



Alaska

Comprehensive System of Student Assessment (CSSA)

Guide to Test Interpretation for the Grade 10 Science Standards Based Assessment



For Teachers and Staff

Spring 2015

Introduction

This Guide to Test Interpretation provides an overview of reporting for the Alaska Grade 10 Science Standards Based Assessment (SBA). It is intended to help educators interpret test report data in order to better meet the needs of individual students and the district as a whole. The following information is included in this guide:

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Explanation of Examinations and Scoring

The Purpose of Testing

The purpose of the Standards Based Assessment (SBA) is to (a) determine on a statewide basis the extent to which students are meeting statewide performance standards; (b) produce statewide information that enables sound decision making by policy makers, parents, educators, and the public; and (c) provide a focus in order to improve instruction [4 AAC 06.700].

The Alaska Standards Based Assessment (SBA) is the result of intense effort and collaboration among teachers, administrators, and the Alaska State Board of Education. The proficient score on the examination was designed to reflect what students should know as a result of their public school experience.

How Results are Measured

Students are tested on the Alaska Performance Standards/Grade Level Expectations (PSGLEs) in science. The PSGLEs are aligned to the Alaska Content Standards and are statements that define what all students should know and be able to do at the end of a given grade level. Each Performance Standard/Grade Level Expectation is meant to further define a content standard. Alaska teachers developed the PSGLEs for Alaska students. For detailed information on the standards, please access the Department of Education & Early Development (EED) publication, *Alaska Standards: Content and Performance Standards for Alaska Students* available on the EED website at: <http://education.alaska.gov/standards/>.

The Purpose and Usefulness of Raw Scores and Scale Scores

Raw Score

The primary indicator of performance on the science SBA is the raw score. A raw score is reported for each examinee in science. The raw score is the number of multiple-choice items answered correctly plus the number of points earned on short- and extended-response items on the science SBA. By itself, the raw score has limited utility; it can only be interpreted in reference to the total number of items on the science SBA. Raw scores cannot be compared across tests or administrations.

Scale Score

Since a given raw score may not represent the same skill level on every test form, all statewide assessment score reports include scale scores. Scale scores are statistical conversions of raw scores that adjust for slight shifts in item difficulties and permit valid comparison across all test administrations within a particular subject. The scale score range for the science SBA is from a minimum of 100 to a maximum of 600.

When new test forms are developed, the new items will require slightly different levels of subject-area skill to answer correctly. This depends on the difficulty of the specific questions used on each form. To be fair to students, to permit valid comparison of test scores across administrations, and to maintain a consistent passing score, the skills represented by each score point must remain consistent from year to year.

As noted previously, scale scores adjust for slight shifts in underlying difficulty levels at each score point and provide valid points of comparison across all test administrations within a particular grade and subject. With scale scores, schools can compare the demonstrated knowledge and ability of different cohorts across years. Comparing scale scores on the assessments can help schools determine the impact of instruction and curriculum.

Scale Score Interpretations and Limitations

The scale scores associated with the science SBA are not equated with the High School Graduation Qualifying Examination (HSGQE), even though they share a common scale score range. Therefore, interpretation of individual score differences between the assessments is inappropriate.

Components of the Science SBA

The science SBA was developed from a variety of written sources, and assesses the students' skills in the areas of: inquiry, technology, nature of science, physical science, life science, and earth science. The science SBA contains multiple-choice questions with four possible answer choices. These answers are machine-scored. Short- and extended-response questions allow students the opportunity to create a response to meaningful situations to demonstrate their knowledge and skill. Responses are scored by professional staff experienced in providing reliable and consistent hand scoring. Questions requiring a written response allow for full or partial credit.

Frequently Asked Questions

Subject/Standard		Points Possible*	Points Earned*	Scale Score Earned*
Science		62	62	600
A, E-G	Inquiry and Nature of Science	20	20	600
B	Concepts of Physical Science	14	14	600
C	Concepts of Life Science	16	16	535
D	Concepts of Earth Science	12	12	534

* This illustration is not based on the current administration.

