

Review of Year-Round Schools

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, EDUCATION
SUBCOMMITTEE

January 17, 2013

Study Mandate

HJR 646 (2011)

JLARC to study year-round schools in Virginia and elsewhere

- Determine which divisions use year-round schools and describe their experience
- Evaluate impact on
 - Academic achievement
 - School cost
 - Other factors

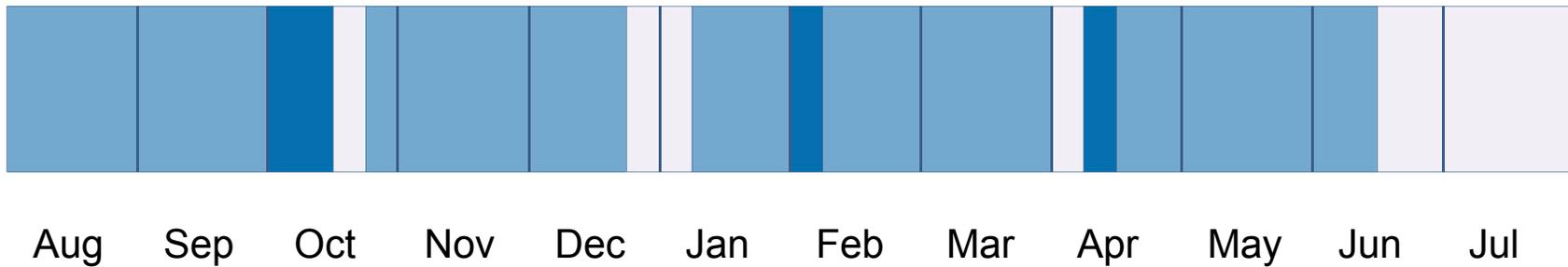
In Brief

In Virginia's year-round schools, the shorter breaks throughout the year have typically been used to provide additional instruction. Certain student groups, in particular black students, were more likely to improve their SOL test scores at year-round schools than their peers at traditional calendar schools.

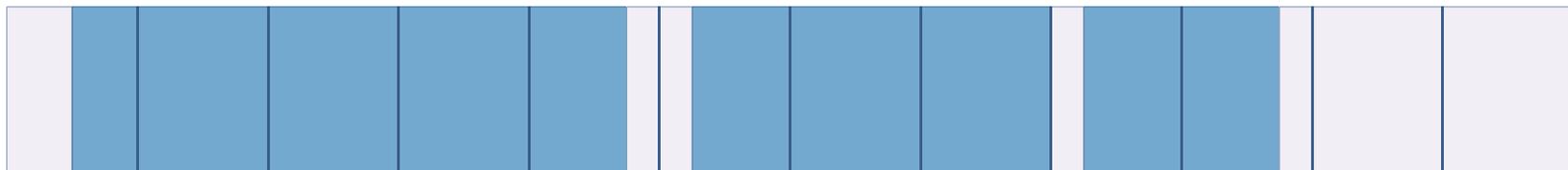
Earlier Start, With Intersessions in Fall, Winter, and Spring



