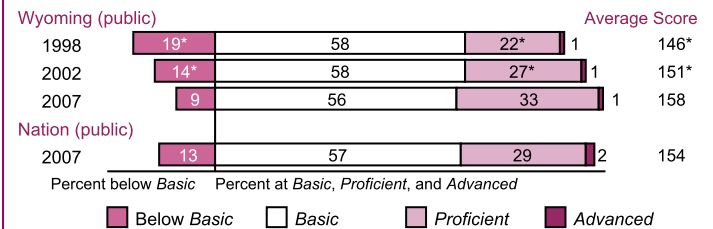


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses writing for three purposes identified in the NAEP framework: narrative, informative, and persuasive. The NAEP writing scale ranges from 0 to 300.

Overall Writing Results for Wyoming

- In 2007, the average scale score for eighth-grade students in Wyoming was 158. This was higher than their average score in 2002 (151) and was higher than their average score in 1998 (146).¹
- Wyoming's average score (158) in 2007 was higher than that of the nation's public schools (154).
- Of the 45 states and one other jurisdiction that participated in the 2007 eighth-grade assessment, students' average scale score in Wyoming was higher than those in 24 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 15 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 6 jurisdictions.²
- The percentage of students in Wyoming who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 34 percent in 2007. This percentage was greater than that in 2002 (28 percent) and was greater than that in 1998 (23 percent).
- The percentage of students in Wyoming who performed at or above the NAEP *Basic* level was 91 percent in 2007. This percentage was greater than that in 2002 (86 percent) and was greater than that in 1998 (81 percent).

Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels and Average Score



NOTE: The NAEP grade 8 writing achievement levels correspond to the following scale points: *Below Basic*, 113 or lower; *Basic*, 114–172; *Proficient*, 173–223; *Advanced*, 224 or above.

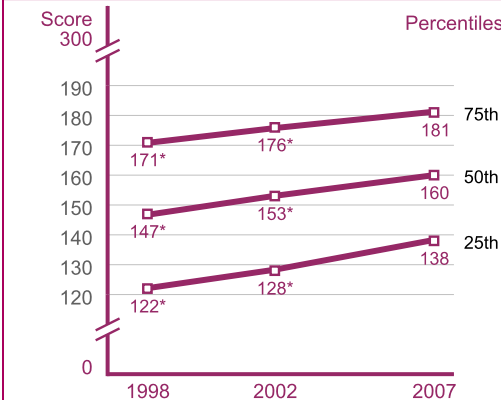
Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Wyoming: 2007

Reporting groups	Percent of students	Average score	Percent below Basic	Percent of students at or above Basic	Percent of students at or above Proficient	Percent Advanced
Male	52	146↑	15↓	85↑	20↑	#
Female	48	171↑	4↓	96↑	50↑	3
White	85↓	160↑	9↓	91↑	36↑	1
Black	1	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Hispanic	10↑	153↑	8	92	23	1
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
American Indian/Alaska Native	4	127	33	67	9	#
Eligible for National School Lunch Program	29↓	145	16↓	84↑	21	1
Not eligible for National School Lunch Program	71↑	163↑	7↓	93↑	40↑	2

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups

- In 2007, male students in Wyoming had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 25 points. This performance gap was not significantly different from that of 1998 (27 points).
- Data are not reported for Black students in 2007, because reporting standards were not met. Therefore, the performance gap results are not reported.
- In 2007, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 7 points. This performance gap was not significantly different from that of 1998 (11 points).
- In 2007, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, an indicator of poverty, had an average score that was lower than that of students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch by 18 points. This performance gap was not significantly different from that of 1998 (12 points).
- In 2007, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 43 points. This performance gap was not significantly different from that of 1998 (49 points).

Writing Scores at Selected Percentiles in Wyoming



NOTE: Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP writing scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels performed.

Rounds to zero.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

* Significantly different from 2007.

↑ Significantly higher than 2002. ↓ Significantly lower than 2002.

¹ Comparisons (higher/lower/narrower/wider/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level with appropriate adjustments for multiple comparisons was used for testing statistical significance. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages. Comparisons across jurisdictions and comparisons with the nation or within a jurisdiction across years may be affected by differences in exclusion rates for students with disabilities (SD) and English language learners (ELL). The exclusion rates for SD and ELL in Wyoming were 3 percent and "percentage rounds to zero" in 2007, respectively. For more information on NAEP significance testing, see <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/writing/interpret-results.asp#statistical>.

