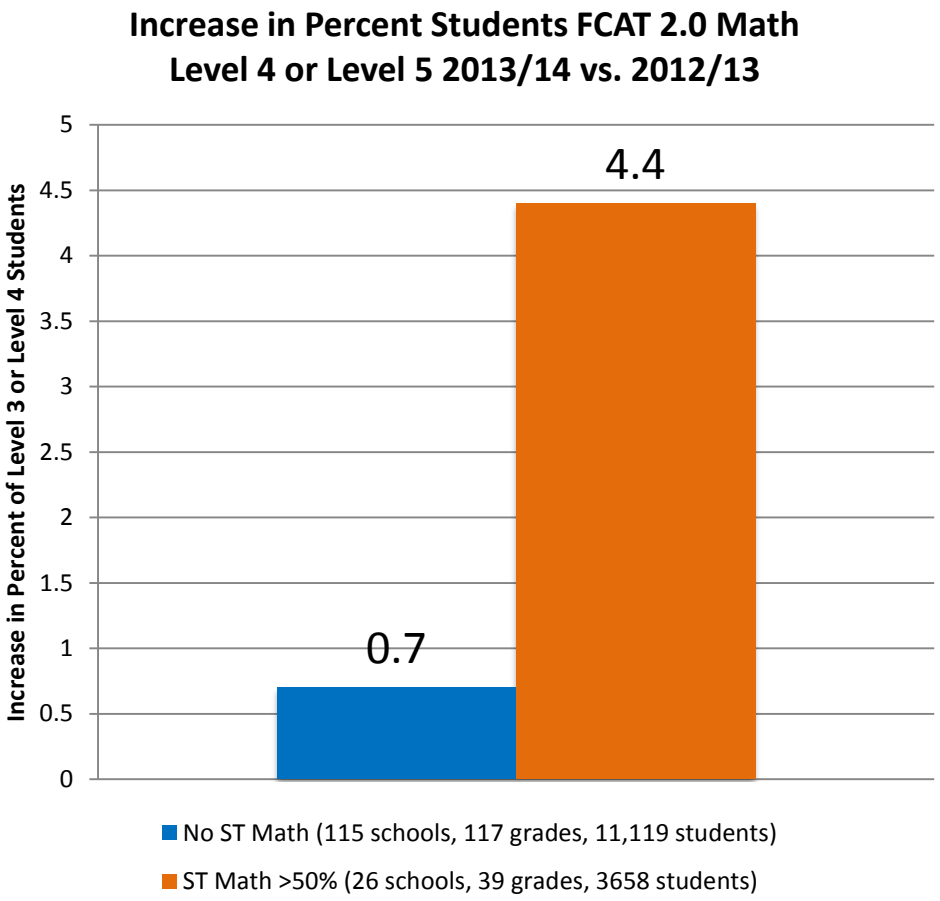
Florida 1 Year 2012/13 to 2013/14

MIND Research Institute

Subjects: MIND Research Institute analyzed schools in Florida for grade-average Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test 2.0 (FCAT 2.0) math proficiency growth between the 2012/13 and 2013/14 school years. All Florida grades 3, 4, or 5 using ST Math for the first time in 2013/14, with average 2013/14 ST Math program content coverage of at least 50% and ST Math grade-level enrollment of at least 85% were analyzed: altogether 39 grades with 3658 students at 26 schools. The comparison group is randomly matched from across Florida to be similar in 2012/13 math performance but to have never used the ST Math Program: 117 grades with 11,119 students at 115 schools.



Program: In each grade using the program, all students and teachers are licensed to participate. The ST Math® program is based on supplemental math instructional software which covers math standards at each grade level. The software presents the mathematics as a year-long curriculum of interactive, animated visual diagrams, or puzzles, for the students to solve. The students use the self-starting, self-paced instructional software twice per week under the teacher's supervision. The teacher is trained to also use the software's visual representations of mathematics concepts during regular classroom lessons, to connect to conventional language-intensive math instruction.

Data Collection: The grade-average FCAT 2.0 math proficiency level distributions, and student testing counts were downloaded from the Florida Department of Education website, for each school and grade level for the years 2012/13 through 2013/14. Each year the data indicate the percentage of students at each grade at each school who tested into the 5 different levels of FCAT 2.0 math proficiency (Level 4 and Level 5 being the highest). The average MIND Research Institute ST Math program content coverage percentage and student enrollment in the ST Math software were collected from MIND's digital usage data for 2013/14.

Analysis Summary: Changes from 2012/13 to 2013/14 in the percent of students at the top 2 achievement levels, Level 4 or Level 5, were evaluated for the ST Math group, and also for the Comparison group of schools. Grade-wise growth was evaluated (i.e. growth in same grade, same school, from 2012/13 to 2013/14) and then aggregated across schools and grades.

Results: The grades implementing ST Math on average grew 4.4 points in the percentage of students at Level 4 or Level 5, as compared to growth of 0.7 points for the Comparison group (p-value<.04).