Question:

In 8th grade science, the maximum *overall* scale score is 600. However, the four maximum subject/standard scale scores are 600, 600, 535, and 534. How can these four numbers combine into a higher number (600) than two of the four numbers?

Answer:

It is necessary to understand the relationship between raw scores and scale scores to appreciate the seeming anomaly.

Range:

Two things, the number of items and the difficulty of the items that make up a standard, determine the *range* of possible scale scores.

- The longer the test, the wider the range of scale scores.
- The easier the test, the lower the maximum scale score.
- For any given person, the raw score for the total test is the sum of the raw scores for the standards, BUT the total scale score is not the sum, nor the average of the standard scale scores.
- There is no mathematical relationship between the average of the scale scores for the standards and the average overall scale score.

Impact of hard and easy items:

The relationship between raw scores and scale scores is designed to eliminate the effect of taking a hard test or an easy test, or the fact that the items from one standard may be easier than the items from another standard.

- Students would need fewer correct responses on a “harder” standard to achieve the same scale score they would get by having more correct responses on an “easier” standard.

OR

- Answering 70% of the items correctly on a “harder” standard represents a higher level of ability than answering 70% of the items correctly on an “easier” standard.
- The raw score to scale score conversion levels the playing field, removing the impact of harder items or easier items in a given standard.
- The total test scale score is not a simple average of the standard scale scores.
 - The relationship is much too complex to be described by an average that ignores the number of items in each test and the average difficulty of the items making up that standard.

Question:

Is it possible for a student to answer all of the items correctly in a standard and not get the highest possible scale score (600)?

Answer:

Yes.

- A perfect score in a standard with easier items will translate into a lower scale score than a perfect score in a standard with harder items.
 - Both maximum scores may be less than the maximum score for the overall test.
 - This is due to the distribution of item difficulties and the number of items.
 - It is easier to answer 11 of 11 items correctly in a single standard than it is to answer 64 of 64 items correctly on the entire test.
 - The scale score for answering all of the items correctly on a standard will necessarily represent less ability than answering all of the items correctly on the overall test.
 - Although the scale score span goes from 100 to 600, it does not mean it is possible to get the highest or lowest scale score on every standard or even the overall test.

Using Results

The science SBA results and reports provide useful information for determining the performance of students in your school and classroom. This guide will also help you prepare for questions from parents, students, and other members of the education community regarding the science SBA results.

Each report is designed to clearly present the information most useful to you and to parents and students. The audience and student populations for each of the science SBA reports are listed below.

Science SBA Report Information

Report
For Schools—Teachers and Administrators
Guide to Test Interpretation for Teachers and Staff
Guide to Test Interpretation for Parents and Students
Student Reports
School Student Roster
School Summary Report
School Subpopulation Summary Report
For Districts
Guide to Test Interpretation for Teachers and Staff
Guide to Test Interpretation for Parents and Students
Student Reports
School Student Rosters
School Summary Reports
School Subpopulation Summary Report
District School Roster
District Subpopulation Summary Report
File Layout for Student Data File
Student Data File
File Layout for Abbreviated Student Data File
Abbreviated Student Data File

Sample Reports

Student Report

**ALASKA COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT (CSSA)
SCIENCE STANDARDS BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA)
STUDENT REPORT
2015 SPRING**

STUDENT NAME : LAST NAME, FIRST NAME MIDDLE NAME DISTRICT : ALASKA DISTRICT
BIRTHDATE : 99/99/9999 **A**

STATE ID NUMBER : 9999999999 GRADE : 10
DISTRICT ID NUMBER : 9999999999

SCHOOL : ALASKA HIGH SCHOOL

Your Student's Overall Performance

Student's Scale Score 368	Student's Proficiency Level Proficient	Proficient Scale Score 300
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STANDARDS SKILL PERFORMANCE

This report provides a record of your student's test results on the science SBA.

Proficiency Levels
The science SBA is designed to measure knowledge and skills against state standards. Scores on these tests are grouped into four proficiency levels. The proficiency level chart shows the scale score ranges associated with each level. Typical characteristics for the proficiency levels can be found at <http://education.alaska.gov>.

