

# San Diego, California Math Outcomes Analysis 2016/17

Grade Levels: 3, 4, 5  
ST Math Program: Gen-4  
Analysis Type: Z-score of scale score  
Treatment-Years: 2016/17  
Baseline-Year: 2015/16  
Subgroup: All Students

Jessica Guise  
MIND Research Institute  
© 2017-10-31

## Abstract

This analysis evaluates grades using ST Math in San Diego, California in 2016/17. It identifies those grades with nominal or better implementation of the ST Math program, and matches them to randomly selected, similar math-performance comparison grades. The nominal ST Math users are an aggregation of 22 grades, consisting of grades 3, 4, and 5 at 16 schools, with an average baseline of 64% in Standard Met or Exceeded proficiency levels (refer to Figures 2 and 3 to see how your schools compare to those analyzed in this report). They were matched to 22 similar, randomly selected control grades at 22 schools that never used ST Math. Grade-wise growth in math proficiency was evaluated (i.e. growth in same grade, same school, from 2015/16 to 2016/17) on the percentage proficient, scale scores, and Z-scores of the scale scores (see Section 3.1). Grades 3, 4, and 5 aggregated showed an ST Math effect of 9.61 points at the Standard Met or Exceeded levels, 2.35 points at the Standard Met Level, 7.44 points at the Standard Exceeded Level, and Z-score of 0.43.

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1	Background . . . . .	5
1.2	Program Description . . . . .	5
<b>2</b>	<b>Data Collection</b>	<b>6</b>
2.1	Proficiency Levels Definition . . . . .	6
2.2	Treatment Grades Pool and Selection . . . . .	6
2.3	Control Grades Pool and Selection . . . . .	7
<b>3</b>	<b>Data Analysis</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1	Z-scores . . . . .	8
3.2	Percentile Ranking . . . . .	8
3.3	Final Treatment and Control . . . . .	9
3.3.1	ST Math Grade-Aggregated Implementation ( $\geq 85\%$ Enrollment Grades Only) . . . . .	9
3.3.2	Filtering Treatment and Controls . . . . .	10
3.3.3	Match of Controls to Treatment . . . . .	11
3.4	Grade-Aggregated Analysis . . . . .	13
3.5	Grade-Level Analysis . . . . .	17
3.5.1	Grade Level Result Tables . . . . .	17
3.5.2	Grade-Level Analysis of Changes in Math Standard Met or Exceeded . . . . .	18
3.5.3	Grade-Level Analysis of Changes in CAASPP Math scale scores . . . . .	19
3.5.4	Grade-Level Analysis of Changes in CAASPP Z-scores of scale scores . . . . .	20
<b>4</b>	<b>Effect Size</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Findings Summary</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Confounders</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Reference Tables Grouped By School Year</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Lists of Schools</b>	<b>24</b>
8.1	Treatment Schools . . . . .	24
8.2	Control Schools . . . . .	25

## List of Figures

1	Histogram of ST Math Percent Progress for $\geq 85\%$ Enrollment Grades 2016/17	9
2	Baseline Year Density Plots Showing Math Scores Match between TRT and CTRL - 2015/16 . . . . .	11
3	Baseline Year Density Plot Showing Student Need Match between TRT and CTRL	12
4	Change at each Proficiency Level for Grade-Aggregated TRT and CTRL Datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17 . . . . .	13
5	Changes in CAASPP Math scale scores and Z-scores (See Section 3.1) for Grade-Aggregated TRT and CTRL datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17 . . . . .	14
6	Changes in Standard Met or Exceeded for Grade-Aggregated TRT and CTRL datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17 . . . . .	15
7	Changes in Percentile Ranking for TRT and CTRL Datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17 . . . . .	16
8	Changes in Percent of Students at Standard Met or Exceeded for TRT and CTRL Datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17 . . . . .	18
9	Changes in Grade-Mean CAASPP Math scale score for TRT and CTRL Datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17 . . . . .	19
10	Changes in Grade-Mean CAASPP Z-score (See Section 3.1) for TRT and CTRL Datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17 . . . . .	20

## List of Tables

1	Proficiency Level Naming . . . . .	6
2	Descriptive Statistics of ST Math Percent Progress for $\geq 85$ percent Enrollment Grades . . . . .	9
3	Number of ST Math Grades with $\geq 85$ percent Enrollment and with $\geq 50$ percent progress . . . . .	9
4	Treatment Pool Filtering and Controls: Counts of Grades, Schools, and Students	10
5	Matching TRT and CTRL . . . . .	12
6	Yearly Math Proficiency and Counts for TRT and CTRL Grade-Aggregated Datasets . . . . .	13
7	Statistics for the Differential Changes in Math Scores Growth (TRT - CTRL) .	15
8	Grade 3 - Yearly Math Performance and Counts for TRT and CTRL Datasets	17
9	Grade 4 - Yearly Math Performance and Counts for TRT and CTRL Datasets	17
10	Grade 5 - Yearly Math Performance and Counts for TRT and CTRL Datasets	17
11	Statistics for the Differential Changes in Standard Met or Exceeded, (TRT - CTRL) . . . . .	18
12	Statistics for the Differential Changes in CAASPP Math scale scores Growth, (TRT - CTRL) . . . . .	19
13	Statistics for the Differential Changes in CAASPP Z-scores (See Section 3.1) Growth, (TRT - CTRL) . . . . .	20
14	Cohen's d Effect Size . . . . .	21
15	TRT Grades Detail Sorted by Year . . . . .	23
16	CTRL Grades Detail Sorted by Year . . . . .	23
17	Treatment Schools (TRT Dataset) . . . . .	24
18	Matched Control Schools (CTRL Dataset) . . . . .	25

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

This is a quasi-experimental analysis at the grade-mean level. Entire grades represent the units of analysis, and outcome measures are the 1-year changes in grade-mean CAASPP Standard Met or Exceeded percentages. The treatment grades used the ST Math program for 1 year, beginning in the 2016/17 school year. The study hypothesis is treatment grades using ST Math will outperform similar matched control grades, using their “business as usual” conditions of instructional content and professional development. The control grades were selected to have similar demographic, math, and economically disadvantaged attributes to the treatment grades during the baseline year (2015/16), and did not use ST Math in 2016/17, and 2016/17. The treatment grades’ selection pool was all schools using ST Math in grades 3, 4, and 5 in San Diego, California. The control grades’ pool was all schools not using ST Math in grades 3, 4, and 5 in California. This study method measures effectiveness of the ST Math program when nominally implemented.

## 1.2 Program Description

The ST Math program is a supplemental math program covering grade-level California math standards. The ST Math content consists of visual representations of math standards, concepts, and procedures, presented to students as “Puzzles” of virtual manipulatives, with which they interact to pose solutions. Each time the student poses a solution, the computer visually animates the Puzzle, diagram, or symbols to show why the posed solution correctly solves, or why it does not solve, the math problem (puzzle). The Puzzles are arranged into sequential groups, called “Levels”. To proceed to the next Level in sequence, the student needs to master his/her current Level. Mastering a Level requires solving 100% of the math problems, or Puzzles correctly. In this way, the program is self-paced. Students must correctly solve approximately 4-12 Puzzles, with only 1 failure and retry allowed, to proceed. Levels are sequenced together into Games and, again, the student must master each Game to get to the next Game in sequence. Games are sequenced into “Learning Objectives” (e.g. ‘Fractions Concepts’). The ST Math curriculum of approximately 20-25 Learning Objectives can be rearranged in a year-long, grade-level syllabus to match district math pacing through the school year.

