

# PERFORMANCE MATTERS

News from the CSDE Performance Office



Volume 2 | Issue 7 | November 2017

[www.ct.gov/sde/performanceoffice](http://www.ct.gov/sde/performanceoffice)

Page 2

[Making Average Scale Scores Understandable to the Public](#)

Page 3

[SEDAC October 1, 2017 Child Count Now Open](#)

[NERA Poster Sessions](#)

Key Resources

[Data Acquisition Plan for 2017-18](#)

[Data Collections Guide for 2017-18](#)

[Using Accountability Results to Guide Improvement](#)

[EdSight](#)

## EdSight Secure Enhancements

Now that EdSight Secure is live and you are busy querying and exporting data we are listening to your feedback and have added the following features to enhance your experience.

### SASID Search

SASID Search has been added to the Student Level Data tab. This will allow you to search for one student at a time rather than exporting and filtering your data.

### Detailed Data

If you are trying to export a large set of filtered data you may see a warning message in the lower right hand corner of the data table. This means that what you see on screen has been truncated however you can export all records if you select **detailed data** on the export menu.

### Current District vs. Tested District

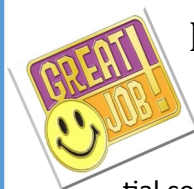
Tested District – Only includes students who tested in your district.

Current District – Only includes students who are currently in your district, regardless of where they tested.

### Security Change

We are committed to ensuring that your data are protected. Session Timeout is an important security feature that we have added. Your session will be logged out automatically after 20 minutes of inactivity. After this time you will have to log in again.

Results from the 2016-17 CMT/CAPT Science are available on [EdSight](#) and [EdSight Secure](#). The results include grades 5, 8 and 10 and are available by state, district and school.



## Data Collection **STALWART**



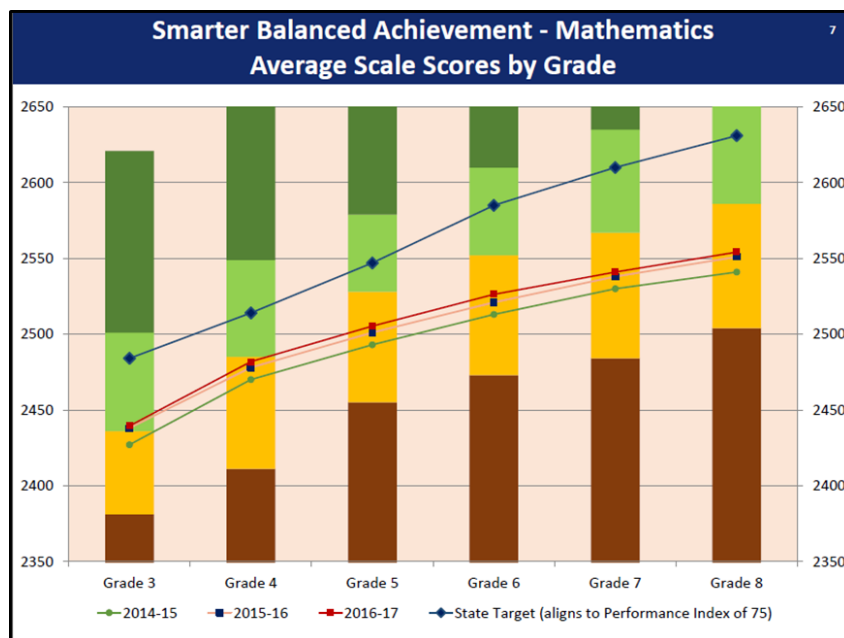
Ensuring accurate data collection, data reporting, and data use for program evaluation purposes are important and essential components of Title I, Part A programs. Data on student performance on state summative assessments drives identification for Title 1 services. This information is provided to the USDOE to demonstrate whether programs are meeting requirements for targeting students appropriately. **Christopher Montini**, the assistant superintendent of Naugatuck, has always submitted data on time and clean.

The Performance Office Team appreciates your efforts to provide timely and accurate data. Congratulations, **Christopher**. You are a Data Collection Stalwart!

### Making Average Scale Scores Understandable to the Public

Connecticut’s ESSA plan places a premium on average scale scores from the summative assessments rather than an unnecessarily narrow focus on the percentage of students at or above a particular achievement level. As explained in the early October 2017 edition of *Performance Matters*, a binary approach to reporting achievement (e.g. proficient vs. not proficient) completely disregards any other information the assessment can provide about student achievement. Since the scale score is the most precise measure of student achievement, the Performance Office encourages districts to share assessment results in terms of scale scores rather than achievement levels. This can be a difficult transition if stakeholders are not familiar with the assessment scale and are accustomed to seeing results reported in terms of achievement levels.

At the October 4, 2017, State Board of Education meeting, the Chief Performance Officer, Ajit Gopalakrishnan, presented State achievement results from the Smarter Balanced Assessments and SAT using an approach that focuses on average scale scores (see selected slide below from the [full presentation](#)).



The graphic above displays average scale scores from multiple test administrations using color-coded achievement levels as a backdrop to provide context and enhance understanding. Additionally, results are compared to a performance index of 75, the ultimate target in district and school accountability reports.

The Performance Office invites districts to use the same approach when sharing their own Smarter Balanced and SAT results locally. To support this effort, we are providing an [Excel template](#) that can be used to create similar graphics. The only information the user must provide is district-level average scale scores by grade and content area for all administration years.

**SAVE THE DATE: Performance Matters Forum**

**Tuesday, September 11, 2018**

**Location TBD**

## SEDAC October 1, 2017 Child Count Now Open

The snapshot date for the Special Education Data Application and Collection (SEDAC) October 1, 2017, Child Count is September 29, 2017 due to the fact that October 1 fell on a weekend.

The CSDE recommends SEDAC contacts use their vendor system, work collaboratively with PSIS contacts and with every one of their schools, programs and/or case managers to identify a list of students that fit the criteria below to ensure that all students with disabilities are reported accurately.

1. Students who were evaluated, found eligible and determined you will be providing special education services;
2. Students who moved into your district with an IEP from another district;
3. Students who returned to general education; and
4. Students whose placement (facility code 1) has changed and the date of that change.

The *Timely* due date (all students reported and all data cleaning cases resolved) is December 5<sup>th</sup> and the *Accurate* due date (Child Count Verification and Noncompliance Summary reports reviewed) is December 20<sup>th</sup>.

## NERA Poster Sessions

Staff from the Performance Office presented two poster sessions at the Northeastern Educational Research Association conference (NERA) on October 18-20, 2017, in Trumbull. One session focused on the [Early Indication Tool \(EIT\)](#) and the other on [Smarter Balanced Device Effects](#).

