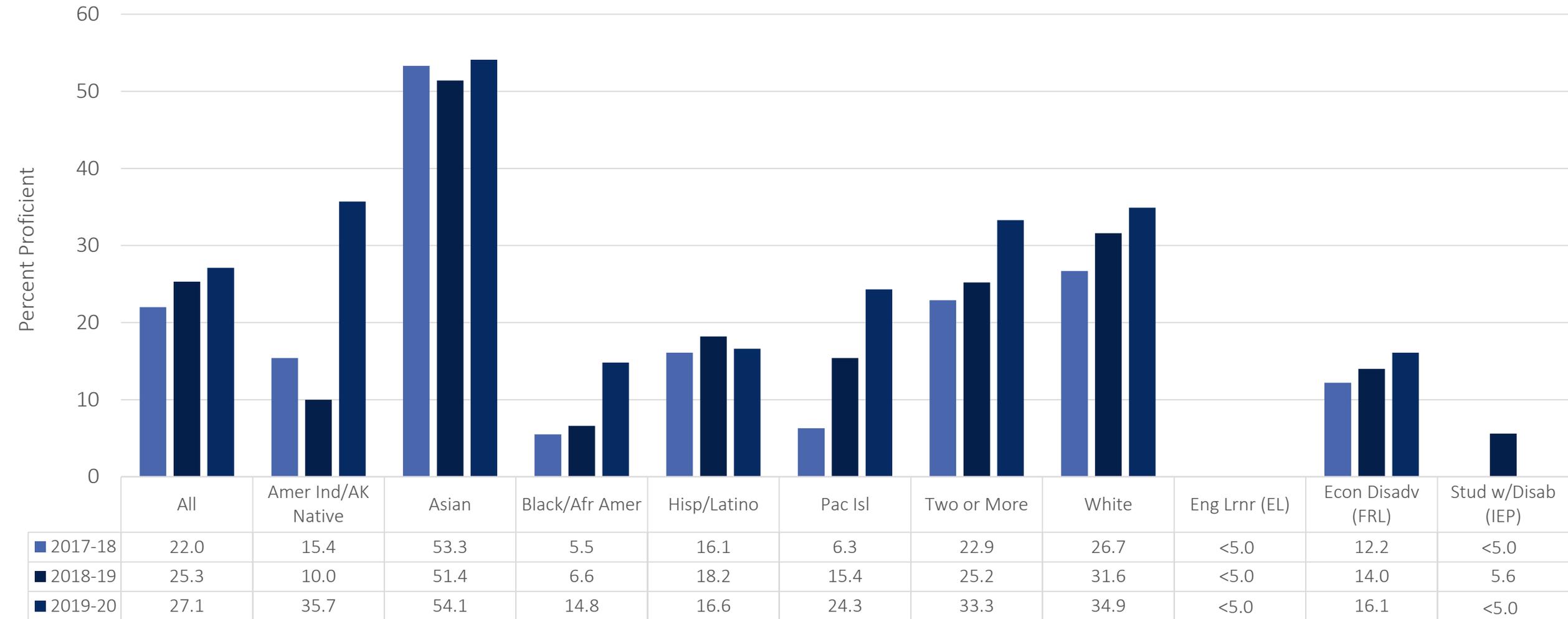


Nevada data are from all districts, including SPCSA.

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SPCSA 3-Year Math Proficiency Trend (11th Grade)

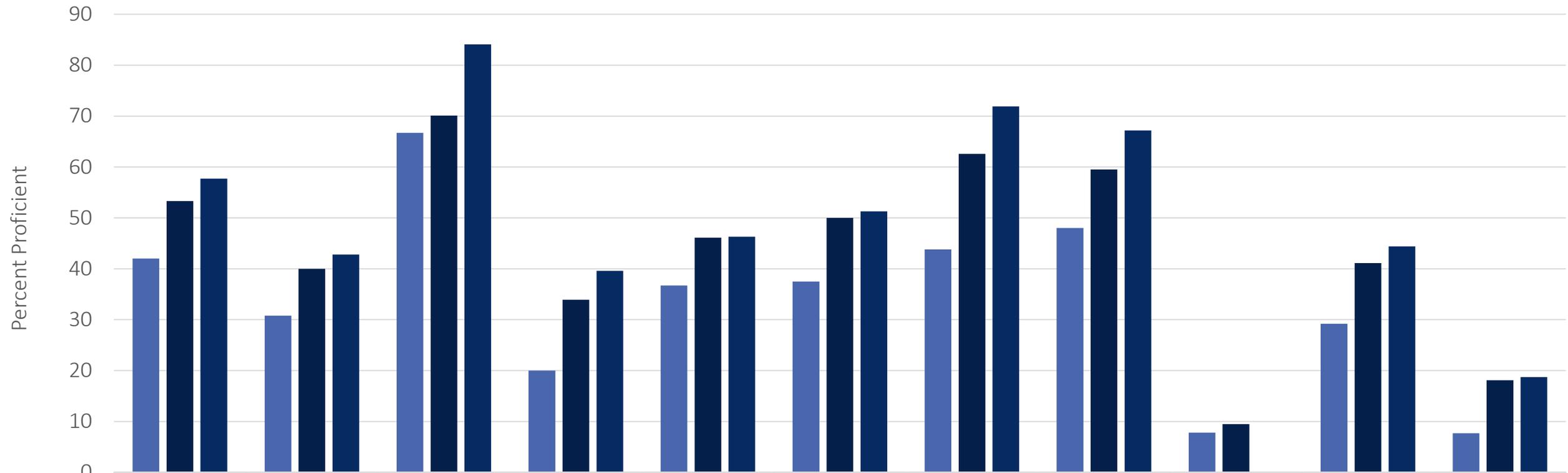
SPCSA 3-Year Trend: ACT Math Proficiency



