



Report Interpretation Guide 2026

Spring Summative Assessments

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1.0 General Information for Parents and Educators

1.1 BIE Assessment Administration and Content

The BIE English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics assessments are administered in computer-based (CBT) or paper-based (PBT) formats.

- **ELA:** Measures students' ability to read, analyze texts, and communicate effectively in writing.
- **Mathematics:** Measures students' ability to apply concepts, solve multistep problems, reason abstractly, model real-world situations, and use mathematical tools strategically and precisely.

Students demonstrate their knowledge and skills through multiple-choice, selected-response, fill-in-the-blank, technology-enhanced, and constructed-response items.

2026 marked the first (base) year of new BIE summative English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics tests and accompanying reporting scales. While still reflective of the College and Career Readiness Standards, the 2026 tests were shorter than those previously administered, though follow similar blueprints. In addition to new tests, new performance expectations were established, new standards were set to define performance levels, and new reporting scale ranges were established. As such, results should be used to track progress in future years rather than compared with prior-year results.

* Visit [Standards | Bureau of Indian Education](#) for more information.

1.2 BIE Educator Involvement and Ownership

BIE educators, working in partnership with Pearson and BIE, helped shape the 2026 Summative Assessments through item writing and review, development of performance-level descriptors, and standard setting. Their expertise ensures the assessment content and performance expectations reflect BIE standards, classroom experiences, and the cultural and educational contexts of BIE students.

1.3 Confidentiality of Reporting Results

Individual student performance results on BIE assessments are confidential and may be released only in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. Section 1232g).

Aggregated student performance data are made available to the public and do not contain the names of individual students or teachers.

1.4 Purpose of this Guide

This guide provides information on the individual student reports and school reports, provided for BIE results.

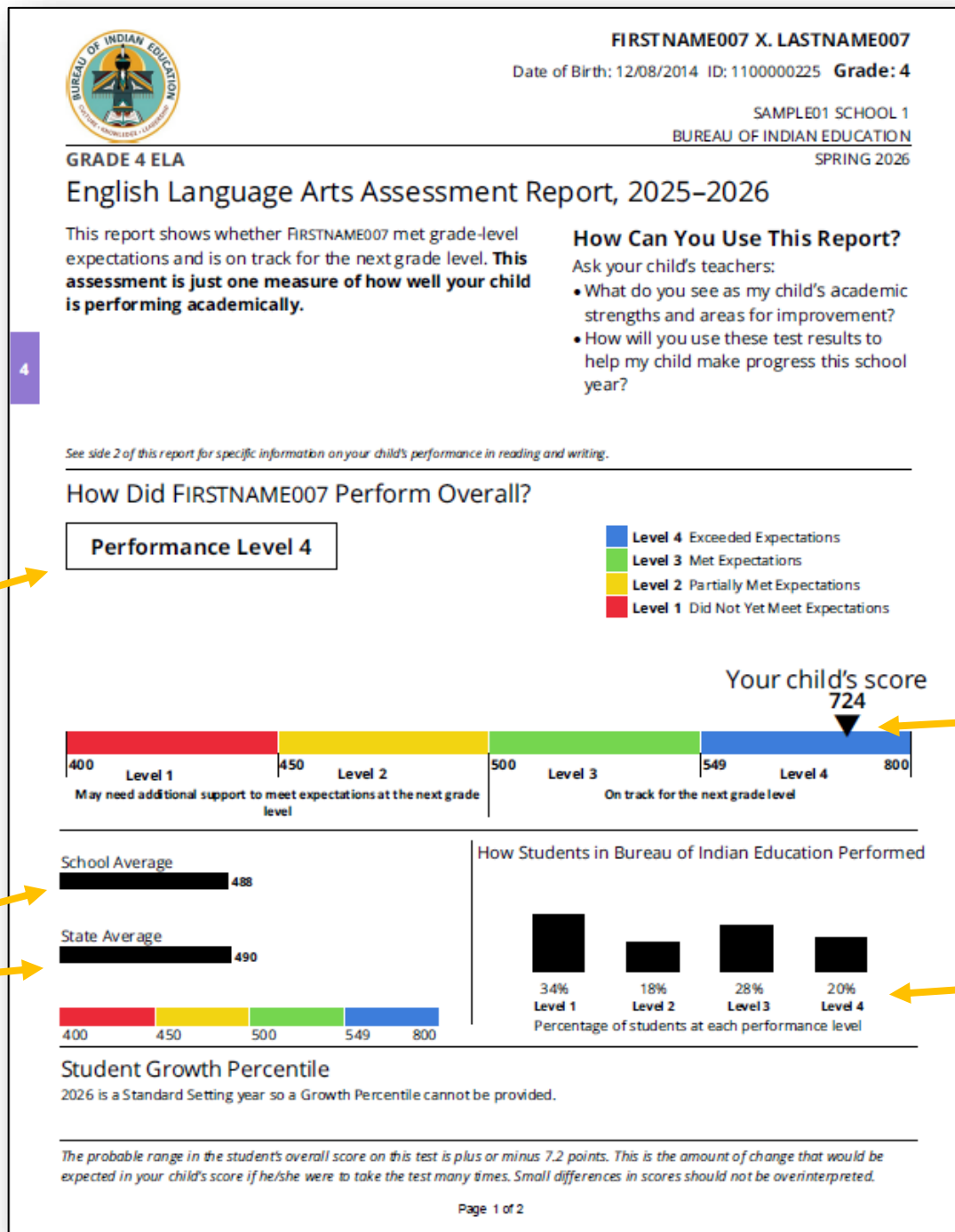
[Section 2.0](#) explains the elements of the individual student report and may be shared with parents to help them understand their child's test results.

