

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

NAEP'S 1994 geography assessment was a collaborative effort among staff from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB), Educational Testing Service (ETS), Westat, and National Computer Systems (NCS). The program benefited from the contributions of hundreds of individuals at the state and local levels — Governors, Chief State School Officers, State and District Test Directors, State Coordinators, and district administrators — who tirelessly provided their wisdom, experience, and hard work. Most importantly, NAEP is grateful to students and school staff who made the assessment possible.

The assessment was funded through NCES, in the Office of Educational Research and Improvement of the U.S. Department of Education. The staff — particularly Jeanne Griffith, Gary Phillips, Steve Gorman, Susan Ahmed, Peggy Carr, Sharif Shakrani, Arnold Goldstein, Sahar Akhtar, and Maureen Treacy, — worked closely and collegially with ETS, Westat, and NCS staff and played a crucial role in all aspects of the program. The 1994 NAEP assessment and reports also benefited from the consistent support and guidance of Emerson Elliott, past commissioner of NCES. The members of the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB) and the NAGB staff provided invaluable advice and guidance throughout. NAEP also owes a debt of gratitude to the numerous panelists and consultants who provided their expertise and worked so conscientiously on developing the assessment.

The NAEP project at ETS is directed by Paul Williams and resides in the Center for the Assessment of Educational Progress (CAEP) managed by Archie Lapointe and Paul Williams. Steve Lazer managed test development activities, and Alexandra Beatty and Hilary Persky worked with the geography Item Development committee to develop the assessment instruments. Christine O'Sullivan coordinated the geography scoring efforts and contributed to the reporting of results. Jules Goodison managed the operational aspects together with John Olson, and sampling and data collection activities were carried out by Westat under the direction of Rene Slobasky, Nancy Caldwell, and Keith Rust. Printing, distribution, scoring, and processing activities were conducted by NCS, under the supervision of Judy Moyer, Brad Thayer, Mathilde Kennel, Linda Reynolds, and Barbara Price.

Statistical and psychometric activities for the assessments were led by Frank Jenkins under the direction of Eugene Johnson, John Mazzeo, and Jim Carlson. Ed Kulick, assisted by Yim Fai Fong and Steve Wang, performed the geography analyses. Karen Miller and John Mazzeo contributed substantially to report design activities. Mary Michaels directed the report production aspects, with coordination assistance from Sharon Davis-Johnson. Loretta Casalaina, Diane Guthrie, Joe Kolodey, Carol Errickson, and Sheri Barnes provided further report design and composition assistance. Beverly Cisney and Alice Kass provided the excellent desktop publishing skills essential to the project. Many thanks are provided to the numerous reviewers, internal to ETS and NCES as well as external. The comments and critical feedback provided by the following reviewers are reflected in the final version of this report: Robert Boruch, Mary Lyn Bourque, Roger Downs, Robert Dulli, Larry Feinberg, Sally Kilgore, Lanny Proffer, and Barbara Winston.