Overall Results

- In 2019, the average score of fourth-grade students in Mississippi was 219. This was not significantly different from the average score of 219 for students in the nation.
- The average score for students in Mississippi in 2019 (219) was higher than their average score in 2017 (215) and in 1998 (203).
- The percentage of students in Mississippi who performed at or above the NAEP Proficient level was 32 percent in 2019. This percentage was higher than that in 2017 (27 percent) and in 1998 (17 percent).
- The percentage of students in Mississippi who performed at or above the NAEP Basic level was 65 percent in 2019. This percentage was higher than that in 2017 (60 percent) and in 1998 (47 percent).

Compare the Average Score in 2019 to Other States/Jurisdictions

In 2019, the average score in Mississippi (219) was
- lower than those in 11 states/jurisdictions
- higher than those in 7 states/jurisdictions
- not significantly different from those in 33 states/jurisdictions

DoDEA = Department of Defense Education Activity (overseas and domestic schools)

Results for Student Groups in 2019

- In 2019, Black students had an average score that was 21 points lower than that for White students. This performance gap was not significantly different from that in 1998 (26 points).
- In 2019, Hispanic students had an average score that was 9 points lower than that for White students. This performance gap was not significantly different from that in 1998 (26 points).
- In 2019, female students had an average score that was 23 points lower than that for male students. This performance gap was not significantly different from that in 1998 (26 points).
- In 2019, students who were eligible for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), 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 1998 (26 points).

Score Gaps for Student Groups

- In 2019, Black students had an average score that was 21 points lower than that for White students. This performance gap was not significantly different from that in 1998 (26 points).
- In 2019, Hispanic students had an average score that was 9 points lower than that for White students. Data are not reported for Hispanic students in 1998, because reporting standards were not met.
- In 2019, female students in Mississippi had an average score that was higher than that for male students by 8 points.
- In 2019, students who were eligible for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), 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 1998 (26 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 [interpreter results](https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/naep-data-explorer/). For more information and additional comparisons please visit the [Nation’s Report Card](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/nationsreportcard/) and [NAEP Data Explorer](https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/naep-data-explorer/).