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## ABSTRACT

This report provides data on the academic achievement gap that separates low-income and minority students from other students, examining how well different groups of students perform in Arkansas and noting inequities in teacher quality, course offerings, and funding. Included are tables and data that provide: a frontier gap analysis (a comparison of Arkansas to the leaders in achievement and gap closing); student profile (the demographic distribution of youth in Arkansas); state performance (academic achievement and educational attainment); opportunity (well prepared teachers, challenging curricula, special student placements, effective instruction, and annual per pupil investments); minority achievement gains, state by state; and analysis of minority-white achievement gaps by subject area and grade level. Hispanic 4th graders in Arkansas made more progress in math from 1992 to 1996 than Hispanic 4th graders in almost any other state. However, Hispanic 8th graders in Arkansas score more than 3 years behind white 8th graders in the state in reading and science, and more than 2 years behind in writing. African American 8th graders in Arkansas score more than 3 years behind white 8th graders in the state in math and science, and more than 2 years behind in reading and writing. The state's poor/non-poor achievement gap would close for 8th graders in both math and science if poor students in Arkansas scored as well as poor students in North Dakota. (Contains 24 references.) (SM)

# State Summary of Arkansas

To eliminate the achievement gap that separates low-income and minority students from other students, we must understand what that gap looks like and where it originates. Consider first how well different groups of students perform in your state. Look for in-state inequities in teacher quality and course offerings. Attention must also be paid to funding gaps. This State Summary Report provides a closer look at how these and other factors may be contributing to the gap.

## ARKANSAS HIGHLIGHTS

- Latino 4th graders in Arkansas made more progress in math from 1992 to 1996 than Latino 4th graders in almost every other state.
- However, Latino 8th graders in Arkansas score more than three years behind White 8th graders in the state in reading and science, and more than two years behind in writing.
- African American 8th graders in Arkansas score more than three years behind White 8th graders in the state in math and science, and more than two years behind in reading and writing.
- The state poor/non-poor achievement gap would CLOSE for 8th graders in both math and science if poor students in Arkansas scored as well as poor students in North Dakota.
- The state African American/White achievement gap would CLOSE for 8th graders in writing if African American 8th graders in Arkansas scored as well as those in Texas.
- Similarly, the state Latino/White achievement gap would CLOSE for 8th graders in writing if Latino 8th graders in Arkansas scored as well as those in Virginia.

(The description above is meant to provide a general overview of the state's gaps and progress in student achievement. Readers who wish to compare states on these measures should consult the precise figures reported on the "Frontier Gap Analysis" page inside.)

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**PLEASE NOTE** that the State Summary Reports are merely a selection of the data from the Education Watch Interactive Data site. For more complete data, and for more cross-state comparisons, please visit the site at [www.edtrust.org](http://www.edtrust.org). Do remember, however, that you may have fuller, richer or more current data sets in your state for some of the indicators we report, because we only use data that can be compared across states. We therefore encourage you to gather and examine a wide range of data from your own state and local districts. In this way, communities will come to see a full picture of how their students are faring and what can be done to improve results.

# ARKANSAS

## Frontier Gap Analysis

Education Watch Online introduces a new way to look at achievement gaps in each state: by comparing them with the "frontier" state for a particular group of students, that is, the state with the highest average score for that group. The comparison shows that, in most cases, achievement gaps would shrink dramatically if a state's poor or minority students performed as well as the same group of students in the frontier state. But that's only part of a longer journey; visit the Education Watch Online interactive Web site to see how far your state has to go before all groups of students perform at the "proficient" level on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

### How to read the table:

**Within-State Achievement Gap:** For African American and Latino students, this is the difference between that group's average score and the average score of white students on a particular test. For low-income students, this is the difference between their average score and the average score of non-poor students on the test.

*Example: "On Average, Arkansas' African American students scored 31 points lower than the state's White students on NAEP's 1996 4th Grade Math Assessment."*

**Frontier State for Group:** This is the state where a particular group of students - African American, Latino, or low-income - scores the highest on the test. But, because such students can achieve much higher than they do even in the frontier state, the current frontier should be viewed as a short-term target rather than a long-term goal.

*Example: "African American students in Texas out-perform African American students in all other states on NAEP's 1996 4th Grade Math Assessment."*

**Group's Distance to Frontier State:** For African American, Latino, and low-income students, this is the difference between their average score and the average score for the same group of students in the frontier state.

*Example: "African American students in Arkansas scored 19 points behind African American students in Texas, the frontier state for African American students on that test."*

**Amount State's Achievement Gap Would Shrink:** This is approximately how much the state's achievement gap would shrink if its African American, Latino, and low-income students scored as well as the same group of students in the frontier state.

*Example: "If Arkansas' African American 4th graders scored as well as those in Texas, the state's math achievement gap between African American and White 4th Graders would shrink by 62%."*

**NOTE:** A difference of 10 points is roughly equivalent to one year's worth of learning.

NAEP Assessment	Group	Within-State Achievement Gap	Frontier State for Group	Group's Distance to Frontier	Amount State's Achievement Gap Would Shrink *
4th Grade Math (1996)	African American	31	TX	19	62%
	Latino	21	ND	19	90%
	Low-Income	23	ND	19	83%
8th Grade Math (1996)	African American	35	NE	21	60%
	Latino	SAMPLE SIZE TOO SMALL TO REPORT			
	Low-Income	24	ND	28	would close
8th Grade Science (1996)	African American	37	CO	26	70%
	Latino	32	MT	25	78%
	Low-Income	24	ND	29	would close
4th Grade Reading (1998)	African American	32	CT	19	59%
	Latino	31	IA	23	74%
	Low-Income	25	ME	20	80%
8th Grade Reading (1998)	African American	28	KS	18	64%
	Latino	33	VA	23	70%
	Low-Income	22	ME	19	86%
8th Grade Writing (1998)	African American	22	TX	25	would close
	Latino	27	VA	30	would close
	Low-Income	23	OK	20	87%

\* Calculations take into account decimals. For clarity of presentation, data are displayed as whole numbers. Therefore, some figures may differ slightly from hand calculations.

Note: Low-Income refers to students eligible for free or reduced price lunch.

SOURCE: Education Trust calculations based on average scale scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress as reported by the National Center for Education Statistics.

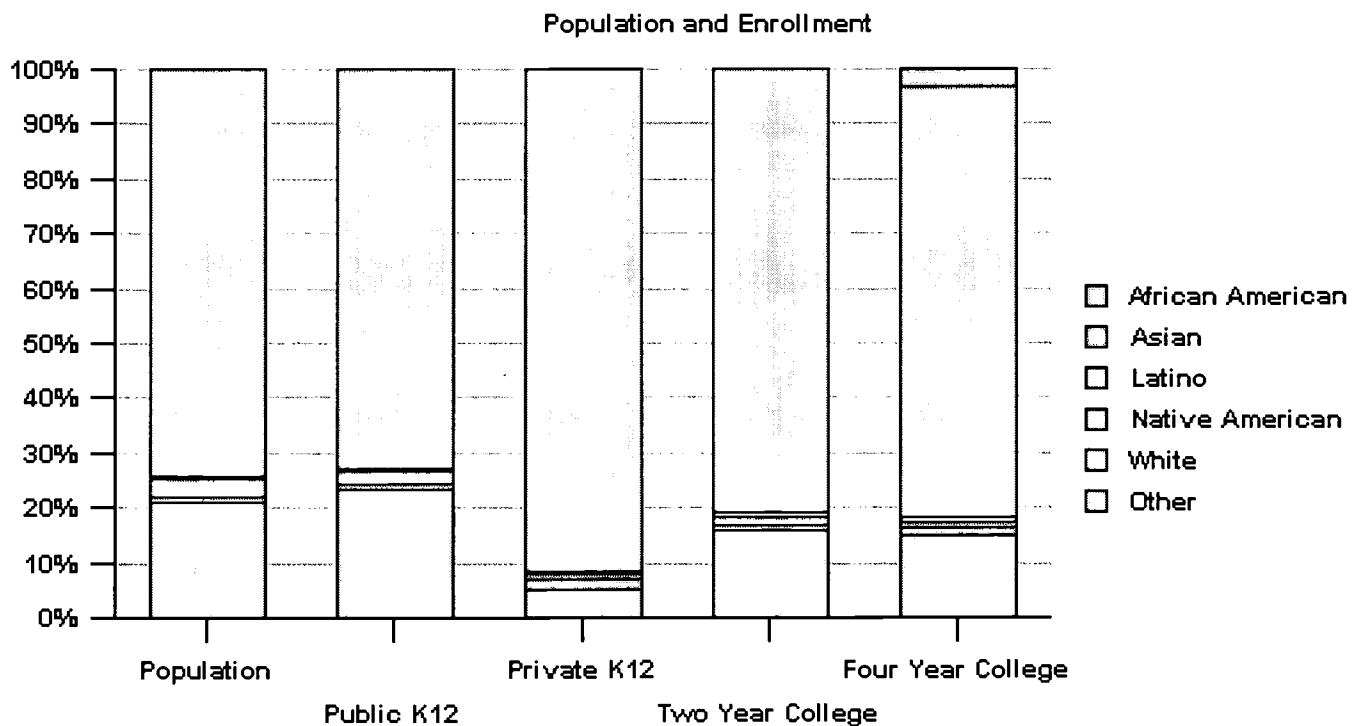
# ARKANSAS

## Student Profile

### STUDENT PROFILE

**Population and enrollments:** These data will offer a picture of the student population in your state. Comparing the demographic distribution of students across each educational level will show what happens to children as they journey through the education system. Significant differences should raise questions about equity.

