"How is my student doing?"

COLORADO
Department of Education

This is the question most parents and guardia[...] [s]tudent's test score. However,
Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMA[...] [ab]out how your student did on the
test and how well your student is progressing [...]

This cover page describes and defines both student achievement and student growth.

1 What is your student's achievement level?

2 What is your student's academic growth?

ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL

Performance or achievement levels on CMAS 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.

Achievement reflects the extent to which students have met the learning objectives described in the relevant academic content standards for a given content area and grade level.

[perform]ance levels:

[exc]eeded expectations

[met] expectations

[app]roached expectations

[part]ially met expectations

[did] not yet meet Expectations

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 a[...] percent of his or her academic peers[...] that are very low in achievement lev[...] growth scores. Likewise, students wi[...] scores can also show high or low grow[...]

Growth describes how much progress individual students make on state assessments from one year to the next for a given content area and grade level.

HOW TO USE THE REPORT

Your student's growth and achievement results are [...] available on the attached report. This report can he[...] form the basis of informed conversations with your [...] student's school and teachers. We encourage you t[...] have discussions with your student about their achievement level and growth.

Additional resources are available on the CDE website: https://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/accountability-resources.

[...]s?" You can also ask a teacher or principal

[...] [e]nough to keep them at grade level in

[...] move up to meeting expectations in English

How to interpret this student growth & achievement report

The white dot stands for this student's scores in past CMAS administrations. The gray regions represent achievement levels. The higher the dot, the higher the test score.
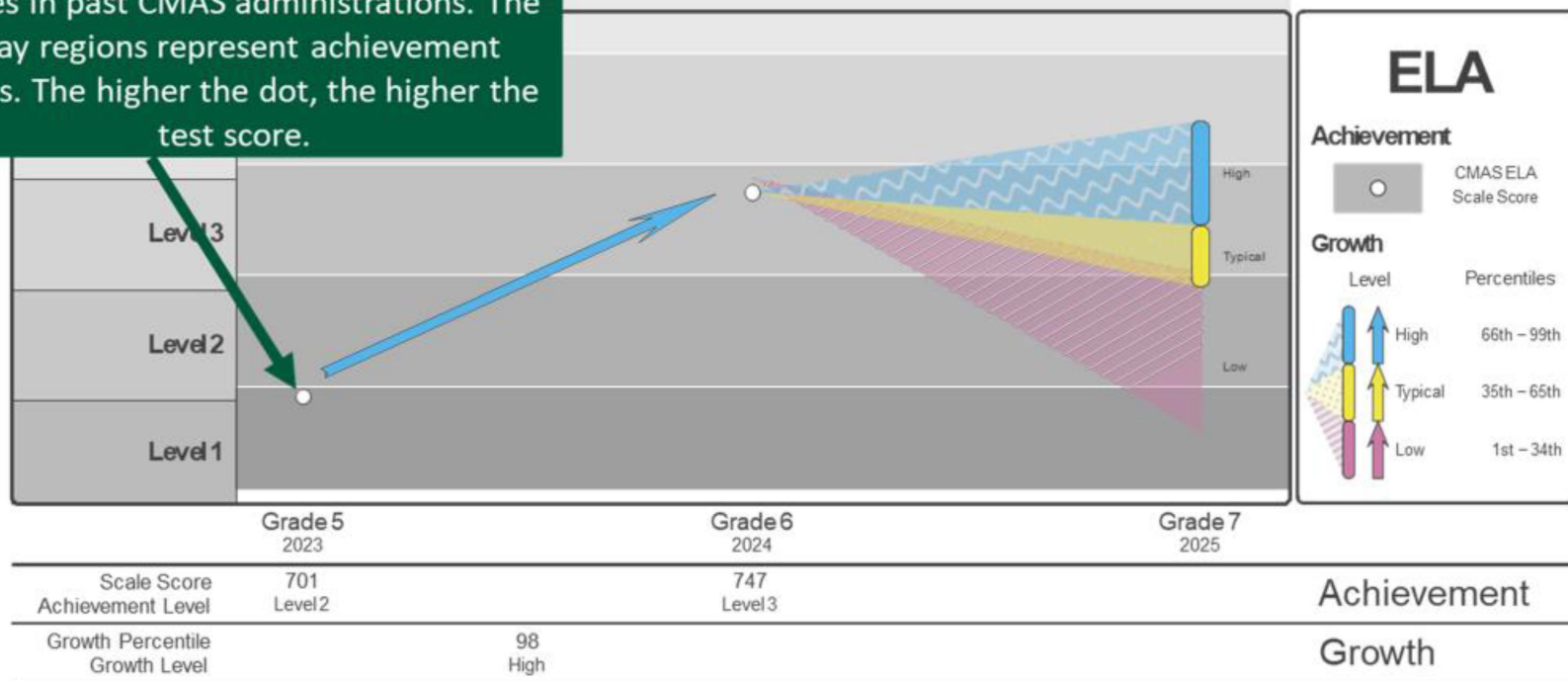
CMAS Scale Score

CMAS Achievement Levels

Student Growth Percentile

Achievement levels that classify CMAS scores are represented in the plot by different shades of gray.

