ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY NEWSLETTER

Issue 68, May 2024

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF Public Instruction

Updates...

Note from the Director

Many thanks to our Wisconsin educators for successfully administering the 2023-24 statewide assessments. We appreciate your care and dedication in assessing our students. Your attention to detail helps to ensure all students have the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skills.

The 2023-24 Vendor-Based Reporting Information is now available under Wisconsin State Assessment Timelines on the Assessment webpage. As assessment reports become available in the secure portals, please be aware that DPI publicly releases summary test score data for the Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) in the fall. As such, DPI strongly recommends that districts coordinate their own public release with the DPI public release. After the secure release of results to districts and prior to the public release, DPI performs additional quality assurance, data validation, and data redaction when needed to protect student privacy. For more information, please refer to the May 1 DAC Digest.

The 2024-25 statewide assessment timelines are available under Wisconsin State Assessment Timelines on the Assessment webpage.

As the end of the school year approaches, we hope you are able to take some time to reflect on your many successes and everything you have done for the students of Wisconsin. Have a wonderful and safe summer!

Viji Somasundaram

Director, Office of Educational Accountability

Calendar...

Important Dates

2024	
Date	**Event**
May 31	PreACT Secure – Individual Student Reports (ISRs), school/district data and reports are available
June 4	ACT – School/district student data files and contract reports are available
June 5	ACCESS – Final 2022-23 data available in the WIDA AMS/DRC Insight Portal
June 11-14	Forward – English Language Arts and Mathematics Standard Setting
June 18	DLM – Individual Student Reports (ISRs) and summary data available in KITE Educator Portal
June 28	Forward – Deadline to submit form to decline the receipt of paper Individual Student Reports (ISRs)
July 10-11	ACT – Standard Setting
July 26	Forward – Individual Student Reports (ISRs) and summary data available in DRC INSIGHT Portal for district personnel access
July 30- August 8	Forward – New Item Review
August 27	Forward – Hard copy Individual Student Reports (ISRs) delivered to districts
Fall	Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) – Public release of summary test score data

Dates may be subject to change. Check the Assessment calendar webpages for the most current dates throughout the year.

Forward Exam Update

OEA would like to thank the educators, from all over Wisconsin, who participated in the Forward Exam Rangefinding this spring. Their incredible work finalizing the short write rubrics, approving scoring guides, and selecting anchor, training, and threshold papers is what DRC staff used to score the new Forward Exam ELA short write tasks.

Individual Student Reports (ISRs) and summary reports will be available electronically in the DRC INSIGHT Portal in late July. Hard copy ISRs will be mailed to districts in late August. Schools should be sure to **send ISRs out to parents/guardians as soon as possible after receipt,** either in hard copy or via your secure parent portal. Note that simply sharing assessment scores via the parent portal is not sufficient, the entire report should be shared as the ISR contains additional information useful to parents.

Districts and schools are responsible for ensuring that parents/guardians are provided ISRs in a language they can understand and in a format that is accessible to them. Districts and schools should take advantage of the reporting resources for parents/guardians. All parent/guardian resources available on the [Forward Exam Data and Results webpage](#) are provided in English, Spanish, and Hmong, including template (sample) ISRs. Schools may include a copy of the Spanish or Hmong translated ISR template with the English ISR, so families have a better understanding of their student's results. If a parent/guardian requires an ISR in a language other than Spanish or Hmong, school staff should contact their District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) who should contact the DRC Help Desk for additional translations. Districts and schools should refer back to the [Forward Exam Data and Results webpage](#) regularly for an updated list of available ISR translations.

OEA would like to thank all of the educators who applied to participate in the Forward Exam Standard Setting and New Item Review that will take place this summer. These events are great opportunities for educators to participate in the development and scoring of the Forward Exam. Educators selected to participate in Standard Setting have already been notified, and those selected to participate in New Item Review should expect to receive notice via email before the end of May. Those not able to apply or participate this year will have the opportunity to apply for the summer of 2025 review. New Item Review application information is posted every year in early spring on the [Forward Exam Educator Involvement webpage](#). Questions regarding the Forward Exam may be directed to [Alison O'Hara](#) or [Jennifer Teasdale](#).

