

March 20 – LinkedIn Posts by Ron Wasserstein, Executive Director

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) has been reduced to just THREE staff members, creating a critical emergency for our education data infrastructure.

Among the casualties is the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) – "The Nation's Report Card" – our most reliable measure of student achievement across the country. As reported by The74, "the layoffs put NAEP's future in jeopardy, exactly when the pandemic's aftermath has placed a sharper focus than ever on deficiencies in students' basic math and literacy skills."

Without NAEP's consistent, reliable benchmarking, how will we track recovery from pandemic learning loss? How will policymakers make informed decisions about educational interventions?

We need immediate action:

- A comprehensive staffing and funding plan for NCES
- Clear commitments to maintain the integrity and continuity of NAEP and many other essential NCES data collections

Failure to act is detrimental to children and families.

#DataInfrastructure #CountOnStats

Read more about NAEP: <https://www.the74million.org/article/after-gutting-staff-education-department-remains-quiet-on-future-of-naep-test/>