

# The Broad Symposium 2006

## It's a K-12 Issue: Increasing Student Participation and Success in AP and Other Advanced Courses

Chrys Dougherty, National Center for Educational Accountability  
Chris Steinhauser, Long Beach Unified School District  
Rudy Crew, Miami-Dade County Public Schools

September 18, 2006

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## It's a K-12 Issue: Increasing Student Participation and Success in AP and Other Advanced Courses

**National Center for  
Educational  
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national sponsor of **Just for the Kids**

Chrys Dougherty, Ph.D.,  
Director of Research, NCEA  
September 18, 2006

# Preparing Students for Advanced Placement

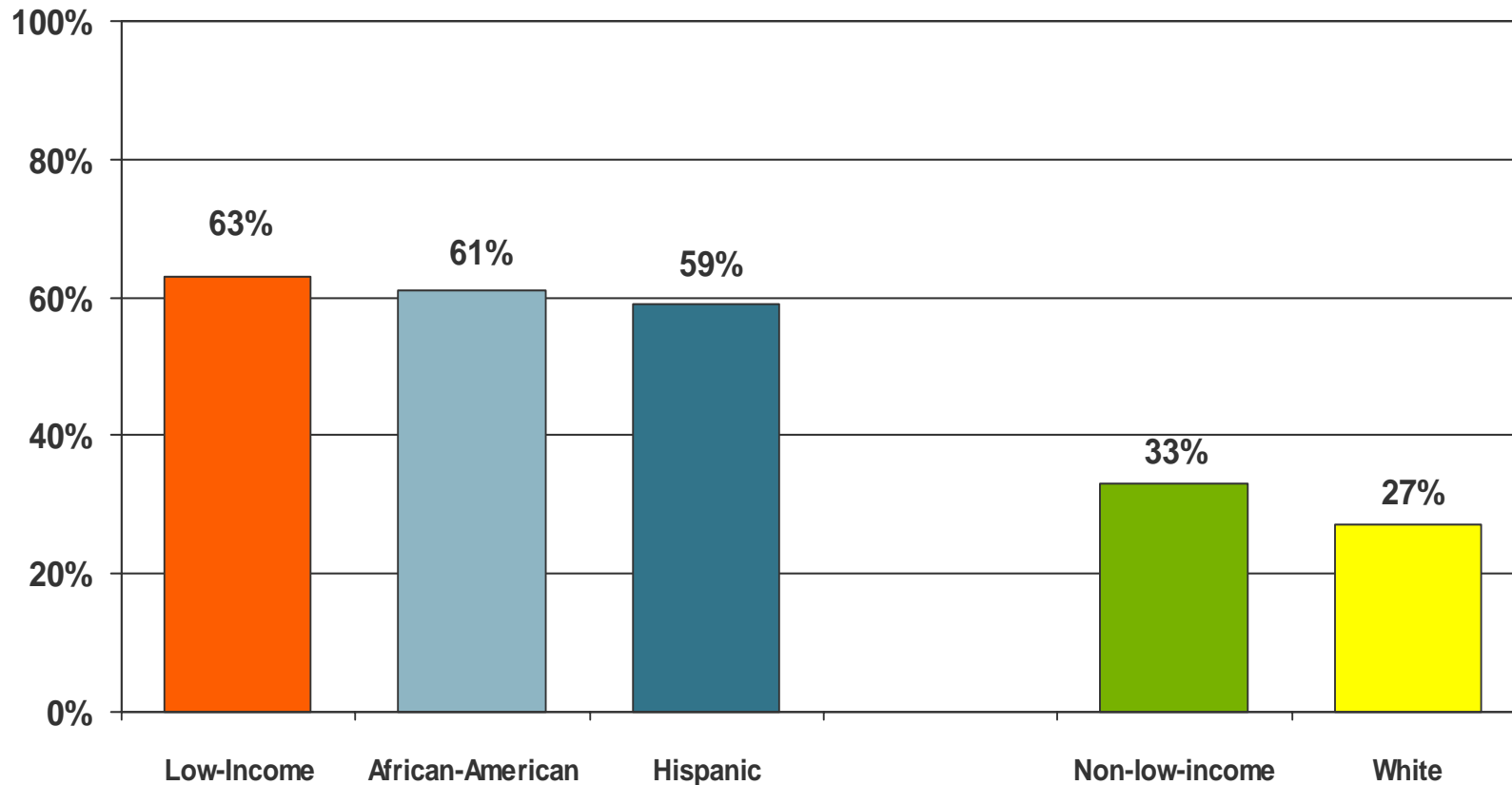
- Dual credit and AP (if taught at the intended level) are college-level courses.
- The limiting factor on students' success in these courses is their level of prior preparation.
- The importance of prior preparation applies to other rigorous high school courses (Honors, IB, etc.).

