

Ohio

Department  
of Education

Ohio's State Tests  
2017-2018



# Understanding Ohio's State Tests Score Reports

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2017-2018

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*DISCLAIMER: All data included in the images and examples used throughout this document are fictitious and for demonstration purposes only.*

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# Understanding Ohio's State Tests Reports

## Introduction

This document has been prepared to help you understand the score reports for Ohio's State Tests for the 2017-2018 school year. It includes explanations of the reports, information about the content assessed in relation to [Ohio's Learning Standards](#) and a glossary of the terms used in these reports.

Authorized district and school personnel can log in to the [Online Reporting System](#) to access and view their score reports. Assistance with the reporting system is available in the [Online Reporting System User Guide](#), which is available on the [Ohio's State Tests Portal](#) or by clicking the Help button within the system.

## Purpose of Ohio's State Tests

State achievement tests tell us how well our students are growing in the knowledge and skills outlined in Ohio's Learning Standards. These tests help guide and strengthen future teaching so we can be sure that we are preparing our students for long-term success in school, college, careers and life. Test results also allow citizens to know how their local schools are performing compared to others around the state.

## How were the tests developed?

Test development is an extensive, ongoing process for ensuring that state tests are valid and appropriate measures of student knowledge and skills.

The Ohio Department of Education worked with Ohio educators and the American Institutes for Research to develop the state tests. Content advisory committees, as well as fairness and sensitivity committees discussed whether test items were accurate and fair, were suitable for the course and measured an aspect of Ohio's Learning Standards.

After the tests were built, another group of educators serving on a standard-setting committee recommended [performance levels](#) or cut scores for five levels of tests results. The State Board of Education approved these recommendations. Additionally, the standard-setting committee [prepared descriptions](#) of what students should know and be able to do at each of the five performance levels.

## Subjects/Grade Levels Tested in Fall 2017

Districts and schools administer the grade 3 English language arts test in fall 2017.

In addition, districts and schools administer high school tests to students enrolled in first-semester courses, needing to test for a previously completed course, or electing to retake a test in the following subjects:

- Algebra I
- American government
- American history
- Biology
- English language arts I
- English language arts II
- Geometry
- Integrated mathematics I
- Integrated mathematics II
- Physical science (Class of 2018 only)

## Subjects/Grade Levels Tested in Spring 2018

The following elementary-and middle-school tests are available for the spring 2018 administration:

- Grade 3 English language arts
- Grade 3 Mathematics
- Grade 4 English language arts
- Grade 4 Mathematics
- Grade 5 English language arts
- Grade 5 Mathematics
- Grade 5 Science
- Grade 6 English language arts
- Grade 6 Mathematics
- Grade 7 English language arts
- Grade 7 Mathematics
- Grade 8 English language arts
- Grade 8 Mathematics
- Grade 8 Science

The following high school end-of-course tests are available for the spring 2018 administration:

- Algebra I
- American government
- American history
- Biology
- English language arts I
- English language arts II
- Geometry
- Integrated mathematics I
- Integrated mathematics II
- Physical Science (Class of 2018 only)

## Subjects/Grade Levels Tested in Summer 2018

Summer testing is optional. Students, schools and districts may elect to participate or not participate. Participating schools and districts do not have to offer all tests.

The following elementary-school test is available for the summer 2018 administration:

- Grade 3 English language arts

The following high school end-of course tests are available for the summer 2018 administration:

- Algebra I
- American government
- American history
- Biology
- English language arts I
- English language arts II
- Geometry
- Integrated mathematics I
- Integrated mathematics II
- Physical science (Class of 2018 only)

## Testing Format

Each test has two parts. Districts and schools may elect to administer both parts in one day, or they may administer one part on one day and the other part on another day within their district test window. The test contractor combines student responses for each part to produce one summative score. Please note, only test parts of the same mode (online or paper) are combined into a summative score.

For the 2017-2018 school year, the test contractor has made the tests available in two formats: computer-based testing (online) and paper-based testing. Ohio's State Tests are online exams for all students, unless schools demonstrate a need for paper forms, either due to limited technology capacity, or for students with disabilities and certain religious beliefs. Paper tests also are also available in braille and large print for students requiring specific accommodations. Bilingual English-Spanish test forms are available to students testing online in one of the science, social studies or math courses.

## Question Formats

Students respond to items in multiple ways, including by creating charts, writing extended responses and using other interactive features. The various question types assess higher-order thinking skills and offer different ways for students to show what they know and can do. Sample items, as well as descriptions and tutorials of the item types, are available on the [Ohio's State Tests Portal](#).

## Ohio's State Tests Scores

### Scale Scores and Performance Levels

Ohio reports five performance standards: Limited, Basic, Proficient, Accelerated or Advanced. The scale score ranges in the tables below define each level. The accelerated level of performance suggests that a student is on track for college and career readiness. For accountability purposes, "passing" includes the Proficient, Accelerated and Advanced levels.

