

# MISSOURI STATEWIDE STUDENT GROWTH

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Table of Contents						
Introduction	2					
DESE Growth Score	3					
PRiME Growth Score	3					
Definitions	5					
Overall Results	6					
<ul> <li>PRiME Growth Score Rankings</li> <li>A. Elementary Schools</li> <li>B. EleMiddle Schools</li> <li>C. Middle Schools</li> </ul>	7 12 17					
Preview of What's Next	22					
Conclusion	22					
Recommendations	22					
Acknowledgements	23					
References	23					

A clear measure of student growth is vital to understanding school effectiveness.



## Introduction

## Why Student Growth Matters

Statewide standardized testing is administered to provide parents, educators, and policymakers a snapshot of student learning. Policymakers use state assessments to measure student achievement and hold schools accountable. The assessments give taxpayers a measure of their return on investment in public schools. Educators use the results to set student learning objectives and to ensure traditionally underserved students' needs are met.

However, student achievement alone—as measured by standardized assessments at single points in time—is not an adequate measure of the effectiveness of schools and educators. Decades of research, along with common sense, tells us that performance on standardized tests is greatly influenced by out-of-school factors, particularly family income and parent educational attainment (Berliner, 2009; Brooks-Gunn & Duncan, 1997; Cunha & Heckman, 2009; Hegedus, 2018; McLoyd, 1998; Sirin, 2005; Tienken et al., 2017; White, 1982).

In our home state, the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) is the standardized assessment that measures the extent to which students have learned what is expected at specific grade levels in elementary and middle school and for end-of-course exams in high school. School-level results are most often publicly reported as the fraction of students that earn scores of proficient or advanced on these assessments. These results are a useful measure of student achievement at a single point in time but fail to adequately communicate how much (or little) students learn over time. For educators and policymakers to understand the extent to which students progress toward learning goals, a measure of progress over time—known as a **student growth score**—is more helpful.

Clear communication of student growth is vital to understanding the effectiveness of schools and educators. Point-in-time proficiency rates ignore where students started when they entered a classroom, and they don't demonstrate a teacher's influence on student learning over the school year. Teachers can't control what students know when they enter a classroom, but they can impact student learning in their classroom during the school year. The PRiME (Policy Research in Missouri Education) Center asserts that policymakers, educators, and parents need to know and understand the progress students and schools are making from year to year. Examining growth scores on the MAP is one way to do just that.

This Missouri Statewide Student Growth Report describes how researchers at Saint Louis University's (SLU) PRIME Center used the Missouri Growth Model measure and translated the state's scale to help educators and the public better understand its significance. The PRIME Growth Score indicates which schools are moving students toward or beyond proficiency even if some students at these schools start the year far behind their peers when examining proficiency rates. The objective of this report is to highlight and applaud the excellent growth that is occurring in so many schools throughout the state.

We highlight the top 20 schools in the state in numerous categories in terms of 2019 student growth scores. DESE student growth scores represent growth on grade-level assessments over the prior three academic years. We chose the 2019 growth scores because the preceding three years that make up the calculation were a relatively stable time before schools adjusted learning modes for the COVID-19 pandemic. As we have seen with recent MAP results, major disruptions to the education system during the pandemic greatly affected learning outcomes for Missouri students.

## **The DESE Growth Score**

Policymakers at the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) understood the value of creating a student growth measure to help local educators improve student achievement and to determine which schools were making progress in moving students forward. In 2013, DESE launched the Missouri Growth Model, which uses a student's past achievement score data on the state English language arts (ELA) and mathematics assessments to predict an expected future score for a given student. Predicted future scores are based on the average performance of peers. Thus, when students outperform their predicted scores, it means they grew more than other academically comparable students. Similarly, when students fall short of their predicted scores, it means they grew less than other academically comparable students (DESE, 2013).

For educators and policymakers to understand the impact educators have on helping students progress toward learning goals, a measure of progress over time—known as a student growth measure—is more helpful.

Each year, DESE uses the Missouri Growth Model to predict each student's expected achievement, assess whether their actual achievement is higher or lower than predicted, and analyze patterns from the school overall. The Missouri Growth Model measures growth over a three-year period and, in any single year, relies on a minimum of two years of MAP test scores for each student (a score from the current year and the year immediately prior). Students take MAP tests in Grades 3-8, but growth scores are only available in Grades 4-8, as students in Grade 3 have no prior test scores from which to estimate growth.

