



**The
Prichard
Committee**

building a
GROUNDSWELL
for a big, bold future



Brigitte Blom, President & CEO
Chaka Cummings, Manager - Equity and K-12 Policy

A Call for Racial Equity & Justice

A statement from the Prichard Committee President & CEO Brigitte Blom Ramsey and the Board of Directors

June 2, 2020

We can no longer wait for another generation to pass while the slow lever of policy change takes hold. We must insist on a new kind of change now, change that will remedy the injustices that have been waged on Black communities for generations and end deeply embedded and persistent racism. We stand with our communities of color to insist on justice. We have simply not done enough to ensure equitable treatment and opportunity – in education, income, health, and safety.

Against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, which brought inequities experienced by people with low-incomes and families of color into stark relief, coupled with recent events of police brutality giving rise to state, national, and international protests – **we know education is undoubtedly part of the solution. Yet, we have simply failed to deliver on the promise of education for African American students and other students of color. This is unacceptable.**

As a citizen-led Committee, we commit to doubling down on our longstanding call for greater equity in education outcomes, for greater systemic and community accountability for the progress of each and every one of our students. We will continue to press policymakers to invest in adequate and equitable education – early childhood through postsecondary – and an accountability system that ensures each Kentucky student has the opportunities and the support to develop, without fear, and to meet and exceed their potential.

Full statement: <https://prichardcommittee.org/racial-equityjustice/>.

National Rankings

BIG BOLD FUTURE

2020 National Ranking Report



Early Childhood

Babies with
healthy
birth weight

 **37**

Rank Among 50 States

Children
above 200% of
poverty

 **39**

Rank Among 50 States

Preschool
participation
(Ages 3-4)

 **37**

Rank Among 50 States

K-12 Students

4th grade
reading
proficiency

 **26**

Rank Among 50 States

8th grade
math
proficiency

 **39**

Rank Among 50 States

High school
graduation

 **3**

Rank Among 50 States



High speed
internet
access

42

Rank Among 50 States

82% of Kentuckians
had access to
broadband internet
in 2018.

Higher Education

Postsecondary
enrollment
(18-24)

 **40**

Rank Among 50 States

Graduation
from 2-year
institutions

 **19**

Rank Among 50 States

Graduation
from 4-year
institutions

 **32**

Rank Among 50 States

Quality of Life

Associate
degree or
higher (25-64)