**Table 1: Scale Score Ranges in Science**

Grade/Subject	Limited	Basic	Proficient	Accelerated	Advanced
Grade 5	559-663	664-699	700-724	725-752	753-845
Grade 8	575-673	674-699	700-724	725-765	766-868
Physical science	634-683	684-699	700-724	725-748	749-815
Biology	617-684	685-699	700-724	725-734	735-823

**Table 2: Scale Score Ranges in Social Studies**

Grade/Subject	Limited	Basic	Proficient	Accelerated	Advanced
American history	619-683	684-699	700-724	725-737	738-800
American government	642-686	687-699	700-724	725-738	739-774

**Table 3: Scale Score Ranges in English Language Arts**

Grade/Subject	Limited	Basic	Proficient	Accelerated	Advanced
Grade 3	545-671	672-699	700-724	725-751	752-863
Grade 4	549-673	674-699	700-724	725-752	753-846
Grade 5	552-668	669-699	700-724	725-754	755-848
Grade 6	555-667	668-699	700-724	725-750	751-851
Grade 7	568-669	670-699	700-724	725-748	749-833
Grade 8	586-681	682-699	700-724	725-743	744-805
English language arts I	606-682	683-699	700-724	725-738	739-800
English language arts II	597-678	679-699	700-724	725-741	742-808

In addition to the scale score ranges for grade 3 English language arts in Table 3 above, Table 4 below summarizes the grade 3 reading promotion performance standard for the 2017-2018 school year. As indicated in the table below, the 2017-2018 promotion score for the Third Grade Reading Guarantee is an English language arts scale score of 672.

**Table 4. Third Grade Reading Guarantee Performance Level Scale Score Ranges**

	Does Not Meet Promotion Standard	Meets Promotion Standard
Grade 3 English language arts Scale Score	Below 672	At or Above 672

**Table 5: Scale Score Ranges in Mathematics**

<b>Grade/Subject</b>	<b>Limited</b>	<b>Basic</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Accelerated</b>	<b>Advanced</b>
Grade 3	587-682	683-699	700-724	725-752	753-818
Grade 4	605-685	686-699	700-724	725-758	759-835
Grade 5	624-686	687-699	700-724	725-748	749-804
Grade 6	616-681	682-699	700-724	725-743	744-790
Grade 7	605-683	684-699	700-724	725-754	755-806
Grade 8	633-689	690-699	700-724	725-743	744-774
Algebra I	618-681	682-699	700-724	725-753	754-814
Geometry	604-677	678-699	700-724	725-755	756-810
Integrated math I	618-681	682-699	700-724	725-753	754-814
Integrated math II	594-676	677-699	700-724	725-757	758-813

For a summary of what Ohio’s Learning Standards expect students to know and do at each level, refer to the [Performance Level Descriptors](#) available on the Ohio’s State Tests Portal.

### Reporting Category Indicators

Each test has three to five reporting categories. Reporting categories represent groups of similar student skills or learning standards assessed within each grade and subject. For example, a reporting category within grade 8 science would be life science.

Student performance on the subset of items associated with a reporting category is reported with an indicator, rather than with scale scores. These indicators are:

- Below proficient
- Near proficient
- Above proficient

Each test’s reporting categories are listed in the blueprints, which are in the General Resources folder on the [Ohio’s State Tests Portal](#).

### Codes for No Data Reported

The following abbreviations may appear on some reports:

- **DNA** — Did Not Attempt
- **INV** — Invalidated

A student will receive a DNA if he or she answered at least one item but did not meet the Department’s criteria for having attempted the test. The Department defines a test as attempted if the student responded to five items or achieved five points.

A record will reflect INV if both parts of the student’s test were invalidated or if the student only took one part of the test and that part was invalidated. If the student took both parts of the test and only one part of a test was invalidated, the student will receive a score based on the non-invalidated test part.

If a student receives a condition code, the parent or student should consult the student’s designated guidance counselor.

## Ohio's State Tests Reports

Ohio's State Tests results are available in several formats.

### Family Score Reports

The *Ohio's State Tests Family Score Report* is a two-page color report. The first page provides resources for families. The second page provides the student's scale score and performance level, including the student's reporting category indicators and a summary of each reporting category.

Family-friendly interpretive guides for the family score reports can be found on the [Ohio's State Tests Portal](#) on the Reporting Resources [page](#). Each guide walks through the elements of the family reports, as well as definitions and frequently asked questions.