DESE's reported student growth metric uses Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE) units to show growth, where a NCE of 50 typically indicates expected, or average, growth. Growth scores above 50 indicate greater than expected growth, and scores below 50 indicate less than expected growth. Nearly all districts (81%) fall within a range of 48 to 52 NCEs, which makes differentiating schools based on student growth a challenge. We believe that one of the reasons that the public (and even educators) do not focus on this important metric is the scale; that is, it is hard to conceptualize that a score of 52 is excellent while a score of 48 is deficient. For this reason, PRIME has created a growth metric that is a simple translation of these same NCEs into a range that is more accessible to those in the education community.

## **The PRiME Growth Score**

To create our PRIME Growth Score, we adjusted the existing NCE scores, which are not easily interpretable, by translating them on to a new scale with a mean of 85 and standard deviation of five. The objective of this transformation was to place the scores on a scale more familiar to educators and to spread out the distribution to create more clear differences between schools with the highest and lowest growth scores. Thus, schools with an average growth score calculated under the Missouri Growth Model (50) also have an average PRiME Growth Score (85).

This transformation of scores does not alter the ordering of the NCE growth scores provided by DESE; rather, it places the same scores on a scale that widens the distribution and is more like a percentage scale that one might see on a report card. That is, growth scores in the high 90s are very good and scores in the low 70s are quite low. We believe that this new PRIME Growth Score makes the existing scores more familiar and thus understandable to education stakeholders.

Figures 1 and 2 provide an example of the distribution of growth scores for elementary schools in ELA using both DESE's model and the translated PRiME Growth Scores. As shown in Figure 2, PRiME's Growth Scores are plotted with a wider distribution, making it easier to see immediately that a school scoring at the top end of the distribution is performing better in terms of student growth than a school at the lower end of the distribution.

In this report, the PRiME Growth Score is a translation of DESE's 2019 Missouri Growth Model score, which reflects average annual student growth between the 2015-2016 school year and the 2016-2017 school year, the 2016-2017 school year and the 2017-2018 school year, and the 2017-2018 school year and the 2018-2019 school year. Any schools for which 2019 PRiME Growth Scores are unavailable or yet to be attained—such as schools with untested grades—are excluded from this report. Importantly, while PRiME Growth Scores were assigned to all schools with growth NCE scores assigned (that is, schools which serve students in Grades 4-8), this report focuses on the highest-growth schools across the state in a few categories.

For more details on how growth scores are calculated by DESE, see PRiME's policy brief on <u>"Unpacking the Missouri</u> Growth Model."

#### Figure 1

Distribution of Missouri Growth Model Scores for Elementary Schools in English Language Arts, 2019



#### Figure 2

Distribution of PRiME Growth Scores for Elementary Schools in English Language Arts, 2019



#### **Definitions**

- Elementary schools schools that serve students no older than the sixth grade.
- EleMiddle schools schools with grades in both elementary and middle schools ranges. For example, a K-8 school would be included in the rankings of eleMiddle schools with top student growth scores.
- MAP The Missouri Assessment Program is used to measure how well students acquire the skills and knowledge described in Missouri's Learning Standards (MLS) (DESE, 2021). MAP tests are administered in Grades 3-8 and as end-of-course (EOC) assessments in high school.
- Middle schools schools that range from sixth grade through twelfth grade. These schools have three years of tests included in the Growth Scores in sixth, seventh and eighth grades.
- Missouri Learning Standards DESE defines these as "the knowledge and skills students need in each grade level and course for success in college, other post-secondary training and careers" (DESE, 2016).
- Proficiency levels on the MAP tests, proficiency levels include advanced, proficient, basic, and below basic. Scoring proficient or advanced indicates that a student has mastered learning standards for their grade level at that point in time.
- Student growth the change in achievement (as measured by the Missouri Assessment Program English language arts and mathematics assessments) for an individual student between two or more points in time (DESE, 2013).
- Subgroup achievement subgroup includes students receiving free and reduced-price lunch, Black and Hispanic students, English language learners, and students with disabilities (DESE, 2015).

## **Overall Results**

This publication divides our results into three sections according to school type: elementary, eleMiddle, and middle. The sections are intended to group schools based on similarity in grade levels tested to avoid comparing dissimilar schools. For the purposes of this report, we rely on DESE's categorization of schools for the basis of our groups. Therefore, elementary schools are defined as schools that serve students no older than the sixth grade. Middle schools are defined as schools that begin in fourth through eighth grade and that end in fifth through eighth grade. There are a few schools that overlap, in which case we rely on the DESE categorization of schools and the school's name to place it into a school type. Schools that serve grades spanning across the elementary and middle school categories are designated as "eleMiddle" schools. For example, this category includes PreK-8, K-8, PreK-7, K-7, 4-12, and Grade 3-8 schools.

