

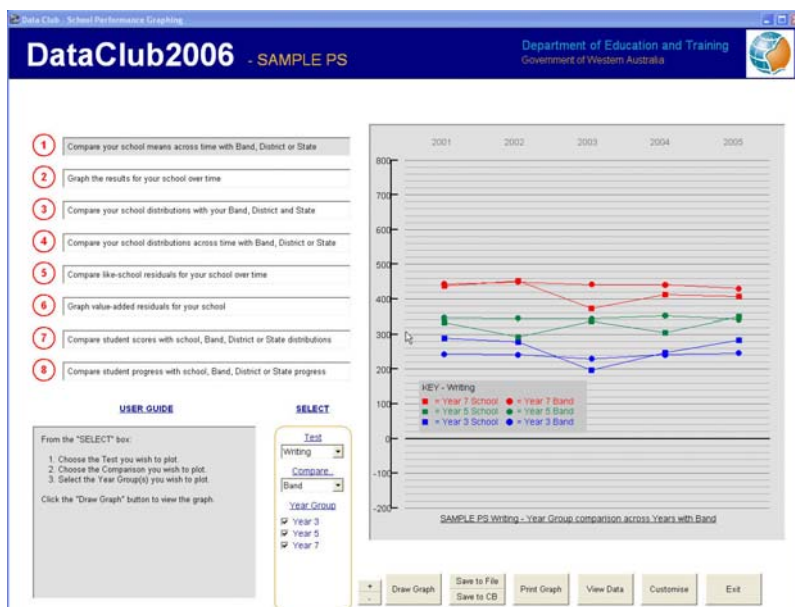
What is the Data Club?

The Data Club supports school leaders in making performance judgements based on their school's Western Australian Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (WALNA) data. The Data Club provides additional analyses of the Year 3, 5 and 7 testing program in government schools and an associated state-wide professional development program and support for school leaders. Longitudinal, comparative and value-added analyses are presented on individualised school CDs via a graphical software package. Over 13,000 data files and 600 school CDs were produced for Data Club 2006. In addition the software and installer has been for the first time made available for downloading from the School Profile System.

History

The Department initially developed and piloted the provision of additional analyses of the WALNA testing program with schools in 1999. From 2000 to 2002 the Institute for Service Professions at Edith Cowan University (ECU) was responsible for further developing and managing the Data Club. The program was funded by the Commonwealth Government in 2000-01 and by the State Government in 2002. Until 2003, comparative analyses were based on the schools that chose to join the 'Club'. Since 2003 the Department of Education and Training has been fully responsible for the Data Club. All government schools with students that complete the WALNA tests are now automatically part of the 'Club' and included in the analyses. The Data Club software was first produced in 2003 and has been updated each year since based on school leader feedback. The software was developed by ECU and is used and updated under a license agreement with the Department.

The Data Club Software



The Data Club software presents longitudinal, comparative and 'value-added' analyses via eight different graphs.

Each graph provides a variety of outputs through use of the selection criteria. The Reading, Writing, Spelling and Numeracy Tests for years 3, 5 and 7 from 2001 to 2005 are available for selection.

Click on **Draw Graph** to display the graph.

Buttons below the graph provide access to a series of functions and special features.

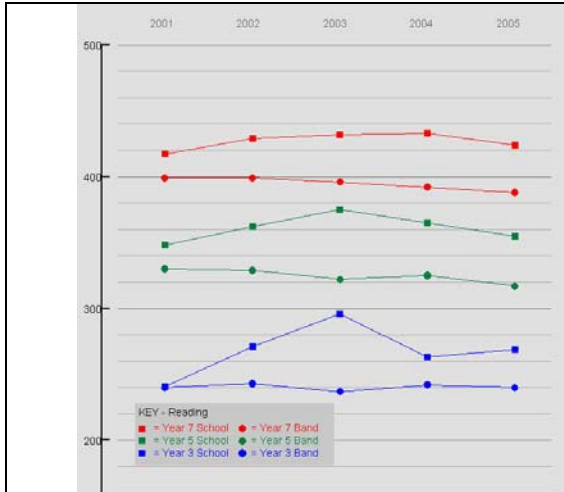
Means	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
School Y3	288	278	197	247	284
Band Y3	243	241	230	241	246
School Y5	334	292	337	305	350
Band Y5	347	345	344	352	342
School Y7	437	453	373	412	407
Band Y7	443	449	442	441	430
N					
Students Y3	40	34	40	42	10
Students Y5	32	37	32	34	26
Students Y7	35	37	26	28	29

View Data displays the data for the selected graph.

Save Graph has the option of saving the graph directly to Clipboard or as an image (.bmp) to a file. **Print Graph** will print directly to the default printer.

A **help panel** for each graph is displayed by clicking on the graph.

The Data Club Graphs



Graph 1 – Compare your school means across time with Band, District or State (government schools).

