

# NAEP 2019–2020

## Facts for Teachers



National Assessment of  
Educational Progress

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

- ▶ NAEP is a congressionally mandated project administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), within the U.S. Department of Education and the Institute of Education Sciences.
- ▶ Elected officials, policymakers, and educators all use NAEP results to develop ways to improve education.
- ▶ 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). NAEP is not designed to collect or report results for individual students, classrooms, or schools.
- ▶ To provide a better understanding of educational experiences and factors that may be related to student learning, students are asked to complete questionnaires. There are no teacher or school questionnaires in the long-term trend assessments.

*“As an educator, I find the contextual information that NAEP provides to be particularly valuable. It helps me take a closer look at the factors related to student achievement across the country.”*

Ann M. Finch, Assessment Specialist, Arkansas Department of Education

**The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), first administered in 1969**, is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what our nation’s students know and can do in various subjects such as civics, geography, mathematics, reading, science, U.S. history, and writing. The results of NAEP are released as The Nation’s Report Card.

In fall 2019 and spring 2020, students in participating schools will take the NAEP long-term trend assessments in mathematics and reading at ages 9, 13, and 17. These assessments measure students’ educational progress over time to look for and monitor trends in performance. Learn more about the long-term trend assessments at <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/ltr>.

NAEP representatives will bring all necessary materials to schools on assessment day. Schools will only need to provide space with desks or tables for students to take the assessment. The table below shows which subjects and age groups will be assessed during the 2019–2020 school year. National results will be released for the long-term trend assessment.

### The NAEP 2019–2020 Assessment Program

Age	Assessment	Subjects	Format	National Results	Assessment Window
9-year-olds	Long-term trend	Reading	Paper & Pencil	✓	January 6, 2020– March 13, 2020
		Mathematics	Paper & Pencil	✓	
13-year-olds	Long-term trend	Reading	Paper & Pencil	✓	October 14, 2019– December 20, 2019
		Mathematics	Paper & Pencil	✓	
17-year-olds	Long-term trend	Reading	Paper & Pencil	✓	March 16, 2020– May 22, 2020
		Mathematics	Paper & Pencil	✓	



For more information about NAEP, visit:  
<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>

Find us on:   

## NAEP and Teachers

As teachers, you are essential partners in NAEP. You make an important contribution by encouraging your students to participate and do their best. When students take part in NAEP and give their best effort, we get the most accurate measure possible of student achievement across the country. To learn more about NAEP and view FAQs for teachers, visit <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/educators>.

**Teachers can use NAEP questions as a helpful educational resource in the classroom.** With the NAEP Questions Tool, you can view released NAEP items, create customized assessments for your classroom, and compare your students' performance with national results. Teachers, students, and parents can access information and also compare results for various demographic groups. Most released items include a scoring guide, sample student responses, and performance data. Visit <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/nqt> to learn more.

**In 2019 and 2020, students will be asked to complete the long-term trend survey questionnaire.** They may answer as many questions as they like and may skip any question by leaving a response blank. NAEP survey questionnaires provide valuable information about participating students' educational experiences and opportunities to learn both in and out of the classroom. This information helps put student achievement results into context and allows for meaningful comparison between student groups. It also provides important data and insight for educators, policymakers, and researchers to better understand the educational experiences and needs of students in the United States. There will not be a long-term trend survey questionnaire for teachers or schools in 2019–2020.

To learn more about NAEP survey questionnaires and view long-term trend student questionnaires from previous years, visit [https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/experience/survey\\_questionnaires.aspx](https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/experience/survey_questionnaires.aspx).

**New NAEP dashboards allow teachers to explore a variety of NAEP results across subjects.** The Achievement Gaps Dashboard lets users explore achievement gaps that reveal significant differences in assessment scores between two groups of students (e.g., male and female students or White and Black students). You can also examine student groups by the type of school they attend with the new Public, Private, and Charter Schools Dashboard. See how students' educational experiences vary by school types by viewing the latest national results in all the NAEP subjects for students attending public, charter, private, and Catholic schools.

View the Achievement Gaps Dashboard at [https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/dashboards/achievement\\_gaps.aspx](https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/dashboards/achievement_gaps.aspx). The Public, Private, and Charter Schools Dashboard is available at [https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/dashboards/schools\\_dashboard.aspx](https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/dashboards/schools_dashboard.aspx).

