

# Alaska State-wide Literacy Screener, Statutory Requirement AS 14.30.760

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

Dr. Deena Bishop, Commissioner

Tuesday, July 1, 2025



# Agenda

- Highlights of mCLASS DIBELS 8 Assessment
- Overview of mCLASS DIBELS 8 Data
- Student Growth

# Amplify mCLASS DIBELS 8th Edition

## Evidence-based

- Serves ~3 million students nationwide

## Aligned to the requirements of the Reads Act (HB 114)

- Screens required skills towards reading acquisition
- Includes progress monitoring aligned to skill deficit
- Includes a dyslexia screener component
- Connects instant results to teacher recommendations, instructional lessons, grouping tools, and growth/goal setting

## Additional Benefits

- Addresses teacher turnover with annual implementation and professional development
- Provides administrative options, virtual or face-to-face
- Provides reports supporting Reads Act Individual Reading Improvement Plans (IRIPs)
- Produces relevant data to inform instruction and family engagement



# Literacy Screener Components

Measure	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4-5
Letter Naming Fluency	✓	✓			
Phonemic Segmentation Fluency	✓	✓			
Nonsense Word Fluency	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Word Reading Fluency	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Oral Reading Fluency		✓	✓	✓	✓
Maze (Basic Comprehension) **			✓	✓	✓
Vocabulary**			✓	✓	
Rapid Automated Naming (RAN) */**	✓				
Spelling * / **		✓	✓	✓	

\* Additional Assessment for students who score a **Well Below Benchmark** Composite Score

\*\* Maze, Vocabulary and Spelling and RAN are manually assigned

# mCLASS DIBELS 8th Edition Alaska Implementation



# mCLASS DIBELS 8 Implementation Highlights

- Served 51/53 districts in Alaska in the 24-25 school year (SY), next year 52/53
- Students moving to 'at or above benchmark' from the beginning to end of the 24-25 school year outpaced the national average
- Fewer students began the 24–25 school year 'well below benchmark', a decrease from the previous year
- Completion rate continued to increase - 80% participation rate and over 90%, excluding correspondence schools for 24-25 school year
- Ongoing Professional Development offered to Alaska educators and leaders;
  - Calibration course enhancements based on user feedback
  - Trained over ~2400 teachers; 1800 teachers completed the calibration course with a passing score

# mCLASS DIBELS 8 Data Time of Year Snapshots

BOY – Beginning of Year

MOY – Middle of Year

EOY – End of Year



# BOY – mCLASS® DIBELS 8

## Alaska user base comparison

Grade	Percent of Students in Each Performance Level at Beginning of Year, 2024-2025							
	Students at <u>Well Below</u> <u>Benchmark Level</u>		Students at <u>Below</u> <u>Benchmark Level</u>		Students at <u>Benchmark</u> <u>Level</u>		Students at <u>Above</u> <u>Benchmark Level</u>	
	National	Alaska	National	Alaska	National	Alaska	National	Alaska
Grade K-3	34%	40%	17%	16%	26%	23%	23%	21%
Grade K	45%	59%	19%	18%	16%	11%	20%	12%
Grade 1	31%	35%	18%	18%	28%	26%	23%	21%
Grade 2	32%	36%	14%	14%	29%	27%	25%	23%
Grade 3	28%	31%	17%	16%	30%	26%	25%	27%

\*For 2024-25, the national mCLASS® per grade user base ranges from 600,000 students assessed (grade 3) to 750,000 students assessed (each of grades, K-2). For 2024-25, the Alaska mCLASS® per grade user base is approximately 6,500 students assessed per grade



