



# Educator Guide to Assessment Reports

AK STAR English Language Arts and Mathematics



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2023



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Education  
& Early Development**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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February 6, 2024

A Note of Thanks to Alaska Educators and School Staff

Dear Alaska Educators,

The Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) would like to extend our thanks to test administrators, district and building test coordinators, technology staff, and other staff involved in assessments for the hard work put towards successful administration of the Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR). We thank you for your patience in the delayed release of the 2022-2023 AK STAR results.

Alaska's accountability system under Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for the 2022-2023 academic year will be delayed. DEED is undergoing changes in its assessment model to ensure a holistic, growth-oriented, adaptive, and efficient approach that aligns with the Alaska Content Standards.

The decision to delay the release of AK STAR scores is driven by the ongoing transition and commitment to developing a more effective assessment approach. The incorporation of new elements - such as MAP Growth performance data, coupled with a linking study that highlighted a significant variance between grade-level percentiles - provided insights into proficiency levels. This information, along with a Policy Review Committee's consideration, led to a recommendation to adjust the current AK STAR cut scores.

Despite the delay caused by the adoption of new cut scores for AK STAR, the results are a necessary component of making data-informed decisions for students, families, teachers, administrators, district leadership, and policy makers:

- For our students and families, assessment results can help determine strengths and challenges, and how to utilize both to continue academic growth.
- For our teachers and school administrators, assessment results can help evaluate progress, find areas for improvement, and focus on what students need most.
- For our policymakers and district leadership, assessment results can ensure resources are allocated to the most vital areas of need.

Leading up to and during the assessment window, educators are required to complete training and become familiar with assessment processes and procedures to ensure that all procedures are followed while administering tests. This is often completed with altered schedules on top of many other duties within Alaska's schools.

Here at DEED, we appreciate the time and effort educators devote to these responsibilities. Through hard work and dedication, we can produce valid and reliable statewide assessment results. These results inform stakeholders at all levels to make decisions that improve the learning of students throughout the state of Alaska.

Again, we appreciate the outstanding work of all Alaska's educators and wish to extend our continued support and gratitude.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Deena Bishop', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Deena Bishop, Ed.D.  
Commissioner

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# Part 1—Introduction

## About AK STAR Assessments - Overview

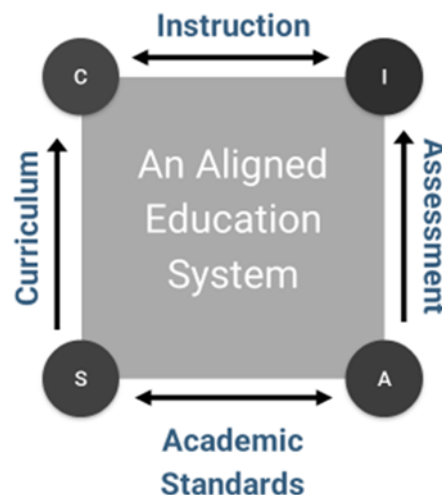
Alaska has implemented an innovative approach to a balanced assessment system called the Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR). This balanced approach connects the MAP Growth interim assessment taken in fall and winter to the spring AK STAR assessment, which is made up of a grade-specific summative component combined with a growth component. The summative component addresses the breadth and depth of the [Alaska English Language Arts and Mathematics Standards](#) while the growth component includes instructional areas in Reading, Language Usage, and Mathematics.

AK STAR is administered to all students in grades 3–9 and is an adaptive assessment personalized for each student by adapting above and below grade level. It provides a summative test score and achievement-level determination based on grade-level content standards and interim information using the MAP Growth normative RIT scale and a RIT score specific to each MAP Growth instructional area.

AK STAR assessments also provide information to parents, educators, policy makers, and communities about how Alaska's schools and districts are performing. They provide information to help schools improve and to meet the State Board of Education's Mission, "An excellent education for every student every day."

The [Alaska English Language Arts and Mathematics Standards](#) are used to drive curriculum, instruction, and assessment goals and actions. The standards provide the foundation for the curriculum, instruction, and assessment activities in schools and classrooms throughout Alaska. For any assessment to measure student performance reliably and validly on the academic content and skills outlined in the academic standards, both curriculum and instruction must also be aligned to those common expectations. Further, classroom instruction must be responsive to the assessment data, with regular opportunities for adjustment to resources and strategies to address the academic standards.

For more information about the academic standards measured by these assessments, visit the [Alaska Standards webpage](#) on the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) website.



Further guidance on how the data and reports can be interpreted and used can be found on the [AK STAR Results webpage](#).

## Dates of Testing

The AK STAR assessments were administered from March 27 to April 28, 2023. All reports, including Individual Student Reports, School Summary Reports, and District Summary Reports, are accessible in the AK STAR Administration Portal.

## Educator Use of Information

The summative component is designed to provide a snapshot of student, school, or program progress and achievement at the end of a period of instruction. Statewide summative assessments are administered near the end of the school year. The results are used to provide information about the overall status of a student learning on the state standards in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Results of state assessments may be used to measure the overall effectiveness of an educational program at the school, district, or state level.

While the AK STAR summative and growth components provide specific measures of the knowledge possessed by an individual student, other types of assessment also contribute to the whole picture. Many indicators of student learning, such as classroom work, grades, and local assessments, will create a full picture of a student's skills and knowledge and can be used to identify which learning goals educators and parents need to address next. Other types of assessments used in classrooms, schools, and districts include those listed in [Table 1: Assessment Types](#).

The AK STAR growth component is designed to provide teachers with accurate, actionable evidence to help inform instructional strategies regardless of how far students are above or below grade level. The growth component measures what a student knows at that time, and then is compared to their previous MAP Growth assessments, either fall or winter, to provide a conditional growth score. Growth uses a Rasch Unit (RIT) scale and compares a student at that point in time to all other students in the nation who took MAP Growth.

**Table 1: Assessment Types**

Assessment Type	Description	Frequency
Formative assessment	A planned, ongoing process used by educators and students during learning and teaching to elicit and use evidence of student learning to improve student understanding of intended disciplinary learning outcomes and support students to become self-directed learners. Formative assessment processes are a blend of both planned and in-the-moment actions and responses.	Daily
Summative assessment	Culminating assessments that report the evaluation of learning, skills acquisition, and standards attainment; can be used for a single unit or to assess attainment of learning standards for the entire school year; used to determine whether students have learned what they were expected to learn.	Yearly
Progress monitoring	An assessment process by which students are regularly measured (e.g., weekly, or bi-weekly) to determine their progress on specific learning progressions or domains within a subject area. Progress monitoring is used to determine how well students are responding to specific, short-term instructional techniques and programs so that they can be adjusted, if needed.	Weekly or Bi-weekly
Curriculum-embedded tests, or program tests	Assessments that are part of the instructional materials being used by teachers or part of the instructional activities routinely taking place.	Weekly or Per Unit

Assessment Type	Description	Frequency
Interim assessments	Assessments that are given periodically throughout an academic year to provide individual student performance data, which teachers can use to adjust instruction to meet student needs. Interim assessments can also be used to determine the effectiveness of ongoing instructional programs and methods.	Approximately 3+ Times Per Year
Universal screening tests	Assessments that are usually given two or three times during a school year to accurately identify students who may be at risk of learning difficulties. Universal screening tests focus on targeted, essential skills (such as word recognition) that are predictive of future outcomes. They are designed to be practical and quickly administered on a large scale with all students in a grade level.	2-3 Times Per Year
Diagnostic assessments	Assessments that are evidence-gathering procedures that provide detailed information about which targeted skills and knowledge a student is most struggling to learn. This information is needed by teachers when they decide how to design instructional interventions most appropriately. Due to their time-intensive and specific nature, diagnostic assessments are only used with a small group of students for whom the learning process has broken down and sufficient progress has not been made. Diagnostic assessments may be highly formalized, such as those used in special education applications, or less formal to guide decisions in general education situations.	As Needed



## Part 2—Test Design

### Types of Items

The AK STAR assessments contain several different item types. Refer to [Table 2: Item Types](#). Examples of each item type are available in the [AK STAR Assessment Item Types](#) document on the [AK STAR Assessments Results](#) webpage.

**Table 2: Item Types**

Item Type	Interaction	Max Points	ELA	Math
Multiple-Choice Single Select	This type of question lists four choices and asks students to select the correct answer.	1	✓	✓
Multiple-Choice Multiple-Select	This type of question lists five or more choices and has two or more correct answers. (Students will be told how many choices to select.) Students must select all the correct choices and none of the incorrect ones for their answers to be scored as correct.	1	✓	✓
Numeric Entry	This type of question asks students to enter a number or numbers. Students can use the digits 0 through 9 in their answer. In grades 4 and up, students can use a decimal point, and in grades 6 and up, students can also use a negative sign.	1		✓
Table	This type of question asks students to sort information into groups. For each row, students select the column that correctly describes that row.	2 1 (if student chooses all but one of the correct answers)	✓	
	This type of question asks students to select cells in a table. For each row, students select the column or columns that are correct. Some questions may restrict them to one selection for each row or column, and some may allow them to select more than one column per row.	1		✓
Drop-Down	This type of question asks students to select answers from drop-down lists. Points are based on the number of drop-down lists. Students can earn partial credit of 1 if they select the correct choice from only one of the drop-down lists.	1 point per drop down list	✓	
	This type of question asks students to select answers from drop-down lists.	1		✓

Item Type	Interaction	Max Points	ELA	Math
Select in Passage	This type of question asks students to select answers from a short section of the passage or another text, such as a dictionary entry. In the given text, certain words, phrases, or sentences are underlined. The students' job is to select the underlined choice or choices that provide the best answer. (They will be told how many choices to select.)	1	✓	
Drag and Drop	This type of question asks students to move one or more choices into the correct box. If there is only one box to fill or if the number of choices equals the number of boxes to fill, the question is 1 point. If there are two or more boxes to fill and there are more choices than boxes, the question is 2 points.	1 if one box to fill  2 if two or more boxes to fill  Partial credit of 1 point if student fills all but one box correctly	✓	
	This type of question asks students to move one or more choices into the correct space or spaces.	1		✓
Text Entry	This type of question asks students to write a short-written response—usually of just one word—in a box. It is usually used to test knowledge of spelling.	1	✓	
Select Text	This type of question asks students to select answers from a list or group of text. In the given text, certain words, phrases, or sentences are underlined. The students' job is to select the underlined choice or choices that provide the best answer. They will be told how many choices to select	1		✓
Multipart	This type of question combines two other kinds of questions. Usually, the first part asks about a passage, and the second part asks for evidence to support the answer in the first part.	2  Partial credit of 1 if student answers the first part correctly  Students earn no credit if they answer the first part incorrectly, even if they answer the second part correctly	✓	

Item Type	Interaction	Max Points	ELA	Math
Multipart	This type of question has two or three parts. Each part has one question that can be any of the types described in this document. All parts are based on the information that is presented on the left side of the screen.	Each part is 1 point unless one of the parts is a constructed-response question		✓
Constructed Response	This type of question asks students to write a short response of about a paragraph based on a passage or two passages.	Varies based on the item; 1–3 points	✓	
	This type of question asks students to write a response that includes a combination of words and math expressions or equations. Although not required, students can use the equation editor buttons to add mathematical symbols to their answer. Words can be typed from their regular keyboard.	3 for grades 3-5 4 for grades 6 and up		✓

## Blueprints

A test blueprint is a comprehensive document that outlines the structure, content, and objectives of a test strategy. A blueprint details the distribution of topics or skills to be covered and the specific types of questions that will be included.

The AK STAR assessments have two components.

The Summative component:

- Addresses the breadth and depth of the Alaska grade-level content standards
- Produces a summative test score and achievement level
- Satisfies the core summative test blueprint for balance of content representation

The Growth component:

- Accesses a broader item pool, including items from MAP Growth and items assessing above- or below-grade standards
- Works together with the items from the core summative component to yield diagnostic scores on the MAP Growth RIT scale, including a RIT score specific to current MAP Growth Instructional Areas

AK STAR assessment [ELA and Math blueprints](#) are available on the [AK STAR Assessment Design webpage](#).

## Instructional Areas

Instructional areas are the specific content or skills students are assessed in on MAP Growth. The AK STAR assessment growth component contains questions related to each instructional area, allowing educators to see how a student is performing in the instructional areas (such as Geometry) as well as the overall subject (such as Mathematics). Instructional areas can be used to plan more targeted instruction at the student level and at the class level. Compared to the overall RIT score, educators can identify which instructional areas within a broader content present as a strength or as a suggested area of focus. At the student level, this aids in individualized instruction and goal setting. At the class level, instructional areas can support instructional grouping. Formative assessment practices should be used in conjunction with the instructional area scores to account for student learning that occurs between the assessment administration and the time that instruction is delivered.

### *English Language Arts*

As outlined in the [Test Blueprints for AK STAR ELA and Math](#), the ELA assessment encompasses Reading and Language Usage. The sub-scores in the English Language Arts test design are compatible with the MAP Growth Instructional Areas. For AK STAR, an instructional area RIT score is generated in the sub-score instructional areas for grades 3–9 listed in [Table 3: Instructional Areas for Reading](#) and [Table 4: Instructional Areas for Language Usage](#).

**Table 3: Instructional Areas for Reading**

Reading Instructional Areas	
Literary Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyze Theme and Literary Elements; Summarize</li> <li>Analyze Point of View, Features, and Structure</li> </ul>
Informational Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyze Central Idea, Concepts, and Events; Summarize</li> <li>Analyze Point of View, Purpose, Features, and Structure</li> </ul>
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vocabulary</li> </ul>

**Table 4: Instructional Areas for Language Usage**

Language Usage Instructional Areas	
Language: Understand, Edit for Grammar, Usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parts of Speech</li> <li>Phrases, Clauses, Agreement, Sentences</li> </ul>
Language: Understand, Edit Mechanics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capitalization</li> <li>Punctuation</li> <li>Spelling</li> </ul>
Writing: Plan, Organize, Develop, Revise, Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan, Organize; Create Cohesion, Use Transitions</li> <li>Provide Support; Develop Topics; Conduct Research</li> <li>Establish and Maintain Style; Use Precise Language</li> <li>Purpose and Audience</li> </ul>

**Mathematics**

As outlined in the [Test Blueprints for AK STAR ELA and Math](#), the sub-scores in the Mathematics test design are compatible with the MAP Growth Instructional Areas. For AK STAR, an Instructional Area RIT score is generated in the sub-score instructional areas for grades 3–9 listed in [Table 5: Mathematics Instructional Areas for Grade 3-5](#) and in [Table 6: Mathematics Instructional Areas for Grade 6-9](#).

