

Performance Gaps: How Washington Students Compare Nationally and to Peer States



ANDREW PARR, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
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Status of Statewide Indicators



- Performance on some indicators appears to be lower than expected or desired.

Indicator	On Track to Meet Gap Reduction Targets?	Ranked in the Top 10 Percent Nationally	Comparable to Peer States
Kindergarten Readiness	NO	NO	NO
3 rd Grade Literacy	NO	NO*	NO*
8 th Grade High School Readiness	NO	NO	YES
High School Graduation	NO	NO	NO
Quality of High School Diploma	TBD	YES	YES
Post-Secondary Education and Workforce	TBD	TBD	TBD
Quality of Schools	TBD	TBD	TBD



Peer States



- Colorado (11)
- Connecticut (5)
- Maryland (8)
- Massachusetts (1)
- Minnesota (6)
- New Jersey (2)
- North Carolina (28)
- Virginia (10)

Washington Learns

Global Challenge States

Success in the new world requires innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship, and commercialization of new technologies—all of which rely on educated citizens. In 2002, the Progressive Policy Institute published a New Economy Index which ranked states based on indicators of their potential to perform in the new economy. To measure our ability to stay competitive in the global economy, Washington Learns identified a group of comparison states from the index to use for benchmarks. These 10 Global Challenge States (GCS) include the eight states that top the list on the Progressive Policy Institute's New Economy Index and two other states with economic characteristics that are similar to Washington but that are farther down the list on the NEI. (<http://www.neweconomyindex.org/>)

Global Challenge States—Demographic Information

	GCS Ranking	Population (2005)	Percent in Urbanized Area (2000)	Average Wage (2004)	Poverty Rate Under 5 Years (2000)	Speak English less than "Very Well": Age 5-17 (2000)	Children in Home where Head of Household is a High School Dropout
Massachusetts	1	5,600,388	88.8%	\$47,876	12.4%	5.5%	10%
Washington	2	6,287,799	73.0%	\$40,299	15.9%	5.3%	12%
California	3	36,132,147	88.4%	\$44,028	20.4%	16.4%	25%
Colorado	4	4,665,177	74.7%	\$39,624	12.7%	5.7%	16%
Maryland	5	6,398,743	80.2%	\$42,110	11.7%	3.4%	11%
New Jersey	6	8,717,925	92.2%	\$47,239	11.5%	6.6%	11%
Connecticut	7	3,510,297	83.6%	\$49,941	11.3%	5.1%	9%
Virginia	8	7,567,465	66.6%	\$40,335	13.2%	3.4%	13%
Minnesota	13	5,132,799	55.1%	\$39,551	10.6%	3.9%	8%
North Carolina	26	8,683,242	46.7%	\$34,364	17.9%	3.6%	17%

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Performance Gaps Based on what?



- Performance Gaps
 - ✦ Differences in Percent At or Above Proficient
 - ✦ Differences in Average Scaled Scores
- Based on Poverty Status
 - ✦ FRL - Not FRL
- Based on Race/Ethnicity
 - ✦ White - Black Performance Gap
 - ✦ White - Hispanic Performance Gap
- Snapshot and Trend Views
- NAEP
 - ✦ 4th and 8th Grade
 - ✦ Reading and Math



Words of Caution



- See Bert Stoneberg (2005) article titled *Please Don't Use NAEP Scores to Rank Order the 50 States* at <http://pareonline.net/getvn.asp?v=10&n=9> for other ideas on how to compare NAEP data
- In this work, the NAEP data are
 - ✦ Added and subtracted
 - ✦ Averaged
 - ✦ Reading and math combined
 - ✦ Rank ordered

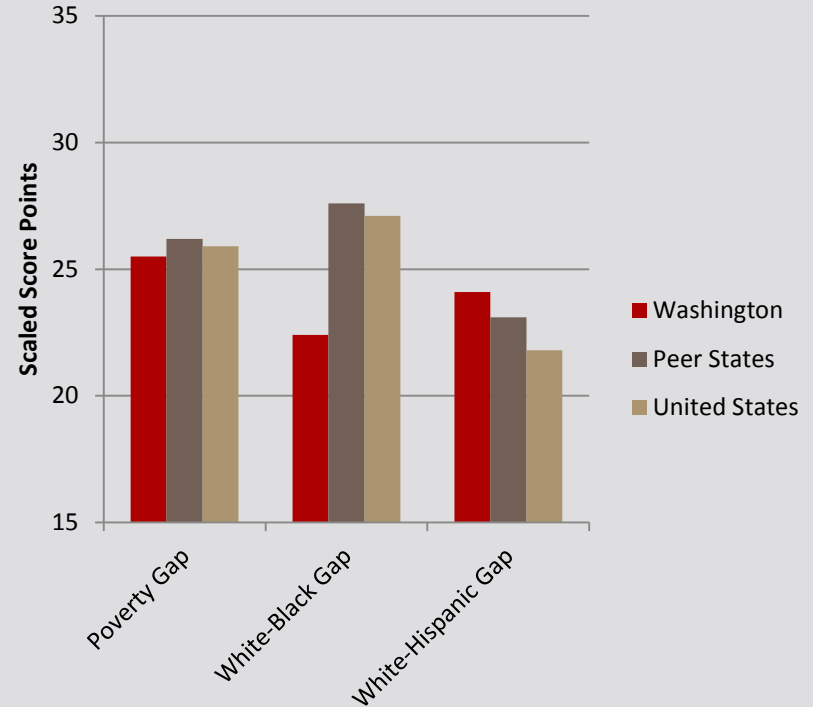


Three Major Takeaways



- **Poverty-Based Performance Gap**
 - ✦ Similar to Peer States
 - ✦ Similar to U.S. Average
- **White-Black Performance Gap**
 - ✦ Smaller than Peer States
 - ✦ Smaller than U.S. Average
- **White-Hispanic Performance Gap**
 - ✦ Larger than Peer States
 - ✦ Larger than U.S. Average

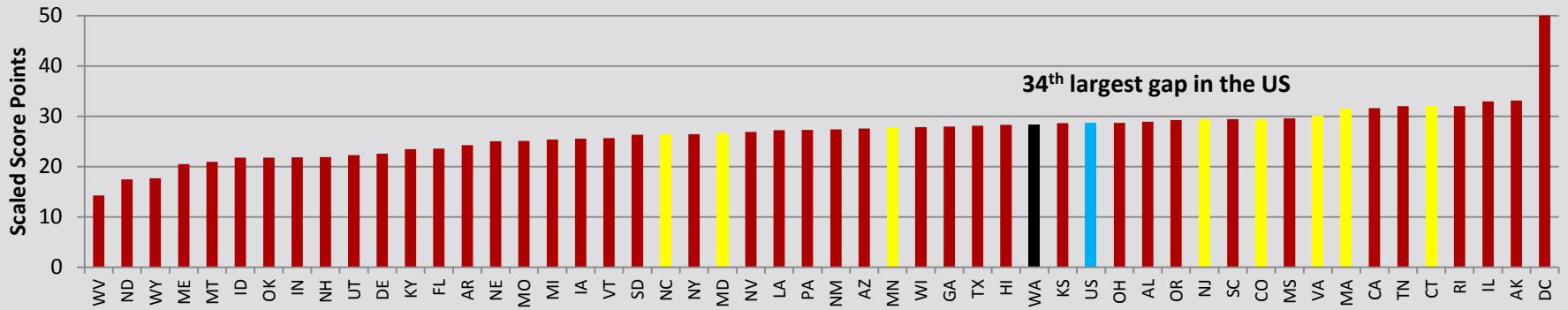
**Average Performance Gap (2013)
Scaled Score Points**



