

NAEP 2024 in Your School

High School Transcript Study

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

- ▶ The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in a variety of academic subjects. NAEP is a congressionally mandated project administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) within the U.S. Department of Education.
- ▶ In addition to the assessments, NAEP coordinates several related special studies. Such studies often involve special data collection procedures in the field, in-depth analyses of NAEP results, and evaluations of various technical procedures.
- ▶ The NAEP High School Transcript Study (HSTS), sponsored by NCES, is a periodic survey of transcripts of high school graduates to study the relationship between coursetaking patterns and student achievement.

The **NAEP High School Transcript Study (HSTS)** is designed to provide information about the types of courses that graduates take during high school, how many credits they earn, and their grade point averages. In addition, this study provides an opportunity to examine the relationship between coursetaking patterns and educational achievement by linking to NAEP proficiency data. The HSTS 2024 cohort includes public and private schools sampled for the NAEP 2024 grade 12 mathematics assessment.

What is collected for HSTS 2024?

- ▶ Course catalogs or course lists for the current school year (2023–2024) and for the preceding three years (2020–2021, 2021–2022, and 2022–2023).
- ▶ A survey with questions about course credits, grading policies, graduation requirements, transcript content information, and transcript submission preferences.
- ▶ High school transcripts of graduates who were sampled for the NAEP mathematics assessment.

Who provides the information?

Schools will identify an HSTS coordinator to provide data for the study. The state or district may provide the data on behalf of the schools, if available.

How will student data be kept confidential?

Student names and all other identifying information will be removed or masked before transcript information is used in the analysis. No individually identifiable information will be released in any form. The privacy of the information will be protected as required by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

What else should you know?

- ▶ **No student or teacher time is involved.** NAEP staff will work with school personnel to minimize burden as much as possible.
- ▶ **Privacy is a top priority.** Students' names and identifying information will be removed or masked before copies of transcripts are processed.
- ▶ **There is no cost to schools.** NCES will pay a fee to the school for providing transcripts.
- ▶ **Parental notification is not required.** Participating schools may choose whether or not to notify parents about this study.

Visit <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/covid19.aspx> for more information about NAEP health and safety protocols.



For more information about NAEP, visit nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard

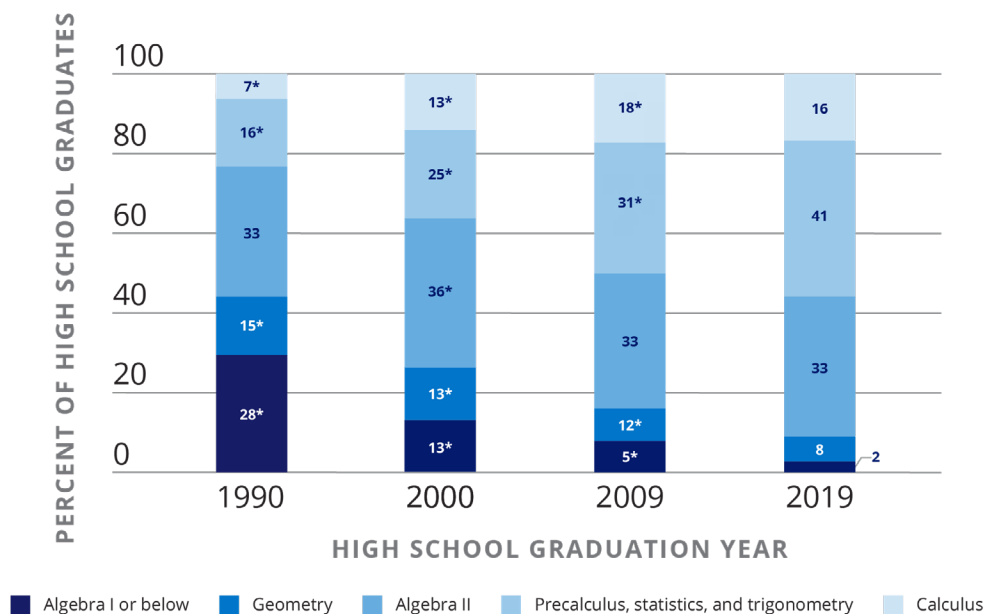
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What have we learned from HSTS?

HSTS was first conducted in 1987 and has since examined several coursetaking patterns, including mathematics. The graph below highlights the highest level mathematics courses completed by graduates in 1990, 2000, 2009, and 2019. In 2019, about 41 percent of high school graduates' highest level mathematics course completed was an advanced mathematics course, such as precalculus, statistics, or trigonometry—the highest percentage compared to previous decades.

Percentage distribution of high school graduates across highest levels mathematics courses earned: Various years, 1990–2019



*Significantly different ($p < .05$) from 2019

NOTE: Details may not sum to total due to rounding. The figure shows the highest level mathematics courses in which a high school graduate earned credits. Advanced mathematics includes mathematics courses usually taken after algebra II and before calculus, such as trigonometry, precalculus, mathematical analysis, elementary functions, and probability and statistics.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) High School Transcript Study, various years, 1990–2019.

Where can I find more information?

More information about the NAEP High School Transcript Study can be found on the NAEP website at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/hsts>.

The granting of authority to the U.S. Department of Education for collection of the transcript data has been made pursuant to the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. 1232g), as implemented by 34 CFR 99.31 (a) (3)(ii) and 99.35. A copy of the relevant FERPA regulations will be provided to you prior to the collection of any transcripts.

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 National Center for Education Statistics (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 participant's 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.