

WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

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Site of the Month

The Manhattan Institute for Policy Research published a report, which was funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, showing that female students compared to male students graduate at a higher rate (72 versus 65 percent), based on the Common Core of Data graduation-rate estimates for the class of 2003. Regardless of race/ethnicity, the pattern holds—albeit, the graduation gender gap is greater for Hispanics (females: 58 percent; males: 49 percent) and African Americans (black) (females: 59 percent; males: 48 percent) than for other racial/ethnic groups. It seems appropriate that the title of the report is *Leaving Boys Behind: Public High School Graduation Rates*.

Greene and Winters, the authors of the report, also report dropout data by state. Nevada's graduation rate by gender was not available due to missing data. Percents were given, however, for Nevada's two largest school districts, including dropout data for whites by gender. Insufficient data were available to calculate graduation rates for other racial and ethnic (Hispanic) groups. See table below.

Graduation Rates in Clark and Washoe School Districts by Gender: Class of 2003

District	Male	Female	White Male	White Female	Total
Clark	55%	58%	64%	67%	56%
Washoe	64%	71%	70%	77%	66%

Why males are graduating at a lower rate than females was not explored in the Manhattan Institute report, although the authors recommend it as a topic for additional research. The report is available at: http://www.manhattan-institute.org/pdf/cr_48.pdf.

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