Scale Score
The scale score earned by the student determines the student's performance level of proficient or not proficient on the science SBA. The points earned are converted into a scale score that takes into consideration the fact that some items that make up a test are more difficult than others. Therefore, a student can earn the same raw score on two standards and end up with two different scale scores. For this reason, you cannot divide the points earned by the points possible for a standard to derive the scale score.

Skills Performance
Science is composed of different skills. The chart on the right shows how your student did on these skills.

Interpretation of Chart
Scale scores are represented by the diamond (♦). For each subject, the chart displays where the proficient cut score falls. Scores in the shaded area indicate not proficient, whereas scores in the non-shaded area indicate proficient.

For example, Your Student's scale score in Science is 368. Note that the diamond representing this score falls in the Proficient scale score range. If your student were to take the test again, the range of these scores would fall between 340 and 396 (as represented by the line) 80% of the time.

Your Student's Performance by Standard

PROFICIENCY LEVELS AND PROBABLE SCALE SCORE RANGES*

Subject/Standard	Points Possible	Points Earned	Scale Score	Proficiency Level	Scale Score Ranges
Science	64	46	368	S	300 - 368
S1.1 Inquiry, Technology, Society, and Nature of Science	20	15	359	E	245 - 299
S2.1 Concepts of Physical Science	14	11	416	N	300 - 368
S3.1 Concepts of Life Science	14	12	429	C	300 - 368
S4.1 Concepts of Earth Science	16	8	315	E	245 - 299

Alaska's Science Proficiency Level Descriptors – 10th Grade

Proficiency Level	Science	Scale Score Ranges
Advanced	The student displays a highly developed conceptual understanding by designing and critiquing scientific investigations for accuracy, precision, and bias; utilizing an understanding of various historical perspectives and scientific advancements to construct scientific models; applying ecological principles and information gained from a variety of sources in developing solutions to future societal issues; modeling interactions between matter and energy; analyzing force vectors to predict the motion of objects; comparing and contrasting the structure and functions of organisms, predicting why things may change over time; and modeling and drawing conclusions about Earth's geochronological cycles, and the theories that describe them.	Science 369 and Above
Proficient	The student demonstrates a basic conceptual understanding by designing and conducting controlled investigations; accurately interpreting and analyzing data; describing historical perspectives and scientific advancements; comparing information from a variety of sources; providing possible solutions to problems; identifying laws of forces and motion; explaining the organization, structure, and function of organisms and why they may change over time; describing and explaining the interrelationships between living organisms and nonliving things; and describing and demonstrating Earth's geochronological cycles and the theories that explain Earth's systems.	Science 300 - 368
Below Proficient	The student shows a fundamental understanding by incorporating methods of experimental design into investigations; interpreting data; recognizing that scientific inquiry can be used to understand various historical perspectives and scientific advancements; recognizing that understanding information gained from a variety of sources can be used to solve problems; identifying atomic structure and properties; identifying the organization, structure, and function of organisms; describing how and why organisms may change over time; recognizing the interrelationships between living organisms and nonliving things; and recognizing Earth as a dynamic planet with geochronological cycles.	Science 245 - 299
Far Below Proficient	There is a significant need for additional instructional opportunities to achieve the proficient level.	Science 244 and Below

* Proficiency Level: A = Advanced, P = Proficient, BP = Below Proficient, FBP = Far Below Proficient

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*** SAMPLE REPORT: This sample report is not based on the current administration.**

Student Report (continued)

