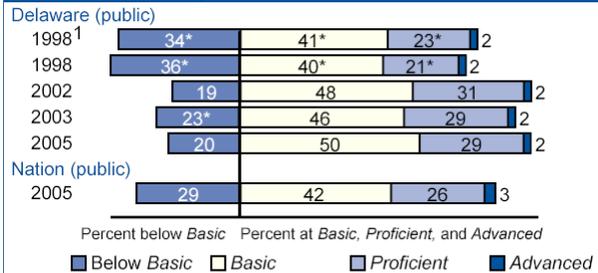


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading in three content areas: reading for literary experience, to gain information, and to perform a task. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

Overall Reading Results for Delaware

- In 2005, the average scale score for eighth-grade students in Delaware was 266. This was not significantly different from¹ their average score in 2003 (265), and was higher than their average score in 1998 (254).
- Delaware's average score (266) in 2005 was higher than that of the Nation's public schools (260).
- Of the 52 states and other jurisdictions² that participated in the 2005 eighth-grade assessment, students' average scale scores in Delaware were higher than those in 25 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 16 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 10 jurisdictions.
- The percentage of students in Delaware who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 30 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (31 percent), and was greater than that in 1998 (23 percent).
- The percentage of students in Delaware who performed at or above the NAEP *Basic* level was 80 percent in 2005. This percentage was greater than that in 2003 (77 percent), and was greater than that in 1998 (64 percent).

Student Percentage at NAEP Achievement Levels



¹ Accommodations were not permitted for this assessment.

NOTE: The NAEP reading achievement levels correspond to the following scale points: *Below Basic*, 242 or lower; *Basic*, 243–280; *Proficient*, 281–322; *Advanced*, 323 or above.

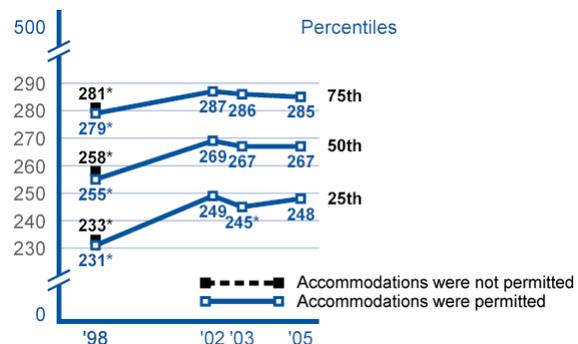
Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Delaware

Reporting groups	Percent of students	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	48 ↓	261	25	75	25	1
Female	52 ↑	271	15	85	35	2
White	58 ↓	274	11 ↓	89 ↑	41	3
Black	32 ↑	252	35	65	13	#
Hispanic	7	253	34	66	16	#
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	276	10	90	42	3
American Indian/Alaska Native	#	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	30 ↓	254	34	66	16	#
Not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	68 ↑	271	15	85	36	2

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups

- In 2005, male students in Delaware had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 9 points. In 1998, the average score for male students was lower than that of female students by 12 points.
- In 2005, Black students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 22 points. This performance gap was narrower than that of 1998 (28 points).
- In 2005, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 21 points. In 1998, there was no significant difference between the average score of Hispanic and White students.
- 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 17 points. In 1998, the average score for students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch was lower than the score of those not eligible by 24 points.
- In 2005, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 37 points. This performance gap was narrower than that of 1998 (48 points).

Reading Scale Scores at Selected Percentiles



Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP reading scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels of the distribution performed.

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. Performance comparisons may be affected by differences in exclusion rates across years for students with disabilities (4% nationally in 2005) and English language learners (1% nationally in 2005) in the NAEP samples. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages.

² "Other Jurisdictions" refers to the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity schools.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding and because the "Information not available" category for free/reduced-price lunch and the "Unclassified" category for race/ethnicity are not displayed. 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), selected years, 1998–2005 Reading Assessments.