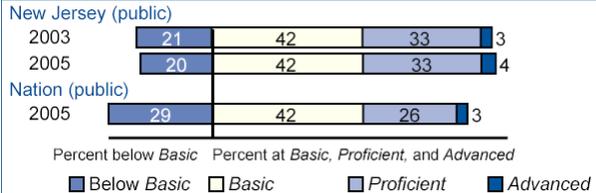


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading in three content areas: reading for literary experience, to gain information, and to perform a task. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

Overall Reading Results for New Jersey

- In 2005, the average scale score for eighth-grade students in New Jersey was 269. This was not significantly different from¹ their average score in 2003 (268).
- New Jersey's average score (269) 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 New Jersey were higher than those in 34 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 16 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 1 jurisdiction.
- The percentage of students in New Jersey who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 38 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (37 percent)
- The percentage of students in New Jersey who performed at or above the NAEP *Basic* level was 80 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (79 percent).

Student Percentage at NAEP Achievement Levels



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.

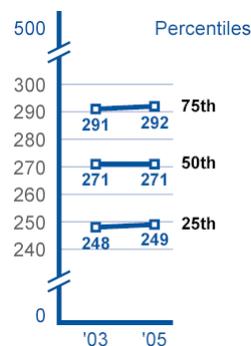
Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in New Jersey

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	50	266	23	77	33	3
Female	50	273	17	83	42	6
White	59	278	12	88	48	5
Black	20	251	38	62	14	1
Hispanic	14	251	35	65	14	1
Asian/Pacific Islander	6	291	5	95	66	12
American Indian/Alaska Native	#	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	25	252	37	63	17	1
Not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	69	276	14	86	45	5

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups

- In 2005, male students in New Jersey had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 8 points. In 2003, 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 27 points. In 2003, the average score for Black students was lower than that of White students by 29 points.
- In 2005, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 26 points. In 2003, the average score for Hispanic students was lower than that of White students by 28 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 24 points. In 2003, the average score for students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch was lower than the score of those not eligible by 30 points.
- In 2005, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 43 points. In 2003, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 43 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, 2003–2005 Reading Assessments.