- A** Presents student demographics.
- B** Indicates the student's scale score and proficiency level in science. In order to be considered proficient, the student must score at or above the Alaska Proficient Scale Score.
- C** Describes the proficiency levels reported in section B. Scores on the science SBA are grouped into four proficiency levels.
- D** Describes the scale scores reported in section B. The scale score earned by the student determines the student's performance level of advanced, proficient, below proficient, or far below proficient on the science SBA. The points earned are converted into a scale score that takes into consideration the fact that some items that make up a standard on the test are more difficult than others. Therefore, a student can earn the same raw score on two standards and end up with two different scale scores. For this reason, you cannot divide the points earned by the points possible for a standard to derive the scale score.
- E** Lists the Performance Standard categories.
- F** Lists the total points possible for the Performance Standard categories.
- G** Lists the points earned by the student for the Performance Standards on the science SBA. Points earned are not valid for comparisons across grades, and/or standards. The same raw score on two standards usually results in two different scale scores depending on the number of questions and the difficulty of the questions. For this reason, you cannot divide the points earned by the points possible to determine meaningful percentages.
- H** Lists the scale score equivalent for points earned.
- I** Explains the information found in the probable scale score range chart (J).
- J** Graphically illustrates the student's scale score (), the student's 80% confidence interval for Performance Standards and total test, and the proficiency cut score for the total test.
- K** Describes the skills necessary for a student to be proficient, along with the range of scale scores associated with each level.

ALASKA COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT (CSSA)
 SCIENCE STANDARDS BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA)
 SCHOOL STUDENT ROSTER
 2015 SPRING

DISTRICT : ALASKA DISTRICT
 SCHOOL : ALASKA HIGH SCHOOL
 GROUP : ALASKA GROUP

PAGE : 1
 GRADE : 10

STUDENT SCALE SCORE INFORMATION

This report includes summary information for each student within a school.
 The report lists students alphabetically.

Proficiency Level Range A		Science B					Overall	Proficiency Level ¹	S1.1 Inquiry, Technology, Society, and Nature of Science	S2.1 Concepts of Physical Science	S3.1 Concepts of Life Science	S4.1 Concepts of Earth Science
Advanced >368	Proficient 300-368	Below Proficient 245-299	Far Below Proficient <245	Science	>368	300-368						
State Average Scale Score C		317	322	323	324	321						
District Average Scale Score D		331	338	330	347	335						
School Average Scale Score E		325	332	333	334	325						
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE F		341	437	298	357	289						
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE		366	498	298	357	363						
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE		355	188	248	298	338						
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE		404	373	475	393	391						
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE		278	242	321	393	238						
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE		238	242	127	222	313						
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE												
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE		323	330	321	273	363						
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE		347	330	345	501	289						
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE		347	350	321	438	313						
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE		261	242	274	273	264						

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¹Proficiency Level: A = Advanced, P = Proficient, BP = Below Proficient, FBP = Far Below Proficient, ABS = Absent, INV = Invalid, MOD = Modified Administration, NOA = Not Attempted, PRF = Parent Refusal, SRF = Student Refusal, SUS = Suspension
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* **SAMPLE REPORT:** This sample report is not based on the current administration.

School Student Roster (continued)

This report includes summary information for each student within a school. The report lists students alphabetically by ascending grade.

- A** Indicates the proficient scale scores for the science SBA.
- B** Indicates the average scale score on the science SBA, as well as the average scale score by Performance Standard category for the state, district, and school. It also lists the proficiency level and scale scores in science for each student reported to the school.
- C** Indicates the state average scale scores for the science SBA and Performance Standards.
- D** Indicates the district average scale scores for the science SBA and Performance Standards.
- E** Indicates the school average scale scores for the science SBA and Performance Standards.
- F** Indicates the proficiency level and scale score by test and Performance Standard for each student reported to the school. This section may also indicate why a student did not receive a score.

- ABS = absent
- INV = invalid
- MOD = modified examination*
- NOA = test not attempted
- PRF = parent refusal
- SRF = student refusal
- SUS = suspension

***Students with disabilities cannot be denied the modification(s) their IEP teams have documented, but students can refuse the modification(s). NOTE: Modified tests are invalid and will not be scored.**

School Summary Report

ALASKA COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT (CSSA) SCIENCE STANDARDS BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA) SCHOOL SUMMARY REPORT 2015 SPRING



DISTRICT : ALASKA DISTRICT
SCHOOL : ALASKA HIGH SCHOOL

PAGE : 1
GRADE : 10

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

This report provides an analysis of group standards mastery using the average scale score obtained for each reportable standard and details the percent of students in each proficiency level.

