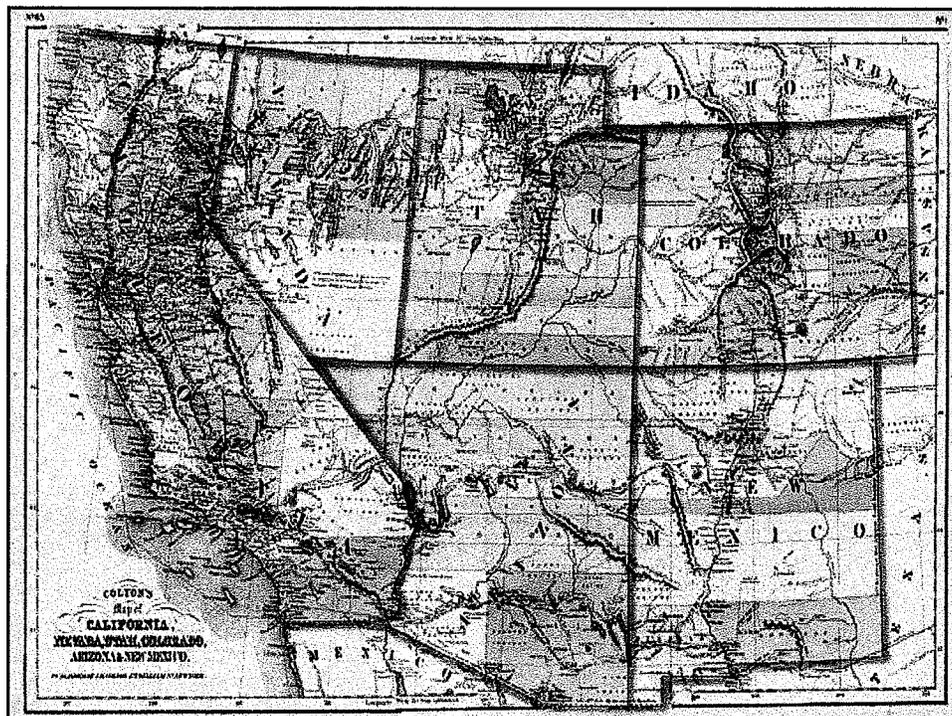


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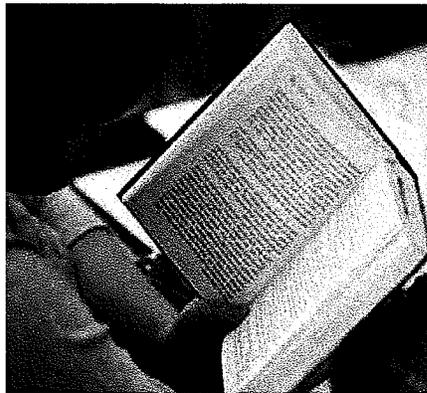
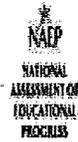
The Florida Model for K-12 Improvement:
Raising Student Achievement and Closing
Racial Achievement Gaps

Dr. Matthew Ladner
Vice President for Research
Goldwater Institute



National Assessment of Educational Progress

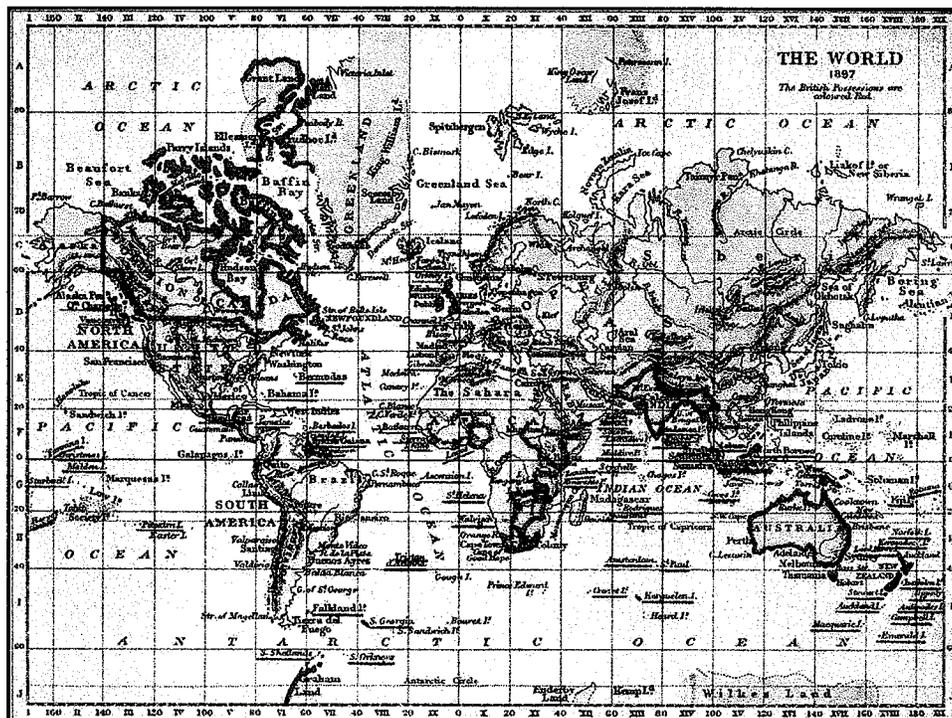
THE NATION'S REPORT CARD



NOW AVAILABLE.

