AppliedGiftedEd

WISC-IV General Ability Index (G.A.I.) Worksheet

The map is not the territory.
Alfred Korzybski

Note: This is not a diagnostic or reporting tool from a test publisher.
Please consult with a certified school psychologist regarding score interpretation. Make additional copies of this chart as-needed.

Summary:
The General Ability Index (GAI) is an 'other' way to look at the WISC-IV tested results, one which accounts primarily for issues involving processing speed. The full explanation of the GAI and its use can be found in Harcourt Assessment's *Technical Report #4*. That report is available at the 'GAI Source Data' link, shown below.

Worksheet:
The child's Gifted Written Report (GWR) should contain the child's Full Scale IQ (FSIQ) results along with the Index Scores and Subtest Scores. To calculate the GAI, you must have the Subtest Scores for the Verbal Comprehension Index (VCI) and the Perceptual Reasoning Index (PRI). If that information is not available in the GWR, contact the school psychologist and ask that your child's Index and Subtest Scores be sent to you. If they refuse to do so, insist that they provide you that information. If you still need help, please contact me directly.

Test: WISC-IV Date Tested:

Verbal Comprehension Index: (VCI)	Subtest Scores	
Vocabulary		
Comprehension		
Similarities		
	VCI Subtotal:	

Perceptual Reasoning Index: (PRI)	Subtest Scores	
Block Design		
Matrix Reasoning		
Picture Concepts		
	PRI Subtotal:	

Add the VCI and PRI Subtotals:

GAI Total ☐

GAI / FSIQ Equivalent ☐

FSIQ from the GWR ☐

Take the GAI Total and find its FSIQ Equivalent using the GAI Data Chart.

GAI Data

GAI Total	FSIQ Equivalent	Percentile	GAI Total	FSIQ Equivalent	Percentile
60	100	50	79	122	93
61	101	53	80	123	94
62	102	55	81	124	95
63	103	58	82	126	96
64	104	61	83	127	96
65	105	63	84	128	97
66	106	66	85	129	97
67	107	68	86	130	98
68	108	70	87	132	98
69	110	75	88	133	99
70	111	77	89	135	99
71	112	79	90	136	99
72	113	81	91	138	99
73	115	84	92	138	99.5
74	116	86	93	140	99.6
75	117	87	94	142	99.7
76	119	90	95	143	99.8
77	120	91	96	144	99.8
78	121	92	97	146	99.9

Full data table available at 'GAI Source Data' link given below – Table 1, Page 5.

GAI Source Data:
http://harcourtassessment.com/hai/Images/pdf/wisciv/WISCIVTechReport4.pdf

Note:
The higher of the two scores should, generally, be the one used while deciding gifted educational issues. If there is a difference between the FSIQ and the GAI, that should be discussed at the GIEP Team meeting. The GAI is a publisher-recognized way to interpret the WISC-IV results. The question of how to effectively use the GAI during a meeting with the district is separate from the question of whether the GAI itself is a valid index score.

As a GIEP Team and GMDT team member, you must understand your role in the process. The issue with GAI is not whether the district needs to consider the GAI when it makes its recommendation. The issue is whether you, as the parent, are going to use the information the GAI provides when you decide whether to approve the district's recommendation. If the district recommends against gifted identification, but you believe the GAI score indicates that gifted identification is warranted, you need to make that case. The information on AppliedGiftedEd can help you make it.

© 2007 Todd McIntyre, Special Education Advocate

www.AppliedGiftedEd.com (484) 831-5394

This is not legal advice or does it provide psychological services. Please consult with an attorney or certified school psychologist.