The Puzzles typically start with concrete representations of the math, without abstract symbols, math vocabulary, or even English words. Gradually, through subsequent Levels or Games, abstractions are introduced. For example, a Puzzle might start with “n” green blocks on the screen, and then at a subsequent Level may represent the quantity with the numeral for “n” (no green blocks anymore). In this way, three things are accomplished: i) language proficiency prerequisites to engage with the program are minimal, ii) non-mathematical distractions (e.g. back-stories for word problems) are minimized or eliminated – thereby reducing load on working memory, and iii) the actual math in the problem can be represented clearly, simply, and unambiguously.

Besides the self-paced progress made by students in their one-to-one environment, the program is designed to be referenced by teachers during their regular math instruction. It is supplemental to core or basal math instruction and instructional materials. As the great majority of grade-level math standards are covered in the ST Math digital curriculum, completion of 100% of the entire ST Math curriculum (i.e. completing every Game) is required to cover all grade-level math standards.

Teachers receive initial training, either face to face or through self-guided online instruction. The training covers account startup, as well as math learning and growth mindset goals, the pedagogical

approach to learning in a visual experiential game, monitoring and intervention of the student 1:1 game play, and connecting of ST Math content to classroom content and pacing.

To achieve nominal progress through the program, there is a time-on-task requirement. While student progress rates through the program vary, MIND Research Institute has found that consistent application of 90 minutes per week throughout the school year is sufficient to get most students through at least half of the ST Math Learning Objectives. Students are recommended to use the program in school for at least two 45-minute sessions per week, or 90 minutes per week, over about 35 weeks. Analyses of ST Math usage have shown that consistently following this schedule throughout the school year is usually sufficient to achieve 50% or more Progress through ST Math content. Progress is a percentage of ST Math content coverage, and is defined as Levels completed by the student, divided by the total number of Levels in the curriculum. In addition, MIND’s historical analyses have shown that it is necessary to complete at least 50% of the program in order to expect significantly higher performance compared to non-users.

## 2 Data Collection

Since this analysis uses grades as the unit of analysis, and states publish grade-mean state standardized test scores, the data for student math outcomes is collected from each state education agency’s research files (retrieved from state websites). The treatment students use ST Math student accounts served by MIND. Student ST Math usage data is aggregated to grade-level means by MIND.

### 2.1 Proficiency Levels Definition

The following (Table 1) is California’s proficiency level descriptions:

Proficiency Level	State Proficiency Level Name
L1	Standard Not Met
L2	Standard Nearly Met
L3	Standard Met
L4	Standard Exceeded

Table 1: Proficiency Level Naming

### 2.2 Treatment Grades Pool and Selection

The Treatment grades pool originated with all schools and grades using ST Math in California. From these schools, every grade that had used the ST Math program only for the year 2016/17 was identified. They comprise the Treatment grades pool for this evaluation of 1-year usage.

Because the analysis uses grade-mean data, such as grade-mean scale scores or grade-mean proficiency level percentages, it is necessary that the program also be a grade-wide treatment, with the great majority of students in each grade receiving treatment. Otherwise, the grade-means reported by the state of 100% of *tested* students would not be valid measures of a smaller fraction of *treatment* students. MIND’s site implementation requirement is that an entire grade, including all teachers and all classes within that grade, use the ST Math program. We validate how closely

this is the case for each individual treatment grade by comparing the number of ST Math student accounts at a grade level to the California’s reported enrollment at that grade level. We discard from the Treatment pool any grade with a ratio of ST Math student accounts to reported grade enrollment lower than 85%.

Furthermore, the outcomes measure is a summative year-end test, i.e. California’s standardized math assessment (CAASPP). The math assessment thus covers all the math standards for that entire grade level. Meanwhile, the ST Math program curriculum (arranged into Learning Objectives) is also aligned to California math standards. To infer that the ST Math content is having a valid effect on student outcomes on the summative assessment, we discard any grade with grade-mean of ST Math Progress for its students lower than 50% by year-end.

Progress is a percentage, and is defined as Levels completed by the student, divided by the total number of Levels in the grade-level curriculum. Note that student achievement of at least 50% progress in ST Math is accomplished primarily by teacher assignment of computer session time to students. With sufficient time on task, students make progress. The program helps them self-pace through providing real-time informative feedback for each puzzle.

### 2.3 Control Grades Pool and Selection

The control grades are randomly selected from a control pool of schools in California. Though they are randomly selected, they are also matched to be similar to the Treatment grades’ math attributes and demographics during the baseline 2015/16 year. The matched attributes include:

- scale score
- student percentages at each math proficiency level
- percentage of students receiving free or reduced lunch (using the demographic data from MDR).

To mitigate the risk of randomly picking a set of Control grades that generates an outlier for effect, a Monte Carlo approach is used to perform many random picks. The control pool’s size is large enough that there are many possible “picks” of closely matched control grades.

One hundred randomly matched picks are made and sets of matched control grades are generated. For each set, the quality of the match as well as the math growth of the potential control set is evaluated. Some picked sets have high average math growth, some have low average math growth. From the set of all picks, a median pick is chosen. This avoids either an unlikely overestimate, or underestimate, of the Control grades’ growth. When multiple median picks exist, the control set with the minimal math score differences in the baseline year is chosen.

### 3 Data Analysis

The set of all schools and grades using ST Math in California is evaluated for Enrollment percentage and Progress percentage parameters. A filtered Treatment set (TRT) of all ST Math grades with  $\geq 85\%$  Enrollment and  $\geq 50\%$  Progress is identified. State math assessment data is tabulated. A matching set of Control grades based on baseline year state math assessment is selected.

Changes in math performance, i.e. the difference in math performance of a grade from a baseline year to the final year, are evaluated and tabulated. Statistical tests of the significance of the difference in math performance changes between Treatment grades and Control grades are performed. Finally, a grade-by-grade disaggregation is performed.

#### 3.1 Z-scores

When states change their state assessment throughout the years, they also change the range of possible scale scores achieved on the exam. This makes it difficult to compare changes in grade mean scale scores across years with a different exam. To deal with this issue, a new Z-score is calculated. For each year being analyzed, by grade, a Z-score takes the difference of the grade mean scale score and the mean of all scale scores statewide for that year, and then divides it by the standard deviation of all scale scores statewide for that year. Here is a fictional example to illustrate the calculation of a Z-score for the 2015/16 exam:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{School A, Grade 3, Mean scale score: } 300 \\ &\text{Average across all schools statewide, Grade 3: } 350 \\ &\text{Standard deviation across all schools statewide, Grade 3: } 30 \\ \text{Z-score} &= ((\text{School A, Grade 3, Mean scale score}) - (\text{Average across all schools, Grade 3})) / (\text{Standard} \\ &\quad \text{deviation across all schools, Grade 3}) \\ \text{Z-score} &= \frac{300 - 350}{30} = -1.67 \end{aligned}$$

The Z-score is calculated for every grade across all years being analyzed, using the full state data set of California schools for the averages and standard deviations. The use of Z-scores is a valid statistical method to normalize any dataset and to enable analysis across otherwise uncomparable exams. In this report, we will include both mean scale scores and their accompanying Z-scores.

#### 3.2 Percentile Ranking

These newly calculated z-scores can then be converted into a percentile ranking. Each percentile ranking shows the grade's performance relative to the others in that year and grade. For example, for a specific grade 3, a percentile ranking of 50 shows that this grade 3 performed at the average of all third grades in the state for that testing year.

