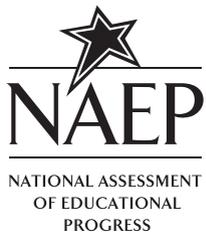




2011



# An Overview of NAEP

in Your Private School

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS



Private schools have participated in NAEP for decades, and the Council for American Private Education (CAPE) supports NAEP and encourages your participation.

**JOE MCTIGHE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CAPE**





The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS)  
has supported private school participation in NAEP  
for many years.

**WILLIAM COCHRAN, DIRECTOR SCHOOL MINISTRY, LCMS**

<b>If you want to...</b>	<b>Visit...</b>
<b>Find</b> out more information about NAEP in general	<a href="http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/">http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/</a>
<b>Learn</b> more about the role of private schools in NAEP	<a href="http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/nonpublicschools.asp">http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/nonpublicschools.asp</a>
<b>Read</b> about the content development of the assessment	<a href="http://www.nagb.org/">http://www.nagb.org/</a>
<b>Locate</b> assessment results	<a href="http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata">http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata</a>
<b>View</b> sample questions	<a href="http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmrlsx">http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmrlsx</a>

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## INTRODUCTION TO NAEP 2011

NAEP is referred to as the “gold standard” of assessments because of its high technical quality and because it represents the best thinking of assessment specialists, education experts, teachers, and content specialists from around the nation.

Teachers, parents, policymakers, and researchers all use NAEP results to assess progress and develop ways to improve education in the United States. NAEP is a trusted resource and has been providing valid and reliable data on student performance in schools since 1971.

NAEP is an essential measurement of student achievement in both public and private schools. Here are some of the highlights of NAEP:

- It is the only nationally representative assessment of what our nation’s students

know and can do in core subjects such as mathematics, reading, science, social studies, and writing.

- The schools and students selected to take the assessment represent the diversity of our nation’s students and schools.
- NAEP reports on student achievement nationally. Individual school and student names or scores are never identified due to strict confidentiality guidelines NAEP follows.

### NAEP Results for Private Schools

Results for nonpublic schools can be examined through the NAEP Data Explorer (NDE). For each NAEP assessment, private school data are collected and are included in the overall results. For some subjects and years, however, the participation rates did not meet NCEES standards for reporting private school results as a separate category; consequently, private school results could not be reported at grade 12 in 2005 mathematics and reading and in 2009 civics, economics, and U.S. history. Results can be reported only if at least 70% of schools in the sample participate.

To get a very quick overview of results, follow the links below. Note that for some of these results, you will be sent to the NAEP Data Explorer (NDE) to view a graph or table of the results. Once you are in the NDE, you can explore the data further—for help, see the [NDE Quick Reference Guide](#) (990K PDF).

#### Arts

- Average scale scores, public and private schools at grade 8 for [music](#) and [visual arts](#), 2008.

#### Civics

- Average scale scores, public and nonpublic schools at [grade 4](#), [grade 8](#), and [grade 12](#): 1998, 2009.
- Achievement-level results, public and nonpublic schools at [grade 4](#), [grade 8](#), and [grade 12](#): 1998, 2009.

#### Geography

- Average scale scores, public and nonpublic schools at [grade 4](#), [grade 8](#), and [grade 12](#): 1994, 2001.
- Achievement-level results, public and nonpublic schools at [grade 4](#), [grade 8](#), and [grade 12](#): 1994, 2001.

#### Mathematics

- Average scale scores, public, private, and Catholic schools, [grade 4](#) and [grade 8](#): 1990–2009.
- Average scale scores, public and nonpublic schools, [grade 12](#): 1990–2009.
- Achievement-level results, public, private, and Catholic schools, [grade 4](#) and [grade 8](#): 1990–2009.
- Achievement-level results, public and nonpublic schools, [grade 12](#): 1990–2009.
- Percentile scores, public, private, and Catholic schools, [grade 4](#) and [grade 8](#): 1990–2009.

#### Reading

- Average scale scores, public, private, and Catholic schools, [grades 4 and 8](#): 1992–2009.
- Average scale scores, public and nonpublic schools, [grade 12](#): 1992–1998.
- Achievement-level results, public, private, and Catholic schools, [grades 4 and 8](#): 1992–2007.
- Achievement-level results, public and nonpublic schools, [grade 12](#): 1992–1998.

