

Statewide Chronic Absenteeism Analysis

DATA ANALYSIS • TRENDS • PROMISING PRACTICES



School Innovations & Achievement (SIA) is an expert on student attendance, school-to-home communications and data analytics.

SIA is unmatched with their automated capability to cleanse and standardize data.

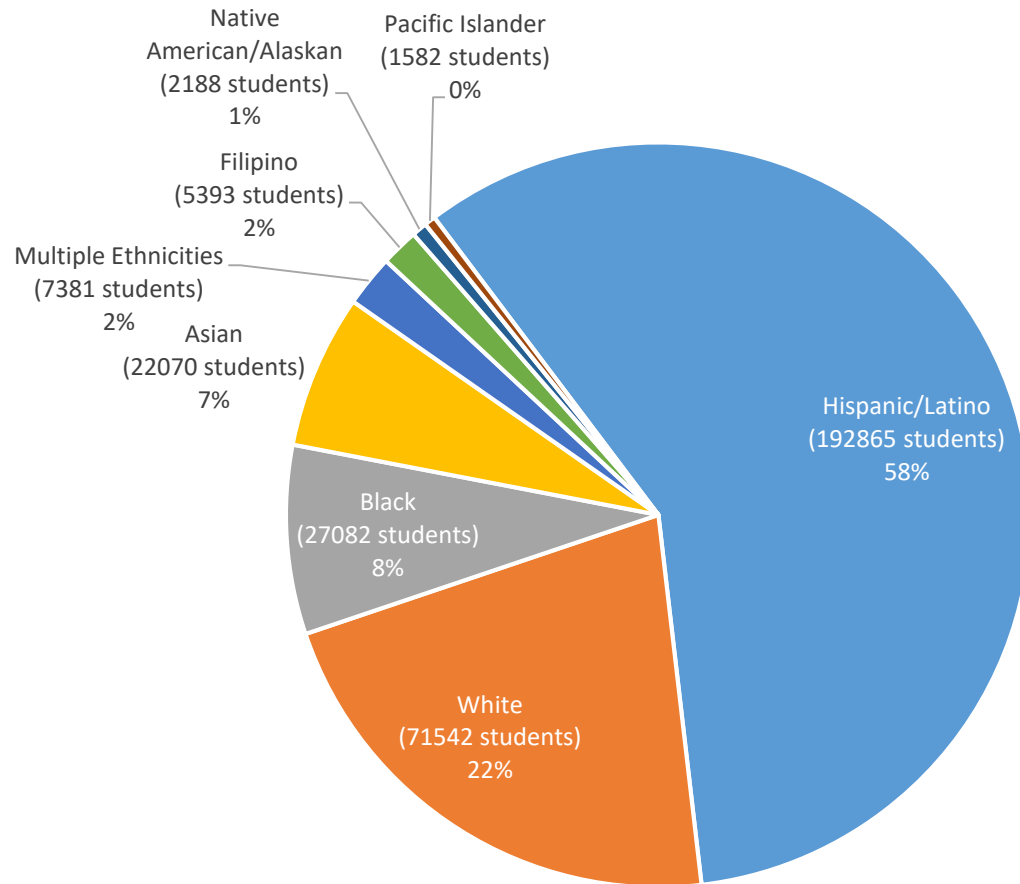
SIA has the cleanest set of current and historical K-12 attendance data.

The Achievement Initiative: The MTSS for Attendance

PREVENTION OVER REMEDIATION



Demographic Breakdown of A2A Dataset



The pie chart displays the racial/ethnic composition of active students in the 33 districts and approximately 350,000 students.

This composition closely resembles the overall California state enrollment.

Race/Ethnicity	Percent of Population
Hispanic/Latino	58%
White	22%
Black	8%
Asian	7%
Multiple Ethnicities	2%
Filipino	2%
Native American/Alaskan	1%
Pacific Islander	0%

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A2A Chronic Absence Rates

SI&A calculates chronic absenteeism differently than the CA Dashboard:

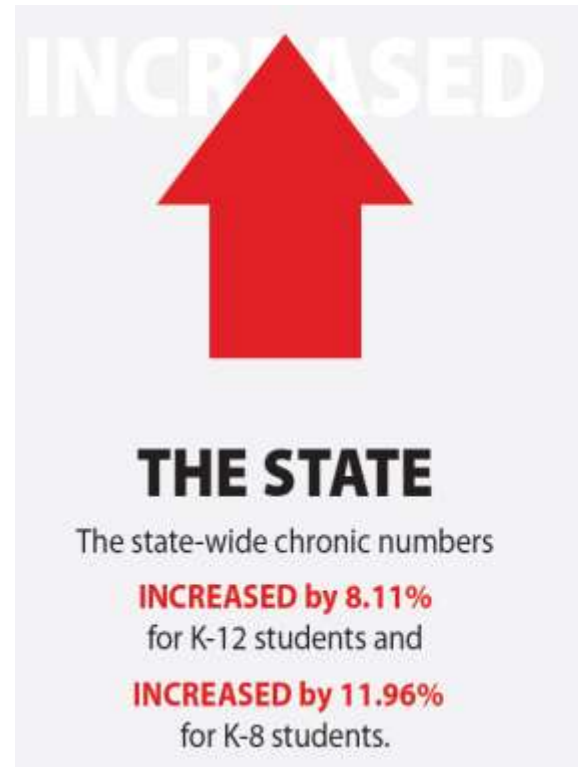
- Our program, A2A, includes all students in all grades including PK/TK and high school grades 9-12 (State only calculates based on TK-8)
- Our chronic rate includes all active students
- We include all students regardless of how many days enrolled
- A2A calculates on a day equivalent basis, weighting partial days absences (State only calculates based on full day absences)

Based on these differences, A2A chronic absence rates include more students, and captures more lost learning time than the California Dashboard

Even with all these considerations...

A2A District Chronic Absence Rates are Lower

- It's important to note, although the data shows an increase in chronic absentee rates, what we know is that A2A districts have better results than most non-A2A districts.
- A2A district partners outperform the statewide average in chronic absence rates when looking at the CA Dashboard chronic absentee rate changes from 2017-18 to 2018-19.



Key Finding: Increases in Chronic Absenteeism Across All Districts

Percent Change is simply the change in percentage: We have a 5% increase in our chronic rate, it went from 5% to 10%
Rate of Increase is the percent change in the number of kids: We have a 50% increase in the number of kids chronically absent. Last year we had 200 kids and 5% where chronically absents – that’s 10 kids. This year we have 150 kids and 10% are chronically absent – that 15 kids – that’s an increase of 5 kids or a 50% increase.

Using the chronic absence rate averages from the previous slide, we project that non-A2A districts may experience chronic absences rate increase at a 124% rate of increase.