# EOY – mCLASS® DIBELS 8

## Alaska user base comparison

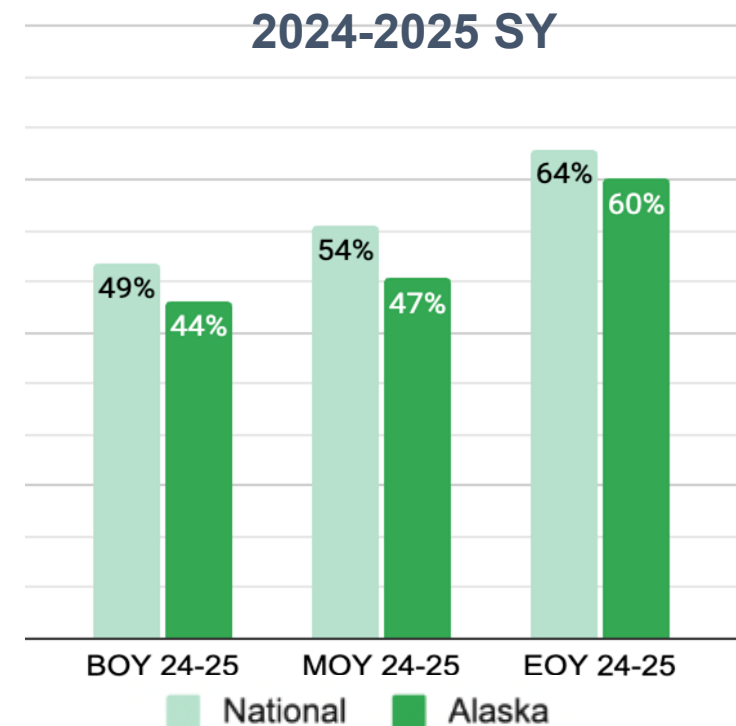
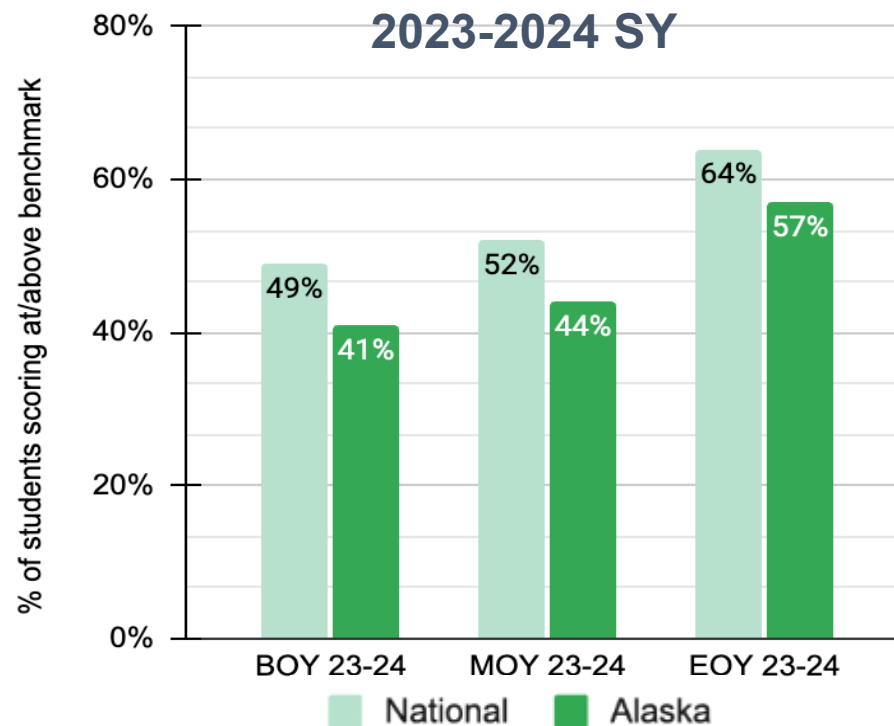
Grade	Percent of Students in Each Performance Level at End of Year, 2024-2025							
	Students at <u>Well Below</u> <u>Benchmark Level</u>		Students at <u>Below</u> <u>Benchmark Level</u>		Students at <u>Benchmark</u> <u>Level</u>		Students at <u>Above</u> <u>Benchmark Level</u>	
	National	Alaska	National	Alaska	National	Alaska	National	Alaska
Grade K-3	<b>23%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>32%</b>
Grade K	22%	26%	11%	12%	31%	31%	36%	31%
Grade 1	20%	22%	12%	14%	29%	31%	38%	33%
Grade 2	24%	27%	13%	14%	30%	31%	33%	28%
Grade 3	27%	31%	15%	17%	21%	20%	37%	32%

\*For 2024-25, the national mCLASS® per grade user base ranges from 600,000 students assessed (grade 3) to 750,000 students assessed (each of grades, K-2). For 2024-25, the Alaska mCLASS® per grade user base is approximately 6,500 students assessed per grade

# DIBELS 8 National Trends for 2023-24 and 2024-25

% of students At/Above Benchmark

K-3



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# Beginning of Year to End of Year Growth

