

The Colorado Growth Model during the Assessment Transition

Background

Colorado has transitioned to new Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) Math and English Language Arts Assessments developed by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) consortium. The previous Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP/TCAP) was administered for sixteen years until it was concluded in the spring of 2014 and will now be replaced by the CMAS. This shift to the CMAS assessments will impact the production and release of state summative achievement and growth data during 2015. The growth data and reports obtained from the English language proficiency assessment, ACCESS, will not be impacted by this transition.

Availability of Transitional Student Growth Calculations

The Colorado Growth Model is capable of calculating growth percentiles between two different assessments which are called transitional growth percentiles. However, calculations between different assessments raise questions about the validity of the calculated transitional growth percentiles. While some commonalities may exist between the different assessments, the CMAS English language arts and math assessments will not cover identical content to the TCAP. The validity of the transitional percentiles will depend upon how similar student performance is on the two different assessments. Once CMAS PARCC data is available, the results will be analyzed to investigate the validity of the transitional growth percentiles. Only after this thorough data analysis, along with discussions with the Technical Advisory Panel for Longitudinal Student Growth and other stakeholders, will a decision be made regarding the release of the transitional growth percentiles for use for accountability, unified improvement planning, and reporting purposes. This is similar to the process used during the transition for our English language proficiency assessments from CELAPro to ACCESS.

Calculations & Limitations

The calculation of student growth percentiles will take place once all relevant assessment data is provided by the test vendor. CDE, along with our technical partners, will then conduct a series of studies to estimate the validity of the derived student growth percentiles. Adequate Growth Percentiles will not be available for transition growth percentiles, as two years of data on the same assessment are required for calculations.

Release of Student Growth Data & Summary Reports

Supplemental analyses will be used to determine the appropriateness of releasing student growth percentile data for use for accountability, unified improvement planning, and/or reporting purposes. ***If transitional growth percentiles are released, please do not plan to receive results earlier than the spring of 2016.***

Timeline

- **Summer 2015:** ACCESS assessment growth data including: student growth percentiles, Individual Student Growth Reports and district/school summary data released, as usual.
- **Fall/Winter 2015:** Preliminary calculation and validation of the TCAP to CMAS transitional student growth percentiles.
- **Spring 2016 (anticipated):** If appropriate, release of 2014-2015 transitional student growth percentiles pending confirmatory analyses and positive technical feedback.
- **September 2016 (anticipated):** growth data/reports annual reporting cycles are resumed. Adequate growth percentiles are again available.

Where can I learn more?

- Accountability website: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability>
- Growth website: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/coloradogrowthmodel>
- For any additional questions, contact Dan Jorgensen, Ph.D. at Jorgensen_D@cde.state.co.us