

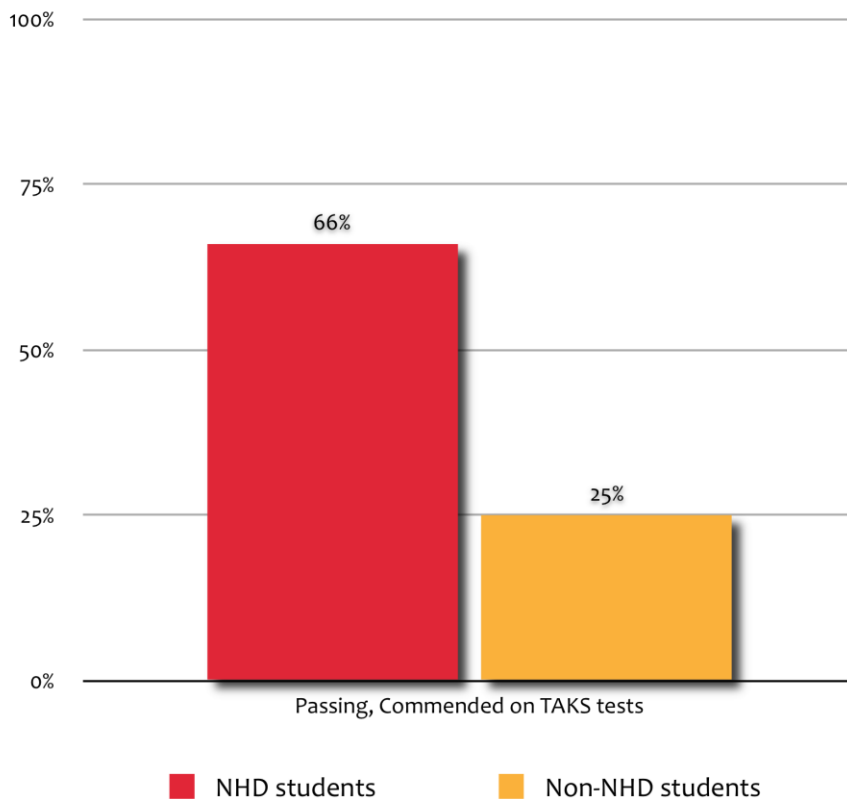
HISTORY

TEACHES. *Inspires. Prepares.*

National History Day Works: Key Evaluation Findings

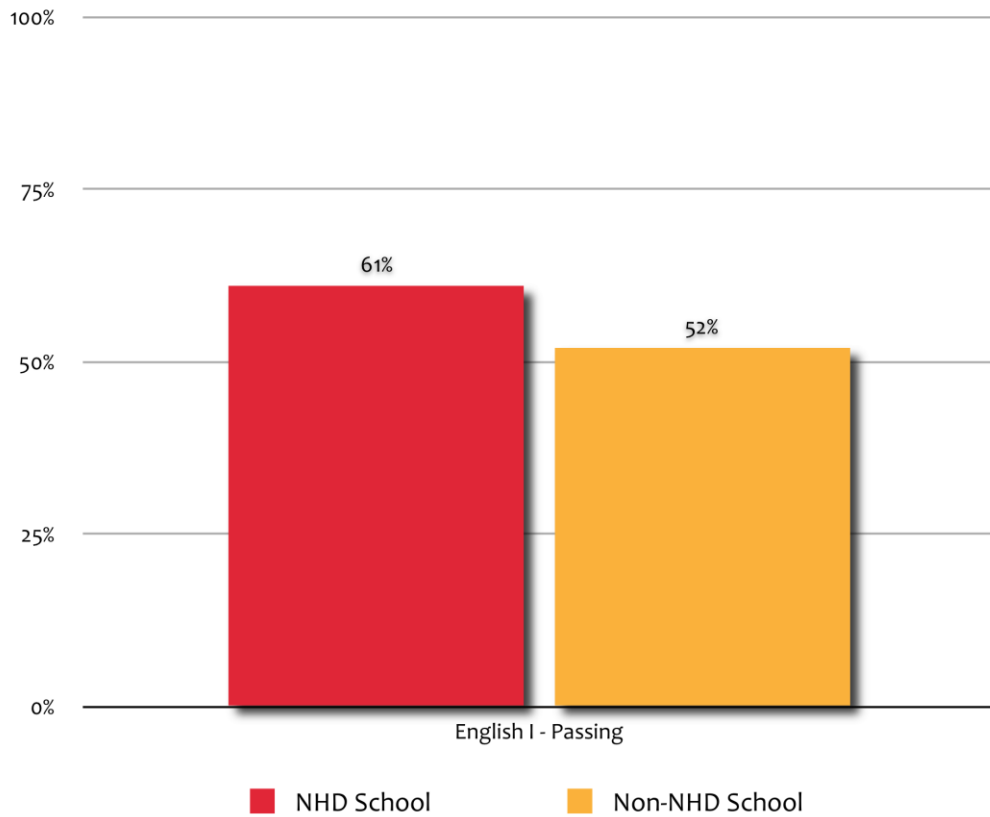
NHD students outperform their non-NHD peers on standardized tests in all topic areas, including – reading, science and math, as well as social studies.

