

ACLU Maryland

EDUCATION ADVOCATE

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Kirwan Commission: Race Equity Must Be a Key Priority!



TAKE ACTION

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Maryland is standing on the threshold of a new era in how we educate our children. The “Kirwan” Commission will shape public education funding policy for the next generation. Since Black and Latinx students make up more than half of Maryland’s public school enrollment—and Maryland’s future rests on how well it serves these students—closing racial gaps is urgent.

[Add your name now: The state’s “Kirwan” Commission must center race equity in the group’s final recommendations.](#)

The Education Trust recently released a new set of analyses that examine racial inequities in Maryland’s schools. Is our current education system in

Maryland equitable? The data paint a clear picture: **NO. Black and Latinx students are not being adequately and equitably served by Maryland’s education system.**

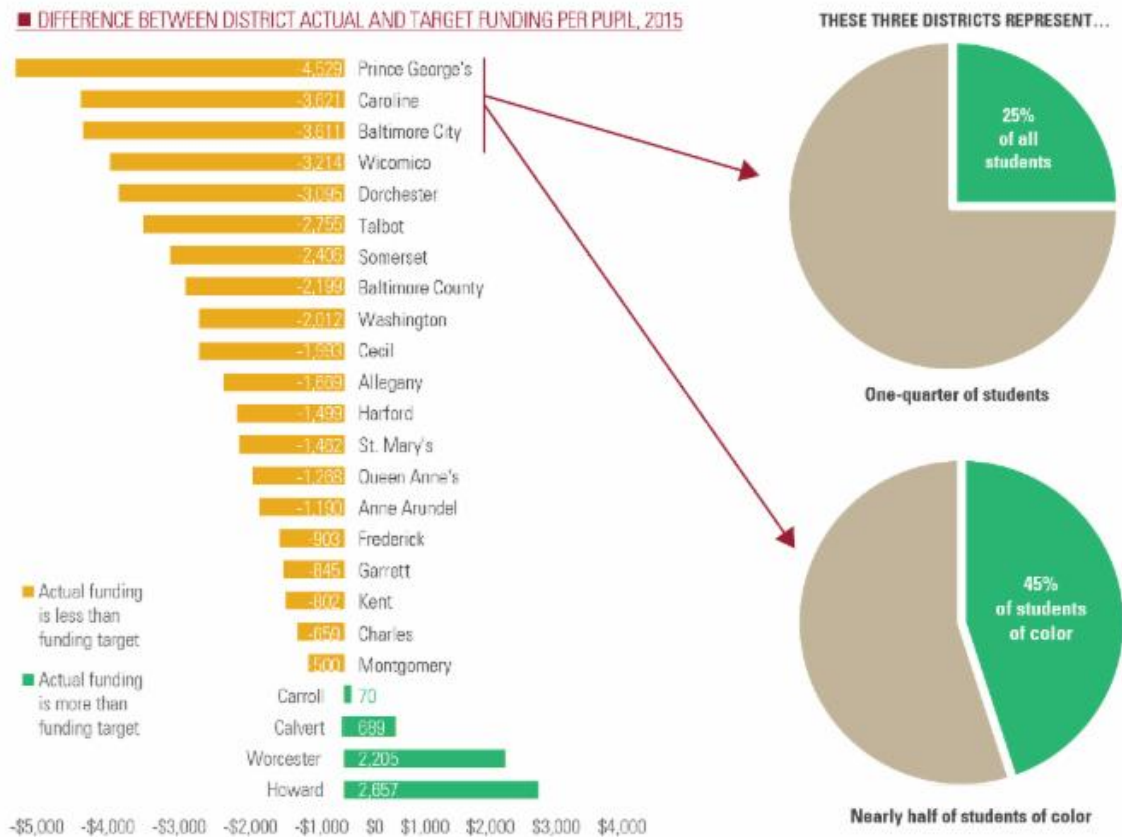
The challenge is structural inequity. Black and Latinx students get the least of the opportunities and resources that matter most from before kindergarten and until they graduate. As the percentage of students of color increase, the gap between the district’s needed funding and its actual funding tends to get worse.

We believe that racial inequities can be eliminated. However, that starts with honest conversations about race. In addition to advocating for a full and equitable funding formula, **ACLU of Maryland urges the Commission to include explicit policies, strategies, and staffing to address racial inequities in the final recommendations.**

TAKE ACTION: We must put pressure on the “Kirwan” Commission to make clear that race equity is a priority for education in Maryland.

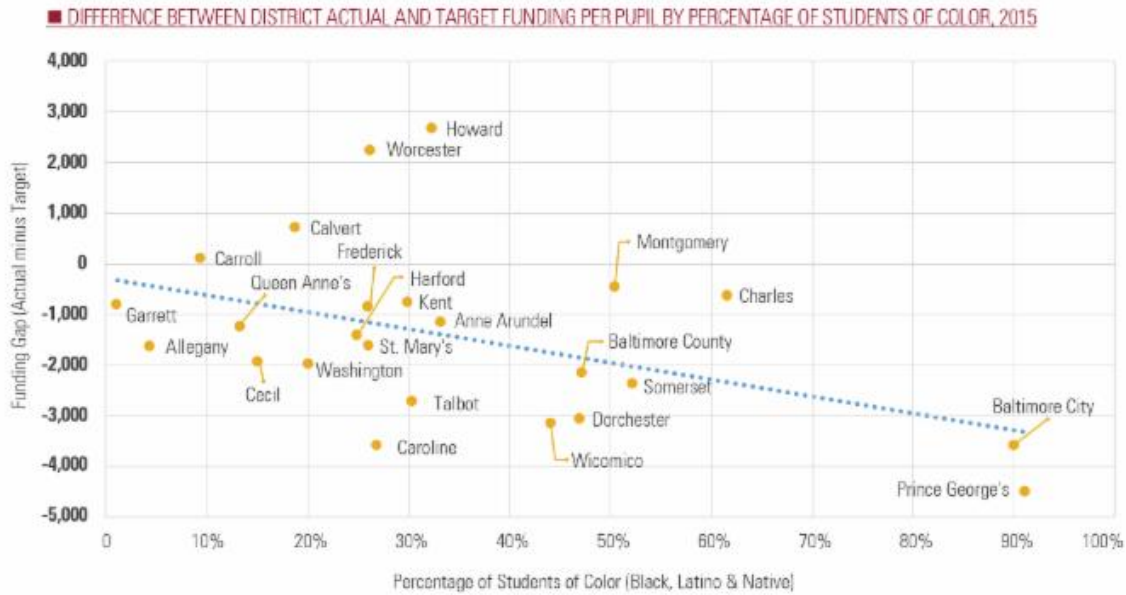
TAKE ACTION

MOST DISTRICTS RECEIVE LESS THAN STATE SAYS THEY SHOULD



Source: The Education Trust

DISTRICTS WITH MORE STUDENTS OF COLOR HAVE BIGGER GAPS



Source: The Education Trust

P.S. Read our [recent blog with more information](#) about ACLU of Maryland's call to the "Kirwan" Commission to support strong and effective recommendations to further race equity and The Education Trust's recent analyses on Maryland's education system: <http://bit.ly/2P1bUMs>



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Bebe Verdery, Education Director
Frank Patinella, Senior Education Advocate
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