

## The 2026 EM:IP Cover Graphic/Data Visualization Competition

Have an amazing visual or data display? Submit to the 13<sup>th</sup> annual *Educational Measurement: Issues and Practice (EM:IP)* Cover Graphic/Data Visualization Competition.

The editorial staff at EM:IP is inviting the NCME membership to submit thoughtful and creative diagrams and data visualizations that convey a clear, concise, and easy-to-understand message about educational or psychological data. Your entry could be featured on the cover of a future online issue!

The editorial staff at *EM:IP* believes that diagrams and data visualizations are powerful tools for making educational measurement issues of practical importance accessible to both educators and the public. We are calling for original graphical submissions that creatively illustrate a fundamental statistical/psychometric concept or aid in analyzing or visualizing educational data.

Some possible themes include, but are not limited to, the following:

- accessible score reporting figures for summaries of achievement at student or aggregate levels (e.g., classroom, school, state),
- your graphical solution to communicating a difficult measurement concept to students or clients, or
- visual representations of data analytics (e.g., data mining “process” data or other “big data” sources).

Prior to submitting your entry, we strongly recommend that you read the article titled “[Communicating Measurement Outcomes with \(Better\) Graphics](#),” which was published in *EM:IP* by Setzer and Cui (2022).

### Winning Entries

The winning submission(s) will be printed on a future cover of an online *EM:IP* issue. Other strong submissions may be showcased or saved for future issues. You may re-submit an entry from a previous year’s competition.

Submissions are due by **11:59 PM PST Wednesday, June 24, 2026**.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who can submit?

- Any NCME members
- Submissions can be created by individuals or groups

### What to submit?

1. A title document including:
  - Title of graphic/data visualization
  - List of submitters' names and affiliations
  - Contact information of the corresponding author
2. A stand-alone graphic in a common graphic format (e.g., PNG, JPEG, etc.)
  - Please note that the graphic cannot have been previously published anywhere else.
3. A main document in the format of either Word or PDF including:
  - Title of the graphic/data visualization
  - A one-sentence caption of the graphic
  - The graphic
  - Short description (300 words max) of the graphic
  - Generative AI process statement (if applicable): If generative AI is used in the creation of the submission, please include a statement on how it was used and a reflection on what you learned through this human-AI creative and conceptual process. Process details should include, for instance,
    - Which tools were used and the version/model
    - Whether any post-generation editing was done, and in what software
    - How many generations were attempted before selecting the final image
    - Whether a human-made sketch or reference image was used as input
    - What was tried that did not work or how the AI shaped or re-interpreted the concept
  - The main document should **not** include any author identification information.

For a sampling of previous submissions and “On the Cover” short descriptions, check out the Cover Gallery at

[https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/17453992/homepage/cover\\_gallery.htm](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/17453992/homepage/cover_gallery.htm).

### How to submit?

- Email entries directly to Katherine Castellano at [KEcastellano@ets.org](mailto:KEcastellano@ets.org)

### When to submit?

- Deadline: **11:59 PM PST Wednesday, June 24, 2026**

### Who will review the submissions and select the winner(s)?

- Review panel (e.g. *EM:IP* editorial board members)
- Winners will be selected based on the following criteria:

- ✓ Originality of graphic,
- ✓ Visual appeal of graphic,
- ✓ Extent graphic stands alone and tell its own story,
- ✓ Extent graphic relates to educational measurement and policy issues and/or provides a novel visual tool to use in practice, and
- ✓ Extent description is clear and provides thoughtful analysis of the figure

**Any other questions?**

- Email Katherine Castellano at [KEcastellano@ets.org](mailto:KEcastellano@ets.org)