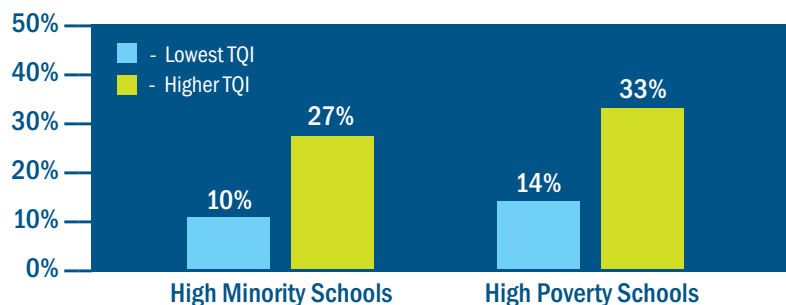




Higher-Quality Teachers Contribute to an Increase in Youth Test Scores

According to a new report from the Education Trust, there is evidence that teacher quality makes an enormous impact on student success. High-poverty and high-minority schools in Illinois, Ohio, and Wisconsin were found to have fewer high-quality teachers and fewer students who passed standardized tests. In Illinois, researchers ranked schools using a teacher quality index (TQI).¹ As minority enrollment and poverty increased, TQI decreased. For minority and poor students, accessing quality teachers increased their standardized test scores. Among high-minority and high-poverty high schools, the percentage of students who passed standardized tests grew when high-quality teachers were in place. In high-minority high schools,² the percent of students who passed standardized tests soared from 10% to 27% (a 170% increase) when higher-quality teachers were in place. The same trend was true in high-poverty high schools.³ When higher-quality teachers were in place, the percent of students who passed standardized tests jumped from 14% to 33% (a 136% increase).

Percentage of Illinois Students in the High-Poverty and High-Minority High Schools Who Passed Standardized Tests, by Teacher Quality Index (TQI)



Sources: Peske, H. G. and Haycock, K. (2006). *Teaching Inequality: How Poor and Minority Students Are Shortchanged on Teacher Quality. A Report and Recommendations by the Education Trust.* The Education Trust. Retrieved June 30, 2006, from <http://www2.edtrust.org/NR/rdonlyres/010DBD9F-CED8-4D2B-9E0D-91B446746ED3/0/TQReportJune2006.pdf>.

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¹ The TQI measured teachers' levels of experience, field-relevant education, and certification.

² High-minority schools are ones in which 90–100% of the student body was made up of minority students.

³ High-poverty schools are ones in which at least 50% of students qualified for reduced or free lunches.

Prepared by TASC, Inc. TASC is an independent, not-for-profit agency that provides clinical case management and other services to men, women and adolescents with a variety of social and health-related needs. TASC serves approximately 30,000 clients in Illinois each year. For more information visit www.tasc.org.

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