

5 Takeaways: Massachusetts 2022 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Results

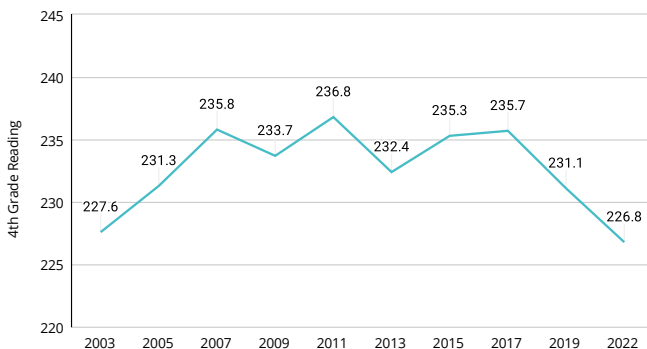
The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), often called The Nation’s Report Card, is the largest nationally representative assessment that provides essential information about student achievement in states across the country. NAEP allows us to compare student achievement in 4th and 8th-grade math and reading both for students overall and for individual groups of students across states and over time.

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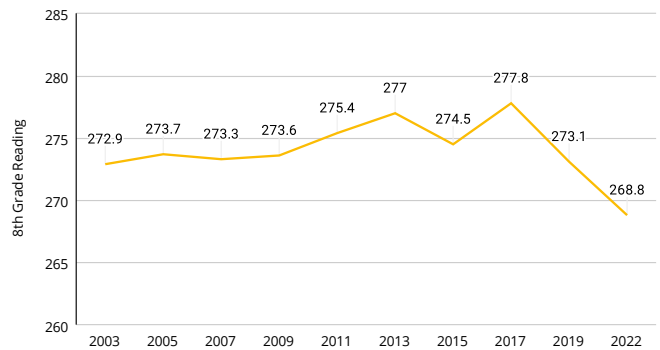
Massachusetts NAEP scores are the lowest they've been in nearly two decades.

This year's NAEP results highlight the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on student learning in Massachusetts. Although the state has maintained its high ranking, overall scores have declined to their lowest point since 2003 or earlier. For example, the average 4th-grade NAEP math score this year is 222.6 -- that's 4.3 points lower than in 2019 and nearly 1 point lower than in 2003.

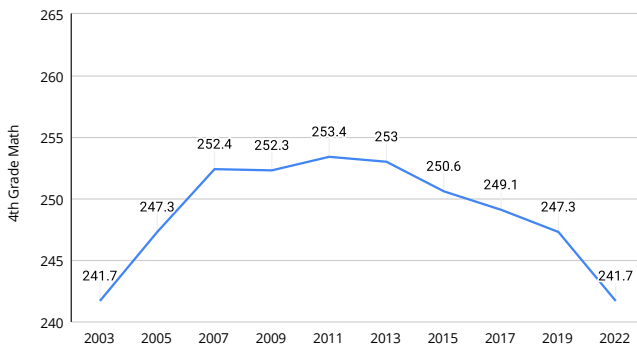
Overall NAEP scores for 4th Grade Reading (2003-22)



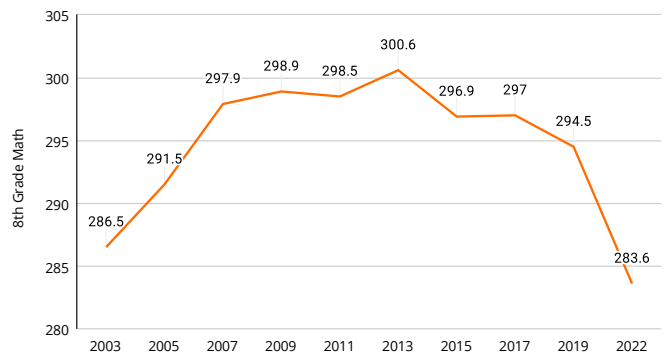
Overall NAEP scores for 8th Grade Reading (2003-22)



Overall NAEP scores for 4th Grade Math (2003-22)



