# Building on Progress and Pursuing Equity in New York City's Schools

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The Research Alliance for New York City Schools

Better Evidence for Better Schools.

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### **Goal For Today's Presentation**

Illustrate two overarching themes that have characterized NYC public education over more than 15 years:

# **Steady improvement** *accompanied by* **Persistent inequality**

### **Steady Progress Over 15 Years**

# **Indicators of Change**

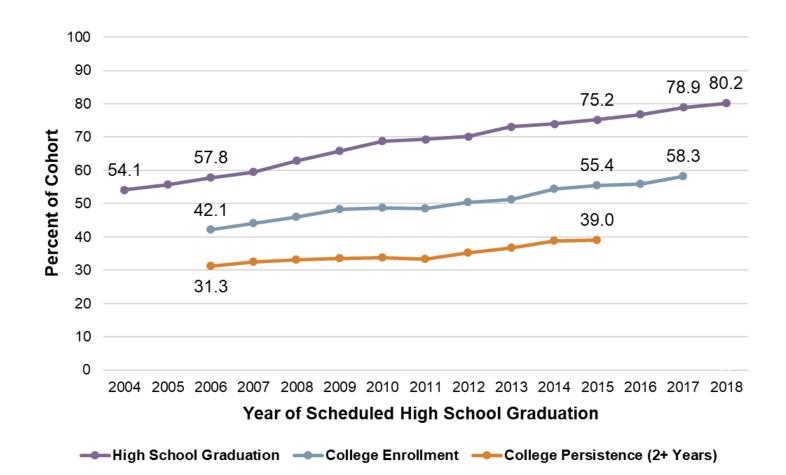
#### Focus here on:

- High school graduation
- College enrollment and persistence
- Grade 3-8 test scores
- Attendance

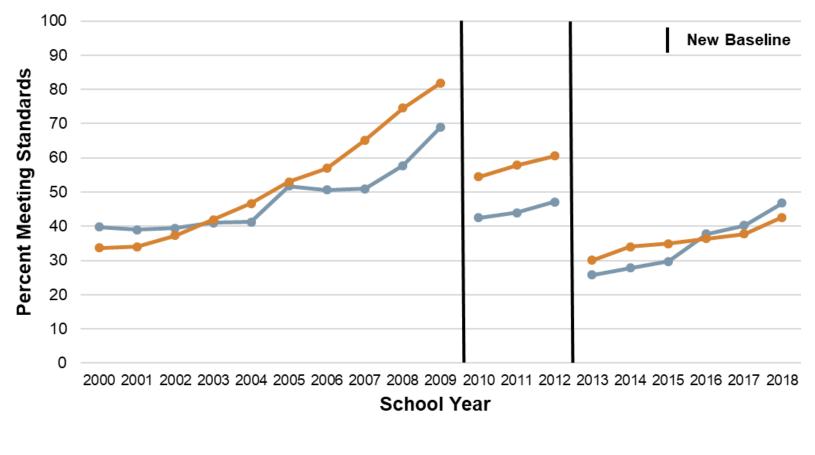
Also substantial changes in:

- Full-day Pre-K
- Inclusive settings for students with disabilities
- School choice, including charters
- School size
- Per-pupil expenditures
- Emphasis on school climate and social and emotional learning

