Overall Results

- In 2017, the average score of eighth-grade students in Kentucky was 265. This was not significantly different from the average score of 265 for public school students in the nation.
- The average score for students in Kentucky in 2017 (265) was not significantly different from their average score in 2015 (268) and in 1998 (262).
- The percentage of students in Kentucky who performed at or above the NAEP Proficient level was 34 percent in 2017. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2015 (36 percent) and in 1998 (30 percent).
- The percentage of students in Kentucky who performed at or above the NAEP Basic level was 75 percent in 2017. This percentage was smaller than that in 2015 (78 percent) and was not significantly different from that in 1998 (74 percent).

Compare the Average Score in 2017 to Other States/Jurisdictions

In 2017, the average score in Kentucky (265) was
- lower than those in 17 states/jurisdictions
- higher than those in 14 states/jurisdictions
- not significantly different from those in 20 states/jurisdictions

DoDEA = Department of Defense Education Activity (overseas and domestic schools)

Achievement-Level Percentages and Average Score Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>Nation (public)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kentucky</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Score</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>22*</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent below Basic or at Proficient</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent at Basic or Advanced</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Significantly different (p < .05) from state's results in 2017. Significance tests were performed using unrounded numbers.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Average Scores for State/Jurisdiction and Nation (public)

Score Gaps for Student Groups

- In 2017, Black students had an average score that was 21 points lower than that for White students. This performance gap was not significantly different from that in 1998 (19 points).
- In 2017, Hispanic students had an average score that was 6 points not significantly different from that for White students. Data are not reported for Hispanic students in 1998, because reporting standards were not met.
- In 2017, female students in Kentucky had an average score that was higher than that for male students by 15 points.
- In 2017, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, an indicator of low family income, had an average score that was 23 points lower than that for students who were not eligible. This performance gap was not significantly different from that in 1998 (20 points).

NOTE: The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages. Read more about how to interpret NAEP results from the reading assessment at https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/reading/interpret_results.aspx.