
MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL 1 am 5 August 2015

NAPLAN 2015 RESULTS: SOME IMPROVEMENTS, TIME TO REFLECT

A national summary of the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2015 results has been released by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA). While the results show some improvements nationally and in each state and territory (for some year levels and some domains), the overall message is one of stable national achievement.

ACARA's CEO, Robert Randall, says, "The 2015 results show that at a national level we are seeing little change in student achievement in these important areas of learning. While stability is good, the community may well expect more improvement over time".

Overall, NAPLAN results have remained stable with some welcome national improvements.

- **Reading** at Year 3 saw a statistically significant increase from 2008 – a continuation of the long-term trend. Year 5, 7 and 9 results have remained stable from 2008 and 2014.
- **Numeracy** at Year 5 saw a statistically significant increase from 2008. All year levels have remained stable from 2014.
- **Spelling** at Year 5 saw a statistically significant increase from 2008. All year levels have remained stable from 2014.
- **Grammar/punctuation** at Year 3 saw a statistically significant increase from 2008. All year levels have remained stable from 2014.
- **Writing** at Year 3 saw a statistically significant increase from 2014. Year 7 and Year 9 had a statistically significant decrease from 2011.

Mr Randall says, "Improvement in NAPLAN results comes about when student learning improves. Literacy and numeracy are the foundations of learning at and beyond school. If student knowledge, skills and understanding are not improving in these areas, it is a cause for reflection.

"The release of the 2015 NAPLAN results provides another opportunity for all those involved in education to analyse the results and to celebrate success. But more importantly, it is an

opportunity to reflect on how gains achieved by some can be experienced by many more students in many more places.

“While the ACT, NSW and Victoria continue to achieve high results, the 2015 results show that Queensland and Western Australia have made significant gains in several domains, and their efforts should be applauded. The fact that these gains span year and domain levels is particularly encouraging.”

The NAPLAN 2015 summary information also shows that withdrawal rates have remained stable from 2014. The vast majority (over 97 per cent) of parents and carers across Australia continue to recognise the value of NAPLAN as an important measure of achievement for their child.

On average, over 92.5 per cent of students met the national minimum standard across year levels and domains.

Individual student reports will be released to schools for distribution to parents by state or territory test administration authorities during August 2015. This is more than a month earlier than in previous years.

See the NAPLAN summary here [on the NAP website](#) (link live from 1 am, 5 August).

For media enquiries, contact Robyn Ziino, Director, Communications and Strategic Relations on 0404 746 263.

Background:

- The NAPLAN 2015 summary (preliminary) information provides nationally comparable data for the 2015 national and state and territory results for each year level (3, 5, 7 and 9) and for each test domain (reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy).
- Final NAPLAN 2015 information will be available in December 2015.
- As each new year of NAPLAN data are added, readers of NAPLAN reports have a more useful picture of large-scale (state/territory and national) NAPLAN performance trends over time.
- The release of summary information on 5 August is two weeks earlier than last year, and six weeks earlier than previous years. The early release reflects and builds on the Australian Government’s commitment for a faster turnaround of NAPLAN results.
- Individual student reports will also be released earlier than in past years, with some states having already commenced distribution.
- When NAPLAN moves online from 2017, the aim is for results to be made available even quicker than in past years.