Improving Learning

PAIS School Percentiles Report

SAMPLE SCHOOL, COUNTRY

SAMPLE

ACER SCHOOL ASSESSMENT SERVICES

1 JUNE 2022

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GLOSSARY

Cohort	A group of students.
Cut score	Selected points on the score scale of a test. In this report, the cut off score for an achievement band or a percentile rank.
Mean	The average or central tendency of a distribution.
Median	The middle value of a data set when it has been arranged in ascending order.
Percentile	The percentile is a rank and is NOT the percentage correct achieved on a test.
	In general terms, the percentile rank of a score is the percentage of students who achieve less than or equal to that score.
	For example, a student with a percentile rank of 75 on a Grade 3 test has a score that is higher or equal to 75% of Grade 3 students.
Scale score	The score located on the relevant test's proficiency scale which enables measurement of progress over time across the test's forms.
Standard Error of Mean (SE)	A statistical measurement of how much discrepancy there is likely to be in a cohort's mean compared to the population mean.

SAMPLE

1   PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

The 'PAIS School Percentiles' report provides schools with a reference group for each 'Progressive Achievement for International Schools' (PAIS) that can be used to compare and contextualise the performances of students against 'typical' groups of students within your school. Schools that conduct selective entry or that are looking to identify high or low performing students will particularly find this useful.

1.1   What is PAIS?

The Progressive Achievement for International Schools (PAIS) is a series of assessments in Mathematics and English that schools can administer to students on-demand multiple times per year and receive instant results. The PAIS assessments enable schools to measure students' achievement in Mathematics and English based on a research-based international framework, support students' learning by identifying strengths and weaknesses and monitor growth in learning over time. PAIS offers Mathematics and English assessments for Grades 1 to 10 with two test forms available at each grade level. Tests from Grades 3 to 10 include international cohort comparisons and school performance benchmarking data. PAIS assessments are an ideal tool for providing valid diagnostic information and reliable longitudinal growth measures.

PAIS results are reported using scale scores, representing achievement levels on the PAIS Mathematics scale and PAIS English scale that allows results to be compared with past or future PAIS tests results in the same learning area (subject) to monitor student progress. More information about PAIS and the PAIS Mathematics and PAIS English scales can be found in the PAIS Assessment Framework.

1.2   School Percentiles

This report provides the schools with indicators of how PAIS scale scores were distributed across a population of your school's students who sat a PAIS assessment at a specific point in time. The populations are specific to Grade (Year) level as opposed to age.

An example of the percentile report for a Grade (Year) level is in Table 1. In order to understand the table it is important to note that:
- The percentile of '95' represents the 95th percentile, being the cut-point for the highest achieving five percent of students in the group of students assessed in that Grade.
- The percentile of '75' represents the 75th percentile, being the cut-point for the highest achieving twenty-five percent of students in the group of students assessed in that Grade.
- The percentile of '50' represents the 50th percentile which is also known as the 'median', being the middle score in the group of students assessed in that Grade.
- The percentile of '25' represents the 25th percentile, being the cut-point for the lowest achieving twenty-five percent of students in the group of students assessed in that Grade.
- The percentile of '5' represents the 5th percentile, being the cut-point for the lowest achieving five percent of students in the group of students assessed in that Grade.

Each percentile has a corresponding PAIS scale score. The scale score represents the level of achievement for that percentile. In the example provided in Table 1, the 80th percentile has a corresponding PAIS scale score of 646. This indicates that any PAIS scale score of 646 or higher matches the achievement of the top 20% of students assessed in that Grade. Conversely it also indicates that any PAIS scale score below 646 is below the achievement of the top 20% of students assessed in that Grade. It is possible for multiple percentiles to share the same or a similar scale score.

Table 1 Example Percentile Report

Grade 5 Percentiles	PAIS Mathematics Scale Score
95	689
90	663
85	663
80	646
75	625
70	610
65	598
60	597
55	585
50	585
45	574
40	563
35	553
30	553
25	540
20	535
15	526
10	512
5	482

2 DATA DESCRIPTION

This section outlines the make-up of the school's cohorts.

2.1 School Cohort

Table 2 shows the number of students who participated in the PAIS assessments from the period of 9 May 2022 to 13 May 2022.