

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 Rhode Island	Student Percentage at NAEP Achievement Levels																														
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2005, the average scale score for eighth-grade students in Rhode Island was 261. This was not significantly different from¹ their average score in 2003 (261), and was lower than their average score in 1998 (264). Rhode Island's average score (261) in 2005 was not significantly different from 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 Rhode Island were higher than those in 16 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 10 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 25 jurisdictions. The percentage of students in Rhode Island who performed at or above the NAEP <i>Proficient</i> level was 29 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (30 percent), and was not significantly different from that in 1998 (32 percent). The percentage of students in Rhode Island who performed at or above the NAEP <i>Basic</i> level was 71 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (71 percent), and was smaller than that in 1998 (76 percent). 	<p>Rhode Island (public)</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>1998¹</td> <td>26</td> <td>44</td> <td>28</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1998</td> <td>24*</td> <td>44</td> <td>29</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2002</td> <td>27</td> <td>43</td> <td>28</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2003</td> <td>29</td> <td>41</td> <td>27</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2005</td> <td>29</td> <td>42</td> <td>26</td> <td>3</td> </tr> </table> <p>Nation (public)</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>2005</td> <td>29</td> <td>42</td> <td>26</td> <td>3</td> </tr> </table> <p>Percent below Basic Percent at Basic, Proficient, and Advanced</p> <p>■ Below Basic □ Basic ■ Proficient ■ Advanced</p> <p>¹ Accommodations were not permitted for this assessment.</p> <p>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.</p>	1998 ¹	26	44	28	2	1998	24*	44	29	3	2002	27	43	28	2	2003	29	41	27	3	2005	29	42	26	3	2005	29	42	26	3
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Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Rhode Island						
Reporting groups	Percent of students	Average score	Percent below Basic	Percent of students at or above Basic		Percent Advanced
Male	50	256	33	67	26	2
Female	50	266	24	76	33	4
White	74	268	22	78	36	4
Black	8	243	47	53	11	1
Hispanic	14	237	52	48	9	#
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	257	33	67	26	4
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	30	243	47	53	12	1
Not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	70↑	269	21	79	37	4

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups	Reading Scale Scores at Selected Percentiles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2005, male students in Rhode Island 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 10 points. In 2005, Black students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 25 points. In 1998, the average score for Black students was lower than that of White students by 22 points. In 2005, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 31 points. In 1998, the average score for Hispanic students was lower than that of White students by 29 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 26 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 2005, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 47 points. In 1998, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 44 points. 	<p>Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP reading scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels of the distribution performed.</p>

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.