**Table 5: Mathematics Instructional Areas for Grade 3-5**

<b>Mathematics Instructional Areas for Grades 3-5</b>	
Operations and Algebraic Thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represent and Solve Problems</li> <li>• Analyze Patterns and Relationships</li> </ul>
Number and Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand Place Value, Counting, and Cardinality</li> <li>• Number and Operations in Base Ten</li> <li>• Number and Operations – Fractions</li> </ul>
Measurement and Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geometric Measurement and Problem Solving</li> <li>• Represent and Interpret Data</li> </ul>
Geometry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reason with Shapes, Attributes, and Coordinate Plane</li> </ul>

**Table 6: Mathematics Instructional Areas for Grade 6-9**

<b>Mathematics Instructional Areas for Grades 6–9</b>	
Operations and Algebraic Thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expressions and Equations</li> <li>• Use Functions to Model Relationships</li> </ul>
The Real and Complex Number Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ratios and Proportional Relationships</li> <li>• Perform Operations</li> <li>• Extend and Use Properties</li> </ul>
Geometry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geometric Measurement and Relationships</li> <li>• Congruence, Similarity, Right Triangles, &amp; Trig</li> </ul>
Statistics and Probability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpreting Categorical and Quantitative Data</li> <li>• Using Sampling and Probability to Make Decisions</li> </ul>

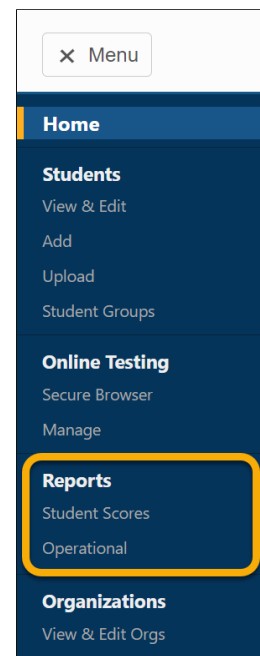
## Part 3—Reports

AK STAR spring assessment results are available in both static and dynamic reports accessible through the AK STAR Administration Portal.

**Static reports** are reports that contain student data and score results which are presented in a single format in which the user is not able to filter based on specific data sets. These report types (District Summary Report, School Summary Report, and the student ISR) are available after the data is finalized for an administration term. They can be accessed in the **Student Scores** or **Operational** links in the **Reports** section of the main menu in the AK STAR Administration Portal. Refer to [Appendix A](#) to see examples of these reports.

**Dynamic reports** are reports which contain student results data that can be viewed and navigated through different levels and demographics for a specific data set. These report types allow the user to filter by student group and compare data. Different dynamic views of reports can be generated through the **Student Scores** link in the **Reports** section of the main menu. Refer to [Appendix A](#) to see examples of these reports.

In the AK STAR Administration Portal, using the **Student Scores** link, educators can access reports at the student, group, school, and district levels depending on the role of the user. Users can also be assigned to specific organizations or reporting groups.



## AK STAR Reports Available for 2023

Table 7: Report Types

Report	Type of Report	Access to Report	Audience	Description	How to Use Information
<a href="#">Individual Student Report (ISR)</a>	Static	<a href="#">Access through Reports &gt; Student Scores</a>	For students, parents, and educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides individual student's summative scale score and achievement level</li> <li>Provides growth component overall RIT scores, growth, percentiles, and instructional area RIT scores</li> <li>Contains confidential student information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Useful for understanding how a student performed overall on the standards at a grade level at the end of the school year</li> <li>Compare a student's performance to other students in the school, district, or state</li> <li>Based on the ELA and Mathematics instructional areas and student performance in each category, and other classroom- or district-level information available for individual students, educators can use the information about general strengths and weaknesses of individual students for areas that may need instructional support in the next school year</li> </ul>
<a href="#">School Summary Report</a>	Static	<a href="#">Access through Reports &gt; Operational</a>	For educators, district users, and the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides summary information for whole school, district, and state</li> <li>Includes number of students tested, percentage in each achievement level, median and mean scale scores, and performance on instructional areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Useful for information about the performance of the educational system at a school level</li> <li>Determine grade level or content areas where program or instruction may be improved to increase student achievement</li> </ul>
<a href="#">District Summary Report</a>	Static	<a href="#">Access through Reports &gt; Operational</a>	For educators, district users, and the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides summary information for whole district and state</li> <li>Includes all information provided in school summary reports at the district - level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Useful for information about the performance of the educational system at a district level</li> <li>Determine grade level or content areas where program or instruction may be improved to increase student achievement</li> </ul>
Student Score Data File Export (SSDF)	Static	<a href="#">Access through Reports &gt; Operational</a>	For use by district-level users only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contains all reportable student data within a particular district, including demographic and student score data, sorted by Reporting School Code and Alaska State Student ID</li> <li>Contains confidential student information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Useful to district data analysts to view, download, and analyze data</li> <li>Useful to download data into district Student Information System (SIS)</li> <li>Can be used to develop district reports and presentations</li> <li>Sample file layout available in the Help section on the Administration Portal <a href="#">Access through Main Menu&gt;Help</a></li> </ul>
Organization Report – School and District	Dynamic	<a href="#">Access through Reports &gt; Student Scores</a>	For use by district-level users only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides a histogram and list view of district to school to student results data and performance</li> <li>The school level provides a student group view of selected filtered (refer to <a href="#">Table 9: Available Demographic Filters</a>) student response data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Useful to district to present overall view of district student performance</li> <li>Useful to district data staff to view district-level data down to school level data</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Dynamic Student Report</a>	Dynamic	<a href="#">Access through Reports &gt; Student Scores</a>	For use by district-level users only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides individual student's summative scale score and achievement level</li> <li>Provides growth component overall RIT scores, growth, percentiles, and instructional area RIT scores</li> <li>Provides the following information for test items: item type, level of difficulty, and standard alignment</li> <li>Contains confidential student information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Useful to district and administrative staff to view overall student performance</li> <li>Allows for a quick view of student summative and MAP Growth performance</li> </ul>

**Note:** The **Report** column is linked to report samples in [Appendix A](#). The **Access to Reports** column is linked to individual reports in [Part 3—Reports](#).

## Accessing and Downloading Reports

All reports are housed in the AK STAR Administration Portal. District Test Coordinators (DTCs) are responsible for viewing, downloading and distributing the appropriate reports to the appropriate audience and staff. DTCs are also responsible for providing appropriate access to staff in their district.

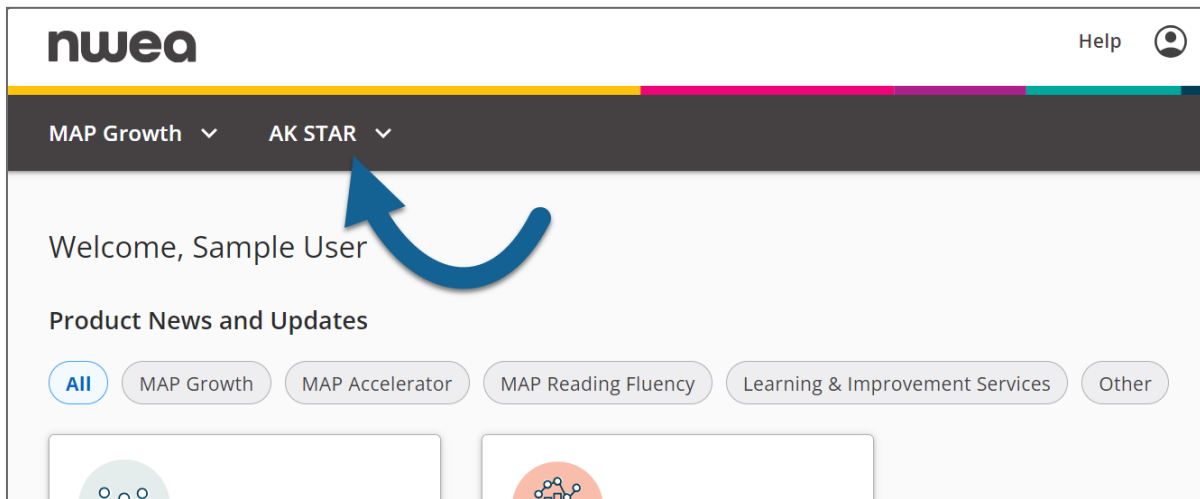
**Table 8: User Roles for Reports**

	System Administrator	Data Administrator	Assessment Coordinator DTC	Assistant Assessment Coordinator BTC	Test Administrator Proctor	School Administrator	Instructor	Super-intendents
Score reports								
Access reports for assigned organizations groups, or students			✓					✓

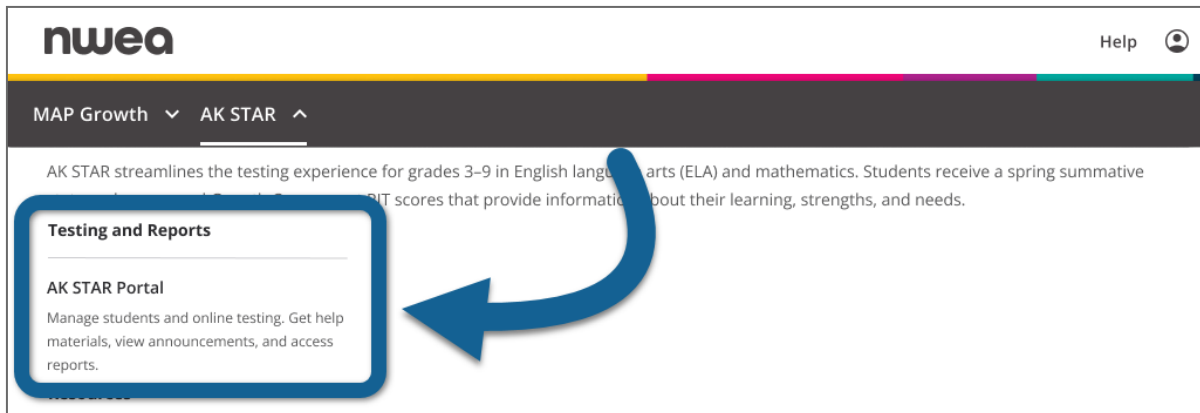
### Accessing Reports

To access reports:

1. Log into the AK STAR Administration Portal using your Single Sign-On from [MAP Growth](#).
2. Select the AK STAR menu at the top.



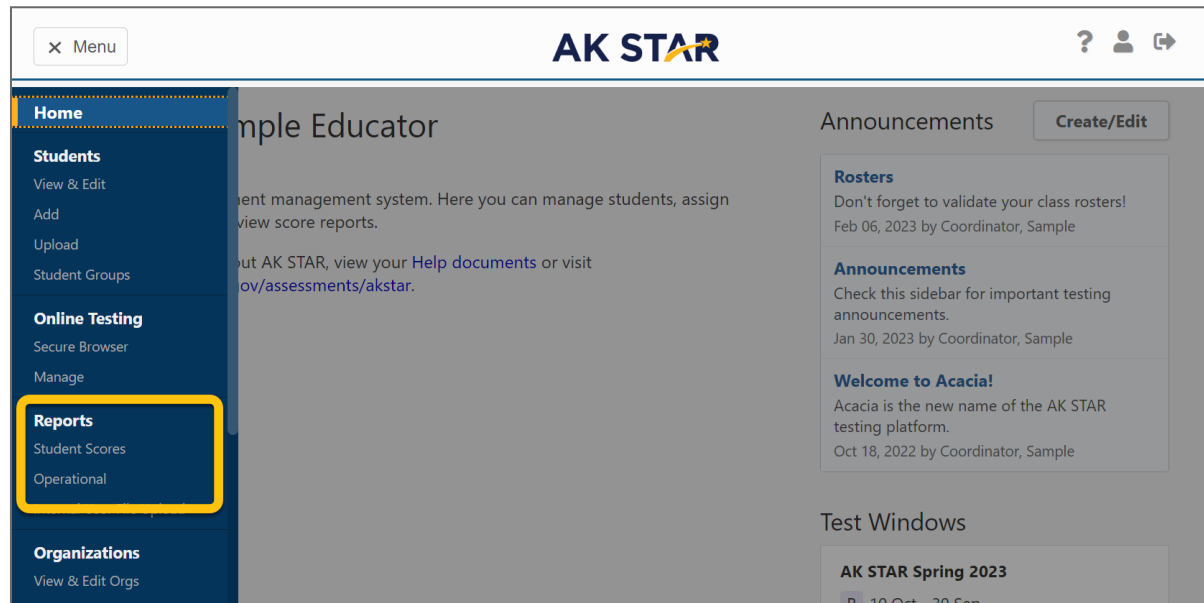
3. Under **Testing and Reports**, select **AK STAR Portal**.





4. The AK STAR Administration Portal opens. Use the left navigation menu to select either **Student Scores** or **Operational Reports**.

**Note:** Not all users have access to AK STAR reports. To validate who has access to reports, contact your District Test Coordinator.



## Organization Reports

Organization reports offer a comprehensive view of educational performance data, allowing educators to analyze and compare results at different levels (district or school). These reports can be useful to districts to present a view of overall student performance allowing them to identify trends in student performance across the district. By analyzing district-wide data, districts can pinpoint which schools or student groups may need additional support or intervention. These reports can be viewed at the district or school level depending on the user's level of access.

To access an organization report in the AK STAR Administration Portal:

1. Select **Menu > Reports > Student Scores**.
2. Verify that you are on the **Organization** tab. This is the default tab.
3. Select the desired organization from the dropdown **Organization** field.
4. Select the other report criteria as required.
5. Select **Find**.
6. Select the administration you wish to view. Test administrations that match the search criteria appear in the search results.