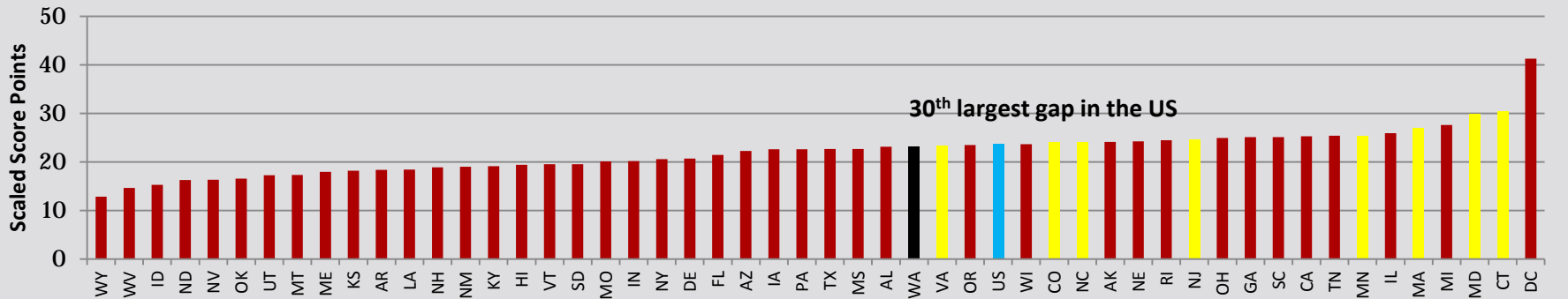
4th Grade NAEP by Poverty Status



**Average Scaled Score - 4th Grade NAEP Reading
Performance Gap based on Poverty Status**



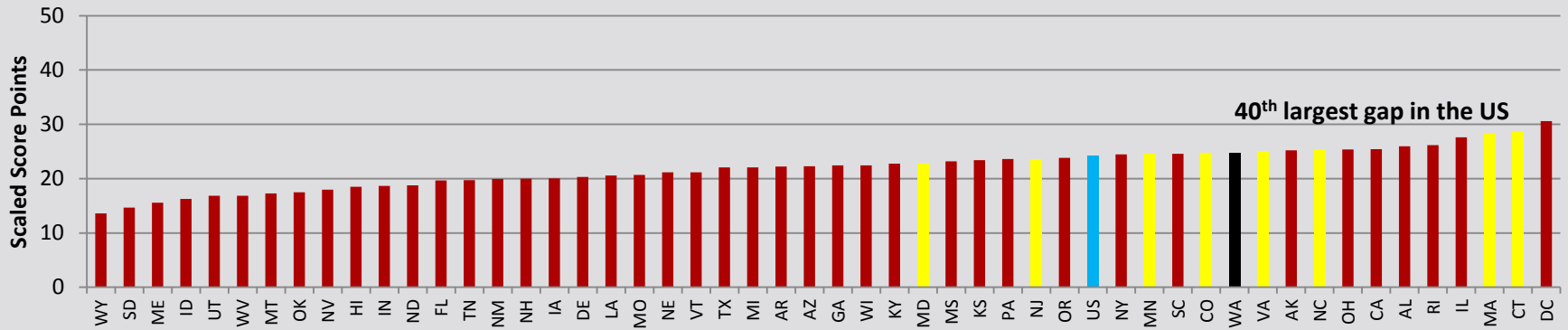
**Average Scaled Score - 4th Grade NAEP Math
Performance Gap based on Poverty Status**



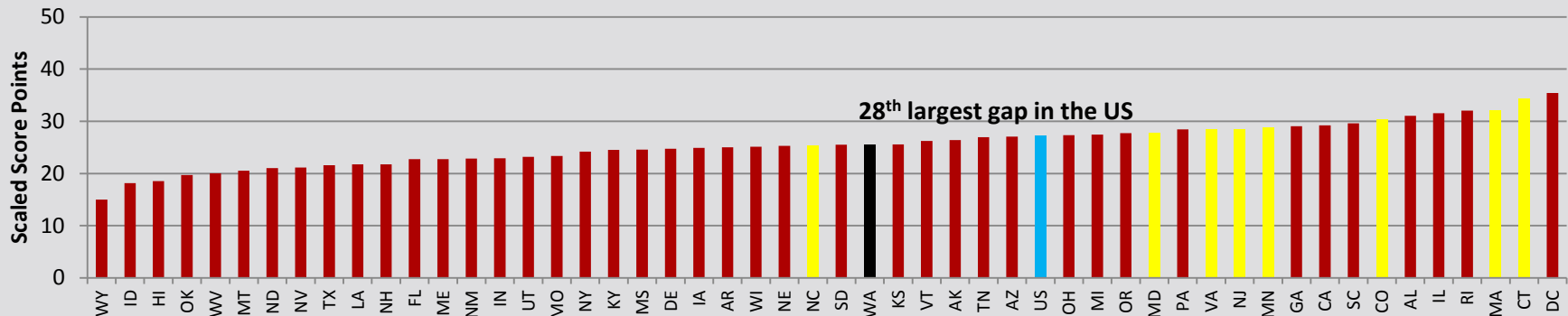
8th Grade NAEP by Poverty Status



**Average Scaled Score - 8th Grade NAEP Reading
Performance Gap based on Poverty Status**



**Average Scaled Score - 8th Grade NAEP Math
Performance Gap based on Poverty Status**



Poverty Gap Findings



- **4th Grade Reading** (28.4 points)
 - ✦ 34th largest gap, similar to US average
 - ✦ Comparable to Peer States
- **4th Grade Math** (23.2 points)
 - ✦ 30th largest gap, similar to US average
 - ✦ Better than all the Peer States
- **8th Grade Reading** (24.7 points)
 - ✦ 40th largest gap, similar to US average
 - ✦ Comparable to Peer States
- **8th Grade Math** (25.6 points)
 - ✦ 28th largest gap, smaller than the US average
 - ✦ Better than 7 of 8 Peer States