BOY – Beginning of Year

MOY – Middle of Year

EOY – End of Year

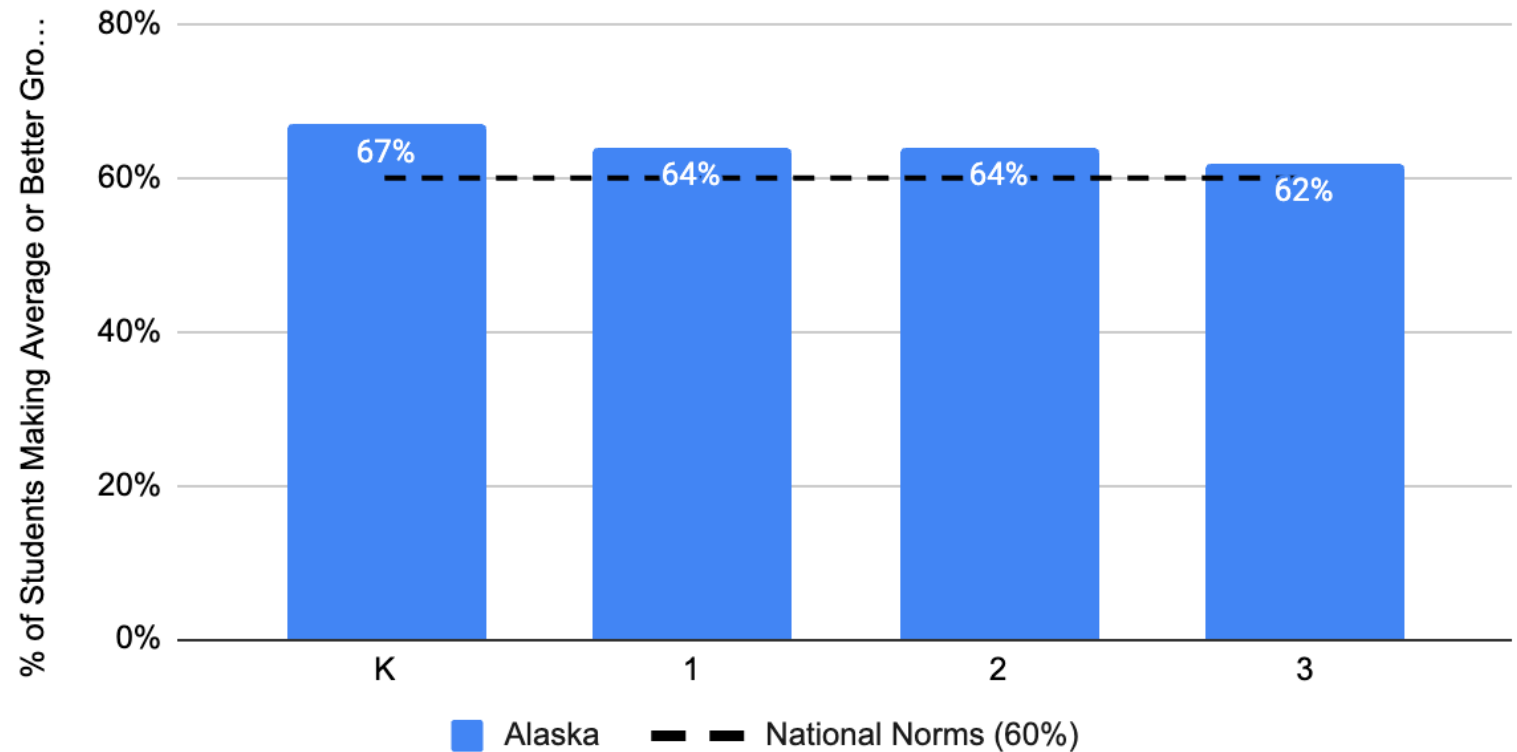


# Alaska Student Growth Exceeds National Norm

From the beginning to the end of the 2024–2025 school year, Alaska students in grades K–3 exceeded the national average growth rate in student learning.