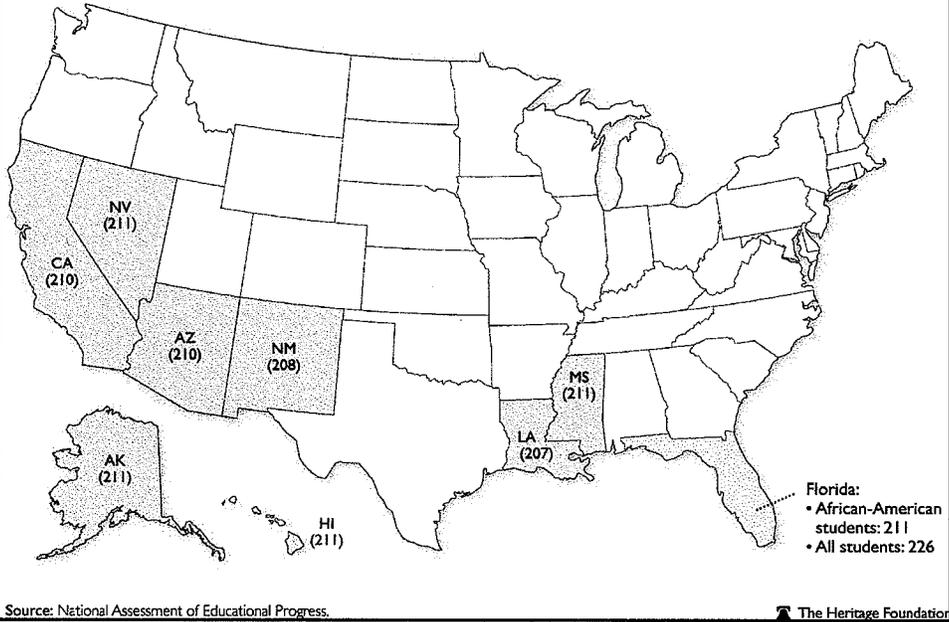
The results of the 2009 reading assessment for our nation's 4th- and 8th-graders have just been released.

View results, data from your state, sample questions, and more.



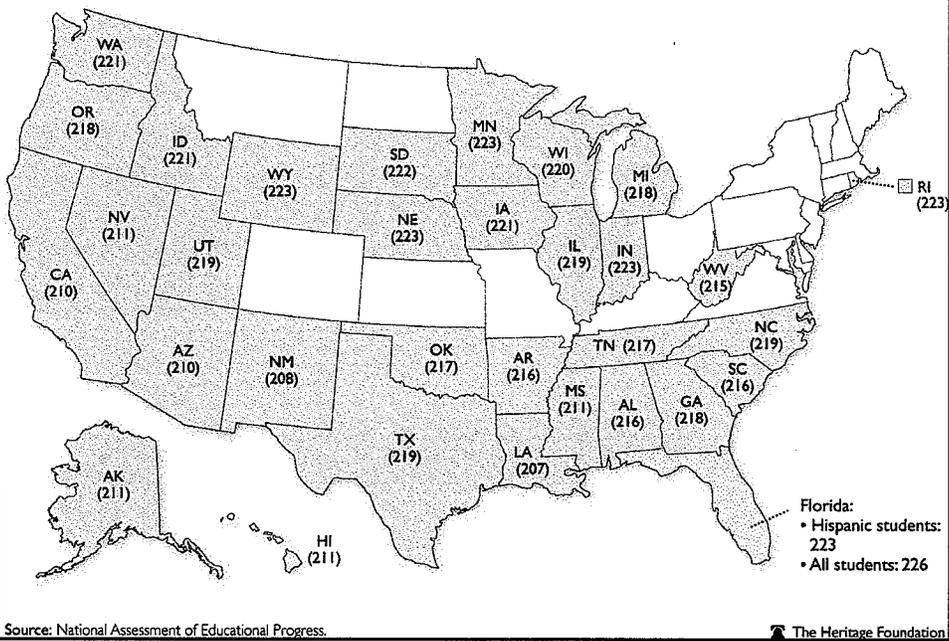
COMPARING STATES TO FLORIDA'S AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDENTS

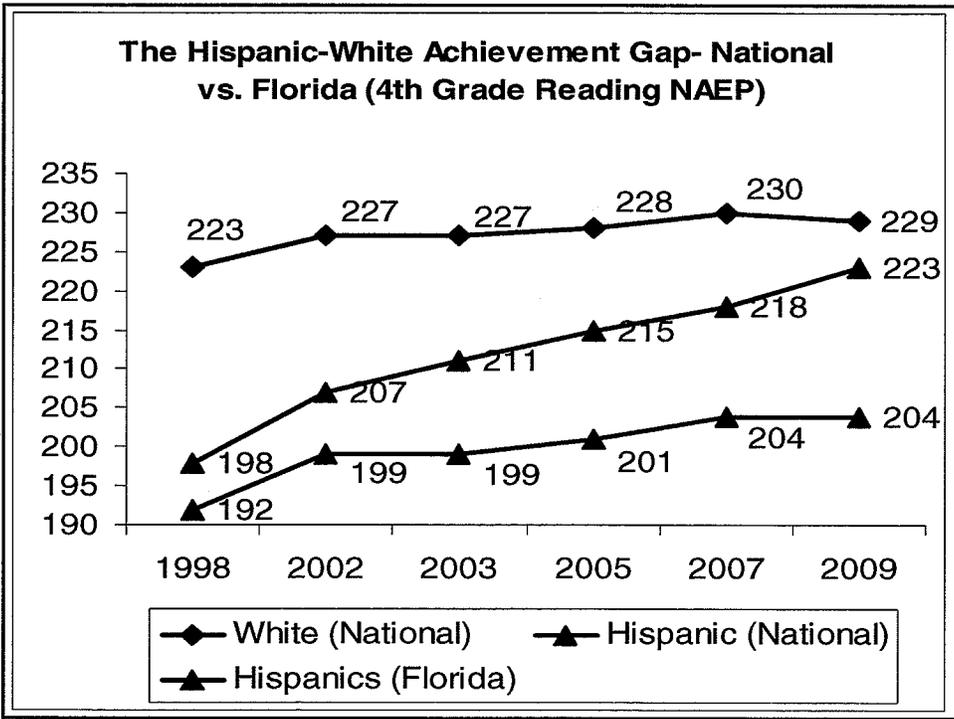
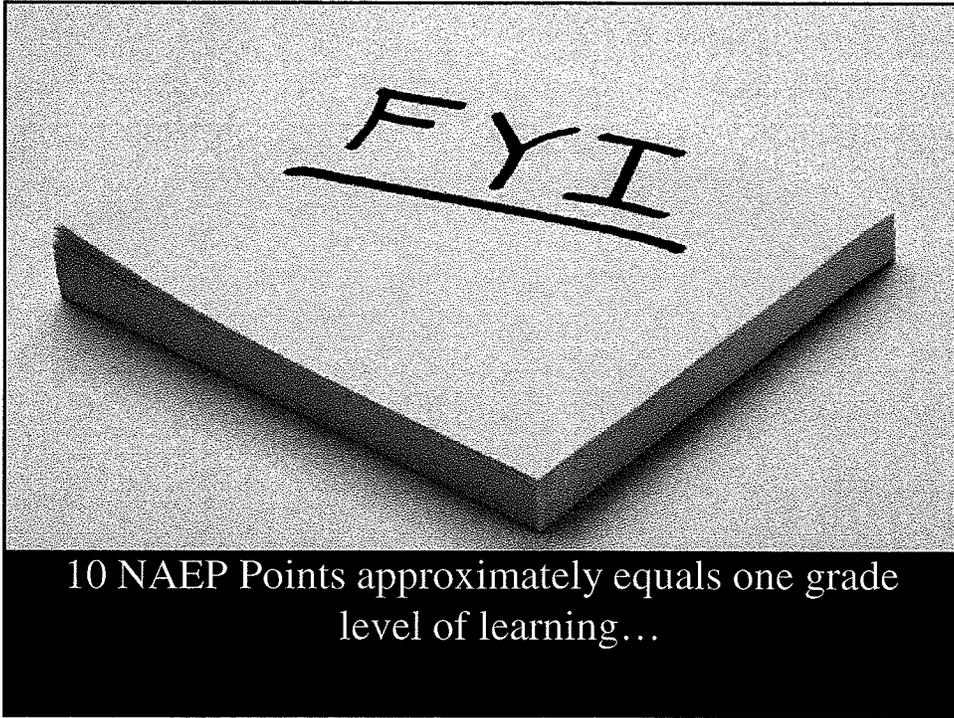
African-American students in Florida now outscore or tie the statewide reading average of all students in eight states.