## Histogram View

This is the default view of the organization reports, which contain bar graphs showing a distribution of average (mean) and median scale scores in each achievement level for the selected grade and content area.

**Figure 1: District Histogram View Report**



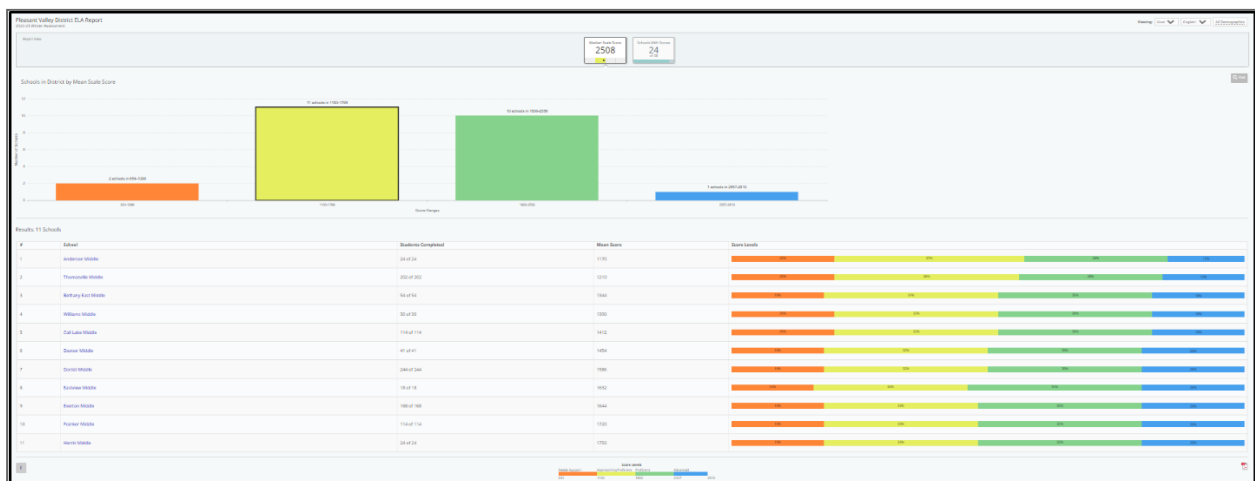
- The **Median Scale Score** tile (top middle of the page) displays the median scale score of the filtered group. This will change as you select different filters and groups. The median is represented here for the selected group of student data to use as a quick reference of the selected group's mid-point.
- Bars on the graph display the average (mean) scale score of the selected filtered group displayed. Selecting a bar will provide a list of options in that category that allow the user to drill down into the next organization level.
- On the top right of the page, you can select different filters to view different grades, content areas, and [demographic filters](#).



## List View

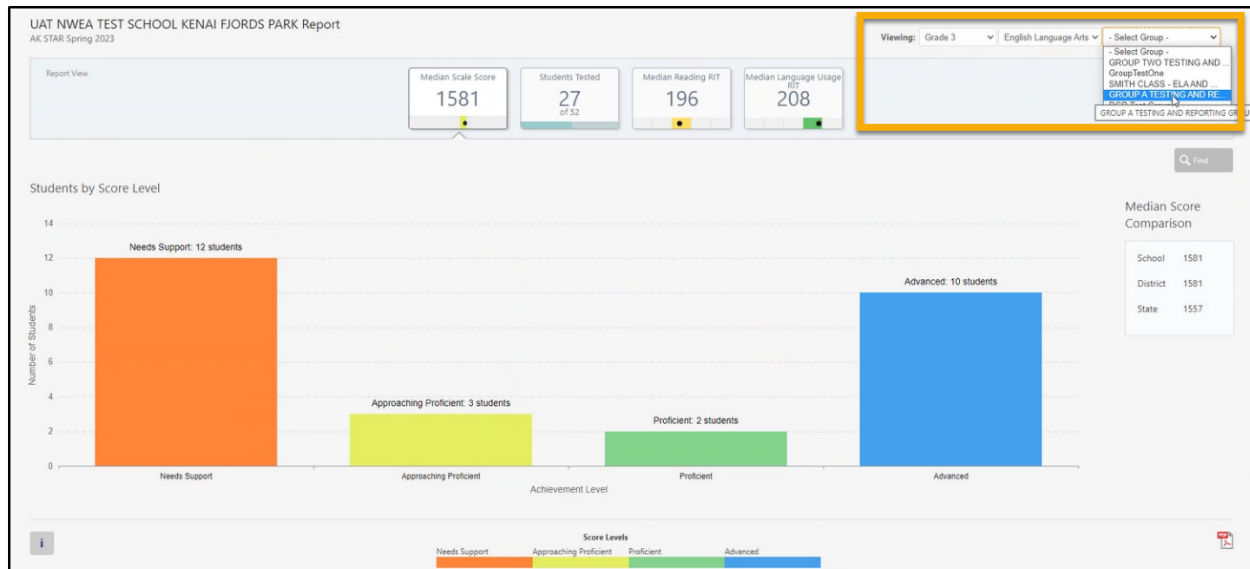
A List View can be generated by selecting the **Schools with Scores** or **Students Tested** tile at the top center of the page. The organization reports show a view displaying information about the assessment results for the content area.

**Figure 2: District Histogram View Report with list of schools with scores**



- The List View can be sorted, and items can be selected to drill down further into the next organization level and will eventually lead to a list of students and access to student-level reports.
- Select a school within the district view
- You can now view your school designated reporting groups

**Figure 3: School List View with list of groups associated with the school**



**Figure 4: School List View Report with list of all students**

- You can view individual students within a group or entire school, based on grade and content area.

Abilene Middle ELA Report  
2023 Spring Assessment

Viewing: Grade 3 ELA All Groups

Report View

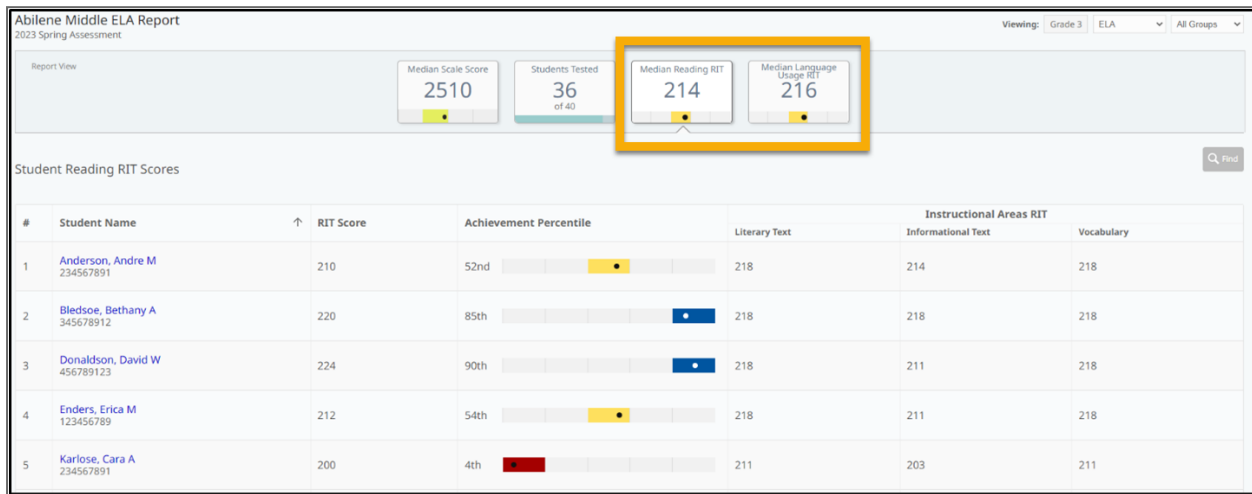
Median Scale Score: 2510  
Students Tested: 36 of 40  
Median Reading RIT: 214  
Median Language Usage RIT: 216

Student Scores

#	Student Name	Scale Score	Achievement Level	Score Range
1	Anderson, Andre M 234567891	2250 (s14)	Proficient	
2	Bledsoe, Bethany A 345678912	2704 (s12)	Advanced	
3	Donaldson, David W 456789123	1850 (s18)	Proficient	
4	Enders, Erica M 123456789	1710 (s14)	Approaching Proficient	
5	Karlose, Cara A 234567891	670 (s14)	Needs Support	
6	Larson, Lionel W 345678912	2610 (s10)	Advanced	

### **School Level Median RIT List View**

The median RIT score is the middle score when all the RIT scores of a group are arranged in order from lowest to highest score. The median RIT provides a quick snapshot of where a group stands in terms of academic achievement. Schools and districts can use median RIT scores to compare performance across different groups, grades, or schools. It is useful for assessing and comparing overall achievement levels and for tracking progress over time. The median RIT score can be especially useful when analyzing data for smaller group sizes or data sets that may be skewed by extreme values.



Select a Median RIT tile to open a list view of the student RIT scores, Achievement Percentile and instructional area RIT scores.

Select a student name to go to their individual student report.

### Report Filters

The demographic report shows data for students in various demographic or targeted groups in the selected grade and content. The field values for each group are the number of Students Completed, Mean Score, and Score Levels (percentage of students at each Achievement Level). All students that received a scale score are included in the report without any suppressions. Groups are reported at the state, district, and school level in the order listed below.

When demographic filters are applied in the AK STAR Administration Portal, only the selected population will be visible on the reports. To filter reports, select **All Demographics**.

Viewing: Grade 5 English Language Art All Demographics

**Change Student Demographic Criteria**

Filter the results data for this report by selecting any combination of available student demographics.

Student Ethnic Group: - Select - Gender: - Select - Economic Disadvantage: - Select -

504 Plan: - Select - IEP: - Select -

Cancel Reset **Filter**

**Table 9: Available Demographic Filters**

Available Filter
Grade
Subject
Groups
Gender
Student Ethnic Group
Economic Disadvantage
504 Plan
IEP
Primary Disability
English Learner
Migrant
Parent/Guardian on Active Military Duty Status

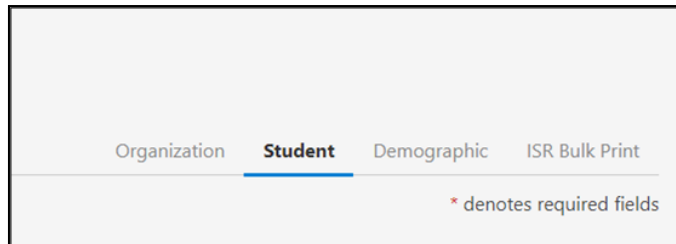
## Student Score Reports

### *Dynamic Student Report*

Dynamic Student Reports are unique to each individual student and content area combination and can be accessed directly from the AK STAR Administration Portal from the student's school.

For direct access to a report for a student:

1. Select **Reports > Student Scores** from the main menu.
2. Select the **Student** tab at the top right of the page.



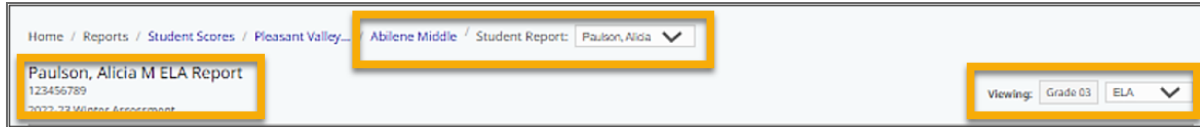
3. Search for Dynamic Student Reports using the following criteria:

- Last Name (\*required field)
- Organization (\*required field)
- Grade (\*required field)
- Subject
- First Name
- AKSID

4. All reports matching the search criteria will be listed. Select the report you wish to view.

## Dynamic Student Report Header and Navigation

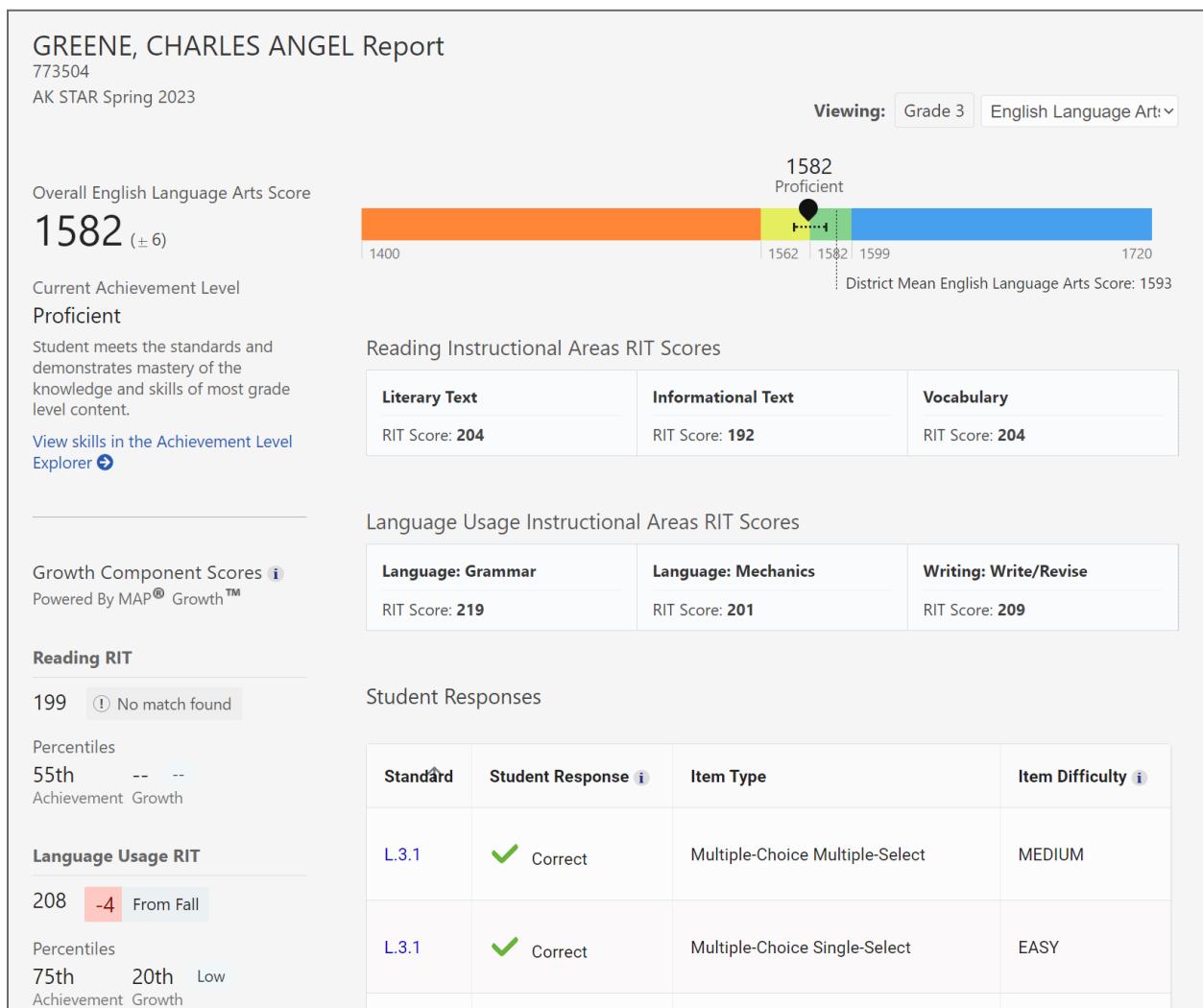
- The header area of the report contains information about the student and their test, as well as navigation options. On the left, the student's name, AKSID, and the test season are listed.
- At the top, you can navigate to organization reports using the blue breadcrumb links or use the dropdown menu to select another student in the school to view.
- On the right, you can see the student's grade, and switch between viewing different content areas.



