

# Statewide Assessments: Using Public Results

MCA, MTAS, ACCESS, Alternate ACCESS

Two resources on the MDE website provide public results for statewide assessments for families, educators and community stakeholders: **Minnesota Report Card** and **Assessment Files**.

The Minnesota Report Card is an interactive tool that provides easy access to state-, district- and school-level summary results under “How Well are Students Doing?”:



- Find MCA/MTAS results under “Are students mastering standards?”
- Find ACCESS results under “Are English learners progressing?”

The Assessment Files are data files that provide detailed summary results at the state, county, district and school levels.

- Find MCA/MTAS data under “All Academic Accountability Tests”
- Find ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS data under each test name



Choose the resource based on the **type of information** needed:

- Use the Minnesota Report Card to create graphs and tables to view or download
- Download the Assessment Files to perform analyses

These resources are available when MDE publicly releases results in late summer. Because they are public, these resources are **how the majority of people access results** to:

- Look up a particular school’s or district’s results
- View results at the state, district, school and student group level
- Conduct further research with the data



*Due to this year’s unique circumstances, use caution when making comparisons and use data in context with other district information.*

## Monitor Implementation of Standards

- The standards define the expectations for student learning and instruction.
- Statewide assessments are a snapshot of student learning of the standards.
- Public schools and districts use these results as one part of their comprehensive assessment system.

## Prioritize Equity

- Information from a comprehensive assessment system can be used as a guide to ensure every student receives a high-quality education, no matter their race or ZIP code.
- Statewide assessments results can be used to look across student groups, schools and districts to identify underlying inequities and highlight promising instructional practices.

## Provide Valid Results

- Minnesota educators and community members are involved in multiple steps of test development and are critical partners in this work.
- There are rigorous checks and validations of results prior to reporting.
- Both of these ensure that statewide assessment results are a valid and reliable measure of learning of the standards at the time students test.

During the 2020–21 school year, educators, students and families experienced significant and profound changes in teaching and learning, as well as social and emotional well-being.

It is important to keep this in mind when interpreting assessment results, as these changes are reflected in student scores but are difficult to account for accurately.

### Questions?

Contact Academic Standards, Instruction and Assessment at [mde.testing@state.mn.us](mailto:mde.testing@state.mn.us)