	Population Ages 5-24	Public K-12	Private K-12	Two Year Colleges	Four Year Colleges
African American	21.2%	23.5%	5.0%	15.9%	15.0%
Asian	0.8%	0.8%	1.8%	1.1%	1.3%
Latino	3.0%	2.2%	1.2%	1.0%	0.9%
Native American	0.6%	0.4%	0.2%	1.1%	0.9%
White	74.4%	73.1%	91.7%	80.7%	78.6%
Other				0.2%	3.3%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Number	734,048	456,497	26,048	30,694	72,804



# ARKANSAS

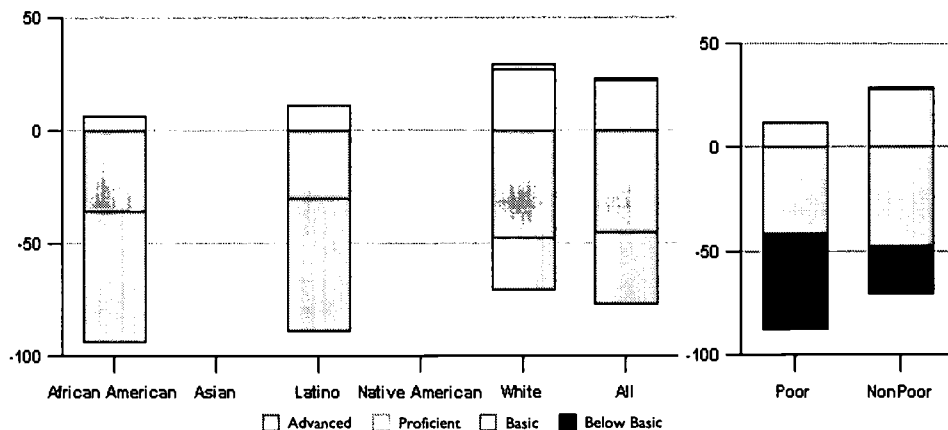
## State Performance

### ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

**NAEP achievement levels:** The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is administered to representative samples of students nationally and in participating states. NAEP achievement is reported by percents in four categories: Advanced, Proficient, Basic and Below Basic. "Proficient" indicates the desired level of competency for students at a particular grade in a particular subject. In this indicator, closing the achievement gap between groups is critical, but it is not enough. Schools have a long way to go to move all American young people to proficiency.

#### 1998 NAEP 8th grade reading

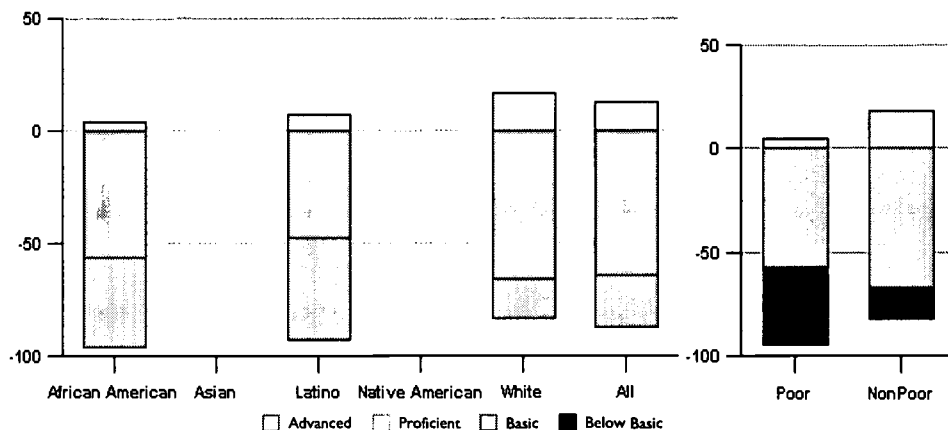
	Adv.	Prof.	Basic	< Basic
African American	0	6	36	58
Asian				
Latino	0	11	30	59
Native American				
White	2	27	48	23
All	1	22	45	32
Non-Poor	1	28	48	23
Poor	0	12	41	47



\*Note: all proficiency level data in percents.

#### 1998 NAEP 8th grade writing

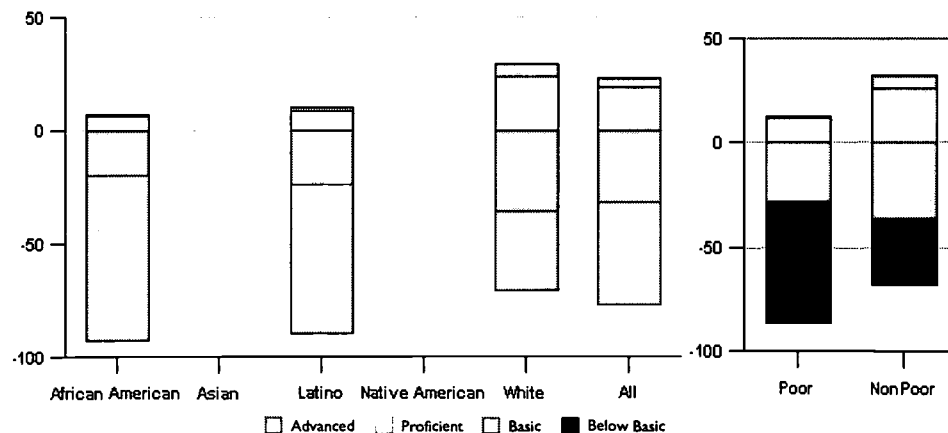
	Adv.	Prof.	Basic	< Basic
African American	0	4	56	40
Asian				
Latino	0	7	48	45
Native American				
White	0	17	66	17
All	0	13	64	23
Non-Poor	0	18	67	15
Poor	0	5	57	38



\*Note: all proficiency level data in percents.

#### 1998 NAEP 4th grade reading

	Adv.	Prof.	Basic	< Basic
African American	1	6	20	73
Asian				
Latino	1	9	24	66
Native American				
White	5	24	36	35
All	4	19	32	45
Non-Poor	6	26	36	32
Poor	1	12	28	59



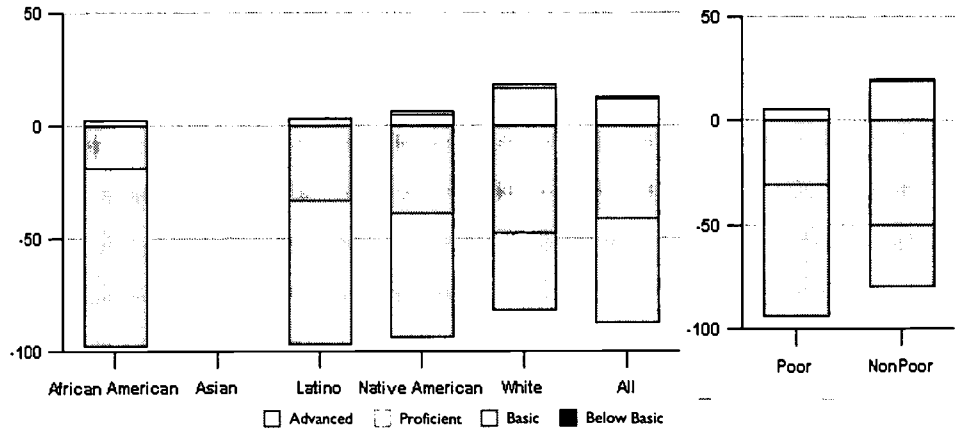
\*Note: all proficiency level data in percents.

# ARKANSAS

## State Performance

### 1996 NAEP 4th grade math

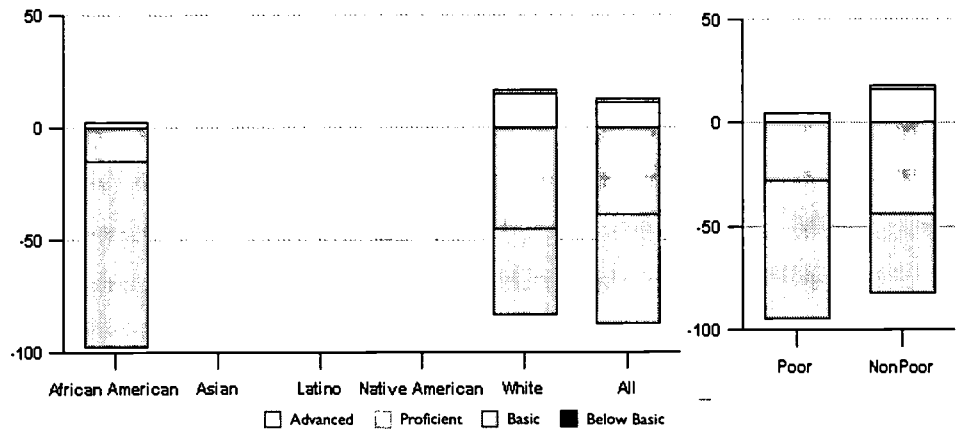
	Adv.	Prof.	Basic	< Basic
African American	0	2	19	79
Asian				
Latino	0	3	33	64
Native American				
White	1	5	39	55
All	1	17	48	34
Non-Poor	1	12	41	46
Poor	0	6	31	63



\*Note: all proficiency level data in percents.

### 1996 NAEP 8th grade math

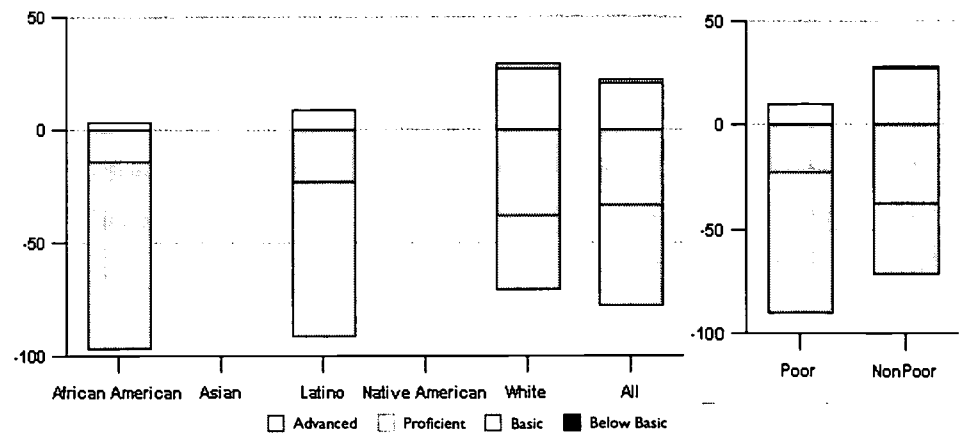
	Adv.	Prof.	Basic	< Basic
African American	0	2	15	83
Asian				
Latino				
Native American				
White	2	15	45	38
All	2	11	39	48
Non-Poor	2	16	44	38
Poor	0	5	28	67



\*Note: all proficiency level data in percents.

### 1996 NAEP 8th grade science

	Adv.	Prof.	Basic	< Basic
African American	0	3	14	83
Asian				
Latino	0	9	23	68
Native American				
White	2	27	38	33
All	1	21	33	45
Non-Poor	1	27	38	34
Poor	0	10	23	67



\*Note: all proficiency level data in percents.

