

# Opportunity Gaps in Advanced Course-Taking



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# What is the definition of an advanced course?



- Courses that are more rigorous than minimum graduation requirements
  - ✦ i.e. Precalculus, Calculus, Statistics, Physics, et cetera
  - ✦ This analysis focused on math and science courses
- Dual Credit courses
  - ✦ Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Tech Prep, Running Start, Cambridge, and College in the High School



# New Data for a New 2015-2018 Strategic Plan



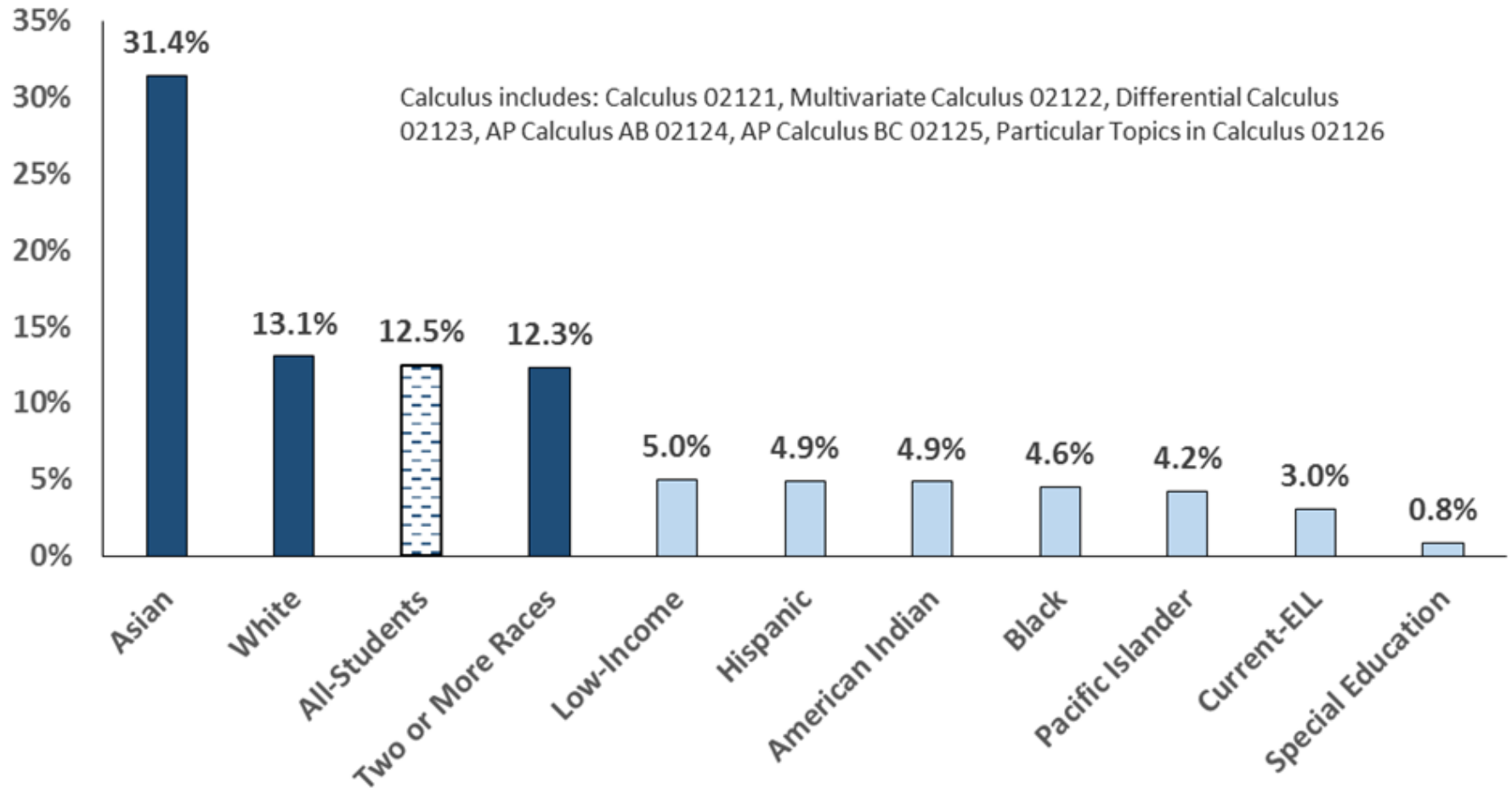
1.A.2 Research and promote policies to close opportunity gaps in advanced course-taking.