			Dec.2019 vs. Dec.2020	
Chronic Absence Rate Oct.2020	Chronic Absence Rate Dec. 2019	Chronic Absence Rate Dec. 2020	A2A Rate of Increase	*Est. Non- A2A Rate of Increase
17.6%	12.1%	18.7%	54.0%	124.0%

*Est. Non-A2A Rate of increase is based on historical trends of A2A districts out-performed non-A2A client districts (K-8 & K-12)
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Chronic Rates Comparison by District Type

When we look at district type, we see that elementary school districts rates of increase outpace all other district types.

				Dec.2019 vs. Dec.2020	
District Type	Oct.2020 Chronic Absence Rate	Dec. 2019 Chronic Absence Rate	Dec.2020 Chronic Absence Rate	A2A Rate of Increase	Est. Non-A2A Rate of Increase
ESD	17.5%	10.4%	17.8%	72.0%	188.9%
HSD	22.5%	17.6%	26.8%	52.3%	100.0%
USD	15.8%	10.7%	16.0%	48.7%	126.9%

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Chronic Absence Comparison by Enrollment

We see that the fastest rate of increase in chronic absences is being felt in small school districts.

				Dec.2019 vs. Dec.2020	
District Size	Oct.2020 Chronic Absence Rate	Dec.2019 Chronic Absence Rate	Dec.2020 Chronic Absence Rate	A2A Rate of Increase	Est. Non-A2A Rate of Increase
< 3500	14.5%	8.4%	16.9%	102.0%	202.3%
3500 – 5000	13.3%	12.5%	14.8%	18.4%	85.5%
5000 - 10000	14.5%	10.4%	17.4%	68.0%	148.9%
10000 - 20000	19.1%	12.0%	19.3%	61.1%	131.0%
> 20000	18.0%	13.9%	19.3%	38.8%	99.2%

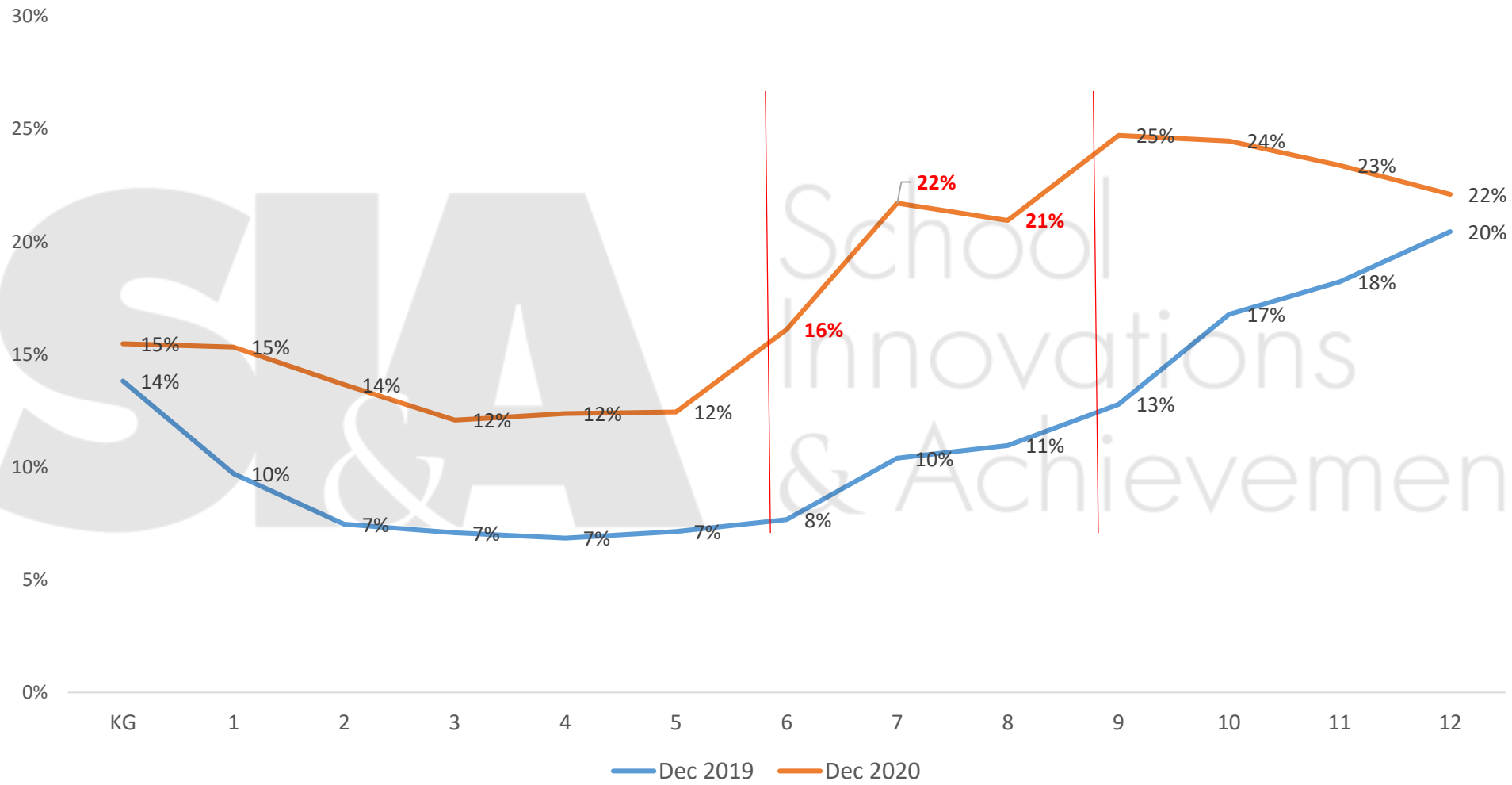
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Chronic Absence Comparison By Grade

We see the largest rates of increase in chronic absenteeism in primary and intermediate grades.

