

# Missouri High Schools

## GRADUATION RATE ESTIMATES DIFFER DEPENDING ON THE SOURCE

	State-Reported <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Department of Education-Reported <sup>2</sup>	Independent Estimate <sup>3</sup>
Missouri Graduation Rates	85.5%	80.4%	75%

According to independent estimates, Missouri ranks **18th** in the nation in graduation rates.<sup>4</sup>

## THE HIGH SCHOOL CRISIS IS CONCENTRATED IN THE NATION'S "DROPOUT FACTORIES"

"Dropout factories" are schools where 60% or fewer of the students progress to twelfth grade in four years.

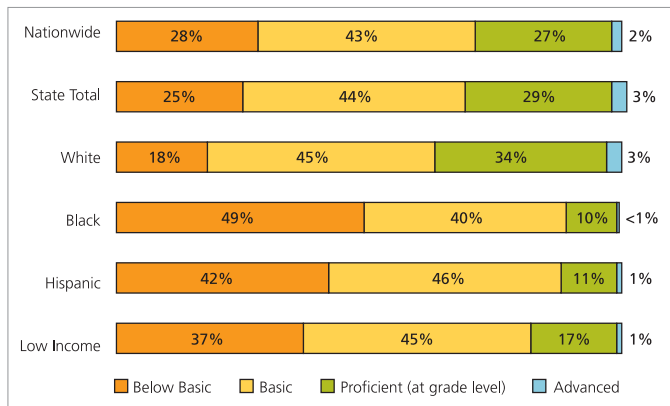
	Number of Federally Reported Regular High Schools <sup>5</sup>	Number of Dropout Factories <sup>6</sup>
Missouri	491	19
Nation	15,409	1,642

## THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP REMAINS A CHALLENGE

### Graduation Rates by Race<sup>7</sup>

	Missouri	Nation
All Students	75%	70%
White	78%	76%
Black	56%	53%
Hispanic	57%	58%

### National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Reading Scores for Missouri Eighth Graders<sup>8</sup>



39% of Missouri eighth graders are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.<sup>9</sup>

## COMPREHENSIVE DATA SYSTEMS ARE NEEDED

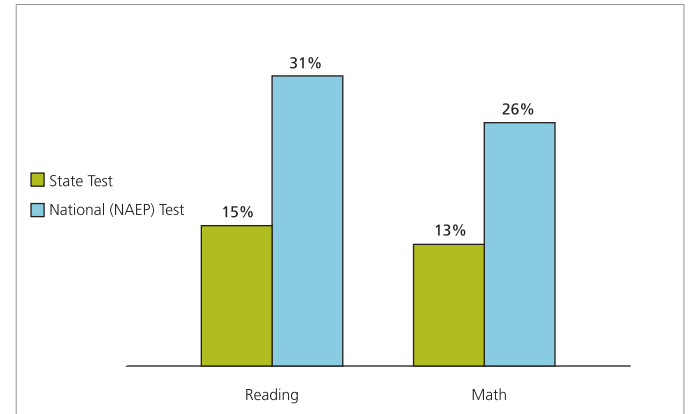
The national Data Quality Campaign recommends ten elements as the start of a robust P-12 longitudinal data system.<sup>10</sup>

	Missouri
1. The ability to track individual students over time	NO
2. Student-level demographic information	NO
3. The ability to track individual students' test records from year to year to measure academic growth	YES
4. The ability to know which students have not been tested	YES
5. The ability to match teachers to students by classroom and subject	NO
6. Student-level transcript information	NO
7. Information on student performance on college-readiness examinations like the SAT, ACT, and AP	NO
8. Student-level graduation and dropout data	NO
9. The ability to match student records between the K-12 and higher education systems	YES
10. System in place to evaluate data system quality	YES

To date, only four states have achieved all ten elements.

## STATE AND FEDERAL PROFICIENCY MEASURES DIFFER

### Missouri Eighth-Grade Proficiency as Measured by Missouri State and National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Tests<sup>11</sup>



\* In most states, a larger number of students score at the "proficient" level on the state rather than the NAEP test.

The average gap nationally between state- and NAEP-reported **reading** scores is **37** percentage points.

The average gap nationally between state- and NAEP-reported **math** scores is **31** percentage points.

## DROPOUTS AND POORLY PREPARED STUDENTS HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY

Approximately **19,300** students did not graduate from Missouri's high schools in 2007; the lost lifetime earnings in Missouri for that class of dropouts alone are more than **\$5 billion**.<sup>12</sup>

Missouri would save more than **\$245.1 million** in health care costs over the lifetimes of each class of dropouts had they earned their diplomas.<sup>13</sup>

If Missouri's high schools graduated all students ready for college, the state would save almost **\$53 million** a year in community college remediation costs and lost earnings.<sup>14</sup>

Missouri's economy would see a combination of crime-related savings and additional revenue of about **\$147 million** each year if the male high school graduation rate increased by just 5%.<sup>15</sup>

## ALL STUDENTS NEED ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY TEACHERS<sup>16</sup>

**91.8%** of secondary classes in high-poverty schools in Missouri are taught by a highly qualified teacher.

**98.1%** of secondary classes in low-poverty schools in Missouri are taught by a highly qualified teacher.

- Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education 2007
- United States Department of Education 2007
- Editorial Projects in Education Research Center 2007
- Editorial Projects in Education Research Center 2007
- National Center for Education Statistics 2007
- Center for Social Organization of Schools, Johns Hopkins University 2007
- Editorial Projects in Education Research Center 2007
- National Center for Education Statistics 2007
- National Center for Education Statistics 2007
- National Center for Education Accountability 2007
- National Center for Education Statistics 2006; Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education 2006
- Alliance for Excellent Education 2007
- Alliance for Excellent Education 2006
- Alliance for Excellent Education 2006
- Alliance for Excellent Education 2006
- Consolidated State Performance Reports 2007

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