### Online Score Reports

#### Online Reporting System

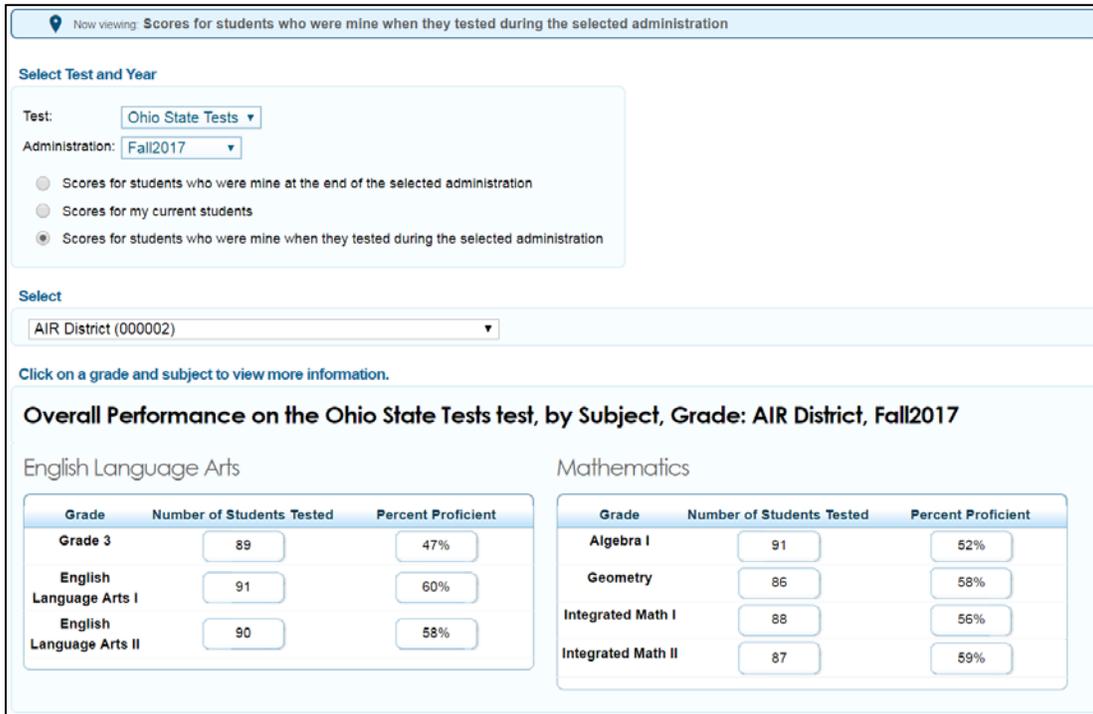
Authorized district and school personnel can log in to the [Online Reporting System](#) from the [Ohio's State Tests Portal](#) to access and view district and school-level Ohio's State Tests reports of students. For more information on accessing and navigating online score reports, readers should refer to the Accessing Score Reports section of [Online Reporting System User Guide](#). The user guide is available on the Ohio's State Tests Portal or by clicking the Help button in the Online Reporting System.

#### Homepage Dashboard

After logging into the Online Reporting System, district- and building-level users will first view district or school aggregation tables on the *Homepage Dashboard*. The *Homepage Dashboard* displays the overall summary of score data for your district or school and is the starting point for data analysis. You can navigate to more detailed score reports from the *Homepage Dashboard*. The score data you see are dependent on your role; for example, a building test coordinator only sees aggregate data for their associated school(s).

Aggregation tables that appear on the *Homepage Dashboard* display score data for students by grade and subject and provide access to more detailed subject score reports. Click the corresponding grade or subject cell that contains a value from the table. For example, if you want to view the Ohio's State Tests subject detail report for Grade 3 English language arts, click the "Number of Students Tested" or "Percent Proficient" buttons in the Grade 3 English language arts row.

Figure 1. Homepage Dashboard



Three radio buttons on the homepage dashboard allow district and school personnel to view reports for student populations who fit any one of the three criteria based on enrollment. The enrollment used by this feature is based on student information in TIDE.

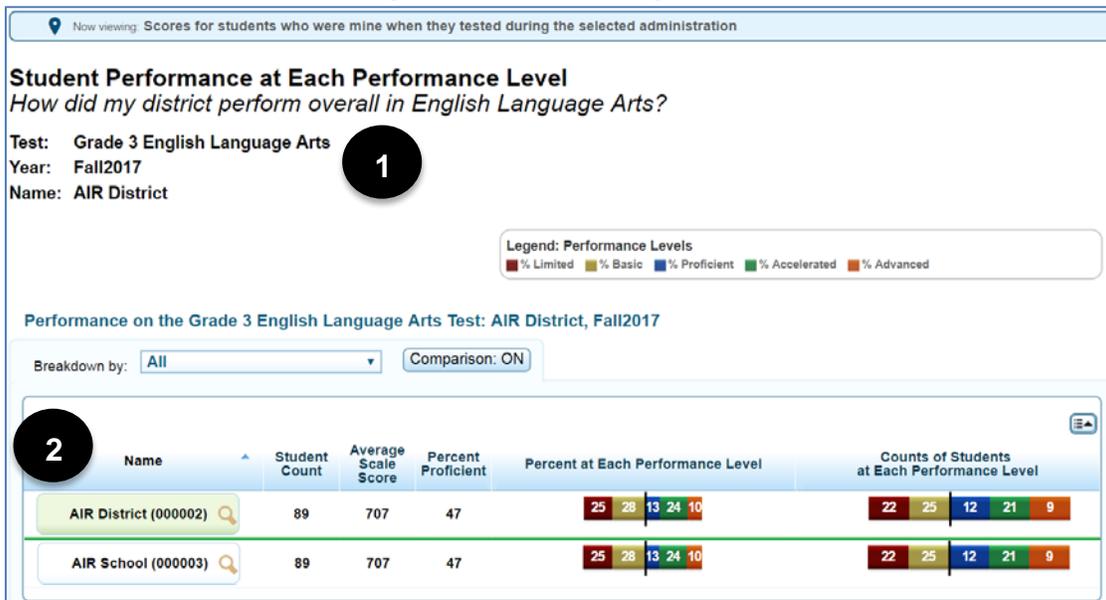
- **Scores for students who were mine at the end of the selected administration:** Results for students who were enrolled in your school or district at the end of an administration, regardless of where that student is currently enrolled. This allows districts to see results for students that transferred to their district after testing.
- **Scores for my current students:** Results for students who are currently enrolled in your school or district, that tested in any school or district in Ohio for the administration. This is useful for Joint Vocational School Districts and Career Technology Centers that need to view scores for incoming students.
- **Scores for students who were mine when they tested during the selected administration:** Results for students who tested in your school or district for the administration, regardless of where that student is currently enrolled. This is the default option and is traditionally how reports are presented in Ohio.

