

BY *THE*
NUMBERS:
A Case for the
Civil Right of
Education

October 2019



THE CIVIL RIGHT OF EDUCATION

A just and equitable nation treats access to high quality education as a civil right.

WE WILL KNOW THAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED EDUCATIONAL JUSTICE WHEN...

The faces of our high school graduates look no different from those of entering kindergartners, and our college graduates no different from them.

School quality is no longer related to zip code, and school funding is provided according to need.

Every last elementary student has mastered the fundamentals of reading, and every 8th grader the knowledge and skills necessary for success in college prep math.

EDUCATIONAL JUSTICE HAPPENS WHEN...

The English Learners in our kindergartens are multi-lingual speakers and readers by middle school, and home languages are valued as the assets they are instead of deficits to be eradicated.

Visitors to our high schools can no longer tell from the faces in the room whether a class is AP or remedial.

Neither test scores nor suspension rates are correlated with race or economic status.

College enrollment is achievable by all students, not just those with the means and the family histories to

navigate a system designed to keep some learners out, and college graduation rates don't track race, economic or language status.

College students have access to the rigorous education and supports they need to earn a meaningful degree, regardless of financial status, family status, first language, or age at entry.

EDUCATIONAL JUSTICE HAPPENS WHEN...

College students fight for places in teacher preparation programs because teachers make a bigger difference than any other profession, and are compensated accordingly.

Expert teachers seek out opportunities in schools with the biggest challenges, and Black, Latin, Asian and American Indian children learn not just from White teachers but also and regularly from teachers who look like them.

When teachers, counselors, and principals look into the eyes of even the poorest children and see future doctors and bankers and senators and firefighters- and educate them accordingly.

We know now that America has an education system that falls far short of her ideals, and we will raise our voices and work ceaselessly for change until all of our children get the education they need and deserve.



GENUINE PROGRESS...

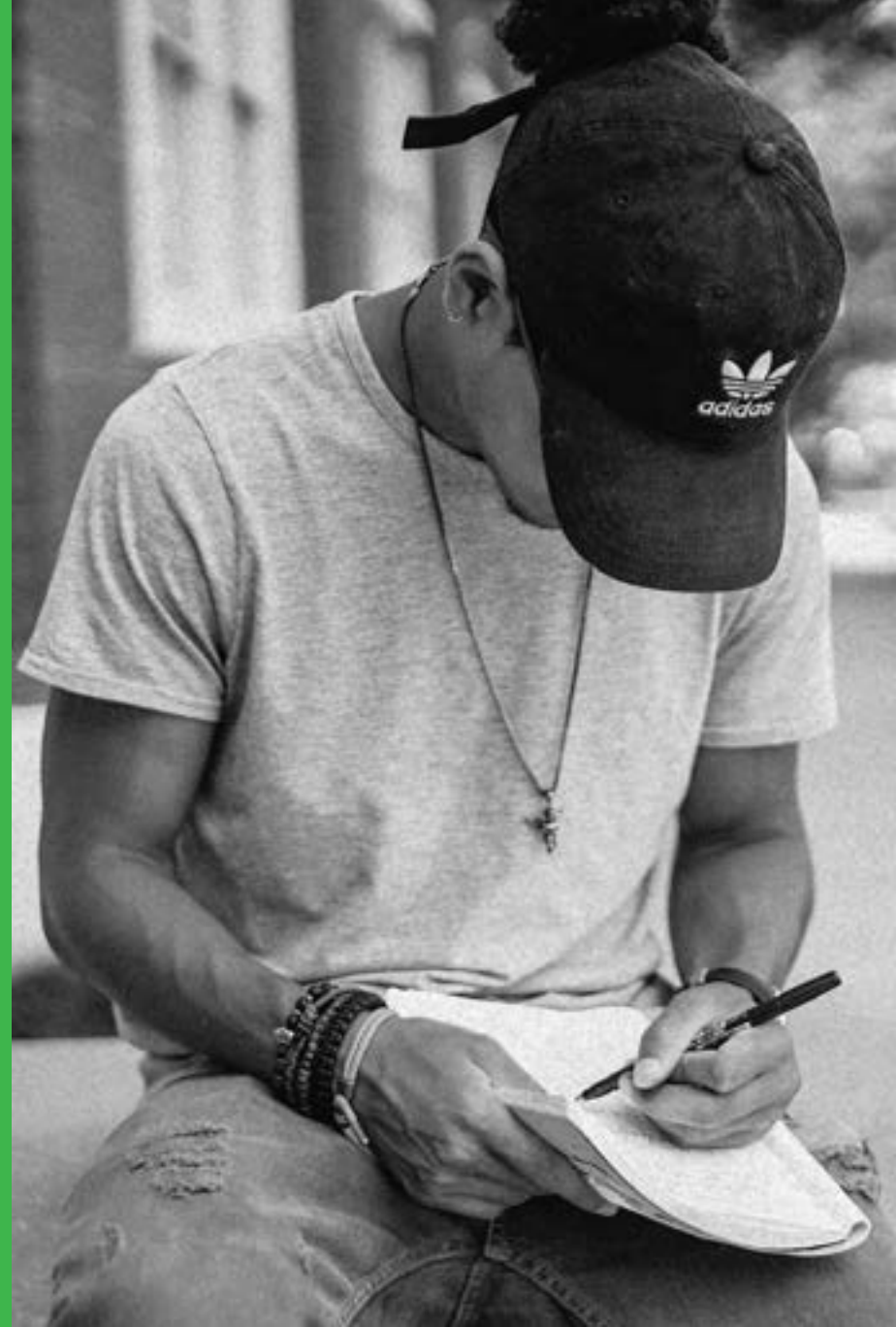
In recent years, we've seen examples of real progress. The enrollment of Black 3, 4 and 5 year-olds in pre-school has increased dramatically and now matches or exceeds that of white children. High school completion for Latinx youth has climbed by 30 percentage points. For both groups, enrollment in AP courses is now at all time highs, as is the pass rate on AP exams. And between 1996 and 2015 the number of Black and Latinx 4th graders with Below Basic math skills was cut by more than half.