Annual - September

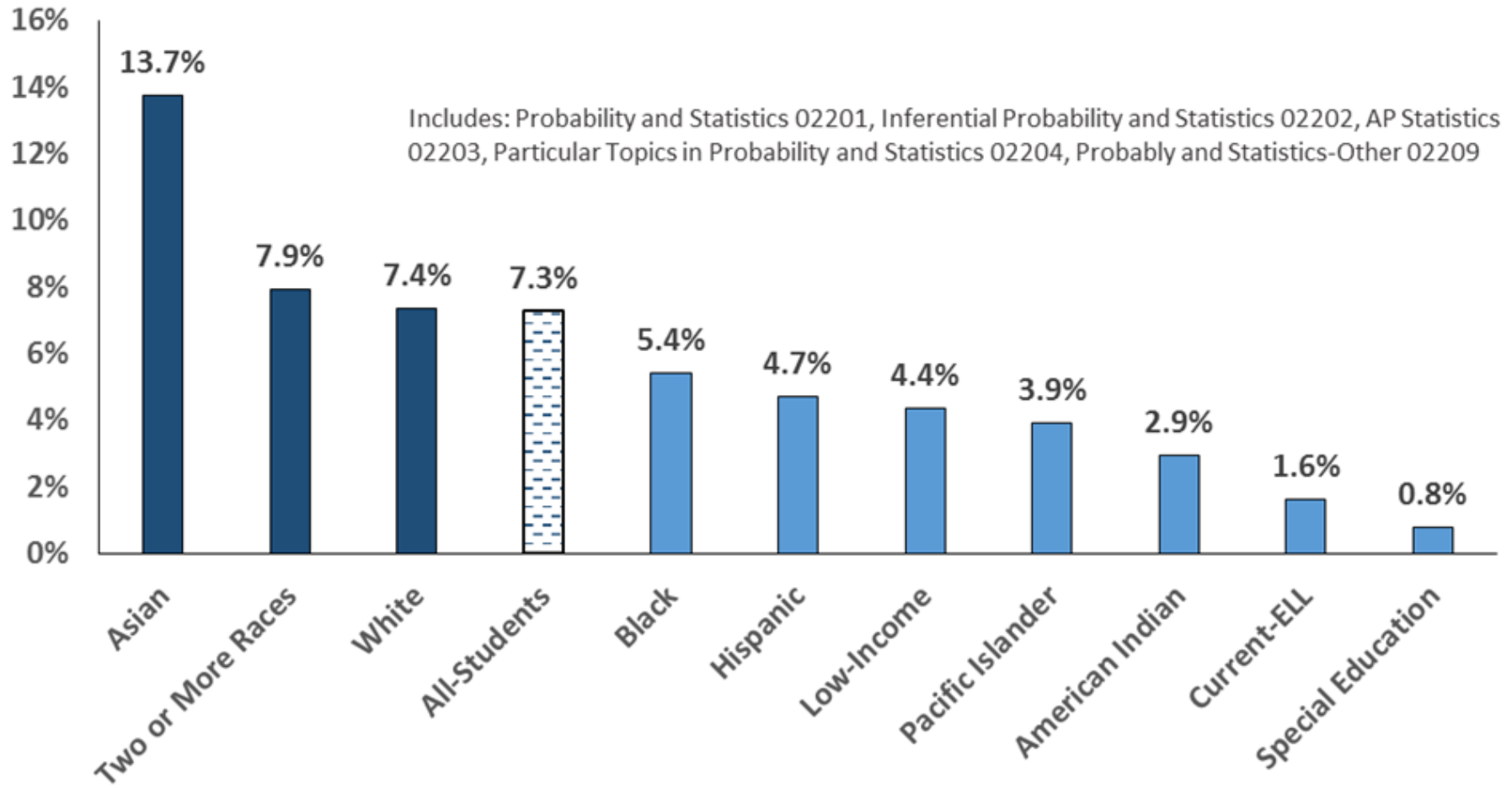
Spotlight Report on Advanced Course-Taking Data



