Overview

• U.S. Context
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Context: Role of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)

• NCES is independent statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Education
• Conduct TIMSS and other international studies in United States
• Conduct U.S. National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
• Report descriptive results
Context: 2015 a Big Year for Student Performance Data

- NAEP
- TIMSS and TIMSS Advanced
- PISA

*Grades 4, 8, and 12*
- Mathematics
- Science
- Reading
Context: Reporting Results from 2015 Assessments

- NAEP Math and Reading: October 2015
- NAEP Science: October 2016
- TIMSS: November 2016
- PISA: December 2016
Audiences for TIMSS Release

• Internal
  o Senior Department officials, federal policymakers
• External
  o Media, state policymakers, researchers and other stakeholders
NCES’s Primary Goals for TIMSS Release

• Report TIMSS and TIMSS Advanced from U.S. perspective
  • How U.S. students compare with peers around the world
• Performance over time
  • Average scores, percentiles, international benchmarks
NCES’s Primary Goals for Release

- Generate accurate media coverage of U.S. results
  - Beyond the rankings
  - Beyond average scores
Main “stories”

• 20 years of trends in mathematics and science

• TIMSS Advanced
  • First time since 1995
  • No other source for data on advanced mathematics and science students
Release Materials

• *Highlights* report
  • plus extensive set of tables and figures on NCES website

• Traditional materials
  • Press release
  • NCES Commissioner’s Statement
  • Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), including information on TIMSS, NAEP, and PISA
Release Materials

- Social media – Tweets, Facebook posts
- “Share-able” content for social channels
  - Executive summary video
  - Infocards
Briefings

• Senior officials
  • US Department of Education senior staff
  • White House domestic policy staff

• On-the-record, embargoed briefing for select reporters ahead of international embargo lift time
## Release Timeline

### November 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Embargoed materials to media</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24 Thanksgiving (US Bank Holiday)</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Social media posts begin teasing release</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Embargoed media briefing (call)</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td><strong>Day of Release</strong></td>
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<td>30</td>
<td><strong>Day of Release</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>29</strong></td>
<td><strong>Day of Release</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Day of Release</strong></td>
<td>- Report/press release distributed</td>
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<td><strong>Day of Release</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Day of Release</strong></td>
<td>- Social media posts highlight results</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Day of Release</strong></td>
<td>- Executive summary video posted</td>
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</table>

**Monday**
- Embargoed materials to media

**Tuesday**
- Social media posts begin teasing release

**Wednesday**
- Day of Release
  - Report/press release distributed
  - Social media posts highlight results
  - Executive summary video posted

**Thursday**
- Thanksgiving (US Bank Holiday)

**Friday**
- Day of Release
Other Possible Events

- Public briefing for stakeholders on or shortly after TIMSS release date
- Early 2017 event to examine and discuss implications
  - What do TIMSS and TIMSS Advanced results mean for U.S. mathematics and science education?
  - What can we learn from other countries?
  - How do we make sense of U.S. performance on different assessments (TIMSS, NAEP, PISA)?
Additional Products

- TIMSS International Data Explorer – January 2017
- U.S. public-use and restricted-use data files
- TIMSS Advanced “diagnostic report” – March 2017
For more information:
https://nces.ed.gov/timss