

TABLE 1-2

Average scores of students in grade 8 on the NAEP mathematics assessment, by student characteristics: 1990–2017

(Average score)

Student characteristic	1990	1992	1996	2000	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017
All students in grade 8	263	268	270	273	278	279	281	283	284	285	282	283
Sex												
Male	263	268	271	274	278	280	282	284	284	285	282	283
Female	262	269	269	272	277	278	280	282	283	284	282	282
Race or ethnicity ^a												
White	270	277	281	284	288	289	291	293	293	294	292	293
Black or African American	237	237	240	244	252	255	260	261	262	263	260	260
Hispanic or Latino ^b	246	249	251	253	259	262	265	266	270	272	270	269
Asian or Pacific Islander	275	290	s	288	291	295	297	301	303	306	306	310
American Indian or Alaska Native	s	s	s	259	263	264	264	266	265	269	267	267
More than one race	s	260	s	270	280	280	285	286	288	288	285	287
Parents' highest education ^c												
Did not finish high school	242	249	250	253	257	259	263	265	265	267	265	265
Graduated from high school	255	257	260	261	267	267	270	270	271	270	268	267
Some education after high school	267	271	277	277	280	280	283	284	285	285	282	281
Graduated from college	274	281	281	286	288	290	292	295	295	296	294	294
Unknown	241	252	252	254	259	260	263	264	265	266	263	264
Socioeconomic status ^d												
Eligible for free or reduced-price lunch	NA	NA	250	253	259	262	265	266	269	270	268	267
Not eligible for free or reduced-price lunch	NA	NA	277	283	287	288	291	294	296	297	296	296
Student disability status ^e												
Has a disability	s	s	231	230	242	245	246	249	250	249	247	247
Does not have a disability	s	s	273	276	282	283	285	287	288	289	287	288
English language learner status ^e												
English language learner	s	s	226	234	242	244	246	243	244	246	246	246
Not English language learner	s	s	272	274	279	281	283	285	286	287	284	285
Percentiles ^f												
10th percentile	215	221	221	223	230	231	235	236	237	237	235	233
25th percentile	239	243	245	249	254	255	258	259	260	261	258	256
50th percentile	264	269	273	275	279	280	283	284	285	286	283	283
75th percentile	288	294	297	300	303	304	306	308	309	310	308	310
90th percentile	307	315	316	320	323	324	327	329	329	331	329	333

NA = not available; s = suppressed for reasons of confidentiality and/or reliability.

NAEP = National Assessment of Educational Progress.

^a Other racial and ethnic groups are included in the rows for All students in grade 8 but are not shown separately in the table.^b Hispanic may be any race; race categories exclude Hispanic origin.^c Parents' highest level of education is defined by the highest level reported by eighth graders and twelfth graders for either parent. Fourth graders were not asked to indicate their parents' highest level of education because their responses in previous studies were highly variable, and a large percentage of them chose the "I don't know" option.^d NAEP uses eligibility for the federal National School Lunch Program (NSLP) as a measure of socioeconomic status. NSLP is a federally assisted meal program that provides low-cost or free lunches to eligible students. It is often referred to as the free or reduced-price lunch program. Information on students' eligibility for free or reduced-price lunch was first collected in 1996.^e From 1996 on, students with a disability and English language learners were allowed to use testing accommodations (e.g., extended time, one-on-one testing, bilingual dictionary). More information about testing accommodation is available at <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/inclusion.asp>.^f A percentile is a score location below which a specified percentage of the population falls.

Note(s)

The scale for NAEP mathematics assessment scores is 0–500 for grade 8. From 1996 on, data shown here are for students allowed to use testing accommodations.

Source(s)

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Science Foundation, special tabulations (2018) of the 1990–2017 NAEP mathematics assessments, National Center for Education Statistics, Department of Education.

Science and Engineering Indicators