## AK STAR Dynamic Student Report

To print a PDF of the report, select the PDF icon on the bottom right.

To see a full sample and explanation of data on the Dynamic Student Report, refer to [Appendix A](#).



### *Individual Student Report (ISR)*

The primary audience for the Individual Student Report is students, parents, and families. The report summarizes the individual performance of a student at the end of an academic year. It includes a comparison of school, district and state performance, a description of the Achievement Level and Scale Score in each content area and instructional area, as well as a descriptor of any reported codes. The ISR also includes MAP Growth RIT score data. Expanded MAP Growth data reports are available in the [MAP Suite](#). The ISR is available in the AK STAR Administration Portal, based on user permission. District users are responsible for downloading and providing ISRs to the families and educators of students. ISRs are available in PDF format and can be downloaded in bulk or individually.

**Note:** Reporting groups can only be created at the school-level and student data cannot be transferred district-to-district in the Online Reporting System. If a student has moved from your district to another, please contact the receiving district to securely transfer the reporting information.

The selections the user makes determine how the files are batched in the zip files. Selections can be made at a district level or school level by all grades or a single grade. Users selecting an organization at the school level can also select to print by reporting groups and download a single group.

To see a sample of the Individual Student Report, refer to [Appendix A](#).

## Downloading ISRs

ISR ZIP file downloads are available to permissioned users. To generate ISR ZIP files:

1. In the AK STAR Administration Portal, select **Menu > Reports > Student Scores**.
2. Select the **ISR Bulk Print** tab (upper right of the screen).

Student Scores

View Student Score Reports

Organization Student Demographic **ISR Bulk Print**

3. Select **Bulk Students** for a ZIP file with multiple PDFs included or **One Student** to download a single PDF file.

Download ISR's for: **Bulk Students** One Student

4. In the **Organization** field, select the desired school or district from the dropdown.

5. Options are different dependent on selection of **Bulk Students** or **One Student**.

- a. **For Bulk Students:** Choose the appropriate search criteria, then select **Find**. Organization, Test Administration, and Grade are required, while Groups is optional and available only at the school level.

Select ISR Download Criteria

Select the required fields to see available reports for download.

Download ISR's for: **Bulk Students** One Student

Organization \* TEST SCHOOL Test Administration \* AK STAR Spring 2023 Grade \* Grade 3 Groups SMITH CLASS - ELA AND ...

\* denotes required fields

Group search only available at the school level

Find

- b. **For One Student:** Choose the appropriate search criteria, then select **Find**. Organization, Test Administration, Grade, and Last Name are required, while First Name and Student State ID are optional.


Organization \* - Select or Type Organization - Test Administration \* - Select Test Admin - Grade \* - Select Grade -

Last Name \* First Name Student State ID

Find

6. For bulk printing at the district level, test administrations that match the search criteria appear in the search results.

#	Test Administration	Organization	Grade	Language	Group	# Student	Generate Files	Status	Download
1	AK STAR Spring	PRIBILOF SCHOOL DISTRICT	03	English	All Students	1	<b>Generate</b>		

7. Select **Generate** to create the ZIP files you want to download. A ZIP icon  appears in the **Download** column when the file is ready to download.



## Reviewing Demographics

Reviewing demographics is an essential practice for understanding and addressing the diverse needs of a student population. By reviewing demographic data, educators and administrators can identify achievement trends for specific groups.

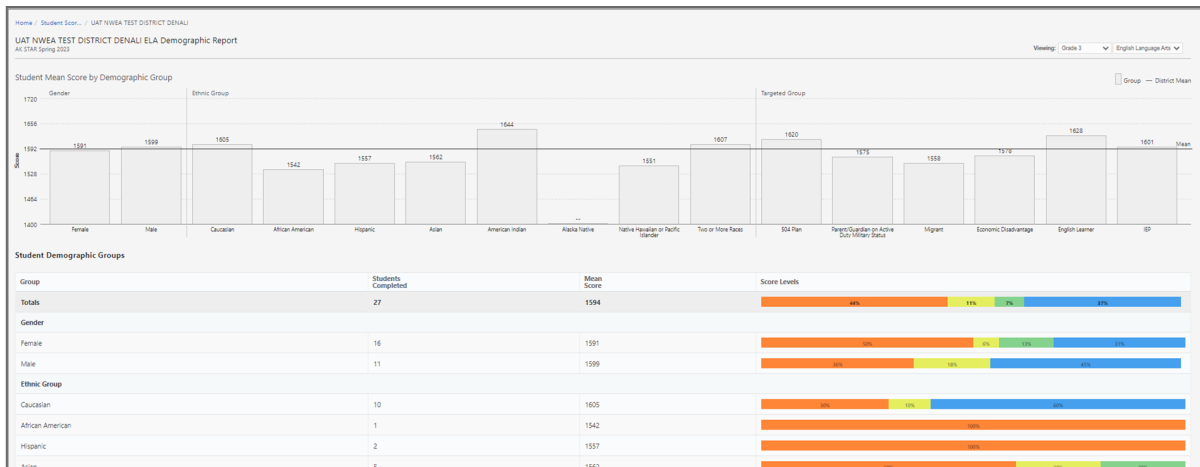
1. In the AK STAR Administration Portal, select **Menu > Reports > Student Scores**
2. Above the search criteria, select the **Demographics** tab on the top right.

3. Select the School, Test Administration (Spring 2023), Grade, and Subject from the drop-down lists, then select **Find**.

4. Select the Organization.

#	Organization	Test Admin	Grade	Subject	Date Range
1	<a href="#">UAT NWEA TEST DISTRICT DENALI</a>	AK STAR Spring 2023	03	English Language Arts	Mar 27, 2023 - Apr 28, 2023

5. The report loads, showing the average score and the distribution of scores across the achievement levels for students in each demographic group.



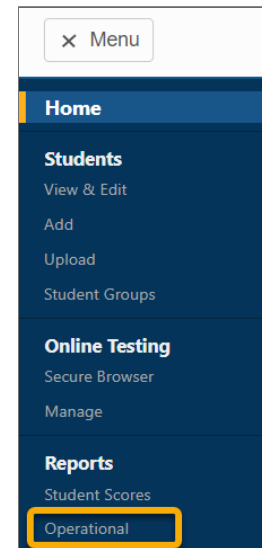
## Operational Reports

### School & District Summary Reports

Summary Reports are created at the district and school levels. The District Summary Report aggregates data for all the reportable students in the selected organization (school or district) by content area. These reports contain summary data for the content area by grade, students tested, overall mean scores, overall median scores, percentage of students at each achievement level, and performance by instructional area. Summary reports are available based on user roles.

To access the School & District Summary reports:

1. Open the left navigation panel and select **Reports > Operational**.



2. Select the correct organization, then select **Score Summary Report** under the **Report Type** drop-down.
  - If the organization selected is a school, the report will be generated at the school level.
  - If the organization selected is a district, the report will be generated at the district level.

Home / Reports / Operational Report

### Operational Report

Reports can be regenerated once every four hours. Select "Find" and then "Refresh" to be able to download the report. Most reports will be ready within an hour.

**Find Report** \* Denotes required field.

Organization \*  
UAT NWEA TEST SCHOOL WOOD-TIKC. ▾

Report Type \*  
Score Summary Report ▾ **Find**

**Results** Refresh

#	Organization	Type	Status	Date	Download
1	UAT NWEA TEST SCHOOL WOOD-TIKCHIK STATE PARK	Score Summary Report	GENERATED	May 31, 2023 1:59 PM	

3. Select **Find**. Once the report has been generated, the download icon will appear.

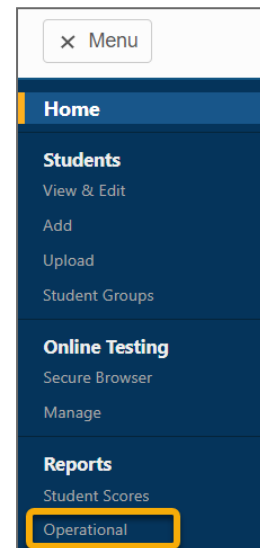
To see a sample of the District and School Summary Reports, refer to [Appendix A](#).

### Student Score Data File (SSDF)

The Student Score Data File Export (SSDF) contains detailed information for all valid test events completed at the selected organization (school or district) within the administration window. The SSDF is available to district-level users only.

To access the SSDF:

1. Open the left navigation panel and select **Reports > Operational**.



2. Select the correct organization, then select **Student Score Data File** under the **Report Type** drop-down.

Operational Report

Reports can be regenerated once every four hours. Select "Find" and then "Refresh" to be able to download the report. Most reports will be ready within an hour. \* Denotes required field.

**Find Report**

Organization \* UAT NWEA TEST DISTRICT DENALI (96) Report Type \* Student Score Data File Find

Results Refresh

The Student Score Data File Format layout is available in the Help section of the AK STAR Administration Portal. Select the question mark icon in the upper right.

3. Select **Find**. Once the report has been generated, a download icon will appear.

**AK STAR**

Reports can be regenerated once every four hours. Select "Find" and then "Refresh" to be able to download the report. Most reports will be ready within an hour. \* Denotes required field.

**Find Report**

Organization \* UAT NWEA TEST SCHOOL WOOD-TIKC. Report Type \* Student Score Data File Find

Results Refresh

#	Organization	Type	Status	Date	Download
1	UAT NWEA TEST SCHOOL WOOD-TIKCHIK STATE PARK	Student Score Data File	GENERATED	May 31, 2023 1:59 PM	<span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 10px;">Download</span>

**Note:** You can download the Score Summary Report and Student Score Data File at the same time. You can either download a district report or school report by adjusting the organization.

## Part 4—Score Interpretation

### Achievement Levels

Student performance on the AK STAR assessment is reported in one of four overall achievement levels. These levels designate the performance of the student on the standards tested at the grade level. The four achievement levels are Advanced, Proficient, Approaching Proficient, and Needs Support. [Table 10: Achievement Level Description](#) displays the policy achievement level descriptors of what students should be able to do at each overall level.

**Table 10: Achievement Level Description**

Achievement Level		Description
Proficient	Advanced (A)	Student meets the standards and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills on a range of complex grade level content.
	Proficient (P)	Student meets the standards and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.
Non-Proficient	Approaching Proficient (AP)	Student partially meets the standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but is approaching mastery of some grade level content.
	Needs Support (NS)	Student may partially meet the standards but needs support to master the knowledge and skills of current grade level content.

### Achievement Level Descriptors (ALDs)

Policy Achievement Level Descriptors or ALDs are general descriptions of what a student in a specific grade level and subject can do at each achievement level, as aligned with Alaska’s academic standards.

Each achievement level is defined by a range of scale scores. Alaska educators gathered in May 2023 to participate in a standard setting validation meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to validate the Alaska educator recommendations from the standard setting study in summer 2022, which set the minimum scale scores students should attain at each achievement level for all grades in ELA and mathematics. With input from a Policy Review Committee and DEED, and after a period of public comment, the Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development approved the scale score ranges for AK STAR found in [Appendix B](#).

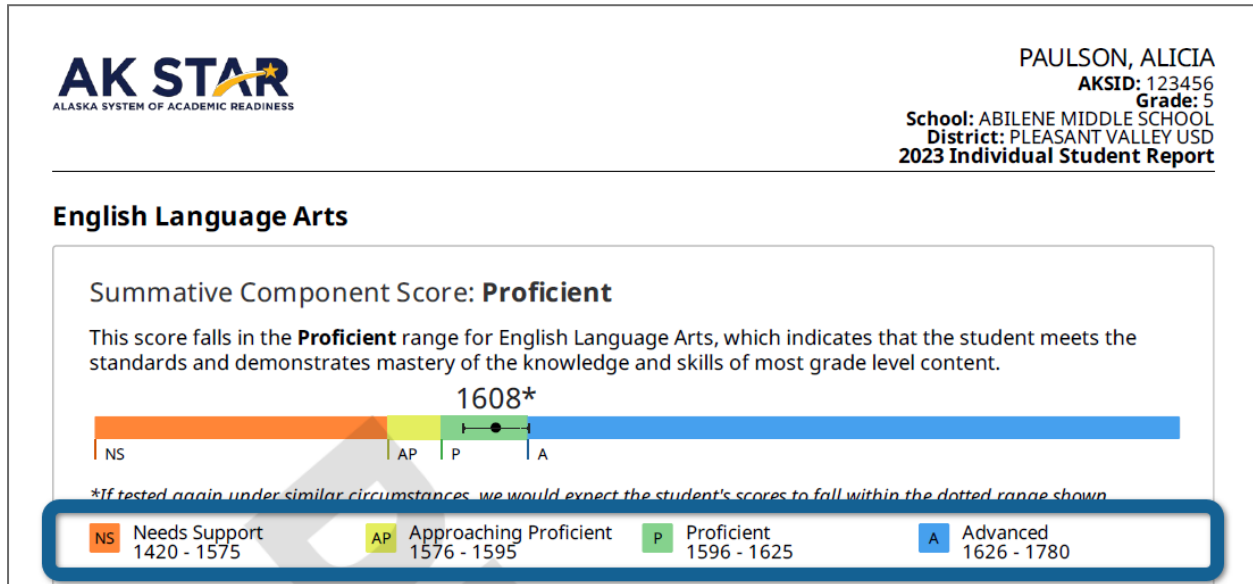
AK STAR summary ALDs for all grades and content areas can be found on the [Summative Achievement Level Summaries webpage](#). The full set of ALDs can be viewed on the [AK STAR Results webpage](#), or through the [Achievement Level Explorer tool \(ALE\)](#).

