

# NAEP 2022

## Facts for Districts



National Assessment of  
Educational Progress

### What is NAEP?

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is an integral measure of academic progress across the nation and 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, and U.S. history. The program also provides valuable insights into students' educational experiences and opportunities to learn in and outside of the classroom.

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.

### How are NAEP results reported?

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 the Trial Urban District Assessment (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.

---

**“NAEP is the only assessment providing half a century of performance data to measure what students know and can do. The state and national trends inform local, state, and national program and policy discussions that improve teaching and learning.”**

—David Atherton, EdD, Principal, Clear Creek Middle School, Gresham, OR

---

### Why should my district participate in NAEP?

Your district's participation will help ensure that educators, policymakers, and elected officials have reliable data to better understand and improve student learning. Schools and students selected to participate in NAEP represent schools and students across the country. When students participate and give their best effort, NAEP results provide the most accurate and representative measure possible of student achievement and experience.

### What NAEP assessments will be administered in 2022?

The 2022 program will include grade-based assessments—referred to as main NAEP—for grades 4 and 8, as well as the long-term trend assessment for 9-year-olds. The table below provides further information.

Age or Grade	Type of NAEP Assessment	Subject	Format	Assessment Window
Grade 4	Main	Mathematics Reading	Tablet	January 24– March 4, 2022
Grade 8	Main	Civics Mathematics Reading U.S. History		
Age 9	Long-term trend	Mathematics Reading	Paper and Pencil	January 10– March 18, 2022

Results will be released at the national, state, and select urban district levels for the mathematics and reading assessments at grades 4 and 8. National results will be released for the civics and U.S. history assessments at grade 8 and the long-term trend assessment at age 9.

Students, teachers, and principals participating in main NAEP will also be asked to complete survey questionnaires to provide a better understanding of factors that may be related to students' learning. There is no teacher questionnaire in the long-term trend assessment, but a school questionnaire will be administered.

## What will students in my districts do?

Participating students will complete subject-area questions in civics, mathematics, reading, or U.S. history. Each student will be assessed in one subject only. Students will also complete survey questionnaires that provide valuable information about their educational experiences and opportunities to learn both in and outside of the classroom, as well as how they have accessed learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

It takes participating students approximately 2 hours to complete main NAEP assessments and approximately 90 minutes to complete the long-term trend assessment. This includes transition time, directions, and completion of survey questionnaires. A broad range of accommodations are provided for students with disabilities and English learners.

## Do teachers need to prepare students for the assessment?

Teachers do not need to prepare their students to take the assessment but should encourage them to do their best.

## How can school administrators and teachers use NAEP data to help our students?

The NAEP Data Explorer ([nationsreportcard.gov/ndecore](https://nationsreportcard.gov/ndecore)) is a powerful tool that allows you to examine the relationships between student performance and factors such as instructional practices, school resources, and more.

Questions from previous NAEP assessments can also be used as a helpful educational resource in the classroom. Teachers can use the NAEP Questions Tool ([nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/nqt](https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/nqt)) to see how their students' performance compares to peers in your state and across the nation. Released NAEP questions come with a scoring guide, sample student responses, and performance data.

## 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. They will wear necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) and follow all school-specific health protocols. NAEP representatives will also bring all necessary materials and equipment, including sanitized tablets with

keyboards. Schools will only need to provide space for students to take the assessment, desks or tables, and an adequate number of electrical outlets in the assessment location. Schools will not need to provide internet access.

## How were schools in my district selected for NAEP?

Schools were selected as part of a carefully designed sampling process that ensures NAEP-selected schools and students are representative of your district, state, and the nation.

## How is NAEP different from our state assessment?

NAEP serves a different role than state assessments. While states have their own unique assessments to measure student achievement against specific content standards, NAEP is designed to provide a common measure of student performance and progress across the country.

## 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 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.

## How often is NAEP administered?

As part of main NAEP, students in grades 4 and 8 are scheduled to be assessed at the state and national 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. Long-term trend assessments for 9-, 13-, and 17-year-olds are also assessed periodically.

## Where can I find more information?

Learn more about the NAEP program at [nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard](https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard), and explore the latest NAEP results at [nationsreportcard.gov](https://nationsreportcard.gov).

Visit [nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/covid19.aspx](https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/covid19.aspx) for more information about NAEP COVID-19 protocols.

---

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.

This publication was prepared for the National Assessment of Educational Progress by Hager Sharp under contract GS-23F-0024M to the National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education.