We are seeing progress, too, in reducing the school to prison pipeline and building a school to college pipeline. The number of students of color earning not just Associates and Bachelors degrees, but also Masters, Doctoral and Professional degrees is at an all-time high.

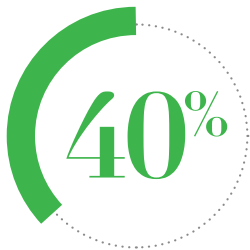
We know, in other words, what can happen when we really focus our energies—as communities, as states, and as a country—on what works.

*...BUT FAR TOO MUCH TALENT IS
STILL SQUANDERED*

*Despite the progress, an honest look at key
education and social statistics is a sobering,
sometimes gut-wrenching reminder of how
far we have yet to go.*



FOR TOO MANY OF OUR CHILDREN, EDUCATION REMAINS SEPARATE AND UNEQUAL



OF BLACK & LATINX STUDENTS ATTEND INTENSELY SEGREGATE SCHOOLS

DISTRICTS SERVING THE MOST STUDENTS OF COLOR RECEIVE

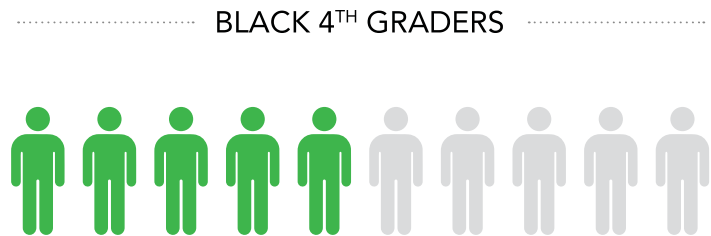
FOR A DISTRICT OF 5,000 STUDENTS, THIS EQUATES TO A

\$1800 LESS → **\$9M GAP**

PER STUDENT THAN DISTRICTS WITH THE FEWEST STUDENTS OF COLOR

Source: Brown at 65—No Cause for Celebration. The Civil Rights Project at UCLA, May 2019; The Education Trust, Funding Gaps 2018