## Scores & Score Ranges

### Achievement Level Scale Score Range

The lowest and highest score in the range is displayed on the ISR scale score information section for each Achievement Level.

This information is provided at the top of pages two and three on the Individual Student Report.



### Scale Score Range

Student performance on the AK STAR summative component is represented by the overall scale score. A scale score identifies a student's current level of achievement based on items the student answered correctly, converted into a standard scale for the subject. While raw scores can be used in smaller settings such as classrooms, scale scores are needed for large scale, statewide assessments such as AK STAR.

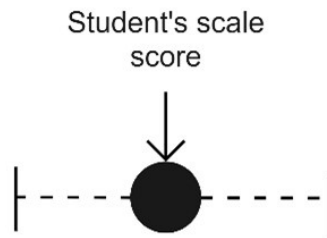
On the Individual Student Report, each student's raw score is converted to a scale score. The AK STAR summative component scale score is a four-digit number that provides a common measure for expressing student performance across different forms of a test. Scale scores have the same meaning when students take different forms of the test (e.g., standard test versus braille test, paper test versus online test, tests in different years). The scale score is a representation of the total number of correct questions a student has answered (raw score) that has been converted onto a consistent and standardized scale. Using a scale score provides consistent reporting of scores from year-to-year for each grade and content area. The scale can be represented as a line that is divided into four levels of achievement (Advanced, Proficient, Approaching Proficient, and Needs Support).

When interpreting test results, it is not appropriate to compare scale scores across content areas. Each content area is scaled separately. Therefore, the scale scores for one content area cannot be compared to another content area.

### Standard Error of Measurement

The standard error of measurement (SEM) provides information about the level of confidence that a student would achieve the same score if that student tested again on an equivalent form of the test without changing knowledge or skills. On the Individual Student Report, the black circle indicates the student's scale score on the test, and the dotted line represents the expected range of scores the student would receive if tested under similar circumstances.

On Student Reports, the SEM is represented by this symbol:



Student's score is expected to fall within this range if tested again under similar circumstances.

### ***Rounding Rules***

The SEM and scale score are rounded to the nearest integer. Instructional areas use standard rounding—increasing the tenths position by 1 if the one hundredths digit is 5 or more (round up) or leaving the tenths digit the same if the one hundredths digit is 4 or less (round down).

### ***AK STAR Score Ranges***

For ELA and Mathematics in each grade, the AK STAR score ranges vary by grade and content area. Refer to [Appendix B](#) for specific ranges.

English Language Arts Achievement Level Scale Score Ranges

Grade	ELA Performance Levels			
	Needs Support	Approaching Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
Grade 3	1400 – 1561	1562 – 1581	1582 – 1598	1599 – 1720
Grade 4	1410 – 1523	1524 – 1537	1538 – 1557	1558 – 1750
Grade 5	1420 – 1530	1531 – 1543	1544 – 1576	1577 – 1780
Grade 6	1430 – 1542	1543 – 1562	1563 – 1593	1594 – 1800
Grade 7	1440 – 1550	1551 – 1569	1570 – 1608	1609 – 1820
Grade 8	1450 – 1558	1559 – 1579	1580 – 1622	1623 – 1840
Grade 9	1450 – 1563	1564 – 1589	1590 – 1625	1626 – 1850

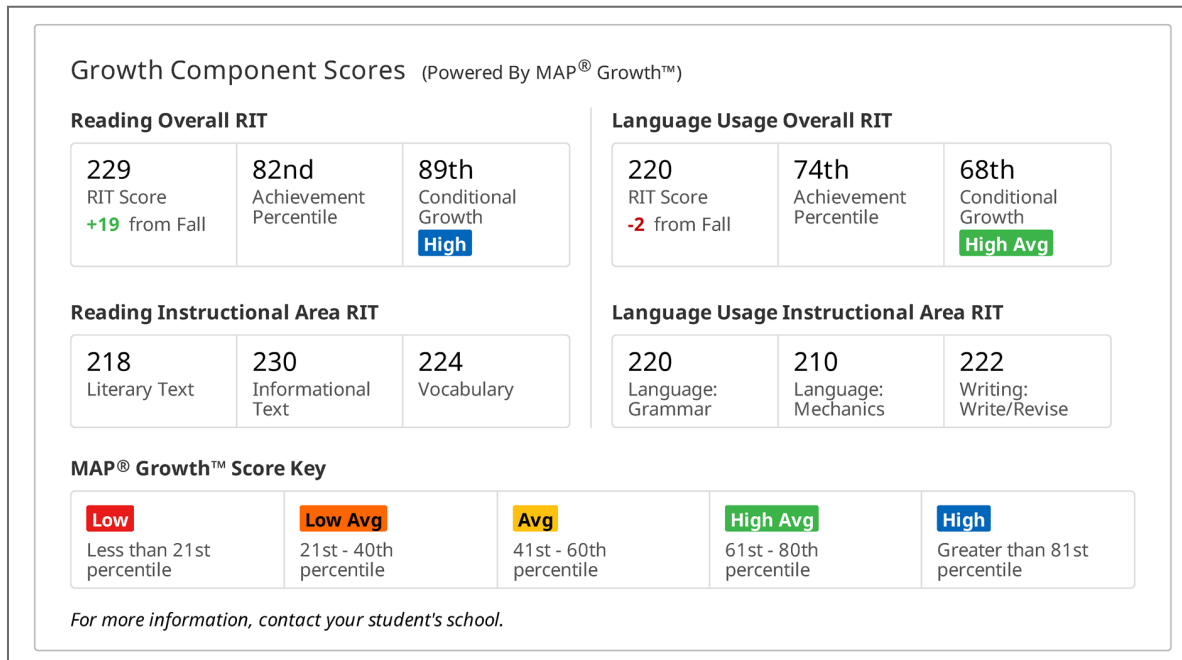
Mathematics Achievement Level Scale Score Ranges

Grade	Math Performance Levels			
	Needs Support	Approaching Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
Grade 3	1400 – 1509	1510 – 1523	1524 – 1545	1546 – 1720
Grade 4	1410 – 1523	1524 – 1537	1538 – 1557	1558 – 1750
Grade 5	1420 – 1530	1531 – 1543	1544 – 1576	1577 – 1780
Grade 6	1430 – 1542	1543 – 1562	1563 – 1593	1594 – 1800
Grade 7	1440 – 1550	1551 – 1569	1570 – 1608	1609 – 1820
Grade 8	1450 – 1558	1559 – 1579	1580 – 1622	1623 – 1840
Grade 9	1450 – 1563	1564 – 1589	1590 – 1625	1626 – 1850

## Growth Component Scores

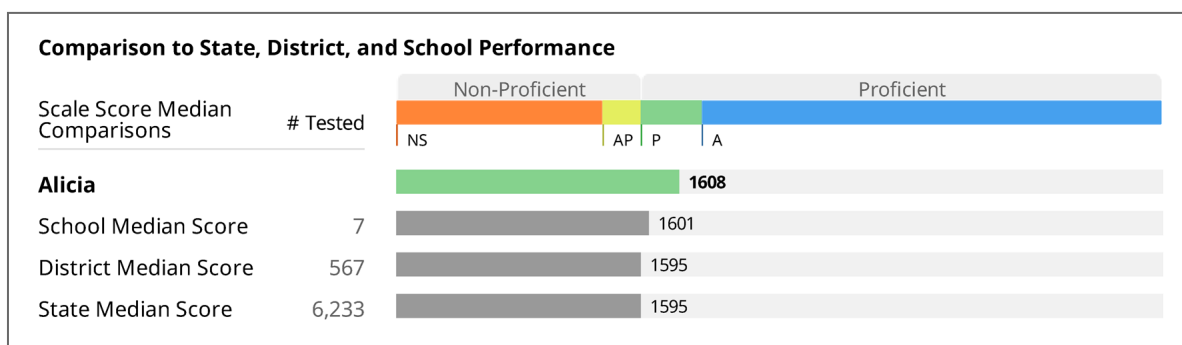
### AK STAR Growth Component Scores on Individual Student Reports (PDF & Dynamic)

On Individual Student Reports, student performance in each instructional area is reported as a RIT score. RIT scores offer a stable, growth-oriented, and adaptive measure to student learning. They provide educators with actionable data to tailor instruction and monitor progress. Students receive an overall RIT in Reading, Language Usage, and Mathematics. This provides relative information about the student's performance in each instructional area. To learn more about RIT, visit [What is the RIT scale?](#) on NWEA Connection.



## Reporting Scores for Groups of Students

To compare how students are performing, Individual Student Reports display horizontal gray bars at the school, district, and state levels with the median scale score shown next to each bar.



District Summary Reports and School Summary Reports display both the median and the mean scale scores for each grouping of students.

### Use of Mean

The **mean** (sometimes called the average) is calculated by adding the values of a set of scores and dividing by the number of scores in the set. The District and School Summary Reports show the mean scale score along with the median scale score.

### Use of Median

The **median** is the middle number in an ordered list of numbers. Half of the scores are above the median score and half of the scores are below the median. The median is a way to describe the midpoint score in a group of scores. Unlike the mean (sometimes called the average), the median is not affected by scores that are very high or very low when compared to most other scores. Even if there are very high or very low scores that differ largely from most other scores, the median will be in the same position.

### Instructional Areas for Groups of Students

On the AK STAR District Summary Reports and School Summary Reports, performance in each instructional area is compared to the district or state mean RIT for the instructional area across all students at the district or state level. This provides relative information about groups of students to help inform areas where instruction may be improved. If school performance is compared to district performance, the district mean RIT includes all students in the district the school belongs to. If either school or district performance is compared to state performance, all students in Alaska are included in the state mean RIT for the instructional area.

**For Summary Reports, these symbols indicate whether the students in the school, district, or state performed, on average.**

#### Comparison Legend

- ↑ did better than the District/State mean RIT
- ≈ did about as well as the District/State mean RIT
- ↓ did not do as well as the District/State mean RIT
- Ø did not attempt any items in this area

### Special Circumstances

If a student does not take a test or the test should not be scored, school districts document the situation using a Special Circumstance code (SCC). Circumstances in which a student does not test would include absence, extended illness requiring a medical waiver, parent refusal, or student refusal. Reasons a student's test was not scored would include security violations or misadministration which resulted in an invalidation. Additionally, if a student does not attempt at least five summative test items per content area, the assessment is not scored.

Special Circumstance codes can be found in the Student Score Data File (SSDF), in the student list page of the Student Scores, and the Dynamic Student Reports.

Special Circumstance codes are listed in [Table 11: Special Circumstance codes](#).

**Table 11: Special Circumstance codes**

Code	Special Circumstance Descriptions	Definitions
UTT	Absent	Student was absent during the scheduled testing days and during scheduled make-up days.
INV	Invalidation	A student's assessment was determined invalid.
EMW	Medical Waiver	An unexpected and severe medical condition outlined in Alaska Regulation 4 AAC 06.820 prevented the student from taking the assessment. Documentation should be kept locally, and student privacy should be maintained at all times. Additional documentation on this special circumstance is located on the <a href="#">AK STAR webpage</a> .

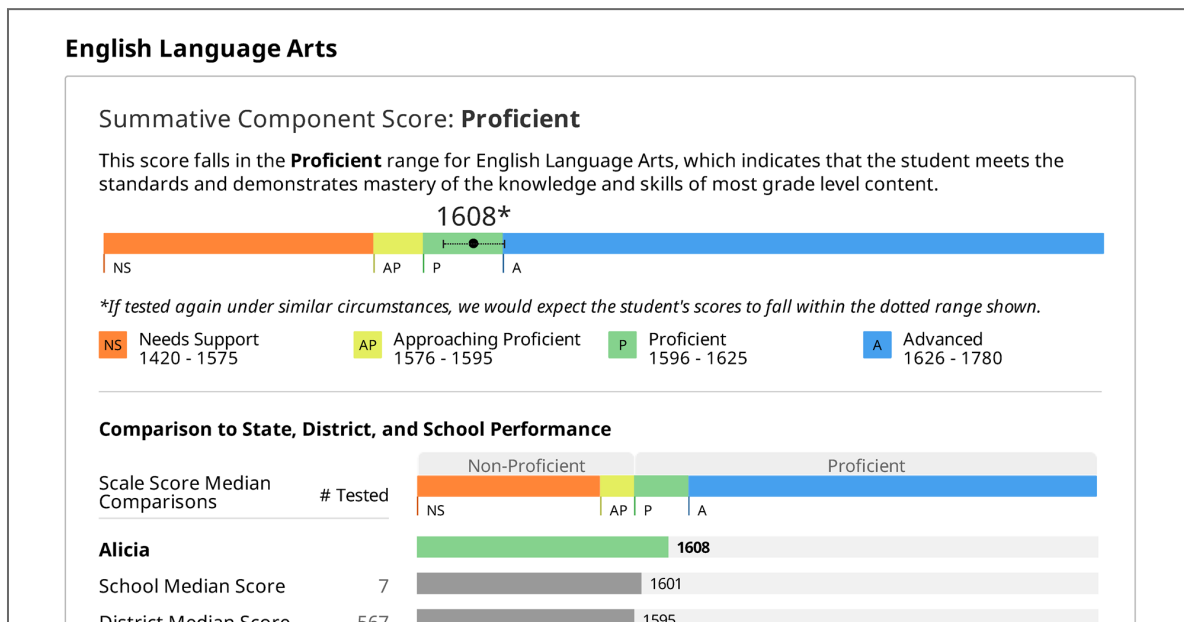


Code	Special Circumstance Descriptions	Definitions
PAR	Parent Refusal	Parent refused to allow student to participate in an assessment. Local policy governs how parent refusal is handled.
STR	Student Refusal	Student refused to participate in an assessment.
NOA*	Not Attempted	Student did not meet the item attempted requirements (*Not an assigned SCC.)