## Percentage of Each Student Group Earning One Credit of Calculus in the Class of 2014

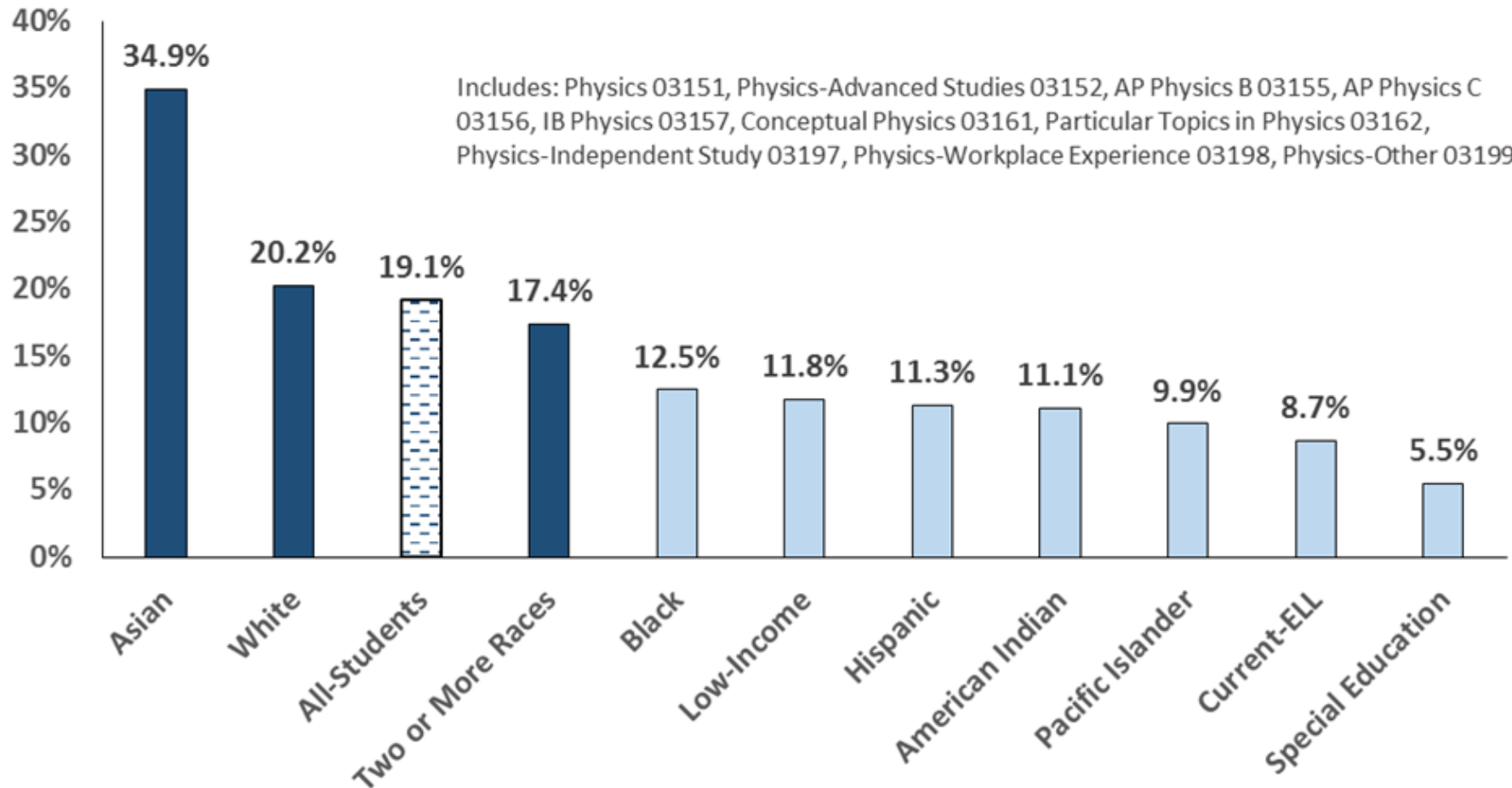