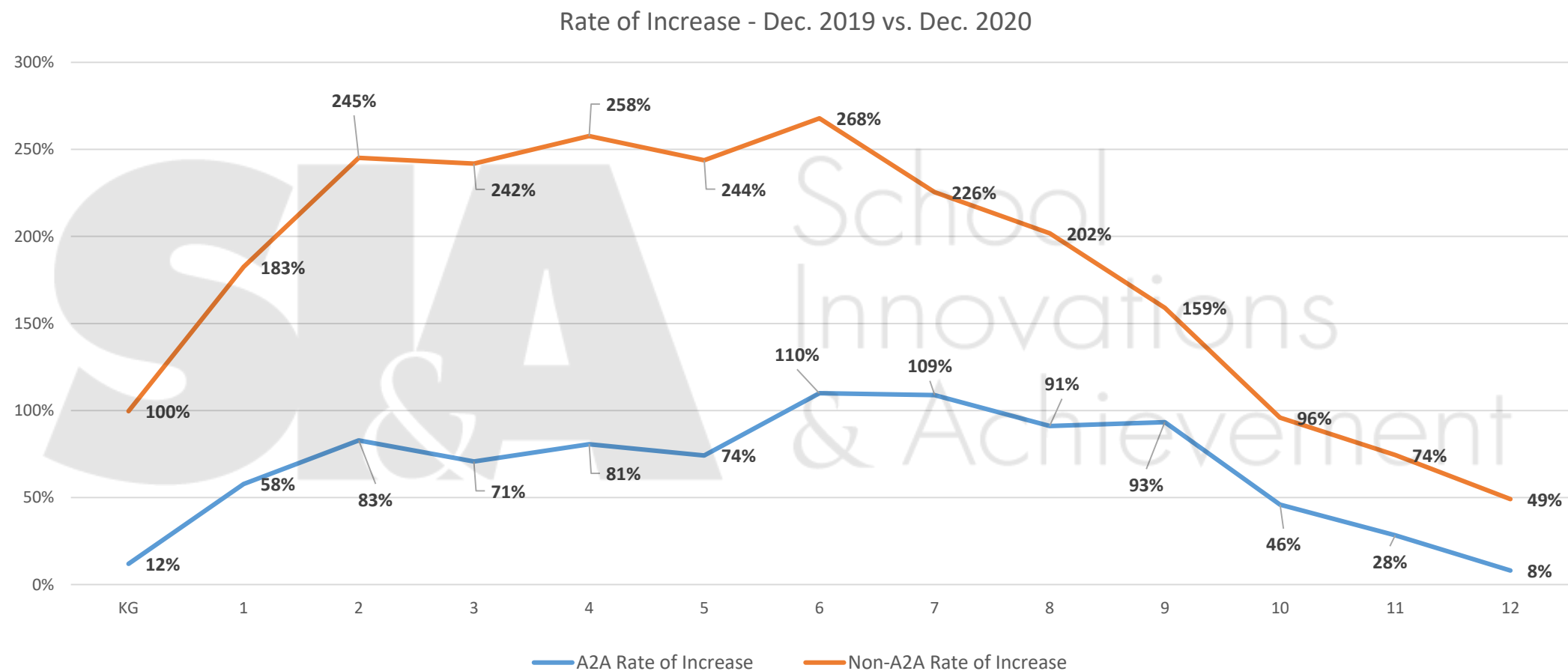
				Dec.2019 vs. Dec.2020	
Grade	Oct.2020 Chronic Absence Rate	Dec.2019 Chronic Absence Rate	Dec.2020 Chronic Absence Rate	A2A Rate of Increase	Est. Non-A2A Rate of Increase
KG	14.3%	13.8%	15.5%	12.0%	99.7%
1	15.0%	9.7%	15.3%	57.8%	182.5%
2	13.7%	7.5%	13.7%	82.8%	245.1%
3	12.5%	7.1%	12.1%	70.7%	241.8%
4	12.3%	6.9%	12.4%	80.7%	257.6%
5	12.6%	7.1%	12.4%	74.2%	243.7%
6	16.4%	7.7%	16.1%	109.9%	267.9%
7	20.9%	10.4%	21.7%	108.9%	225.5%
8	20.9%	11.0%	21.0%	91.1%	201.7%
9	22.2%	12.8%	24.7%	93.3%	159.0%
10	21.6%	16.8%	24.5%	45.9%	95.9%
11	20.3%	18.2%	23.4%	28.3%	74.4%
12	19.6%	20.5%	22.1%	8.1%	49.1%

A2A Chronic Absence Rate By Grade



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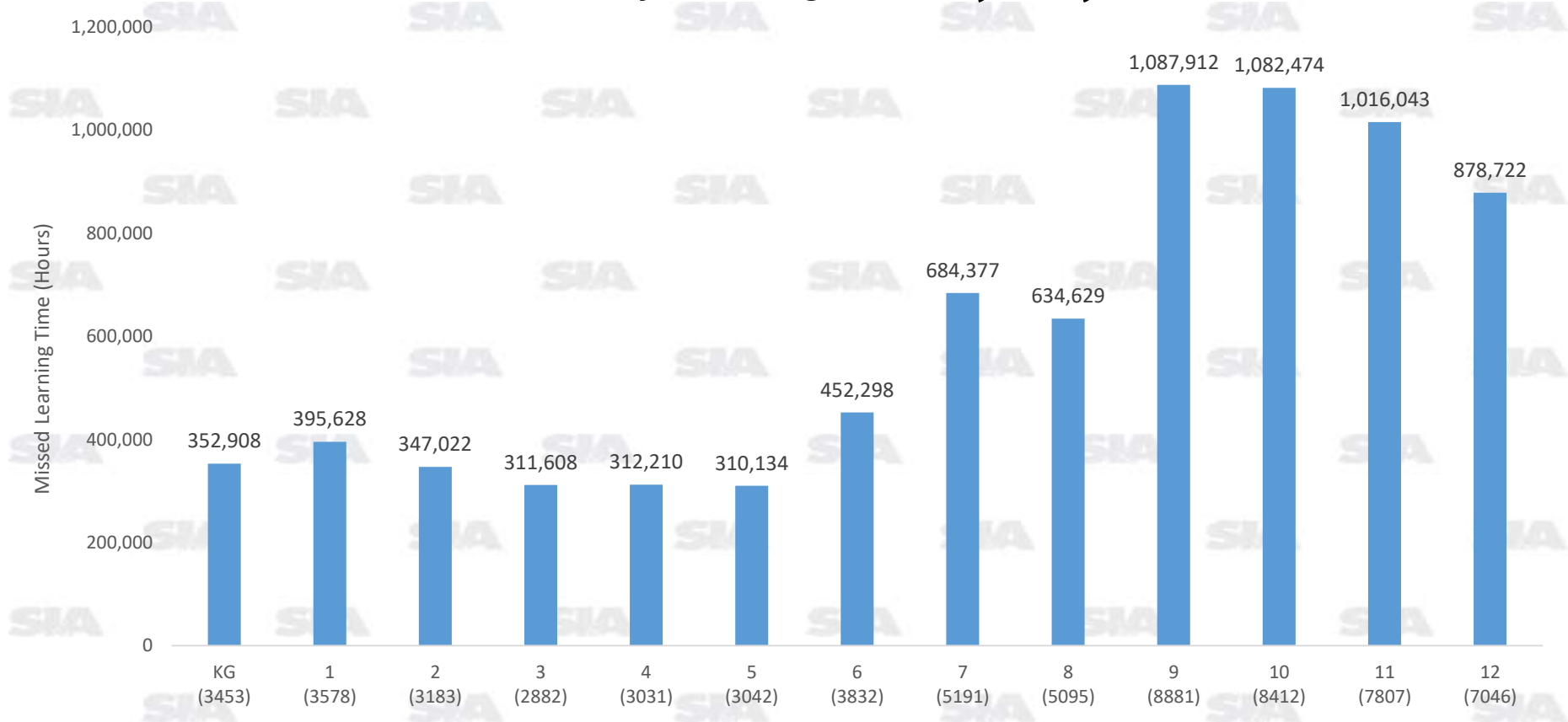
A2A Chronic Absence Rate of Increase By Grade



