

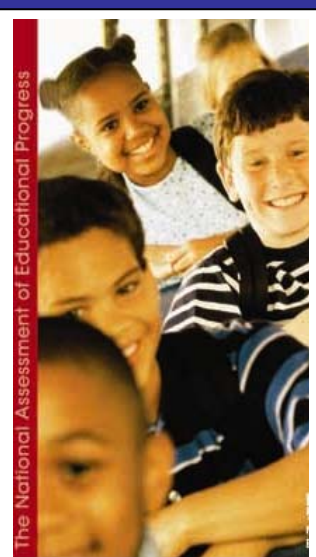
# North Carolina NAEP News

September 2004

The National Assessment of Educational Progress

## Measuring Student Progress for 40 Years

NAEP began in 1964 with a grant from the Carnegie Corporation to set up the Exploratory Committee for the Assessment of Progress in Education. The first national assessments were conducted in 1969. Voluntary assessments for states began in 1990 on a trial basis, and in 2002 and 2003, selected urban districts participated in the assessment on a trial basis. In 2003, the first NCLB-mandated NAEP assessments in reading and mathematics were administered.



## NAEP 2005 is Coming!

**What is NAEP?** The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), also known as “the Nation’s Report Card,” is the only nationally representative and continuing assessment of what America’s students know and can do in various subject areas. Under the current structure, the Commissioner of Education Statistics, who heads the National Center for Education Statistics in the U.S. Department of Education, is responsible by law for carrying out the NAEP project. The National Assessment Governing Board, appointed by the Secretary of Education but independent of the Department, sets policy for NAEP and is responsible for developing the framework and test specifications that serve as the blueprint for the assessments.

**Why do we participate in NAEP?** According to State Board of Education (SBE) policy HSP-A-001 (16 NCAC 6D .0302), to ensure adequate representation and generalizability of the data used to develop tests and to conduct evaluation studies, selected LEAs and schools, determined through stratified random samples, shall participate in field testing and other sample testing such as NAEP and other national or international assessments as designated by the department or the SBE. North Carolina has participated in state NAEP since 1990. A significant change to state NAEP occurred in 2001 with the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, also referred to as “No Child Left Behind” legislation. This legislation requires states that receive Title I funding to participate in the state-level NAEP in reading and mathematics at grades 4 and 8 every two years.

**Who will take NAEP?** The NAEP assessments are based upon a stratified random sampling procedure. A sample of North Carolina schools will be selected statewide and from these schools a sample of students will be selected at targeted grade(s). For the state-level assessment the targeted grades are grades 4 and 8; the subject areas being assessed are mathematics, reading and science. There is also a national assessment being conducted for grades 4, 8 and 12 in these same subjects. Overall, there will be approximately 2,500 – 3,000 students selected per grade, per subject area for grades 4 and 8. A much smaller sample will be drawn at grade 12.

### NAEP Assessment Schedule

Operational NAEP		
SUBJECT	GRADE	TESTING WINDOW
Reading	4, 8, and 12	January 24 to March 4, 2005
Mathematics	4, 8, and 12	January 24 to March 4, 2005
Science	4, 8, and 12	January 24 to March 4, 2005
Pilots and Special Studies		
SUBJECT	GRADE	TESTING WINDOW
Civics	4, 8, and 12	January 24 to March 4, 2005
Economics	12	January 24 to March 4, 2005
Mathematics	4, 8, and 12	January 24 to March 4, 2005
Reading	4, 8, and 12	January 24 to March 4, 2005
U.S. History	4, 8, and 12	January 24 to March 4, 2005
Science Bridge Study	4, 8, and 12	January 24 to March 4, 2005
High School Transcript Study	12	Spring/Summer 2005

*Want to know  
more about what  
NAEP measures??*



Visit the National Center  
for Education Statistics  
(NCES) Web site at

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

**Marcie Hickman**  
**NAEP State  
Coordinator**

North Carolina Department  
of Public Instruction  
6314 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-6314

Phone:  
(919) 807-3768

Fax:  
(919) 807-3772

E-mail:  
[mhickman@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:mhickman@dpi.state.nc.us)

In compliance with federal law, including the provisions of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, N C Public Schools administers all state-operated educational programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination because of race, religion, national or ethnic origin, color, age, military service, disability, or gender, except where exemption is appropriate and allowed by law.

Inquiries or complaints should be directed to:

Dr. Elsie C. Leak, Associate  
Superintendent  
Office of Curriculum and School  
Reform Services  
6307 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-6307  
Telephone (919) 807-3761; fax  
(919) 807-3767

## NAEP 2005 is Coming!

**What is the timeline?** Selected LEAs and schools are scheduled to be notified in September. The schools will be asked to supply the name of a contact person. The contact person will work with representatives from NAEP to verify student information and facilitate minor logistical requirements for the smooth administration of the assessment. NAEP field staff will conduct the assessment and all related tasks.

NAEP will be administered January 24 through March 4, 2005. State results for grades 4 and 8 in reading and mathematics, and national results for grade 12 in reading and mathematics are scheduled to be released by October 2005. A release date for the science results has not yet been scheduled.

**How much student time is needed for the assessment?** Students are asked to participate in only one subject. All subjects except for science require 90 minutes (including instructions and the distribution and collection of materials). Science requires an additional 30 minutes to engage selected students in authentic hands-on experiments.

**How are NAEP results reported?** NAEP does not provide individual scores for the students or schools assessed. Instead, NAEP provides state-level and national results about subject-matter achievement, instructional experiences and school environment, and reports these results for populations of students (e.g., fourth-graders) and subgroups of those populations (e.g., male students or Hispanic students). The North Carolina Standard Course of Study is closely aligned to the NAEP Frameworks, so NAEP results give North Carolina educators more information on the educational progress of students in our state. Also, NAEP is the only assessment in which comparisons can be made between North Carolina, the nation and other states and regions in the country.

### North Carolina End-of-Grade (NC EOG) and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

NC EOG	NAEP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administered to all students in grades 3-8</li> <li>Students take a complete assessment</li> <li>Multiple test forms administered statewide</li> <li>Multiple-choice items</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administered to a statewide sample of students in grades 4 and 8</li> <li>Students take Item blocks (25 minutes each)</li> <li>Different item blocks administered within the same classroom</li> <li>Both multiple-choice and constructed-response items (except NAEP Writing Assessment)</li> <li>Administered by NAEP Field Staff in a single testing session (~90 minutes)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administered by local educators according to state testing schedule</li> <li>Designed to provide individual, school, district, and state results</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designed to provide state and national results</li> </ul>

**Did you know NAEP releases assessment items every year?** NAEP has an interactive item bank that can be utilized to prepare students for standardized assessments as well as provide instructional support. This is only one of many interactive features NAEP has available. For more information or to schedule a workshop at your school or district, please contact Marcie Hickman.

**Where can you find additional information?** Contact Marcie Hickman, NAEP State Coordinator, at [mhickman@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:mhickman@dpi.state.nc.us) or by phone at (919) 807-3768, or visit the NAEP Web site at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>.

The state NAEP results for 2003 Reading and Mathematics grades 4 and 8 are available at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/testing/reports/>.

