

National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Eligibility

NAEP collects data on eligibility for NSLP as a measure of socioeconomic status (SES). NSLP is a federally assisted meal program that provides low-cost or free lunches to eligible students. It is sometimes referred to as the free/reduced-price lunch program.



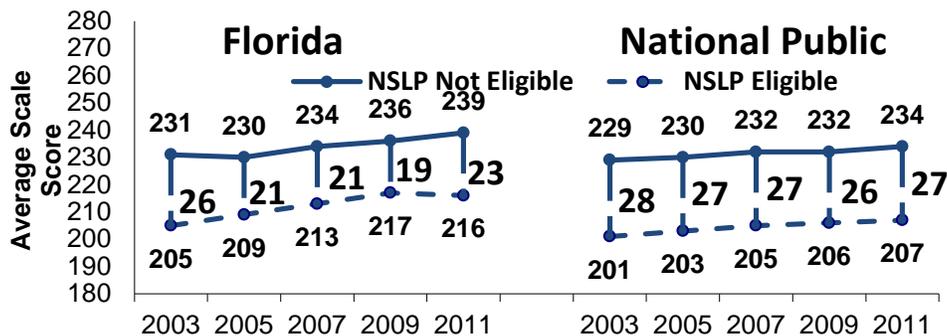
NAEP 2003–2011 Reading, Grade 4 Florida vs. National Public NSLP Average Scale Score Achievement Gaps*

Scale scores range from 0 to 500 and serve as the basis for achievement levels.

NAEP 2003–2011 Cut Scores: *Basic* 208 to 237; *Proficient* 238 to 267; *Advanced* 268 to 500.

Scores below 208 are classified as below *Basic*.

NSLP Eligible/Not Eligible



Key Findings, 2003–2011

- Between 2003 and 2011, both Florida’s and the nation’s grade 4 public school students eligible and not eligible for NSLP had significant *gains* in their average scale scores on NAEP Reading.
- Florida’s grade 4 public school students eligible for NSLP continue to have average scale scores significantly *higher* than those of their national counterparts.
- Since 2007, Florida students not eligible for NSLP have had average scale scores significantly *higher* than those of their national counterparts. This is an improvement from 2003 and 2005, when Florida’s students not eligible for NSLP had average scale scores *not significantly different* from those of their national counterparts.
- The gain between 2003 and 2011 in the average scale score of Florida’s grade 4 public school students eligible for NSLP was significantly *greater* than the nation’s gain. There was *no significant difference* between the gains of Florida’s and the nation’s students not eligible for NSLP during the same time period.

Key Gap Changes, 2003–2011

- The average scale score gap between Florida’s grade 4 public school students eligible and not eligible for NSLP was *narrower* than the nation’s for all recent NAEP administrations, except in 2003, when there was *no significant difference* between the two gaps.
- Between 2003 and 2011, neither Florida nor the nation had a significant change in their grade 4 public school average scale score gap between students eligible and not eligible for NSLP.

*Notes: Comparisons based on statistical tests (.05 level) using unrounded numbers that consider the magnitude of difference and standard errors. Score gaps are calculated based on differences between unrounded average scores. Conclusions do not apply to NAEP administrations prior to 2003.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center of Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2011 Reading Assessment. Visit Florida NAEP on the web at <http://www.fldoe.org/asp/naep/>.

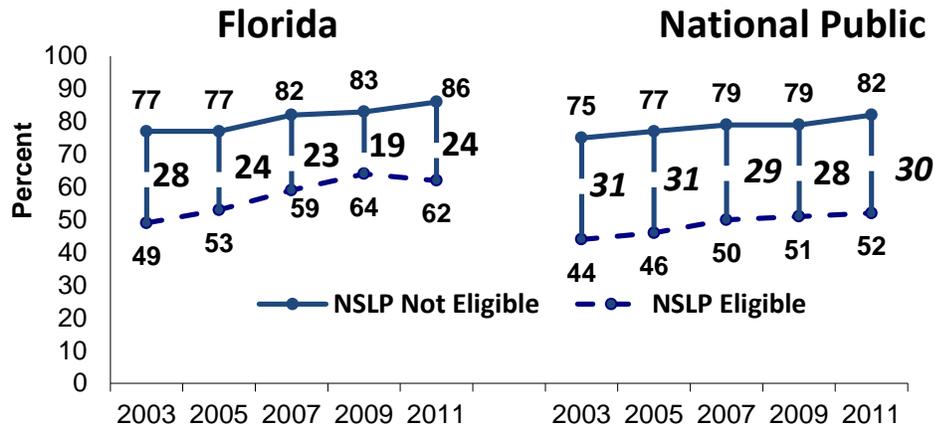
NAEP Data Explorer Search Criteria: Reading, Grade 4. Jurisdictions: National Public, Florida. Years: 2003-2011. Variables: National School Lunch Program eligibility. Edit Reports: Statistics Options, Average Scale Scores.

NAEP 2003–2011 Reading, Grade 4 Florida vs. National Public NSLP At or above *Basic* Achievement Gaps*



Scale scores range from 0 to 500 and serve as the basis for achievement levels.
NAEP 2003–2011 Cut Scores: *Basic* 208 to 237; *Proficient* 238 to 267; *Advanced* 268 to 500.
Scores below 208 are classified as below *Basic*.

