

TIMSS 2011 results for California

Science - Grade 8

- Public school students' average score was 499 at grade 8.
- Higher percentages of California 8th-graders performed at or above each of the four TIMSS international benchmarks than the international medians. For example, 6 percent of 8th-graders in California performed at or above the *Advanced* benchmark (625) compared to the international median of 4 percent at grade 8 (figure 12).
- In California males outperformed females by 12 score points, on average, in science (figure 14).

Table 33. Average science scores of 8th-grade students in California public schools compared with other participating education systems: 2011

Grade 8	
Education systems higher than California	
Singapore	<i>Indiana-USA</i>
<i>Massachusetts-USA</i>	<i>Connecticut-USA</i>
<i>Chinese Taipei-CHN</i>	<i>North Carolina-USA</i>
Korea, Rep. of	<i>Florida-USA</i>
Japan	United States
<i>Minnesota-USA</i>	Hungary
Finland	<i>Ontario-CAN</i>
<i>Alberta-CAN</i>	<i>Quebec-CAN</i>
Slovenia	Australia
Russian Federation	Israel
<i>Colorado-USA</i>	Lithuania
<i>Hong Kong-CHN</i>	New Zealand
<i>England-GBR</i>	Sweden
Education systems not measurably different from California	
Italy	Norway
Ukraine	Kazakhstan
	<i>Alabama-USA</i>
Education systems lower than California	
<i>Dubai-UAE</i>	Saudi Arabia
Turkey	Malaysia
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	Syrian Arab Republic
Romania	<i>Palestinian Nat'l Auth.</i>
United Arab Emirates	Georgia
Chile	Oman
<i>Abu Dhabi-UAE</i>	Qatar
Bahrain	Macedonia, Rep. of
Thailand	Lebanon
Jordan	Indonesia
Tunisia	Morocco
Armenia	Ghana

NOTE: Italics indicate participants identified and counted in this report as an education system and not as a separate country.

SOURCE: International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), 2011.

- White, Asian, and multiracial students' average scores were higher than the TIMSS scale average, while Black and Hispanic students scored lower, on average, than the TIMSS scale average.
- Students in public schools with less than 50 percent of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch scored higher, on average, than the TIMSS scale average, while students in public schools with 75 percent or more of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch scored lower, on average, than the TIMSS scale average.

Table 34. Average science scores in grade 8 for selected student groups in public schools in California: 2011

Reporting groups	Science Grade 8
TIMSS scale average	500
U.S. average	525 *
California average	499
Sex	
Female	493
Male	504
Race/ethnicity	
White	546 *
Black	460 *
Hispanic	475 *
Asian	542 *
Multiracial	529 *
Percentage of public school students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch	
Less than 10 percent	547 *
10 to 24.9 percent	542 *
25 to 49.9 percent	539 *
50 to 74.9 percent	493
75 percent or more	457 *

* $p < .05$. Difference between score and TIMSS scale average is significant. NOTE: Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, and Asian includes Pacific Islander and Native Hawaiian. Racial categories exclude Hispanic origin. Not all race/ethnicity categories are shown, but they are all included in the U.S. and state totals shown throughout the report. The standard errors of the estimates are shown in table E-35 available at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2013009>.

SOURCE: International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), 2011.