

Table 128.—Mathematics performance of 17-year-olds, by highest mathematics course taken, sex, and race/ethnicity: 1978 to 1996

Year, sex, and race/ethnicity	Percent of students	Average proficiency by highest mathematics course taken						Percent of students at or above			
		All areas	Prealgebra or general mathematics	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus or calculus	200 ¹	250 ²	300 ³	350 ⁴
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1978											
Total	100.0 (0.0)	300.4 (1.0)	267 (0.8)	286 (0.7)	307 (0.7)	321 (0.7)	334 (1.4)	99.8 (0.1)	92.0 (0.5)	51.5 (1.1)	7.3 (0.4)
Male	48.7 (0.5)	303.8 (1.0)	269 (1.0)	289 (0.9)	310 (1.0)	325 (0.8)	337 (2.0)	99.9 (0.1)	93.0 (0.5)	55.1 (1.2)	9.5 (0.6)
Female	51.3 (0.5)	297.1 (1.0)	265 (0.9)	284 (1.0)	304 (0.8)	318 (0.9)	329 (1.8)	99.7 (0.1)	91.0 (0.6)	48.2 (1.3)	5.2 (0.7)
White	83.1 (1.3)	305.9 (0.9)	272 (0.6)	291 (0.6)	310 (0.6)	325 (0.6)	338 (1.1)	100.0 —	95.6 (0.3)	57.6 (1.1)	8.5 (0.5)
Black	11.8 (1.1)	268.4 (1.3)	247 (1.6)	264 (1.5)	281 (1.9)	292 (1.4)	297 (6.5)	98.8 (0.3)	70.7 (1.7)	16.8 (1.6)	0.5 (0.2)
Hispanic	4.0 (0.5)	276.3 (2.3)	256 (2.3)	273 (2.8)	294 (4.4)	303 (2.9)	306 (6.1)	99.3 (0.4)	78.3 (2.3)	23.4 (2.7)	1.4 (0.6)
Other ⁵	1.1 (0.1)	312.9 (3.3)	—	—	—	—	—	100.0 —	94.5 (2.6)	64.7 (4.9)	15.4 (3.2)
1990											
Total	100.0 (0.0)	304.6 (0.9)	273 (1.1)	288 (1.2)	299 (1.5)	319 (1.0)	344 (2.6)	100.0 —	96.0 (0.5)	56.1 (1.4)	7.2 (0.6)
Male	48.6 (0.9)	306.3 (1.1)	274 (1.7)	291 (1.6)	302 (1.6)	323 (1.2)	347 (2.4)	99.9 —	95.8 (0.8)	57.6 (1.4)	8.8 (0.8)
Female	51.4 (0.9)	302.9 (1.1)	271 (1.8)	285 (1.8)	296 (1.8)	316 (1.1)	341 (4.0)	100.0 —	96.2 (0.8)	54.7 (1.8)	5.6 (0.8)
White	73.3 (0.5)	309.5 (1.0)	277 (1.1)	292 (1.6)	304 (1.3)	323 (0.9)	347 (2.8)	100.0 —	97.6 (0.3)	63.2 (1.6)	8.3 (0.7)
Black	15.6 (0.3)	288.5 (2.8)	264 (2.2)	278 (4.0)	285 (3.5)	302 (3.2)	329 (7.6)	99.9 —	92.4 (2.2)	32.8 (4.5)	2.0 (1.0)
Hispanic	6.9 (0.4)	283.5 (2.9)	259 (4.0)	278 (4.1)	286 (3.5)	306 (3.3)	323 (9.6)	99.6 —	85.8 (4.2)	30.1 (3.1)	1.9 (0.8)
Other ⁵	4.2 (0.5)	312.5 (5.2)	—	—	—	—	—	100.0 —	97.9 —	61.6 (7.0)	15.9 (4.3)
1992											
Total	100.0 (0.0)	306.7 (0.9)	271 (1.6)	289 (1.1)	302 (1.6)	320 (0.7)	343 (1.7)	100.0 —	96.6 (0.5)	59.1 (1.3)	7.2 (0.6)
Male	50.7 (1.2)	308.9 (1.1)	275 (2.3)	291 (1.7)	306 (2.0)	323 (1.1)	344 (2.7)	100.0 —	96.9 (0.6)	60.5 (1.8)	9.1 (0.7)
Female	49.3 (1.2)	304.5 (1.1)	267 (1.6)	287 (1.8)	297 (2.0)	317 (1.0)	341 (2.0)	100.0 —	96.3 (0.8)	57.7 (1.6)	5.2 (0.8)
White	74.7 (0.5)	311.9 (0.8)	276 (1.7)	293 (1.0)	306 (1.6)	323 (0.9)	347 (1.6)	100.0 —	98.3 (0.4)	66.4 (1.4)	8.7 (0.9)
Black	14.8 (0.3)	285.8 (2.2)	256 (4.8)	279 (3.4)	283 (3.4)	301 (2.2)	313 (5.7)	100.0 —	89.6 (2.5)	29.8 (3.9)	0.9 —