5

Select Grade and Subject

View Results

6



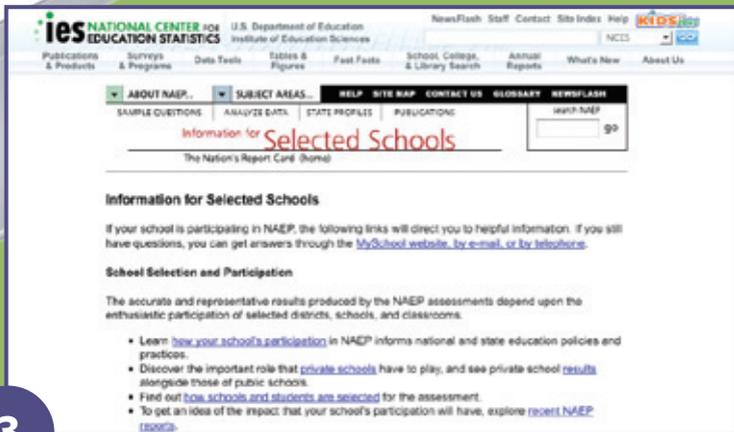


1

Go to The Nation's Report Card website

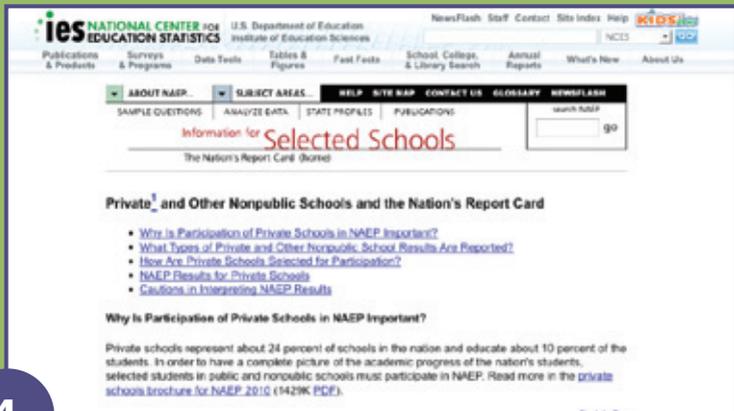
2

Click on Selected Schools



3

Click on Private Schools



4

Click on NAEP Results for Private Schools



With the cooperation of principals, Catholic schools have achieved excellent participation in NAEP. The National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) continues to support participation in NAEP.

**KAREN RISTAU, PRESIDENT, NCEA**

#### **The NAEP Program for 2011**

More than 1,600 private schools will be selected to participate in the NAEP 2011 assessment. NAEP will be administered between January 24 and March 4, 2011, to a sample of fourth-grade students in mathematics and reading, and eighth-grade students in mathematics, reading, and science. Individual students within sessions will be assessed in either mathematics, reading, or science. A small number of students in some schools will be assessed in a computer-based writing assessment for eighth- and twelfth-graders. In addition, NAEP will select an oversample of private schools for 2011 to produce reportable results in mathematics and reading at grades 4 and 8 for four groups: Catholic, Lutheran, Conservative Christian, and Other Private schools.

#### **Who determines the content of NAEP?**

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), a division within the U.S. Department

of Education's Institute of Education Sciences, administers the assessment. NCES is responsible for the development of the test questions, the administration of the assessment, scoring, conducting analyses, and reporting the results. The content for the assessment is determined by the National Assessment Governing Board. The Governing Board also sets policy for NAEP.

#### **How was my school selected?**

Each year, a new sample of schools is drawn for NAEP. The sample is based on data from the Private School Universe Survey (PSS). The PSS collects and stores data on more than 30,000 private schools in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The number of private schools sampled for NAEP changes from year to year depending on the number of subjects being assessed and the extent of reporting for different types of private schools. This year more than 1,600 private schools will be selected.



## INCLUSION OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Private schools have been participating in NAEP for decades and are an integral part of providing a complete picture of U.S. education.

Private schools represent about 24 percent of schools in the nation and educate approximately 10 percent of our nation's students. Without the participation of private schools in NAEP, any report of trends in student achievement at the elementary, middle, and high school levels would be incomplete. By participating, your students will represent thousands of other private school students.

NAEP has consistently demonstrated how the performance of students in private schools compares positively to that of students in public schools and the rest of the nation. The performance of students attending private schools can be examined on the NAEP website, located at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/nonpublicschools.asp>.

### Endorsements

More than 50 national, regional, and state private school organizations have provided letters endorsing private school participation in NAEP for 2011.

### Private School Results

Students who participated in NAEP 2005, 2007, and 2009 took mathematics or reading. The table on page 5 displays mathematics results for private school students in grades 4 and 8.



We at the Jewish Education Service of North America (JESNA) strongly support private school participation in NAEP.

**DONALD A. SYLVAN, PRESIDENT, JESNA**

Results for private schools are reported by Catholic schools and other private schools, and can be accessed by following these steps.

**Step 1**

Go to <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/>

**Step 2**

Click on the link “Selected Schools.”

**Step 3**

Select the link “private schools.”

**Step 4**

Select the link “NAEP Results for Private Schools.”

**Step 5**

Select the data available by grade, subject, and year.

