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**DATA TALKING POINTS A+ SCHOOLS EVALUATION, PHASE 1 ANALYSIS OF MULTI-YEAR ACHIEVEMENT DATA**

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Examination of student achievement for schools who began A+ participation in 2014-16 showed the following:

* Findings show a positive cumulative effect with prolonged engagement.
* A cumulative year to year effect that is positive.
* Cohort 2013 showed an average positive change over time of participation of more than 22% in student’s grade level proficiency with Cohorts 14 and 15 also demonstrating positive average proficiency change over time.
* In many cases, the largest and quickest gains are being made by Hispanic students.
* Following the 2nd year of participation, economically disadvantaged and black students show steady gains.
* With many demographic categories, the largest gains appear in the 3rd year of participation.
* It appears that the more years a school participates in A+, the more the improvement. And this appears to be true of the demographic breakdown as well.
* This preliminary data indicates that A+ Schools of NC may be having an effect on the persistent issue of achievement and opportunity gaps between privileged and marginalized students.