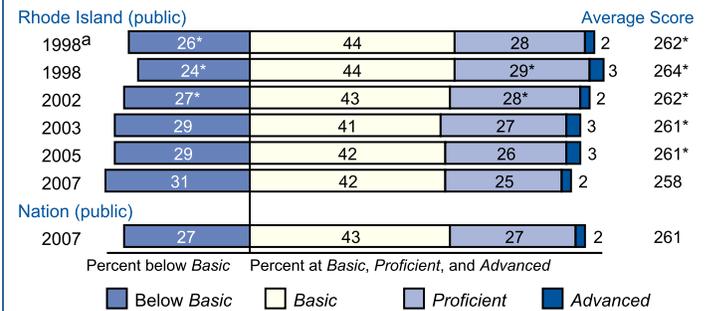


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading in three content areas in grade 8: reading for literary experience, to gain information, and to perform a task. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

**Overall Reading Results for Rhode Island**

- In 2007, the average scale score for eighth-grade students in Rhode Island was 258. This was lower than their average score in 2005 (261) and was lower than their average score in 1998 (264).<sup>1</sup>
- Rhode Island's average score (258) in 2007 was lower than that of the nation's public schools (261).
- Of the 52 states and other jurisdictions that participated in the 2007 eighth-grade assessment, students' average scale score in Rhode Island was higher than those in 10 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 10 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 31 jurisdictions.<sup>2</sup>
- The percentage of students in Rhode Island who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 27 percent in 2007. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2005 (29 percent) and was smaller than that in 1998 (32 percent).
- The percentage of students in Rhode Island who performed at or above the NAEP *Basic* level was 69 percent in 2007. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2005 (71 percent) and was smaller than that in 1998 (76 percent).

**Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels and Average Score**



<sup>a</sup> Accommodations were not permitted for this assessment.

NOTE: The NAEP grade 8 reading achievement levels correspond to the following scale points: *Below Basic*, 242 or lower; *Basic*, 243–280; *Proficient*, 281–322; *Advanced*, 323 or above.

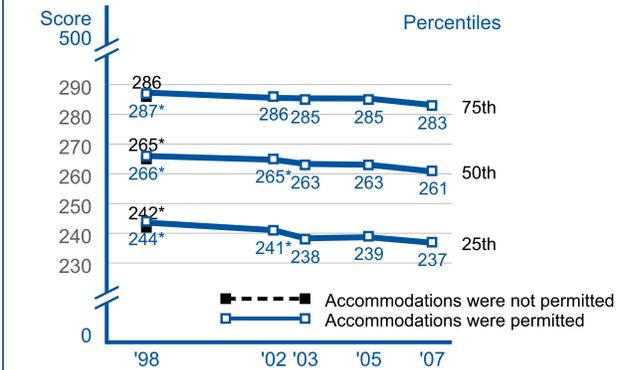
**Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Rhode Island: 2007**

Reporting groups	Percent of students	Average score	Percent below Basic	Percent of students at or above		Percent Advanced
				Basic	Proficient	
Male	50	256	33	67	24	2
Female	50	261 ↓	28	72	31	3
White	70 ↓	267	20	80	35	3
Black	9	239	52	48	10	#
Hispanic	18 ↑	233	59	41	6	#
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	258	33	67	27	3
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Eligible for National School Lunch Program	33 ↑	242	49	51	12	#
Not eligible for National School Lunch Program	67 ↓	267	22	78	35	3

**Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups**

- In 2007, male students in Rhode Island had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 6 points. In 1998, the average score for male students was lower than that of female students by 10 points.
- In 2007, Black students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 29 points. In 1998, the average score for Black students was lower than that of White students by 22 points.
- In 2007, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 34 points. In 1998, the average score for Hispanic students was lower than that of White students by 29 points.
- In 2007, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, a proxy for poverty, had an average score that was lower than that of students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch by 25 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 26 points.
- In 2007, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 46 points. In 1998, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 44 points.

**Reading Scores at Selected Percentiles**



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

# Rounds to zero.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

\* Significantly different from 2007.

↑ Significantly higher than 2005. ↓ Significantly lower than 2005.

<sup>1</sup> Comparisons (higher/lower/narrower/wider/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level was used for testing statistical significance. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages. 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 Rhode Island were 3 percent and 1 percent in 2007, respectively. For more information on NAEP significance testing see <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/reading/interpret-results.asp#statistical>.

<sup>2</sup> "Jurisdictions" refers to states and 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 the National School Lunch Program, which provides free and reduced-price lunches, 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), various years, 1998–2007 Reading Assessments.