 **44**

Rank Among 50 States

Voter
turnout

 **25**

U.S. Ranking

Median
household
income

 **44**

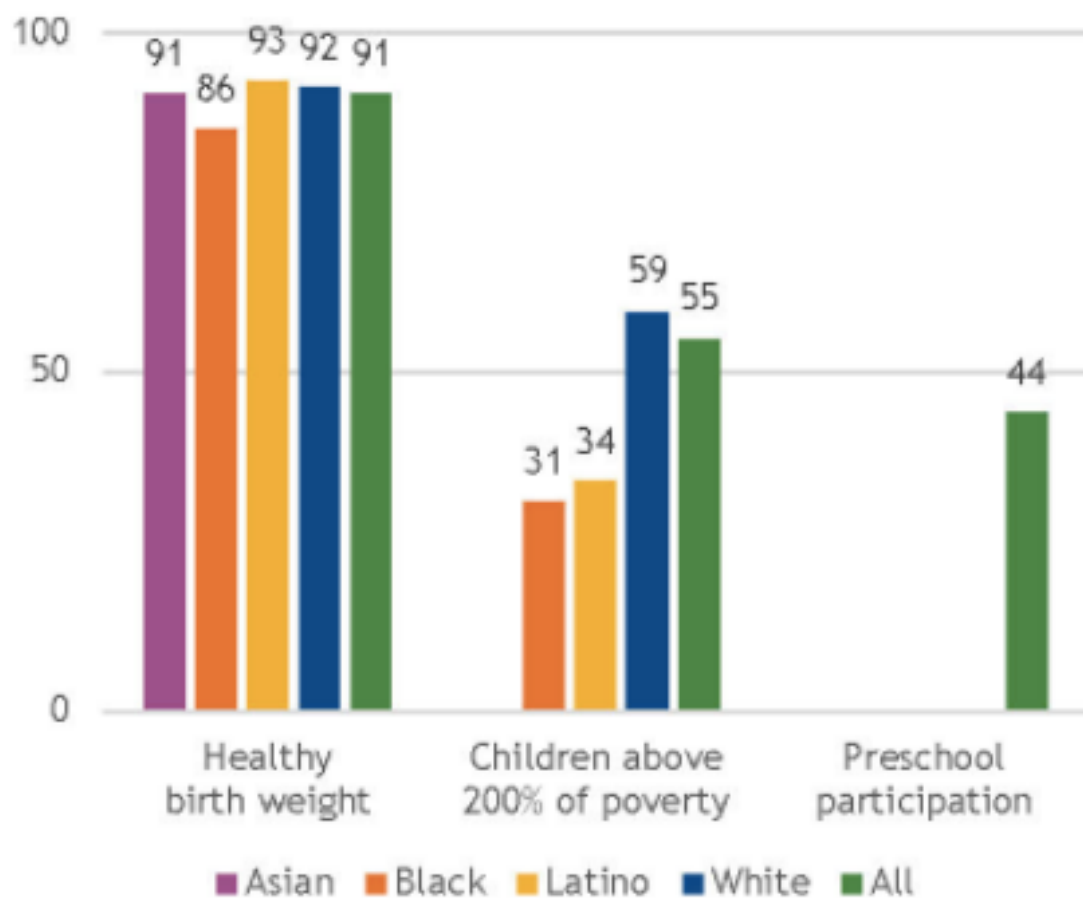
Rank Among 50 States



Equity Rankings

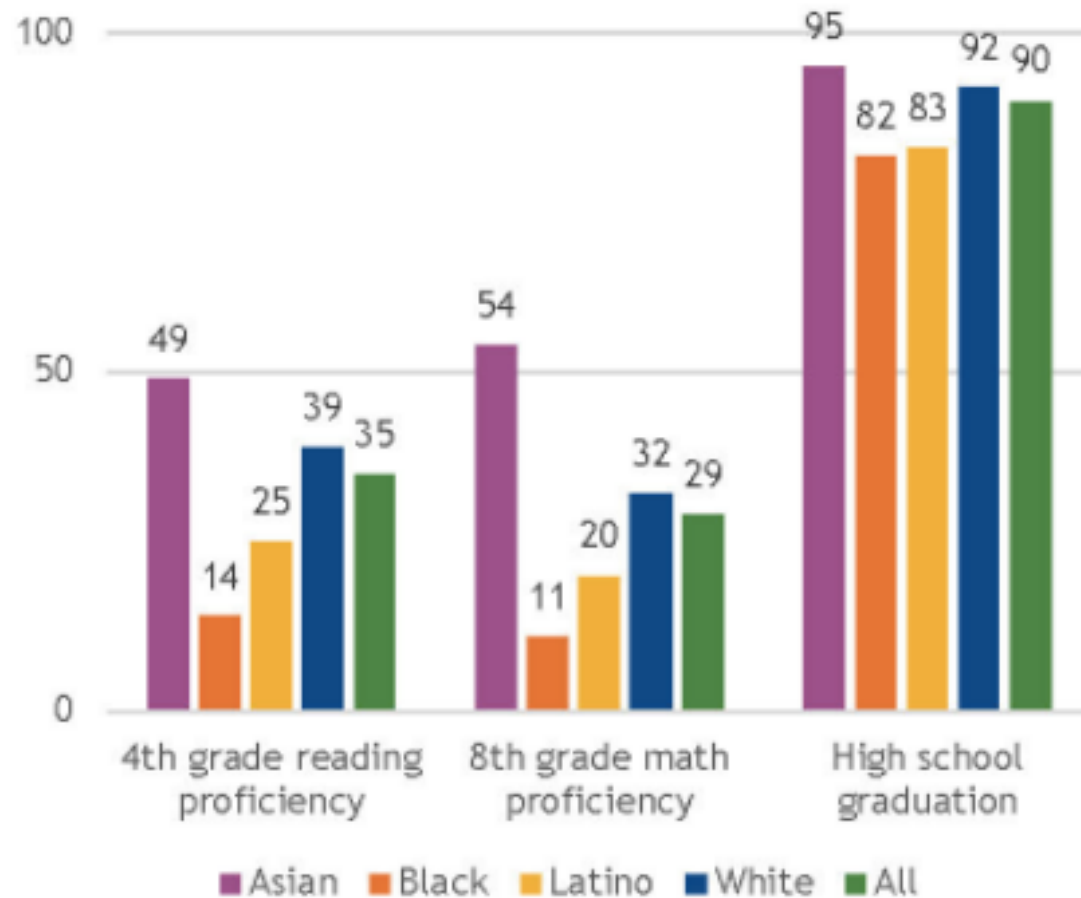
Early Childhood

Groups (Percent)



K-12 Students

Groups (Percent)

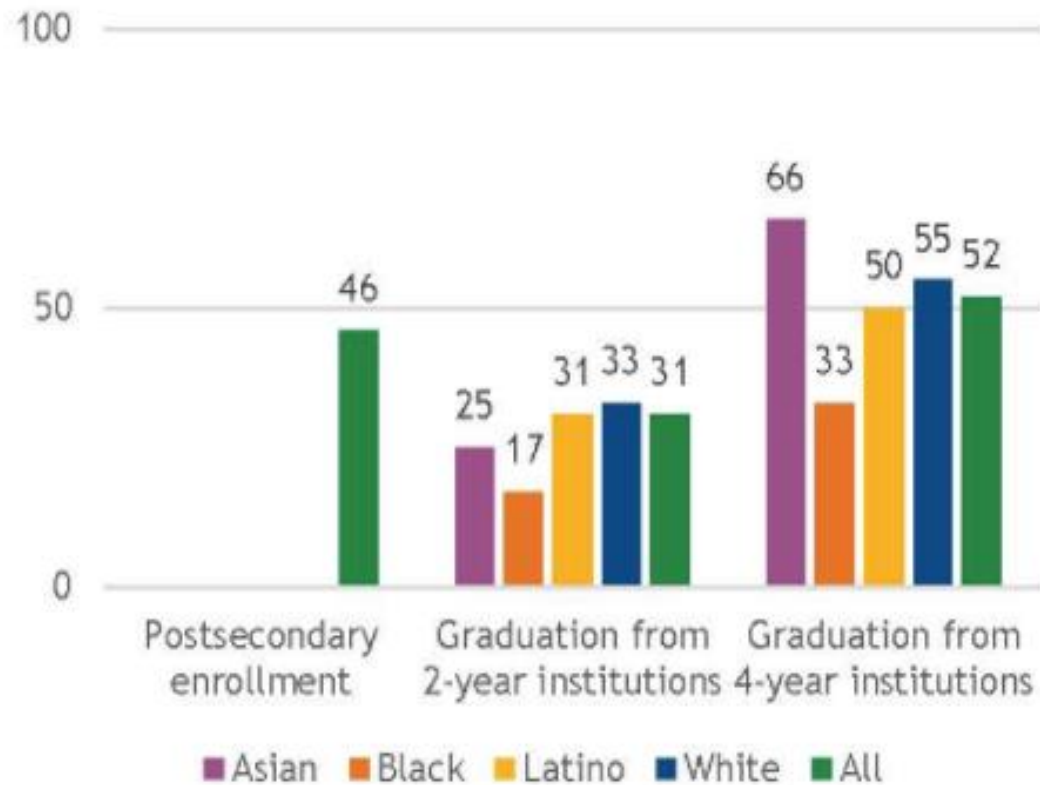




Equity Rankings

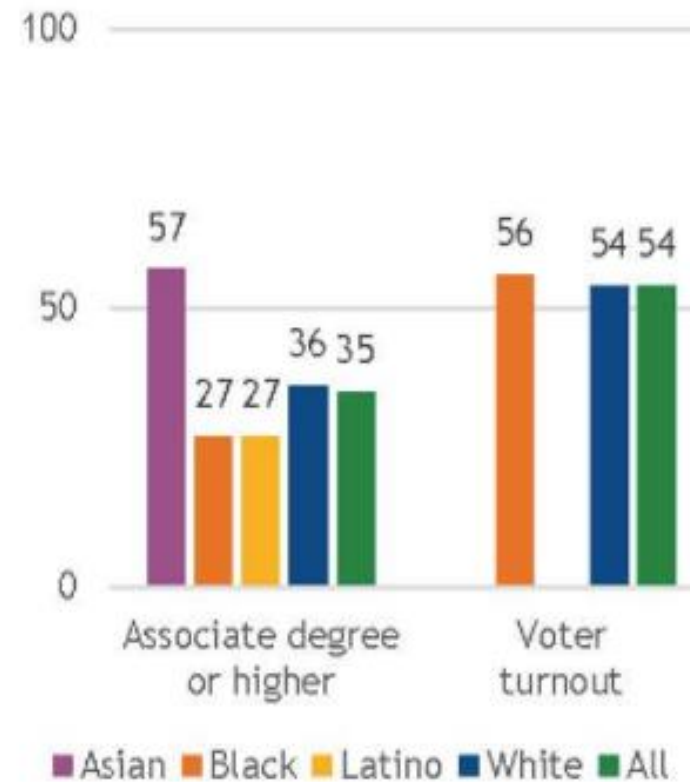
Higher Education

Groups (Percent)