	Proficiency Level Comparison A	Science B				
		1.1 Inquiry, Technology, and Society, and Nature of Science	2.1 Concepts of Physical Science	3.1 Concepts of Life Science	4.1 Concepts of Earth Science	
Points Possible C		20	14	14	16	
School		13	8.1	8.9	8.2	
District		32	333	334	325	
State		338	330	347	335	
Average Points Earned D		322	323	314	321	
Average Scale Score E		38.3				
Average Scale Score F		325				
Average Scale Score F		331				
Average Scale Score F		317				

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PROFICIENCY LEVEL SUMMARY

	Total	Science G				
		Advanced	Proficient	Below Proficient	Far Below Proficient	
School	119	29	47	33	10	
Percent	100.0%	24.4%	39.5%	27.7%	8.4%	
District	731	209	290	147	85	
Percent	100.0%	28.6%	39.7%	20.1%	11.6%	
State	8950	2122	3264	1973	1591	
Percent	100.0%	23.7%	36.5%	22.0%	17.8%	

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* **SAMPLE REPORT:** This sample report is not based on the current administration.

School Summary Report (continued)

This report provides an analysis of group standards mastery using the average scale score obtained for each reportable standard and details for the percent of students in each proficiency level.

- A** Explains the comparison of proficiency levels.
- B** Lists the total points possible for the science SBA and the Performance Standard categories, as well as the average points earned for the school. It also lists the state, district, and school average scale scores for the science SBA and the Performance Standard categories.
- C** Lists the points possible for the science SBA and Performance Standard categories.
- D** Lists the average points earned and average scale score at the school level for the science SBA and Performance Standard categories.
- E** Lists the average scale score at the district level for the science SBA and Performance Standard categories.
- F** Lists the average scale score at the state level for the science SBA and Performance Standard categories.
- G** Lists the total number and percent of students tested, as well as the number and percent of students who were advanced, proficient, below proficient, and far below proficient in science at the school, district, and state levels.

Note: *Students who were coded absent, invalid, modified, parent refusal, student refusal, or suspension, as well as students who did not attempt the test, are not included in the summarization of results for this report.*

School Subpopulation Summary Report



ALASKA COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT (CSSA) SCIENCE STANDARDS BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA) SCHOOL SUBPOPULATION SUMMARY REPORT 2015 SPRING

****NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION****

INFORMATION TO PROTECT SMALL NUMBERS OF STUDENTS HAS NOT BEEN SUPPRESSED.
REPORTING MAY VIOLATE INDIVIDUAL STUDENT CONFIDENTIALITY (FERPA).
THIS REPORT IS FOR INTERNAL DISTRICT USE ONLY AND FOR REQUIRED NCLB REPORTING PURPOSES.

DISTRICT: ALASKA DISTRICT
SCHOOL: ALASKA HIGH SCHOOL

PAGE: 1
GRADE: 10

PROFICIENCY LEVEL SUMMARY

This report provides details for the percent of students in each proficiency level.

		Science				
		Total	Advanced	Proficient	Below Proficient	Far Below Proficient
A Non-IEP	Number Tested	108	28	46	28	6
	Percent	100.0%	25.9%	42.6%	25.2%	5.6%
IEP	Number Tested	11	1	1	5	4
	Percent	100.0%	9.1%	9.1%	45.5%	35.4%
Low Income	Number Tested	35	4	13	11	7
	Percent	100.0%	11.4%	37.1%	31.4%	20.0%
Migrant	Number Tested	1	0	0	1	0
	Percent	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Limited English Proficient	Number Tested	1	0	0	0	1
	Percent	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Male	Number Tested	19	19	25	13	3
	Percent	100.0%	31.7%	41.7%	21.7%	5.0%
Female	Number Tested	59	10	22	20	7
	Percent	100.0%	16.9%	37.3%	33.9%	11.9%
African American	Number Tested	2	1	1	0	0
	Percent	100.0%	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Alaska Native/American Indian	Number Tested	16	3	4	6	3
	Percent	100.0%	18.8%	25.0%	37.5%	18.8%
Asian/Pacific Islander/ Native Hawaiian	Number Tested	2	1	0	0	1
	Percent	100.0%	50.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%
White (Caucasian)	Number Tested	94	24	38	26	6
	Percent	100.0%	25.5%	40.4%	27.7%	6.4%
Hispanic	Number Tested	4	0	3	1	0
	Percent	100.0%	0.0%	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%
Two or more races	Number Tested	1	0	1	0	0
	Percent	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%

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* **SAMPLE REPORT:** This sample report is not based on the current administration.