Former ASD schools are included beginning in the 2019-20 school year.
 To protect student privacy, proficiency rates less than 5% are shown as “<5.0”.

SPCSA 3-Year English Language Arts Proficiency Trend (11th Grade)

SPCSA 3-Year Trend: ACT ELA Proficiency

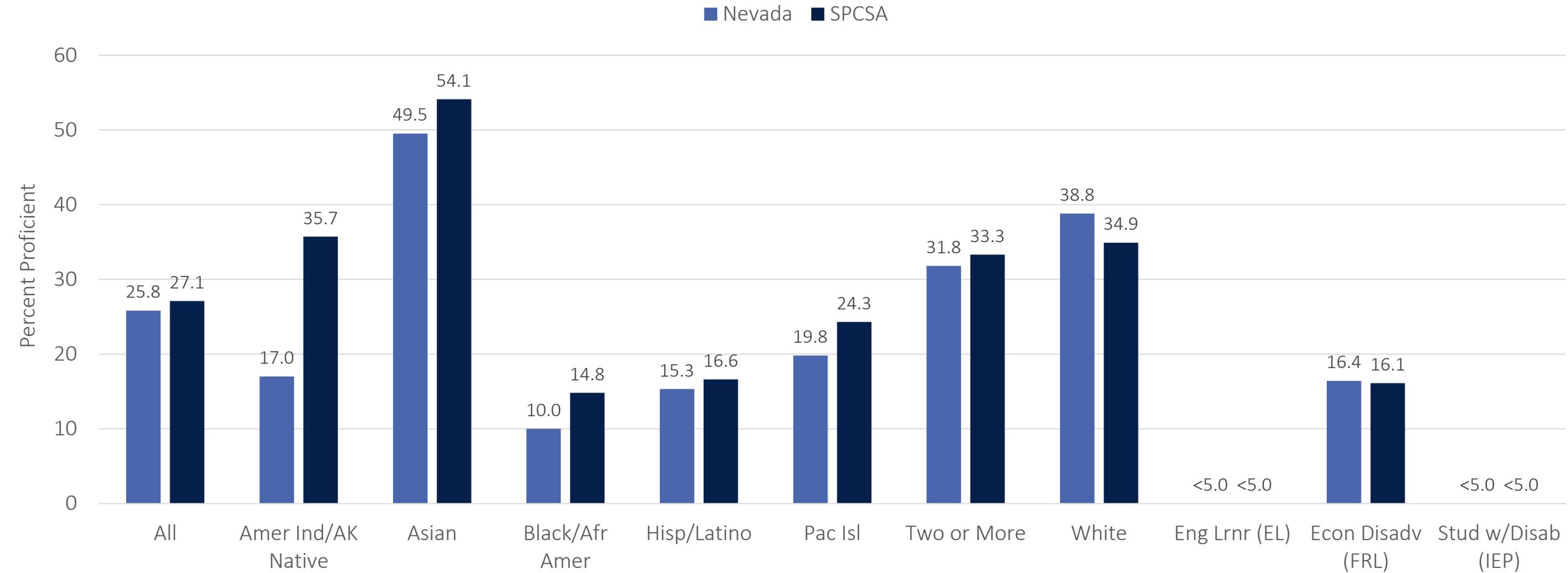


	All	Amer Ind/AK Native	Asian	Black/Afr Amer	Hisp/Latino	Pac Isl	Two or More	White	Eng Lrnr (EL)	Econ Disadv (FRL)	Stud w/Disab (IEP)
■ 2017-18	42.0	30.8	66.7	20.0	36.7	37.5	43.8	48.0	7.8	29.2	7.7
■ 2018-19	53.3	40.0	70.1	33.9	46.1	50.0	62.6	59.5	9.5	41.1	18.1
■ 2019-20	57.7	42.8	84.1	39.6	46.3	51.3	71.9	67.2	<5.0	44.4	18.7

Former ASD schools are included beginning in the 2019-20 school year.
 To protect student privacy, proficiency rates less than 5% are shown as "<5.0".

