

Washington State Board of Education
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Achievement Gap Recognition

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Existing Recognition (6 areas)

- Recognition given for *Overall Outstanding Performance* using norm-referenced system
 - Top 5% of Index, by grade band (elementary, middle, high, comp.)
- *Special Recognition* given using criteria-referenced system
 - 2-year average of 6.00 in language arts, math, science, ext. grad. rate, gifted (among peers)

	Outcomes					
Indicator	Reading	Writing	Math	Science	Ext. Grad. Rate	Average
<i>Non-low inc. achievement</i>						
<i>Low inc. ach.</i>						
<i>Ach. vs. peers</i>						6.00* for gifted
<i>Improvement</i>						
Average	6.00*	6.00*	6.00*	6.00*	6.00*	Top 5%*

* Minimum 2-year average rating to earn recognition

INDEX

Recognition Results

174 schools recognized in 233 areas

(48 schools received multiple recognition)

Grade Band	# in top 5%	Index cut-off	Total awards
Elementary	53	5.280	70
Middle	19	4.875	26
High	20	4.910	52
Multiple	16	4.735	26
Total	108		174

Special Recognition

Lang. Arts	36
Math	10
Science	24
Grad. rate	35
Gifted	20
Total	125

Achievement Gap Recognition

- Criteria used this year were too stringent, so no schools were recognized
- OSPI/SBE want to give recognition for closing the achievement gap next school year
- Two forms of recognition are recommended (both are criteria-based)
 - Use the Accountability Index matrix, look at gap based on socioeconomic status (SES)
 - Use modified matrix for subgroups, look at gap based on race/ethnicity

Gap in Socioeconomic Status (SES)

- Look at difference in average of non-low income and low income rows (yellow cells)

	Outcomes					
Indicator	Reading	Writing	Math	Science	Ext. Grad. Rate	Average
Non-low inc. achievement						Compare
Low inc. ach.						↕
Ach. vs. peers						
Improvement						
Average						

Gap in Socioeconomic Status (SES)

- Apply minimum criteria
 - 2-year average for each row must be at least 4.00
 - Accountability Index must be at least 4.00 each year
 - At least 2 of 5 cells in the row must be rated each year
 - Must be fewer than 10% students designated as gifted each year
- *Give recognition to any school that has a difference between the row averages of less than 1 in both years*

30 schools would have been recognized in 2009
(1.4% of schools statewide)

- 18 elementary schools
- 2 middle/junior high schools
- 7 high schools
- 3 comprehensive (more than one grade band)

Gap Between Race/Ethnic Groups

- Look at difference in average of lower performing groups (Amer. Indian, Black, Hispanic, Pac. Is.) and higher performing groups (Asian, White)

Results for Hypothetical School

Subgroup	READING			MATH			EXT. GRAD. RATE			Average rating	Change from previous year
	Met Std. (All stud.)	Peers	Improve.	Met Std. (All stud.)	Peers	Improve.	Met Std. (All stud.)	Peers	Improve.		
American Indian	4	4	4	1	5	4	1	4	4	3.44	0.33
Black	3	3	3	1	3	5	1	3	2	2.67	-1.00
Hispanic	3	4	4	1	4	4	1	4	4	3.22	-0.11
Pacific Islander	4	4	4	1	5	4	1	4	4	3.44	0.22
Average	3.5	3.75	3.75	1	4.25	4	1	3.75	3.5	3.17	-0.17
White	5	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3.78	-0.22
Asian	6	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	6	4.78	0.56
Average	5.50	4.00	4.50	3.50	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	5.00	4.28	0.17

Gap Between Race/Ethnic Groups

- Apply minimum criteria
 - 2-year average for each row must be at least 3.50
 - At least 4 of 9 cells in the row must be rated each year
 - Must be fewer than 10% students designated as gifted each year
- *Give recognition to any school that has less than a .50 difference between the row averages in two consecutive years*

No results computed yet for this matrix, so number of schools that would have been recognized is unknown

Advantages

- Uses familiar matrices
 - SES recognition uses the same Index matrix as the other forms of Special Recognition
 - Race/ethnic group recognition based on modified Index used for subgroup accountability
- Recognizes the achievement gap is driven primarily by differences in family socioeconomic status
- Focuses on achievement gap that has historically existed between the various racial/ethnic groups

Other Possible Recognition Criteria

- Consider using criterion related to achievement gap for the other types of recognition

Example: For *Overall Outstanding Performance*, the size of the gap (row averages) between the two SES groups cannot be larger than 2

- 25 of the 108 (top 5%) recognized this year had a gap larger than 2
- Before giving recognition, examine data to ensure recognition is warranted