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News Release

Fourth- graders show improvement in math and reading achievement on The Nation's Report Card; eighth-grade scores remain flat

Colorado's fourth-graders improved their performance in math and reading according to the latest results from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), also known as The Nation's Report Card. Eighth-grade student scores in math and reading were not significantly different than the 2011 scores.

In 2013, the average math score for fourth-grade students in Colorado was 247 (out of 500). This was higher than that of the nation's public schools (241). The average math score for eighth-grade students in Colorado was 290. This was also higher than that of the nation's public schools (286).

In 2013, the average reading score for fourth-grade students in Colorado was 227. This was higher than that of the nation's public schools (221). The average reading score for eighth-grade students in Colorado was 271. This was also higher than that of the nation's public schools (266).

Colorado Math Highlights:

Grade Four

- There were three states that outperformed Colorado in average scale score (Minnesota, New Hampshire, Massachusetts), 15 states that were not significantly different than Colorado and 33 scored significantly lower than Colorado.
- The Colorado grade 4 math 2013 average scale score (247) has significantly risen by 26 points since the 1992 test administration (221).
- In grade four, Colorado is one of only 16 states that increased the average score since the 2011 test administration.

Grade Eight

- There were five states that outperformed Colorado in average scale score (Minnesota, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New Jersey), 15 states that were not significantly different than Colorado and 31 scored significantly lower than Colorado.

- The 2013 Colorado grade 8 math average scale score (290) is not significantly different than the 2011 score (292) and has remained flat since the 2007 test (286).

Colorado Reading Highlights:

Grade Four

- There were four states that outperformed Colorado in average scale score (Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maryland and Department of Defense), 17 states that were not significantly different than Colorado and 30 scored significantly lower than Colorado.
- Colorado is one of only nine states/jurisdictions (the District of Columbia, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Tennessee, Washington and Department of Defense schools) that increased in the reading grade 4 average score since the 2011 test.

Grade Eight

- There were six states that outperformed Colorado in average scale score (Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey and Department of Defense schools), 15 states that were not significantly different than Colorado and 30 scored significantly lower than Colorado.
- The 2013 Colorado grade 8 reading average scale score (271) is not significantly different than the 2011 score (271) and has significantly increased since the 1998 test (264).

Additional Colorado highlights, including **trend results by subgroup**, can be found at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/assessment/CoNAEP>

NAEP was established in 1969 and is a project of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) under the U.S. Department of Education. The President and Congress use NAEP results in setting education policy. States are neither rewarded nor sanctioned based on their results.

In math, nationwide, 186,500 fourth-grade students in 7,930 schools participated and 170,100 eight-grade students in 6,520 schools participated. In Colorado, 3,000 fourth-grade students in 118 schools participated and 2,700 eighth-grade students in 111 schools participated. In reading, nationwide, 190,400 fourth-grade students in 7,920 schools participated and 171,800 eighth-grade students in 6,510 schools participated. In Colorado, 3,100 fourth-grade students in 118 schools participated and 2,800 eighth-grade students in 111 schools participated.

The Nation's Report Card: Math and Reading 2013 are available at http://nationsreportcard.gov/reading_math_2013.

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