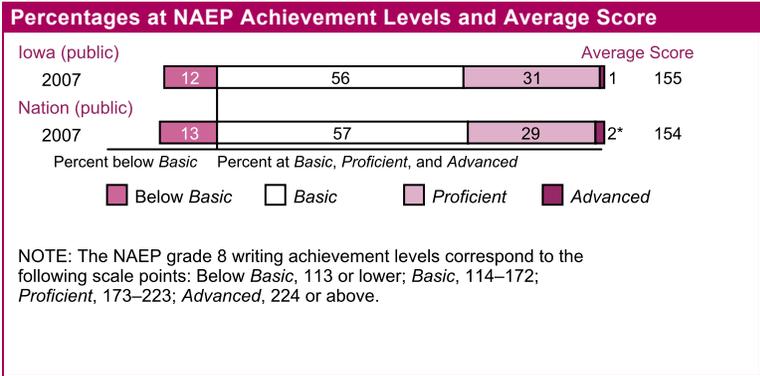


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses writing for three purposes identified in the NAEP framework: narrative, informative, and persuasive. The NAEP writing scale ranges from 0 to 300.

**Overall Writing Results for Iowa**

- Iowa's average score (155) in 2007 was not significantly different from that of the nation's public schools (154).<sup>1</sup>
- Of the 45 states and one other jurisdiction that participated in the 2007 eighth-grade assessment, students' average scale score in Iowa was higher than those in 13 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 20 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 12 jurisdictions.<sup>2</sup>
- The percentage of students in Iowa who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 32 percent in 2007. This percentage was not significantly different from that in the nation (31 percent).
- The percentage of students in Iowa who performed at or above the NAEP *Basic* level was 88 percent in 2007. This percentage was not significantly different from that in the nation (87 percent).



**Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Iowa: 2007**

Reporting groups	Percent of students	Average score	Percent below Basic	Percent of students at or above Basic	Percent Proficient	Percent Advanced
Male	52	143	19	81	17	#
Female	48	167↑	6	94	47↑	2↓
White	87↑	157↓	11↑	89↓	33↓	1↓
Black	5↓	134↓	29↑	71↓	13	#
Hispanic	5↓	133	29	71	14	#
Asian/Pacific Islander	2↓	173	2	98	49	6
American Indian/Alaska Native	#↓	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Eligible for National School Lunch Program	31↓	140	23	77	18	#
Not eligible for National School Lunch Program	69↑	161	8	92	38	1↓

**Writing Scores at Selected Percentiles: 2007**

Jurisdiction	25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile
Iowa	134	158	179
Nation (public)	132	156	178

NOTE: Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP writing scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels performed. For example, the data above show that 75 percent of students in public schools nationally scored below 178, while 75 percent of students in Iowa scored below 179.

**Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups**

- In 2007, male students in Iowa had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 25 points. This performance gap was wider than that of the nation (20 points).
- In 2007, Black students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 23 points. This performance gap was not significantly different from that of the nation (22 points).
- In 2007, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 23 points. This performance gap was not significantly different from that of the nation (21 points).
- In 2007, 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 21 points. This performance gap was not significantly different from that of the nation (23 points).
- In 2007, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 45 points. This performance gap was not significantly different from that of the nation (46 points).

**Writing Scores at Selected Percentiles: 2007**

Jurisdiction	25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile
Iowa	134	158	179
Nation (public)	132	156	178

NOTE: Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP writing scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels performed. For example, the data above show that 75 percent of students in public schools nationally scored below 178, while 75 percent of students in Iowa scored below 179.

# Rounds to zero. ‡ Reporting standards not met.  
 \* Significantly different from Iowa. † Significantly higher than nation (public). ‡ Significantly lower than nation (public).  
<sup>1</sup> Comparisons (higher/lower/narrower/wider/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level with appropriate adjustments for multiple comparisons 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 Iowa were 2 percent and "percentage rounds to zero" in 2007, respectively. For more information on NAEP significance testing, see <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/writing/interpret-results.asp#statistical>.  
<sup>2</sup> "Jurisdiction" refers to states, 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), 2007 Writing Assessment.