



IDAHO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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NEWS RELEASE

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STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNOUNCES STATEWIDE STANDARDS ACHIEVEMENT TEST RESULTS

The Idaho State Board of Education released results of the first statewide Idaho Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) today. Scores from the tests taken last fall provide data that will be used by the State Board of Education, the Department of Education and district officials as well as the teachers and students. The test, which provides immediate feedback to the students and their teachers, will also provide valuable data to aid the State Board of Education in developing the State's accountability plan.

Results show the trend of academic growth by students in the Idaho's public schools at grade levels 2 through 10. These scores represent the all grade level pilot for the ongoing analysis of education performance in Idaho public schools.

Scores are presented in terms of Rausch Instructional Units, better known as RIT scores. These scores measure student achievement growth similar to how inches are used to measure a student's height. RIT scores are employed in the ISAT to measure student growth in math, reading and language usage, and indicate the level of mastery the student demonstrates on the test. The RIT score reflects the level at which the student is performing and is unrelated to the age or grade of the student.

--More--

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Higher RIT scores indicate a higher level of concept mastery by the student. For example, in math a score of 160 may correspond to an ability to add and subtract simple numbers, while a score of 245 may indicate mastery of skills used in algebra.

As shown on the attached graph for math, the state average for 2nd graders was 175.7 while the 4th grade average was 200.3, the 7th and 10th grade averages were 222.3 and 241.4 respectively.

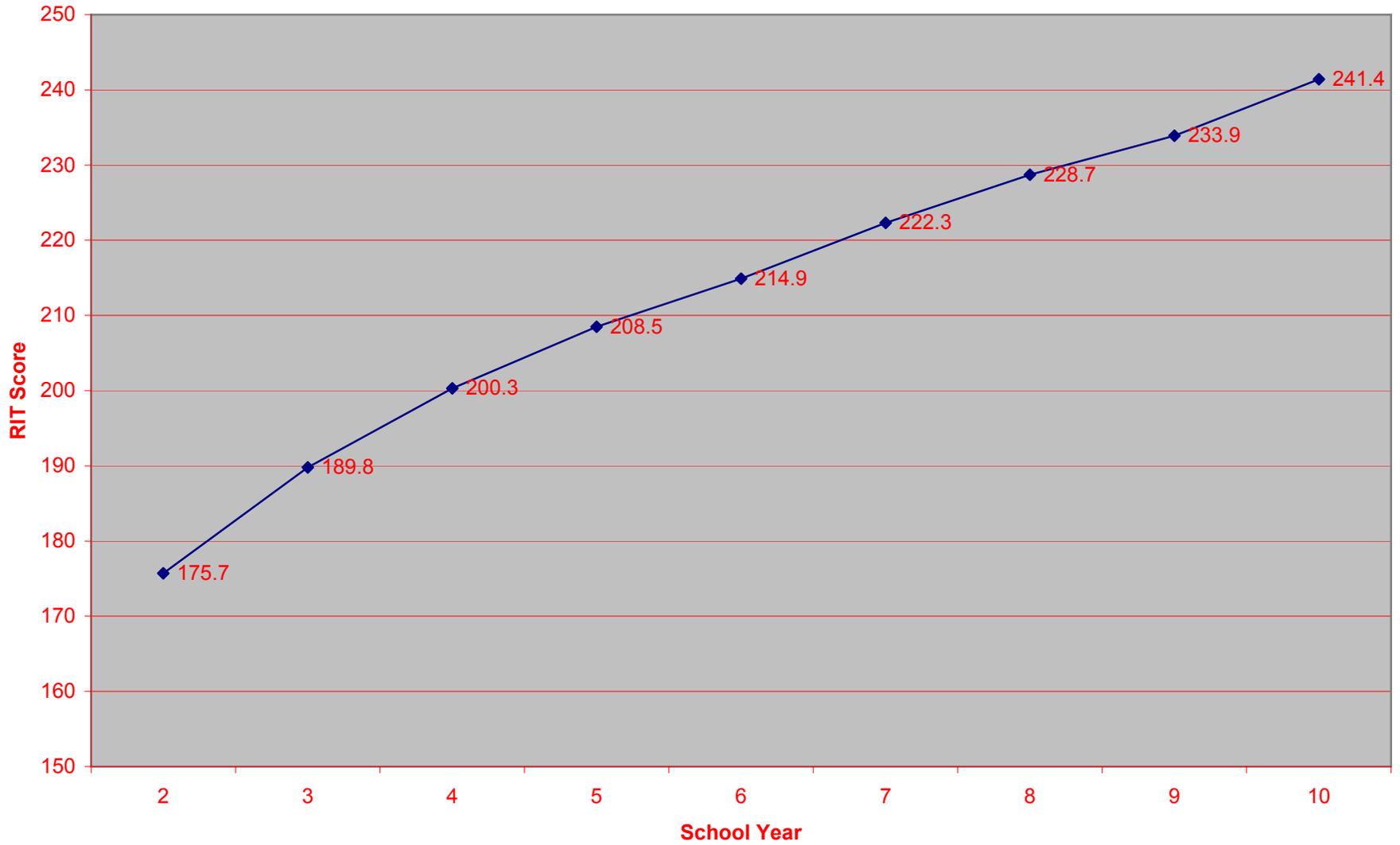
The value of this type of testing rests in its ability to measure growth within a subject area. Each subject area has its own independent range. A score of 200 in math is not comparable to a score of 200 in reading or language arts. See attached graphs 1, 2, and 3 for statewide average at each grade level for each subject.