² "Jurisdiction" refers to states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Education Activity schools.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding and because the "Information not available" category for the National School Lunch Program, which provides free and reduced-price lunches, and the "Unclassified" category for race/ethnicity are not displayed. Visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/> for additional results and detailed information.

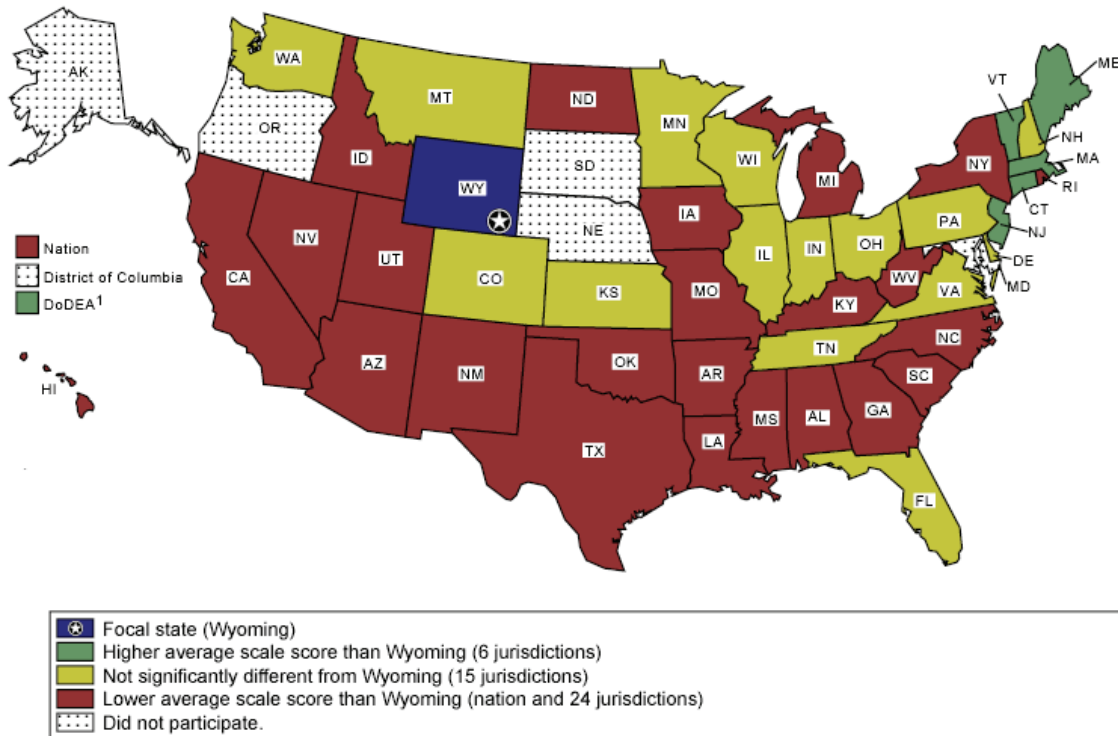
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 1998, 2002, and 2007 Writing Assessments.

Grade 8 Report

National Snapshot

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) employs timed, on-demand writing tasks to assess eighth graders' skills in three modalities: Narrative Writing (e.g., telling a story), Informative Writing, and Persuasive Writing. NAEP scale scores range from 0 to 300, wherein a 114 denotes NAEP's *Basic* achievement benchmark (that is, approximately an "at grade level" performance), 173 reflects *Proficient* or student competency on challenging material, and 224 is considered an *Advanced* performance.

Wyoming and the Nation — Grade 8 Writing Scale Scores



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). 2007 Writing Assessment.
¹ Department of Defense Education Activity schools (domestic and overseas).

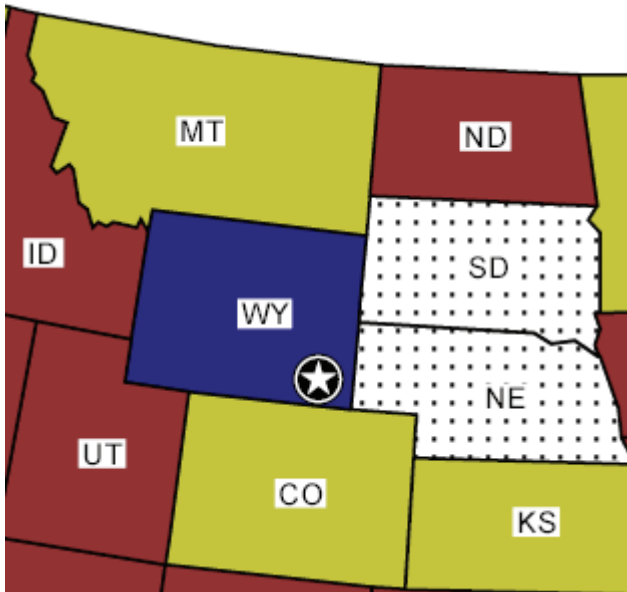
- ▶ On the 2007 writing assessment, Wyoming 8th graders had an average scale score that was reliably higher than students in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Iowa, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, and West Virginia. Wyoming 8th graders also scored higher than the national average, i.e., for the first time since state-level writing began in 1998.
- ▶ Wyoming 8th graders had an average scale score that was not statistically different from students in Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.
- ▶ Wyoming 8th graders had an average scale score that was reliably lower than students in Connecticut, Department of Defense schools, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Vermont.
- ▶ Alaska, Maryland, Nebraska, Oregon, and South Dakota did not participate in the 2007 writing assessment

Grade 8 Report

Regional Snapshot

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) employs timed, on-demand writing tasks to assess eighth graders' skills in three modalities: Narrative Writing (e.g., telling a story), Informative Writing, and Persuasive Writing. NAEP scale scores range from 0 to 300, wherein a 114 denotes NAEP's *Basic* achievement benchmark (approximating an "at grade level" performance), 173 reflects *Proficient* or student competency on challenging material, and 224 is considered an *Advanced* performance.

Scale Scores

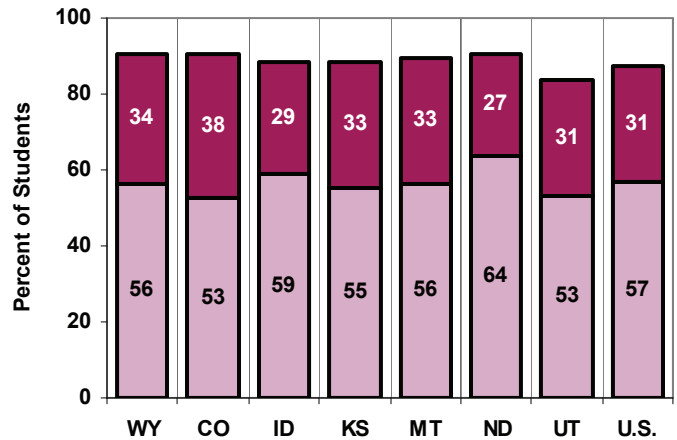


Legend: Wyoming (blue) is the focal state. States in green scored reliably higher than Wyoming. States in yellow were not statistically different from Wyoming. States in red scored reliably lower than Wyoming.

- ▶ In 2007, the average writing scale score for 8th grade students in Wyoming was 158; this was reliably higher than the national average (154).
- ▶ Wyoming 8th graders also had a higher average writing scale score in 2007 than students in Idaho, North Dakota, and Utah.
- ▶ Wyoming 8th grade average writing scale score in 2007 that was not statistically different from Colorado, Kansas, or Montana.
- ▶ Nebraska and South Dakota did not participate in the 2007 NAEP Writing assessment.

Achievement Levels

- ▶ Ninety-one (91) percent of Wyoming's 8th graders scored at or above *Basic* on the 2007 writing assessment. This was reliably higher than the nation's 87 percent.
- ▶ Wyoming also had a higher percentage of 8th graders scoring at or above *Basic* on the 2007 writing assessment than Utah.
- ▶ The percentage of Wyoming's 8th graders scoring at or above *Basic* on writing in 2007 was not reliably different from Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, or North Dakota.