## Alaska Growth Compared to National Norms

DIBELS 8 Zones of Growth, 24-25 BOY-EOY

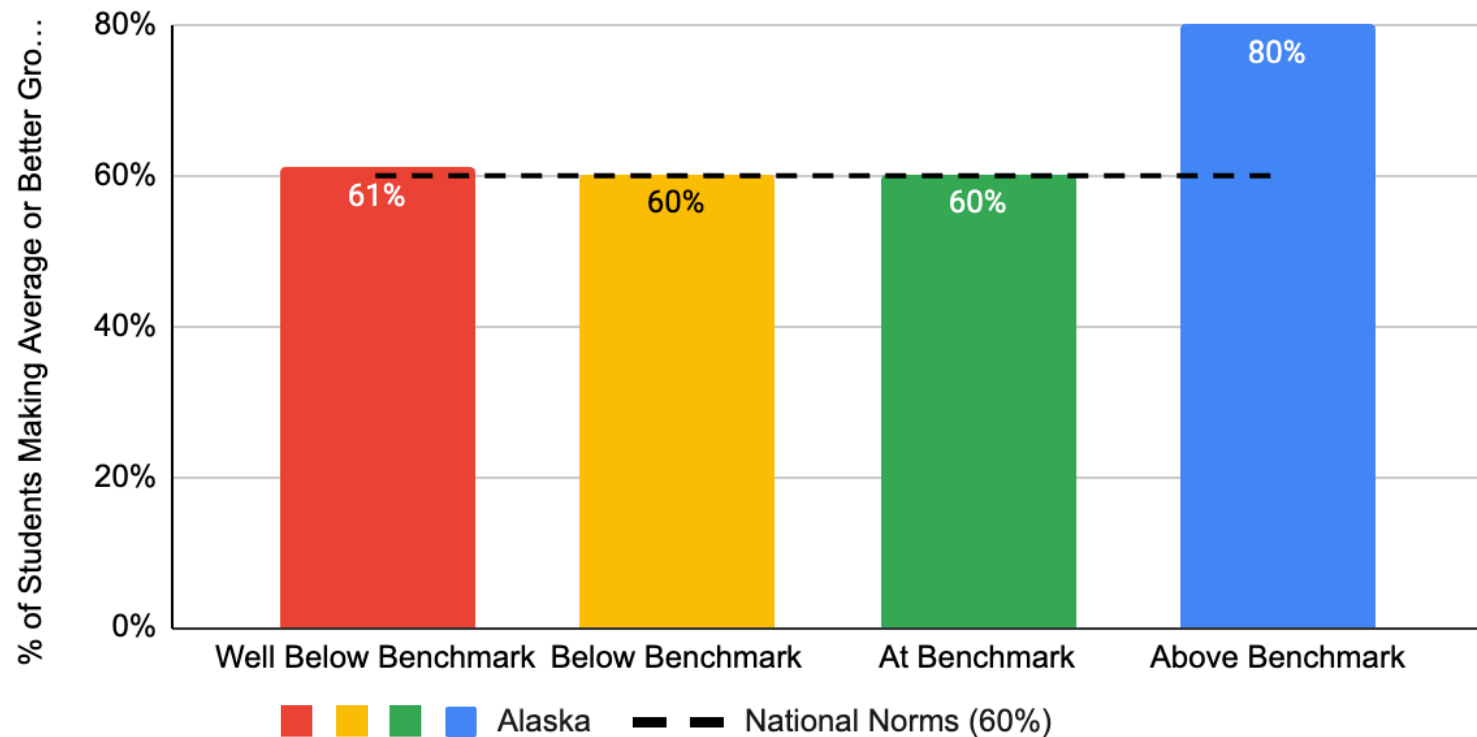


# Alaska Student Growth Matches or Exceeds National Norm

In the 2024–2025 school year, Alaska’s K–3 students showed growth from beginning to end of year that matched or exceeded national averages across performance levels.

## Alaska Growth Compared to National Norms

DIBELS 8 Zones of Growth, 24-25 BOY-EOY



AK Reads Act Does not “Dumb Down” Curriculum and Instruction

# Policy Makes a Difference



# Strong Policy Makes a Difference in Early Literacy

- Alaska students began the 2024–2025 school year stronger in foundational literacy skills than in the previous year
- Throughout the 2024–2025 school year, Alaska students are meeting or outpacing national growth trends in literacy
- Educators across the state are actively engaged in professional learning, implementing evidence-based practices that are resulting in impactful instruction and improved student outcomes
- Alaska’s comprehensive literacy policy was instrumental in securing a 5-year, \$50 million federal grant through a competitive national process

# Thank you!

## Contact Information

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