

# NeSA Writing

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## **R**eports Interpretive Guide

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NeSA-Writing  
Grades 4, 8, and 11  
Spring 2012



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**Commissioner of Education**

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# INTRODUCTION

## THE NeSA-WRITING TEST

The Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) tests are developed specifically for Nebraska. Since 2004, the Nebraska statewide writing assessment has been annually administered in grades 4, 8, and 11 to provide school districts with instructional information and to include writing results from grades 4 and 8 as the “other academic indicator” in the federal accountability requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

The Nebraska statewide writing assessment is intended to:

1. Gather information to assist teachers in determining the progress of students in meeting state or local standards for writing;
2. Provide each local school district with a report of student progress in meeting state or local standards for writing; and
3. Lead to improved writing by Nebraska students.

The NeSA-Writing tests, by law, are directly aligned with the state content standards. These tests, by law, must be as rigorous as those of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

## OVERVIEW OF THE GRADE 4 NeSA-WRITING TEST

Each student in grade 4 responded to a writing prompt in the narrative mode. The writing prompt was developed by NDE to measure composition of writing as specified in the writing content standards. The grade 4 test was administered in two independent sessions on two consecutive days. Each session was 40 minutes, unless a student’s IEP or 504 Plan required additional time. Students in grade 4 receive one of the following two performance level descriptors:

**Meets the Standards:** Overall student performance in writing reflects *satisfactory* performance on the standards and *sufficient* understanding of the content at grade level. A student scoring at the Meets the Standards level *generally* utilizes a variety of writing strategies to comprehend and interpret grade-level appropriate narrative and informational text.

**Below the Standards:** Overall student performance in writing reflects *unsatisfactory* performance on the standards and *insufficient* understanding of the content at grade level. A student scoring at the Below the Standards level *inconsistently* utilizes a variety of writing skills and strategies to comprehend and interpret narrative and informational text at grade level.

## OVERVIEW OF THE GRADES 8 AND 11 NeSA-WRITING TESTS

Each student in grades 8 and 11 responded to a writing prompt in a specific mode (Grade 8 – Descriptive; Grade 11 – Persuasive). The majority of students were administered the test online in one session. Students were allowed to use paper to pre-write and continued their work online by drafting and finalizing their response. It was recommended by NDE that districts schedule 90 minutes for students to complete the assessment; however, the test was not timed, and students were allowed as much time as necessary to complete and submit their final essays. Students with an IEP or a 504 Plan were allowed to use a paper/pencil test. Students in grades 8 and 11 receive one of the following three performance level descriptors:

**Exceeds the Standards:** Overall the student’s writing reflects an *advanced* performance of the standards and a *thorough* understanding of the traits of writing. The student’s writing demonstrates numerous strengths. Only minor revision and/or editing is necessary.

**Meets the Standards:** Overall the student’s writing reflects a *satisfactory* performance of the standards and a *sufficient* understanding of the traits of writing. The student’s writing demonstrates more strengths than weaknesses. Some revision and/or editing is necessary.

**Below the Standards:** Overall the student’s writing reflects an *unsatisfactory* performance of the standards and an *insufficient* understanding of the traits of writing. The student’s writing is still under development. Extensive revision and/or editing is necessary.

Nebraska content standards reflect the essential concepts and skills students are expected to know and perform. The foundation skills, identified as essential competencies needed to meet the demands of the classroom and the world beyond, are the basis of all content standards. These foundation skills are the following:

- communication,
- problem solving,
- resource access and utilization, and
- linking and generating knowledge.

### SETTING THE PERFORMANCE LEVEL STANDARDS FOR GRADES 4, 8, AND 11

Results for Grade 4 NeSA-Writing are reported as holistic scores, which range from 2 to 8. Student essays in grades 8 and 11 receive analytic scores based on four domains. The rater-assigned domain scores are converted into a scale score metric, which ranges from 0 to 70, to maintain comparability from year to year.