# Enrollment Encouraged in Advanced Courses

- 12 states have “state scholars” programs that encourage students to take a college-preparatory high school curriculum.
- 8 states have made such a curriculum the default for all students.
- All 50 states and the District of Columbia offer incentives for students to take Advanced Placement, IB or dual-enrollment courses.

# Course Completion Data Can Be Misleading

Percent of students who completed state-recommended college-preparatory course sequence who still needed remediation in college:

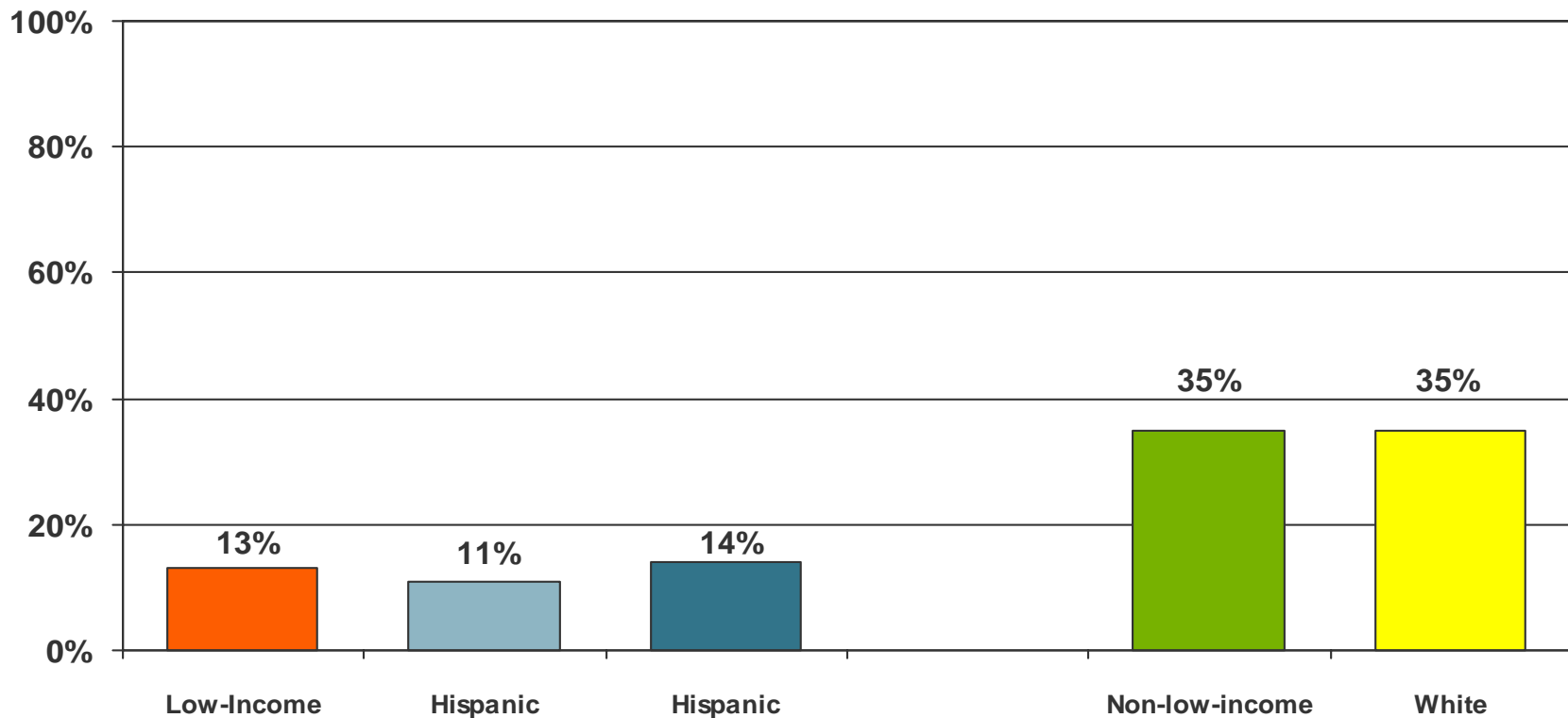


Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, summarized by Dougherty, Mellor and Jian in "Orange Juice or Orange Drink? Ensuring that 'Advanced Courses' Live up to Their Labels." available on [www.dataqualitycampaign.org](http://www.dataqualitycampaign.org) and on [www.just4kids.org](http://www.just4kids.org).

