FACT SHEET ON CPS ISAT COMPOSITE CALCULATION

WHAT IS ISAT?

The Illinois Standard Achievement Test (ISAT) is an annual assessment administered in the spring. It is composed of four tests (Reading, Mathematics, Science and Writing) which *measures individual student achievement relative to the Illinois Learning Standards.*[†]

The results of the assessment are reported as Scale Scores, Performance Levels, National Percentiles and Stanines. Students in grades 3 thru 8 take the reading and mathematics subtests. The science subtest is only administered to students in grades 4 and 7. The writing subtest was administered to grades 3, 5, 6 and8 in 2009.

WHAT IS THE COMPOSITE SCORE?

The Composite Score is an evaluation of the performance of students at each performance level within a school. It is reported as a percent of all valid subtests (Reading, Mathematics and Science) where students received a performance level designation. The Composite score is reported for the following performance groups: Exceed, Meet, Below, Warning, Meet/Exceed. The most popular is the combination of Meet/Exceed.

HOW IS THE COMPOSITE SCORE CALCULATED?

The Composite for Meet is calculated by taking the number of tests where students achieved a performance level of Meets and dividing it by the total number of test taken with a valid score. Not all students take all three subtests. A student's test results count in the composite calculation regardless if they have 1 or all 3 tests taken. Only valid test results where students receive a valid performance level count in the calculation.

EXAMPLE CALCULATION

School A has 300 students in grades 3 thru 8.

- 250 students received valid performance level scores in Reading, of which 200 received a performance level of Meets.
- 300 students received valid performance level scores in Math, of which 230 received a performance level of Meets.
- 100 students received valid performance level scores in Science, of which 75 received a performance level of Meets.

$$\text{School A Composite Score for Meets} = \{(200 + 230 + 75) / (250+300+100)\} * 100$$

$$= 77.69231$$

$$= 77.7\% \textit{ (rounded to one decimal)}$$

EXCLUSIONS

Students in bilingual program years 0-5 are excluded from the official CPS reporting.

BREAKDOWN GROUPS

The data is aggregated at the District, Area and School, for all students and by grade level. There are many other student characteristic breakdowns as well as by district programs and initiatives.

OTHER/SIMILAR CALCULATIONS

Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) calculates an Overall Student Performance for ISAT which includes all students in their calculations regardless of LEP status. For more information on ISBE's calculation please visit **www.isbe.state.il.us**

[†] **Source: http://www.isbe.state.il.us/assessment/isat.htm**