SPCSA Math Proficiency Comparison to State (11th Grade)

Nevada vs. SPCSA: 2019-20 ACT Math Proficiency

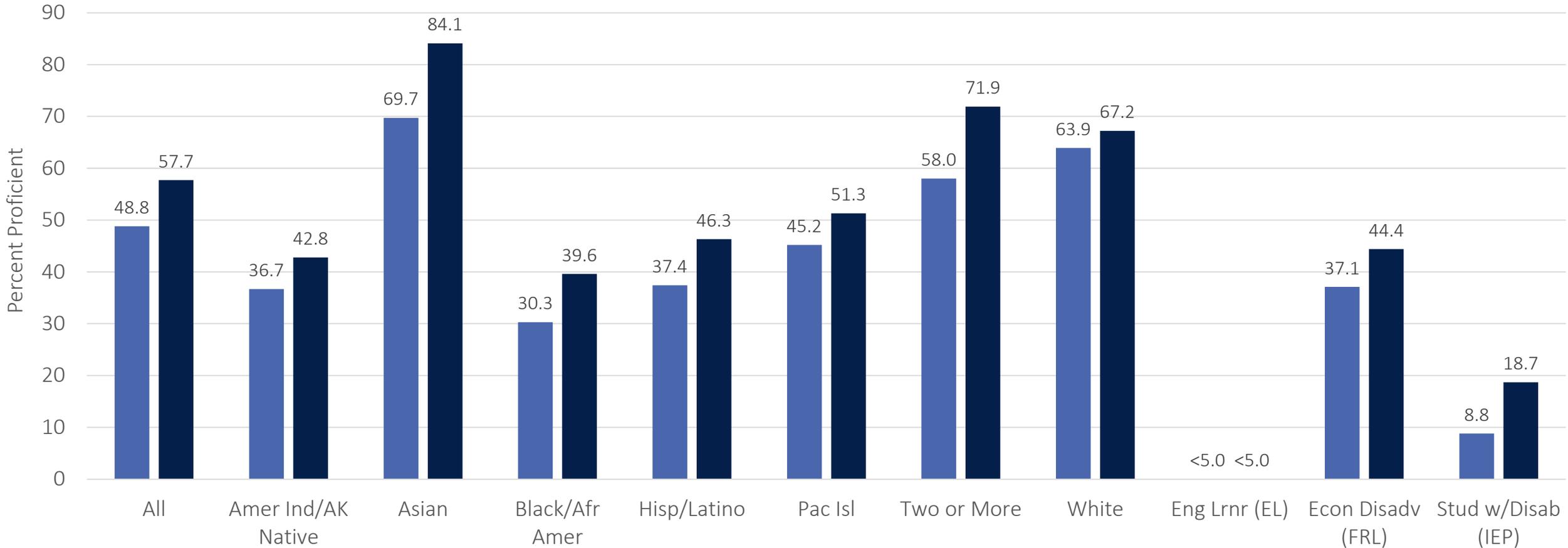


Nevada data are from all districts, including SPCSA. Former ASD schools are included beginning in the 2019-20 school year. To protect student privacy, proficiency rates less than 5% are shown as “<5.0”.

SPCSA English Language Arts Proficiency Comparison to State (11th Grade)

Nevada vs. SPCSA: 2019-20 ACT ELA Proficiency

■ Nevada ■ SPCSA

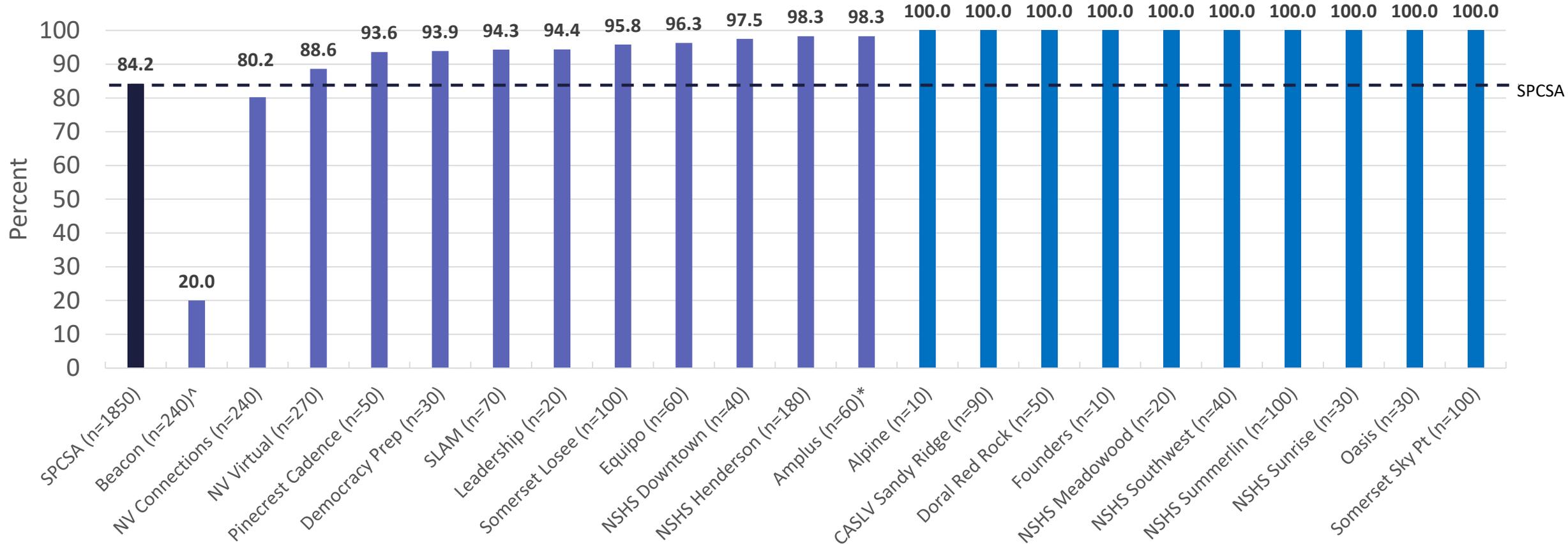


Nevada data are from all districts, including SPCSA. Former ASD schools are included beginning in the 2019-20 school year. To protect student privacy, proficiency rates less than 5% are shown as “<5.0”.