Level 5: Exceeded Expectations

Level 4: Met Expectations

Level 3: Approached Expectations

Level 2: Partially Met Expectations

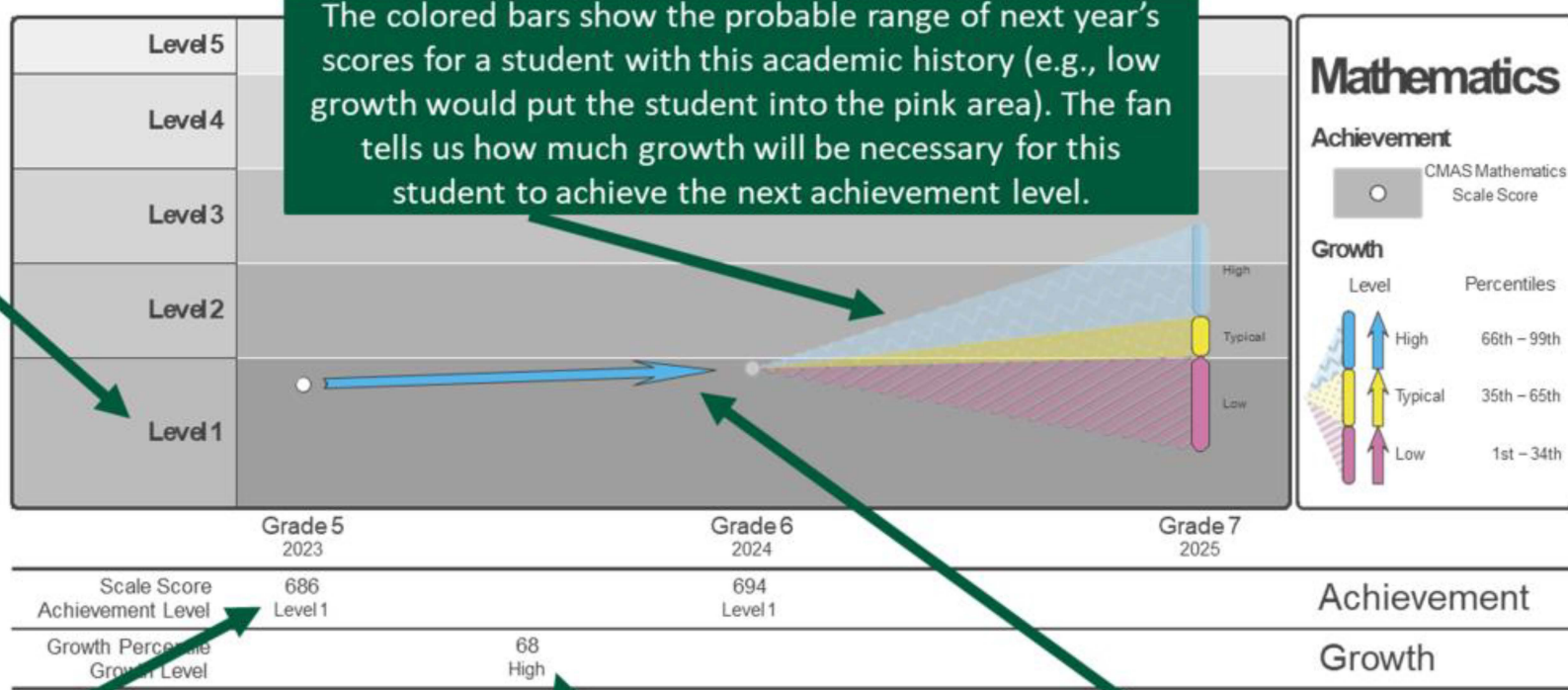**Level 1:** Did Not Yet Meet Expectations

ELA

Achievement

CMAS ELA Scale Score

Growth

Level	Percentiles
High	66th – 99th
Typical	35th – 65th
Low	1st – 34th

Level 3

Level 2

Level 1

High

Typical

Low

	Grade 5 2023	Grade 6 2024	Grade 7 2025	
Scale Score Achievement Level	701 Level 2	747 Level 3		Achievement
Growth Percentile Growth Level		98 High		Growth

The colored bars show the probable range of next year's scores for a student with this academic history (e.g., low growth would put the student into the pink area). The fan tells us how much growth will be necessary for this student to achieve the next achievement level.

Mathematics

Achievement

CMAS Mathematics Scale Score

Growth

Level	Percentiles
High	66th – 99th
Typical	35th – 65th
Low	1st – 34th

Level 5

Level 4

Level 3

Level 2

Level 1

High

Typical

Low

	Grade 5 2023	Grade 6 2024	Grade 7 2025	
Scale Score Achievement Level	686 Level 1	694 Level 1		Achievement
Growth Percentile Growth Level		68 High		Growth

These are the student's CMAS scores and corresponding achievement levels. Plots are produced for both English Language Arts (ELA) and Math.

These are a student's growth percentile, representing progress from last year to this year. Growth levels describe whether a growth percentile is considered low, typical, or high.

The colored arrows between the dots represent the academic progress the student made in that year of school, compared to similar students. The color of the arrow represents a student's growth level between the two CMAS tests. The colored legend tells you the range of growth scores within each level.

In this example, the student is demonstrating high growth between grade 5 and grade 6. In ELA, this resulted in the student going from partially meeting expectations to approaching expectations. In 2025, another year of high growth would result in the student going from approaching expectations to either approaching or meeting expectations (see blue area).