More information is available in the ORS User Guide which is available on the portal.

### School Listing Report

The *School Listing Report* is the default for district-level users and shows data for the grade and subject selected on the *Homepage Dashboard*. A school's performance data in the selected grade and subject appears together with the associated district and state performances in the selected grade and subject for the purpose of comparison. Authorized district-level users can view the data for each school in their district.

Figure 2. School Listing Report



- 1. Top of Reports:** The title of the report is printed here identifying the test, administration year, and district or school name.
- 2. Bottom of Reports:** This section displays the student count, average scale score, percent proficient, percent at each performance level and count of students at each performance level.

You can navigate from one score report to another using the exploration menu. Click the magnifying glass symbol next to the school name to open the exploration menu. From the exploration menu drop-down lists, select the report criteria that you wish to view.

Figure 3. Exploration Menu

AIR School (000003)

Subject: English Language Arts

Grade: Grade 3

Who: Personnel

What: Subject

When: Current Admin

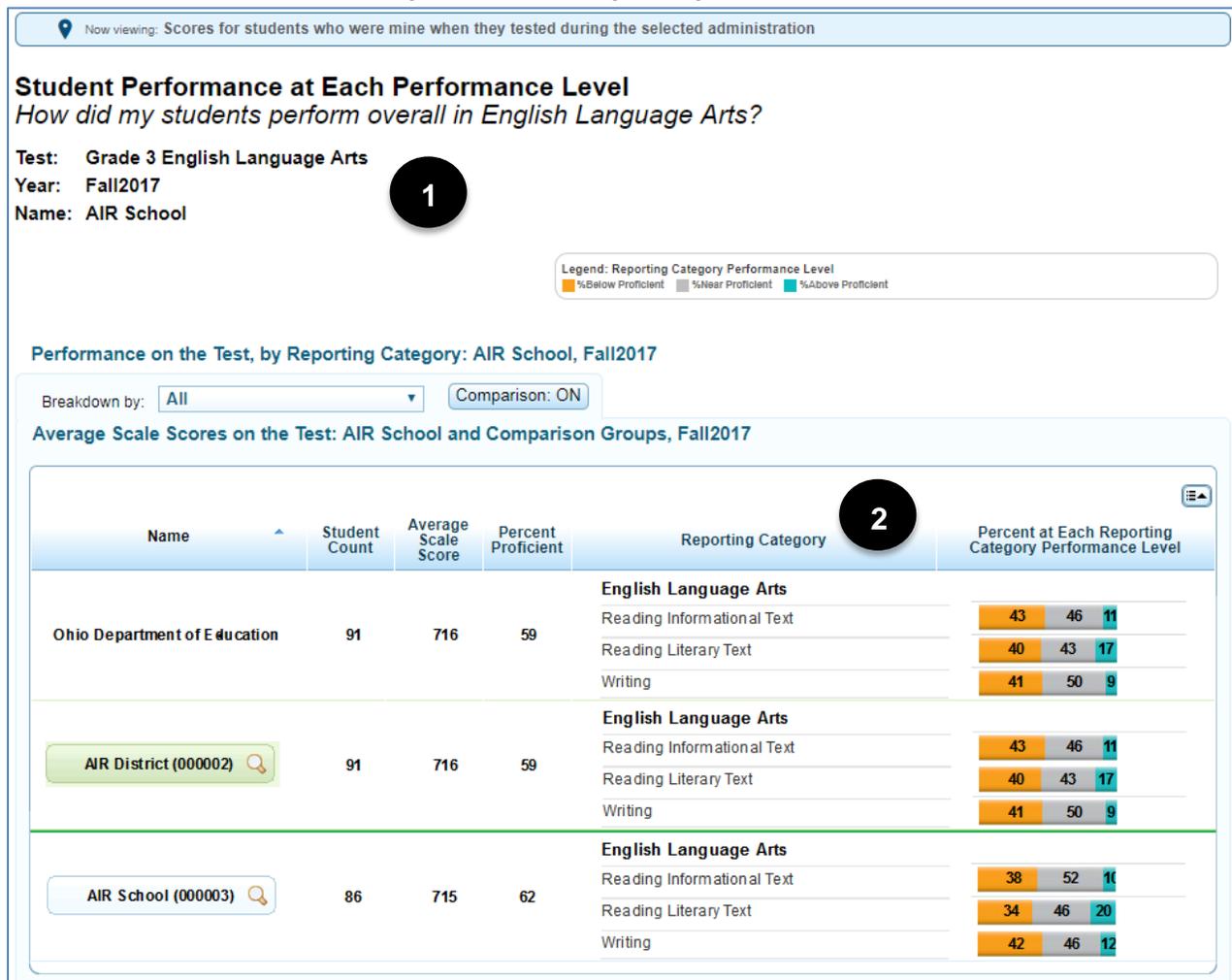
View

Using the exploration menu, you can navigate to any report by making different selections under the available dimensions. However, the options that are available in the drop-down lists depend on your user role, the report you are viewing and the entity level where you have opened the exploration menu. For more information regarding the exploration menu, consult the [Online Reporting System User Guide](#).

