

Overview

Purpose: To identify specific areas of strength and weakness for a school* as a whole and for individual classes, based on a single test

Features: For each test, you can view the following information:

- School average for each reporting category, framework, or standard
- Each class's overall score
- Each class's average score for each reporting category, framework, or standard
- Mapping of test questions to standards
- Classes grouped by their levels of performance (performance categories)
- Preset or customized performance categories

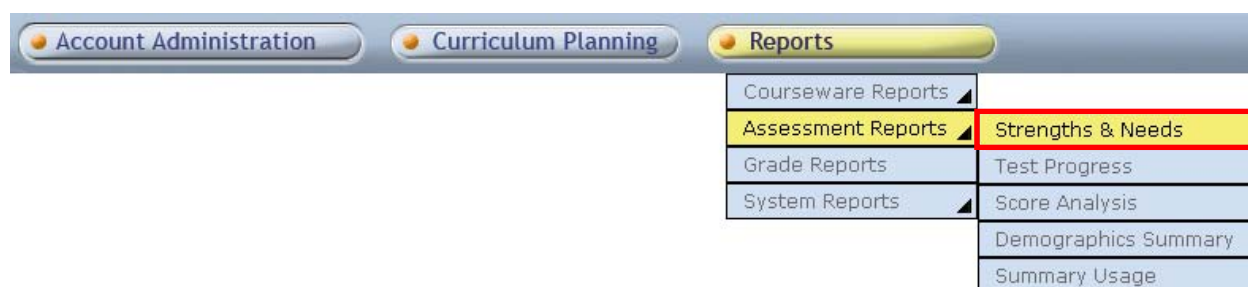
Usage: This report lets you

- quickly identify classes needing help in certain areas without looking at their test scores;
- view class performance data grouped by strengths and weaknesses;
- identify classes that are struggling with skills covered in the test;
- identify teachers who are having difficulty teaching concepts covered in the test.

Generate: After administering each test

** District administrators can run this report for their district as a whole and for individual schools and classes within their district.*

Generating Your Strengths & Needs Report



The instructions and screen images below show how to run a report for the School level.

1. From the **Reports** drop-down menu on your **Home** page, point to **Assessment Reports**.
2. Select **Strengths & Needs**.



3. In the report's search form (shown above), select **School** from the **Level** drop-down list to see results for your school. (You can also select **Class** to run your report for a specific class).
4. Select a **School**. If you're affiliated with only one school, this field may be disabled.
5. Click the **Look Up** to search for the test your report will be based on. A pop-up window will open.
6. From the **View Assessment Report** drop-down list, choose to run your report **By Tests** or **By Assignments**.
7. Click the calendars to select a date range. Only tests and assignments active during these dates will display. Then click **Go**.
8. Check the box for the one test or assignment you want your report based on.
9. Then click **OK**.
10. Click the **Select** button to select performance ranges. Another pop-up window will open.
11. Click the **Account Categories** or **State Categories** tab to select preset performance ranges. Or select the **New** tab to define your own performance ranges. If you've already saved ranges that you previously defined, select the **Saved** tab.
12. Click **OK**.

Account Categories

Levels of performance are set by your account administrator, and only he or she can change them.

Performance Categories Template

Choose a Template below for the report you will be generating.

Category Name	Score Range
Meets Expectations	70% - 100%
Does Not Meet Expectations	40% - 69%
Far Below Expectations	0% - 39%

State Categories

Levels of performance are based on the state standards entered into your account when it was created.

Performance Categories Template

Choose a Template below for the report you will be generating.

Category Name	Score Range
Pass+	67% - 100%
Pass	34% - 66%
Did not pass	0% - 33%

New

Levels of performance that you define and save; they include determining the Category Names and Score Ranges.

Performance Categories Template

Choose a Template below for the report you will be generating.

Number of Categories:

Name the levels of Performance Categories and define their Score Ranges.