In isolation, scale scores are difficult to interpret. Performance Levels can help make the scale scores meaningful. Two performance levels, labeled *Below the Standards* and *Meets the Standards*, have been defined by the Nebraska State Board of Education for the holistic scores for grade 4. The metric for grade 4 has been defined so that the range 3.99 and below is *Below the Standards* and the range 4.00–8.00 is *Meets the Standards*. Grades 8 and 11 will use three performance levels, labeled *Below the Standards*, *Meets the Standards*, and *Exceeds the Standards*. These have been defined by the Nebraska State Board of Education with the performance level descriptors.

There are three important reasons for establishing the Performance Levels:

1. satisfy the requirements of the U.S. Department of Education,
2. connect the scale scores to the writing content standards to assist Nebraska educators in helping students, and
3. give meaning to the scale scores to help Nebraska students and parents use the results effectively.

The information provided to the State Board of Education for writing included the recommendations from panels of Nebraska teachers and other stakeholders, convened in April 2012.

The teacher panels used the *Body of Work Method* to determine recommended cut scores for each of the levels in each grade. Following a training session and practice exercise, the panels discussed descriptions of the Performance Levels and the knowledge, skills, and behaviors implied by each. The task was then for the panelists to individually review and sort each essay into either *Meets the Standards* or *Below the Standards* categories. The panelists then proceeded to split the essays in the top group between *Meets the Standards* and *Exceeds the Standards*.

The ratings of the essays were statistically linked to the rater-assigned domain scores to establish the score needed to reach each Performance Level. After two rounds of group discussion, the results were summarized and presented to the State Board as the panels' recommendations.

### NeSA-WRITING SCALE-SCORE RANGES FOR GRADE 4

NeSA-WRITING GRADE 4	
Performance Level	Grade 4 Writing Scale-Score Range
Meets the Standards	4.00–8.00
Below the Standards	3.99 and below

### NeSA-WRITING SCALE-SCORE RANGES FOR GRADES 8 AND 11

NeSA-WRITING GRADES 8 and 11		
Performance Level	Grade 8 Writing Scale-Score Range	Grade 11 Writing Scale-Score Range
Exceeds the Standards	55–70	53–70
Meets the Standards	40–54	40–52
Below the Standards	39 and below	39 and below

## **READING AND INTERPRETING NeSA-WRITING RESULTS**

Sample NeSA-Writing reports and explanations appear on the following pages to aid administrators and teachers in understanding test results. The data in these reports are simulated and do not reflect the current year results.

The following reports are described in this *Reports Interpretive Guide*:

### **Reports for the School**

School Writing Summary

Writing School Student Roster

### **Reports for the District**

District Writing Summary

Writing District Report of School Performance

Each sample report includes circled numbers that are referenced in the interpretive information provided with the sample. Online reports will be available to districts and schools via the eDIRECT system, <https://ne.drctdirect.com/>.



**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
NEBRASKA STATE ACCOUNTABILITY (NeSA-W)  
SCHOOL WRITING SUMMARY  
SPRING 2012**

**GRADE 4**

DISTRICT: SAMPLE DISTRICT (99-9999-999)  
SCHOOL: SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)

Student Groups Included in State Results	Average Score <sup>1</sup>	% Below the Standards	% Meets the Standards	Number Tested	Number Not Tested <sup>2</sup>
All Students <b>1</b>	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Male <b>2</b>	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Female	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
American Indian/Alaska Native	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Asian	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Black <b>3</b>	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
White	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Hispanic	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Two or More Races	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Free and Reduced	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Not Free and Reduced	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
LEP/ELL Eligible	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Not LEP/ELL Eligible <b>4</b>	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Special Education	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Not Special Education	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Spanish Assessments	9.99	99	99	9,999	999

**5**

Other Student Groups	Number of Students
Emergency Medical Waiver	999
Alternate Assessment	999
Language Other than English or Spanish	999

<sup>1</sup>Includes: zero scores for **INV** = Invalid, **OTH** = Other, **PAR** = Parent Refusal, **SAE** = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window  
<sup>2</sup>Includes: **INV** = Invalid, **OTH** = Other, **PAR** = Parent Refusal, and **SAE** = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window

# SAMPLE SCHOOL WRITING SUMMARY: EXPLANATION OF RESULTS AND TERMS

The School Writing Summary is posted in PDF format and may be downloaded and printed from the eDIRECT system by districts and schools. The summary report lists all students by different demographic information and presents a summary of their performance. This report is for internal district and school use only and is required for state and federal reporting purposes. Information to protect small numbers of students has not been suppressed. Release of summary data to the public may violate individual student confidentiality (FERPA).