[Section 3.0](#) outlines and explains elements of the school reports.

Sample reports included in this guide are for illustration purposes only. They are provided to show the basic layout of the reports and the information they provide. Sample reports do not include actual data from the summative test administration

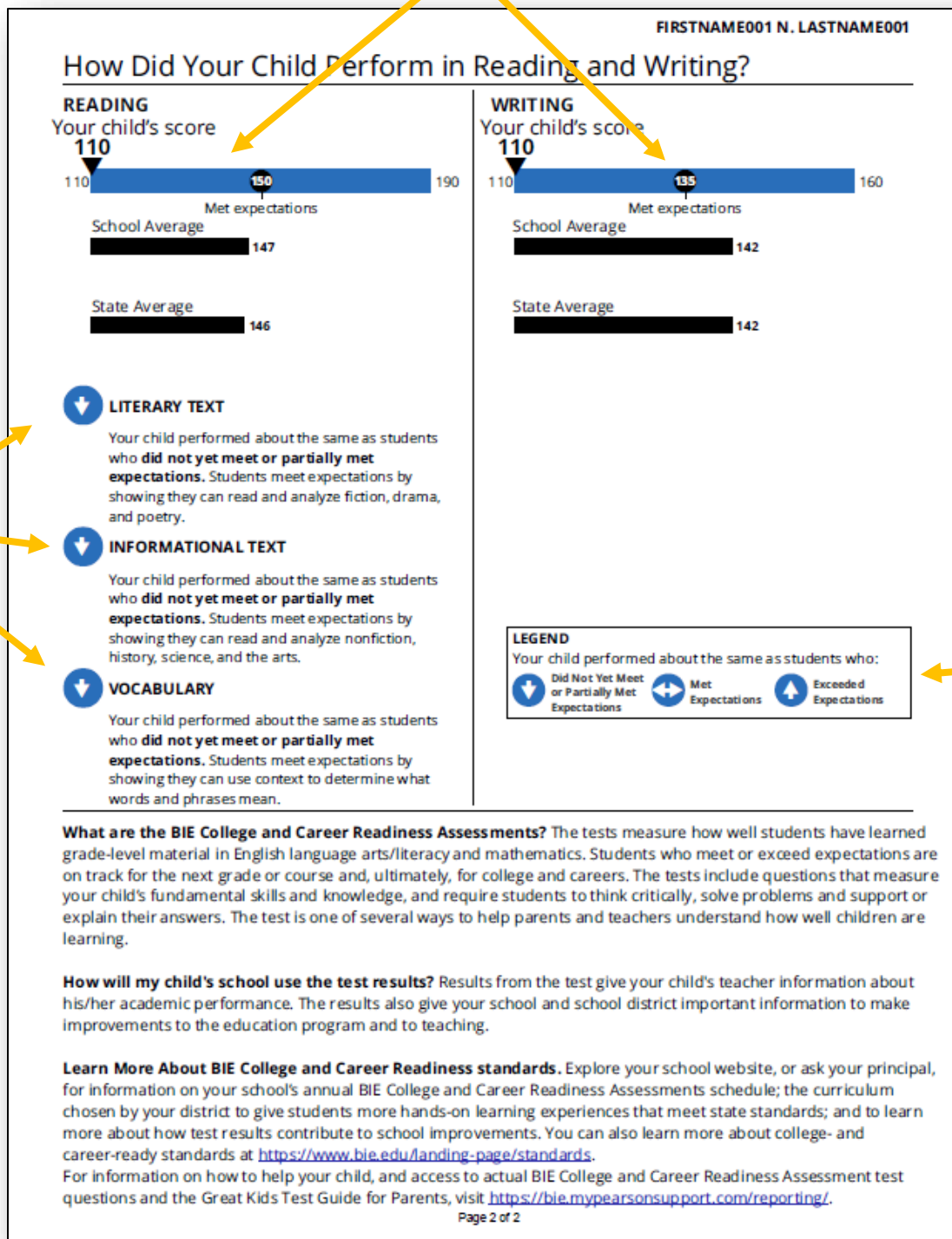
2.0 Understanding the Individual Student Report (ISR)

2.1 ELA Individual Student Report Sample



*Sample reports are for illustration only and do not include actual test administration data.

