



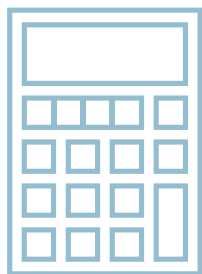
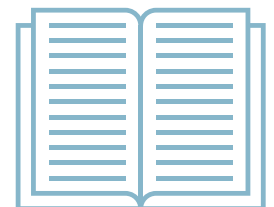
# The Nation's Report Card: Mathematics and Reading

To improve student achievement, we first need to know where we stand. The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)—also known as The Nation's Report Card—provides results for student achievement across the nation, for each state, in select urban districts, and in U.S. Department of Defense schools. As the only nationally representative assessment of elementary and secondary education in the United States, NAEP has informed the public about what American students know and can do for nearly 50 years.

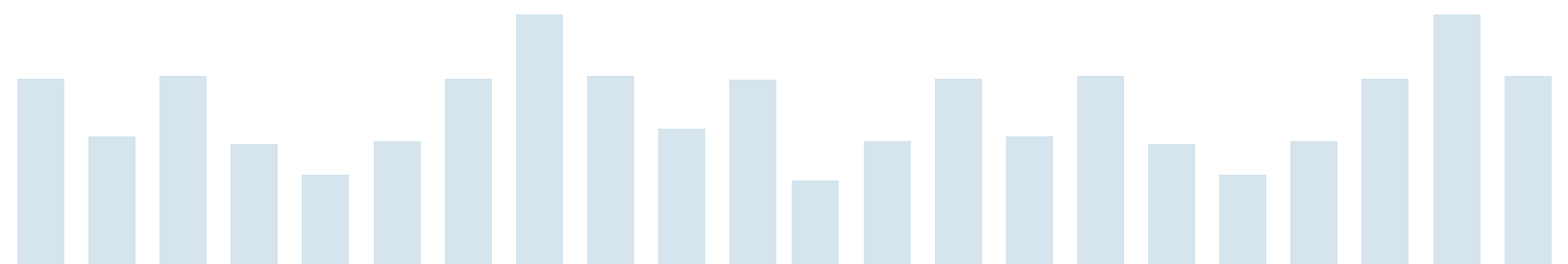
The 2017 NAEP Mathematics and Reading assessments provide rich data on student performance in grades 4 and 8. Administered from January to March every two years to samples of students, the mathematics and reading assessments reflect the importance of developing students' knowledge and skills in these core subjects.

## Design of the NAEP Mathematics and Reading Assessments

The National Assessment Governing Board, a nonpartisan organization that sets policy for NAEP, engaged K-12 and postsecondary educators, researchers, assessment specialists, and members of the public to establish the NAEP Mathematics and Reading frameworks. These frameworks provide a clear blueprint for assessing skills in reading and in mathematics.



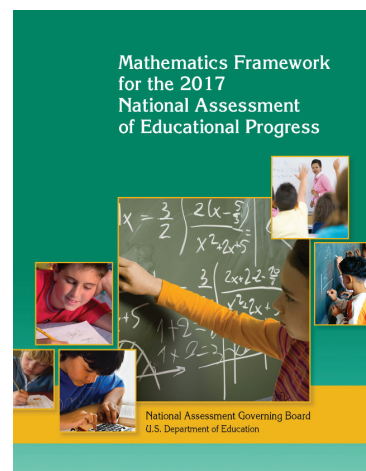
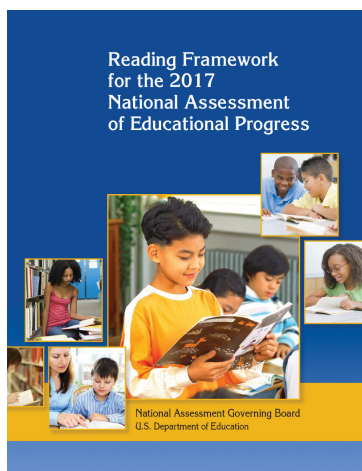
The reading assessment tests students on literary and informational texts. The questions measure students' ability to locate and recall, integrate and interpret, and critique and evaluate. The mathematics assessment addresses five content areas: number properties and operations; measurement; geometry; data analysis, statistics, and probability; and algebra. The assessments also include questions about students' home and school experiences, which provide context for understanding their performance.



## How Performance is Reported

NAEP reports performance using average scores and percentages of students performing at or above three achievement levels: *Basic*, *Proficient*, and *Advanced*. The *Basic* level signifies partial mastery of the knowledge and skills that are fundamental for proficient work in a grade and subject. *Proficient* denotes solid academic performance demonstrating competency over challenging subject matter, including subject-matter knowledge, application of such knowledge to real-world situations, and analytical skills. *Advanced* represents superior performance beyond proficiency. *Proficient* is not the same as being “on grade level,” which refers to student performance based on local standards and curriculum that can vary among school districts.

The 2017 Reading and Mathematics assessments marked the first time these assessments were administered through digital-based assessment. The content the NAEP reading and mathematics assessments measure is in essence the same as in previous years, but the digital environment allows for innovative ways to tap students’ knowledge and skills.



## LEARN MORE AND STAY IN TOUCH

Visit [www.nagb.gov](http://www.nagb.gov) for more information about the 2017 NAEP Mathematics and Reading releases and to sign up for our newsletter.

NAEP is a congressionally authorized project of the National Center for Education Statistics within the U.S. Department of Education. The independent, nonpartisan National Assessment Governing Board oversees and sets policy for NAEP.