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Missed Learning Time by Grade as of Dec. 2020

Total Missed Hours of Learning Time: **7,917,245 Hours**



Learning time calculated by multiplying total days missed by 6 hours in a school day. Numbers below grades represent the number of chronic students in that grade

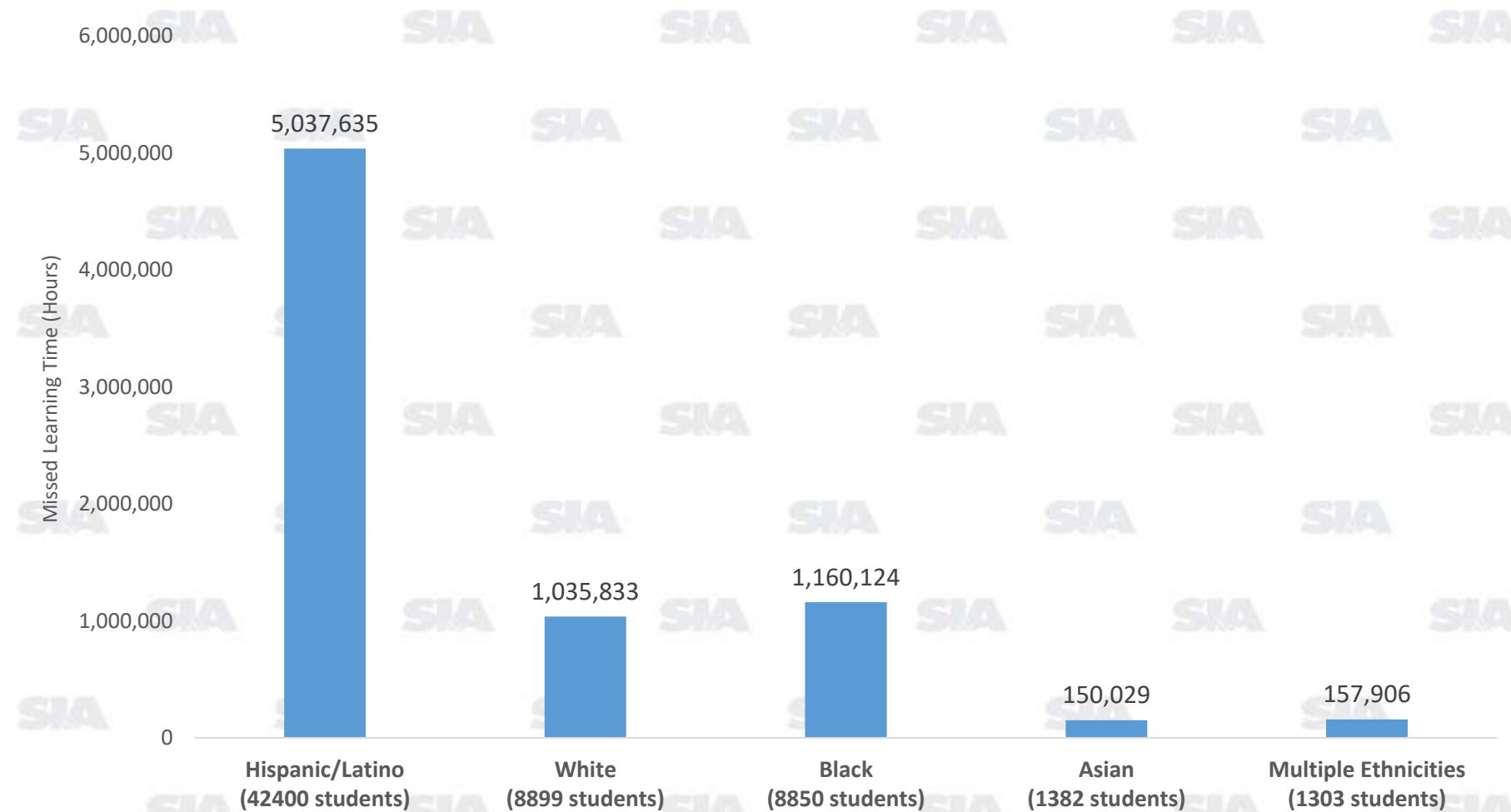
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Chronic Absence Comparison by Race/Ethnicity

The highest chronic absence rates are experienced by black and brown kids.

				Dec.2019 vs. Dec.2020	
Race/Ethnicity	Oct.2020 Chronic Absence Rate	Dec.2019 Chronic Absence Rate	Dec.2020 Chronic Absence Rate	A2A Rate of Increase	Est. Non-A2A Rate of Increase
Hispanic/Latino	19.5%	12.8%	21.1%	64.7%	130.1%
White	11.2%	10.2%	12.2%	19.9%	102.6%
Black	29.2%	18.4%	30.0%	62.6%	108.1%
Asian	6.9%	4.9%	6.3%	28.9%	201.9%
Multiple Ethnicities	16.0%	11.8%	17.0%	43.4%	114.4%
Filipino	6.1%	5.8%	5.3%	-8.5%	135.4%
Native American/Alaskan	24.3%	17%	25%	48.8%	99.1%
Pacific Islander	26%	20%	28%	44.2%	86.9%