# Credit for AP Courses and Exam Results

## Most Disadvantaged Students Who Earn Credits for AP Courses Don't Pass AP Exams

Percent of AP course-takers passing AP exams with a score of 3 or higher:

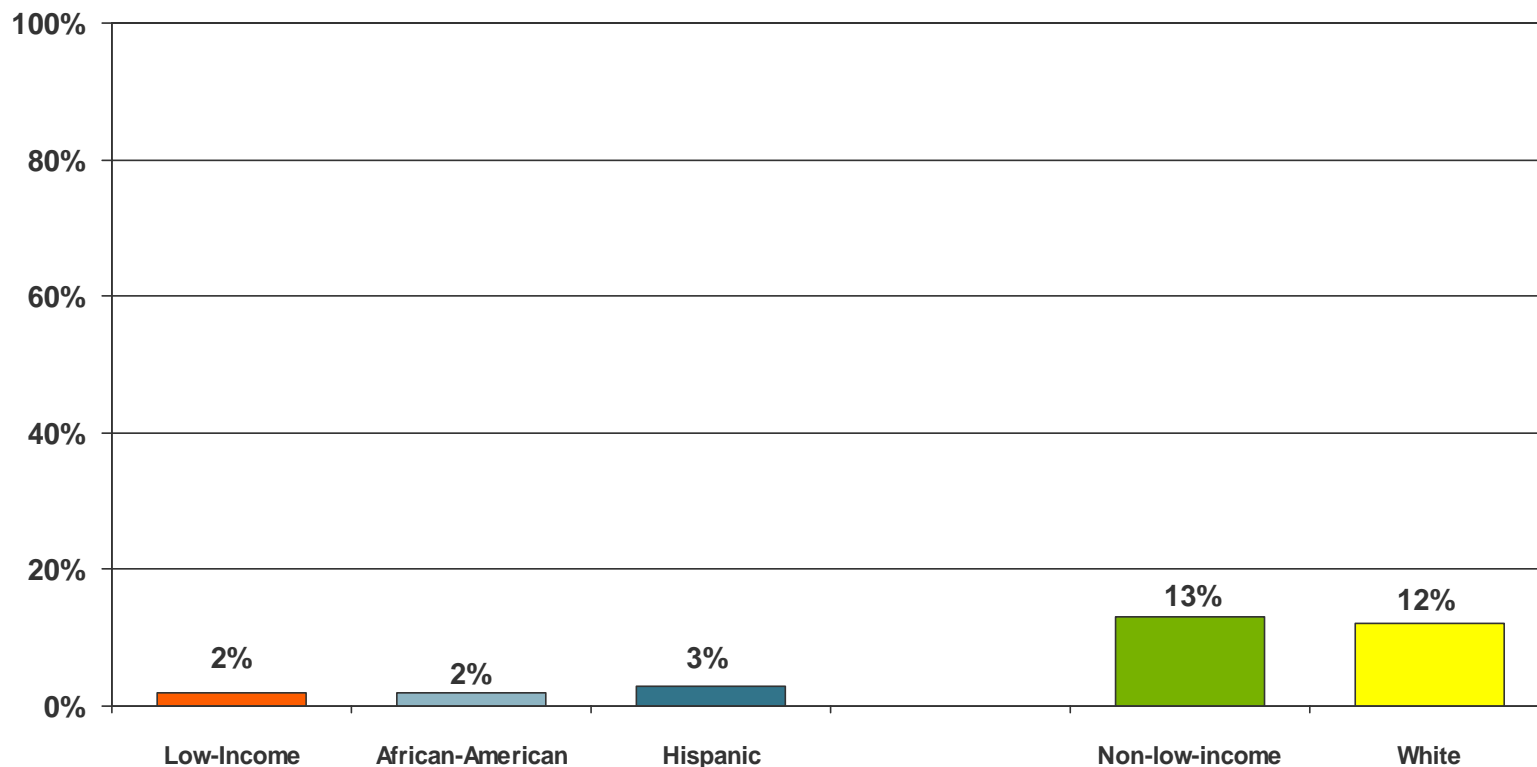


Source: NCEA longitudinal data analysis. Statistics are for AP courses in English, mathematics, science, and social studies.

