

# **Arizona A-F Letter Grade System and NWEA Benchmark Data Review**

**January 2026**



# ARIZONA A-F LETTER GRADE DATA AND NWEA BENCHMARK DATA

- Brief History and Ownership of the Arizona A-F Letter Grade System
- Traditional 9-12 Model
- Data in the A-F Letter Grade Model
- NWEA Benchmark Data
- Utilization of Summative and Benchmark Data for Daily Instruction



# ARIZONA A-F LETTER GRADE SYSTEM

- No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
- Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA)
- Arizona State Board of Education (AzSBE)—owns
- Arizona Department of Education—creates/calculates
- Business Rules (created by ADE; approved by AzSBE)
- Cut Scores Assessment (ADE)
- Cut Scores A-F Models (AzSBE)



# SPRING 2025 ASSESSMENT DATA

- ACT Aspire—9<sup>th</sup> Graders (Cohort 2028)
- AzSCI—11<sup>th</sup> Graders (Cohort 2026)
- ACT-- 11<sup>th</sup> Graders (Cohort 2026)
- MSAA-- 11<sup>th</sup> Graders (Cohort 2026)
- AZELLA (Arizona English Language Learner Assessment)
- N-Size— Where the number of tested students and/or valid test scores is 10 or less, the data will not be shared in public presentations
- 95% Tested—points deducted if schools test fewer



# INDICATOR MODEL WEIGHTS

## Traditional 9-12 Model

- Proficiency—30%
- English Learners (EL)- 10%
- Graduation—20%
- College, Career Readiness—20%
- Growth—20%
- Accountability measures are applied to Full Academic Year (FAY) students
- Tradition 9-12 FAY— First 10 days of school to first weekday in April
- CCRI counts students enrolled by Oct. 1 – May 1



# ARIZONA A-F LETTER GRADE SYSTEM

## Proficiency

### ACT English Language Arts (ELA)

### ACT Mathematics

Number Tested	Number Partially Proficient	Number Proficient	Number Highly Proficient	Average Proficiency		Number Tested	Number Partially Proficient	Number Proficient	Number Highly Proficient	Average Proficiency
216	56	47	*	40.32		220	54	43	10	40.18

$$avg\_prof = \left( \frac{0.6 \times (n\_fay\_ela\_PP + n\_fay\_math\_PP) + 1.0 \times (n\_fay\_ela\_P + n\_fay\_math\_P) + 1.3 \times (n\_fay\_ela\_HP + n\_fay\_math\_HP)}{(n\_fay\_tested\_ela + n\_fay\_tested\_math)} \right)$$



# COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS INDICATOR CCRI

- Students can earn a score of up to 22; Schools' scores are capped at 20
- The College and Career Readiness Indicator is designed to award points to schools who encourage graduates to engage in a variety of activities that will prepare them for post-secondary success
- CCRI scores are self-reported through ADEConnect by July 31<sup>st</sup>
- N-Size = 10
- FAY—enrolled by October 1<sup>st</sup> through May 1<sup>st</sup>
- RED –Career Readiness
- BLUE—College Readiness





# CCRI

District:				Entered By:																			
School:				Approved By:																			
<div>12.1</div> <div>POINTS EARNED</div>		<div>0</div> <div>BONUS</div>		<div>Enter Total # Cohort 2024 Students</div> <div>17</div>		<div>8 School increases the percent or has 85% of post-secondary enrollment and/or military service of prior year's Graduates.</div> <div>1 School Bonus Point</div>																	
				<div>Enter 'x' for Each Indicator Met</div> <div>10</div>																			
Total of Blue and Red Indicator Points Per Student	Blue Indicator Points Total Per Student	Red Indicator Points Total Per Student	Total Score Per Student (0, 10, 20, 22)	SSID	Meet All 16 Arizona Board of Regents Program of Study Requirements	Earns a Grand Canyon Diploma or International Baccalaureate Diploma	Meets ACT Score ELA 19-24, Math 19-24	Meets Cut Score ACT ELA ≥ 25, Math ≥ 25, Science ≥ 20	Meets Cut Score SAT <hr/> Prior 3/1/2016 Math ≥ 500, Reading ≥ 500, Writing ≥ 500 <hr/> On or After 3/1/2016 Math ≥ 530, Writing/Reading ≥ 480	Meets Cut Score ≥ 3 on AP Exam													
											SSID Count < # Cohort 2024	YES (x)	1.00	YES (x)	1.25	1 or 2	0.50	1 to 3	0.50	1 or 2	0.50	1 to 4	0.50
SY 2023-2024		TOTALS	206.00	16	1	1	6	4	0	0													





