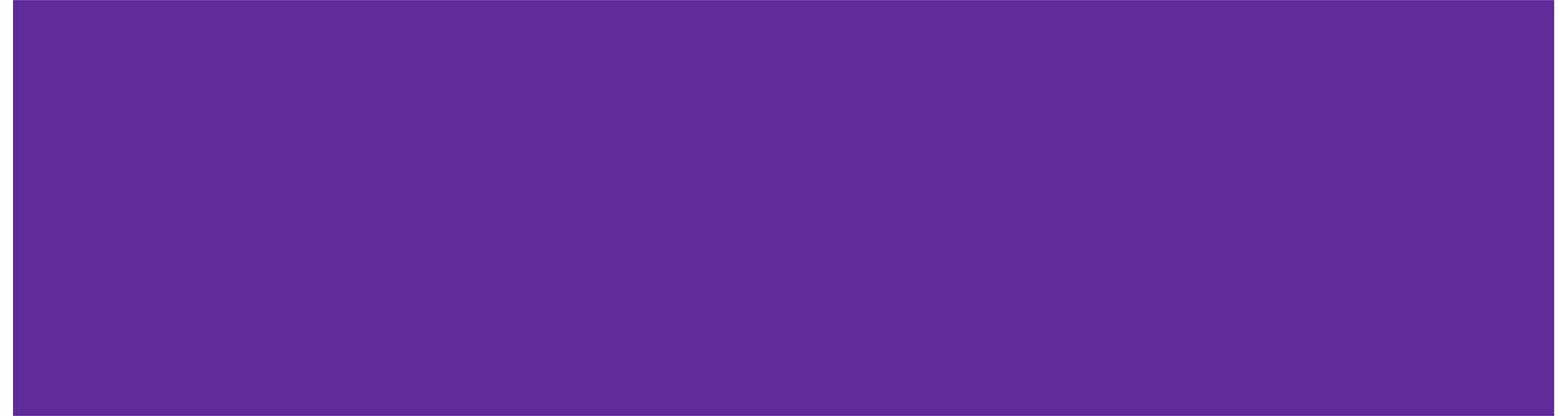


# Start Strong Assessment

2020 Administration Summary



# What is the Start Strong Assessment?

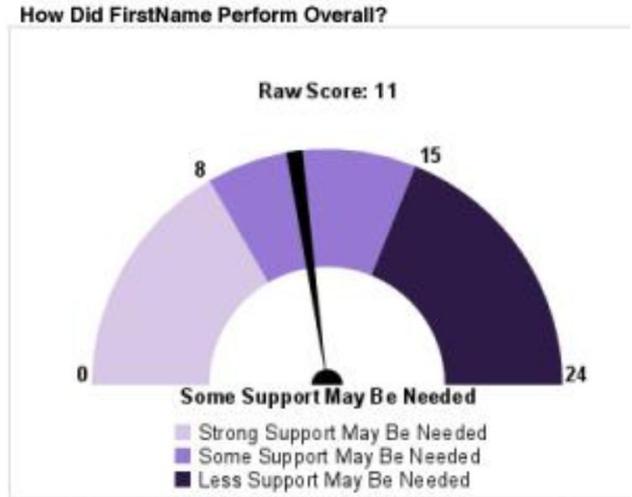
The Start Strong Assessment:

- a **voluntary** (in 2020) standardized assessment for ELA grades 4-10; Math 4-8, Alg 1, Alg 2, and Geo; and Science 5, 8, and 12.
- is used to provide insight into the level of support a student may need in order to achieve grade-level standards;
- assessed some of the **previous** grades' standards;
- is not meant to be a summative assessment; and
- was administered **100% virtually at home**.

Scores are reported in one of three levels:

- Level 1: **Strong** Support May Be Needed
- Level 2: **Some** Support May Be Needed
- Level 3: **Less** Support May Be Needed

All NJ schools will have mandatory participation in the Fall of 2021.



# What should a parent or caregiver keep in mind when reviewing Individual Score Reports?

- The Start Strong Assessments' primary goal is to provide information about student needs for additional support **for classroom teachers and school leaders.**
- The information provided by these assessments are **only one piece of the puzzle** used to understand a student's academic needs.
- The NJDOE recommends that the data should only be used **with other supporting evidence** (assignments, homework, i-Ready, classroom assessments, etc.) when drawing conclusions about a student's specific academic needs.
- It is also important to remember that the Start Strong results **are not meant to be compared** to previous standardized test scores.
- Students who took these assessments did so in Oct-Dec of 2020, **during virtual learning at home.**

# Where does a parent or caregiver go next?

- If you would like more information about understanding the assessment or your students' scores, you can go to

<https://nj.mypearsonsupport.com/StartStrong/>

and click on the **Score Interpretation and Design Manual**. This is also noted at the bottom of the Student Score Reports.

- We are releasing the student reports to families in hopes that - combined with I-ready and classroom scores - families will be able to make a well-informed decision about their students' summer program needs and options.

# Noticing...

## **In the data you are about to see, I noticed that...**

- In ELA, almost half of students in all grade levels require less support.
- In Math, students in transitional grades/courses (grade 5, grade 6, grade 9 - Alg 1/Geo) may require strong support.
- In Science, many student may need stronger levels of support, especially in grade 8.

# Start Strong 2020 - English Language Arts

	<b>DISTRICT % Level 1</b> (strong support may be needed)	<b>DISTRICT % Level 2</b> (some support may be needed)	<b>DISTRICT % Level 3</b> (less support may be needed)
<b>Grade 4</b>	32.2%	24.6%	43%
<b>Grade 5</b>	20%	27.9%	51.9%
<b>Grade 6</b>	28.4%	23.6%	47.9%
<b>Grade 7</b>	24.6%	28.9%	46.4%
<b>Grade 8</b>	33.9%	24.3%	41.7%
<b>Grade 9</b>	45.1%	12.2%	42.5%
<b>Grade 10</b>	29.1%	16.2%	54.6%

# Start Strong 2020 - Mathematics

	<b>DISTRICT % Level 1</b> (strong support may be needed)	<b>DISTRICT % Level 2</b> (some support may be needed)	<b>DISTRICT % Level 3</b> (less support may be needed)
<b>Grade 4</b>	26.7%	34%	39.1%
<b>Grade 5</b>	42.8%	29.6%	27.5%
<b>Grade 6</b>	46.7	28.4%	24.7%
<b>Grade 7</b>	30.9%	32.2%	36.8%
<b>Grade 8</b>	44%	39.3%	16.5%
<b>Alg 1</b>	41.2%	30.4%	28.3%
<b>Alg 2</b>	27.1%	21.7%	51.1%
<b>Geo</b>	41.2%	29.5%	29.1%

# Start Strong 2020 - Science

	<b>DISTRICT % Level 1</b> (strong support may be needed)	<b>DISTRICT % Level 2</b> (some support may be needed)	<b>DISTRICT % Level 3</b> (less support may be needed)
<b>Grade 5</b>	45%	30.2%	24.6%
<b>Grade 8</b>	56%	34.1%	9.8%

# ...and Wondering

## **Knowing that we will be taking this assessment again in the Fall, I wonder...**

- How will we use the Fall data once we receive it?

We may be able to use the data to...

- help classroom teach make instructional decisions to best meet individual students' needs?
- help building admin design MTSS and intervention programs based on the needs of their students?
- help the district design targeted PD to support specific subject areas in engaging instruction using technology platforms?