

# Discipline, Opportunity, and Equity: WPS Public Data to Academic Year 2017-18

## Executive Summary

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

This executive summary uses publically available data from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education\* in order to highlight the composition and trends among students and staff within the Worcester Public School District to the 2017-2018 Academic Year. It is intended to provide access to data in a more digestable, visual format to the community and relevant stakeholders. The intention in translating and disseminating this information is to help contextualize various issues that may be of interest to readers and to support the City of Worcester, the Worcester Public Schools and invested community members in exploring effective, collaborative, future-focused solutions.

Of note in the graphs summarizing discipline data, this data reflects only the numbers of people that have been disciplined, not the number of disciplinary events. In other words, if a student received 2 or more suspensions in a year, the data reports the student (1) not the incidents (2+). This necessarily yields a conservative estimate of the disciplinary data.

The data and statistical procedures noted here are part of a larger, longitudinal study that is currently under blind peer review within an academic journal.

This research team would like to express gratitude to the Department of Urban Studies, Department of Education, and Department of Sociology at Worcester State University as well as the WSU CityLab, and Latino Education Institute for supporting this work. This appreciation is also extended to research colleagues and partners at the university and in the community.

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\*Unless otherwise noted, the data in the report is public data from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education website's "School and District Profiles" section. (http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/) The data has been arranged in graphs to more easily visualize it but the values have not been altered or augmented in any way.



## Worcester Public Schools At A Glance

Total Students: 25,306

Number of Schools: 45 7 High Schools

4 Junior High

32 Elementary Schools

Selected Populations, All WPS

Male Students: 13,041 (51.5%) Female Students: 12,265 (48.5%) First Language, not English: 55.4% English Language Learner: 34.4% Students with Disabilities: 18.8%

High Needs: 77.5%

Economically Disadvantaged: 59.5%

K Enrollment: 2,110 students Pre-K Enrollment: 1,225 students

#### **High Schools**

Burncoat High, Claremont Academy, Doherty High, North High, South High, University Park, Worcester Technical High School

#### Middle Schools

Burncoat Middle, East Middle, Forest Grove, Sullivan

### **Elementary Schools**

Belmont St., Burncoat St., Canterbury, Chandler Magnet, City View, Clark St., Columbus Park, Elm Park, Flagg St., McGrath, Gates Lane, Goddard, Grafton St., Heard St., Jacob Hiatt, Lake View, Lincoln St., May St., Midland St., Nelson Place, Norrback Ave., Quinsigamond, Rice Sq., Roosevelt, Tatnuck, Thorndyke Rd., Union Hill, Vernon Hill, Waewcus Rd., West Tatnuck, Woodland Academy, Worcester Arts Magnet

#### Other/Affiliated

Challenge/Reach Academies

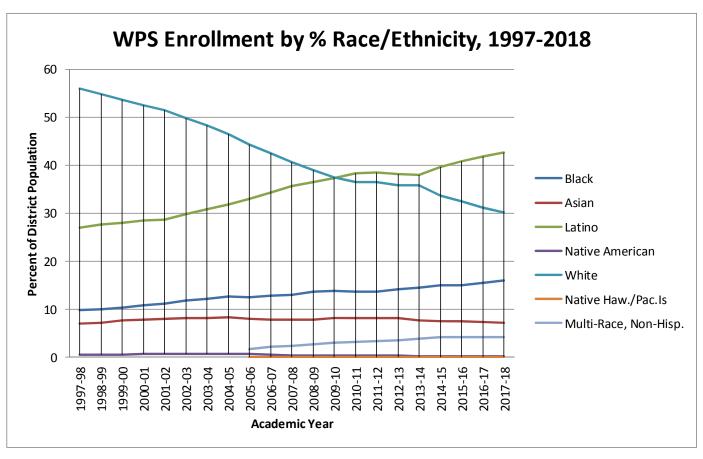
Community Service Learning Alternative Education

