

IMPACT OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAMS

IN VIRGINIA

SUMMER READING LOSS IS REAL

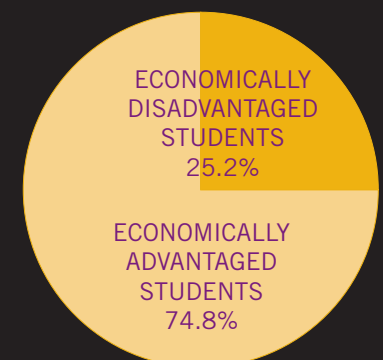
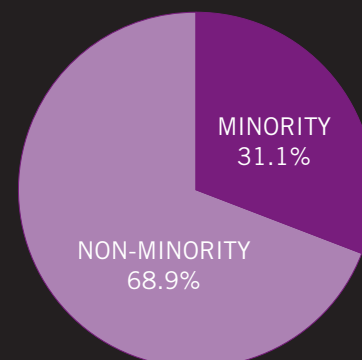
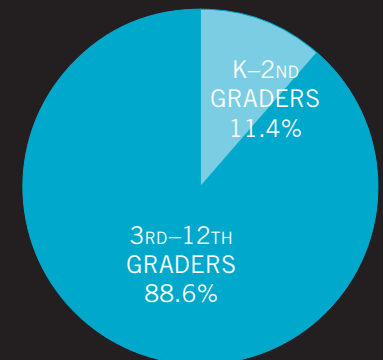
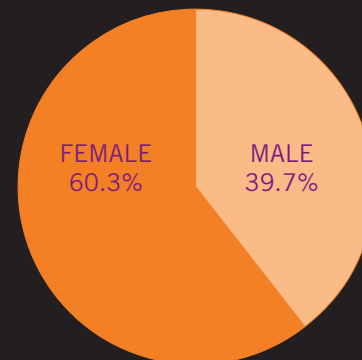
Achievement lost over the summer break is equivalent to one month of grade-level instruction.¹

Summer reading loss during the elementary grades accumulated to an achievement gap of 18 months by the end of sixth grade.²

Summer reading loss is greater for children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.³

All young people experience learning losses when they don't engage in educational activities during the summer.⁴

4,598 PARTICIPANTS



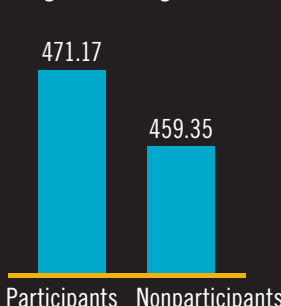
PARTICIPATING PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEMS SERVING:

- Albemarle County
- Alleghany County
- Amherst County
- Augusta County
- Bedford County
- Buchanan County
- Brunswick County
- Campbell County
- Caroline County
- Charlottesville
- Chesapeake
- Chesterfield County
- Clarke County
- Dinwiddie County
- Emporia
- Essex County
- Floyd County
- Franklin County
- Frederick County
- Fredericksburg
- Goochland County
- Greene County
- Greenville County
- Halifax County
- Hampton
- Hanover County
- Henry County
- Hopewell
- King and Queen County
- King William County
- Louisa County
- Martinsville
- Montgomery County
- Nelson County
- Newport News
- Norfolk
- Orange County
- Patrick County
- Petersburg
- Pittsylvania County
- Powhatan County
- Poquoson
- Portsmouth
- Prince George County
- Pulaski County
- Radford
- Roanoke
- Roanoke County
- Russell County
- Salem
- Spotsylvania County
- Staunton
- Stafford County
- Virginia Beach
- Waynesboro
- Westmoreland County
- Winchester

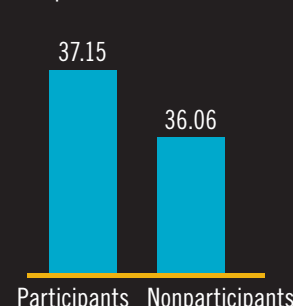
THE CHANGE IN READING OUTCOMES

3rd-12th-grade summer reading program participants compared to their nonparticipating peers

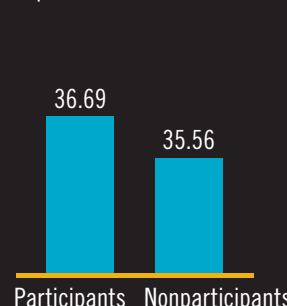
SOL English/Reading Sum Score



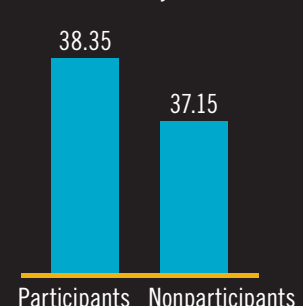
SOL Comprehension of Fiction Score



SOL Comprehension of Nonfiction Score



SOL Word Analysis Score



GAIN VS. LOSS

In participants vs. their nonparticipating peers

SOL English/Reading Sum Gain Score



SOL Word Analysis Gain Score



POSITIVE EFFECTS OF SUMMER READING PROGRAMS

Participants outperformed nonparticipants on tests across all measures and grades (K-8).

Positive effects did not differ by gender, limited English proficiency status, or economically disadvantaged status.

Participation in public library summer reading programs may prevent summer reading loss or even facilitate learning gains when schools are not in session.

Repeat participants benefited the most from participation in summer reading programs.

Participation in summer reading programs has a positive effect on student achievement outcomes by preventing learning loss even two years after participation.

2015

2014

2013

CONCLUSIONS

Children and teens who attend the summer reading program offered by Virginia's public libraries perform better academically and experience greater gains in their academic performance than their nonparticipating peers.

Summer library reading programs may serve as an alternative avenue to close the achievement gaps between minority groups and nonminority peers.

YOUR SUMMER READING PROGRAM MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

SANDRA G. TREADWAY, LIBRARIAN OF VIRGINIA

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To view the full studies, visit www.lva.virginia.gov/lib-edu/LDND/srp-impact. For more information contact Enid Costley at enid.costley@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3765.

SOL or Standards of Learning tests in reading, measure the success of students in meeting the Virginia Board of Education's expectations for learning and achievement.

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¹ Cooper, H., Nye, B., Charlton, K., Lindsay, J., and Greathouse, S. (1996) The effects of summer vacation on achievement test scores: A narrative-analytic review. *Review of Educational Research*, 66(3), 227.

² McGill-Franzen, A., and Allington, R. (2004) Lost summers: Few books and few opportunities to read. Retrieved from www.readingrockets.org/article/394

³ McGill-Franzen, A., and Allington, R. (2004) Lost summers: Few books and few opportunities to read. Retrieved from www.readingrockets.org/article/394 and Mraz, M. and Rasinski, T.V., (2007) Summer Reading loss. *The Reading Teacher*, 60(8) 7840789.

⁴ Know the Facts National Summer of Learning Retrieved from www.summerlearning.org/?page=know_the_facts