

Below is a table of the states and jurisdictions whose 4th-grade NAEP math average scores increased significantly from 2022 to 2024, based on the *NAEP State & District Trends* report. [Nations Report Card](#). Read the NAEP report.

| States and Jurisdictions   | Math Score Increase 2022-2024 |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Alabama                    | +6                            |
| Delaware                   | +8                            |
| District of Columbia (DC)  | +8                            |
| Hawaii                     | +3                            |
| Kentucky                   | +4                            |
| Louisiana                  | +6                            |
| Maryland                   | +5                            |
| Massachusetts              | +5                            |
| Mississippi                | +6                            |
| Nevada                     | +4                            |
| New York                   | +7                            |
| Rhode Island               | +3                            |
| South Carolina             | +3                            |
| West Virginia              | +6                            |
| Puerto Rico (jurisdiction) | +6                            |

*Data prepared by EAC, Danielle Diamond*

#### **Key takeaways:**

States with increased 4<sup>th</sup> grade math scores improved for different reasons.

For example, in Alabama, the Alabama Numeracy Act required greater attention to number fluency. Alabama also deployed K-5 math coaches and strengthened preparation for teachers and principals. This change may have contributed to their strong gain.

Louisiana had prohibited non-academic use of cellphones with fewer distractions, and they extended systematic and explicit instruction from reading to math. Louisiana also implemented early math screening 3 times a year and provided numeracy training for teachers.

The general cause can be attributed to a partial rebound from the steep declines during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many states also used federal stimulus funds to implement high-dosage tutoring and other supports. However, the gains were driven mainly by middle- and higher-performing students. For example, national scores increased by 2-3 points for the middle- and higher-performing students, while scores for the lowest performing students (10<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> percentile) remained stagnant.

## NAEP Grade 4 Math — “Strong” States and 2022–2024 Score Increases

| State / Jurisdiction      | 2022 → 2024 Change (points)  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Alabama                   | +6 (from 230 to 236) <a href="#">National Center for Education Statistics</a>  |
| Delaware                  | +7 (from 226 to 233) <a href="#">National Center for Education Statistics</a>  |
| District of Columbia (DC) | +8 (from 223 to 231) <a href="#">National Center for Education Statistics</a>  |
| Hawaii                    | +2 (from 237 to 239) <a href="#">Hawaii Public Schools</a>   |
| Kentucky                  | +? (data shows a significant increase, but the exact point change is not clearly reported in publicly-available summary) <a href="#">Nations Report Card</a> |
| Louisiana                 | +? (significant increase noted; exact point change not in summary tables) <a href="#">Nations Report Card</a>  |
| Maryland                  | +? (significant increase; point change not clearly listed in snapshot) <a href="#">Nations Report Card</a>   |
| Massachusetts             | +? (increase is statistically significant; point change not clearly in the top-level summary) <a href="#">NAGB</a>   |
| Mississippi               | +5 (from 234 to 239) — reported in media commentary. <a href="#">Reddit</a>  |
| Nevada                    | +7 (from 229 to 236) — according to the Florida Dept. of Ed summary. <a href="#">Florida Department of Education</a>   |
| New York                  | +7 (from 227 to 234) <a href="#">National Center for Education Statistics</a>  |
| Rhode Island              | +? (significant increase; point change not clearly shown in summary) <a href="#">Nations Report Card</a>   |
| South Carolina            | +? (listed in the “strong” list; point change not clearly in summary) <a href="#">NAGB</a>   |
| West Virginia             | +? (significant increase; exact point gain not in summary) <a href="#">Nations Report Card</a>   |
| Puerto Rico               | +? (reported in “10 Takeaways” as one of the jurisdictions with gains) <a href="#">NAGB</a>  |