## **1 ALL STUDENTS**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the school's average score, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented.

## **2 GENDER**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. This information is broken out by gender of all students. Reading across the row, the school's average score, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented.

## **3 RACE/ETHNICITY**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the school's average score, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented. This information is listed based on the race/ethnicity of each student: American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, White, Hispanic, and Two or More Races.

## **4 SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the school's average score, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented. This information is listed based on the students involved in special programs: Free and Reduced, Not Free and Reduced, LEP/ELL Eligible, Not LEP/ELL Eligible, Special Education, Not Special Education, and Spanish Assessments.

## **5 OTHER STUDENT GROUPS**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. The school's number of students under Emergency Medical Waiver, Alternate Assessment, and Language Other than English or Spanish are presented.



**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
NEBRASKA STATE ACCOUNTABILITY (NeSA-W)  
WRITING SCHOOL STUDENT ROSTER  
SPRING 2012**

**GRADE 4**

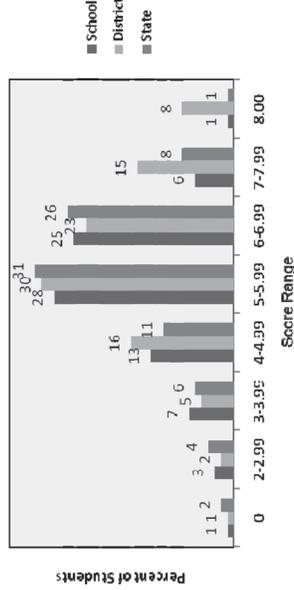
DISTRICT: **SAMPLE DISTRICT (99-9999-999)**  
SCHOOL: **SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)**

PAGE: 1 OF #

	Performance Level <sup>1</sup>	Score <sup>2</sup>	4	
			Meets the Standards 4.00-8.00	Below the Standards 3.99 and below
<b>State Average</b>		9.99 <sup>3</sup>		
<b>District Average</b>		9.99 <sup>3</sup>		
<b>School Average</b>		9.99 <sup>3</sup>		
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789	X	9.99		
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789	X	9.99		
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789	X	9.99		
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789	X	9.99		
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789	X	9.99		
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789	X	9.99		
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STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789	X	9.99		
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789	X	9.99		
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789	X	9.99		
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789	X	9.99		
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789	X	9.99		

5 Included in State Writing Results									
	Total Students	0	2-2.99	3-3.99	4-4.99	5-5.99	6-6.99	7-7.99	8.00
Number of Students	99,999	999	999	999	999	999	999	999	999
Percentage of Students		99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99

**6 School Summary Report for Grade 4**



<sup>1</sup>M = Meets the Standards, B = Below the Standards  
<sup>2</sup>EMW = Emergency Medical Waiver, INV = Invalid, NLE = No Longer Enrolled, OTH = Other, PAR = Parent Refusal, SAE = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window, FNS = Foreign Language not Spanish, ALT = Alternate Assessment  
<sup>3</sup>These results include students with the following test codes: INV, OTH, PAR, and SAE and student responses that could not be scored. 99-9999-999 99/99/9999

# SAMPLE WRITING SCHOOL STUDENT ROSTER: EXPLANATION OF RESULTS AND TERMS

The Writing School Student Roster is posted in PDF format and may be downloaded and printed from the eDIRECT system by districts and schools. The roster report lists students who were required to take the regular NeSA-Writing test and presents a summary of their performance. For most schools, the report has multiple pages.