# ARKANSAS

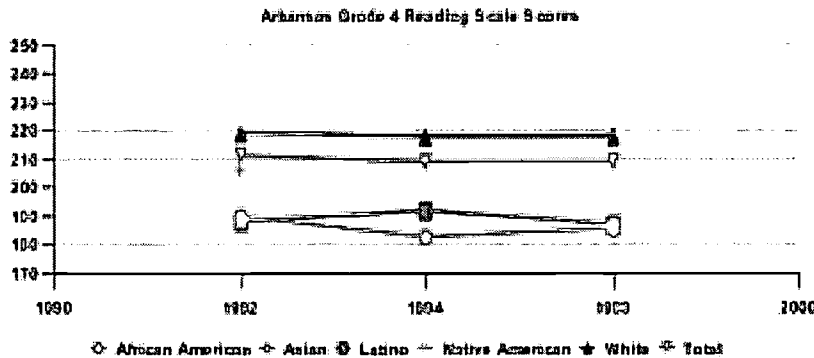
## State Performance

### ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

**NAEP multiyear trends:** Looking at change over time both in absolute student performance and in achievement gaps can show whether a state is making progress, holding static, or even backsliding. This can help states focus actions needed for improvement, and measure whether existing initiatives are effectively meeting their goals in achievement and equity.

#### 1992-98 4th grade reading

##### Gap Changes Over Time

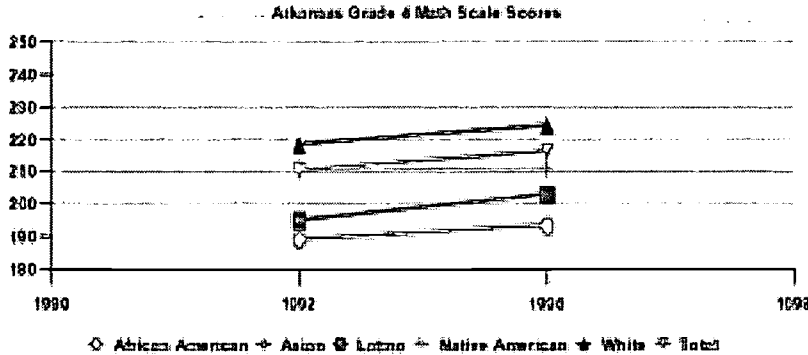


Year	African American-White Gap	Latino-White Gap
1992	29	31
1994	35	26
1998	32	31
Change* 92-98	3	0

Note: Change based on absolute difference in average group scale score—interpret with caution (not necessarily statistically significant)  
\*positive change=gap widened; negative change=gap narrowed

#### 1992-96 4th grade math

##### Gap Changes Over Time

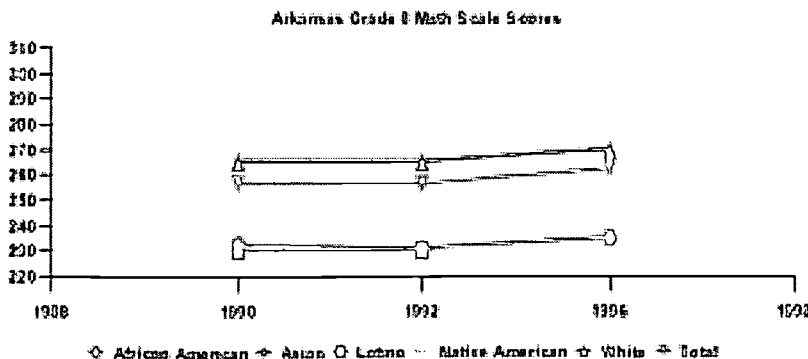


Year	African American-White Gap	Latino-White Gap
1992	29	23
1996	31	21
Change* 92-96	2	-2

Note: Change based on absolute difference in average group scale score—interpret with caution (not necessarily statistically significant)  
\*positive change=gap widened; negative change=gap narrowed

#### 1990-96 8th grade math

##### Gap Changes Over Time



Year	African American-White Gap	Latino-White Gap
1990	33	35
1992	34	36
1996	35	
Change* 90-96	2	

Note: Change based on absolute difference in average group scale score—interpret with caution (not necessarily statistically significant)  
\*positive change=gap widened; negative change=gap narrowed

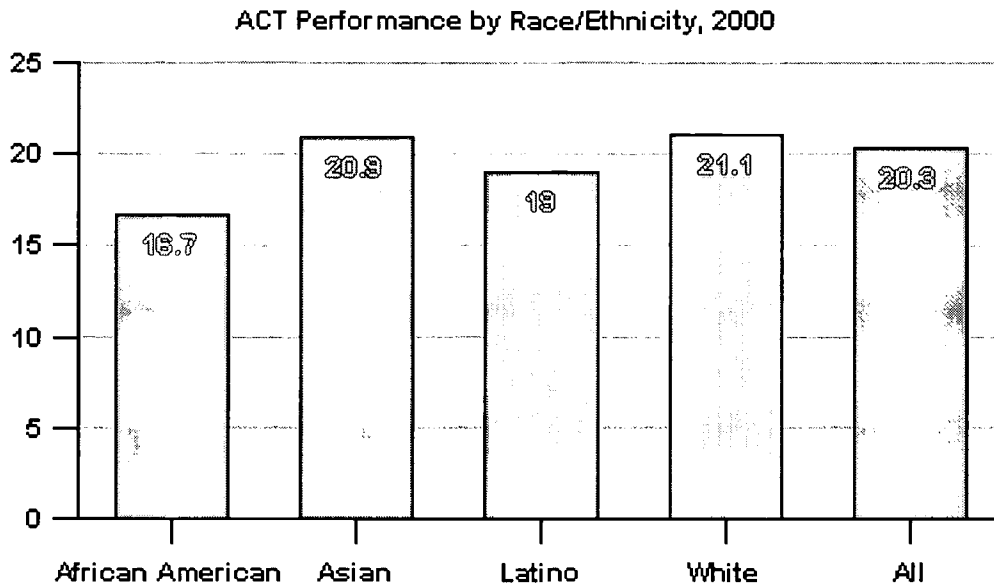


# ARKANSAS

## State Performance

**Average scores on college admissions tests:** While increasing numbers of minorities are taking college admissions tests, in virtually every state, African American, Latino and Native American students still score well below other students. To close this gap, states should ensure that all students complete a rigorous college preparatory sequence, and that all students are held to the same expectations of postsecondary attainment. The SAT and ACT are the major nationally used college admissions tests. Below we report the scores for the predominant test used by your state's colleges and universities.

### ACT Performance



Note: A perfect score for the SAT is 1600. A perfect score for the ACT is 36.

### Distribution of ACT Test Takers, 2000

#### Test Takers

African American	16.0%
Asian	1.5%
Latino	1.5%
Native American	I.r.
White	80.9%
Total	100.0%
Number	19,534

I.r. low reliability

# ARKANSAS

## State Performance

### ATTAINMENT

In order to determine equity in attainment rates, we compare regular diploma recipients with the number of 8th graders four years earlier, and report freshmen enrollments compared to bachelor's degrees four years later. Taken together, these show the flow of groups of students from middle school to high school graduation and through postsecondary education. Although these data do not track individual students from year to year, they should paint a fairly representative picture of who makes it through high school and college.

#### 8th Graders vs. Diplomas

	8th Graders 1993-94	Diplomas 1998
African American	24.0%	22.2%
Asian	0.6%	1.0%
Latino	0.8%	1.2%
Native American	0.3%	0.3%
White	74.3%	75.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%
Number	36,471	26,855

#### Chances For College, 1998

In the fall of 1998, the percentage of 19 year-olds in Arkansas who were enrolled in college was (includes part-time and full-time students): .....39.3%

#### Freshmen vs. Degrees Awarded

	Freshmen* 1993-94	Bachelor's Degrees 1997
African American	18.0%	10.6%
Asian	1.1%	1.4%
Latino	0.8%	0.7%
Native American	I.r.	I.r.
White	77.2%	82.1%
Other	2.9%	5.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%
Number	17,339	9,214

\*Note: Includes first-time full time and part time freshmen at 2-year and 4-year institutions.

I.r. low reliability

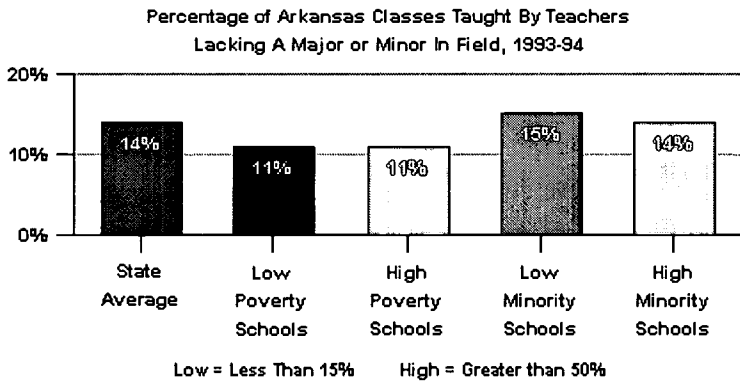
# ARKANSAS

## Opportunity

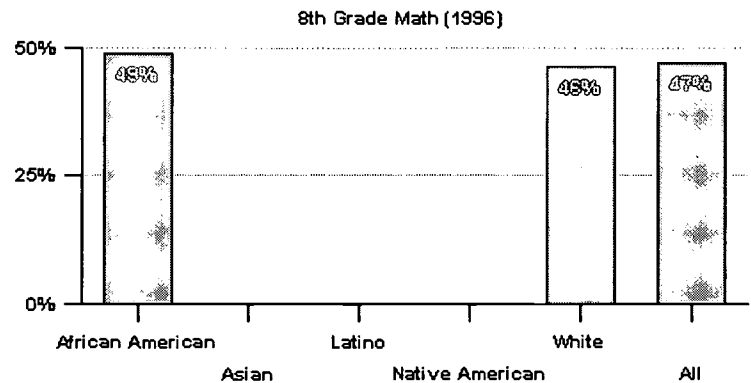
### WELL-PREPARED TEACHERS

The best educational investment a state can make is to give each student a knowledgeable teacher. One key measure of teachers' qualifications is whether they have a major in their particular field. The distribution of well-prepared teachers is an important indicator of equal educational opportunity for different groups of students.

#### Teachers Without Degree in Field (Secondary)



#### Math Students With Math-Major Teachers



### CHALLENGING CURRICULA

Industry has joined colleges in the demand for individuals with high-level knowledge and skills. This means that all students need a rigorous curriculum in order to be prepared for success, whether they choose college or work. Yet too few students have the opportunity to gain these skills through rigorous math and science courses.