In Texas, NHD students outperformed their non-NHD peers on TAKS tests



During four years of performance, NHD students scored more than twice as well on TAKS as non-NHD students. Nearly two thirds of NHD students met the minimum, had commended performance, or passed TAKS the first time, compared to 25% of non-NHD students.

NHD students in South Carolina outperformed their non-NHD peers on English assessments



In South Carolina, NHD high school students led their school district with a 61% passing rate in English 1— 9% above a comparison site.

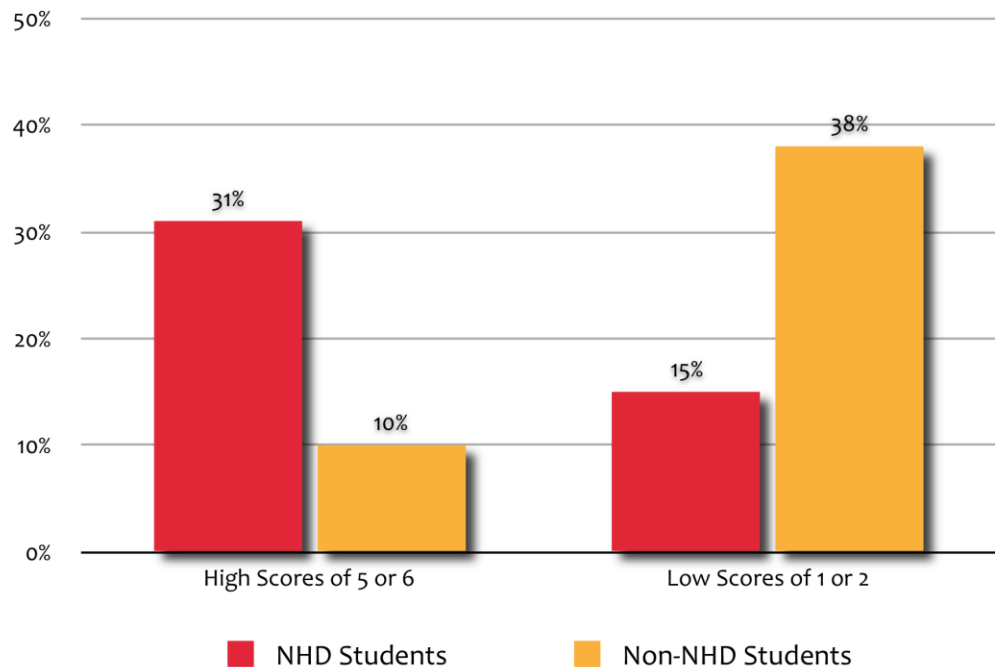
About the Research

Researchers from Rockman, et al, examined students' success across a range of measures: performance assessments, surveys and standardized test scores, academic performance and interest in past and current events. They then compared their evaluations of students who participated in National History Day (NHD) to their peers who did not participate in the program. The racial/ethnic representation of students in the study closely mirrored the breakdown in the U.S., with a slightly higher percentage of Black and Hispanic students included in the study.

The study, conducted at four sites around the country, found that on nearly every measure, NHD students' scores or ratings were higher than their peers who did not participate in the program.

NHD students are better writers, who write with a purpose and real voice, and marshal solid evidence to support their point of view.

