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# IDAHO STUDENTS INCREASE MATH SCORES ON NATIONAL ASSESSMENT

BOISE – Idaho was one of only 14 states that had a significant increase in eighth grade math scores from 2007 to 2009, according to the most recent results of the National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP).

"The results of the National Assessment of Educational Progress are just one more indicator that student achievement is increasing across Idaho. I am proud of Idaho students and their teachers for making these significant strides," Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna said. "The performance of Idaho students on national and statewide assessments demonstrates that the resources we have directed into the classroom through the Idaho Math Initiative and Classroom Enhancement Package are helping Idaho students to meet high academic standards."

According to NAEP, 78 percent of Idaho 8th grade students scored on grade-level or above in mathematics this year, compared to just 75 percent of Idaho students in 2007. The average score for Idaho 8th graders was 287, which was statistically higher than the national average of 282.

On average, students in 12 states scored above Idaho 8th grade students in 2007. In 2009, students in just 8 states scored above Idaho 8th graders.

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. Its major goals are to measure student achievement and to report change in performance over time. NAEP provides results for the nation and for the states, but does not provide scores for Idaho school districts, schools, classrooms, or individual students.

A random sample of Idaho students in 4th and 8th grades took the 2009 NAEP in mathematics.

The math scores for students in 4th grade held steady with about 85 percent of Idaho fourth grade students scoring at or above grade level. The fourth grade had an average score of 241 in both 2007 and 2009. Still, Idaho fourth grade students performed above the national average score of 239.

For more detailed results, please visit <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/naep/>.

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