



Colorado Can Read:

Building The Nation's Next Literacy Success Story





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Releasing New Reports Every October To...

Build Evidence to Inform Policy

Pull together the best available research and information to inform conversations at the capital.

Address Research Gaps in Colorado

Provide data and research on key issues often missed in key conversations.

Help Kids Focus on Being Kids

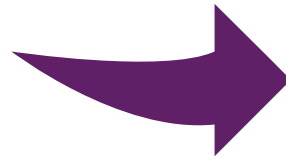
Arm advocates and decision-makers with the best information to improve the lives of Colorado's kids.

Importance of Third Grade Reading

Third grade reading proficiency is highly predictive of students' long-term success.

3rd Grade

Learning to Read



4th Grade

Reading to Learn



Importance of Third Grade Reading

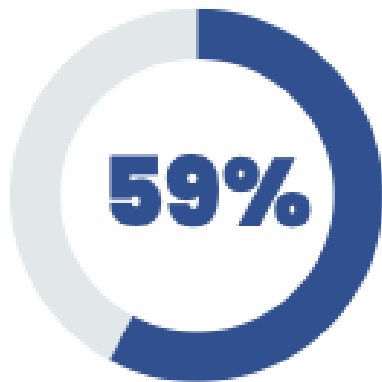
Third grade reading proficiency is associated with:

- Higher rates of graduation
- Higher likelihood of postsecondary education
- Stable employment in adulthood
- Higher income into adulthood
- Better health



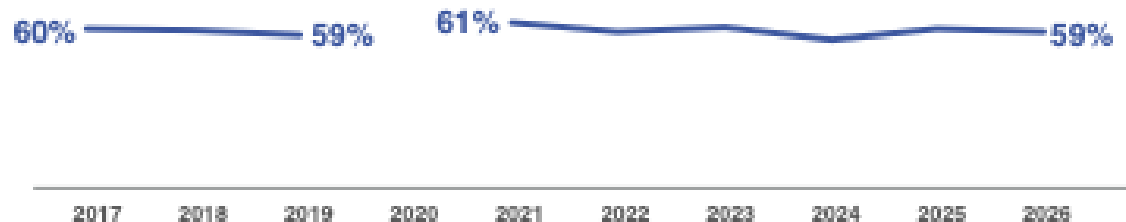
Lack of Reading Proficiency in Colorado

There has been almost no progress in third grade reading proficiency in a decade.



Third graders not meeting expectations in ELA on CMAS, 2026

Third graders not meeting expectations in ELA on CMAS, 2017-2026



Lack of Reading Proficiency in Colorado

We are falling short for some kids more than others – often the ones who are already behind.

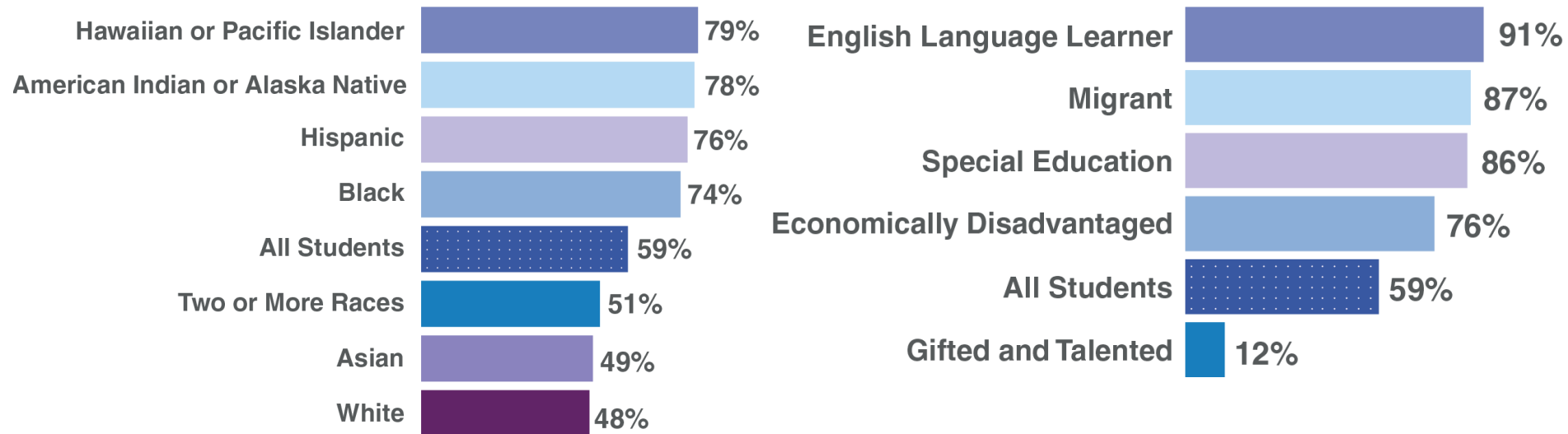
Third graders not meeting expectations in ELA on CMAS by income, 2026



