Overall Results

In 2019, the average score of fourth-grade students in South Carolina was 216. This was lower than the average score of 219 for students in the nation.

The average score for students in South Carolina in 2019 (216) was not significantly different from their average score in 2017 (213) and was higher than their average score in 1998 (209).

The percentage of students in South Carolina who performed at or above the NAEP Proficient level was 32 percent in 2019. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2017 (29 percent) and was higher than that in 1998 (22 percent).

The percentage of students in South Carolina who performed at or above the NAEP Basic level was 61 percent in 2019. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2017 (59 percent) and was higher than that in 1998 (53 percent).

In 2019, female students had an average score that was 31 points lower than that for male students. This performance gap was not significantly different from that in 1998 (29 points).

The percentage of students who were eligible for the National School Lunch Program, which provides free/reduced-price lunches, is not displayed. Black includes African American and Hispanic. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin.

Comparing the Average Score in 2019 to Other States/Jurisdictions

South Carolina had an average score that was lower than that in 25 states/jurisdictions.

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

NAEP Achievement-Level Percentages and Average Score Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Average Score</th>
<th>Nation</th>
<th>South Carolina</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>209*</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>35*</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.

Average Scores for State/Jurisdiction and Nation

Score Gaps for Student Groups

In 2019, 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 1998 (29 points).

In 2019, Hispanic students had an average score that was 19 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 South Carolina had an average score that was higher than that for male students by 9 points.

In 2019, students who were eligible for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), had an average score that was 32 points lower than that for students who were not eligible. This performance gap was not significantly different from that in 1998 (29 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 interpret results. For more information and additional comparisions please visit the NSLP, various years.