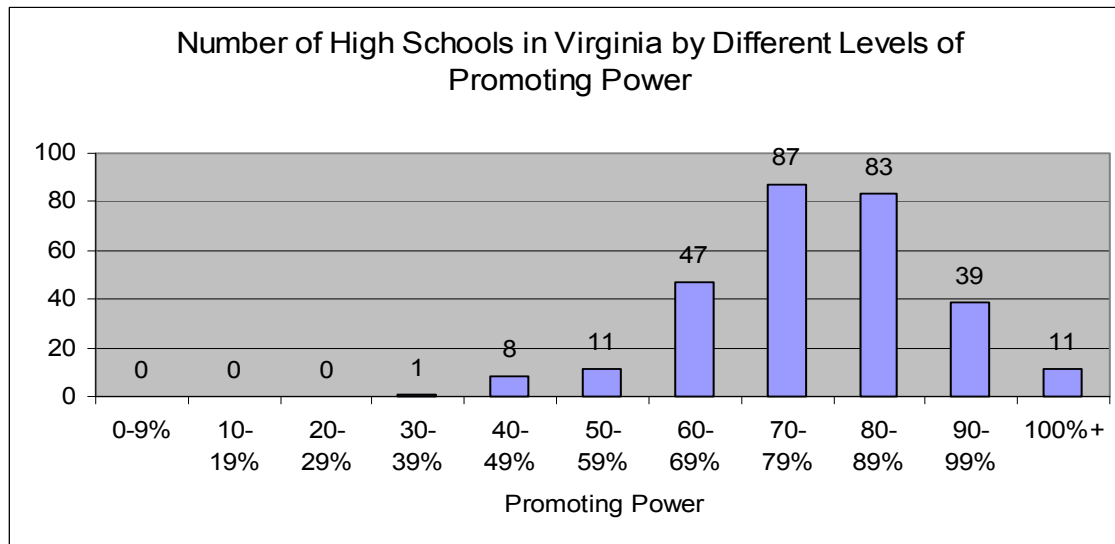


## Promoting Power in Virginia's High Schools

Promoting power compares the number of seniors enrolled in a high school to the number of 9th graders enrolled in the high school four years earlier. It provides a measure of how efficiently and effectively high schools promote their students from grade to grade. Promoting power is also a good indicator of high schools that have both high and low graduation rates. It is very likely that high schools which have 60% or fewer seniors than freshmen four years earlier will have unacceptably low graduation rates by state and national standards. The graph below shows the promoting power for all high schools in the state.\* The tables that follow show how promoting power varies across the state's high schools by free lunch level, minority concentration, location, and school size. For more information on Promoting Power and national and regional trends see *Locating the Dropout Crisis* by Robert Balfanz and Nettie Legters, Johns Hopkins University (<http://www.csos.jhu.edu/news.htm>).

\*Promoting Power data is based on three year average for the classes of 2000, 2001, and 2002.



Number and Percent of HS with Different Levels of Promoting Power

	Number of schools	Percent of schools	Number of students	Percent of students	Percent of minority students
HS with promoting power of 90% or more	50	17%	69,817	21%	15%
HS with promoting power of 60% or less	23	8%	26,789	8%	15%

Number of HS with Different Levels of Promoting Power by Percent of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch

% eligible for free lunch	Promoting power		
	0-60%	61-89%	90% or more
Less than 20%	3	102	41
21-39%	10	72	7
40% or more	11	37	2
Total	24	211	50

Number of HS with Different Levels of Promoting Power by Percent Minority Students

% minority students	Promoting power		
	0-60%	61-89%	90% or more
Less than 10%	0	66	15
10-49%	3	100	33
50-80%	13	44	1
90% or more	6	2	0
Total	22	212	49

Number of HS with Different Levels of Promoting Power by Location

Location	Promoting power		
	0-60%	61-89%	90% or more
Cities	18	30	0
Suburbs	2	50	31
Towns	1	31	2
Rural	3	103	17
Total	24	214	50

Number of HS with Different Levels of Promoting Power by School Size

School enrollment	Promoting power		
	0-60%	61-89%	90% or more
50 to 299	2	11	5
300 to 799	4	84	11
800 to 1199	3	39	4
1200 to 1999	14	63	21
2000 or more	1	17	9
Total	24	214	50