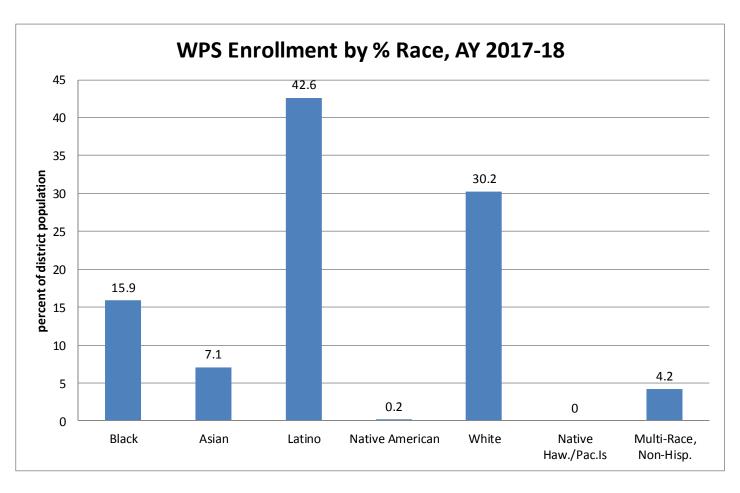
First Step at Harlow

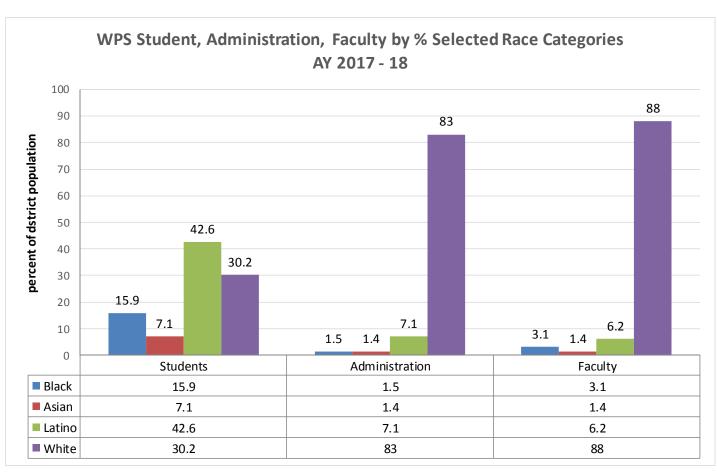
Head Start

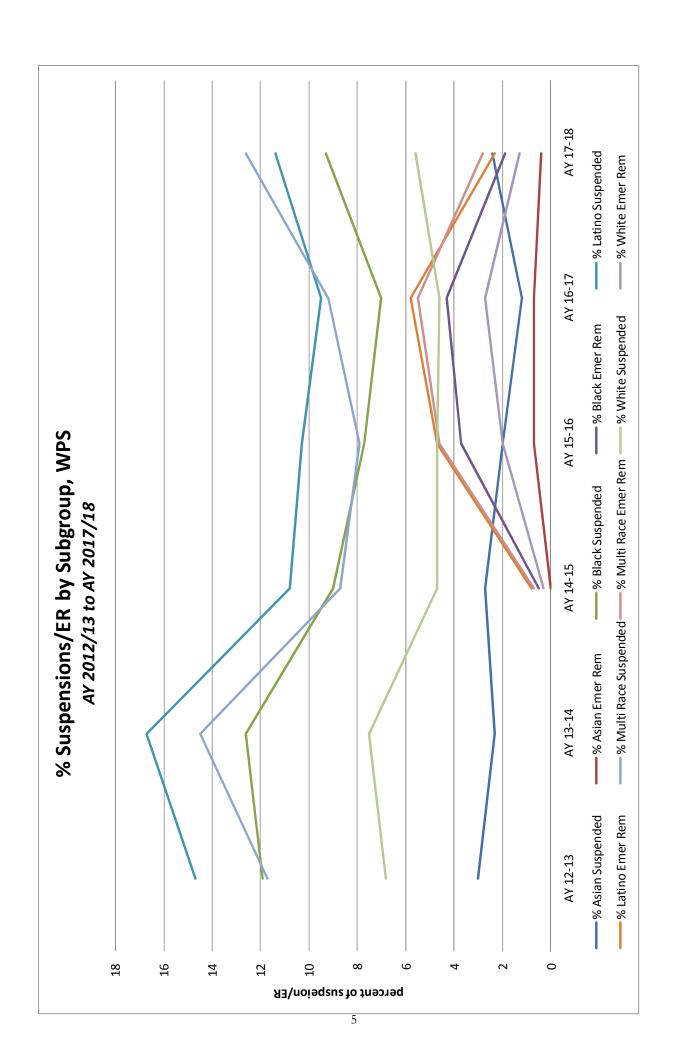
Gerald Creamer Center

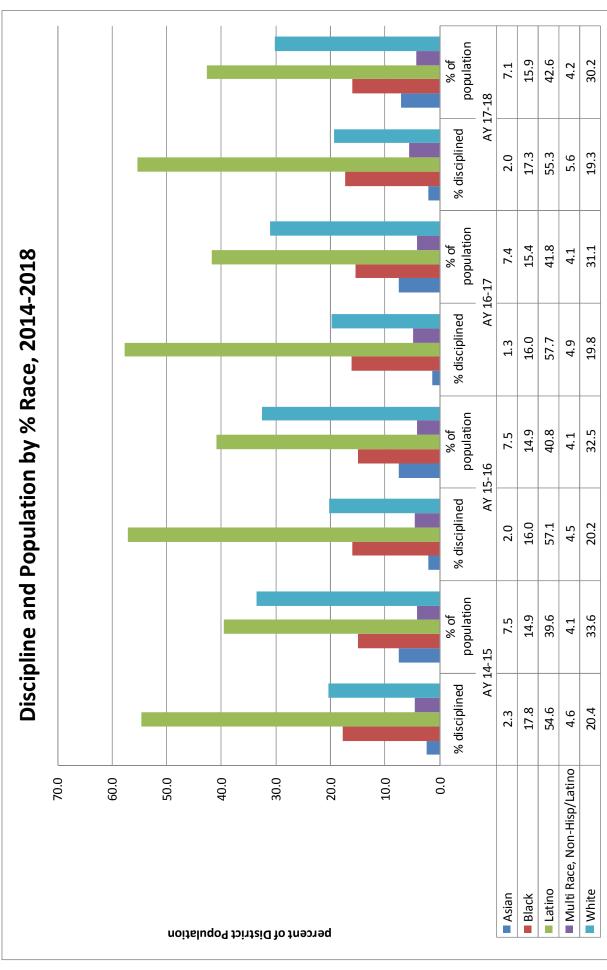
Worcester Alternative School







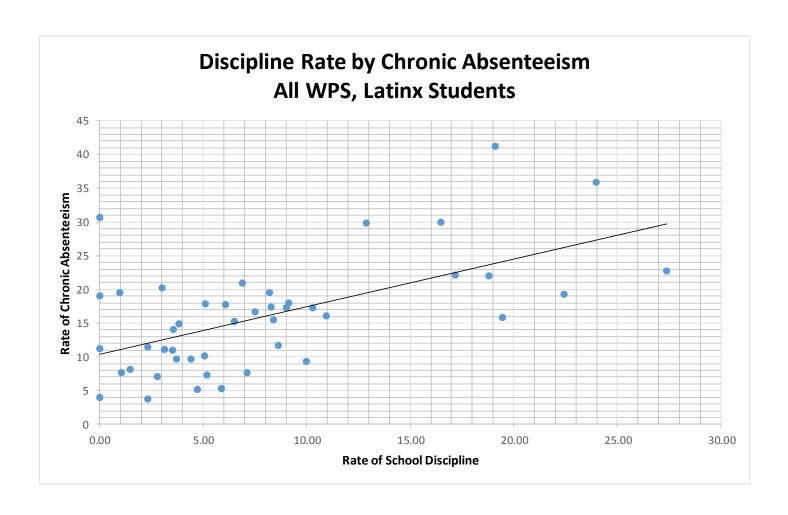


