

# TVAAS

## Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System

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Fact Sheet

Assessment Literacy Training

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### What is Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS)

*Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS)* is a statistical analysis of achievement data that reveals academic **growth over time** for students and groups of students, such as those in a grade level or in a school.

TVAAS is a tool that gives feedback to school leaders and teachers on student progress and assesses the influence of schooling on that progress. It allows districts to follow student achievement over time and provides schools with a longitudinal view of student performance. TVAAS provides valuable information for teams of teachers to inform instructional decisions.

**TVAAS is not an additional student test** but a useful tool to help districts make data-driven decisions. With the TVAAS analysis, districts will be able to *see*, *report* and *act* upon growth data – they will ‘*see*’ whether their students are in fact making progress; they will be able to ‘*report*’ on the gains made and they will be able to ‘*act*’ on what the TVAAS analysis reveals to make relevant instructional decisions for all groups of students.

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### How does TVAAS work?

TVAAS reports are the result of analyses of different tests/variables to produce a precise and reliable estimate of student progress and effectiveness of instruction over time. Up to five years of students’ available achievement data is used in the process to estimate performance. For example, when Reading/Language, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies achievement data are available, future Mathematics performance will be estimated from past performance in all four areas. Value added information for groups of students provides an indication of the effectiveness of schools and school districts, rather than inferring a school’s effectiveness by examining static school performance.

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### What are the Benefits of TVAAS?

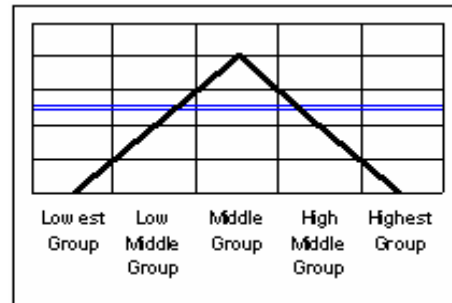
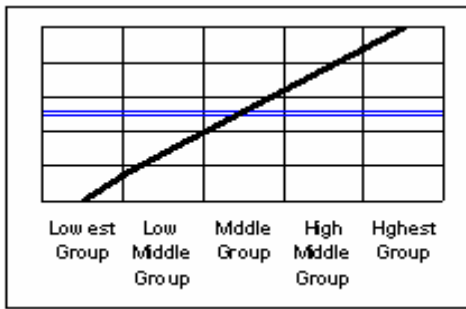
TVAAS methodology follows the progress of individual students over time. Each student is compared to his/her own past performance. By using individual student longitudinal data, each student serves as his or her own ‘control’ thereby eliminating the confounding impact of demographic variables, such as economic status or racial/ethnic group. TVAAS provides a unique gauge to measure how much students have grown each year.

TVAAS empowers all schools and districts with the benefits of rigorous statistical analyses that produce the results in an easily understood format. Reporting is at the fingertips of users, available in a secure-access web delivery. TVAAS gives the option for looking at growth and growth patterns, rather than static performance of groups of students. The TVAAS methodology can analyze data obtained from a variety of assessment instruments (e.g., TCAP CRT’s and High School End of Course). Consequently, results from the TCAP can be analyzed with the TVAAS model.

Unlike typical achievement reports, which may reveal below average performance, TVAAS reports growth over time, thereby allowing these districts to see where growth is occurring even though overall achievement rates may be below benchmark performance.

## What might TVAAS look like?

TVAAS provides an analysis of “patterns of growth.” Some typical growth patterns appear below.

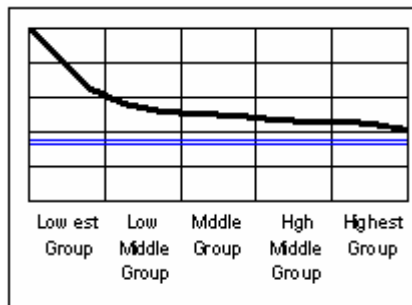


### The Reverse Shed Pattern

This pattern reveals more than a year's growth for high performing students, while the low achieving group has not maintained a year's growth.

### The Tent Pattern

This pattern shows more than a year's growth for average students, while both high and low performing groups are not maintaining a year's growth. Low Performing students are falling further behind.



### The Optimal Pattern

This is the optimal pattern with all students making positive gains. Low achieving students are making the most gains. Over time this pattern has the potential to close the achievement gap.

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