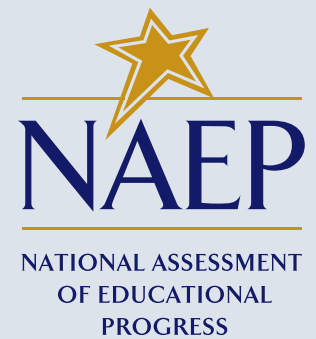


# NAEP 2017

## Facts for Districts



### NAEP is an integral part of education in the United States.

- ▶ Elected officials, policymakers, and educators all use NAEP results to develop ways to improve education.
- ▶ NAEP is a congressionally mandated project administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education and the Institute of Education Sciences.
- ▶ NAEP serves a different role than state assessments. While states have their own unique assessments with different content standards, the same NAEP assessment is administered in every state, providing a common measure of student achievement.
- ▶ Depending on the type of NAEP assessment that is administered, the data can be used to compare and understand the performance of demographic groups within your state, the nation, other states, and districts that participate in the Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA).
- ▶ Students, teachers, and principals who participate in NAEP are asked to complete contextual questionnaires that provide a better understanding of educational experiences and factors that may be related to students' learning.

*"The NAEP representatives were informative and provided specific instructions when administering the assessment. Their professionalism and knowledge before the assessment ensured that the students had a positive experience with NAEP."*

- Amneris Montalvo, NAEP School Coordinator, Citrus Grove Middle School, Miami, FL

**The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)** is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in subjects such as civics, geography, mathematics, reading, U.S. history, and writing. The results of NAEP are released as The Nation's Report Card.

District staff play an essential role in NAEP. Superintendents and district staff can work closely with principals to explain the importance of the assessment to teachers and students selected for participation. When students take part in NAEP and give their best effort, we get the most accurate measure possible of student achievement across the country.

**In 2017, students participating in NAEP will be assessed on tablets with keyboards in mathematics, reading, and writing.** A small number of fourth- and eighth-grade students will take paper-and-pencil versions of the mathematics and reading assessments to help NAEP evaluate any differences in student performance between the two types of administration. It will be the first time that NAEP will report state and TUDA data collected via tablets. Some eighth-grade students may participate in pilot digitally based assessments in civics, geography, and U.S. history. National, state, and TUDA-level results will be released for the mathematics and reading assessments. National results for the writing assessment will also be released. Information collected from the pilots will be used to prepare for the full transition to digitally based assessments by the end of the decade.

Each student will be assessed in only one subject and in one type of administration. NAEP representatives will bring all necessary materials and equipment to schools on assessment day. Schools will only need to provide space for students to take the assessment, desks or tables, and an adequate number of electrical outlets in the assessment location. Schools will not need to provide internet access.



For more information about NAEP, visit:  
[www.nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard](http://www.nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard)

# It's important to know...

NAEP was first administered in 1969 to measure student achievement nationally. In 1990, NAEP was administered at the state level for the first time. Students in grades 4 and 8 are currently assessed at the national and state levels in mathematics and reading every 2 years and in other subjects in alternating years. In 2002, NAEP began the TUDA program, which measures what students know and can do in some of the nation's large urban districts. Students, teachers, and schools are asked to complete a survey questionnaire in order to provide a more complete understanding of the results and overall student performance. NAEP is not designed to collect or report results for individual students, classrooms, or schools.

**Special studies are also conducted periodically.** They are administered as part of NAEP and often involve special data collection procedures in the field, secondary analyses of NAEP results, and evaluations of various technical procedures.

**NAEP is considered the gold standard of assessments because of its high technical quality.** From the development of frameworks and questions to the reporting of results, NAEP represents the best thinking of assessment and content specialists, state education staff, and teachers from around the nation. NAEP is a trusted resource that measures student progress and helps inform policy decisions that improve education in the United States.

**NAEP reports on results for different demographic groups rather than for individual students or schools.** NAEP uses a carefully designed sampling process to ensure that the schools and students selected are representative of schools and students across the United States. To ensure that the sample represents all students in the nation's schools, NAEP allows a broad range of accommodations for students with disabilities and English language learners.

**NAEP is designed to cause minimal disruption of classroom instruction.** It takes 90 to 120 minutes for students to complete NAEP assessment activities, including transition time and directions. Teachers do not need to prepare their students to take the assessment but should encourage them to do their best. NAEP representatives provide significant support to your district's schools by working with the designated coordinator in each school to organize assessment activities.

**NAEP items can be used as a helpful educational resource in the classroom.** Teachers and district staff can use the NAEP Questions Tool at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/nqt> to see how students' performance compares nationally on specific items. Released NAEP items come with a scoring guide, sample student responses, and performance data.

District and school staff can also

- ▶ view results for the nation, states, and selected urban districts over time,
- ▶ compare results for various demographic groups, and
- ▶ access information designed for teachers, students, and parents.

Visit the NAEP website at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard> to access this information and more.



Get NAEP on the go with the *NAEP Results* mobile app  
Download it today on the iTunes or Google Play stores

Find us on:

