NEW JERSEY RESULTS
Taken from the
CHANCE FAVORS THE PREPARED MIND
Gary W. Phillips,
American Institutes for Research

*Chance Favors the Prepared Mind* provides international benchmarks to help states see how students are doing in mathematics and science within an international context. It describes state and international education indicators using state data collected by the 2005 and 2007 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) and the international data collected by 2003 Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) at grade 8. The study equated standardized test scores in each of the 50 states with those of their peers in 45 countries. Experts say that this study is the first to link standardized test scores, state by state, with scores from other countries.

Figure 32 (New Jersey) and Figure 23 (Massachusetts) below display two graphs—mathematics and science—from the American Institutes for Research report. These graphs show the percentage of students estimated to be at and above Proficient. The nations in each graph have been rank-ordered, with the highest performing nations on the left and lowest performing countries to the right. Embedded within is the percent at and above Proficient. The red arrow in Figure 32 points to the New Jersey score, and the blue arrow in Figure 23 points to the Massachusetts score.

Massachusetts is included here for comparison purposes since this state performed statistically higher than New Jersey and most other states on the NAEP 2005 science and the NAEP 2007 mathematics tests. For comparisons with other states, consult the full text of the *Chance Favors the Prepared Mind* report.

**Overall Findings for New Jersey**

- In mathematics, five nations performed statistically higher than New Jersey, four nations performed statistically similar to New Jersey, and 36 nations performed statistically lower than New Jersey.
- In mathematics, New Jersey scored statistically higher than the United States TIMSS.
- In science, five nations performed statistically higher than New Jersey, seven nations performed statistically similar to New Jersey, and 33 nations performed statistically lower than New Jersey.
- In science, New Jersey scored statistically similar to the United States TIMSS.
- In mathematics, Massachusetts outperformed New Jersey, and performed statistically similar to Japan.
- In science, Massachusetts outperformed New Jersey, and performed statistically similar to Korea, Hong Kong and Japan.

*Developed by:*
Barbara Smey-Richman, EdD  
NAEP State Coordinator
Figure 32: New Jersey

Comparisons between grade 8 2007 NAEP state mathematics results for New Jersey and grade 8 2003 TIMSS national mathematics results for the percent at and above proficient based on NAEP achievement levels projected on to the TIMSS scale.

Singapore, Hong Kong, Korea, Chinese Taipei, and Japan performed statistically higher than New Jersey. New Jersey performed statistically similar to four European nations.

Comparisons between grade 8 2005 NAEP state science results for New Jersey and grade 8 2003 TIMSS national science results for the percent at and above proficient based on NAEP achievement levels projected on to the TIMSS scale.

Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Korea, Hong Kong, and Japan performed statistically higher than New Jersey. New Jersey performed statistically similar to seven European nations and to the United States national TIMSS.

Figure 23: Massachusetts

Comparisons between grade 8 2007 NAEP state mathematics results for Massachusetts and grade 8 2003 TIMSS national mathematics results for the percent at and above proficient based on NAEP achievement levels projected onto the TIMSS scale.

Four Asian nations performed statistically higher than Massachusetts. Massachusetts performed statistically similar to Japan.

Comparisons between grade 8 2005 NAEP state science results for Massachusetts and grade 8 2003 TIMSS national science results for the percent at and above proficient based on NAEP achievement levels projected onto the TIMSS scale.

Singapore and Chinese Taipei performed statistically higher than Massachusetts. Massachusetts performed statistically similar to Korea, Hong Kong and Japan.