

# Start Strong: Fall 2021 Administration

Sussex-Wantage Board of  
Education  
1/27/2022

Support in  
Identifying  
Student Needs

# Start Strong Assessment Overview

## **Start Strong Fall 2021 assessments:**

- Produced information to be used as a standards-based complement to the resources used by educators in their classrooms to evaluate the needs of students.
- Were administered quickly, in person, and provided immediate results.
- As determined by the U.S. Department of Education, the administration of Start Strong satisfied federal statewide assessment requirements to administer general assessments in English language arts, mathematics, and science only for the 2020-2021 school year. The spring NJSLA schedule will resume for the 2021-2022 school year.

## **Start Strong Fall 2021 assessments do not:**

- Replace local standards-based benchmark assessments districts may already have in place.
- Replace the spring 2022 New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA) statewide summative assessments or are predictive of their results.

# Start Strong Test Design

- Based on a **subset** of prioritized **prior-year** academic standards to provide a data point on the level of support a student may need to engage in grade-level content.
  - Example: Grade 5 ELA Start Strong assessment is aligned to a subset of the NJSLA for Grade 4 ELA.
- Used **released** high-quality items from the NJSLA item bank
- Contained efficient question types to produce on-demand results for educators
- Could be administered in 45–60 minutes

**Note:** The test design, which allowed for shortened testing time and immediate results, means that Start Strong results must be interpreted and used differently than NJSLA results. They do not cover the breadth and depth of standards as seen on the NJSLA and do not support the same comparisons or inferences about student proficiency.

# Start Strong Grade And Content Alignment

Content Area	Grade/Course in SY 2021 - 2022	Content of the Assessment
English Language Arts (ELA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grade 4</li><li>• Grade 5</li><li>• Grade 6</li><li>• Grade 7</li><li>• Grade 8</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grade 3</li><li>• Grade 4</li><li>• Grade 5</li><li>• Grade 6</li><li>• Grade 7</li></ul>
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grade 4</li><li>• Grade 5</li><li>• Grade 6</li><li>• Grade 7</li><li>• Grade 8</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grade 3</li><li>• Grade 4</li><li>• Grade 5</li><li>• Grade 6</li><li>• Grade 7</li></ul>
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grade 6</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grades 3–5</li></ul>

# Start Strong Result Interpretation Considerations

- Consider the impacts of COVID-19 on learning and testing conditions, as well as the impact on student participation in the assessments, which were administered in person.
- Districts **should not** compare any individual student/school/district Start Strong data to any state-level data for Start Strong, nor should comparisons be made to any NJSLA data.
- Please note that the Start Strong assessments were **not** designed to predict future student performance on the NJSLA, nor was it designed to estimate what score a student would have received if they had taken the NJSLA in spring 2021.
  - As always, assessment data should be analyzed alongside other important measures of student outcomes, like benchmark assessments, teacher-created formative assessments, and attendance data to provide a more complete perspective on resources, support, and student success.

## Sussex-Wantage Regional School District

### Number of Students Tested

### Start Strong Fall 2021 Administrations

English Language Arts	Students Tested	Mathematics	Students Tested	Science	Students Tested
ELA04	115	MAT04	115		
ELA05	100	MAT05	100		
ELA06	102	MAT06	102	SC06	101
ELA07	104	MAT07	104		
ELA08	105	MAT08	105		
<b>Total</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>

Note: "Students Tested" represents individual valid test scores for English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science

# Sussex-Wantage Regional School District

## Start Strong Fall 2021 Administrations

### English Language Arts – Support Levels

Grade	More Support Needed (Count)	More Support Needed (Percentage)	Some Support Needed (Count)	Some Support Needed (Percentage)	Less Support Needed (Count)	Less Support Needed (Percentage)
4	38	33	26	23	51	44
5	29	29	28	28	43	43
6	39	38	28	27	35	34
7	33	32	19	18	52	50
8	18	17	26	25	61	58

# Sussex-Wantage Regional School District

## Start Strong Fall 2021 Administrations

### Mathematics – Support Levels

Grade	More Support Needed (Count)	More Support Needed (Percentage)	Some Support Needed (Count)	Some Support Needed (Percentage)	Less Support Needed (Count)	Less Support Needed (Percentage)
4	40	35	35	30	40	35
5	51	51	32	32	17	17
6	55	54	32	31	15	15
7	49	47	39	38	16	15
8	37	35	54	51	14	13



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## Start Strong Fall 2021 Administrations

### Science – Support Levels

Grade	More Support Needed (Count)	More Support Needed (Percentage)	Some Support Needed (Count)	Some Support Needed (Percentage)	Less Support Needed (Count)	Less Support Needed (Percentage)
6	41	<b>41</b>	47	<b>47</b>	13	<b>13</b>