Graduation Rate

SPCSA Graduation Rates by School

SPCSA Schools Class of 2019-20 4-Year Graduation Rates



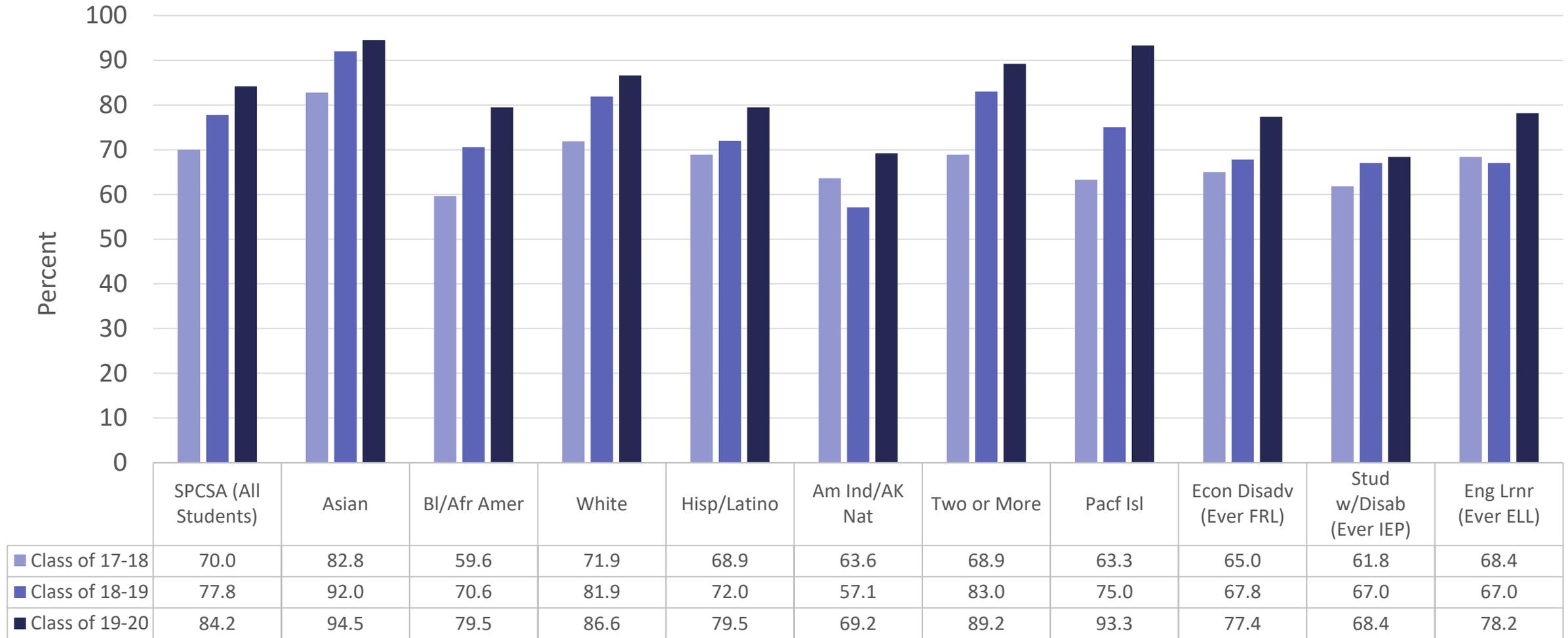
The n-sizes displayed are the sum of graduates plus non-graduates and have been rounded for privacy reasons. Rates were calculated and truncated to one decimal place. The dashed line represents the overall SPCSA rate for the class of 2019-20, for ease of comparison.

*A name change from American Prep to Amplus was approved by the SPCSA board following the 2019-20 SY; therefore, Amplus is labeled American Prep in the NDE data.

^Beacon serves a unique population of credit-deficient students and is also the only SPCSA school approved to be rated on the NDE's Alternative Performance Framework.

