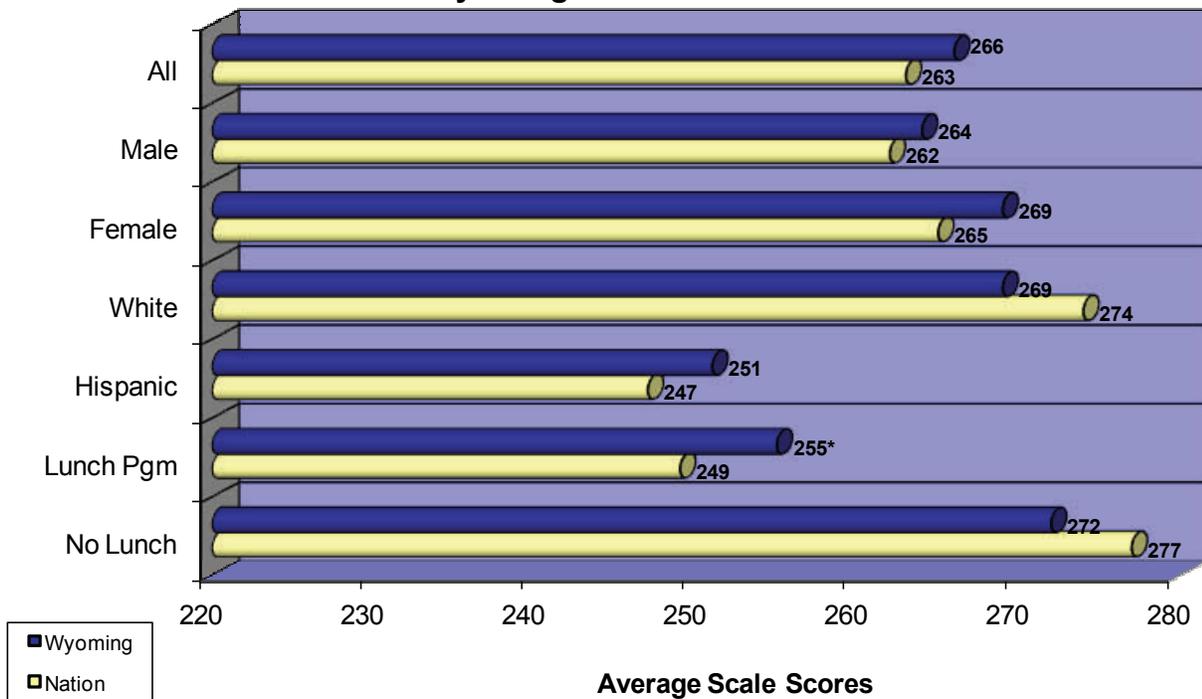


WY-US Student Gaps Snapshot

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) uses both multiple choice questions to assess eighth graders' vocabulary skills. Specifically, students are *not* asked to provide written definitions of words in isolation. Instead, NAEP focuses upon distinctions and nuances of word meaning arising within the context of student reading tasks or passages. Each vocabulary question asks how a particular word contributes meaning to all or part of the passage in which it appears.

Student Group Comparisons

Wyoming and National Results



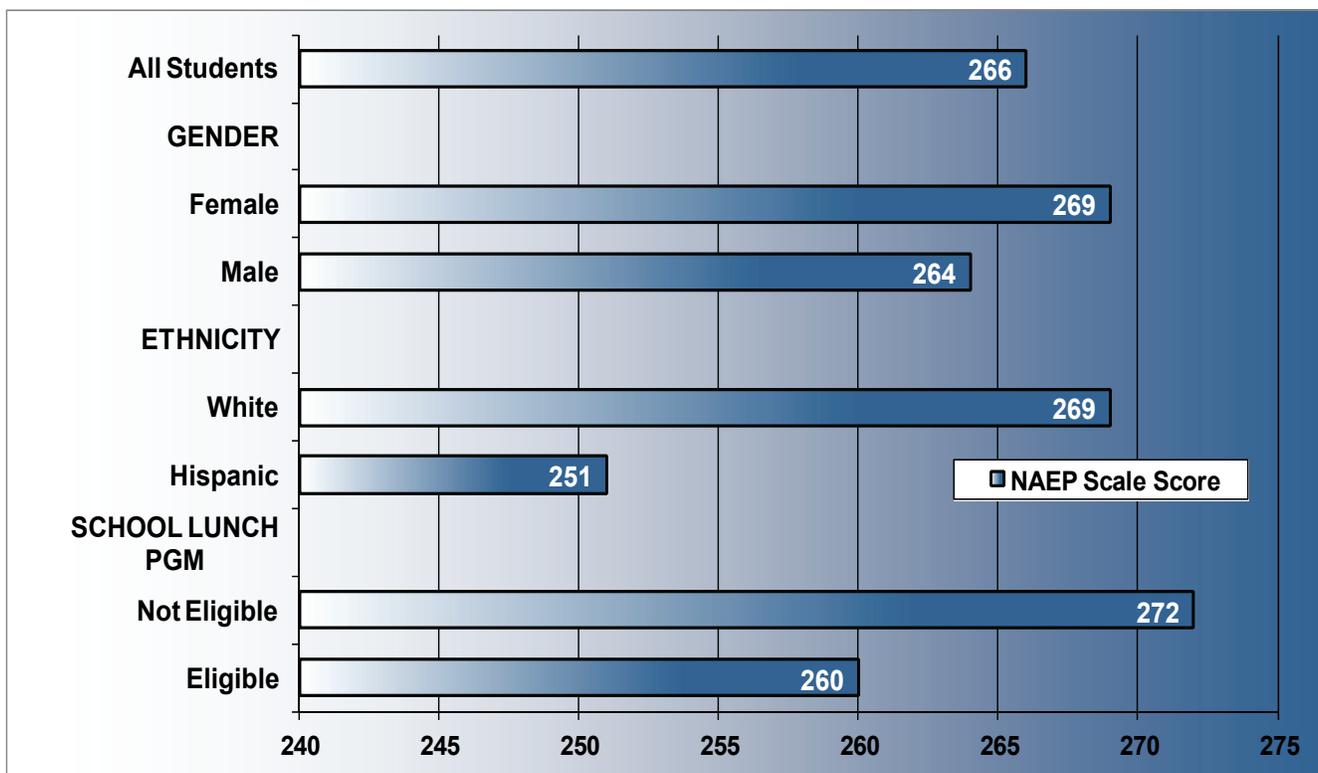
- ▶ In 2011, Wyoming's eight graders' average scale score in vocabulary was statistically the same as grade eight students nationally.
- ▶ Demographically, Wyoming eighth graders performed the same as their peers nationwide in five student groups: male and female students, White students, students from low income families (i.e., students qualifying for free or reduced price meals from the National School Lunch Program), and students from more affluent homes (i.e., those students not qualifying for free or reduced price meals).
- ▶ Notably, Hispanic students in Wyoming's outperformed their peers nationally in the 2011 NAEP vocabulary assessment.

## Grade 8 Report

## Student Groups Snapshot

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) uses both multiple choice questions to assess eighth graders' vocabulary skills. Specifically, students are *not* asked to provide written definitions of words in isolation. Instead, NAEP focuses upon distinctions and nuances of word meaning arising within the context of student reading tasks or passages. Each vocabulary question asks how a particular word contributes meaning to all or part of the passage in which it appears.

## Student Groups in Wyoming

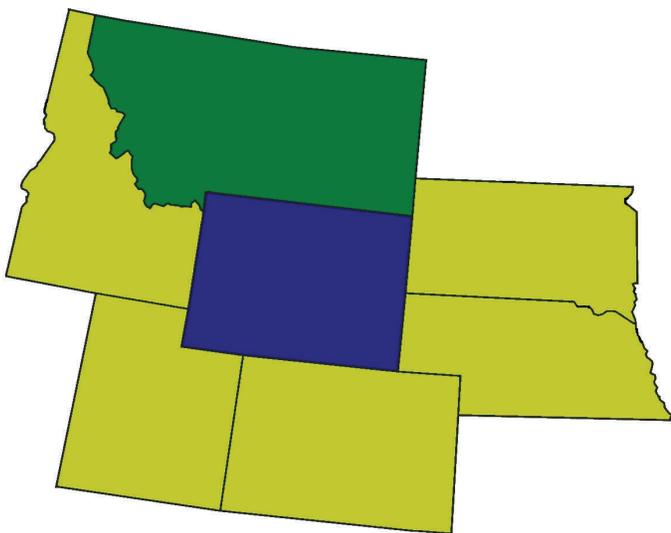


- ▶ On the NAEP 2011 vocabulary assessment, the average scale score of eighth grade female students in Wyoming (269) was statistically the same as male students (264).
- ▶ The average vocabulary scale score of Wyoming eighth grade White students (269) was higher than their Hispanic (251) peers. Sampling was not sufficient to permit reporting of meaning vocabulary performance for eighth grade Native American, Black and Asian students.
- ▶ Wyoming eighth graders not eligible for free or reduced price meals under the National School Lunch Program had a higher average meaning vocabulary scale score (272) than students qualifying for the lunch program (260).

### Regional Snapshot

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) uses both multiple choice questions to assess eighth graders' vocabulary skills. Specifically, students are *not* asked to provide written definitions of words in isolation. Instead, NAEP focuses upon distinctions and nuances of word meaning arising within the context of student reading tasks or passages. Each vocabulary question asks how a particular word contributes meaning to all or part of the passage in which it appears.

### Results

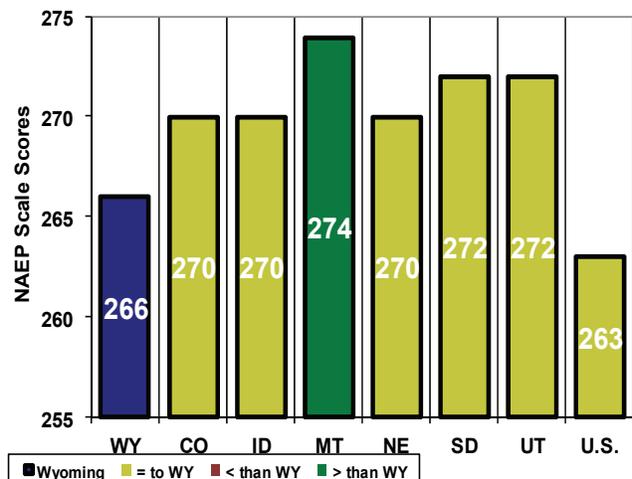


Legend: Wyoming (blue) is the focal state. States in green scored reliably higher than Wyoming. States in yellow were not statistically different from Wyoming. States in red scored reliably lower than Wyoming.

- ▶ In 2011, the average vocabulary scale score for 8th grade students in Wyoming was 266; this was statistically the same as the national average (263).
- ▶ Wyoming 8th grade average vocabulary scale score in 2011 that was not statistically different from Colorado, Idaho, Nebraska, South Dakota or Utah.
- ▶ Wyoming 8th graders had a lower average vocabulary scale score in 2011 than their peers in Montana; unlike Wyoming, however, Montana did not include eighty-five percent of their eighth grade special education students in the 2011 NAEP reading assessment (as prescribed by the National Assessment Governing Board).

### Scale Scores

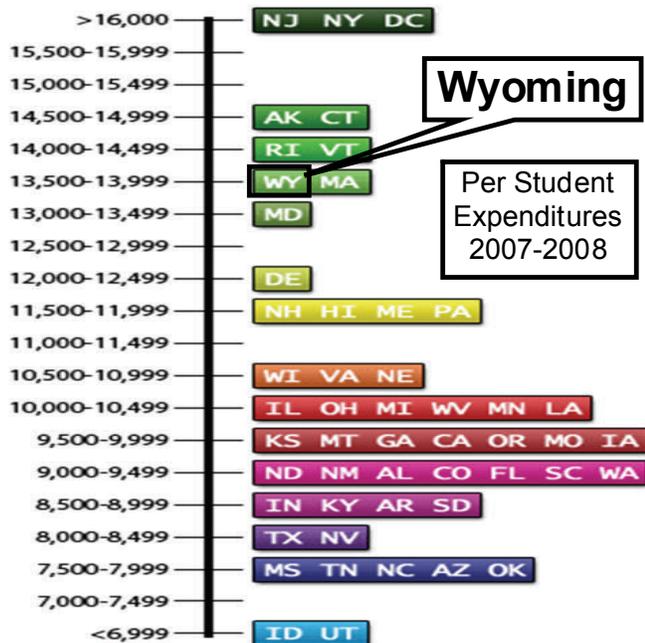
- ▶ Wyoming's 8th graders average scale score on the 2011 vocabulary assessment was 266. This was statistically the same as the nation's 263 scale score.
- ▶ Wyoming's 8th graders scale score was lower than students in Montana (274).
- ▶ The average scale score of Wyoming's 8th graders on vocabulary in 2011 was not statistically different from students in Colorado, Idaho, Nebraska, South Dakota or Utah.



### Funding Snapshot

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) uses both multiple choice questions to assess eighth graders' vocabulary skills. Specifically, students are *not* asked to provide written definitions of words in isolation. Instead, NAEP focuses upon distinctions and nuances of word meaning arising within the context of student reading tasks or passages. Each vocabulary question asks how a particular word contributes meaning to all or part of the passage in which it appears.

### Per Capita Student Expenditures During 2007-2008



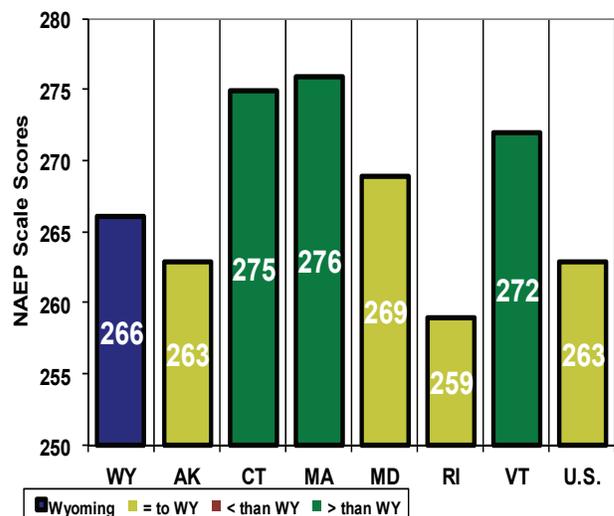
- ▶ Wyoming was among seven states reporting per student expenditures between \$13,000 and \$14,500 during school year 2007-2008 (most recent data available). The other states were Alaska, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

NOTE: The prekindergarten student membership was imputed for some states, affecting the total student count and per pupil expenditures calculation. Some values were affected by redistribution of reported expenditure values to correct for missing data items, and/or to distribute state direct support expenditures.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data (CCD), "National Public Education Financial Survey (NPEFS)," fiscal year 2008, Version 1a.

### Average Scale Scores

- ▶ Wyoming's 8th graders' average scale score on the 2011 vocabulary assessment was 266. This was statistically the same as the nation's 263 scale score.
- ▶ The average scale score of Wyoming's 8th graders' on vocabulary in 2011 was not statistically different from students in Alaska (263), Maryland (269), Rhode Island (259), and Vermont (272).
- ▶ Wyoming 8th graders had a lower average scale score than Connecticut (275), Massachusetts (276), and Vermont (272); Massachusetts, however, *did not* include eighty-five percent of their eighth grade special education students in the 2011 NAEP reading assessment (as prescribed by the National Assessment Governing Board).



# Wyoming Vocabulary 2011

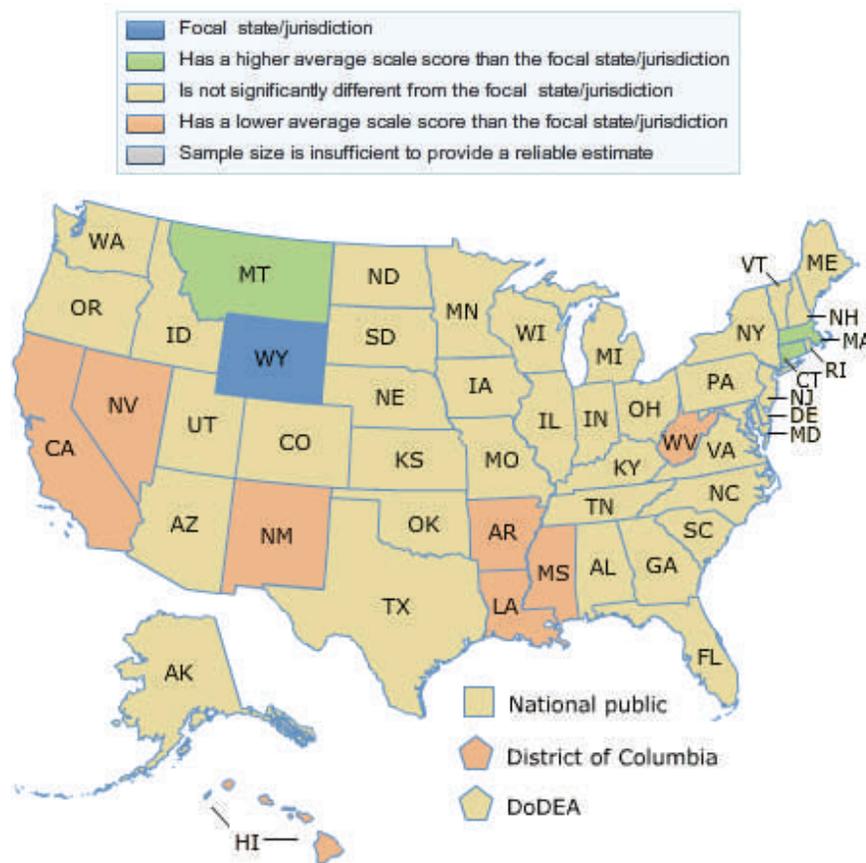


## Grade 8 Report

### National Snapshot

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) uses both multiple choice questions to assess eighth graders' vocabulary skills. Specifically, students are *not* asked to provide written definitions of words in isolation. Instead, NAEP focuses upon distinctions and nuances of word meaning arising within the context of student reading tasks or passages. Each vocabulary question asks how a particular word contributes meaning to all or part of the passage in which it appears.

### Wyoming and the Nation — Grade 8 Vocabulary Scale Scores



- ▶ On the 2011 vocabulary assessment, Wyoming 4th graders had an average scale score that was reliably higher than students in California, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, and New Mexico.
- ▶ Wyoming 4th graders had an average scale score that was not statistically different from students in Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Oklahoma, Oregon, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and the United States public schools national average.
- ▶ Wyoming 4th graders had an average scale score which was reliably lower than students in DoD schools, Connecticut, Massachusetts\*, Montana.

\*Jurisdiction, unlike Wyoming, did not include eighty-five percent of their eighth grade special education students in the 2011 NAEP reading assessment as prescribed by the National Assessment Governing Board.

Results are based on statistical tests which account for standard errors related to NAEP's sampling procedures.

For additional results and more information about Wyoming NAEP, please visit:

[http://edu.wyoming.gov/Programs/statewide\\_assessment\\_system/naep.aspx](http://edu.wyoming.gov/Programs/statewide_assessment_system/naep.aspx).