

**Table 117. Percent of students at or above selected writing proficiency levels, by grade level and selected characteristics of students: 2002**

| Selected characteristic of students         | Percentage of 4th-graders |                   |                        |                | Percentage of 8th-graders |                   |                        |                | Percentage of 12th-graders |                   |                        |                |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|
|   | Below basic               | At or above basic | At or above proficient | At advanced    | Below basic               | At or above basic | At or above proficient | At advanced    | Below basic                | At or above basic | At or above proficient | At advanced    |
| 1   | 2                         | 3                 | 4                      | 5              | 6                         | 7                 | 8                      | 9              | 10                         | 11                | 12                     | 13             |
| <b>All students</b> .....                   | <b>14 (0.4)</b>           | <b>86 (0.4)</b>   | <b>28 (0.4)</b>        | <b>2 (0.1)</b> | <b>15 (0.4)</b>           | <b>85 (0.4)</b>   | <b>31 (0.6)</b>        | <b>2 (0.1)</b> | <b>26 (0.7)</b>            | <b>74 (0.7)</b>   | <b>24 (0.8)</b>        | <b>2 (0.2)</b> |
| <b>Sex</b>                                  |                           |                   |                        |                |                           |                   |                        |                |                            |                   |                        |                |
| Male .....                                  | 19 (0.5)                  | 81 (0.5)          | 20 (0.5)               | 1 (0.1)        | 21 (0.6)                  | 79 (0.6)          | 21 (0.6)               | 1 (0.1)        | 37 (1.0)                   | 63 (1.0)          | 14 (0.8)               | 1 (0.1)        |
| Female .....                                | 9 (0.3)                   | 91 (0.3)          | 36 (0.6)               | 3 (0.2)        | 9 (0.3)                   | 91 (0.3)          | 42 (0.8)               | 3 (0.2)        | 15 (0.7)                   | 85 (0.7)          | 33 (1.0)               | 3 (0.3)        |
| <b>Race/ethnicity</b>                       |                           |                   |                        |                |                           |                   |                        |                |                            |                   |                        |                |
| White, non-Hispanic .....                   | 9 (0.2)                   | 91 (0.2)          | 35 (0.4)               | 3 (0.2)        | 9 (0.4)                   | 91 (0.4)          | 39 (0.6)               | 3 (0.2)        | 20 (0.7)                   | 80 (0.7)          | 28 (0.9)               | 2 (0.3)        |
| Black, non-Hispanic .....                   | 21 (0.6)                  | 79 (0.6)          | 15 (0.7)               | 1 (0.2)        | 25 (1.0)                  | 75 (1.0)          | 13 (0.6)               | # (0.1)        | 41 (1.8)                   | 59 (1.8)          | 9 (1.0)                | # (#)          |
| Hispanic .....                              | 22 (1.1)                  | 78 (1.1)          | 18 (0.7)               | 1 (0.2)        | 27 (0.8)                  | 73 (0.8)          | 17 (0.9)               | 1 (0.2)        | 38 (1.5)                   | 62 (1.5)          | 13 (1.2)               | # (0.2)        |
| Asian/Pacific Islander .....                | 7 (0.8)                   | 93 (0.8)          | 42 (2.0)               | 4 (0.7)        | 10 (1.0)                  | 90 (1.0)          | 42 (2.3)               | 3 (0.6)        | 24 (2.5)                   | 76 (2.5)          | 26 (3.2)               | 3 (1.0)        |
| American Indian/<br>Alaska Native .....     | 20 (1.2)                  | 80 (1.2)          | 16 (1.0)               | 1 (0.3)        | 23 (2.5)                  | 77 (2.5)          | 18 (2.9)               | 1 (#)          | — (—)                      | — (—)             | — (—)                  | — (—)          |
| <b>Parents' highest level of education</b>  |                           |                   |                        |                |                           |                   |                        |                |                            |                   |                        |                |
| Not high school graduate .....              | — (—)                     | — (—)             | — (—)                  | — (—)          | 26 (1.3)                  | 74 (1.3)          | 14 (1.0)               | # (#)          | 43 (2.1)                   | 57 (2.1)          | 8 (1.4)                | # (#)          |
| Graduated high school .....                 | — (—)                     | — (—)             | — (—)                  | — (—)          | 19 (0.7)                  | 81 (0.7)          | 20 (0.6)               | 1 (0.2)        | 32 (1.2)                   | 68 (1.2)          | 14 (1.1)               | 1 (0.2)        |
| Some college .....                          | — (—)                     | — (—)             | — (—)                  | — (—)          | 11 (0.6)                  | 89 (0.6)          | 31 (0.8)               | 1 (0.2)        | 23 (1.0)                   | 77 (1.0)          | 22 (1.3)               | 1 (0.2)        |
| Graduated college .....                     | — (—)                     | — (—)             | — (—)                  | — (—)          | 9 (0.4)                   | 91 (0.4)          | 43 (0.8)               | 4 (0.2)        | 18 (0.9)                   | 82 (0.9)          | 32 (1.0)               | 3 (0.4)        |
| <b>Free/reduced price lunch eligibility</b> |                           |                   |                        |                |                           |                   |                        |                |                            |                   |                        |                |
| Eligible .....                              | 22 (0.8)                  | 78 (0.8)          | 15 (0.5)               | 1 (0.1)        | 26 (0.6)                  | 74 (0.6)          | 16 (0.6)               | 1 (0.1)        | 40 (1.5)                   | 60 (1.5)          | 11 (1.0)               | 1 (0.2)        |
| Not eligible .....                          | 8 (0.3)                   | 92 (0.3)          | 36 (0.6)               | 3 (0.2)        | 9 (0.4)                   | 91 (0.4)          | 39 (0.8)               | 3 (0.2)        | 23 (0.8)                   | 77 (0.8)          | 26 (1.0)               | 2 (0.3)        |
| <b>Information not available</b>            |                           |                   |                        |                |                           |                   |                        |                |                            |                   |                        |                |
| available .....                             | 10 (1.1)                  | 90 (1.1)          | 34 (1.6)               | 3 (0.3)        | 11 (0.7)                  | 89 (0.7)          | 39 (1.7)               | 4 (0.6)        | 19 (1.3)                   | 81 (1.3)          | 29 (1.6)               | 2 (0.4)        |

# Rounds to zero.  
— Not available.

NOTE: Includes public and private schools. Excludes persons unable to be tested due to limited proficiency in English or due to a disability (and the accommodations provided were not sufficient to enable the test to properly reflect the students' writing proficiency). Beginning in 2002, the NAEP national sample was obtained by aggregating the samples from each state, rather than by obtaining an independently selected national sample. As a consequence, the size of the national sample increased, and smaller differences be-

tween years or between types of students were found to be statistically significant than would have been detected in previous assessments. 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), Main NAEP, *National Writing Results*, previously unpublished tabulations from the *NAEP Data Tool* (<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata>). (This table was prepared August 2003.)