# CCRI

Enter "r" or "b"		Enter Number Earned for Each Student				Enter 'x' for Each Indicator Met												
Submits the FAFSA		Earns a Diploma Seal (Biliteracy, Personal Finance, Civics Literacy, Arts Proficiency)			Passes a CTE Course for which College Credit can be Earned with an A, B, or C		Completes a CTE Course with an A, B, or C (Outside of Complete Sequence)		Earns Industry Recognized Credential, Certification or License <a href="#">See State Board Approved List</a>		CTE Sequence and Passes Technical Skills Assessment		Meets Benchmarks Score ≥ 35 on ASVAB		Meets ACT Work Keys Benchmarks : Silver (s), Gold (g), or Platinum (p)		Completes Well Defined Work Based Learning of at Least 120 Hours	
Blue or Red	0.50	Blue or Red	1 to 4	0.50	1 to 4	0.5	1 to 8	0.25	1 or 2	0.5	YES (x)	1.25	YES (x)	0.5	Level (s,g,p )	0.5	YES (x)	1
5		2			4		5		2		1		0		0		0	
		b	2	1.00														



# ARIZONA A-F LETTER GRADE SYSTEM

## College and Career Ready

College and Career Ready - Self-Report Score		20%
Metric	Weight	Points Earned
Self-Report CCR Points	20	18
College and Career Ready - Self-Report Total Points		18



# NWEA BENCHMARK DATA

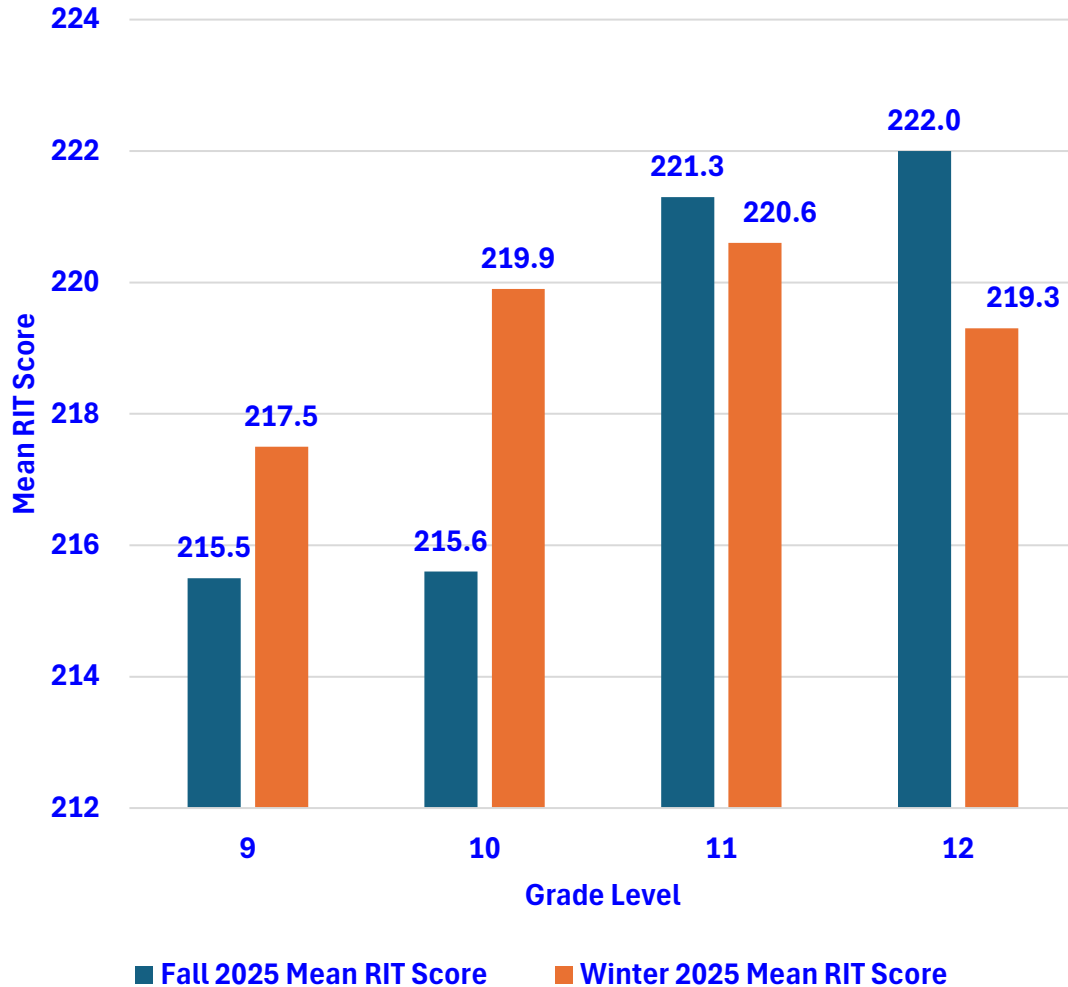
- NWEA Benchmark Data– Fall & Winter 2025
  - Language Usage
  - Science (Science K-12)
  - Reading
  - Mathematics (Math K-12)
- Fall to Winter Growth by Percentile
- NWEA Projected Proficiency for ACT
- Instructional Guide
- Achievement Status & Growth Summary with Quadrant Chart



