

Chapter 8. State Indicators

8-7D Eighth Grade Science Performance, Asian and Pacific Islander 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 6,000 were Asian and Pacific Islander, 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.

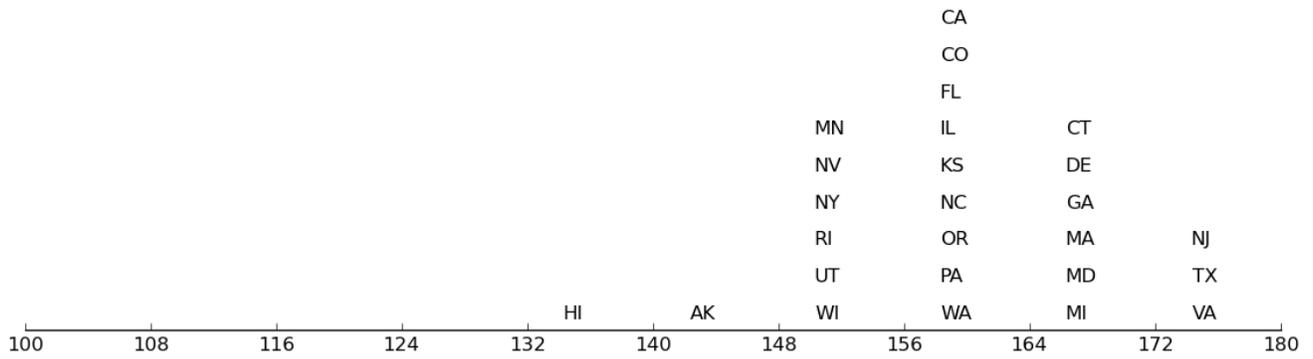
Findings

- Percentages of Asian and Pacific Islander test takers in 2011 varied on a state level from 1% to 72%.
- Nationally, in 2011, as in 2009, 5% of eighth grade science test takers were Asian and Pacific Islander students.
- Between 2009 and 2011, the nationwide average science score of eighth grade Asian and Pacific Islander students remained steady at 159. 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 173 to a low of 139.
- Almost all reported statewide average values were virtually the same in 2011 as in 2009, except for the statewide average score for Hawaii, which was higher in 2011 compared to 2009, and the statewide average score for New York, which was slightly lower in 2011 compared to 2009.
- The 2011 nationwide average score of Asian and Pacific Islander students on the earth science section of the science exam was 157, the average score on the life science section was 160, and the average score on the physical science section was 160.

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Year: 2011

Distribution of states across indicator values



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Table 8-7D Eighth Grade Science Performance, Asian and Pacific Islander Students

State	8th grade science performance, Asian and Pacific Islander students (Score out of 300)	
	2009	2011
United States	159	159
Alabama	S	S
Alaska	NA	145
Arizona	159	S
Arkansas	S	S
California	154	157
Colorado	161	162
Connecticut	169	170
Delaware	160	168
District of Columbia	NA	S
Florida	163	161
Georgia	172	168
Hawaii	136	139
Idaho	S	S
Illinois	167	163
Indiana	S	S
Iowa	S	S
Kansas	NA	156
Kentucky	S	S
Louisiana	S	S
Maine	S	S
Maryland	169	164
Massachusetts	168	170
Michigan	S	166
Minnesota	141	149

State	8th grade science performance, Asian and Pacific Islander students (Score out of 300)	
	2009	2011
Mississippi	S	S
Missouri	167	S
Montana	S	S
Nebraska	NA	S
Nevada	148	154
New Hampshire	S	S
New Jersey	174	173
New Mexico	S	S
New York	161	154
North Carolina	165	160
North Dakota	S	S
Ohio	S	S
Oklahoma	S	S
Oregon	160	159
Pennsylvania	159	163
Rhode Island	146	151
South Carolina	S	S
South Dakota	S	S
Tennessee	S	S
Texas	170	172
Utah	147	153
Vermont	NA	S
Virginia	168	172
Washington	157	156
West Virginia	S	S
Wisconsin	152	149
Wyoming	S	S
Puerto Rico	NA	NA



8th grade science performance, Asian and Pacific Islander 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. Asian and Pacific Islander includes Native Hawaiian.

Science and Engineering Indicators 2016