NSLP Eligible/Not Eligible



Key Findings, 2003–2011

- Between 2003 and 2011, both Florida and the nation had significant *gains* in the percentage of grade 4 public school students eligible and not eligible for NSLP performing at or above *Basic* on NAEP Reading.
- The percentage of Florida’s grade 4 public school students eligible for NSLP performing at or above *Basic* on NAEP Reading continues to be significantly *higher* than the percentage of their national counterparts.
- The percentage of Florida students not eligible for NSLP performing at or above *Basic* was significantly *higher* than the nation’s in 2007, 2009, and 2011. This is an improvement from 2003 and 2005, when Florida’s percentages were *not significantly different* from the nation’s.
- Between 2003 and 2011, the gain in the percentage of Florida’s grade 4 public school students eligible for NSLP scoring at or above *Basic* was significantly *greater* than the nation’s. The gains of Florida’s and the nation’s students not eligible for NSLP were *not significantly different* during the same time period.

Key Gap Changes, 2003–2011

- Since 2005, the achievement gap between Florida’s grade 4 public school students eligible and not eligible for NSLP performing at or above *Basic* has continued to be significantly *narrower* than the nation’s. This is an improvement from 2003, when there was *no significant difference* between the two achievement gaps.
- Between 2003 and 2011, neither Florida nor the nation had a significant change in their grade 4 public school student achievement gap between those eligible and not eligible for NSLP performing at or above *Basic*.

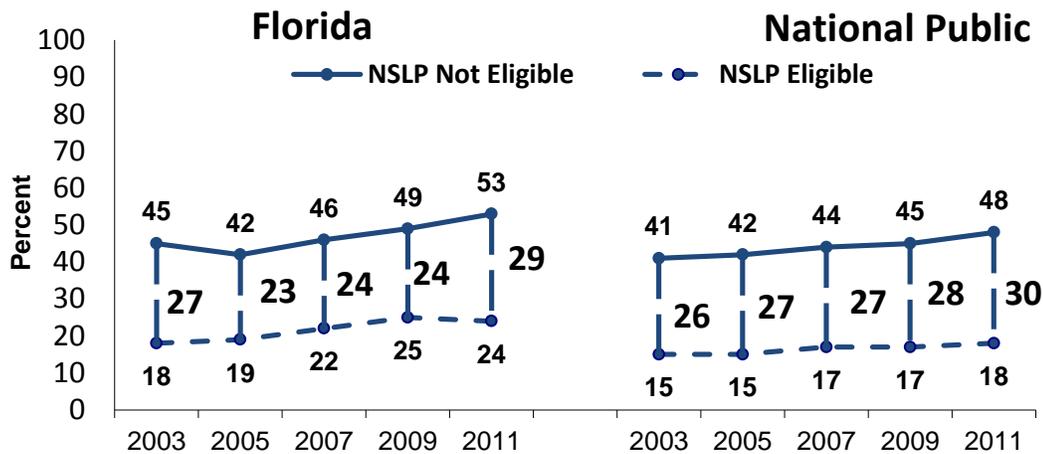
*Notes: Comparisons based on statistical tests (.05 level) using unrounded numbers that consider the magnitude of difference and standard errors. Score gaps are calculated based on differences between unrounded average scores. Conclusions do not apply to NAEP administrations prior to 2003. Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center of Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2011 Reading Assessment. Visit Florida NAEP on the web at <http://www.fldoe.org/asp/naep/>. [NAEP Data Explorer](#) Search Criteria: Reading, Grade 4. Jurisdictions: National Public, Florida. Years: 2003-2011. Variables: National School Lunch Program eligibility. Edit Reports: Statistics Options, Achievement Levels, Cumulative.

NAEP 2003–2011 Reading, Grade 4 Florida vs. National Public NSLP At or above *Proficient* Achievement Gaps*



Scale scores range from 0 to 500 and serve as the basis for achievement levels.
NAEP 2003–2011 Cut Scores: *Basic* 208 to 237; *Proficient* 238 to 267; *Advanced* 268 to 500.
Scores below 208 are classified as below *Basic*.

NSLP Eligible/Not Eligible



Key Findings, 2003–2011

- Between 2003 and 2011, both Florida and the nation had significant *gains* in the percentage of grade 4 public school students eligible and not eligible for NSLP performing at or above *Proficient* on NAEP Reading.
- The percentage of Florida’s grade 4 public school students eligible for NSLP performing at or above *Proficient* on NAEP Reading continues to be significantly *higher* than the percentage of their national counterparts.
- The percentage of Florida students not eligible for NSLP performing at or above *Proficient* was significantly *higher* than the nation’s in 2011. This is an improvement from 2003, 2005, 2007, and 2009, when there was *no significant difference* between the percentages of the two groups.
- Between 2003 and 2011, the gains in the percentages of Florida’s and the nation’s grade 4 public school students eligible for NSLP scoring at or above *Proficient* were *not significantly different*. This is also true of the gains of Florida’s and the nation’s students not eligible for NSLP.

Key Gap Changes, 2003–2011

- The achievement gap between Florida’s grade 4 public school students eligible and not eligible for NSLP performing at or above *Proficient* continues to be *not significantly different* from the nation’s.
- Between 2003 and 2011, the nation significantly *widened* its grade 4 public school student achievement gap between those eligible and not eligible for NSLP performing at or above *Proficient*. Florida’s achievement gap, however, did *not change significantly* during the same time period.

*Notes: Comparisons based on statistical tests (.05 level) using unrounded numbers that consider the magnitude of difference and standard errors. Score gaps are calculated based on differences between unrounded average scores. Conclusions do not apply to NAEP administrations prior to 2003. Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center of Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2011 Reading Assessment. Visit Florida NAEP on the web at <http://www.fldoe.org/asp/naep/>. [NAEP Data Explorer](#) Search Criteria: Reading, Grade 4. Jurisdictions: National Public, Florida. Years: 2003-2011. Variables: National School Lunch Program eligibility. Edit Reports: Statistics Options, Achievement Levels, Cumulative.