

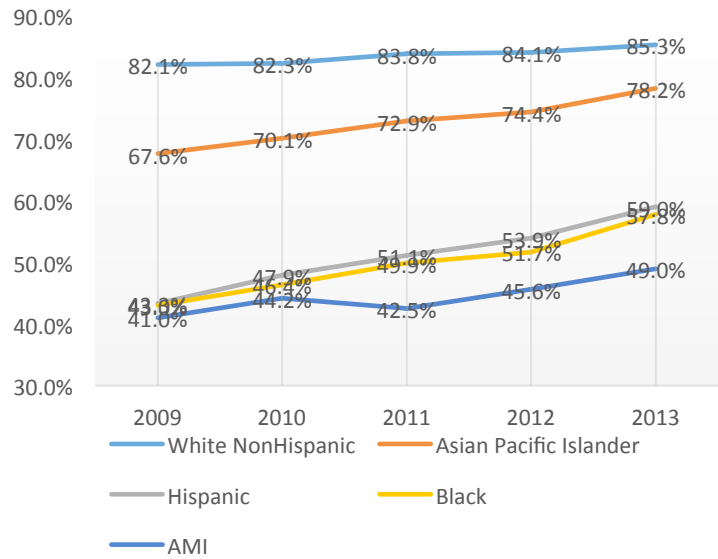
Lowest and Slowest Growth

The graduation rate of American Indian students drastically lags behind all other ethnic groups in Minnesota, has increased the least among all sub groups over 5 years, and is still less than 50 percent. (MDE, Minnesota Report Card)

Last in the Nation

Minnesota's AMI Graduation Rates for AMI students 2011 (42%) and 2012 (45%) were dead last among the 50 states. (USDOE Public HS 4 Year-On-Time Report, 2014)

2009-2013 Minnesota 4 Year Graduation Rates by Ethnic/Racial Subgroups

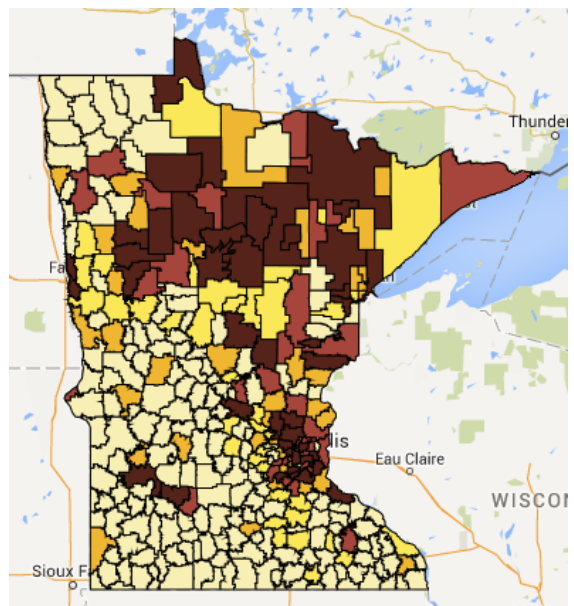


Where are the AMI students?

Currently 12,538 American Indian children (67% of all AMI students) attend public schools in Greater Minnesota. If the AMI students were in one school district they would be the second largest school district in Greater Minnesota, larger than St. Cloud but smaller than Rochester.

In Minnesota, 157 school districts have 10 or more AMI students with the self-identification system and 110 of those are in Greater Minnesota. **The two darkest colors on the map to the right have at least 40 AMI students, the darkest color over 90 AMI students.**

School districts with high concentrations of AMI students are entirely rural. In 14 rural school districts, AMI students make up at least 25 percent of the student body. In half of those districts, AMI students account for 50% or more of the student body.



These students are in among the poorest areas of our state.

The four school districts with the lowest median household income in the Minnesota have at least 53 percent AMI students in their total student enrollment. Nine of the 15 districts with the lowest median household income have at least 19 percent AMI students in their student body.

>> LEARN MORE on this issue at MnREA.org/AMI

Success for the Future—Minnesota's Grant Program

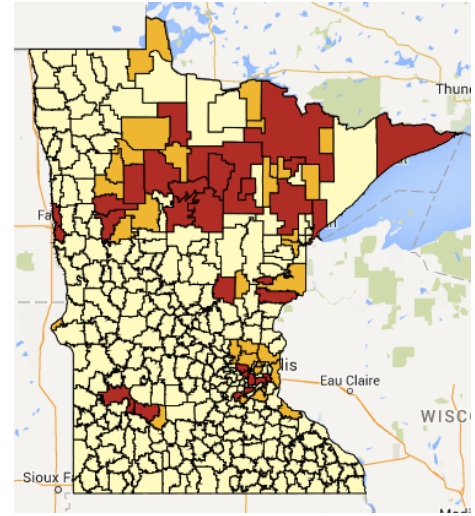
The Minnesota Legislature in 2000 combined two grant programs into Success for the Future. These competitive grants have been awarded to 32 programs for six-year periods.

The grant program currently serves half of the K-12 American Indian students in the state in 27 school districts (red on map) and 5 other AMI schools.

35 Districts with 28% of AMI students are NOT currently in Success for the Future (golden on map).

American Indian education programs supported by Success for the Future are designed to meet the unique educational and cultural needs of American Indian students. They focus on getting students ready for college, increasing achievement, especially in math and reading, making the curriculum more relevant to students' cultural heritage, reinforcing students' positive self-image and developing intercultural awareness among students, parents, staff and community.

The graduation rates for AMI students in these funded districts is 6% points higher than non-funded districts with 10 or more verified AMI students. (Governor's '16-17 budget, MMB, Education)



But the current Success for the Future falls short in these ways:

1. **There are just not enough programs funded.** In Minnesota, 62 school districts have at least 10 verified Tribal Band members or descendants and are therefore eligible for ESEA Title VII funds. 100 school districts have 30 or more AMI students (by self-reports) —a whole classroom.
2. **The competitive nature of the grants means the funding comes and goes.** That leads districts to dismantle the programs and disrupt long-term relationships with families and tribal elders.
3. **The funding formula does not account for concentration of students.** In all three grant rounds, all recipients received \$69,445 regardless of whether they served 10 or over 1,500 AMI students.

Support Our American Indian Students

What can we do? MREA fully endorses the Governor's \$4.5M proposal to expand Success for the Future to all Title VII eligible school districts. MREA also urges Governor Dayton and the legislature to increase the funding to add a concentration factor for AMI students in poverty. Schools that receive federal Indian Education formula grants (Title VII ESEA) and have an active Indian Parent Advisory Committee are eligible.

By expanding another 35 schools and districts, Success for the Future would serve an additional 5,300 students. That represents an additional 28 percent of the total American Indian student population in Minnesota.

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