

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)



Information

All information contained within this presentation is based on the document *National Assessment of Educational Progress: An Overview of NAEP* from the National Center for Educational Statistics Institute of Education Sciences and the US Department of Education.

NAEP History and Facts

- * Started as a common measure of student achievement first administered in 1969.
- * Congressionally mandated project administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). Currently the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA –to be coordinated under the Every Student Succeeds Act) requires states that receive Title I funding to participate in the biennial assessment in reading and mathematics at grades 4 and 8.
- * Largest nationally representative and continuous assessment of what students know and can do in multiple subjects.
- * The results are released as “The Nation’s Report Card”.
- * Results are available for the nation, states, and in some cases urban districts.

How is NAEP different from State assessments?

- * NAEP is primarily for achievement comparisons (i.e.: state to state, geographic areas, etc.).
- * There are no individual student reports.
- * Students, principals, and teachers are asked to complete a contextual questionnaire which may provide a window into students' learning.
- * NAEP is a sampling of students in a school. Not all students take the test.

What subjects does NAEP assess?

- * NAEP assesses students in grades 4 and 8 in math and reading every 2 years based on federal law.
- * Subjects assessed periodically by NAEP in grades 4, 8, and 12 to collect data are:
 - Science (every 4 years)
 - Writing (every 4 years)
 - The arts
 - Civics
 - Economics
 - Geography
 - Technology
 - Engineering
 - Literacy
 - U.S. history

Administration of NAEP

- * Administered during regular school hours.
- * Test administration is 90-120 minutes depending on the subject.
- * Each student is assessed in one subject area and is asked to provide contextual information about themselves.
- * Accommodations are provided to students with disabilities and English language learners.
- * Students' results are confidential.
- * All materials are brought to and taken from the schools by NAEP representatives.

Student Participation

- * NAEP is a sampling, not all students. Sampling is ensured through a NCES sampling procedure.
- * Representative sampling involves students of different ethnicities, geographical areas, and socio-economic diversity.
- * Students that take part in NAEP allow researchers to develop ways to improve education across the country.

What to remember about NAEP:

- * Congressionally mandated for reading and math achievement comparisons from a sampling of students in grades 4 and 8 every 2 years.
- * Allows comparisons of states, geographic areas, and some urban areas.
- * No individual student testing reports are available.
- * Allows educators and researchers to develop and improve educational processes.