

Archived Information

Figure 1
Main NAEP, 1990-2000

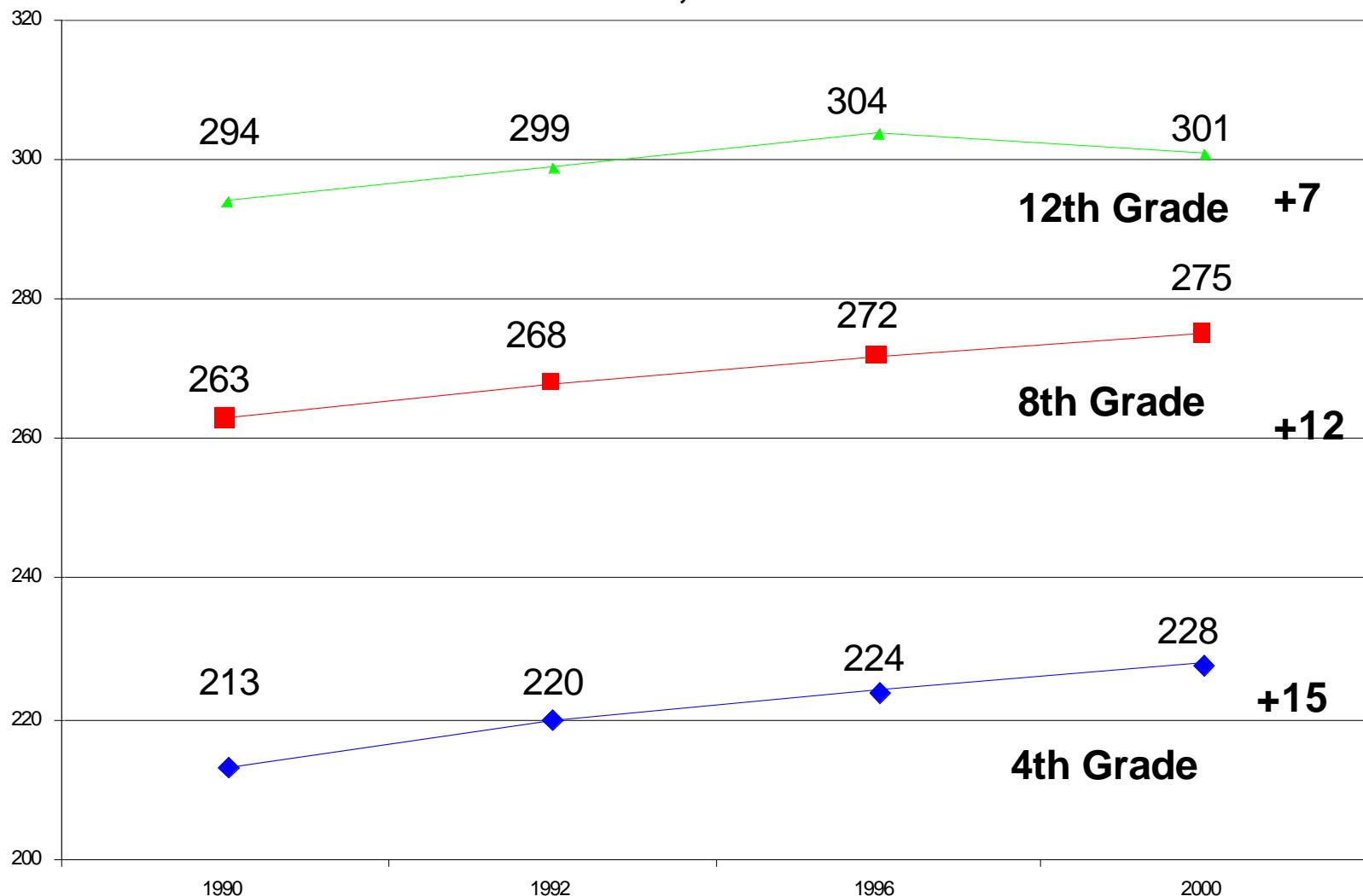


Figure 2
Long-term Trend NAEP, 1990-1999

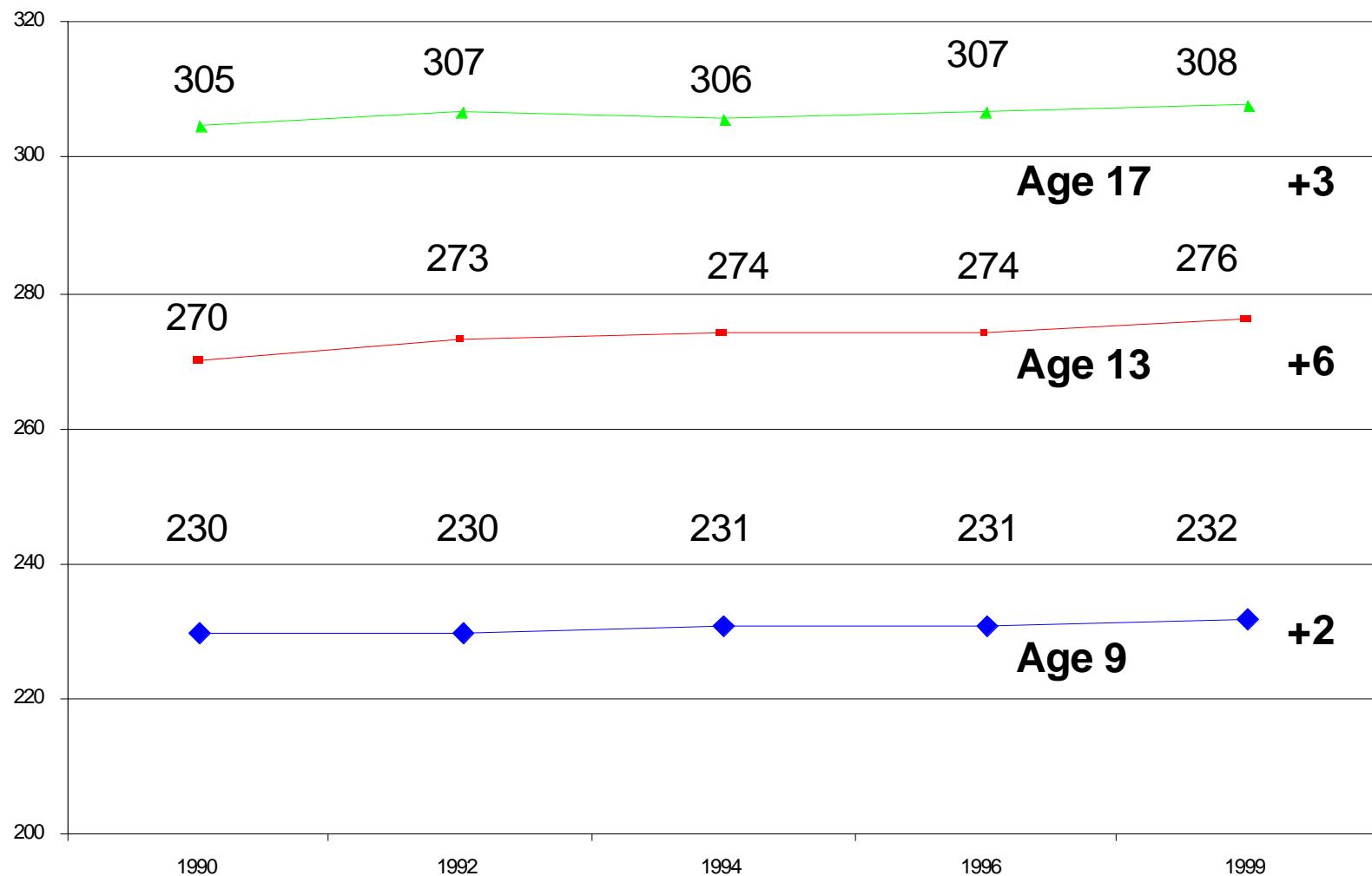


Table 1
Main NAEP and Trend NAEP Math Gains in the 1990s
 (SD Units)

	MAIN 1990-2000	TREND 1990-1999
Grade 12 Age 17	+ 0.14	+ 0.05
Grade 8 Age 13	+ 0.16	+ 0.08
Grade 4 Age 9	+ 0.29	+ 0.03

Table 2
Trends in Computation Skills
(NAEP Items, No Calculator)

	Skill Cluster (Items)	1982	1990	1999	Change 1982-1990	Change 1990-1999
Age 9	Addition (4)	71.4	75.7	75.5	4.3	-0.2
	Subtraction (3)	53.4	63.4	59.7	10.0	-3.7
	Multiplication (2)	37.4	43.9	42.5	6.5	-1.4
	Division (2)	44.3	49.1	48.3	4.8	-0.8
Age 13	Whole Numbers (9)	92.7	91.4	89.5	-1.3	-1.9
	Fractions (4)	59.7	56.8	54.3	-2.9	-2.5
	Percentages (6)	39.1	38.8	46.7	-0.3	7.9
Age 17	Fractions (3)	66.9	75.8	55.5	8.9	-20.3
	Decimals (3)	51.3	50.4	46.3	-0.9	-4.1
	Percentages (6)	56.3	66.5	70.0	10.2	3.5

Table 3
Change in Computation Skills, by Race, 1990-1999
(NAEP Items, No Calculator)

	Skill Cluster (Items)	White	Black	Black-White Gap *
Age 9	Addition (4)	-0.2	-0.5	0.3
	Subtraction (3)	-2.4	-8.1	5.7
	Multiplication (2)	-1.2	-3.6	2.5
	Division (2)	-0.1	-6.0	6.0
Age 13	Whole Numbers (9)	-1.6	-4.7	3.1
	Fractions (4)	-2.1	-4.0	1.8
	Percentages (6)	9.0	3.8	5.1
Age 17	Fractions (3)	-17.8	-33.6	15.8
	Decimals (3)	-1.9	-13.1	11.2
	Percentages (6)	5.9	-3.4	9.2

* May not be reflected in table due to rounding

Why Are Basic Skills Important?

- 1. Basic skills serve equity.**
- 2. Basic skills are necessary to advance in math.**
- 3. Basic skills predict adult earnings.**

...a high school senior's
mastery of skills *taught in*
American Schools no later than
the eighth grade is an
increasingly important
determinant of subsequent
wages.

Richard J. Murnane, et al, "The Growing Importance of Cognitive Skills in Wage Determination," The Review of Economics and Statistics 77 (1995): 264.

Not “Back to Basics”...

Forward!