Massachusetts children score highest on national tests...

...but a profound achievement gap remains.

State Ranking:
4th Grade NAEP

Rankings based on NAEP scale scores.
Income Achievement Gap
(#1 = smallest gap)

This map shows an income-based achievement gap, the difference between the average reading score of two groups of students: low-income and non-low-income students. Low-income is defined as up to 185% of the federal poverty line, or $40,793 for a family of four. NAEP scores range from 0 to 500. The average score for the nation in 2013 was 222, and the nation's income-based achievement gap was 29 points. Of the 50 states, Massachusetts has the 7th largest achievement gap at 31 points. Achievement gaps range from 14 points (WV) to 50 points (DC).