## Reporting Categories Report

The *Reporting Categories Report* shows the percentage of your students in each reporting category indicator. To navigate to the *Reporting Categories Report*, click the magnifying glass symbol next to the school name in the School Listing Report. The exploration menu appears. On the exploration menu, use the drop-down lists to select the appropriate subject area, grade level, and report level. Then select Reporting Categories from the What dropdown and Current Admin from the When dropdown. Click View.

Figure 4. Reporting Categories Report



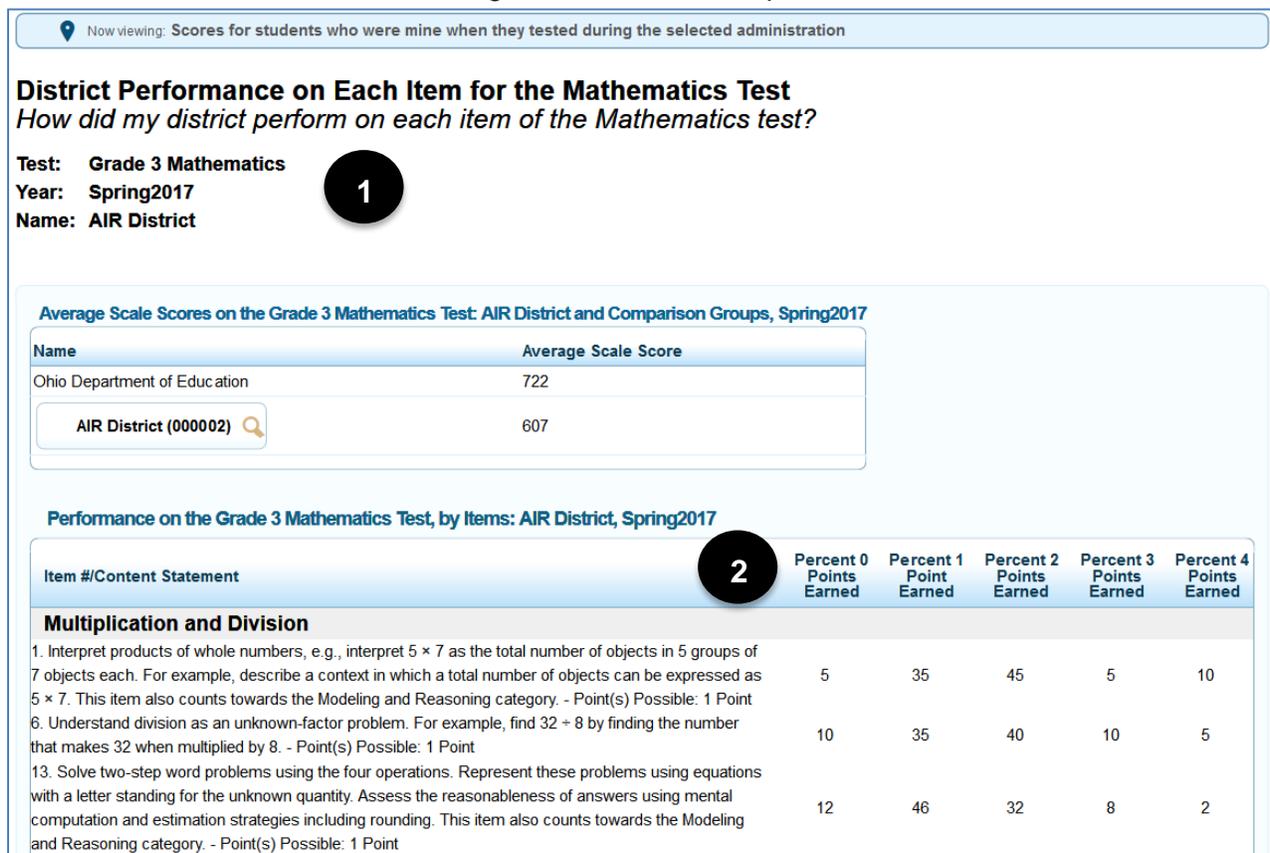
- Top of Reports:** The title of the report is printed here identifying the test, administration year and school name.
- Bottom of Reports:** This section displays the student count, average scale score, percent proficient and percentage of students in each reporting category indicator. Refer to the legend on the top of the report to understand the data represented.

## Item Level Report

The *Items Report* show the performance on each operational item for the selected test. To navigate to the *Item Level Report*, click the magnifying glass symbol next to the school name in the School Listing Report. The exploration menu appears. On the exploration menu, use the drop-down lists to select the appropriate subject area, grade level, and report level. Then select Items from the What dropdown and Current Admin from the When dropdown. Click View.

**Note:** These reports are only available for Ohio's State Tests for Mathematics, Science and Social Studies beginning with the Spring 2017 administration and for English Language Arts beginning with the Fall 2017 administration. Students that have tested on paper, large print, braille or breach will not be included in the percentages of this report.

