i-Ready Personalized Instruction and California State Assessment Performance

Curriculum Associates Research | November 2024

Research Overview

To understand the association between the use of *i-Ready Personalized Instruction* (PI) and performance on the California state assessment, the Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBA), Curriculum Associates evaluated SBA scores and proficiency levels. Analyses included 150,573 students who used *i-Ready* PI during the 2021–2022 school year. These analyses examined the difference in state scores and proficiency rates between students who used *i-Ready* PI as intended and students using the program less consistently, accounting for fall performance. In both reading and mathematics, students who used *i-Ready* PI with fidelity demonstrated higher state test scores and were more likely to be proficient in all grades.
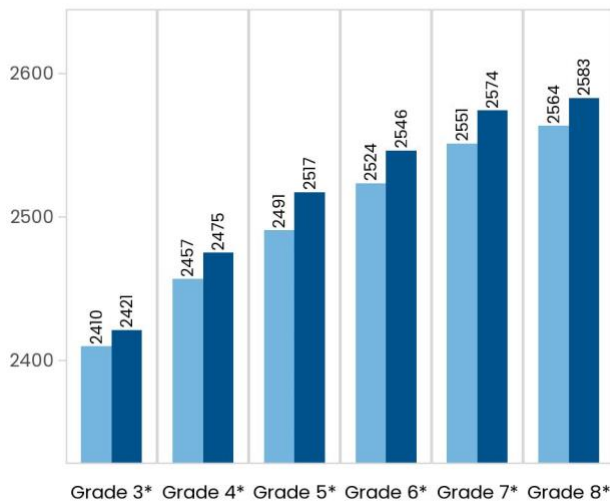
RESEARCH SAMPLE
150,573 students
494 schools
49 districts

FIDELITY USE
≥ 70% pass rate
≥ 18 weeks per year
≥ 30 minutes per week

SBA Reading Scores by Fidelity Use

Non-Fidelity ▪ Fidelity

Grade 3*: 2410, 2421
Grade 4*: 2457, 2475
Grade 5*: 2491, 2517
Grade 6*: 2524, 2546
Grade 7*: 2551, 2574
Grade 8*: 2564, 2583

SBA Mathematics Scores by Fidelity Use

Non-Fidelity ▪ Fidelity

Grade 3*: 2423, 2435
Grade 4*: 2461, 2476
Grade 5*: 2483, 2503
Grade 6*: 2505, 2526
Grade 7*: 2516, 2541
Grade 8*: 2522, 2548
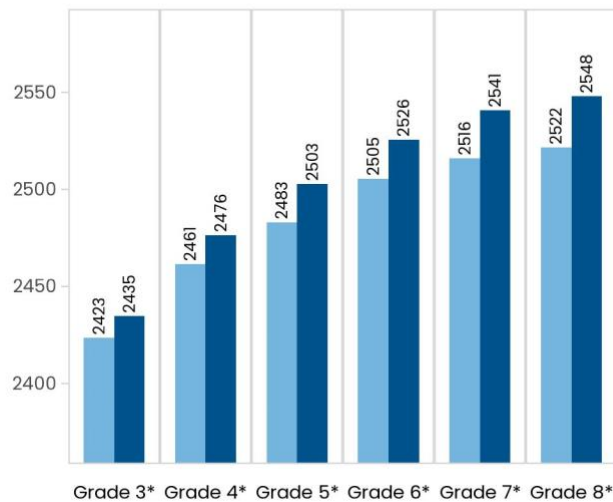
Note: *p < .05; State scores presented above reflect adjusted averages accounting for fall baseline performance. The non-fidelity group includes students whose *i-Ready* PI use was not sufficient to meet fidelity standards.

Methods: Researchers used statistical modeling to evaluate student performance (state test scores and proficiency rates) based on *i-Ready* PI usage. These models, graphed above, adjust for fall *i-Ready Diagnostic* scores to account for student performance at school entry. Reading and mathematics scores were modeled separately by grade level. All models removed outliers in *i-Ready* PI usage. All results are correlational, testing if *i-Ready* PI usage is associated with differences in state scores/proficiency.