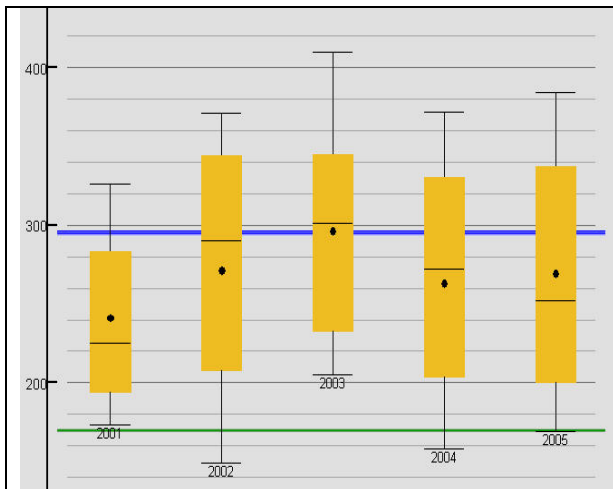
Provides an initial longitudinal presentation of school performance relative to the Band, District or State using means plotted on a simple line graph.

The WAMSE scale, which allows test scores to be compared over time and across year levels, is used.

The focus is on identifying relativity and trends. As a general guide, differences of more than 20 WAMSE score points are of practical significance.

The + and - zoom feature allows the presentation of the graph to be maximised.

The colours may be changed using the Customise feature.



Graph 2 – Graph the results for your school over time.

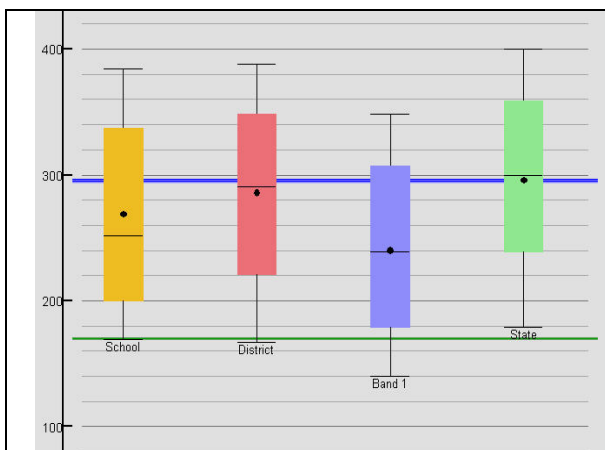
Box and whisker plots for a selected test and year group are presented for the last five years.

Box and whisker plots provide an appreciation of the distribution of scores achieved by each cohort of students.

Compare the positions of the plots on the WAMSE scale, the size and spread of the boxes, the length of the whiskers and the positions of the medians and means.

The green horizontal line represents the Benchmark. The blue horizontal line represents the Western Australian Government Schools' Achievement Target (WAGSAT).

The + and - zoom feature allows the presentation of the graph to be maximised.



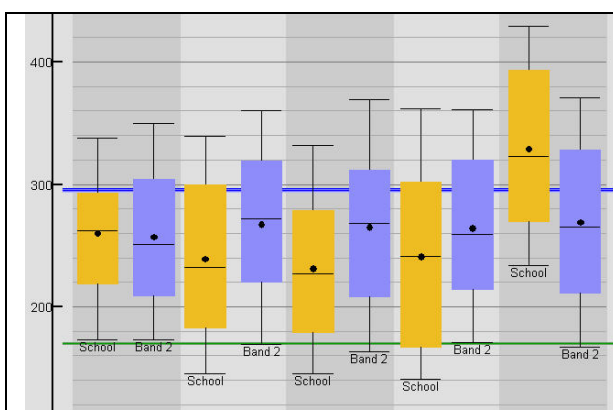
Graph 3 – Compare your school distributions with your Band, District and State.

Box and whisker plots are presented to allow comparison of the school's score distribution for a selected test and year group with the distributions for the District, Band and State.

Compare the positions of the plots on the WAMSE scale, the size and spread of the boxes, the length of the whiskers and the positions of the medians and means.

There is also an option in the Select area to switch the display of the Benchmark and WAGSAT reference lines on or off.

The + and - zoom feature allows the presentation of the graph to be maximised.

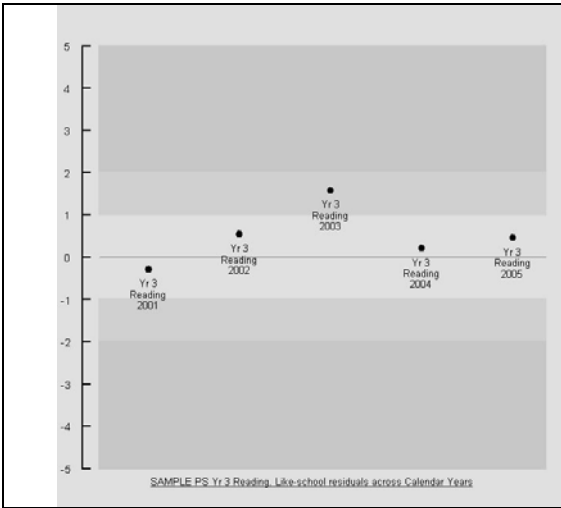


Graph 4 – Compare your school distributions across time with Band, District or State.