We present the rankings of schools in each section according to the MAP test (ELA and mathematics) by the schoolwide (including all tested students) PRIME Growth Score as well as the PRIME Growth Score for students in the subgroup. The subgroup ranking highlights schools with outstanding subgroup achievement growth to recognize schools that should serve as models for closing persistent achievement and opportunity gaps. Thus, each of the three school types has two rankings per MAP test, for a total of twelve ranked lists.

Each table in this report presents the top 20 schools in each of the twelve categories. This shows the schools across the state that are going above and beyond to foster student learning as demonstrated by each school's PRIME Growth Score. These tables also include the district and region in which the school is located, the school enrollment, and the percent of students who score proficient and advanced on MAP tests. To add more context of the students served in each school, we also indicate the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch in all tables reporting schoolwide results. For the tables reporting Growth Scores at the subgroup achievement level, we indicate the percentage of students who are included in the subgroup at each school. In this column, higher percentages are generally associated with higher poverty schools.

It is noteworthy that the schools on the top ranked lists have a wide variety of starting points (in terms of proficiency levels) on state assessments.

Statewide, 1,694 schools (across 546 districts and nine regions) have 2019 PRiME Growth Scores. Schoolwide ELA Growth Scores range from 52.4 - 109.8 while schoolwide math Growth Scores range from 57.0 - 108.2. For the subgroup, ELA Growth Scores range from 54.1 to 108.3 and math Growth Scores range from 58.7 to 107.0. While a very small number of schools earned scores above 100, we do 'cap' our PRiME Growth Scores at 100 in the following tables in keeping with our objective to present these scores on a scale that is familiar to educators. It is noteworthy that the schools on the top ranked lists have a wide variety of starting points (in terms of proficiency levels) on state assessments. Thus, this PRiME Growth Score can reveal excellent academic growth across a wide spectrum of schools.

## Section A. Elementary School PRiME Growth Scores

In this section, we present four tables highlighting the Missouri elementary schools with the highest PRiME Growth Scores. We first present the Growth Scores for ELA by schoolwide achievement (Table 1) and subgroup achievement (Table 2) before presenting the PRiME Growth Scores for mathematics (Tables 3 and 4).

There are **1,026 elementary schools** with PRiME Growth Scores located in 451 districts and nine regions across Missouri. Elementary schools have schoolwide ELA Growth Scores ranging from 52.4 to 109.8. ELA Growth Scores for the subgroup ranged from 54.1 to 108.3. Schoolwide math Growth Scores range from 57.0 to 108.2 while math Growth Scores for the subgroup range from 58.7 to 103.9. For simplicity and clarity in the tables that follow, we cap the growth scores at 100. As there are so many elementary schools in the state, we're only capturing a tiny slice of schools that are performing well in terms of growth in the top 20 lists. The schools that appear in our lists typically have PRiME Growth Scores higher than 95, but there are many schools with scores just below that level who also demonstrate exceptionally high growth. To check out other schools who are top performing, refer to our downloadable data file available at <a href="https://www.sluprime.org/education-reports">www.sluprime.org/education-reports</a>.

As most of the top elementary schools appear on more than one list in this section, our rankings highlight 36 different elementary schools. Eight schools ranked among the top 20 elementary schools on all four charts in this section. In the Missouri Bootheel, schools on all four charts include Blanchard Elementary, Matthews Elementary, Neelyville Elementary, and Richland Elementary. In Southwestern Missouri, schools include Humansville Elementary, Mark Twain Elementary, and York Elementary. In Kansas City, Cambridge Elementary appears on all four lists.

Notably, the top-growth elementary schools in each category vary widely in their proficiency rates. While several schools have both high PRiME Growth Scores and high proficiency rates, many top-growth schools have low proficiency rates. For example, as shown in Table 1, Richland Elementary School has both the highest PRiME Growth Score and the majority of students (89.2%) are considered proficient or advanced. Meanwhile, as shown in Table 4, Froebel Elementary in St. Louis Public Schools achieved the highest PRiME Growth Score in math subgroup achievement across the state, but just 27.3% of their students in the subgroup are considered proficient or advanced. Indeed, the Froebel Elementary example represents a very important reason for presenting such a report. This is a school where the data reveal a great deal of student growth; thus, good things are happening that would not be apparent from a simple review of proficiency rates.