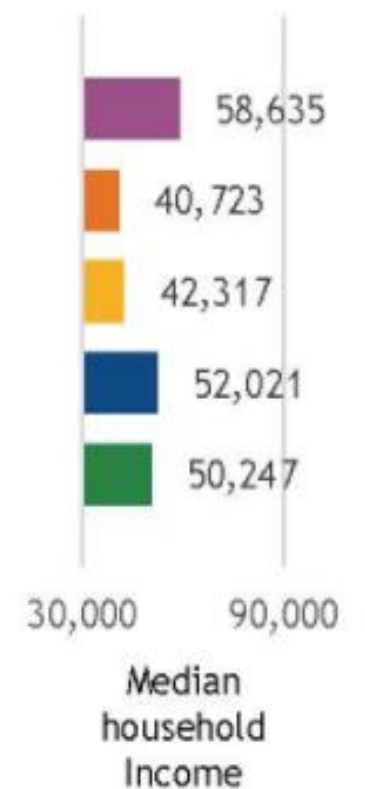


Quality of Life

Groups (Percent)



Groups (\$)



Excellence with Equity: It's Everybody's Business

Findings and Recommendations from the Achievement Gap Study Group



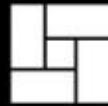
July 2016

BASICS

- Bold Leadership
- Accountability
- School Climate and Culture
- Instruction in the Classroom
- Communities that Work Together
- Sustainability of Effective Practices



Black Minds Matter



The Prichard Committee
Building a Groundswell for Excellent Education



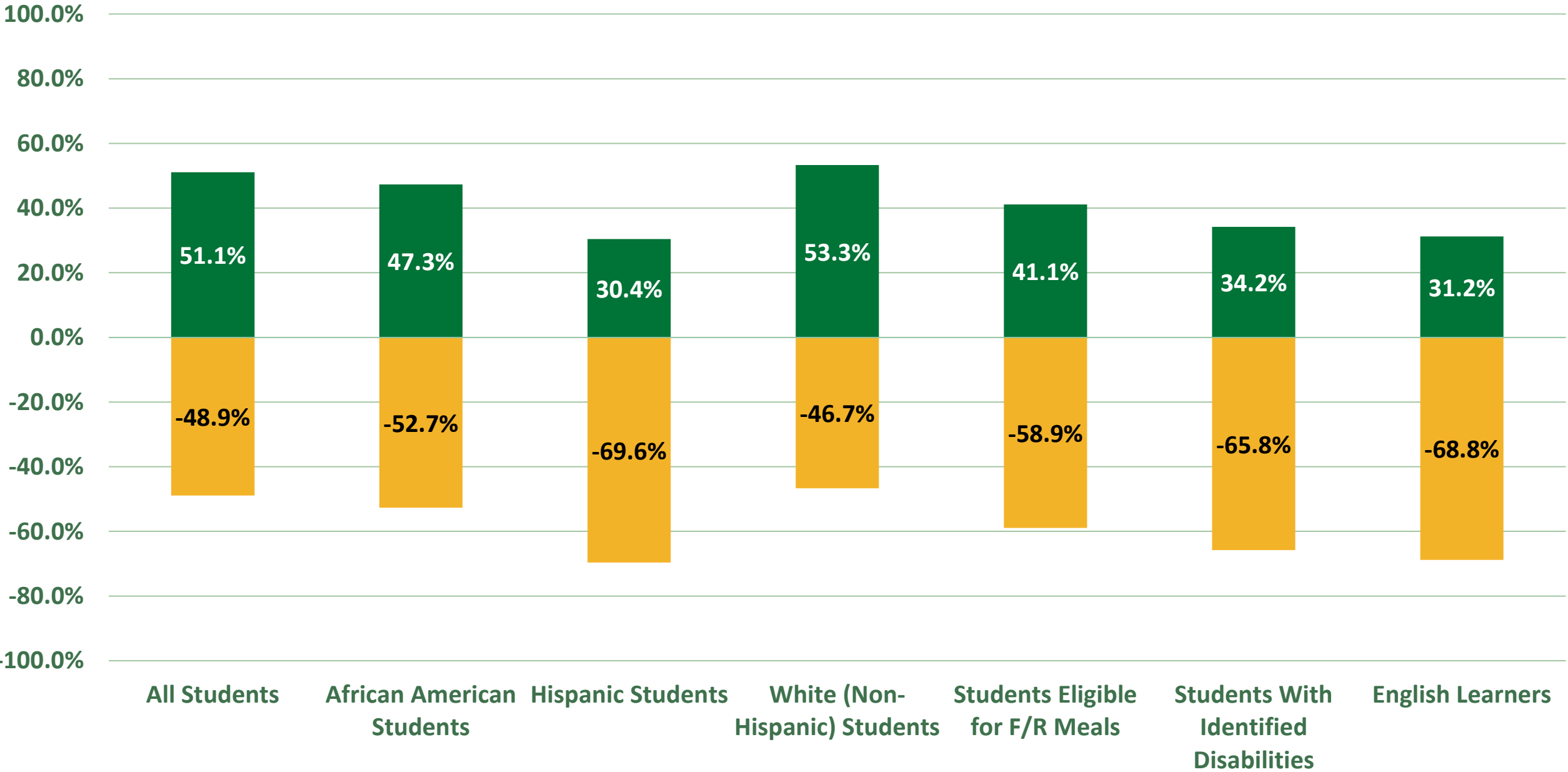
Kentucky has simply not delivered for African American students

- Reading scores have been stagnant for African American 4th graders.
- In 2007 & 2019, only 11 percent African American 8th graders were proficient in math.
- By 2019, only 30% scored proficient or above in KPREP reading.

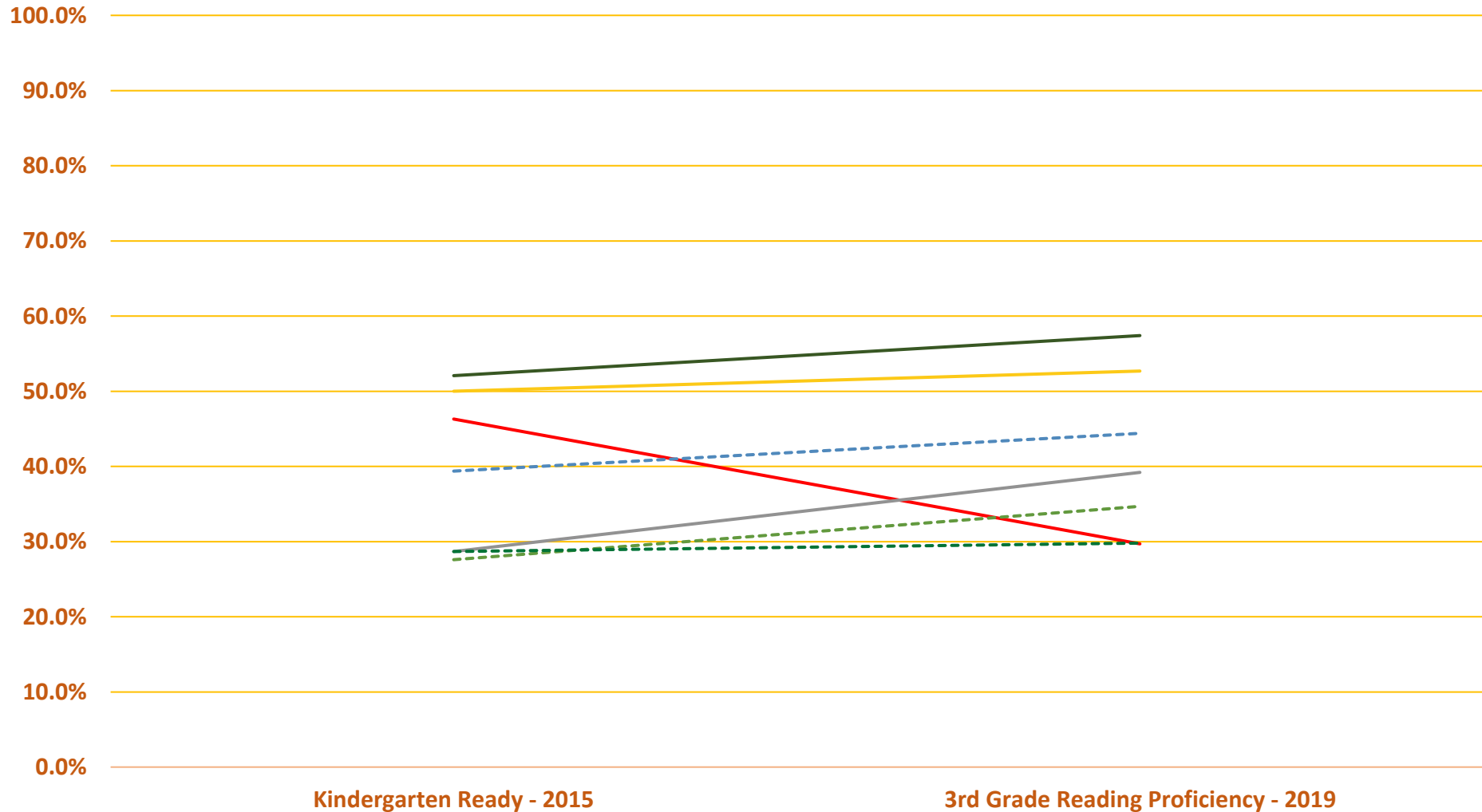
KINDERGARTEN READINESS - K-SCREEN - 2019

■ % of Children Screening Ready for Kindergarten

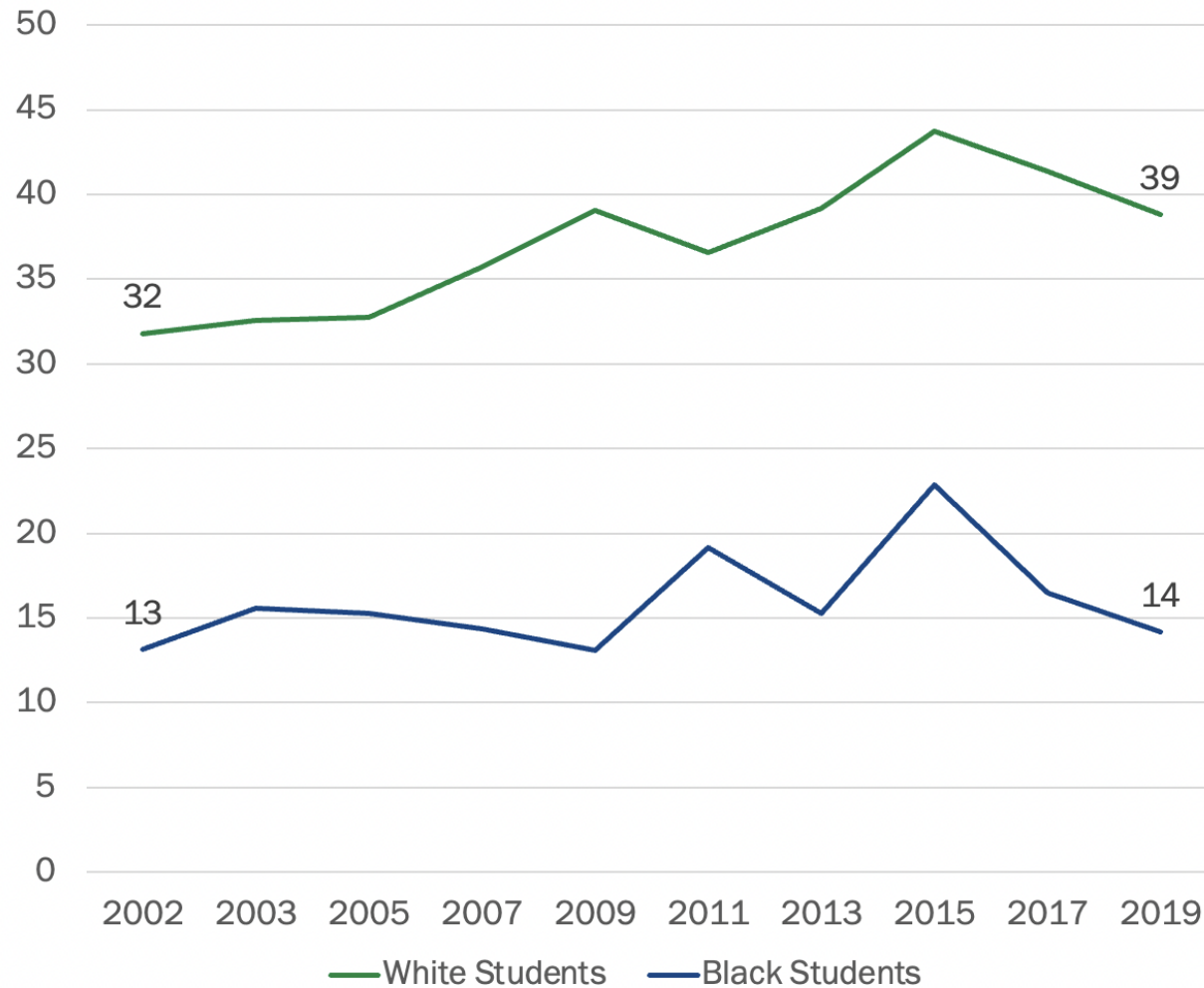
■ % of Children Screening NOT Ready for Kindergarten