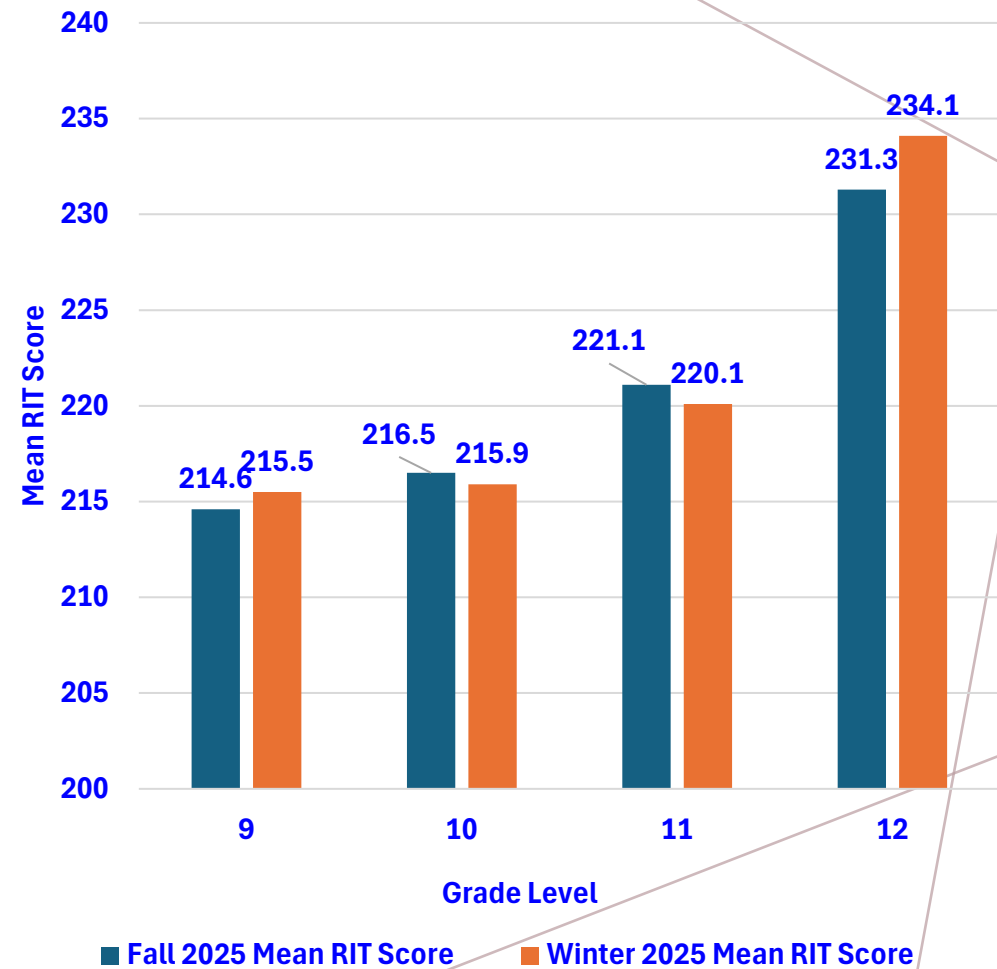
# NWEA BENCHMARK DATA

## Winter Growth by Percentile

NWEA Winter Growth by Percentile  
Language Usage



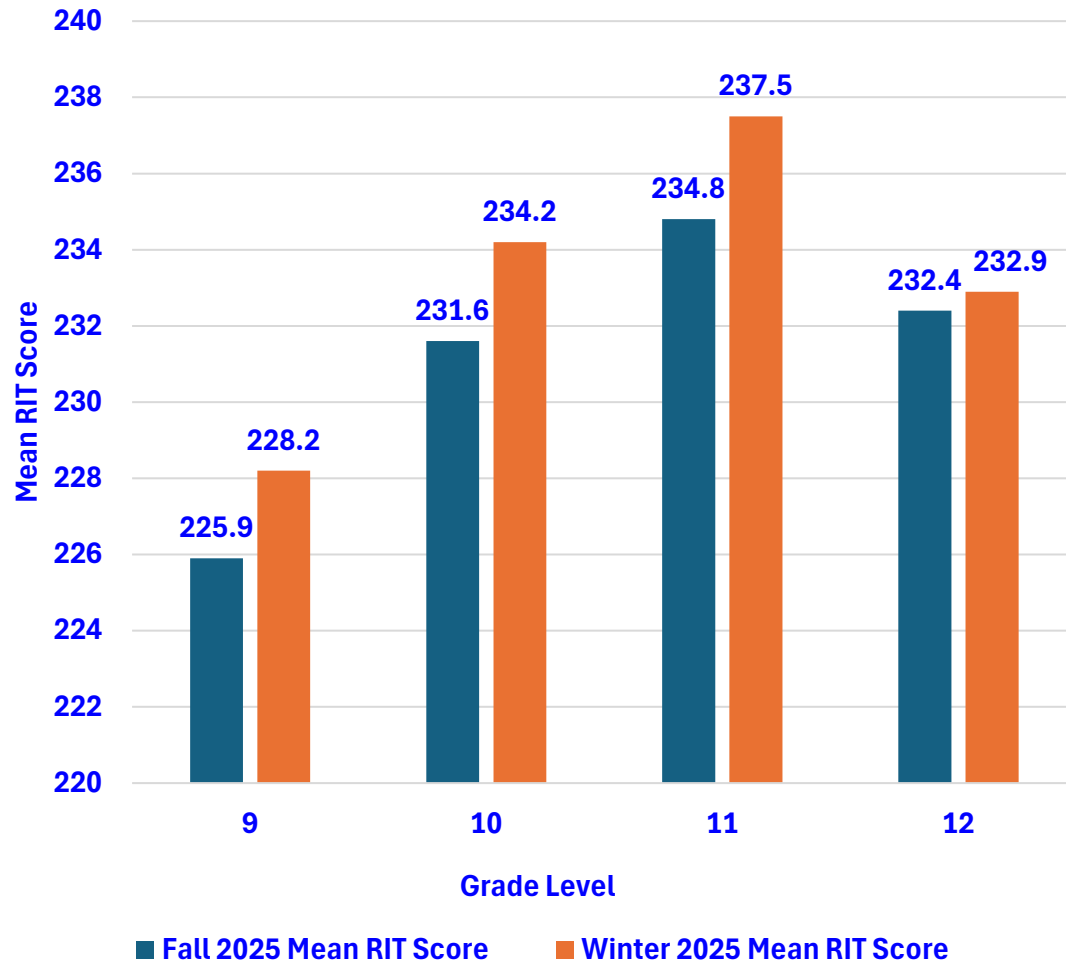
NWEA Winter Growth by Percentile  
Science



