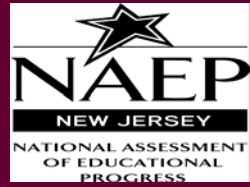


How Are New Jersey Students Doing?



This big-picture look at the results for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) shows that the New Jersey scores are consistently higher than the nation, and the achievement trends are upward for all New Jersey students and for the major reporting groups.

NAEP results are reported at the state level in reading, mathematics, science, and writing at grades 4 and 8. Only national results are available for twelfth-grade students. NAEP does not provide results for participating students, schools, or districts.

➤ **READING for 2007 -- Grades 4 and 8:**

- Fourth-graders scored higher than the nation, and higher than all other states except Massachusetts (MA).
- Fourth-graders scored higher than their counterparts in 2005, just two years prior.
- Fourth-graders demonstrated improvements in all the major reporting groups, and narrowed the White/Black and the White/Hispanic score gaps over a two-year period.
- Eighth-graders scored higher than the nation, and were among the top 14 states that outperformed all others.
- Eighth-graders scored the same as their counterparts in 2005 and 2003, and did not narrow any score gaps.

➤ **MATHEMATICS for 2007 -- Grades 4 and 8:**

- Fourth-graders scored higher than the nation, and higher than all other states except MA.
- Fourth-graders scored significantly higher than their counterparts from all previous assessment years.
- Fourth-grade Black students scored higher than in 2005, and the White/Black and White/Hispanic score gaps narrowed since 1992. Also, the poverty/non-poverty score gap for fourth-graders was reduced since 1996.
- Eighth-graders scored higher than the nation, and higher than all other states except two (MA & North Dakota).
- Eighth-graders scored significantly higher than their counterparts from all previous assessments, and the females scores increased since 2005. The White/Hispanic score gap narrowed since 1990.

➤ **SCIENCE for 2005 -- Grades 4 and 8:**

- Fourth- and eighth-graders scored higher than the nation, and higher than 19 of the 44 participating states.
- All racial/ethnic groups of eighth-graders scored higher than the nation, but only the White and Asian fourth-graders outscored the nation.
- The male fourth-graders scored higher than the females, but there was no gender score gap for eighth-graders.

➤ **WRITING for 2007 -- Grade 8:**

- Eighth-graders tied at the top with Connecticut (CT), and outperformed all other states, the Department of Defense Education Activity schools, and the 10 participating trial urban districts.
- Eighth-graders were significantly higher than the nation, and higher in all the major reporting groups.
- The males and White eighth-graders tied with CT, and the Hispanic students with Wyoming (WY) for the top ranking.
- Due to the exceptional high scores for the White eighth-graders, no state had a higher White/Black score gap. White/Hispanic score gap at grade 8 was lower than three states, the same as 31 states, and higher than only WY.

➤ **GRADE 12 for 2005 -- National Results (No State-level Results Reported):**

- In 2005, the NAEP *High School Transcript Study* found that twelfth-graders nationwide have taken more rigorous curricula and attained higher grade-point averages than in the previous assessment years.
- While there has been a national upward trend in reading and mathematics for fourth- and eighth-graders, the twelfth-grade results remained flat over the same time period.
- For reading, the percentage of twelfth-graders performing at or above *Proficient* has steadily declined since 1992.
- For mathematics, 41 percent of the twelfth-graders scored *Below Basic* (i.e., comparable to New Jersey's *Partially Proficient* achievement level) on the NAEP 2005 assessment.

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