



Alternate Assessment Updates

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Purpose of the District Report

- Inform districts of their overall participation rates over the past four years.
- Give districts an idea of how their rates compare with the state average, as well as other similar districts.

Sample District Report



MTAS Participation Rate

District: XYZ District

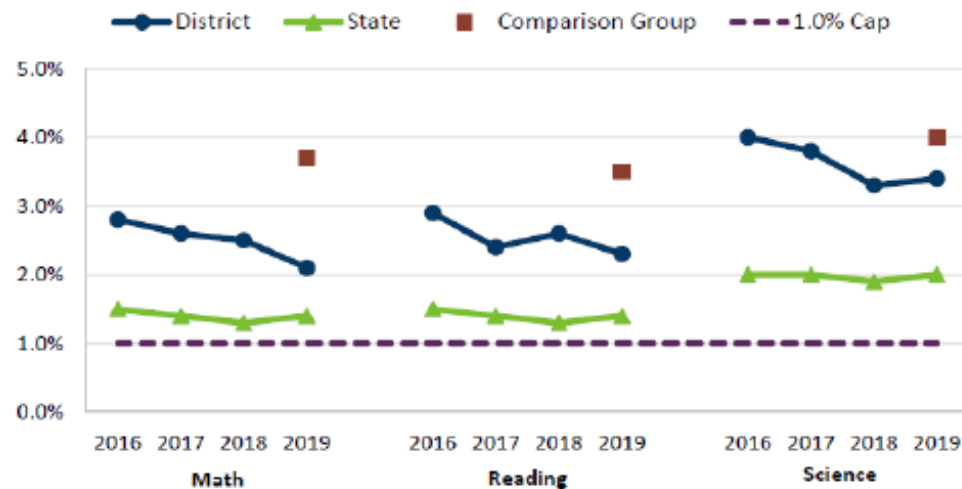
Comparison Group

	Enrollment	Percent of students receiving special education services			
		< 15%	15% - 30%	30% - 60%	> 60%
	< 100				
	100 to 500			X	
	501 to 1000				
	> 1000				

Overall MTAS Participation Rate for 2019

Subject	District Participation Rate	State Participation Rate	Comparison Group Participation Rate
Math	2.1%	1.4%	3.7%
Reading	2.3%	1.4%	3.5%
Science	3.4%	2.0%	4.0%

Historical MTAS Participation Rates



Notes

Comparison Group:

Your district was placed in a comparison group so you can compare your district's MTAS participation with districts that serve similar populations of students. The comparison groups were created using two variables: number of students enrolled and the percent of students receiving special education services for the 2018-2019 school year.

The participation for the comparison group is the average rate for districts within that group.

MTAS Participation Calculation:

The MTAS participation rate is calculated by taking the number of students with a valid score on MTAS and dividing it by the total number of students with a valid score on the MCA and MTAS.

State Participation Rate:

The MTAS participation rate for Minnesota. According to ESSA, the state rate should not exceed 1.0%.

Historical Participation:

A look at your district's MTAS participation over the past four years. In 2016, ESSA changed the definition of participation.

Purpose of the Assurance, Rationale, Context (ARC)

- Give districts the opportunity to provide more context around their participation rate and local context.

ARC Description

The ARC:

- Asks districts to describe the decision-making process for identifying students eligible for the Alternate Assessment Aligned to Alternate Academic Achievement Standards (AA-AAAS).
- Allows each district an opportunity to provide more context around their participation rate and demographics.
- Can include requests to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) for technical assistance for particular district needs.

Includes three parts:

- An assurance that describes how Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams apply the eligibility criteria for Minnesota's AA-AAAS when evaluating the appropriate assessment for individual students.
- A rationale for district participation rates.
- Any contextual factors that help frame the district's participation data.

Tentative Timeline and Communications

- December 2019 – MDE creates district reports, ARC template and communications for districts.
- Early January 2020 – MDE contacts special education directors, district assessment coordinators and superintendents with location of district reports, user guides and ARC template.
- Early January 2020 – Late February 2020 – Districts discuss reports internally and return ARC to MDE.
- March 2020 – MDE reviews ARCs and summarizes responses for Alternate Assessment Workgroup.
- April 2020 – Alternate Assessment Workgroup meets to plan next steps in Minnesota’s action plan and response to US Department of Education.