



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, December 10, 2020
www.sde.idaho.gov

Media Contact:
Kristin Rodine
Public Information Officer
208-332-6807
krodine@sde.idaho.gov

SDE releases final results for fall 2020 Idaho Reading Indicator

(BOISE) – Final Fall 2020 statewide results of Idaho’s early reading test, the Idaho Reading Indicator, show little variation from preliminary results released in November. The final results include a breakdown by district and school, as well as performance by student demographic groups.

About half -- 49.6 percent -- of Idaho’s K-3 students were assessed At Grade Level this fall, down from 54.7 percent last year. Individual grades’ scores at grade level were:

- K -- 43.4 percent (up from 42.3 percent last fall)
- 1 – 41.7 percent (48.9 percent last fall)
- 2 – 54.3 percent (62.9 percent last fall)
- 3 – 58.3 percent (64 percent last fall)

“The Fall IRI provides teachers with baseline data to develop learning plans and set goals to determine student growth. This year, the results also provide an indication of the impacts of COVID on student progress, and declines were expected” Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra said. “These results are critical in giving Idaho teachers data they can use to tailor instruction for specific student needs, which is more important this year than ever.”

Now in its fourth year of administration, the IRI is given to all K-3 public school students each fall and spring and measures five foundational reading skills; Alphabetic Knowledge, Phonemic Awareness, Vocabulary, Comprehension and Fluency to ensure Idaho students are learning to read so they can read to learn. Student scores are reported in three tiers: At Grade Level, Near Grade Level and Below Grade Level.

Members of the public can access local district and school results, along with the statewide results, on the [State Department of Education website](http://www.sde.idaho.gov).

More than 86,000 students across the state took the fall IRI between Aug. 10 and Oct. 9. Ninety percent of the online tests were administered in schools, while 10 percent took the test from home.

###

Attached: Graphics showing final 2020 Fall IRI results overall and by grade, and comparison of 2020 and 2019 results.