

Chapter 8. State Indicators

8-7C Eighth Grade Science Performance, Hispanic Students

Description

This indicator represents the average score in science of each state's eighth 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.

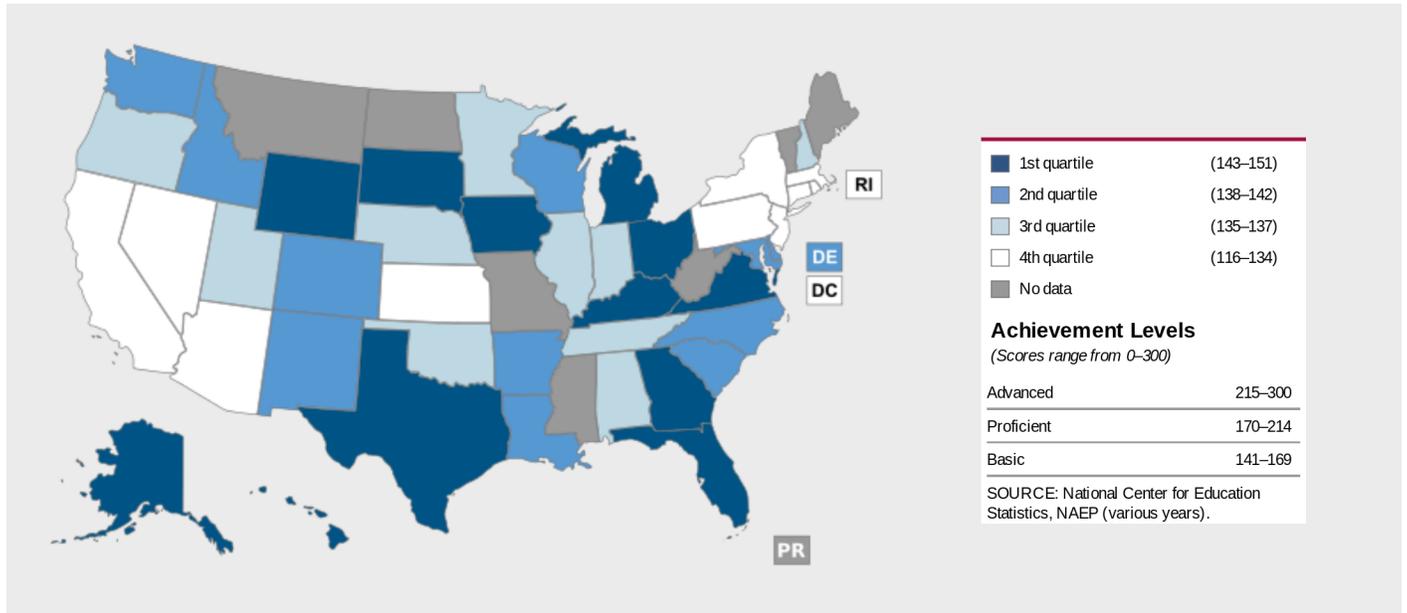
Approximately 119,600 eighth grade students, of whom 26,000 were Hispanic, participated in the 2011 NAEP science assessment. NAEP allows students with disabilities or limited English-language proficiency to use certain accommodations (e.g., extra testing time or individual rather than group administration). 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 8-7.

Findings

- Percentages of Hispanic test takers in 2011 varied on a state level from 1% to 61%. Nationally, in 2011, 22% of eighth grade science test takers were Hispanic students compared with 21% in 2009.
- In 2011, the nationwide average science score of eighth grade Hispanic students was 136, an increase from 131 in 2009. In 2011, the nationwide average science score of eighth grade students was 151.
- Average scores in 2011 for individual states ranged from a high of 151 to a low of 118.
- None of the statewide averages were lower in 2011 than in 2009. Sixteen statewide averages were higher in 2011 than in 2009, and 23 statewide average scores were virtually the same in 2011 as in 2009.
- The 2011 nationwide average score of Hispanic students on the earth science section of the science exam was 135, the average score on the life science section was 137, and the average score on the physical science section was 136.

