

## Understanding Assessments: Nation’s Report Card and Other Assessments

	Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)	Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS)	Nation’s Report Card (National Assessment of Educational Progress or NAEP)	Long Term Trend (LTT)	State Assessments	District and Interim Tests
<b>Scope of assessment</b>	International	International	National, state, and large urban school districts	National	State, district, school, and student	Student
<b>Students assessed</b>	Nationally representative samples of 15 year olds. <sup>1</sup>	Nationally representative samples of students in grades 4 and 8.	Nationally representative samples of students in grades 4 and 8 every two years, and grade 12 every 4 years.	Nationally representative samples of 9, 13, and 17 year olds <sup>2</sup> .	Grades 3-8 and at least once in high school. (All students take science at least once in grades 3-5, 6-8, and in high school).	Varies, usually determined by districts.
<b>Content assessed</b>	Math literacy, reading literacy <sup>3</sup> , and science literacy, and rotating innovative domains.	Math and science.	Math, reading, civics, U.S. history, science, and writing.	Math and reading.	Aligned to math, ELA, science, and social studies state content standards.	Across grades and subjects
<b>Oversees the assessment</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	International Association of the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA)	National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB)	National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB)	State departments of education, as governed by state legislatures and state boards of education.	School district and/or state departments of education

<sup>1</sup> In the United States, 15 year olds are usually 10th or 9th graders.

<sup>2</sup> Nine year olds are usually 4th or 3rd graders; 13 year olds are usually 8th or 7th graders; 17 year olds are usually 12th or 11th graders.

<sup>3</sup> PISA defines reading literacy as understanding, using, evaluating, reflecting on, and engaging with texts. The NAEP Reading assessment explicitly tests reading comprehension—understanding written text and interpreting meaning—as defined by its [framework](#).

	<b>Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)</b>	<b>Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS)</b>	<b>Nation’s Report Card (National Assessment of Educational Progress or NAEP)</b>	<b>Long Term Trend (LTT)</b>	<b>State Assessments</b>	<b>District and Interim Tests</b>
<b>Measurement and scoring</b>	Scores are reported on a 0-1,000 scale. PISA scales are divided into proficiency levels, from lowest to highest: Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.	Scores reported on a 0-1,000 scale: Advanced (625), High (550), Intermediate (475), and Low (400).	Achievement levels: <b>NAEP Basic</b> , <b>NAEP Proficient</b> , or <b>NAEP Advanced</b> , and scale scores reported on a 300- or 500-point scale.	Scores reported on a 0-500 scale: Performance levels of 150, 200, 250, 300, and 350.	States report performance at least three achievement levels (one of which must be “proficient”). Most states use at least four achievement levels. States generally report scale scores as established by each state.	This varies by assessment across districts.