SPCSA 3-Year Graduation Rate Trends by Student Group

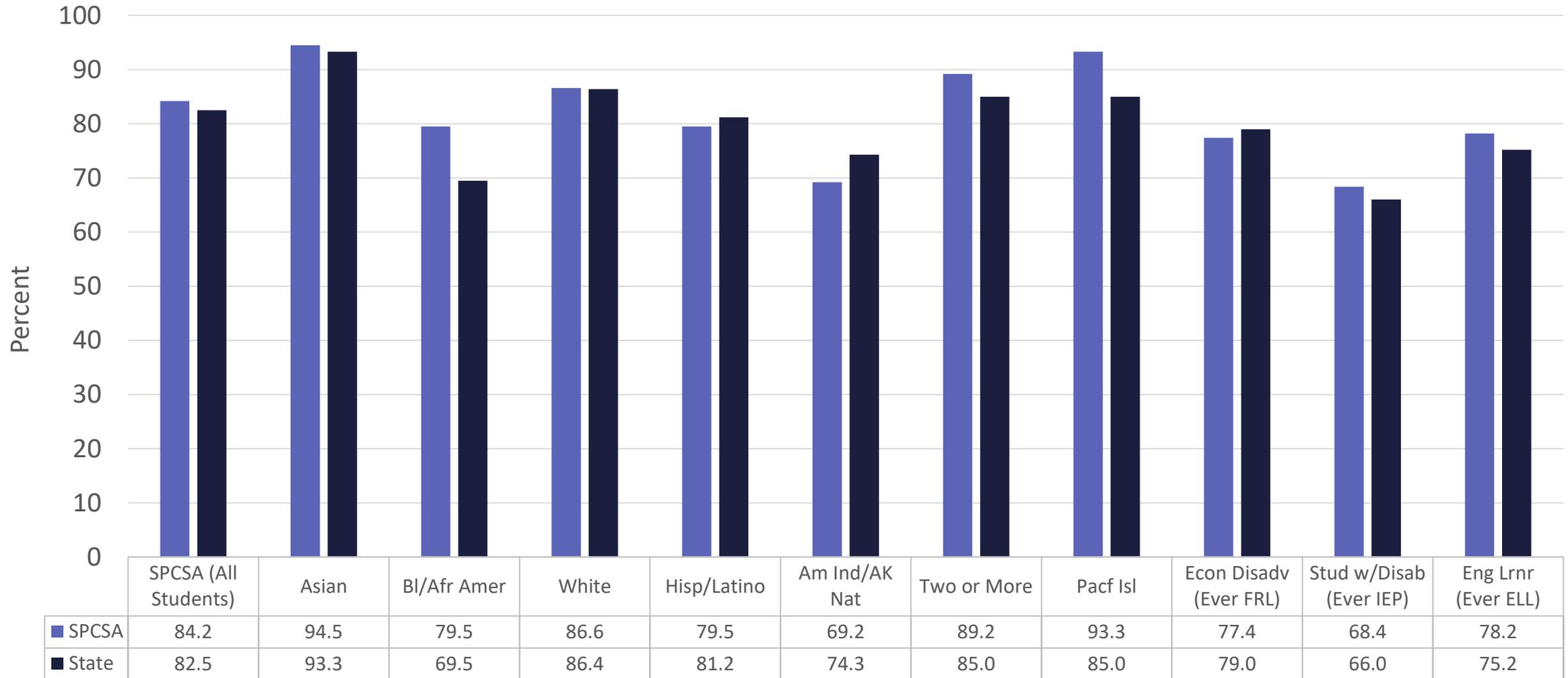
SPCSA 3-Year Trend: Graduation Rates



Data shown are 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rates (ACGRs). Beginning with the class of 2018-19, the former ASD school Democracy Prep is included in SPCSA data. “Ever” denotes students were part of that population during their high school career.

