

About the School:		About the Students:	
Grades:	K-8	African American:	3%
Number of Students:	400	Caucasian:	76%
Test(s):	ITBS/CSAP	Hispanic:	13%
Reduced Price Lunch:	19%	Asian:	4%
		Other:	4%

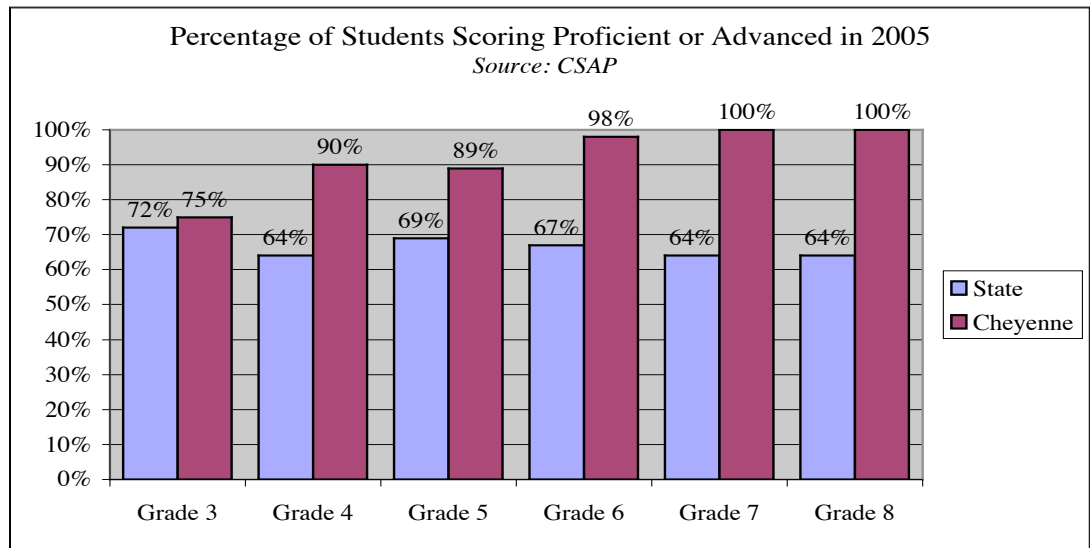


## High Percentage of Charter School's Students Testing above National Average

Success abounds at the Cheyenne Mountain Charter Academy, thanks to *Reading Mastery*. An estimated 97% of students in Grades K-8 tested at or above the national average on the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS) in reading in 2005.

Before the academy opened in 1995, its board of directors searched for a reading curriculum that had evidence of effectiveness. Principal Sandi Elsberry said because board members are big believers in research-based programs, *Reading Mastery* was a natural choice. *Reading Mastery* has been a driving force for us from the very beginning, and it is one of the reasons our students excel," she said. The program is used in Grades K-6.

The academy's Kindergarteners are introduced to *Reading Mastery* when school begins in August. Teacher Trainer Cindee Will said teachers work hard to accelerate all students. "It's not unusual for Kindergarteners to end the year in *Reading Mastery II*.

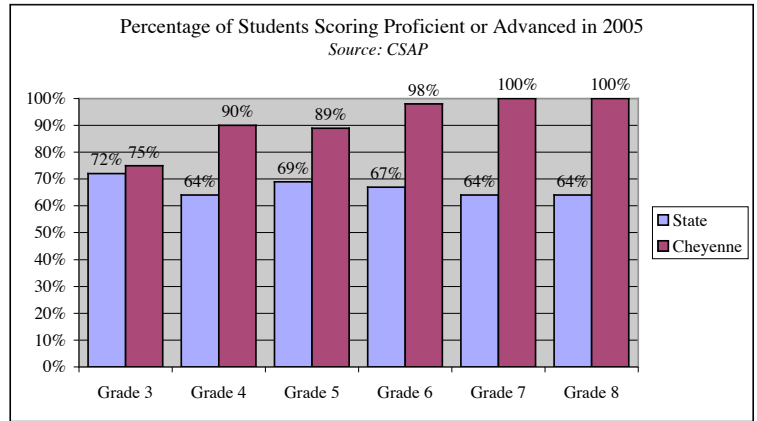


### Using Reading Mastery to Predict Success on ITBS

After 10 years with *Reading Mastery*, academy teachers are better able to predict student success on the ITBS by examining student progress with the program. "The data is our compass for the school," Will said. "When we have third-grade students in *Reading Mastery IV*, we know they'll do very well on the ITBS. Those third-grade students who move into *Reading Mastery V* score off the charts on the ITBS."



Continued exposure to *Reading Mastery* has also helped students score well on the Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP). In 2005, every Grade 8 student scored Proficient or Advanced for the fifth year in a row. “Our eighth graders are among the highest scorers in the state,” Elsberry said.



The state of Colorado also has recognized the academy from 2000-2005 for being one of the leading junior high schools (Grades 7-8).

“We’d love to take all the credit for our students’ success, but we know it’s because of Direct Instruction’s airtight curriculum,” Elsberry concluded.

**About Cheyenne Mountain Charter Academy**

The academy serves more than 400 Colorado Springs students in Grades K-8: 76% Caucasian, 13% Hispanic, 4% Asian, 3% African American, 1% Native American, 1% Pacific Islander, and 2% multicultural. Nineteen percent of the students qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.

**For More Information**

If you would like to learn more about success with Direct Instruction programs in your school or district, please contact us today at **1-888-SRA-4543**.