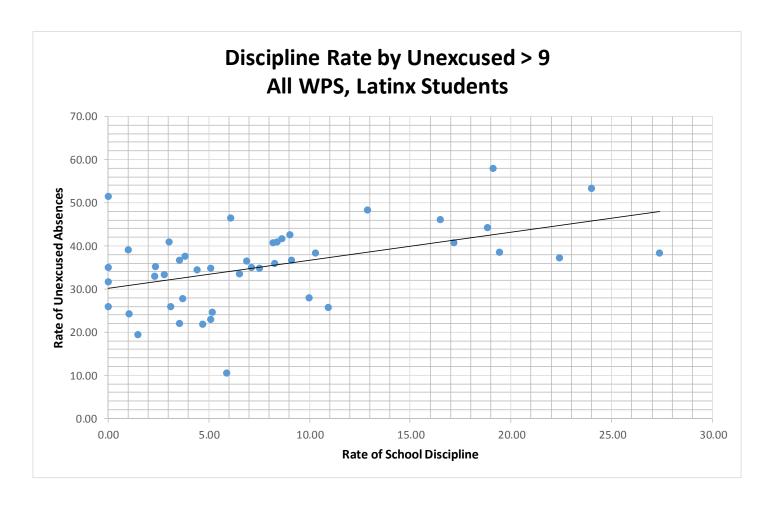


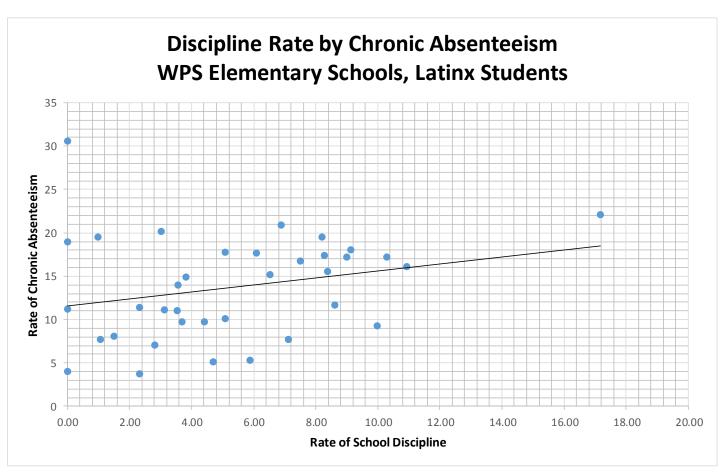
The following five charts correlate discipline data and chronic absenteeism data (and in one case absences > than 9 days) for WPS Latinx students only. As the trend line shows, there is a positive relationship between the variables indicating higher rates