**Percentage of students who take high-level courses:** Course-taking disaggregated by race and ethnicity is an indicator of the amount of access students have to challenging subject matter and the essential skills it develops for life after high school.

*Example for reading this chart: Of all African American 8th graders, this percentage took Algebra I.*

Subject	African American	Asian	Latino	Native American	White	All
8th Grade Algebra	19%				18%	18%
Algebra II by Graduation	54%	91%	36%	48%	67%	64%
Chemistry by Graduation	52%	87%	34%	46%	65%	61%

**Composition of AP test takers:** Students take Advanced Placement (AP) exams after completing year-long AP courses, typically among the highest level offered in high schools. In a system where all students have equal access to these opportunities, the percentage of test-takers by race and ethnicity would be proportional to their representation in public K-12 enrollment.

*Example: Of all AP test-takers, this percentage were African Americans*

#### AP Test Takers, 2000

	Public K-12	English/Composition	Calculus AB	Biology
African American	23.5%	5.3%	4.1%	5.1%
Asian	0.8%	3.8%	5.7%	5.1%
Latino	2.2%	1.0%	1.0%	0.7%
Native American	0.4%	I.r.	I.r.	I.r.
White	73.1%	89.9%	89.2%	89.1%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Number	456,459	1,031	610	413

I.r. low reliability

# ARKANSAS

## Opportunity

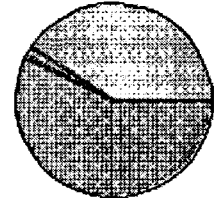
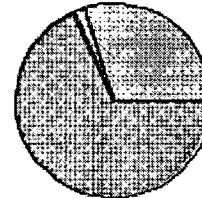
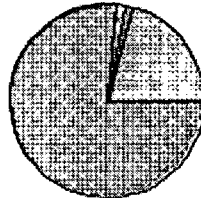
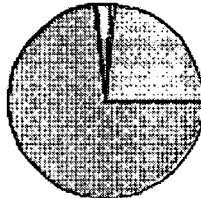
### SPECIAL STUDENT PLACEMENTS

The school programs listed below vary a great deal in their level of curriculum, expectations, and instruction. Poor and minority students should not face disproportionate placement in programs with lower academic expectations. If there is equity in placements, the number of Latino students, for example, placed in gifted and talented programs and in special education should be proportional to Latinos enrolled in K-12. Although suspensions are not precisely an academic program, we include data about them because too often they represent a placement out of the system altogether.

Student Placement, 1998

	Public K-12	Gifted and Talented	Special Education	Suspensions
African American	23.5%	20.79%	29.86%	40.5%
Asian	0.8%	1.06%	0.15%	0.52%
Latino	2.2%	1.45%	1.54%	1.54%
Native American	0.4%	0.27%	0.3%	0.18%
White	73.1%	76.42%	68.15%	57.26%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Number	456,497	49,862	33,863	31,068

- African American
- Asian
- Latino
- Native American
- White

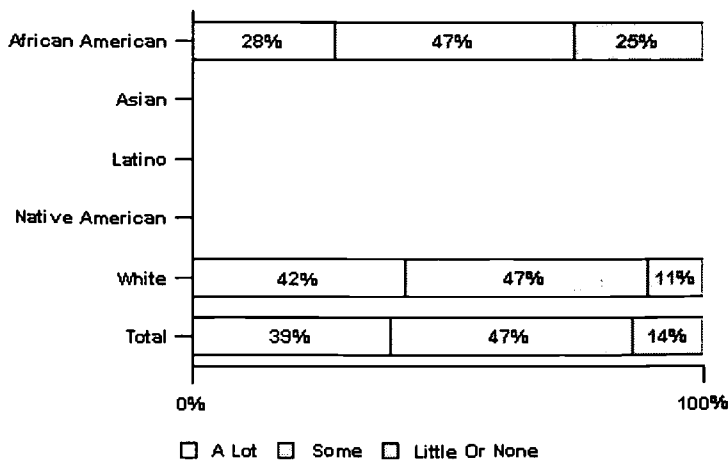


### EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION

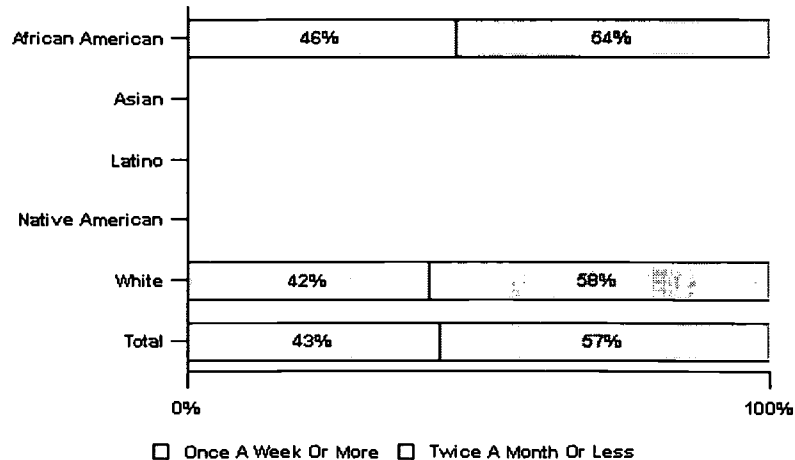
Students can do no better than the assignments and instruction they are given. Research shows that students whose teachers emphasize mathematical problem solving and hands-on science activities score significantly higher on NAEP. How often students experience these practices is another indicator of educational opportunity.

Math and Science Practice (8th Grade) 1996

Emphasis on Solving Complex Math Problems



Frequency of Hands on Science



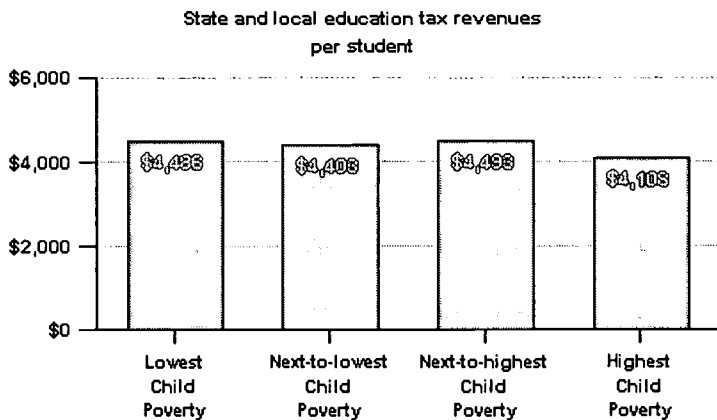
# ARKANSAS

## Opportunity

### INVESTMENTS

**State and local education dollars by district poverty and minority enrollment, 1996-97:** A growing body of research shows that additional dollars spent on the right things can substantially raise the achievement of poor and minority students. But despite decades of school finance litigation in many states, students in districts with the greatest challenges by and large still receive the fewest resources.

#### Education Dollars by District Poverty



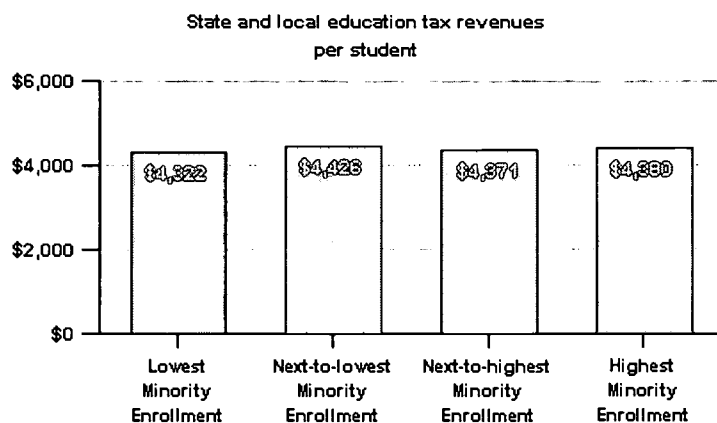
NOTE: Dollars are adjusted for student needs and regional cost differences. Districts are divided into quarters by child poverty.

#### Analysis

Research suggests that investing more funds in education services for disadvantaged students can help close the achievement gap.

In Arkansas, districts with the highest child poverty rates have \$378 fewer state and local dollars to spend per student compared with the lowest-poverty districts. That translates into a total \$9,450 for a typical classroom of 25 students.

#### Education Dollars by District Minority Enrollment



NOTE: Dollars are adjusted for student needs and regional cost differences. Districts are divided into quarters by enrollment.

#### Analysis

Research suggests that investing more funds in education services for disadvantaged students can help close the achievement gap.

In Arkansas, districts with the highest minority enrollments have \$58 fewer state and local dollars to spend per student compared with the lowest-minority districts. That translates into a total \$1,450 for a typical classroom of 25 students.

# ARKANSAS

## Opportunity

**Per Pupil Investment, 1999-2000:** To facilitate comparison across states, data are adjusted to reflect the higher cost of educating students who live in places where educational supplies and sources tend to be more expensive, such as large cities. These numbers will therefore differ from unadjusted Per Pupil Expenditure figures. Even cost adjusted dollars per students vary a great deal from state to state, from a low in Utah of \$4,280, to a high of \$9,057 in West Virginia.

The State average per pupil investment was . . . . . **\$5,582**

**Effort, 1997-98:** By surfacing the level of a state's commitment, this calculation of "effort" allows comparisons between wealthy and less affluent states that may not be apparent when examining per pupil spending alone. For example, a state with low wealth may rank low on per pupil spending, but an examination of "Effort" shows that a high percentage of its wealth is devoted to education. The state in this example would rank favorably against a wealthier state that commits a smaller percentage of its resources to education, even though the latter state's actual "per pupil" dollars may be larger. Among the 50 states this ranges from a low of \$27.07 in Delaware, to a high of \$52.77 in Vermont.

