

Interpreting Your Child's Iowa Tests Of Basic Skills (ITBS)

Who Takes the ITBS?

In DeKalb, the ITBS is administered to students in grades 1, 3, 5, and 7.

What Does The ITBS Measure?

The ITBS is a Norm-Referenced test, meaning your child's performance is compared with a nationally representative sample of students who took the tests. These students are referred to as the "normative sample." The tests can be used to measure growth in fundamental areas of school achievement: vocabulary, reading comprehension, language, mathematics, social studies, science, and other sources of information. The achievement standards represented by the tests are crucial in educational development because they can determine the extent to which students will benefit from future instruction.

How does the ITBS correlate to the CRCT?

There is no direct correlation between the

CRCT and the ITBS. The ITBS is constructed to reflect a sampling of curriculum objectives used throughout the nation. The ITBS was not designed to correspond perfectly to any



state's curriculum. The CRCT focuses on what your student knows relative to the standards taught in the classroom.

Student Growth

Growth and development patterns are different for every child. We do expect, however, for students to progress in their attainment of basic skills.

In comparing your child's scores to scores from previous years, it is important to remember that they are compared with the normative sample (students who are in the same grade and who took the same level of the ITBS at the same point in the school year).

The best source of information about your child's achievement in any given area is the classroom teacher. The ITBS measures basic skills in one very specific type of format. Teachers use a variety of formats and assessment types to measure your child's progress. If your child's ITBS results do not reflect his/her consistent classroom work, you should consult with the classroom teacher for more detailed information.

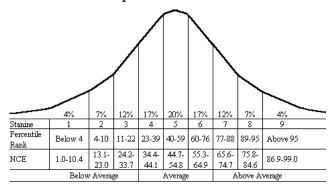
Developmental Scores

NATIONAL PERCENTILE RANK (NPR)

Percentile Ranks indicate the status or relative standing of a student in comparison to other students. The scale ranges from 1 to 99 and indicates the percentage of students who earned higher or lower test scores. For example, if a student earned a percentile rank of 62, it means that he/she scored better than 62 percent of the students in the norm group, and that 38 percent scored as well or better.

NORMAL CURVE EQUIVALENT (NCE)

Normal Curve Equivalents are normalized standard scores with a mean of 50 and a standard deviation of 21.06. Like the percentile rank they range from 1 to 99. The relationship is shown below:



STANINES (NS)

Stanines are normalized standard scores with a range from one to nine and an average value of five. They may be regarded as a course grouping of percentile ranks as shown:

<u>Percentiles</u>	<u>Stanine</u>
96 and up	9
89-95	8 Above Average
77-88	7 /
60-76	6
40-59	5 Average
23-39	4
11-22	3
4-10	2 Below Average
below 4	1/

GRADE EQUIVALENTS (GE)

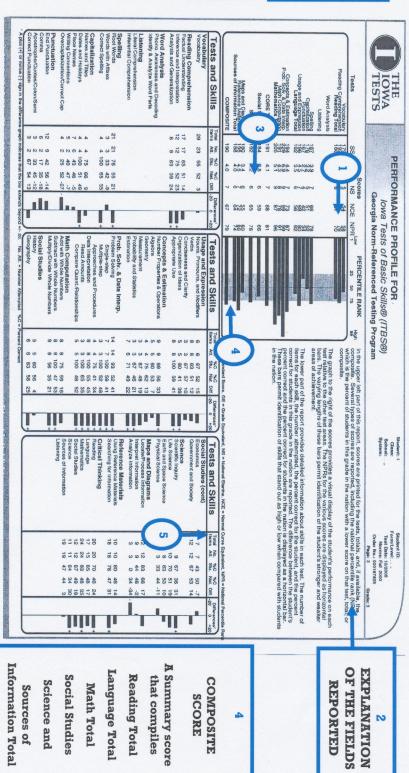
The Grade Equivalent is an estimate of where the student is along a developmental continuum. It is important to remember that the GE is not directly tied to a curriculum.

The grade equivalent score does not tell you what grade a student should be in or that a student has the skills to do work beyond his or her grade level. This is because all grade equivalent scores are based on test content specific to the level which was administered.

SAMPLE IOWA TESTS OF BASIC SKILLS (ITBS) STUDENT PERFORMANCE PROFILE REPORT

NATIONAL
PERCENTILE
RANK (NPR)
An NPR of 50 is
considered the
national norm

SCORES



5
Total Items / # Attempted by Student / % Correct for Student / % Correct Nationally / Difference