**The ACT with writing Update**

Thank you to all who helped administer a successful ACT assessment this year. ACT mails score reports to students' home addresses 5-8 weeks after answer documents are returned to ACT. Results are also available to students online in the students' [MyACT account](#). Students can use [the Using Your ACT Results](#) (also [available in Spanish](#)) booklet with their ACT score report to interpret their scores. As student scores are processed by ACT, schools and districts can access student scores and reports in ACT's Online Reporting System (Success.ACT). For a complete list of reporting dates, please refer to the [ACT Score Report Schedule](#). Resources for how to interpret ACT data can be found on the [Wisconsin ACT Website](#).

Over the past few months, DPI has been recruiting a diverse group of Wisconsin educators to participate in an ACT Standard Setting event in July. During this event, 30 Wisconsin educators will make recommendations for cut scores for the ACT in English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics and Science. DPI cut scores are independent of ACT's College and Career Readiness Benchmarks and are used for state accountability. Questions about ACT may be directed to [Nikki Braconier](#).

PreACT Secure Update

PreACT Secure testing concluded on April 26. Thank you to all who assisted in another successful administration of the PreACT Secure in grades 9 and 10! As student scores are processed, schools and districts are able to see student scores and access reports in ACT's Online Reporting System (Success.ACT). After May 30, schools should log into ACT's Online Reporting system to download, print, and distribute Individual Student Reports (ISRs) to students. Students can utilize the Using Your PreACT Secure Results (also available in Spanish) booklet with their score report to interpret their scores. Resources for how to interpret PreACT Secure data can be found on the Wisconsin PreACT Secure webpage. Questions about the PreACT Secure may be directed to Nikki Braconier.

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Update

DLM score reports will be available to districts by the end of June via the KITE Educator Portal. Student score reports should be made available to parents/guardians and students as soon as possible after receipt in the district. Schools should also keep a copy of the student score reports in the student's cumulative folder. The three DLM reports provided are:

- The Individual Student Report (ISR) summarizes student performance in each content area for their grade and is designed to help students, parents/guardians, and educators identify specific areas of strength and need relative to the grade-level Essential Elements.

- The Performance Profile summarizes how a student performed in the content area assessed, including statements of skills that are typical of students performing at the identified performance level.

- The Learning Profile depicts student progress toward grade-level targets for each Essential Element assessed.

This summer, DLM is conducting reviews of the new science Learning Maps with educators and science content experts from consortium states. Learning Maps are one type of cognitive model that includes large, fine-grained, and highly interconnected representations of student learning in a content area. More information about DLM is available on the DLM webpage. Questions about DLM may be directed to Michael Peacy.

ACCESS for ELLs® Update

In late June, the 2023-24 ACCESS for ELLs results will be added to WISEdash for Districts. This will include student-level data, as well as On-Track information. Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs) will be calculated and loaded in August. The ACCESS Results by Subgroup contains the On-Track information, both in a Dynamic Crosstab where districts are able to drag and drop data elements to disaggregate students, as well as in a bar chart at the bottom of the page. The ACCESS for ELLs Data and Reporting webpage contains two documents to assist in finding English Learner (EL) Data in WISEdash for Districts. Questions about ACCESS for ELLs may be directed to Jesse Roberts.
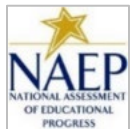
Assessment of Reading Readiness Update

 We would like to thank all districts for completing the Reading Readiness Reimbursement Request form. The Department will be sending out reimbursement payments to districts in June.

For the 2024-25 school year, the recently signed ACT 20 legislation will require 4K through 3rd grade students to be screened. DPI is currently working through the formal state of Wisconsin procurement process to determine the Reading Readiness screener that will be required for all 4K through 3rd grade students. It is anticipated that a vendor will be selected, and a contract signed by July 1, 2024. Once a contract is signed, DPI will notify districts of training opportunities for staff and provide detailed information on the test administration windows. More information about the new requirements can be found at WI Act 20 FAQ. More information is available on the Reading Readiness Overview webpage, including frequently asked questions. Questions about Reading Readiness may be directed to Duane Dorn.

NAEP Update

 Thanks to all the schools that participated in NAEP 2023-24 testing. The state- and national-level results from those assessments will be released around the end of the calendar year for grades 4 and 8 Reading and Mathematics. There will

be a second release of national-level results for grade 12 Reading and Mathematics and grade 8 Science.