# Percentage of Student Group Earning One Credit of Statistics in the Class of 2014

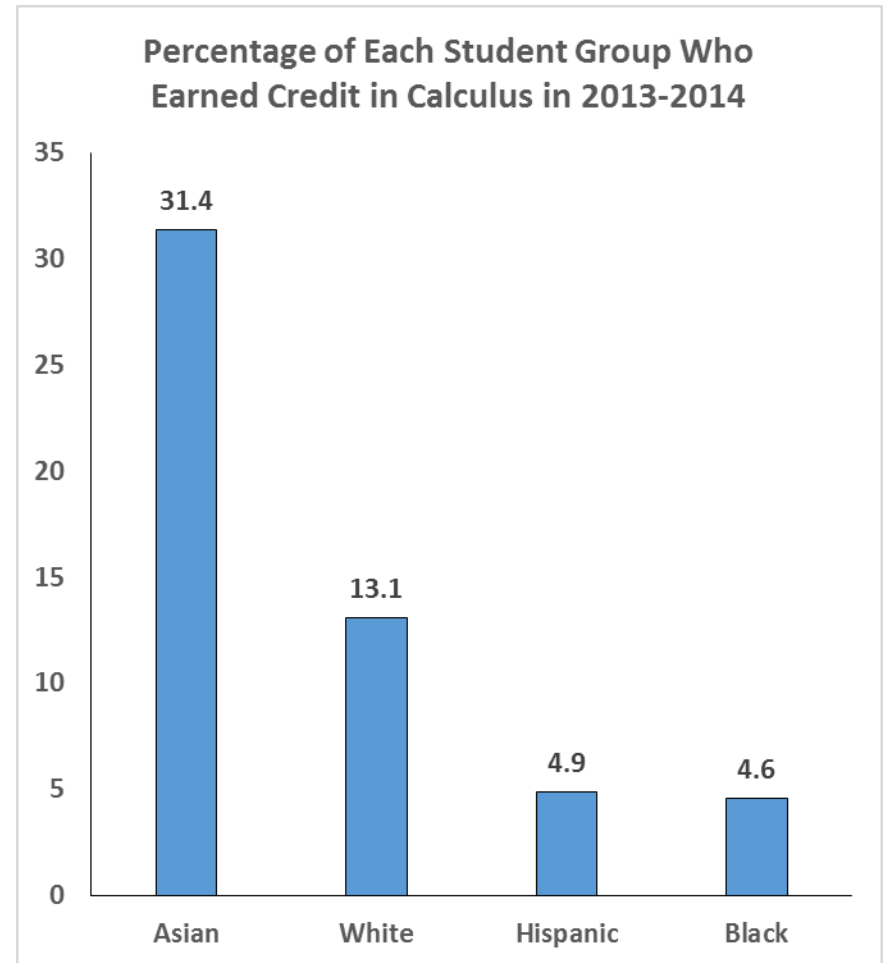
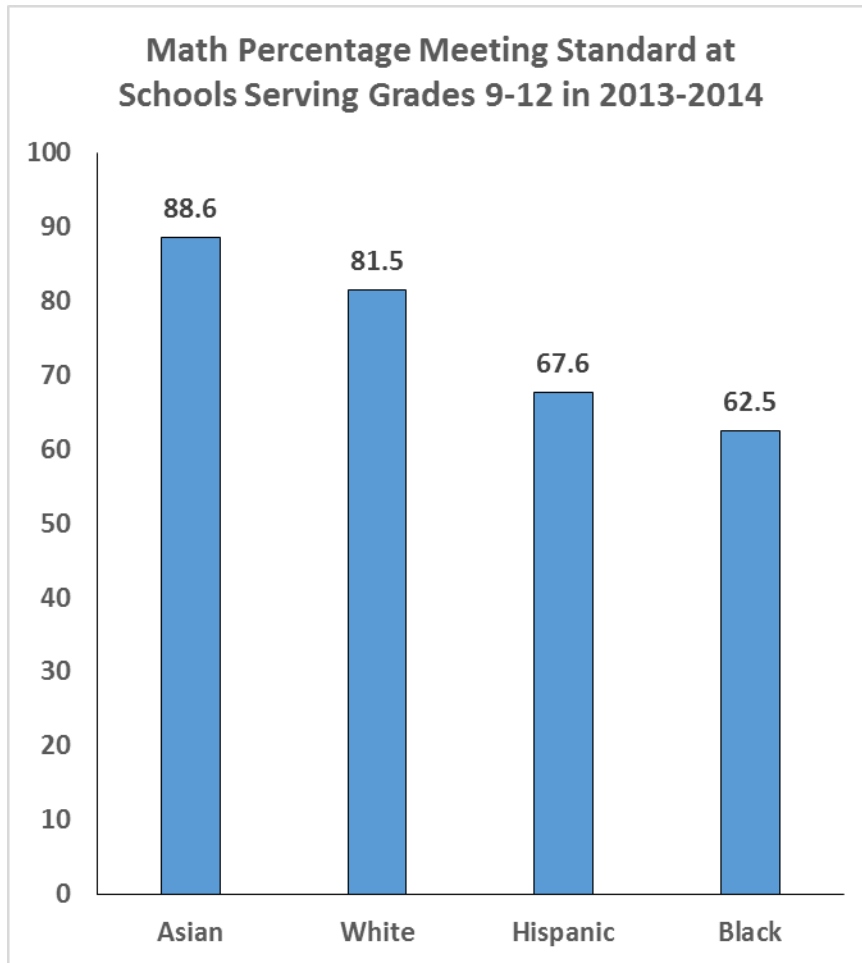