### 3.3 Final Treatment and Control

#### 3.3.1 ST Math Grade-Aggregated Implementation ( $\geq 85\%$ Enrollment Grades Only)

**ST Math Percent Grade Mean Progress Distribution – 2016/17**

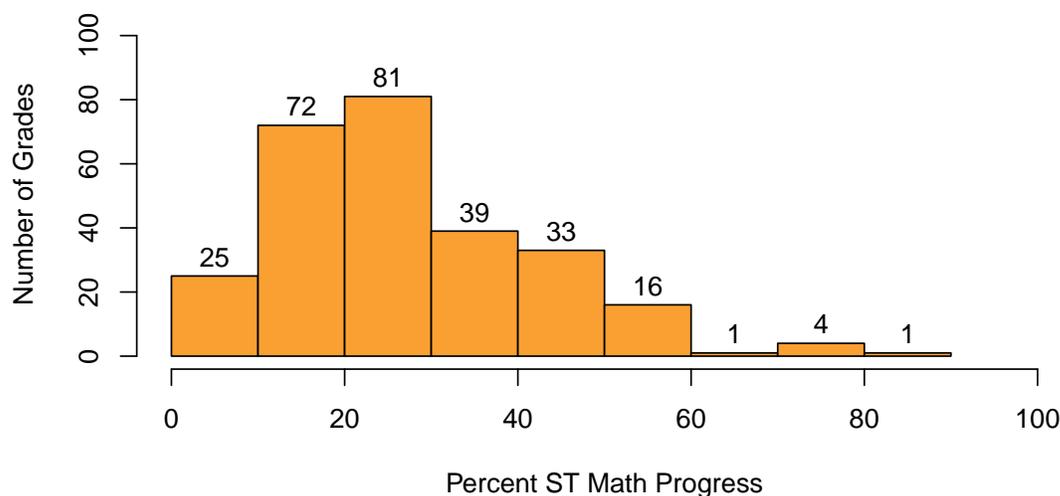


Figure 1: Histogram of ST Math Percent Progress for  $\geq 85\%$  Enrollment Grades 2016/17

For all ST Math grades with Enrollment  $\geq 85\%$ , Figure 1 shows the frequency distribution of grade-average Progress percentage through the program. Note that we will only be using grades with  $\geq 50\%$  Progress as the Treatment Group.

Table 2 provides descriptive statistics of the Progress distribution. Table 3 shows the number of remaining treatment grades after applying enrollment and progress filters.

	Min.	Max.	Average	S.D.
ST Math % Progress	0.0	85.3	27.6	15.1

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics of ST Math Percent Progress for  $\geq 85\%$  Enrollment Grades

Grades with $\geq 85\%$ Enrollment:	249
Grades with in addition $\geq 50\%$ Progress:	22

Table 3: Number of ST Math Grades with  $\geq 85\%$  Enrollment and with  $\geq 50\%$  percent progress

### 3.3.2 Filtering Treatment and Controls

Table 4 shows the total number of grades in the Treatment pool, the number of grades that exceeded the 85% Enrollment figure, and also the 50% Progress filter. Other rows in the table indicate counts of numbers of students (2016/17 from state testing count) and counts of number of schools represented. The number of matched Control (CTRL) grades, students, and schools is also shown.

	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Total
ST Math Using Grades	90	93	89	272
ST Math Using Schools	90	93	89	96
ST Math Students	6462	6698	6335	19495
ST Math Grades (Enroll $\geq$ 85%)	85	85	79	249
TRT Grades (Enroll $\geq$ 85% & Prog $\geq$ 50%)	11	5	6	22
TRT Schools (Enroll $\geq$ 85% & Prog $\geq$ 50%)	11	5	6	16
TRT Students (Enroll $\geq$ 85% & Prog $\geq$ 50%)	808	300	430	1538
CTRL Grades	11	5	6	22
CTRL Schools	11	5	6	22
CTRL Students	1002	516	519	2037

Table 4: Treatment Pool Filtering and Controls: Counts of Grades, Schools, and Students

### 3.3.3 Match of Controls to Treatment

Figure 2 shows the density plot of the baseline CAASPP Math scale scores (left plot) and baseline percent students at CAASPP Standard Met or Exceeded (right plot) for treatment grades overlaid on control grades, showing the closeness of the match obtained between Treatment and Control sets of grades in the baseline year, 2015/16. It is important to keep in mind that we only have a small number of treatment and control grades (22) and that the Control set was arrived at through a Monte Carlo process (see Section 2.3) rather than a closest math performance match.

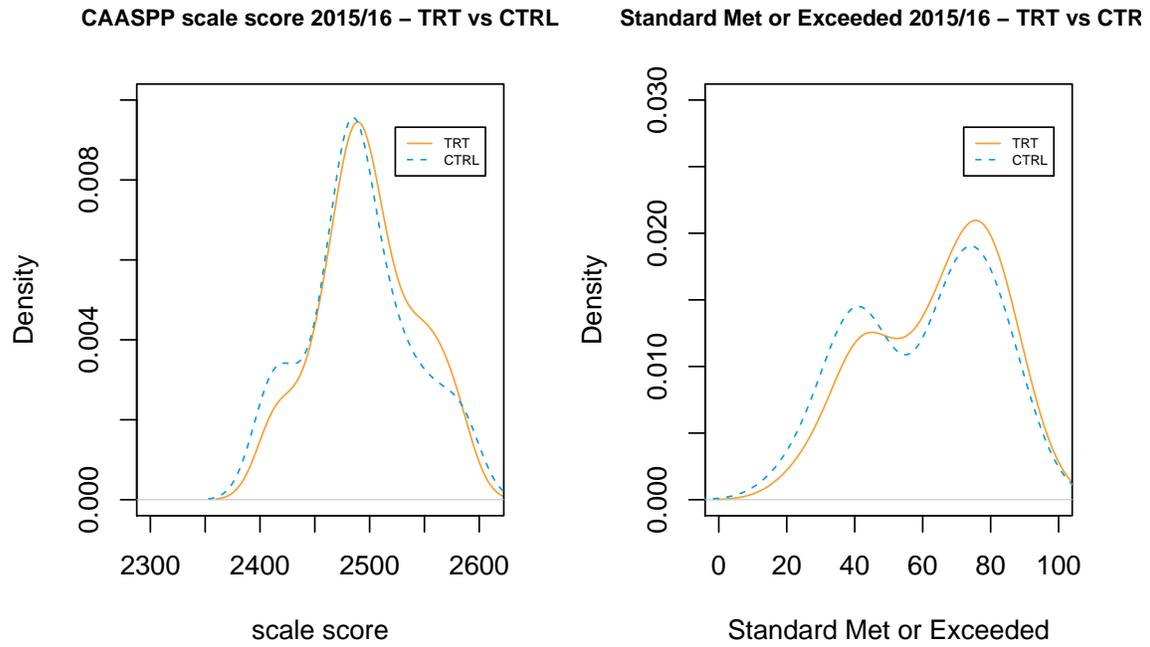


Figure 2: Baseline Year Density Plots Showing Math Scores Match between TRT and CTRL - 2015/16

Similarly, figure 3 shows the density plot of the percentage of students needing free or reduced lunch for treatment grades overlaid on control grades, showing the closeness of the match obtained between Treatment and Control sets of grades.

