



# Colorado Measures of Academic Success

## Understanding English Language Arts and Math Score Reports

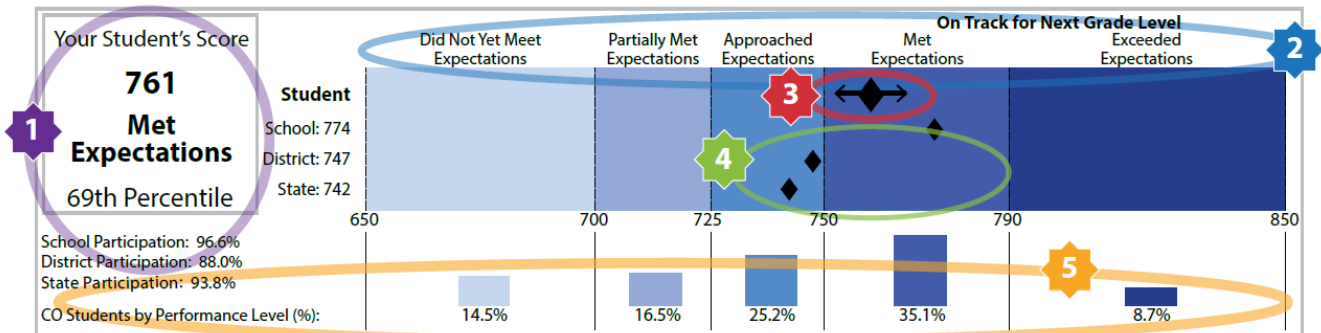


**COLORADO**  
Department of Education

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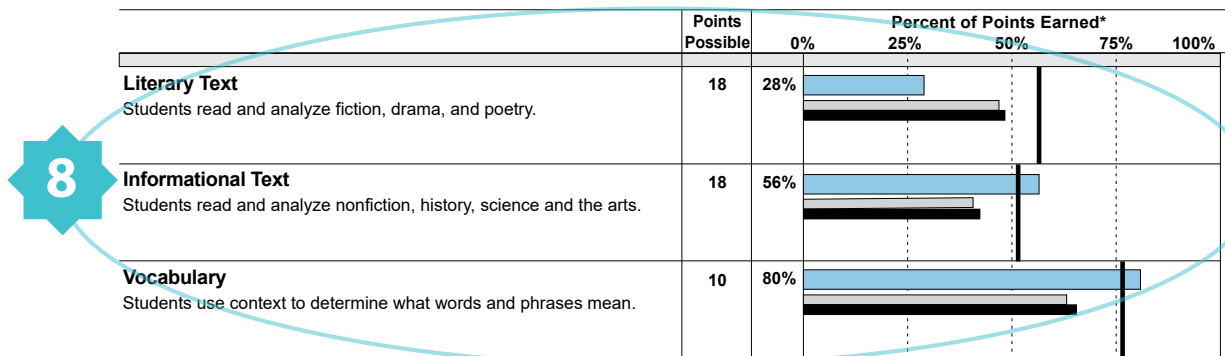
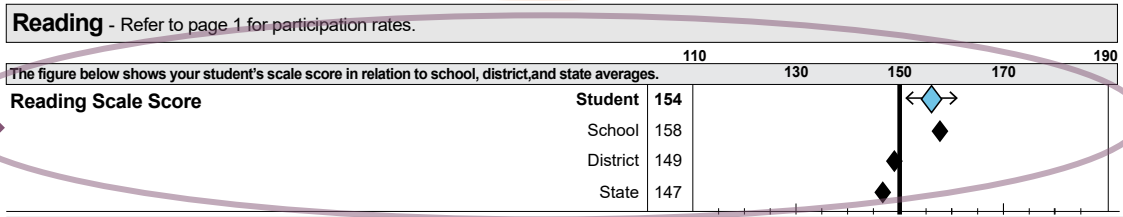
Scan the QR code at the bottom of your student's performance report to [see a video](#) that explains how to read the report and gives information about your student's performance level.

### How to Read your student's 2023 English language arts and math score reports - Page 1



- 1 Student Performance Overview** – Students receive an overall number score that falls into one of five performance levels: Did Not Yet Meet Expectations, Partially Met Expectations, Approached Expectations, Met Expectations or Exceeded Expectations. The percentile ranking shows how well your student performed in comparison to other Colorado students. For example, a student in the 69th percentile performed better than 69% of students in the state.
- 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 students did not demonstrate that they fully met grade-level expectations.
- 3 Score Range** – Diamonds represent scale scores on the graph. Arrows around your student's diamond show the range of scores your student would likely receive if the test was taken multiple times.
- 4 Overall Score Comparisons** – School, district and state diamonds represent the average scores of students who took the same test as your child, which you can use to see how your child's score compares to other students who took these tests. In this example, the student scored lower than the school and higher than the district and state. To protect student privacy, scores are not shown for schools and districts with small student populations.
- 5 State Performance** – Participation information helps you make sense of school, district and state-level results. Bars beneath the overall performance graphic show the percentage of students who performed at each performance level. Interpretations of school, district and state performance should be made with caution when participation rates are low.

- 6 The top diamond in the figure below shows your student's performance in Reading.
- The top bar in each of the other graphs shows the percent of points your student earned for writing and specific areas of reading and writing.
- District Averages are provided for comparison.
- State Averages are provided for comparison.
- The dark vertical line indicates the average percent of points earned by students who just crossed into the Met Expectations performance level on the overall English language Arts/Literacy test.



**6 Graph Key** – The key on the top of Page Two shows which bar represents your student’s performance, district performance and state performance in the score breakdown section of the report. The dark vertical lines represent the Met Expectations performance level starting point.

**7 Reading Performance** – Overall reading scores on English language arts reports are represented by diamonds on the graph. 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 compared to other students taking these tests. In this example, the student scored slightly lower than the school and higher than the district and state. Arrows around the example student’s diamond show the student may have scored the same as or higher than the school 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 percentage of points earned on the assessment for each category. Use the bars identified in the graph key to compare your student’s performance to district and state averages as well as to students at the Met Expectations performance level starting point. In this example, the student outperformed the district and state in the Reading Informational Text and Vocabulary categories. The student did not perform as well as the district, state or students at the Met Expectations performance level starting point in the Reading Literary Text category. Note: Percent of points earned cannot be compared across years.

## Where can I learn more?

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Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) tests are the only assessments given to all Colorado students that measure what students should know and be able to do at the end of each grade in math, English language arts and science. To learn more, visit: [www.cde.state.co.us/communications/resourcesforparents](http://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/resourcesforparents)