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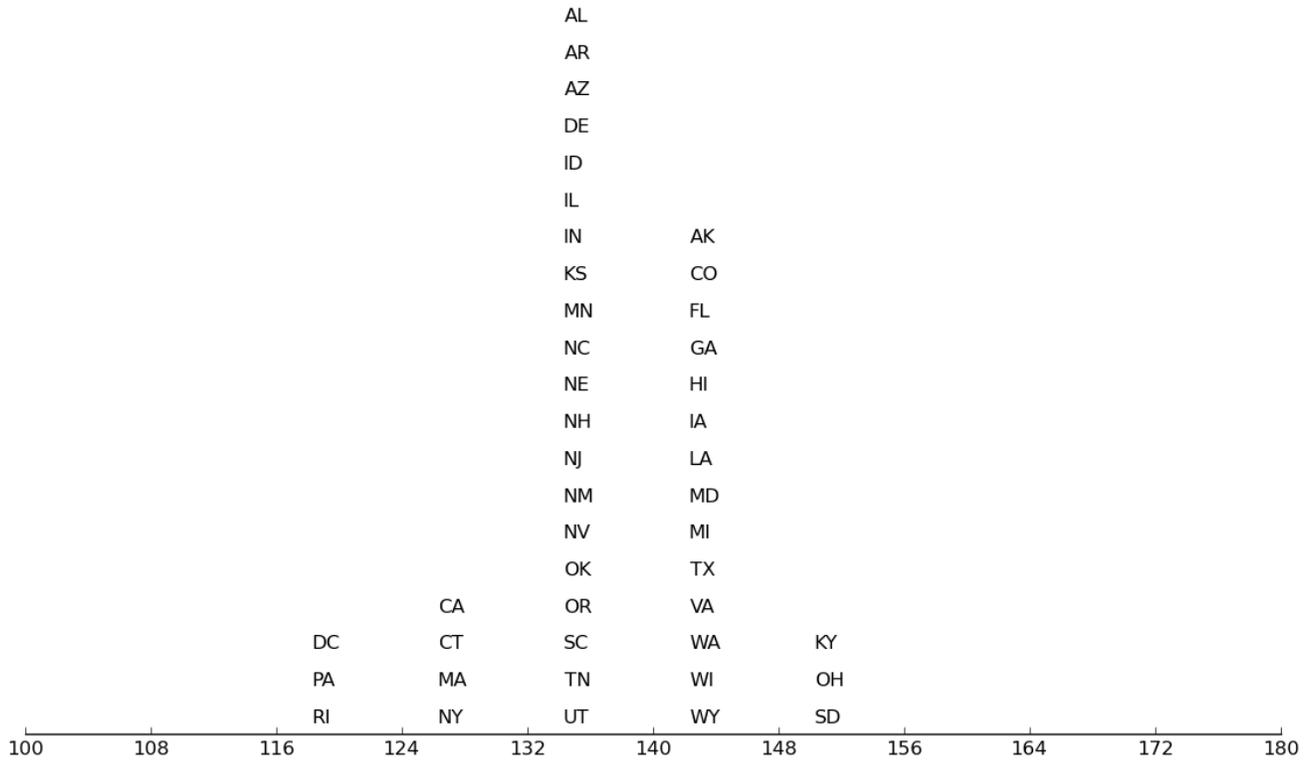
Year: 2011



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Year: 2011

Distribution of states across indicator values



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Table 8-7C Eighth Grade Science Performance, Hispanic Students

| State | 8th grade science performance, Hispanic students (Score out of 300) | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| | 2009 | 2011 |
| United States | 131 | 136 |
| Alabama | 129 | 136 |
| Alaska | NA | 147 |
| Arizona | 127 | 132 |
| Arkansas | 134 | 138 |
| California | 122 | 128 |
| Colorado | 137 | 141 |
| Connecticut | 128 | 129 |
| Delaware | 141 | 139 |
| District of Columbia | NA | 116 |
| Florida | 139 | 144 |
| Georgia | 137 | 143 |
| Hawaii | 148 | 144 |
| Idaho | 137 | 139 |
| Illinois | 131 | 135 |
| Indiana | 135 | 136 |
| Iowa | 133 | 143 |
| Kansas | NA | 134 |
| Kentucky | 145 | 149 |
| Louisiana | S | 142 |
| Maine | S | S |
| Maryland | 136 | 142 |
| Massachusetts | 131 | 130 |
| Michigan | 139 | 146 |
| Minnesota | 132 | 137 |

8th grade science performance, Hispanic students (Score out of 300)

| State | 2009 | 2011 |
|----------------|------|------|
| Mississippi | S | S |
| Missouri | 150 | S |
| Montana | 155 | S |
| Nebraska | NA | 135 |
| Nevada | 129 | 133 |
| New Hampshire | 131 | 137 |
| New Jersey | 138 | 134 |
| New Mexico | 135 | 139 |
| New York | 125 | 129 |
| North Carolina | 132 | 138 |
| North Dakota | S | S |
| Ohio | 140 | 151 |
| Oklahoma | 127 | 135 |
| Oregon | 130 | 135 |
| Pennsylvania | 121 | 118 |
| Rhode Island | 119 | 120 |
| South Carolina | 129 | 139 |
| South Dakota | 135 | 151 |
| Tennessee | 139 | 137 |
| Texas | 141 | 146 |
| Utah | 129 | 137 |
| Vermont | NA | S |
| Virginia | 144 | 145 |
| Washington | 132 | 141 |
| West Virginia | S | S |
| Wisconsin | 134 | 140 |
| Wyoming | 137 | 143 |
| Puerto Rico | NA | NA |



8th grade science performance, Hispanic students (Score out of 300)

State

2009

2011

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

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

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.

Science and Engineering Indicators 2016