



COMPUTERIZED
ASSESSMENTS
AND LEARNING

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Memo to: NCEA ACRE Participant

From: Kelly Wagner

Enclosed are the results of your administration of the NCEA's *Assessment of Catechesis Religious Education (ACRE)*. We hope that you will find the results to be a helpful part of your total ongoing program assessment.

Depending upon the makeup of your particular class, you will receive several reports, which provide you with result summaries for your group of students. A **TOTAL GROUP** report is provided to all users. This provides data on all students in the class who completed an ACRE answer sheet; a report on **RETURNING STUDENTS ONLY** is provided **if** there were six or more returning students in your program; a **CATHOLICS ONLY** report is provided if you had six or more Catholics in your group, and finally, a report on **NON-CATHOLICS ONLY** will be included if you had at least six non-Catholics in your class. In all cases, a **minimum of six students is required** in order for a full report (containing data on the **confidential** sections of ACRE as well as the religious knowledge section) to be provided. This is done in order to help ensure the confidentiality of their responses.

Note that revisions have been made in the current reports to include national normative performance information and the reporting of results by NCEA standards based performance categories. This information has been added to provide alternative interpretive perspectives on student performance. The national statistics are based on all students sitting for the NCEA ACRE assessment during baseline academic years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 (introduction/availability of the revised NCEA ACRE). The statistics were computed to represent the average between these years.

Based on requests from many users and working with the NCEA, we have prepared and are distributing a summary of NCEA ACRE performance (assessment scores and Standards classifications) compiled based on where students receive their religious education instruction. These tables, which are attached, report results based on grade (5, 8, 9, 11 or 12), location (School or Parish program), and time of year when the NCEA ACRE was administered (Fall, Winter, Spring of academic year 2010-2011). Your feedback on this reporting feature is welcomed. These reports are attached to this letter.

In interpreting your ACRE report, we suggest that you review the *Interpretation Manual*. The Manual leads you through an in-depth study of your reports.

Thanks once again for your participation in NCEA ACRE. If we can be of assistance to you in clarifying elements of your report, please feel free to write to us at our address above.

Tables Reporting the Performance of Specific Groups on the NCEA ACRE (December 2007)

At the request of dioceses, parishes and schools that use NCEA ACRE, we have compiled separate reports for schools and parishes to show the performance of NCEA ACRE students who sat for the assessment last academic year (fall 2010 through summer 2011). For greater detail, the reports are given in a variety of ways to depict the performance of students assessed at grades (5, 8, 9, 11 and 12), and according to when these students sat for NCEA ACRE (Fall – August to November; Winter – December to February; Spring – March to June). Breakdowns are provided for school and parish programs separately. Many users requested that this information be separated to help them better sense their standing among like-religion programs. While the use of NCEA ACRE is intended to guide instructors to achieve standards of faith knowledge for all students regardless of venue (parish-based religion program or Catholic school), knowing where we stand as we move on this path can be re-assuring, informative, and motivating. We hope you find the tables that follow useful. If we can improve their benefits to you as a user, please let us know.

Statistical performance tables invariably have limitations. Therefore, please note the following as you examine and interpret the reports:

- NCEA ACRE is a voluntary program in some dioceses; required or mandated in others. The context in which assessments function has been shown to be related to performance. When interpreting these tables, remember that your students' motivation may impact total scores.
- Comparison to any group can be fragile at best, but is especially so when the numbers of students involved is very few (less than 400 to 500 at least). When you review your results, consider the stability of the comparison for your students' (when your scores are based on relatively few students, average scores can vary tremendously!) as well as the size of the group representing the "norm" (some are comprised of very few students assessed).
- Representativeness (how typical are your students, and how similar are your students to those in the norm) is a paramount standard when we compare the performance of one group (your class) to another group (results from all NCEA ACRE students assessed.). How well does the NCEA ACRE national assessed group "truly" represent all "national "students assessed"? To be candid, we cannot be sure. We will study this in the years ahead, but today, we are not certain. Thus, your direct comparison of your students' performance to those in these tables may not be a fair comparison.