## 1 PERFORMANCE LEVEL RANGES

In the upper left corner of this chart, the score ranges associated with each performance level are reported for Writing. For example, a student receiving a score of 5 on the NeSA-Writing test would achieve *Meets the Standards*, and one receiving a score of 2.5 would achieve *Below the Standards*.

## 2 STATE, DISTRICT, AND SCHOOL AVERAGE

The state, district, and school averages are presented for scores in Writing.

## 3 ROSTER OF STUDENTS TESTED

In the far left column, a list of students who are enrolled in the school is printed alphabetically by last name and first name.

## 4 WRITING PERFORMANCE DATA

Each student's performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the student's performance level and score are presented. If a student did not attempt the test, the score column will be populated with a not tested code.

## 5 INCLUDED IN STATE WRITING RESULTS

The number of students that tested is listed in this chart. The number of students and percentage of students that scored in each score range are listed in separate columns.

## 6 SCHOOL SUMMARY REPORT GRAPH

The graph gives a visual description of score distribution based on the percentage of students within each score range throughout the school, district, and state.

SAMPLE DISTRICT WRITING SUMMARY

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
NEBRASKA STATE ACCOUNTABILITY (NeSA-W)  
DISTRICT WRITING SUMMARY  
SPRING 2012



GRADE 4

DISTRICT: SAMPLE DISTRICT (99-9999-999)

Student Groups Included in State Results	Average Score <sup>1</sup>	% Below the Standards	% Meets the Standards	Number Tested	Number Not Tested <sup>2</sup>
All Students <b>1</b>	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Male	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Female <b>2</b>	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
American Indian/Alaska Native	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Asian	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Black <b>3</b>	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
White	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Hispanic	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Two or More Races	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Free and Reduced	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Not Free and Reduced	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
LEP/ELL Eligible	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Not LEP/ELL Eligible <b>4</b>	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Special Education	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Not Special Education	9.99	99	99	9,999	999
Spanish Assessments	9.99	99	99	9,999	999

**5**

Other Student Groups	Number of Students
Emergency Medical Waiver	999
Alternate Assessment	999
Language Other than English or Spanish	999

<sup>1</sup>Includes: zero scores for INV = Invalid, OTH = Other, PAR = Parent Refusal, SAE = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window  
<sup>4</sup>Includes: INV = Invalid, OTH = Other, PAR = Parent Refusal, and SAE = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window

# SAMPLE DISTRICT WRITING SUMMARY: EXPLANATION OF RESULTS AND TERMS

The District Writing Summary is posted in PDF format and may be downloaded and printed from the eDIRECT system by districts. The summary report lists all students by different demographic information and presents a summary of their performance. This report is for internal district use only and is required for state and federal reporting purposes. Information to protect small numbers of students has not been suppressed. Release of summary data to the public may violate individual student confidentiality (FERPA).

## 1 ALL STUDENTS

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the district's average score, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented.

## 2 GENDER

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. This information is broken out by gender of all students. Reading across the row, the district's average score, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented.

## 3 RACE/ETHNICITY

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the district's average score, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented. This information is listed based on the race/ethnicity of each student: American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, White, Hispanic, and Two or More Races.

## 4 SPECIAL PROGRAMS

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the district's average score, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented. This information is listed based on the students involved in special programs: Free and Reduced, Not Free and Reduced, LEP/ELL Eligible, Not LEP/ELL Eligible, Special Education, Not Special Education, and Spanish Assessments.

## 5 OTHER STUDENT GROUPS

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. The school's number of students under Emergency Medical Waiver, Alternate Assessment, and Language Other than English or Spanish are presented.