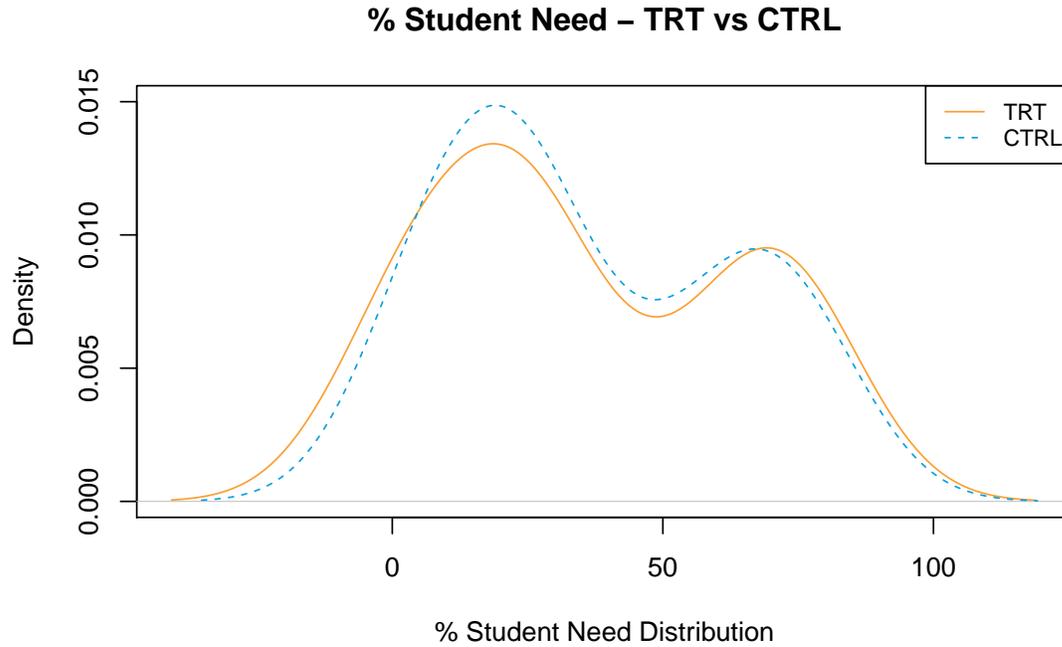


Figure 3: Baseline Year Density Plot Showing Student Need Match between TRT and CTRL

Table 5 shows the difference of the means of Treatment versus Control in the baseline year, with accompanying p-values, for percent Standard Met or Exceeded, for mean scale score, and for percent of students receiving free or reduced lunch. The large p-values show the differences between the Treatment and Control grades are not statistically significant.

	Mean(TRT)	SD(TRT)	Mean(CTRL)	SD(CTRL)	Estimate	P-Value
Standard Met or Exceeded - 2015/16	63.86	18.31	60.23	19.60	3.64	0.53
Scale score - 2015/16	2497.63	45.24	2491.06	49.19	6.57	0.65
Percent Free or Reduced Lunch	36.05	28.05	36.59	26.28	-0.55	0.95

Table 5: Matching TRT and CTRL

### 3.4 Grade-Aggregated Analysis

Table 6 shows for both Treatment (TRT) and Control (CTRL) aggregation across grades of scale scores, Z-scores, and proficiency level distributions. The far right column also shows the average ST Math Progress for the TRT set.

	# Grades	# Schools	# Students	Scale score	Z-score	Percentile	L1	L2	L3	L4	Standard Met or Exceeded	ST Math Per Co
TRT.15.16	22	16	1429	2497.6	0.79	75.59	13.95	22.00	28.23	35.64	63.86	-
TRT.16.17	22	16	1454	2509.0	1.35	85.05	11.76	16.94	29.90	41.41	71.31	59.89
TRT.Delta	-	-	-	11.4	0.57	9.45	-2.20	-5.06	1.68	5.77	7.44	-
CTRL.15.16	22	22	1904	2491.1	0.68	72.05	16.91	22.68	27.91	32.50	60.23	-
CTRL.16.17	22	22	2037	2486.1	0.82	72.36	19.22	22.72	27.23	30.83	58.06	-
CTRL.Delta	-	-	-	-5.0	0.14	0.32	2.31	0.04	-0.68	-1.67	-2.16	-

Table 6: Yearly Math Proficiency and Counts for TRT and CTRL Grade-Aggregated Datasets

The following chart (Figure 4) shows the changes in percentage of students at each math proficiency level for the grade-aggregated Treatment and Control sets (TRT.delta and CTRL.delta).

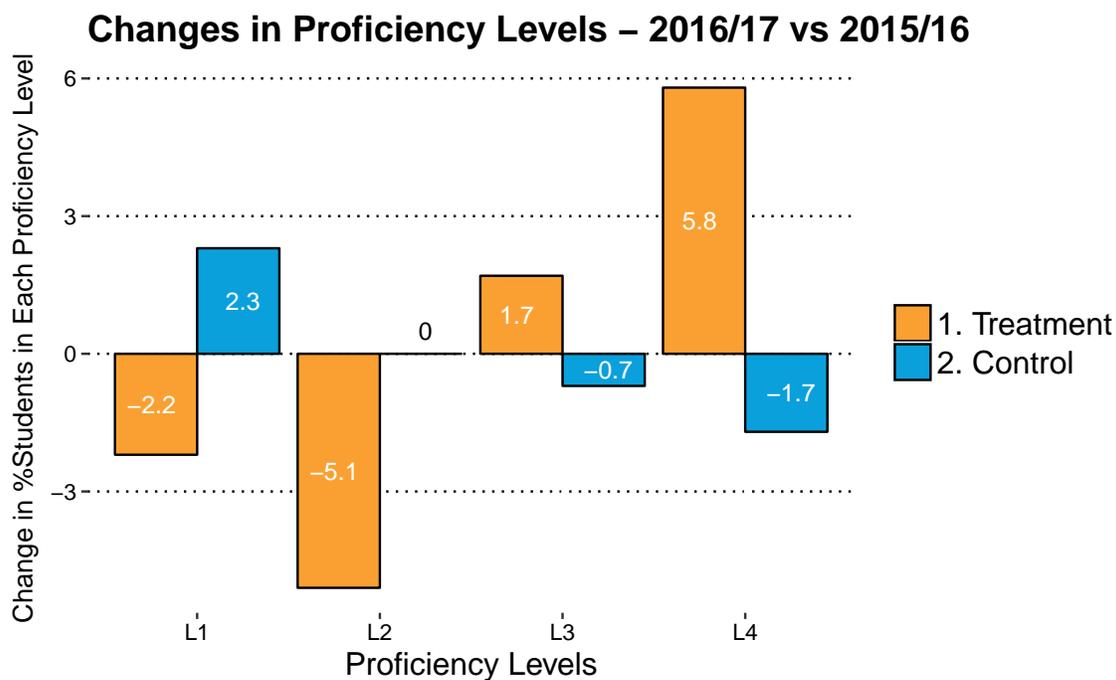


Figure 4: Change at each Proficiency Level for Grade-Aggregated TRT and CTRL Datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17

Similarly, Figure 5 shows the changes in CAASPP Math scale scores and changes in Z-scores for the grade-aggregated Treatment and Control sets.

