



Cindy Hill, Superintendent
2300 Capitol Avenue
Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor
Cheyenne, WY 82002-2060
(307) 777-7690
edu.wyoming.gov

MEMORANDUM NO. 2014- 068

TO: School District Superintendents
School Principals
Assessment Coordinators
Curriculum Coordinators
WDE684 Contacts

FROM: Susan Williams, Data Collection and Reporting Supervisor
Finance and Data Division

DATE: May 19, 2014

SUBJECT: New Growth Distribution Reports Available on Fusion Accountability Confidential

NEW GROWTH DISTRIBUTION REPORTS AVAILABLE ON FUSION

CHEYENNE - The Wyoming Department of Education has created three new confidential reports that provide a visual representation of the growth percentile distribution at the state, district and school level. These color coded reports show the percentage of students with student growth percentiles (SGP) in each of three growth categories: Low Growth, Typical Growth and High Growth. These reports can be used for setting school improvement goals and for monitoring progress toward those goals from year-to-year.

A Student Growth Percentile (SGP) describes how much progress an individual student has made on the state assessment, PAWS, from one year to the next. The individual SGPs are aggregated to create the school, district and state level reports. Users can filter by subject (reading, math, or reading and math combined), subgroup (consolidated subgroup, not consolidated subgroup, English language learner, not English language learner, female, male, free and reduced lunch, not free and reduced lunch, students with disabilities, and students without disabilities), as well as looking at full academic school year students, non full academic school year students, and all students combined. School level reports can additionally be drilled down to view growth distribution at the grade level.

Student Growth Percentiles Range from 1 to 99

For the purpose of these reports, SGPs are grouped into three categories. SGPs from 1 through 35 represent low growth, SGPs from 36 through 64 represent typical growth and SGPs from 65 through 99 represent high growth. SGPs are norm referenced scores and the norm group is all students in Wyoming in a given year. Therefore, for any content area and any grade in Wyoming, by definition, approximately 35% of all Wyoming students will be in the low growth category, approximately 30% will be in the typical growth category and approximately 35% would be in the high growth category. This distribution can be seen in the State level report below. These percentages, 35, 30 and 35, are important benchmarks for goal setting and for monitoring progress.

| Percent Growth Categories | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|---|---------------------------|--|
| Low Growth (SGP ≤ 35) | | Typical Growth (SGP > 35 and SGP ≤ 65) | | High Growth (SGP > 65) |
| School Year | Subject Code | # of SGPs | # of Students with an SGP | Percent of SGPs Within Each Growth Range |
| 2012-13 | Mathematics | 31,544 | 31,544 | 35.7 30.1 34.2 |
| | Reading | 31,529 | 31,529 | 35.8 29.9 34.2 |
| | Reading & Math | 63,073 | 31,564 | 35.8 30 34.2 |

How can districts use these reports?

Some examples of questions that you can explore using the WDE Student Growth Percentile (SGP) Distribution reports follow:

- How well did your district or school grow relative to the state overall?
- Was there a difference in math growth versus reading growth at your district or school?
- Which grades at your district or school had the strongest growth or were most in need of improving growth?
- Which subgroups at your district or school had the strongest growth or were the most in need of improving growth?
- How did the growth of subgroups at your district or school compare to the growth of the same subgroups across the state?

Getting answers to these questions and working to understand some of the reasons for the patterns that are observed will provide a good start on establishing school and/or program (e.g., special education) improvement targets. They will also provide a solid foundation for monitoring the effect of your improvement efforts over time. Specifically, you will be able to determine the extent that low growth is declining and high growth is increasing in the targeted areas.

Where are the reports located?

Student Growth Percentile Distribution reports can be found by logging into the Fusion website, <http://fusion.edu.wyoming.gov>. Click on the blue Data Reporting link, next click on the Accountability Confidential link on the left side of the page. Reports are titled:

- Student Growth Percentile Distribution by State
- Student Growth Percentile Distribution by District
- Student Growth Percentile Distribution by School

Reports can be exported into excel or pdf. The reports will also be accompanied by a document called Student Growth Percentile Distribution Facts which will reiterate information provided in this memo as well as provide general guidance for goal setting.

Reports are secure and in order to view them users must have one of the following roles assigned in Fusion: Superintendent, Principal, Assessment Coordinator, Curriculum Coordinator, Special Education Director, or Assessment Confidential Reports.

If you have forgotten your password or would like to change it to something more memorable the link below provides an instructional video.

<https://portals.edu.wyoming.gov/DCS/Content/Docs/Videos/RetrieveandResetPassword.mp4>

For more information about Student Growth Percentiles contact Deb Lindsey at deb.lindsey@wyo.gov or 304-777-8753.