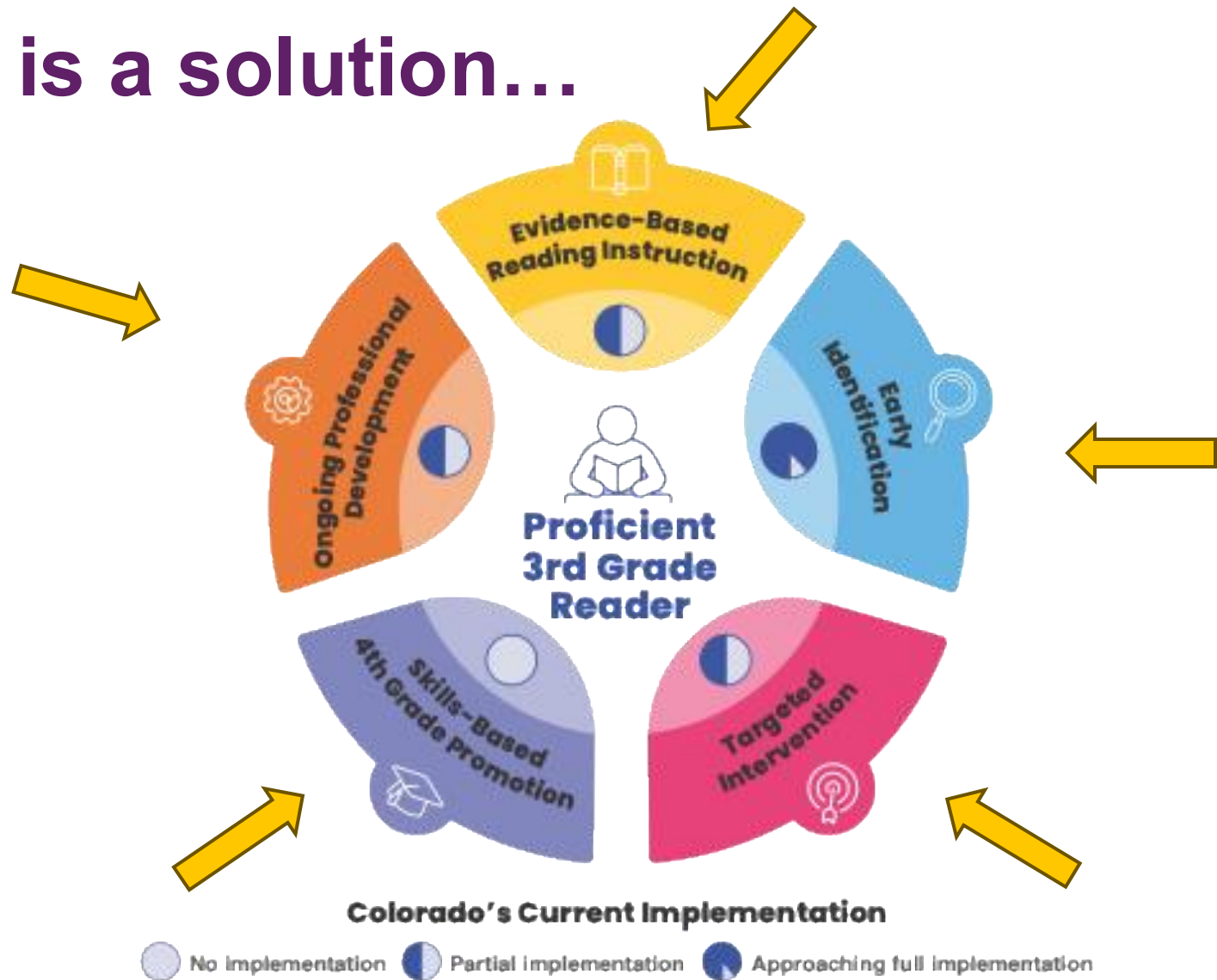
Lack of Reading Proficiency in Colorado

We are falling short for some kids more than others – often the ones who are already behind.

Third graders not meeting expectations in ELA on CMAS by characteristic, 2026



There is a solution...