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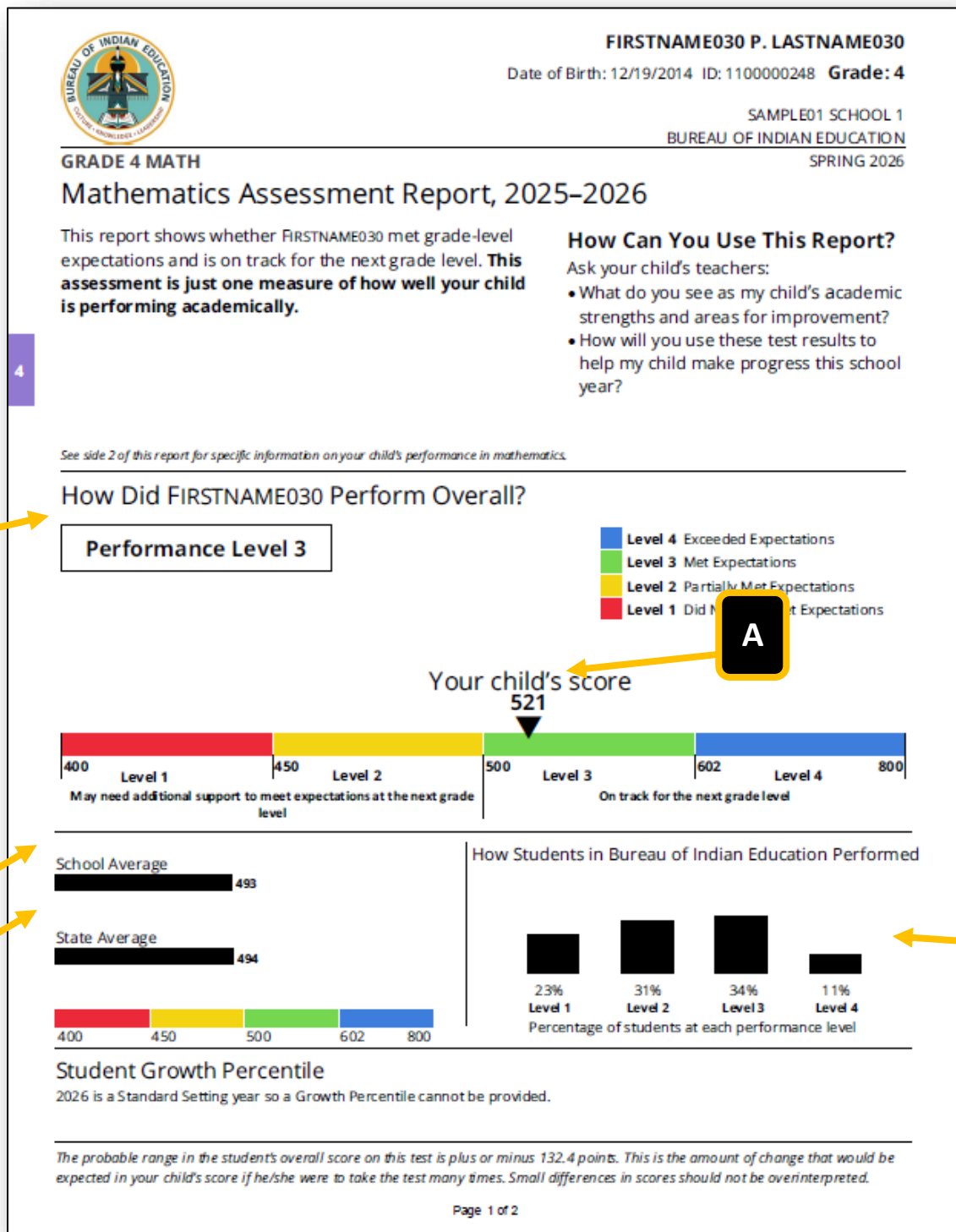