## NAEP Results

The NAEP 2019–2020 long-term trend assessments will be administered to nationally representative samples of 9-, 13-, and 17-year-old students, and results will be released for the nation only. The long-term trend assessments have monitored student progress in mathematics and reading since the early 1970s.

NAEP results are reported for different demographic groups rather than for individual students or schools. Information is reported by race/ethnicity, gender, type of school, and by both achievement level and scale scores. Within a school, just some of the student population participates, and student responses are combined with those from other participating students to produce the results. Because the privacy of schools and students is essential, the name of each participating student is not associated with a test booklet after that student takes a NAEP assessment. All data collected from NAEP assessment results will be used for statistical purposes only.\*

You can access data from previous assessments at <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata> and explore the most recent results at <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov>.

\* National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is authorized to conduct NAEP by the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. §9622). All of the information provided by participants may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law (20 U.S.C. §9573 and 6 U.S.C. §151). By law, every NCES employee as well as every NCES agent, such as contractors and NAEP coordinators, has taken an oath and is subject to a jail term of up to 5 years, a fine of \$250,000, or both if he or she willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about participants. Electronic submission of participants' information will be monitored for viruses, malware, and other threats by Federal employees and contractors in accordance with the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015. The collected information will be combined across respondents to produce statistical reports.

## Recent NAEP Results

### 2018 Technology and Engineering Literacy (TEL) Assessment at Grade 8

The average overall TEL score for eighth-grade students was two points higher compared to 2014, the previous assessment year.

Compared to 2014, eighth-grade students also scored higher in all three TEL content areas (Technology and Society, Design and Systems, and Information and Communication Technology) and in all three practices (Understanding Technological Principles, Developing Solutions and Achieving Goals, and Communicating and Collaborating).

The average score in TEL overall was five points higher for females than their male peers.

To learn more about the 2018 TEL results, visit <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/tel>.

**Now Available!** View the *National Indian Education Study 2015: A Closer Look* online at <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/nies>.



## It's important to know...

**NAEP long-term trend assessments measure student performance in mathematics and reading and have allowed the performance of today's students to be compared with students since the early 1970s.** Long-term trend assessments are administered periodically to 9-, 13-, and 17-year-olds.

**Main NAEP is administered to fourth-, eighth-, and twelfth-graders in a variety of subjects.** For all main NAEP and long-term trend assessments, results are available at the national level. Depending on the assessment year and subject, main NAEP results may also be available at the state level and for large urban districts participating in the TUDA program.

**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 periodically. The NAEP TUDA program, which measures student achievement in some of the nation's large urban districts, began in 2002.

**NAEP is considered the gold standard of assessments because of its high technical quality.** From the development of assessment 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.

**A carefully designed sampling process ensures that NAEP-selected schools and students are representative of all schools and students across the United States.** To ensure that the sample represents all students in the nation's schools, a broad range of accommodations are allowed for students with disabilities and English language learners.

**NAEP is designed to cause minimal disruption of classroom instruction.** Including transition time, directions, and completion of a survey questionnaire, it takes up to 90 minutes for students to complete paper-and-pencil assessments. Each student will be assessed in one format and one subject only. Teachers do not need to prepare their students to take the assessment, but should encourage students to do their best. NAEP representatives provide significant support by working with your school's designated coordinator to organize assessment activities.



*“The NAEP team that arrived at our school made the assessment process painless. Everyone on the team previously worked as an educator and interacted well with all of our students.”*

Kimberly Wilborn, Guidance Counselor, Sandburg Middle School, Fairfax County Public Schools, Alexandria, Virginia

## **More About NAEP**

Learn what NAEP means for schools that are selected to participate and get the latest NAEP news in *Measure Up: NAEP News for the School Community*, available online at <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/schools.aspx>.

To hear teachers share their thoughts about why NAEP results are important, view the video *Introducing NAEP to Teachers* at <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/videos/teachervideo>.

To learn about upcoming NAEP assessments, download NAEP reports, and access sample questions, visit <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>.

For additional assistance, call the NAEP help desk at 800-283-6237.

To find your NAEP state coordinator’s contact information, visit <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states> and select your state or jurisdiction from the drop-down menu.

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**Get NAEP on the go with the *NAEP Results* mobile app!**