

## Chapter 8. State Indicators

### 8-3E Fourth Grade Science Performance, Female Students

#### Description

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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 in 8,780 schools 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

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- In 2009, the nationwide average science score of female fourth grade students was 148, which was not significantly different than the nationwide average of 149. Average scores for individual states range between 132 and 163.
- Of the 46 states that participated in the 2009 fourth grade science assessment, 24 statewide average scores were higher than the national average, 11 scores were clustered around the average, and 11 scores were lower.
- The nationwide average score of female students on the earth science section of the science exam was 147, the average score on the life science section was 150, and the average score on the physical science section was 148.

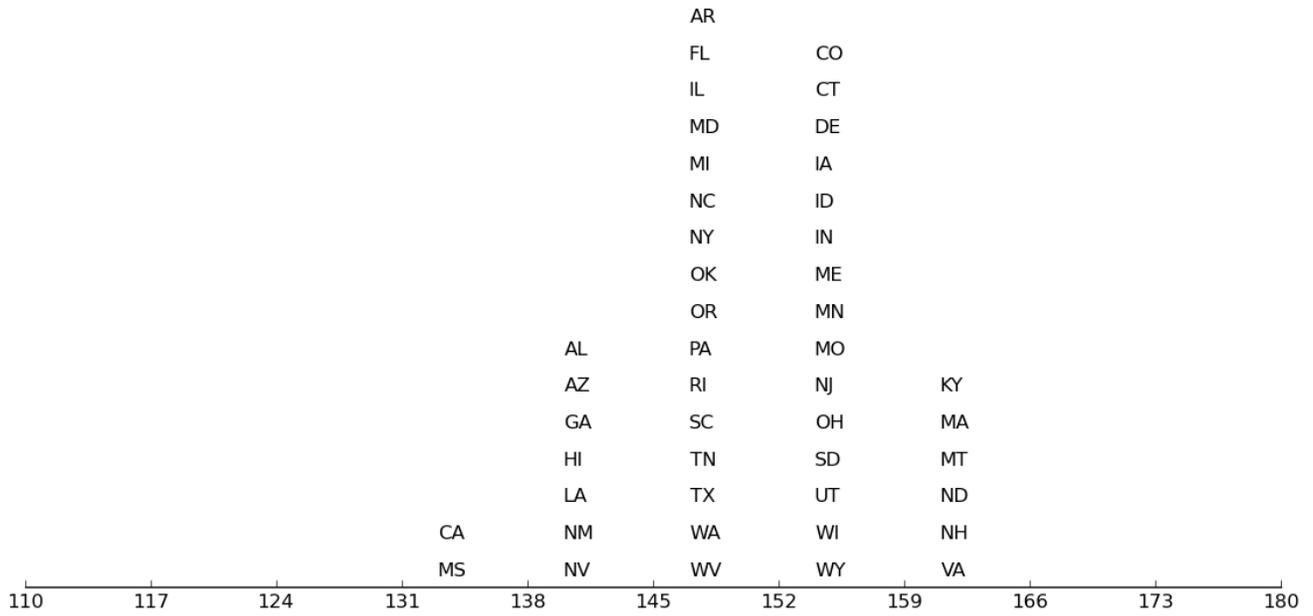


## 8-3E Fourth Grade Science Performance, Female Students

Year: 2009

Distribution of states across indicator values

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**Table 8-3E** Fourth Grade Science Performance, Female Students

State	4th grade science performance, female students (Score out of 300)	
	2009	
United States		148
Alabama		142
Alaska		NA
Arizona		138
Arkansas		146
California		137
Colorado		153
Connecticut		155
Delaware		152
District of Columbia		NA
Florida		150
Georgia		143
Hawaii		143
Idaho		153
Illinois		147
Indiana		152
Iowa		157
Kansas		NA
Kentucky		160
Louisiana		141
Maine		158
Maryland		149
Massachusetts		159
Michigan		149
Minnesota		158

State	4th grade science performance, female students (Score out of 300)	
	2009	
Mississippi		132
Missouri		158
Montana		160
Nebraska		NA
Nevada		139
New Hampshire		163
New Jersey		154
New Mexico		141
New York		147
North Carolina		146
North Dakota		160
Ohio		155
Oklahoma		148
Oregon		151
Pennsylvania		151
Rhode Island		149
South Carolina		149
South Dakota		156
Tennessee		148
Texas		147
Utah		153
Vermont		NA
Virginia		162
Washington		151
West Virginia		147
Wisconsin		156
Wyoming		154
Puerto Rico		NA



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

State

2009

NA = not available.

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.

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

*Science and Engineering Indicators 2016*