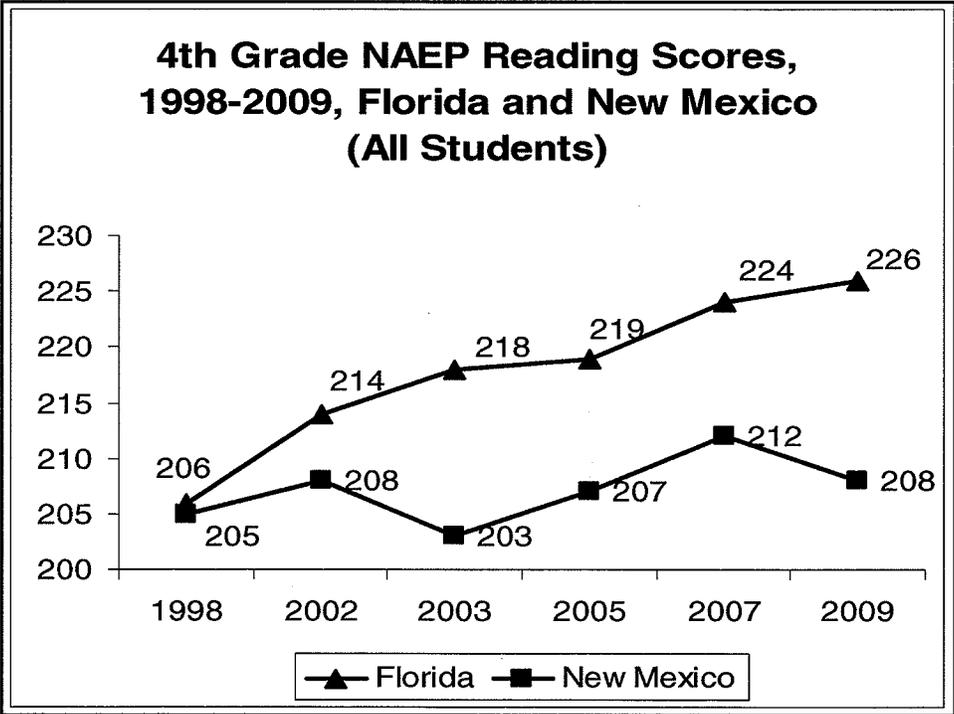
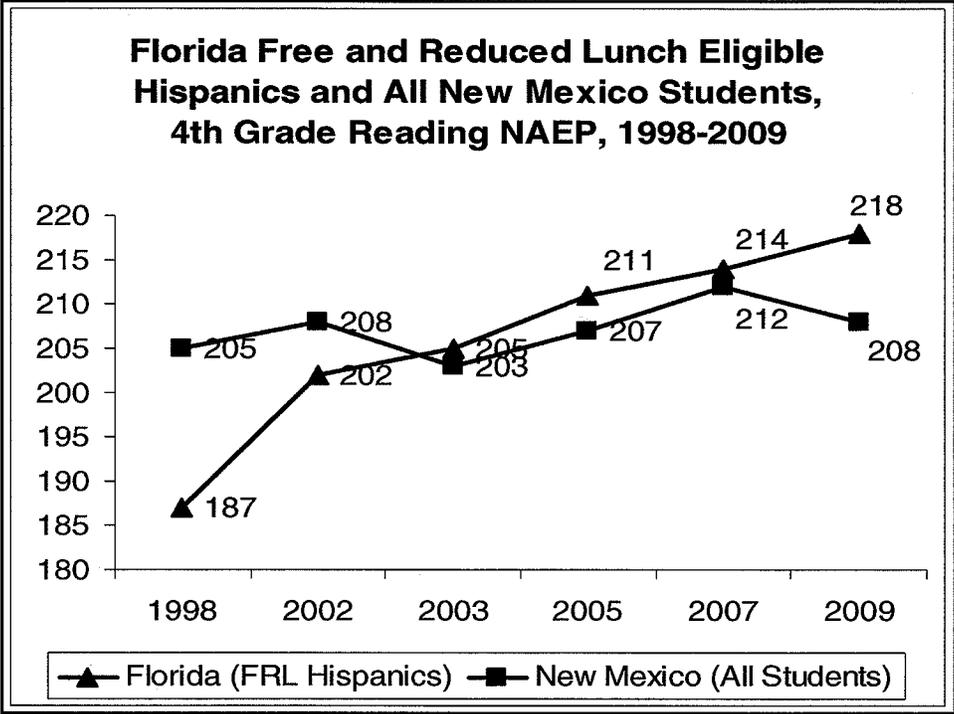


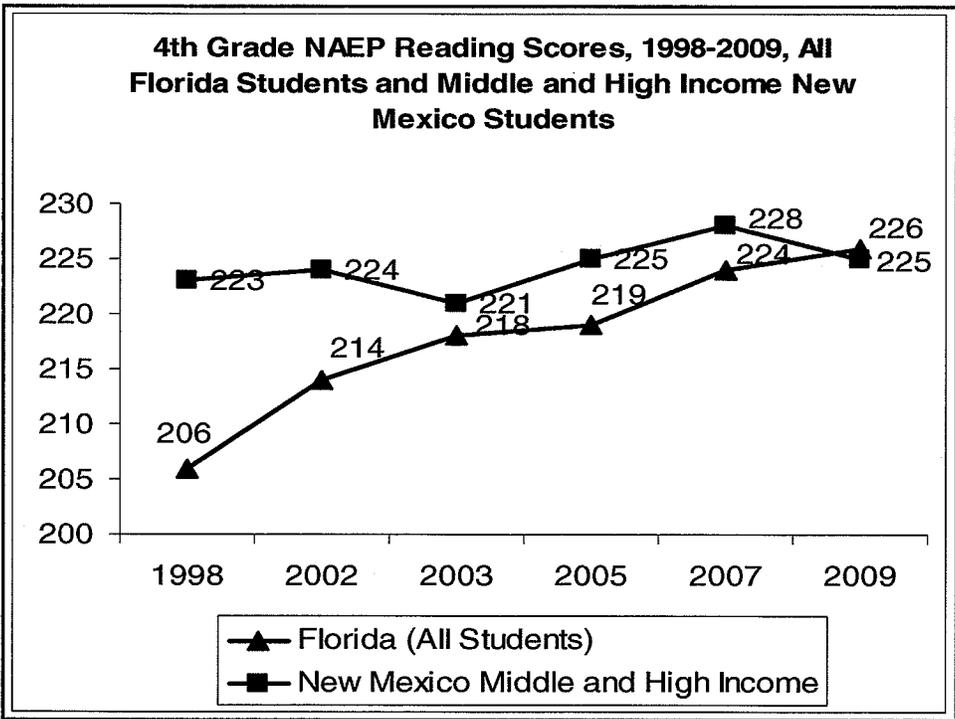
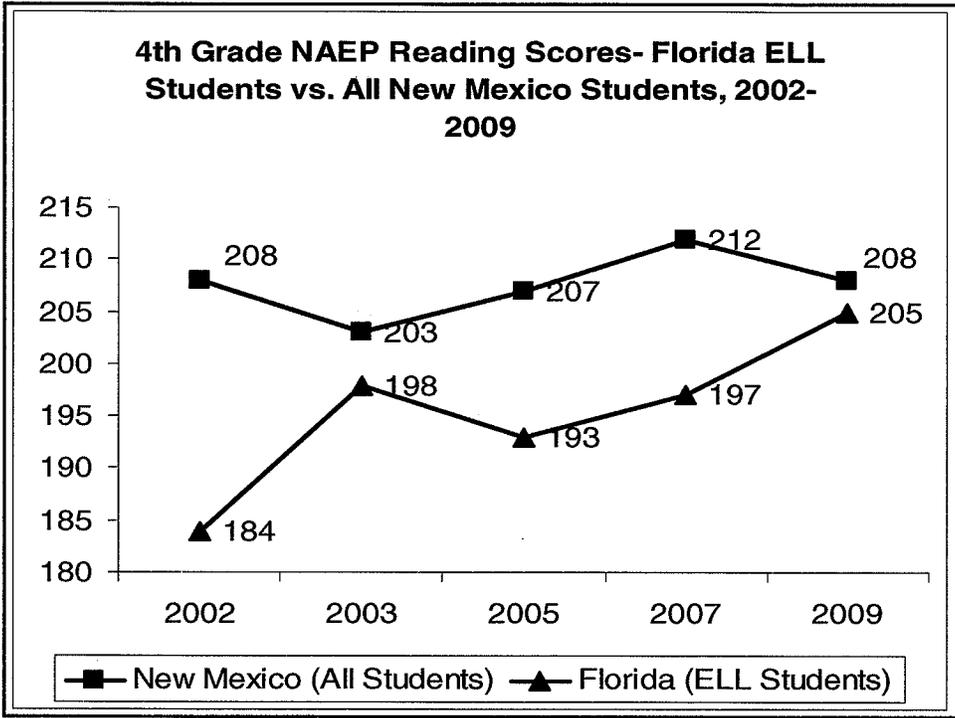
COMPARING STATES TO FLORIDA'S HISPANIC STUDENTS