## Percentage of Each Student Group Earning One Credit of Physics in the Class of 2014

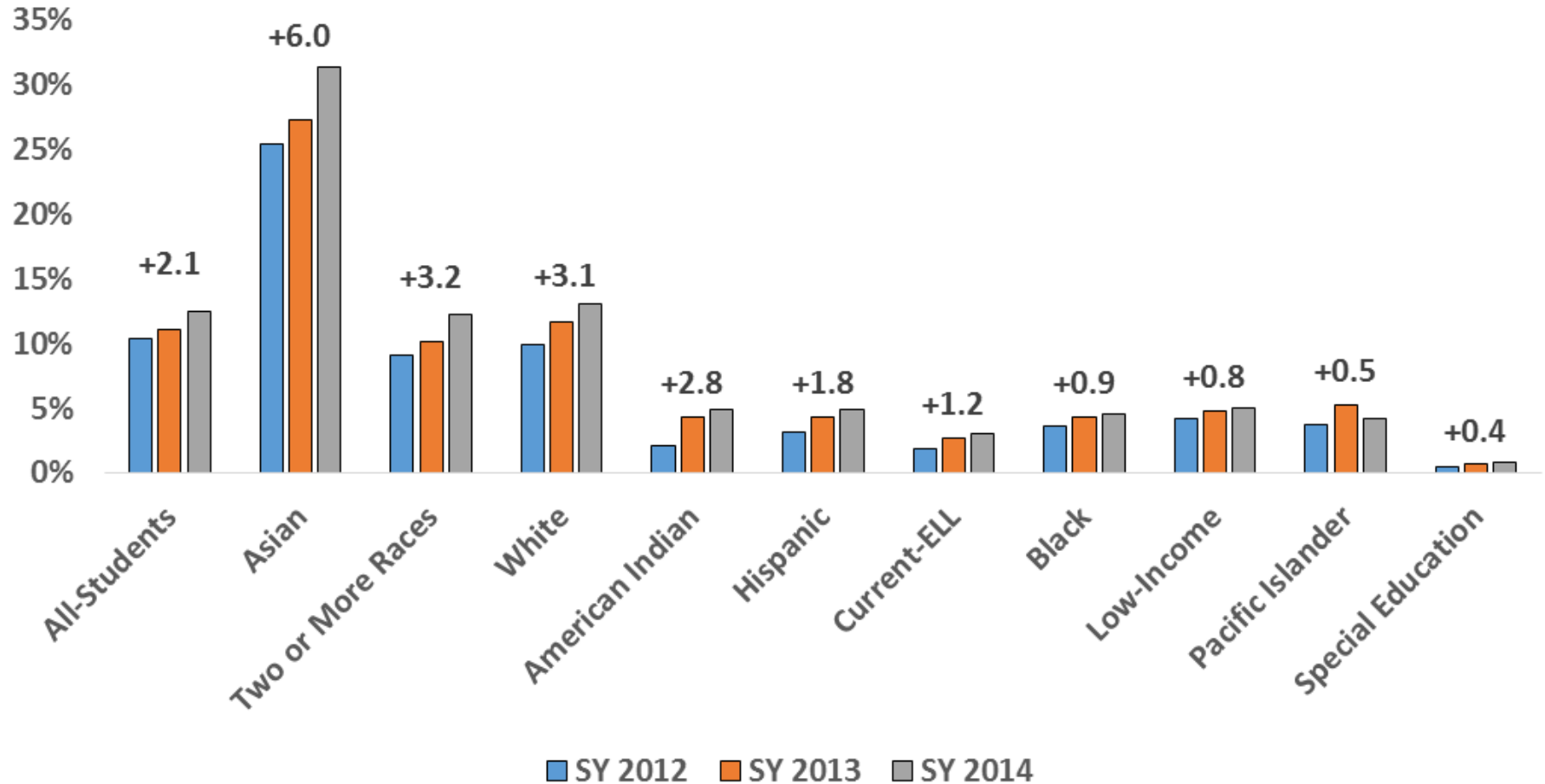
Includes: Physics 03151, Physics-Advanced Studies 03152, AP Physics B 03155, AP Physics C 03156, IB Physics 03157, Conceptual Physics 03161, Particular Topics in Physics 03162, Physics-Independent Study 03197, Physics-Workplace Experience 03198, Physics-Other 03199



# Course-Taking Gap may be Wider than the Achievement Gap



# Three-Year Change in Percentage of Each Subgroup Who Earned One Credit of Calculus





# Guiding Questions



- What may cause opportunity gaps in advanced course-taking?
- What policy work could close those opportunity gaps?
- What are next steps for the Board's work on opportunity gaps in advanced course-taking?