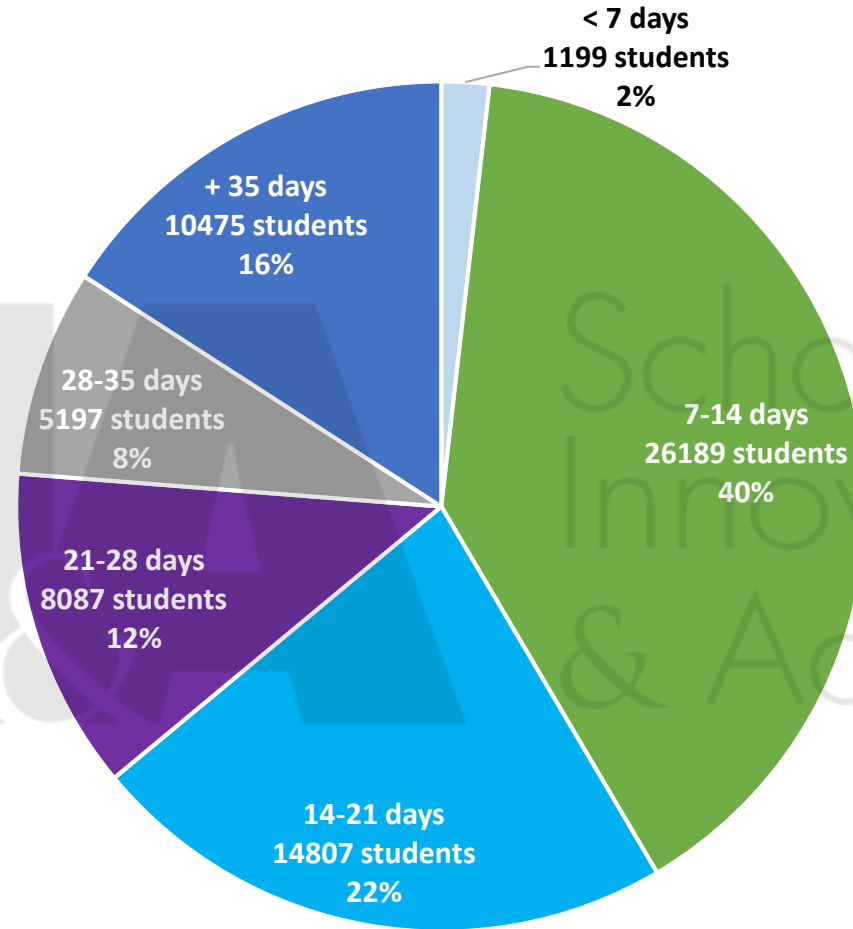
Missed Learning Time by Top 5 Ethnicities



Learning Time Calculated by Multiplying Total Days Missed by 6 hours in a school day

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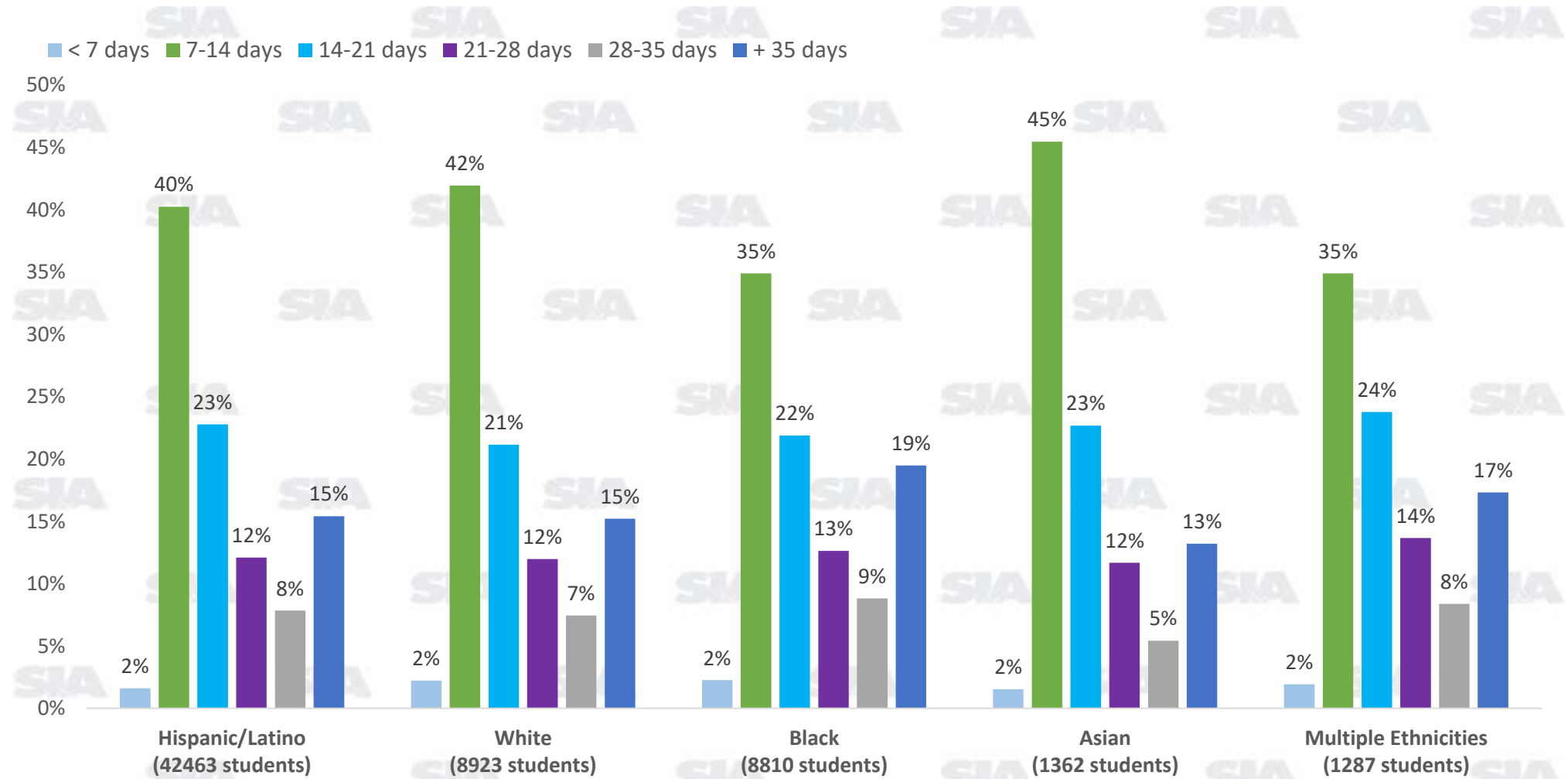
Number of Days Missed by Chronically Absent Students



**Includes only chronic student population. Approximate estimate of equivalent day for chronic buckets based on avg. 70 instruction days through December 2020.*