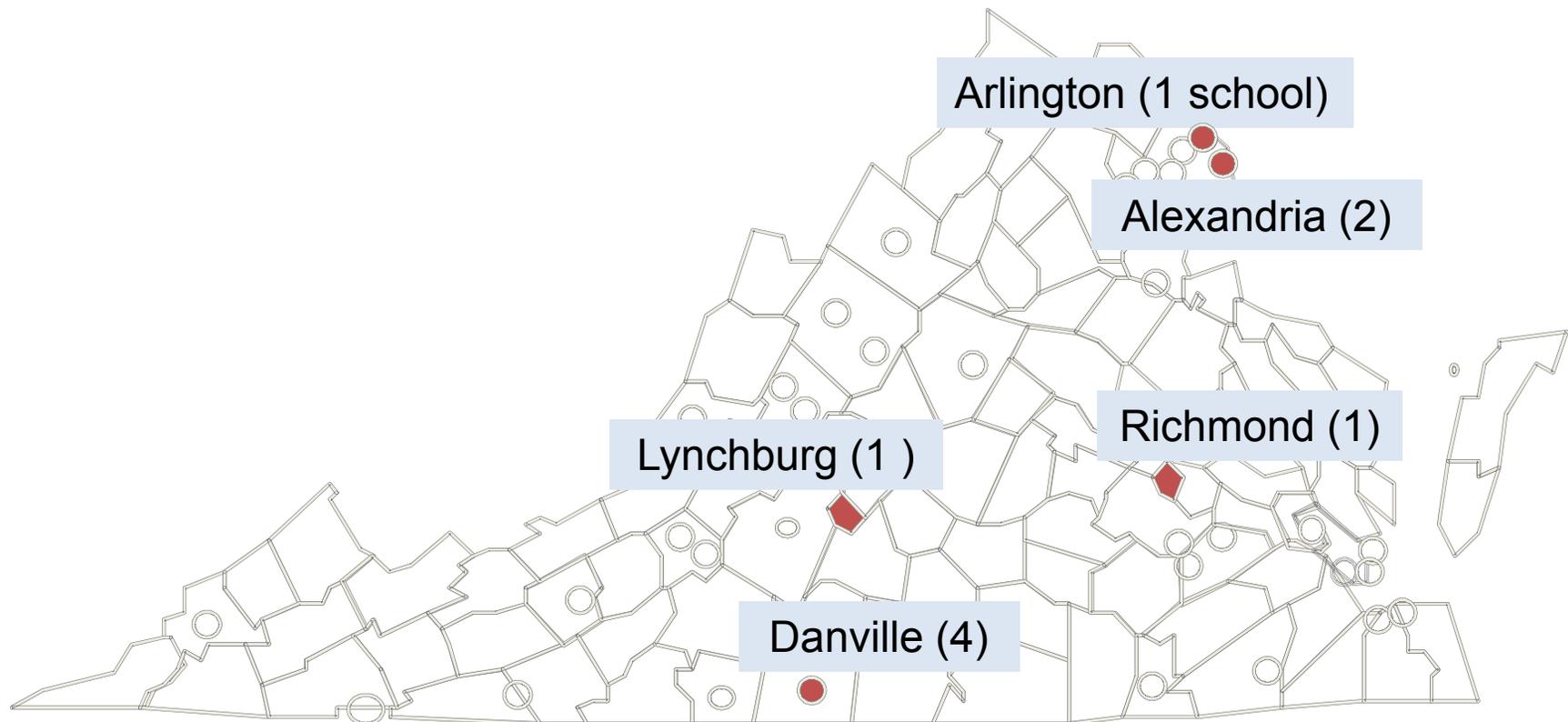
Year-Round



Traditional



Five Divisions Used YRS at Nine Virginia Elementary Schools (2011-2012)



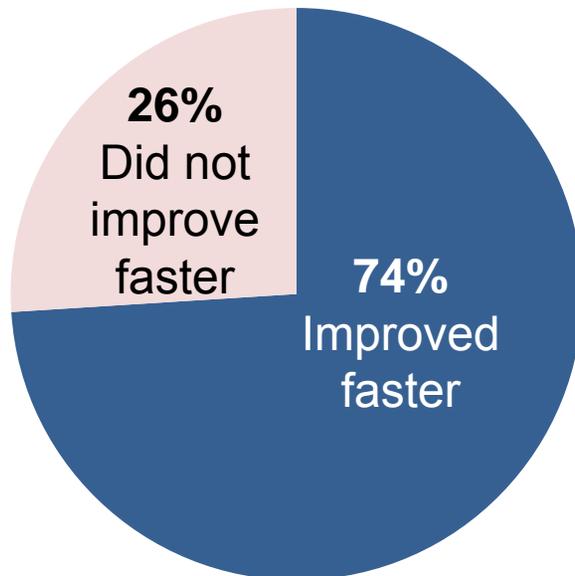
Finding

Black student groups at year-round schools appear to do better on SOL tests.

