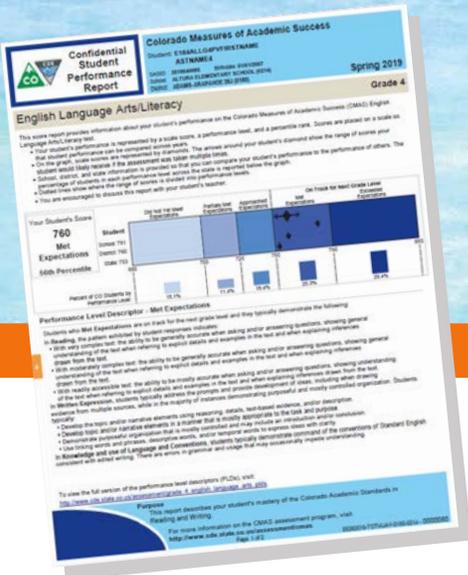


Colorado Measures of Academic Success

Understanding English Language Arts and Math Score Reports

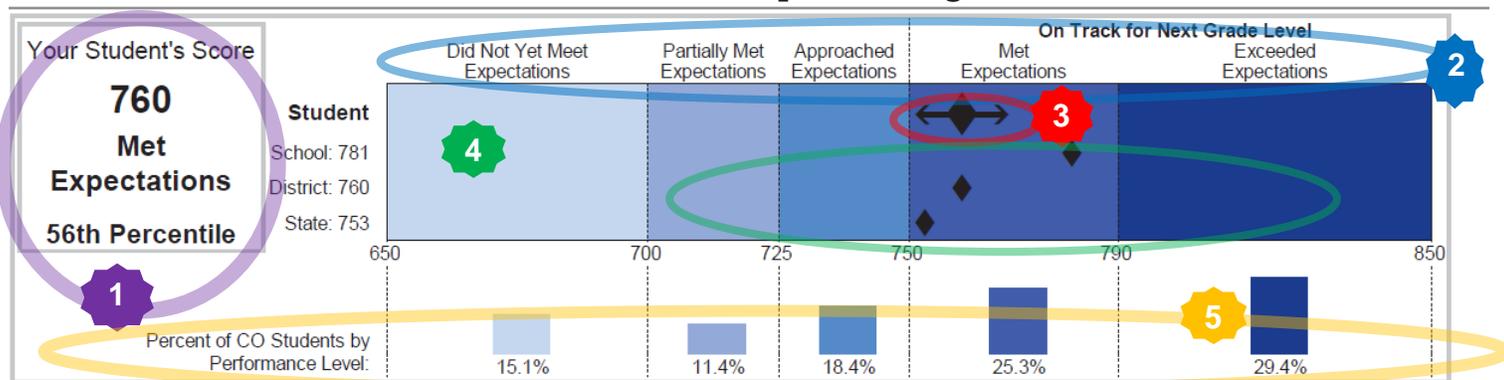


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Colorado Measures of Academic Success score reports feature information that helps parents better understand how well their child has mastered the Colorado Academic Standards in the assessed content areas at the end of the grade level. Data included in this resource are not based on actual 2019 data.

How to Read Your Student's 2019 Score Report – Page 1



1 Student Performance Overview – This section provides your child’s overall score. Students receive a numerical overall score and, based on that score, are included in one of five performance levels. The percentile ranking shows how well your student performed in comparison to other students in the state. For example, a student in the 56th percentile performed better than 56 percent of students in the state. The concepts and skills typically demonstrated by students within your child’s performance level are included in the Performance Level Descriptor section on the bottom of page one.

2 Performance Levels – Performance levels describe how well students met the expectations of their grade level. Each performance level is defined by a range of scores. The highest two performance levels indicate that students met or exceeded expectations and are on track for the next grade level. The lower three performance levels indicate that students are not yet fully meeting grade-level expectations.

