

Benchmarks, Cut Scores, and Growth Rates

To interpret screening results, schools often use benchmarks and cut scores. These scores help educators identify which students require some form of intervention to accelerate growth and move toward proficiency, and which students are already high performing.

Please note: the table below includes benchmarks for a specific point in time. For the most precise benchmarks based on the exact day(s) your students were tested, rely on the STAR™ reports.

Benchmarks are the minimum performance levels students are expected to reach by certain points of the year in order to meet end-of-year performance goals. The end-of-year benchmark typically represents the minimum level of performance required by state or local standards. Benchmarks are always grade specific, e.g., the 3rd grade benchmark.

A **cut score** is used to determine which students may need additional assistance to move toward the end-of-year benchmark.

Moderate growth rate is the amount a typical student is expected to grow per week. Based on national data, 50 percent of the students who started at this level were able to achieve this growth rate. Student Growth Percentile (SGP), now found on the Growth Report, can also help an educator determine if a student is growing adequately between screening windows.

Default Benchmarks^a

	Fall (GP Month 0)		Winter (GP Month 4)		Spring (GP Month 8)		Moderate Growth Rate	
Grade	Percentile ^b	Scaled Score	Est. ORF ^c	Scaled Score	Est. ORF ^c	Scaled Score	Est. ORF	Scaled Score/Week
	20	437		500		574		5.78
	25	452		517		592		5.61
	30	468		534		609		5.61
	35	482		552		627		5.37
	40	496		568		644		5.37
	45	507		583		660		5.15
K	50	518		595		673		5.15
	55	530		608		685		4.83
	60	542		621		697		4.83
	65	555		636		712		4.43
	70	571		653		728		4.43
	75	587		670		744		3.98
	80	603		688		759		3.98

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		Fall (GP Month 0)		Winter (GP Month 4)		Spring (GP Month 8)		Moderate Growth Rate
Grade	Percentile ^b	Scaled Score	Est. ORF ^c	Scaled Score	Est. ORF ^c	Scaled Score	Est. ORF	Scaled Score/Week
	20	538	5	608	17	678	25	5.87
	25	558	8	628	19	696	28	5.38
	30	576	10	647	21	713	31	5.38
	35	590	12	663	23	729	34	4.93
	40	606	14	678	24	742	38	4.93
	45	620	16	693	26	755	42	4.4
1	50	635	17	706	28	766	46	4.4
	55	651	19	720	30	776	49	3.71
	60	670	22	734	32	786	52	3.71
	65	688	25	748	36	796	54	3.12
	70	703	26	760	40	805	57	3.12
	75	720	29	774	46	815	62	2.46
	80	742	35	790	54	825	68	2.46
	20	612	15	666	23	717	32	4.51
	25	639	18	692	26	739	37	3.79
	30	662	21	713	29	758	43	3.79
	35	682	24	731	32	772	48	3.09
	40	697	26	745	36	784	51	3.09
	45	712	28	758	40	796	54	2.6
2	50	728	31	771	45	806	58	2.6
	55	745	36	784	51	815	62	2.04
	60	761	42	796	56	824	67	2.04
	65	774	48	808	63	833	73	1.62
	70	787	55	818	69	841	79	1.62
	75	799	61	828	77	849	87	1.31
	80	812	69	839	86	858	100	1.31
	20	621	16	661	22	698	28	3.74
	25	661	21	698	27	731	34	2.8
	30	690	25	727	31	759	44	2.8
	35	713	28	748	36	778	49	2.23
	40	736	32	769	44	796	54	2.23
	45	756	40	785	51	810	60	1.71
3	50	771	46	798	57	820	65	1.71
	55	784	53	809	63	830	71	1.36
	60	796	60	820	71	839	77	1.36
	65	810	67	831	79	848	86	1.02
	70	823	77	842	89	856	97	1.02
	75	833	84	849	97	862	106	0.75
	80	843	91	858	109	869	117	0.75

c. Est. ORF: Estimated Oral Reading Fluency is only reported for grades 1–3.



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