NHD students had more exemplary writing scores, and fewer low scores



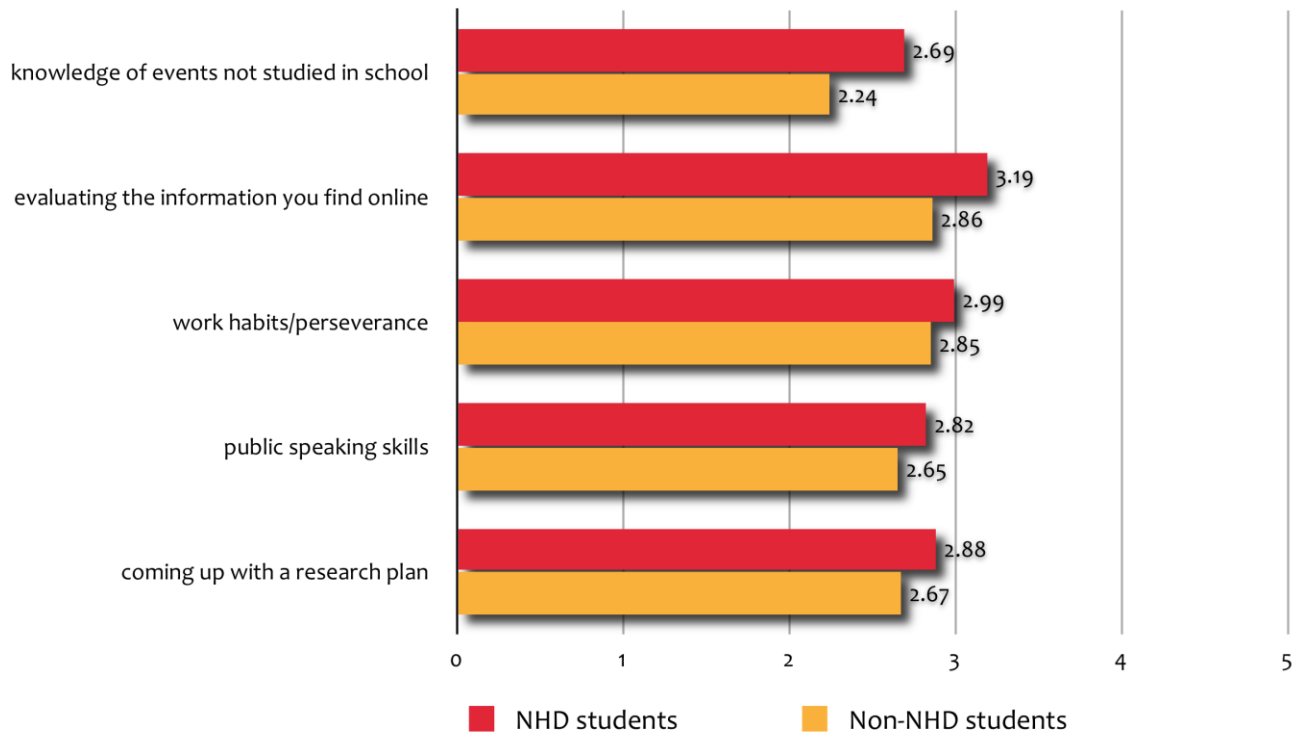
Overall, NHD students outscored comparison-group students on both pre- and post-writing assessments, receiving more exemplary scores (5's or 6's) on a 6-point scale, and fewer low scores.

NHD has a positive impact among students whose interests in academic subjects may wane in high school.

- Among Black and Latino students, NHD students outperform non-NHD students, posting higher performance assessment scores and levels of interest and skills.
- Compared to non-NHD boys and to all girls, boys participating in NHD reported significantly higher levels of interest in history, civic engagement, and confidence in research skills, on both pre- and post-surveys.

NHD students learn 21st Century college- and career-ready skills. They learn to collaborate with team members, talk to experts, manage their time and persevere.

When asked about their confidence in a variety of career- and college-ready skills, NHD students have an edge over their peers



NHD students consistently express more confidence than students who do not participate in NHD, including research skills, public speaking, the ability to organize a report, knowledge of current events, work habits, evaluating sources, and writing skills. (Reported on a 6-point scale.)

NHD students are critical thinkers who can digest, analyze and synthesize information.

- Performance assessments show that NHD students were 18% better overall than their peers at interpreting historical information -- an average of 79 percent correct vs. 61 percent correct.

National History Day, a year-long academic program for 6th to 12th grade students, is centered around historical research, interpretation, and creative expression. For their NHD projects, students become writers, filmmakers, Web designers, playwrights, and artists as they create unique contemporary expressions of history. The program culminates in a series of contests at the local and state levels – and an annual national competition in the nation’s capital each June.

National History Day is a flexible program that provides everything teachers need to bring students on an unforgettable journey that integrates into – and enhances – standards-based curriculum. With sample topics, a guide to conducting historical research in the classroom, lesson plans, and more, NHD supports and guides educators and students through the entire school year.

National History Day not only transports classrooms back in time during the school year...it transforms young minds forever.

NHD



NATIONAL



HISTORY DAY

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