For each of the four tables in this section, we note a few key points:

- Table 1 shows the top 21 elementary schools in ELA by schoolwide achievement. Seven of these schools are in the Southwestern region. The school with the highest PRiME Growth Score is Richland Elementary in the Richland R-I district, where 89.2% of its students are considered proficient or advanced on the ELA assessment and 73.7% are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.
- In **Table 2**, we focus on those traditionally underserved students who make up the subgroup and see that Richland Elementary is again at the top of the list for ELA. We also call attention to six schools with top Growth Scores in which the entire student body was in the super subgroup, including Border Star Montessori, Froebel Elementary, Humansville Elementary, KIPP Victory Academy, Trojan Intermediate, and Wendell Phillips Elementary.
- For **Table 3**, we turn to schoolwide math scores. Mark Twain Elementary in the Webb City R-VII district has the highest PRiME Growth Score at 100.0. School enrollment for this group of schools varies considerably from 17 students in Bosworth Elementary to 422 students in Caruthersville Elementary.
- Table 4, which focuses on the subgroup achievement in math, illustrates that Froebel Elementary in St. Louis has the highest PRiME Growth Score while 27.3% of its subgroup students score proficient or advanced in math and 100% of students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch and in the super subgroup.



Rank	School	PRiME Growth Score	MAP Prof.	School Enr.	F/R Lunch	District	Region
1	Richland Elem.*	100.0	89.2%	156	73.7%	Richland R-I	Bootheel
2	Cambridge Elem.*	100.0	35.5%	310	58.5%	Belton 124	Kansas City
3	Blanchard Elem.*	100.0	71.3%	317	100.0%	Cape Girardeau 63	Bootheel
4	Bernie Elem.	99.9	75.3%	287	75.2%	Bernie R-XIII	Bootheel
4	Monett Intermediate	99.0	54.3%	368	63.7%	Monett R-I	Southwestern
6	Mark Twain Elem.	98.7	74.7%	198	58.9%	Webb City R-VII	Southwestern
6	Thomas J. Ultican Elem.	98.7	72.3%	488	53.8%	Blue Springs R-IV	Kansas City
8	Anderson Elem.	96.9	62.3%	486	66.7%	McDonald Co. R-I	Southwestern
8	Independence Elem.	96.9	71.1%	666	11.3%	Francis Howell R-II	St. Louis
8	York Elem.	96.9	52.7%	230	86.6%	Springfield R-XII	Southwestern
11	Knob Noster Elem.	96.3	69.4%	352	40.0%	Knob Noster R-VIII	Western Plains
11	Neelyville Elem.	96.3	57.7%	202	69.5%	Neelyville R-IV	Bootheel
13	Matthews Elem.	96.0	82.0%	133	100.0%	New Madrid Co. R-I	Bootheel
13	Pheasant Point Elem.	96.0	69.1%	490	10.5%	Ft. Zumwalt R-II	St. Louis
15	Barrington Elem.	95.7	48.9%	385	44.1%	Hazelwood	St. Louis
15	Border Star Montessori	95.7	58.6%	246	100.0%	Kansas City 33	Kansas City
15	Humansville Elem.	95.7	31.8%	162	100.0%	Humansville R-IV	Southwestern
15	Sweeny Elementary	95.7	59.2%	403	42.7%	Republic R-III	Southwestern
15	Trojan Intermediate	95.7	66.9%	509	100.0%	Potosi R-III	Ozarks
20	Wendell Phillips Elem.	95.4	26.7%	281	100.0%	Kansas City 33	Kansas City
20	Wilson's Creek Inter. Ctr.	95.4	72.2%	475	25.3%	Springfield R-XII	Southwestern

\*For simplicity and clarity, PRiME caps growth scores at 100. In reality, some schools may have growth scores above 100. You can explore more in the downloadable data file available at <a href="http://www.sluprime.org/education-reports">www.sluprime.org/education-reports</a>.