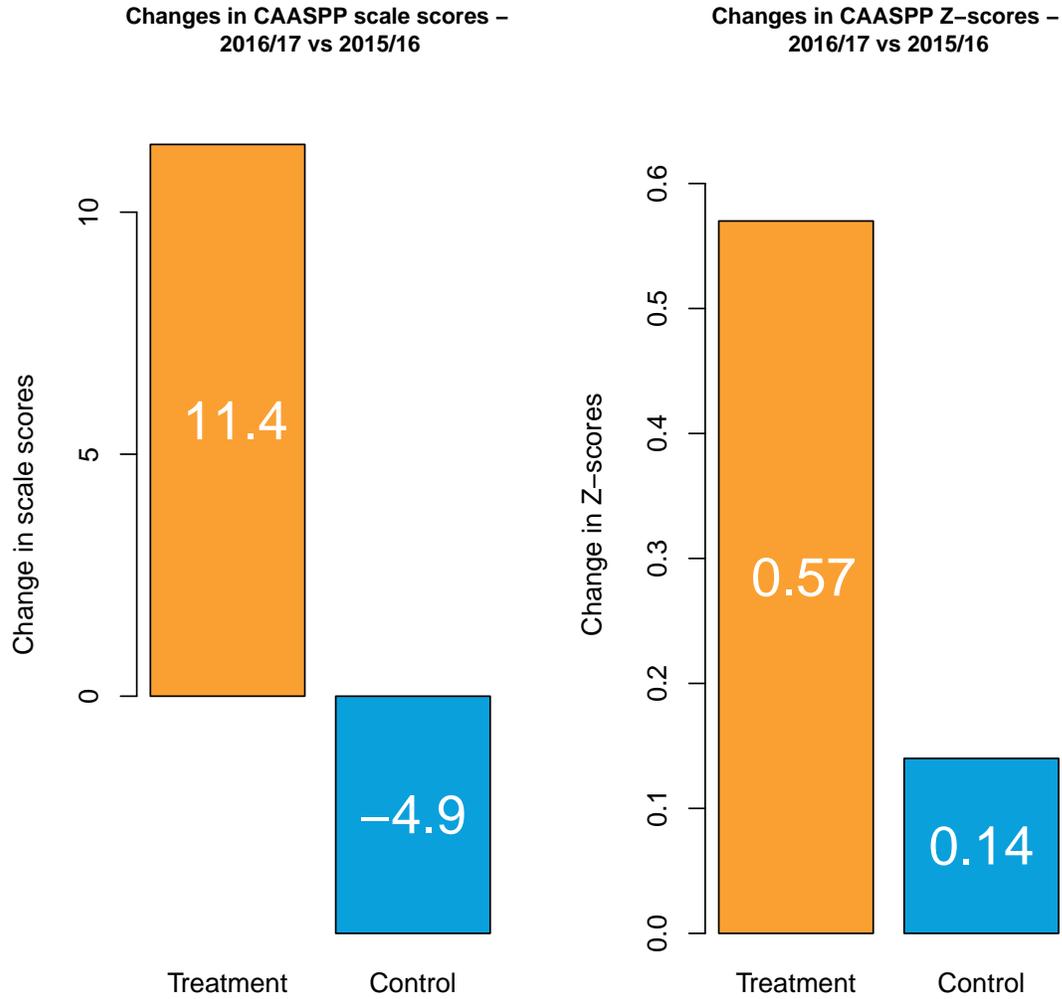


Figure 5: Changes in CAASPP Math scale scores and Z-scores (See Section 3.1) for Grade-Aggregated TRT and CTRL datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17

Further, Figure 6 shows the changes in percent of students at CAASPP Standard Met or Exceeded for the grade-aggregated Treatment and Control sets.

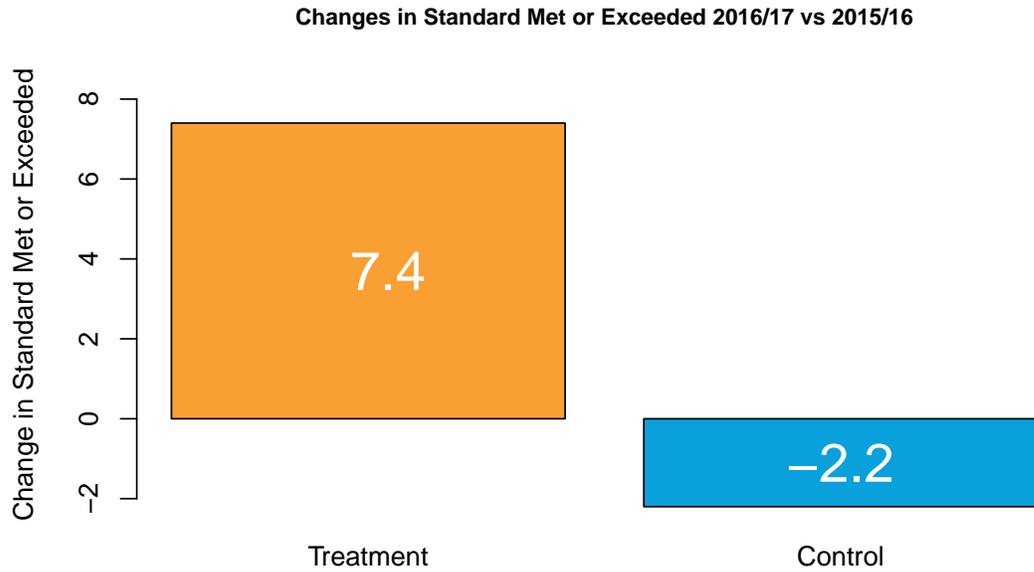


Figure 6: Changes in Standard Met or Exceeded for Grade-Aggregated TRT and CTRL datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17

Finally, Table 7 shows the statistics for the *differences* in changes between TRT and CTRL (Treatment - Control) for these same CAASPP math proficiency and scale score changes as in the above figures. <sup>1</sup>

	Estimate	P-Value	Int.Low	Int.High
Standard Met or Exceeded	9.61	0.00*	4.27	14.95
scale score	16.34	0.00*	5.61	27.07
Z-score	0.43	0.00*	0.15	0.70
L1	-4.51	0.02*	-8.32	-0.69
L2	-5.10	0.02*	-9.29	-0.92
L3	2.35	0.39	-3.12	7.83
L4	7.44	0.01*	1.90	12.98

Table 7: Statistics for the Differential Changes in Math Scores Growth (TRT - CTRL)

<sup>1</sup>\* statistically significant p<0.05

Finally, Figure 7 shows the changes in mean percentile ranking between TRT and CTRL.

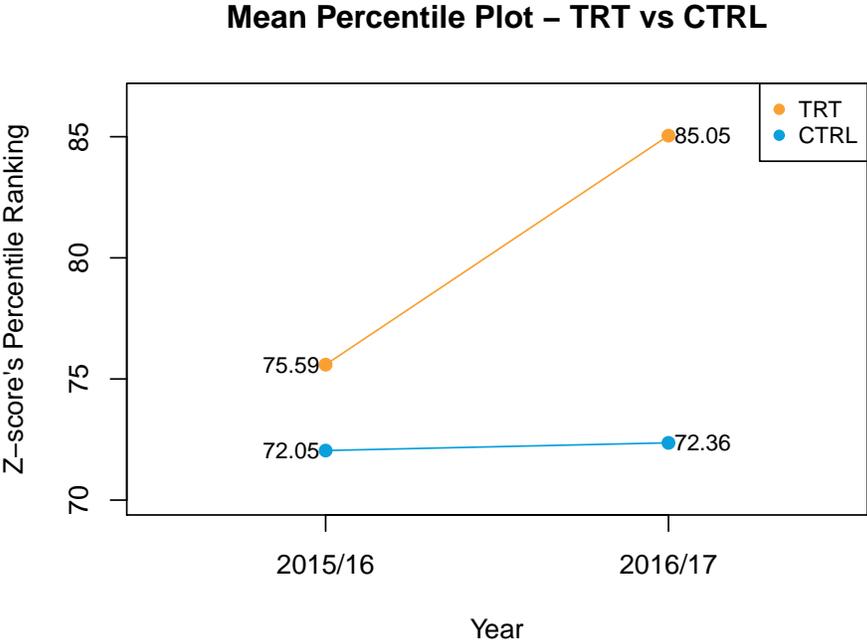


Figure 7: Changes in Percentile Ranking for TRT and CTRL Datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17

### 3.5 Grade-Level Analysis

#### 3.5.1 Grade Level Result Tables

The following tables (Table 8, 9, and 10) present a disaggregation of results by grade level. The far right column in each table also shows the average ST Math Progress for the TRT set.

