Virginia

NAEP proficiency level and percentile data as well as results from state assessments demonstrate the existence of substantial excellence gaps for Black, Hispanic, and Free and Reduced Lunch Eligible students. White students had higher average AP scores than Black and Hispanic students on AP tests and were more likely to make a "5" on an AP exam or take an AP exam. Virginia state assessments have a much lower threshold for achieving excellence than most other states or the NAEP.

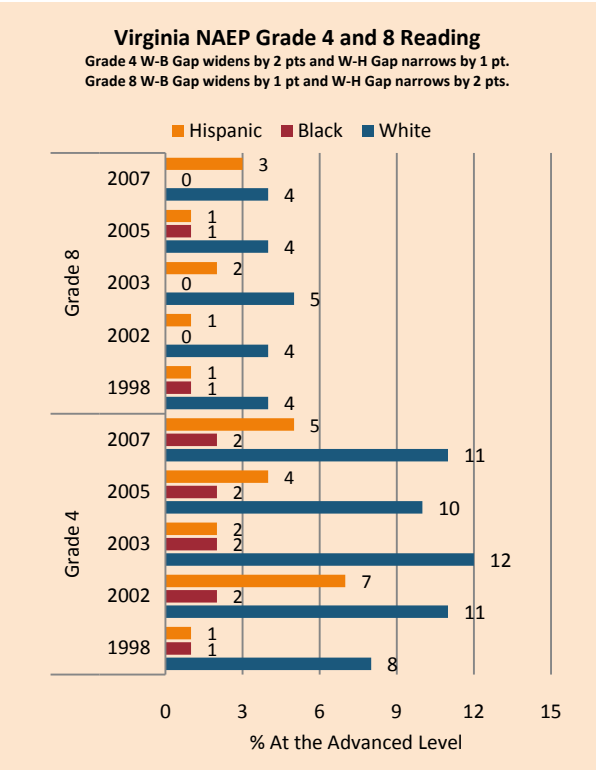
According to NAEP proficiency data, the percentage of students at the advanced level increased for Black, white, and non-FARM students in both grades of Math, for Hispanic students in both grades of Reading and Math Grade 8, and FARM students in Math Grade 8 and Reading Grade 4. The excellence gaps uniformly increased in Math, but increased in Reading due in part to a decline in non-FARM and white performance.

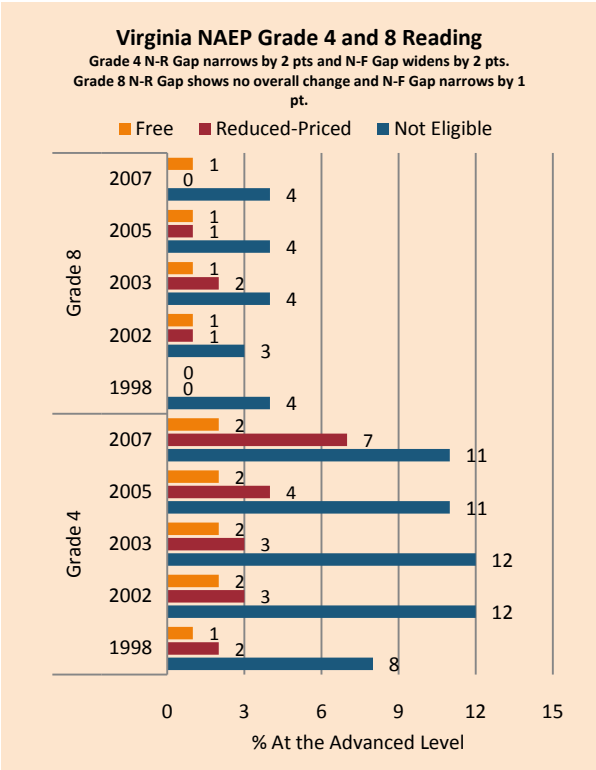
NAEP scale scores at the 90th percentile increased for most subgroups in Math. There was little change in the excellence gap for minority students, but gaps increased in Grade 8 and declined in Grade 4. Lower performance among non-FARM and white students in Reading (and improvements among under-represented groups in Grade 4) led to lower achievement gaps.

