

Data Analysis Template – Key Definitions

- **Percentile**- shows how the performance of one student compares with that of students across the country (a national sample)
- **Score Distribution**- the spread of scores within a unit (for example, the range of scores reported for a classroom, a school, or a school district)
- **Outliers**- scores that lie either well below or above the mean; scores that are on the outlying ranges of the scores reported in a distribution (typically the extreme scores)
- **Quartiles**- a frequency distribution; takes all scores in a distribution and divides them into four parts; each equal part contains a quarter of the sample distribution
- **Academic Growth**- progression on a learning scale; with RIT scores and MAP data, academic growth is evidenced by increases in the reported RIT value
- **Instructional Strength**- skills or concepts in which students demonstrate knowledge; these can be identified on an individual basis or stated in general terms for groups of students
- **Instructional Need**- skills or concepts in which students demonstrate little or no knowledge; these can be identified on an individual basis or stated in general terms for groups of students
- **Instructional Readiness**- a students receptivity or preparedness to learn a particular skill or set of concepts in order to progress to the next level
- **Scope and Sequence**- range and order of a set of skills presented over a year
- **Learning Objectives**- targets a teacher sets for students; objectives are stated in such a way that students and teachers can measure the degree to which the objective was learned
- **Data Limitations**- missing information that limits data interpretation;
- **Triangulation of Data** – using more than one data point to form a comprehensive interpretation of student performance
- **School Effectiveness**- the degree to which a school reaches its intended results or targets
- **Trends**- general movements, tendencies, directions; trends in data allow the analyst to make inferences and/or generalizations about students learning/performance
- **Aggregated Scores**- grouping scores into a whole for the purpose of analysis
- **Disaggregated Data**- separating information into its component parts for the purpose of analysis