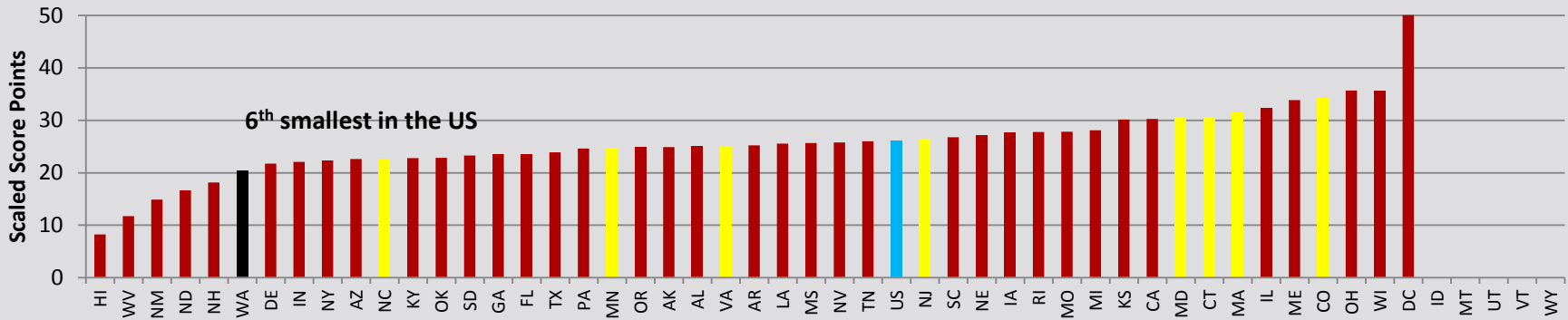
Outcome Measure	Gap Reduction	Similar to Peer States	Similar to U.S. Average
4 th Grade Reading	28.4	Yes	Yes
4 th Grade Math	23.2	Smallest Gap	Yes
8 th Grade Reading	24.7	Yes	Yes
8 th Grade Math	25.6	Smaller than Most	Smaller Gap



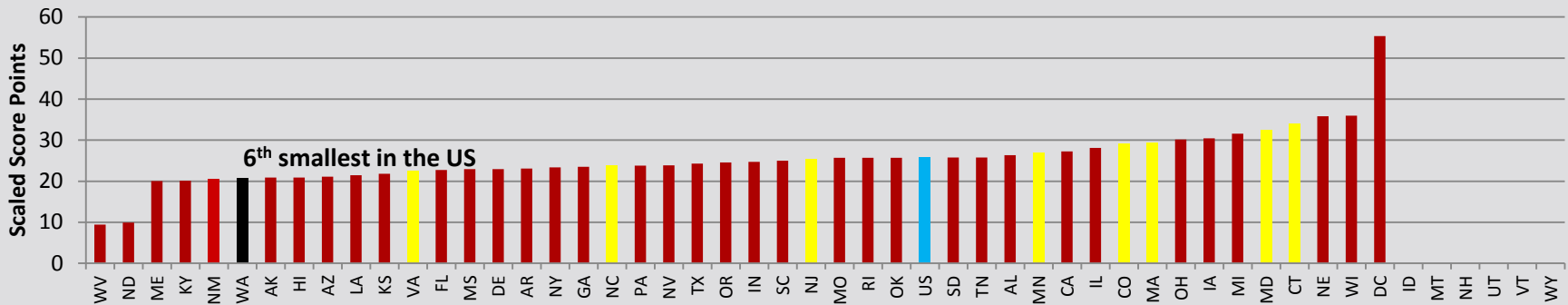
4th Grade White-Black Performance Gap



**Average Scaled Score-4th Grade NAEP Reading
White-Black Performance Gap**



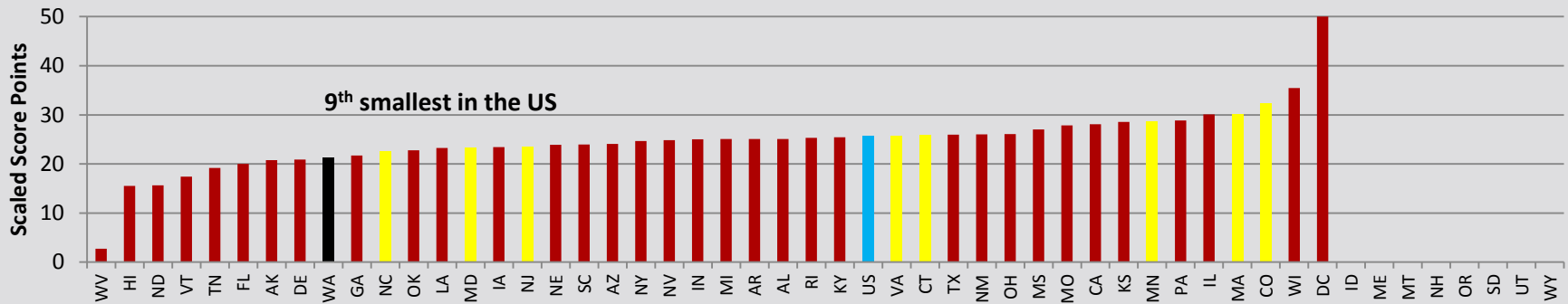
**Average Scaled Score - 4th Grade NAEP Math
White-Black Performance Gap**



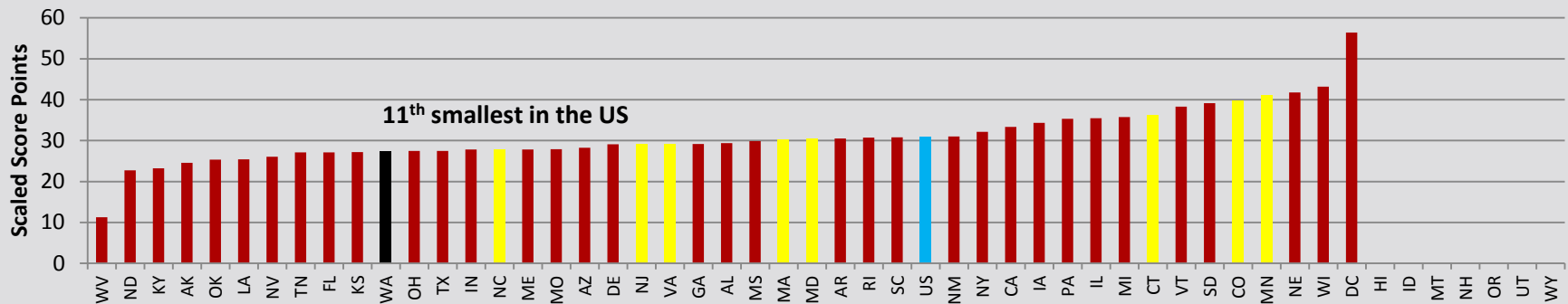
8th Grade White-Black Performance Gap



**Average Scaled Score - 8th Grade NAEP Reading
White-Black Performance Gap**



**Average Scaled Score - 8th Grade NAEP Math
White-Black Performance Gap**



White-Black Performance Gap



- **4th Grade Reading** (23.6 points)
 - ✦ 6th smallest in the US, smaller than U.S. average
 - ✦ Smaller than all of the Peer States
- **4th Grade Math** (20.7 points)
 - ✦ 6th smallest in the U.S., smaller than US average
 - ✦ Smaller than all of the Peer States
- **8th Grade Reading** (21.3 points)
 - ✦ 9th smallest in the US, smaller than the U.S. average
 - ✦ Smaller than all of the Peer States
- **8th Grade Math** (27.2 points)
 - ✦ 11th smallest in the US, smaller than the US average
 - ✦ Smaller than all the Peer States

