

# Colorado Measures of Academic Success



COLORADO  
Department of Education

www.cde.state.co.us

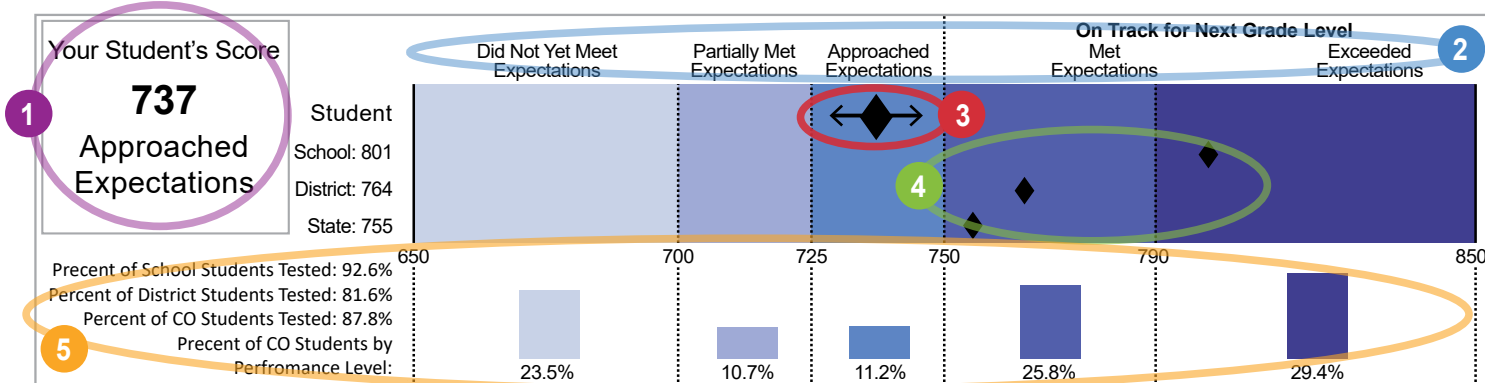
## Understanding English Language Arts and Math Score Reports

Colorado Measures of Academic Success score reports feature information that helps you understand how well your child has mastered the Colorado Academic Standards in the assessed content areas at the end of the grade level. Spring 2021 tests and expectations were consistent with tests from previous years. Results continue to provide information about what your child knows and can do in relation to the standards.

When Reviewing the performance report, consider how the unique and complex learning conditions created by the pandemic may have impacted your child and your child's school.

Data included in the resource are not based on actual 2021 data.

## How to Read Your Student's Score Report



**1 Student Performance Overview** - This section provides your child's overall score. Students receive a numerical overall score and, based on that score, are included in one of the five performance levels. The concepts and skills typically demonstrated by students within your child's performance level are included in the Performance Level Descriptor section on the bottom of page one.

**2 Performance Levels** - Performance levels describe how well students met the expectations of their grade level. Each performance level is defined by a range of scores. The highest two performance levels indicate that students met or exceeded expectations and are on track for the next grade level. The lower three performance levels indicate that students are not yet fully meeting grade-level expectations.