# Disadvantaged Students Results

## AP Exam Passing Rates are Low for Disadvantaged Students

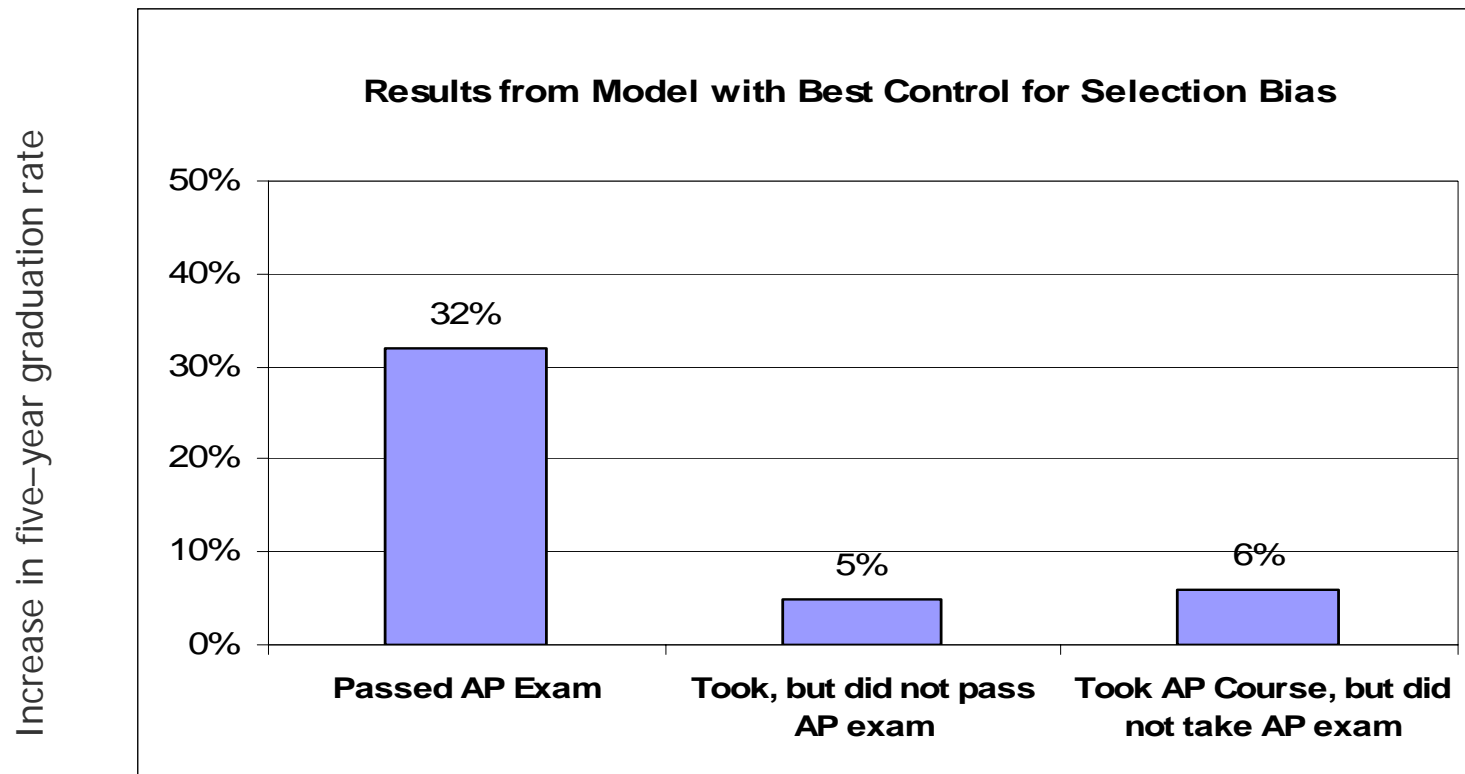
Percent of entire student population taking and passing academic AP exams:



Source: NCEA longitudinal data analysis. Statistics are for AP courses in English, mathematics, science, and social studies.

