

THE FACTS ABOUT PUBLIC EDUCATION

The Global Achievement Gap.....

- American 15-year-olds score 25th out of 30 developed countries in math and 24th in Science
- The United States ranks 21st in high school completion rates
- The education gap between the U.S. and other countries has grown over time

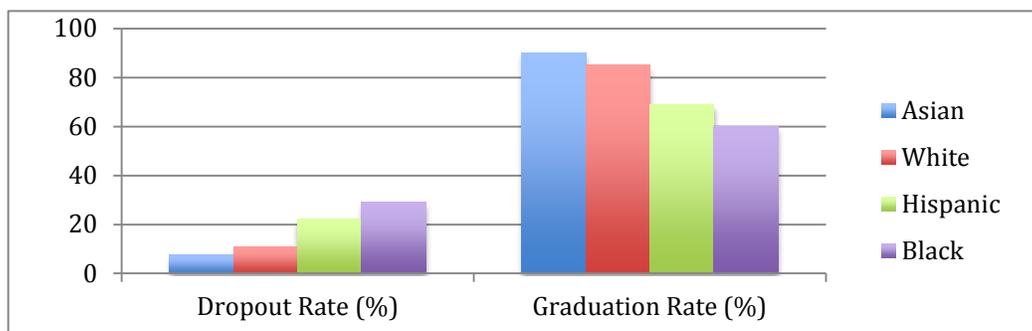
The Achievement Gap In the United States...

- Black students are more than twice as likely to drop out of high school as white students. Hispanic students are three times as likely.
- The poorest students have a 16% dropout rate compared to 2% of the wealthiest students.
- While nearly 40% of white adults have completed college, only 19% of Blacks and 13% of Hispanics have college degrees

The Achievement Gap In California....

- Fewer than half of all eleventh graders can read at grade level.
- The rate drops to less than 1/3 for Black and Hispanic students.
- Hispanic students are twice as likely to drop out of school as white students. Black students are three times as likely.
- Nearly 90% of white and Asian students graduate from high school in four years. Only 60% of black students and 69% of Hispanic students do so.

California Dropout and Graduation Rates 2010



Sources of the Achievement Gap in California

- California ranks 46th in per pupil spending (nearly \$3000 less than the national average)
- California ranks 50th in student/teacher ratio
- 43% of children come from poor families
- 38% of children have parents who do not speak English
- Low-income students are twice as likely to have a low-performing English-Language Arts teacher. Latino and African-American students are up to three times more likely to have a teacher from the bottom 25 percent.
- Teacher layoffs based on tenure result in removing the highest performing teachers from the highest need schools.

The Impact of Effective Teaching

On Achievement:

- The top 25 percent of teachers can dramatically accelerate student learning — an English-Language Arts teacher gives the average student an extra six months of learning and a math teacher an extra four months — compared to the bottom quarter of teachers.

On Future Success:

- Students with high quality teachers are more likely to attend college, earn higher salaries, live in better neighborhoods, and save more for retirement. They are also less likely to have children as teenagers.

Economic Impact of the Achievement Gap

- Over a person's lifetime the income differential for HS completers is \$630,000
- The average dropout costs the economy \$240,000 over his lifetime (lower tax contributions, Medicaid, higher criminal activity, welfare)

Sources:

National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper No. 17699, December 2011

MickKinsey & Co., "Detailed findings on the economic impact of the achievement gap in America's schools"

Center for the Future of Teaching and Learning, "Good Teaching Matters – A Lot"

California Budget Project

National Center for Education Statistics

Ed Trust West