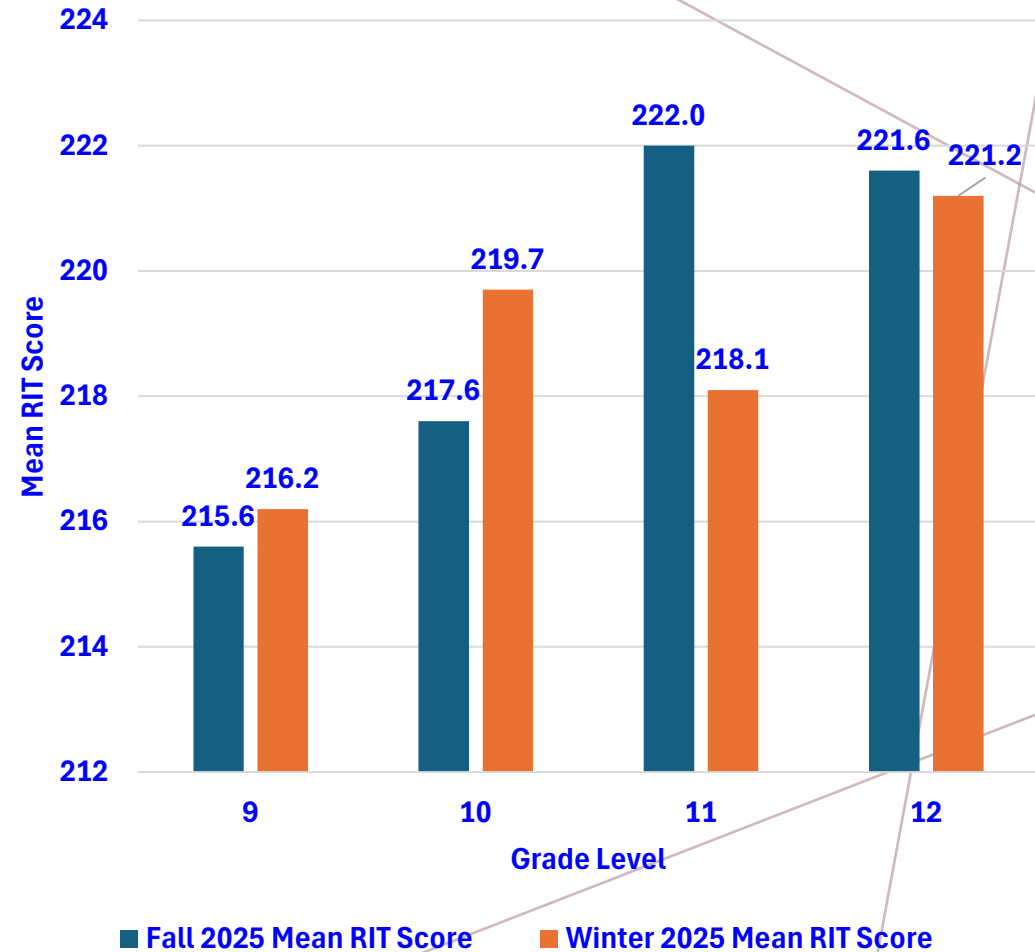
# NWEA BENCHMARK DATA

## Winter Growth by Percentile

NWEA Winter Growth by Percentile  
Mathematics



NWEA Winter Growth by Percentile  
Reading



# NWEA BENCHMARK DATA

## Winter Growth by Percentile

Reading							Mathematics						
Grade	Number of Students	Fall 2025 Mean RIT Score	Winter 2025 Mean RIT Score	Projected Growth	Observed Growth	School Conditional Growth Percentile	Grade	Number of Students	Fall 2025 Mean RIT Score	Winter 2025 Mean RIT Score	Projected Growth	Observed Growth	School Conditional Growth Percentile
9	222	215.6	216.2	1.0	1	51	9	197	225.9	228.2	1.3	2	56
10	215	217.6	219.7	1.0	2	63	10	147	231.6	234.2	1.0	3	61
11	189	222.0	218.1	1.0	-2	46	11	197	234.8	237.5	1.0	3	64
12	169	221.6	221.2	1.0	0	61	12	126	232.4	232.9	1.0	1	56
Language Usage							Science						
Grade	Number of Students	Fall 2025 Mean RIT Score	Winter 2025 Mean RIT Score	Projected Growth	Observed Growth	School Conditional Growth Percentile	Grade	Number of Students	Fall 2025 Mean RIT Score	Winter 2025 Mean RIT Score	Projected Growth	Observed Growth	School Conditional Growth Percentile
9	233	215.5	217.5	1.0	2	61	9	159	214.6	215.5	1.0	1	54
10	223	215.6	219.9	1.0	4	73	10	201	216.5	215.9	1.0	-1	41
11	205	221.3	220.6	1.0	-1	50	11	191	221.1	220.1		-1	
12	171	222.0	219.3		-1		12	13	231.3	234.1		3	

# NWEA BENCHMARK DATA

## NWEA Projected Proficiency for ACT

- NWEA Research 2020 Comparative Data
- School Profile and District Profile Reports
- Breakdown of the 5-Quintiles and compared the Percentiles
- Reading and Mathematics-ACT 24
- NWEA Spring Percentile
  - 68-73 Reading
  - 75-86 Mathematics

Percentiles Key

	1st - 20 <sup>th</sup>		21st - 40 <sup>th</sup>		41st - 60 <sup>th</sup>		61st - 80 <sup>th</sup>		>80 <sup>th</sup>
---	------------------------	---	-------------------------	---	-------------------------	---	-------------------------	---	-------------------