SPCSA Graduation Rate Comparison to State

Nevada vs. SPCSA: Graduation Rates for Class of 2019-20

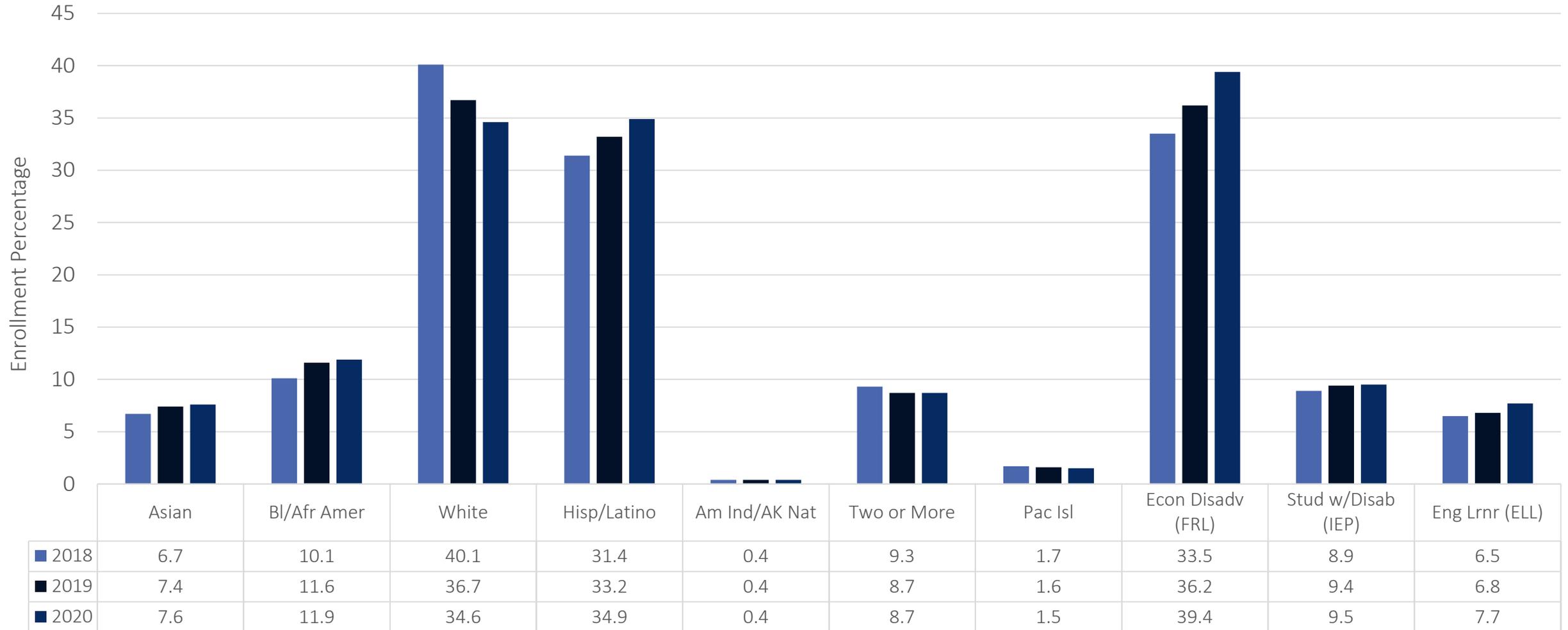


State rates were provided by the Nevada Department of Education and truncated to one decimal place by the SPCSA. State rates include SPCSA. “Ever” denotes students were part of that population during their high school career.

Enrollment and Demographics

SPCSA 3-Year Enrollment Trends by Student Group

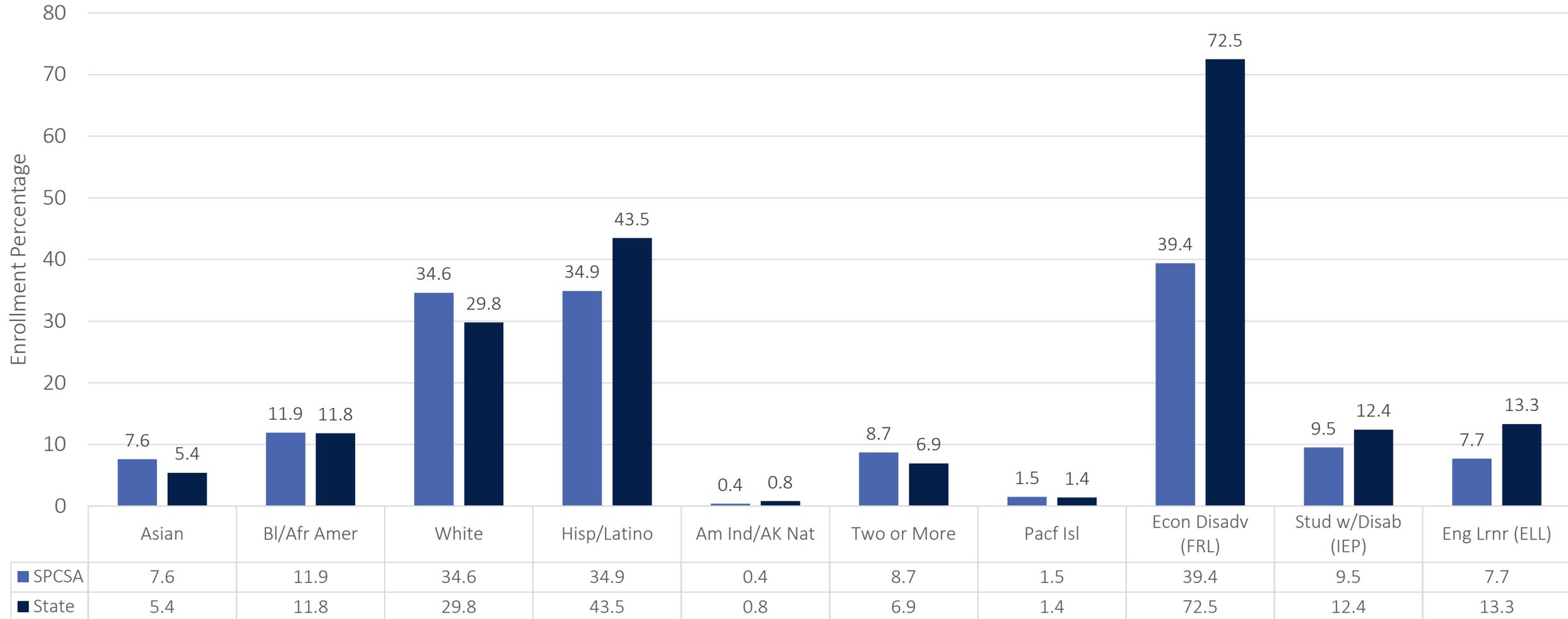
SPCSA 3-Year Trend: Student Group Enrollment



Enrollment rates are from the Nevada Department of Education October 1 validation day of the respective year. SPCSA enrollment rates for 2018 do not include former ASD schools, while rates for 2019 and 2020 include former ASD schools.