2015 K-READINESS -vs- 2019 3rd GRADE READING

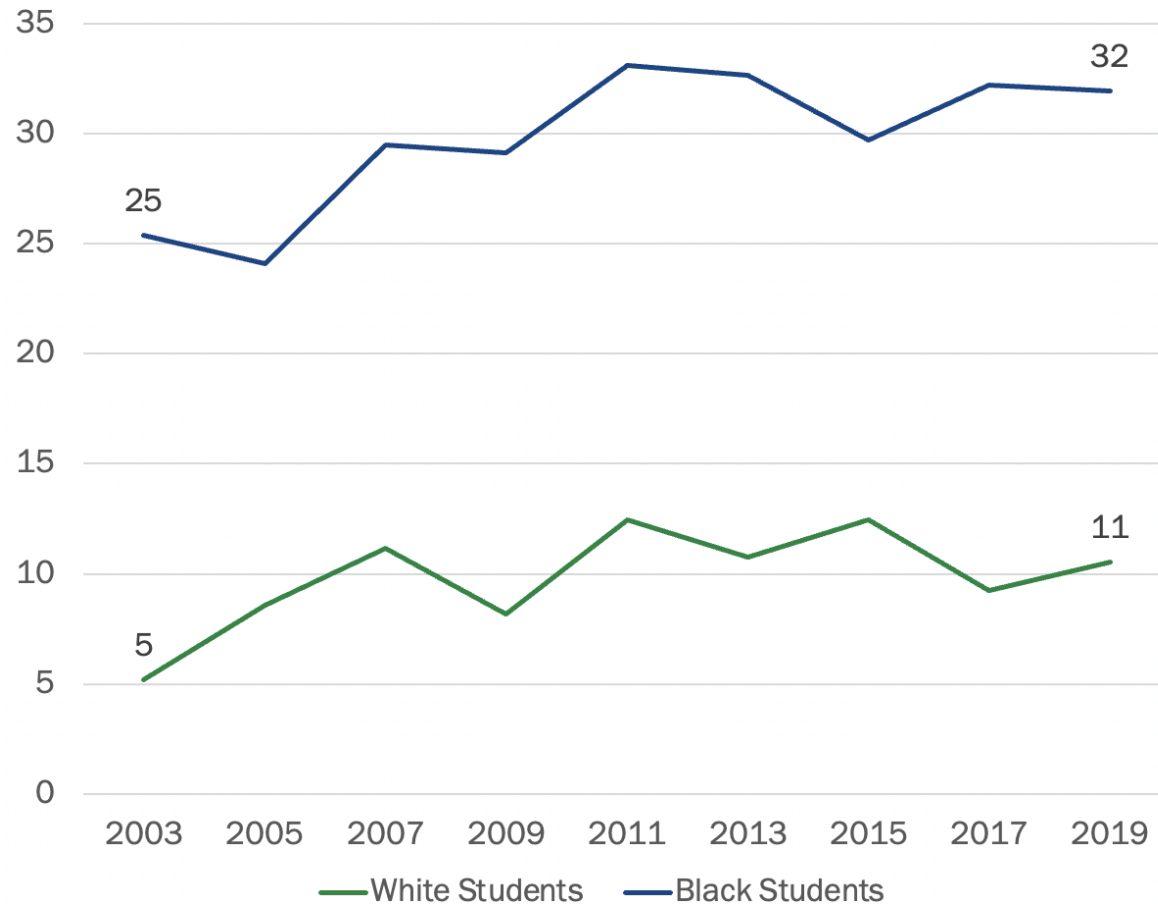


KENTUCKY'S NAEP RESULTS
FOURTH GRADE READING PERCENT PROFICIENT OR ABOVE



NAEP shows our Black/White fourth grade reading gap growing from 19 points to 25 from 2002-2019