# SAMPLE DISTRICT WRITING REPORT OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE



**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
NEBRASKA STATE ACCOUNTABILITY (NeSA-W)  
DISTRICT WRITING REPORT OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE  
SPRING 2012**

**GRADE 4**

PAGE: 1 OF #

DISTRICT: SAMPLE DISTRICT (99-9999-999)

1 Performance Level Ranges		Writing				
		Average Score	% Below the Standards	% Meets the Standards	Number Tested	Number Not Tested <sup>2</sup>
Meets the Standards	4.00–8.00					
Below the Standards	3.99 and below					
<b>2 STATE SUMMARY</b>		999	99	99	99,999	9,999
<b>3 DISTRICT SUMMARY</b>		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)		999	99	99	9,999	999

<sup>1</sup>Includes: zero scores for INV = Invalid, OTH = Other, PAR = Parent Refusal, and SAE = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window  
<sup>2</sup>Includes: INV = Invalid, OTH = Other, PAR = Parent Refusal, and SAE = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window

# SAMPLE DISTRICT WRITING REPORT OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE: EXPLANATION OF RESULTS AND TERMS

The District Writing Report of School Performance is posted in PDF format and may be downloaded and printed from the eDIRECT system by all districts. The district report includes all schools within the district that tested students.

## **1 PERFORMANCE LEVEL RANGES**

In the upper left corner of this chart, the score ranges associated with each performance level are reported for Writing. For example, a student receiving a score of 5 on the NeSA-Writing test would achieve *Meets the Standards*, and one receiving a score of 2.5 would achieve *Below the Standards*.

## **2 STATE SUMMARY**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the average score, the percent of students in each performance level, and the total number of students tested and not tested are presented at the state level.

## **3 DISTRICT SUMMARY**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the average score, the percent of students in each performance level, and the total number of students tested and not tested are presented at the district level. In addition, each school within the district is listed and summarized.

SAMPLE SCHOOL WRITING SUMMARY



NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
NEBRASKA STATE ACCOUNTABILITY (NeSA-W)  
SCHOOL WRITING SUMMARY  
SPRING 2012

GRADE 8

DISTRICT: SAMPLE DISTRICT (99-9999-999)  
SCHOOL: SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)

Student Groups Included in State Results	Average Scale Score <sup>1</sup>	Average Domain Score <sup>2</sup>				% Below the Standards	% Meets the Standards	% Exceeds the Standards	Number Tested	Number Not Tested <sup>3</sup>
		Ideas/Content	Organization	Word Choice/Voice	Sentence Fluency/Conventions					
All Students <b>1</b>	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Male <b>2</b>	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Female	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
American Indian/Alaska Native	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Asian <b>3</b>	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Black	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
White	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Hispanic	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Two or More Races	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Free and Reduced	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Not Free and Reduced	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
LEP/ELL Eligible	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Not LEP/ELL Eligible <b>4</b>	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Special Education	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Not Special Education	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999
Spanish Assessments	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99	9,999	999

**5**

Other Student Groups	Number of Students
Emergency Medical Waiver	999
Alternate Assessment	999
Language Other than English or Spanish	999

<sup>1</sup>Includes: zero scores for INV = Invalid, OTH = Other, PAR = Parent Refusal, SAE = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window  
<sup>2</sup>Each domain score is the sum of the two readers for the domain. For a scoreable paper, scores can range from 2 to 8. Please refer to the rubric.  
<sup>3</sup>Includes: INV = Invalid, OTH = Other, PAR = Parent Refusal, SAE = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window

## SAMPLE SCHOOL WRITING SUMMARY: EXPLANATION OF RESULTS AND TERMS

The School Writing Summary is posted in PDF format and may be downloaded and printed from the eDIRECT system by districts and schools. The summary report lists all students by different demographic information and presents a summary of their performance. This report is for internal district and school use only and is required for state and federal reporting purposes. Information to protect small numbers of students has not been suppressed. Release of summary data to the public may violate individual student confidentiality (FERPA).

### **1 ALL STUDENTS**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the school's average scale score, average domain score for each domain, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented.

### **2 GENDER**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. This information is broken out by gender of all students. Reading across the row, the school's average scale score, average domain score for each domain, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented at the school level.

### **3 RACE/ETHNICITY**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the school's average scale score, average domain score for each domain, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented. This information is listed based on the race/ethnicity of each student: American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, White, Hispanic, and Two or More Races.

### **4 SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the school's average scale score, average domain score for each domain, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented. This information is listed based on the students involved in special programs: Free and Reduced, Not Free and Reduced, LEP/ELL Eligible, Not LEP/ELL Eligible, Special Education, Not Special Education, and Spanish Assessments.