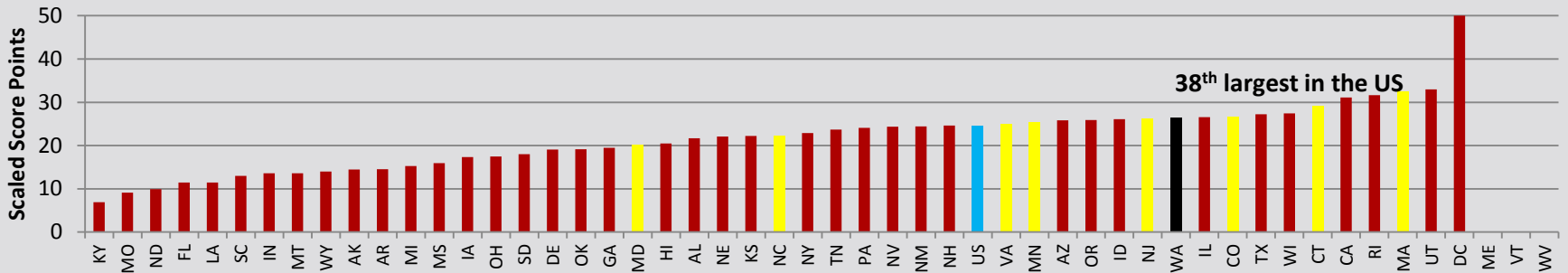
Outcome Measure	Gap Reduction	Similar to Peer States	Similar to U.S. Average
4 th Grade Reading	23.6	Smallest Gap	Smaller Gap
4 th Grade Math	20.7	Smallest Gap	Smaller Gap
8 th Grade Reading	21.3	Smallest Gap	Smaller Gap
8 th Grade Math	27.2	Smallest Gap	Smaller Gap



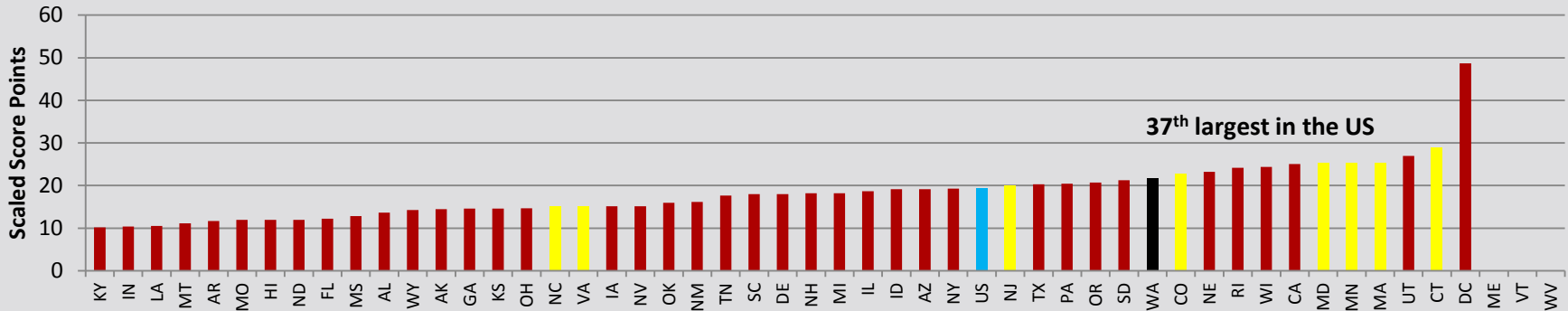
4th Grade White-Hispanic Performance Gap



**Average Scaled Score - 4th Grade NAEP Reading
White-Hispanic Performance Gap**



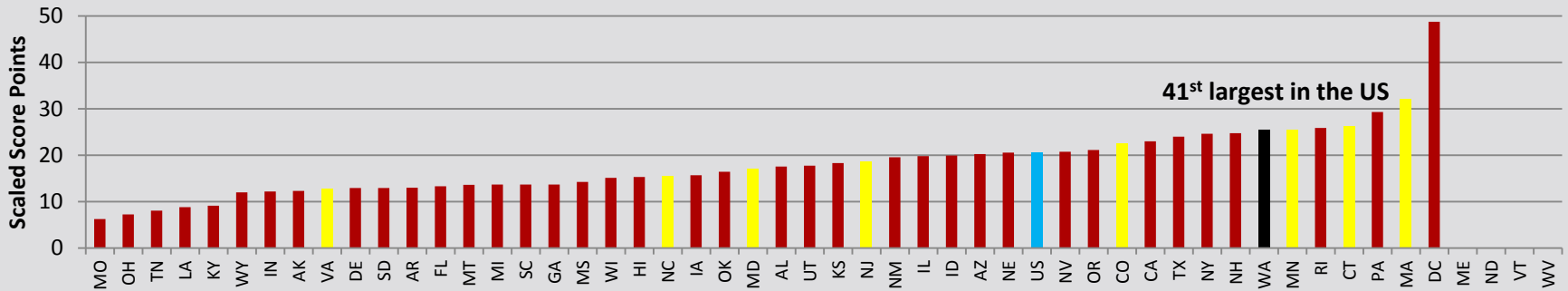
**Average Scaled Score - 4th Grade NAEP Math
White-Hispanic Performance Gap**



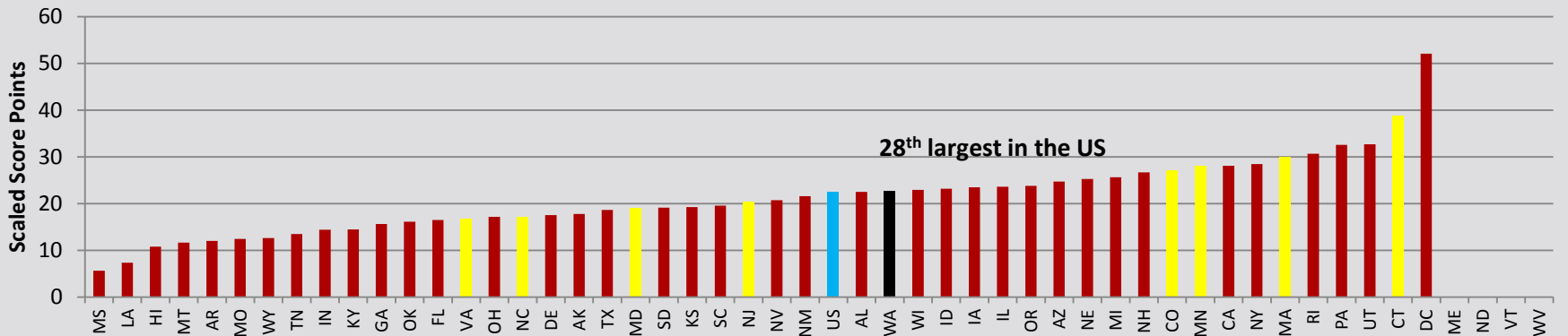
8th Grade White-Hispanic Performance Gap