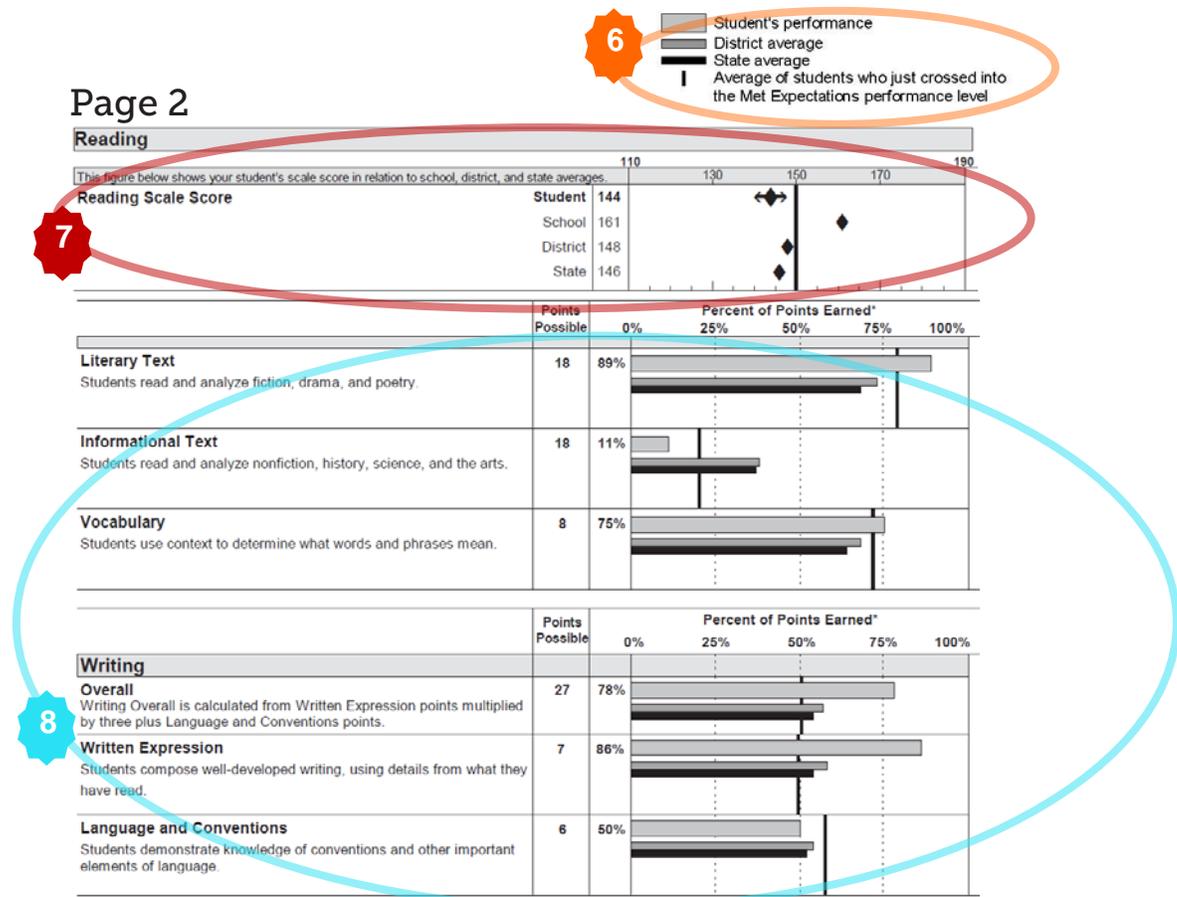
3 Score Range – Scale scores are represented by diamonds on the graph. The arrows around your student’s diamond show the range of scores your student would likely receive if the test was taken multiple times. Arrows around the example student’s diamond show that the student would have scored in the same performance level if the test was taken multiple times.

4 Overall Score Comparisons – School, district and state diamonds represent the average scores of students taking the same test as your child. Use the score averages to see how your child’s score compares to other students taking these tests. In this example, the student scored lower than the school, the same as the district and higher than the state.

5 State Performance – The bars beneath the overall performance graphic give you a sense of how your child’s performance compares to others in Colorado by showing the percentage of students who performed at each of the five performance levels.