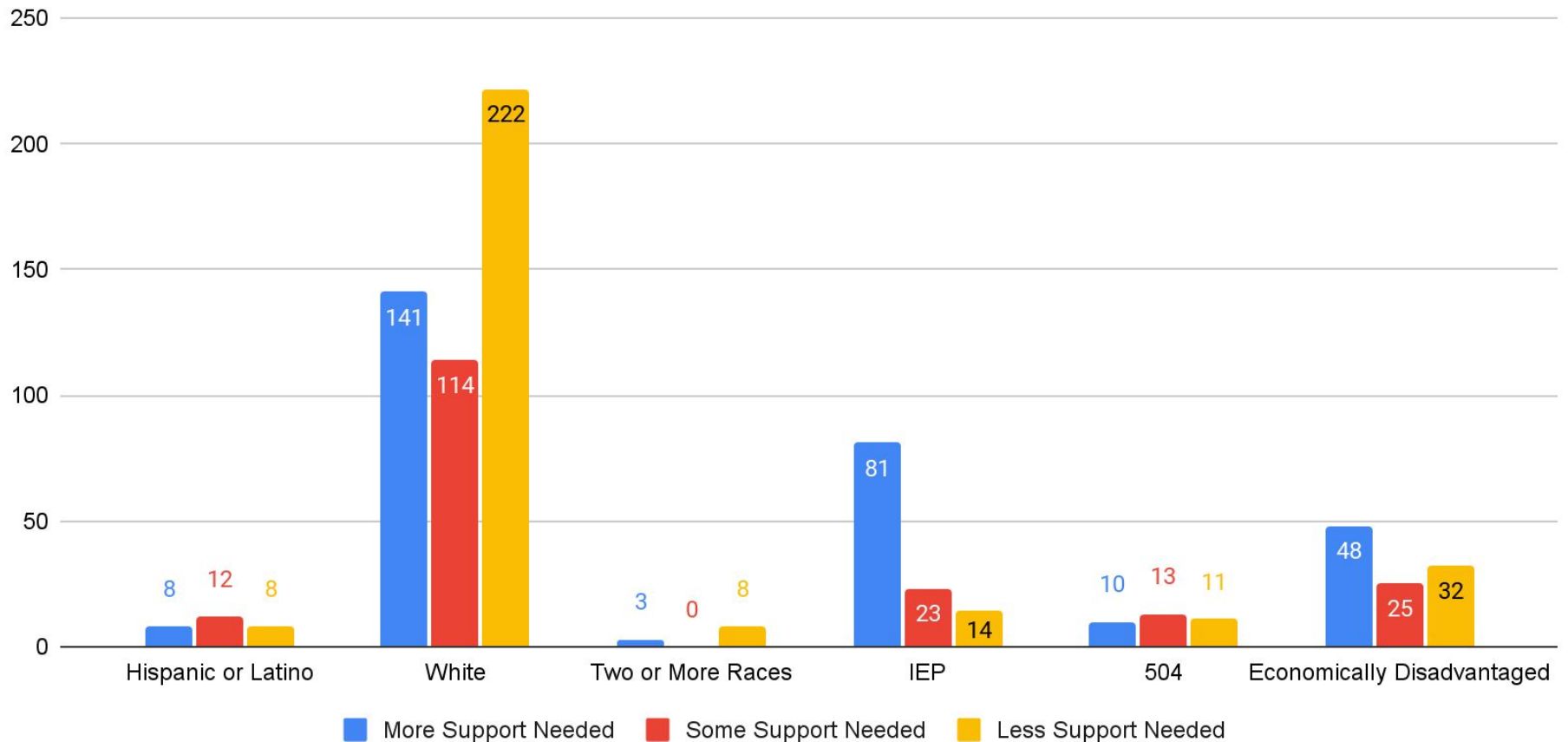
# Sussex-Wantage Regional School District

## Start Strong Fall 2021 Administrations

### English Language Arts – Subgroup Data

(The number of students for reporting is a minimum of 10 as per suppression rules applied to student data to protect student confidentiality)