# More Students Are Graduating and Going to College.

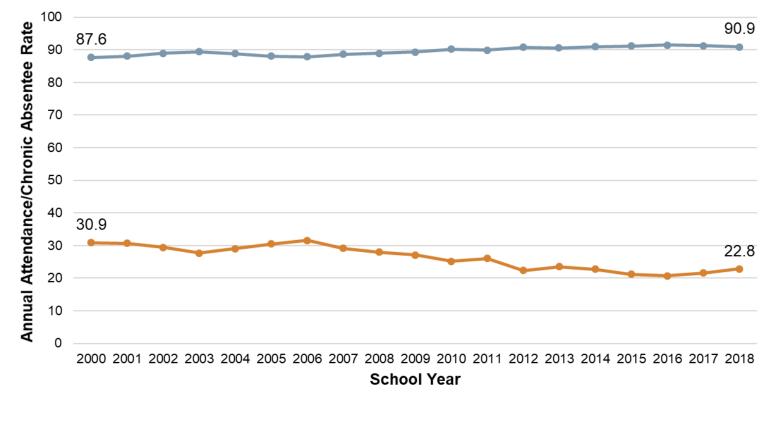


# Achievement in Elementary and Middle School Has Improved.



---ELA (Grades 3-8) ----Math (Grades 3-8)

#### **Absenteeism Has Declined.**



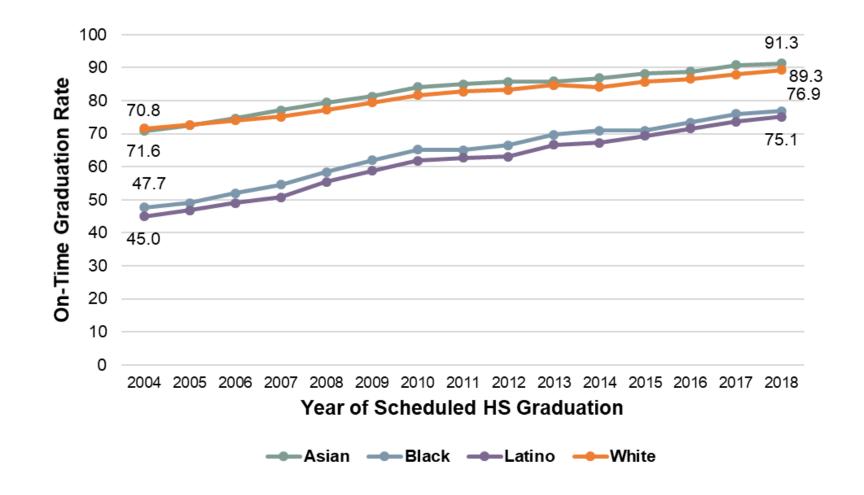
---- Attendance Rate ---- Chronic Absentee Rate

### **Persistent Inequalities**

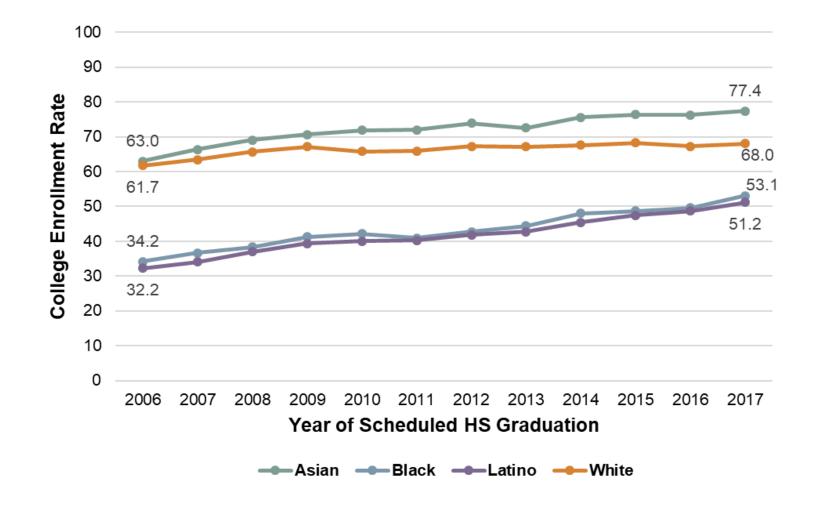
# **Dimensions of Disparity**

- Focus here on:
  - Race/Ethnicity
- Similar patterns for other groups, defined by:
  - Gender
  - English learner status
  - Disability status
  - Economic status
  - Housing status
  - Residential community characteristics