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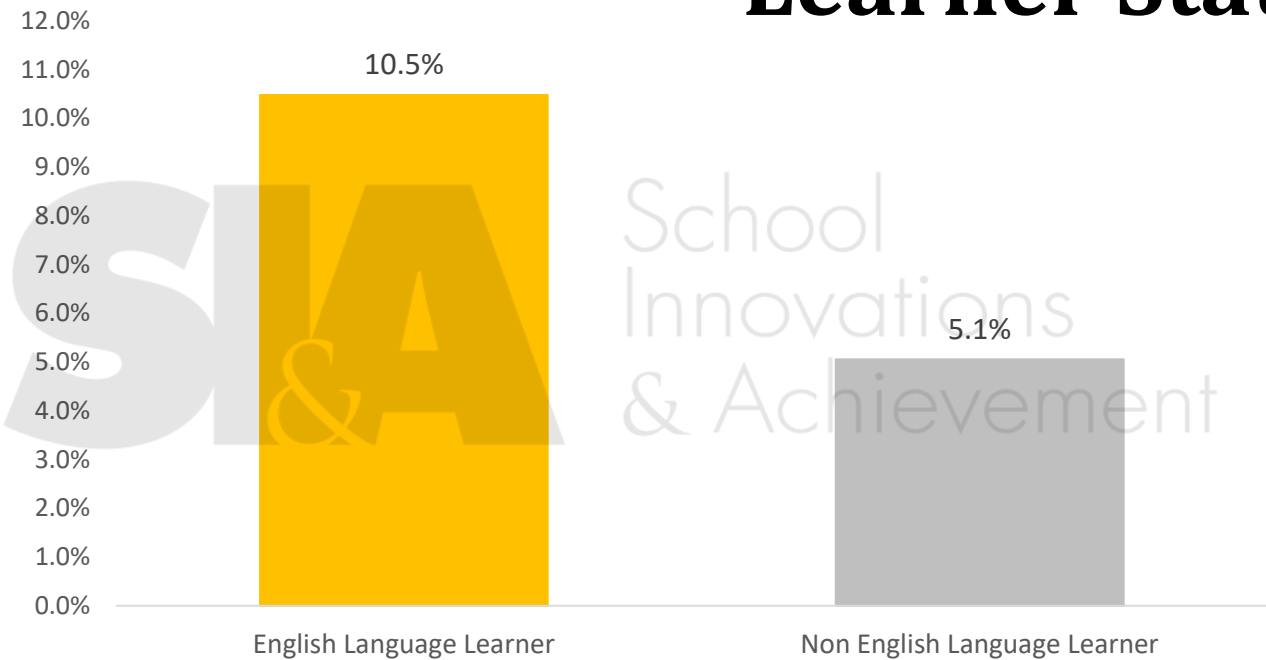
Number of Days Missed for Chronically Absent Students by Ethnicity



*Includes only chronic student population. Buckets represent the breakout of missed days for each subgroup.

** Showing the 5 largest ethnic/racial subgroups © School Innovations & Achievement. All rights reserved. Proprietary and confidential, do not copy or distribute.

Chronic Absence Comparison by English Language Learner Status

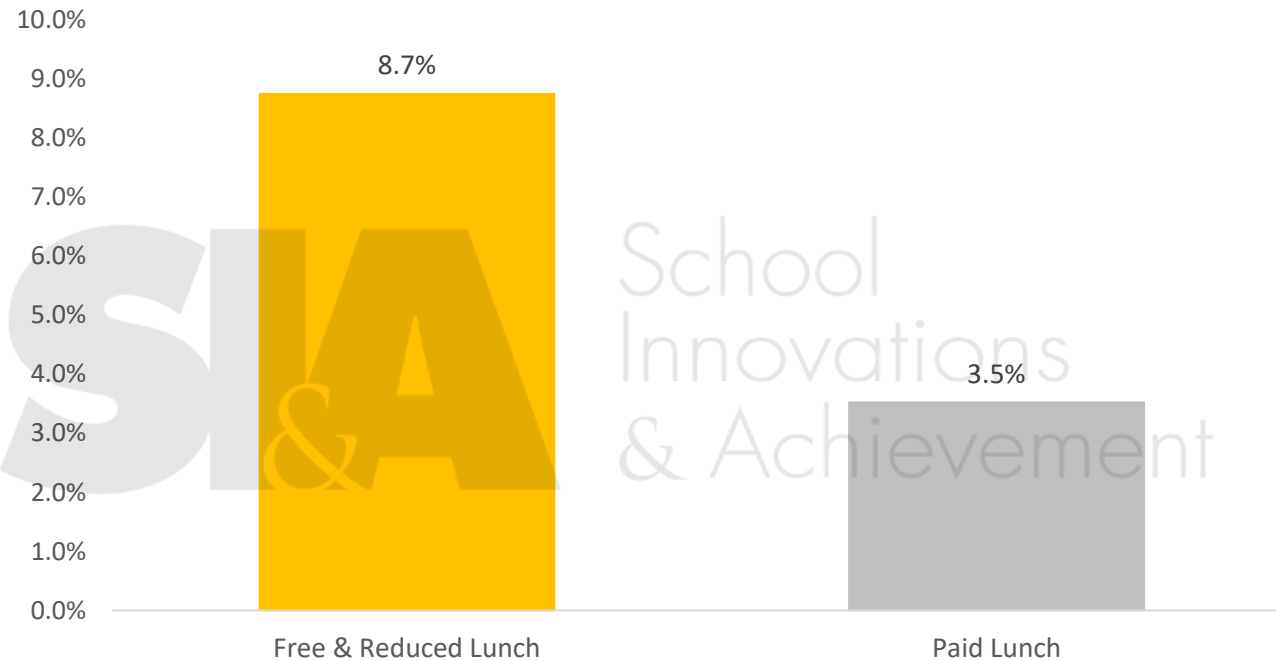


- The English Language Learner chronic absence **rate increase is more than twice** that of non-English Language Learners.

Subgroups	Oct.2020 Chronic Absence Rate	Dec.2019 Chronic Absence Rate	Dec.2020 Chronic Absence Rate	Difference Dec.2019 vs. Dec.2020	Dec.2019 vs. Dec.2020	
					A2A Rate of Increase	Est. Non-A2A Rate of Increase
Designated ELL	22.9%	13.1%	23.6%	10.5%	79.7%	144%
Non ELL	15.3%	11.9%	17.0%	5.1%	42.4%	113%

*No English Language Learners are present in the data set for the 2019-2020 school year.

Chronic Absence Comparison by F&R Lunch Status



- The Free & Reduced Lunch population have a chronic absence rate that is **more than double the rate** for students who pay for lunch.
- We also believe that these **counts are understated** due to COVID-19.

**Paid Lunch status includes any student who is not categorized as free or reduced lunch status*

Subgroup	Oct.2020 Chronic Absence Rate	Dec.2019 Chronic Absence Rate	Dec.2020 Chronic Absence Rate	Difference in Chronic Absence Dec.2019 vs. Dec.2020	Dec.2019 vs. Dec.2020	
					A2A Rate of Increase	Est. Non-A2A Rate of Increase
Free & Reduced Lunch	21.2%	14.9%	23.6%	8.7%	58.8%	115%
Paid Lunch	12.6%	8.2%	11.8%	3.5%	42.8%	145%

Focus on the Foundation: Tier-1 Intervention saveRATES

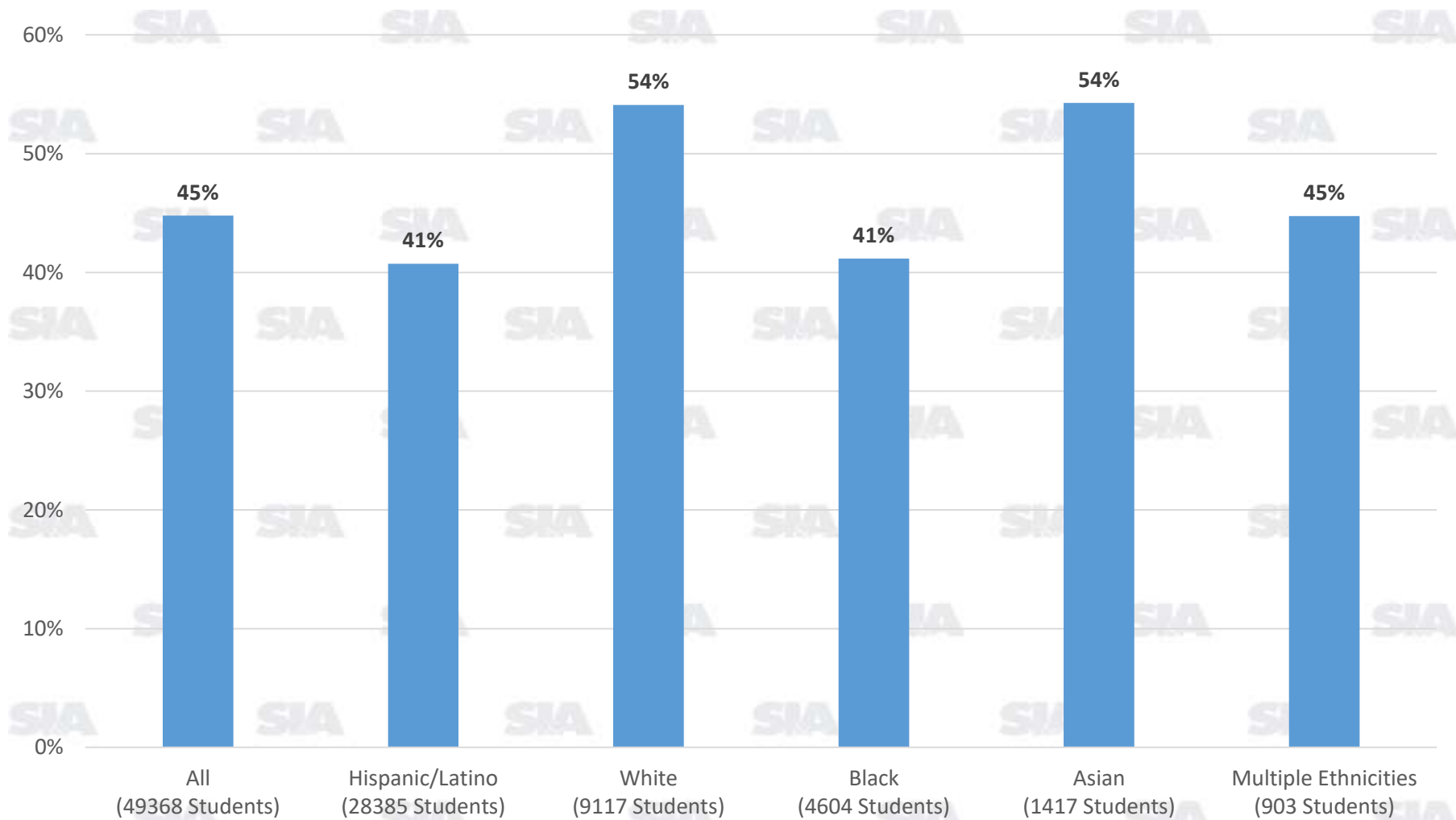
We applaud all efforts to connect with students and families. Implementing **efficient and effective** Tier-1 supports should be every district’s starting point. Many districts report that they are conducting more home visits than ever before. While Tier-3 interventions, like home visits, are important, we recommend districts focus on fundamental Tier-1 interventions to stem the volume given the high rates of absenteeism.

The overall A2A saveRATE for Tier-1 intervention is 45%.

Letter Type	At-Risk	Saved	saveRATE
Unexcused Absence Letter (UX)	101,058	42,658	42.2%
Excused Absence Letter (EX)	7,528	5,761	76.5%
Combined Absence Letter (UX&EX)	1,041	907	87.1%

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2020-21 saveRATE by Ethnicity



* Includes 5 largest ethnic/racial subgroups. Student count below subgroup label represents the number of 'Saved' students

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District Leadership: **It's not too late!**

60% of these chronic students do not have to end the year chronically absent

- 65,935 students are chronically absent so far
- 39,326* students have not missed 18 or more days of school yet. They do not have to end the year as chronically absent.



** Based on 18 days missed by the end of the year will land a student in the chronic absence category*

District Leadership: **Start with Data**



DATA

Invest in an attendance data management system (ADMS) which pulls in data from outside sources to provide critical comparative analysis to guide and inform district leaders.

A robust ADMS supports an MTSS model to deliver multiple interventions to track and measure the effectiveness of district and site outreach efforts including SART/SARB meetings and home visits.



Data

- Utilize data to evaluate core processes and inform action
- Attendance taking practices had to be modified – is the process working?
 - Do we have the right attendance information to make decisions?
 - Is it detailed enough?
 - Is it free from bias
 - Is it accurate
 - What insights is the data giving us?
 - What insights is it not giving us?
- It's important not to hide the issues otherwise you can't fix them
 - We have to embrace “the ugly”
- Any red flags?
 - Attendance process adjustments
 - Ineffective or limited effectiveness in outcomes

