

NAEP 2024–2025 Facts for Teachers



National Assessment of
Educational Progress

What is NAEP?

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is an integral measure of academic progress over time. It is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in various subjects, such as civics, mathematics, reading, science, U.S. history, and writing. The program also provides valuable insights into students' educational experiences and opportunities to learn in and outside of the classroom. Elected officials, policymakers, and educators all use NAEP results to develop ways to improve education.

NAEP is a congressionally mandated program administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), within the U.S. Department of Education and the Institute of Education Sciences.

“As a teacher, my constant focus is to help students make progress in the classroom. NAEP helps with this mission by creating a common measure of student achievement across the country.”

— Iris Garcia, Teacher, Biscayne Elementary Community School, Miami Beach, Florida

What NAEP assessments will be administered in the 2024–2025 school year?

The 2024–2025 program will include the long-term trend assessments for 9-, 13-, and 17-year-olds. The table below provides further information.

ASSESSMENTS ADMINISTERED IN THE 2024–2025 SCHOOL YEAR				
Age	Assessment Window	Type of NAEP assessment	Subjects	Format
Age 13	October 7–December 13, 2024	Long-term trend	Mathematics Reading	Paper and Pencil
Age 9	January 6–March 14, 2025			
Age 17	March 17–May 23, 2025			

NAEP long-term trend assessments measure student performance in mathematics and reading and allow the performance of today's students to be compared with students since the early 1970s. Each student will be assessed in one subject only.

Students will also be asked to complete a survey questionnaire. They may answer as many questions as they like and skip any question. NAEP survey questionnaires provide valuable information about participating students' educational experiences and opportunities to learn both in and outside of the classroom. There will be no teacher questionnaire, but a school questionnaire will be administered via paper and pencil to gather information about school policies and characteristics.

Results will be released for the nation. Learn more about NAEP long-term trend assessments at <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/ltr>.

What can teachers and students expect?

It takes approximately 90 minutes to complete the long-term trend assessment. This includes transition time, directions, and completion of a survey questionnaire. A broad range of accommodations are provided for students with disabilities and English learners. Teachers do not need to prepare their students to take the assessment, but they should encourage students to do their best.

Who will administer NAEP? What do schools need to provide on the day of the assessment?

NAEP representatives will administer the NAEP assessment and provide significant support to schools on assessment day. NAEP representatives will also bring all necessary materials. Schools will only need to provide space for students to take the assessment, including desks or tables.

How are schools and students selected for NAEP?

Schools are selected as part of a carefully designed sampling process that ensures NAEP-selected schools and students are representative of all schools and students across the United States.

How is NAEP different from our state assessment?

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.

NAEP and Teachers

HOW ARE TEACHERS ESSENTIAL PARTNERS IN NAEP?

Schools and students selected to participate in NAEP represent schools and students across the country. Teachers make an important contribution by encouraging their students to participate and to give their best effort; this helps ensure that NAEP results provide 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/>.

WHY ARE STUDENTS AND PRINCIPALS ASKED TO COMPLETE SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES?

In addition to subject-area questions, students participating in NAEP are asked to complete a survey questionnaire. Results from the questionnaire help put student achievement results into context, allow for meaningful comparison between student groups, and offer important insights for educators, policymakers, and researchers to better understand students' educational experiences in the United States.

Principals or school administrators of students participating in NAEP are asked to complete a survey questionnaire that provides information about school policies and characteristics. The questionnaire will be delivered via paper and pencil. The 2024–2025 NAEP program does not include a teacher questionnaire.

To learn more about NAEP survey questionnaires and view student, teacher, and school questionnaires from previous years, visit https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/survey_questionnaires.aspx.

HOW CAN TEACHERS USE NAEP RESOURCES AND DATA TO HELP STUDENTS?

You can use the NAEP Questions Tool (<https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/nqt>) to view released NAEP items and create customized assessments for your classroom. You can compare your students' performance with their peers in your state and across the nation. 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. 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.

The NAEP Data Explorer

(<https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/ndecore>) is a powerful tool that allows you to examine the relationships between student performance and factors like instructional practices, school resources, and more.

HOW DO THE NAEP ONLINE DASHBOARDS HELP TEACHERS EXPLORE NAEP RESULTS AND MORE?

The Achievement Gaps Dashboard lets users explore achievement gaps that reveal significant differences in assessment scores between two groups of students (e.g., female and male students or Black and White students). You can also examine the latest national results in all the NAEP subjects and students' educational experiences by school type with the new Public, Private, and Charter Schools Dashboard.

View the Achievement Gaps Dashboard at 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.

The Monthly School Survey Dashboard (<https://ies.ed.gov/schoolsurvey/>) offers a monthly snapshot of learning opportunities (i.e., remote only, hybrid, or full-time in-person instruction) and attendance rates at schools across the country during the COVID-19 pandemic. Survey results were collected from February through June 2021.