	# Grades	# Schools	# Students	Scale score	Z-score	Percentile	L1	L2	L3	L4	Standard Met or Exceeded	ST Math Per Pr
TRT.15.16	11	11	796	2475.2	0.86	77.64	10.64	18.45	32.55	38.09	70.82	-
TRT.16.17	11	11	760	2489.9	1.56	91.45	7.86	13.07	34.49	44.59	79.07	58.28
TRT.Delta	-	-	-	14.7	0.70	13.82	-2.78	-5.39	1.94	6.50	8.25	-
CTRL.15.16	11	11	936	2465.0	0.69	72.27	14.55	20.36	31.36	33.64	65.09	-
CTRL.16.17	11	11	1002	2460.3	0.83	72.45	16.73	21.21	30.71	31.35	62.06	-
CTRL.Delta	-	-	-	-4.7	0.14	0.18	2.18	0.85	-0.65	-2.29	-3.03	-

Table 8: Grade 3 - Yearly Math Performance and Counts for TRT and CTRL Datasets

	# Grades	# Schools	# Students	Scale score	Z-score	Percentile	L1	L2	L3	L4	Standard Met or Exceeded	ST Math Per Pr
TRT.15.16	5	5	266	2488.1	0.42	65.00	20.40	26.00	28.80	24.60	53.20	-
TRT.16.17	5	5	283	2496.9	0.81	73.40	15.75	24.68	33.35	26.22	59.57	63.27
TRT.Delta	-	-	-	8.8	0.39	8.40	-4.65	-1.32	4.55	1.62	6.37	-
CTRL.15.16	5	5	466	2491.2	0.47	66.80	17.40	28.40	28.00	26.20	53.80	-
CTRL.16.17	5	5	516	2488.1	0.61	70.20	18.61	27.92	28.65	24.83	53.48	-
CTRL.Delta	-	-	-	-3.1	0.15	3.40	1.21	-0.48	0.65	-1.37	-0.32	-

Table 9: Grade 4 - Yearly Math Performance and Counts for TRT and CTRL Datasets

	# Grades	# Schools	# Students	Scale score	Z-score	Percentile	L1	L2	L3	L4	Standard Met or Exceeded	ST Math Per Pr
TRT.15.16	6	6	367	2546.7	0.96	80.67	14.67	25.17	19.83	40.33	60.00	-
TRT.16.17	6	6	411	2554.2	1.43	83.00	15.57	17.58	18.62	48.23	66.85	60.03
TRT.Delta	-	-	-	7.5	0.47	2.33	0.90	-7.59	-1.21	7.90	6.85	-
CTRL.15.16	6	6	502	2538.8	0.84	76.00	20.83	22.17	21.50	35.67	56.67	-
CTRL.16.17	6	6	519	2531.9	0.98	74.00	24.29	21.16	19.67	34.89	54.56	-
CTRL.Delta	-	-	-	-6.9	0.14	-2.00	3.45	-1.01	-1.83	-0.78	-2.11	-

Table 10: Grade 5 - Yearly Math Performance and Counts for TRT and CTRL Datasets

### 3.5.2 Grade-Level Analysis of Changes in Math Standard Met or Exceeded

Figure 8 shows the difference in the growth of percentages of students at math Standard Met or Exceeded, for the TRT and CTRL datasets, disaggregated by grade:

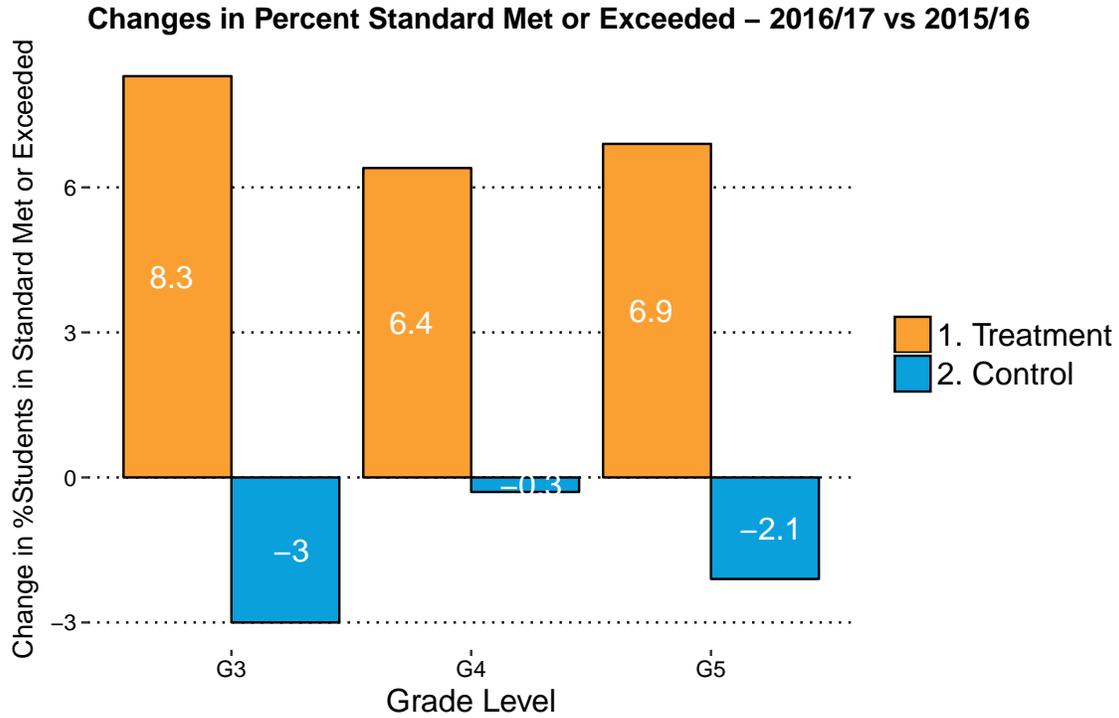


Figure 8: Changes in Percent of Students at Standard Met or Exceeded for TRT and CTRL Datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17

Table 11 shows the statistics for the *differences* in changes between TRT and CTRL (Treatment - Control) for these same Standard Met or Exceeded math proficiency changes as shown in Figure 8.