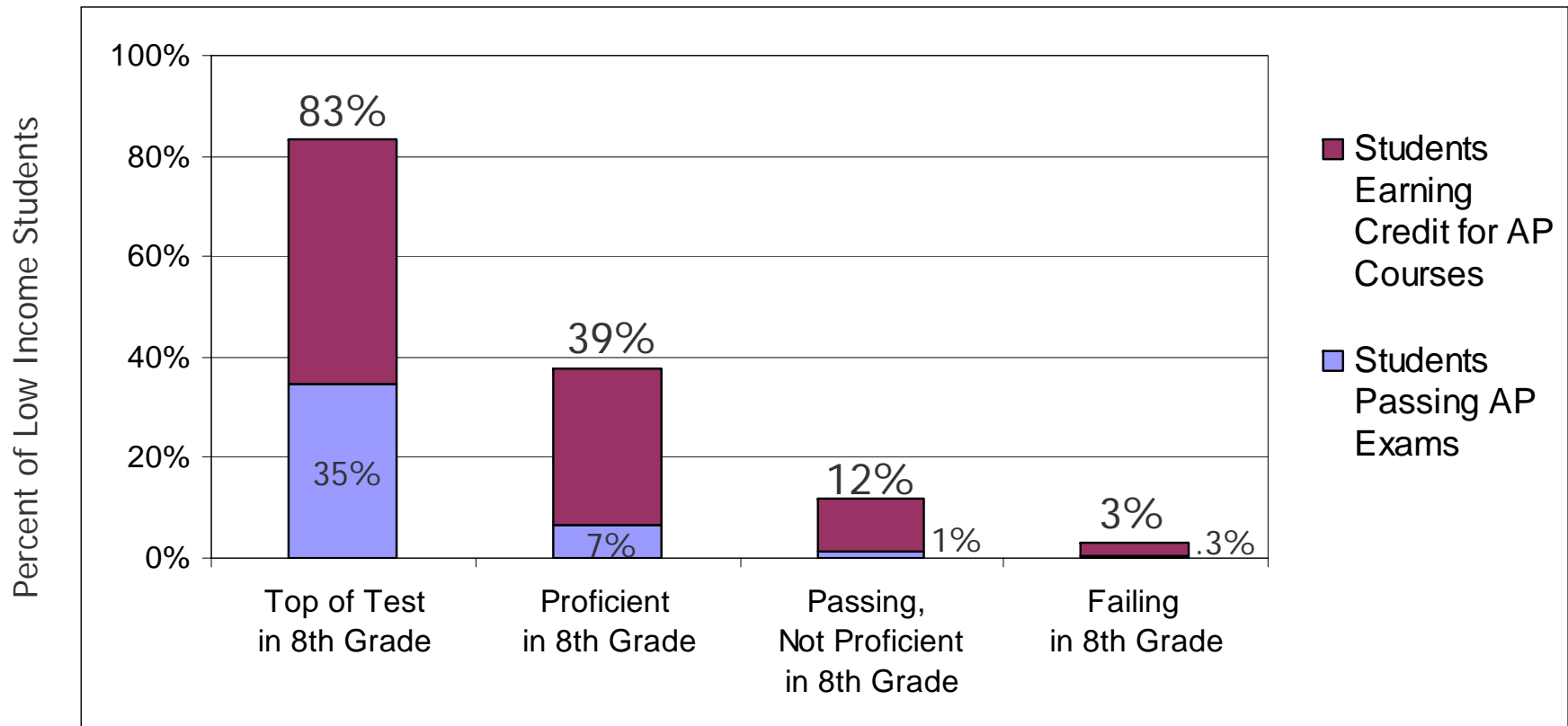
# AP Results as Predictor of College Graduation

## Passing AP Exams Is the Best AP-Related Predictor of College Graduation



Source: "The Relationship between Advanced Placement and College Graduation" by Dougherty, Mellor and Jian, available on [www.dataqualitycampaign.org](http://www.dataqualitycampaign.org) and on [www.just4kids.org](http://www.just4kids.org)

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Proficiency Is Critical for AP



Source: NCEA longitudinal data analysis. Students in each category met the indicated 8<sup>th</sup> grade standard in both reading and mathematics.

## In Summary

- Improving student academic preparation in K-8 is critical to students' success in advanced courses.
- Districts must monitor student learning in "advanced courses."

