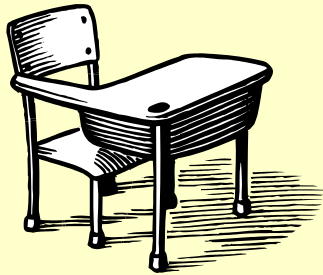




# St. Lawrence School

## Iowa Test Results



# Standardized Testing

A standardized test is an assessment tool used to test students on what they have learned. They are standard because each student takes the test under the same conditions. The method is the same, as well as the way the test is scored and administered. Every student has the same opportunity to demonstrate their achievement of the content presented by the test.



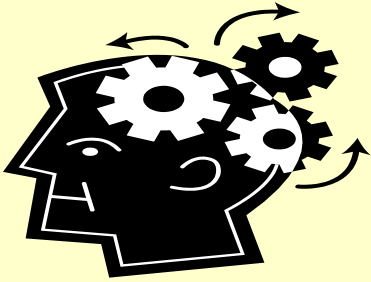
# How is the test graded?

At each grade level, Riverside Publishing uses a nationwide norm-referenced group of approximately 300,000 students. Norm-referenced is simply a comparison test. When your child earns a score at the 76th percentile, this indicates that he or she tested better than 76% of those 300,000 students in the same grade.

# **Why does St. Lawrence use the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS)?**

The ITBS is designed to fulfill three main purposes: (1) to obtain information that can support instructional decisions made by teachers in the classroom, (2) to provide information to students and their parents for monitoring the student's growth from grade to grade, and (3) to examine the yearly progress of grade groups as they pass through St. Lawrence's curriculum.

All elementary schools in the Archdiocese of Detroit are required to administer the ITBS during the fall testing cycle (approximately the first two weeks of October, each year).



# ITBS vs. MEAP

The ITBS is a norm-referenced test. A student taking this test is NOT expected to know every answer. The tests are designed to produce results that fall on the “bell curve,” so that most students will score between the 40th and the 60th percentile. Students with abilities well above or well below grade level can be identified.

The MEAP test is a criterion-referenced test. This test is matched to the curriculum taught in Michigan Public Schools, and students are expected to know the answers to every question. The MEAP tests are intended to answer the question, "How are our students doing compared to what we want them to know and do?" When the scores are reported, you most commonly see the percentage of students earning a satisfactory score.

This is NOT the same as scoring at the 90th percentile. Students only need to answer about 60% of the questions correctly to earn a satisfactory score.

# What do the tests/ scores mean?

**GE:** Grade Equivalent is a number that gives the student's location on an achievement continuum and describes performance in terms of grade level and month. For example, if a Third grader scores 4.6 on a test, his/her score is like the one a student at the end of the 6th month of 4th grade would likely score. These scores are particularly useful for measuring individual growth from one year to the next.