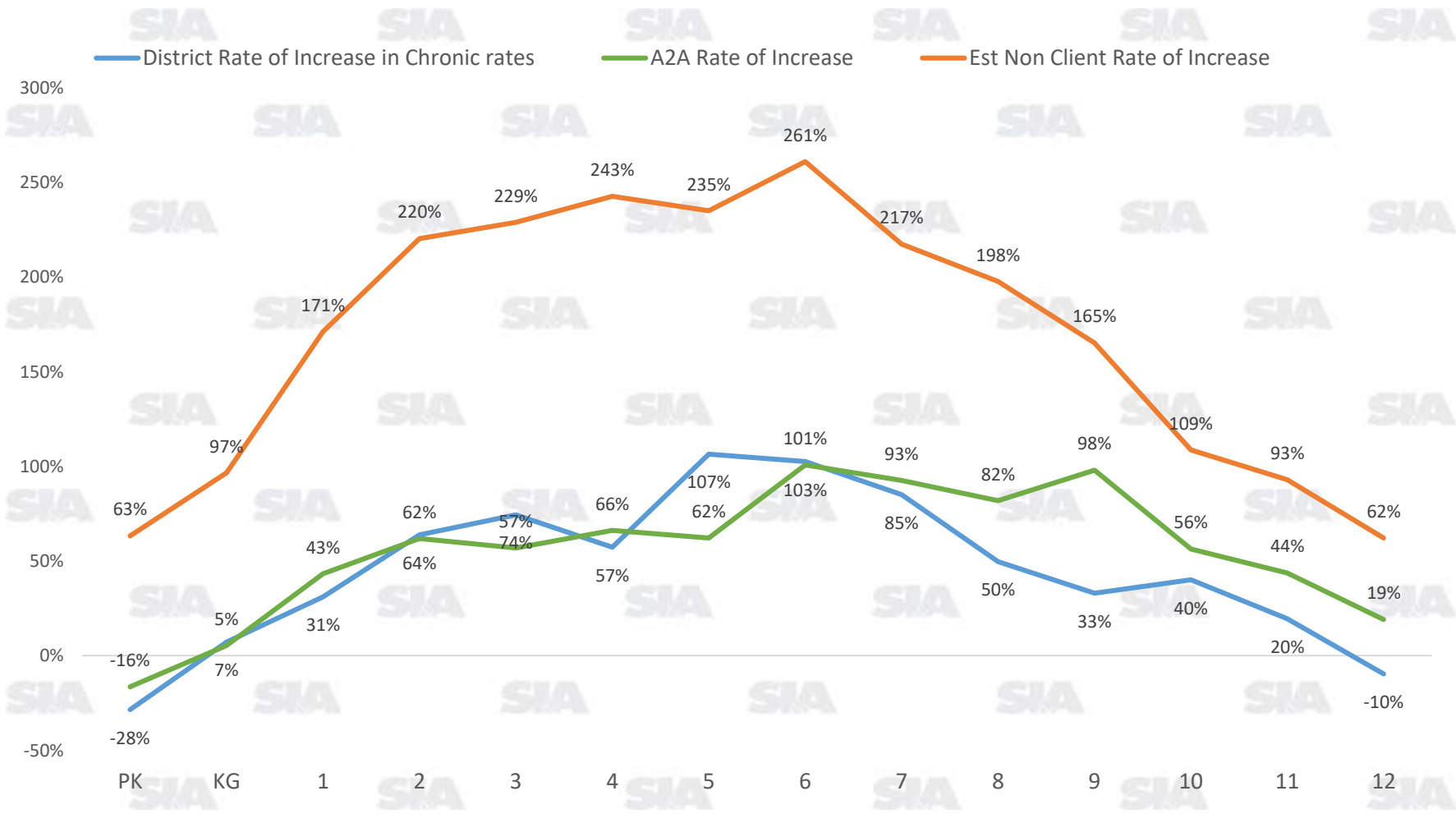
Every percentage represents a child

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ADMS: Chronic Absence Rate of Increase by Grade

Your District vs. A2A Average & Projected Non-Client Average



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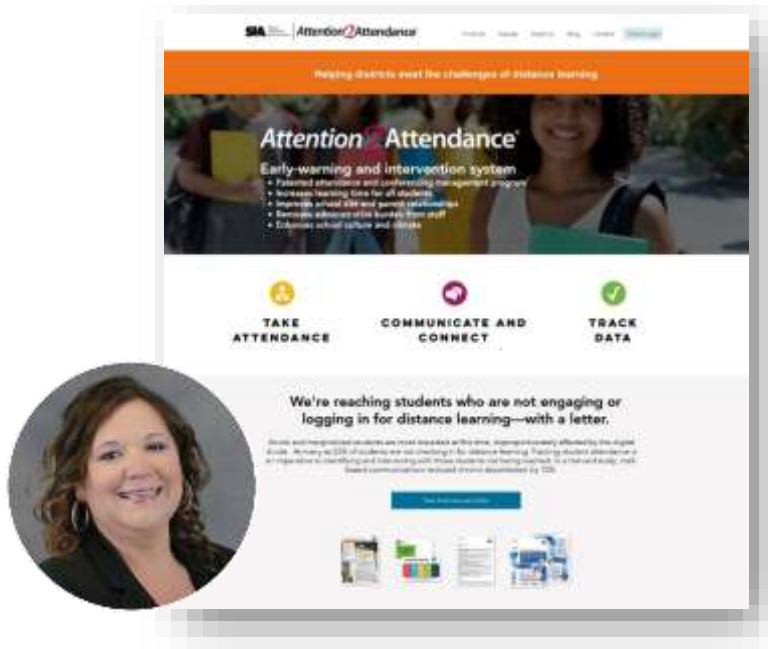
ADMS: Chronic Absence Rate Increase By Ethnicity

Your District vs. A2A Average & Projected Non-Client Average

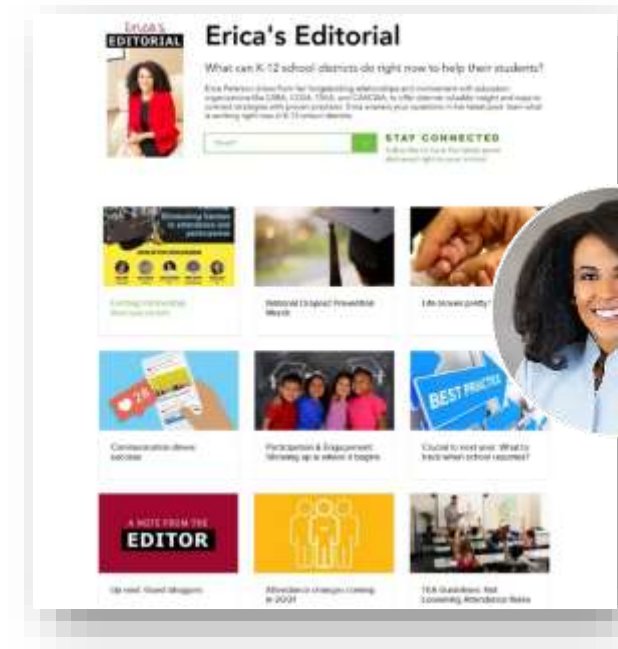


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Resources



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Stay tuned! **Next webinar coming at the end of February...** look for invitation in your emails.



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