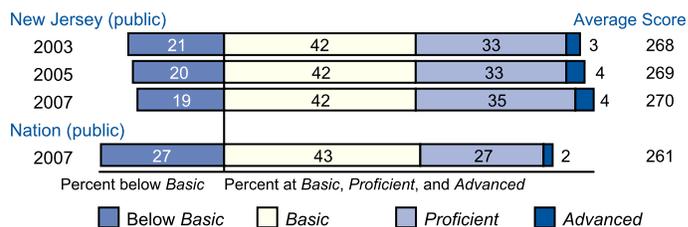


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading in three content areas in grade 8: reading for literary experience, to gain information, and to perform a task. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

Overall Reading Results for New Jersey

- In 2007, the average scale score for eighth-grade students in New Jersey was 270. This was not significantly different from their average score in 2005 (269) and was not significantly different from their average score in 2003 (268).¹
- New Jersey's average score (270) in 2007 was higher 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 New Jersey was higher than those in 36 jurisdictions, and not significantly different from those in 15 jurisdictions.²
- The percentage of students in New Jersey who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 39 percent in 2007. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2005 (38 percent) and 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 81 percent in 2007. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2005 (80 percent) and was not significantly different from that in 2003 (79 percent).

Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels and Average Score



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.

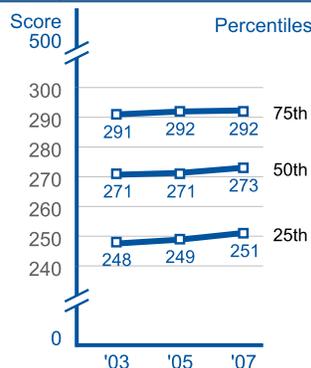
Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in New Jersey: 2007

Reporting groups	Percent of students	Average score	Percent below <i>Basic</i>	Percent of students at or above		Percent <i>Advanced</i>
				<i>Basic</i>	<i>Proficient</i>	
Male	51	266	22	78	35	2
Female	49	274	15	85	43	5
White	57	278	10	90	48	5
Black	17	249	42	58	17	#
Hispanic	17	257	30	70	22	1
Asian/Pacific Islander	9	285	9	91	57	10
American Indian/Alaska Native	#	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Eligible for National School Lunch Program	26	251	38	62	16	#
Not eligible for National School Lunch Program	73	277	12	88	47	5

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups

- In 2007, 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 2007, Black students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 29 points. In 2003, the average score for Black students was lower than that of White students by 29 points.
- In 2007, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 22 points. In 2003, the average score for Hispanic students was lower than that of White students by 28 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 26 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 2007, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 41 points. In 2003, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 43 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.

¹ 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 New Jersey were 5 percent and 2 percent in 2007, respectively. For more information on NAEP significance testing see <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/reading/interpret-results.asp#statistical>.

² "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, 2003–2007 Reading Assessments.