Table 2: Top Growth Elementary Schools in English Language Arts, Subgroup Achievement

Rank	School	PRiME Growth Score	MAP Prof.	School Enr.	% Subgroup Eligible	District	Region
1	Richland Elem.*	100.0	86.2%	156	75.6%	Richland R-I	Bootheel
2	Blanchard Elem.*	100.0	71.3%	317	84.8%	Cape Girardeau 63	Bootheel
3	Bernie Elem.*	100.0	71.0%	287	79.1%	Bernie R-XIII	Bootheel
4	Monett Intermediate	99.0	45.1%	368	76.2%	Monett R-I	Southwestern
5	Thomas J. Ultican Elem.	98.6	63.9%	488	62.8%	Blue Springs R-IV	Kansas City
6	Cambridge Elem.	98.5	25.7%	310	65.3%	Belton 124	Kansas City
7	Border Star Montessori	97.6	58.6%	246	100.0%	Kansas City 33	Kansas City
8	Matthews Elem.	97.5	82.0%	133	84.9%	New Madrid Co. R-I	Bootheel
8	Trojan Intermediate	97.5	66.9%	509	100.0%	Potosi R-III	Ozarks
8	York Elem.	97.5	50.6%	230	89.4%	Springfield R-XII	Southwestern
11	Mark Twain Elem.	97.4	65.8%	198	55.8%	Webb City R-VII	Southwestern
12	Humansville Elem.	97.4	31.8%	162	100.0%	Humansville R-IV	Southwestern
13	Jamestown C-I Elem.	97.3	69.6%	103	47.1%	Jamestown C-1	Central
14	Wendell Phillips Elem.	97.1	26.7%	281	100.0%	Kansas City 33	Kansas City
15	KIPP Victory Academy	96.9	29.9%	550	100.0%	KIPP St Louis	St. Louis
16	Neelyville Elem.	96.5	54.9%	202	75.7%	Neelyville R-IV	Bootheel
17	Barrington Elem.	96.4	45.5%	385	94.4%	Hazelwood	St. Louis
18	Froebel Elem.	95.9	14.5%	164	100.0%	St. Louis Public Schools	St. Louis
19	Buckner Elem.	95.7	46.9%	331	54.5%	Fort Osage R-I	Kansas City
20	Brown Elem.	95.5	41.0%	325	95.8%	Hazelwood	St. Louis

\*For simplicity and clarity, PRiME caps growth scores at 100. In reality, some schools may have growth scores above 100. You can explore more in the downloadable data file available at <a href="http://www.sluprime.org/education-reports">www.sluprime.org/education-reports</a>.



Table 3: Top Growth Elementary Schools in Mathematics, Schoolwide Achievement

Rank	School	PRiME Growth Score	MAP Prof. & Adv.	School Enr.	F/R Lunch	District	Region
1	Mark Twain Elem.*	100.0	81.1%	198	58.9%	Webb City R-VII	Southwestern
2	Froebel Elem.*	100.0	27.3%	164	100.0%	St. Louis Public Schools	St. Louis
3	Richland Elem.*	100.0	90.4%	156	73.7%	Richland R-I	Bootheel
4	Bosworth Elem.*	100.0	66.7%	17	100.0%	Bosworth R-V	Western Plains
5	Blanchard Elem.*	100.0	63.9%	317	100.0%	Cape Girardeau 63	Bootheel
6	Caruthersville Elem.*	100.0	34.0%	422	100.0%	Caruthersville 18	Bootheel
7	John T. Hartman Elem.	98.9	50.6%	330	100.0%	Kansas City 33	Kansas City
8	Matthews Elem.	98.3	72.1%	133	100.0%	New Madrid Co. R-I	Bootheel
9	Mosaic Elementary	98.0	72.7%	253	14.1%	Mehlville R-IX	St. Louis
10	Cambridge Elem.	98.0	31.8%	310	58.5%	Belton 124	Kansas City
11	York Elem.	97.9	42.9%	230	86.6%	Springfield R-XII	Southwestern
12	Cole Camp Elem.	97.9	65.9%	263	57.9%	Cole Camp R-I	Western Plains
13	Knob Noster Elem.	97.7	65.7%	352	40.0%	Knob Noster R-VIII	Western Plains
14	Neelyville Elem.	97.7	65.1%	202	69.5%	Neelyville R-IV	Bootheel
15	Gladden Elem.	97.4	49.1%	330	66.4%	Belton 124	Kansas City
16	Bryant Elem.	96.7	57.4%	230	74.6%	Independence 30	Kansas City
16	Humansville Elem.	96.7	35.3%	162	100.0%	Humansville R-IV	Southwestern
18	Willard East Elem.	96.6	70.4%	326	37.6%	Willard R-II	Southwestern
19	Pattonsburg Elem.	96.3	49.0%	101	64.9%	Pattonsburg R-II	Northwestern
20	Hamilton Elem.	95.6	58.8%	280	53.6%	Hamilton R-II	Northwestern