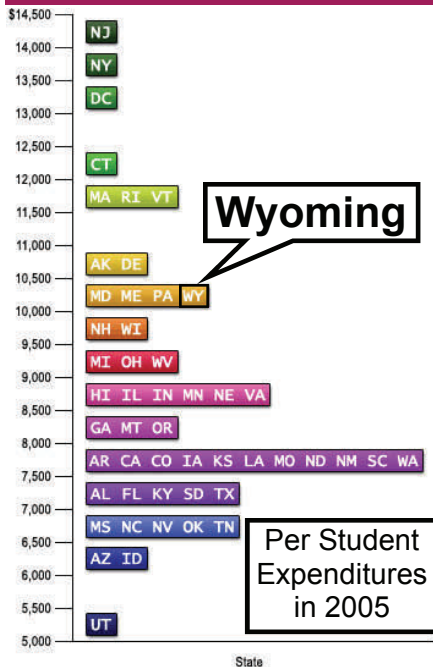
■ NAEP Basic ■ Proficient & Advanced

Grade 8 Report

Funding Snapshot

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) employs timed, on-demand writing tasks to assess eighth graders' skills in three modalities: Narrative Writing (e.g., telling a story), Informative Writing, and Persuasive Writing. NAEP scale scores range from 0 to 300, wherein a 114 denotes NAEP's *Basic* achievement benchmark (approximating an "at grade level" performance), 173 reflects *Proficient* or student competency on challenging material, and 224 is considered an *Advanced* performance.

Per Capita Student Expenditures in 2005



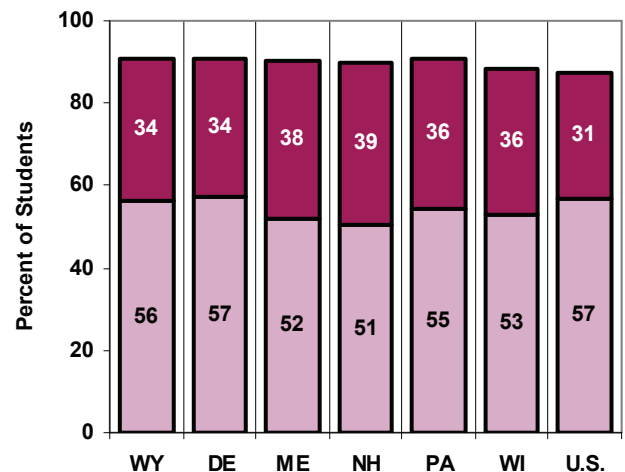
- ▶ Wyoming was among four states reporting per pupil expenditures between \$10,000 and \$10,500 during 2005 (most recent federal data available). Three other states (Maryland, Maine, and Pennsylvania) were in the same expenditures range as Wyoming.
- ▶ Four states with spending levels near Wyoming's include Alaska and Delaware—i.e., \$10,500-\$11,000 per student—and New Hampshire and Wisconsin, \$9,500-\$10,000 per pupil expenditures in fiscal year 2005.

NOTE: Current expenditures include instruction, instruction-related, support services, and other elementary/secondary current expenditures, but exclude expenditures on capital outlay, other programs, and interest on long-term debt.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core Data, "National Public Education Financial Survey (NPEFS)" fiscal year 2005, Version 1a.

Achievement Levels

- ▶ Ninety-one (91) percent of Wyoming 8th graders scored at or above *Basic* on the 2007 writing assessment. This was higher than the nation's 87 percent.
- ▶ The percentage of Wyoming 8th graders scoring at or above *Basic* on the 2007 writing assessment was not reliably different from Delaware, Maine, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, or Wisconsin, i.e., other states with similar per-student expenditures as in Wyoming.
- ▶ Alaska and Maryland did not participate in the 2007 NAEP Writing assessment.



