

Student Growth

Elementary/Middle Level

Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year (SY), the **Student Growth indicator** will be reintroduced as an accountability indicator at the elementary/middle level.

What does the Student Growth indicator measure?

At the elementary/middle level, for the All Students group and each accountability subgroup, the Student Growth indicator measures the growth on New York State Testing Program (NYSTP) assessments in English language arts (ELA) and math between the prior and current school year.

Who Is Included?

Current students
in Grades 4-8

Continuously enrolled
students who took the same
subject test in the prior school
year and the next sequential
grade level test in the current
school year

Students in Grade 8 who
take the Algebra I Regents
exam in lieu of the Grade 8
NYSTP math exam

Who Is Not Included?

Current students
in Grade 3

Students in Grade 6 or 7 who
take a math Regents exam in
lieu of NYSTP math exam

Students who take New York
State Alternate Assessments
in lieu of NYSTP exams

How is the Student Growth indicator calculated?

The New York State growth model will produce one year of **Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs)** for ELA and math for each student. An SGP measures a student's current year score relative to those of other students with similar prior test score histories.

Schools and districts are provided with students' ELA and math SGPs in [SIRS 112 reports](#).

1. For the All Students group and each accountability subgroup that meets the minimum n-size of 20 student records for ELA and math SGPs combined, calculate a Mean Growth Percentile (MGP), or Growth Index, in ELA and math using the following formula:

$$\text{MGP or Growth Index} = \frac{\text{Sum of ELA SGPs} + \text{Sum of math SGPs}}{\text{Total number of ELA and math SGPs}}$$

2. Assign a Student Growth Level based on the Growth Index and the static cut points shown in the table below.

Growth Index	Student Growth Level
45% or less	1
45.1 to 50%	2
50.1 to 54%	3
Greater than 54%	4

What is an example of a Student Growth calculation?

Let's calculate the Student Growth Level for an accountability subgroup at School G.

*Subgroup size adjusted for example purposes. Accountability indicators are only calculated for subgroups that meet the minimum n-size.

1. Calculate the MGP or Growth Index.

Students	ELA SGP	Math SGP
Student A	50	45
Student B	55	40
Student C	60	50
Student D	45	55

$$\text{MGP or Growth Index} = \frac{(50+55+60+45) + (45+40+50+55)}{8} = 50$$

2. Assign a Student Growth Level.

Growth Index	Student Growth Level
45% or less	1
45.1 to 50%	2
50.1 to 54%	3
Greater than 54%	4

How can the Student Growth indicator be used for continuous improvement?

Student Growth data allows schools to track all students' progress over time, from one year to the next. Data used for calculating Student Growth can be found in the SIRS 112 report.

Student Growth data can be used to identify achievement gaps and assess program effectiveness.

Analyzing Student Growth data can support schools' goal-setting, instructional decision-making, and targeted interventions.

Want to know more?

For more tools and resources about the New York State ESSA Accountability System, visit the NYSED School and District Accountability Resources and Data website.

<https://www.nysed.gov/accountability/school-and-district-accountability-resources-and-data>

To learn more about resources and supports for identified schools and districts, visit the NYSED Office of Accountability's Continuous Improvement website.

<https://www.nysed.gov/accountability/continuous-improvement>