	Estimate	P-Value	Int.Low	Int.High
Grade 3	11.29	0.02*	2.43	20.14
Grade 4	6.69	0.12	-2.05	15.42
Grade 5	8.96	0.14	-3.66	21.58

Table 11: Statistics for the Differential Changes in Standard Met or Exceeded, (TRT - CTRL)

### 3.5.3 Grade-Level Analysis of Changes in CAASPP Math scale scores

Figure 9 shows the changes in the grade-mean math scale scores of students for the TRT and CTRL datasets, disaggregated by grade:

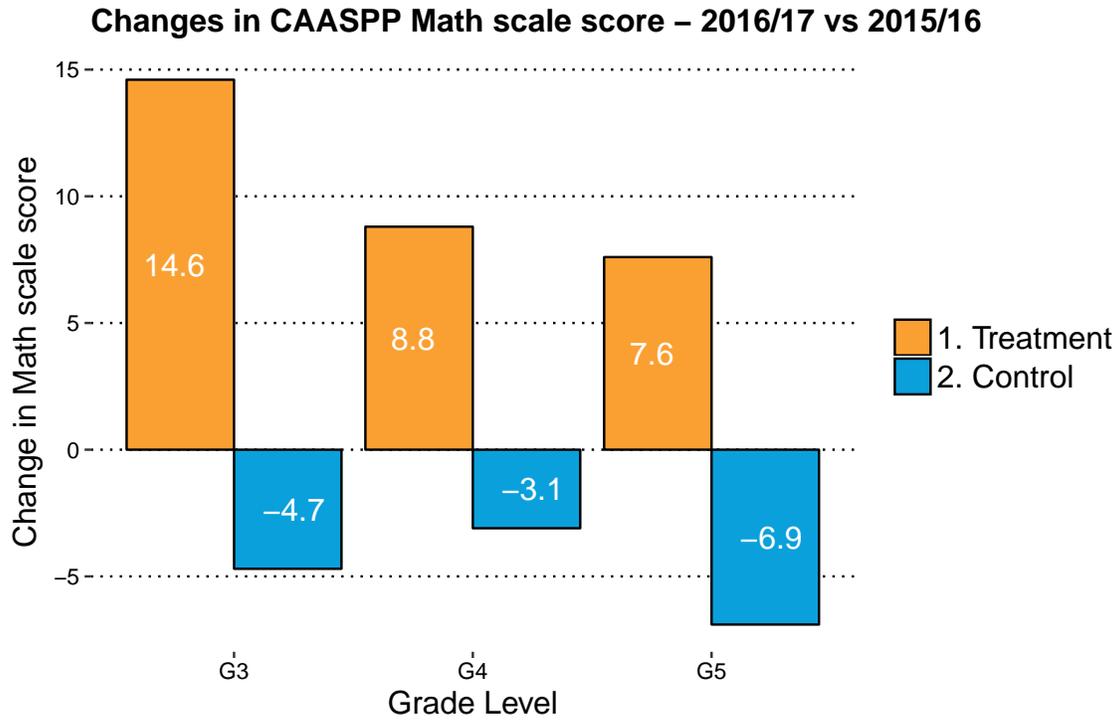


Figure 9: Changes in Grade-Mean CAASPP Math scale score for TRT and CTRL Datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17

Table 12 shows the statistics for the differences between TRT and CTRL (Treatment - Control) for these same CAASPP math scale score changes as shown in Figure 9.

	Estimate	P-Value	Int.Low	Int.High
Grade 3	19.36	0.02*	3.72	35.01
Grade 4	11.92	0.09	-2.23	26.07
Grade 5	14.48	0.33	-17.57	46.54

Table 12: Statistics for the Differential Changes in CAASPP Math scale scores Growth, (TRT - CTRL)

### 3.5.4 Grade-Level Analysis of Changes in CAASPP Z-scores of scale scores

Figure 10 shows the changes in the grade-mean Z-scores of students for the TRT and CTRL datasets, disaggregated by grade:

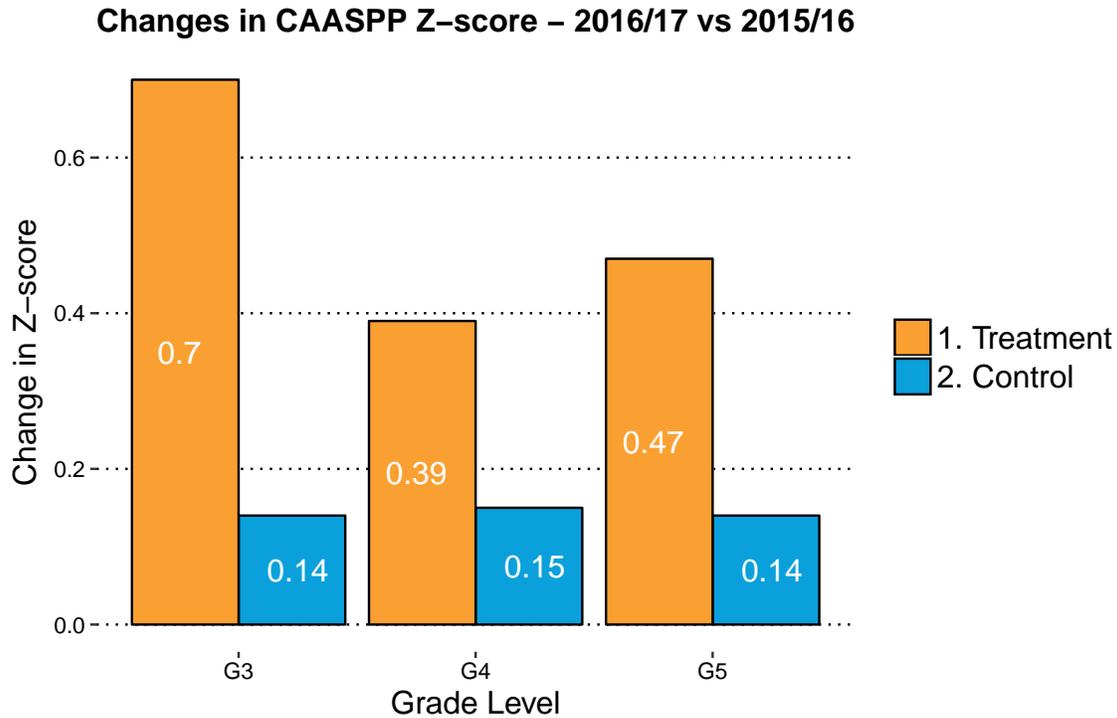


Figure 10: Changes in Grade-Mean CAASPP Z-score (See Section 3.1) for TRT and CTRL Datasets between 2015/16 and 2016/17

Table 13 shows the statistics for the differences between TRT and CTRL (Treatment - Control) for these same CAASPP Z-score changes as shown in Figure 10.

	Estimate	P-Value	Int.Low	Int.High
Grade 3	0.56	0.00*	0.20	0.91
Grade 4	0.24	0.28	-0.25	0.74
Grade 5	0.34	0.39	-0.51	1.19

Table 13: Statistics for the Differential Changes in CAASPP Z-scores (See Section 3.1) Growth, (TRT - CTRL)

## 4 Effect Size

The following table shows the effect sizes for Standard Met or Exceeded, CAASPP scale score, and accompanying Z-score.

	Scale score Effect Size	Z-score Effect Size	Standard Met or Exceeded Effect Size
Grade 3	0.50	0.88	0.60
Grade 4	0.39	0.57	0.38
Grade 5	0.31	0.49	0.38
All Grades	0.33	0.71	0.49

Table 14: Cohen's d Effect Size

## 5 Findings Summary

California grades 3, 4, and 5 using ST Math for the year 2016/17 averaged 27.6% ST Math Progress. 22/272 grades (8%) averaged covering more than 50% of ST Math content. Statistically significant differences were found in this analysis for both grade-aggregated and individual grade levels. Looking at Table 7, statistically significant differences were found for grade-aggregated Z-score, with an estimate of 0.43 points favorable for the ST Math treatment set, as well as for grade-aggregated Standard Met or Exceeded proficiency levels, with a 9.61 point favorable differential for the ST Math treatment set. Further, in Table 7, grade-aggregated ST Math treatment set outperformed their matched controls at the Standard Exceeded level, with a statistically significant difference of 7.44. Referring to Table 11, a statistically significant difference was found for grade 3 Standard Met or Exceeded proficiency levels, with an estimate of 11.29 in favor of the ST Math treatment set. Looking at Table 13, grade 3 ST math treatment set outperformed their matched controls for CAASPP Z-scores with a statistically significant difference of 0.56.