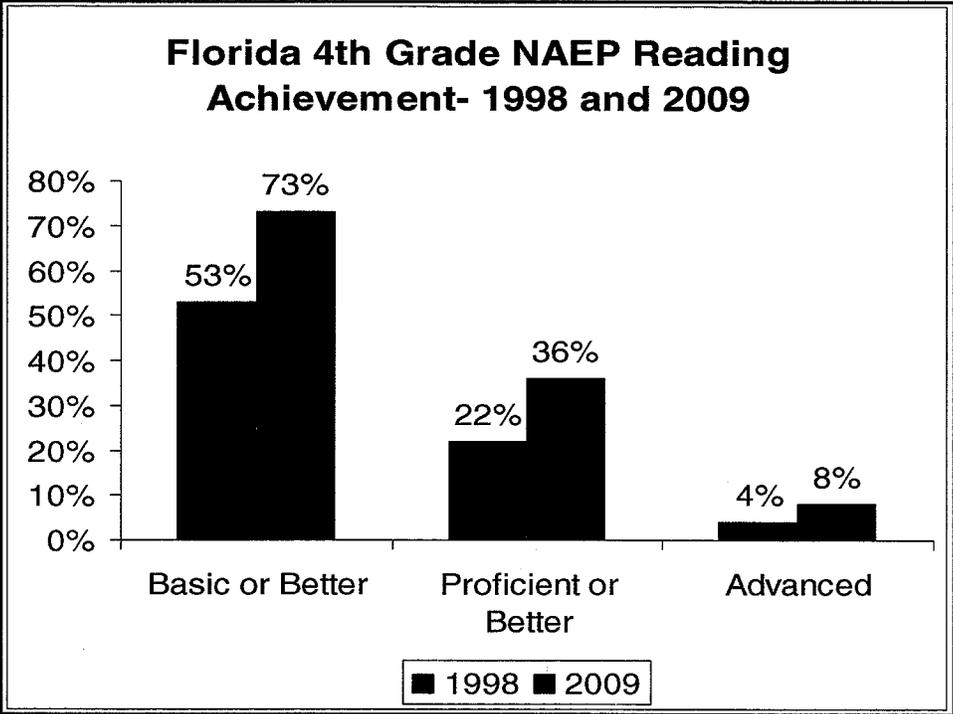
Hispanic students in Florida now outscore or tie the statewide reading average of all students in 31 states.