 Table 4: Top Performing Elementary Schools in Mathematics, Subgroup Achievement

Rank	School	PRiME Growth Score	MAP Prof. & Adv.	School Enr.	% Subgroup Eligible	District	Region
1	Froebel Elem.*	100.0	27.3%	164	100.0%	St. Louis Public Schools	St. Louis
2	Richland Elem.*	100.0	87.7%	156	75.6%	Richland R-I	Bootheel
3	Blanchard Elem.*	100.0	63.9%	317	84.7%	Cape Girardeau 63	Bootheel
4	Mark Twain Elem.*	100.0	73.5%	198	55.8%	Webb City R-VII	Southwestern
5	Caruthersville Elem.*	100.0	34.0%	422	100.0%	Caruthersville 18	Bootheel
6	Bosworth Elem.*	100.0	66.7%	17	96.7%	Bosworth R-V	Western Plains
7	John T. Hartman Elem.	99.9	50.6%	330	100.0%	Kansas City 33	Kansas City
8	Neelyville Elem.	98.8	63. 2%	202	75.7%	Neelyville R-IV	Bootheel
9	York Elem.	98.7	43.2%	230	89.4%	Springfield R-XII	Southwestern
10	Matthews Elem.	98. <u>5</u>	72.1%	133	84.9%	New Madrid Co. R-I	Bootheel
11	Humansville Elem.	97.7	35.3%	162	100.0%	Humansville R-IV	Southwestern
12	Knob Noster Elem.	97.1	47.5%	352	49.3%	Knob Noster R-VIII	Western Plains
13	Gladden Elem.	96.9	45.1%	330	72.9%	Belton 124	Kansas City
14	Bryant Elem.	96.8	50.0%	230	84.2%	Independence 30	Kansas City
15	Cambridge Elem.	96.6	23.0%	310	65.6%	Belton 124	Kansas City
16	Pattonsburg Elem.	96.0	36.7%	101	62.0%	Pattonsburg R-II	Northwestern
17	Thomas J. Ultican Elem.	95.6	64.6%	488	62.8%	Blue Springs R-IV	Kansas City
18	Brown Elem.	95.6	42.2%	325	95.8%	Hazelwood	St. Louis
19	Jamestown C-I Elem.	95.5	52.2%	103	47.1%	Jamestown C-1	Central
20	Mosaic Elementary	95.4	64.1%	253	35.5%	Mehlville R-IX	St. Louis

## Section B. EleMiddle School PRiME Growth Scores

In this section, we present four tables highlighting the Missouri eleMiddle schools with the highest PRiME Growth Scores. We first present the Growth Scores for ELA by schoolwide achievement (Table 5) and subgroup achievement (Table 6) before presenting the PRiME Growth Scores for mathematics (Tables 7 and 8).

There are **164 eleMiddle schools** with PRiME Growth Scores located across 150 districts and nine regions. EleMiddle schools have schoolwide ELA Growth Scores ranging from 66.1 to 97.4. ELA Growth Scores for the subgroup range from 63.3 to 100.4. Schoolwide math PRiME Growth Scores range from 69.0 to 98.8 while math Growth Scores for the subgroup range from 70.3 to 99.4. For simplicity and clarity in the tables that follow, we cap the growth scores at 100. Because there are fewer eleMiddle schools than elementary schools, we see a larger range in scores (above 90) for schools on each top 20 list in this section.

Most of the top eleMiddle schools appear on more than one list in this section, so our rankings feature 40 different eleMiddle schools. We see that four schools in the eleMiddle school section appeared on all four top 20 rankings for schoolwide and subgroup achievement in ELA and math. Those schools include Ewing Marion Kauffman Middle in Kansas City, Pineville Elementary in Southwestern Missouri, Polo Middle School in Northwestern Missouri, and Shell Knob Elementary in Southwestern Missouri. This grouping of schools also demonstrates a wide variety in proficiency rates. In fact, the No. 1 schools on each list in this section have around a 50% proficiency rate, and only seven eleMiddle schools with the highest Growth Scores have proficiency rates higher than 70%.

