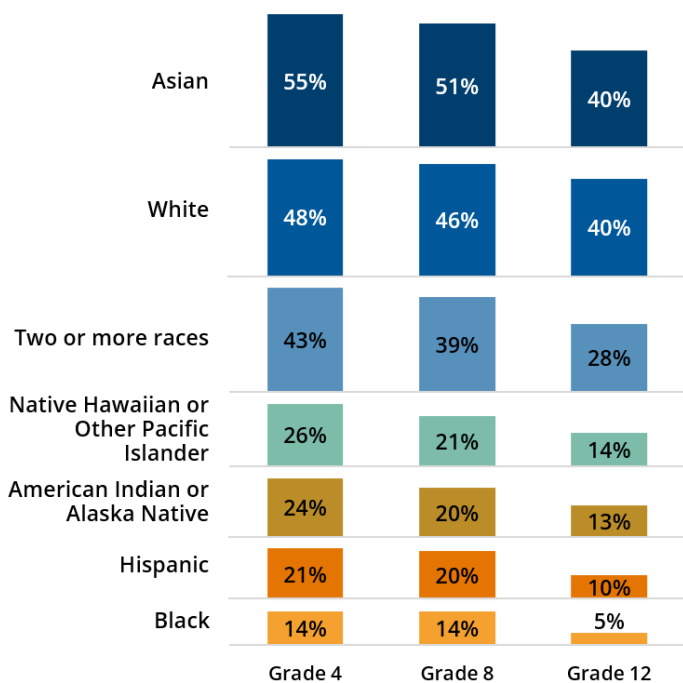




## Percentage of students scoring proficient or above on the NAEP science assessment varies by race or ethnicity for each grade tested



The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) science assessment measures knowledge and abilities in earth, space, physical, and life sciences. NAEP achievement levels (NAEP Basic, NAEP Proficient, and NAEP Advanced) measure what students should know and be able to do at each grade assessed. Students performing at or above the NAEP Proficient level on NAEP assessments demonstrate solid academic performance and competency over challenging subject matter.

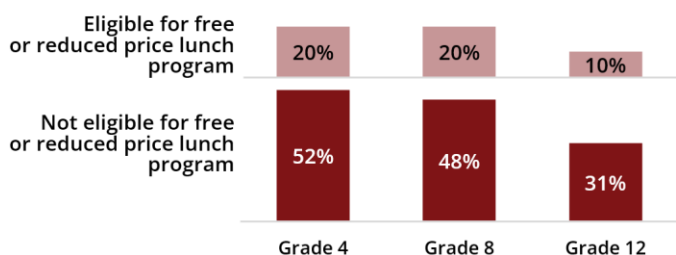
The percentage of Asian and White students scoring NAEP Proficient or above was higher than that of their peers in other racial or ethnic groups at all grade levels.

Students with scores at the NAEP Proficient level or above on the NAEP science assessment, by race or ethnicity and grade: 2019

Note(s): Hispanics may be of any race; race categories exclude Hispanic origin. There is no statistically significant difference in grade 12 between White students and students who are two or more races. As provided by law, the Commissioner of Education Statistics has determined that the NAEP achievement levels are to be used on a trial basis and should be interpreted and used with caution. However, both the Commissioner and the National Assessment Governing Board believe these performance standards are useful for understanding trends in student achievement. For information on NAEP achievement levels, see [https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/guides/scores\\_achv.aspx](https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/guides/scores_achv.aspx). For information about NAEP sampling procedures, see [https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/tdw/sample\\_design/](https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/tdw/sample_design/).

Source(s): National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) science assessment, 2019.

## Percentage of students scoring NAEP Proficient or above in science is lower for students who qualify for free or reduced-priced lunch



In all grades tested, a smaller percentage of students who are eligible for free or reduced-price programs score NAEP Proficient or above in science, compared with students who are not eligible.

