

Pennsylvania

NAEP testing data as well as state assessment results reveal a set of Excellence Gaps for Black, Hispanic and Free and Reduced Lunch Eligible (FARM) students that are, on the whole, quite substantial and pervasive.

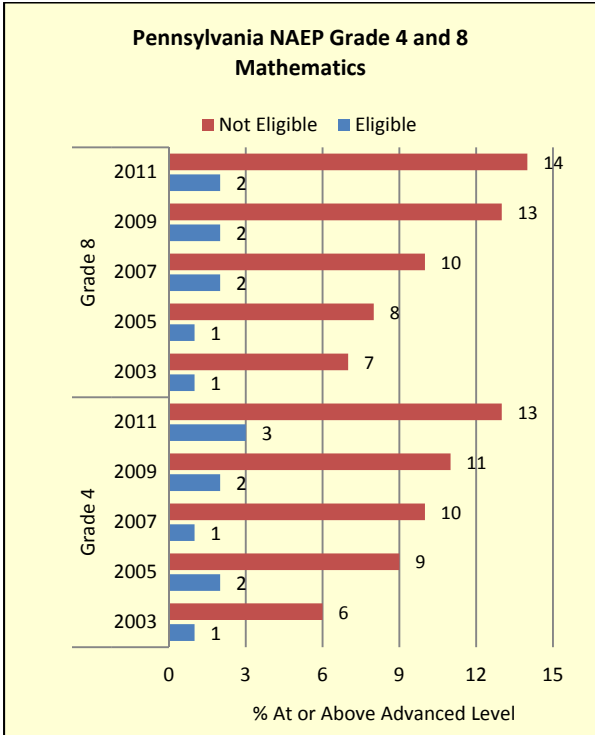
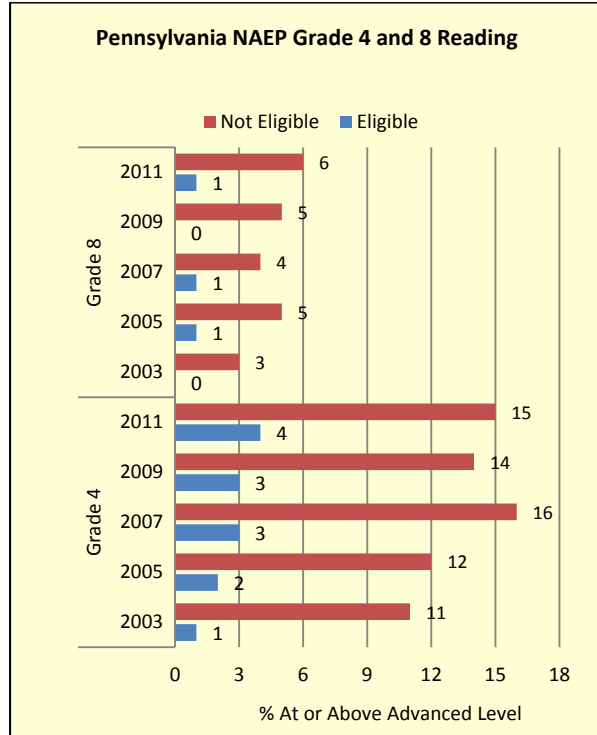
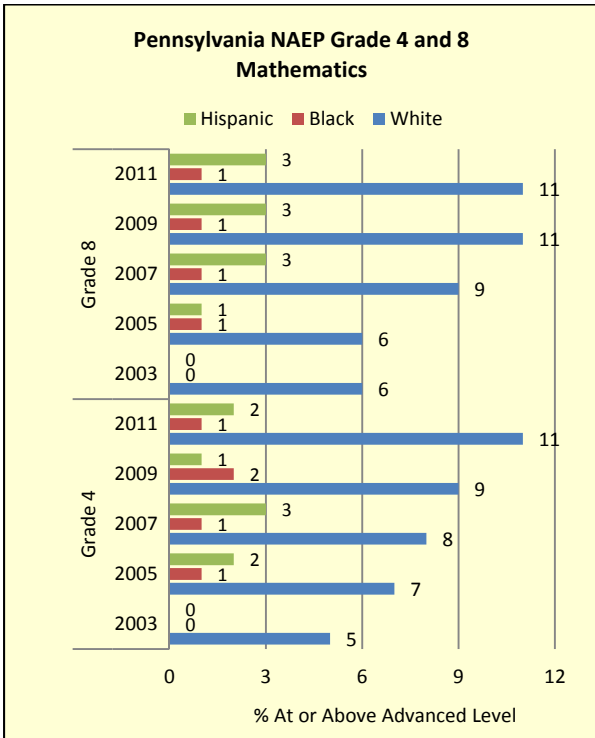
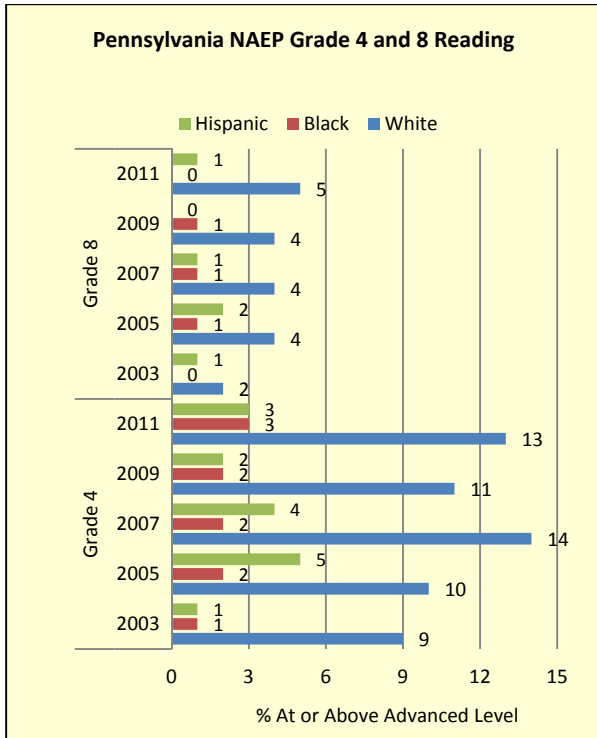
According to NAEP proficiency data on race, the most pronounced differences between ethnic subcategories since 2003 for Grade 4 were in Reading and Math between White and Black students and White and Hispanic students. The most notable differences for Grade 8 were found in Math, again between White and Black students, and White and Hispanic students. In these categories, the disparities in excellence between the ethnic subgroups have remained large and increase incrementally over the years.