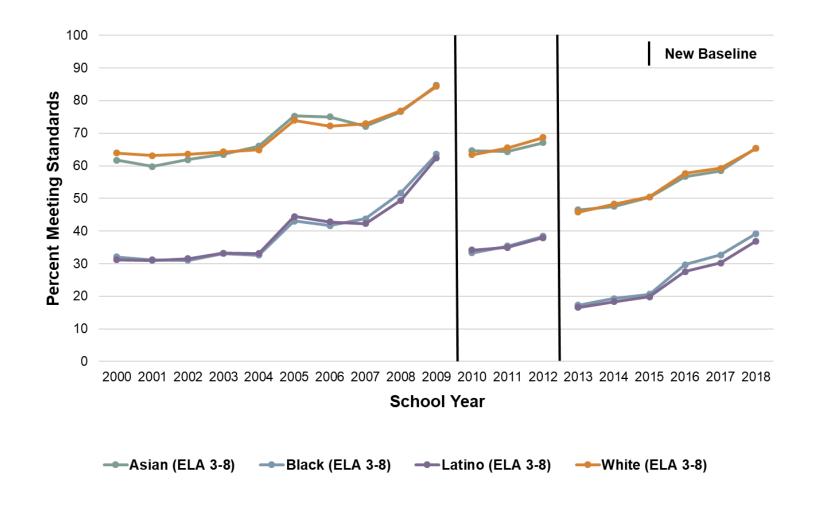
### Disparities in High School Graduation Rates Have Narrowed Slightly, But Persist.



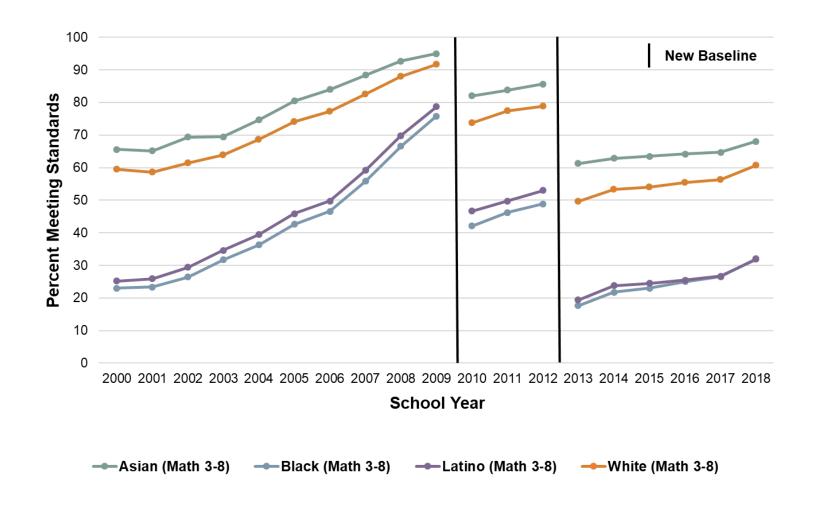
### There Has Been Less Growth in College Enrollment, and Disparities Are Larger.



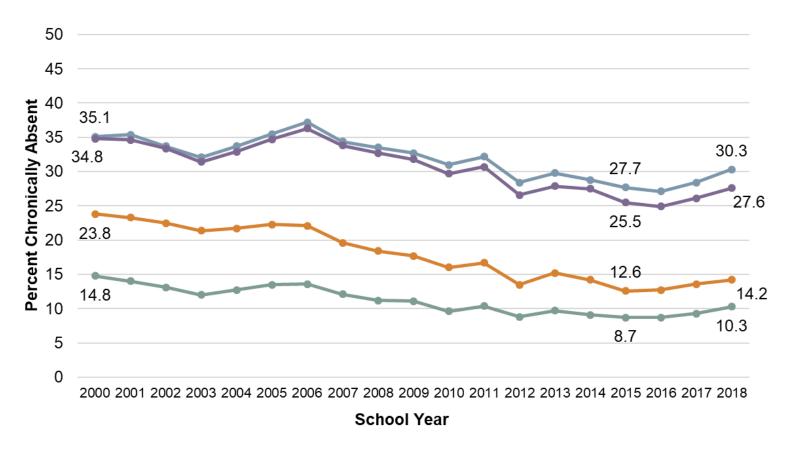
### **Disparities in ELA Test Scores Have Increased as Standards Have Risen.**



