

Transcript – Comparisons Across Groups

Presenter: There is another type of comparison report that you can generate that is based on groups of students. In this report, the x-axis is no longer the administration, but is a group of students. Let's look at how to create this.

We'll go into "Comparison Across Classes". First, notice that there's a description of this report and again a link to the interpretive guide from this link that says "How Do I Interpret This Graph?"

Also notice that you can select the assessments. We can only view one assessment at a time because we are not comparing the performance of one group of students across time. Instead, we are comparing performance of multiple groups of students within one administration.

So we can select "Assessment." We can select the "Classrooms". And then we have "Display Options."

We can look at the "Box and Whisker" plot. And then we can also look at the "Averages."

So sometimes the groupings of students might be at the class level for a specific period. And in this case, if we're a teacher looking at two of our eighth grade classes, we may want to look at how those students-- those two different classes-- performed on the fall administration.

So we'll select the fall administration, and we will select our two groups-- or two classes. I can either check all, or if there were multiple classes, I could just select the ones I'm most interested in.

In this case, we will look at both the "Box and Whisker" plot and the "Averages". And we will apply the filter.

So again, our menu options are still available so that we can change those if we wanted to, and then our box-and-whisker plot. So again, let's look at what has changed in this graph.

So we have as the x-axis-- instead of looking at the administration time, what we see is that we have in the first box plot Math (class) for Grade 8, Period 1. And then the second box plot shows the Math, Grade 8, Period 2.

So in this case it's not fall to winter-- we looked at that in the previous report-- but in this case, it's in fall, Period 1 compared to Period 2. We see consistent is the average scale score. We also have our averages plotted here.

And again we see that the average is a circle, and the color that is filled in that circle is consistent with our "Report Key" and indicates that the average is in Tier IB. And this information is consistent with the interpretive guide.

So we can see that the average scores for each of these classes are reported. But we do notice that,

unlike some of the other reports, there is no line that connects these two averages.

The reason there's no line is that these are different groups of students. This average is for Period 1, and this average is for Period 2. So it's important that we're not making inferences about how these groups are changing over time because we're still in fall.

So one thing that we can look at is the differences between these two groups descriptively. So we can see that in Period 2, in the 25th percent of the class, there's much greater variability in their scores. And they have a lower minimum score. Also, they have a higher maximum score. And the box, which represents 50% of the students in the class, has a much more narrow range.

So we see that over 50% of the students in the class-- their scores are relatively consistent. And yet the other 50% of the class-- their scores are quite variable.

So we have a large variety in the scores for the lower 25% and a little bit larger variety of scores for students in the upper 25%, especially in comparison to Period 1.