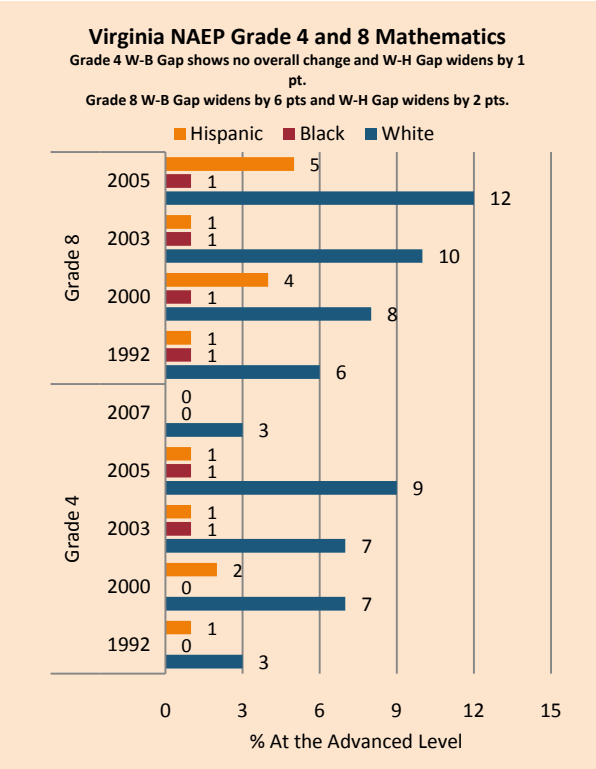
The percentage of students performing at the advanced level on state assessments increased in Grade 4 and 7 in both Reading and Math and across ethnic and income subgroups. Hispanic and low-income students improved more quickly than white and high-income students in Reading, respectively, with Hispanic students also doing so Grade 4 Math, while Black students narrowed the achievement gap in Grade 7 Reading. Affluent students advanced more quickly on Math assessments.

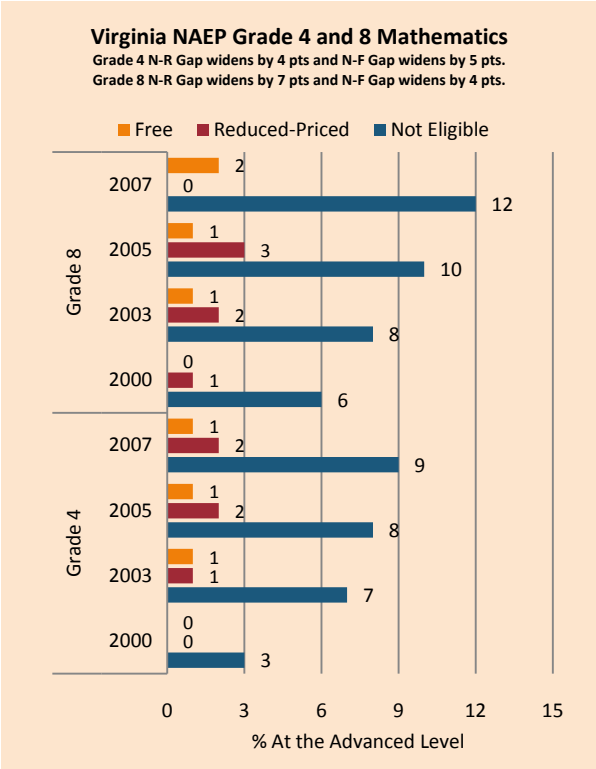
On the AP tests, the achievement gap increased as measured by mean AP scores, the percentage of exams scoring a 5 (weighted), and number of tests taken. At the same time, there was a decrease in the gap between white and Hispanic students in the percentage of tests taken that scored a 5 (unweighted).

Summary of State Policy as of 2006-2007							
State	Mandate Identify	Mandate Services	Gifted Identified	Identified by Gender	Identified by Ethnicity	GT Funding	GT Funding per Identified
Virginia	yes	yes	160,603	yes	yes	$27,685,985	$172.39


Virginia NAEP Grade 4 and 8 Reading
Grade 4 W-B Gap widens by 2 pts and W-H Gap narrows by 1 pt.
Grade 8 W-B Gap widens by 1 pt and W-H Gap narrows by 2 pts.
Hispanic
Black
White
Grade 8
Grade 4
2007
2005
2003
2002
1998
% At the Advanced Level


Virginia NAEP Grade 4 and 8 Reading
Grade 4 N-R Gap narrows by 2 pts and N-F Gap widens by 2 pts.
Grade 8 N-R Gap shows no overall change and N-F Gap narrows by 1 pt.
Free
Reduced-Priced
Not Eligible
Grade 8
Grade 4
2007
2005
2003
2002
1998
% At the Advanced Level


Virginia NAEP Grade 4 and 8 Mathematics
Grade 4 W-B Gap shows no overall change and W-H Gap widens by 1 pt.
Grade 8 W-B Gap widens by 6 pts and W-H Gap widens by 2 pts.
Hispanic
Black
White
Grade 8
Grade 4
2005
2003
2000
1992
2007
% At the Advanced Level


