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Informative Portrayals of Student Performance -- 5 Setting Reasonable and Useful Performance Standards -- 6 Strategies for Implementing the Committee's Recommendations for Transforming NAEP -- References -- APPENDIX A Enhancing the Assessment of Reading -- APPENDIX B Research About Student Learning as a Basis for Developing Assessment Materials: An Example from Science -- APPENDIX C A Sample Family of Items Based on Number Patterns at Grade 4 -- APPENDIX D Exploring New Models for Achievement-Level Setting -- APPENDIX E Biographical Sketches -- Index.

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Sommario/riassunto

Since the late 1960s, the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)--the nation's report card--has been the only continuing measure of student achievement in key subject areas. Increasingly, educators and policymakers have expected NAEP to serve as a lever for education reform and many other purposes beyond its original role. Grading the Nation's Report Card examines ways NAEP can be strengthened to provide more informative portrayals of student achievement and the school and system factors that influence it. The committee offers specific recommendations and strategies for improving NAEP's effectiveness and utility, including: Linking achievement data to other education indicators. Streamlining data collection and other aspects of its design. Including students with disabilities and English-language learners. Revamping the process by which achievement levels are set. The book explores how to improve NAEP framework documents--which identify knowledge and skills to be assessed--with a clearer eye toward the inferences that will be drawn from the results. What should the nation expect from NAEP? What should NAEP do to meet these expectations? This book provides a blueprint for a new paradigm, important to education policymakers, professors, and students, as well as school administrators and teachers, and education advocates.

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