### **5 OTHER STUDENT GROUPS**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. The school's number of students under Emergency Medical Waiver, Alternate Assessment, and Language Other than English or Spanish are presented.

# SAMPLE SCHOOL WRITING STUDENT ROSTER

**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
NEBRASKA STATE ACCOUNTABILITY (NeSA-W)  
SCHOOL WRITING STUDENT ROSTER  
SPRING 2012**



**GRADE 8**

PAGE: 1 OF #

DISTRICT: **SAMPLE DISTRICT (99-9999-999)**  
SCHOOL: **SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)**

**4**

1 Performance Level Ranges		Performance		Domain Score <sup>3</sup>				Scale Score
		Level <sup>1</sup>	Note <sup>2</sup>	Ideas/Content	Organization	Word Choice/Voice	Sentence Fluency/Conventions	
Exceeds the Standards	99-99			9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99
Meets the Standards	99-99			9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99
Below the Standards	99 and below			9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99
<b>State Average</b>								
<b>District Average</b>								
<b>School Average</b>								
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X	XXX	9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X		9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X		9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X		9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X	X	9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X		9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789	<b>3</b>	X		9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X		9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X		9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X		9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X		9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X		9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X		9	9	9	9	99
STUDENT'S LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL 123456789		X		9	9	9	9	99

<sup>1</sup>E = Exceeds the Standards, M = Meets the Standards, B = Below the Standards  
<sup>2</sup>ALT = Alternate Assessment, EMW = Emergency Medical Waiver, INV = Invalid, NLE = No Longer Enrolled, OTH = Other, PAR = Parent Refusal, SAE = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window, B = Blank, C = Copy of Prompt, F = Foreign Language, I = Insufficient, R = Refusal, T = Off Topic, U = Illegible/Incoherent  
<sup>3</sup>Each domain score is the sum of the two readers for the domain. For a scoreable paper, scores can range from 2 to 8. Please refer to the rubric.

99-9999-999 99/99/9999

## SAMPLE SCHOOL WRITING STUDENT ROSTER: EXPLANATION OF RESULTS AND TERMS

The School Writing Student Roster is posted in PDF format and may be downloaded and printed from the eDIRECT system by districts and schools. The roster report lists students who were required to take the regular NeSA-Writing test and presents a summary of their performance. For most schools, the report has multiple pages.

### **1 PERFORMANCE LEVEL RANGES**

In the upper left corner of this chart, the score ranges associated with each performance level are reported for Writing. Students will receive scores that fall within one of the three ranges.

### **2 STATE, DISTRICT, AND SCHOOL AVERAGE**

The state, district, and school averages are presented for scores in Writing.

### **3 ROSTER OF STUDENTS TESTED**

In the far left column, a list of students who are enrolled in the school is printed alphabetically by last name and first name.

### **4 WRITING PERFORMANCE DATA**

Each student's performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the student's performance level, domain score for each domain, and scale score are presented. If a student did not attempt the test, the note column will be populated with a not tested code.

SAMPLE DISTRICT WRITING SUMMARY

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
NEBRASKA STATE ACCOUNTABILITY (NeSA-W)  
DISTRICT WRITING SUMMARY  
SPRING 2012



GRADE 8

DISTRICT: SAMPLE DISTRICT (99-9999-999)

Other Student Groups	Number of Students
Emergency Medical Waiver	999
Alternate Assessment	999
Language Other than English or Spanish	999

Student Groups Included in State Results	Average Scale Score <sup>1</sup>	Average Domain Score <sup>2</sup>				% Below the Standards	% Meets the Standards	% Exceeds the Standards	Number Tested	Number Not Tested <sup>3</sup>
		Ideas/Content	Organization	Word Choice/Voice	Sentence Fluency/Conventions					
All Students <b>1</b>	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Male <b>2</b>	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Female	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
American Indian/Alaska Native	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Asian	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Black <b>3</b>	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
White	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Hispanic	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Two or More Races	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Free and Reduced	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Not Free and Reduced	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
LEP/ELL Eligible	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Not LEP/ELL Eligible <b>4</b>	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Special Education	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Not Special Education	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
Spanish Assessments	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	

