

## **Academic and Attendance School Records**

Grade 7/Year 8

Fast Track Project Technical Report

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SAS program to convert character variables to numeric variables

### **Citations**

#### *Instruments*

Walker, H.M., Block-Pedego, A., Todis, B., and Severson, H. (1991). *School Archival Records Search (SARS): User's guide and technical manual*. Longmont, CO: Sopris West.

#### *Reports*

Rains, C. and Heinrichs, B. (2003). *Universal Follow-Up School Records* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Available from the Fast Track Project Web site: <http://www.fasttrackproject.org>

Griner, L., Bruschi, C., and Greenberg, M. (2001). *School Records: Grade 1* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University.

Bruschi, C. and Greenberg, M. (2000). *School Records Form* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University.

### **Sources**

*Raw:* O8N

*Scored:* SRC8

### **I. Scale Description**

The School Records measure is a modification of the School Archival Records Search (SARS) developed by Walker et al. in order to quantify school record data. The School Records measure is a series of items completed by the interviewer by reviewing the child's school records. School record data were collected after the school closed for the summer and/or at the beginning of the following academic year. The items include everything from the child's absences, tardies, and grades for classes, as well as information about

the child's involvement in the special education program at the school and the child's special education classification. In addition, other data collected, as available, included testing information, suspension, expulsion, and enrollment data.

When the child reached grade 7, the school record measure was separated into academic and discipline records and the measure became computerized. The academic records are reported in this technical report. The computerized academic measure for school records included a few changes, such as dropping several subject areas from the grade collection section (spelling and reading), as well as dropping detailed information about the achievement tests. Slight changes were also made to the special education classification section in that the choices for classification were reduced to 8 from 11, dropping the classifications of "learning disabled/speech and language impaired," "orthopedically impaired or other health impaired/speech and language impaired," "orthopedically impaired or other health impaired//learning disabled," and "orthopedically impaired or other health impaired//learning disabled/speech and language impaired." In 2001, the computerized version of the academic records was modified again to include more details about tests that are unique to each site, as well as a place for interviewers to be more specific about the child's school type.

Analysts should be aware that as the measure changed over the years, so did the codes for the variables. Items from the scanform were labeled as OxJ. When the measure became computerized and the academic and discipline records were separated, the academic items were labeled as OxN. Finally, when the computer version of the academic records was revised, the academic items were labeled as OxQ.

Analysts should also be aware that, in year 8, some of the variable labels were switched around. Previously, in years 2 through 7, variables OxJ18 and OxJ21 were reserved for recording the national percentile scores for language and mathematics for the sites in Pennsylvania, Nashville, and Seattle. Also in years 2 through 7, variables OxJ22 and OxJ23 were reserved for recording the North Carolina reading and mathematics scale scores for the end of grade tests at the Durham site. In year 8 and beyond, items 18 and 21 were used to record the North Carolina end of grade test scores for reading and mathematics for the Durham site, while items 22 and 23 were used to record the national percentile scores for language and mathematics for the other three sites, Pennsylvania, Nashville, and Seattle.

The preliminary and special education sections are completed and entered into the computer only once per youth per academic year, while one school section is completed and entered into the computer for each school the youth attended during the academic year.

## **II. Report Sample**

These exploratory analyses were conducted on the first cohort on the high-risk control sample (n = 155) and the normative sample (n = 387 with overlap, total N = 463) in the eighth year of the collection of this study. 71 were missing the complete measure. Of these, 23 were from the control sample (3 from Durham, 8 from Nashville, 6 from Pennsylvania, and 6 from Washington). 63 of the missing were from the normative sample (11 from Durham, 22 from Nashville, 13 from Pennsylvania, and 17 from Washington). These numbers may reflect some overlap between the two samples.

## **III. Scaling**

No scales were constructed from the school records. Each item stands by itself.

**IV. Subsets**  
**A. Grades**

As different districts use different letter, number, and symbol designations, a grading scale (1-13) was created to allow translation into a standard metric. See the appendix for the instruction manual for information about how the various grading systems were transformed. A zero entry reflected that no grade was given (either because the subject was not taught or there was no grade given for the class); these zeroes were converted to missing for analysis. If school grades were not available, the items were left blank (blank equals missing). In 1998, the grades changed to the standard system of A through F, which were then converted to the grading scale used in earlier years.