This report provides details for the percent of students in each proficiency level in grade 10.

A Lists the total number and percent of students tested, as well as the number and percent of students who were advanced, proficient, below proficient, and far below proficient in science in a variety of demographic reporting categories at the school level.

ALASKA COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT (CSSA)
SCIENCE STANDARDS BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA)
DISTRICT SCHOOL ROSTER
2015 SPRING



DISTRICT : ALASKA DISTRICT

PAGE : 1
GRADE : 10

SCHOOL SCALE SCORE INFORMATION

This report includes summary information for each school alphabetically within a district.

	Proficiency Level Comparison					Science				
	A	B	C	D	E	Number Tested	S1.1 Inquiry, Technology, Society, and Nature of Science	S2.1 Concepts of Physical Science	S3.1 Concepts of Life Science	S4.1 Concepts of Earth Science
State Average Scale Score			317	322	323	324	321			
District Average Scale Score			331	338	330	347	335			
SCHOOL NAME 1			200	188	173	208	237			
SCHOOL NAME 2			303	303	289	293	333			
SCHOOL NAME 3			307	14	309	302	312			
SCHOOL NAME 4			300	311	301	301	284			
SCHOOL NAME 5			345	362	345	345	342			
SCHOOL NAME 6			259	255	256	277	266			
SCHOOL NAME 7			299	330	308	267	293			
SCHOOL NAME 8			294	292	297	290	303			
SCHOOL NAME 9			335	347	341	335	329			
SCHOOL NAME 10			346	364	338	345	347			
SCHOOL NAME 11			302	309	308	298	302			
SCHOOL NAME 12			343	360	339	342	346			

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* **SAMPLE REPORT:** This sample report is not based on the current administration.

District School Roster (continued)

This report includes summary information for each school alphabetically within a district.

- A** Explains the comparison of proficiency levels.
- B** Indicates the average scale score for the science SBA, as well as the average scale score by Performance Standard category for the state, district, and all schools in the district.
- C** Indicates the number of students tested in the state, as well as the state average scale scores for the science SBA and Performance Standards.
- D** Indicates the number of students tested in the district, as well as the district average scale scores for the science SBA and Performance Standards.
- E** Indicates the number of students tested in each school, as well as the school average scale scores for the science SBA and Performance Standards.

Note: *Students who were coded absent, invalid, modified, parent refusal, student refusal, or suspension, as well as students who did not attempt the test, are not included in the summarization of results for this report.*

District Subpopulation Summary Report



ALASKA COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT (CSSA) SCIENCE STANDARDS BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA) DISTRICT SUBPOPULATION SUMMARY REPORT 2015 SPRING

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DISTRICT: ALASKA DISTRICT

PAGE: 1
GRADE: 10

PROFICIENCY LEVEL SUMMARY

This report provides details for the percent of students in each proficiency level.

		Science				
		Total	Advanced	Proficient	Below Proficient	Far Below Proficient
A Non-IEP	Number Tested	637	204	268	116	49
	Percent	100.0%	32.0%	42.1%	18.2%	7.7%
IEP	Number Tested	94	5	22	31	36
	Percent	100.0%	5.3%	23.4%	33.0%	38.3%
Low Income	Number Tested	238	46	166	64	42
	Percent	100.0%	19.3%	36.1%	26.9%	17.6%
Migrant	Number Tested	43	10	15	16	2
	Percent	100.0%	23.3%	34.9%	37.2%	4.7%
Limited English Proficient	Number Tested	11	0	3	3	5
	Percent	100.0%	0.0%	27.3%	27.3%	45.5%
Male	Number Tested	266	131	145	65	43
	Percent	100.0%	34.1%	37.8%	16.9%	11.2%
Female	Number Tested	347	78	145	82	42
	Percent	100.0%	22.5%	41.8%	23.6%	12.1%
African American	Number Tested	6	1	3	0	2
	Percent	100.0%	16.7%	50.0%	0.0%	33.3%
Alaska Native/American Indian	Number Tested	91	17	34	22	18
	Percent	100.0%	18.7%	37.4%	24.2%	19.8%
Asian/Pacific Islander/ Native Hawaiian	Number Tested	8	2	4	0	2
	Percent	100.0%	25.0%	50.0%	0.0%	25.0%
White (Caucasian)	Number Tested	590	184	230	121	55
	Percent	100.0%	31.2%	39.0%	20.5%	9.3%
Hispanic	Number Tested	19	3	11	2	3
	Percent	100.0%	15.8%	57.9%	10.5%	15.8%
Two or more races	Number Tested	13	2	8	1	2
	Percent	100.0%	15.4	61.5%	7.7%	15.4%

