Overall Results

In 2019, the average score of eighth-grade students in District of Columbia was 250. This was lower than the average score of 262 for students in the nation.

The average score for students in District of Columbia in 2019 (250) was higher than their average score in 2017 (247) and in 1998 (236).

The percentage of students in District of Columbia who performed at or above the NAEP Proficient level was 33 percent in 2019. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2017 (36 percent) and was higher than that in 1998 (11 percent).

In 2019, Black students who were not eligible for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), had an average score that was 39 points lower than that for White students. Data are not reported for White students in 1998, because reporting standards were not met.

In 2019, Hispanic students had an average score that was 49 points lower than that for White students. Data are not reported for White students in 1998, because reporting standards were not met.

The percentage of students in District of Columbia who performed at or above the NAEP Basic level was 58 percent in 2019. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2017 (55 percent) and was higher than that in 1998 (44 percent).

Average Scores for State/Jurisdiction and Nation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>District of Columbia</th>
<th>Nation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>28*</td>
<td>56*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>29*</td>
<td>28*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Significantly different (p < .05) from state’s results in 2019. Significance tests were performed using unrounded numbers.

NOTE: NAEP achievement levels are to be used on a trial basis and should be interpreted and used with caution. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Score Gaps for Student Groups

In 2019, Black students had an average score that was 58 points lower than that for White students. Data are not reported for White students in 1998, because reporting standards were not met.

In 2019, Hispanic students had an average score that was 49 points lower than that for White students. Data are not reported for White students in 1998, because reporting standards were not met.

In 2019, female students in District of Columbia had an average score that was higher than that for male students by 13 points.

In 2019, students who were eligible for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), had an average score that was 39 points lower than that for students who were not eligible. This performance gap was wider than that in 1998 (25 points).

NOTE: The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. Results presented in this report are based on public school students only. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages. Score gap results for “White,” “Black,” and “Hispanic” presented in this report are based on the 6-category race/ethnicity variable with data available starting in early 1990s. Read more about how to interpret NAEP results from the reading assessment at www.nationsreportcard.gov/naepresults. For more information and additional comparisons please visit the Nation’s Report Card and NAEP Data Explorer. SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), various years, 1998-2019 Reading Assessments.