The students' mean grades for the core subjects are as follows:

Subject	Normative		Control	
	Mean Grade	SD	Mean Grade	SD
Math	7.07	3.69	6.11	3.56
Language Arts	7.24	3.85	6.19	3.60
Social Studies	7.18	3.97	6.06	3.79
Science	6.94	3.95	5.90	3.56

**B. Achievement Tests**

The data for the achievement test portion of the measure can be broken down into two tables: one that shows the distribution in terms of types of tests taken by both the normative and control students and one that reports the scores for these tests.

The types of achievement tests taken were:

Test	Normative		Control	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Option 0-Missing	89	28%	43	33%
Option 1-California Achievement Test	14	4%	1	1%
Option 2-Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program	1	0.3%	1	1%
Option 3-CTBS/Terra Nova	116	36%	48	36%
Option 4-Stanford Achievement Test	3	1%	1	1%
Option 6-IOWA*	7	2%	1	1%
Option 9-Other	92	28%	36	27%

\*IOWA can represent either the Iowa Test of Basic Skills or the Iowa Test of Educational Development, depending on what school the child attended. In Pennsylvania, schools tend to use the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. In Washington, schools used both versions. Nashville and Durham did not use either test.

The following table displays the means for the percentiles reported:

Subject	Normative		Control	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Math Total Percentile	46.59	31.34	39.36	30.85
Language Total Percentile	45.20	30.34	40.35	30.35
EOG Score/Math (Durh only)	158.54	11.53	155.39	8.69
EOG Score/Reading (Durh only)	150.38	9.58	148.04	9.44

**C. Special Education**

If a child did not receive special education services during that year, this item was recorded as “0” and further items regarding special education services were recorded as “skip”. If “1” (for “yes”) was recorded, then there were a series of additional items that were completed. If the information was unavailable, this variable was recorded as “missing.”

Sixty (19%) of the normative students and 51 (39%) of the control students were noted as having an IEP on file at school. The following tables break down the number of students who did/did not have IEPs and the categorizations of the students with IEPs.

Analysts should note that students in full-time special education were assigned a value of 1500 minutes in the dataset, even though the actual number of minutes representing full-time varied by school system.

Normative Sample

Has an IEP (O8N34)	Mentally Retarded (O8N35A)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Missing	.	76	19.64	76	19.64
0	.	251	64.86	327	84.50
1	.	3	0.78	330	85.28
1	0	51	13.18	381	98.46
1	1	6	1.55	387	100.00

Has an IEP (O8N34)	Learning Disabled (O8N35B)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Missing	.	76	19.64	76	19.64
0	.	251	64.86	327	84.50
1	.	3	0.78	330	85.28
1	0	22	5.68	352	90.96
1	1	35	9.04	387	100.00

Has an IEP (O8N34)	SBD/SED/BEH (O8N35C)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Missing	.	76	19.64	76	19.64
0	.	251	64.86	327	84.50
1	.	3	0.78	330	85.28
1	0	51	13.18	381	98.46
1	1	6	1.55	387	100.00

Has an IEP (O8N34)	Other Health Impaired (O8N35E)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Missing	.	76	19.64	76	19.64
0	.	251	64.86	327	84.50
1	.	3	0.78	330	85.28
1	0	53	13.70	383	98.98
1	1	4	1.03	387	100.00

Has an IEP (O8N34)	Speech & Language Impaired (O8N35F)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Missing	.	76	19.64	76	19.64
0	.	251	64.86	327	84.50
1	.	3	0.78	330	85.28
1	0	46	11.89	376	97.17
1	1	11	2.84	387	100.00

Has an IEP (O8N34)	Talented & Gifted (O8N35G)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Missing	.	76	19.64	76	19.64
0	.	251	64.86	327	84.50
1	.	3	0.78	330	85.28
1	0	56	14.47	386	99.75
1	1	1	0.26	387	100.00

Has an IEP (O8N34)	Other (O8N35H)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Missing	.	76	19.64	76	19.64
0	.	251	64.86	327	84.50
1	.	6	1.55	330	86.05
1	0	53	13.70	386	99.75
1	1	1	0.26	387	100.00

### Control Sample

Has an IEP (O8N34)	Mentally Retarded (O8N35A)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Missing	.	27	17.42	27	17.42
0	.	77	49.68	104	67.10
1	.	3	1.94	107	69.04
1	0	39	25.16	146	94.20
1	1	9	5.81	155	100.00

Has an IEP (O8N34)	Learning Disabled (O8N35B)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Missing	.	27	17.42	27	17.42
0	.	77	49.68	104	67.10
1	.	3	1.94	107	69.04
1	0	27	17.42	134	86.46
1	1	21	13.55	155	100.00