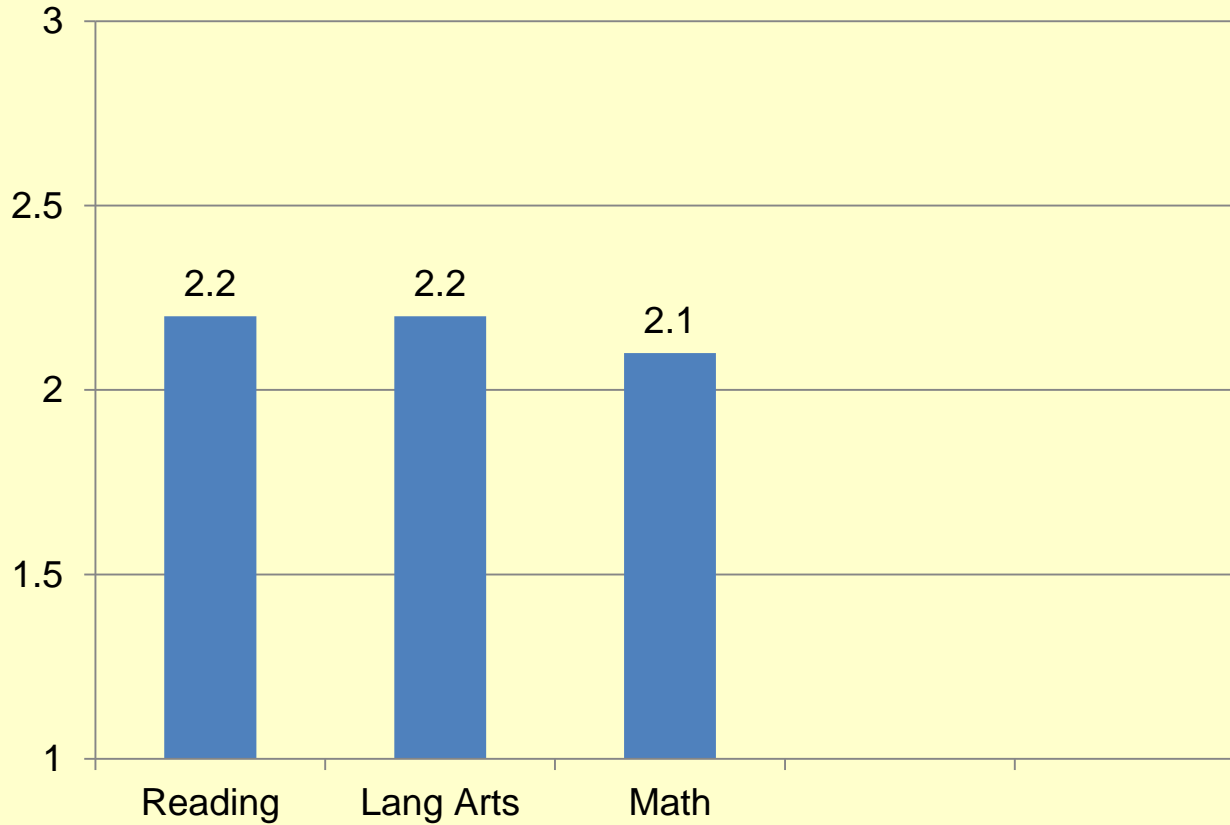
**NPR:** National Percentile Rank: These percentiles show a student's standing within the group of students in the same grade who were tested at the same time of year during the national standardization. These are especially useful for profile analysis and determining the areas of relative strength and weakness for an individual student. A percentile rank of 72 means the student scored better than 72 percent of the other children in the same grade in the norm-referenced sample. Percentile ranks range from 1 to 99 and are less useful than grade equivalents for estimating or monitoring growth.

# Why is the Iowa Test Different in 2012

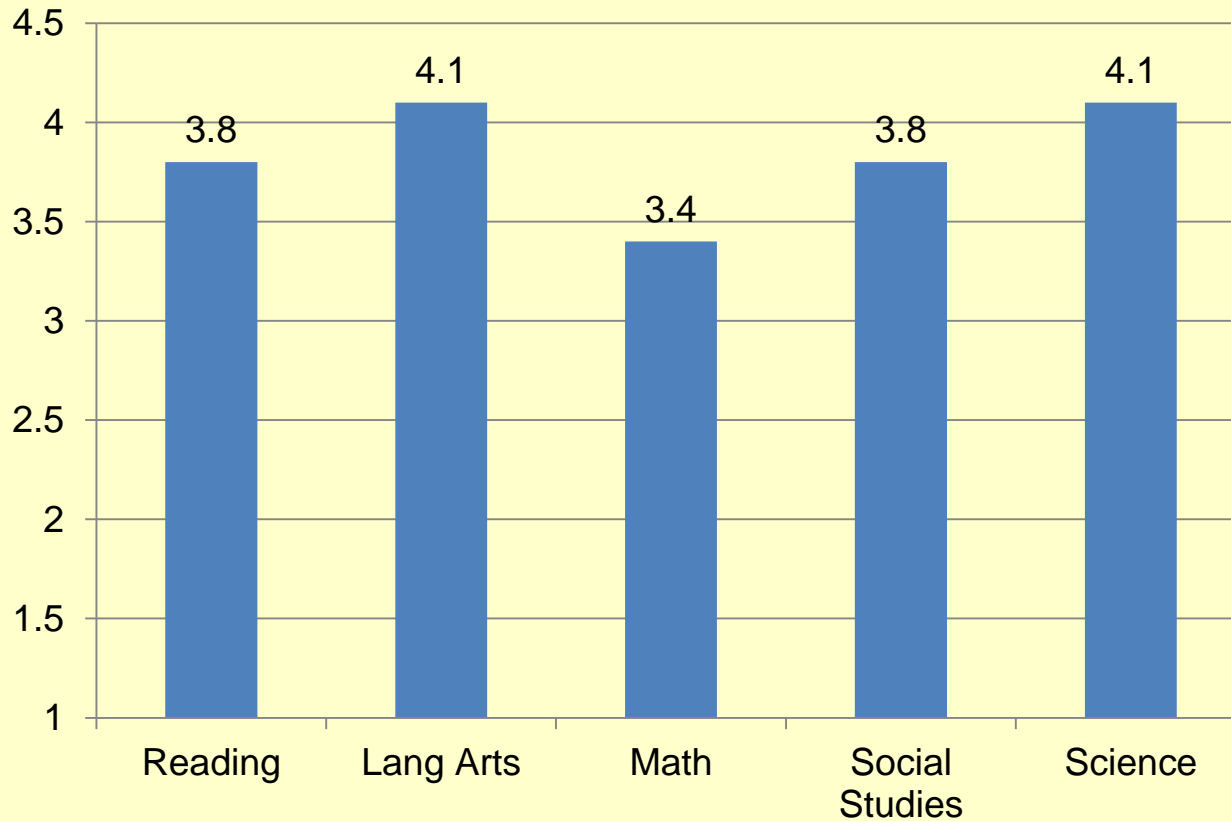


In the past Michigan schools instruction was based on the GLCE's (grade level content expectations). Iowa and MEAP tests were based on these standards. Starting in 2012 Michigan, and 49 other states, have adopted the National Common Core Standards. These standards must be fully implemented by 2014. Iowa test were changed in 2012 to reflect the Common Core Standards. Change in scores may reflect an adjustment period for both teachers and students.