Overall NAEP scores for 8th Grade Math (2003-22)

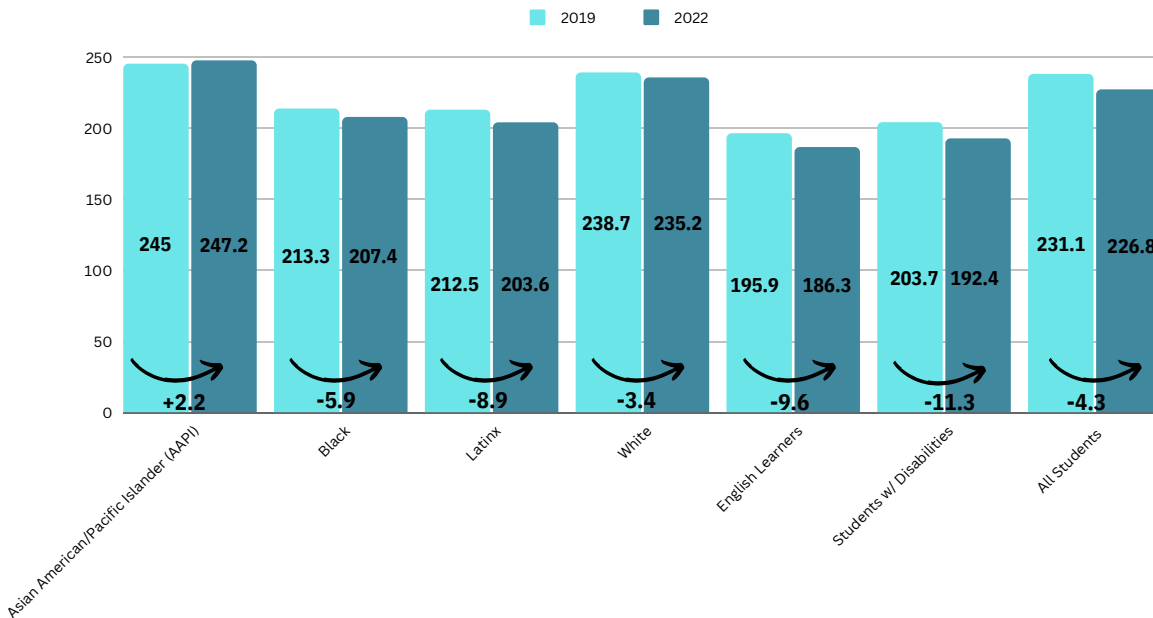


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4th-grade reading scores declined, especially for systemically underserved student groups.

Massachusetts scores have declined, especially for systemically underserved groups – Black and Latinx students, English learners, and students with disabilities. For example, 4th-grade reading scores declined by 5.9 and 8.9 points for Black and Latinx students, respectively, compared to just 3.5 points for White students.

Average Scaled Scores* for 4th Grade Reading by Student Subgroup (2019-22)



In both 4th grade reading and 8th grade math, Massachusetts lands among the top 5 states with the largest disparities in outcomes between students from low-income and higher income families.

*A scaled score is a representation of the total number of correct answers (also known as raw scores) a student has provided that has been converted onto a consistent and standardized scale.

3

2022 scores mark the second year of declines in 4th-grade math.

This year, Massachusetts' overall 4th-grade math score fell to 241.7 -- a 19-year low. Proficiency rates for systemically underserved groups fell especially sharply. In fact, although the Commonwealth has maintained a high overall ranking in 4th-grade reading, for Latinx students, it ranks 26th out of 47 states with data for this population.