Hispanic	7.4 (0.5)	292.2 (2.6)	269 (3.1)	285 (3.1)	297 (3.9)	312 (2.0)	320 (7.3)	100.0 —	94.1 (2.2)	39.2 (4.9)	1.2 —
Other ⁵	3.1 (0.2)	317.1 (4.0)	—	—	—	—	—	100.0 —	96.5 (1.7)	69.8 (4.8)	16.9 (5.7)
1994											
Total	100.0 (0.0)	306.2 (1.0)	272 (1.2)	288 (1.4)	297 (1.7)	316 (1.0)	340 (2.2)	100.0 —	96.5 (0.5)	58.6 (1.4)	7.4 (0.8)
Male	49.5 (1.3)	308.5 (1.4)	274 (1.8)	289 (1.6)	301 (2.1)	320 (1.5)	343 (2.6)	100.0 —	97.3 (0.6)	60.2 (2.1)	9.3 (1.0)
Female	50.5 (1.3)	304.1 (1.1)	268 (1.9)	286 (1.9)	293 (1.8)	313 (1.1)	337 (2.8)	100.0 —	96.0 (0.6)	57.2 (1.4)	5.5 (0.9)
White	72.5 (0.5)	312.3 (1.1)	275 (1.4)	292 (1.7)	301 (1.5)	320 (1.0)	344 (2.0)	100.0 —	98.4 (0.4)	67.0 (1.4)	9.4 (1.1)
Black	15.5 (0.3)	285.5 (1.8)	—	275 (3.3)	283 (3.8)	297 (2.5)	—	100.0 —	90.6 (1.8)	29.8 (3.4)	0.4 —
Hispanic	8.8 (0.3)	290.8 (3.7)	—	—	—	304 (4.1)	—	100.0 —	91.8 (3.6)	38.3 (5.5)	1.4 —
Other ⁵	3.2 (0.3)	312.7 (4.5)	—	—	—	—	—	100.0 —	97.0 —	66.4 (6.6)	12.1 (3.6)
1996											
Total	100.0 (0.0)	307.2 (1.2)	269 (1.9)	283 (1.3)	298 (1.3)	316 (1.3)	339 (1.7)	100.0 —	96.8 (0.4)	60.1 (1.7)	7.4 (0.8)
Male	49.5 (1.2)	309.5 (1.3)	272 (2.5)	287 (1.5)	302 (1.7)	320 (1.7)	342 (2.3)	100.0 —	97.0 (0.7)	62.7 (1.8)	9.5 (1.3)
Female	50.5 (1.2)	304.9 (1.4)	265 (2.2)	278 (2.2)	294 (1.5)	313 (1.4)	335 (2.2)	100.0 —	96.7 (0.6)	57.6 (2.2)	5.3 (0.8)
White	71.0 (0.6)	313.4 (1.4)	273 (2.3)	287 (2.0)	304 (1.6)	320 (1.4)	342 (1.9)	100.0 —	98.7 (0.4)	68.7 (2.2)	9.2 (1.0)
Black	15.0 (0.3)	286.4 (1.7)	—	273 (2.4)	280 (3.0)	299 (2.2)	—	100.0 —	90.6 (1.3)	31.2 (2.5)	0.9 —
Hispanic	9.0 (0.7)	292.0 (2.1)	—	—	—	306 (2.8)	—	99.9 —	92.2 (2.2)	40.1 (3.5)	1.8 —
Other ⁵	5.0 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0 —	97.4 (1.2)	63.5 (7.2)	13.7 (5.0)

¹ Indicates ability to perform simple additive reasoning and problem solving.
² Indicates ability to perform simple multiplicative reasoning and 2-step problem solving.
³ Indicates ability to perform reasoning and problem solving involving fractions, decimals, percents, elementary geometry, and simple algebra.
⁴ Indicates ability to perform reasoning and problem solving involving geometry, algebra, and beginning statistics and probability.
⁵ Includes Asian/Pacific Islanders and American Indians/Alaskan Natives.
 —Data not available.

NOTE.—These test scores are from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Scale ranges from 0 to 500. Standard errors appear in parentheses.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress, *Trends in Academic Progress and NAEP 1996 Trends in Academic Progress*, prepared by Educational Testing Service. (This table was prepared June 1999.)