



Alternative Accountability Report: Summary of NWEA Growth Analysis

Using Fall Grade Level Equivalency Scores as Starting Point

This document outlines the results of analysis conducted by Momentum Strategy & Research, looking into the average growth of alternative education students from the 2015 Alternative Norming Sample.¹ Below we provide three tables, one each for mathematics, reading, and language usage. These tables outline the students' Grade Level Equivalent (GLE--based on their fall RIT score), the corresponding range of RIT scores applicable to each GLE, and the average growth all students with fall RIT scores falling in that range for Fall to Winter, Winter to Spring, and Fall to Spring.

In addition, we have provided the amount of growth needed for students to be considered "On Track" to progress to the next grade level. "On Track" for this purpose was determined by computing the increase in average RIT for Fall and Winter, Winter and Spring, and Fall and Spring from the NWEA Normative Data report.²

Taken together, these data can be used to set targets for student growth that balance actual growth observed for alternative students across the country and that needed to progress in grade level skill. As increasing the skill level of alternative education students is paramount to their success, when the average growth of alternative school students differ from the growth needed to progress to the next GLE we recommend using the larger of the two to establish individual student's growth targets.

¹ Alternative Accountability: NWEA 2015 Alternative Norming Study. Momentum Strategy & Research, 2016. Available upon request.

² NWEA MAP 2015 Normative Data (available at <https://www.nwea.org/resources/2015-normative-data/>)

NWEA: Math							
Fall Grade Level Equivalent*	Corresponding Fall RIT Score Range*	Average Observed Growth for AEC Sample**			Growth Need to be "On track" to Move up at Least 1 GLE***		
		Fall-Winter	Winter-Spring	Fall-Spring	Fall-Winter	Winter-Spring	Fall-Spring
Kindergarten	140-161	16	11	22	12	8	19
1st Grade	162-176	11	4	16	11	7	18
2nd Grade	177-189	7	3	11	10	6	15
3rd Grade	190-201	5	2	7	8	11	13
4th Grade	202-210	3	2	4	7	5	12
5th Grade	211-217	1	1	2	6	4	10
6th Grade	218-222	1	1	1	5	3	8
7th grade	223-225	0	1	1	4	3	6
8th Grade	226-229	0	1	1	3	2	5
9th Grade	230-230	0	1	1	2	1	3
10th grade	231-232	0	1	1	1	1	2
11th Grade	233-235	0	1	0	1	1	2
Above 11th grade	236 and higher	0	1	1	-	-	-

*Using NWEA's 2015 Norming Tables.

**Weighted average of observed growth for each growth period and year including 2011-12 through 2014-15. Values are rounded to the nearest whole number for ease of use.

***Difference between NWEA norming sample mean RIT from one assessment to the next, within grade level.

NWEA: Reading							
Fall Grade Level Equivalent*	Corresponding Fall RIT Score Range*	Average Observed Growth for AEC Sample**			Growth Need to be "On track" to Move up at Least 1 GLE***		
		Fall-Winter	Winter-Spring	Fall-Spring	Fall-Winter	Winter-Spring	Fall-Spring
Kindergarten	141-160	15	4	17	10	7	17
1st Grade	161-174	11	4	14	11	6	17
2nd Grade	175-187	8	4	11	10	5	14
3rd Grade	188-197	5	2	6	7	3	10
4th Grade	198-205	2	2	3	5	2	8
5th Grade	206-210	0	0	2	4	2	6
6th Grade	211-213	0	0	0	3	2	5
7th grade	214-216	-1	0	0	3	1	4
8th Grade	217-219	-1	1	-1	2	1	3
9th Grade	220-220	0	1	1	1	1	2
10th grade	221-222	-2	1	0	1	0	1
11th Grade	223-223	-3	0	-3	0	0	0
Above 11th grade	224 and higher	2	1	3	-	-	-

*Using NWEA's 2015 Norming Tables.

**Weighted average of observed growth for each growth period and year including 2011-12 through 2014-15. Values are rounded to the nearest whole number for ease of use.

***Difference between NWEA norming sample mean RIT from one assessment to the next, within grade level.

NWEA: Language Usage							
Fall Grade Level Equivalent*	Corresponding Fall RIT Score Range*	Average Observed Growth for AEC Sample**			Growth Need to be "On track" to Move up at Least 1 GLE***		
		Fall-Winter	Winter-Spring	Fall-Spring	Fall-Winter	Winter-Spring	Fall-Spring
Below 2nd	173 and lower	14	4	16	-	-	-
2nd Grade	174-188	9	4	12	10	5	15
3rd Grade	189-198	6	1	7	7	3	11
4th Grade	199-205	3	1	4	6	2	8
5th Grade	206-210	1	1	2	4	2	6
6th Grade	211-213	0	1	1	3	1	5
7th grade	214-215	-1	3	2	3	1	4
8th Grade	216-217	0	1	1	2	1	3
9th	218	-1	0	-1	1	1	2
10th Grade	219-220	-1	0	-1	1	0	1
11th Grade	222	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
Above 11th	223 and higher	-2	0	-1	-	-	-

*Using NWEA's 2015 Norming Tables.

**Weighted average of observed growth for each growth period and year including 2011-12 through 2014-15. Values are rounded to the nearest whole number for ease of use.

***Difference between NWEA norming sample mean RIT from one assessment to the next, within grade level.