

## About the Comparison Tool

The Comparison Tool is a flexible, interactive report that makes data from high-stakes state exams available for comparative analysis by district and school administrators. It allows you to select any significant group of students and compare their performance on state exams by school, grade, teacher, student, ethnicity, Ed program, or gender.

Because the Comparison Tool report is interactive, you can drill down to see supporting data. You can also adjust your selection criteria to view results for different groups of students. The data available varies by state and exam.

**Currently Selected Options**

<b>Exam:</b> STAR 04-05	<b>Roster:</b> 2015-2016 Fall, School Year
<b>Schools:</b> All	<b>Grades:</b> 8
<b>Teachers:</b> All	<b>Ethnicities:</b> All
<b>Ed Programs:</b> Gifted and Talented	<b>Custom Groups:</b> All
<b>Genders:</b> All	<b>Courses:</b> All

The Options Dashboard shows you the current report options. You can also use it to select other students.

  

The Comparison Tool initially compares the **Compare Level of data available for the selection.**

**Compare By:** School **Score Type:** NPR **GO**

Group	CAT6				
	Reading	Language	Spelling	Mathematics	Science
<a href="#">Cherry Tree Middle School</a>	42.9	42.8	42.4	49.9	N/A
<a href="#">Oak Hill High School</a>	46.2	45.4	45.1	46	47.3
<a href="#">Dine Grove Elementary School</a>	41.2	41.9	44.2	52	N/A
<a href="#">Sycamore Leaf Elementary School</a>	15.6	20.8	9.9	27.4	66
<b>Average (Total Number of Students)</b>	<b>43.7 (2021)</b>	<b>43.6 (2021)</b>	<b>43.3 (1347)</b>	<b>48.7 (2019)</b>	<b>47.4 (672)</b>

The Score type and scores you see in the **Scores** table depend on the type of exam you selected.

Click a link to sort the list by this heading.

These are the average scores for the group for each subject area.

Click a link to drill down to the next level of supporting data.

## Defining a Comparison Tool report

The Comparison Tool lets you select a group of students and compare their performance on state exams, subject by subject, based on whatever criteria you need. When you use the Comparison Tool, you can quickly generate a report based on just the basic report options and then use the Options Dashboard to refine the selection of students later.

### To define a Comparison Tool report:

- 1 Click the **State Analysis** tab. Click the **Comparison Tool** link or icon.
- 2 In the Select a Test for Comparison Tool page, click **Continue** beside the exam you want to use.
- 3 Use these settings to define the initial report.

**Basic Report Options**

**School(s):** All Schools **Exam:** STAR 02-03 **Grades:** All Grades

Select the exam data you want to display.

If you have access to only one school, the name of the school appears here.

Select the grade you want to display. You can also display all grades.

- Select the school, exam, and grade you want to display.
  - Use the student demographic option links on the lower half of the page to select students.
- 4 Click **Continue**.

After a brief pause, the Comparison Tool page appears.

## Working with a Comparison Tool report

Once you define a Comparison Tool report, you can use the Options Dashboard to refine the group of students dynamically. The Comparison Tool initially compares the highest level of data available for the selection, but you can compare data at a different level by choosing it in the Compare By list. You can also compare different types of scores, depending on the exam.

### To work with a Comparison Tool report:

- 1 To select different students, click a link in the Options Dashboard.
- 2 To view data for a different group level, choose the level in the Compare By list.

Comparison Tool Showing: CST

Compare By: School | Score Type: Performance Standard | GO

CST			
Group	English-Language Arts	Mathematics	Science
<a href="#">sort by</a>	<a href="#">sort by</a>	<a href="#">sort by</a>	<a href="#">sort by</a>
Oak Hill High School	3	3	4
Average	3	2.2	3
Total Number of Students			

Choose the level of data that you want to compare.

- 3 To drill down to view supporting data, click a link in the Group list.

Compare By: School | Score Type: Performance Standard | GO

Compare By: Grade | Score Type: Performance Standard | GO

Group	English-Language Arts	Mathematics	Science
<a href="#">sort by</a>	<a href="#">sort by</a>	<a href="#">sort by</a>	<a href="#">sort by</a>
Oak Hill High School	3	3	4
Average	3	2.2	3
Total Number of Students			

The report shows the data that rolls up into the group you selected. In this case, you see the grades at the school.

- 4 To view a different type of scores, choose a score type in the Scores Type list. Click **Go**.

Compare By: School | Score Type: Performance Standard | GO

Score Type: Percent Correct | GO

CST	
Group	English-Language Arts
<a href="#">sort by</a>	<a href="#">sort by</a>
Oak Hill High School	3.3
Average	3.3
Total Number of Students	232

The report shows the new score type you selected.

- 5 To drill down by subject on a report that shows standards, click the link for the subject you want to compare.

Click a subject link to see the supporting data. Score Type: Performance Standard | GO

The report shows the data that rolls up into the area you selected.

CST	
Group	English-Language Arts
<a href="#">sort by</a>	<a href="#">sort by</a>
Oak Hill High School	3.3
Average	3.3
Total Number of Students	232

English-Language Arts	
Reading	Writing
<a href="#">sort by</a>	<a href="#">sort by</a>
56.4	60.9

## Defining a Comparison Tool report for a Multiple Measure

A Multiple Measure is a way to include data on a report from different types of assessments. You create a Comparison Tool for multiple measures in much the same way as you do for state assessments.

**Tip:** The Multiple Measure must already be defined and up to date before you can include it in a Comparison Tool. For more information about creating multiple measures, see the *Admin Tab Administrator's Guide*.

### To define a Comparison Tool report using a Multiple Measure:

- 1 Click the **State Analysis** tab. Click the **Comparison Tool** link or icon.
- 2 In the Select a Test for Comparison Tool page, scroll to the bottom of the page and click the **Continue** link beside Multiple Measure.
- 3 In the Select a Multiple Measure for Comparison Tool page, choose a Multiple Measure from the list and click **Continue**.
- 4 Use these settings to define the initial report.

Basic Report Options

School(s): All Schools | Exam: September 2004 | Grades: All Grades

This is the date associated with the Multiple Measure.

If you have access to only one school, the name of the school appears here.

Select the grade you want to display. You can also display all grades.

- Choose the school and grade you want to display.
- The Exam setting is the date associated with the Multiple Measure.
- Use the student demographic option links on the lower half of the page to select students.
- 5 Click **Continue**.