■ NAEP Basic ■ Proficient & Advanced

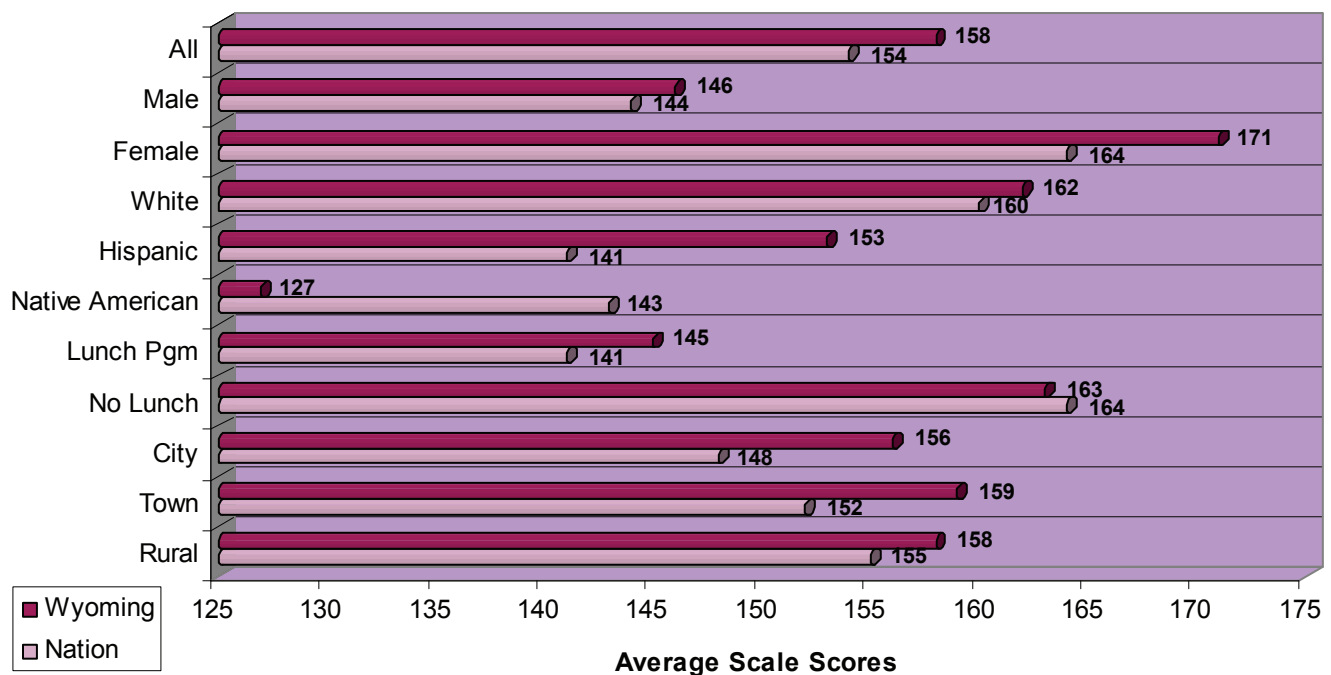
Grade 8 Report

WY-US Student Gaps Snapshot

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) employs timed, on-demand writing tasks to assess eighth graders' skills in three modalities: Narrative Writing (e.g., telling a story), Informative Writing, and Persuasive Writing. NAEP scale scores range from 0 to 300, wherein a 114 denotes NAEP's *Basic* achievement benchmark (approximating an "at grade level" performance), 173 reflects *Proficient* or student competency on challenging material, and 224 is considered an *Advanced* performance.