Figure 5. Item Level Report



- 1. Top of Reports:** The title of the report is printed here identifying the test, administration year and entity name.
- 2. Bottom of Reports:** This section displays the item number and content statement for each operational item on the test and the percent [#] points earned for each item.

**Note:** The content statement may be repeated since a test may include more than one item associated with the same standard. Also, the item numbers may not appear chronologically as they are organized on the basis of the reporting categories with which they are associated.

## Student Listing Report

From the *School Listing Report*, use the exploration menu to navigate to the Student Listing Report. On the exploration menu, use the drop-down lists to select the appropriate subject area, grade level, and report level. Then select Student from the Who dropdown and Current Admin from the When dropdown.

The *Student Listing Report* displays all the students associated with the selected school, personnel or roster who have completed the selected test, in addition to any students who were assigned a condition code.

Figure 6. Student Listing Report

Now viewing: Scores for students who were mine when they tested during the selected administration

### Student Performance on Each Performance Level

*How did my students perform overall in English Language Arts?*

Test: Grade 3 English Language Arts  
Year: Fall2017  
Name: AIR School

Breakdown by: All Go

#### Average Scale Scores on the Test: AIR School and Comparison Groups, Fall2017

Name	Average Scale Score
Ohio Department of Education	689
AIR District (000002)	707
AIR School (000003)	707

#### Performance on the Test, by Student: AIR School, Fall2017

Name	SSID	Scale Score	Performance Level
Student A	ZZ1234567	610	Limited
Student B	ZZ2345678	740	Accelerated
Student C	ZZ3456789	718	Proficient
Student D	ZZ4567891	675	Basic
Student E	ZZ5678912	821	Advanced

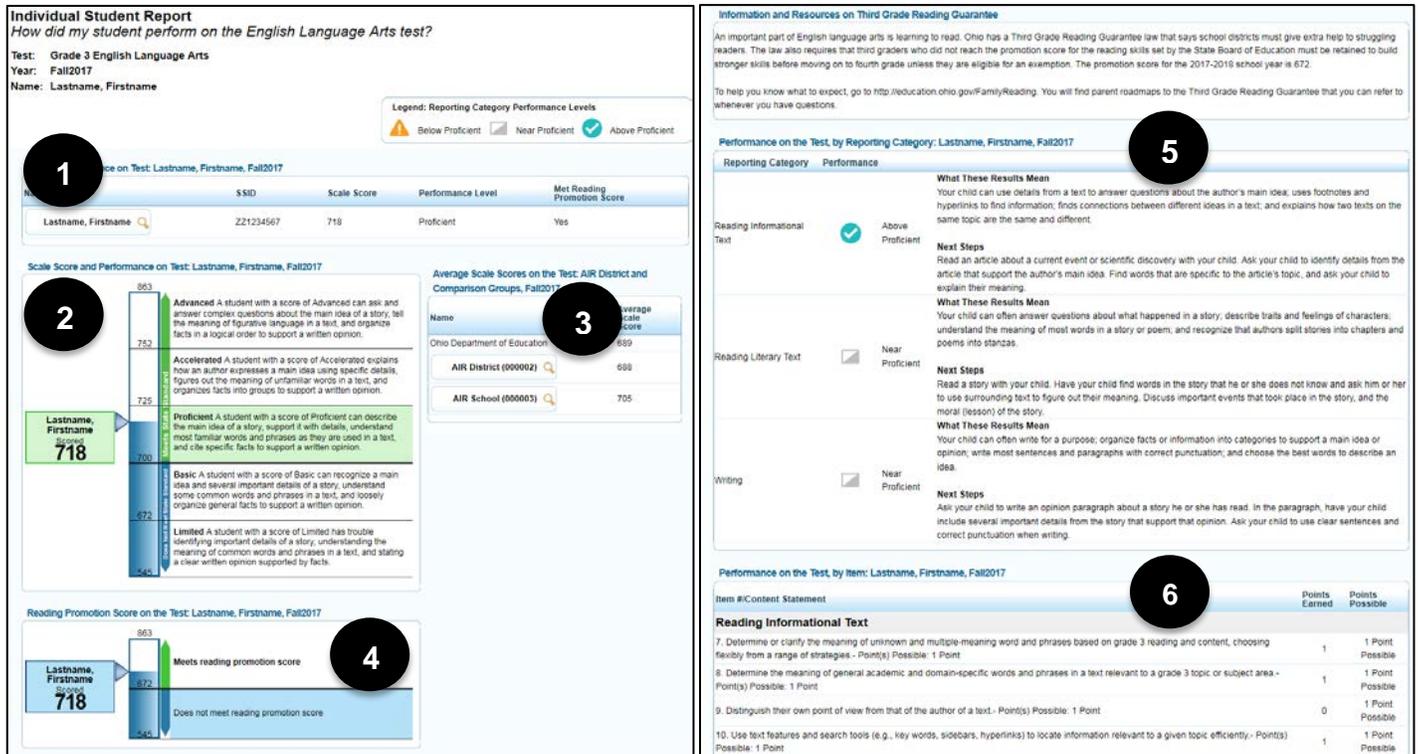
- 1. Top of Reports:** The title of the report is printed here identifying the test, administration year and school name.
- 2. Bottom of Reports:** This section displays each individual student by name, SSID, scale score and performance level.

