

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading on a 0-500 point scale. In 2005, Houston Independent School District was one of ten urban districts that voluntarily participated in the NAEP reading assessment on a trial basis.

Overall Reading Results for Houston	Student Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels																																								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2005, the average scale score for eighth-grade students in Houston was 248. This was not significantly different from their average score in 2003 (246), and was not significantly different from their average score in 2002 (248).¹ Houston's average score (248) in 2005 was lower than that of public schools in large central cities² (250). The percentage of students in Houston who performed at or above the NAEP <i>Proficient</i> level was 17 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (14 percent), and was not significantly different from that in 2002 (17 percent). The percentage of students in Houston who performed at or above the NAEP <i>Basic</i> level was 59 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (55 percent), and was not significantly different from that in 2002 (59 percent). 	<p>Houston (public)</p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>Below Basic</th><th>Basic</th><th>Proficient</th><th>Advanced</th></tr> <tr><td>2002</td><td>41</td><td>42</td><td>16</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2003</td><td>45</td><td>41</td><td>13</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2005</td><td>41</td><td>42</td><td>16</td><td>1</td></tr> </table> <p>Large central city (public)</p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>Below Basic</th><th>Basic</th><th>Proficient</th><th>Advanced</th></tr> <tr><td>2005</td><td>40</td><td>40</td><td>18</td><td>1</td></tr> </table> <p>Nation (public)</p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>Below Basic</th><th>Basic</th><th>Proficient</th><th>Advanced</th></tr> <tr><td>2005</td><td>29</td><td>42</td><td>26</td><td>3</td></tr> </table> <p>Percent below <i>Basic</i> Percent at <i>Basic</i>, <i>Proficient</i>, and <i>Advanced</i></p> <p>■ Below <i>Basic</i> □ <i>Basic</i> ■ <i>Proficient</i> ■ <i>Advanced</i></p> <p>NOTE: The NAEP grade 8 reading achievement levels correspond to the following scale points: <i>Below Basic</i>, 242 or lower; <i>Basic</i>, 243–280; <i>Proficient</i>, 281–322; <i>Advanced</i>, 323 or above.</p>	Year	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced	2002	41	42	16	1	2003	45	41	13	1	2005	41	42	16	1	Year	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced	2005	40	40	18	1	Year	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced	2005	29	42	26	3
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Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Houston: 2005						
Reporting groups	Percent of students ³	Average score	Percent below <i>Basic</i>	Percent of students at or above <i>Basic</i>	Percent <i>Proficient</i>	Percent <i>Advanced</i>
Male	49	242	48	52	13	1
Female	51	253	34	66	20	1
White	9	280↑	11	89	53	7
Black	31	242	47	53	11	#
Hispanic	56	245	44	56	12	#
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
American Indian/Alaska Native	#	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	71↑	243	46	54	11	#
Not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	29↓	262	27	73	30↑	3

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups	Reading Scale Scores at Selected Percentiles																
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2005, male students in Houston had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 11 points. In 2002, the average score for male students was lower than that of female students by 9 points. In 2005, Black students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 39 points. In 2002, the average score for Black students was lower than that of White students by 32 points. In 2005, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 36 points. In 2002, the average score for Hispanic students was lower than that of White students by 36 points. In 2005, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, an indicator of poverty, had an average score that was lower than that of students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch by 19 points. In 2002, the average score for students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch was lower than the score of those not eligible by 18 points. In 2005, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 46 points. In 2002, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 47 points. 	<p>Score 500</p> <p>Percentiles</p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>75th</th><th>50th</th><th>25th</th></tr> <tr><td>'02</td><td>273</td><td>251</td><td>226</td></tr> <tr><td>'03</td><td>268*</td><td>247*</td><td>224</td></tr> <tr><td>'05</td><td>272</td><td>251</td><td>226</td></tr> </table> <p>Year</p> <p>Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP reading scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels performed.</p>	Year	75th	50th	25th	'02	273	251	226	'03	268*	247*	224	'05	272	251	226
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'03	268*	247*	224														
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The estimate rounds to zero.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

* Significantly different from 2005.

↑ Significantly higher than 2003. ↓ Significantly lower than 2003.

¹ Comparisons (higher/lower/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level was used for testing statistical significance. Comparisons across jurisdictions and comparisons with the nation or within a jurisdiction across years may be affected by differences in exclusion rates for students with disabilities (SD) and English language learners (ELL). The exclusion rates for SD and ELL in Houston were 5 percent and 4 percent in 2005, respectively. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages.

² "Large central city" includes public schools located in large central cities (population 250,000 or more) within metropolitan statistical areas as defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget. It is not synonymous with "inner city."

³ For comparison, non-White students comprised 76 percent of students in large central city public schools and 39 percent in public schools nationally. Also, students eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch comprised 63 percent of students in large central city public schools and 39 percent in public schools nationally.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding and because the "Information not available" category for free/reduced-price school lunch and the "Unclassified" category for race/ethnicity are not displayed. Visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/reading/tuda.asp> for additional results and detailed information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2002, 2003, and 2005 Trial Urban District Reading Assessments.