### **Disparities in Math Test Scores Have Increased as Standards Have Risen.**



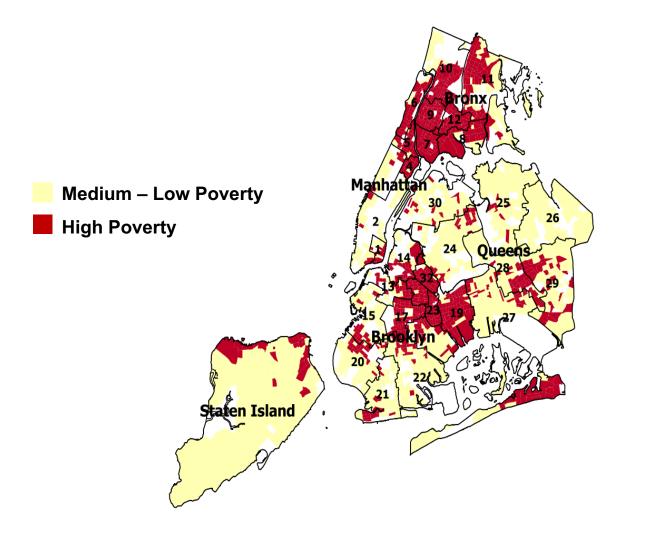
#### **Chronic Absenteeism for Black and Latino Students Is Double that of White and Asian Students.**



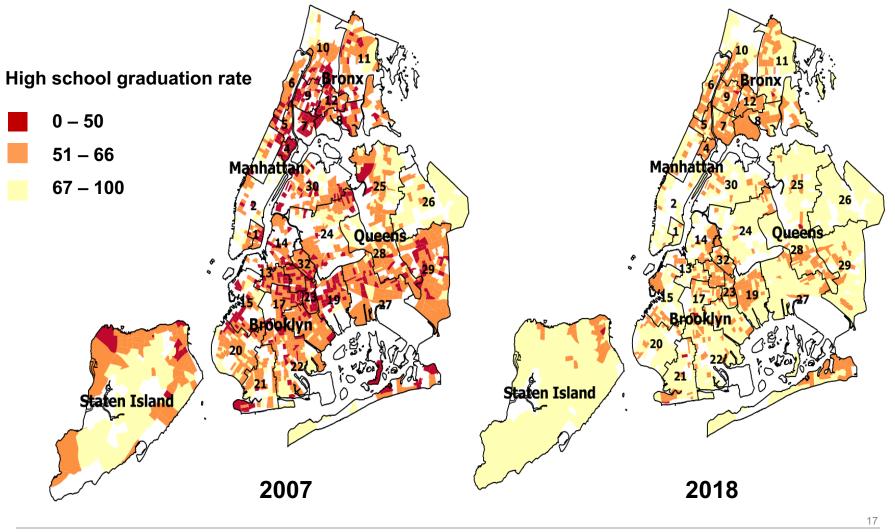
----Asian ----Black ------White

### **Concentrations of Poverty and Inequality**

### High-Poverty Census Tracts 2010 Census



### High School Graduation Rates, 2007 and 2018, By Residential Census Tract



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## **Important Questions**

- How valid and complete are these indicators of progress and inequality? What else should we be measuring?
- What accounts for the steady progress and persisting inequities documented here?
- What forward-looking policies and practices can best sustain progress and address inequality?
- How can rigorous nonpartisan research best inform these policy and practice options?