The level of difficulty increases as a student answers a question correctly. In this way the test identifies the student's highest level of knowledge and individual performance level is identified. This student-specific approach leads to the development of individualized teaching plans for students at all levels.

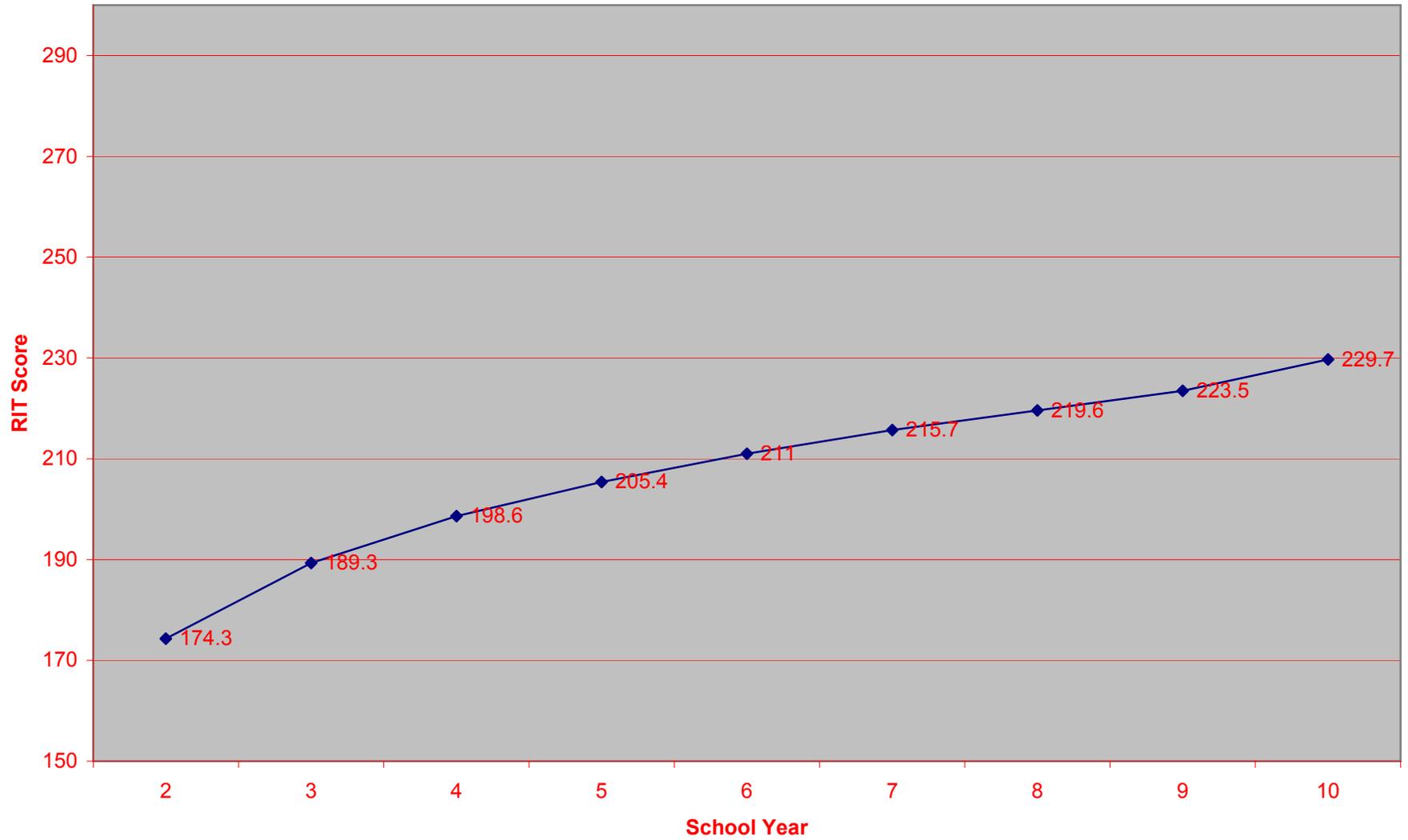
Additional score information can be found at www.sde.state.id.us/dept.

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Math RIT Scores



Reading RIT Scores



Language RIT Scores