## Individual Student Report

The *Individual Student Report* displays the student's scale score and performance level for the selected subject. The report includes a graphical representation of a student's performance and text explaining what the achieved performance level means and possible next steps. The report includes average scale scores for the state, district and school for comparison purposes.

From the *Student Listing Report*, use the exploration menu to navigate to the Student Listing Report. On the exploration menu, use the drop-down lists to select the appropriate subject area and grade level. Then select Student from the Who dropdown, select a report type from the What dropdown and select Current Admin from the When dropdown.

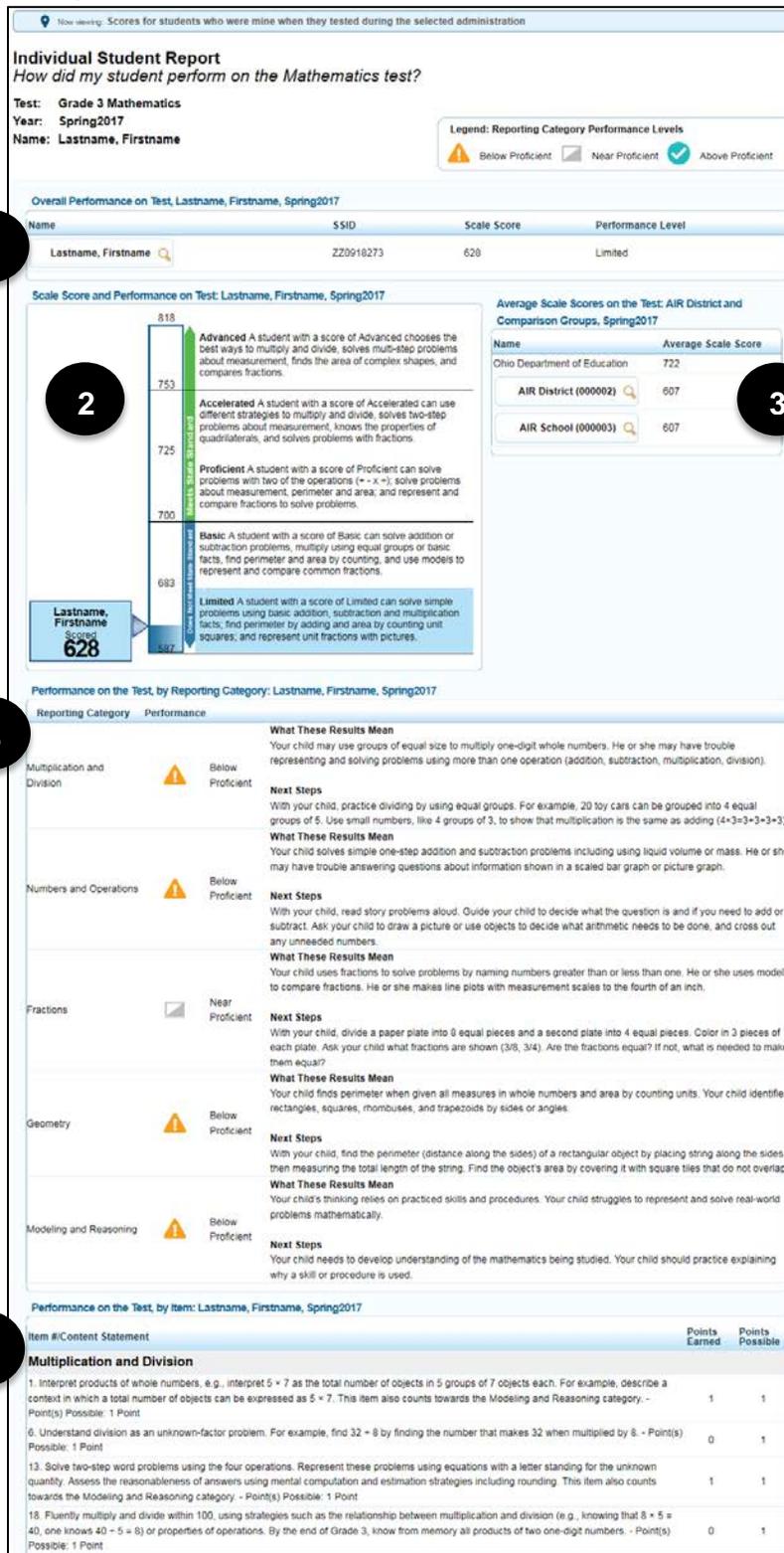
Figure 7. Individual Student Report for Grade 3 English language arts



- 1. Student Information** — The table includes the student's name, SSID, overall scale score and performance level. For grade 3 ELA the reading promotion status will also be displayed.
- 2. Scale Score and Overall Performance** — The barrel chart visually depicts the student's performance level based on his or her overall scale score. It also includes a brief description of the student's performance level.
- 3. Comparison Scores** — The Comparison Scores table includes the average scale score for the state, district and school with which the student is associated.
- 4. Third Grade Reading Guarantee** — This table includes information about the Third Grade Reading Guarantee requirements, including the reading promotion score. For more information for the reading promotion score and status, please refer to the glossary in this document.