Virginia NAEP Grade 4 and 8 Mathematics
Grade 4 N-R Gap widens by 4 pts and N-F Gap widens by 5 pts.
Grade 8 N-R Gap widens by 7 pts and N-F Gap widens by 4 pts.
Free
Reduced-Priced
Not Eligible
Grade 8
Grade 4
2007
2005
2003
2000
% At the Advanced Level

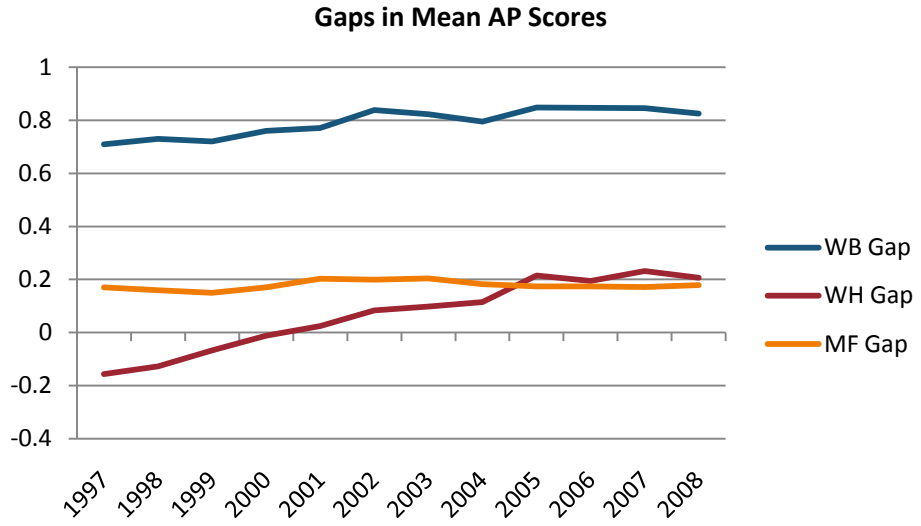
NAEP Scores at the 90th Percentile				
Subject, Grade, Group	**2003**	**2007**	**2003 Gap**	**2007 Gap**
Math 4 Male	275	279	4	5
Math 4 Female	271	274		
Math 8 Male	327	333	6	5
Math 8 Female	321	329		
Reading 4 Male	263	263	7	6
Reading 4 Female	269	268		
Reading 8 Male	302	301	11	9
Reading 8 Female	313	310		
Math 4 ELL	258	262	15	15
Math 4 NonELL	274	277		
Math 8 ELL		310		22
Math 8 NonELL	325	332		
Reading 4 ELL	248	251	18	15
Reading 4 NonELL	266	266		
Reading 8 ELL		283		23
Reading 8 NonELL	308	306		
Math 4 FARM	254	259	24	21
Math 4 NonFARM	278	281		
Math 8 FARM	300	306	28	29
Math 8 NonFARM	329	336		
Reading 4 FARM	247	249	24	20
Reading 4 NonFARM	270	269		
Reading 8 FARM	291	289	21	20
Reading 8 NonFARM	312	309		
Math 4 White	275	278		
Math 4 Black				
Math 4 Hispanic				
Math 8 White	329	336		
Math 8 Black	300	307	29	28
Math 8 Hispanic	314	321	15	15
Reading 4 White	270	269		
Reading 4 Black	247	249	23	21
Reading 4 Hispanic	251	256	20	13
Reading 8 White	313	309		
Reading 8 Black	288	288	25	21
Reading 8 Hispanic	305	303	7	6

VA Standards of Learning Assessments Grade 4, 7, Reading Excellence Achievement Gaps on Race										
% At the Advanced Level	Grade 4					Grade 7				
	W	B	H	**W-B**	**W-H**	W	B	H	**W-B**	**W-H**
2006	50	27	24	**23**	**26**	47	20	22	**27**	**25**
2007	55	32	31	**23**	**24**	49	23	23	**26**	**26**
2008	55	31	37	**24**	**18**	48	22	26	**26**	**22**

VA Standards of Learning Assessments Grade 4, 7, Mathematics Excellence Achievement Gaps on Race										
% At the Advanced Level	Grade 4					Grade 7				
	W	B	H	**W-B**	**W-H**	W	B	H	**W-B**	**W-H**
2006	41	18	20	**23**	**21**	15	4	6	**11**	**9**
2007	44	22	23	**22**	**21**	25	10	10	**15**	**15**
2008	49	26	29	**23**	**20**	30	13	13	**17**	**17**

