

## TIMSS 2011 results for Massachusetts

### Science - Grade 8

- Public school students' average score was 567 at grade 8.
- Higher percentages of Massachusetts 8th-graders performed at or above each of the four TIMSS international benchmarks than the international medians. For example, 24 percent of 8th-graders in Massachusetts performed at or above the *Advanced* benchmark (625) compared to the international median of 4 percent at grade 8 (figure 12).

**Table 43. Average science scores of 8th-grade students in Massachusetts public schools compared with other participating education systems: 2011**

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

- Male and female students in Massachusetts scored higher, on average, in science than the TIMSS scale average (table 44).
- White, Asian, and multiracial students' average scores were higher than the TIMSS scale average, while Black and Hispanic students' average scores were not measurably different from the TIMSS scale average (table 44).
- Students in public schools with 75 percent or more of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch had average scores not measurably different from the TIMSS scale average. All other groups scored, on average, above the TIMSS scale average.

**Table 44. Average science scores in grade 8 for selected student groups in public schools in Massachusetts: 2011**

	Science
Reporting groups	Grade 8
TIMSS scale average	500
U.S. average	525 *
Massachusetts average	567 *
Sex	
Female	564 *
Male	570 *
Race/ethnicity	
White	587 *
Black	514
Hispanic	494
Asian	576 *
Multiracial	576 *
Percentage of public school students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch	
Less than 10 percent	594 *
10 to 24.9 percent	589 *
25 to 49.9 percent	553 *
50 to 74.9 percent	550 *
75 percent or more	477

\* $p < .05$ . Difference between score and TIMSS scale average is significant.  
NOTE: Black includes African American and Hispanic includes Latino. 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-40 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.