

Chapter 8. State Indicators

8-3C Fourth Grade Science Performance, Hispanic Students

Description

This indicator represents the average score in science of each state's fourth grade public school students on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The NAEP science assessment is a congressionally authorized measure of student performance that is conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics. It measures students' knowledge and skill in science and their ability to apply that knowledge in the content areas of physical, life, and earth and space science. The NAEP assessment in science was updated in 2009 to keep pace with key developments in science. Because it is based on a new framework, 2009 results cannot be compared to those from previous science assessments. Student performance is presented in terms of average scores on a scale from 0 to 300.

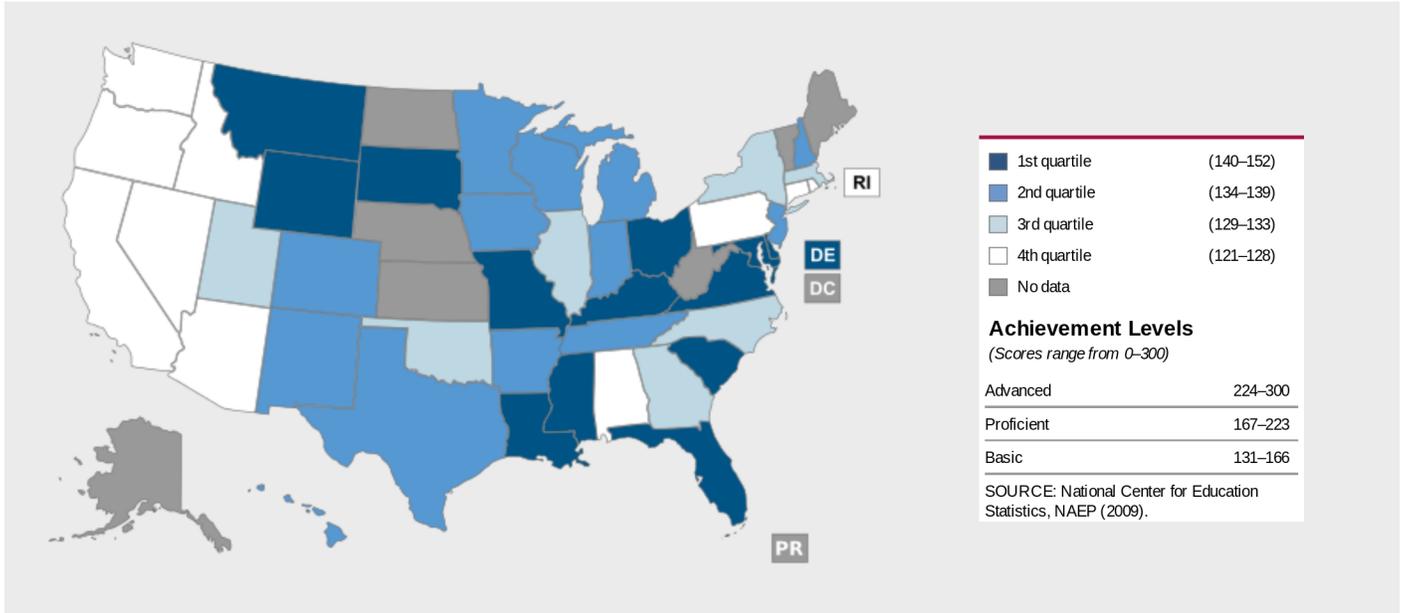
Approximately 151,500 fourth grade students, of whom 33,000 were Hispanic, participated in the 2009 NAEP science assessment. Students with disabilities or limited English-language proficiency are allowed to use certain accommodations (e.g., extra testing time or individual rather than group administration). All data presented here represent scores from tests taken with accommodations offered. Demographic percentages of test takers by state are included in this indicator's standard error table. For national data across all demographic groups, see indicator 8-3.

Findings

- Percentages of Hispanic test takers varied on a state level from 1% to 58%. Nationally, in 2009, 22% of fourth grade science test takers were Hispanic students.
- In 2009, the nationwide average science score of Hispanic fourth grade students was 130 compared to the nationwide average of 149. Average scores for individual states range between 121 and 152.
- Of the 43 states that participated in the 2009 fourth grade science assessment and that have enough data for statistical comparisons, 21 statewide average scores were higher than the national average, 17 scores were not different, and 5 scores were lower.
- The nationwide average score of Hispanic students on the earth science section of the science exam was 130, the average score on the life science section was 132, and the average score on the physical science section was 130.

