QUALITY COUNTS TURNS 20

CALLED TO ACCOUNT:
New Directions in School Accountability

♦ Overall Theme: Accountability
  • Political, practical, educational implications

♦ In-depth Journalism
  • State and local accountability approaches as Every Student Succeeds Act reduces the size of the federal footprint

♦ Education Week Research Center
  • Analysis takes stock of a decade of student achievement and demographic shifts
Major Themes: Journalism

♦ The new face of accountability
  • State and local efforts to combine traditional test scores with other indicators:
    – School climate
    – Drop-out rates

♦ Research and practice
  • Turning around low-performing schools

♦ More flexibility for states
  • Efforts to craft systems that are both rigorous and custom tailored
Quality Counts: A unique marriage between research and journalism

♦ Achievement Analysis
  • National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
  • Federal demographic indicators

♦ Annual State of the States Report Card
  • *Quality Counts* issues grades for the nation and states
  • Grades span three major areas of performance
Student Achievement & Demographics at the Dawn of a New Era
Combined Proficiency Rate

- NAEP

- Combined Proficiency Rate: Averaged the percent of students scoring at the "proficient" level or above
  - Grades 4 and 8
  - Reading and math
  - 2003-2015

- National and state-level results

- Also examined demographic indicators
TREND 1: ACHIEVEMENT INCREASES

Modest Degree of Improvement in the Nation’s Academic Achievement (2003-2015)

NAEP COMBINED PROFICIENCY RATE (READING AND MATH)

Values:
- 2003: 30.6
- 2005: 32.6
- 2007: 33.2
- 2009: 34.3
- 2011: 36.0
- 2013: [VALUE

Graph showing the NAEP combined proficiency rate from 2003 to 2015 with values increasing over time.
TREND 2: DIVERSITY INCREASES

2002-03

About 4 in 10 students enrolled were non-white

- American Indian: 1%
- Hispanic: 18%
- Black: 17%
- Asian: 4%
- White: 59%

2013-14

Non-white students made up half of enrollment

- Hawaiian Native/Pacific Islander: <1%
- Two or more races: 3%
- White: 50%
- Hispanic: 25%
- Black: 16%
- Asian: 5%
- American Indian: 1%
TREND 3: RACIAL GAPS REMAIN


NAEP Combined Proficiency Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>American Indian</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th>Black</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>55.9</td>
<td>45.1</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td>21.7 [VALUE]</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td></td>
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<td>2011</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>2007</td>
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<td>2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NAEP Combined Proficiency Score:
- Asian: 55.9
- White: 45.1
- Average: 34.8
- American Indian: 21.7 [VALUE]
- Hispanic: 15.9
- Black: 10.3
TREND 4: POVERTY GAPS GROW

Large and Persistent Poverty-Based Disparities in Nation’s Academic Achievement

**NAEP COMBINED PROFICIENCY RATE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Non-eligible: Free or reduced-price lunch</th>
<th>Eligible: Free or reduced-price lunch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>14.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>40.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>51.0</td>
<td>51.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gap = 26.3
Gap = 30.1
TREND 5: STATE ACHIEVEMENT VARIES

NAEP Combined Proficiency Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 RATE</th>
<th>NO. OF STATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50 or more</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-49</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-44</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-39</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-34</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 or less</td>
<td>9 (Including D.C.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TREND 6: MOST STATES MAKE GAINS

Change (2003-2015) of NAEP Combined Proficiency Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change (2003-2015)</th>
<th>NO. OF STATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 or more</td>
<td>1 (D.C.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 to 14</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 9</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 4</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TREND 7: FEW STATES NARROW GAPS

Poverty-based Achievement Disparities Remain

Poverty Gap: 2003 to 2015

♦ NARROWED by a full point or more in:
  • NY (-3.8)
  • IL (-1.4)

♦ EXPANDED by 5 points or more in 24 states
Largest EXPANSIONS:
  • OR (+8.8)
  • WA (+9.4)
  • DC (+28.9)
STATE OF THE STATES

Quality Counts 2016
National and State Overview

♦ Chance-for-Success Index
♦ K-12 Achievement Index
♦ School Finance Analysis
OVERALL GRADE

Nation earns a C across three performance categories

Most states earn grades between C- and C+

Top state: Massachusetts: B+
Bottom state: Nevada: D

National Highlights Report 2016
Called to Account
New Directions in School Accountability
The Chance-for-Success Index captures the role of education "from cradle to career" and contains 13 indicators spanning:

Early foundations
School years
Adult outcomes

National Grade  C+

↑ Top states
♦ Massachusetts:  A-
♦ NH, NJ, CT, MN, VT:  B+

↓ Bottom states
♦ New Mexico:  D+
♦ Nevada:  D
K-12 Achievement Index assesses states on 18 indicators that capture:

Current performance (status)
Improvements over time (change)
Poverty-based achievement gaps (equity)

National Grade C-

↑ Top states
- Massachusetts: B
- New Jersey: B-

↓ Bottom states
- New Mexico: D-
- Mississippi: D-
Quality Counts grades states on two distinct aspects of school finance:

**Spending:** state investment in education, pegged to relevant benchmarks

**Equity:** how education dollars are distributed within a state

National Grade  C

↑ Top states
- New York: B+
- Wyoming: B+
- Connecticut: B+
- Maryland: B+

↓ Bottom states
- Utah: D-
- Arizona: D-
- Idaho: F
From *Education Week* and The Education Week Research Center

**Quality Counts 2016**
Interactive state report cards
Online grading calculator
www.edweek.org/go/qc16

National and State Highlights Reports
www.edweek.org/go/qc16shr

Education Counts
www.edcounts.org
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