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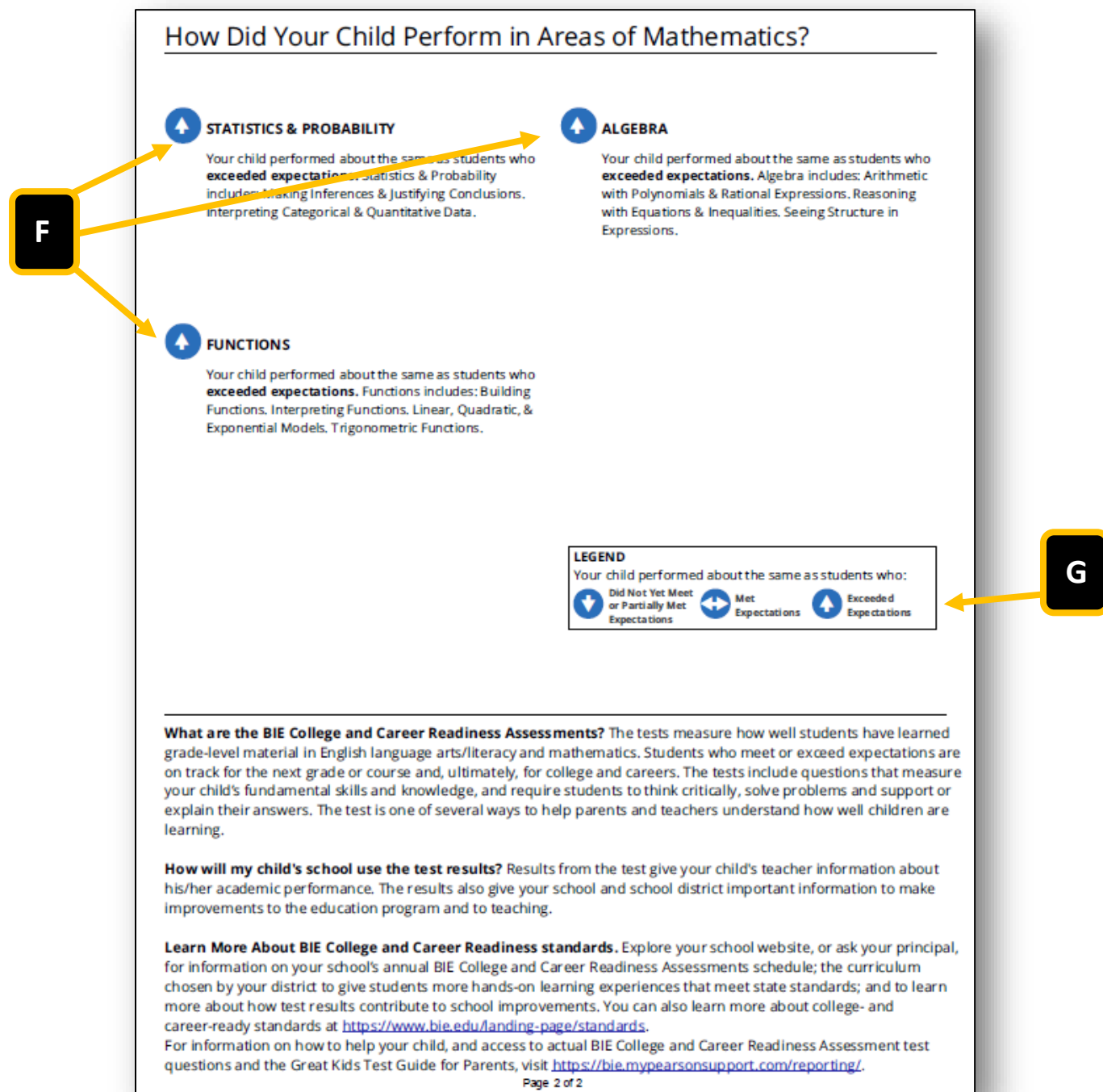
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**Sample reports are for illustration only and do not include actual test administration data.*

2.2 Mathematics Individual Student Report Sample



* Sample reports are for illustration only and do not include actual test administration data.



* Mathematics reports do not include claim scale scores (E).

* Mathematics domains vary by grade. Refer to [G. Performance by Mathematics Domains](#)

* Sample reports are for illustration only and do not include actual test administration data.

2.3 Types of Results on the ISR

The **Individual Student Report (ISR)** summarizes student performance on BIE assessments through **scale scores**, **performance levels**, **ELA claims** and **subclaims**, and **Mathematics domains**.

State and **School** average results are included in the report to help parents understand how their child's performance compares to that of other students.

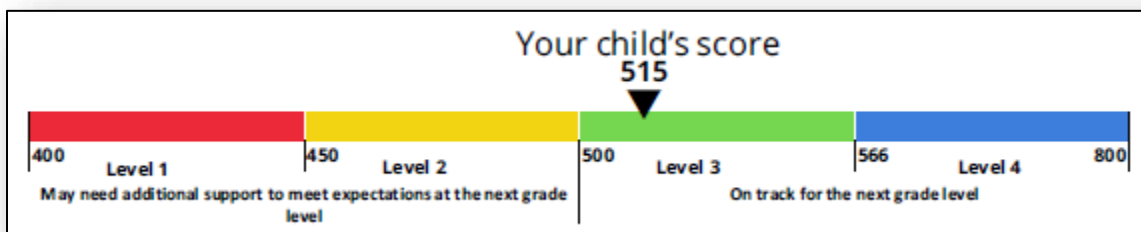
- State → Bureau of Indian Education
- School → Local Education Agency (LEA)

* 2026 is a standard-setting year and new performance-level cut scores have been established. As a result, Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs) are not calculated for spring 2026.

A. Scale Scores

A **Scale Score** is a standardized score that converts a raw test result into a common scale, allowing fair comparisons across different test forms and difficulty levels. Because students may receive different test forms within or across administrations that vary slightly in difficulty, adjustments are made to account for these differences and allow for the standard scale score interpretations to be stable over time within the same grade and subject test.