# Possible Causes of the Gaps and Potential Policy Work



- Adequate performance is needed to thrive in advanced courses
  - ✦ Close achievement gaps
  - ✦ Place students only if they are ready
- Some students who are ready are not placed in advanced courses
  - ✦ Acceleration policies – advance kids to rigorous coursework



# Possible Causes of the Gaps and Potential Policy Work



- **Financial Barriers - Fees and transportation**
  - ✦ Fee reduction and waiver programs
  - ✦ Online courses, College in the High School, bus passes, travel period
- **Only 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders are allowed to enroll in certain Dual Credit programs**
  - ✦ Expand access to more advanced course-work to 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders.
- **Lack of accountability for course-taking patterns**
  - ✦ Use of Dual Credit and Industry Certification in the Achievement Index



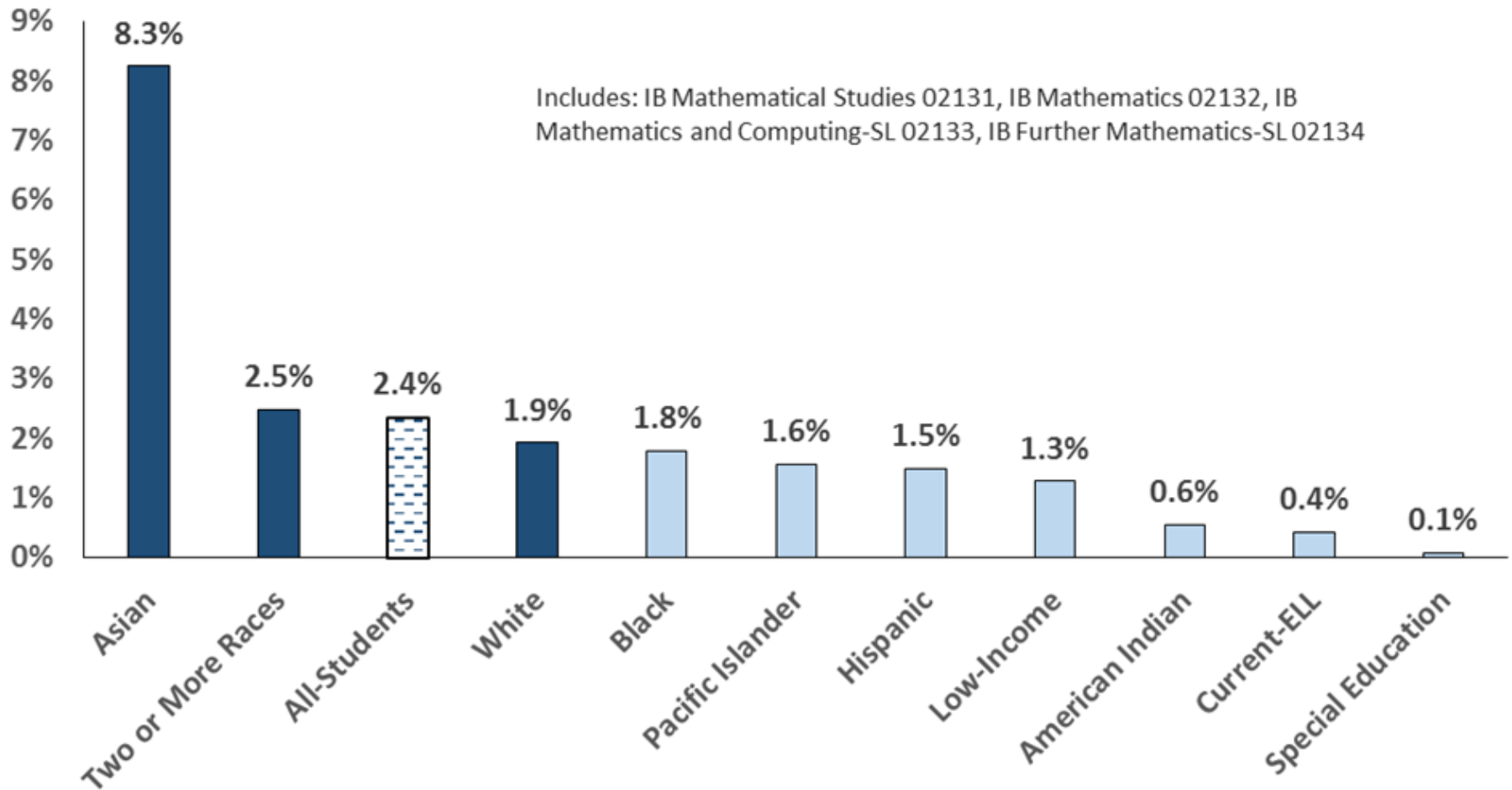
# Possible Causes of the Gaps and Potential Policy Work



