



Key Messages Concerning 2019 ISASP Results

Overview

The Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) replaced the former Iowa Assessment, with students taking new tests for the first time in the spring of 2019.

ISASP is a once-a-year summative assessment. It is a single assessment intended to complement other types of assessments being implemented at the district or school level.

English Language Arts and mathematics tests were administered to students in grades 3 to 11. Science tests were administered to students in grade 5, 8 and 10.

Districts selected whether to administer the tests online or as paper/pencil instruments. Approximately 75% of Iowa students completed the ISASP online.

ISASP measures the Iowa Core Standards in English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science.

Reviewing Results

Individual Student Reports are provided to schools for dissemination to students and families.

Rosters of student results are provided to schools for dissemination to educators for local discussion and planning.

School, district and state results are provided to schools and to the state.

Achievement levels and scale scores are provided for each test. Iowa Core Domain scores are also provided for each test.

Student-level growth scores will be provided after the 2020 administration of ISASP.

Interpreting Results

Performance Level Descriptors specify the level of performance on a test that is required for a student to be classified into a given performance level (such as proficient). The Performance Level Descriptors can be found at <http://iowa.pearsonaccessnext.com/performance-levels/>.

The classification of students into ISASP performance categories is operationalized by establishing and applying a cut score on a test. Cut score ranges can be found in the Performance Level Descriptors referenced above.



Results from a standard setting study are used to help interpret performance of individual students as well as schools, districts and the state.

Two cut scores that define three levels of performance (Not-Yet-Proficient, Proficient and Advanced) have been established for the ISASP English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science tests. The Iowa State Board of Education approved the cut scores in September 2019.

The cut scores established in 2019 will serve as the baseline for future years.

Changes in Results

The ISASP results cannot be directly compared to previous state results due to a number of factors (see table below).

ISASP	Prior to ISASP
All students tested in the spring of 2019	Schools opted to test at any time throughout the year
ISASP was developed to be specifically aligned to the Iowa Core	A national assessment was used
English Language Arts standards in reading, writing and language were measured	Only standards in reading were measured
Essays and constructed-response questions were included in addition to multiple-choice questions	All questions were multiple-choice
Grade-specific content (as defined by the Iowa Core) was measured	Content across two grades was measured
A standard setting study was completed to define cut scores for the three levels of performance.	A statistical procedure was used to define cut scores for the three levels of performance.

Using Results

Results can be used by schools to provide summary information to communities.

Results can be used by schools to assist with improvement planning.

Results will become a part of the Iowa School Performance Profiles produced by the Iowa Department of Education.

Results will become a part of the accountability reporting by the Iowa Department of Education to the US Department of Education.

State of Iowa Percentile Ranks will be posted to the ISASP portal.

National Percentile Ranks will NOT be available as ISASP is a customized assessment for the state of Iowa.



Next Steps

An equivalent form of the ISASP will be administered between March 16 and May 15, 2020.

The Performance Level Descriptors and cut scores established in 2019 will be used for the interpretation of the 2020 results.

An index of student growth will be available after the spring 2020 results are available.

Relationships between ISASP and ACT will be established as data for Iowa students become available.