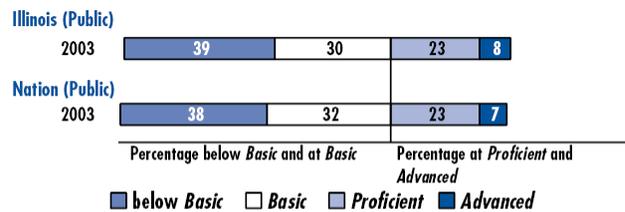


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading in two contexts described in the NAEP framework: reading for literary experience and to gain information. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

Overall Reading Results for Illinois

- In 2003, the average scale score for fourth-grade students in Illinois was 216.
- Illinois' average score (216) in 2003 was not found to be significantly different¹ from that of the nation's public schools (216).
- Of the 53 states and jurisdictions² that participated in the 2003 fourth-grade assessment, students' average scale scores in Illinois were higher than those in 9 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 18 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 25 jurisdictions.
- The percentage of students in Illinois who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 31 percent in 2003. The percentage of students in Illinois who performed at or above the *Basic* level was 61 percent.

Student Percentage at NAEP Achievement Levels



NOTE: The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500, with the achievement levels corresponding to the following points: *Below Basic*, 207 or lower; *Basic*, 208-237; *Proficient*, 238-267; *Advanced*, 268 or above.

Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Illinois

Reporting groups	Percentage of students	Average Score	Percentage of students at			
			Below <i>Basic</i>	<i>Basic</i>	<i>Proficient</i>	<i>Advanced</i>
Male	51	214	41	31	22	6
Female	49	219	37	30	24	9
White	60	228	26	33	30	11
Black	21 ↑	194	64	26	9	2
Hispanic	16	197	58	27	13	2
Asian/Pacific Islander	2 ↓	235 ↑	16 ↓	38	35	11
American Indian/Alaska Native	# ↓	---	---	---	---	---
Free/reduced-price school lunch						
Eligible	42	197 ↓	59 ↑	27	12	2
Not eligible	54	232	22	33	33	12

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups

- In 2003, male students in Illinois had an average score that was lower than that of female students (5 points). This performance gap was not significantly different from that of the Nation (8 points).
- In 2003, White students had an average score that was higher than that of Black students (34 points). This performance gap was not significantly different from that of the Nation (30 points).
- In 2003, White students had an average score that was higher than that of Hispanic students (31 points). This performance gap was not significantly different from that of the Nation (28 points).
- In 2003, students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch had an average score that was higher than that of students who were eligible (35 points). This performance gap was wider than that of the Nation (28 points).

Reading Scale Scores at Selected Percentiles

	Scale Score Distribution		
	25 th Percentile	50 th Percentile	75 th Percentile
Illinois	191	219	244
Nation (Public)	193	219	243

An examination of scores at different percentiles on the 0–500 NAEP reading scale at each grade indicates how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels of the distribution performed. For example, the data above show that 75 percent of students in public schools nationally scored below 243, and 75 percent of students in Illinois scored below 244.

The estimate rounds to zero.

--- Reporting standards not met; sample size insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

* Significantly different from Illinois.

↑ Significantly higher than, ↓ lower than appropriate subgroup in the nation (public).

¹ Comparisons (higher/lower/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level was used for testing statistical significance. Performance comparisons may be affected by differences in exclusion rates for students with disabilities and limited-English-proficient students in the NAEP samples and changes in sample sizes. NAEP sample sizes have increased since 2002 compared to previous years, resulting in smaller detectable differences than in previous assessments.

² "Jurisdictions" includes participating states and other jurisdictions (such as the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Dependents Schools). NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding, and because the "Information not available" category for Free/reduced-price lunch is not displayed. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages.

Visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/> 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), 2003 Reading Assessment.