**Average Scaled Score - 8th Grade NAEP Reading
White-Hispanic Performance Gap**



**Average Scaled Score - 8th Grade NAEP Math
White-Hispanic Performance Gap**



White-Hispanic Performance Gap



- 4th Grade Reading (26.4 points)
 - ✦ 38th largest in the US, similar to US average
 - ✦ Comparable to Peer States
- 4th Grade Math (21.8 points)
 - ✦ 37th largest in the US, a little larger than the US average
 - ✦ Comparable to Peer States
- 8th Grade Reading (25.6 points)
 - ✦ 41st largest in the US, larger than US average
 - ✦ Among the lower performing of the Peer States
- 8th Grade Math (22.7 points)
 - ✦ 28th largest in the US, similar to US average
 - ✦ Comparable to Peer States

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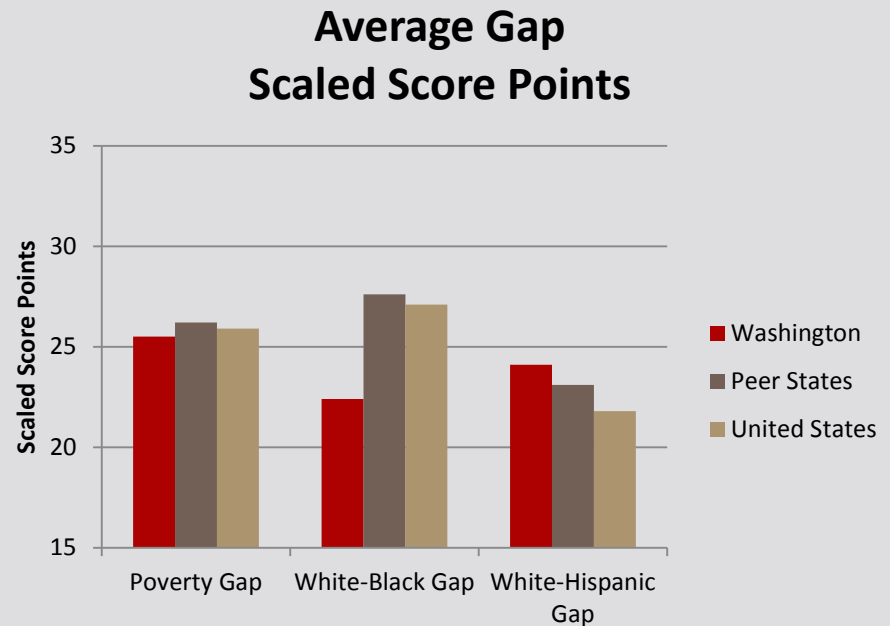
Outcome Measure	Gap Reduction	Similar to Peer States	Similar to U.S. Average
4 th Grade Reading	26.4	Yes	Yes
4 th Grade Math	21.8	Yes	Larger Gap
8 th Grade Reading	25.6	Larger than Most	Larger Gap
8 th Grade Math	22.7	Yes	Yes



Summary of Performance Gaps

2013 Performance Gaps

- **Poverty Status**
 - ✦ Similar to U.S. average
 - ✦ Smaller than Peer States
- **White-Black Difference**
 - ✦ Smaller than U.S. average
 - ✦ Smaller than Peer States
- **White-Hispanic Difference**
 - ✦ Larger than U.S. average
 - ✦ Larger than Peer States



Recent Statement in the Times



“Statistics from the state Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction show our state ranked in the very bottom five states in closing the racial and ethnic achievement gap for K-12 students...”

(The Seattle Times, December 23, 2014)

Pamela Baker

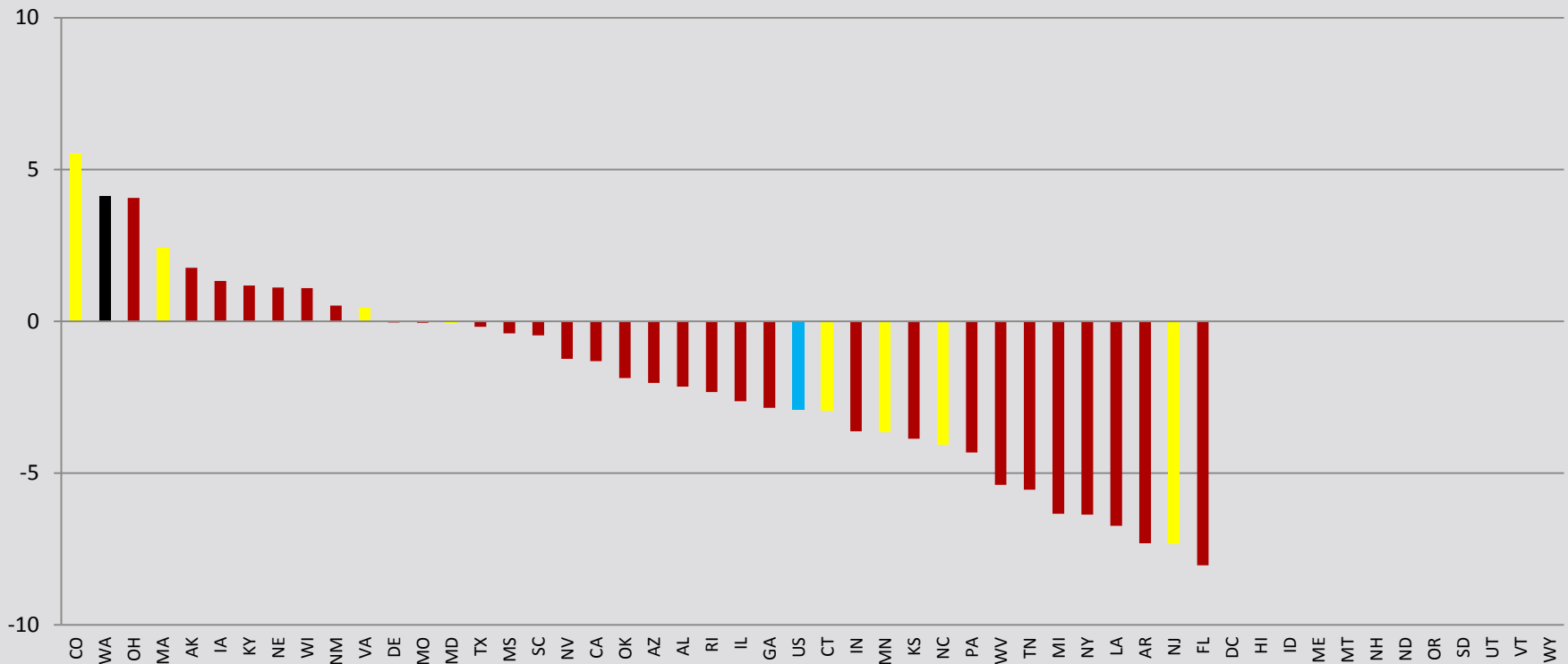
President and CEP of the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle



Combined Reading and Math Trend



2003-2013 White-Black Performance Gap Reduction 4th and 8th NAEP Reading and Math (Combined)