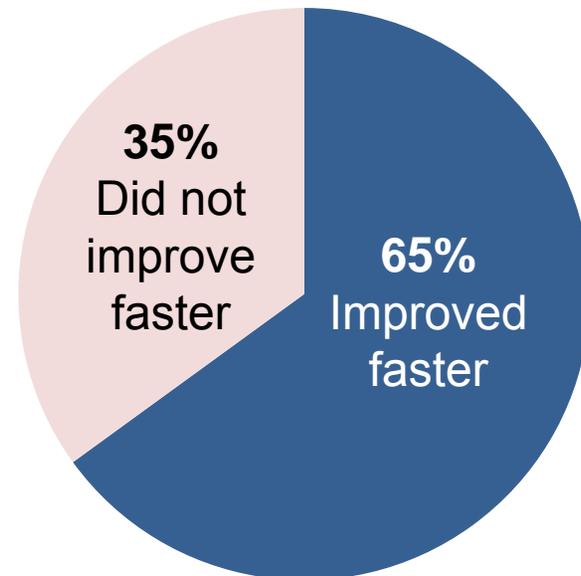
Other student subgroups at year-round schools also appear to do better on SOL tests, but less consistently than black students.

Average Scores of Black Students Improved Faster at Majority of YRS

English SOL

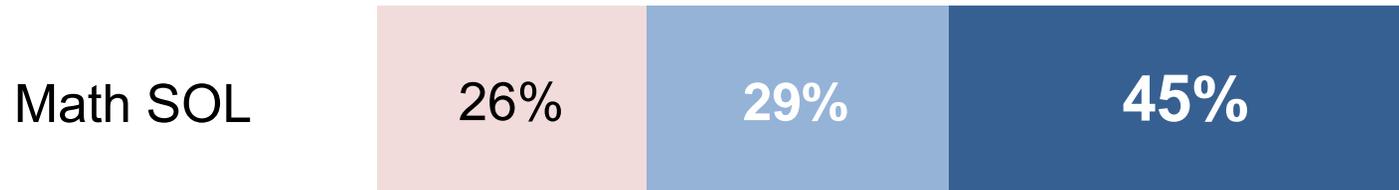


Math SOL



Percentages refer to percentages of year-round schools.

Average Scores of Black Students at Some YRS Higher Than Predicted, Especially in Math



Lower than predicted



Within range of predicted (+/- 10 pts)



Higher than predicted



Practitioners Believe Intersessions And Shorter Breaks Contribute to Improvement

- Timely and targeted remediation
 - Avoid accumulated learning loss
- Reinforcement of recently-learned concepts
 - Helps all students
- Shorter breaks
 - Less time for skills to decline

Finding

Year-round schools spent 3%, on average, of their total annual expenditures on intersessions (not including transportation and student food services).

Funding Sources for YRS

- Local funds used most frequently
 - Some divisions also use fees to offset enrichment costs
- Federal Title I funds
- State basic aid, remedial education, and summer school funds

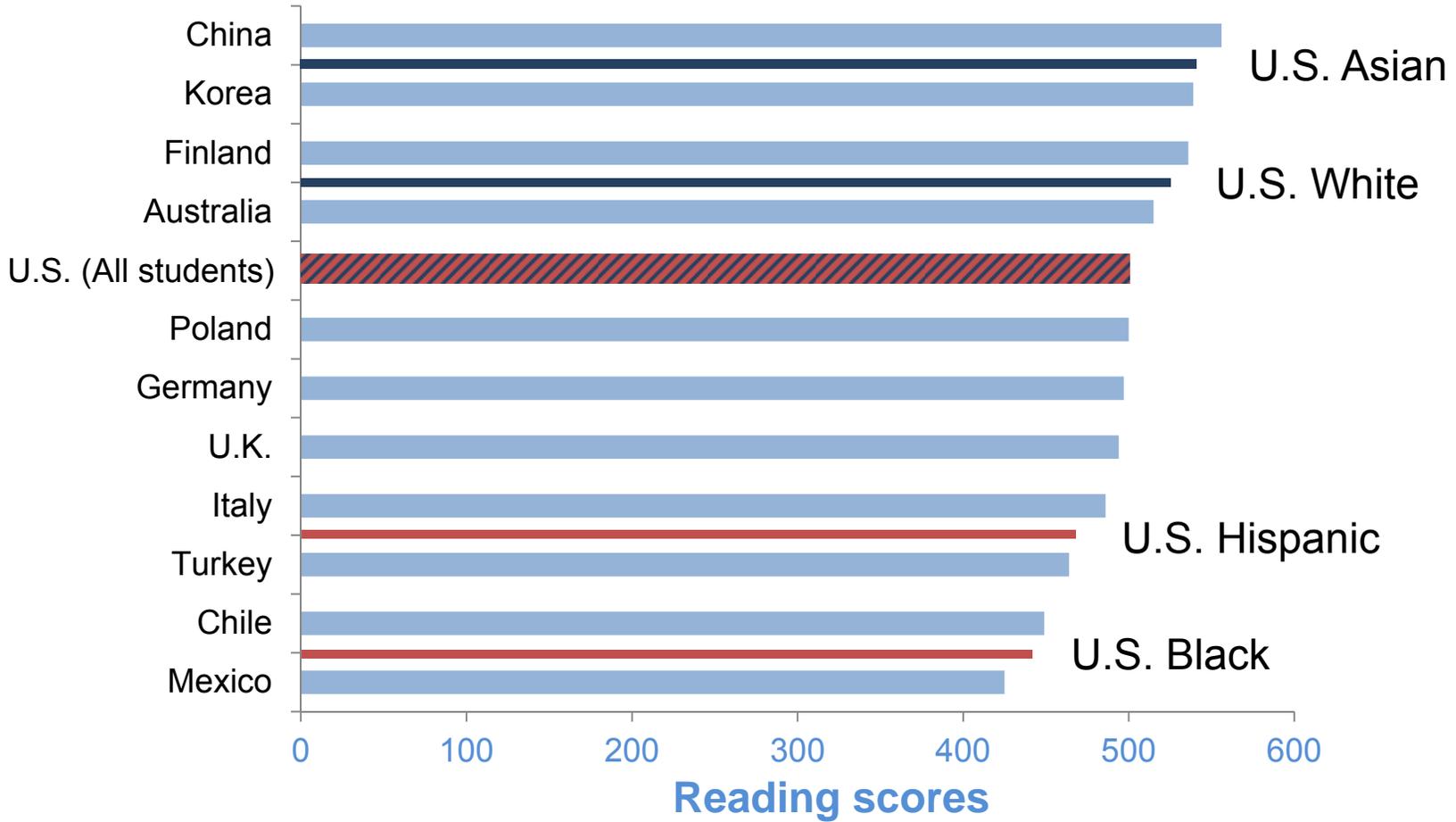
State Extended Year Incentive Program

- Established in 2000
 - §22.1-98.1 of *Code of Virginia*
- Never received funding
- Potentially could be used for intersessions
- \$400,000 (FY 2001) in State remedial education funds for year-round school incentive program

Finding

Certain school divisions may want to consider year-round schools as one method to improve student performance.

U.S. Hispanic & Black Students Score Below U.S. White & Asian Students



Divisions With Higher Percentages of Certain Student Groups May Want to Consider Year-Round Schools

- Year-round schools may be a method to improve student performance
- Particularly schools with high proportions of black, Hispanic, LEP, and economically disadvantaged students

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For More Information

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