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* **SAMPLE REPORT:** This sample report is not based on the current administration.

This report provides details for the percent of students in each proficiency level in grade 10.

- A** Lists the total number and percent of students tested, as well as the number and percent of students who were advanced, proficient, below proficient, and far below proficient in science in a variety of demographic reporting categories at the district level.

Science SBA Grade 10 Proficiency Level Descriptors

Advanced Level

The student

- displays a highly developed conceptual understanding by designing and critiquing scientific investigations for accuracy, precision, and bias
- utilizes an understanding of various historical perspectives and scientific advancements to construct scientific models
- applies ecological principles and information gained from a variety of sources in developing solutions to future societal issues
- models interactions between matter and energy
- analyzes force vectors to predict the motion of objects
- compares and contrasts the structure and function of organisms
- predicts why things may change over time
- models and draws conclusions about Earth, its geochemical cycles, and the theories that describe them

Proficient Level

The student

- demonstrates a basic conceptual understanding by designing and conducting controlled investigations
- accurately interprets and analyzes data
- describes historical perspectives and scientific advancements
- compares information from a variety of sources
- provides possible solutions to problems
- identifies and uses atomic structure and properties to describe interactions between matter and energy
- describes laws of forces and motions
- explains the organization, structure, and function of organisms and how and why they may change over time
- describes and explains the interrelationships between living organisms and nonliving things
- describes and demonstrates Earth's geochemical cycles and the theories that explain Earth's systems

Science (continued)

Below Proficient Level

The student

- student shows a fundamental understanding by incorporating methods of experimental design into investigations
- interprets data
- recognizes that scientific inquiry can be used to understand various historical perspectives and scientific advancements
- recognizes that understanding information gained from a variety of sources can be used to solve problems
- identifies atomic structure and properties
- identifies the organization, structure, and function of organisms
- describes how and why organisms may change over time
- recognizes the interrelationships between living organisms and nonliving things
- recognizes Earth as a dynamic planet with geochemical cycles

Far Below Proficient Level

There is a significant need for additional instructional opportunities to achieve the proficient level.

Glossary

Constructed-Response Question

An assessment unit with directions, a question, or a problem that elicits a written, pictorial, or graphic response from a student. Sometimes called an “open-ended” item.

Content Standard

Broad statements of what students should know and be able to do as a result of their public school experience.

Forms

Different versions of a test that measure the same subject area.

Item

One of the assessment units, usually a problem or a question, in a test.

Mean

An average, calculated by adding the values of a set of scores and dividing by the number of scores in the set.

Multiple-Choice Question

A question or incomplete statement that is followed by answer choices, one of which is the correct or best answer.

Performance Standard

A statement that defines what all students should know and be able to do at the end of a given grade level.

Proficiency Level

Category that reflects a range of test scores that represents a student’s current acquired knowledge and skills in the subject area.

Scale Score

Three-digit number that provides a common metric for expressing student performance from different forms.

Standard Error of Measurement

A mathematical calculation that estimates a range within which a student’s “true score” would fall, had that student taken the test numerous times. It is important to understand that all tests have an inherent measurement error because they are a sample of student performance at one particular time.

Standardized Test

A test administered in accordance with explicit directions for uniform administration.