

Reading Performance of Students in Grades 4, 8, and 12

Table 11-2. Average reading score for 4th-, 8th-, and 12th-graders, by selected student and school characteristics: 1992 and 2005

Student or school characteristic	Grade 4		Grade 8		Grade 12	
	1992 ¹	2005	1992 ¹	2005	1992 ¹	2005
Total	217	219	260	262	292	286
Sex						
Male	213	216	254	257	287	279
Female	221	222	267	267	297	292
Race/ethnicity ²						
White	224	229	267	271	297	293
Black	192	200	237	243	273	267
Hispanic	197	203	241	246	279	272
Asian/Pacific Islander	216	229	268	271	290	287
American Indian	‡	204	‡	249	‡	279
Parents' education						
Did not finish high school	—	—	243	244	275	268
Graduated from high school	—	—	251	252	283	274
Some education after high school	—	—	265	265	294	287
Graduated from college	—	—	271	272	301	297
Location						
Central large city	—	209	—	254	—	280
Central mid-sized city	—	218	—	259	—	287
Urban fringe/large town	—	223	—	266	—	288
Rural/small town	—	219	—	263	—	285
Students in school eligible for free or reduced-price lunch						
10 percent or less	—	238	—	279	—	297
11–25 percent	—	230	—	270	—	290
26–50 percent	—	221	—	262	—	282
51–75 percent	—	211	—	252	—	273
More than 75 percent	—	197	—	240	—	266

— Not available.

‡ Reporting standards not met (too few cases).

¹ Testing accommodations (e.g., extended time, small group testing) for children with disabilities and limited-English-proficient students were not permitted.

² Race categories exclude persons of Hispanic ethnicity.

NOTE: Beginning in 2002, the NAEP national sample for grades 4 and 8 was obtained by aggregating the samples from each state and the District of Columbia, rather than by obtaining an independently selected national sample. As a consequence, the size of the national sample for grades 4 and 8 increased, and smaller differences between years or between types of students were found to be statistically significant than would have been detected in previous assessments. See *supplemental note 4* for more information on testing accommodations and NAEP.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 1992 and 2005 Reading Assessments, NAEP Data Explorer.