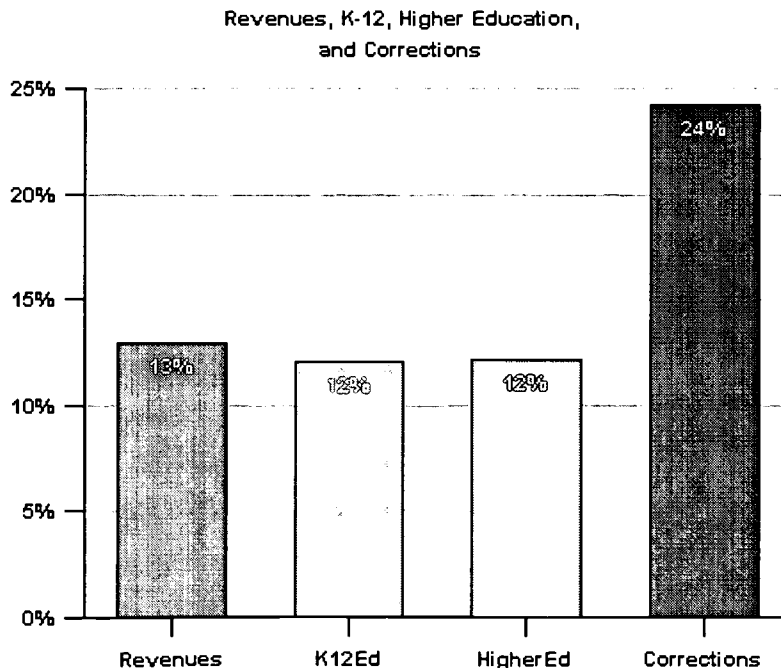
For every \$1,000 in annual personal income, the combined state and local investment in K-12 education was . . . . . **\$39.24**

### College vs. Prison, 1998

Compares the annual cost of maintaining an individual in prison to the price of tuition, room and board at the state's leading public university.

Institution	Annual College Cost	Annual Prison Cost
University of Arkansas	<b>\$7,335.00</b>	<b>\$13,782.40</b>

**Change in state investments, 1997-99:** By comparing trends in total state spending and on elementary/secondary education, higher education and corrections over a two-year period, we can gauge the priority a state gives to investing in education.



# Minority Achievement Gains, State by State

## 4th Grade Math Scale Scores, 1992-96

### Where are minority students making the largest gains?

The following tables show how many points African American and Latino students gained or lost on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The tables only include those states that participated in both years and had enough members of each student group in the testing sample.

### African American

State	1992	1996	Change
Massachusetts	194	208	+14
Michigan	186	199	+13
Texas	199	212	+13
Iowa	194	205	+11
North Carolina	194	205	+11
Connecticut	195	206	+11
Indiana	196	206	+10
Louisiana	187	196	+9
<b>NATION</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>+8</b>
Nebraska	191	198	+7
Mississippi	190	197	+7
Virginia	198	204	+6
Tennessee	193	198	+5
Alabama	189	194	+5
Missouri	196	201	+5
New Jersey	199	204	+5
Wisconsin	196	201	+5
Pennsylvania	194	199	+5
Florida	191	195	+4
Arkansas	189	193	+4
Maryland	195	199	+4
New York	200	204	+4
California	184	188	+4
Georgia	197	201	+4
Hawaii	200	204	+4
South Carolina	195	199	+4
Rhode Island	191	194	+3
Kentucky	201	204	+3
New Mexico	203	205	+2
West Virginia	204	205	+1
Arizona	199	200	+1
Minnesota	194	193	-1
Delaware	198	195	-3
Colorado	200	196	-4
District Of Columbia	190	184	-6

### Latino

State	1992	1996	Change
Tennessee	193	209	+16
Minnesota	208	219	+11
Rhode Island	190	201	+11
Mississippi	186	196	+10
Arkansas	195	203	+8
Texas	209	216	+7
North Dakota	215	222	+7
Missouri	208	214	+6
West Virginia	204	210	+6
North Carolina	200	206	+6
New York	199	205	+6
Indiana	210	215	+5
California	192	197	+5
Massachusetts	207	211	+4
Georgia	198	202	+4
<b>NATION</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>+4</b>
Colorado	206	210	+4
Hawaii	199	202	+3
Alabama	193	196	+3
Pennsylvania	205	207	+2
Virginia	212	214	+2
New Mexico	203	205	+2
Kentucky	199	201	+2
Wisconsin	213	214	+1
Connecticut	206	207	+1
Arizona	203	204	+1
Florida	207	207	0
Maryland	207	207	0
New Jersey	206	206	0
District of Columbia	182	182	0
Michigan	206	205	-1
Utah	209	208	-1
South Carolina	200	199	-1
Nebraska	210	209	-1
Maine	220	218	-2
Delaware	199	194	-5
Wyoming	215	209	-6
Louisiana	200	193	-7
Iowa	219	212	-7

# Minority Achievement Gains, State by State

## 8th Grade Math Scale Scores, 1990–96

### Where are minority students making the largest gains?

The following tables show how many points African American and Latino students gained or lost on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The tables only include those states that participated in both years and had enough members of each student group in the testing sample.

#### African American

State	1990	1996	Change
Nebraska	235	256	+21
Colorado	237	255	+18
Rhode Island	227	244	+17
North Carolina	233	247	+14
Michigan	232	246	+14
Texas	236	249	+13
West Virginia	235	246	+11
New York	236	246	+10
Minnesota	239	249	+10
Arizona	245	254	+9
Kentucky	240	248	+8
California	233	239	+6
Florida	231	236	+5
Louisiana	230	235	+5
<b>NATION</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>+5</b>
Maryland	238	243	+5
Indiana	243	247	+4
Connecticut	241	245	+4
Arkansas	232	235	+3
Wisconsin	238	240	+2
Delaware	242	244	+2
Virginia	242	244	+2
Georgia	240	241	+1
District of Columbia	231	231	0
Alabama	234	233	-1

#### Latino

State	1990	1996	Change
North Carolina	218	253	+35
Minnesota	239	266	+27
Louisiana	226	242	+16
North Dakota	249	264	+15
Connecticut	237	252	+15
Georgia	231	246	+15
Virginia	243	258	+15
Hawaii	231	244	+13
West Virginia	232	244	+12
Iowa	256	268	+12
Maryland	237	248	+11
Texas	245	256	+11
Colorado	247	257	+10
Indiana	245	255	+10
California	237	246	+9
Rhode Island	230	239	+9
Arizona	242	251	+9
Wisconsin	250	259	+9
New York	237	245	+8
Florida	245	253	+8
<b>NATION</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>+8</b>
Michigan	243	249	+6
Oregon	254	259	+5
Alabama	227	232	+5
New Mexico	247	252	+5
District of Columbia	217	221	+4
Delaware	242	244	+2
Wyoming	255	256	+1
Nebraska	253	253	0
Montana	263	257	-6



# Minority Achievement Gains, State by State

## 4th Grade Reading Scale Scores, 1992-98

### Where are minority students making the largest gains?

The following tables show how many points African American and Latino students gained or lost on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The tables only include those states that participated in both years and had enough members of each student group in the testing sample.

### African American

State	1992	1998	Change
Rhode Island	187	197	+10
Connecticut	196	205	+9
North Carolina	194	200	+6
Mississippi	186	192	+6
Alabama	188	193	+5
California	184	189	+5
Delaware	195	199	+4
Florida	186	189	+3
Michigan	188	191	+3
Hawaii	192	195	+3
Maryland	193	195	+2
South Carolina	195	197	+2
<b>NATION</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>+1</b>
Colorado	202	202	0
Tennessee	193	193	0
Virginia	203	203	0
Kentucky	197	196	-1
Minnesota	191	190	-1
Texas	200	197	-3
Georgia	196	193	-3
Massachusetts	205	202	-3
Arkansas	190	186	-4
Louisiana	191	186	-5
Missouri	196	190	-6
District Of Columbia	186	180	-6
Wisconsin	200	193	-7
New York	202	193	-9
Oklahoma	201	192	-9
Arizona	200	190	-10
West Virginia	204	192	-12
Iowa	209	192	-17
New Mexico	202	183	-19