Category Name	Score Range
--- Enter Category Name ---	<input type="text" value="71"/> % - <input type="text" value="100"/> %
--- Enter Category Name ---	<input type="text" value="0"/> % - <input type="text" value="70"/> %
--- Enter Category Name ---	<input type="text"/> % - <input type="text"/> %

- If you selected a **Benchmark** test in step 8, select **Reporting Category**, **Framework**, or **Standard** from the **Structure** drop-down list. (See the Remember box below for descriptions of these options.) If you did not select a Benchmark test, click **Go**.
- If you selected **Standard** from the **Structure** drop-down list, select the state standards you want your report based on. Then click **Go**.

Understanding Your Strengths & Needs Report

Assessment Reports: Strengths & Needs (School Level) [View Overview](#) [View Summary](#) [View Category Breakdown](#) **1**

Display: Reporting Category by Test **2**

Account	Account 1
PlatoName	Teacher 1
3 School	School C
4 Test Name	7th Grade Mathematics Standards-Based Benchmark Test 2003 (Version 1 National)

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Overview

School Strength & Needs		
6 Meets Expectations Average Scores (70% - 100%)	Does Not Meet Expectations Average Scores (40% - 69%)	Far Below Expectations Average Scores (0% - 39%)
8 92% Geometry: 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f. Transformations, Symmetry & Similarity 7	69% Algebra: 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e: Patterns, Relations, & Functions	37% Data Analysis and Probability: 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 4a, 4b, 4c, 4d, 4e, 4f. Inferences, Predictions & Probability
	67% Data Analysis and Probability: 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f. Data Collection, Display & Statistical Analysis	33% Geometry 4a, 4b, 4c: Position & Direction 9
	61% Measurement: 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f, 1g, 1h, 1i: Attributes & Dimensions	

10 Summary

School Strength & Needs (Summary by Classes)		
Meets Expectations Average Scores (70% - 100%)	Does Not Meet Expectations Average Scores (40% - 69%)	Far Below Expectations Average Scores (0% - 39%)
12 78% Math Class 1	65% Math Class 5	37% Math Class 4
80% Math Class 3		
85% Math Class 2		
92% Math Class 6		

13 Category Breakdown

School Strength & Needs (Category Breakdown)		
Meets Expectations Average Scores (70% - 100%)	Does Not Meet Expectations Average Scores (40% - 69%)	Far Below Expectations Average Scores (0% - 39%)
	Algebra: 1a, 1b: Patterns, Relations, & Functions	
15 76% Math Class 2	50% Math Class 3	33% Math Class 6
80% Math Class 1	60% Math Class 5	
82% Math Class 4		
	Algebra: 2a, 2b: Quantitative Relationships	
90% Math Class 3	40% Math Class 1	30% Math Class 2
86% Math Class 5	52% Math Class 4	35% Math Class 6
	Data Analysis: 1a, 1b: Data Representation	
72% Math Class 6	62% Math Class 1	36% Math Class 5
85% Math Class 4	50% Math Class 3	
92% Math Class 2		

Sample report for a school based on Reporting Categories (structure) and Account Categories (performance categories)

Report Key

View by Reporting Category

The descriptions below pertain to a school-level report viewed by reporting category. Substitute “framework” or “standard” for reports based on those structures. Substitute “district” for “school” to run district-level reports.

- 1 Section links:** Allow you to jump directly to the corresponding section of your report
- 2 Display:** Indicates whether the structure of the data displayed is by reporting category, framework, or standard and whether the report is based on an assignment or test
- 3 School:** The specific school the report data is based on
- 4 Test Name:** The specific test the report data is based on
- 5 Overview:** Data in this section pertains to the school as a whole. It displays the average score for test questions corresponding to each reporting category shown. Results are grouped into columns (performance categories), based on the school’s level of performance.
- 6 Performance Categories:** Levels of performance; you can select preset Account Categories or State Categories—or you can define your own.
- 7 Reporting Categories:** Groups of like concepts (e.g., Measurement: Attributes and Units)
- 8 Scores:** The school average for each reporting category shown, based on all classes that took the test
- 9 Reporting Category numbers:** Internal PLATO Learning reporting category numbers covered by the corresponding test
- 10 Summary:** Data in this section pertains to each class that took the test and indicates how well each class scored compared to the other classes. The report groups classes into columns (performance categories) based their level of performance.
- 11 Classes:** The individual classes in the corresponding school that have taken the test
- 12 Scores:** The overall test score for each class, grouped by level of performance (performance category)
- 13 Category Breakdown:** Data in this section pertains to each class that took the test. It shows how each class performed relative to each reporting category, rather than on the test as a whole.
- 14 Reporting Categories:** Groups of like concepts by which the test questions are categorized; they are the same reporting categories listed in the Overview section. They include the test question numbers correlated to the corresponding reporting category.
- 15 Scores:** Each class’s average score on test questions related to the corresponding reporting category; students are grouped into levels of performance (performance categories) based on these scores.