of discipline are related to higher rate of absenteeism.

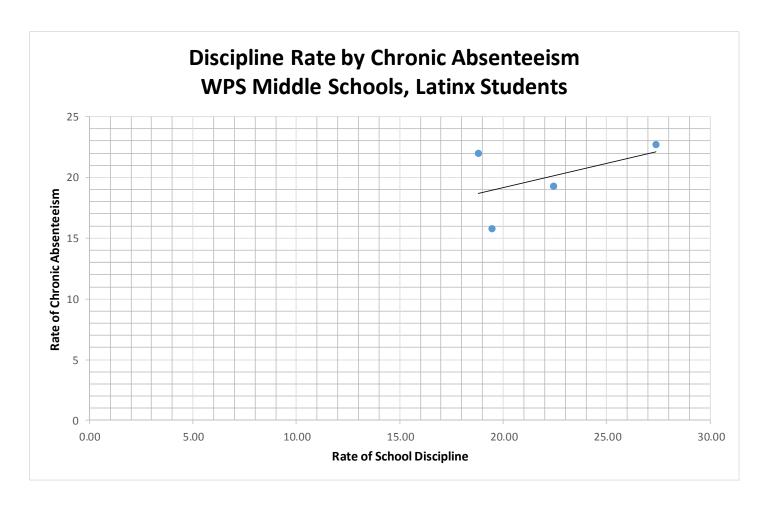
The "Rate of School Discipline" is calculated by dividing the number of disciplined students in a subgroup by the number of students in that subgroup. The "Rate of Chronic Absenteeism" is a variable provided by DESE.