## 6 Confounders

Despite best efforts in minimizing confounders to the results of this analysis, there still remain a few input variables that could be significant in affecting differences of state test score outcomes between the Treatment and Control sets. One issue is the lack of randomization of grades chosen to receive the ST Math treatment. Instead of randomized selection, Treatment grades are self-selected. Self-selection can be an indication of districts or schools with a focus on math, an appetite for change, and with a spotlight on math training. Furthermore, not all grades using the ST Math program are chosen for analysis. Each grade must pass two specific filters to be considered for the Treatment set: the first being an enrollment filter of at least 85% of students in each grade using the program, and the second being a progress filter of at least 50% of the program completed on average by students in that grade. These filters might indicate relatively high-functioning schools with a team of relatively effective teachers in that grade, thus resulting in better instruction overall. A mitigation of this possible confounder is our selection of treatment groups on the grade level, rather than the teacher level, so there is no cherry picking of teachers: the full range of teachers in each grade is included. Moreover, the specific teachers may often be the same in the baseline year as in the current year, so the Treatment growth is not due to teacher differences. Finally, a possible confounder lies in the

“business as usual” conditions at the matched control grades chosen for each analysis. It’s unknown whether these control grades used other programs that could affect the comparison of the two sets of grades. The Monte Carlo Method is used to mitigate the possibility of control picks being favorable or unfavorable (see Section 2.3).

## 7 Reference Tables Grouped By School Year

The following tables show grade-level details, grouped by school year and for treatment (Table 15) and controls (Table 16) separately.

	# Grades	# Schools	# Students	Scale score	Z-score	Percentile	L1	L2	L3	L4	Standard Met or Exceeded	ST Math Per Comp.
Grade 3 (15.16)	11	11	796	2475.2	0.86	77.64	10.64	18.45	32.55	38.09	70.82	-
Grade 4 (15.16)	5	5	266	2488.1	0.42	65.0	20.40	26.00	28.80	24.60	53.20	-
Grade 5 (15.16)	6	6	367	2546.7	0.96	80.67	14.67	25.17	19.83	40.33	60.00	-
All Grades (15.16)	22	16	1429	2497.6	0.79	75.59	13.95	22.00	28.23	35.64	63.86	-
Grade 3 (16.17)	11	11	760	2489.9	1.56	91.45	7.86	13.07	34.49	44.59	79.07	58.28
Grade 4 (16.17)	5	5	283	2496.9	0.81	73.4	15.75	24.68	33.35	26.22	59.57	63.27
Grade 5 (16.17)	6	6	411	2554.2	1.43	83.00	15.57	17.58	18.62	48.23	66.85	60.03
All Grades (16.17)	22	16	1454	2509.0	1.35	85.05	11.76	16.94	29.90	41.41	71.31	59.89

Table 15: TRT Grades Detail Sorted by Year

	# Grades	# Schools	# Students	Scale score	Z-score	Percentile	L1	L2	L3	L4	Standard Met or Exceeded	ST Math Per Comp.
Grade 3 (15.16)	11	11	936	2465.0	0.69	72.27	14.55	20.36	31.36	33.64	65.09	-
Grade 4 (15.16)	5	5	466	2491.2	0.47	66.8	17.40	28.40	28.00	26.20	53.80	-
Grade 5 (15.16)	6	6	502	2538.8	0.84	76.00	20.83	22.17	21.50	35.67	56.67	-
All Grades (15.16)	22	22	1904	2491.1	0.68	72.05	16.91	22.68	27.91	32.50	60.23	-
Grade 3 (16.17)	11	11	1002	2460.3	0.83	72.45	16.73	21.21	30.71	31.35	62.06	-
Grade 4 (16.17)	5	5	516	2488.1	0.61	70.2	18.61	27.92	28.65	24.83	53.48	-
Grade 5 (16.17)	6	6	519	2531.9	0.98	74.00	24.29	21.16	19.67	34.89	54.56	-
All Grades (16.17)	22	22	2037	2486.1	0.82	72.36	19.22	22.72	27.23	30.83	58.06	-

Table 16: CTRL Grades Detail Sorted by Year

## 8 Lists of Schools

### 8.1 Treatment Schools

The following table lists the treatment schools and grades (after 85% enrollment and 50% progress filtering) used in the analysis.

PID	IID	District	School Name	GRADE
112641	BAY73V	San Diego Unified	Bay Park Elementary	5
114091	BEN73V	San Diego Unified	Benchley/Weinberger Elementary	3
112756	CAD73V	San Diego Unified	Cadman Elementary	3
112823	CLA73V	San Diego Unified	Clay Elementary	3, 4
112873	CRO73U	San Diego Unified	Crown Point Elementary	4
1824988	DOY73W	San Diego Unified	Doyle Elementary	3
113190	HAR73V	San Diego Unified	Hardy Elementary	3
113217	HEA73W	San Diego Unified	Hearst Elementary	3, 5
1824990	JER73X	San Diego Unified	Jerabek Elementary	3, 5
12109424	SAL73W	San Diego Unified	Jonas Salk Elementary	3, 4, 5
113322	JUA73W	San Diego Unified	Juarez Elementary	4
113554	MAR73W	San Diego Unified	Marvin Elementary	5
113724	PAC73U	San Diego Unified	Pacific Beach Elementary	3
113815	ROL73V	San Diego Unified	Rolando Park Elementary	3
113841	ROW73U	San Diego Unified	Rowan Elementary	5
113906	SES73U	San Diego Unified	Sessions Elementary	3, 4

Table 17: Treatment Schools (TRT Dataset)

## 8.2 Control Schools

The following table lists the control schools and grades (matched control grades to treatment grades) used in the analysis.

PID	District	School Name	GRADE
65426	Abc Unified	Stowers(Cecil B.) Elementary	5
66810	Beverly Hills Unified	Hawthorne Elementary	4
3249683	Castro Valley Unified	Stanton Elementary	3
4947369	Chula Vista Elementary	Heritage Elementary	4
11466683	Creekside Charter	Creekside Charter	3
3009641	Desert Sands Unified	Harry S. Truman Elementary	4
68923	El Monte City	Rio Hondo Elementary	3
5343675	Evergreen Elementary	Carolyn A. Clark Elementary	5
111568	La Mesa-Spring Valley	Fletcher Hills Elementary	3
53631	Lafayette Elementary	Lafayette Elementary	3
5346067	Lodi Unified	Lois E. Borchardt Elementary	3
76188	Los Angeles Unified	Eagle Rock Elementary	3
126977	Milpitas Unified	John Sinnott Elementary	5
126991	Milpitas Unified	Marshall Pomeroy Elementary	3
54269	Mt. Diablo Unified	Pleasant Hill Elementary	5
102139	Palm Springs Unified	Katherine Finchy Elementary	4
11714698	Paragon Collegiate Academy	Paragon Collegiate Academy	5
114314	Santee	Sycamore Canyon Elementary	5
99049	Savanna Elementary	Twila Reid Elementary	4
82058	South Pasadena Unified	Marengo Elementary	3
2200323	Ventura Unified	Lincoln Elementary	3
11135717	Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified	Chapman Heights Elementary	3

Table 18: Matched Control Schools (CTRL Dataset)