### Student Reports with Special Circumstance codes

If a student received a valid score for *only* ELA or *only* Mathematics, an AK STAR Individual Student Report will be generated but scores will be provided only for the content area the student completed.

Below shows a student who received a *valid* score.

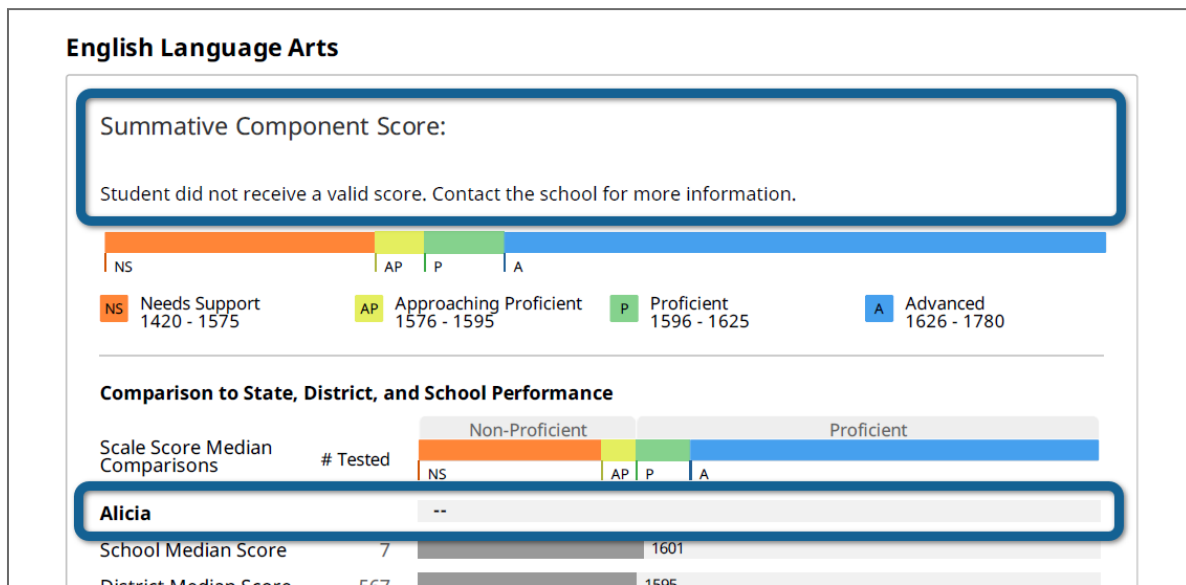


The content area that was not completed will not have a scale score or performance results for the growth component displayed.

If a Special Circumstance code of INV is assigned to the student's test this statement is provided:

*Student did not receive a valid score. Contact the school for more information.*

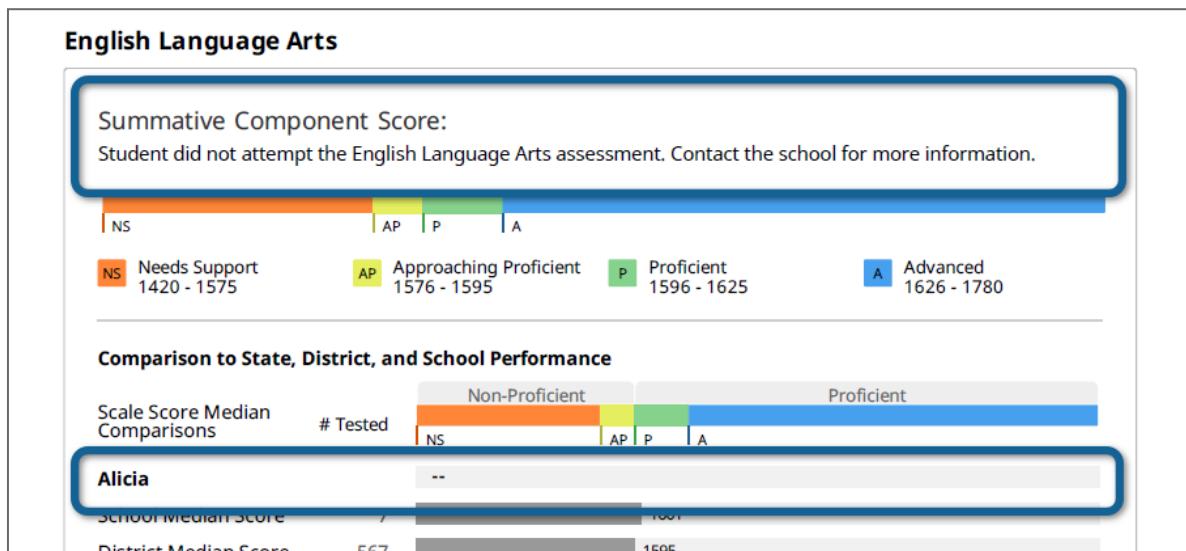
Below shows the same student who did not receive a valid score. You can still find the school, district and state median score but will not be able to compare that information to how the student tested.



If a Special Circumstance code of [EMW](#), [PAR](#), [STR](#), [UTT](#) is assigned to the student test event or the student did not provide 5 or more responses (NOA) this statement will be provided:

*Student did not attempt the English Language Arts (or Mathematics) assessment. Contact the school for more information.*

The image below shows where this text will be displayed.



# Part 5—Suppression Rules

## Data Privacy

DEED employs suppression rules in public reporting to protect student privacy. AK STAR reports have been designed to protect student privacy. Suppression means not showing certain results on a report if an individual student's results could be identified or inferred. Summary data at the school, district, and/or state level will not be displayed on publicly available reports when fewer than five students have tested. On School and District Summary Reports, there are additional suppression rules to guard against reporting assessment data that could be linked to an individual student.

## Primary Suppression Rules

1. If the number of tested students is less than five, results are suppressed.
2. When the count of tested students is five or higher and:
  - a. All scores fall into only two achievement levels and the number of students in one of those achievement levels is zero, one, or two, percentage ranges will be reported for each achievement level instead of actual percentages. Refer to [Table 12: Reporting Percentage Ranges](#).
  - b. All scores fall into only one achievement level, percentage ranges will be reported for each achievement level instead of actual percentages. Refer to [Table 12: Reporting Percentage Ranges](#).

**Table 12: Reporting Percentage Ranges**

Count of Tested Students	Percentage Range Published
5-7	>=60% or <=40%
8-9	>=75% or <=25%
10-19	>=80% or <=20%
20-39	>=90% or <=10%
40 or more	>=95% or <=5%

## Secondary Suppression Rules

Secondary suppression is applied only to school-level summary reports, not district or state. If one school, grade, or subject has fewer than 5 students, secondary suppression is applied to the next smallest school in the district.

Secondary suppression suppresses the scores and performance levels, including median and mean scores. Secondary suppression does not apply to the Performance by Instructional Area section.

### Primary or Secondary Suppression Example

Two dashes (--) are displayed instead of the number or symbol when data is suppressed.

Grade	Students Tested	Mean Score	Median Score	% of Students by Achievement Level				
3	2	--	--	School	Data not shown to protect student privacy.			
				District	19%	30%	31%	20%
				State	20%	30%	30%	20%
4	6	--	--	School	NS: <= 40%	AP: <= 40%	P: <= 40%	A: >=60%
				District	<= 40%	<= 40%	<= 40%	>=60%
				State	19%	30%	33%	18%
5	8	--	--	School	NS: <= 25%	AP: <= 25%	P: <= 25%	A: >=75%
				District	<= 25%	<= 25%	<= 25%	>=75%
				State	23%	30%	27%	20%
				State	20%	30%	30%	20%

AK STAR

ALASKA SYSTEM OF ACADEMIC READINESS

2023 District Summary Report - Math

District: Pleasant Valley USD

Performance by Instructional Area

The table below shows how the performance of the school compares to the district and state mean RIT score for the instructional areas of the test.

↑

did better than the District/State mean RIT

≈

did about as well as the District/State mean RIT

↓

did not do as well as the District/State mean RIT

∅

did not attempt any items in this area

Grade	Students with Valid RIT Scores	Instructional Area	Comparison State
8	2	Math Overall	--
		• Operations and Algebraic Thinking	--
		• Number and Operations	--
		• Measurement and Data	--
		• Geometry	--
9	2	Math Overall	--
		• Operations and Algebraic Thinking	--
		• Number and Operations	--
		• Measurement and Data	--
		• Geometry	--

# Appendices

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- A. [AK STAR Sample Reports](#)
- B. [Achievement Level Ranges for ELA and Math](#)

## Appendix A

### *AK STAR Sample Reports*

## AK STAR Individual Student Report

The AK STAR Individual Student Report (ISR) summarizes the individual performance of a given student at the end of an academic year for the content areas of English Language Arts and Mathematics. It includes a comparison of school, district and state averages, a description of the Achievement Level and Scale Score in each content area, overall RIT scores, RIT scores for instructional areas and growth data compared to MAP Growth fall or winter, as well as a descriptor of any reported codes.

**AK STAR**  
Alaska System of Academic Readiness

**What is AK STAR?**  
The Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR) is designed to streamline the testing experience for grades 3-9 in the areas of English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. This balanced approach connects fall or winter MAP Growth™ interim assessments to the spring AK STAR, which is made up of a grade-specific summative component combined with a growth component. With this approach, Alaska has a comprehensive assessment system that improves efficiency and cohesion and drives student outcomes by prioritizing teaching and learning.

**What do the AK STAR scores mean?**  
**Summative Component**

- The summative component addresses the breadth and depth of Alaska grade-level content standards, by showing what a student knows and can do by designating one of the four achievement levels.
- The summative component measures student understanding of what they have learned over time.
- Summative scale scores describe student performance based on Alaska grade-level content standards.

**What are the Achievement Levels for the Summative Component of AK STAR?**

Needs Support	Approaching Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
Student may partially meet the standards but needs support to master the knowledge and skills of current grade-level content.	Student partially meets the standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but is approaching mastery of some grade-level content.	Student meets the standards and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade-level content.	Student meets the standards and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills on a range of complex grade-level content.

For more information on what a student in this grade level can do at each achievement level visit: <https://education.alaska.gov/assessments/achievement/> or scan the QR code.

**Growth Component** (Powered by MAP Growth™)

- The growth component provides teachers with accurate, actionable evidence to help inform instructional strategies regardless of how far students are above or below grade level.
- The growth component measures what a student knows at that time, and then is compared to their previous MAP Growth™ assessments, either fall or winter, to provide a conditional growth score.
- Growth uses a Rasch unit (RIT) scale and compares a student at that point in time to all other students in the nation who took MAP Growth™.

**MAP Growth™ Score Key**

Low	Low Avg	Avg	High Avg	High
Less than 21st percentile	21st - 40th percentile	41st - 60th percentile	61st - 80th percentile	Greater than 81st percentile

For more information on AK STAR, please visit [education.alaska.gov/akstar/](https://education.alaska.gov/akstar/).

**Page 1**

- Overview and questions about AK STAR and MAP Growth

**Page 2**

- English Language Arts student report
- Scale score; comparison with school, district, and state
- Performance by instructional area

**Page 3**

- Mathematics student report
- Scale score; comparison with school, district, and state
- Performance by instructional area



**AK STAR**  
ALASKA SYSTEM OF ACADEMIC READINESS

1

PAULSON, ALICIA  
AKSID: 123456  
Grade: 5  
School: ABILENE MIDDLE SCHOOL  
District: PLEASANT VALLEY USD  
2023 Individual Student Report

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2

**What is AK STAR?**

The Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR) is designed to streamline the testing experience for grades 3-9 in the areas of English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. This balanced approach connects fall or winter MAP® Growth™ interim assessments to the spring AK STAR, which is made up of a grade-specific summative component combined with a growth component. With this approach, Alaska has a comprehensive assessment system that improves efficiency and cohesion and drives student outcomes by prioritizing teaching and learning.

**What do the AK STAR scores mean?**


**Summative Component**

- The summative component addresses the breadth and depth of Alaska grade-level content standards, by showing what a student knows and can do by designating one of the four achievement levels.
- The summative component measures student understanding of what they have learned over time. Summative scale scores describe student performance based on Alaska grade-level content standards.

**What are the Achievement Levels for the Summative Component of AK STAR?**

Non-Proficient	Proficient
<b>Needs Support</b>	<b>Approaching Proficient</b>
Student may partially meet the standards but needs support to master the knowledge and skills of current grade level content.	Student partially meets the standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but is approaching mastery of some grade level content.
<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Advanced</b>
Student meets the standards and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.	Student meets the standards and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills on a range of complex grade level content.

For more information on what a student in this grade level can do at each achievement level visit <https://education.alaska.gov/assessments/achievement> or scan the QR code.



3

4


**Growth Component** (Powered By MAP® Growth™)

- The growth component provides teachers with accurate, actionable evidence to help inform instructional strategies regardless of how far students are above or below grade level.
- The growth component measures what a student knows at that time, and then is compared to their previous MAP® Growth™ assessments, either fall or winter, to provide a conditional growth score.
- Growth uses a Rasch unit (RIT) scale and compares a student at that point in time to all other students in the nation who took MAP® Growth™.

