

In the Richmond region,

86% of kindergarteners met the Fall PALS-K benchmark in 2015. That means that 1,670 children in our region, or 1 in 7, begin school *without the literacy skills needed for kindergarten.*



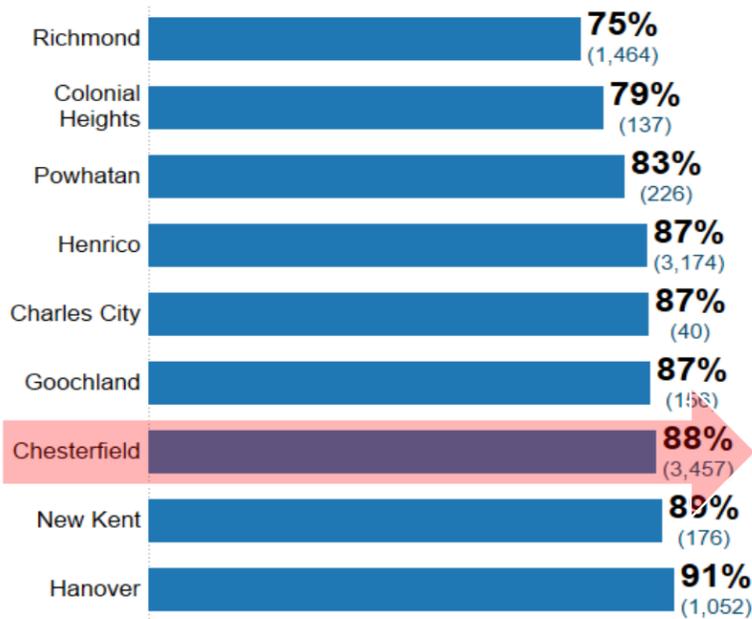
What is an "achievement gap?"

Achievement gap refers to significant disparities in academic performance between different groups of students, such as white students and minorities, or students from higher-income and lower-income households. National data shows that the achievement gap is largely set by age 5 (Council of Economic Advisors, 2014).

Using an equity lens

is one way to better understand the differences in school readiness between student populations.

Percent (and Number) of Students Meeting Fall PALS-K Benchmark 2015

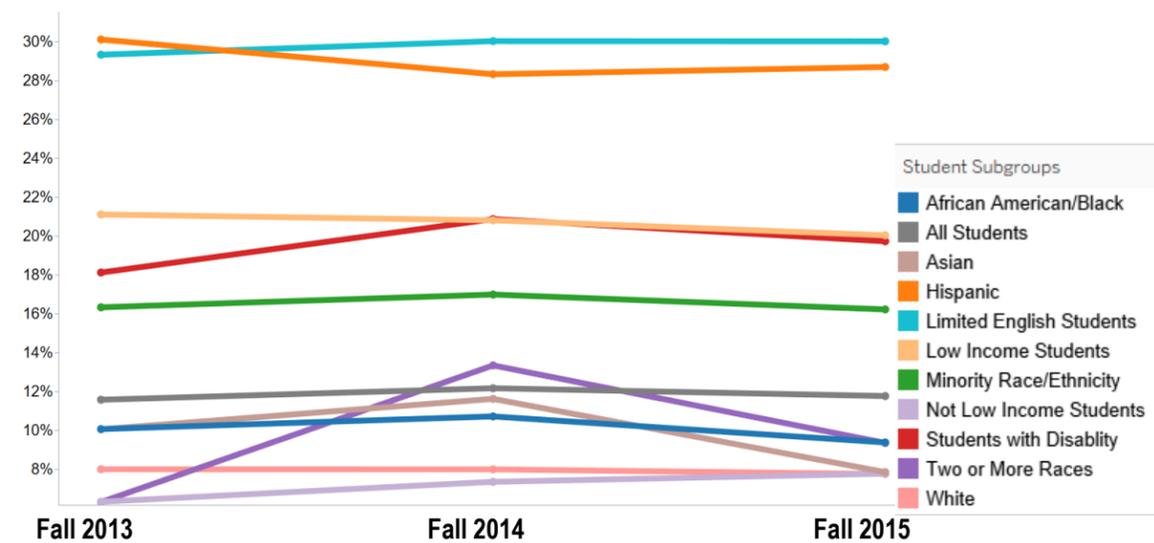


462

Chesterfield students did not have the basic literacy skills to succeed in kindergarten in 2015. That's 12% of Chesterfield students, and 28% of the total number of children in our region who didn't meet the Fall PALS-K benchmark.

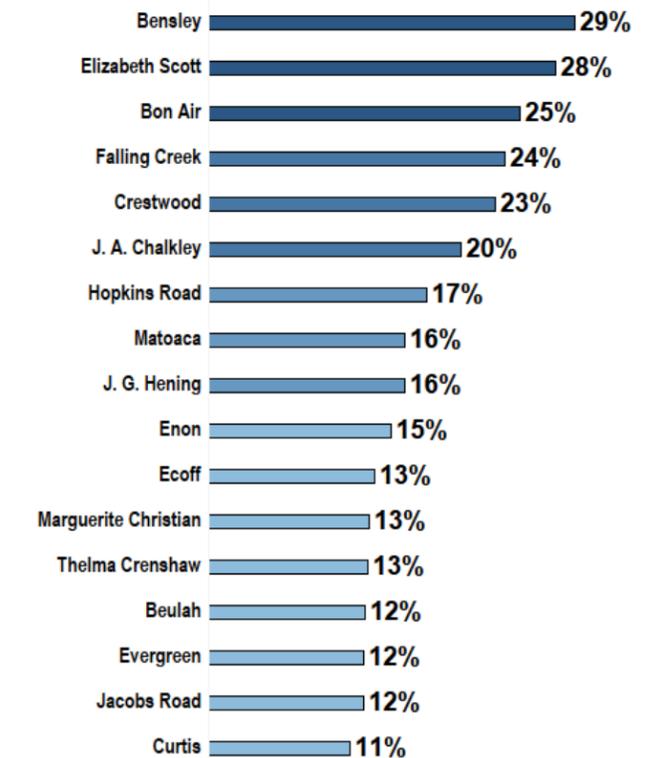
Who are these students?

3 Year Trends of Chesterfield Students Not Meeting Fall PALS-K Benchmark by Subgroup



Where are these students?

Percentage of Students Not Meeting Fall PALS-K Benchmark by School*



*Only 17 schools listed.

Why Fall PALS-K?

This data highlights the students who are not meeting the Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening benchmark in fall of kindergarten. This is not an indicator of the quality of the school, but an indicator of school readiness for incoming kindergarten students. Examining this data allows us to identify trends and visualize achievement gaps among kindergarten students so that early childhood intervention and programs can be targeted to reach specific populations and neighborhoods.

Data Source: VDOE PALS-K 2013-2015, pulled Summer 2017

About the data: Data are based on an estimated count; some data were suppressed and not included to protect student privacy.

Learn how Smart Beginnings Greater Richmond and their partners are helping to close these gaps across the region by visiting www.smartbeginningsrva.org