Students receive overall scale scores in ELA and Mathematics, which determine their placement in one of four performance levels. ([B. Performance Levels](#))



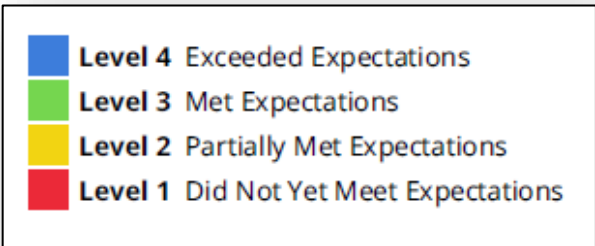
Scale scores range from 400 to 800 for all tests

Although all tests use the same scale reporting ranges, the **scale score ranges** for each performance level vary by grade and subject. ([Appendix A: Scale Score Range & Cut Scores](#))

B. Performance Levels

A **Performance Level** refers to a defined score range that reflects the quality of student performance in relation to grade-level expectations. A student's overall scale score will determine which performance level their score falls within.

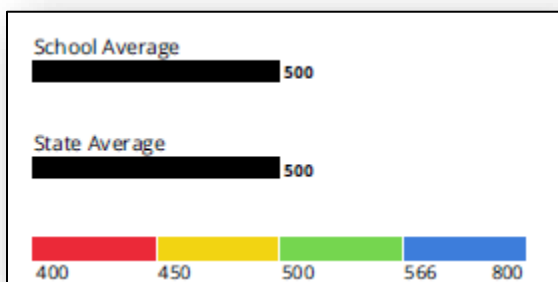
Each performance level is defined by a specific range of overall scale scores. BIE Assessments use four performance levels.

Students at <u>performance levels 3 and 4</u> have shown readiness for the next grade or course and are likely progressing toward college and career readiness.	
Students at <u>performance levels 1 and 2</u> have not yet met grade-level expectations and will likely need additional instructional support.	

The graphic shows the four performance levels and where the student's overall score falls on the performance scale. A black triangle marks the student's score, and the scale score ranges for each performance level appear below the graphic ([Appendix A: Scale Score Range & Cut Scores](#)).

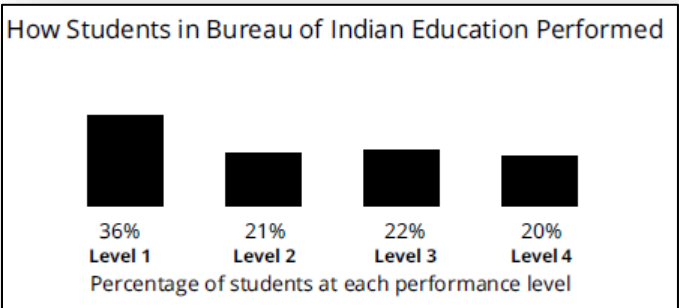
C. Average Overall Scale Scores per School and State

The **Average Overall Scale Scores** of the school and state are shown below the student's overall scale score and performance level graphic. This allows for comparing a student's overall scale score to the average overall scale score of students at the school and state levels for the same grade level and content area.



D. Percentage of BIE Students at each Performance Level

The **Percentage of BIE Students at each Performance Level** section uses a bar graph to show the percentage of BIE students performing at each of the four performance levels.



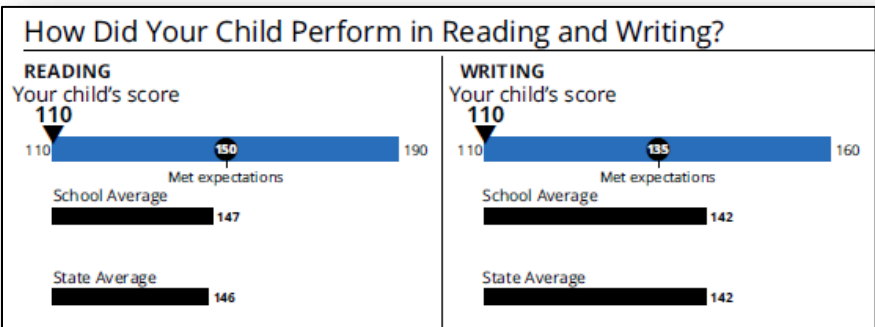
E. Performance by Reading & Writing Claim Scale Score

The **Performance by Reading & Writing Claim Scale Scores** are shown on a scale that differs from the overall scale score. Because these scales are separate, the Reading and Writing scale scores do not add up to the overall scale score. This section reports claim scale scores for Reading and for Writing.

Like overall scale scores, claim scale scores estimate student proficiency on a common measurement scale.

- For the Reading Claim, the scale score range is 110-190.
- For the Writing Claim, the scale score range 110-160.

A student is considered to have met expectations in a claim by earning a score of 150 in Reading or 135 in Writing.



F. Performance by ELA Subclaims or Mathematics Domains

ELA Subclaims

For ELA there are specific skill sets (**subclaims**) students demonstrate on the assessments.

Reading Subclaims	Writing Subclaims
▪ Literary Text	N/A
▪ Informational Text	
▪ Vocabulary	

Each subclaim includes a header and explanatory icon representing the student's performance.

LEGEND
Your child performed about the same as students who:

 Did Not Yet Meet
or Partially Met
Expectations

 Met
Expectations

 Exceeded
Expectations

Mathematics reports do not include claim scale scores or subclaims.

Mathematics Domains

For Mathematics there are specific skill sets (**domains**) students may demonstrate in the assessments.

Mathematics Domains	
Grade 3	▪ Operations & Algebraic Thinking ▪ Number & Operations in Base Ten ▪ Number & Operations—Fractions ▪ Measurement & Data
Grade 4	▪ Operations & Algebraic Thinking ▪ Number & Operations in Base Ten ▪ Number & Operations—Fractions ▪ Measurement & Data
Grade 5	▪ Number & Operations in Base Ten ▪ Number & Operations—Fractions ▪ Measurement & Data ▪ Geometry
Grade 6	▪ Ratios & Proportional Relationships ▪ The Number System ▪ Expressions & Equations ▪ Statistics & Probability
Grade 7	▪ Ratios & Proportional Relationships ▪ The Number System ▪ Expressions & Equations ▪ Statistics & Probability
Grade 8	▪ Functions ▪ Expressions & Equations ▪ Geometry ▪ Statistics & Probability
Algebra II	▪ Statistics & Probability ▪ Algebra ▪ Functions

Each domain includes a header and explanatory icon representing the student's performance.

LEGEND
Your child performed about the same as students who:

 Did Not Yet Meet or Partially Met Expectations

 Met Expectations

 Exceeded Expectations

G. Description of Graphics & Performance Indicators

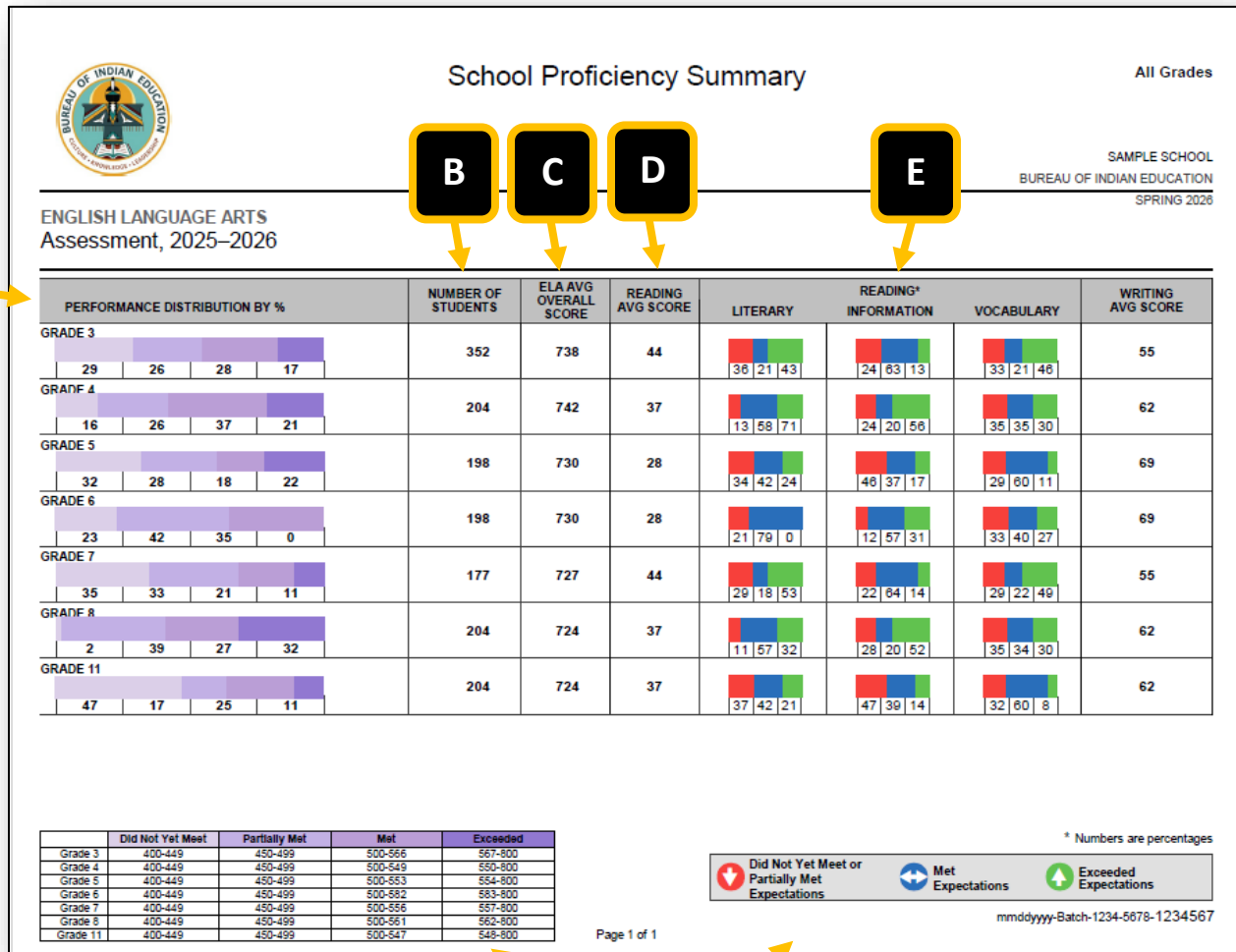
Performance indicators show how students performed on ELA subclaims and Mathematics domains.

	An up arrow indicates that the student “Exceeded Expectations,” meaning that the student’s subclaim performance reflects a level of proficiency consistent with <u>Performance Level 4</u>. <i>* Students in this subclaim category are likely academically well prepared to engage successfully in further studies in the subclaim content area and may need instructional enrichment.</i>
	A bidirectional arrow indicates that the student “Met Expectations,” meaning that the student's subclaim performance reflects a level of proficiency consistent with <u>Performance Level 3</u>. <i>* Students in this subclaim category likely need academic support to engage successfully in further studies in the subclaim content area.</i>
	A down arrow indicates that the student “Did Not Yet Meet or Partially Met Expectations,” meaning that the student’s subclaim performance reflects a level of proficiency consistent with <u>Performance Level 1 or 2</u>. <i>* Students in this subclaim category are likely not academically well prepared to engage successfully in further studies in the subclaim content area. Such students likely need instructional interventions to increase achievement in the subclaim content area.</i>

3.0 Understanding the School Proficiency Summary

The **School Proficiency Summary** provides a school-level view of how students performed on the ELA and Mathematics assessments by grade.

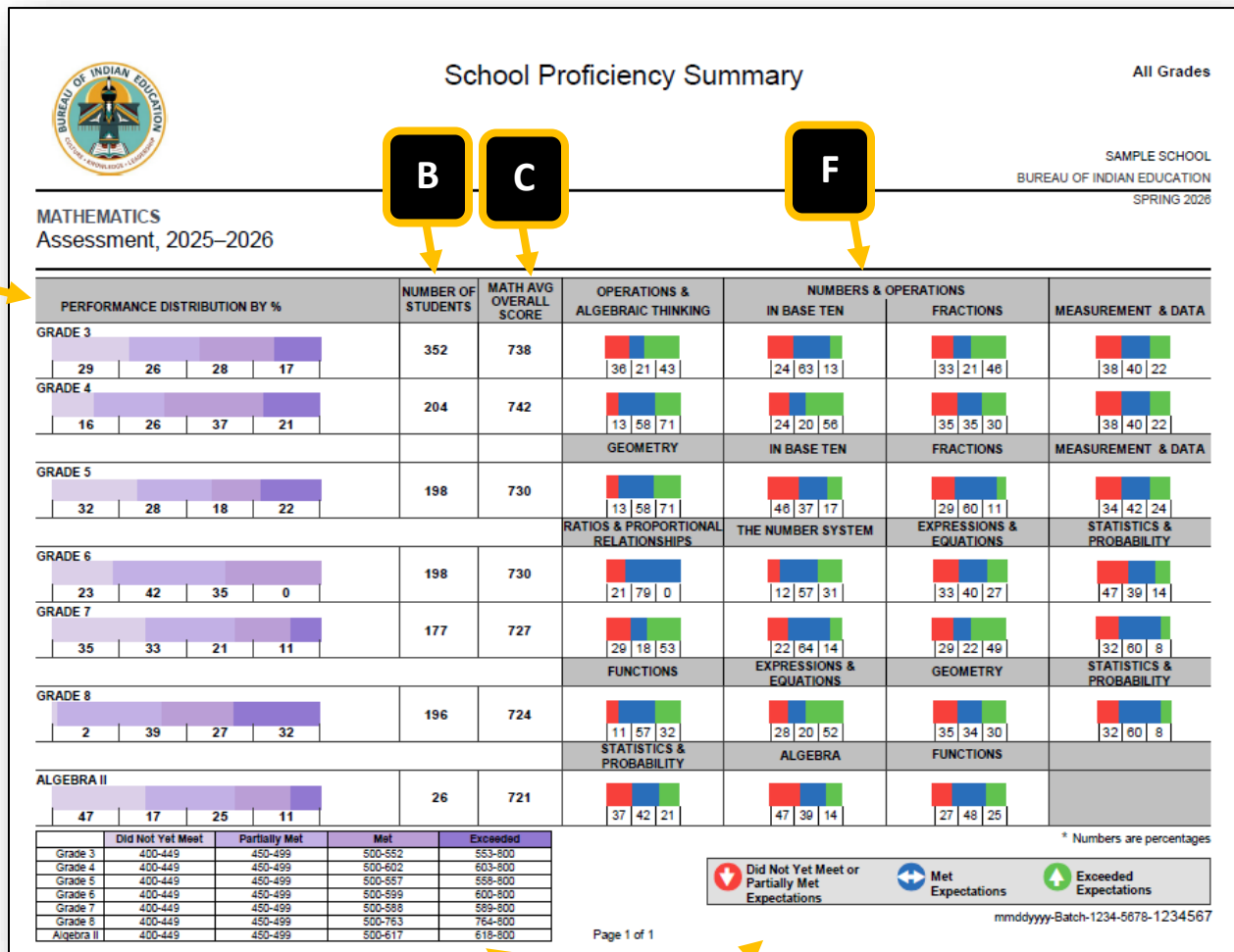
3.1 ELA School Proficiency Summary Sample



* ELA reports do not include domains (F).