<sup>1</sup>Includes: zero scores for INV = Invalid, OTH = Other, PAR = Parent Refusal, SAE = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window  
<sup>2</sup>Each domain score is the sum of the two readers for the domain. For a scoreable paper, scores can range from 2 to 8. Please refer to the rubric.  
<sup>3</sup>Includes: INV = Invalid, OTH = Other, PAR = Parent Refusal, SAE = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window

## **SAMPLE DISTRICT WRITING SUMMARY: EXPLANATION OF RESULTS AND TERMS**

The District Writing Summary is posted in PDF format and may be downloaded and printed from the eDIRECT system by districts. The summary report lists all students by different demographic information and presents a summary of their performance. This report is for internal district use only and is required for state and federal reporting purposes. Information to protect small numbers of students has not been suppressed. Release of summary data to the public may violate individual student confidentiality (FERPA).

### **1 ALL STUDENTS**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the district's average scale score, average domain score for each domain, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented.

### **2 GENDER**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. This information is broken out by gender of all students. Reading across the row, the district's average scale score, average domain score for each domain, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented.

### **3 RACE/ETHNICITY**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the district's average scale score, average domain score for each domain, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented. This information is listed based on the race/ethnicity of each student: American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, White, Hispanic, and Two or More Races.

### **4 SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the district's average scale score, average domain score for each domain, percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented. This information is listed based on the students involved in special programs: Free and Reduced, Not Free and Reduced, LEP/ELL Eligible, Not LEP/ELL Eligible, Special Education, Not Special Education, and Spanish Assessments.

# SAMPLE DISTRICT WRITING REPORT OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE



## NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION NEBRASKA STATE ACCOUNTABILITY (NeSA-W) DISTRICT WRITING REPORT OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE SPRING 2012

### GRADE 8

PAGE: 1 OF #

DISTRICT: SAMPLE DISTRICT (99-9999-999)

Performance Level Ranges	Writing										
	Average Score <sup>1</sup>	Ideas/Content	Organization	Word Choice/Voice	Sentence Fluency/Conventions	% Below the Standards	% Meets the Standards	% Exceeds the Standards	Number Tested	Number Not Tested <sup>3</sup>	
Exceeds the Standards	99-99										
Meets the Standards	99-99										
Below the Standards	99 and below										
STATE SUMMARY <b>2</b>	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	99,999	9,999	
DISTRICT SUMMARY <b>3</b>	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	
SAMPLE SCHOOL (99-9999-999)	99	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	99	99	9,999	999	

<sup>1</sup>Includes: zero scores for INV = Invalid, OTH = Other, PAR = Parent Refusal, SAE = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window  
<sup>2</sup>Each domain score is the sum of the two readers for the domain. For a scoreable paper, scores can range from 2 to 8. Please refer to the rubric.  
<sup>3</sup>Includes: INV = Invalid, OTH = Other, PAR = Parent Refusal, SAE = Student Absent for the Entire Testing Window

# SAMPLE DISTRICT WRITING REPORT OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE: EXPLANATION OF RESULTS AND TERMS

The District Writing Report of School Performance is posted in PDF format and may be downloaded and printed from the eDIRECT system by all districts. The district report includes all schools within the district that tested students.

## **1 PERFORMANCE LEVEL RANGES**

In the upper left corner of this chart, the score ranges associated with each performance level are reported for Writing. Students will receive scores that fall within one of the three ranges.

## **2 STATE SUMMARY**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the average scale score, the average domain score for each domain, the percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented at the state level.

## **3 DISTRICT SUMMARY**

All student performance on the NeSA-Writing test is reported. Reading across the row, the average scale score, the average domain score for each domain, the percent of students in each performance level, and the number of students tested and not tested are presented at the district level. In addition, each school within the district is listed and summarized.

2012

# **Reports Interpretive Guide**