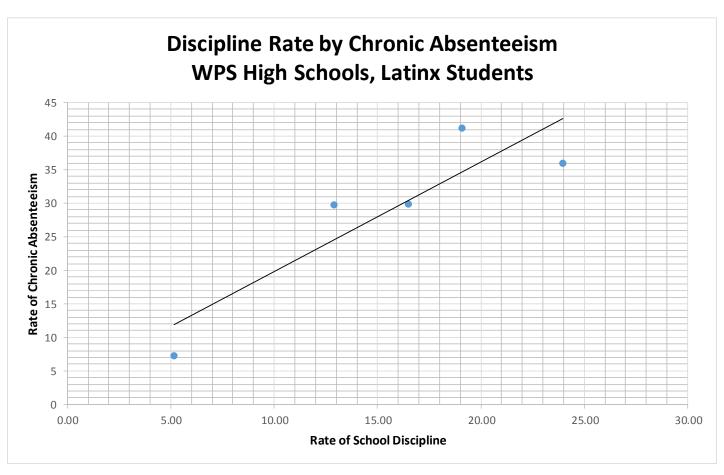
Each dot on the grids is a Worcester Public School.

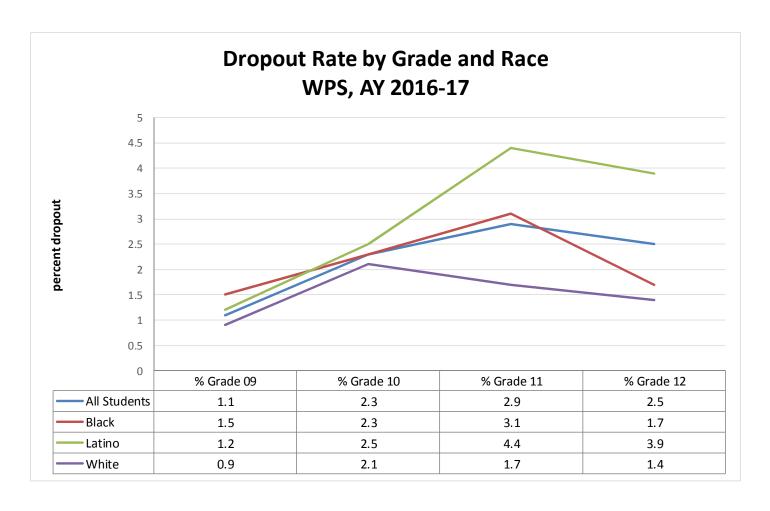


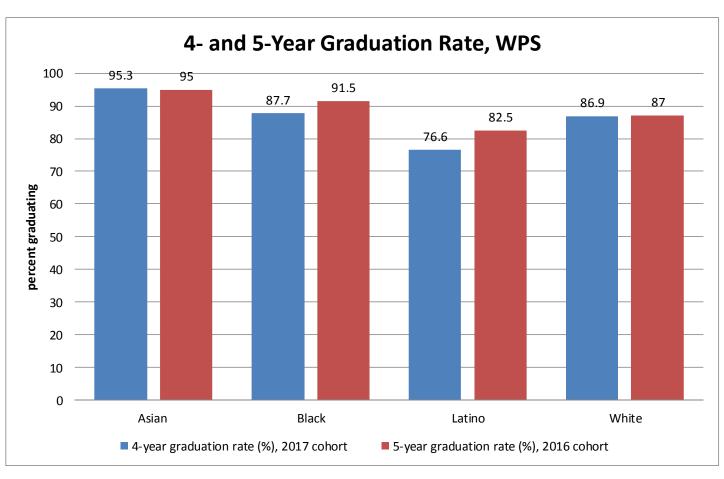


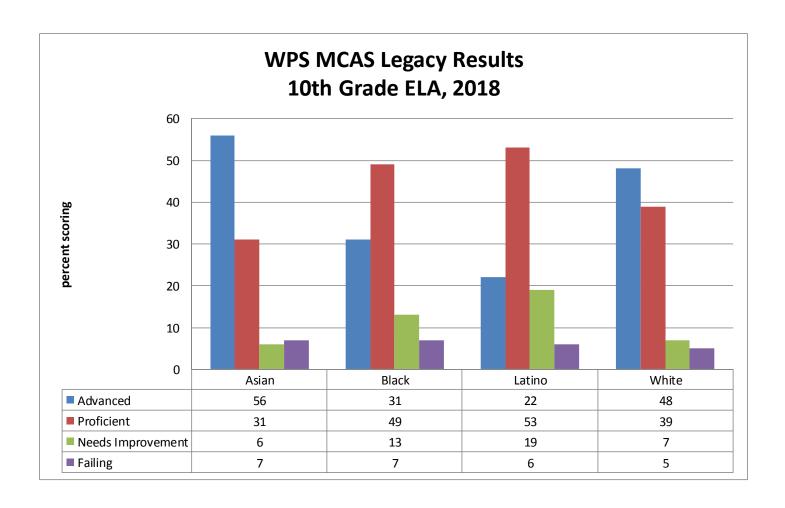