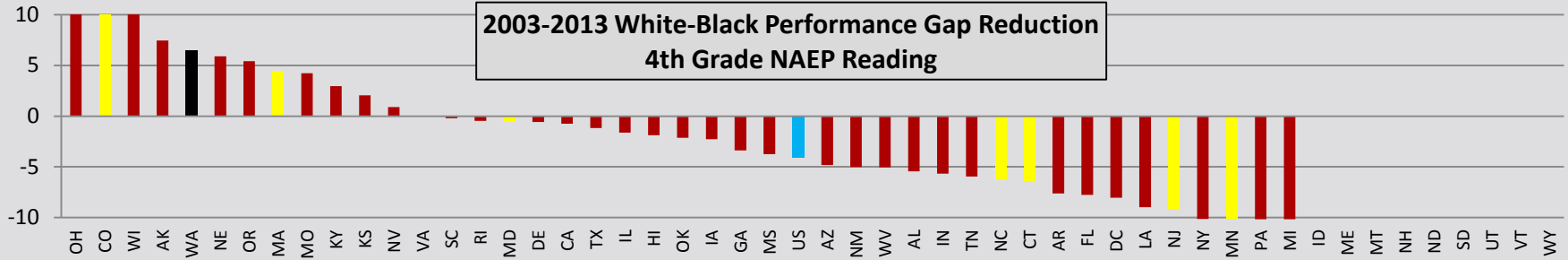


10-Year Reading Trend

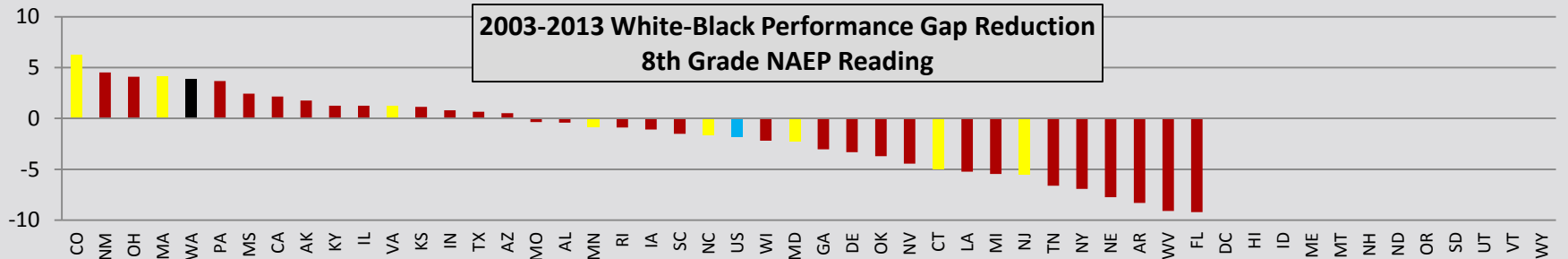
Scaled Score Gap Reduction



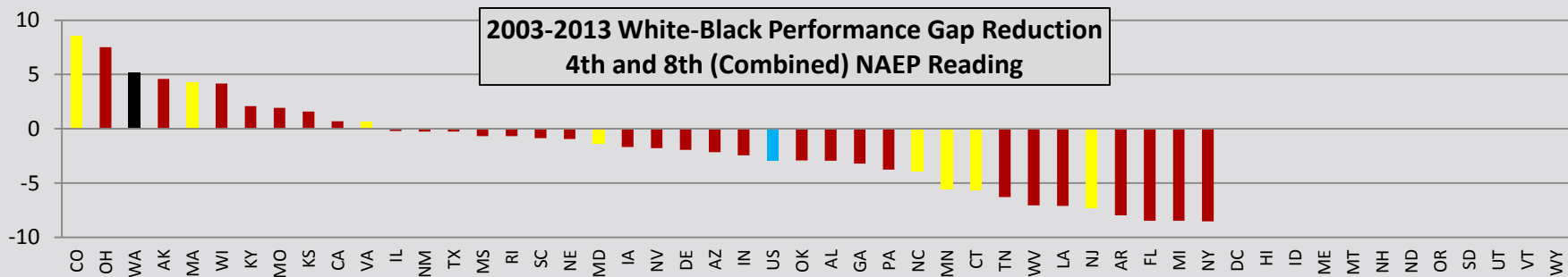
**2003-2013 White-Black Performance Gap Reduction
4th Grade NAEP Reading**