For each of the four tables in this section, we note a few key results:

- **Table 5** lists the top 21 eleMiddle schools in ELA by schoolwide achievement. Glenwood Elementary in the Ozarks serves Grades PK-8 and has the highest growth for ELA with a 97.4 PRiME Growth Score and 52.4% proficient and advanced students.
- For **Table 6**, there are 22 top-ranked eleMiddle schools for subgroup achievement in ELA, and many of the schools show low proficiency rates for students. Glenwood Elementary in the Ozarks earned the top PRiME Growth Score at 100 with a proficient and advanced rate of 56.5%.
- **Table 7** shows the top 20 eleMiddle schools for mathematics by schoolwide achievement, with a charter school in the top spot. Ewing Marion Kauffman Middle School in Kansas City earns a 98.8 PRiME Growth Score with 50.3% of students proficient and advanced on MAP tests and a free or reduced-price lunch rate of 91.2%. The Southwestern region has the most schools on the table with seven ranked eleMiddle schools.
- As shown in **Table 8** with growth rankings for math subgroup achievement, while some eleMiddle schools, such as Mark Twain Elementary in Southwestern Missouri, have a high proficiency rate (80%), others, such as Kingston Elementary in Northwestern Missouri, have very low proficiency rates. Charter school Ewing Marion Kauffman Middle is again ranked at the top with a growth score of 99.4 and a proficiency rate of 50.1%. Proficiency rates are typically lower in middle school grade levels.



Rank	School	PRiME Growth Score	MAP Prof.	School Enr.	F/R Lunch	District	Region
1	Glenwood Elem.	97.4	52.4%	213	49.3%	Glenwood R-VIII	Ozarks
2	Hardeman Elem.	96.7	65.0%	57	36.7%	Hardeman R-X	Western Plains
3	Pineville Elem.	96.0	60.0%	196	61.8%	McDonald Co. R-I	Southwestern
4	Taneyville Elem.	95.4	48.4%	135	69.4%	Taneyville R-II	Southwestern
5	KC International-Wallace	95.0	23.2%	621	100.0%	KC International Academy	Kansas City
6	Shell Knob Elem.	94.0	52.1%	120	100.0%	Shell Knob 78	Southwestern
7	Polo Middle	93.4	51.2%	124	59.2%	Polo R-VII	Northwestern
8	Boncl Elem.	92.7	64.5%	59	54.8%	Boncl R-X	Northeastern
8	Ewing Marion Kauffman Middle	92.7	44.6%	785	91.2%	Ewing Marion Kauffman School	Kansas City
8	St. Louis Language Immersion Marine	92.7	38.3%	308	60.1%	St. Louis Language Immersion School	St. Louis
11	Fair Grove Middle	91.7	55.9%	338	44.6%	Fair Grove R-X	Southwestern
11	Premier Charter School	91.7	39.3%	928	63.1%	Premier Charter School	St. Louis
13	Miller Co. Elem.	91.4	40.0%	123	52.1%	Miller Co. R-III	Central
13	Senath-Hornersville Middle School	91.4	40.9%	241	100.0%	Senath-Hornersville C-8	Bootheel
15	Koshkonong Elem.	91.0	27.6%	150	83.5%	Oregon-Howell R-III	Ozarks
15	Livingston Co. Elem.	91.0	52.9%	55	67.9%	Livingston Co. R-III	Northwestern
17	Avilla Elem.	90.7	43.2%	136	58.1%	Avilla R-XIII	Southwestern
17	Forsyth Middle	90.7	52.4%	319	65.9%	Forsyth R-III	Southwestern
17	Lafayette Prep. Academy	90.7	54.1%	302	40.2%	Lafayette Prep. Academy	St. Louis
17	Roscoe Elementary	90.7	21.1%	65	77.0%	Roscoe C-1	Western Plains
17	Spring Bluff Elem.	90.7	70.9%	193	18.7%	Spring Bluff R-XV	Ozarks