Box and whisker plots are presented to allow over time comparison of the school's score distribution for a selected test and year group with the distributions for the Band, District or State.

Compare the positions of the plots on the WAMSE scale, the size and spread of the boxes, the length of the whiskers and the positions of the medians and means.

The + and - zoom feature allows the presentation of the graph to be maximised.

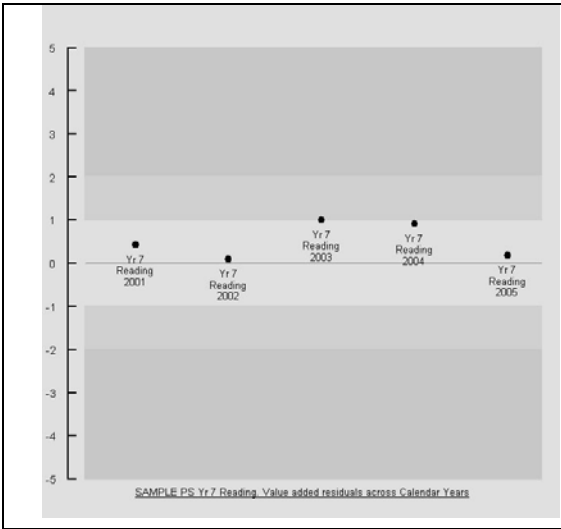


Graph 5 – Graph like-school residuals for your school over time.

This graph allows you to compare your Year 3 standardised like-school residuals across years, showing whether your school performed as expected, taking into account the school's socio-economic context.

This analysis uses school means and the socio-economic index to calculate the residual scores. The scale being used is standard deviations. The analysis is only carried out if there are more than five students in the cohort with test scores.

From a practical perspective standardised residuals within one standard deviation of zero are considered to represent expected performance. Standardised residuals between 1 and 2 standard deviations are worth considering further, particularly if the results are consistent over time. Beyond 2 standard deviations certainly merits a detailed investigation.

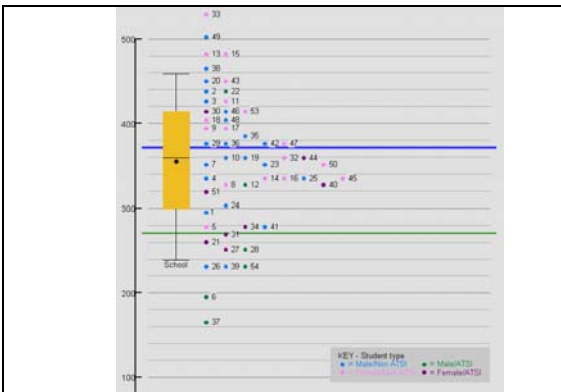


Graph 6 – Graph value-added residuals for your school.

A school's prior performance (from two years earlier) and socio-economic index are both used as the predicting variables to calculate the school's standardised residuals. These indicate how much better, or worse, than expected a group has performed taking into account both previous performance and the school's socio-economic context.

The scale being used is standard deviations. The analysis is only carried out if there are more than five students in the cohort with test scores.

From a practical perspective standardised residuals within one standard deviation of zero are considered to represent expected performance. Standardised residuals between 1 and 2 standard deviations are worth considering further, particularly if the results are consistent over time. Beyond 2 standard deviations certainly merits a detailed investigation.

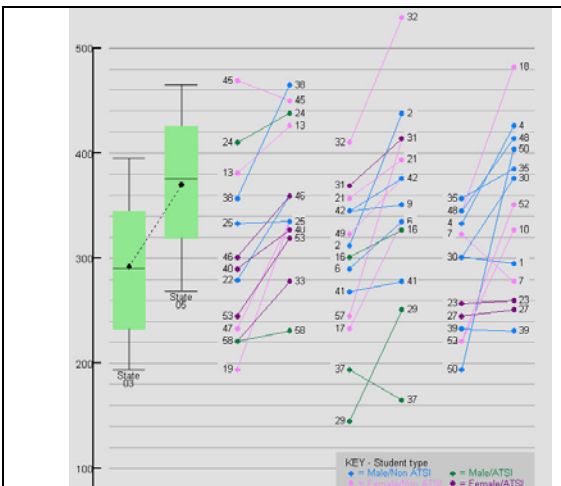


Graph 7 – Compare student scores with school, Band, District or State distributions

This graph allows comparison of individual student scores with the school, Band, District or the State.

Compare with the Band, District or State plots to observe the relative positions of students within these larger groups. For example, is the highest scoring student in the State's top 10%?

Use View Data to identify the individual students. Use the + and - zoom buttons to display the maximised view of the graph. Use Customise to identify sub-groups of interest.



Graph 8 – Compare student progress with school, Band, District or State progress.

This graph plots the progress of individual students compared with progress of the school, Band, District or the State.

The dotted line between the means of the box and whisker plots indicates typical growth. By comparing the slopes of the lines students can be identified who have progressed more than, less than or around what might be expected.

Only those students who could be matched across the two tests on name, sex and date of birth, within your school, will be displayed.

Use View Data to identify the individual students. Use the zoom and customise features as for Graph 7.

