

Facts and Factors for African American Males

- Only 53 percent of children ages 3 to 5 are read to every day by a family member. That number drops for families with incomes below the poverty line (Lynch, 2019).
- Only 10 percent of eighth-grade black boys in the U.S. are proficient in reading. In urban areas like Chicago and Detroit, that number is even lower. By contrast, the National Assessment of Educational Progress found that 46 percent of white students are adequate readers by eighth grade, and 17 percent of black students as a whole are too (Lynch, 2019).
- African American students are less likely than white students to have access to college-ready courses. In fact, in 2011-12, only 57 percent of black students have access to a full range of math and science courses necessary for college readiness, compared to with 81 percent of Asian American students and 71 percent of white students.
- Even when black students do have access to honors or advanced placement courses, they are vastly underrepresented in these courses. Black and Latino students represent 38 percent of students in schools that offer AP courses, but only 29 percent of students enrolled in at least one AP course. Black and Latino students also have less access to gifted and talented education programs than white students.
- Research has shown evidence of systematic bias in teacher expectations for African American students and non-black teachers were found to have lower expectations of black students than black teachers.
- In 2019, The Nation's Report Card from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) found that just 15% of Black 8th graders were at or above reading "proficiency." About half didn't even reach the "basic" reading benchmark.
- Black boys are more likely to attend schools without the adequate resources to educate them.

Percentage of 4th Grade Boys Reading Proficiently