NAEP 2024-2025 is right around the corner. There will be Long-Term Trend testing, which is administered every few years and has remained largely unchanged since the early 1970s. Long-Term Trend NAEP assesses ages instead of grades to maintain trendlines over the decades. In addition to Long-Term Trend, there will also be a Field Test to inform future testing using school-based equipment. Notifications to districts and schools selected for each of these assessments will begin this summer and continue through the early fall. Refer to the 2024-25 Assessment Timelines for NAEP testing dates. Questions about NAEP may be directed to Angela Dugas.

International Assessments and Studies Update

Results from the grades 4 and 8 2023 Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), as well as for the grade 8 2023 International Computer and Information Literacy Study (ICILS), are expected to be released this upcoming winter.

The 2025 Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) will be conducted in the spring of 2025. There will be Reading, Mathematics, and Science assessments for 15-year-olds. Notifications to schools selected for PISA will begin this summer. Questions related to International Assessments and Studies may be directed to Angela Dugas.

Final Joint Federal Notification Updates

As announced in an [email to District Administrators from Associate Deputy State Superintendent Tom McCarthy](#), final joint federal notifications (JFNs) were provided to schools and districts in [SAFE, the Secure Access File Exchange](#) on April 23. The joint notification packet includes:

- Final versions of the ESSA Accountability Reports, Progress to Exit Reports, and District Summary Reports,

- Final IDEA LEA Determinations, and

- IDEA Racial Equity in Special Education Reports, which are available for each district and include identifications and required actions, if any, for districts identified with racial disproportionality in Special Education identification, discipline, and/or placement.

Public versions of the ESSA Accountability and District Summary Reports are also available on the [ESSA Accountability Reports app](#) located on our [Federal Accountability webpage](#). As a reminder, Progress to Exit Reports, IDEA LEA Determinations, and Racial Equity in Special Education Reports are not released publicly. Questions about accountability may be directed to the [Office of Educational Accountability (OEA)](#).

Spring Demographic Snapshot Update

DPI conducted the WISEdata Spring Demographic Snapshot on May 21. These data will be used to make sure that demographics associated with, and reported for, assessment results are as accurate and timely as possible. Questions about WISEdata snapshots may be submitted through a [WISE Help Ticket](#).

Resource Inequity Data Tool Update

The 2023-24 Resource Inequity Data Tool is now available for schools and districts in the [Secure Access File Exchange (SAFE)](#). This tool helps school and district staff examine the distribution of resources within their schools and align these resources with local equity goals. Specifically, this tool helps school and district staff:

- Examine distribution of resources: staffing, funding, course offerings, instructional materials, and engagement with families.

- Compare school, district, and state data to see where your school and district stand relative to others.

- Ask key questions to find patterns in the data.

- Plan action steps to better align distribution of resources with local goals.

The Resource Inequity Data Tool was designed as a resource for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI/ATSI) schools developing improvement plans. Though the tool is specifically targeted to these identified schools, it is also provided to all schools to help identify and address resource inequities. Questions about the Resource Inequity Data Tool may be directed to [DPI's Title I Team](#).

We hope you find this newsletter and its contents beneficial. Questions may be directed to the [Office of Educational Accountability](#).

FAQ ...

Reminder – Each assessment has an FAQ webpage with scenarios/issues related to that specific assessment: ACCESS for ELLs FAQ, ACT FAQ, DLM FAQ, Forward Exam FAQ, Pre ACT Secure FAQ.

Q. **Will there be a sample letter available to send home to parents with Individual Student Reports (ISRs)?**
Yes, each assessment has a sample parent letter (updated for 2023-24) that may be used to accompany ISRs when sent home to parents/guardians. These letters are accessible via the specific assessment's data and results webpage. Districts and schools are required to communicate this information with families in a method that is accessible to them (i.e., language and accommodation needs). These resources are available in English, Spanish, and Hmong.

Q. **Are we permitted to post Individual Student Reports (ISRs) on our secure parent portals?**
Yes. You may post ISRs on your secure parent portals.

Q. **Where can I find information about testing data and reporting?**
Each assessment has a data and results webpage in its submenu that is specific to that assessment. More information about each specific assessment's data and results may be found on those pages.

Q. **Is there a resource that shows 2023-24 reporting timelines for all statewide assessments?**
There is a vendor-based reporting timeline available on the Assessment webpage under Wisconsin State Assessment Timelines.

Q. **Is there a resource that shows the 2024-25 schedule for all statewide assessments?**
There is a 2024-25 Statewide Assessment Schedule available on the Assessment webpage under Wisconsin State Assessment Timelines.