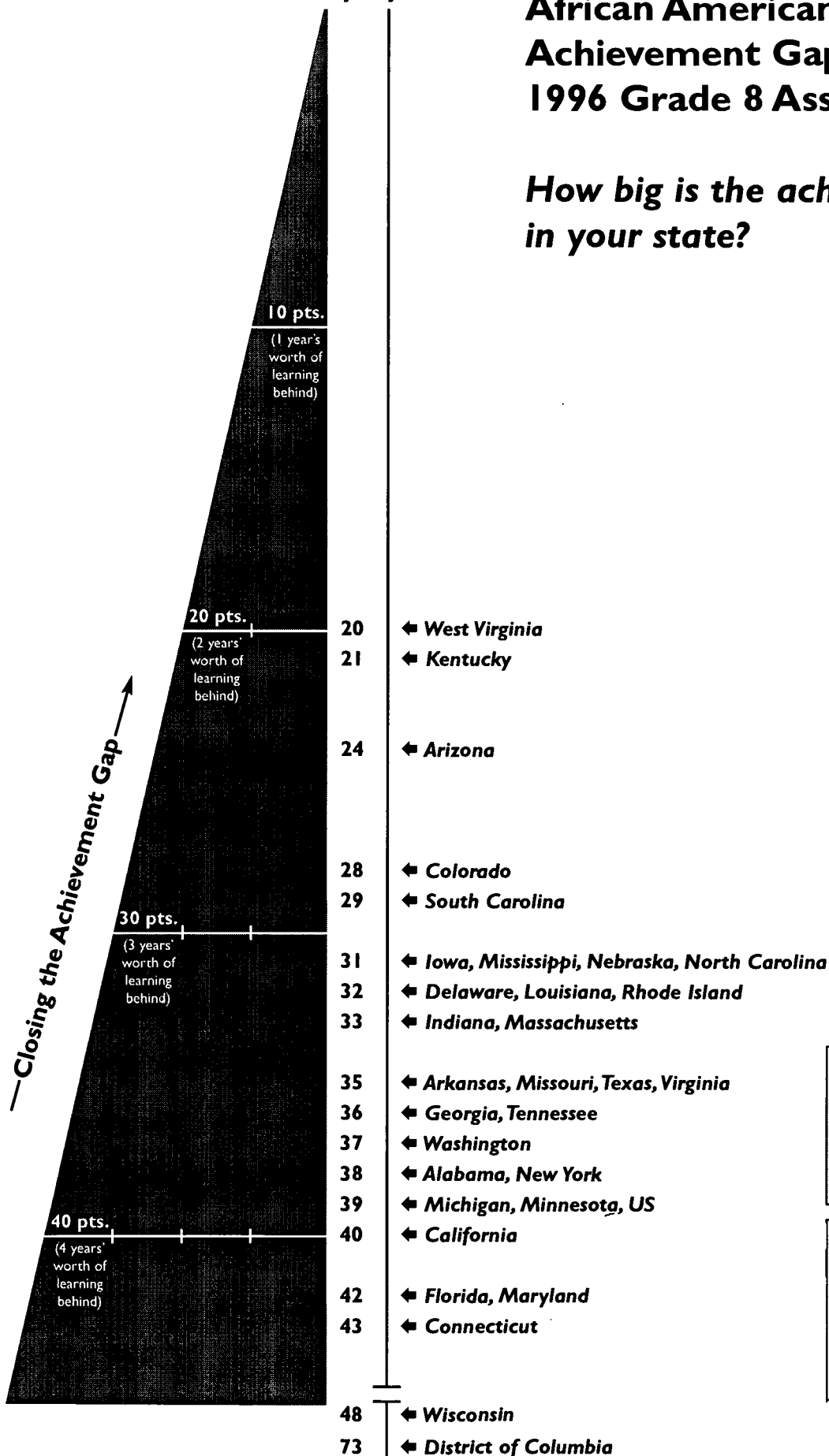
### Latino

State	1992	1998	Change
Connecticut	193	205	+12
New York	187	194	+7
Delaware	188	193	+5
North Carolina	192	196	+4
Maryland	197	200	+3
Texas	201	204	+3
Georgia	192	193	+1
Alabama	190	190	0
Colorado	202	202	0
Kentucky	195	195	0
Minnesota	203	203	0
West Virginia	196	196	0
Maine	209	208	-1
Florida	201	200	-1
Massachusetts	201	200	-1
Arkansas	188	187	-1
Oklahoma	208	207	-1
Iowa	211	210	-1
New Mexico	200	199	-1
Wyoming	209	207	-2
Mississippi	185	183	-2
California	183	181	-2
Wisconsin	210	208	-2
Tennessee	196	193	-3
<b>NATION</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>-4</b>
Virginia	202	198	-4
Louisiana	188	184	-4
Michigan	198	193	-5
Rhode Island	191	185	-6
South Carolina	195	189	-6
Missouri	202	196	-6
District Of Columbia	177	168	-9
Hawaii	193	183	-10
Arizona	198	186	-12
New Hampshire	215	201	-14
Utah	204	189	-15

★ Equity ★

# African American-White Math Achievement Gaps: NAEP 1996 Grade 8 Assessment

*How big is the achievement gap in your state?*



**States with sample sizes too small**  
 Alaska, Hawaii, Maine, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Wyoming

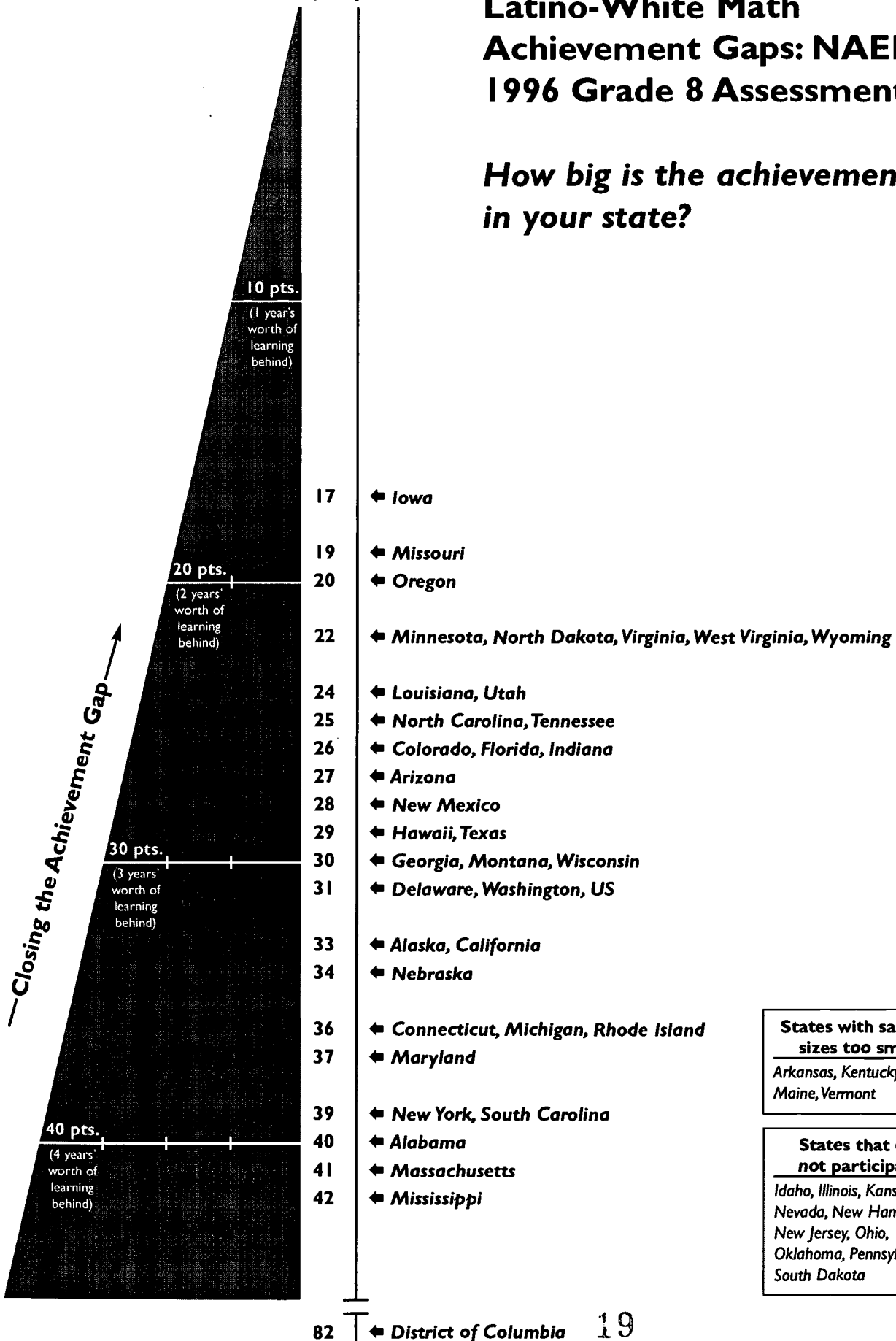
**States that did not participate**  
 Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota

Note: Gaps are measured by the point difference between minority and White average scale scores.

★ Equity ★

# Latino-White Math Achievement Gaps: NAEP 1996 Grade 8 Assessment

*How big is the achievement gap in your state?*



**States with sample sizes too small**  
Arkansas, Kentucky, Maine, Vermont

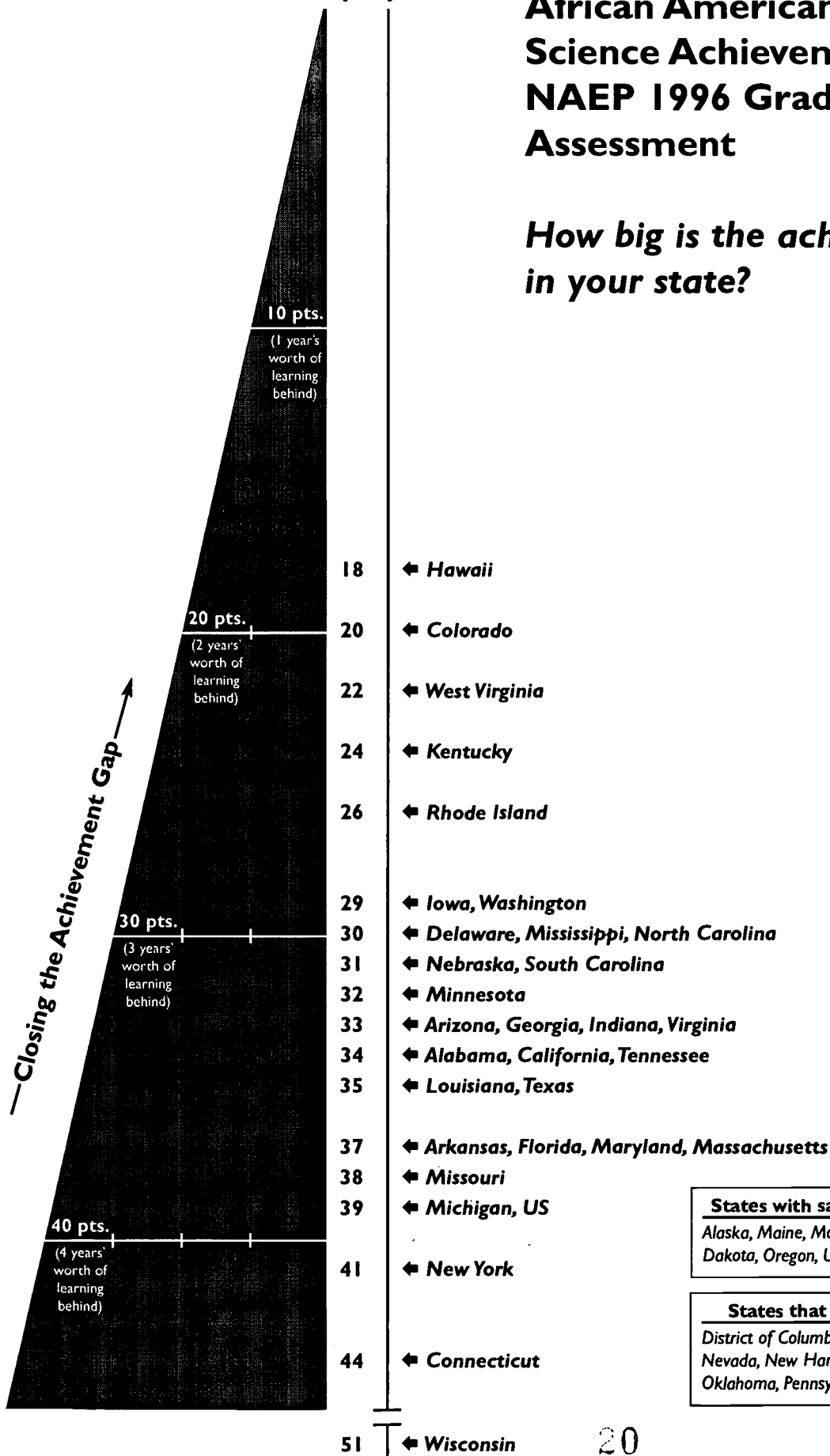
**States that did not participate**  
Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota

Note: Gaps are measured by the point difference between minority and White average scale scores.