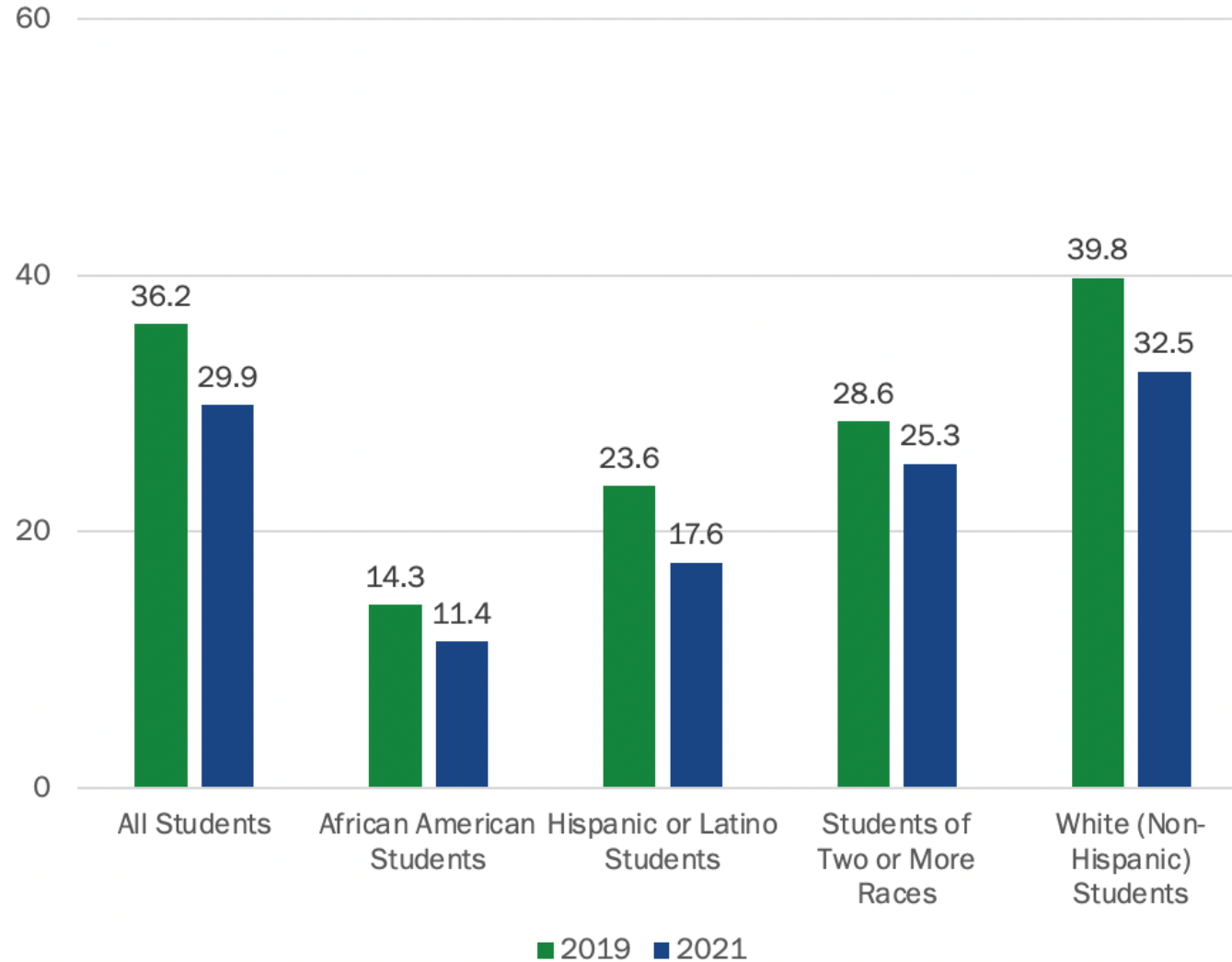
**KENTUCKY'S NAEP RESULTS
EIGHTH GRADE MATHEMATICS PERCENT PROFICIENT OR
ABOVE**



This prichardcommittee.org chart uses data from nationsreportcard.gov

And NAEP shows
an eighth-grade
math gap
growing from 20
to 21 points

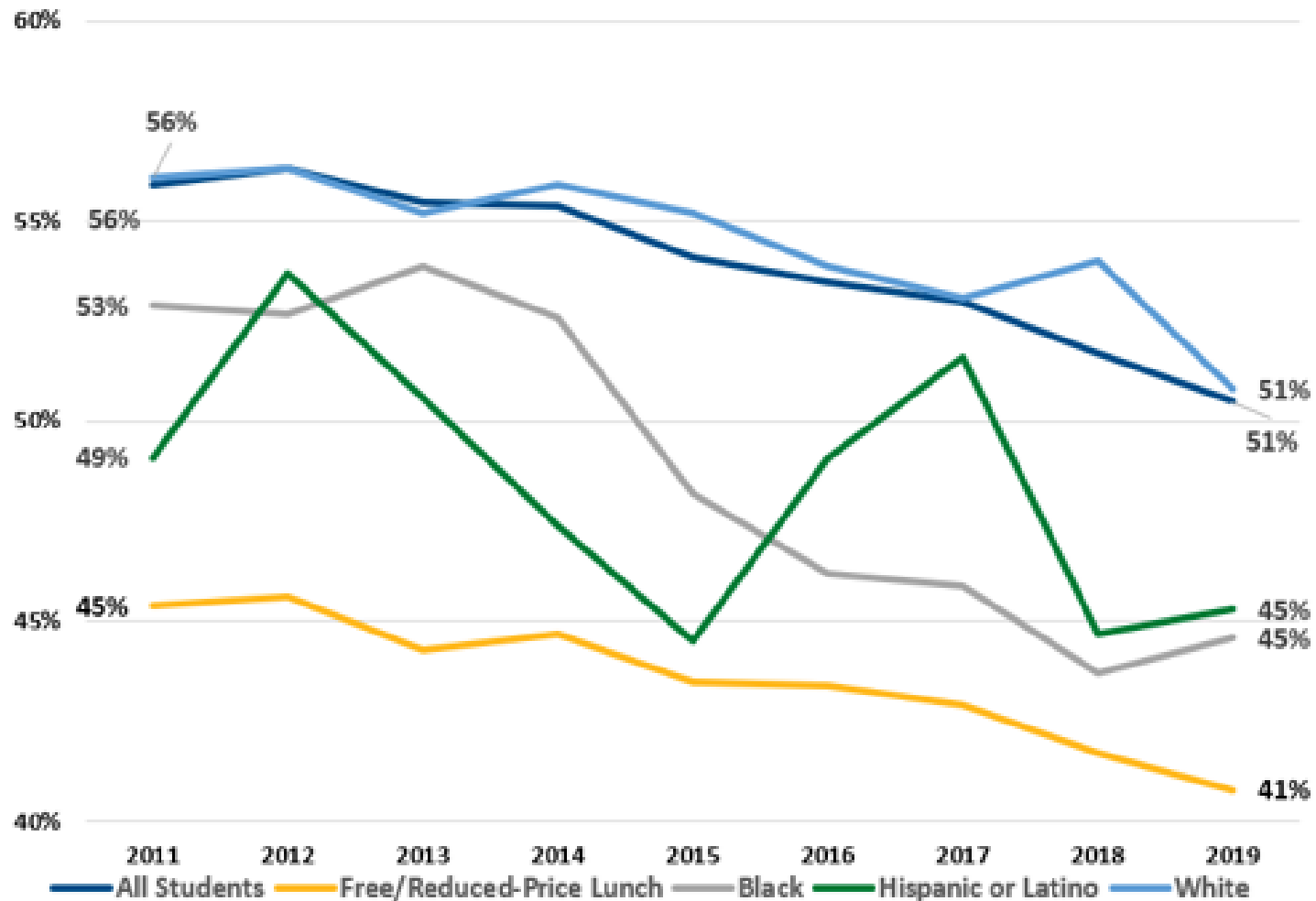
**Percent of 11th Grade Students Meeting the CPE Benchmark
For College Readiness on the Mathematics ACT**