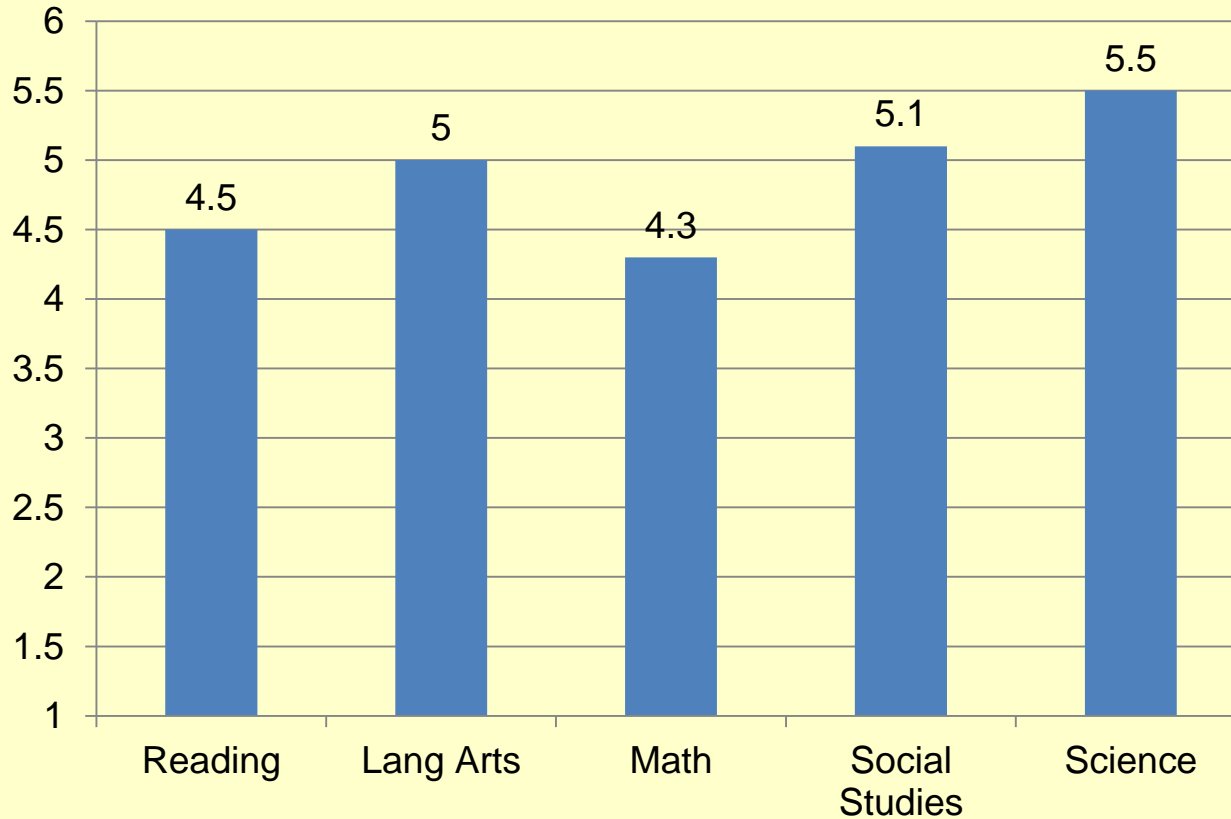
# 2012 Second Grade



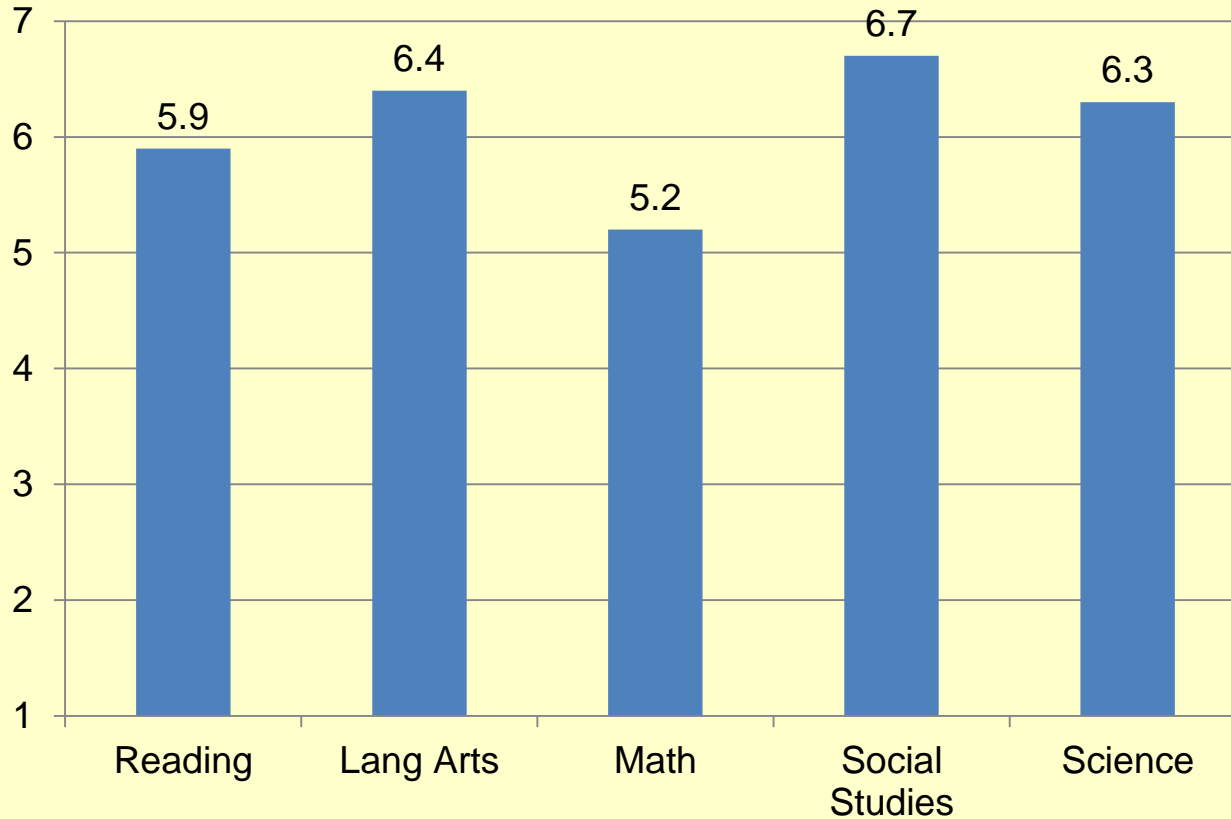