ONLY HALF OF BLACK AND LATINX CHILDREN HAVE MASTERED EVEN BASIC READING SKILLS BY 4TH GRADE



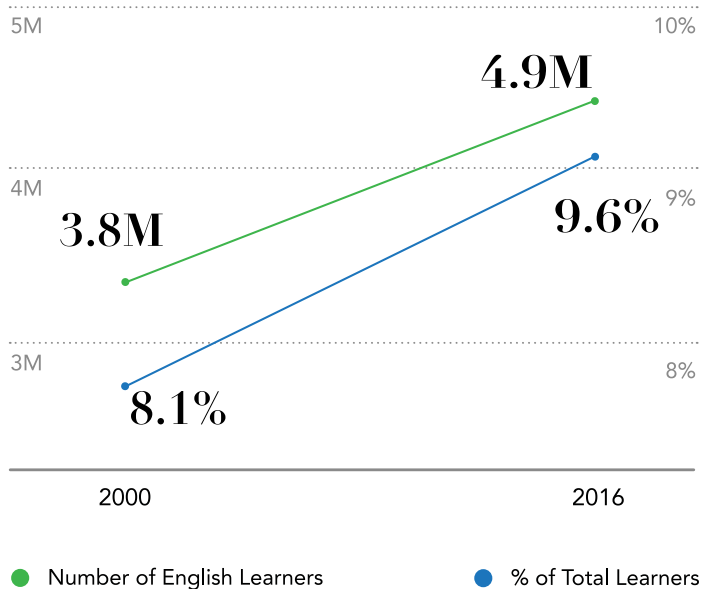
● Basic and Above ● Below Basic

Readers at the Basic Level will struggle to understand and learn new content

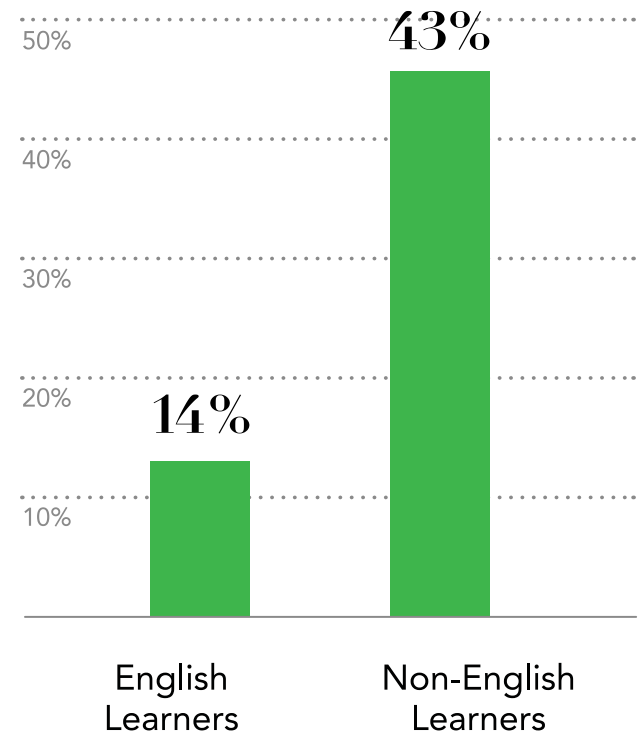
Source: The Nation's Report Card - NDE Explorer (2017)

THE NUMBER OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS IS GROWING, AND THEIR MATH PROFICIENCY LAGS

ENGLISH LEARNER ENROLLMENT



4TH GRADE MATH PROFICIENCY 2017



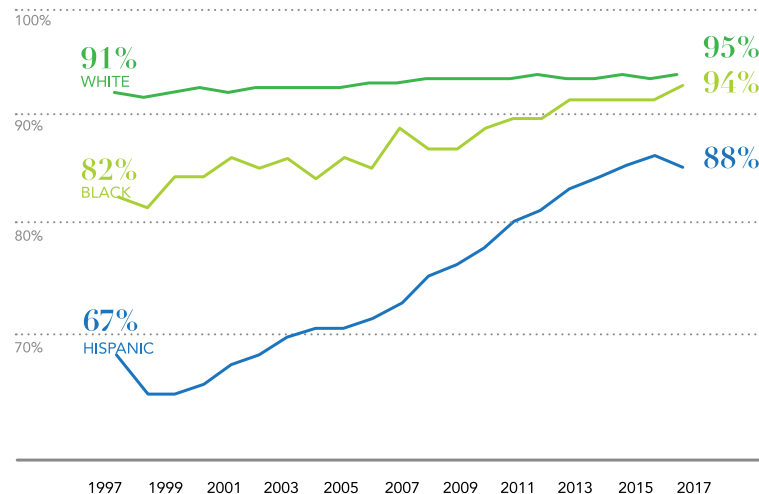
Source: Brown at 65—No Cause for Celebration. The Civil Rights Project at UCLA, May 2019; The Education Trust, Funding Gaps 2018

ONLY 1/5 OF LOW-INCOME STUDENTS START HIGH SCHOOL WITH THE BACKGROUND THEY NEED TO SUCCEED IN COLLEGE PREP MATH



Source: The Nation's Report Card - NDE Explorer (2017)

