

Performance of Students with Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD) on a State Accountability Test: Classification and Performance Changes

Gerald Tindal, PhD and Daniel Anderson, PhD

National Center on Assessment and Accountability for Special Education

Behavioral Research and Teaching – College of Education – UO

Never • Sometimes • Always SLD and Test Performance

Cohort	SLD	Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
		M	<i>SD</i>	M	<i>SD</i>	M	<i>SD</i>
8	Always	215.73	10.83	224.36	10.61	226.99	11.25
8	Sometimes	216.99	10.31	225.38	9.91	228.11	10.68
8	Never	227.56	10.67	234.87	10.26	237.77	10.93
9	Always	216.35	11.19	224.71	9.71	228.34	10.75
9	Sometimes	218.04	10.4	225.89	9.45	229.38	10.21
9	Never	228.52	10.81	234.82	9.5	239.06	10.29
10	Always	217.31	9.91	226.7	9.01	227.87	10.8
10	Sometimes	218.8	10.69	228.22	9.56	229.74	10.98
10	Never	228.38	10.04	235.99	8.98	239.06	10.42

Never • Sometimes • Always SLD and Test Proficiency

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Always	Sometimes	Never	Total
Non-SLD	Non-SLD	SLD	42 (1%)	125 (2%)	156 (3%)	323 (6%)
Non-SLD	SLD	Non-SLD	9 (0%)	14 (0%)	15 (0%)	38 (1%)
Non-SLD	SLD	SLD	58 (1%)	170 (3%)	191 (3%)	419 (7%)
SLD	Non-SLD	Non-SLD	143 (3%)	133 (2%)	74 (1%)	350 (6%)
SLD	Non-SLD	SLD	10 (0%)	20 (0%)	36 (1%)	66 (1%)
SLD	SLD	Non-SLD	212 (4%)	151 (3%)	95 (2%)	458 (8%)

Student Characteristic for Changing SLD Status

Characteristic	Cohort	Always	Sometimes	Never
SLD	08	1,343 (0.05)	573 (0.02)	23,570 (0.92)
	09	1,306 (0.05)	563 (0.02)	23,299 (0.93)
	10	1,310 (0.05)	518 (0.02)	22,836 (0.93)
FRPL	08	9,669 (0.38)	3,643 (0.14)	12,174 (0.48)
	09	10,276 (0.41)	3,207 (0.13)	11,685 (0.46)
	10	10,718 (0.43)	2,842 (0.12)	11,104 (0.45)
ELL	08	1,650 (0.06)	952 (0.04)	22,884 (0.90)