Has an IEP (O8N34)	SBD/SED/BEH (O8N35C)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Missing	.	27	17.42	27	17.42
0	.	77	49.68	104	67.10
1	.	3	1.94	107	69.04
1	0	33	21.29	140	90.33
1	1	15	9.68	155	100.00

Has an IEP (O8N34)	Other Health Impaired (O8N35E)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Missing	.	27	17.42	27	17.42
0	.	77	49.68	104	67.10
1	.	3	1.94	107	69.04
1	0	41	26.45	148	95.49
1	1	7	4.52	155	100.00

Has an IEP (O8N34)	Speech and Language Impaired (O8N35F)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Missing	.	27	17.42	27	17.42
0	.	77	49.68	104	67.10
1	.	3	1.94	107	69.04
1	0	44	28.39	151	97.43
1	1	4	2.58	155	100.00

No students were categorized as being orthopedically impaired or in any other type of classification other than what is included above. Six normative students were classified into two categories: three were both learning disabled and speech and language impaired, one was learning disabled and SED/SBD/BEH, one was learning disabled and other health impaired, and one was mentally retarded and speech and language impaired. Six control students were also classified into two categories: one was both learning disabled and speech and language impaired, two were learning disabled and SED/SBD/BEH, one was learning disabled and other health impaired, one was mentally retarded and speech and language impaired, and one was mentally retarded and SED/SBD/BEH. One control student had three classifications: learning disabled, SED/SBD/BEH, and other health impaired

The following tables summarize the number of children using special education resources (minutes/week):

	Regular Education with Resource
Missing	85
Has IEP/Minutes Missing	5
No IEP	292
Has an IEP/0 minutes	58
Has an IEP/1-1499 minutes	23
Has an IEP/1500 Minutes	0

	Special Education with Resource
Missing	85
Has IEP/Minutes Missing	5
No IEP	292
Has an IEP/0 minutes	55
Has an IEP/1-1499 minutes	25
Has an IEP/1500 Minutes	1

	Self-Contained Classroom
Missing	85
Has IEP/Minutes Missing	5
No IEP	292
Has an IEP/0 minutes	50
Has an IEP/1-1499 minutes	13
Has an IEP/1500 Minutes	18

	Other Services
Missing	85
Has IEP/Minutes Missing	6
No IEP	292
Has an IEP/0 minutes	59
Has an IEP/1-1499 minutes	21
Has an IEP/1500 Minutes	0

	Total of All Services
Missing	85
Has IEP/Minutes Missing	2
No IEP	292
Has an IEP/0 minutes	4
Has an IEP/1-1499 minutes	54
Has an IEP/1500 Minutes	26

Six normative students and four control students were declared as not needing special education resources any longer.

#### **D. Attendance**

The mean number of days enrolled for the normative students was 175.79 (SD=18.99). The mean number of days absent was 13.63 (SD=15.87), while the mean number of days tardy was 5.62 (SD=8.50).

The mean number of days enrolled for the control students was 173.55 (SD=24.69). The mean number of days absent was 18.03 (SD=17.85), while the mean number of days tardy was 6.72 (SD=10.49).

#### **E. Miscellaneous**

The majority of the normative students (80%) were in the seventh grade. Several normative students were distributed over other grade levels: one in fifth grade, 59 (18%) in sixth grade, and three in eighth grade. For the control students, 83% were in the eighth grade, with the rest distributed as follows: 21 (16%) in the sixth grade and two in the eighth grade.

Ninety-three percent of the control students and 96% of the normative students were not repeating a grade. Forty-eight percent of the normative students and 51% of the control students experienced no school transitions, while 46% of the normative students and 39% of the control students experienced one school transition during the school year. Seventeen normative students and ten control students had two school transitions, two normative students and three control students had three school transitions, one normative student had four school transitions, and one normative student experienced nine school transitions during the school year.

None of the students were siblings of a target child.

#### **V. Differences between Groups**

A series of t-tests comparing the high-risk control sample and the normative sample (including the overlap) indicated significant differences for six of the items: math, language arts, social studies, science, the number of days absent, and the number of minutes per week total with services.

In addition, for several items the normative mean was greater than for the control mean. These items were: math, language arts, social studies, and science.



School Records--Items

Variable	Normative Sample		Control Sample		DF	t Value	Pr >  t
	Mean	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev			
Math (O8N2)	7.38	3.67	6.11	3.56	380	-3.22	0.0014
Language Arts (O8N3)	7.60	3.81	6.19	3.60	379	-3.48	0.0006
Social Studies (O8N5)	7.60	3.93	6.06	3.79	374	-3.61	0.0003
Science (O8N6)	7.31	3.97	5.90	3.56	367	-3.31	0.0010
Number of Days Absent (O8N7)	12.43	14.72	18.03	17.85	369	3.22	0.0014
Number of Days Tardy (O8N8)	5.02	7.55	6.72	10.49	335	1.70	0.0902
Number of Days Enrolled (O8N9)	176.81	15.76	173.55	24.69	368	-1.54	0.1247
EOG Score/Reading-Durham Only (O8N18)	151.58	9.23	148.04	9.44	90	-1.64	0.1036
EOG Score/Math-Durham Only (O8N21)	159.55	11.53	155.38	8.69	91	-1.67	0.0992
Language-Total Percentile (O8N22)	47.25	30.42	40.35	30.35	157	-1.32	0.1883
Math-Total Percentile (O8N23)	49.56	31.53	39.36	30.85	158	-1.91	0.0579
Number of School Building Transitions (O8N26)	0.61	0.82	0.62	0.73	387	0.06	0.9497
Number of Minutes/Week in Regular Ed w/Resources (O8N37)	55.59	114.44	59.28	142.24	79	0.12	0.9011
Number of Minutes/Week in Special Ed Resources (O8N38)	206.47	360.08	266.38	434.01	79	0.66	0.5128
Number of Minutes/Week in Self-Contained (O8N39)	425.00	670.06	638.94	722.47	79	1.36	0.1791
Number of Minutes/Week Other Resources (O8N40)	10.21	19.89	9.20	27.27	78	-0.18	0.8554
Number of Minutes/Week Total w/Services (O8N41)	677.34	588.19	933.86	575.97	82	1.99	0.0494

## VI. Recommendations for Use

Many of the variables collected in this dataset are strongly influenced by school policy. In addition, sites vary in method assigning subject grades and schools within site can have a strong influence when their policies and record keeping differ from other schools

Most schools are using traditional letter grades in the subjects. A code of 'ngg' in the subject grades indicates that no grade was given.

Data regarding the diagnoses for a student having an IEP are questionable in this dataset. In addition, the date of original diagnosis is entered as the date of the most recent IEP in many cases for Pennsylvania data.

## VII. Item Means and SDs

### Normative Sample

Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
O8N2	Math	316	7.066	3.691	1.000	13.000
O8N3	Language Arts	313	7.240	3.847	1.000	13.000
O8N5	Social Studies	312	7.183	3.974	1.000	13.000
O8N6	Science	306	6.941	3.954	1.000	13.000
O8N7	# of Days Absent	304	13.628	15.866	0.000	114.000
O8N8	# of Days Tardy	278	5.622	8.503	0.000	55.000
O8N9	# of Days Enrolled	304	175.789	18.988	7.000	184.000
O8N18	EOG Score/Read (Durh Only)	73	150.384	9.581	134.000	172.000
O8N21	EOG Score/Math (Durh Only)	74	158.541	11.527	138.000	191.000
O8N22	Language - Total Percentile	141	45.199	30.335	0.000	99.000
O8N23	Math - Total Percentile	141	46.589	31.340	0.000	99.000
O8N26	# of School Building Transitions	321	0.623	0.801	0.000	9.000
O8N37	# Min/Wk in Regular Ed w/Resources	56	46.411	106.079	0.000	430.000
O8N38	# Min/Wk in Special Ed Resource	56	222.161	384.429	0.000	1500.000
O8N39	# Min/Wk Self-Contained	56	534.714	699.740	0.000	1500.000
O8N40	# Min/Wk Other	56	9.464	21.904	0.000	105.000
O8N41	Total # Min/Wk with Services	59	771.424	595.683	0.000	1500.000