Remember...

You can view your report by

- **reporting category:** groups the concepts tested into like categories;
- **framework:** groups reporting categories into larger groups of like concepts (often referred to as a strands);
- **standard:** matches test items to specific state standards.

16 Category Breakdown

School Strength & Needs (Category Breakdown)					
Meets Expectations Average Scores (70% - 100%)		Does Not Meet Expectations Average Scores (40% - 69%)		Far Below Expectations Average Scores (0% - 39%)	
Mathematics Curriculum Framework Revised 2004					
Grades K-8					
V. Strand: Data Analysis and Probability					
Standard 15 Data Analysis: Students shall select and use appropriate statistical methods to analyze data					
a. Data Analysis					
Grade 7					
		DAP.15.7.1 Analyze data displays, including ways that they can be misleading		Correlated Items: 15, 20, 22, 25, 27 18	
19 80%	Math Class 1	52%	Math Class 4	35%	Math Class 5
72%	Math Class 3	60%	Math Class 6		
92%	Math Class 2				
		DAP.15.7.2 Analyze, with and without appropriate technology, a set of data by using and comparing measures of central tendencies (mean, median, mode) and measures of spread (range, quartile, interquartile range) Correlated Items: 8, 10, 21, 24, 29			
85%	Math Class 1	50%	Math Class 5	30%	Math Class 4
79%	Math Class 3	67%	Math Class 2	35%	Math Class 6

Sample report for a school based on Standards (Structure) and Account Categories (performance categories); only the Category Breakdown section is shown.

Report Key

View by Standard

- 16** **Category Breakdown:** Data in this section shows how each class that took the test performed on questions related to the corresponding standard.
- 17** **Standards:** The specific state or national standards being tested.
- 18** **Correlated Items:** The specific test questions that test understanding of the corresponding standard; correlated items display only for reports viewed by standard and not by reporting category or framework.
- 19** **Scores:** Each class's average score on test questions related to the corresponding standard; classes are grouped into levels of performance (performance categories) based on these scores.



Did You Know?

- You can only select a **Structure** (reporting category, framework, or standard) on which to view your data if you run your report for a state or national benchmark test.
- If you run your report for a level assessment (pretest, posttest or end-of-semester test), by default, the results will display by the test's section topics.

Getting the Most from Your Data

Track how individual classes and your school (or district) as a whole perform on test questions mapped to specific objectives. Then implement strategies such as those listed below to enhance teaching practices and help learners perform better.

- Measure school progress from one testing session to the next.
- Compare previous reports to current reports to see if progress is being made in areas of concern.
- Identify the content areas that have the greatest need and adjust pacing guides accordingly.
- As the time for state tests approaches, have teachers target instruction around objectives that have scores close to what is required to pass.
- Concepts that consistently show as areas of need may be used to identify school-wide professional development needs.
- Identify individual teachers in need of extra help, professional development, or mentoring. Allocate additional resources to these classes.
- Identify teachers who can offer mentoring to others.
- Determine the need for after-school or extended learning opportunities.
- To avoid duplication of teaching efforts, regroup classes periodically to re-teach problematic concepts. For example, one teacher can take students from several classes who need help with geometry, while another teacher can work with a group on fractions.
- Identify which students have mastered the skills and are ready for enrichment activities.



Did You Know?

- No single benchmark test has items that cover all of a state's standards.
- Only the test items correlated (matched) to the corresponding standard, reporting category, or framework are figured into the score shown.