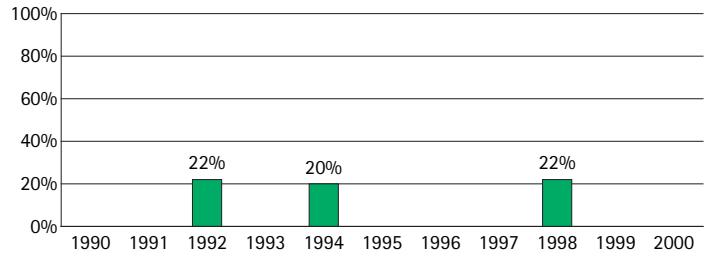
1. Improvement Over Time

Have South Carolina's 4th graders improved in reading achievement?

Not yet. Between 1992 and 1998, there was no significant change in the percentage of public school 4th graders who met the Goals Panel's performance standard in reading.

The Goals Panel has set its performance standard at the two highest levels of achievement — Proficient or Advanced — on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, or NAEP.

Percentage of public school 4th graders at or above Proficient on the NAEP reading assessment



Reading performance will be tested again in 2002.

2. State Comparisons†

How did South Carolina compare with other states in 4th grade reading achievement in public schools in 1998?

25 states had significantly higher[1] percentages of students who were at or above Proficient on NAEP:

Connecticut	46%	***U.S.****	**31%**
New Hampshire	38%	Oklahoma, Virginia, Wyoming	30%
Massachusetts, Montana	37%	Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, New York, Texas, Washington, West Virginia	29%
Maine, Minnesota	36%		
Iowa	35%		
Colorado, Kansas, Wisconsin	34%	Michigan, North Carolina, Oregon, Utah	28%
Rhode Island	32%		

11 states had similar[1] percentages of students who were at or above Proficient on NAEP:

Delaware, Tennessee	25%	Nevada	21%
Alabama, Georgia	24%	California	20%
Arkansas, Florida	23%	Louisiana	19%
South Carolina, Arizona, New Mexico	**22%**		

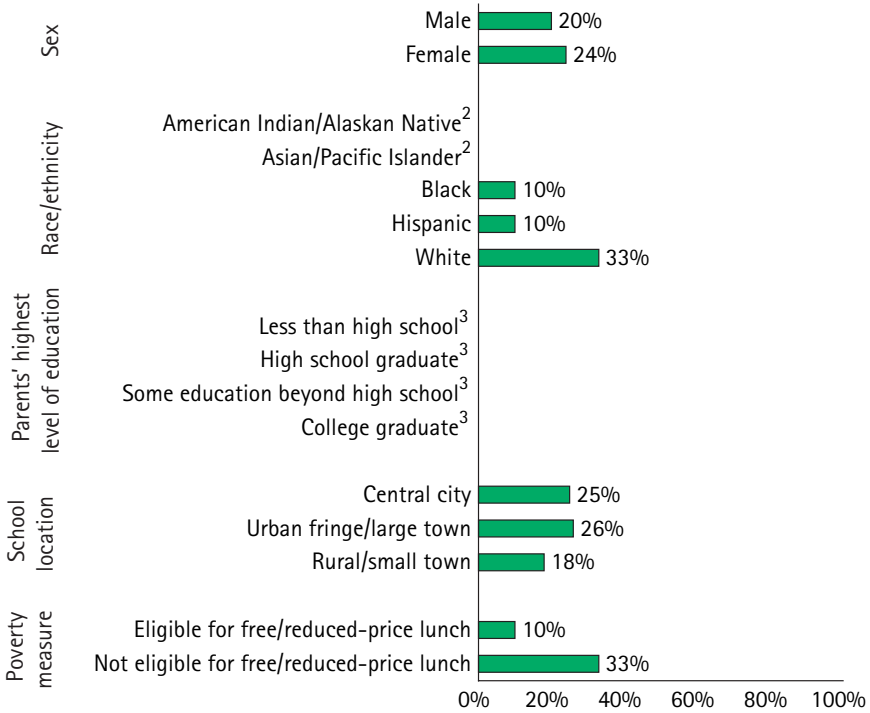
4 states had significantly lower[1] percentages of students who were at or above Proficient on NAEP:

Mississippi	18%	District of Columbia	10%
Hawaii	17%	Virgin Islands	8%

† The term "state" is used to refer to the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the territories.
[1] See explanation on pp. 2-3.
* Figure shown for the U.S. includes both public and nonpublic school data.

3. Subgroup Performance

What percentages of public school 4th graders in different subgroups[1] in South Carolina were at or above Proficient on the 1998 NAEP reading assessment?



[1] Interpret differences between subgroups with caution. See pp. 2-3 and Appendix D.
[2] Characteristics of the sample do not permit a reliable estimate.
[3] No data reported for 4th graders by parents' highest level of education in 1998.

See Appendix A for definitions, sources, and technical notes.

