

# Adult Literacy and Numeracy Snapshot

## ALABAMA



U.S. PIAAC Skills Map: State and County Indicators of Adult Literacy and Numeracy

The Skills Map provides the most comprehensive snapshot of key workforce skills in every state and county in the United States. Users can easily access information about the literacy and numeracy proficiency of adults aged 16-74 and compare performance between individual states and counties. Results are reported as the state or county average score on a scale of 0-500 and as the percentage of adults at the lowest levels of proficiency (at or below Level 1), medium proficiency (at Level 2), and the highest levels of proficiency (at or above Level 3).

The data in the tool are generated by a technique called small area estimation. The statistical models used to calculate the state and county estimates relied on combined data from the 2012, 2014, and 2017 Program of the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) in conjunction with 2013-2017 data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) to produce reliable estimates. The estimates are predictions of how the adults in a given state or county would have performed had they taken the PIAAC assessments. For more information on the tool, please visit the PIAAC State and County Estimates page: [nces.ed.gov/surveys/piaac/state-county-estimates.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/piaac/state-county-estimates.asp)

### Literacy

#### Average scale score:

National  
**264**

Alabama  
**259**  
■ (same as national average)

#### Alabama proficiency level results:

At or below Level 1  
(Below 226)  
**24%**

Level 2  
(226-275)  
**37%**

At or above Level 3  
(Above 275)  
**39%**

*Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.*

#### States sorted by average literacy scale score:

New Hampshire	279	Connecticut	271	Oklahoma	263
Minnesota	279	Kansas	271	South Carolina	263
Vermont	277	South Dakota	271	Arizona	262
District of Columbia	277	Michigan	271	Kentucky	261
Alaska	277	Hawaii	270	Georgia	260
North Dakota	276	Virginia	270	Tennessee	260
Washington	275	Idaho	270	West Virginia	260
Utah	274	Ohio	268	New York	260
Iowa	273	Maryland	268	Florida	259
Oregon	273	Indiana	266	<b>Alabama</b>	<b>259</b>
Maine	273	Pennsylvania	266	Arkansas	259
Wisconsin	273	Rhode Island	266	California	257
Massachusetts	273	Missouri	266	Nevada	255
Montana	273	Illinois	266	Texas	254
Wyoming	272	North Carolina	265	Mississippi	252
Colorado	272	New Jersey	264	New Mexico	252
Nebraska	271	Delaware	264	Louisiana	252

## Counties sorted by average literacy scale score:

Shelby	279	Chambers	247
Madison	273	Washington	247
Baldwin	270	DeKalb	247
Lee	269	Franklin	246
Jefferson	262	Choctaw	244
Elmore	262	Pickens	244
Tuscaloosa	262	Marengo	243
Autauga	262	Butler	243
Coffee	262	Coosa	242
Limestone	261	Clarke	241
Lauderdale	260	Escambia	240
Dale	260	Monroe	238
St. Clair	260	Dallas	238
Morgan	259	Macon	237
Colbert	259	Hale	237
Blount	259	Barbour	236
Cullman	258	Conecuh	232
Marion	258	Lowndes	232
Houston	257	Sumter	232
Etowah	257	Perry	229
Covington	257	Greene	229
Calhoun	257	Wilcox	229
Mobile	256	Bullock	227
Marshall	255		
Cherokee	255		
Jackson	255		
Montgomery	255		
Winston	254		
Walker	253		
Fayette	253		
Tallapoosa	252		
Lamar	252		
Geneva	252		
Henry	252		
Cleburne	252		
Randolph	250		
Crenshaw	250		
Talladega	250		
Pike	250		
Lawrence	249		
Chilton	249		
Russell	249		
Bibb	248		
Clay	248		

## Numeracy

### Average scale score:

National  
**249**

Alabama  
**242**  
↓ (below national average)

### Alabama proficiency level results:

At or below Level 1  
(Below 226)  
**37%**

Level 2  
(226-275)  
**32%**

At or above Level 3  
(Above 275)  
**30%**

*Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.*

### States sorted by average numeracy scale score:

New Hampshire	268	South Dakota	259	Arizona	247
Minnesota	268	Hawaii	259	Oklahoma	247
Vermont	265	Kansas	258	Kentucky	247
North Dakota	264	Connecticut	258	South Carolina	246
Alaska	264	Virginia	257	New York	245
Washington	262	Idaho	256	West Virginia	245
Utah	262	Michigan	256	Tennessee	245
Iowa	261	Maryland	255	California	244
Massachusetts	261	Ohio	254	Georgia	243
Oregon	260	Rhode Island	253	Florida	243
Maine	260	Pennsylvania	252	Arkansas	243
Montana	260	Missouri	252	<b>Alabama</b>	<b>242</b>
District of Columbia	260	Illinois	252	Nevada	240
Colorado	260	Indiana	252	Texas	238
Wyoming	260	New Jersey	250	New Mexico	235
Nebraska	259	North Carolina	249	Mississippi	234
Wisconsin	259	Delaware	249	Louisiana	233

### Counties sorted by average numeracy scale score:

Shelby	268	Marion	244	Geneva	236
Madison	259	Dale	243	Tallapoosa	236
Baldwin	257	Covington	242	Randolph	235
Lee	252	Etowah	242	Crenshaw	235
Elmore	247	Cherokee	241	Montgomery	235
Limestone	247	Calhoun	241	Lawrence	235
Coffee	247	Houston	240	Clay	234
Autauga	247	Marshall	240	Talladega	233
St. Clair	246	Winston	240	DeKalb	232
Blount	246	Jackson	240	Chilton	232
Lauderdale	245	Fayette	238	Bibb	232
Morgan	245	Cleburne	238	Pike	231
Tuscaloosa	245	Mobile	238	Franklin	230
Cullman	245	Walker	237	Russell	229
Colbert	245	Lamar	237	Chambers	229
Jefferson	244	Henry	237	Washington	228

**Counties sorted by average numeracy scale score (continued):**

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Coosa	226
Pickens	224
Choctaw	224
Butler	222
Marengo	221
Clarke	220
Escambia	220
Barbour	216
Hale	214
Monroe	213
Macon	213
Dallas	212
Conecuh	209
Lowndes	208
Bullock	204
Sumter	204
Wilcox	202
Greene	201
Perry	200