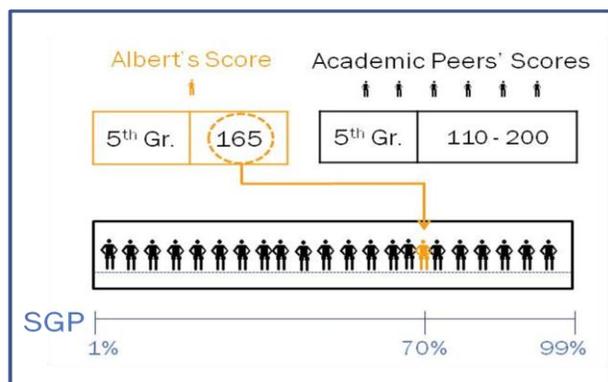


AchieveNJ: Student Growth Percentiles in 2013-14

A More Complete Picture of Student Progress

Under AchieveNJ, Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs) are one of the multiple measures used to assess educators whose students are in grades 4 - 8 and take the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK) Math or Language Arts test. An SGP score is derived by comparing a student's growth on the NJ ASK to the growth made by that student's academic peers (students from around the state with similar score histories). This comparative change in achievement is reported on a 1 to 99 scale as detailed below.



- Albert is a 5th-grade student in New Jersey.
- His 5th-grade NJ ASK score is 165, 5 points higher than his 4th-grade score.
- The 5th-grade scores of his academic peers (5th-grade students across New Jersey with a score history similar to Albert's) range between 110 and 200 this year.
- Albert's increase from 160 to 165 from 4th to 5th grade represents growth that was the same or better than 70% of his academic peers.
- Albert's SGP score is 70.

By using SGPs, we can answer the question: "How much academic progress did a child make during a school year?" Unlike proficiency rates, which show only whether students are performing at grade level, student growth provides a much more complete picture of achievement and progress at any scale score on the NJ ASK. For example, a student may be below proficiency but could earn a high SGP score, which, combined with other evidence, signals that the teacher's instruction and/or principal's leadership are helping that child catch up. Students at the highest end of proficiency can also show growth - so no educator is ever "penalized" for teaching students of any achievement level.

Assigning Median SGP Scores to Educators

Qualifying **teachers** are assigned the median SGP (mSGP) score of all of that teacher's qualifying students based on student rosters submitted by the district. This process is depicted in the adjacent graphic.

- **One of Multiple Measures:** mSGPs account for **30%** of a teacher's overall rating.
- **Requires Appropriate Samples:** For mSGP to apply, a teacher must have at least 20 separate students with SGPs enrolled in the class for at least 70 percent of the time, and must teach at least 60% of the time, prior to the NJ ASK.
- **Applies to a Subset of Teachers:** mSGPs are available for those who teach 4th - 8th-grade Math or Language Arts because their students typically have baseline and end-of-year NJ ASK scores. As more years of data become available, more 4th - 8th grade Language Arts and Mathematics teachers may be eligible to receive mSGPs.
- **Teacher-friendly Scoring:** In future years, a teacher will be evaluated on the best available score - either the teacher's median score from his or her current roster of students or the median of all scores available for up to 3 years.

Student	SGP Score
Hugh	12
Eve	16
Clarence	22
Clayton	24
Earnestine	25
Helen	31
Clinton	35
Tim	39
Jennifer	44
Jaquelyn	46
Lance	51
Roxie	53
Laura	57
Julio	61
Selena	65
Ashlee	66
Albert	70
Mathew	72
Maria	85
Charles	89
Milton	97

Albert's SGP, along with the SGPs of all his teacher's students, are arranged from low to high.

← Median SGP Score

Albert's teacher receives an effectiveness rating by taking the median SGP score - in this case, 51.

Principals are accountable for schoolwide SGP data if enough tested grades and subjects are taught in their school. These scores represent the median of all qualifying SGP scores in a principal’s school.

- For principals who lead schools with two or more tested grades or subjects, **30%** of their evaluation is based on schoolwide SGP data.
- For principals with only one SGP grade or subject, **20%** of their evaluation is based on schoolwide SGP data.

The Use of mSGPs in Evaluation Scoring

To calculate an educator’s final evaluation rating, mSGPs will be converted to a 1.0 - 4.0 score, then weighted and included along with the other measure(s) of educator practice and student achievement. The Department undertook a careful process to create a scale that translates mSGP scores from a 1 - 99 scale to the 1 - 4 rating in a manner that is fair to teachers while maintaining high expectations for student learning. This process began with an examination of pilot data, extended to additional research and consultation with other states using similar measures, and concluded by conferring with the Department’s Technical Advisory Committee to build the scale (depicted below).

2013-14 mSGP Conversion Chart

mSGP Score	Evaluation Rating						
1 - 20	1	35	2.5	50	3	65	3.5
21	1.1	36	2.5	51	3	66	3.5
22	1.2	37	2.6	52	3	67	3.5
23	1.3	38	2.6	53	3	68	3.6
24	1.4	39	2.7	54	3	69	3.6
25	1.5	40	2.7	55	3	70	3.6
26	1.6	41	2.8	56	3.1	71	3.7
27	1.7	42	2.8	57	3.1	72	3.7
28	1.8	43	2.9	58	3.2	73	3.7
29	1.9	44	2.9	59	3.2	74	3.8
30	2	45	3	60	3.3	75	3.8
31	2.1	46	3	61	3.3	76	3.8
32	2.2	47	3	62	3.4	77	3.9
33	2.3	48	3	63	3.4	78	3.9
34	2.4	49	3	64	3.4	79	3.9
						80 - 99	4

**Please note that this chart has been provided for 2013-14. The Department will continue to collaborate with educators and to study best practices and may adjust these numbers in future years.*

The [Teacher Evaluation Scoring Guide](#) and [Principal Evaluation Scoring Guide](#) provide a more detailed explanation of this chart, information about scoring the other evaluation components, and the final summative rating scale.

Data Confidentiality

Evaluation data of a particular employee – including mSGPs and all other components– shall be confidential in accordance with the TEACHNJ Act and N.J.S.A. 18A:6-120. and shall not be accessible to the public.

Resources and Contact Information

To learn more about SGPs, please see the following resources:

- AchieveNJ SGP web page: <http://www.nj.gov/education/AchieveNJ/teacher/percentile.shtml>
- SGP video: <http://survey.pcgus.com/njgrowth/player.html>
- Additional research and information: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/njsmart/performance/>

To share questions or feedback, please

- E-mail educatorevaluation@doe.state.nj.us, or call the AchieveNJ Help Line at 609-777-3788.