

## News Release

Education Information Services ■ 125 South Webster Street ■ P.O. Box 7841 ■ Madison, WI 53707-7841 ■ (608) 266-3559

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPI-NR 2013-143

Thursday, November 7, 2013

Contact: Patrick Gasper, DPI Communications Officer, (608) 266-3559

### 2013 NAEP results steady

MADISON — Wisconsin’s fourth- and eighth-grade public schools students posted test scores that put them ahead of the nation for mathematics, while reading results remained steady on the 2013 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) mathematics and reading tests.

On the math assessment, Wisconsin’s fourth-graders had an average scale score of 245 compared to 241 for public school students across the nation. At eighth-grade, the average scale score in math for Wisconsin was 289 compared to 284 nationally. In fourth-grade reading, the state and national average scale score were both 221. At eighth-grade Wisconsin’s average scale score was 268; the nation was two points lower at 266, though the two scores are statistically the same.

Public School NAEP	Mathematics		Reading	
	State	Nation	State	Nation
<b>Grade 4</b>	245*	241	221	221
<b>Grade 8</b>	289*	284	268	266

\* Significantly different (p<.05) from the results nationally.

Also known as “The Nation’s Report Card,” the 2013 NAEP math results confirm the recent Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) data that placed Wisconsin eighth-graders in the upper reaches among U.S. and international participants. Wisconsin was eighth in the TIMSS math report among states, the District of Columbia, and Department of Defense schools. The state was 14th among participating U.S. states and countries in the TIMSS report, released by the National Center for Education Statistics in October.

“We can be pleased that Wisconsin’s mathematics achievement is above the national average,” said State Superintendent Tony Evers. “However, our pace of improvement in mathematics has slowed, and the state’s reading results have remained flat. Achievement gaps between racial and ethnic groups, students with disabilities, and English language learners persist. We must remain focused on our efforts to improve achievement for all students so they graduate ready for college and careers. This means continuing to implement our new, more rigorous academic standards and our work in reading instruction.”

The state’s overall scale score in mathematics at grade four was higher than 25 states, not significantly different from results in 21 states, and lower than five states. At grade eight, the scale score in mathematics was

(more)

higher than 30 states and jurisdictions, not significantly different than 16 states and lower than five states. In reading, Wisconsin fourth-graders had results that were higher than 11 states or jurisdictions, not significantly different than 25 states, and lower than 15 states. In eighth grade, Wisconsin results were higher than 15 states, not significantly different than results in 23 states, and lower than results in 13 states. In both mathematics and reading, the achievement gap between the state’s black and white students remained unacceptably high.

The NAEP mathematics and reading assessments are conducted every two years, with a sample of students at each grade level taking either the math or reading test. The 2013 assessment window was between January and March. Approximately 4,100 Wisconsin fourth-grade students and 3,900 eighth-graders took the reading assessments. In mathematics, about 4,000 fourth-graders and 3,800 eighth-graders from the state took those assessments. Nationally, approximately 364,000 fourth-grade students and 331,000 eighth-grade students participated in the 2013 NAEP. Because samples on the NAEP assessments are relatively small, especially for subgroups of students, slight changes in scores may not be significantly different.

###

**NOTES:** Results for Wisconsin are for a sample of public school students and are compared to the national public school student results. No results are available for individual students, schools, or districts. This news release is available electronically at [http://news.dpi.wi.gov/files/eis/pdf/dpinr2013\\_143.pdf](http://news.dpi.wi.gov/files/eis/pdf/dpinr2013_143.pdf).

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)										
Overview	Mathematics									
	State					Nation				
	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Public Schools										
<b>Grade 4</b>	241*	244	244	245	245	237**	239**	239**	240	241
<b>Grade 8</b>	285*	286*	288	289	289	278**	280**	282**	283	284
Overview	Reading									
	State					Nation				
	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Public Schools										
<b>Grade 4</b>	221	223	220	221	221	217**	220	220	220	221
<b>Grade 8</b>	266	264*	266	267	268	260**	261**	262**	264	266

\* Significantly different (p<.05) from the state's results in 2013.  
 \*\* Significantly different (p<.05) from the nation's results in 2013.

## 2013 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

Average Scale Scores for Public School Participants

	Mathematics				Reading			
	Grade 4		Grade 8		Grade 4		Grade 8	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Overall	245*	241	289*	284	221	221	268	266
American Indian / Alaska Native	231	228	‡	270	211	206	‡	252
Asian	247	260*	290	308*	223	237*	272	280*
Black	216	224*	252	263*	193	205*	237	250*
Hispanic	228	230	273	271	201	207	258	255
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	‡	235	‡	274	‡	210	‡	258
White	252*	250	296*	293	228	231*	273	275
Two or more races	‡	244	‡	286	‡	225	‡	269
Females	244*	241	289*	283	225	224	275*	271
Males	245*	242	289*	284	216	217	261	261
Eligible for Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL)	232	230	274*	270	205	207	254	254
Not Eligible for FRL	255	254	299	297	233	236*	276	278
Students with Disabilities	219	218	251	248	180	184	228	231
Non-disabled	249*	244	294*	288	227	226	273*	270
English language learners (ELL)	224	219	260*	245	190	187	242*	225
Non-ELL	246*	244	290*	286	223	225	269	268

‡ Sample size insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

\* Statistically higher ( $p < .05$ ) within the same reporting group when comparing Wisconsin and national public students for same grade and year. No (\*) between groups means the scores are not statistically different.