Overall Results
- The average score for students in the nation in 2017 (221) was not significantly different from their average score in 2015 (221) and was higher than their average score in 1998 (213).
- The percentage of students in the nation who performed at or above the NAEP Proficient level was 35 percent in 2017. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2015 (35 percent) and was greater than that in 1998 (28 percent).
- The percentage of students in the nation who performed at or above the NAEP Basic level was 67 percent in 2017. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2015 (68 percent) and was greater than that in 1998 (58 percent).

Compare the Average Score in 2017 to Other States/Jurisdictions

Achievement-Level Percentages and Average Score Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Average Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>213*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>27*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>27*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Significantly different (p < .05) from nation's results in 2017. Significance tests were performed using unrounded numbers.

Score Gaps for Student Groups
- In 2017, Black students had an average score that was 26 points lower than that for White students. This performance gap was narrower than that in 1998 (31 points).
- In 2017, Hispanic students had an average score that was 23 points lower than that for White students. This performance gap was narrower than that in 1998 (31 points).
- In 2017, female students in the nation had an average score that was higher than that for male students by 6 points.
- In 2017, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, an indicator of low family income, had an average score that was 28 points lower than that for students who were not eligible. This performance gap was not significantly different from that in 1998 (30 points).

NOTE: The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages. Read more about how to interpret NAEP results from the reading assessment at https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/reading/interpret_results.aspx.