

Raising SBAC Summative Scores – The Impact of the SBAC Interim Participation
 Robin Clausen, PhD
 GEMS Stakeholder Liaison and Research Analyst
 Montana Office of Public Instruction

Participation in the SBAC Interim Assessments is both a measure of student progress during the school year and it is a treatment, meaning that taking the SBAC Interim combined with classroom followup may provide the experience that helps student succeed at greater rates on the Summative examination. Recent research of the gains seen from when a student takes the SBAC Interim to the summative examination show that these gains may be attributable to gains caused by the student’s classroom experience and by the test itself. By providing an opportunity for students to take an SBAC test and for the teacher to have immediate access to test results, outcomes focus on the greater ability to steer the student through the curriculum and achieve higher standards of performance on the summative.

This research was conducted using all instances a student took a SBAC Instructional Assessment Block (IAB) in the State of Montana. The numbers of students who took at least one IAB is large – 12,491. The majority of the students took the assessment in grade 3-5. Two grade levels stand out as to how many meaningful gains in terms of each IAB. The majority of the third grade IABs showed that average student score gained significantly in 5 of the 7 IABs test. The range for scale scores for Grade 3 ELA is 2150-2650. Highlighted in yellow are the meaningful (significant) changes with each IAB as well as their point value.

ELA Grade 3 Performance – Average Point Change IAB to Summative

Grade 3 2841 Students	Read Literary Texts Block Achievement Category	Read Informational Texts Block Achievement Category	Editing Block Achievement Category	Language and Vocabulary Use Block Achievement Category	Revision Block Achievement Category	Listen/Interpret Block Achievement Category	Research Block Achievement Category
	+95.27	+54.19	+35.74	+3.38	+24.15	+5.83	+22.84

Grade 6 also experienced meaningful positive changes within 3 of 5 IABs measured. The range for the scale scores is 2280 – 2680. The take-away from this research is that average student scores gain significantly for those students that took an Interim assessment. This could be due to the student having more experience testing or the teacher using the test to guide instruction.

Math Grade 6 Performance – Average Point Change IAB to Summative

Grade 6 1725 Students	Ratio and Proportional Relationships Block Achievement Category	Geometry Block Achievement Category	Expressions and Equations Block Achievement Category	Number System Block Achievement Category	Statistics and Probability Block Achievement Category
	+14.75	+28.42	-3.16	-2.31	+41.52