

**Table 112. Average student scale score in reading, by age, reading habits, and amount of time spent on homework: 1984, 1994, 1996, and 1999**

Time spent on homework and reading habits	9-year-olds				13-year-olds				17-year-olds			
	1984	1994	1996	1999	1984	1994	1996	1999	1984	1994	1996	1999
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Average scale score												
Materials read a few times a year or more												
Poems .....	211 (1.9)	210 (2.9)	215 (2.8)	213 (2.7)	260 (1.2)	261 (2.3)	262 (2.5)	263 (1.9)	290 (1.5)	293 (2.1)	294 (2.8)	292 (2.6)
Plays .....	211 (2.5)	207 (3.0)	214 (4.1)	211 (3.7)	260 (1.3)	263 (2.1)	262 (2.4)	264 (2.3)	290 (1.7)	294 (2.4)	293 (2.3)	294 (2.7)
Biographies .....	213 (2.4)	210 (3.4)	220 (3.2)	215 (3.0)	261 (1.3)	261 (2.1)	262 (2.3)	263 (2.1)	292 (1.4)	293 (2.4)	293 (2.3)	291 (2.8)
Science books .....	212 (1.6)	211 (2.6)	214 (2.0)	213 (2.1)	259 (1.2)	260 (2.1)	261 (2.2)	261 (1.7)	289 (1.4)	293 (2.4)	290 (2.2)	291 (2.3)
Books about other times .....	211 (1.7)	211 (2.6)	213 (2.3)	213 (2.5)	259 (1.1)	260 (2.2)	262 (2.2)	262 (2.1)	289 (1.4)	293 (2.3)	292 (2.8)	292 (2.0)
Frequency of reading for fun												
Daily .....	214 (1.1)	215 (2.3)	213 (2.0)	215 (2.4)	264 (1.4)	272 (3.2)	269 (3.3)	272 (3.2)	297 (1.5)	302 (4.2)	302 (5.2)	301 (4.9)
Weekly .....	212 (1.7)	214 (3.1)	212 (2.6)	215 (2.6)	255 (1.4)	255 (3.1)	258 (3.2)	263 (3.2)	290 (1.7)	286 (4.1)	293 (4.0)	289 (2.9)
Monthly .....	204 (3.3)	213 (5.8)	210 (5.0)	211 (4.2)	255 (2.1)	255 (5.7)	259 (4.6)	260 (3.7)	290 (1.8)	286 (4.5)	290 (5.6)	286 (4.8)
Yearly .....	197 (4.2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	252 (3.6)	252 (5.4)	— (—)	253 (4.4)	279 (2.7)	281 (8.2)	285 (5.6)	283 (4.4)
Never .....	198 (2.7)	193 (3.9)	199 (4.3)	195 (3.3)	239 (2.5)	237 (5.1)	236 (4.8)	242 (5.3)	269 (2.4)	258 (5.2)	270 (5.0)	262 (5.0)
Reading of books, newspapers, and magazines												
Yearly/monthly .....	207 (1.6)	206 (3.8)	208 (3.1)	209 (2.9)	244 (1.7)	245 (3.7)	249 (3.4)	252 (2.9)	270 (2.0)	279 (4.0)	275 (4.5)	276 (3.8)
Weekly .....	219 (2.5)	216 (3.7)	221 (4.7)	220 (3.5)	261 (1.6)	262 (2.6)	262 (3.0)	261 (3.3)	288 (1.5)	295 (2.8)	294 (3.2)	292 (2.2)
Daily .....	211 (3.8)	— (—)	— (—)	214 (6.3)	269 (2.2)	275 (3.9)	270 (3.4)	271 (4.0)	299 (1.9)	296 (4.0)	295 (4.8)	299 (6.5)
Time spent on homework												
None .....	212 (0.9)	213 (2.0)	210 (1.9)	210 (1.9)	254 (0.8)	250 (1.7)	254 (1.3)	251 (2.0)	276 (0.7)	273 (2.3)	274 (1.9)	275 (2.3)
Didn't do assignment .....	199 (2.1)	200 (4.3)	196 (5.2)	204 (4.4)	247 (1.7)	243 (5.6)	249 (3.3)	249 (4.2)	287 (1.2)	285 (2.1)	281 (2.2)	282 (3.1)
Less than 1 hour .....	217 (0.7)	212 (1.4)	215 (1.0)	214 (1.5)	261 (0.6)	261 (1.3)	258 (1.6)	262 (1.2)	290 (0.8)	288 (1.6)	289 (1.5)	291 (2.3)
1 to 2 hours .....	216 (1.3)	214 (3.0)	219 (2.1)	215 (3.2)	266 (0.7)	268 (1.7)	266 (1.6)	269 (1.6)	296 (0.8)	297 (1.7)	296 (2.1)	296 (2.0)
More than 2 hours .....	201 (1.8)	193 (6.1)	199 (4.5)	197 (3.5)	265 (1.2)	270 (2.4)	268 (2.3)	269 (3.0)	303 (1.1)	306 (3.1)	307 (3.4)	300 (2.8)
Percent												
Materials read a few times a year or more												
Poems .....	70 (1.5)	62 (2.3)	60 (1.9)	64 (2.4)	68 (1.3)	79 (1.4)	80 (1.9)	77 (1.6)	76 (1.1)	85 (2.2)	80 (1.8)	85 (2.0)
Plays .....	56 (1.4)	45 (2.2)	42 (2.3)	44 (2.2)	59 (1.4)	63 (2.3)	67 (2.1)	61 (1.8)	63 (1.0)	70 (2.1)	67 (1.6)	72 (2.0)
Biographies .....	45 (1.5)	47 (2.1)	46 (2.4)	49 (3.0)	62 (1.3)	68 (1.7)	65 (2.6)	72 (2.1)	59 (1.2)	69 (1.8)	66 (1.7)	70 (1.9)