# 2012 Third Grade



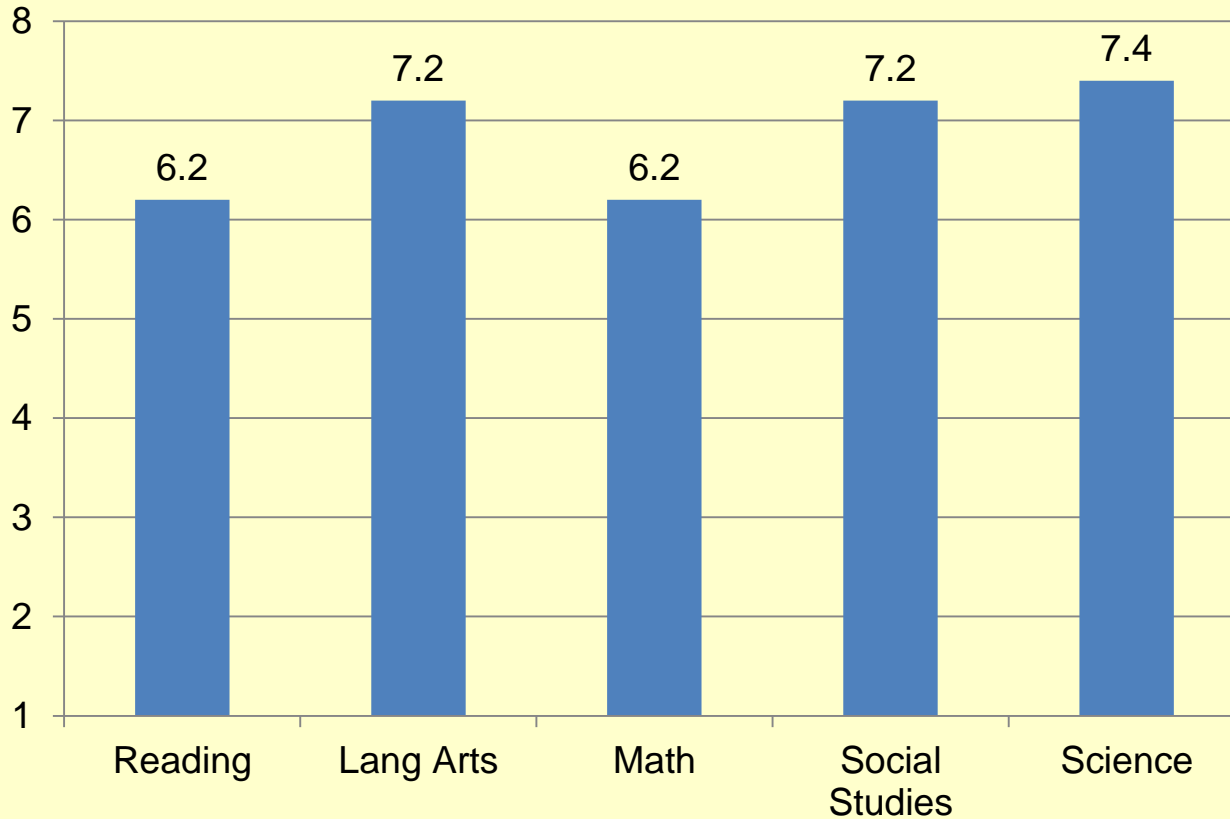
# 2012 Fourth Grade



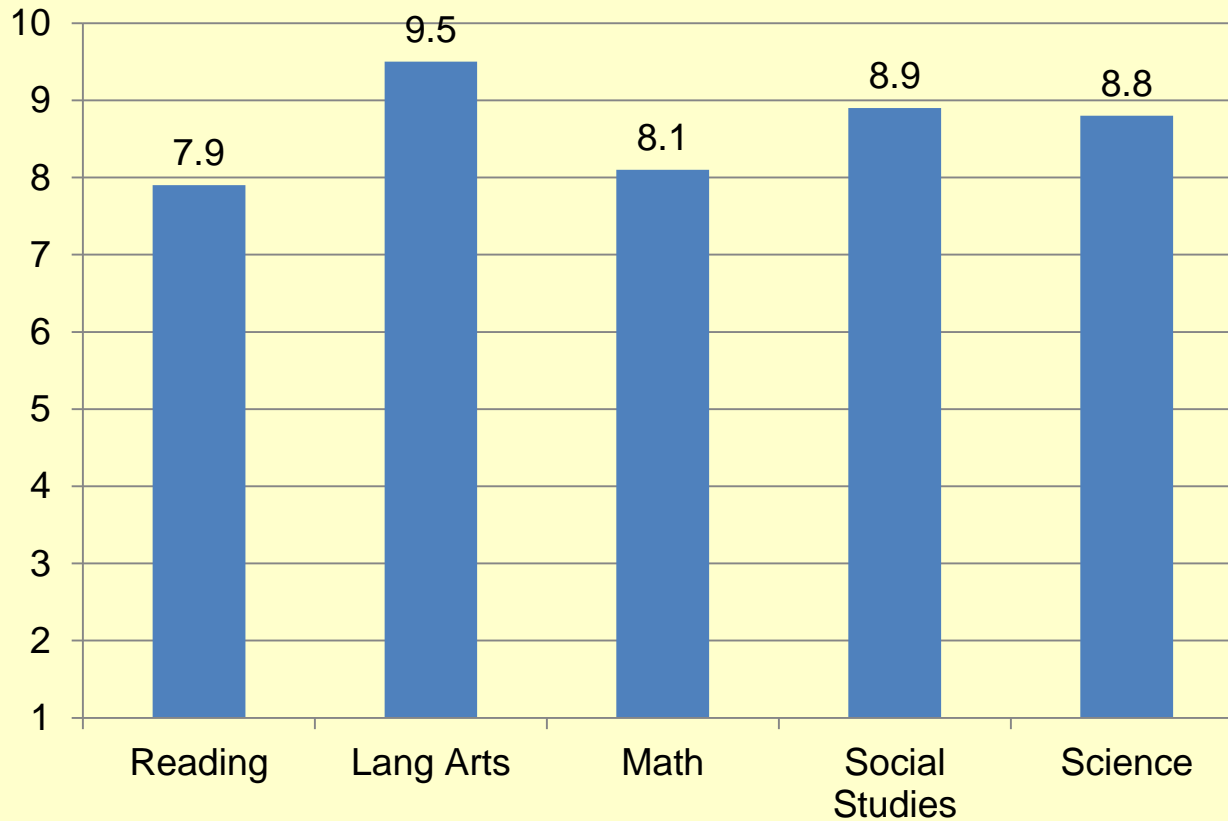
# 2012 Fifth Grade



# 2012 Sixth Grade



# 2012 Seventh Grade



# 2012 Eight Grade

