

2025 Norms quick reference

NWEA® continually refines the methodologies used to generate our norms so they remain statistically rigorous as well as accurate and relevant. This 2025 update is essential to account for changes in US student demographics, postpandemic shifts in student performance, and the item-selection algorithm in the newly enhanced version of MAP® Growth™. Educators can utilize the MAP Growth norms in various ways, including:

- Evaluating student and school achievement and growth
- Individualizing instruction and setting goals with students
- Supporting conversations about achievement and growth patterns

The data used to produce the MAP Growth norms were sampled from 116 million scores of 13.8 million students across 30,000 schools spanning six testing terms from fall 2022 to spring 2024. Below are the means and standard deviations used to derive achievement and growth norms for students and schools for select subjects, grades, and terms. These tables assume a fixed number of weeks of instruction have occurred before each testing season. These default weeks of instruction are:

- Fall: 4th week
- Winter: 20th week
- Spring: 32nd week

The sample used broadly reflects the US population. In total, 344 growth models were evaluated to identify 86 unique models for both student and school achievement and growth norms. Those interested in a more complete description of the 2025 norms are encouraged to review the 2025 MAP Growth norms technical manual.

Student achievement norms

2025 reading student achievement norms						
	Fall		Winter		Spring	
Grade	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
3	184	18	190	18	194	18
4	195	18	199	18	202	18
5	204	17	206	17	208	17
6	209	17	211	17	212	17
7	212	17	214	17	215	17
8	216	17	217	17	218	17

2025 mathematics student achievement norms						
	Fall		Winter		Spring	
Grade	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
3	184	16	193	16	199	17
4	197	16	204	17	210	18
5	206	16	212	17	216	18
6	210	16	216	17	220	18
7	217	17	221	18	224	19
8	222	18	226	19	229	20

Student growth norms

2025 reading student growth norms						
	Fall-to-winter		Winter-to-spring		Fall-to-spring	
Grade	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
3	5	9	4	9	9	9
4	4	8	3	8	6	9
5	3	8	2	8	5	9
6	2	8	1	8	3	8
7	1	9	1	8	2	9
8	1	9	1	9	2	9

2025 mathematics student growth norms						
	Fall-to-winter		Winter-to-spring		Fall-to-spring	
Grade	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
3	9	7	6	7	15	8
4	7	7	6	7	13	8
5	6	7	4	7	10	8
6	6	7	4	7	10	8
7	4	8	3	8	7	8
8	4	8	3	8	7	9

Student vs. school norms

MAP Growth norms offer achievement and growth percentiles for students and schools. The student-level achievement and growth norms provide comparative data on individual students' performance against the US population of students in the same grade. The school-level norms offer comparative data for a school's grade-level aggregate MAP Growth scores relative to the US population of schools serving that same grade.

Question	Applicable norms
Is this third-grade student's reading achievement above or below average?	Student achievement norms
How does the math achievement of our fifth-graders compare nationally?	School achievement norms
Is this sixth-grader's growth typical?	Student growth norms
Are first-graders in our school growing more or less than averages for first-graders nationwide?	School growth norms

School achievement norms

2025 reading school achievement norms						
	Fall		Winter		Spring	
Grade	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
3	184	8	189	8	193	9
4	195	8	199	8	201	8
5	203	8	205	8	207	8
6	208	7	210	8	211	8
7	212	8	213	8	214	8
8	215	8	216	8	217	8

2025 mathematics school achievement norms						
	Fall		Winter		Spring	
Grade	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
3	184	7	192	8	199	8
4	196	7	203	8	209	9
5	206	8	211	9	215	10
6	210	8	215	9	219	10
7	217	9	220	9	223	10
8	220	10	224	10	227	11

School growth norms

2025 reading school growth norms						
	Fall-to-winter		Winter-to-spring		Fall-to-spring	
Grade	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
3	5	4	4	4	9	4
4	3	4	3	4	6	4
5	3	4	2	4	4	4
6	2	4	1	4	3	4
7	1	4	1	4	2	5
8	1	5	1	5	2	6

2025 mathematics school growth norms						
	Fall-to-winter		Winter-to-spring		Fall-to-spring	
Grade	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
3	8	4	6	4	15	4
4	7	5	5	5	13	6
5	5	5	4	5	9	6
6	5	6	4	6	10	7
7	4	5	3	5	6	5
8	4	6	3	6	6	6

Standard deviation (SD) characterizes the measures how spread out values spread of values are within a dataset around the mean. A higher SD indicates more academic diversity variability in scores within the grade; a lower SD indicates less variability in scores within the in the grade level sample; a lower SD indicates more academically similar students in the grade level sample.