**Step 6**

An overview of results is shown. Average scores are displayed in a chart or graph for public schools, other private schools, and Catholic schools.

Additional Data Tools: Along with an overview of NAEP data for private schools, for more specific results you can access the NAEP Data Explorer (NDE). The NDE provides access to detailed results from NAEP’s assessments. To access the NDE, go to <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata/>.

These steps are further illustrated on pages 10 and 11.



## PRIVATE SCHOOL RESULTS ONLINE

NAEP assesses a representative sample of private school students at grades 4, 8, and 12. Several different breakdowns of results are available depending on the years, jurisdiction, and level of participation.

With high levels of private school student participation, NAEP can help provide answers to important questions:

- How has private school student performance in NAEP subjects changed over time?
- How does the performance of students in private schools compare to the performance of public school students?
- How does the performance of students in Catholic schools compare to the performance of students in other types of private schools?

### Findings:

#### Mathematics and Reading

Students in Catholic schools had higher average scores in 2009 than in 1998.

In 1998 and 2009, students in Catholic schools had higher average scores than students in public schools.



The Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) considers NAEP to be a worthy project and supports the participation of private schools in NAEP.

**BRIAN SIMMONS, PRESIDENT, ACSI**

Catholic school students outperformed public school fourth- and eighth-grade students in the mathematics assessment. Other private school students also scored higher than their public school counterparts. The table below highlights the difference in average scale scores between public, private, and Catholic school students.

Results for private schools can only be reported when 70 percent of schools selected for NAEP participate in the assessment. In 2011, reporting groups will be expanded to include Conservative Christian schools and Lutheran schools.

**NAEP 2005, 2007, and 2009 Mathematics Scale Scores**

AVERAGE SCALE SCORES	GRADE 4			GRADE 8		
	2005	2007	2009	2005	2007	2009
Public	237	239	239	278	280	282
Other Private	‡	‡	247*	‡	‡	295*
Catholic	244*	246*	245*	290*	292*	297*

\* Significantly different from public schools.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

Note: The mathematics scale ranges from 0-500.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institution of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics. National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2005, 2007, and 2009 Mathematics Assessment.



## PARTICIPATION

Once you have decided to participate, a local NAEP representative will work directly with a school coordinator to make assessment arrangements.

### What is involved?

Most students will spend 90 minutes in the assessment session. Students are asked questions on subjects they encounter every day and respond to contextual questions such as the amount of reading they do and type of classes they take. Trained field staff will bring all assessment materials and administer the assessment.

Each principal will be asked to

- designate a school coordinator; and
- include the NAEP assessment date on the school calendar.

The NAEP representative will then work with the school coordinator to complete logistical items:

- **Register on the MySchool website.** Schools selected for NAEP can access detailed information about the assessment on this site. Schools may choose to register for the MySchool website by following these simple steps:
  - > Go to [www.mynaep.com](http://www.mynaep.com);
  - > Click on the “New MySchool users REGISTER here” link; and
  - > Complete the registration form.

More information, including the school-specific MySchool registration ID, is sent to schools at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year

- **Provide a list of eligible students.** NAEP uses a complete list of students in the selected grade to draw a random sample of students to participate in the assessment. The list of students can be



Adventist Education supports participation of private schools in NAEP so that NAEP can develop a complete picture of American education.

**LARRY BLACKMER, VICE PRESIDENT OF EDUCATION, SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH, NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION**

provided (1) in a hardcopy format that is retained at the school to be sampled on site by a visiting NAEP representative, or (2) electronically for sampling through the secure MySchool website. Your NAEP representative will provide further information on these options and allow you to select the best method for your school.

- **Inform parents.** By law, before the administration of the assessment, parents of students selected for NAEP must be informed that their child has been selected and may be excused from participation for any reason, is not required to finish the assessment, and is not required to answer all test questions. The NAEP representative will provide a sample letter and further instructions on how to fulfill this requirement.
- **Meet with the NAEP representative prior to the assessment.** The NAEP representative will visit your school at an agreed-upon date in January 2011 to review the information necessary to prepare for the assessment and to make final arrangements.

- **Ensure that students attend the session on assessment day.** The school coordinator should be available prior to the assessment start time to ensure that students report to the session for which they are selected. The school coordinator and/or teachers of the selected students are encouraged to remain in the room during the assessment, although they are not required to do so.

#### **What are the responsibilities of the NAEP representatives?**

The NAEP representatives work directly with schools. Most of the staff are retired teachers from the local area. All NAEP staff have submitted fingerprints for an FBI clearance and have signed an oath of confidentiality. A NAEP representative will be assigned to work out assessment logistics with the school, provide the school coordinator with instructions for ensuring a successful assessment, and lead the team of NAEP assessors on the day of assessment.