**2003-2013 White-Black Performance Gap Reduction
8th Grade NAEP Reading**



**2003-2013 White-Black Performance Gap Reduction
4th and 8th (Combined) NAEP Reading**

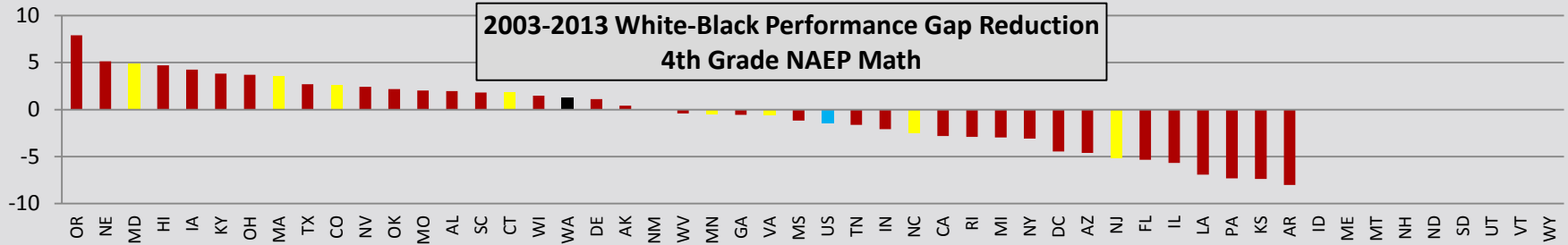


10-Year Math Trend

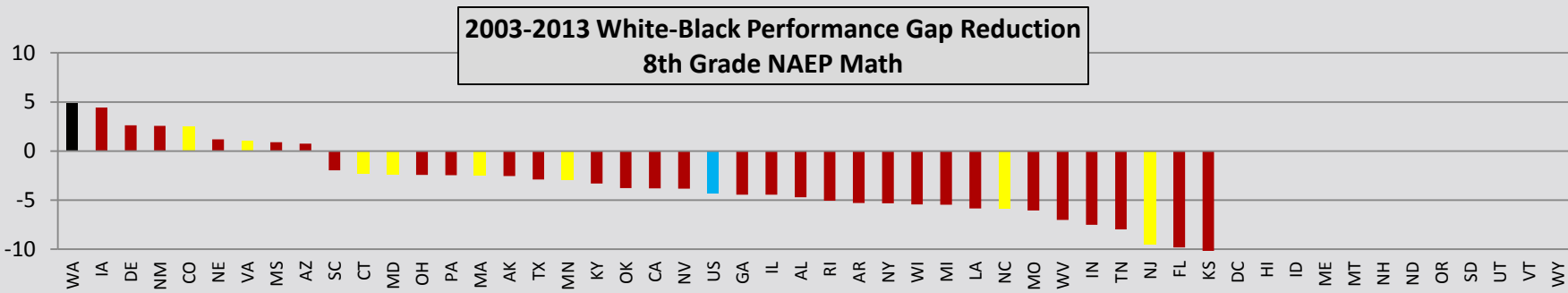
Scaled Score Gap Reduction



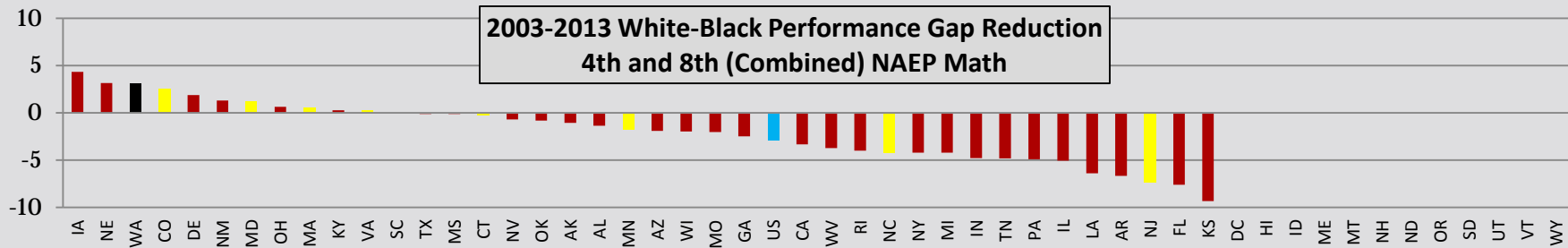
**2003-2013 White-Black Performance Gap Reduction
4th Grade NAEP Math**



**2003-2013 White-Black Performance Gap Reduction
8th Grade NAEP Math**



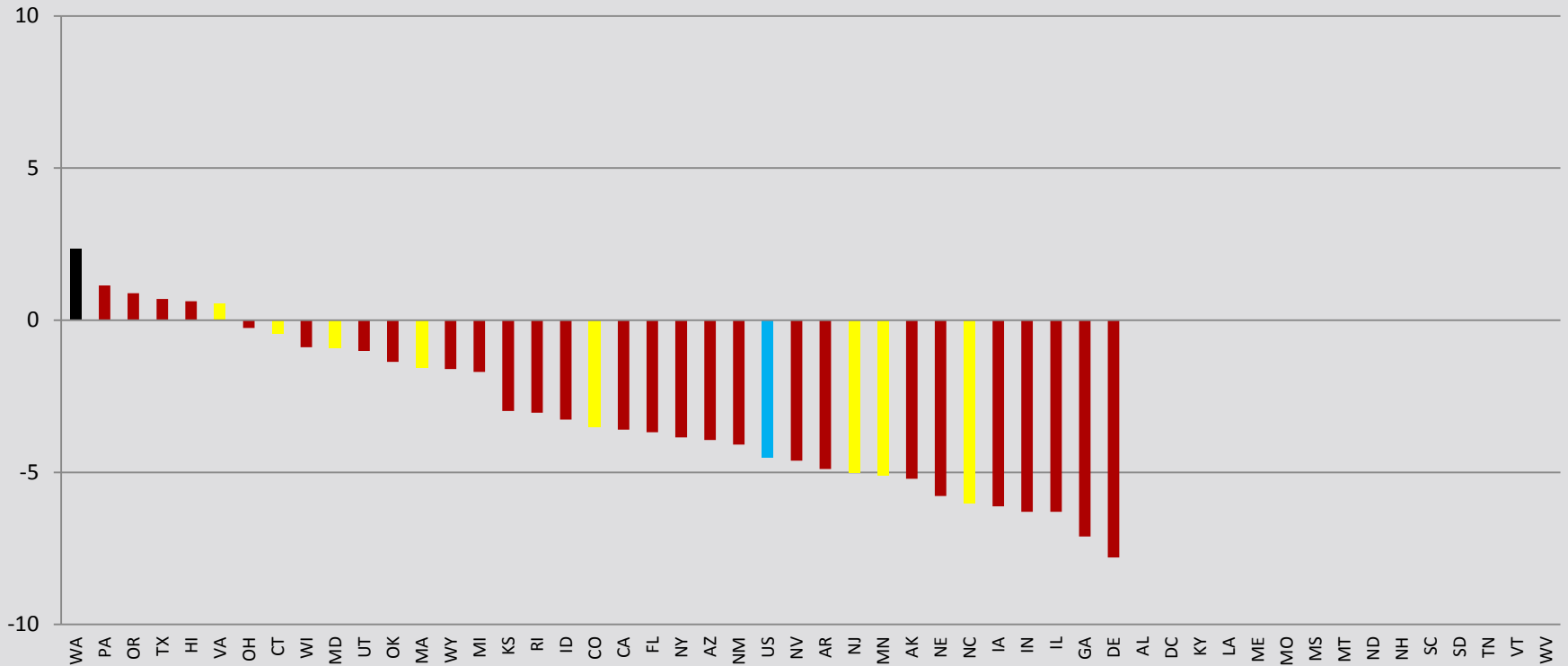
**2003-2013 White-Black Performance Gap Reduction
4th and 8th (Combined) NAEP Math**



Combined Reading and Math Trend



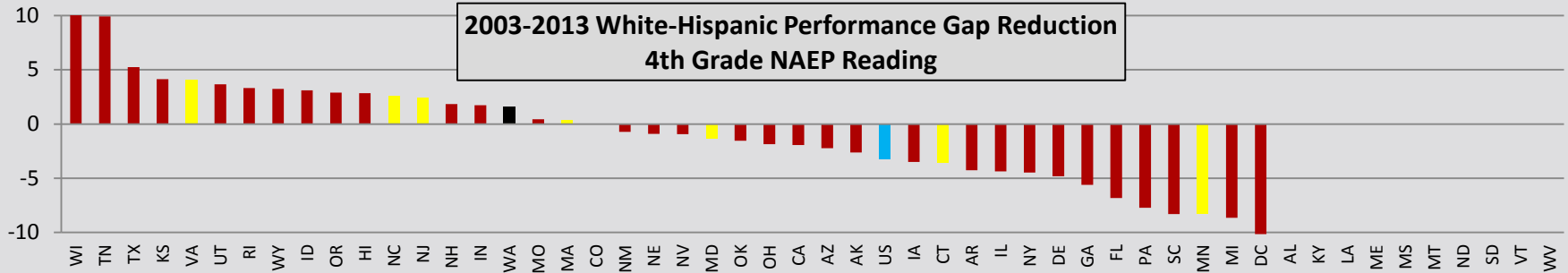
2003-2013 White-Hispanic Performance Gap Reduction 4th and 8th NAEP Reading and Math (Combined)



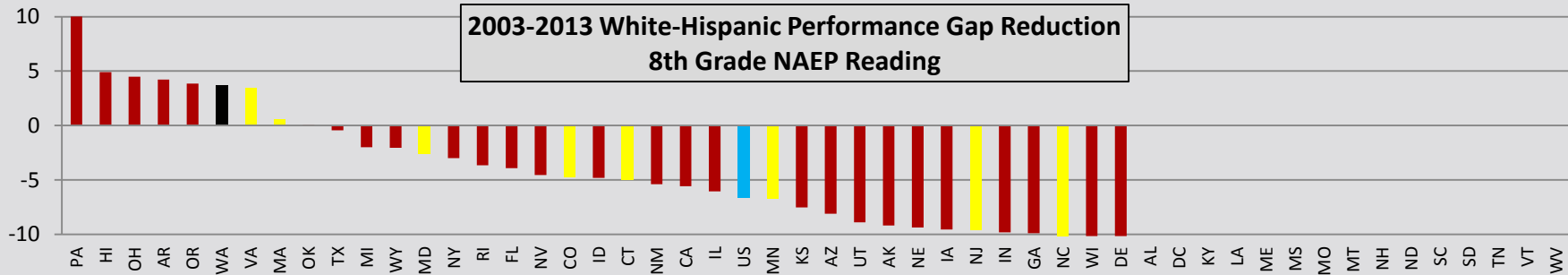
10-Year Reading Trend Scaled Score Gap Reduction