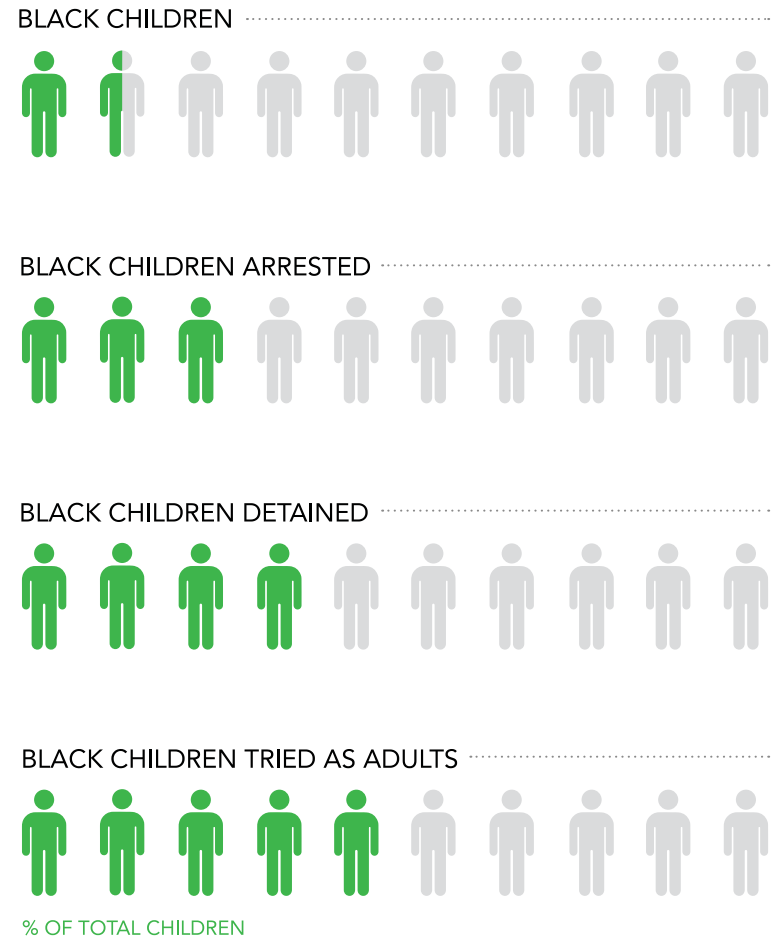
FROM 1997 TO 2017, THE PERCENTAGE OF BLACK AND LATINX YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA HAS INCREASED, NARROWING EARLIER GAPS



Source: NCES High School Status Completion Rates

BLACK CHILDREN MAKE UP LESS THAN 15% OF THE TOTAL YOUTH POPULATION

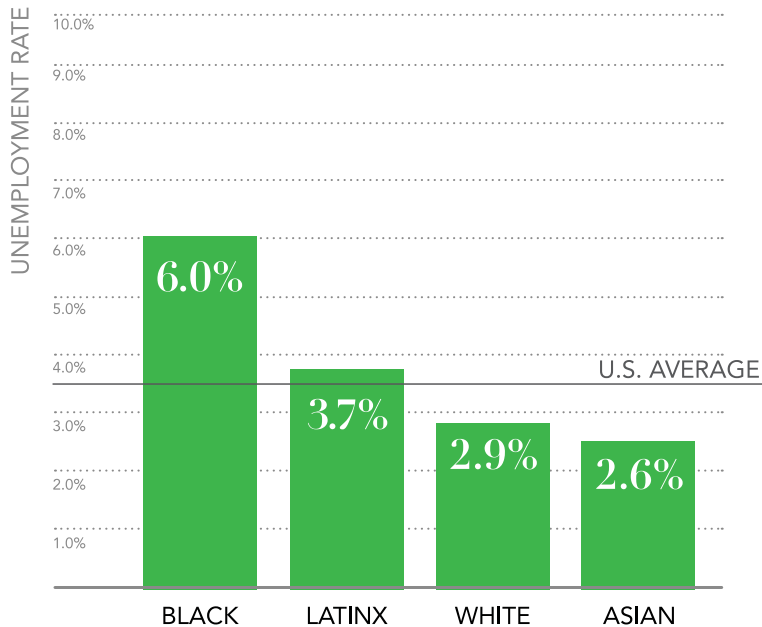
YET THEY COMPRISE
32% OF YOUTH
ARRESTS, 42% OF
YOUTH DETENTIONS,
AND 52% OF YOUNG
PEOPLE TRIED AS
ADULTS



Source: NAACP Criminal Justice Fact Sheet & Child Trends - Racial and Ethnic Composition of the Child Population (2014)