HOW LONG HAS NAEP BEEN AROUND?

NAEP was first administered in 1969 to measure student achievement nationally. In 1990, NAEP was administered at the state level for the first time. The NAEP Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA) program, which measures student achievement in some of the nation's large urban districts, began in 2002. The program has come to be recognized as the gold standard of large-scale assessments due to its high technical quality and rigorous design and methodology.

NAEP Results

The results of NAEP are released as The Nation's Report Card. Depending on the assessment, NAEP results are available for the nation, states, and select urban districts that participate in TUDA. Results are also available for different student groups based on factors such as race/ethnicity, gender, school location, and more. NAEP is not designed to collect or report results for individual students, classrooms, or schools. 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. Students who do participate take only a small fraction of the total number of questions within one assessed subject.

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/>.

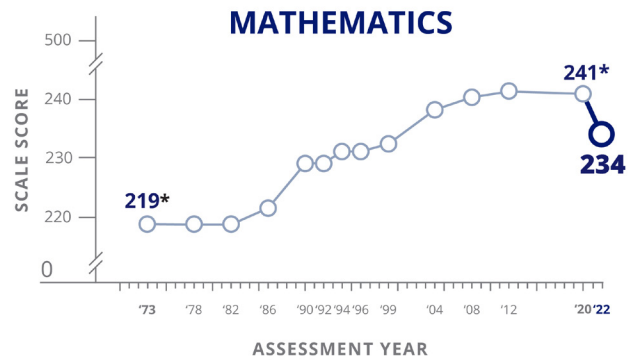
As part of main NAEP, students in grades 4 and 8 are scheduled to be assessed at the national and state levels in mathematics and reading every 2 years. Under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, districts and states that receive Title I funds are required to participate in these biennial assessments. Other subjects are assessed periodically. NAEP long-term trend assessments allow the performance of today's students to be compared with students since the early 1970s and are administered periodically to 9-, 13-, and 17-year-olds.

RECENT NAEP RESULTS

Following comprehensive scoring and analysis, results from the NAEP assessments are released as they become available. Results from the 2022 age 9 long-term trend assessment were released in September 2022 and are available at <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/highlights/ltr/2022>. Results from the 2023 age 13 long-term trend assessment were released in June 2023 and are available at <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/highlights/ltr/2023>. Below are highlights from these interactive reports.

2022 LONG-TERM TREND ASSESSMENT AT AGE 9

In 2022, NCES conducted a special administration of the NAEP long-term trend age 9 reading and mathematics assessments to examine student achievement during the COVID-19 pandemic. Average scores for nine-year-old students in 2022 declined 5 points in reading and 7 points in mathematics compared to 2020. This is the largest average score decline in reading since 1990, and the first ever score decline in mathematics.



Score change between 2020 and 2022:



Largest score drop in reading since 1990

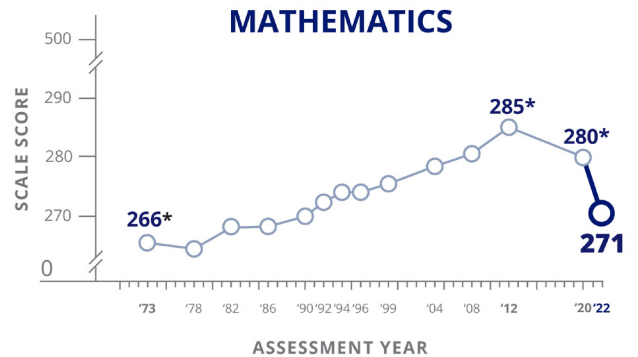
Score change between 2020 and 2022:



First ever score drop in mathematics

2023 LONG-TERM TREND ASSESSMENT AT AGE 13

NCES administered the NAEP long-term trend age 13 reading and mathematics assessments from October to December of the 2022–23 school year. The average scores for 13-year-olds declined 4 points in reading and 9 points in mathematics compared to the previous assessment administered during the 2019–20 school year. Compared to a decade ago, the average scores declined 7 points in reading and 14 points in mathematics. To learn about other NAEP assessments, download NAEP reports, and access sample questions, visit <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>.



Score change between 2020 and 2022:



Score change between 2020 and 2022:



*Significantly different ($p < .05$) from 2022.

More About NAEP

To learn about NAEP long-term trend assessments, visit <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/ltt>.

To learn about other NAEP assessments, download NAEP reports, and access sample questions, visit <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>. Explore the latest NAEP results at <https://nationsreportcard.gov>.

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/participating/schools.aspx>.

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.

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



“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

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) and to collect students' education records from education agencies or institutions for the purposes of evaluating federally supported education programs under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA, 34 CFR §§ 99.31(a)(3)(iii) and 99.35). 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 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.

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