This prichardcommittee.org chart uses data from kyschoolreportcard.com

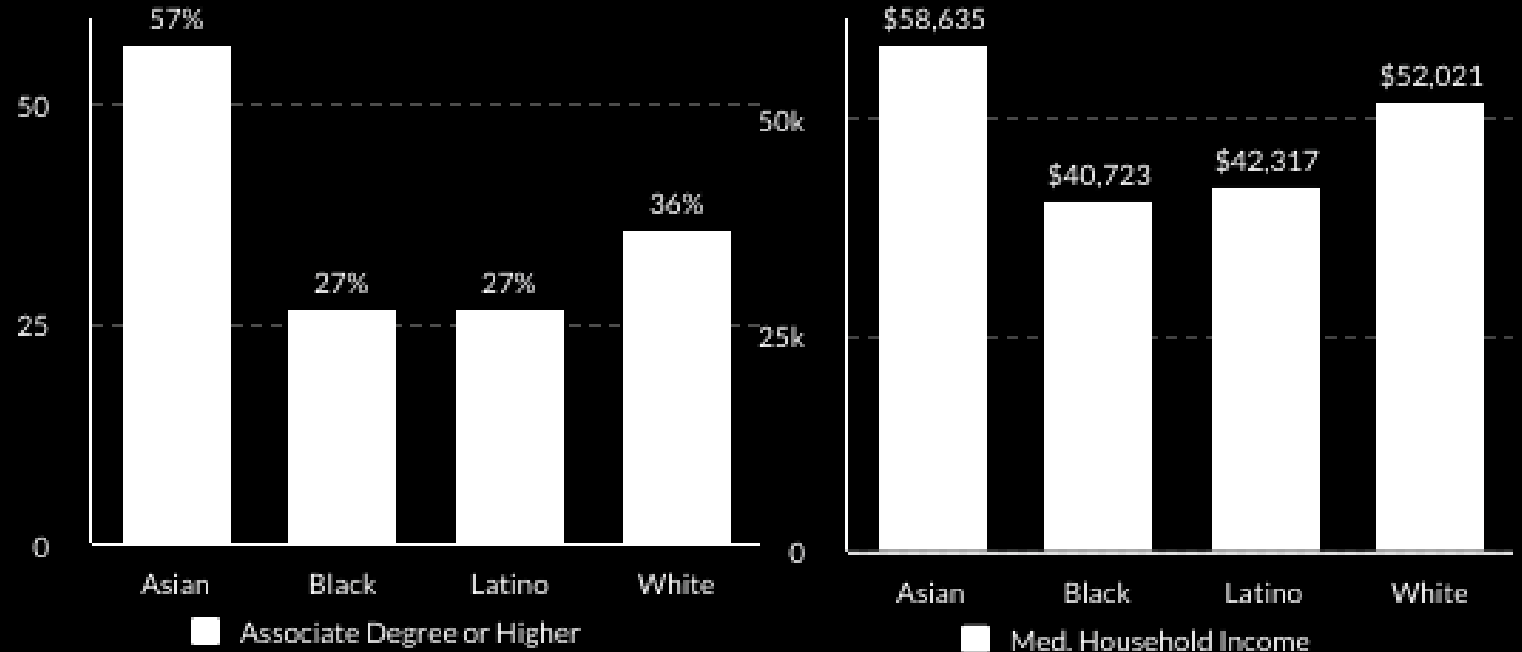
Even as
achievement gaps
close in math
college readiness,
we see declines
across
demographics

Kentucky: In-State College-Going of Public High School Graduates - 2011 to 2019



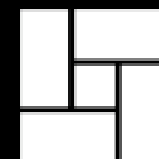
College
Going
Is Declining

Higher Education & Household income levels in KY



Source: Lumina Foundation

Source: American Community Survey data from census.gov, Tables B19013, 1-year estimates



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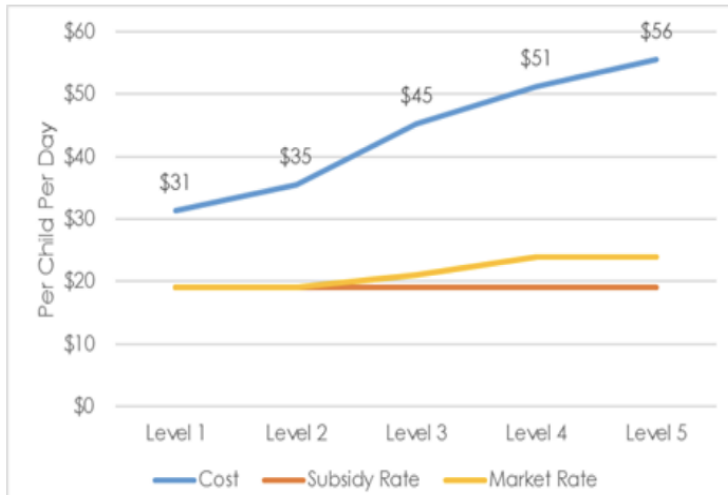
Building a Groundswell for a Big Bold Future

- Rising tuition has had a disproportionate impact on Black and Latino populations
- These students are underrepresented at higher education institutions in Kentucky.
- Impact on economic opportunities - disparity in median incomes



