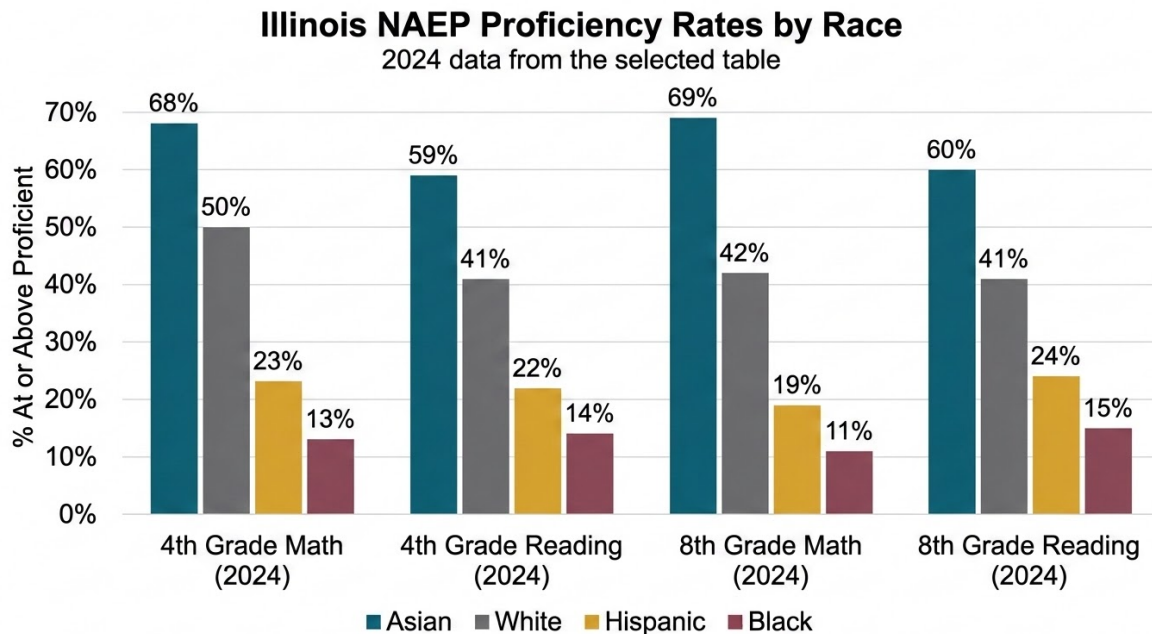




4th & 8th Grade Math and Reading Proficiency by Race

Data from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP / "Nation's Report Card") shows persistent performance gaps across racial groups in Illinois public schools over the 10-year period (2015–2024).

- **Performance Hierarchy:** Asian students consistently achieve the highest proficiency rates across all subjects and grades, followed by White students. Hispanic/Latino and Black/African American students perform lower on average.
- **Subject Trends:** Math proficiency experienced a sharper drop following the 2020 pandemic disruptions than reading. By 2024, 8th-grade performance showed partial recovery, while 4th-grade reading proficiency remained suppressed relative to pre-pandemic 2019 levels.