- **Expectations of the student, parents, school staff**
  - ✦ Parental engagement, including High School and Beyond Plan
  - ✦ Cultural competency of school staff
  - ✦ When placing kids, be mindful of the placement of siblings, peers, and significant others
- **Course availability – differences among regions, districts, and schools**
  - ✦ Expand availability of advanced courses through grants and professional development
  - ✦ Innovative options for remote districts, including online courses and College in the High School for content-based acceleration

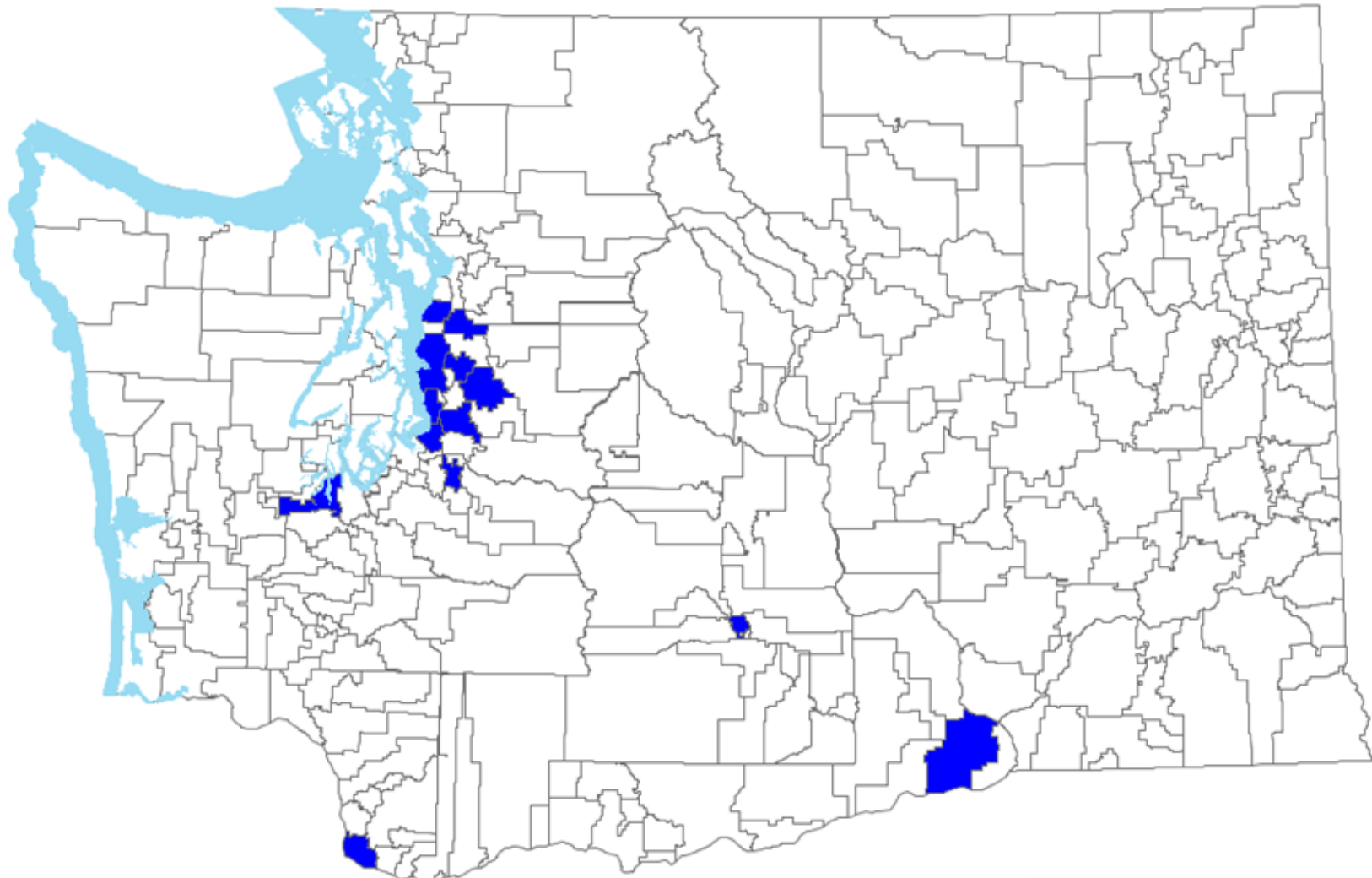


## Percentage of Each Student Group Earning One Credit of IB Math in the Class of 2014





# State of Washington

Districts with Students Enrolled in International Baccalaureate High School Math in the 2013-2014 School Year



