

# NAEP 2014 in Missouri



**NAEP is an integral part of American education.**

## What is NAEP?

NAEP, or the **National Assessment of Educational Progress**, is an essential measurement of student achievement in the United States.

- ⇒ NAEP was first administered in 1969, and is the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in core subjects such as mathematics, reading, science, and writing.
- ⇒ The schools and students participating in NAEP represent other schools and students within states, and across the country.
- ⇒ NAEP is considered the gold standard of assessments because of its high technical quality. The assessment frameworks are developed with input from assessment specialists, education experts, teachers, and content specialists from around the nation.
- ⇒ NAEP monitors student progress over time and reports on student achievement nationally and on the state level.

## How will districts/schools know they are in the NAEP 2014 sample for Missouri?

District superintendents of sampled Missouri schools were sent letters of notification from Dr. Sharon Helwig, Assistant Commissioner, in May 2013.

Following district notification, principals of sampled schools were sent letters of notification from Cynthia Hollis, Coordinator of NAEP. (District test coordinators were copied on both letters.)

## When will the NAEP assessments be administered?

The NAEP 2014 assessment window is from January 27 through March 7, 2014. The science interactive computer tasks (ICT) pilot will occur March 17 through April 18, 2014.

In June 2013, scheduled assessment dates will be sent to principals of all other sampled schools so the NAEP 2014 assessment date can be included on their 2013-14 school calendar.

## How are Missouri districts/schools selected for the sample?

A systematic sampling procedure is used in which identified groupings (e.g., school size/location, racial/ethnic composition of the schools, etc.) are considered to ensure that the sample is representative of all students in Missouri, as well as in the nation. Every student has the same chance of being chosen—regardless of race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, disability, status as an English language learner, or any other factors.

The NAEP sample is selected by a contractor with the United States Department of Education (Westat, Inc.) using the Common Core of Data (CCD).

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## What grade levels and content areas will be assessed?

Sampled schools may be selected for one or more grade levels. NAEP 2014 assessments/pilots are administered at grades 4, 8 and/or 12.

Grade 4 includes science pilots in hands-on tasks (HOTs), paper-pencil, and/or interactive computer tasks (ICTs).

Grade 8 includes assessments in U.S. history, civics, geography and technology and engineering literacy (TEL); and science pilots in hands-on tasks (HOTs), paper-pencil and interactive computer tasks (ICTs).

Grade 12 includes science pilots in hands-on tasks (HOTs), paper-pencil, and interactive computer tasks (ICTs).

Additional special studies may also be added.

The NAEP TEL assessment and ICT pilot are computer-based assessments and will be conducted on laptops provided by NAEP.

Each student selected for participation will take only one content area assessment.

## How long are the assessments?

The NAEP 2014 assessments/pilots vary from 90-120 minutes (including instructions, distribution and collection of materials).



## Who will administer the NAEP assessment?

Contractors with the United States Department of Education (Westat, Inc.) will administer the assessment and keep track of all assessment materials before, during and after the assessment. However, it is important that a teacher (or other certified staff member) be present in the classroom during the assessment to assist with unexpected situations which may arise (e.g., child becomes ill during assessment, etc.).

## It's important to know that. . .

NAEP items can be used as a helpful educational resource in the classroom. Teachers can use actual NAEP items that have been released to see how student's performance compares to national, state and regional results on specific items.

Released NAEP items come with a scoring guide, sample student responses, and performance data by state. All of this information is provided in the **NAEP Questions Tool** which can be found at

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmrlsx/default.aspx>

or on the Missouri Department of Education NAEP Webpage at

<http://www.dese.mo.gov/divimprove/naep/>

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