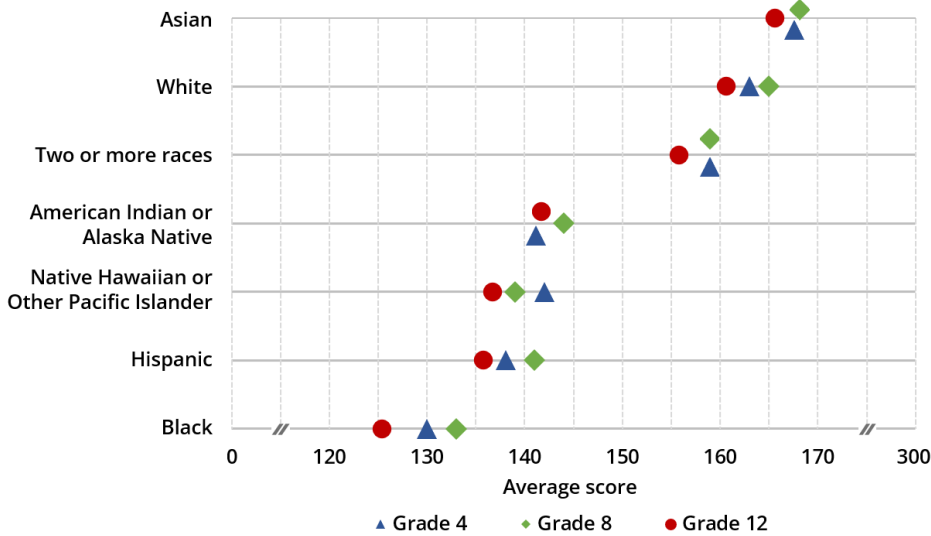
For example, 52% of students in grade 4 who are not eligible for free or reduced-price lunch score proficient or above in science, compared with 20% of grade 4 students who are eligible.

Students with scores at the NAEP Proficient level or above on the NAEP science assessment, by free or reduced-price lunch eligibility: 2019

Source(s): National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) science assessment, 2019.

## Student NAEP Achievement in Science

### Scores on the NAEP science assessment show differences by race or ethnicity



Racial and ethnic differences in average NAEP science scores exist within all grade levels tested in 2019.

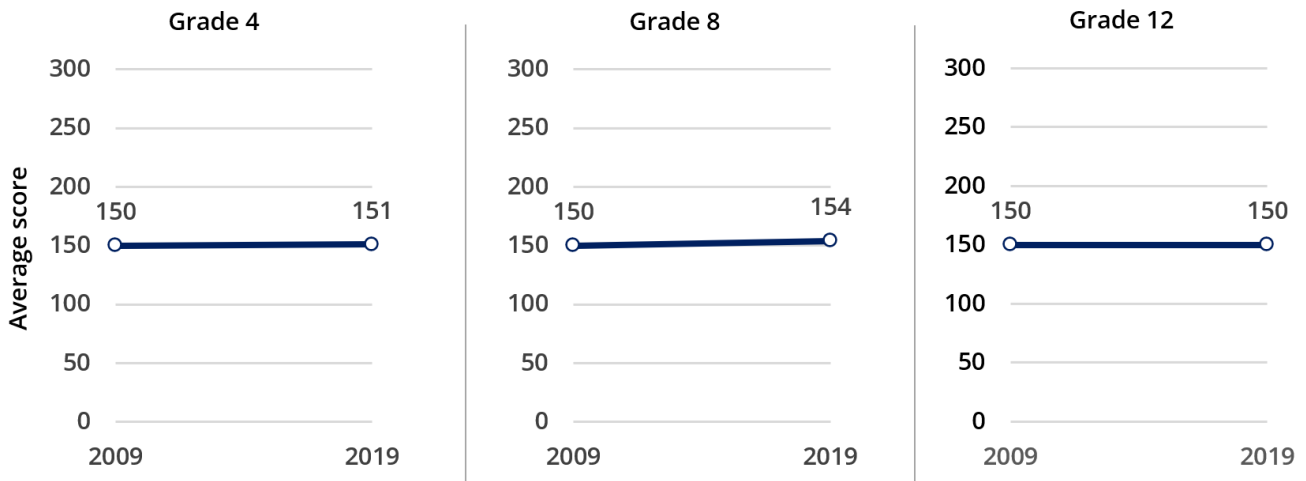
For example, within grade 4, Black students had the lowest average score (130). Within grade 8, Asian students had the highest score (168).

Average NAEP science assessment scores, by race or ethnicity and grade: 2019

Note(s): Hispanics may be of any race; race categories exclude Hispanic origin. The NAEP science scale ranges from 0 to 300 for all grades. Although the score ranges are identical, the scales were derived independently at each grade; therefore, scales cannot be compared across grades. For more information, see <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/science/>.

Source(s): National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) science assessments, 2019.

### Average NAEP science scores increased by 1 and 4 points for grades 4 and 8, respectively, and did not change for grade 12: 2009 and 2019



Average NAEP science assessment scores, by grade: 2009 and 2019

Note(s): The NAEP science scale ranges from 0 to 300 for all grades. Although the score ranges are identical, the scales were derived independently at each grade; therefore, scales cannot be compared across grades. For more information, see <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/science/>.

Source(s): National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) science assessments, 2009 and 2019.