

National Assessment of Educational Progress

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the only nationally representative, continuing assessment of what students in the United States know and can do in various subject areas. Since NAEP assessments are administered uniformly using the same sets of test booklets across the nation, NAEP results serve as a common metric for all states and selected urban districts. The assessment stays essentially the same from year to year, with only carefully documented changes. This permits NAEP to provide a clear picture of student academic progress over time. The following tables show the most recent results of NAEP for Iowa in reading and mathematics that were available at the time this document was released. Additional information on NAEP can be found at: <http://nationsreportcard.gov/>.

NAEP mathematics and reading results for grades four and eight are reported on a 0–500 scale. Because NAEP scales are developed independently for each subject and for each content area within a subject, the scores cannot be compared across subjects. In addition to the scale scores and based on recommendations from policymakers, educators, and members of the general public, specific achievement levels are set for each subject area and grade. Achievement levels are performance standards showing what students should know and be able to do. They provide another perspective with which to interpret student performance. NAEP results are reported as percentages of students performing at the Basic, Proficient, and Advanced levels.

- Basic denotes partial mastery of prerequisite knowledge and skills that are fundamental for proficient work at a given grade.
- Proficient represents solid academic performance. Students reaching this level have demonstrated competency over challenging subject matter.
- Advanced represents superior performance.

Note that the cut point for the Basic level on NAEP is the best comparison to the Proficient level on the Iowa Tests.

Appendix G

NAEP Information for District Report Cards

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2011: Average Scale Score and Percent of Students at Each Achievement Level for Iowa and the Nation

	Average Score	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
Reading - Grade 4					
Iowa	221	31%	35%	27%	6%
National Public	220	34%	34%	25%	7%
Reading - Grade 8					
Iowa	265	23%	44%	31%	2%
National Public	264	25%	43%	29%	3%
Mathematics - Grade 4					
Iowa	243	14%	43%	37%	6%
National Public	240	18%	42%	33%	6%
Mathematics - Grade 8					
Iowa	285	23%	43%	26%	8%
National Public	283	28%	39%	26%	8%

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2009 Reading Assessment.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. Some apparent differences between estimates may not be statistically significant.

Inclusion Rates: Percent Included in the NAEP 2011 Assessment

	Jurisdiction	Grade 4 Reading	Grade 4 Mathematics	Grade 8 Reading	Grade 8 Mathematics
Students with Disabilities	Iowa	93.36%	91.9%	94.7%	90.4%
	Nation	76.6%	84.2%	75.5%	80.0%
Limited English Proficient Students	Iowa	97.8%	94.4%	99.0%	96.7%
	Nation	89.0%	95.9%	86.4%	93.1%

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2009 Assessment.