### Control Sample

Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
O8N2	Math	128	6.109	3.559	1.000	13.000
O8N3	Language Arts	130	6.192	3.598	1.000	13.000
O8N5	Social Studies	124	6.056	3.794	1.000	13.000
O8N6	Science	120	5.900	3.563	1.000	13.000
O8N7	# of Days Absent	125	18.032	17.852	0.000	86.000
O8N8	# of Days Tardy	108	6.722	10.485	0.000	55.000
O8N9	# of Days Enrolled	122	173.549	24.694	7.000	183.000
O8N18	EOG Score/Read (Durh Only)	26	148.038	9.438	133.000	165.000
O8N21	EOG Score/Math (Durh Only)	26	155.385	8.691	139.000	171.000
O8N22	Language - Total Percentile	49	40.347	30.350	0.000	99.000
O8N23	Math - Total Percentile	50	39.360	30.846	1.000	99.000
O8N26	# of School Building Transitions	130	0.615	0.730	0.000	3.000
O8N37	# Min/Wk in Regular Ed w/Resources	47	59.277	142.236	0.000	705.000
O8N38	# Min/Wk in Special Ed Resource	47	266.383	434.008	0.000	1500.000
O8N39	# Min/Wk Self-Contained	47	638.936	722.466	0.000	1500.000
O8N40	# Min/Wk Other	46	9.196	27.274	0.000	138.000
O8N41	Total # Min/Wk with Services	49	933.857	575.971	0.000	1500.000

## Appendix

### Instructions for Entering Data

The following instructions for completing the scantron form used to generate the data in this report are from the Fast Track 'School Records Manual,' December 6, 2001, compiled by Sandy Lahn, Seattle Fast Track (pp. 5-9).

The following are instructions on how to complete each field on the computer form.

#### Preliminary Questions

##### Cohort

Enter the cohort of the youth to which this record applies.

##### TCID

Enter Target Child's ID. If the record is for a sibling of the target child, still enter the Target Child's ID.

##### Child's First Name/Last Initial

Enter the first name and last initial of the youth to which this record applies. If the record applies to a sibling, enter the sibling's first name and last initial.

##### Is This Child The Sibling Of The Target Child?

Enter 'yes' if this is a record for a sibling. Otherwise, enter 'no'.

##### Academic Year

Always put the spring calendar year. For example, data collection on the 1993-1994 academic year would be marked as "1994."

##### Is Child Repeating A Grade In The Current Year?

This question refers to the academic year being collected. Answer yes, if the youth was in her/his second or greater year in the same grade level.

##### Number Of School Building Transitions Since The End Of The Last School Year

This is the number of times the youth changed schools from spring promotion to the next spring promotion. For example, if you were collecting data for the 1993-94 school year, a youth ended the 1992-1993 school year in one school and started in a new school in the beginning of the 1993-1994 year, you would record one transition. Each school change should be counted, even if the child begins in school A, goes to School B, and returns again to School A (this would be counted as two transitions).

##### School Section (begins with the school field and ends with the academic test scores)

##### School

Enter the name of the school for which the academic records apply. Note that it may NOT be the same school the youth is currently attending or the school from which the records were collected.

##### School Type

The intent of reporting different school types in school records is so that, during data analysis, numbers that are not compatible may be identified and treated accordingly. For example, when comparing grades of the normative vs. control groups, school categories that have altered grading strategies (i.e. alternative – academic schools) may be identified and possibly excluded. Another example would be, when analyzing days absent from school, a data analyst might want to exclude data from a school that is located within a jail because of the effect incarceration might have on an individual's attendance at that school. With this purpose in mind, choices other than 'Regular Education' reflect school alternatives that come about due to behavior or academic problems or due to

situations where the youth is not attending school. These school alternatives result in collected data that is possibly incompatible with the 'normal' school data being collected. Conversely, these categories do not cover alternative school environments providing a specific ethnic focus, nor do they cover private schools.

Enter the category below which best describes the school. (Your supervisor may provide the category to you.)

*Regular Education:* Any school that isn't covered under the categories listed below.

*Homebound:* The youth is not attending school, but School District employees are providing education services to the youth in the home. Providing these services can be because the youth has a medical condition that prohibits him/her from attending school or because the youth has been suspended indefinitely from school pending a disciplinary hearing or placement in an alternative school.

*Alternative School – Behavior:* Schools specifically for children with severe behavior problems or life situations that prohibit them from attending a regular education school. Reasons might be because they can not function in a self-contained behavior class in a regular education school, they have been expelled and are not accepted at another regular education school, they have previously dropped out of school and are in a reentry program, or the youth is pregnant and wants to continue going to school.

*Alternative School – Academic:* Schools for children whose main issue is underachievement. For whatever reason they cannot succeed academically in a regular school. Schools in this category will usually have smaller teacher/student ratios and will provide more individual help for children. Usually youth attending these schools do not have major behavior problems.

