

PIRLS 2011 Results for Florida Compared to Education Systems Outside the United States

Reading

- In Florida public schools, 4th-grade students' average score was 569 (see table 3). No education system scored higher than Florida, 4 were not measurably different, and 48 scored lower (table 5).
- Higher percentages of Florida 4th-graders performed at or above each of the four PIRLS international benchmarks than the international medians (figure 2). For example, 22 percent of 4th-graders in Florida performed at or above the *Advanced* benchmark (625) compared to the international median of 8 percent at grade 4.
- Females outperformed males by 15 score points on average in reading at grade 4 (figure 3).
- Male and female students in Florida scored higher in reading than the PIRLS international scale average (table 6).
- All racial and ethnic groups scored higher than the PIRLS international scale average.
- All categories of public school students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch scored higher than the PIRLS international scale average.

Table 5. Average reading scores of 4th-grade students in Florida public schools compared with other participating education systems: 2011

Education systems not measurably different from Florida	
<i>Hong Kong-CHN</i>	Finland
Russian Federation	Singapore
Education systems lower than Florida	
<i>Northern Ireland-GBR</i>	Lithuania
United States	Australia
Denmark	Poland
Croatia	France
<i>Chinese Taipei-CHN</i>	<i>Andalusia-ESP</i>
<i>Ontario-CAN</i>	Spain
Ireland	Norway
<i>England-GBR</i>	<i>Belgium (French)-BEL</i>
Canada	Romania
<i>Alberta-CAN</i>	Georgia
Netherlands	Malta
Czech Republic	<i>Dubai-UAE</i>
Sweden	Trinidad and Tobago
Italy	Azerbaijan
Germany	Iran, Islamic Rep. of
Israel	<i>Maltese-Malta</i>
Portugal	Colombia
Hungary	United Arab Emirates
<i>Quebec-CAN</i>	Saudi Arabia
Slovak Republic	Indonesia
Bulgaria	Qatar
New Zealand	<i>Abu Dhabi-UAE</i>
Slovenia	Oman
Austria	Morocco

NOTE: No education systems scored significantly higher than Florida-USA at $p < .05$.

SOURCE: International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS), 2011.

Table 6. Average reading scores of 4th-grade students in Florida public schools, by sex, race/ethnicity, and percentage of students in public school eligible for free or reduced-price lunch: 2011

Reporting groups	Average score
PIRLS scale average	500
U.S. average	556 *
Florida average	569 *
Sex	
Female	576 *
Male	561 *
Race/ethnicity	
White	591 *
Black	537 *
Hispanic	564 *
Asian	604 *
Multiracial	591 *
Percentage of public school students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch	
Less than 10 percent	601 *
10 to 24.9 percent	610 *
25 to 49.9 percent	587 *
50 to 74.9 percent	566 *
75 percent or more	544 *

* $p < .05$. Difference between state score and PIRLS scale average is statistically significant.

NOTE: Reporting standards were not met for American Indian/Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander. Black includes African American and Hispanic includes Latino. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin. Students who identified themselves as being of Hispanic origin were classified as Hispanic, regardless of their race. Not all race/ethnicity categories are shown but they are included in the U.S. and state totals shown throughout the report. Multiracial students are those that identify themselves with more than one race. The standard errors of the estimates are shown in table E-7 available at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2013010>.

SOURCE: International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS), 2011.