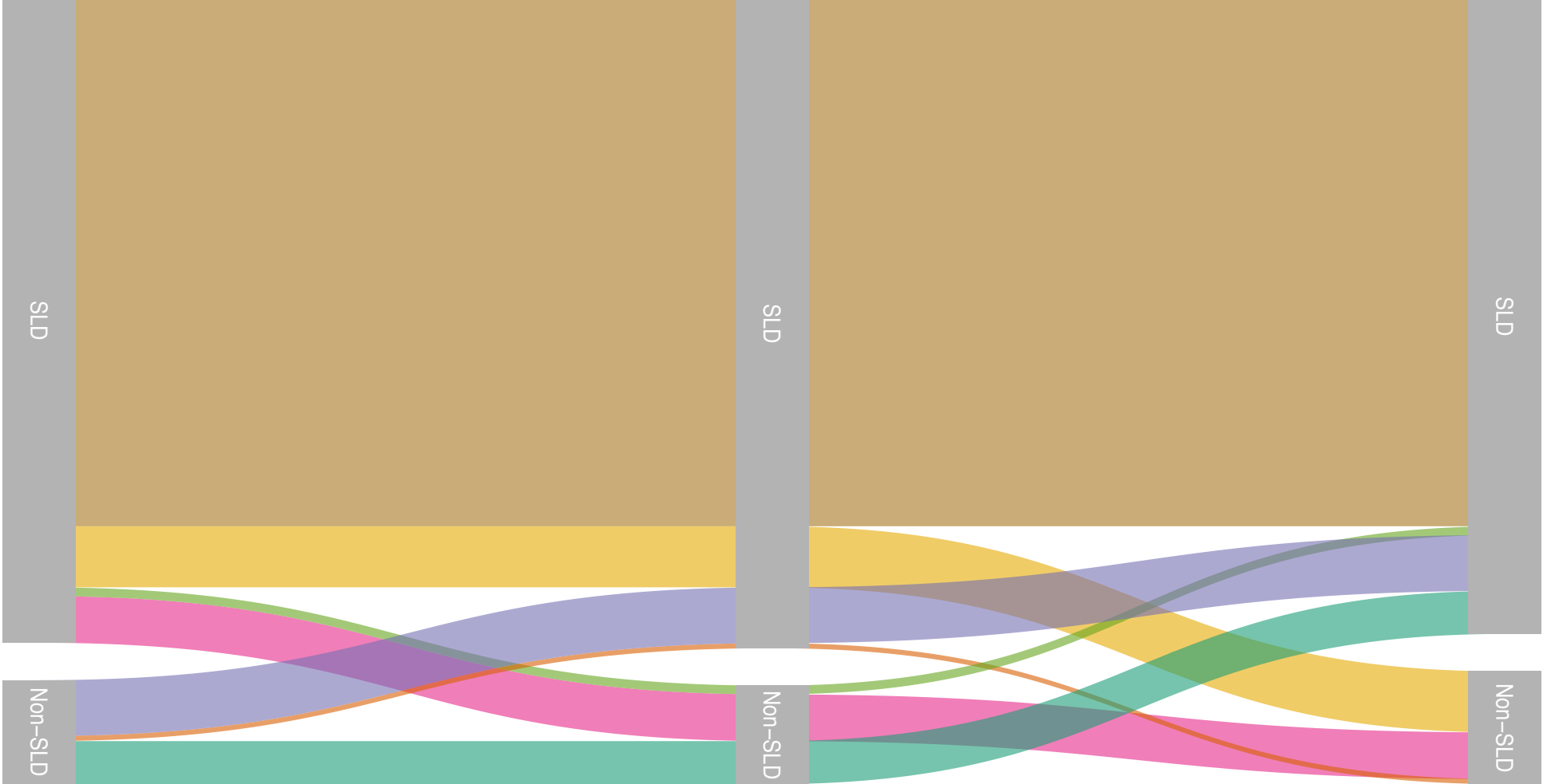
Differences in Intercept for Changing SLD Status

Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	95% LCI	95% U CI
Initial Achievement	231.16	0.07	231.02	231.31
Cohort 09	0.81	0.08	0.66	0.97
Cohort 10	1.01	0.08	0.86	1.17
American Indian	-2.32	0.25	-2.82	-1.82
Asian	4.73	0.15	4.43	5.03
Black	-3.71	0.20	-4.11	-3.31
Hispanic	-1.19	0.10	-1.39	-1.00
Multiethnic	0.20	0.19	-0.16	0.56
Decline	-1.31	0.41	-2.12	-0.50
Male	-1.22	0.07	-1.35	-1.09
FRL	-4.94	0.07	-5.08	-4.80
LEP	-7.13	0.14	-7.40	-6.85
SLD-Sometimes	-8.36	0.23	-8.80	-7.92
SLD-Always	-9.40	0.15	-9.69	-9.11

Differences in Slope for Changing SLD Status

Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	95% LCI	95% UCI
Growth	9.08	0.05	8.99	9.17
Cohort 09	0.12	0.05	0.02	0.22
Cohort 10	0.39	0.05	0.29	0.49
American Indian	-0.31	0.16	-0.63	0.01
Asian	1.07	0.10	0.88	1.26
Black	-0.24	0.13	-0.50	0.01
Hispanic	0.29	0.06	0.16	0.41
Multiethnic	0.13	0.12	-0.10	0.36
Decline	0.34	0.26	-0.17	0.85
Male	0.30	0.04	0.22	0.38
FRL	0.02	0.05	-0.07	0.11
LEP	1.39	0.09	1.21	1.56
SLD-Sometimes	0.70	0.14	0.42	0.98
SLD-Always	0.80	0.09	0.62	0.99

