NAEP is a congressionally mandated assessment first administered in 1969 to measure student achievement nationally. Teachers, principals, parents, policymakers, and researchers all use NAEP results to assess progress and develop ways to improve education in the United States.

**Mapping NAEP to State Results**
A mapping study identifies the correlation between the percentage of students meeting the state standard, as reported by schools, and the percentage of students meeting standards as estimated by NAEP. Since the state assessment does not necessarily measure the same knowledge and skills, an amount of error is calculated and applied to the analysis. These results are not an evaluation of state assessment or of the quality of state achievement standards. Since NAEP is given in every state, it provides a common comparison metric.

**Grade 4 Mathematics**
Arkansas was one of 38 states/jurisdictions to compare with NAEP scale equivalents. Arkansas used the ACT Aspire assessment for the 2019 state end-of-year exam with the state standards mapping a Proficient score to NAEP Basic. There was no change from the 2017 alignment.

**Grade 4 Reading**
37 states/jurisdictions were compared with NAEP scale equivalents. Arkansas used the ACT Aspire assessment for the 2019 state end-of-year exam with the Proficient score mapped to NAEP Basic. There was a consistent alignment with the 2017 results.

**Grade 8 Mathematics**
Only 30 states were compared with the NAEP scale equivalents. The ACT Aspire Proficient score aligned to NAEP Basic. There was no change from the 2017 alignment.

**Grade 8 Reading**
Using ACT Aspire for the 2019 end-of-year assessment, Arkansas was one of 37 states/jurisdictions to compare with NAEP scale equivalents. The ACT Aspire Proficient score aligned to NAEP Basic. There was a consistent alignment with the 2017 results where the ACT Aspire percent Proficient in Arkansas mapped to NAEP Basic.

NAEP mapping study: https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/studies/statemapping/