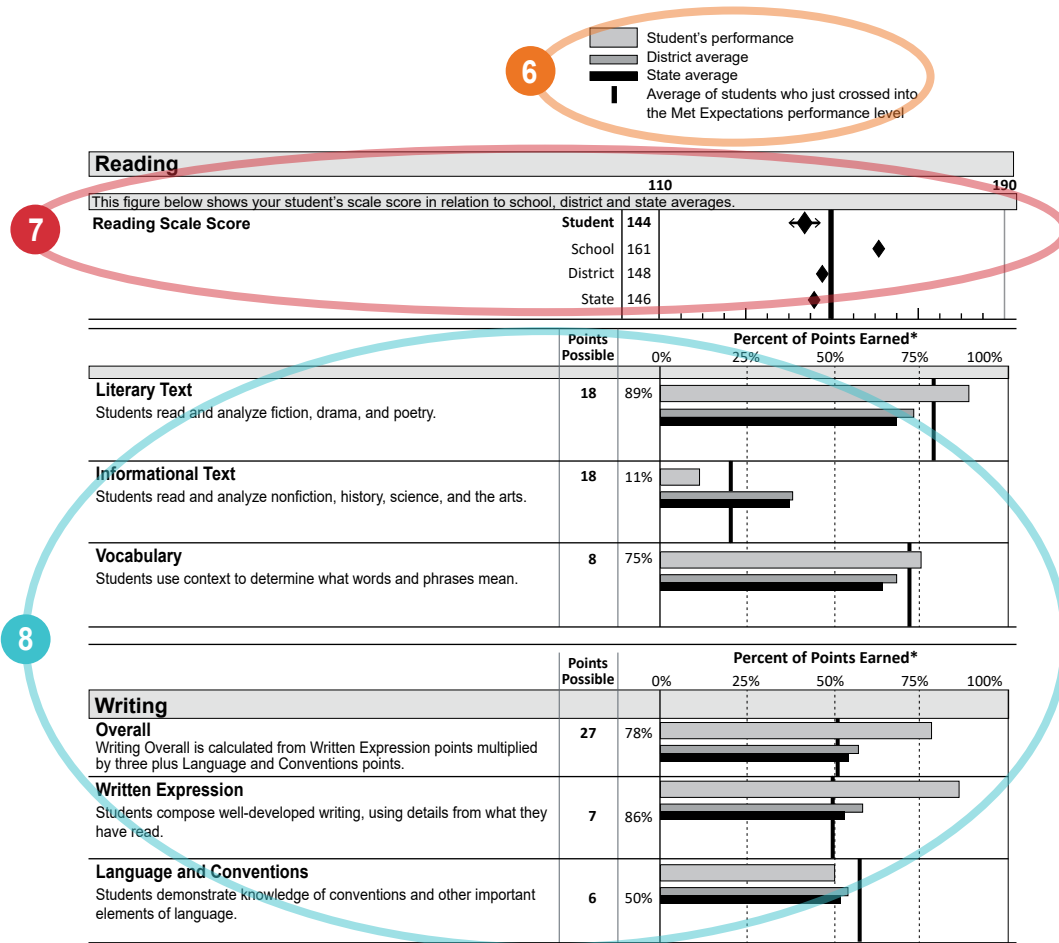
**3 Score Range** - Scale scores are represented by diamonds on the graph. The arrows around your student's diamond show the range of scores your student would likely receive if the test were taken multiple times. Arrows around the example student's diamond show that the student would have scored in the same performance level if the test was taken multiple times.

**4 Overall Score Comparisons** - School, district and state diamonds represent the average score of students taking the same test as your child. Use the score averages to see how your child's score compares to other students taking these tests. In this example, the student scored lower than the school, the district and the state. To protect student privacy, scores are not provided for schools and districts that do not have the minimum number of students needed for reporting.

**5 Participation Information and State Performance** - The challenging school year resulted in lower participation for some schools and districts. The percent of enrolled students who took the assessment are included to help you make sense of school, district and state-level results. Review participation rates closely when comparing your child's performance to school, district and state performances. The bars beneath the overall performance graphic show the percentage of students who performed at each performance level. Interpretations of school, district and state performance should be made with caution or completely avoided when participation rates are extremely low.

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**6 Graph Key** - The key on the top of page 2 shows which bar represents your students performance, district performance and state performance in the score breakdown section of the report. The dark vertical line shows how students who just crossed into the Met Expectations level performed.

**7 Reading Performance** - Overall reading scores on the English language arts report are represented by diamonds on the graph. The arrows around your student's diamond show the range of scores your student would likely receive if the assessment was taken multiple times. Look at the school, district and state scores and diamonds to see how your child's reading score compares to other students taking these tests. Arrows around the example student's diamond show that the student may have scored the same as the school or state if the test was taken multiple times. *Note: Reading sub-performance scores are on a different scale than the overall score.*

**8 Score Breakdown** - This section provides a breakdown of your student's performance in specific reading and writing areas on the English language arts report and math areas on the math report. You can see where your student is excelling or may need improvement. Performance in these areas is reported as the percent of points your student earned on the assessment for each category. Use the bars identified in the graph key at the top of the page to compare your student's performance to district and state averages as well as to students who just crossed into the Met Expectations performance level. In this example, the student outperformed the district and state in the Reading Literary Text and Vocabulary categories and in Writing Overall and Written Expression categories. The Student did not perform as well as the district, state or students who just crossed into the Met Expectations performance level in the Reading informational Text and Writing language and Conventions categories. *Note: Percent of points earned cannot be compared across years.*

### Where can I learn more?

Colorado Measures of Academic Success tests are aligned with the Colorado Academic Standards. They help students and their families know how they are performing compared to the standards and compared to their peers. Spring 2021 results can be used to identify where the pandemic may have differentially impacted learning across Colorado Student groups and as a baseline to support the evaluation of future COVID-19 recovery efforts. To learn more, visit: [www.cde.state.co.us/communications/resourcesforparents](http://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/resourcesforparents).