Components of a Comprehensive Assessment System

A comprehensive assessment system includes a variety of assessment types that produce either formative or summative evidence of student learning. Formative evidence is used *during* learning to adjust instruction, while summative evidence is used *after* learning to report a snapshot of student achievement over a set period of time.

Comprehensive assessment systems assess learning at all levels of the system: individual learners, classrooms, schools, districts, and statewide. Meaningful information is needed from each level to support teaching and learning, but the *amount* and *detail* of information shifts at each level. More detailed evidence is produced in the classroom, where the learning takes place, and proportionally less detailed (more general, aggregated) evidence of learning is produced as the distance from the learner increases.



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To learn more about assessment and data use, visit testing123.education.mn.gov.