**MAP® Growth™ Score Key**

<b>Low</b> Less than 21st percentile	<b>Low Avg</b> 21st - 40th percentile	<b>Avg</b> 41st - 60th percentile	<b>High Avg</b> 61st - 80th percentile	<b>High</b> Greater than 81st percentile
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4



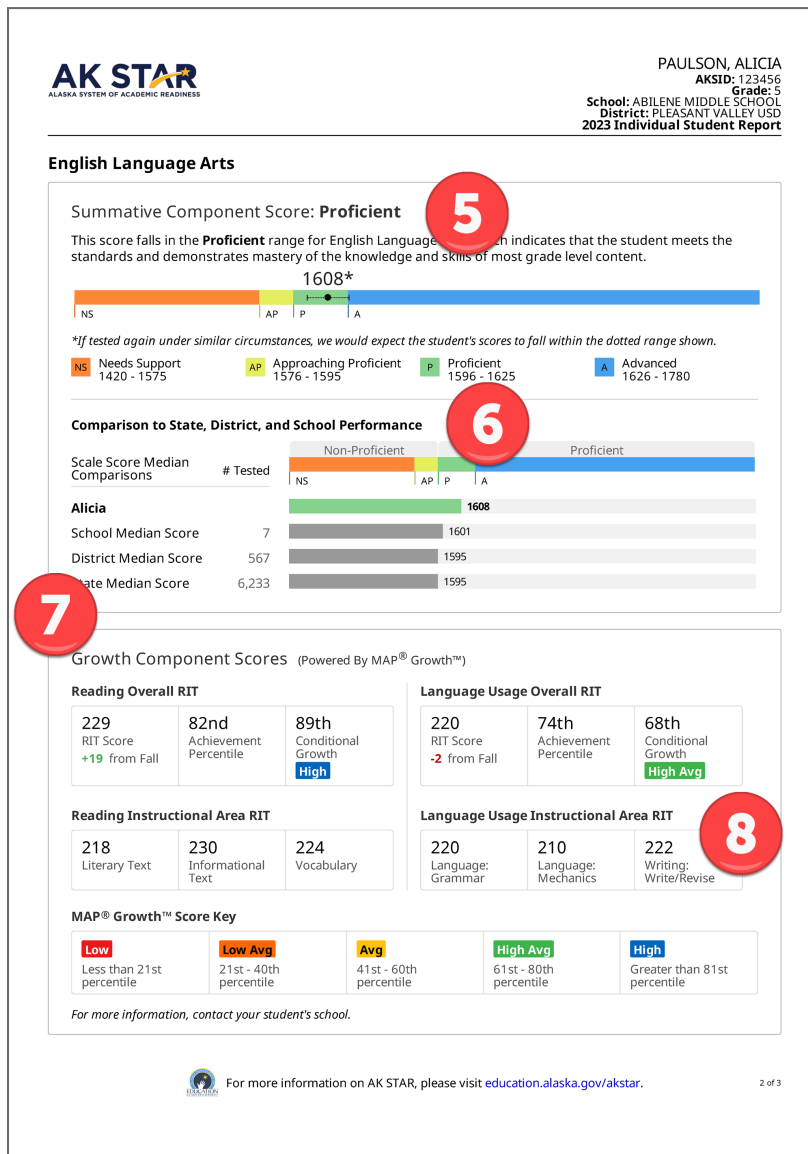
For more information on AK STAR, please visit [education.alaska.gov/akstar](https://education.alaska.gov/akstar).

1 of 3

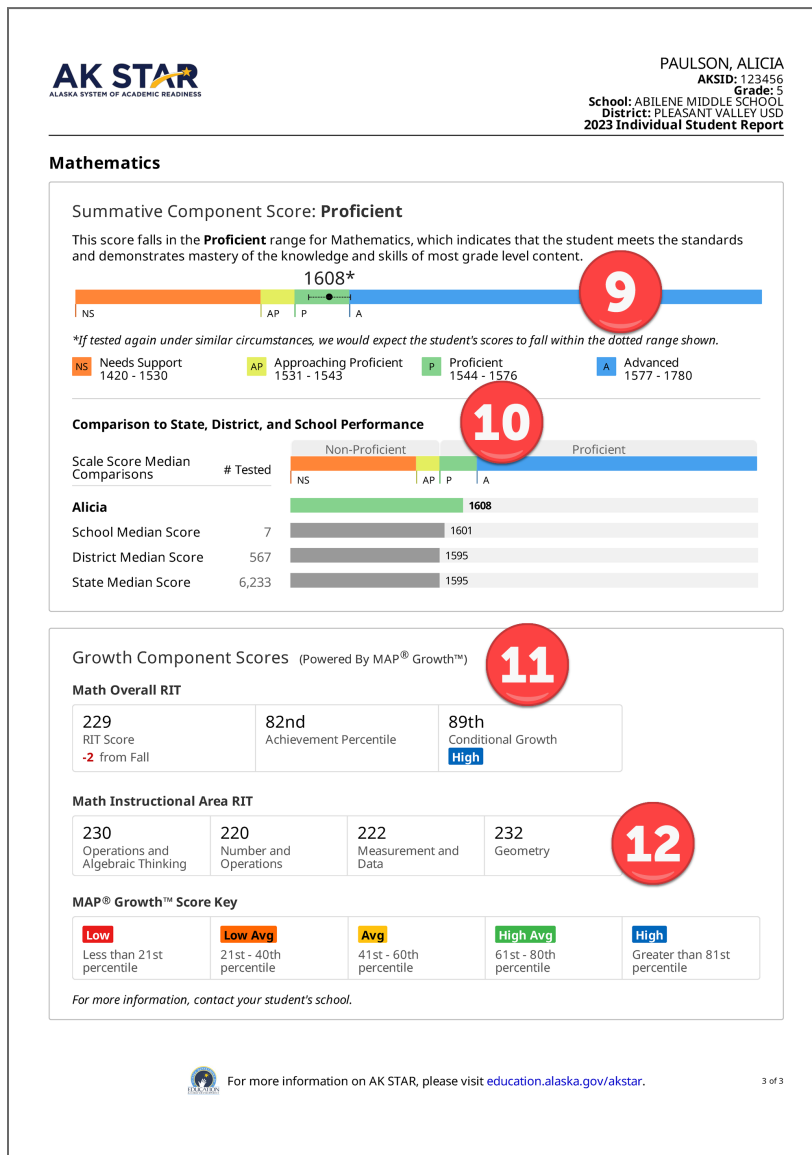
## AK STAR Individual Student Report

- Report Information:** Student, school, and district information along with the term of administration
- AK STAR Introduction:** A short summary of the summative assessment and additional context for interpretation
- AK STAR Achievement Levels:** A breakdown and generic description of each achievement level applicable to all grade levels
- MAP Growth Introduction:** A short description of the MAP Growth assessments, links for more information, and additional context for interpretation



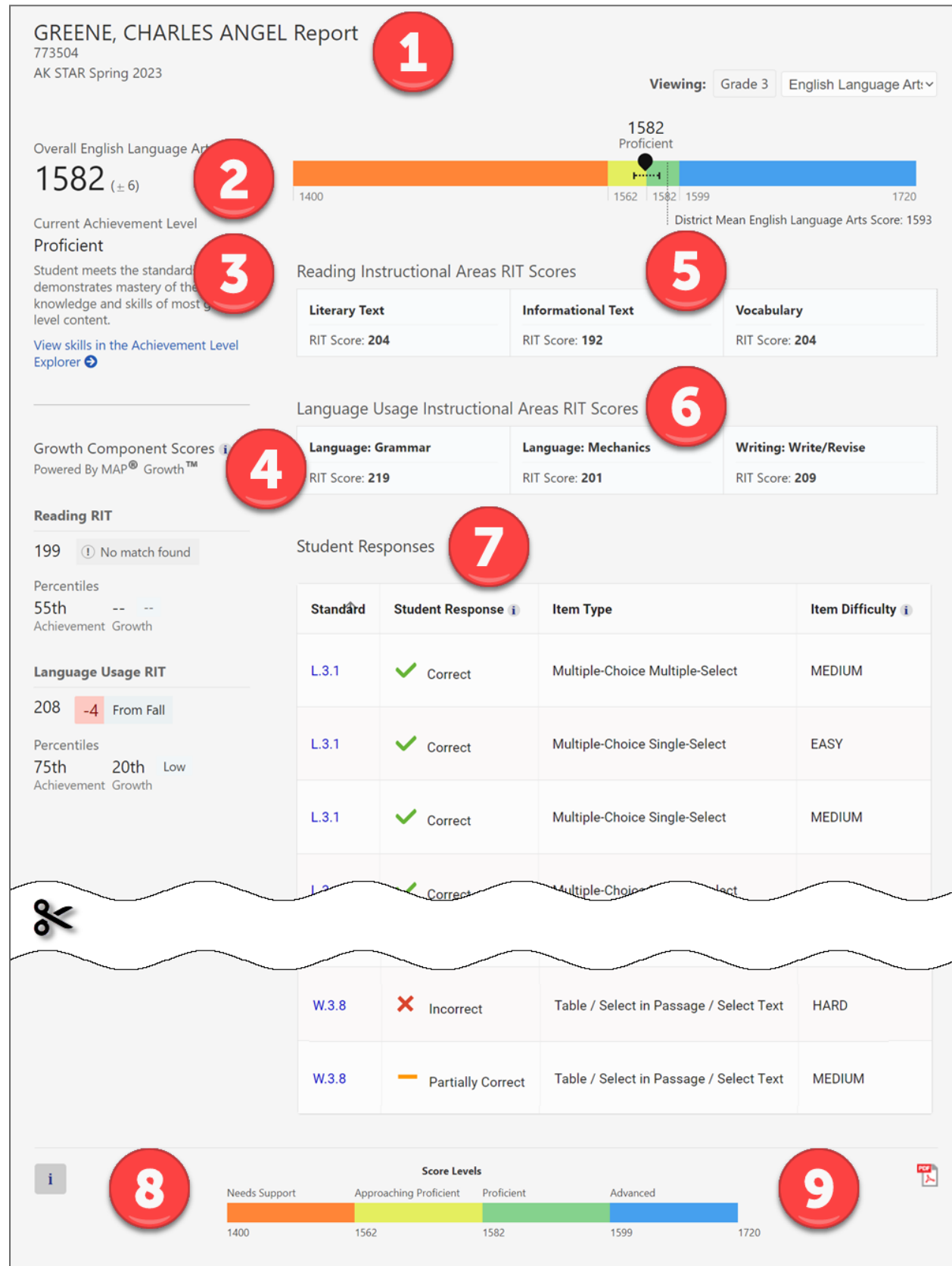





- Scale Score section:** A short description of the student's achievement level along with a visual representation of the student's score - the student's scale score is above the bar
- Median Comparison Table:** A comparison of the student's score to the median scores at school, district, and state levels
- MAP Growth:** MAP Growth RIT scores (if available) for related instructional areas, and comparison to the previously taken MAP Growth RIT score
- Instructional Area:** A learning area (e.g., Geometry) within a subject (e.g., Math)



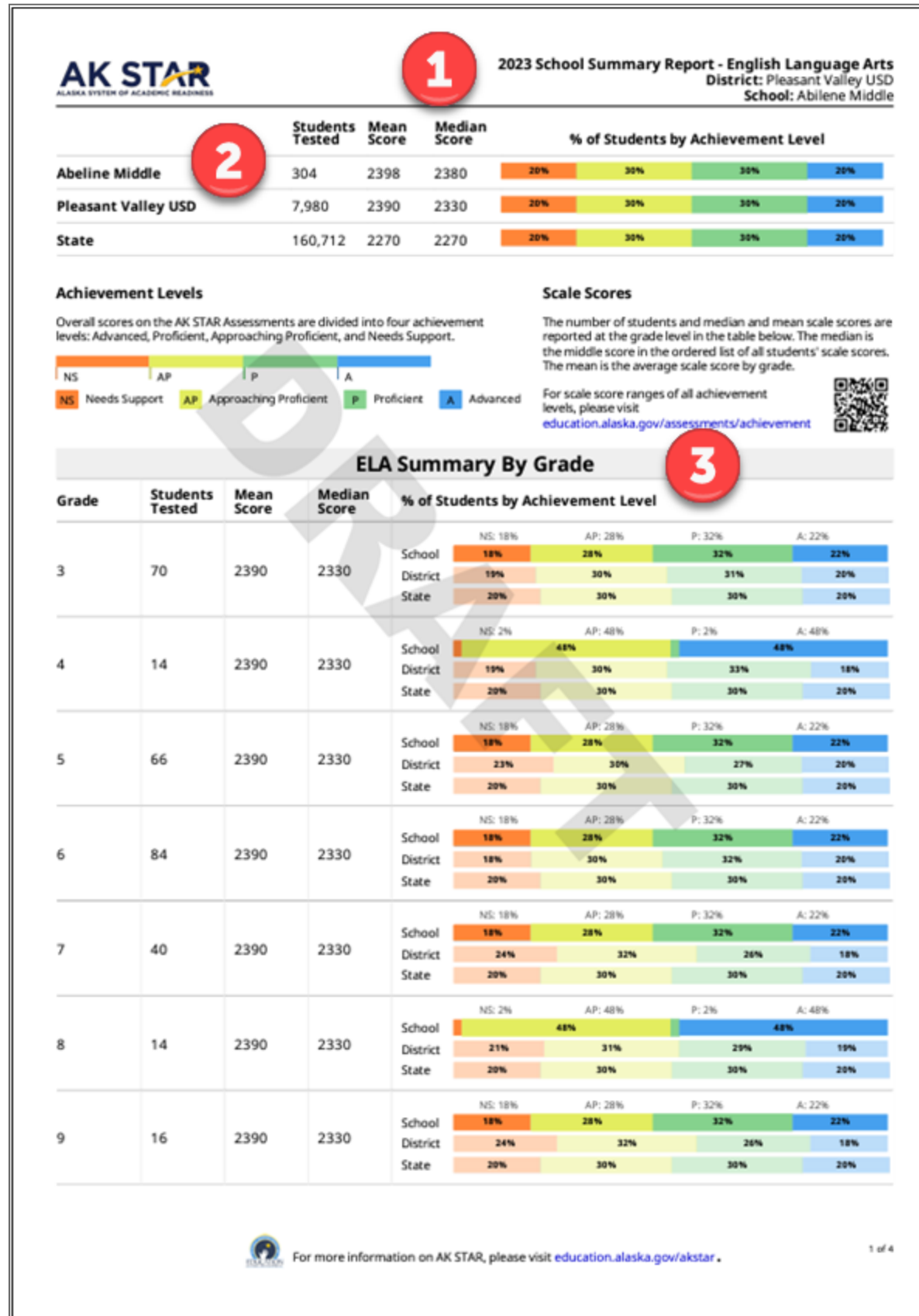
9. **Scale Score section:** A short description of the student's achievement level along with a visual representation of the student's score - the student's scale score is above the bar
10. **Median Comparison Table:** A comparison of the student's score to the median scores at school, district, and state levels
11. **MAP Growth:** MAP Growth RIT scores (if available) for related instructional areas, and comparison to the previously taken MAP Growth RIT score
12. **Instructional Area:** A learning area (e.g., Geometry) within a subject (e.g., Math)