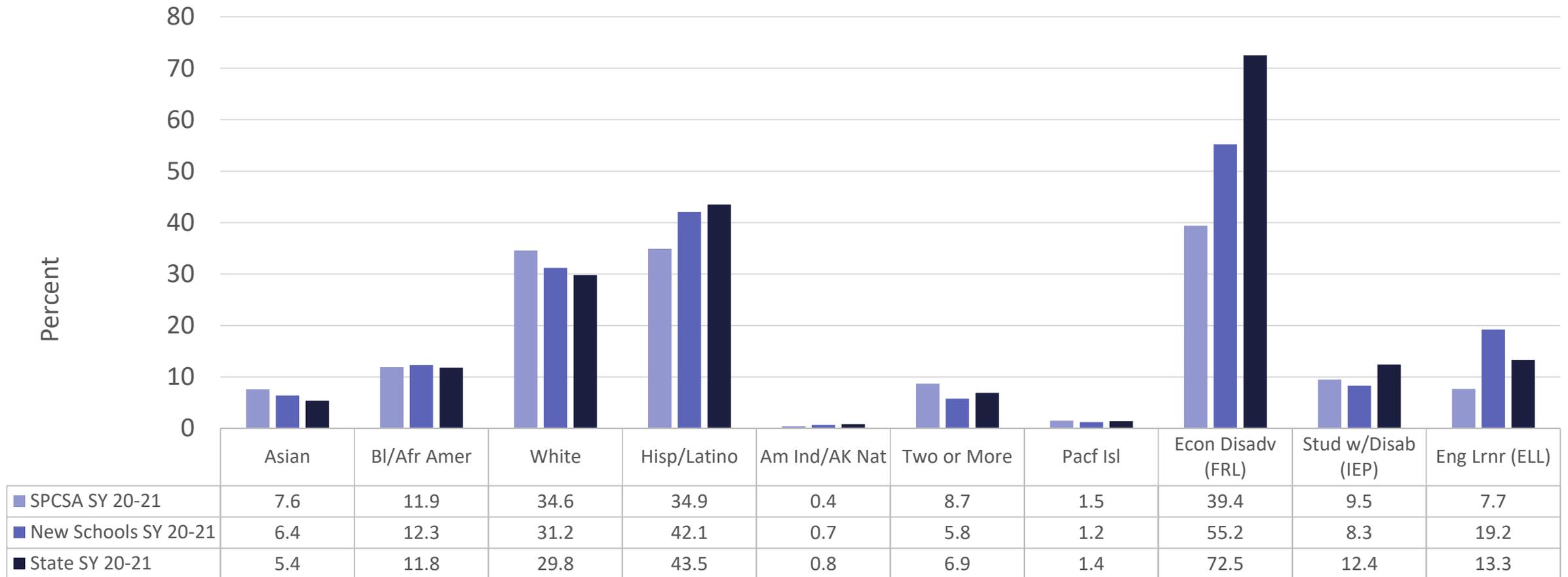
Enrollment Comparison by Student Group

Nevada vs. SPCSA: SY 2020-21 Student Group Enrollment



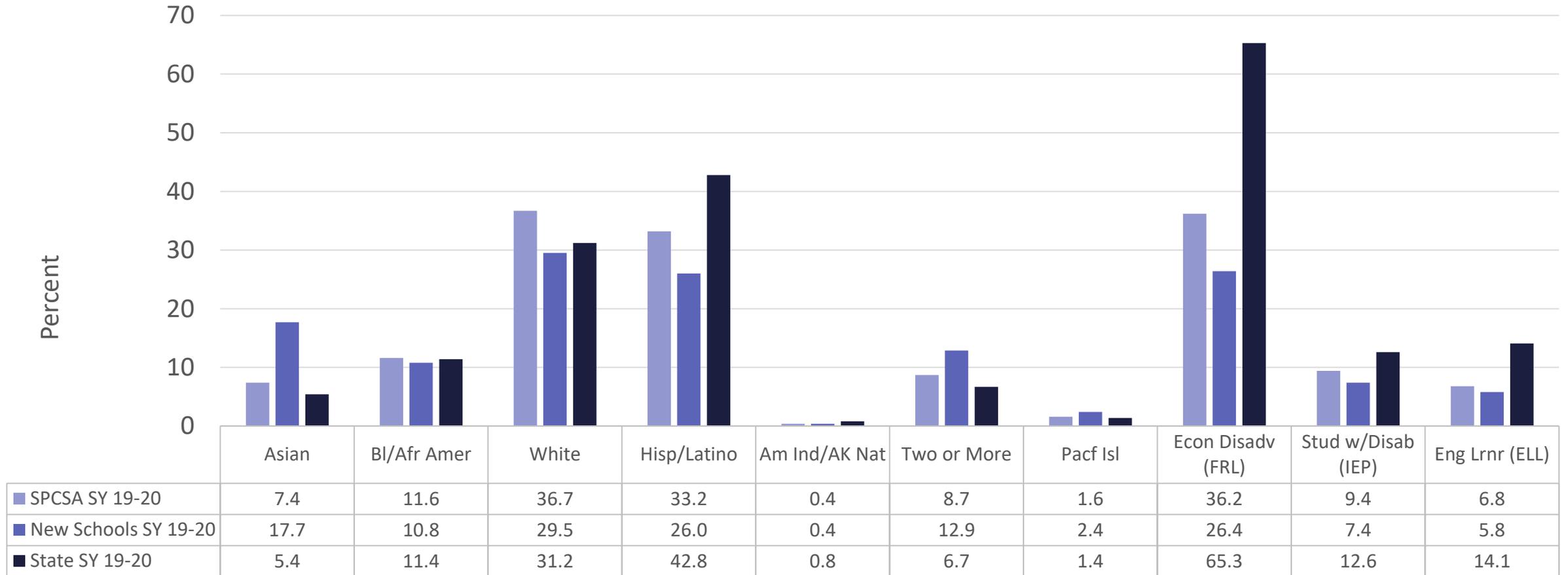
Enrollment rates are from the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) October 1 2020 validation day. State data provided by the NDE and include SPCSA.