Success in Other States



Mississippi:
From 49th to 9th



Florida:
Original System

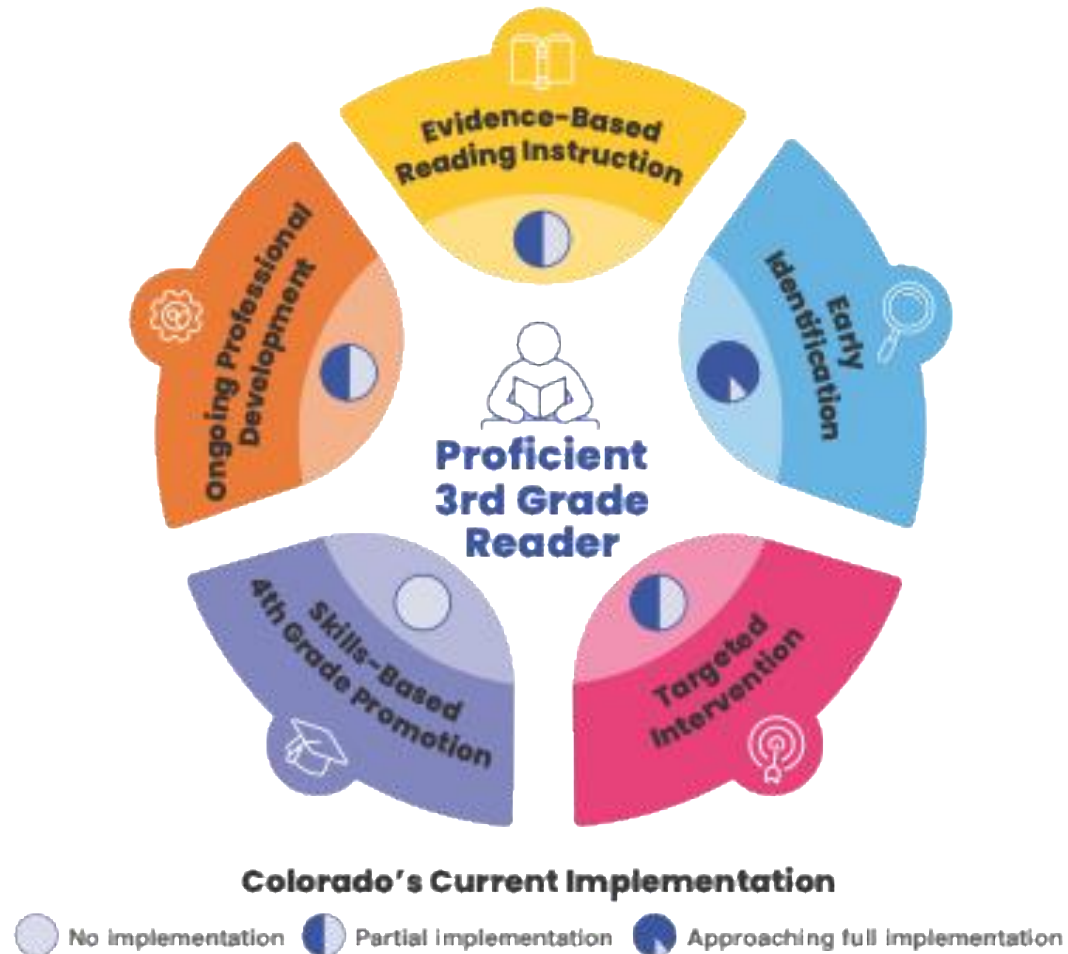


Indiana:
Continuous
Commitment



Massachusetts:
Long-Term
Excellence

How Does Colorado Fare?



Evidence-Based Reading Instruction



Evidence-Based Reading Instruction

Included in READ Act; Partial Implementation



Early Identification



Early Identification

Included in READ Act; Approaching Full Implementation



Targeted Intervention



Targeted Intervention

Included in READ Act; Partial Implementation



Skill-Based Fourth Grade Promotion



Skill-Based Fourth Grade Promotion

Not included in READ Act; No Implementation



Ongoing Professional Development



Ongoing Professional Development

Included in READ Act; Partial Implementation



The Path Forward



Commit to third grade literacy.



Update the READ Act to create a truly comprehensive, statewide literacy system.

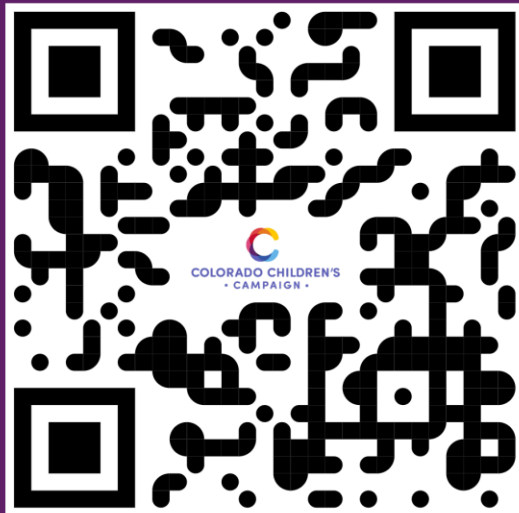


Use other states as models for reform.

Coming Up Later This Month...

Proof It Works: Public Investments Reduce Colorado Child Poverty

Thursday, October 15 @ 9:30AM



Too Far From Care: Closing The Gap in Colorado's Pediatric Access

Thursday, October 22 @ 9:30AM



Questions?