What we stress and what is important is the notion of "absolute standards." By this we refer to the process that during the development phase of NCEA ACRE, national panels of catechetical leaders and educators worked collaboratively to determine credible "performance standards." How your students "score" in relation to these independent criterion benchmarks is reported with the return of your local results. While comparison can be informative, it is NOT the goal of these assessments. The goal is to assist Catholic youth in our instructional programs to achieve the highest levels of faith knowledge, information and understanding. These tables are offered to help you answer the question, "Are you doing all you can locally to achieve this goal?"

The national scores summarized in the following tables are average percent correct scores from the component sections of Part 1 of the NCEA ACRE assessment. Also provided is the national percent of students scoring in the three NCEA ACRA Performance Standard categories (In Need of Improvement, Proficient, and Advanced). How to interpret these score data is provided in the NCEA ACRE Interpretation Manual that is returned to you with your local results. Contact CAL to aid you in understanding or interpreting the data tables. Contact NCEA to assist you in using the data to improve your religion programming.

Grade 5 NCEA ACRE Scores of Students in Catholic School

When assessed	No of Student	Part I Total Score	Domain 1: God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit	Domain 2: Church – One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic	Domain 3: Liturgy & Sacraments	Domain 4: Revelation, Scripture & Faith	Domain 5: Life in Christ – Personal Morality & Catholic Social Teaching	Domain 6: Church History	Domain 7: Prayer & Religious Practices	Domain 8: Catholic Faith Literacy	Mean % Correct								
											July thru Nov	5,405	71.4%	81.1%	75.7%	70.0%	81.0%	61.6%	61.0%
Dec thru Feb	28,550	73.9%	83.3%	76.9%	74.5%	82.1%	64.0%	63.5%	67.1%	76.3%									
Mar thru June	23,700	76.8%	84.7%	81.0%	77.1%	84.3%	66.9%	66.7%	71.2%	79.8%									
Annual Results	57,655	74.9%	83.7%	78.5%	75.2%	82.9%	64.9%	64.5%	68.6%	77.5%									

Performance of Grade 5 Students in Catholic Schools

When assessed	Results	Performance Category		
		Needs Improvements	Proficient	Advanced
July thru Nov	Percent in Category	25.6%	58.9%	15.5%
	Number of Students	1,383	3,184	838
Dec thru Feb	Percent in Category	20.5%	59.4%	20.1%
	Number of Students	5,842	16,957	5,751
Mar thru June	Percent in Category	15.9%	56.1%	28.0%
	Number of Students	3,769	13,299	6,632
Annual Results	Percent in Category	19.1%	58.0%	22.9%
	Number of Students	10,994	33,440	13,221

Grade 5 NCEA ACRE Scores of Students in Parishes

When assessed	No of Student	Part I Total Score	Domain 1: God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit	Domain 2: Church – One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic	Domain 3: Liturgy & Sacraments	Domain 4: Revelation, Scripture & Faith	Domain 5: Life in Christ – Personal Morality & Catholic Social Teaching	Domain 6: Church History	Domain 7: Prayer & Religious Practices	Domain 8: Catholic Faith Literacy
July thru Nov	775	59.9%	71.9%	64.8%	55.4%	68.2%	53.3%	47.5%	51.0%	65.1%
Dec thru Feb	5,476	63.3%	73.9%	66.8%	62.0%	71.4%	57.0%	51.1%	53.4%	67.3%
Mar thru June	3,553	63.5%	74.0%	69.0%	61.6%	72.1%	56.8%	50.1%	54.2%	66.8%
Annual Results	9,804	62.9%	73.7%	67.3%	61.0%	71.2%	56.4%	50.4%	53.4%	66.8%

Performance of Grade 5 Students in Parishes

When assessed	Results	Performance Category		
		Needs Improvements	Proficient	Advanced
July thru Nov	Percent in Category	62.2%	33.2%	4.6%
	Number of Students	482	257	36
Dec thru Feb	Percent in Category	47.3%	45.3%	7.4%
	Number of Students	2,591	2,482	403
Mar thru June	Percent in Category	47.6%	45.3%	7.1%
	Number of Students	1,692	1,609	252
Annual Results	Percent in Category	48.6%	44.3%	7.1%
	Number of Students	4,765	4,348	691