Student Group Comparisons

Wyoming and National Results



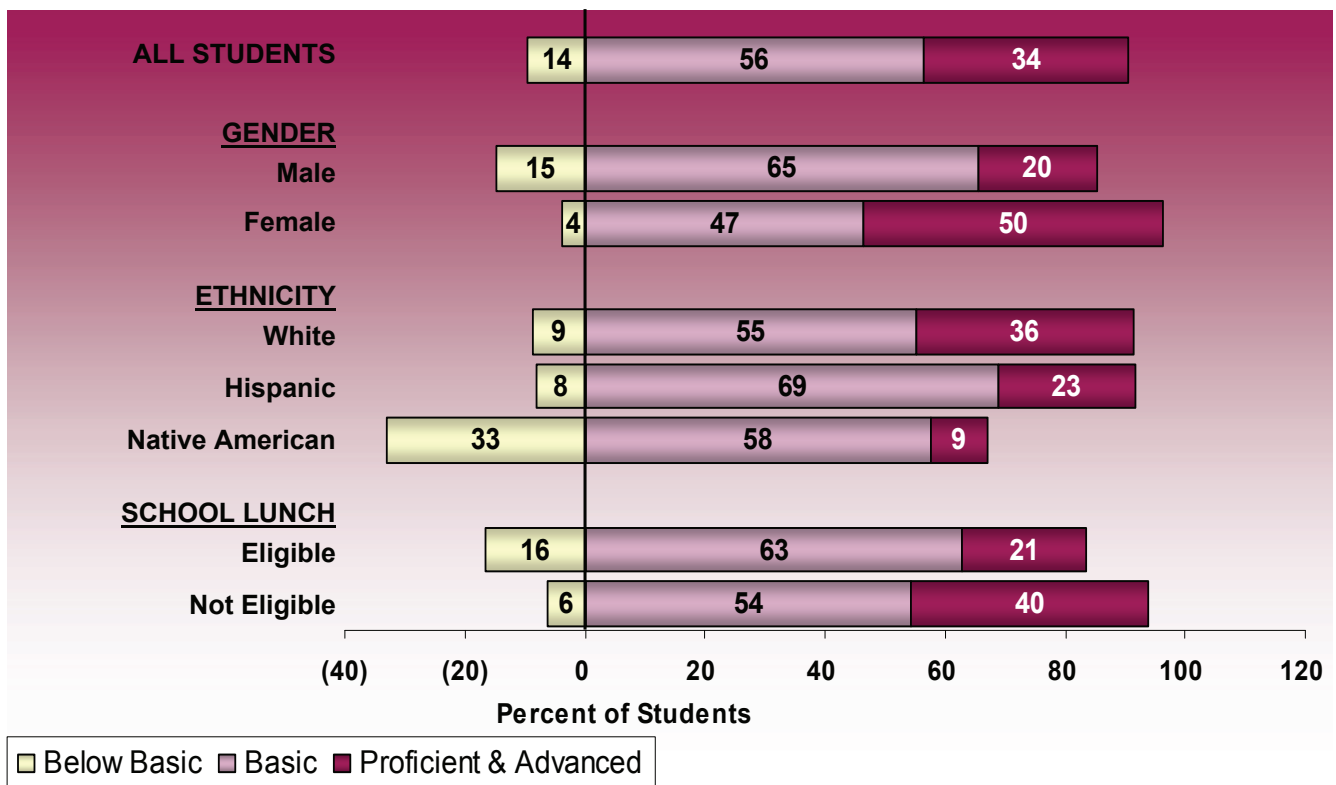
- ▶ In 2007, Wyoming eighth graders' average scale score in writing was higher than students nationally; Wyoming also had higher results in five student groups: female students, White and Hispanic student, and students in both city and town schools (as defined by the Census Bureau).
- ▶ Wyoming eighth graders had an average scale scores in writing that were not reliably different from national results in four student groups: male students, students from low income families (i.e., students qualifying for free or reduced price meals from the National School Lunch Program), students not qualifying for free or reduced priced meals, and students in rural schools.
- ▶ Wyoming Native American eighth grader had an average scale score in writing lower than its peer group nationally.

Grade 8 Report

Student Groups Snapshot

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) employs timed, on-demand writing tasks to assess eighth graders' skills in three modalities: Narrative Writing (e.g., telling a story), Informative Writing, and Persuasive Writing. NAEP scale scores range from 0 to 300, wherein a 114 denotes NAEP's *Basic* achievement benchmark (approximating an "at grade level" performance), 173 reflects *Proficient* or student competency on challenging material, and 224 is considered an *Advanced* performance.

Student Groups in Wyoming



- ▶ On the NAEP 2007 writing assessment, the proportion of eighth grade female students in Wyoming who scored at or above *Basic* (96 percent) was higher than male students (85 percent).
- ▶ The proportion of eighth grade Hispanic students in Wyoming scoring at or above *Basic* (92 percent) was not reliably higher than White (91 percent) and Native American (67 percent) students. Sampling was not sufficient to permit confidential reporting in writing performances of eighth grade Black and Asian students.
- ▶ Wyoming eighth graders qualifying for free or reduced price meals in the National School Lunch Program and scoring at or above *Basic* (83 percent) was lower than students who not eligible for the lunch program (93 percent).