★ Equity ★

# African American-White Science Achievement Gaps: NAEP 1996 Grade 8 Assessment

*How big is the achievement gap  
in your state?*



**States with sample sizes too small**  
Alaska, Maine, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Wyoming

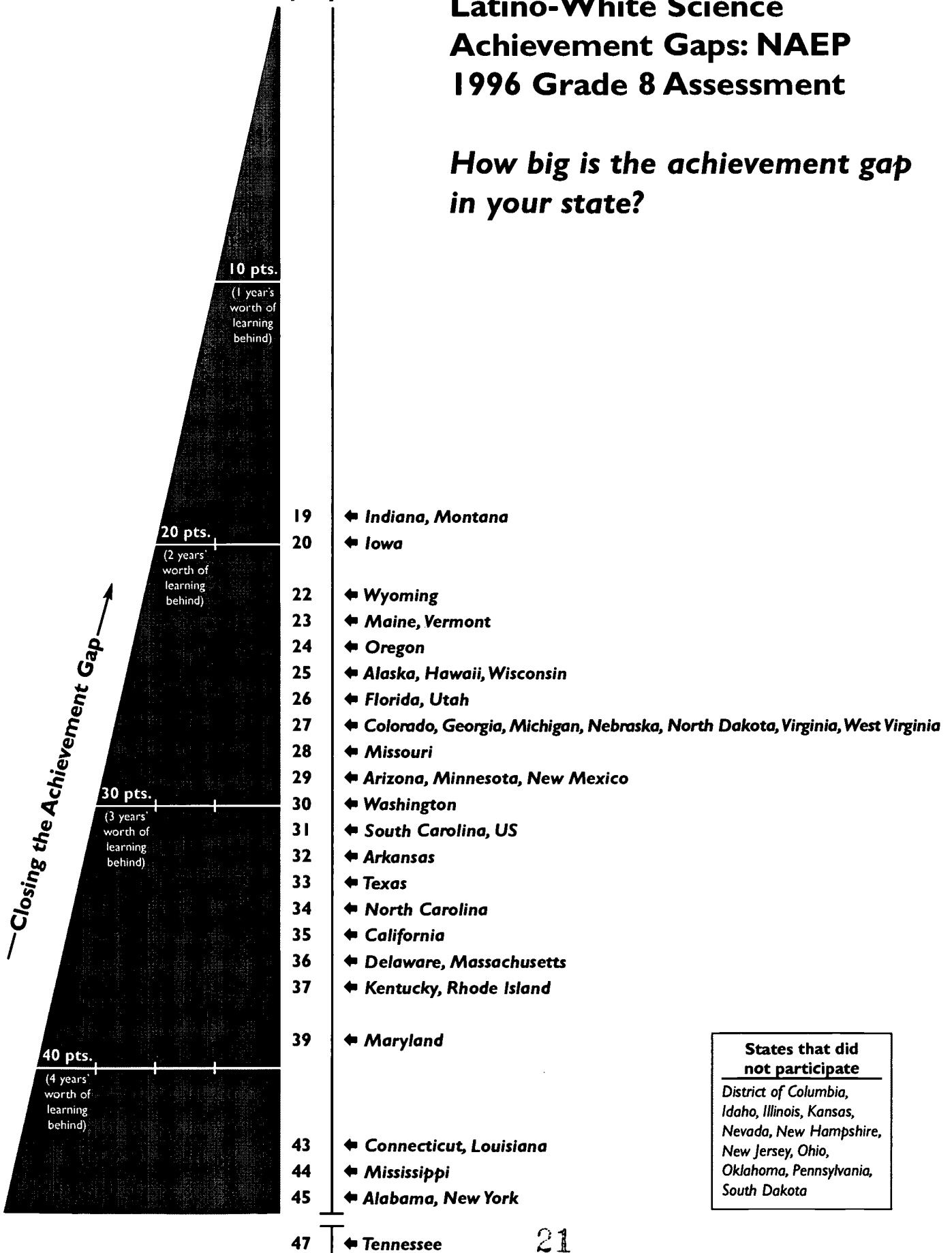
**States that did not participate**  
District of Columbia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota

Note: Gaps are measured by the point difference between minority and White average scale scores.