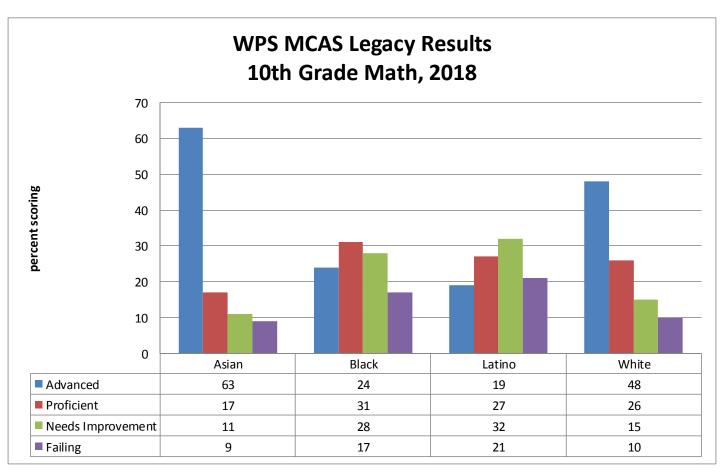


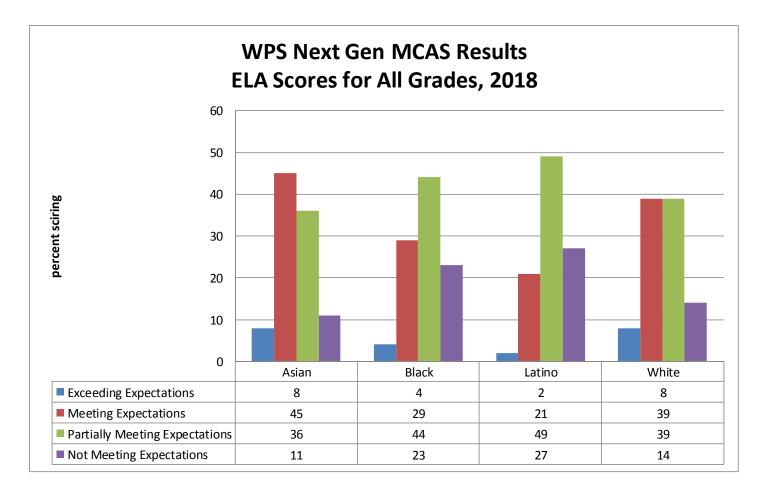


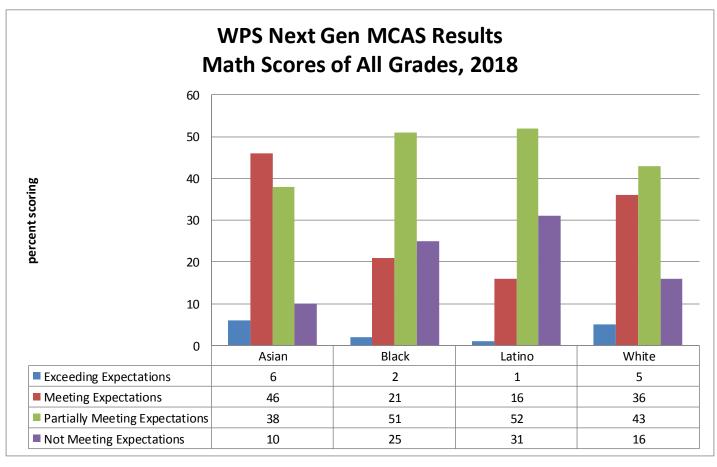


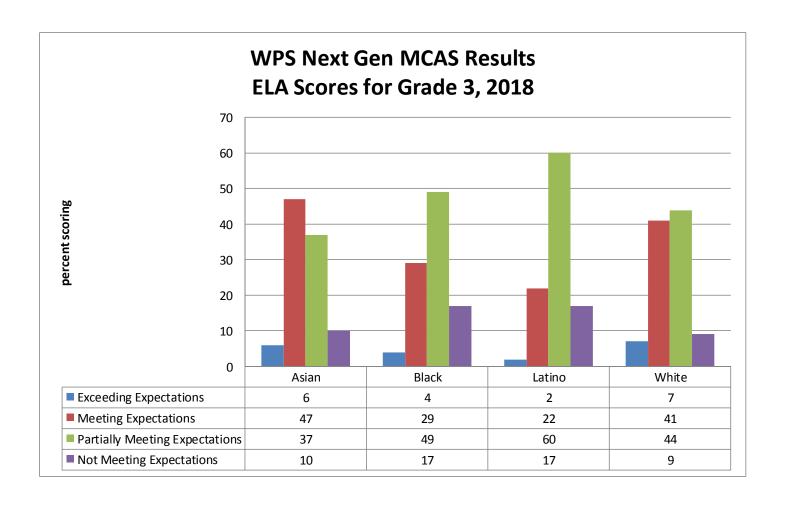


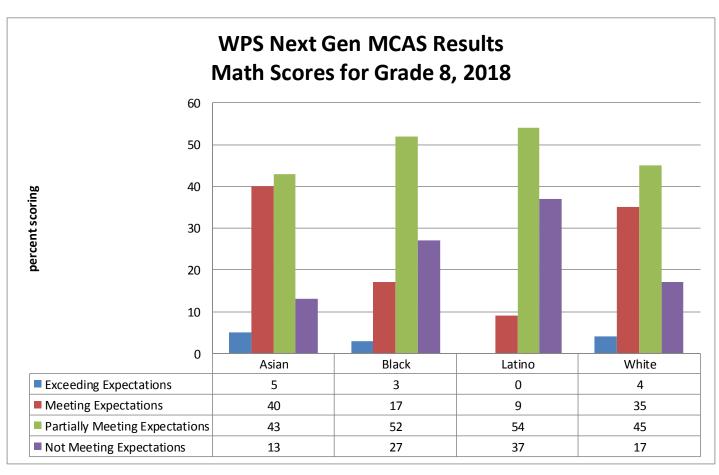