*Charter:* Non-private school that works closely with members of the general population (usually parents of the attendees) in designing the goals, curriculum, and standards of the school. Most charter schools would be listed under the category of regular education because they have no unique characteristics that would separate them from regular education schools. List a charter school under this category only if the school has characteristics that would be of interest to a data analyst (i.e. don't grade the attendees, don't keep attendance).

*Home-Schooled:* The youth is being taught at home by a parent/caregiver. There are no auxiliary services provided to the youth by the school district.

*Day Treatment:* The youth's educational needs are met in a day treatment program at a residential treatment site instead of attending a public or private school. The situation is usually a temporary, therapeutic placement with the intention that the child will return to the public school setting once their "issues" have been worked out (i.e. they are evaluated/diagnosed/counseled when in day treatment, and part of their day involves therapy).

*Residential Treatment Facility:* The youth lives in and receives school instruction at a twenty-four hour, seven days a week, facility. This includes jails and prisons.

*Other:* Any other school that doesn't fit into one of the other categories, but meets the criteria defined in the purpose statement. This category is to be used sparingly.

*Dropped Out of School:* Use this code for youths that were not in attendance at any school or institution for the entire school year and are not homebound or being home schooled.

### **Course Grades**

If a youth attended multiple schools, average the grades given at each school. Round up to the higher grade averaged grades. For example, enter D, if the youth received an F for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester and D for 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Enter 'NGG' if the subject was taken but no grade was given. This is different from a 'pass/fail' grade.

Enter 'M' if the subject was taken but the grade is missing.

Enter 'NA' if the grade is not applicable. For example, the subject was not taken by the youth.

Record "English" grades in the "Language Arts" field; all history course grades in the "Social Studies" field; and "Biology", "Chemistry," and "Physics" course grades in the "Science" field.

### **Number Days Absent**

The Number of Days Absent includes both excused and unexcused full day absences. Attendance for **middle and high schools** becomes very complicated when it is recorded at the schools by the period. When this happens, the lowest common denominator of all of the individual class absences equals the number of full day absences.

### **Number Days Tardy**

The number of days tardy includes both excused and unexcused tardies. Because we want the number of days late to school and not the number of tardies to every class periods, for those schools that report tardies by class period determine which class was the first period class and add up how many times the youth was either late to or absent from that class but came to school at a later class period.

### **Number Days Enrolled**

Enter the number of days the child was enrolled in the school. This is not the number of days the child attended. If the child was enrolled for the entire school year, enter 180.

### **Academic Testing General Information**

Enter "0" for a percentage score that is less than 1 percent.

The Terra Nova test is a new form of the CTBS, and should be recorded as such. For this test, enter the composite score in the Total%ile field, the Reading score in the Compr%ile field, the Language score in the Express%ile field, and the Mathematics score in the Con/App%ile field.

If the test used is the CTBS, enter the **PR-S** ("National Percentile Score") and NOT the NCE ("Normalized Curve Equivalent").

When special education children do not have achievement test scores because they were not tested, leave the score fields blank and write 'Exempt from Testing' in the margin of the form. Use the 'exempt from testing' option in the test score fields when entering the record into the Fast Track Mid-Year Measures (FTMYM) program.

**For the Durham site only**, national achievement test (CAT, MAT etc.) data will probably not be available. In that case leave all of the first part of the achievement testing blank. Then, complete the information listed under the North Carolina End of Grade Test.

Record the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) and Iowa Test of Educational Development as IOWA on the computer form. From the Iowa Test of Educational Development, record Reading Total as the Language Arts %ile, and Total Quantitative as the Math %ile. From the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, record Total Reading as the Language Arts %ile and Total Math with Computation as the Math %ile.

Each Fast Track site has additional tests that are unique to that site. Refer to the instructions you receive from your supervisor on which ones these are and how to record them.

**Name of Achievement Test**

Circle the name of the achievement test from which you acquired the test scores. If the test is not one of those listed on the computer form, circle 'other' and write in the test's name.

**Total %ile Scores**

Enter the test percentiles that are the **national percentile** ratings (how the child compares nationally, not with the school district or state).

**Special Education Section**

Instructions for completing this section of the computer form are in a separate section in this manual titled Special Education.

**ENTERING THE DATA INTO THE FTMYM PROGRAM**

Please see the help screen for specific information about entering the computer form into the Fast Track Mid-Year Measures program. Be sure to note the instruction saying, "NOT TO USE THE TAB KEY WHEN MOVING FROM FIELD TO FIELD."