★ Equity ★

# Latino-White Science Achievement Gaps: NAEP 1996 Grade 8 Assessment

*How big is the achievement gap in your state?*

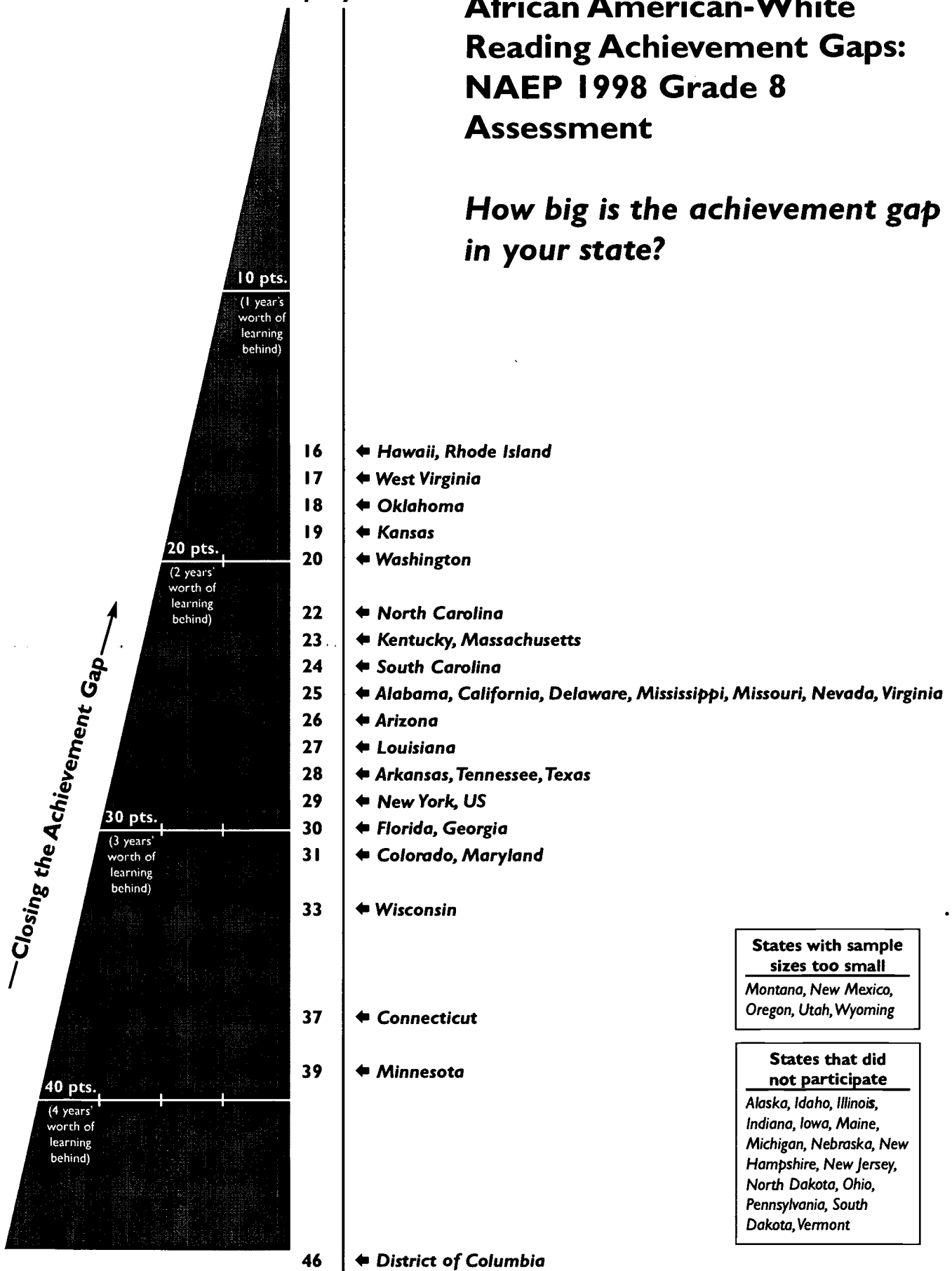


**States that did not participate**  
 District of Columbia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota

★ Equity ★

# African American-White Reading Achievement Gaps: NAEP 1998 Grade 8 Assessment

*How big is the achievement gap in your state?*

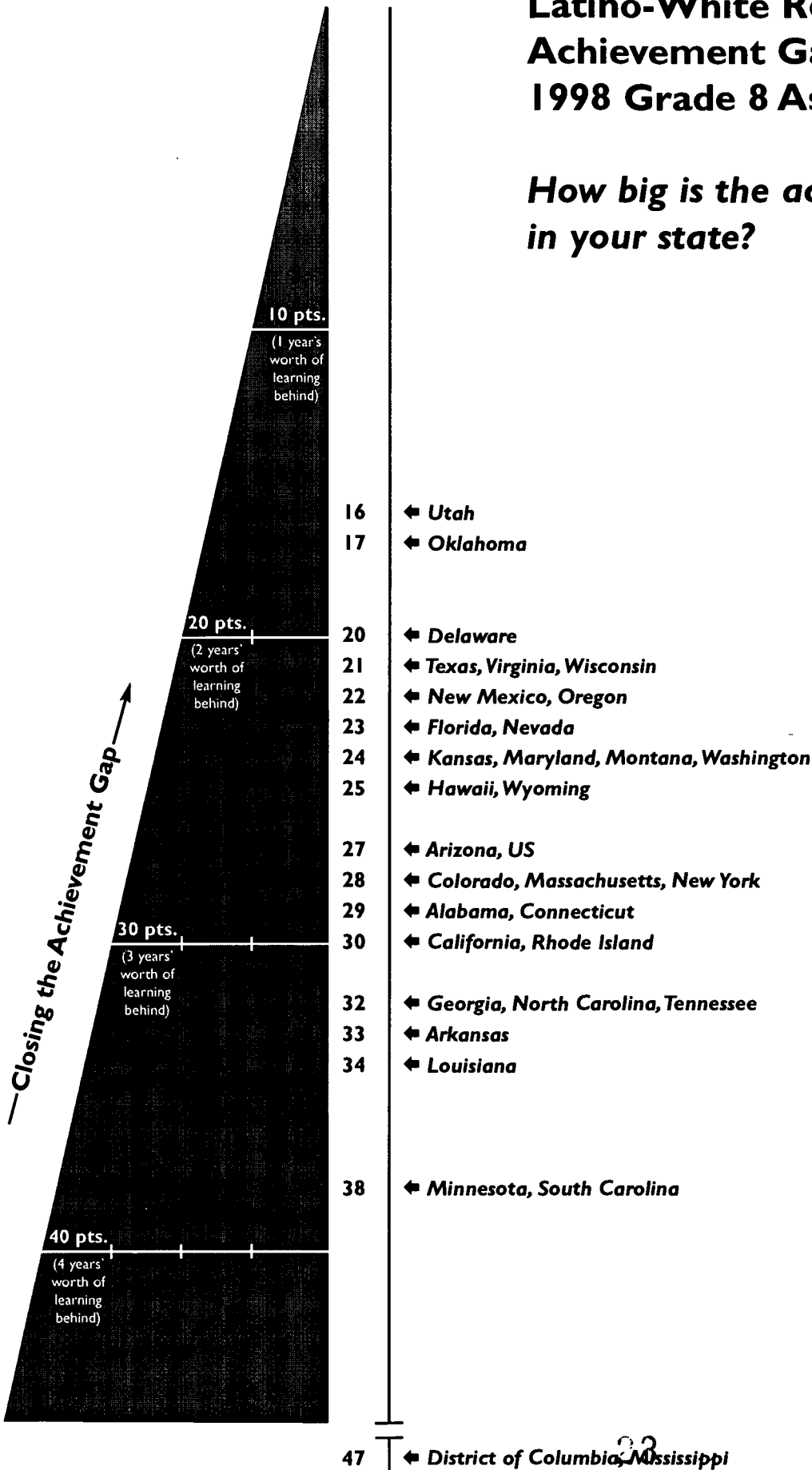


Note: Gaps are measured by the point difference between minority and White average scale scores.

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# Latino-White Reading Achievement Gaps: NAEP 1998 Grade 8 Assessment

*How big is the achievement gap in your state?*



**States with sample sizes too small**  
Kentucky, Missouri, West Virginia

**States that did not participate**  
Alaska, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Vermont

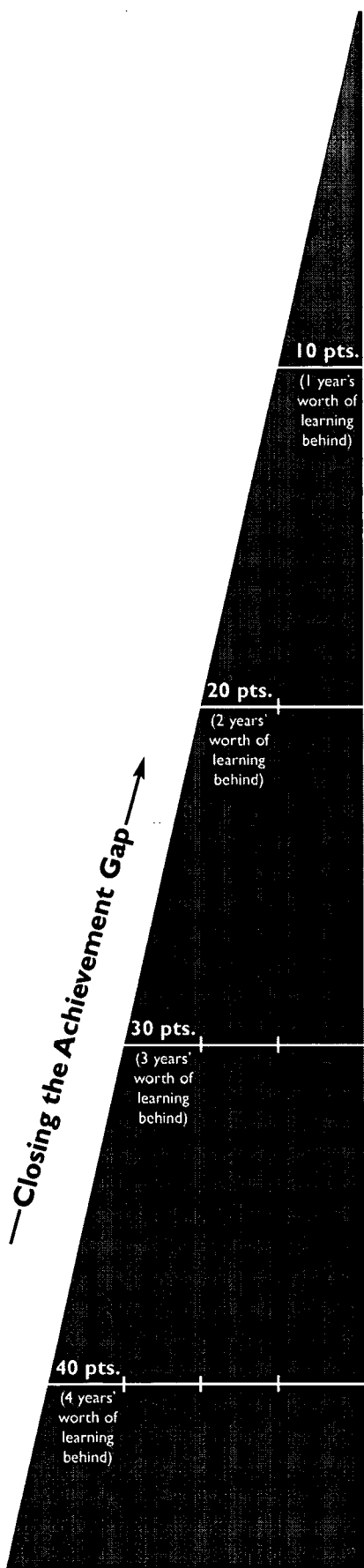
47 ← District of Columbia, Mississippi

**Note:** Gaps are measured by the point difference between minority and White average scale scores.

☆ **Equity** ☆

# African American-White Writing Achievement Gaps: NAEP 1998 Grade 8 Assessment

*How big is the achievement gap in your state?*



- 5 ← West Virginia
- 15 ← Nevada, Wisconsin
- 17 ← Hawaii
- 18 ← Texas
- 19 ← Virginia
- 20 ← Kentucky, New Mexico, Rhode Island
- 21 ← Alabama
- 22 ← Arkansas, Delaware, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Washington
- 23 ← California, Louisiana, Missouri
- 25 ← Colorado, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina
- 26 ← Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, US
- 29 ← Minnesota
- 31 ← District of Columbia
- 32 ← Arizona
- 34 ← Connecticut

**States with sample sizes too small**  
 Montana, Oregon, Utah, Wyoming

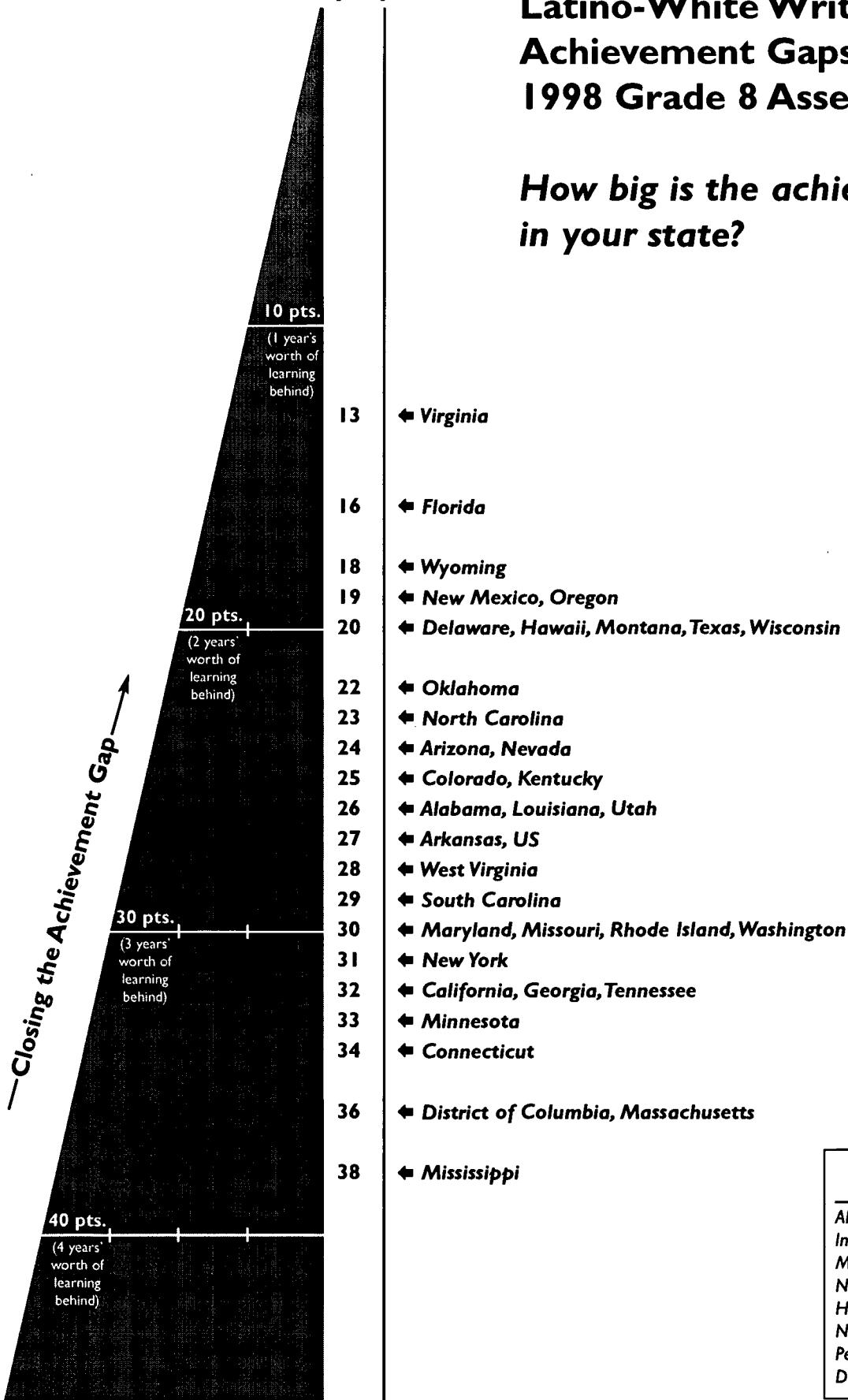
**States that did not participate**  
 Alaska, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Vermont



★ Equity ★

# Latino-White Writing Achievement Gaps: NAEP 1998 Grade 8 Assessments

*How big is the achievement gap in your state?*



**States that did not participate**

Alaska, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Vermont

# ARKANSAS

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Please note: For calculations and technical notes, please see our *Definitions and Sources* online at [www.edtrust.org](http://www.edtrust.org).

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#### Population Ages 5-24

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Graduates, 1998: *State Nonfiscal Public Elementary/Secondary Education Survey Data*, (Washington, D.C.: National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, December 2000) Percentages calculated by the Education Trust.

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Bachelors Degrees Awarded, 1997—*Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), Completions Survey, 1996-97*, (Washington, D.C.: National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education). Tabulations provided by the National Education Data Resource Center. Calculations by the Education Trust.

### OPPORTUNITY: INVESTMENTS IN WELL-PREPARED TEACHERS

#### Percentage of Secondary School Classes Taught by Underqualified Teachers

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#### Percentage of Eighth Grade Math Students Taught by Math Majors

*NAEP 1996 Summary Data Tables – Teacher Data Tables*, (Washington, D.C.: National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, 1997), [nces.ed.gov/NAEP/table96](http://nces.ed.gov/NAEP/table96).

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### **OPPORTUNITY: INVESTMENTS IN CHALLENGING CURRICULA**

#### Enrollment in High-Level Courses

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#### Composition of AP Test Takers

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### **OPPORTUNITY: FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS**

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- Adjusted school district revenues: F-33 Annual Survey of Local Government Finances, 1997, Data Files, (Washington, DC, U.S. Census Bureau, 2000)
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- Children in poverty by district: Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates: School District Estimates, (Washington, DC, U.S. Census Bureau, 2000)

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