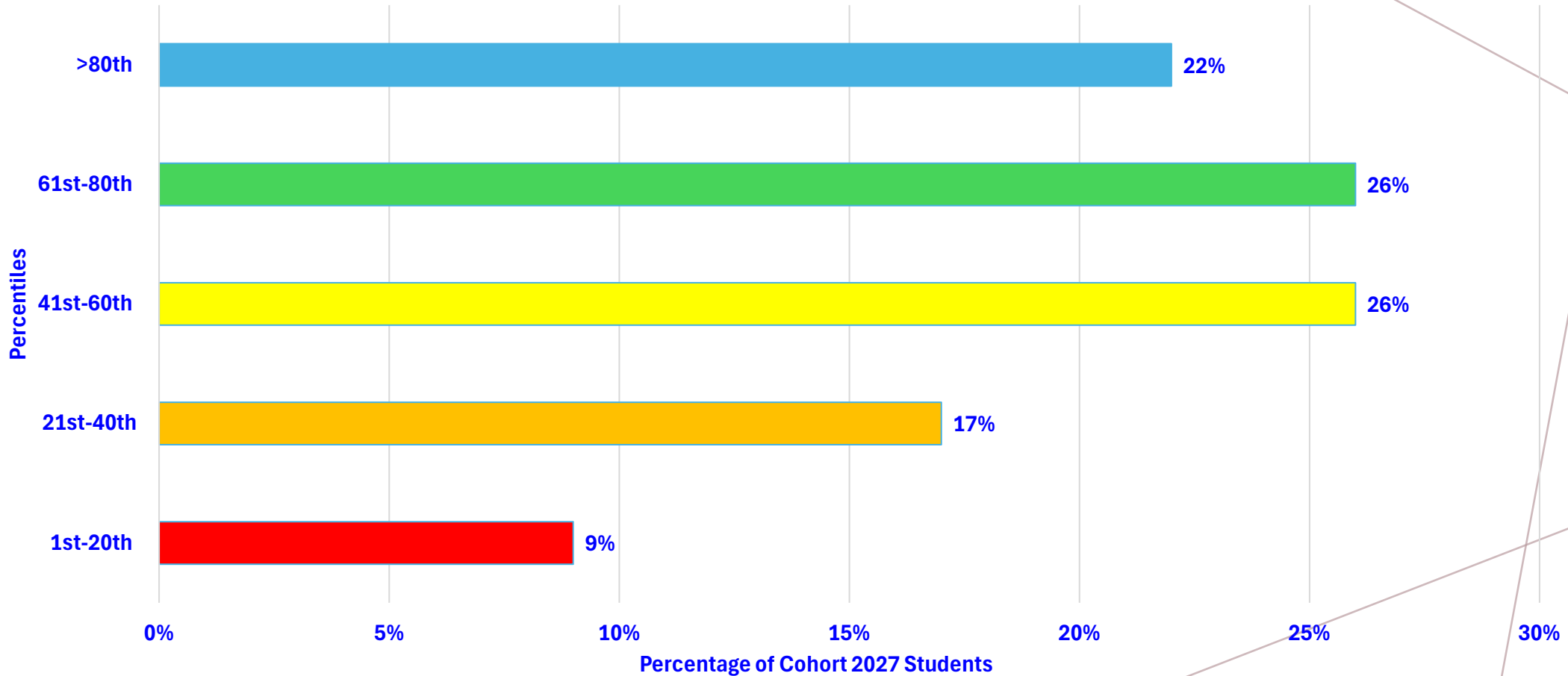
# NWEA BENCHMARK DATA

## NWEA Projected Proficiency for ACT

Cohort 2027

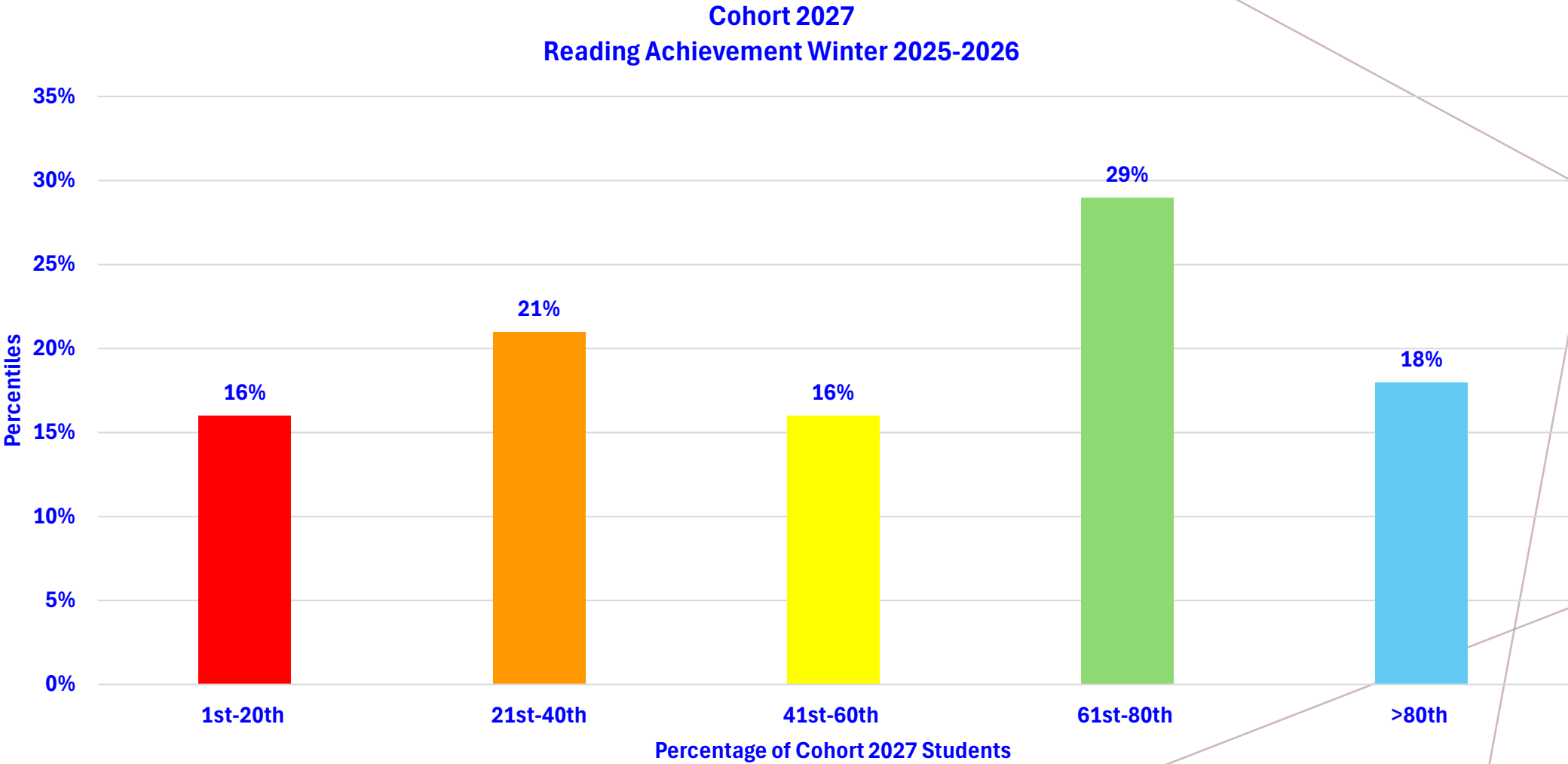
Achievement Winter 2025-2026

Math



# NWEA BENCHMARK DATA

## NWEA Projected Proficiency for ACT



# NWEA BENCHMARK DATA

## Instructional Guide

- 11<sup>th</sup> Grader (Alg. II, Eng. 11, Auto Tech II)
  - Reading RIT 207 (Lower Percentile Range)
  - Language RIT 210 (Lower Percentile Range)
  - Mathematics 240 (Meeting)
  - Science 214 (Not Normed in NWEA)
- Math (Geometry) - Recognize a precise definition of an angle
- Reading (Vocabulary)- Determine the meaning of academic words or phrases in context
- Language- (Capitalization)- Capitalize names of historical periods and events



# NWEA BENCHMARK DATA

## Instructional Guide

### **Algebra II**-Trigonometric Functions--

- Explain how the unit circle in the coordinate plane enables the extension of sine and cosine functions to all real numbers, interpreted as radian measures of angles traversed counterclockwise around the unit circle

### **Auto Tech**

- Describe four-wheel alignment angles (camber, caster, and toe, setback, and thrust angle) and effects on vehicle handling/tire wear--- Explain how alignment angles affect vehicle handling and tire wear