Grade 8 NCEA ACRE Scores of Students in Catholic Schools

When assessed	No of Student	Part I Total Score	Domain 1: God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit	Domain 2: Church – One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic	Domain 3: Liturgy & Sacraments	Domain 4: Revelation, Scripture & Faith	Domain 5: Life in Christ – Personal Morality & Catholic Social Teaching	Domain 6: Church History	Domain 7: Prayer & Religious Practices	Domain 8: Catholic Faith Literacy
July thru Nov	7,410	74.3%	80.6%	73.3%	73.7%	80.0%	79.5%	61.3%	75.2%	67.7%
Dec thru Feb	27,429	75.6%	82.0%	74.9%	75.1%	80.2%	80.2%	63.7%	77.0%	69.5%
Mar thru June	25,203	78.1%	84.3%	78.2%	78.1%	82.7%	82.9%	68.6%	79.6%	73.0%
Annual Results	60,042	76.7%	82.8%	76.1%	76.2%	81.2%	81.2%	65.4%	77.9%	70.8%

Performance of Grade 8 Students in Catholic Schools

When assessed	Results	Performance Category		
		Needs Improvements	Proficient	Advanced
July thru Nov	Percent in Category	24.0%	53.0%	23.0%
	Number of Students	1,772	3,930	1,708
Dec thru Feb	Percent in Category	19.4%	52.4%	28.2%
	Number of Students	5,317	14,380	7,732
Mar thru June	Percent in Category	15.3%	47.6%	37.1%
	Number of Students	3,854	12,003	9,346
Annual Results	Percent in Category	18.2%	50.5%	31.3%
	Number of Students	10,943	30,313	18,786

Grade 8 NCEA ACRE Scores of Students in Parishes

When assessed	No of Student	Part I Total Score	Domain 1: God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit	Domain 2: Church – One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic	Domain 3: Liturgy & Sacraments	Domain 4: Revelation, Scripture & Faith	Domain 5: Life in Christ – Personal Morality & Catholic Social Teaching	Domain 6: Church History	Domain 7: Prayer & Religious Practices	Domain 8: Catholic Faith Literacy
July thru Nov	829	60.7%	66.7%	60.1%	63.2%	62.7%	66.8%	41.8%	68.3%	52.5%
Dec thru Feb	4,741	63.5%	71.3%	61.1%	63.8%	65.9%	71.2%	44.5%	69.8%	56.5%
Mar thru June	3,529	63.6%	70.4%	62.7%	64.3%	65.2%	71.1%	46.2%	68.9%	56.3%
Annual Results	9,099	63.1%	70.2%	61.6%	63.9%	65.1%	70.5%	44.7%	69.2%	55.7%

Performance of Grade 8 Students in Parishes

When assessed	Results	Performance Category		
		Needs Improvements	Proficient	Advanced
July thru Nov	Percent in Category	54.6%	39.3%	6.1%
	Number of Students	453	326	50
Dec thru Feb	Percent in Category	49.4%	44.1%	6.5%
	Number of Students	2,340	2,093	308
Mar thru June	Percent in Category	49.0%	43.2%	7.7%
	Number of Students	1,730	1,525	274
Annual Results	Percent in Category	49.7%	43.3%	6.9%
	Number of Students	4,523	3,944	632

Grade 9 NCEA ACRE Scores of Students in Catholic Schools

When assessed	No of Student	Part I Total Score	Domain 1: God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit	Domain 2: Church – One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic	Domain 3: Liturgy & Sacraments	Domain 4: Revelation, Scripture & Faith	Domain 5: Life in Christ – Personal Morality & Catholic Social Teaching	Domain 6: Church History	Domain 7: Prayer & Religious Practices	Domain 8: Catholic Faith Literacy	Mean % Correct								
											July thru Nov	8,802	69.3%	76.5%	69.7%	68.0%	73.1%	73.9%	55.0%
Dec thru Feb	642	78.1%	84.2%	77.3%	75.1%	82.7%	82.2%	70.1%	78.6%	72.8%									
Mar thru June	4,955	76.3%	82.9%	76.6%	74.6%	79.8%	80.3%	64.9%	76.6%	72.5%									
Annual Results	14,399	72.7%	79.6%	73.1%	71.2%	76.3%	76.9%	60.0%	74.0%	68.2%									