Florida's K-12 Reforms

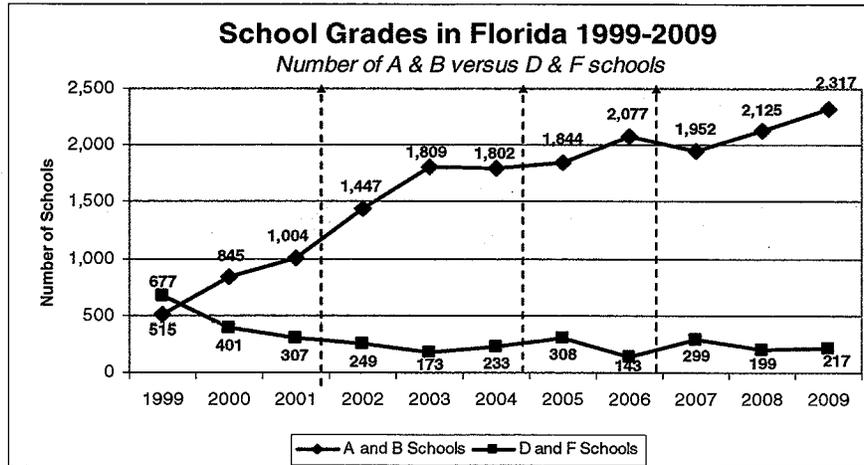
- Grading schools A-F based on solid *state standards and a state accountability exam* which has not been made easier to pass over time. Real consequences for prolonged school failure in the A+ Opportunity Scholarship program.
- *Parental Choice*: the nation's largest voucher program (McKay Scholarships), largest private school tax credit program (Step Up for Students). The nation's sixth strongest charter school law, with 379 charter schools educating over 100,000 students. Florida is also a national leader in virtual schooling.
- *Financial Incentives for Success*: \$100 per student bonus for schools scoring an A or improving a letter grade, \$700 bonus for students passing one or more Advanced Placement Exam.
- *Alternative Teacher Certification*- the nation's leader, Florida now hires approximately half of all new teachers from alternative certification routes.
- *Social promotion ban* -Beginning in 2003, Florida put in place a social promotion ban for students not learning basic literacy skills by the end of the third grade.
- *Just Read Florida* -Florida lawmakers revamped early childhood literacy curriculum and instruction.

School Grades

Each category has 100 possible points (percent of students)

Reading	Math	Writing	Science
Proficiency	Proficiency	Proficiency	Proficiency
Progress (all students)	Progress (all students)		
Progress (lowest 25%)	Progress (lowest 25%)		

Results of Florida A+ Plan



Parental Choice

McKay Scholarships for students with disabilities

Step Up for Students Tax Credit Scholarships for Low-income students

Florida Virtual School

Strong Charter School Law

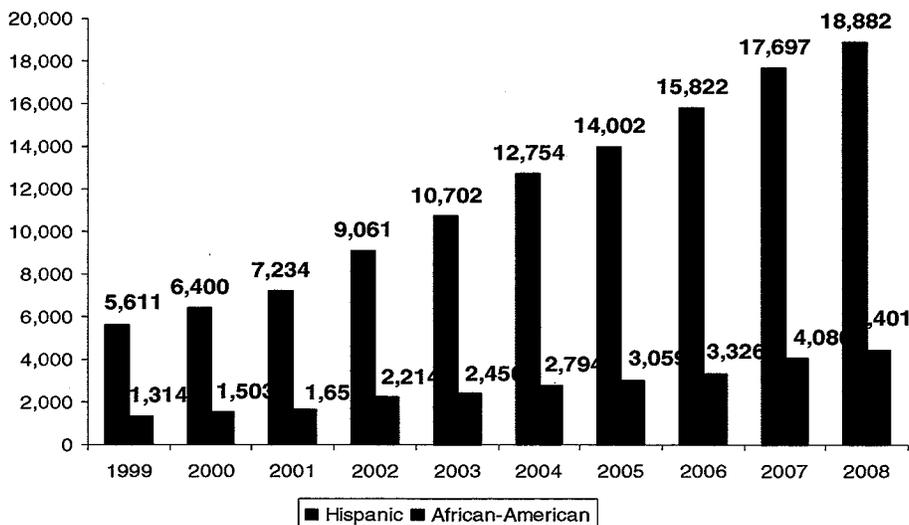
Incentivize Rigor

Florida Partnership for Minority & Underrepresented Students:

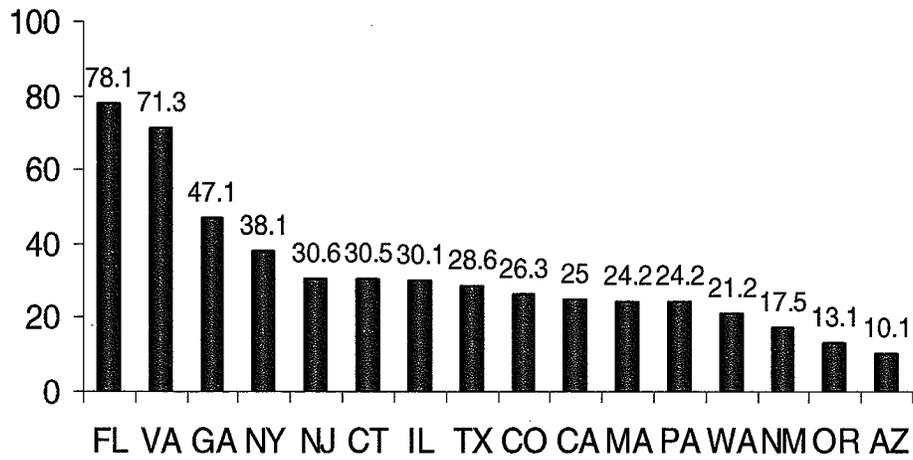
- Free PSATs for all 10th Graders
- Professional Development for teachers to teach AP
- AP Teacher Bonus: \$50 for every passing student score, up to \$2,000
- AP Teacher Bonus: \$500 for first passing score in D or F school, up to \$2,000
- School Bonus for AP passage: \$700 (created in the early '90's)