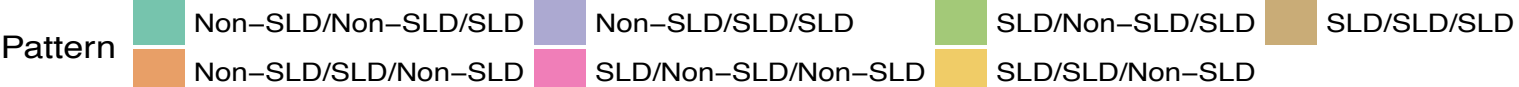
Shifting Proportions of Students with Specific Learning Disabilities Over Grades



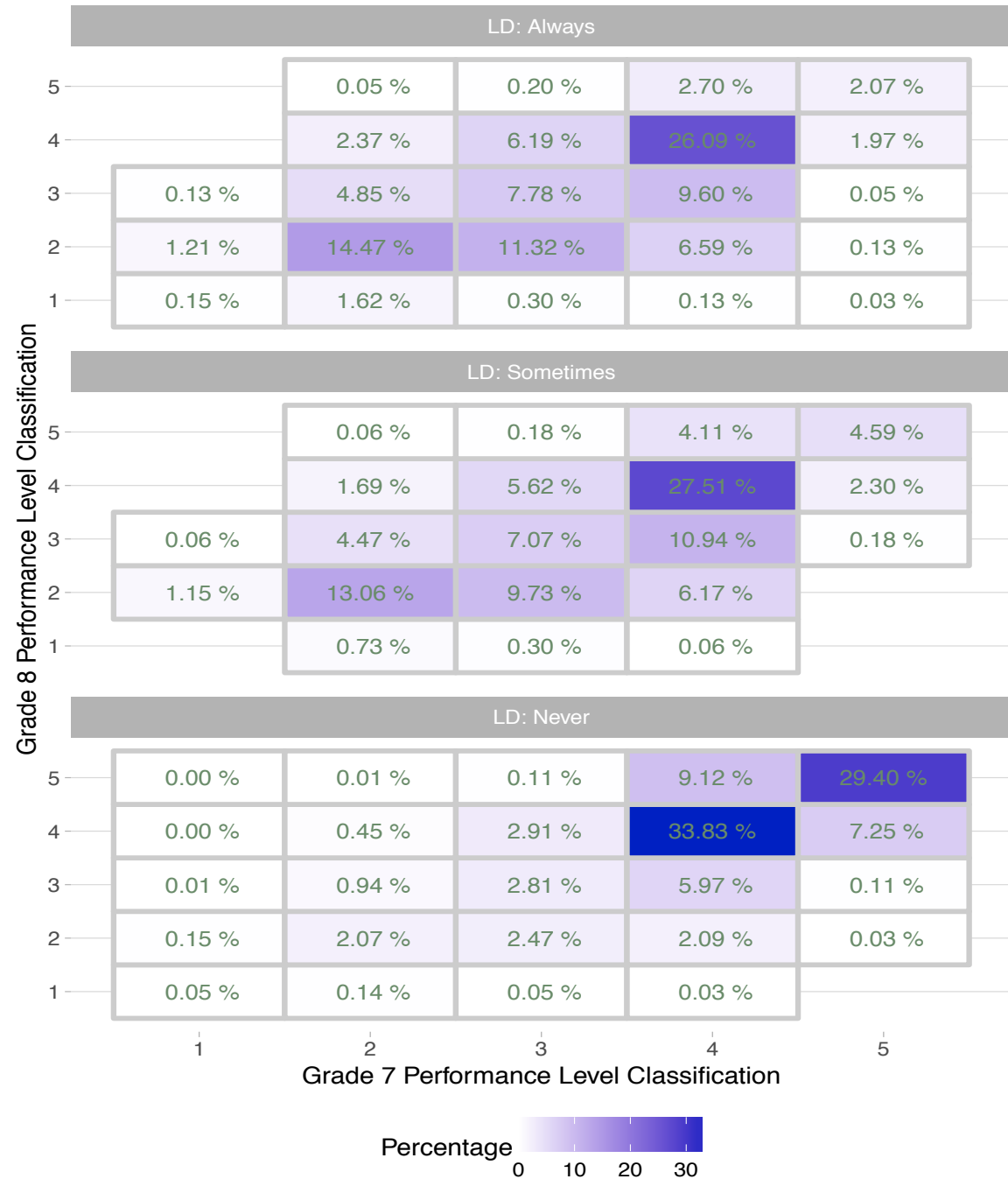
Grade 6

Grade 7

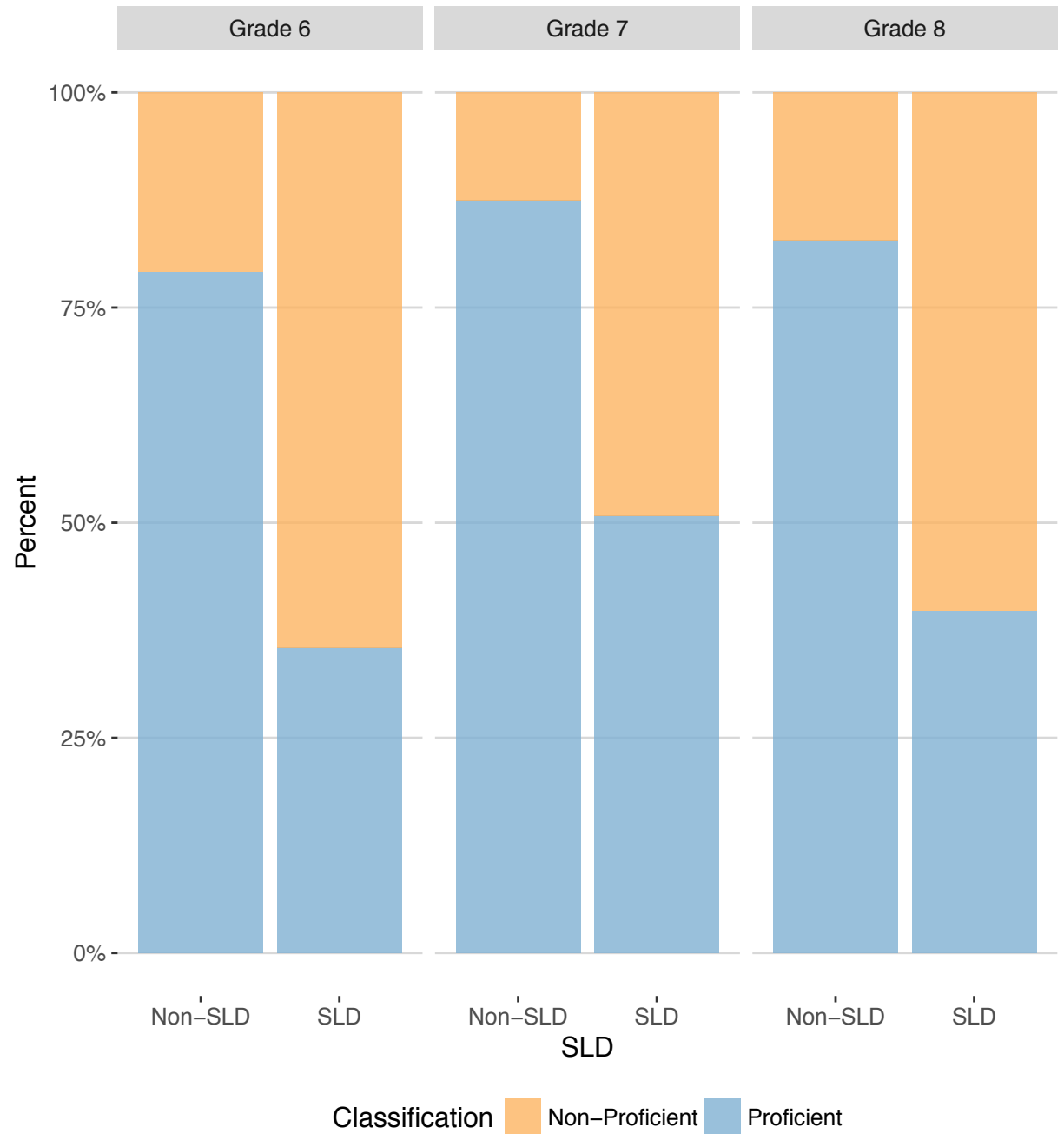
Grade 8



Proficiency Change in Performance Level Classifications from Grade 7 to 8



Differences in Proficiency by SLD Status Change Across Grades



Model-based Growth Trajectories Compared with Raw Means by Cohort