Performance of Grade 9 Students in Catholic Schools

When assessed	Results	Performance Category		
		Needs Improvements	Proficient	Advanced
July thru Nov	Percent in Category	33.5%	46.7%	19.8%
	Number of Students	2,946	4,110	1,746
Dec thru Feb	Percent in Category	20.7%	44.1%	35.2%
	Number of Students	133	283	226
Mar thru June	Percent in Category	22.4%	44.4%	33.2%
	Number of Students	1,112	2,199	1,644
Annual Results	Percent in Category	29.1%	45.8%	25.1%
	Number of Students	4,191	6,592	3,616

Grade 9 NCEA ACRE Scores of Students in Parishes

When assessed	No of Student	Part I Total Score	Domain 1: God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit	Domain 2: Church – One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic	Domain 3: Liturgy & Sacraments	Domain 4: Revelation, Scripture & Faith	Domain 5: Life in Christ – Personal Morality & Catholic Social Teaching	Domain 6: Church History	Domain 7: Prayer & Religious Practices	Domain 8: Catholic Faith Literacy
July thru Nov	57	62.4%	75.3%	58.7%	65.4%	62.8%	70.0%	44.1%	65.9%	49.5%
Dec thru Feb	357	69.2%	75.7%	67.5%	70.0%	71.7%	75.1%	54.9%	72.9%	63.4%
Mar thru June	76	65.5%	75.5%	59.0%	62.9%	68.5%	78.4%	45.3%	73.0%	56.6%
Annual Results	490	66.5%	75.6%	62.9%	66.6%	68.8%	75.0%	49.5%	71.4%	58.2%

Performance of Grade 9 Students in Parishes

When assessed	Results	Performance Category		
		Needs Improvements	Proficient	Advanced
July thru Nov	Percent in Category	49.1%	42.1%	8.8%
	Number of Students	28	24	5
Dec thru Feb	Percent in Category	33.0%	51.0%	16.0%
	Number of Students	118	182	57
Mar thru June	Percent in Category	35.5%	59.2%	5.3%
	Number of Students	27	45	4
Annual Results	Percent in Category	35.3%	51.2%	13.5%
	Number of Students	173	251	66

Grade 11 NCEA ACRE Scores of Students in Catholic Schools

When assessed	No of Student	Part I Total Score	Domain 1: God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit	Domain 2: Church – One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic	Domain 3: Liturgy & Sacraments	Domain 4: Revelation, Scripture & Faith	Domain 5: Life in Christ – Personal Morality & Catholic Social Teaching	Domain 6: Church History	Domain 7: Prayer & Religious Practices	Domain 8: Catholic Faith Literacy
July thru Nov	900	65.3%	74.1%	76.8%	72.8%	56.9%	57.6%	53.2%	71.3%	61.6%
Dec thru Feb	7,121	70.1%	78.6%	81.8%	76.9%	62.0%	63.2%	59.2%	74.1%	66.7%
Mar thru June	8,926	71.6%	78.7%	82.1%	78.0%	64.0%	65.0%	60.8%	76.9%	69.1%
Annual Results	16,947	70.7%	78.3%	81.6%	77.2%	62.9%	63.9%	59.8%	75.6%	67.8%

Performance of Grade 11 Students in Catholic Schools

When assessed	Results	Performance Category		
		Needs Improvements	Proficient	Advanced
July thru Nov	Percent in Category	38.8%	47.4%	13.8%
	Number of Students	349	427	124
Dec thru Feb	Percent in Category	30.5%	49.9%	19.5%
	Number of Students	2,175	3,555	1,391
Mar thru June	Percent in Category	28.9%	48.3%	22.9%
	Number of Students	2,576	4,310	2,040
Annual Results	Percent in Category	30.1%	48.9%	21.0%
	Number of Students	5,100	8,292	3,555

Grade 11 NCEA ACRE Scores of Students in Parishes

When assessed	No of Student	Part I Total Score	Domain 1: God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit	Domain 2: Church – One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic	Domain 3: Liturgy & Sacraments	Domain 4: Revelation, Scripture & Faith	Domain 5: Life in Christ – Personal Morality & Catholic Social Teaching	Domain 6: Church History	Domain 7: Prayer & Religious Practices	Domain 8: Catholic Faith Literacy
July thru Nov	541	60.2%	66.0%	75.8%	69.2%	46.4%	55.4%	50.7%	66.7%	52.0%
Dec thru Feb	271	64.8%	71.9%	79.4%	73.8%	51.0%	59.7%	53.2%	71.7%	58.8%
Mar thru June	328	62.3%	69.0%	74.0%	72.3%	51.6%	59.2%	50.7%	67.7%	53.4%
Annual Results	1,140	61.8%	68.1%	76.0%	71.0%	48.9%	57.4%	51.2%	68.0%	53.8%

