How Do I Read the Individual Instructional Summary (IIS)?

The enclosed Individual Instructional Summary (IIS) reports specific information about your child’s performance on the CTP4. The heading includes the name of the teacher and school, the test date, the number of students in your child’s class who took the test, and the norm or comparison group (Spring), the grade, the test level corresponding to that grade and your student’s name. The columns beneath this identifying information are:

- **Column 1-Multiple Choice Tests and Subscore Categories**
  - Tests that were available for your child to take at that level, e.g. Reading Comprehension, Mathematics, etc. are shaded.
  - Beneath each shaded test are the skill areas that are tested, e.g. “Inference” or “Analysis” under Reading Comprehension. All of the skill areas or “Subscore Categories” are indented.

- **Column 2-Students Tested**
  - Number of students in the class who took this test

- **Column 3-Number of Questions Presented**
  - Number of questions in the whole test
  - Number of questions in each skill area
  - For example, of the 37 Reading Comprehension questions, 14 may be testing the student’s understanding of explicit information, 13 may test the ability to infer, 10 may test the ability to analyze.

- **Column 4-Number of Questions Attempted**
  - Number of questions that your child answered of those that were asked

- **Column 5-Number of Questions Correct**
  - Number of questions that your child answered correctly

- **Column 6-Student %**
  - The percent of the questions asked that your child answered correctly (correct divided by presented)

- **Column 7-School %**
  - The average percent correct represents the performance of all students in your school in your child’s grade who took the test. If there are two classes in a grade, performance of both classes is represented here.

- **Column 8-Sub. Pub. %**
  - Represents the average percent correct performance of all Suburban Public* school students in your child’s grade who took the test in spring of the previous 3 years (2006, 2007, 2008)

- **Column 9-Ind. %**
• Represents the average percent correct performance of all Independent* school students in your child’s grade who took the test in spring of the previous 3 years.

*There are about 35 Suburban School districts and 1250 Independent schools that administer CTP 4 to their students.

What Does this Report Tell Me About My Child?

When your child is given a test by his/her teacher at the end of a unit or skill that has been taught in school, the resulting grade shows the percent of questions answered correctly of the total number of questions presented. This is exactly the way the IIS reports scores. The difference is that some additional information is available, how your child compares to other groups of students. For example, your child may have answered 75 percent of the questions correctly on a test. If his/her peer group, that is the students in his school or in like schools, show an average percent correct of 65, you can see that although your child didn’t get every question right, he or she did better than the comparison group. If the average percent correct for the comparison is 85%, your child did not do as well as the comparison group.

What to Look For

Using Reading Comprehension as an example, there are several components that make up the score in this or any other section. You child may be doing better in one component than in another. Review Column 6 carefully to determine if his/her strength or weakness is in one particular component.

Moving to columns 7 through 9, you can then compare your child’s performance to other groups of students. His/her performance may be similar to or very different from those groups. In comparison to high-achieving groups like the independent and suburban public norms, it will be harder for your child to score above the average.

Your school may have set benchmarks for performance. If your child is not doing as well in some areas as the school, the goal may be to help him/her match the performance of the other students in the school. If your student is performing better than that group already, perhaps the goal is to match performance of a higher performing population, perhaps the Independent school students taking CTP4. If your child is an especially strong performer, these results inform the school that he/she is ready for further challenges.

The breakdown of each test into skill sets gives both parents and schools the opportunity to look more precisely at what skills need strengthening for an individual, for a small group of students, or perhaps for all of the students in the grade. For this reason, CTP4 results provide especially good diagnostic data to inform instruction. Your school can respond to specific questions that you may have with respect to your child’s results.