

NAEP was first administered in 1992 and became a federal requirement in 2003. While other end of year state summative assessments can be used for reporting and comparing school and district results, NAEP was specifically designed to allow for high-level state-by-state comparisons across the nation. Though they may seem similar, there are a number of key differences between NAEP and other end of year state summative assessments used in Washington.

	National Assessment of Educational Progress	End of Year State Summative Assessments
Who is tested?	Tests only a sample population of Washington state	Tests all students in Washington state
What grades and content are tested?	Assesses grades 4 and 8 reading and math	Assesses grades 3 rd through 8 th and 10 th in English language arts and math. Assesses grades 5 th , 8 th , and 10 th in science
When is it administered?	Administered once every two years	Administered every year
Why is this assessment used?	Designed to be used for comparison with other states across the nation	Designed to be used to report individual student, school, district, and state level results

Making comparisons to the nation

When comparing NAEP results to the nation, OSPI uses statistical methods to determine if the findings are significant. When statistically significant difference between the state and the nation are found, it will be indicated that Washington State performed; **Higher than U.S.** if the scores are higher, or **Lower than U.S.** if the scores are lower. In cases when a difference is not found to be statistically significant, we have indicated that Washington performed the **Same as U.S.**

To learn more about NAEP and view more detailed NAEP reports please [CLICK HERE](#)