Performance of Grade 11 Students in Parishes

When assessed	Results	Performance Category		
		Needs Improvements	Proficient	Advanced
July thru Nov	Percent in Category	65.2%	30.5%	4.3%
	Number of Students	353	165	23
Dec thru Feb	Percent in Category	46.5%	44.3%	9.2%
	Number of Students	126	120	25
Mar thru June	Percent in Category	61.3%	29.6%	9.1%
	Number of Students	201	97	30
Annual Results	Percent in Category	59.6%	33.5%	6.8%
	Number of Students	680	382	78

Grade 12 NCEA ACRE Scores of Students in Catholic Schools

When assessed	No of Student	Part I Total Score	Domain 1: God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit	Domain 2: Church – One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic	Domain 3: Liturgy & Sacraments	Domain 4: Revelation, Scripture & Faith	Domain 5: Life in Christ – Personal Morality & Catholic Social Teaching	Domain 6: Church History	Domain 7: Prayer & Religious Practices	Domain 8: Catholic Faith Literacy
July thru Nov	7,086	73.1%	80.3%	83.0%	78.5%	65.1%	67.5%	64.2%	77.8%	70.0%
Dec thru Feb	3,385	74.6%	82.0%	84.0%	81.8%	65.4%	68.8%	64.4%	79.7%	72.9%
Mar thru June	6,244	70.8%	77.8%	80.3%	77.2%	61.6%	65.6%	61.1%	75.9%	68.4%
Annual Results	16,715	72.6%	79.7%	82.2%	78.7%	63.8%	67.1%	63.1%	77.5%	70.0%

Performance of Grade 12 Students in Catholic Schools

When assessed	Results	Performance Category		
		Needs Improvements	Proficient	Advanced
July thru Nov	Percent in Category	26.3%	50.9%	22.8%
	Number of Students	1,862	3,608	1,616
Dec thru Feb	Percent in Category	22.2%	46.8%	31.1%
	Number of Students	750	1,583	1,052
Mar thru June	Percent in Category	28.4%	46.7%	24.9%
	Number of Students	1,773	2,915	1,556
Annual Results	Percent in Category	26.2%	48.5%	25.3%
	Number of Students	4,385	8,106	4,224

Grade 12 NCEA ACRE Scores of Students in Parishes

When assessed	No of Student	Part I Total Score	Domain 1: God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit	Domain 2: Church – One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic	Domain 3: Liturgy & Sacraments	Domain 4: Revelation, Scripture & Faith	Domain 5: Life in Christ – Personal Morality & Catholic Social Teaching	Domain 6: Church History	Domain 7: Prayer & Religious Practices	Domain 8: Catholic Faith Literacy
July thru Nov	50	67.4%	78.0%	81.3%	76.6%	60.7%	59.7%	60.7%	73.4%	46.4%
Dec thru Feb	79	64.0%	74.1%	76.0%	73.1%	50.2%	62.3%	53.8%	67.7%	58.1%
Mar thru June	35	76.4%	83.0%	90.4%	85.9%	59.0%	73.6%	67.2%	80.5%	72.3%
Annual Results	164	67.4%	76.8%	78.4%	76.6%	54.4%	64.2%	58.0%	71.7%	58.7%

Performance of Grade 12 Students in Parishes

When assessed	Results	Performance Category		
		Needs Improvements	Proficient	Advanced
July thru Nov	Percent in Category	32.0%	62.0%	6.0%
	Number of Students	16	31	3
Dec thru Feb	Percent in Category	32.9%	49.4%	17.7%
	Number of Students	26	39	14
Mar thru June	Percent in Category	25.7%	48.6%	25.7%
	Number of Students	9	17	9
Annual Results	Percent in Category	31.1%	53.0%	15.9%
	Number of Students	51	87	26