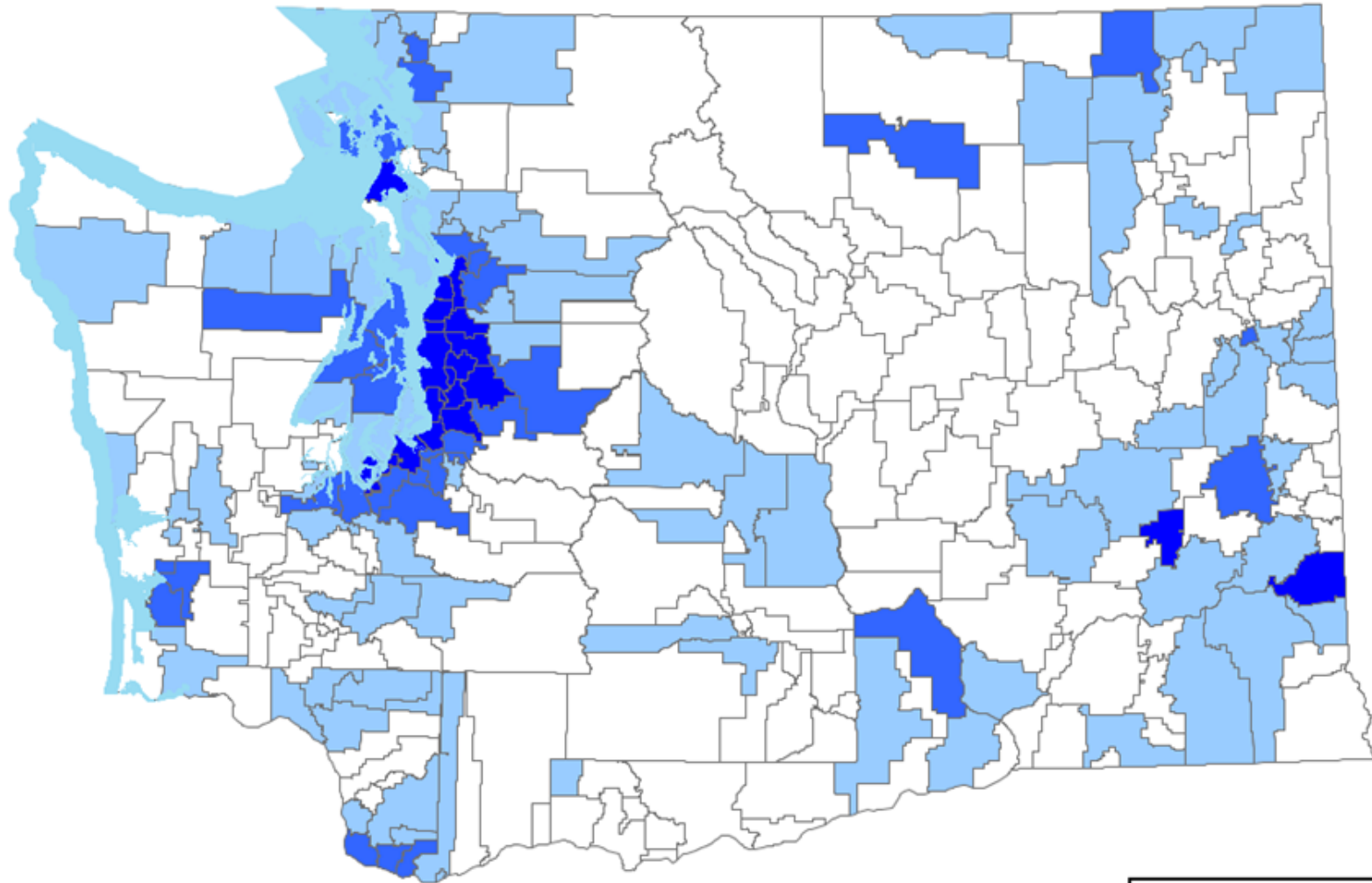
Includes: IB Mathematical Studies 02131, IB Mathematics 02132, IB Mathematics and Computing-SL 02133, IB Further Mathematics-SL 02134

Has IB Math Enrollment	
Does Not Have IB Math Enrollment	



# State of Washington

## Asian Percentage of Enrollment 2013-2014



> State Average of 8.1%	Dark Blue
3 to 8.1%	Medium Blue
1 to 2.99%	Light Blue
< 1%	White



# Resources



- Website: [www.SBE.wa.gov](http://www.SBE.wa.gov)
- Blog: [washingtonSBE.wordpress.com](http://washingtonSBE.wordpress.com)
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/washingtonSBE](http://www.facebook.com/washingtonSBE)
- Twitter: [www.twitter.com/wa\\_SBE](http://www.twitter.com/wa_SBE)
- Email: [sbe@sbe.wa.gov](mailto:sbe@sbe.wa.gov)
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