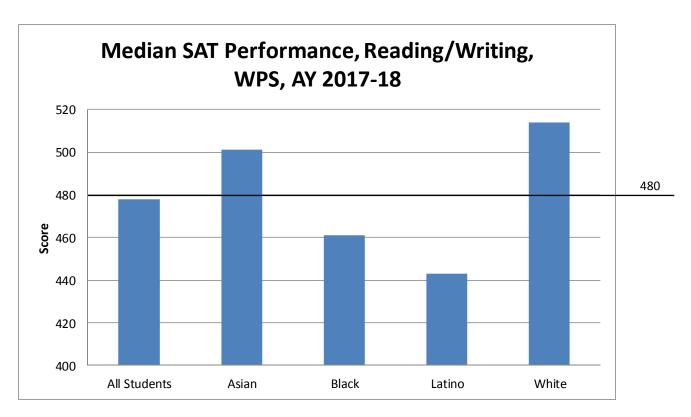


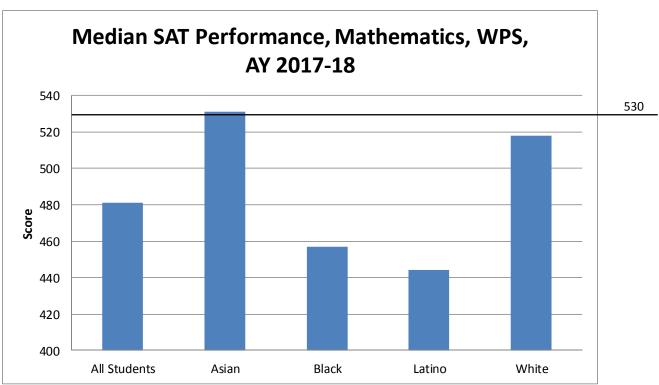












SAT College and Career Readiness Benchmarks according to the College Board are:

Evidence-Based Reading and Writing: 480

Mathematics: 530