# What School Systems Must Do

- Define a K-12 (not just 9-12 or 6-12) curricular path to college readiness.
- Make this curriculum the default for all students.
- Get students on track in elementary school.
- Use end-of-course exams to monitor student success in middle and high school courses.

# Long Beach Unified School District

## It's a K-12 Issue: Increasing Student Participation and Success in AP and Other Advanced Courses



Chris Steinhauser  
Superintendent  
Long Beach Unified School District  
September 18, 2006

# Long Beach Unified School District

## Preparing Students for College/Work

Increasing AP participation and pass rates

- AP and honors course review
- Partnership with local universities
- AP institutes
- AP training for counselors
- AP summer bridge program
- AP coaches for teachers

# Long Beach Unified School District

## Additional K-12 Efforts

- PSAT for all 10th graders
- Middle school pre-AP and pre-IB
- Partnership with local universities
- Literacy units
- Tightening curriculum alignment
- Pushing algebra down to lower grades

# Long Beach Unified School District

## Results

### AP Course Enrollments Over Time (Unduplicated)

	2003	2004	2005	2006	<b>Growth (2003-2006)</b>
District-Wide	2,589	2,696	3,301	3,866	<b>+49%</b>
Asian/PI	679	668	809	973	<b>+43%</b>
AA/Black	224	257	306	393	<b>+75%</b>
Hispanic	760	808	1,021	1,232	<b>+62%</b>
White	914	955	1,156	1,258	<b>+38%</b>

# Long Beach Unified School District

## Results

### Number of AP Tests Taken Over Time

	2003	2004	2005	2006	<b>Growth (2003-2006)</b>
District-Wide	3,362	3,533	4,779	5,157	<b>+53%</b>
Asian/PI	952	988	1,235	1,356	<b>+42%</b>
AA/Black	202	212	313	374	<b>+85%</b>
Hispanic	829	891	1,274	1,440	<b>+74%</b>
White	1,362	1,434	1,948	1,970	<b>+45%</b>

# Long Beach Unified School District

## Results

### AP Test Passing Rates Over Time

	2003	2004	2005	<b>2006*</b>
Percent Passing	55%	60%	53%	<b>+51%</b>
Number Passing	1,833	2,082	2,512	<b>+2,633</b>

\*Estimated

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## It's a K-12 Issue: Increasing Student Participation and Success in AP and Other Advanced Courses



Rudy Crew, Ph.D.  
Superintendent  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
September 18, 2006

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Preparing Students for the Global Workforce

- Academics
- Community
- Business and fiscal practices
- Employees

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Academics

- Intensify focus on math and science.
- Integrate literacy across all subject areas.
- Expand offerings at all grade levels that focus on multiple cultures, languages, and arts.
- Implement Secondary School Reform.
- Expand and deepen internships and mentorships.
- Expand summer school to include dual enrollment, internships and advanced academics.
- Revamp and increase participation in gifted and advanced placement classes.

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Gifted Program Initiatives

- Expand gifted screening guidelines
  - Include characteristics of underrepresented students.
  - Aim for high levels of achievement on standardized tests noted.
  - Target schools with low representation of gifted students.
- Implement universal gifted screening instrument
  - Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test: Culturally neutral and language-free (e.g., can use pictures, symbols).
  - All 1st graders will be tested this year, 3rd graders added next year, and all students new to the District will be added in '08-'09.
- Utilize targeted parent communications to heighten awareness of student potential and create demand for participation

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Gifted and Advanced Level Courses

- District support for effective implementation of gifted and advanced level courses
  - Professional Development component added for teachers and counselors
  - School allocation plans ensure appropriate funding of gifted units and supplements and address class size and staffing
  - Structured mentoring and coaching programs for teachers
- Implement a system to monitor and evaluate gifted education and advanced level courses, and modify program as needed

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Gifted Program Results

- All schools offer a gifted program.
- Gifted services available for all senior high school students.
- Number of students enrolled and participating in gifted programs are increasing, across the district.

