

Explanation of Scoring Terms

Raw Score - RS

The number of questions a student answers correctly on a test is the student's raw score (RS). Because raw scores depend on the number of questions on a test and the difficulty associated with those questions, raw scores are converted to other types of scores for interpretation.

Total - TI

Total number of items in the test subtest.

Scale Score or Standard Score - SS

Raw scores are converted to scale scores/standard scores. The scale score/standard score (SS) is another score used to describe the level of a student's test performance on an achievement continuum. Think of the continuum as a number line that describes the lowest level of skill or knowledge on one end and the highest level of development on the other end. Scale scores range from 0 to 999. The SS correspond to typical grade level performance on each test at certain times of the year.

Grade Equivalent - GE *

A grade equivalent score (GE) is also a number that describes the student's location on an achievement continuum. The GE is expressed as a decimal number that shows performance in terms of a grade level and months of the school year. For example, if Janice, a 3rd grade student obtained a GE of a 4.7 on the Reading Comprehension test, she scored at the same level as a typical student at the end of the 7th month of the 4th grade. GEs are useful for monitoring year-to-year growth.

National Percentile Rank - NPR

A national percentile rank (NPR) shows a student's standing within a nationally representative group of students in the same grade who were tested at the same time of year as the student. NPRs are based on national standardization. This is the testing of a large group of students in each grade at a set of schools that are representative of the nation in terms of enrollment size, geographic region and other characteristics. A percentile rank of 58 means that the student scored as well or better than 58 percent of the other children in the same grade in the norming sample.

National Stanine - NS

Stanine is a simpler way to say "standard nine" It is a system that divides test results into 9 groups. Scores in groups 1-3 are below average, scores in groups 4-6 are average and scores in groups 7-9 are above average. They can also be shown as groupings of certain percentile ranks as shown below. They DO NOT represent the percentage of test items the student answered correctly.

Percentile Ranks:	1-4	5-10	11-22	23-40	41-59	60-77	78-89	90-95	96-99
CAT and TerraNova Stanines	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Percentile Ranks:	1-4	5-11	12-23	24-40	41-59	60-76	77-88	89-95	96-99
IOWA Stanines	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

* Only included with the IOWA and TerraNova Test Scores