

Review of the Literature **HANDWRITING SPEED** and **LEGIBILITY**

Literature Review

	Ayres		Freeman		Groff		Ziviani		Alley	
Grade	ltr/m	wpm	ltr/m	wpm	ltr/m	wpm	ltr/m	wpm	ltr/m	wpm
1	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		20-32	4-6.4
2	N/A		30	6	N/A		N/A		20-35	4-7
3	N/A		40	8	N/A		32	6.4	25-45	5-9
4	55	11	50	10	35	7	34	6.8	35-55	7-11
5	64	12.8	60	12	40	8	38	7.6	40-65	8-13
6	71	14.2	67	13.4	49	9.8	46	9.2	45-70	9-14
7	N/A		74	14.8	N/A		52	10.4	60-75	12-15
8	N/A		80		N/A		N/A		70-90	14-18

Adapted from: Ziviani, J. (1984). Some elaborations on handwriting speed in 7-14 year old. *Perceptual and Motor Skills*, 58, 535-539.

Handwriting Speed and Legibility Rates

Comparison of Handwriting Speed

<i>Grade Level</i>	<i>Boys Handwriting Speed</i>	<i>Girls Handwriting Speed</i>
5 th	13.0 wpm	15.2 wpm
8 th	19.1 wpm	22.3 wpm

Comparison of Handwriting Legibility Averages

<i>Grade Level</i>	<i>Boys Legibility</i>	<i>Girls Legibility</i>
5 th	89 %	96 %
8 th	88 %	97 %

Honaker, D. (2000). Handwriting and Keyboarding Legibility/Speed of 5th and 8th grade students, a pilot study. Unpublished manuscript.

Keyboarding Speeds

<i>Grade Level</i>	<i>Boys Typing Speed</i>	<i>Girls Typing Speed</i>
5 th	8.5 wpm	10.5 wpm
8 th	17.7 wpm	18.9 wpm

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Typing Speed - words per minute</i>
6 th	9 - 14
7 th	11 - 16
8 th	13 - 18

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