Florida AP Passing Scores- Hispanics and African Americans, 1999-2008 (Source: The National Math and Science Initiative)



Math, Science and English AP Passing Test Scores per 1,000 students for States with 7,000 or more Hispanic Junior and Senior Students, 2006 (Source: National Math and Science Initiative)



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**THE FLORIDA MODEL FOR K-12 IMPROVEMENT:
RAISING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND CLOSING RACIAL ACHIEVEMENT GAPS**

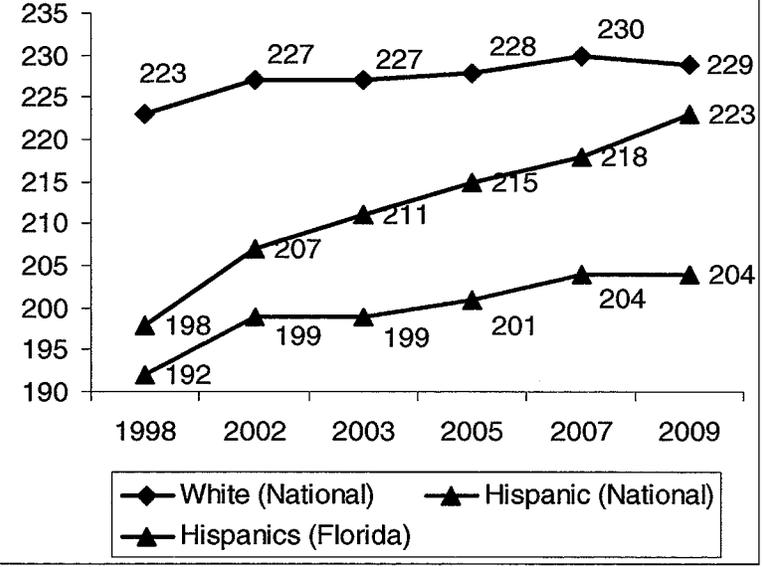
BY

**DR. MATTHEW LADNER
VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH
GOLDWATER INSTITUTE**

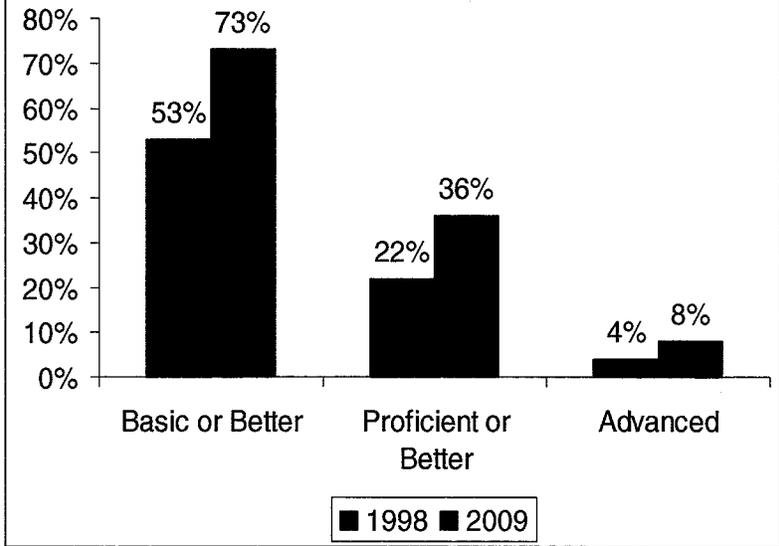
**ADJUNCT SCHOLAR
RIO GRANDE FOUNDATION**