Comparison of Demographics for New Schools Opened in School Year 20-21



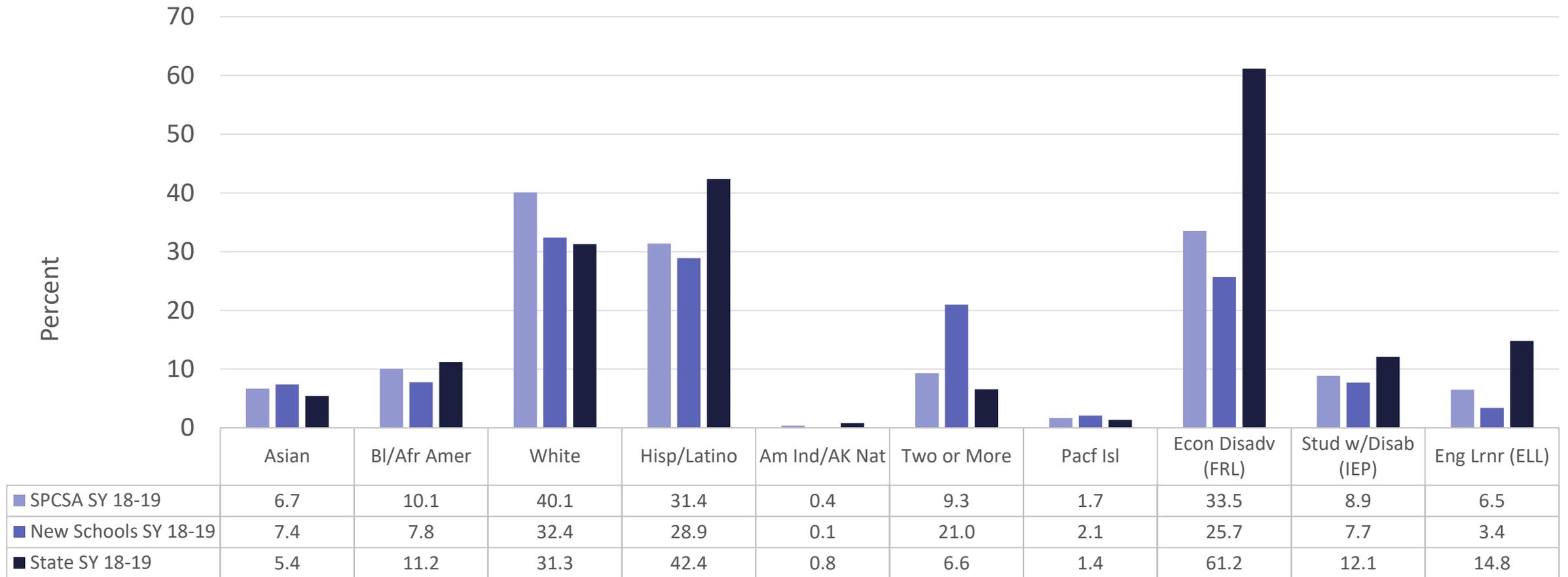
Enrollment rates are from the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) October 1 2020 validation day. “New schools” include Amplus Academy Rainbow, Explore Academy, Girls Athletic Leadership School (GALS), Mater East Las Vegas, Nevada State High School (NSHS) Downtown Henderson, NSHS Northwest, and Pinecrest Academy of Northern Nevada.

Comparison of Demographics for New Schools Opened in School Year 19-20



Enrollment rates are from the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) October 1 2019 validation day. “New schools” include Legacy Southwest, Nevada State High School (NSHS) Southwest, Pinecrest Academy of Nevada Sloan Canyon, and Signature Preparatory.

Comparison of Demographics for New Schools Opened in School Year 18-19



Enrollment rates are from the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) October 1 2018 validation day. “New schools” include Coral Academy of Sciences Las Vegas Eastgate, Legacy Cadence, Nevada State High School (NSHS) Meadowood, NSHS Sunrise, Somerset Academy of Las Vegas Aliante, and Somerset Academy of Las Vegas Skye Canyon.

SPCSA Enrollment Trend

Historic SPCSA Enrollment

