



APPENDIX TABLE 1-3 

Average scores of students in grades 4, 8, and 12 on the main NAEP science assessment, by student grade and characteristics: 2009–15

(Average score)

Student grade and characteristic	2009	2011	2015
All students in grade 4	150	NA	154
Sex			
Male	151	NA	154
Female	149	NA	154
Race or ethnicity ^a			
White	163	NA	166
Black	127	NA	133
Hispanic ^b	131	NA	139
Asian or Pacific Islander	160	NA	167
American Indian or Alaska Native	135	NA	139
More than one race	154	NA	158
Socioeconomic status ^c			
Eligible for free or reduced-price lunch	134	NA	140
Not eligible for free or reduced-price lunch	163	NA	169
Student disability status ^d			
Has a disability	129	NA	131
Does not have a disability	153	NA	157
English language learner status ^d			
English language learner	114	NA	121
Not English language learner	154	NA	158
Percentiles			
10th percentile	104	NA	108
25th percentile	128	NA	132
50th percentile	153	NA	157



Student grade and characteristic	2009	2011	2015
75th percentile	175	NA	178
90th percentile	192	NA	196
All students in grade 8	150	152	154
Sex			
Male	152	154	155
Female	148	149	152
Race or ethnicity ^a			
White	162	163	166
Black	126	129	132
Hispanic ^b	132	137	140
Asian or Pacific Islander	160	159	164
American Indian or Alaska Native	137	141	139
More than one race	151	156	159
Parents' highest education			
Did not finish high school	131	132	137
Graduated from high school	139	140	142
Some education after high school	152	153	155
Graduated from college	161	162	165
Unknown	130	133	134
Socioeconomic status ^c			
Eligible for free or reduced-price lunch	133	137	140
Not eligible for free or reduced-price lunch	161	164	167
Student disability status ^d			
Has a disability	123	124	124
Does not have a disability	153	155	158
English language learner status ^d			
English language learner	103	106	110



Student grade and characteristic	2009	2011	2015
Not English language learner	153	154	157
Percentiles			
10th percentile	103	106	109
25th percentile	128	131	133
50th percentile	153	155	157
75th percentile	175	176	178
90th percentile	192	193	195
All students in grade 12	150	NA	150
Sex			
Male	153	NA	153
Female	147	NA	148
Race or ethnicity ^a			
White	159	NA	160
Black	125	NA	125
Hispanic ^b	134	NA	136
Asian or Pacific Islander	164	NA	166
American Indian or Alaska Native	144	NA	135
More than one race	151	NA	156
Parents' highest education			
Did not finish high school	131	NA	131
Graduated from high school	138	NA	136
Some education after high school	147	NA	148
Graduated from college	161	NA	162
Unknown	122	NA	123
Socioeconomic status ^c			
Eligible for free or reduced-price lunch	132	NA	134
Not eligible for free or reduced-price lunch	157	NA	160



Student grade and characteristic	2009	2011	2015
Student disability status ^d			
Has a disability	121	NA	124
Does not have a disability	153	NA	153
English language learner status ^d			
English language learner	104	NA	105
Not English language learner	151	NA	152
Percentiles			
10th percentile	104	NA	103
25th percentile	126	NA	126
50th percentile	151	NA	151
75th percentile	174	NA	176
90th percentile	194	NA	196

NA = not available.

NAEP = National Assessment of Educational Progress.

^a Other racial and ethnic groups are included in the rows for All students in grade 4, All students in grade 8, and All students in grade 12 but are not shown separately in the table.

^b Hispanic may be any race. American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, black, white, and more than one race refer to individuals who are not of Hispanic origin.

^c 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 sometimes referred to as the free or reduced-price lunch program.

^d From 1996 on, students with a disability and English language learners were allowed to use testing accommodation (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>.

Note(s)

Main NAEP science assessment scores range from 0 to 300 for grades 4, 8, and 12. Science data are presented beginning in 2009 only because the science framework was substantially revised in 2009, making prior assessment results not comparable with those in or after 2009. Science assessment was not conducted in 2011 for grades 4 and 12.

Source(s)

National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, special tabulations (2016) of main NAEP 2009, 2011, and 2015 science assessments, National Center for Education Statistics.