How much academic growth do students show from one year to the next?

To measure the amount of academic growth a school's students demonstrate, Illinois compares students' performance on state assessments from one year to the next. Schools receive a score from 0 to 200, with higher scores indicating higher growth in achievement.

NEW CUT SCORES

Reading
- Math: 2012-2013 = 115, IL Average = 101
- Reading: 2012-2013 = 106, IL Average = 102

How do students perform on measures of academic success?

Percentage of students who meet or exceed state standards on the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT). In January 2013, Illinois raised the performance expectations for ISAT Reading and Mathematics. 2011-2012 scores are shown with both the old cut scores and new cut scores for easier comparison. Science cut scores have not changed.

- Reading: 77% (2012-2013), 82% (2011-2012) vs. 59% (IL Average), 92% (Old Cut Score)
- Mathematics: 80% (2012-2013), 82% (2011-2012) vs. 59% (IL Average), 96% (Old Cut Score)
- ISAT Overall: 78% (2012-2013), 82% (2011-2012) vs. 59% (IL Average), 94% (Old Cut Score)
- Science: 94% (2012-2013), 90% (2011-2012) vs. 80% (IL Average), 80% (Old Cut Score)

How much money is the district spending per student?

- Instructional Spending: $7,759 (2012-2013), $7,929 (2011-2012) vs. $6,974 (IL Average)
- Operational Spending: $12,969 (2012-2013), $13,412 (2011-2012) vs. $11,842 (IL Average)

What are the demographics of students at this school?

- Asian: 3%
- Black/African-American: 23%
- Hispanic/Latino: 5%
- American Indian: 0%
- Pacific Islander: 0%
- White: 57%
- Two or More Races: 11%

- Total Enrollment: 388 (2012-2013), 386 (2011-2012) vs. NA (Illinois)
- Low Income: 21% (2012-2013), 20% (2011-2012) vs. 50% (Illinois)
- English Learners: 1% (2012-2013), 1% (2011-2012) vs. 10% (Illinois)
- With Disabilities: 18% (2012-2013), 17% (2011-2012) vs. 14% (Illinois)
- Homeless: 2% (2012-2013), 2% (2011-2012) vs. 2% (Illinois)

What does the 5Essentials survey tell us about the school’s learning conditions?

This year, for the first time, Illinois schools piloted an anonymous statewide survey of learning conditions, the 5Essentials Survey. The 5Essentials Survey provided an opportunity for students in grades 6 through 12 and all teachers to share their perspectives on essential conditions for learning. Next year, results from the 2014 survey will appear on the report card in the format below. A detailed report for all schools and districts will also be made available in 2014.

Effective Leaders: Do principals and teachers implement a shared vision for success?

- Collaborative Teachers: Do teachers collaborate to promote professional growth?
- Supportive Environment: Is the school safe, demanding, and supportive?
- Ambitious Instruction: Are classes challenging and engaging?
- Involved Families: Does the entire staff build strong external relationships?

What do other measures tell us about the school’s learning conditions?

- Student Mobility: Percentage of students who transfer in or out of the school during the school year, not including graduates
- Chronic Truancy Rate: Percentage of students who have been absent without valid reasons for 5 percent or more of regular school days
- Student Attendance: Student attendance rate at this school
- Average Class Size: Average number of students in each class
- Total School Days: Total number of days in which the school provides at least 5 hours of instruction to students
- Teacher Retention: Percentage of teachers who return to this school from year to year
- Principal Turnover: Number of different principals serving at this school over the past six years
- Teacher Proficiency: Percentage of teachers rated excellent or proficient

For more information, visit IllinoisReportCard.com
WHITTLER ELEM SCHOOL

What courses, programs, and resources are offered at this school?

Academic Courses
Band, Choir, Gifted and Talented Programs, Math, grades 3-6, Recorder Club, 4th-5th, Spanish 90 minutes for K-2nd, 30 minutes for 3rd-5th, Summer School, Theater, Title 1 Programs, WISE/BRAD classes, WISE/Junior Engineers, K-3rd, WISE/Kids Clay, K-5th, WISE/Shake it up Dance, 1st-5th, WISE/Ukes! 1st-3rd, WISE/Video Gaming

Career Development Courses and Programs

Physical Education, Health and Wellness
Early PE for 4th and 5th graders, WISE Floor Hockey/Dodgeball, 3rd-5th, WISE Legacy Sports, 3rd-5th, WISE Multi-Sport Madness, K-2nd, WISE Yoga Kids, K-5th

Other Programs and Activities
After School Care, Chess Club, Environmental Club, Hephizbah on-site program, Odyssey of the Mind, Parent Associations, Reading Clubs, WISE Kitchen Wizards, K-5th

School Personnel Resources
Coming in 2014 - the At-a-Glance Report Card will list the resources that provide instruction and support at this school, such as teachers, coaches, counselors, and therapists.

Questions and Resources
Q: Where can I find more information?
A: In addition to this report card, you can visit IllinoisReportCard.com to take a more detailed look at the data shown here. IllinoisReportCard.com shows more years of data, shows more of your school's programs, courses, and activities, and provides you with powerful tools that let you dig deeper into your school’s data in the context of schools state-wide.

Q: I am not sure what one of the scores here means. Where can I find out?

Q: What is the origin of the data for the new School Report Card?
A: Most of the data reported on the School Report Card is collected by ISBE from school districts through data systems such as the state's Student Information System and its new Employment Information System. Some data, such as information on extracurricular activities, is entered directly by principals on IllinoisReportCard.com so that it can be kept up to date throughout the year.

Q: Why are ISAT scores in Science higher on average than ISAT scores in Math and Reading?
A: The ISAT’s performance levels (or “cut scores”) in Reading and Mathematics were raised in 2013 to better align with the more rigorous Common Core State Standards that are now being implemented. These higher expectations result in a downward shift of where students rank in meeting or exceeding Reading and Mathematics standards. Science standards, however, have not changed since 1997. Therefore, Science cut scores were not raised in 2013. Illinois is currently reviewing the Next Generation Science Standards which are internationally benchmarked and were developed by educators in 26 states, and will reexamine the Science cut scores if new Science standards are adopted in the future.

Q: How is academic growth calculated?
A: To measure the amount of growth students are demonstrating in a given school or district, Illinois uses a Value Table model. The Value Table model compares students' achievement levels (based on state assessment scores) from one year to the next and then assigns a numerical value from 0 to 200 to that change. The student academic growth metric accounts for baseline student performance, allowing the School Report Card to display changes in student outcomes rather than simply showing absolute student performance benchmarks. For additional information on the Value Table model please visit IllinoisReportCard.com.

Scan the QR Code with your smartphone to visit IllinoisReportCard.com for more information about your school.

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