

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

Overall Reading Results for Alabama	Student Percentage at NAEP Achievement Levels																																																		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2005, the average scale score for fourth-grade students in Alabama was 208. This was not significantly different from<sup>1</sup> their average score in 2003 (207), and was not significantly different from their average score in 1992 (207).</li> <li>Alabama's average score (208) in 2005 was lower than that of the Nation's public schools (217).</li> <li>Of the 52 states and other jurisdictions<sup>2</sup> that participated in the 2005 fourth-grade assessment, students' average scale scores in Alabama were higher than those in 1 jurisdiction, not significantly different from those in 8 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 42 jurisdictions.</li> <li>The percentage of students in Alabama who performed at or above the NAEP <i>Proficient</i> level was 22 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (22 percent), and was not significantly different from that in 1992 (20 percent).</li> <li>The percentage of students in Alabama who performed at or above the NAEP <i>Basic</i> level was 53 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (52 percent), and was not significantly different from that in 1992 (51 percent).</li> </ul>	<p>Alabama (public)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Below Basic</th> <th>Basic</th> <th>Proficient</th> <th>Advanced</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1992<sup>1</sup></td> <td>49</td> <td>32</td> <td>16</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1994<sup>1</sup></td> <td>48</td> <td>29</td> <td>18</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1998<sup>1</sup></td> <td>44</td> <td>31</td> <td>19</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1998</td> <td>44</td> <td>32</td> <td>19</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2002</td> <td>48</td> <td>30</td> <td>18</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2003</td> <td>48</td> <td>30</td> <td>18</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2005</td> <td>47</td> <td>30</td> <td>18</td> <td>4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Nation (public)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Below Basic</th> <th>Basic</th> <th>Proficient</th> <th>Advanced</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2005</td> <td>38</td> <td>33</td> <td>23</td> <td>7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Percent below <i>Basic</i>    Percent at <i>Basic</i>, <i>Proficient</i>, and <i>Advanced</i></p> <p>■ Below <i>Basic</i>    □ <i>Basic</i>    ▒ <i>Proficient</i>    ■ <i>Advanced</i></p> <p><sup>1</sup> Accommodations were not permitted for this assessment.</p> <p>NOTE: The NAEP reading achievement levels correspond to the following scale points: <i>Below Basic</i>, 207 or lower; <i>Basic</i>, 208–237; <i>Proficient</i>, 238–267; <i>Advanced</i>, 268 or above.</p>	Year	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced	1992 <sup>1</sup>	49	32	16	3	1994 <sup>1</sup>	48	29	18	5	1998 <sup>1</sup>	44	31	19	5	1998	44	32	19	4	2002	48	30	18	4	2003	48	30	18	5	2005	47	30	18	4	Year	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced	2005	38	33	23	7
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Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Alabama					
Reporting groups	Percent of students	Average score	Percent below <i>Basic</i>	Percent of students at or above <i>Basic</i>	Percent <i>Advanced</i>
Male	52	205	49	51	22
Female	48	211	45	55	23
White	58	220	33	67	32
Black	38	188	69	31	8
Hispanic	2	‡	‡	‡	‡
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	‡	‡	‡	‡
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	‡	‡	‡	‡
Eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	56	196	60	40	12
Not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	41	223	31	69	34

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups	Reading Scale Scores at Selected Percentiles																																																	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2005, male students in Alabama had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 5 points. In 1992, the average score for male students was lower than that of female students by 7 points.</li> <li>In 2005, Black students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 32 points. In 1992, the average score for Black students was lower than that of White students by 30 points.</li> <li>Data are not reported for Hispanic students in 2005, because reporting standards were not met. Therefore, the performance gap data are not reported.</li> <li>In 2005, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, an indicator of poverty, had an average score that was lower than that of students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch by 27 points. In 1998, the average score for students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch was lower than the score of those not eligible by 29 points.</li> <li>In 2005, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 51 points. In 1992, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 48 points.</li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>75th Percentile (Accommodations not permitted)</th> <th>75th Percentile (Accommodations permitted)</th> <th>50th Percentile (Accommodations not permitted)</th> <th>50th Percentile (Accommodations permitted)</th> <th>25th Percentile (Accommodations not permitted)</th> <th>25th Percentile (Accommodations permitted)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>'92</td> <td>232</td> <td>236</td> <td>209</td> <td>210</td> <td>184</td> <td>182</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'94</td> <td>236</td> <td>237</td> <td>210</td> <td>213</td> <td>182</td> <td>188</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'98</td> <td>237</td> <td>236</td> <td>213</td> <td>210</td> <td>187</td> <td>182</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'02</td> <td>235</td> <td>235</td> <td>210</td> <td>210</td> <td>182</td> <td>182</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'03</td> <td>235</td> <td>235</td> <td>211</td> <td>211</td> <td>182</td> <td>182</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'05</td> <td>235</td> <td>235</td> <td>211</td> <td>211</td> <td>184</td> <td>184</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP reading scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels of the distribution performed.</p>	Year	75th Percentile (Accommodations not permitted)	75th Percentile (Accommodations permitted)	50th Percentile (Accommodations not permitted)	50th Percentile (Accommodations permitted)	25th Percentile (Accommodations not permitted)	25th Percentile (Accommodations permitted)	'92	232	236	209	210	184	182	'94	236	237	210	213	182	188	'98	237	236	213	210	187	182	'02	235	235	210	210	182	182	'03	235	235	211	211	182	182	'05	235	235	211	211	184	184
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# The estimate rounds to zero.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

\* Significantly different from 2005.

↑ Significantly higher than 2003. ↓ Significantly lower than 2003.

<sup>1</sup> Comparisons (higher/lower/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level was used for testing statistical significance. Performance comparisons may be affected by differences in exclusion rates across years for students with disabilities (5% nationally in 2005) and English language learners (2% nationally in 2005) in the NAEP samples. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages.

<sup>2</sup> "Other Jurisdictions" refers to 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 free/reduced-price lunch 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), selected years, 1992–2005 Reading Assessments.