Science books .....	84 (1.3)	87 (1.8)	83 (2.2)	80 (1.6)	90 (1.1)	92 (1.4)	90 (1.9)	89 (1.2)	70 (1.1)	84 (1.9)	82 (2.0)	84 (1.3)
Books about other times .....	79 (1.2)	79 (2.0)	78 (1.6)	79 (1.9)	83 (1.1)	83 (1.8)	84 (1.8)	84 (1.3)	81 (0.9)	82 (2.0)	81 (1.9)	81 (2.0)
Frequency of reading for fun												
Total .....	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)
Daily .....	53 (1.0)	58 (1.6)	54 (1.9)	54 (1.6)	35 (1.0)	32 (1.8)	32 (1.9)	28 (1.7)	31 (0.8)	30 (2.6)	23 (2.0)	25 (1.7)
Weekly .....	28 (0.8)	25 (1.5)	27 (1.8)	26 (1.5)	35 (1.2)	32 (2.1)	31 (2.1)	36 (1.7)	34 (1.1)	31 (1.9)	32 (2.7)	28 (2.7)
Monthly .....	7 (0.6)	5 (0.6)	8 (1.0)	6 (0.6)	14 (0.8)	14 (1.7)	15 (1.4)	17 (1.6)	17 (0.5)	15 (1.5)	17 (1.5)	19 (1.7)
Yearly .....	3 (0.3)	3 (0.6)	3 (0.5)	4 (0.7)	7 (0.5)	10 (1.2)	9 (1.2)	10 (1.2)	10 (0.5)	12 (1.5)	12 (1.6)	12 (1.4)
Never .....	9 (0.5)	9 (0.8)	8 (0.8)	10 (0.8)	8 (0.6)	12 (1.7)	13 (1.5)	9 (1.4)	9 (0.6)	12 (1.4)	16 (2.1)	16 (2.4)
Reading of books, newspapers, and magazines												
Total .....	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)
Yearly/monthly .....	59 (1.5)	64 (1.8)	67 (2.3)	63 (2.6)	30 (1.5)	34 (2.5)	32 (2.6)	32 (2.3)	20 (1.0)	22 (1.7)	25 (2.1)	26 (2.1)
Weekly .....	31 (1.5)	27 (1.8)	22 (1.9)	27 (2.4)	49 (1.1)	47 (2.5)	47 (2.2)	49 (2.2)	53 (1.2)	55 (2.3)	52 (2.6)	52 (2.2)
Daily .....	11 (0.9)	9 (1.3)	10 (1.2)	11 (1.2)	21 (1.1)	19 (1.7)	21 (1.7)	19 (1.9)	27 (1.3)	23 (1.8)	23 (1.9)	21 (2.1)
Time spent on homework												
Total .....	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)	100 (0.0)
None .....	36 (1.3)	32 (2.1)	26 (1.6)	26 (1.6)	23 (0.8)	23 (1.4)	22 (1.8)	24 (1.2)	22 (0.9)	23 (1.4)	23 (1.4)	26 (1.0)
Didn't do assignment .....	4 (0.3)	4 (0.4)	4 (0.3)	4 (0.3)	4 (0.2)	6 (0.6)	5 (0.5)	5 (0.4)	11 (0.3)	11 (0.6)	13 (0.6)	13 (0.7)
Less than 1 hour .....	41 (1.0)	48 (1.7)	53 (1.5)	53 (1.4)	36 (0.7)	34 (1.0)	37 (1.2)	37 (1.4)	26 (0.4)	27 (0.9)	28 (0.9)	26 (1.0)
1 to 2 hours .....	13 (0.5)	12 (0.7)	13 (0.7)	12 (0.7)	29 (0.5)	28 (1.0)	27 (1.2)	26 (1.0)	27 (0.5)	26 (1.2)	24 (1.0)	23 (0.8)
More than 2 hours .....	6 (0.2)	4 (0.4)	4 (0.3)	5 (0.5)	9 (0.3)	9 (0.7)	8 (0.9)	8 (0.8)	13 (0.6)	13 (0.9)	11 (0.7)	12 (0.9)

—Not available.

NOTE: All age groups exclude persons not enrolled in school and those who were unable to be tested due to limited proficiency in English or due to a disability. Includes public and private schools. These test scores are from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The NAEP scores have been evaluated at certain performance levels. A score of 300 implies an ability to find, understand, summarize and explain relatively complicated literary and informational material. A score of 250 implies an ability to search for specific information, interrelate ideas, and make generalizations about literature, science, and social studies materials. A score of 200 implies an ability to under-

stand, combine ideas, and make inferences based on short uncomplicated passages about specific or sequentially related information. A score of 150 implies an ability to follow brief written directions and carry out simple, discrete reading tasks. Scale ranges from 0 to 500. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Standard errors appear in parentheses.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress, *NAEP Trends in Academic Progress*, various years, by Educational Testing Service. (This table was prepared November 2001.)