

State Assessment: Not Tested Reasons and Assessment Scores Descriptions

ISBE expects districts to provide a not tested reason to all applicable reading, mathematics, and science records in the Assessment Correction file. Not tested reasons are listed online at www.isbe.net/sis/pdf/not_testing.pdf.

For Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) reading and mathematics participation calculations, all records that contain a blank or "NR" in the reading or mathematics scale score column will be counted as "absent" until the district enters a not tested reason. Exceptions for reading and mathematics records for spring 2014 are noted below.

Descriptions of the Scale Score Columns in the Assessment Scores Report

Column E: Combined Reading Scale Score (ISAT and IAA at grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and PSAE and IAA at grade 11)

Column G: Combined Math Scale Score (ISAT and IAA at grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and PSAE and IAA at grade 11)

Column I: Combined Science Scale Score (ISAT and IAA at grades 4 and 7 and PSAE and IAA at grade 11)

Descriptions of the Scale Score Column in the Assessment Subscores Writing Report*

**Writing scores do not appear in the Assessment Scores report. They are accessible only in the Assessment Subscores report.*

Column C: Combined Writing Scale Score (PSAE and IAA at grade 11)

Descriptions of the Possible Values for Scale Score Columns in the Assessment Scores Report

Numeric Scale Score:

If a number appears in any scale score column, this indicates that a valid score exists for that content area. These numeric scale scores define the student's performance level for each subject area tested. Performance levels for ISAT and PSAE are Exceeds Standards (Level 4), Meets Standards (Level 3), Below Standards (Level 2), and Academic Warning (Level 1). Performance Levels for IAA are Mastery (Level 4), Satisfactory (Level 3), Foundational (Level 2), and Entry (Level 1). The scale score cut points vary by grade level, subject area, and type of test taken and are posted online at www.isbe.net/assessment/htmls/cut_scores.htm.

NA (Not Available):

If "NA" appears in any scale score column, this indicates that an ISAT answer document was returned, or a PSAE Day 1 and/or PSAE Day 2 answer document was returned, or some IAA scores were entered online, but a scale score is **not available**, due to a variety of reasons (e.g., not enough items answered, testing irregularity, misadministration, prohibited behavior, invalidated score).

NR (No Response):

If "NR" appears in any scale score column, this indicates that an ISAT answer document was returned, or a PSAE Day 1 and/or PSAE Day 2 answer document was returned, but there were no responses at all for this content area; all tests sessions were completely blank. For IAA, this indicates that no scores were entered online for this content area. **Districts must enter a reason for not testing to any student record containing at least one NR in a scale score field for reading, mathematics, or science.** This reason for not testing will be applied only to content areas for which an NR is present, unless the record meets criteria for an exception noted below.

Blank:

Blank in all scale score columns indicates that an ISAT answer document was NOT returned, or a PSAE Day 1 and PSAE Day 2 answer document were NOT returned, or that IAA scores were NOT entered online for this student record, so districts must enter a reason for not testing.

Exceptions for Entering a "Not Tested" Reason for Reading and Mathematics

Students with LEP and "First Year in U.S." Status (Reading only):

If reading scale score is the only content area with a blank or NR for an LEP student with "YES" indicated for "First Year in U.S." status, it is not necessary to indicate a not tested reason. These students are exempt from participating in reading by virtue of their "First Year in U.S." status.

Students with Full Form Field Test Participation (Reading and/or Mathematics):

It is not necessary to indicate a not tested reason for any student if the reading scale score is blank or NR if field test indicator #1, 3, 4, or 6 is indicated. It is not necessary to indicate a not tested reason for any student if mathematics is blank or NR if field test indicator #2, 3, 5, or 6 is indicated. Please see <http://www.isbe.net/assessment/pdfs/double-testing-waiver.pdf> for field test indicator definitions.

Additional Note:

Be sure to review your district's **Unassigned Test Results Report** after scores are posted, and contact the ISBE Helpdesk at 217-558-3600 if you need assistance.