Overall Results
- In 2015, the average score of eighth-grade students in Arizona was 148. This was lower than the average score of 153 for public school students in the nation.
- The average score for students in Arizona in 2015 (148) was higher than their average score in 2011 (144) and in 2009 (141).
- The percentage of students in Arizona who performed at or above the NAEP Proficient level was 25 percent in 2015. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2011 (23 percent) and in 2009 (22 percent).
- The percentage of students in Arizona who performed at or above the NAEP Basic level was 61 percent in 2015. This percentage was greater than that in 2011 (56 percent) and in 2009 (54 percent).

Achievement-Level Percentages and Average Score Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Arizona Average Score</th>
<th>Nation (public) Average Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>141*</td>
<td>153*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>144*</td>
<td>151*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>153*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Significantly different (p < .05) from state's results in 2015. Significance tests were performed using unrounded numbers.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Average Scores for State/Jurisdiction and Nation (public)

Score Gaps for Student Groups
- In 2015, Black students had an average score that was 31 points lower than that for White students. This performance gap was not significantly different from that in 2009 (32 points).
- In 2015, Hispanic students had an average score that was 25 points lower than that for White students. This performance gap was narrower than that in 2009 (31 points).
- In 2015, male students in Arizona had an average score that was not significantly different from that for female students.
- In 2015, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, an indicator of low family income, had an average score that was 24 points lower than that for students who were not eligible. This performance gap was not significantly different from that in 2009 (26 points).

NOTE: The NAEP science scale ranges from 0 to 300. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages.