

Using Diagnostic and Projection Summary Reports in Making Instructional Decisions for Students

Using your Diagnostic reports, along with your Student Projection Summary reports, is of great benefit to both administrators and teachers in making instructional decisions about current students.

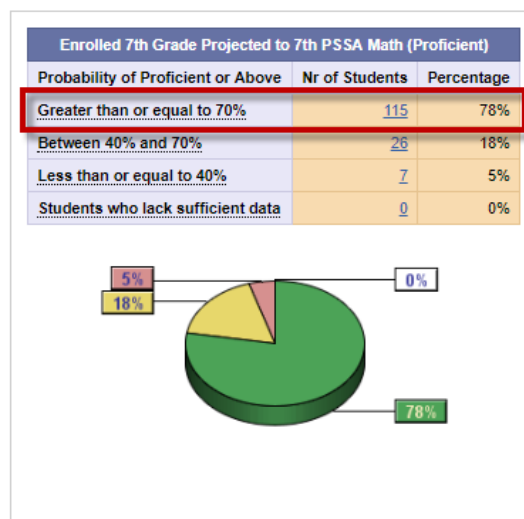
Consider the following two examples.

1. Students who are likely to reach proficiency on the next state assessment (based on PVAAS projections) and are entering a grade and subject with a history of LOW academic growth
2. Students who are *not* likely to reach proficiency on the next state assessment (based on PVAAS projections) and are entering a grade and subject with a history of HIGH academic growth

Example 1

Students who are likely to reach proficiency on the next state assessment (based on PVAAS projections) and are entering a grade and subject with a history of LOW academic growth

In the first example, a school may wish to look at their current 7th grade students and their likelihood of reaching proficiency on the PSSA Grade 7 Math assessment they will take later this school year. In this example, more than three-fourths (78%) of current 7th graders are likely to reach proficiency on the Grade 7 assessment. This is based on the Projection Summary report seen below.



When looking at the history of academic growth for students in PSSA Grade 7 Math, the school discovers a history of low growth results for students predicted to perform at a Proficient or Advanced level as seen by the Diagnostic Report (grouped by Predicted Performance Level) below. Last year and in previous years, there was evidence to indicate that students who were predicted to be Proficient or Advanced in PSSA Grade 7 Math did not meet the growth standard.

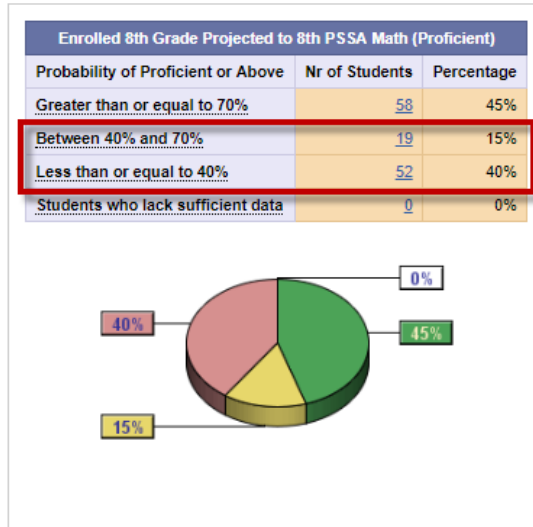


This school may wish to investigate the course content, pacing, sequencing, depth of knowledge, instructional strategies, resources, and supports for these students. While their past testing histories indicate that the majority of current 7th graders are likely to be Proficient or Advanced on the PSSA Grade 7 Math assessment, the growth results last year show growth for students predicted to be Proficient or Advanced to be less than the growth standard. Unless something changes with the educational program provided in this grade and subject, students entering Grade 7 Math at these achievement levels are not likely to make the academic growth needed to perform as predicted given their academic histories.

Example 2

Students who are not likely to reach proficiency on the next state assessment (based on PVAAS projections) and are entering a grade and subject with a history of HIGH academic growth

A school may wish to investigate students not likely to reach proficiency on the next PSSA Math assessment. Over half (71 or 55%) of the current 8th grade students are unlikely to reach proficiency based on their previous academic histories on the state assessment.



When looking at the history of academic growth for students in Grade 8, the school discovers a history of high growth results for students predicted to perform at the Below Basic or Basic performance levels as seen by the Diagnostic Report (grouped by Predicted Performance Level) below.



This school may wish to look closer at the curriculum, instruction, course selection, and interventions available for 8th grade students to ensure students are receiving appropriate instruction and support to put them on a path to proficiency, because it is as important to identify what is working as it is to identify what is not! While 55% of current 8th grade students are NOT likely to be proficient on the PSSA Grade 8 Math assessment, the history of growth results for the Grade 8 Math program are favorable to support the students in exceeding the growth standard. When this is the case, students are likely to score higher than their predictions would indicate. Educators in the school may want to reflect on what they did with prior groups of 8th grade students to accelerate their academic growth so that they can continue the practices that were effective in the past and build upon them.