- 5. Student Test Performance** — The Student Test Performance by Reporting Category table includes two elements. First, the table lists the student’s indicators for each reporting category. Refer to the legend on the top of the report to understand the data represented. Second, the *What These Results Mean* and *Next Steps* text provides a detailed explanation of the student’s skills based on the achieved performance level and provides guidance on advancing the student’s capabilities.
- 6. Item Level Data** – The Student Test Performance by Item table includes the student’s performance on each operational item. To the left of the table the item number and description of the content statement for each item included for the standard is shown. Item content is not included. To the right of the table is the points earned and total points possible for each item. This data is only available for students that tested with the regular online form. This report will display “N/A” for each item for students that tested with a Breach, paper, or special version form. Students can earn between zero and ten points on writing items. Per the writing rubric, students can earn zero to four points on the Purpose, Focus, and Organization dimension; zero to four points on the Evidence and Elaboration dimension; and zero to two points on the Conventions of Standard English dimension. Writing items have three rows on the item level report – one for each of the writing dimensions. In some cases when a student receives no points for a writing item, one of the condition codes listed below may appear for one or more of the dimension scores. These codes help to better understand the reason the student received no points. For more information on these condition codes, refer to the document *How a student can earn a zero on a written response* on ODE’s website [here](#).
- Blank Response
  - Not Enough Data
  - Not Enough Original text
  - Repetitive Text
  - Foreign Language Response
  - Unreadable Response
  - Off Topic Response

Figure 8. Individual Student Report – All Other Subjects



- 1. Student Information** — The table includes the student's name, SSID, overall scale score and performance level.
- 2. Scale Score and Overall Performance** — The barrel chart visually depicts the student's performance level based on his or her overall scale score. It also includes a brief description of the student's performance level.

3. **Comparison Scores** — The Comparison Scores table includes the average scale score for the state, district and school with which the student is associated.
4. **Student Test Performance** — The Student Test Performance by Reporting Category table includes two elements. First, the table lists the student’s indicators for each reporting category. Refer to the legend on the top of the report to understand the data represented. Second, the *What These Results Mean* and *Next Steps* text provides a detailed explanation of the student’s skills based on the achieved performance level and provides guidance on advancing the student’s capabilities.
5. **Item Level Data** – The Student Test Performance by Item table includes the student’s performance on each operational item. To the left of the table the item number and description of the content statement for each item included for the standard is shown. Item content is not included. To the right of the table is the points earned and total points possible for each item. This data is only available for students that tested with the regular online form. This report will display “N/A” for each item for students that tested with a Breach, paper, or special version form. Students can earn between zero and ten points on writing items. Per the writing rubric, students can earn zero to four points on the Purpose, Focus, and Organization dimension; zero to four points on the Evidence and Elaboration dimension; and zero to two points on the Conventions of Standard English dimension. Writing items have three rows on the item level report – one for each of the writing dimensions. In some cases when a student receives no points for a writing item, one of the condition codes listed below may appear for one or more of the dimension scores. These codes help to better understand the reason the student received no points. For more information on these condition codes, refer to the document *How a student can earn a zero on a written response* on ODE’s website [here](#).
  1. Blank Response
  2. Not Enough Data
  3. Not Enough Original text
  4. Repetitive Text
  5. Foreign Language Response
  6. Unreadable Response
  7. Off Topic Response

## Glossary

**Computer-Based Testing** — When taking the test on the computer or supported device, students make their answer choices using the mouse or keyboard, and they may use various testing tools, such as the strikethrough tool or the highlighter tool, as they work. Once they complete the test, they submit their answers electronically. Before exiting the assessment and submitting their responses, the program takes students to a screen that identifies questions that are answered, unanswered and marked for review.

**Items** — Test questions that students are required to answer.

**Ohio's Learning Standards** — Ohio's Learning Standards define expectations for student learning in Ohio's classrooms. Find information about Ohio's Learning Standards on the Ohio Department of Education website at [education.ohio.gov](http://education.ohio.gov).

**Performance Level** — Ohio reports five performance levels (or standards): Limited, Basic, Proficient, Accelerated or Advanced.

**Performance Level Descriptors** — Each subject has its own specific descriptions of each performance level. Performance Level Descriptors for all content areas may be found on the [Reporting Resources](#) page of the Ohio's State Tests portal.

**Reading Promotion Score** — The reading promotion score is used to determine if the student satisfied the requirements of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee. This only applies to grade 3 English language arts.

**Reading Promotion Status** — Ohio has a Third Grade Reading Guarantee law that says school districts must give extra help to struggling readers. The law also requires that third graders who do not reach the promotion score set by the State Board of Education must be retained to build stronger skills before moving on to fourth grade unless they are eligible for an exemption. The 2017-2018 promotion score for the Third Grade Reading Guarantee is a grade 3 English language arts scale score of 672.

**Reporting Category** — Reporting categories represent groups of similar student skills or content standards assessed within each grade and subject.

**Reporting Category Indicators** — The report shows student performance on the subset of items associated with a reporting category with an indicator, rather than with scale scores. These indicators are *below proficient*, *near proficient* and *above proficient*.

**Scale Score** — A scale score is a conversion of a student's raw score on a test to a common scale that allows for a numerical comparison between students. For example, we can compare scale scores for students who took the Algebra I test this year with those who will take this text next year. Scale scores are not comparable across different subjects.

**SSID** — Statewide student identifier