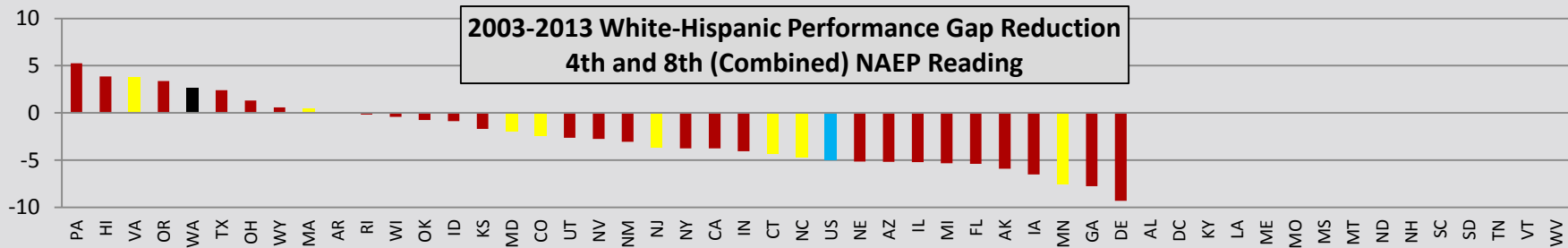
**2003-2013 White-Hispanic Performance Gap Reduction
4th Grade NAEP Reading**



**2003-2013 White-Hispanic Performance Gap Reduction
8th Grade NAEP Reading**



**2003-2013 White-Hispanic Performance Gap Reduction
4th and 8th (Combined) NAEP Reading**

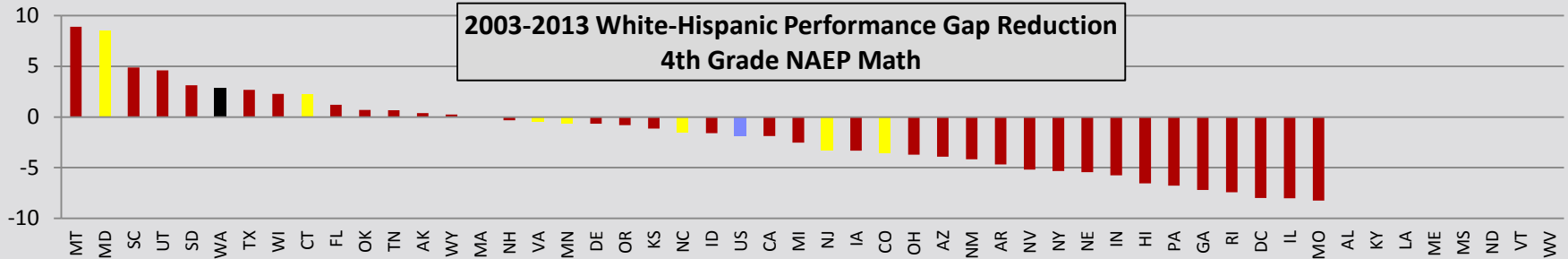


10-Year Math Trend

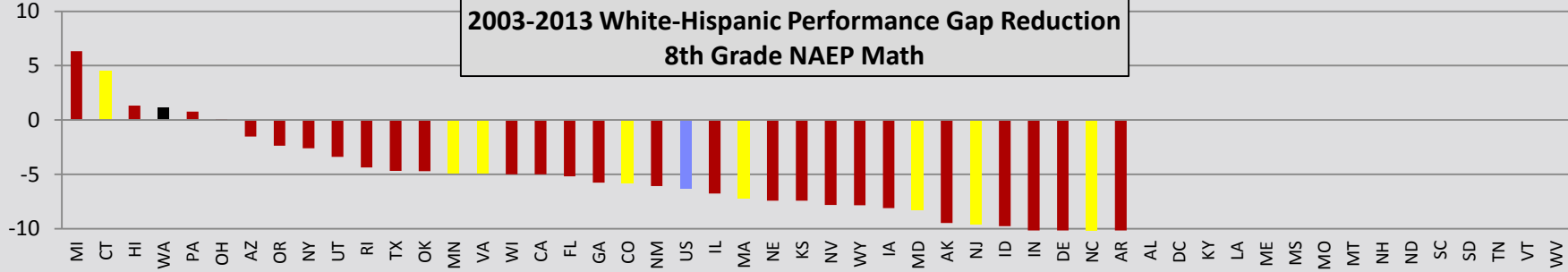
Scaled Score Gap Reduction



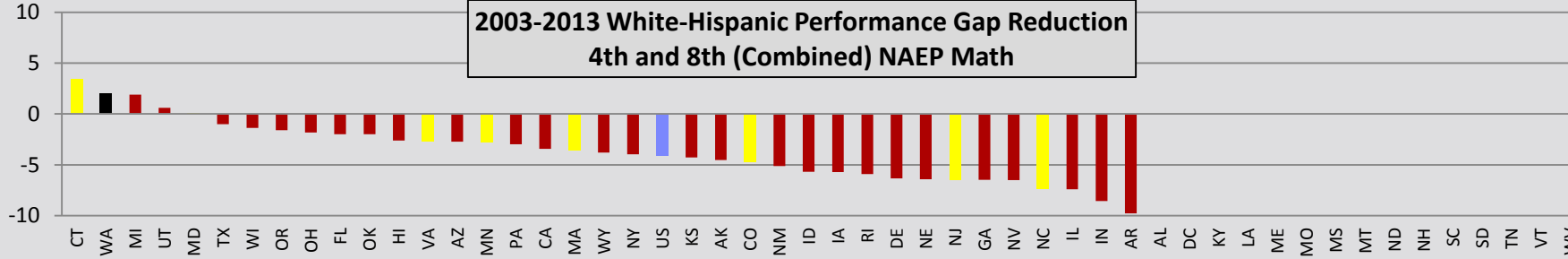
**2003-2013 White-Hispanic Performance Gap Reduction
4th Grade NAEP Math**



**2003-2013 White-Hispanic Performance Gap Reduction
8th Grade NAEP Math**



**2003-2013 White-Hispanic Performance Gap Reduction
4th and 8th (Combined) NAEP Math**



Performance Gaps Are Widening



“Statistics from the state Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction show our state ranked in the very bottom five states in closing the racial and ethnic achievement gap for K-12 students...”

(The Seattle Times, December 23, 2014)

Pamela Baker

President and CEP of the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle

Snapshot view – Washington’s performance is similar to national averages and Peer States regarding size of gaps.

10-year view – Washington’s performance is among the lowest in the country in closing gaps.



Contact Information



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