* Sample reports are for illustration only and do not include actual test administration data.

3.2 Mathematics School Proficiency Sample



* Mathematics reports do not include claim scale scores (D) or subclaims (E).

* Sample reports are for illustration only and do not include actual test administration data.

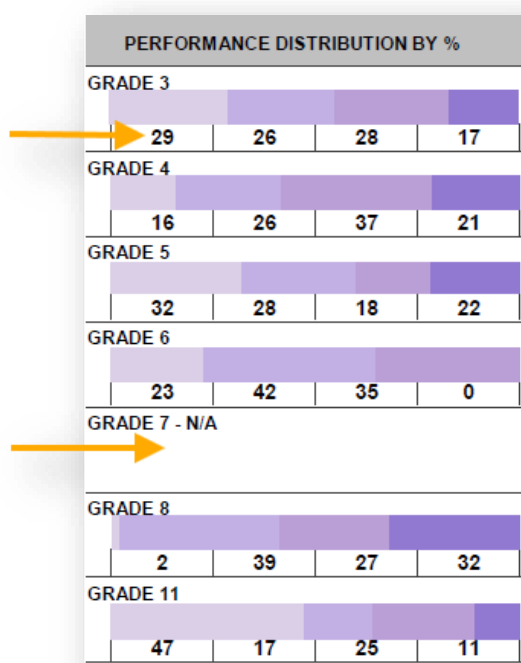
3.3 Types of Scores on the School Proficiency Summary

A. Performance Distribution by %

The **Performance Distribution** section displays the percentage of students in each grade who performed at each of the four performance levels.

B. Number of Students

The **Number of Students** section displays how many students' results are included for each grade; grades with no testers may display "N/A."



C. Average Overall Score per School

The **Average Overall Score** displays the average ELA or Mathematics scale score for students in each grade, providing an overall measure of grade-level performance.

D. Reading and Writing Average Scores

The Reading and Writing Average Scores show the average percentage of available points earned in each major reporting category.

- **Reading Average Score** reflects student performance on reading assessment items.
- **Writing Average Score** reflects student performance on writing assessment items.

E. ELA Reading Subclaims

The **Reading Subclaims** break down reading performance into specific skill areas:

- **Literary:** Measures students' ability to comprehend and analyze literary texts.
- **Information:** Measures students' ability to comprehend and analyze informational texts.
- **Vocabulary:** Measures students' understanding of word meanings and vocabulary use.

F. Mathematics Domains

Mathematics domains break down mathematics performance into specific skill areas:

Mathematics Domains	
Grade 3	▪ Operations & Algebraic Thinking ▪ Number & Operations in Base Ten ▪ Number & Operations—Fractions ▪ Measurement & Data
Grade 4	▪ Operations & Algebraic Thinking ▪ Number & Operations in Base Ten ▪ Number & Operations—Fractions ▪ Measurement & Data
Grade 5	▪ Number & Operations in Base Ten ▪ Number & Operations—Fractions ▪ Measurement & Data ▪ Geometry
Grade 6	▪ Ratios & Proportional Relationships ▪ The Number System ▪ Expressions & Equations ▪ Statistics & Probability
Grade 7	▪ Ratios & Proportional Relationships ▪ The Number System ▪ Expressions & Equations ▪ Statistics & Probability
Grade 8	▪ Functions ▪ Expressions & Equations ▪ Geometry ▪ Statistics & Probability
Algebra II	▪ Statistics & Probability ▪ Algebra ▪ Functions

G. Description of Graphics and Performance Indicators

For the **Performance Distributions by %**, the purple bars show the percentage of students in each grade who performed at each performance level.

Did Not Yet Meet	Partially Met	Met	Exceeded
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For each **ELA subclaim** and **Mathematics domain**, the colored bars show the percentage of students who:

- Red**  Did Not Yet Meet or Partially Met Expectations
- Blue**  Met Expectations
- Green**  Exceeded Expectations

 Did Not Yet Meet or Partially Met Expectations	 Met Expectations	 Exceeded Expectations
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Appendix A: Scale Score Ranges

Test	Grade	Scale Score Ranges		Performance Level	
ELA	03	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	565	3	
		566	800	4	
ELA	04	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	548	3	
		549	800	4	
ELA	05	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	552	3	
		553	800	4	
ELA	06	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	581	3	
		582	800	4	
ELA	07	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	555	3	
		556	800	4	
ELA	08	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	560	3	
		561	800	4	
ELA	11	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	546	3	
		547	800	4	

Test	Grade	Scale Score Ranges		Performance Level	
Math	03	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	551	3	
		552	800	4	
Math	04	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	601	3	
		602	800	4	
Math	05	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	556	3	
		557	800	4	
Math	06	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	598	3	
		599	800	4	
Math	07	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	587	3	
		588	800	4	
Math	08	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	762	3	
		763	800	4	
Math	Alg 2	400	449	1	
		450	499	2	
		500	616	3	
		617	800	4	

Note: All tests use the same scale range of 400-800. The score required for the highest performance level varies by grade and subject to ensure fair, accurate interpretation.