NAEP proficiency data on socioeconomic status show the largest Excellence Gap occurring in Grade 4 Reading. Similar to the data on race, the overall disparities between FARM and non-FARM students have been substantial in size and increasing steadily.

Pennsylvania's educational assessment program, the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA), shows the most substantial Excellence Gaps on race for Grade 8 Reading and Math. Both Grade 4 and 11 Excellence Gaps were substantial in size and consistent across time and subject. Excellence Gaps on socioeconomic status were uniformly large and consistent over time, with the most substantial gap being in Grade 8 Reading.

There seems to be some lack of consistency in the Excellence Gaps identified by NAEP and the PSSA. Though there are clear differences in the rigor of the two tests, the magnitude of the Excellence Gaps identified are similar between the two tests. Interestingly, the PSSA identifies more sizable Excellence Gaps than does NAEP, and actually identifies substantial gaps between all ethnic and socioeconomic subgroups.

PENNSYLVANIA State Profile



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Pennsylvania NAEP Scores at Above Average Level						
Subject, Grade, Group	2003	2007	2011	2003 Gap	2007 Gap	2011 Gap
Math 4 Male	6	9	10	3	4	2
Math 4 Female	3	5	8			
Math 8 Male	6	10	10	2	4	1
Math 8 Female	4	6	9			
Reading 4 Male	6	11	9	2	1	4
Reading 4 Female	8	12	13			
Reading 8 Male	1	3	3	2	1	3
Reading 8 Female	3	4	6			
Math 4 ELL	X	2	1	*	5	8
Math 4 NonELL	4	7	9			
Math 8 ELL	X	X	2	*	*	8
Math 8 NonELL	5	8	10			
Reading 4 ELL	X	3	1	*	9	10
Reading 4 NonELL	7	12	11			
Reading 8 ELL	X	X	0	*	*	4
Reading 8 NonELL	2	3	4			
Math 4 FARM	1	1	3	5	9	10
Math 4 NonFARM	6	10	13			
Math 8 FARM	1	2	2	6	8	12
Math 8 NonFARM	7	10	14			
Reading 4 FARM	1	3	4	10	13	11
Reading 4 NonFARM	11	16	15			
Reading 8 FARM	0	1	1	3	3	5
Reading 8 NonFARM	3	4	6			
Math 4 White	5	8	11			
Math 4 Black	0	1	1	*	*	*
Math 4 Hispanic	0	3	2	5	5	9
Math 8 White	6	9	11			
Math 8 Black	0	1	1	*	*	*
Math 8 Hispanic	0	3	3	6	6	8
Reading 4 White	9	14	13			
Reading 4 Black	1	2	3	*	*	*
Reading 4 Hispanic	1	4	3	8	10	10
Reading 8 White	2	4	5			
Reading 8 Black	0	1	0	*	*	*
Reading 8 Hispanic	1	1	1	1	3	4

X = reporting standards not met

* = results could not be calculated

PENNSYLVANIA State Profile

PA System of School Assessment Grades 4, 8, & 11 Reading Excellence Achievement Gaps on Race															
	Grade 4					Grade 8					Grade 11				
% at Advanced	W	B	H	W-B	W-H	W	B	H	W-B	W-H	W	B	H	W-B	W-H
2005	Data Not Available					39	12	14	27	25	38	9	13	29	25
2006	37	10	12	27	25	51	17	19	34	32	36	9	11	27	25
2007	37	13	14	24	23	53	21	22	32	31	33	8	10	25	23
2008	40	13	0	27	40	62	27	0	35	62	36	10	0	26	36
2009	42	16	18	26	24	62	33	31	29	31	0	0	0	0	0
2010	42	16	19	26	23	59	32	31	27	28	39	14	15	25	24
2011	40	17	20	23	20	65	33	31	32	34	41	15	16	26	25

PA System of School Assessment Grades 4, 8, & 11 Mathematics Excellence Achievement Gaps on Race															
	Grade 4					Grade 8					Grade 11				
% at Advanced	W	B	H	W-B	W-H	W	B	H	W-B	W-H	W	B	H	W-B	W-H
2005	Data Not Available					42	12	18	30	24	30	6	9	24	21
2006	50	18	21	32	29	42	12	16	30	26	32	7	9	25	23
2007	54	21	25	33	29	47	15	21	32	26	27	6	8	21	19
2008	57	24	30	33	27	49	19	24	30	25	29	7	9	22	20
2009	58	27	32	31	26	51	22	25	29	26	38	12	14	26	24
2010	61	28	33	33	28	57	27	29	30	28	36	12	13	24	23
2011	60	31	36	29	24	56	26	28	30	28	33	10	11	23	22

PENNSYLVANIA State Profile

PA System of School Assessment Grades 4, 8, & 11 Reading Excellence Achievement Gaps on SES									
	Grade 4			Grade 8			Grade 11		
% at Advanced	N	P*	N-P	N	P	N-P	N	P	N-P
2005	Data Not Available			42	16	24	39	14	25
2006	41	14	27	54	22	32	37	13	24
2007	41	16	25	56	25	31	34	12	22
2008	45	17	28	66	32	34	38	14	24
2009	48	20	28	66	35	31	40	16	24
2010	48	21	27	65	34	31	41	17	24
2011	46	21	25	70	37	33	44	19	25

PA System of School Assessment Grades 4, 8, & 11 Mathematics Excellence Achievement Gaps on SES									
	Grade 4			Grade 8			Grade 11		
% at Advanced	N	P	N-P	N	P	N-P	N	P	N-P
2005	Data Not Available			45	18	27	31	10	21
2006	54	25	29	45	18	27	33	12	21
2007	58	28	30	49	22	27	29	10	19
2008	61	32	29	52	24	28	31	11	20
2009	63	34	29	55	26	29	31	11	20
2010	66	38	28	62	33	29	39	16	23
2011	66	38	28	61	32	29	35	14	21

**Low SES labeled as "Economically Disadvantaged"*