

**SUMMARY OF 2000 PENNSYLVANIA SYSTEM OF SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (PSSA)
READING AND MATHEMATICS
SCHOOL-BY-SCHOOL SCALED SCORES
November 2000**

In an effort to further inform Pennsylvanians about the quality and characteristics of schools and other educational institutions in Pennsylvania, this report includes the 2000 Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) reading and mathematics scaled-scores and participation rates for individual schools throughout the Commonwealth.

The PSSA is a statewide test designed to determine the achievement levels of students and schools. The assessments are based on Pennsylvania's Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, and Mathematics Standards, and are required under the State Board of Education's Chapter 4 regulations. The PSSA also is used to assist schools and students in identifying their strengths and weaknesses and to foster improvement in schools' academic programs. All students in grades five, eight and 11 are required to participate in the assessment unless excused by their parents for religious reasons. The assessments were administered in April 2000.

READING THIS REPORT

This report contains PSSA scaled scores and participation rates, by school, in reading and mathematics for all public schools, including charter public schools and vocational-technical schools. This report also includes the PSSA results for intermediate units (IUs), approved private schools (APSs), and private residential rehabilitative institutions (PRRIs). Students enrolled in IUs, APSs, and PRRIs participated in the assessment for the first time in 2000. The students in these educational institutions are also public school students.

IUs provide a wide variety of educational services to students with disabilities within 29 regions in Pennsylvania. The students served by IUs typically have severe disabilities, which occur at relatively low incidence in the general school population. 29 Intermediate Units participated in the PSSA.

APSs also provide specific special education programs for students with disabilities who cannot be adequately served by their school district or intermediate unit. Fourteen APSs participated in the 2000 assessment.

PRRIs are residential facilities for court-placed juveniles who are declared legally delinquent under the Juvenile Act. Educational services are provided to the PRRI students as part of their total rehabilitative package of services pursuant to a contract with a school district or IU. Thirteen PRRIs participated in the 2000 assessment.

All the aforementioned educational institutions are required to administer the PSSA.

SUMMARY OF 2000 PENNSYLVANIA SYSTEM OF SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (PSSA)

Nonpublic and private schools are not required to participate in the PSSA. These schools voluntarily participated for the first time in 2000. Ninety-four nonpublic schools participated in the 2000 assessment.

The results are arranged in alphabetical order by county. Districts / Educational Institutions (including AVTSSs) are arranged alphabetically within each county, and schools are listed alphabetically within each district. The intermediate unit (IU) number is provided in the column headed as **IU**. The IU-labeled column is *blank* for APSs, PRRIs, as well as non-public and private schools. These educational institutions are listed along with all other schools alphabetically by county. (For IUs, the mailing address is used to determine the county listing herein.)

“Average Scaled Scores” indicates the school scaled score in mathematics and reading for 5th, 8th and 11th grades, respectively. Scaled scores are included because of their ease of interpretation and because they allow comparisons of school results with district and statewide average scaled scores.

Because the 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000 assessments were statistically equated (or linked) with the 1996 assessment reference year, the scaled scores from these years can reflect growth from 1996. The 1996 PSSA, then, serves as the base year. For example, if a 2000 scaled score is higher than 1996 (or 1997, 1998 or 1999) it can be interpreted as improvement from that year.

The 2000 statewide average scaled scores (rounded) are listed as follows:

2000	Grade 5	Grade 8	Grade 11
Math	1310	1310	1310
Reading	1320	1310	1300

The ranges for each subject and grade level are:

	Grade 5	Grade 8	Grade 11
Math	880-1690	910-1610	900-1590
Reading	920-1610	720-1640	710-1510

“Participation Rates” indicates the percentage of 5th, 8th and 11th grade students in the school who responded to the PSSA and received a score for mathematics and reading.

SUMMARY OF 2000 PENNSYLVANIA SYSTEM OF SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (PSSA)

In some cases, schools did not have at least an 80 percent participation rate in one or both subject areas. This 80 percent participation rate is not meant to be an absolute criterion in terms of understanding the school's participation in the reading and mathematics programs. Rather, it is suggested as one reference to aid in interpreting the sample of students who were assessed in a particular school. (In many instances IUs, APSs, and PRRI do not have an 80 percent participation rate in the PSSA because of the special educational population served.)

Also, if test data are not listed, the school does not have students in the grade(s) tested. For example, a school that does not have fifth, eighth, or eleventh graders would not participate in the PSSA. In addition, IUs, APSs, and PRRI serve special populations, and their results should not be viewed relative to schools with heterogeneous populations. Additionally, because each one of these educational institutions is highly unique, they should not be viewed relative to each other.

In September 2000, schools received detailed analyses of their performance on the PSSA. To fully understand these scores and receive detailed information on a school's program, please contact the districts directly. Individuals are also encouraged to contact the IU, APS, or PRRI of their interest to further understand the uniqueness of that particular educational program and the special student population served.

These results also are available online at www.pde.state.pa.us.