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And Information About Michigan Government

State Education at or Below Status Quo

The state's performance on the 2007 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) remained the same or fell in reading and mathematics, according to numbers released by the Department of Education.

In eighth grade reading, Michigan students ranked 32nd among other states. Last year, the state was ranked 29th. The state's eighth graders ranked 36th in math this year, but were 33rd last year. Only 29 percent of the state's eighth graders are proficient or advanced in their math skills.

The state maintained its status quo for the fourth-grade reading and math tests, ranking 30th in reading and 32nd in math.

The Mackinac Center for Public Policy sent the numbers to reporters, suggesting that the state's education system needs to change.

"Lansing policy makers who are battling for higher public school spending ignore the well-established fact that simply raising more revenue for schools has not and will not improve results," said the Mackinac Center's Ryan **OLSON**. "Michigan public schools have received generous annual funding increases — total revenue reached more than \$19 billion last year - and yet our NAEP results have basically stagnated, in some cases declined and in only one case improved by two points."