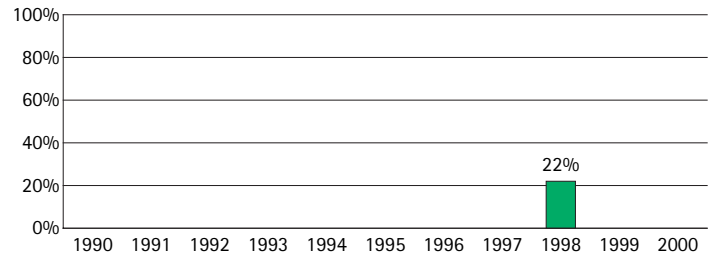
1. Improvement Over Time

Have South Carolina's 8th graders improved in reading achievement?

In 1998, 22% of South Carolina's public school 8th graders met the Goals Panel's performance standard in reading. Improvement over time will be reported when reading is assessed again in 2002.

The Goals Panel has set its performance standard at the two highest levels of achievement — Proficient or Advanced — on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, or NAEP.

Percentage of public school 8th graders at or above Proficient on the NAEP reading assessment



Reading performance will be tested again in 2002.

2. State Comparisons†

How did South Carolina compare with other states in 8th grade reading achievement in public schools in 1998?

23 states had significantly higher[1] percentages of students who were at or above Proficient on NAEP:

Connecticut, Maine	42%	Washington	32%
Montana	38%	Maryland, North Carolina, Utah	31%
Minnesota	37%	Colorado, Rhode Island	30%
Massachusetts	36%	Kentucky, Missouri, Oklahoma, Wyoming	29%
Kansas	35%	Arizona, Texas	28%
New York	34%	West Virginia	27%
U.S.,* Oregon, Virginia, Wisconsin	**33%**		

10 states had similar[1] percentages of students who were at or above Proficient on NAEP:

Tennessee	26%	***South Carolina,*** California	**22%**
Delaware, Georgia	25%	Alabama	21%
Nevada, New Mexico	24%	Mississippi[2]	19%
Arkansas, Florida	23%		

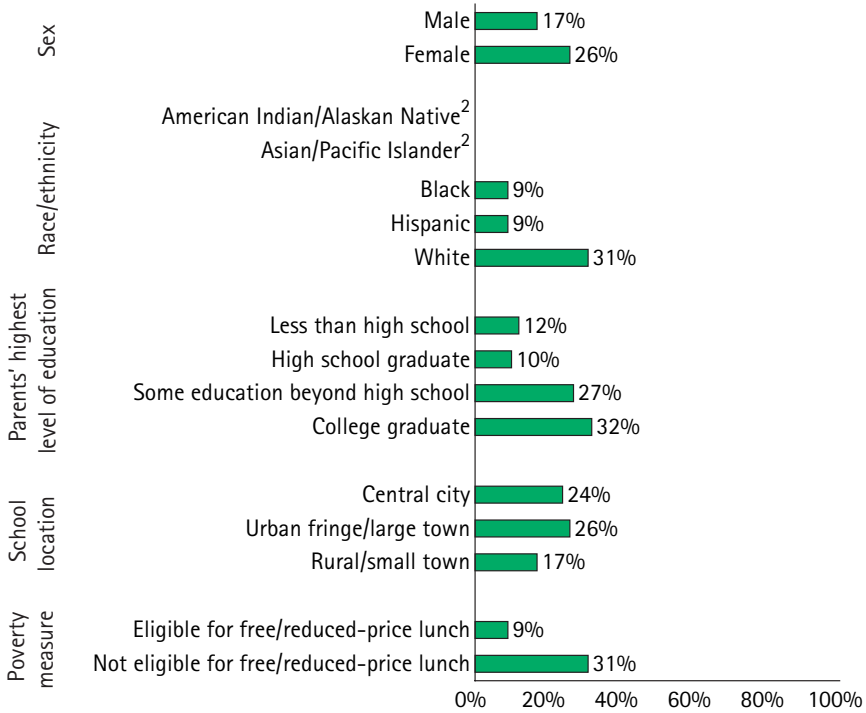
4 states had significantly lower[1] percentages of students who were at or above Proficient on NAEP:

Hawaii[2]	19%	District of Columbia	12%
Louisiana	18%	Virgin Islands	10%

† The term "state" is used to refer to the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the territories.
[1] See explanation on pp. 2-3.
[2] State may appear to be out of place; however, statistically its placement is correct. See pp. 2-3.
* Figure shown for the U.S. includes both public and nonpublic school data.

3. Subgroup Performance

What percentages of public school 8th graders in different subgroups[1] in South Carolina were at or above Proficient on the 1998 NAEP reading assessment?



[1] Interpret differences between subgroups with caution. See pp. 2-3 and Appendix D.
[2] Characteristics of the sample do not permit a reliable estimate.

See Appendix A for definitions, sources, and technical notes.