### Support Levels by Subgroup



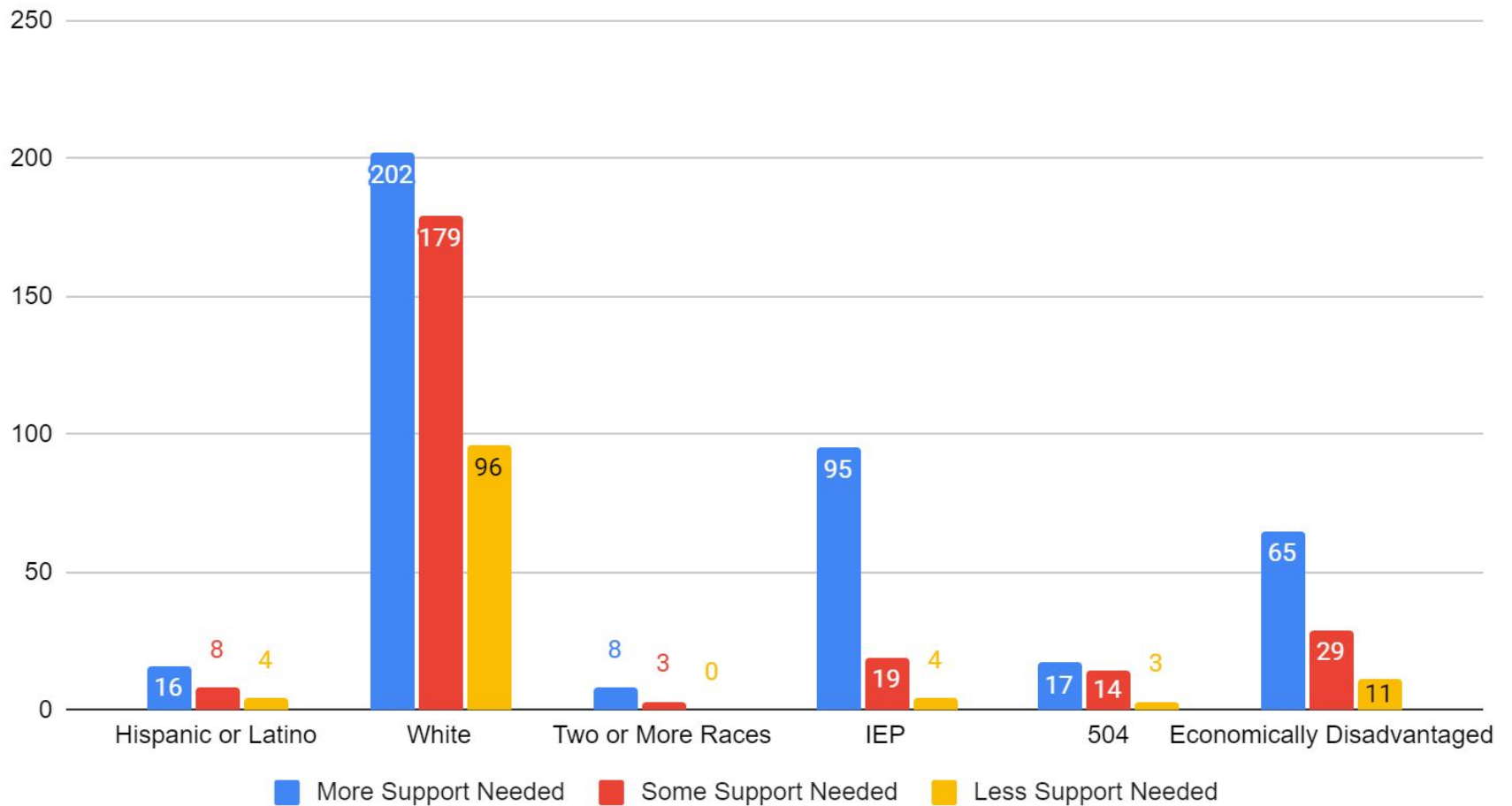
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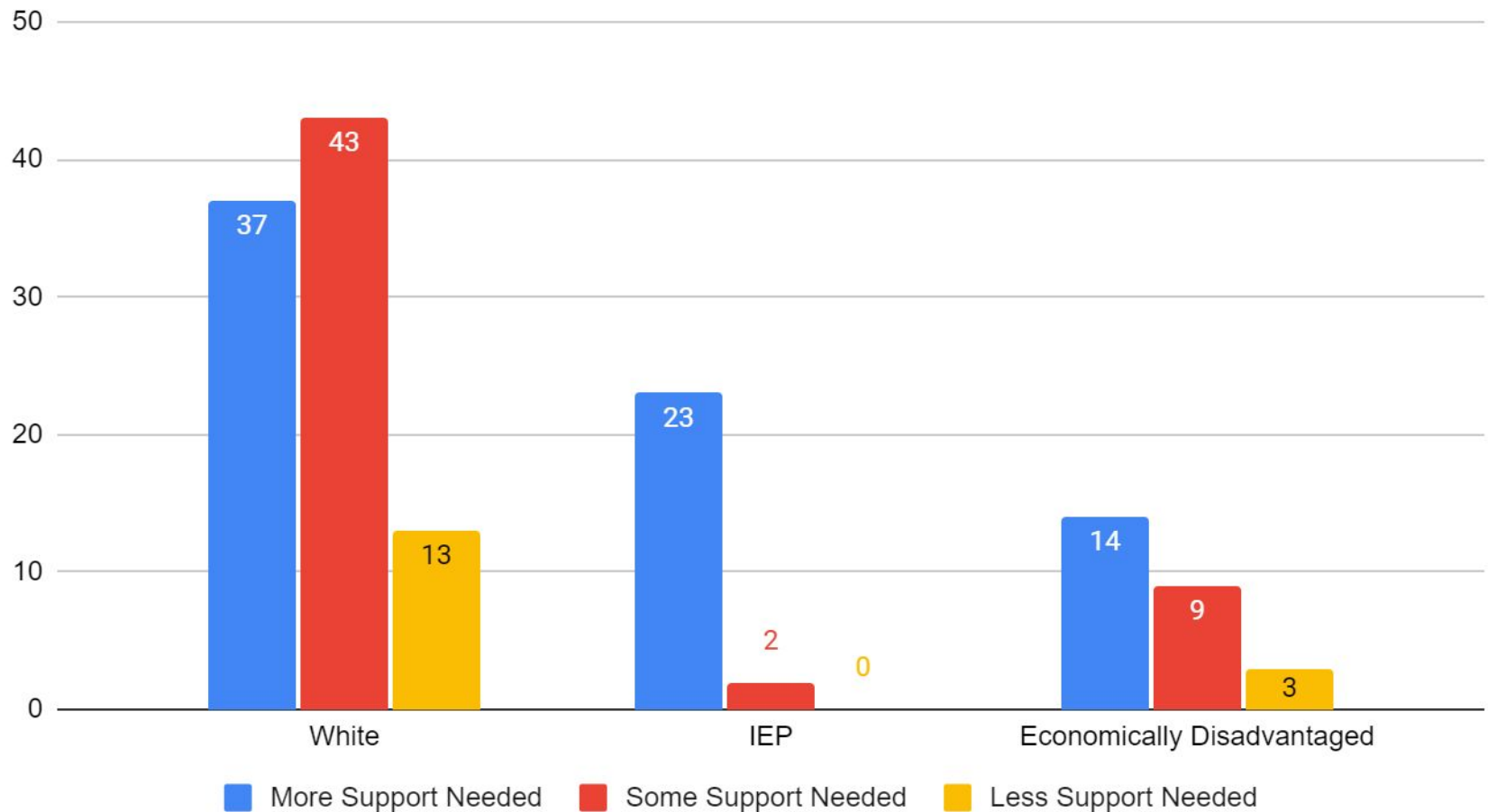
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## Start Strong Fall 2021 Administrations

