



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY

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DoDEA Fourth and Eighth Graders Near the Top of the Nation in Reading

ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA – On October 28, the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) announced the reading results from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) which were administered from late January to early March in 2005. The Department of Defense (DoD) fourth and eighth graders scored significantly higher than the national average. For the first time, the domestic and overseas school systems within DoD participated in NAEP as a single jurisdiction.

Achievement and Rankings

Eighth grade students in DoDEA earned the second highest reading score in the nation at 271. DoDEA eighth graders scored below Massachusetts (274) and one point ahead of Maine, New Hampshire, and North Dakota (270). DoDEA eighth graders scored 11 points above the national average of 260.

NAEP 2005 Average Reading Score: Grade 8

Rank	State/Jurisdiction	Average Scale Score
1	Massachusetts	274
2	DoDEA	271
3	North Dakota, Maine, New Hampshire	270
4	New Jersey, Montana, Vermont, South Dakota	269
5	Minnesota, Wyoming, Virginia	268
6	Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Pennsylvania, Ohio	267
7	Wisconsin, Delaware	266
8	New York, Colorado, Missouri, Washington	265
	Nation	260

At the fourth grade level, reading scores for DoDEA students earned the third highest score of 226, behind Massachusetts with a score of 231 and New Hampshire and Vermont with scores of 227.

NAEP 2005 Average Reading Score: Grade 4

Rank	State/Jurisdiction	Average Scale Score
1	Massachusetts	231
2	New Hampshire, Vermont	227
3	DoDEA, Delaware, Virginia, Connecticut	226
4	Minnesota, North Dakota, Maine, Montana	225
5	Colorado	224
6	Washington, New Jersey, Wyoming, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio	223
7	South Dakota, Idaho	222
8	Nebraska, Utah, Missouri, Wisconsin, Iowa	221
	Nation	217

The reading national score ranks for DoDEA 4th and 8th grade students in 2002, 2003 and 2005 show consistently high performance over time.

NAEP Reading National Ranks Scores for 2002, 2003, and 2005

All Students	Grade 8			Grade 4		
	2002	2003	2005	2002	2003	2005
DoDEA	1st	2nd	2nd	5th	4th	3rd

Minority Achievement

African American and Hispanic students in DoDEA continued to score the highest in the nation when compared with their stateside public school counterparts at both grade levels tested in reading.

NAEP 2005 Average Reading Scale Scores African American Students

Grade 8 Students	2002		2003		2005	
	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
DoDEA African American	262	1st	258	1st	258	1st
Nation African American	244		244		242	
Nation All Students	263		261		260	

At the fourth grade level in 2005, African American students in the DoD schools scored above the national average for all students. African American fourth graders achieved a score of 218, which is above the national average of 217 for all fourth grade students nationwide.

**NAEP 2005 Average Reading Scale Scores
African American Students**

Grade 4 Students	2002		2003		2005	
	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
DoDEA African American	215	1st	214	1st	218	1st
Nation African American	198		197		199	
Nation All Students	217		216		217	

Hispanic students in DoDEA continued to lead their counterparts throughout the nation. In addition to achieving the highest or 2nd highest scores among their stateside counterparts, DoDEA Hispanic students at fourth and eighth grade continued to surpass the national average score for all students in the nation.

**NAEP 2005 Average Reading Scale Scores
Hispanic Students**

Grade 8 Students	2002		2003		2005	
	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
DoDEA Hispanic	270	1st	268	1st	268	1st
Nation Hispanic	245		244		245	
Nation All Students	263		261		260	

**NAEP 2005 Average Reading Scale Scores
Grade 4 Students**

Grade 4 Students	2002		2003		2005	
	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
DoDEA Hispanic	222	2nd	218	1st	219	2nd
Nation Hispanic	199		199		201	
Nation All Students	217		216		217	

Additional Information

Detailed statistical information on the 2005 NAEP reading assessment and all other NAEP assessments can be found on the web at:

<http://www.nationsreportcard.gov>

Assessment items and samples of student responses from the 2005 reading assessment, along with sample questions from other subject areas, can be found on the web at:

http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmrls/NQT_StartSearch.asp

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