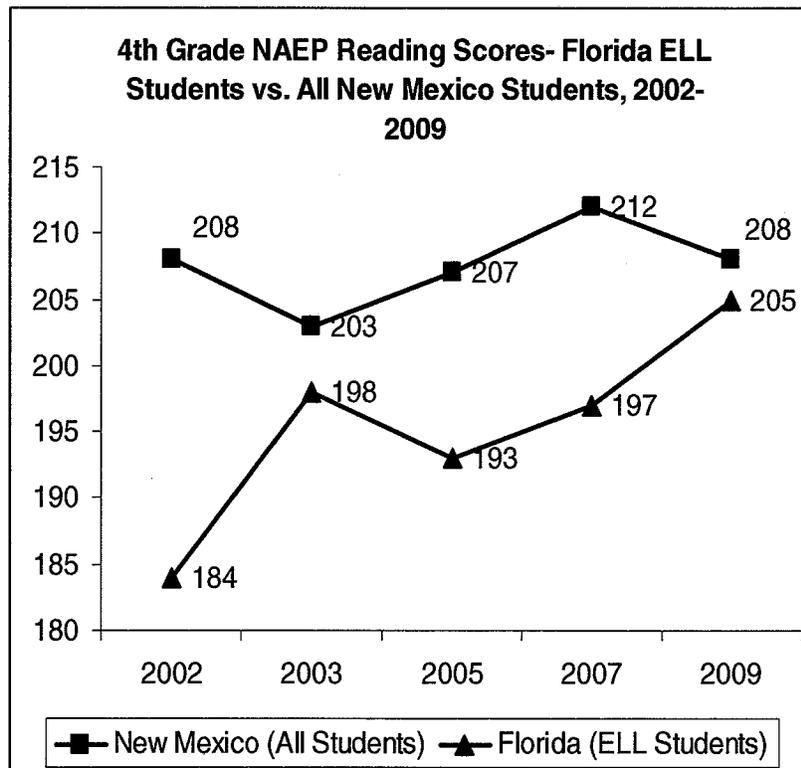
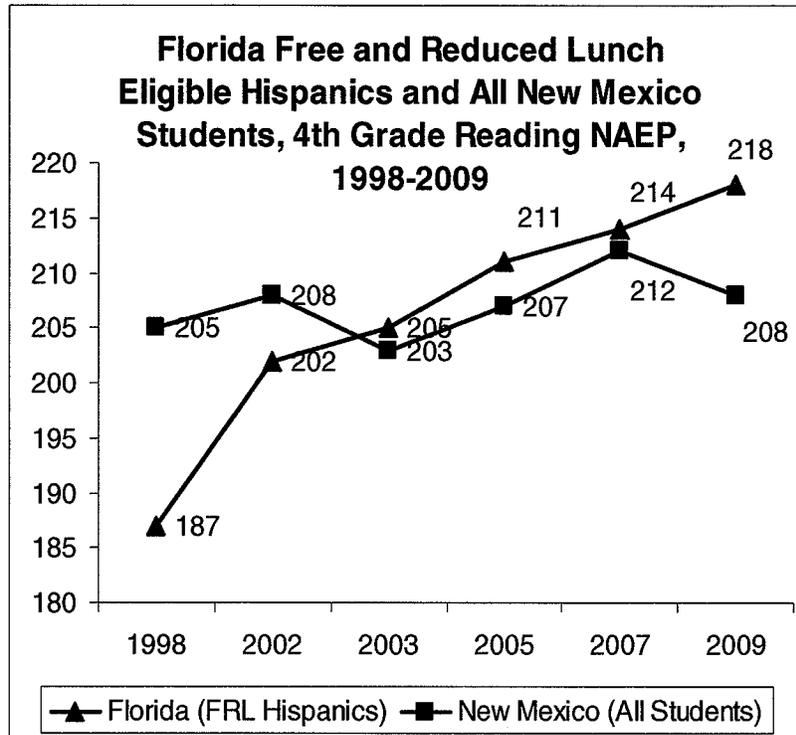
MLADNER@GOLDWATERINSTITUTE.ORG

The Hispanic-White Achievement Gap- National vs. Florida



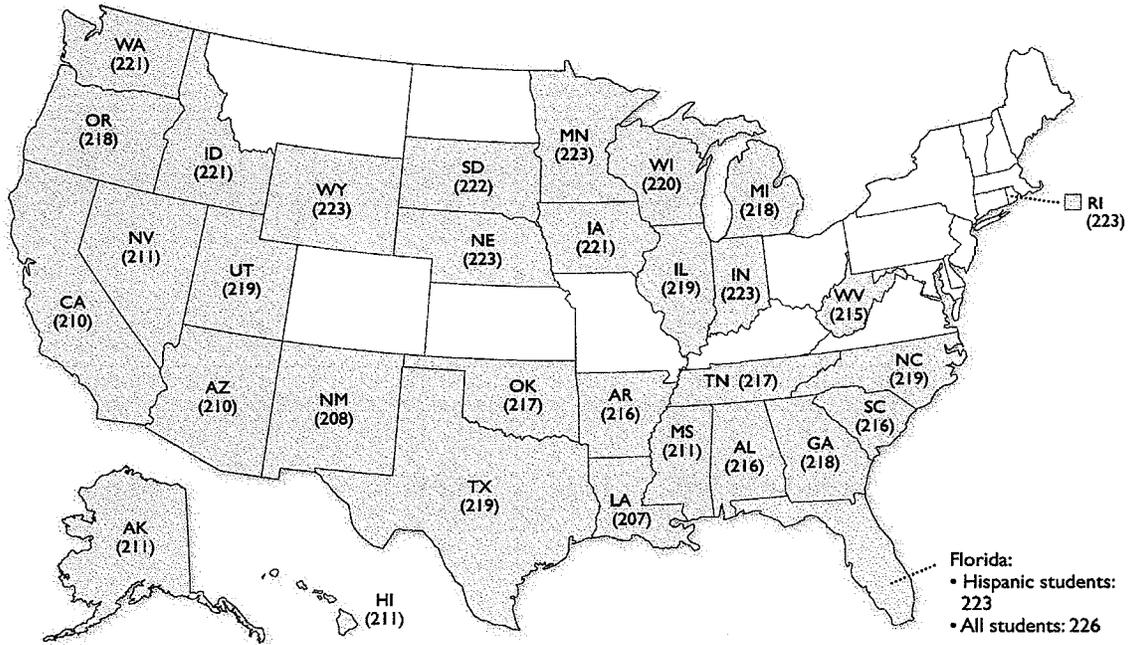
Florida 4th Grade NAEP Reading Achievement- 1998 and 2009





COMPARING STATES TO FLORIDA'S HISPANIC STUDENTS

Hispanic students in Florida now outscore or tie the statewide reading average of all students in 31 states.



Source: National Assessment of Educational Progress.

The Heritage Foundation