

FEBRUARY 2024

FACT SHEET

MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS & MIDDLE GRADE MATHEMATICS



Language Learners in Utah

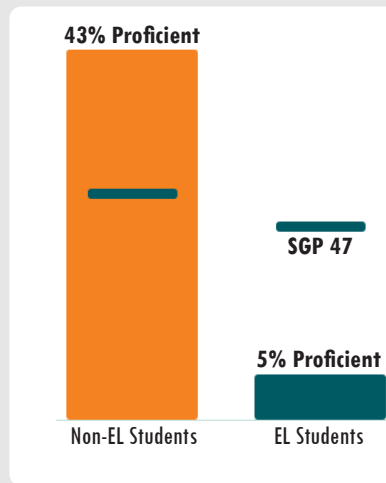
As of October 2023, there were more than 70,000 K-12 students in Utah with English Learner designation, which comprised more than 10% of the total K-12 student population. English Learners have lower achievement and growth scores on average for each RISE assessment subject test (English Language Arts, Math, and Science) compared to non-English Learners.



Nationally, math is the subject area in which the lowest percentage of students is proficient (NAEP, 2022). In Utah, Math is the RISE subject area in which both EL and non-EL have the lowest proficiency.



Achievement and Growth of 8th grade students on the 2023 Math RISE assessment

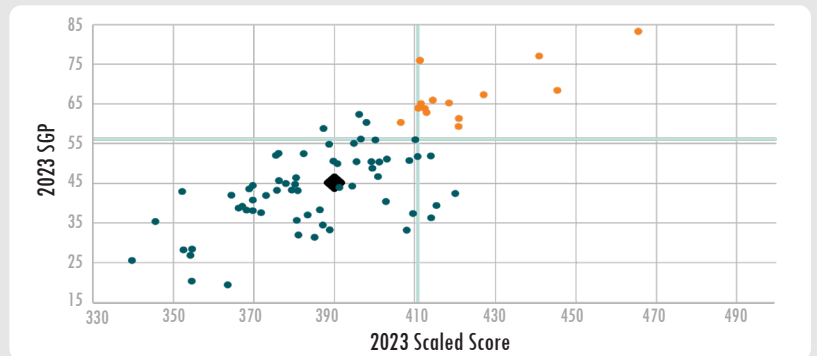


On the 2023 8th grade Math RISE assessment, the percentage of non-EL students who were proficient was 43%, while the percentage of EL students who were proficient was 5%. Additionally, the average student growth percentile (SGP) of non-EL students was 50, while the average SGP of EL students was 47.



Outliers in Language Learner Achievement & Growth

ULEAD has identified more than ten representative schools that demonstrated EL student achievement (measured using scale score) and growth (SGP) above the 75th percentile on the RISE Math assessment for each of the past three years for at least one grade level of grades 5-8.



Utah Leading through Effective, Actionable, and Dynamic (ULEAD) Education seeks research partners interested in qualitatively exploring why these schools have experienced success with language learners. Contact ulead@schools.utah.gov to learn more!

Outlier Schools

12

 public schools representative of all Utah schools

9 non-charter schools

3 charter schools

State Average 13% charter

6 Title 1 schools

6 non-Title 1 schools

State Average 40% Title 1



3 City Schools

State Average
28% of schools



7 Suburban Schools

State Average
53% of schools



2 Town/Rural Schools

State Average
19% of schools

Criteria for Outliers

Math: Math is the subject area in which the lowest percentage of Utah students are proficient.

Grades 5-8: In Utah, only 45% of EL students who were proficient in 5th grade on the RISE Math assessment remained proficient in 8th grade. Any school experiencing consistent achievement and growth in this student group for these grades is notable.

RISE Assessment: The RISE Assessment is the only standardized math assessment in Utah administered to grades 5-8.

Scale score as the measure of achievement: Unlike proficiency levels that only offer categorical metrics, scale scores are measured on a continuous scale and allow for greater precision in assessing student achievement.

Student growth percentile (SGP) as the measure of growth: SGPs are percentile rankings from 1 to 99 that explain a student's academic progress compared to their peers who had the same score on the prior year's assessment.

A sample of size of at least 10 English Learner student: Utah defines a minimum number of students of 10 in accountability calculations to ensure maximum student group visibility while protecting student privacy and maintaining reliability.

3 years of achievement and growth scores, covering 2021 to 2023: Using multiple years of achievement and growth increases confidence that the data is meaningful and not an aberration. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and its effect on test administration and classroom instruction, 2021 is the earliest year included in this analysis.



Outlier Grade Level(s)



Title I Status



Locale



% Racial Minority



% Low Income



% Limited English



% Students with Disabilities

School District

8



Suburban - Large

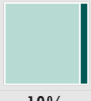


21%



26%

8%



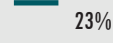
10%

School District

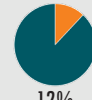
7



Suburban - Large

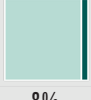


23%



12%

4%



8%

School District

7



Town - Remote

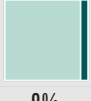


85%



57%

41%



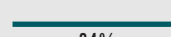
9%

School District

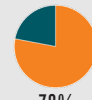
7 & 8



City - Midsize

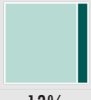


84%



78%

25%



13%

Academy

5 & 8



Suburban - Large

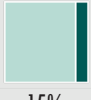


76%



56%

34%



15%

School District

8



Town - Remote

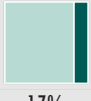


52%



>90%

29%



17%

School District

5 & 6



Suburban - Large

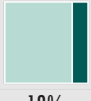


57%



62%

27%



19%

School District

5



City - Midsize

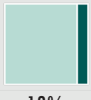


45%



48%

23%



13%

School District

6



City - Midsize



65%



64%

44%



18%

Academy

6



Suburban - Large

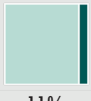


61%



18%

23%



11%

School District

6



Suburban - Large

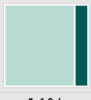


33%



45%

12%



16%

School District

5



Suburban - Large

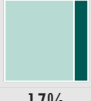


42%



52%

16%



17%

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