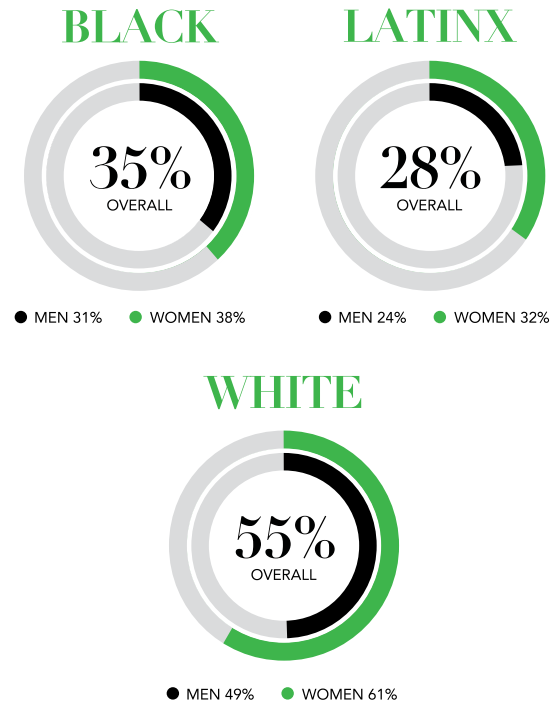


BLACK AND LATINX YOUNG ADULTS ARE UNEMPLOYED AT HIGHER RATES THAN OTHERS



Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics - Unemployment rates by age, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity (25–34 years old) (2018)

AMONG YOUNG ADULTS, ONLY 35% OF BLACK AND 28% OF LATINX ADULTS HOLD AN ASSOCIATE’S DEGREE OR HIGHER



Source: U.S. Census bureau, Educational Attainment in the U.S.: 2017. Analysis from Center for American Progress, "The Good and Bad News in College Attainment Trends", 2018

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ENROLL IN COLLEGE AT DRAMATICALLY DIFFERENT RATES

IMMEDIATE COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATES:

BLACK STUDENTS

59%



LATINX STUDENTS

61%



WHITE STUDENTS

69%



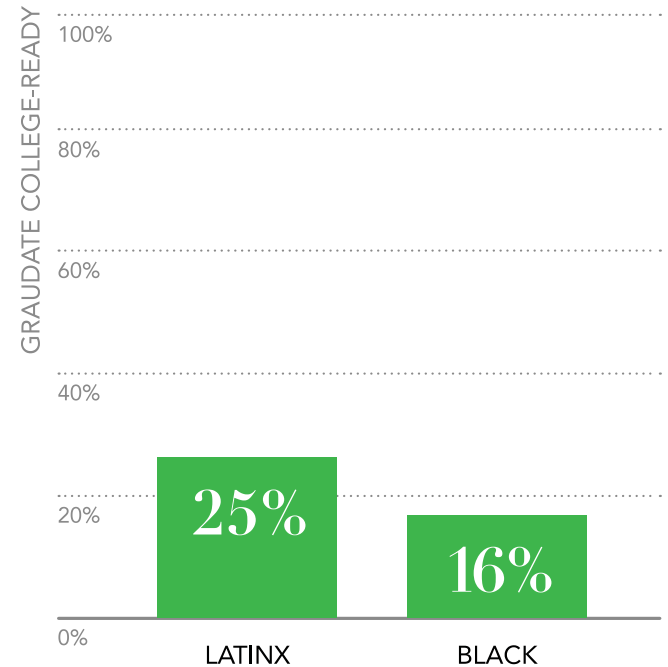
ASIAN STUDENTS

83%



Source: NCES Percentage of Recent High School Completers Enrolled in College, by Race/Ethnicity, 2017

ONLY 1/6 OF BLACK AND 1/4 OF LATINX NINTH GRADERS GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE-READY



Source: NCES Public high school 4-year ACGR, by selected characteristics and state, 2016–2017 & College Board SAT Suite of Assessments Annual Report, 2018

TOO FEW YOUNG ADULTS ARE VOTING

LATINX

BLACK



Source: US Census Bureau - Voting and Registration in the Election of November 2018

STATES SPEND 4 TIMES MORE PER INMATE THAN THEY DO PER STUDENT IN PUBLIC COLLEGES

AVERAGE STATE SUPPORT IN 2015

PER
INMATE

\$33,274

PER
COLLEGE
STUDENT

\$7,454

Source: Vera Institute of Justice. Prison Spending in 2015; State Higher Education Executive Officers Association. SHEF: FY 18; State Higher Education Finance.