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6 **Graph Key** – The key on the top of page 2 shows which bar represents your student’s performance, district performance and state performance in the score breakdown section of the report. The dark vertical line shows how students who just crossed into the Met Expectations level performed.

7 **Reading Performance** – Overall reading scores on the English language arts report are represented by diamonds on the graph. The arrows around your student’s diamond show the range of scores your student would likely receive if the assessment was taken multiple times. Look at the school, district and state scores and diamonds to see how your child’s reading score compares to other students taking these tests. In this example, the student scored lower than the school and slightly lower than the district and state. Arrows around the example student’s diamond show that the student may have scored the same as the school or state if the test was taken multiple times. *Note: Reading sub-performance scores are on a different scale than the overall score.*

8 **Score Breakdowns** – This section provides a breakdown of your student’s performance in specific reading and writing areas on the English language arts report and math areas on the math report. You can see where your student is excelling or may need improvement. Performance in these areas is reported as the percent of points your student earned on the assessment for each category. Use the bars identified in the graph key at the top of the page to compare your student’s performance to district and state averages as well as to students who just crossed into the Met Expectations performance level. In this example, the student outperformed the district and state in the Reading Literary Text and Vocabulary categories and in Writing Overall and Written Expression categories. The student did not perform as well as the district, state or students who just crossed into the Met Expectations performance level in the Reading Informational Text and Writing Language and Conventions categories. *Note: Percent of points earned cannot be compared across years.*

Where can I learn more?

Colorado Measures of Academic Success tests are aligned with the Colorado Academic Standards. Statewide assessments provide point-in-time snapshots of what students know and can do in core academic areas. They help students and their families know how they are performing compared to the standards and compared to their peers. To learn more, visit: www.cde.state.co.us/communications/resourcesforparents

“How is my student doing?”



This is the question most parents and guardians want answered when they receive their student’s test score. However, Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) test results can answer two questions about how your student did on the test and how well your student is progressing through the years:

1

What is your student’s achievement level?

ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL

Performance or achievement levels on Colorado Measures of Academic Success tests help students, families and educators understand how students are performing against the Colorado Academic Standards that describe the expectations of what students need to know and be able to do at the end of each grade.

Achievement levels provide a snapshot of performance on a test at a single point in time. The levels indicate what a typical student at each grade level should know based on their command of grade-level expectations. When asking, “Was my child’s score high enough?” We are asking about the level of achievement.

Five performance levels:

- **Level 5:** Exceeded expectations
- **Level 4:** Met expectations
- **Level 3:** Approached expectations
- **Level 2:** Partially met expectations
- **Level 1:** Did not yet meet Expectations

2

What is your student’s academic growth?

ACADEMIC GROWTH

Academic growth tells us about the progress students make over time. Instead of just saying how many points a student has gained or lost since the previous year, the Colorado Growth Model tells us how a student’s progress compares to other students with similar past test scores. This provides us with a Student Growth Percentile, with scores that can range from 1 (lowest growth) to 99 (highest growth).

Growth percentiles are not “percent correct” scores and they don’t tell us anything about student achievement levels. Student growth percentiles describe your student’s relative progress. For example, a student growth percentile of 60 indicates the student grew as much as or more than 60 percent of his or her academic peers. Students with test scores that are very low in achievement levels can receive high growth scores. Likewise, students with high achievement scores can also show high or low growth.

HOW TO USE THE REPORT

Your student’s growth and achievement results are available on the attached report. This report can help form the basis of informed conversations with your student’s school and teachers. We encourage you to have discussions with your student about their achievement level and growth.

When asking, “How’s my student doing?” You can also ask a teacher or principal more focused questions, such as:

- Is my daughter’s academic growth enough to keep her at grade level in English language arts next year?
- What will it take for my son to move up to meeting expectations in English language arts next year?

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

- [Additional Growth resources.](http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/coloradogrowthmodel)
- [How to use CMAS reports to support your student.](http://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/resourcesforparents)

Direct questions to: Growth.questions@cde.state.co.us