Percentage of Students Scoring Proficient or Above in 4th-Grade Math by Subgroup (2017-22)

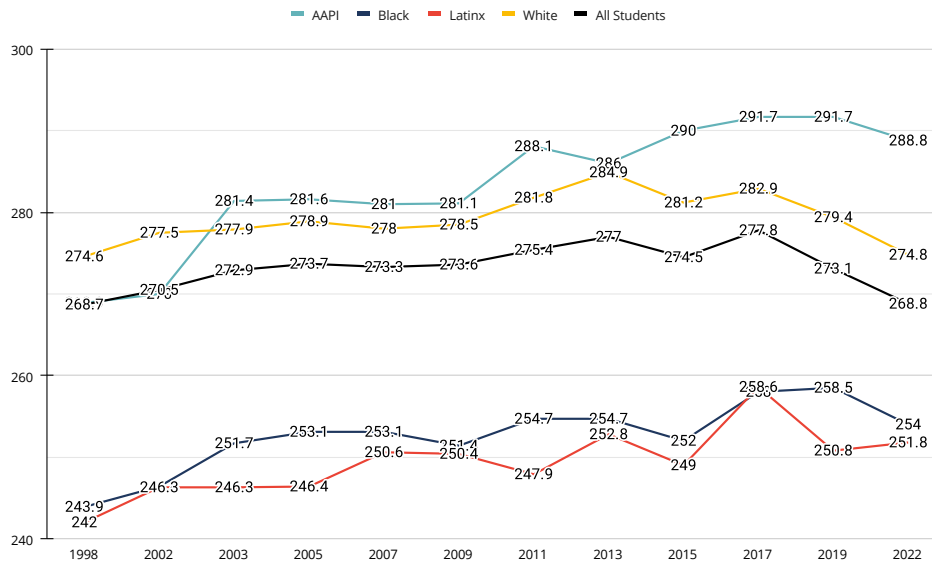
Student Group	2017	2019	2022
Students with Disabilities	22%	21%	13%
English Learners	17%	15%	12%
Black	25%	28%	18%
Latinx	31%	30%	17%
White	62%	59%	52%
AAPI	68%	77%	74%
All Students	53%	50%	43%

4

Despite the high ranking for 8th-grade reading, Massachusetts scores fell to their lowest level on record, tying 1998.

This year, the percentage of students in Massachusetts who scored at or above proficient in 8th-grade reading was 40 percent, 5 percentage points less than in 2019. Statewide, 8th-grade reading scores fell to their lowest level on record, dropping Massachusetts' rank to second place, behind New Jersey.

Average Scaled Scores for 8th Grade Reading, by Race/Ethnicity (1998-2022)

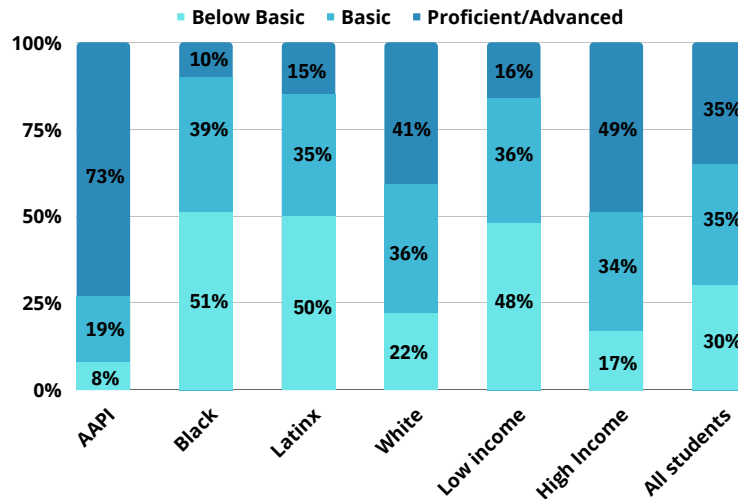


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Following a sharp decline in scores since 2019, just 1 in 3 8th graders are proficient in math.

Massachusetts' 8th grade math outcomes declined for the second time in a row this year, falling to the lowest levels in nearly 20 years. What's more, deep disparities in student outcomes persist. For example, just 16% of students from low-income families scored proficient or higher – less than one-third the rate for their higher-income peers, 49% of whom scored proficient.

8th-grade Math Performance by Student Group



In both 4th grade reading and 8th grade math, about half of Black, Latinx and low-income students scored at the Below Basic level – the lowest level on the assessment.