Solutions

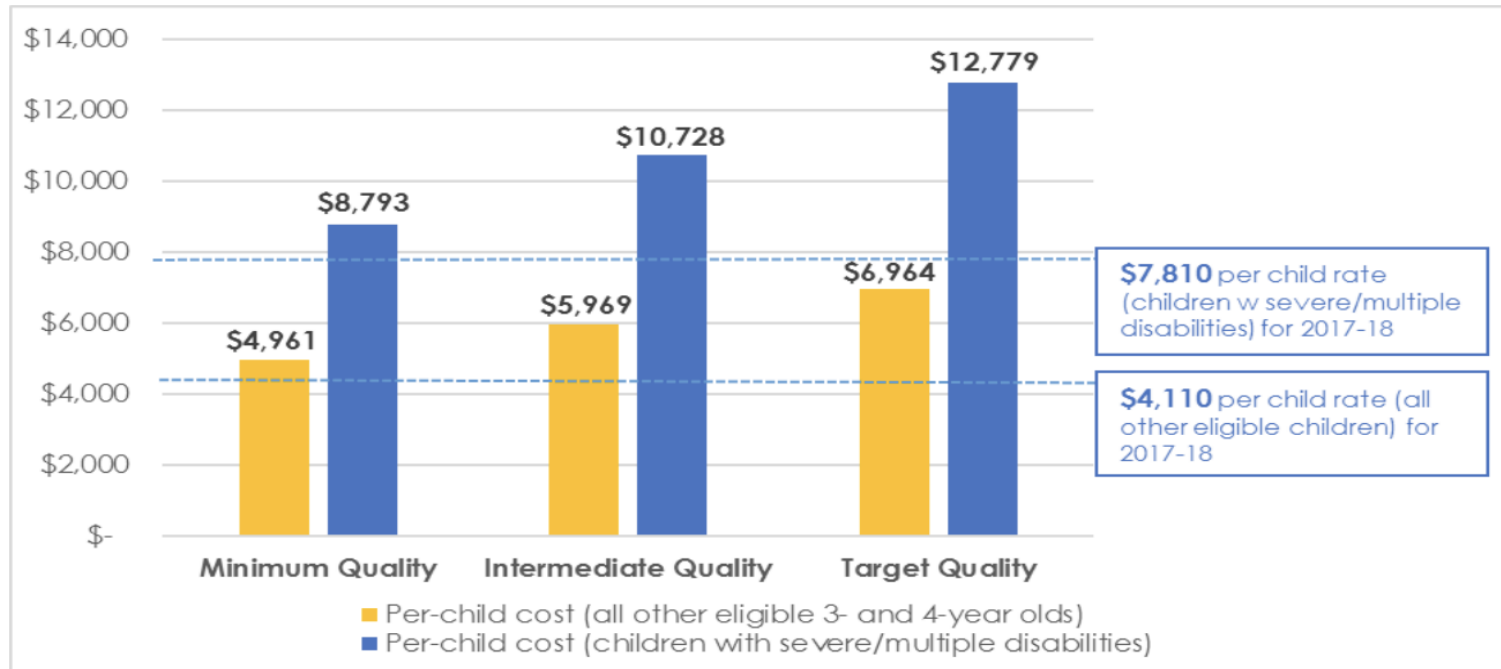
Ages 0-24 months; Rural West KY



Age 3; Rural West KY



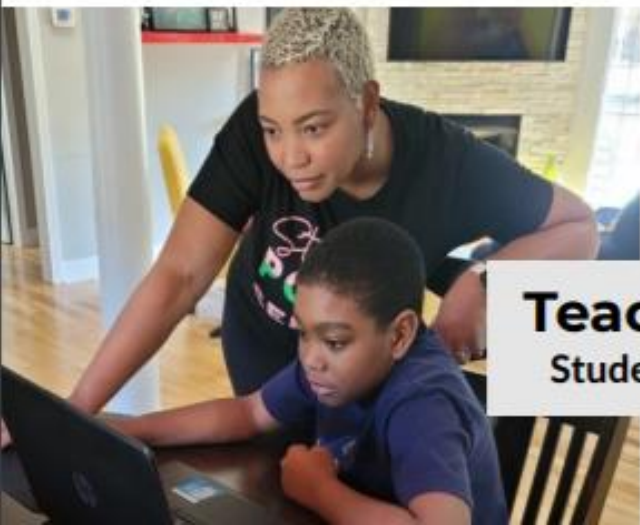
Cost Estimates – Kentucky Preschool Program



- High-quality early childhood education can enhance children's development
- Reduces achievement gaps at kindergarten entry
- Has long-term benefits in school



- Increase the number of National Board Certified Teachers
- Invest in a Fund for Teaching Excellence – with measurable strategies



Teaching Matters Most
Student Success in the Early Grades

KRS158.649 (2002):

- KDE providing data, identify substantive gaps, and reviewing and approving plans if schools miss targets more than once
- School councils, superintendents and boards agreeing on targets to reduce those gaps
- Councils creating plans to meet those targets
- Principals convening public meetings and leading plan implementation
- School boards determining whether targets are met
- Superintendents taking added planning responsibility for schools that miss a target and reporting to the Commissioner if schools missed a target twice

Intended to focus
local attention on
closing gaps

*Current study &
discussion of
progress



Family Friendly Schools Learning Cohort

- 58 schools
- Committed to improving family engagement & partnerships
- Build Capacity of School Leadership

Family Friendly
SCHOOL



**Kentucky Collaborative
for Families and Schools**

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Performance-Based Funding Model for Higher Education is an Equity-Based Solution

- The Prichard Committee supports the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education's performance-based funding model for public 2- and 4-year colleges across the Commonwealth
- Creates accountability for public postsecondary institutions
- Moves Kentucky toward greater postsecondary enrollment and graduation for all.

Improving Equity
in Higher
Education

Increasing FAFSA participation by district

- **Family engagement**
- **Awareness and support campaigns**
 - **Financial literacy**
 - **Partnering with banks & business leaders**

Early Postsecondary Opportunities

- **AP**
- **Dual Credit Enrollment**

Other solutions
to equity in
postsecondary
attainment

Statement
on
discussing
race, sex,
gender and
religious
issues in
the
classroom

The Prichard Committee is deeply committed to ensuring equity in Kentucky schools and that our students enjoy an inclusive, respectful experience that ensures their success. Continuing to improve our instructional environment so that it reflects the complexities of current events and their historical context is critical and should include discussions of race and racial justice. We oppose outright limits on discussions regarding race, sex, gender, or religion in public school and/or university curricula.



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