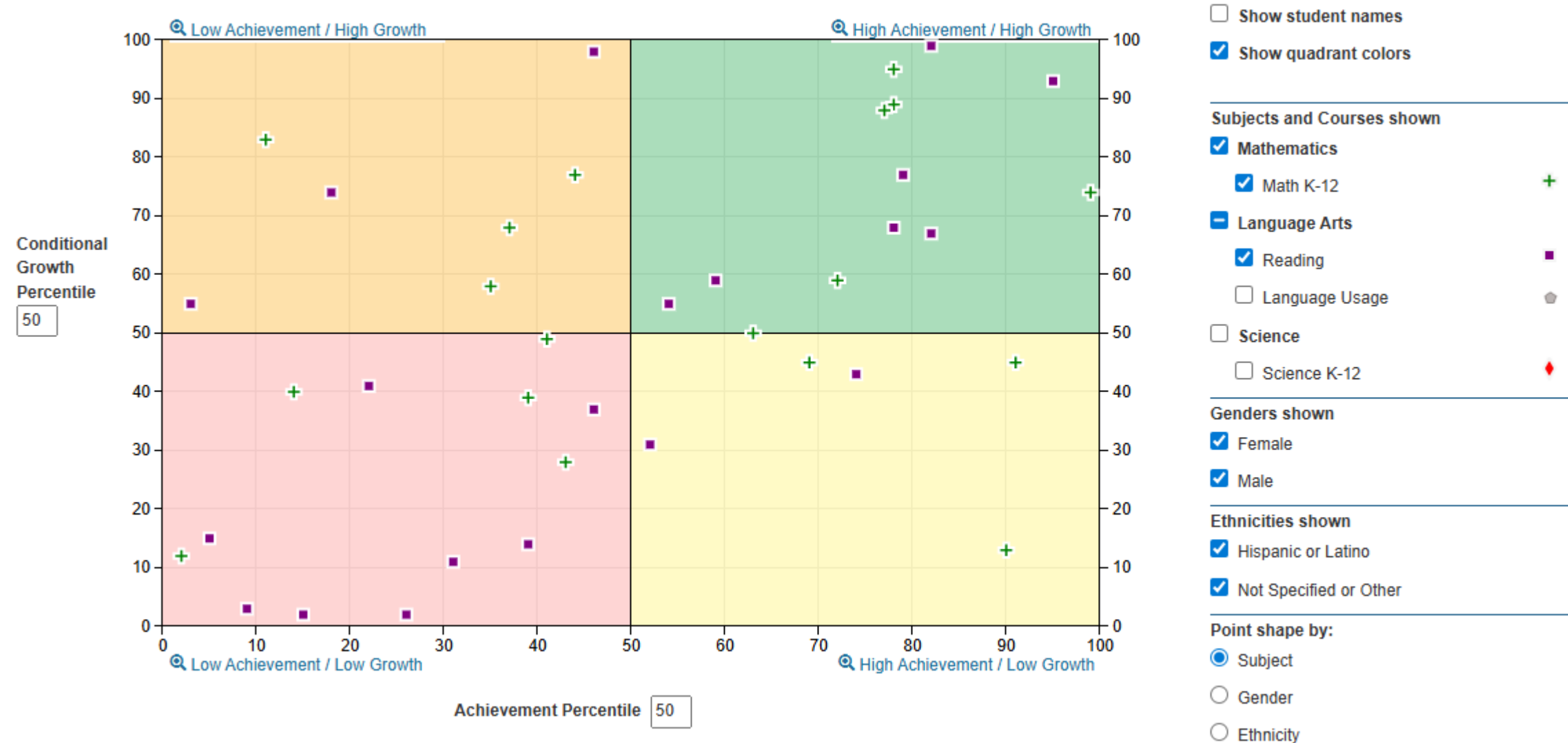
### **English 11**

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing



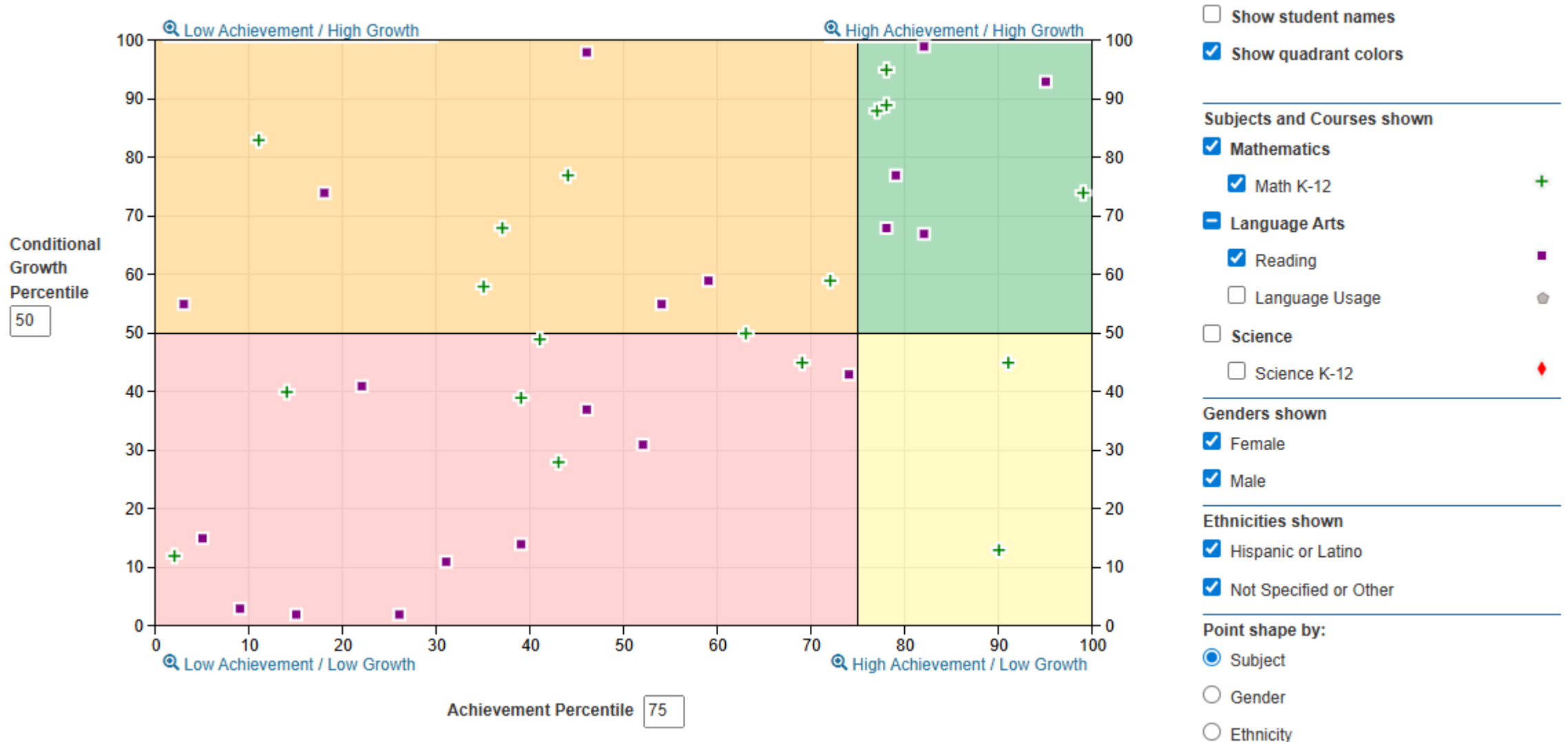
# NWEA BENCHMARK DATA

- Achievement Status & Growth Summary with Quadrant Chart



# NWEA BENCHMARK DATA

## Achievement Status & Growth Summary with Quadrant Chart



# THANK YOU

**Mingus Union High  
School District #4**

