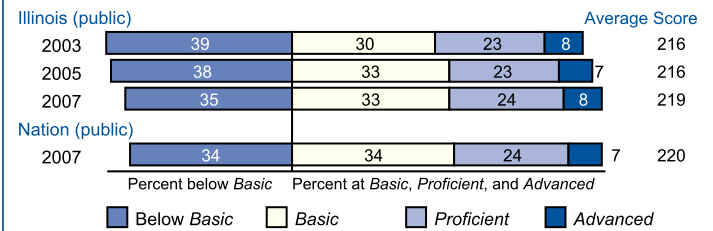


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading in two content areas in grade 4: reading for literary experience and to gain information. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

Overall Reading Results for Illinois

- In 2007, the average scale score for fourth-grade students in Illinois was 219. This was not significantly different from their average score in 2005 (216) and was not significantly different from their average score in 2003 (216).¹
- Illinois' average score (219) in 2007 was not significantly different from that of the nation's public schools (220).
- Of the 52 states and other jurisdictions that participated in the 2007 fourth-grade assessment, students' average scale score in Illinois was higher than those in 12 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 14 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 25 jurisdictions.²
- The percentage of students in Illinois who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 32 percent in 2007. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2005 (29 percent) and was not significantly different from that in 2003 (31 percent).
- The percentage of students in Illinois who performed at or above the NAEP *Basic* level was 65 percent in 2007. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2005 (62 percent) and was not significantly different from that in 2003 (61 percent).

Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels and Average Score



NOTE: The NAEP grade 4 reading achievement levels correspond to the following scale points: *Below Basic*, 207 or lower; *Basic*, 208–237; *Proficient*, 238–267; *Advanced*, 268 or above.

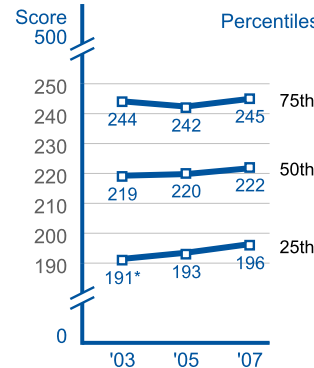
Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Illinois: 2007

Reporting groups	Percent of students	Average score	Percent below <i>Basic</i>	Percent of students at or above <i>Basic</i>	Percent <i>Proficient</i>	Percent <i>Advanced</i>
Male	51	217	37	63	30	7
Female	49	222	33	67	35	9
White	55	230	23	77	42	12
Black	20	201	56	44	14	2
Hispanic	20	205	50	50	18	3
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	240	13	87	54	16
American Indian/Alaska Native	#	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Eligible for National School Lunch Program	44	204 ↑	52 ↓	48 ↑	16	2
Not eligible for National School Lunch Program	56	232	21	79	45	12

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups

- In 2007, male students in Illinois had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 5 points. In 2003, the average score for male students was lower than that of female students by 5 points.
- In 2007, Black students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 29 points. In 2003, the average score for Black students was lower than that of White students by 34 points.
- In 2007, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 24 points. In 2003, the average score for Hispanic students was lower than that of White students by 31 points.
- In 2007, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, a proxy for poverty, had an average score that was lower than that of students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch by 28 points. This performance gap was narrower than that of 2003 (35 points).
- In 2007, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 49 points. In 2003, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 53 points.

Reading Scores at Selected Percentiles



NOTE: Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP reading scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels performed.

Rounds to zero.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

* Significantly different from 2007.

↑ Significantly higher than 2005. ↓ Significantly lower than 2005.

¹ Comparisons (higher/lower/narrower/wider/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level was used for testing statistical significance. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages. Comparisons across jurisdictions and comparisons with the nation or within a jurisdiction across years may be affected by differences in exclusion rates for students with disabilities (SD) and English language learners (ELL). The exclusion rates for SD and ELL in Illinois were 5 percent and 3 percent in 2007, respectively. For more information on NAEP significance testing see <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/reading/interpret-results.asp#statistical>.

² "Jurisdictions" refers to states and the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity schools.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding and because the "Information not available" category for the National School Lunch Program, which provides free and reduced-price lunches, and the "Unclassified" category for race/ethnicity are not displayed. Visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/> for additional results and detailed information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), various years, 2003–2007 Reading Assessments.