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

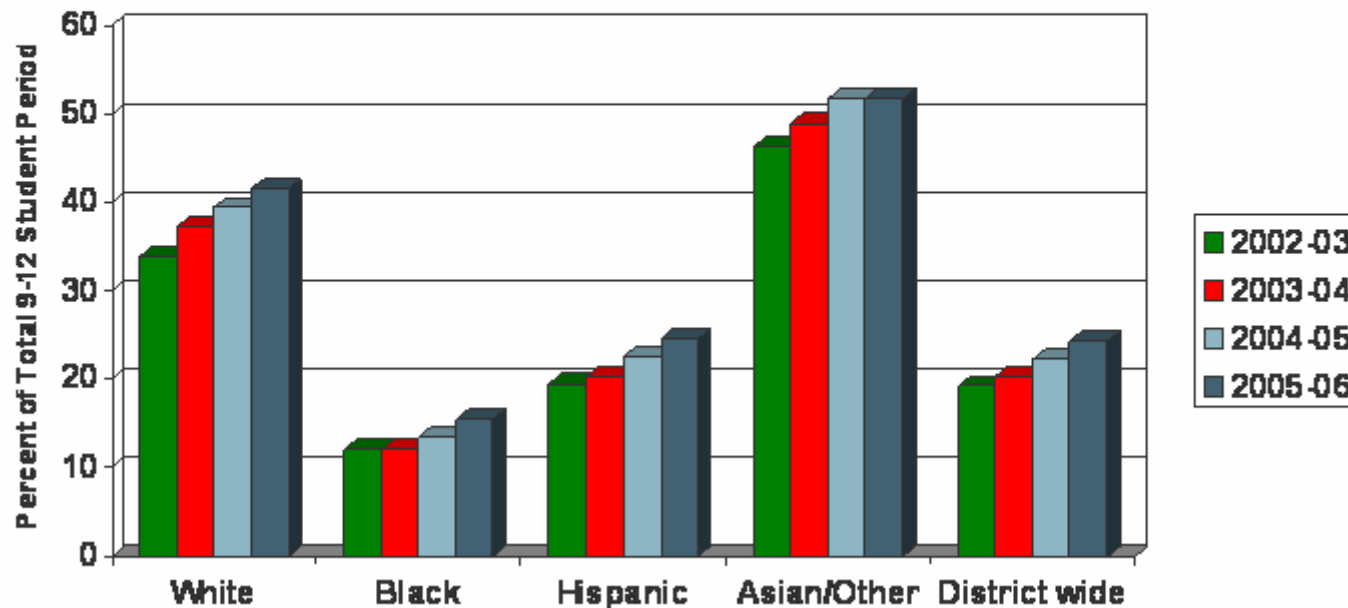
## AP Results

- District-wide enrollment increased by 15% since last year.
- School Improvement Zone enrollment (district's lowest performing schools) increased by 29%.
- Enrollment in AP, IB and honors classes increased 5% from last year, especially among under-represented groups (Boys: 10%; Disadvantaged Students: 12%).
- Enrollment of traditionally underrepresented students in AP classes increased (African American: 15%; Hispanic: 13%).
- Total number of 3, 4 and 5 scores increased by 10% from '04-'05 to '05-'06.

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## AP Results

### Percent of Students Participating in Advanced Level Courses by Ethnic/Racial Category



Data from Research Services

Advanced level courses defined as (honors, gifted and advanced placement courses by selected course codes)

## International Studies Program

- Collaboration between Miami-Dade Public Schools and education ministries of France, Germany, Italy, and Spain.
- International curriculum emphasizing world language studies.
- Up to three hours instruction in either French, German, Italian, or Spanish.
- Master language through literature and humanities studies.
- Secondary students study literature, mathematics, history, and geography in the target language.
- Program graduates receive dual accreditation from the foreign government and the State of Florida.

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## International Studies Program

- Provides students with opportunity to pursue an academic curriculum with an international focus
- Provides resource teachers, instructional materials, and technical and cultural assistance from participating Ministries of Education

# The Broad Symposium 2006

## Contact Information

<p><b>National Center for Educational Accountability</b> Chrys Dougherty (512) 232-0770 chrys@mail.utexas.edu</p>	<p><b>Long Beach Unified School District</b> Christopher J. Steinhauser (562) 997-8608 rjacobs@lbusd.k12.ca.us</p>	<p><b>Miami-Dade County Public Schools</b> Carolyn Spaht (305) 995-1850 cspaht@dadeschools.net</p>
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Recently released papers are available on [www.dataqualitycampaign.org](http://www.dataqualitycampaign.org) and on [www.just4kids.org](http://www.just4kids.org).