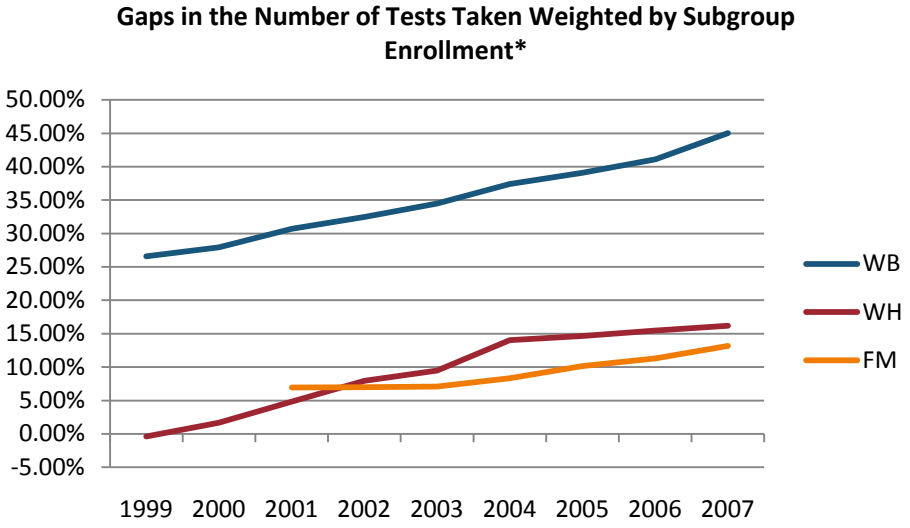
VA Standards of Learning Assessments Grade 4, 7, Reading Excellence Achievement Gaps on SES						
% At the Advanced Level	Grade 4			Grade 7		
	N	P	**Gap**	N	P	**Gap**
2006	50	25	**25**	47	19	**28**
2007	56	30	**26**	49	21	**28**
2008	55	32	**23**	48	22	**26**

VA Standards of Learning Assessments Grade 4, 7, Mathematics Excellence Achievement Gaps on SES						
% At the Advanced Level	Grade 4			Grade 7		
	N	P	**Gap**	N	P	**Gap**
2006	41	18	**23**	14	6	**8**
2007	45	22	**23**	25	11	**14**
2008	50	26	**24**	29	14	**15**



Gaps in the Percentage of Tests Taken Receiving a "5" on the AP Exam by Subgroup*												
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Male	16.97%	17.06%	16.69%	16.09%	15.38%	16.57%	15.85%	16.42%	15.09%	15.11%	15.40%	15.67%
Female	12.64%	12.75%	12.92%	11.89%	10.86%	11.86%	11.36%	12.32%	11.74%	11.31%	11.52%	12.15%
White	14.57%	14.52%	15.12%	14.26%	13.20%	14.80%	13.77%	14.50%	13.86%	13.60%	13.73%	14.22%
Black	5.10%	4.38%	4.44%	3.91%	3.26%	3.78%	3.28%	4.31%	3.37%	3.18%	3.43%	3.88%
Hispanic	22.18%	21.28%	20.30%	18.83%	17.48%	17.14%	18.21%	16.19%	13.06%	13.11%	12.12%	13.68%
M-F Gap	4.33%	4.31%	3.77%	4.20%	4.51%	4.71%	4.49%	4.10%	3.35%	3.79%	3.88%	3.52%
W-B Gap	9.47%	10.14%	10.68%	10.35%	9.94%	11.01%	10.49%	10.19%	10.49%	10.42%	10.30%	10.34%
W-H Gap	-7.62%	-6.76%	-5.18%	-4.56%	-4.28%	-2.34%	-4.45%	-1.69%	0.81%	0.49%	1.62%	0.53%

Gaps in the Percentage of Tests Taken Receiving a "5" on the AP Exam by Subgroup Weighted by Enrollment*									
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Male			5.45%	6.33%	6.21%	6.74%	6.82%	7.46%	8.08%
Female			4.60%	5.36%	5.26%	6.08%	6.50%	6.86%	7.57%
White	5.39%	5.43%	5.47%	6.54%	6.33%	7.12%	7.42%	7.81%	8.55%
Black	0.40%	0.40%	0.35%	0.44%	0.38%	0.50%	0.49%	0.52%	0.59%
Hispanic	7.32%	6.85%	6.39%	6.21%	6.65%	5.67%	5.08%	5.50%	5.58%
M-F Gap			0.85%	0.97%	0.95%	0.65%	0.32%	0.60%	0.51%
W-B Gap	4.99%	5.03%	5.12%	6.09%	5.95%	6.61%	6.94%	7.29%	7.96%
W-H Gap	-1.93%	-1.42%	-0.93%	0.32%	-0.32%	1.44%	2.35%	2.31%	2.97%



*The unit of analysis for AP data is the test, not the student. AP test results are presented as the number of scores received by members of each subgroup, NOT the number of students who received a given score on any exam. These numbers are not equivalent because some students take multiple tests.