### Science – Subgroup Data

(The number of students for reporting is a minimum of 10 as per suppression rules applied to student data to protect student confidentiality)

#### Support Levels by Subgroup



# Sussex-Wantage Regional School District

## Notable Achievements

### ■ The following **English Language Arts** grade levels:

- **Grade 4:** 67% Some or Less Support Needed
- **Grade 5:** 71% Some or Less Support Needed
- **Grade 6:** 61% Some or Less Support Needed
- **Grade 7:** 68% Some or Less Support Needed
- **Grade 8:** 83% Some or Less Support Needed

### ■ The following **Mathematics** grade levels:

- **Grade 4:** 65% Some or Less Support Needed
- **Grade 7:** 53% Some or Less Support Needed
- **Grade 8:** 64% Some or Less Support Needed

### ■ The following **Science** grade levels:

- **Grade 6:** 60% Some or Less Support Needed



# Sussex-Wantage Regional School District Intervention Strategies

- Offer additional before and after-school sessions to support learning acceleration
- Review and enhance Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 Interventions District-Wide
- Provide additional Professional Development days to support instruction
- Explore Math and Science-based Professional Learning Opportunities
- Provide Professional Learning Community time to review NJSS results and data as well as other student data

# Sussex-Wantage Regional School District

## Benefits of Start Strong Assessments

Start Strong assessments provide a data point to support:

- District-level curriculum planning and revisiting prerequisite concepts and skills
- Evaluating scope and sequence based on distribution of student support needs
- Providing professional learning supports for differentiation and scaffolding based on student results, aligned to principles and practices outlined in the [NJDOE Learning Acceleration Guide](#)
- Using the Individual Student Reports (ISRs) for conversations between parents and educators on where their child might need support at the beginning of the school year
- Additional information: <https://nj.mypearsonsupport.com/startStrong/>

# Sussex-Wantage Regional School District

## Contact Information

# Thank you!

For further questions or concerns, please contact:

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