## Dynamic Student Report



1. **Report Information:** Student, school, and district information along with the term of administration  
**Note:** This report is confidential and not for distribution to anyone not authorized to have access to the information. This report shown is a sample and not real student data.
2. **Scale Score:** The numeric AK STAR summative scale score
3. **Achievement Level:** A short description of the student's achievement level. Use the link to visit the Achievement Level Explorer, which shows the skills associated with a particular achievement level.
4. **Growth Component Scores:** Overall RIT scores, if available, are displayed here along with growth values based on MAP Growth fall or winter test event and AK STAR spring test event. Achievement and growth percentiles, as well as the achievement descriptor, are also displayed.
5. **AK STAR scale score:** A visual representation of the AK STAR scale with the associated cut points between achievement levels
6. **Growth Component Instructional Areas:** RIT scores for related instructional areas.
7. **Student responses:** Student Responses provides:
  - **Standard:** Select the standard to read the full standard description.
  - **Student Response:** Whether the student answered correctly. The possible options are:
    -  **Correct** – Student answered the item correctly and received full score credit.
    -  **Partially Correct** – Student answered a portion of the item correctly and received partial score credit.
    -  **Incorrect** – Student did not answer the item correctly and received no score credit.
  - **Item Type:** The type of item. Refer to [Types of Items](#) in [Part 2—Test Design](#) for more information.
  - **Item Difficulty:** Item difficulty in an adaptive test is how likely a student will correctly answer the question based on their ability level. The thresholds are set in terms of the barely proficient student: a hypothetical student whose final test score is right at the cut score for proficiency. The difficulty criteria for the test items are then defined as:
    - **Easy:** The barely proficient student has a 75% probability or better of correctly answering.
    - **Medium:** The barely proficient student has between a 40% and 75% probability of correctly answering.
    - **Hard:** The barely proficient student has a 40% probability or less of correctly answering.
8. **Info Button:** Selecting this icon opens an informational screen with more detail around scales, achievement levels, and similar information.
9. **PDF:** Select this icon to download the report as a PDF document.

## AK STAR School Summary Report



#### Achievement Levels

Overall scores on the AK STAR Assessments are divided into four achievement levels: Advanced, Proficient, Approaching Proficient, and Needs Support.

NS Needs Support

AP Approaching Proficient

P Proficient

A Advanced

#### Scale Scores

The number of students and median and mean scale scores are reported at the grade level in the table below. The median is the middle score in the ordered list of all students' scale scores. The mean is the average scale score by grade.

For scale score ranges of all achievement levels, please visit [education.alaska.gov/assessments/achievement](https://education.alaska.gov/assessments/achievement)



### ELA Summary By Grade



For more information on AK STAR, please visit [education.alaska.gov/akstar](https://education.alaska.gov/akstar).

1 of 4



**2023 School Summary Report - English Language Arts**  
 District: Pleasant Valley USD  
 School: Abilene Middle

**Performance by Instructional Area**

The table below shows how the performance of the school compares to the district and state mean RIT score for the instructional areas of the test.

**Comparison Legend**

- ↑ did better than the District/State mean RIT
- ≈ did about as well as the District/State mean RIT
- ↓ did not do as well as the District/State mean RIT
- ⊘ did not attempt any items in this area



Grade	Students with Valid RIT Scores	Instructional Area	Comparison	
			District	State
3	70	Reading Overall	↑	↑
		• Literary Text	≈	↑
		• Informational Text	↓	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑	↑
		• Language: Grammar	≈	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	↓	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑	↑
4	14	Reading Overall	↑	↑
		• Literary Text	≈	↑
		• Informational Text	↓	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑	↑
		• Language: Grammar	≈	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	↓	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑	↑
5	64	Reading Overall	↑	↑
		• Literary Text	≈	↑
		• Informational Text	↓	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑	↑
		• Language: Grammar	≈	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	↓	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑	↑
6	84	Reading Overall	↑	↑
		• Literary Text	≈	↑
		• Informational Text	↓	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑	↑
		• Language: Grammar	≈	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	↓	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑	↑
7	40	Reading Overall	↑	↑
		• Literary Text	≈	↑
		• Informational Text	↓	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑	↑
		• Language: Grammar	≈	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	↓	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑	↑
8	14	Reading Overall	↑	↑
		• Literary Text	≈	↑
		• Informational Text	↓	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑	↑
		• Language: Grammar	≈	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	↓	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑	↑
9	16	Reading Overall	↑	↑
		• Literary Text	≈	↑
		• Informational Text	↓	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑	↑
		• Language: Grammar	≈	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	↓	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑	↑

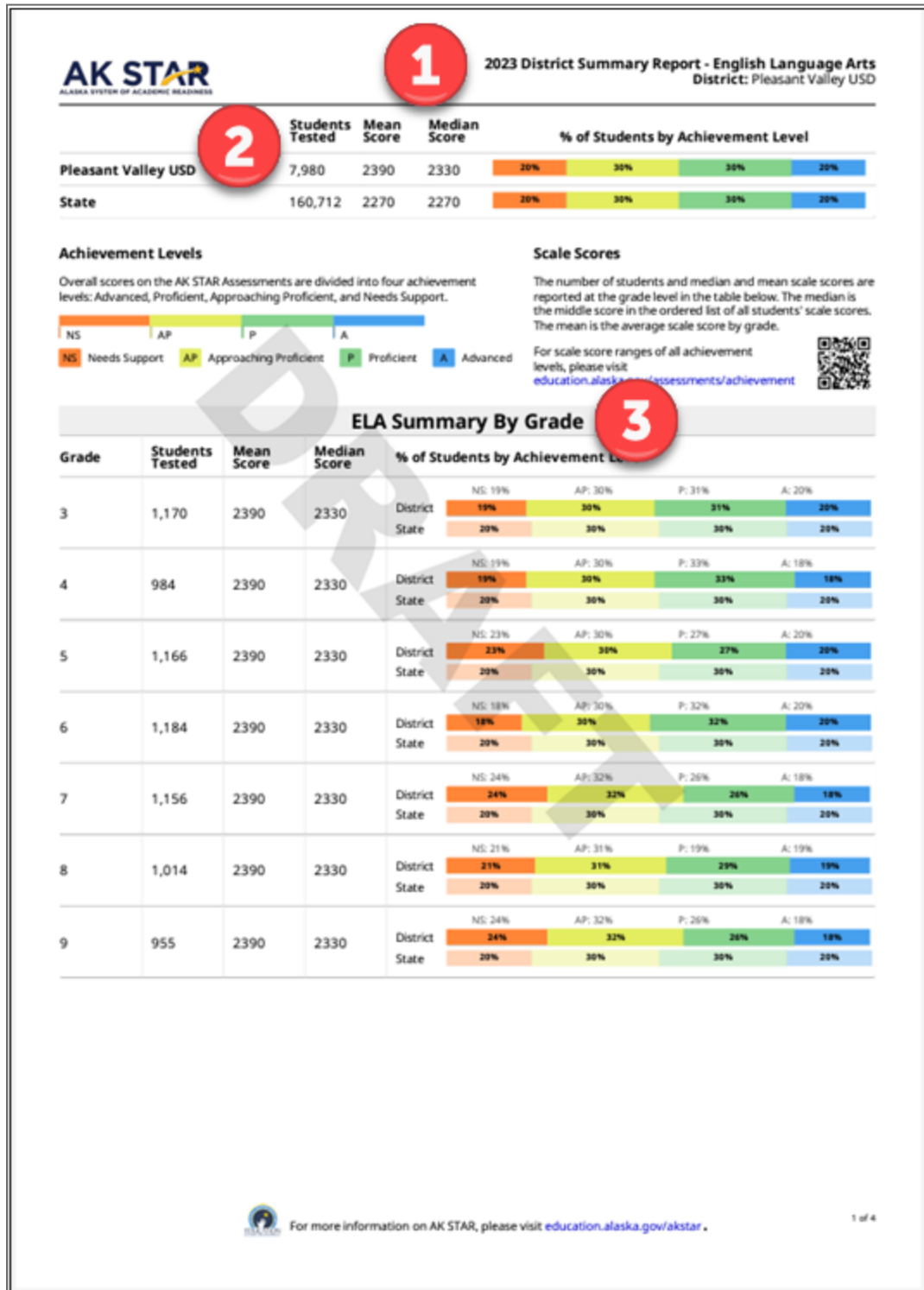


For more information on AK STAR, please visit [education.alaska.gov/akstar](https://education.alaska.gov/akstar).

**Note:** If an expected grade level is missing from a summary report, it indicates that there were no valid student scores reported in that particular grade and subject.

1. **Report Information:** School and district information along with the term of administration
2. **Scale Score Comparison:** Compares the number of valid test events in the content area, the mean scores, the median scores, and the % of valid scores in each achievement level across the school, district, and state
3. **Summary by Grade:** Compares the number of valid test events in the content area, the mean scores, the median scores, and the % of valid scores in each achievement level, along with comparisons to state and district performance for each reporting category
4. **Instructional Area Comparison Legend:** Explains the symbols used to classify overall performance of the school compared to the overall state performance

## AK STAR District Summary Report


3

**ELA Summary By Grade**



For more information on AK STAR, please visit [education.alaska.gov/akstar](https://education.alaska.gov/akstar).

1 of 4





**2023 District Summary Report - English Language Arts**  
**District: Pleasant Valley USD**

**Performance by Instructional Area**

The table below shows how the performance of the school compares to the district and state mean RIT score for the instructional areas of the test.

**Comparison Legend**

- ↑ did better than the District/State mean RIT
- ≈ did about as well as the District/State mean RIT
- ↓ did not do as well as the District/State mean RIT
- ⊘ did not attempt any items in this area



Grade	Students with Valid RIT Scores	Instructional Area	Comparison
			State
3	1,170	Reading Overall	↑
		• Literary Text	↑
		• Informational Text	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑
		• Language: Grammar	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑
4	984	Reading Overall	↑
		• Literary Text	↑
		• Informational Text	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑
		• Language: Grammar	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑
5	1,166	Reading Overall	↑
		• Literary Text	↑
		• Informational Text	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑
		• Language: Grammar	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑
6	1,184	Reading Overall	↑
		• Literary Text	↑
		• Informational Text	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑
		• Language: Grammar	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑
7	1,156	Reading Overall	↑
		• Literary Text	↑
		• Informational Text	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑
		• Language: Grammar	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑
8	1,014	Reading Overall	↑
		• Literary Text	↑
		• Informational Text	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑
		• Language: Grammar	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑
9	955	Reading Overall	↑
		• Literary Text	↑
		• Informational Text	≈
		• Vocabulary	↑
		Language Usage Overall	↑
		• Language: Grammar	↑
		• Language: Mechanics	≈
		• Writing: Write/Revise	↑



For more information on AK STAR, please visit [education.alaska.gov/akstar](https://education.alaska.gov/akstar).

**Note:** If an expected grade level is missing from a summary report, it indicates that there were no valid student scores reported in that particular grade and subject.

1. **Report Information:** District information along with the term of administration
2. **Scale Score Comparison:** Compares the number of valid test events in the content area, the mean scores, the median scores, and the % of valid scores in each achievement level between district and state
3. **Summary by Grade:** Compares the number of valid test events in the content area, the mean scores, the median scores, and the % of valid scores in each achievement level, along with comparisons to state and district performance for each reporting category
4. **Instructional Area Comparison Key:** Explains the symbols used to classify overall performance of the district compared to the overall state performance

## Appendix B

### *Achievement Level Scale Score Ranges*

**English Language Arts Achievement Level Scale Score Ranges**

	ELA Performance Levels			
Grade	Needs Support	Approaching Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
Grade 3	1400 – 1561	1562 – 1581	1582 – 1598	1599 – 1720
Grade 4	1410 – 1567	1568 – 1588	1589 – 1611	1612 – 1750
Grade 5	1420 – 1575	1576 – 1595	1596 – 1625	1626 – 1780
Grade 6	1430 – 1575	1576 – 1604	1605 – 1635	1636 – 1800
Grade 7	1440 – 1583	1584 – 1609	1610 – 1644	1645 – 1820
Grade 8	1450 – 1586	1587 – 1614	1615 – 1651	1652 – 1840
Grade 9	1450 – 1589	1590 – 1618	1619 – 1667	1668 – 1850

**Mathematics Achievement Level Scale Score Ranges**

	Math Performance Levels			
Grade	Needs Support	Approaching Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
Grade 3	1400 – 1509	1510 – 1523	1524 – 1545	1546 – 1720
Grade 4	1410 – 1523	1524 – 1537	1538 – 1557	1558 – 1750
Grade 5	1420 – 1530	1531 – 1543	1544 – 1576	1577 – 1780
Grade 6	1430 – 1542	1543 – 1562	1563 – 1593	1594 – 1800
Grade 7	1440 – 1550	1551 – 1569	1570 – 1608	1609 – 1820
Grade 8	1450 – 1558	1559 – 1579	1580 – 1622	1623 – 1840
Grade 9	1450 – 1563	1564 – 1589	1590 – 1625	1626 - 1850



# Educator Guide to Assessment Reports

2023

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