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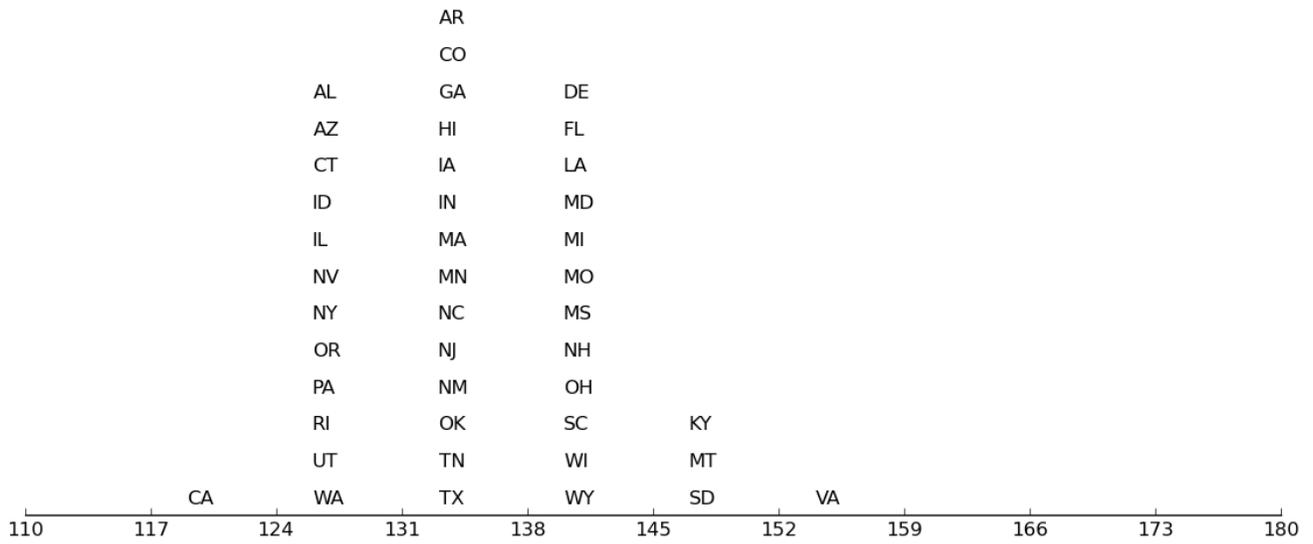
Year: 2009



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Distribution of states across indicator values



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Table 8-3C Fourth Grade Science Performance, Hispanic Students

State	4th grade science performance, Hispanic students (Score out of 300)	
	2009	
United States		130
Alabama		125
Alaska		NA
Arizona		124
Arkansas		136
California		121
Colorado		134
Connecticut		128
Delaware		142
District of Columbia		NA
Florida		144
Georgia		133
Hawaii		134
Idaho		128
Illinois		129
Indiana		136
Iowa		134
Kansas		NA
Kentucky		150
Louisiana		144
Maine		S
Maryland		143
Massachusetts		132
Michigan		138
Minnesota		134

State	4th grade science performance, Hispanic students (Score out of 300)	
	2009	
Mississippi		142
Missouri		141
Montana		149
Nebraska		NA
Nevada		128
New Hampshire		139
New Jersey		136
New Mexico		134
New York		130
North Carolina		132
North Dakota		S
Ohio		140
Oklahoma		131
Oregon		128
Pennsylvania		125
Rhode Island		124
South Carolina		140
South Dakota		145
Tennessee		134
Texas		136
Utah		129
Vermont		NA
Virginia		152
Washington		125
West Virginia		S
Wisconsin		138
Wyoming		140
Puerto Rico		NA



4th grade science performance, Hispanic students
(Score out of 300)

State

2009

NA = not available; S = data are suppressed because reporting standards were not met.

NOTES: The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) scores are for public schools only. The national value for the United States is the reported value in the NAEP reports. Hispanic includes Latino.

SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics, NAEP (2009).

Science and Engineering Indicators 2016