



# Math Corps

Preparing students for success in high school, college, and 21st century careers



### Putting the “M” in STEM

Math Corps prepares students for high school algebra, which is a gateway to higher-level mathematics and the basis for many careers in the rapidly growing STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) sector. Gaps in math knowledge begin as early as elementary school, increase over time, and are a major obstacle for students from lower-income families.

### Closing the Achievement Gap

Less than 1% of low-income students are advanced math learners at graduation (Tyre, 2016). Students who receive Math Corps tutoring improve their math skills at nearly twice the rate of comparable students. Plus, Math Corps students build self-confidence, which directly translates into more interest in high-level coursework. This helps students who are underrepresented in STEM education to access this growing and important field.

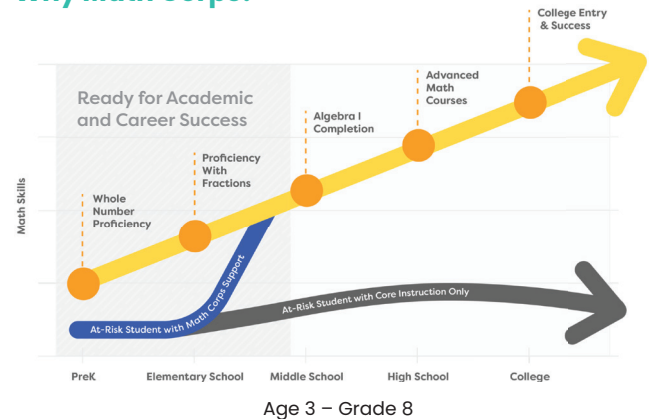
### Raising High School Graduation Rates

Math skills are highly predictive of high school graduation. Only 11% of students who fail 6th grade math go on to earn high school diplomas (Balfanz, 2007). Minnesotans without high school diplomas have an unemployment rate four times that of those with advanced degrees.

### Delivering a Strong Return on Investment

For an average of \$416 in state funding per student per year, Math Corps tutors help thousands of students become proficient in math. Math Corps leverages private and federal funds to make the most of this state investment. In 2022, \$2 was leveraged for every \$1 of state funding, \$2 was leveraged for every \$1 of state funding.

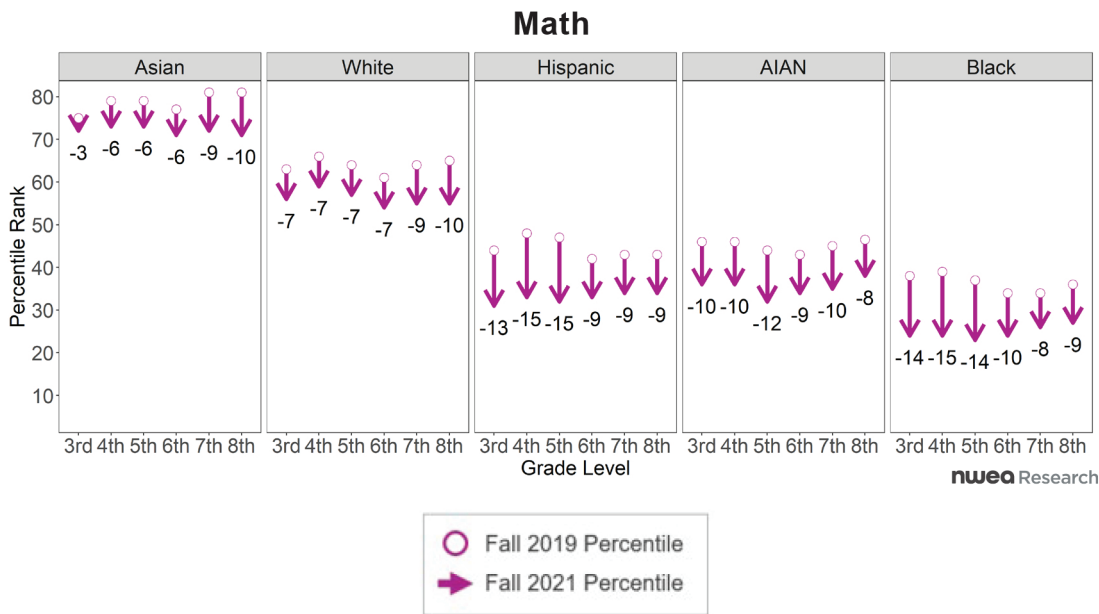
### Why Math Corps?



In 2021-22, 56% of Math Corps students exceeded expected growth. That means they accelerated learning beyond what is typical within a year.

**HF 694 (Acomb)/SF 392 (Gustafson) request** an increase in the Math Corps appropriation from the current allocation of \$500,000 to \$3.5 million annually to serve a total of 8,400 students in 300 schools. This will allow ServeMinnesota to expand the model from serving students in grades 4-8 to serving students in Kindergarten-grade 3 as well. Math Corps merges high-dosage tutoring grounded in evidence-based practices with frequent progress monitoring to ensure students receive a tailored and immediately impactful tutoring experience. This investment will also leverage an additional \$6 million in federal funds and \$1.7 million in federal AmeriCorps dollars that AmeriCorps members may use for college tuition or to alleviate student debt.

## Math Scores Before and During the Pandemic

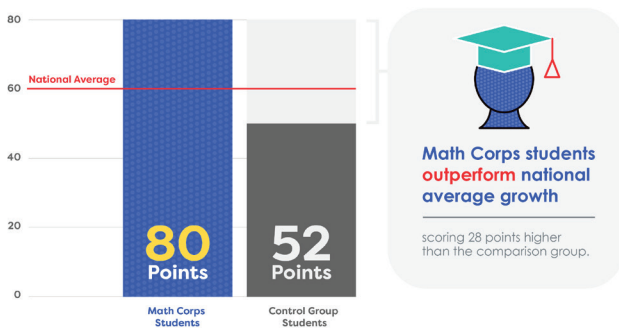


Note: The circles represent the median percentile rank for the pre-pandemic (fall 2019) cohort; the arrow tip represents the median percentile rank for the fall 2021 cohort; and the value outside the arrow indicates the change in median percentile rank between fall 2019 and fall 2021.

This figure shows dramatic declines in math performance from before (2019) and after the onset (2021) of the pandemic. The figure also shows pre-existing discrepancies in performance across groups that have been further exacerbated by the pandemic. For example, math scores for Hispanic, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Black students were already lower than their White and Asian counterparts (see circles depicting 2019 scores), and their relative drops in performance (arrows depicting 2021 scores) were more pronounced.

Lewis, K., & Kuhfeld, M. (2021). *Learning during COVID-19: An update on student achievement and growth at the start of the 2021-22 school year*. Portland, OR: NWEA Center for School and Student Progress.

## Math Corps Students Make Great Gains



“The Math Corps solution focuses on addressing that specific gap by providing evidence-based supplemental math support in a highly accessible way: making it free (by leveraging federal AmeriCorps funding) with tutoring integrated into the school day.”

- SSIR, 2022

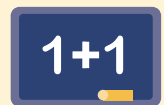
## What Math Corps Does

Evidence-Based intervention for PreK-Grade 8

Conceptual Understanding



Computational Proficiency



Word Problem Solving



The Power of AmeriCorps.  
The Power of You.



ServeMinnesota.org