Rank	School	PRiME Growth Score	MAP Prof.	School Enr.	% Subgroup Eligible	District	Region
1	Glenwood Elem.	100.0	56.5%	213	50.9%	Glenwood R-VIII	Ozarks
2	Hardeman Elem.	96.0	68.4%	57	50.9%	Hardeman R-X	Western Plains
3	KC International- Wallace	95.9	23.2%	621	100.0%	KC International Academy	Kansas City
4	Pineville Elem.	95.6	50.0%	196	69.5%	McDonald Co. R-I	Southwestern
5	Shell Knob Elem.	95.1	52.1%	120	99.5%	Shell Knob 78	Southwestern
6	Taneyville Elem.	94.7	34.8%	135	76.8%	Taneyville R-II	Southwestern
7	Ewing Marion Kauffman Middle	93.8	44.2%	785	98.3%	Ewing Marion Kauffman School	Kansas City
8	Avilla Elem.	92.5	31.4%	136	57.7%	Avilla R-XIII	Southwestern
8	Senath-Hornersville Middle School	92.5	40.9%	241	100.0%	Senath-Hornersville C-8	Bootheel
10	Polo Middle	92.5	37.8%	124	62.4%	Polo R-VII	Northwestern
11	Premier Charter School	91.5	32.0%	928	81.1%	Premier Charter School	St. Louis
12	Koshkonong Elem.	91.4	22.2%	150	80.8%	Oregon-Howell R-III	Ozarks
13	Forsyth Middle	91.4	43.7%	319	69.9%	Forsyth R-III	Southwestern
14	St Louis Language Immersion Marine	91.2	29.8%	308	81.7%	St. Louis Lang Immersion School	St. Louis
15	Boncl Elem.	91.2	47.6%	59	66.2%	Boncl R-X	Northeastern
16	Miller Co. Elem.	90.8	29.8%	123	53.0%	Miller Co. R-III	Central
17	South City	90.7	30.1%	779	100.0%	Confluence Academies	St. Louis
18	Roscoe Elementary	90.7	14.3%	65	74.5%	Roscoe C-1	Western Plains
19	Noel Elem.	90.5	34.6%	411	93.2%	McDonald Co. R-I	Southwestern
20	Fair Grove Middle	90.4	42.8%	338	46.3%	Fair Grove R-X	Southwestern
20	Scuola Vita Nuova Charter	90.4	38.2%	279	99.4%	Scuola Vita Nuova	Kansas City
20	Southwest City Elem.	90.4	42.1%	326	84.6%	McDonald Co. R-I	Southwestern



Table 7: Top Growth EleMiddle Schools in Mathematics, Schoolwide Achievement

Rank	School	PRiME Growth Score	MAP Prof.	School Enr.	F/R Lunch	District	Region
1	Ewing Marion Kauffman Middle	98.8	50.3%	785	91.2%	Ewing Marion Kauffman School	Kansas City
2	Raymondville Elem.	96.5	56.3%	136	75.4%	Raymondville R-VII	Ozarks
3	Thornfield Elem.	96.2	54.5%	47	70.6%	Thornfield R-I	Southwestern
4	Mark Twain Elem.	95.4	84.4%	42	71.1%	Mark Twain R-VIII	Southwestern
5	North Wood Elem.	94.1	50.9%	193	55.1%	North Wood R-IV	Ozarks
6	Cole Camp Middle	94.0	60.5%	220	57.0%	Cole Camp R-I	Western Plains
7	Shell Knob Elem.	93.8	39.7%	120	100.0%	Shell Knob 78	Southwestern
8	Pleasant View Elem.	92.7	66.0%	97	29.2%	Pleasant View R-VI	Northwestern
9	Manes Elem.	92.5	65.5%	46	86.3%	Manes R-V	Southwestern
10	Green Forest Elem.	92.1	75.6%	186	72.4%	Green Forest R-II	Ozarks
11	Polo Middle	92.1	46.3%	124	59.2%	Polo R-VII	Northwestern
12	Southwest City Elem.	92.1	51.8%	326	82.3%	McDonald Co. R-I	Southwestern
13	Gilliam Elem.	91.7	40.7%	40	63.7%	Gilliam C-4	Western Plains
14	Bevier Elem.	91.4	40.5%	114	64.1%	Bevier C-4	Northeastern
15	Davis Elem.	91.1	69.6%	43	59.1%	Davis R-XII	Western Plains
16	Spring Bluff Elem.	91.1	73.9%	193	18.7%	Spring Bluff R-XV	Ozarks
17	Lafayette Prep. Academy	91.0	41.5%	302	40.2%	Lafayette Prep. Academy	St. Louis
18	Pineville Elem.	90.9	49.7%	196	61.8%	McDonald Co. R-I	Southwestern
19	Forsyth Middle	90.8	45.7%	319	65.9%	Forsyth R-III	Southwestern
20	Howell Valley Elem.	90.8	66.9%	200	49.3%	Howell Valley R-I	Ozarks



Table 8: Top Growth EleMiddle Schools in Mathematics, Subgroup Achievement

Rank	School	PRiME Growth Score	MAP Prof.	School Enr.	% Subgroup Eligible	District	Region
1	Ewing Marion Kauffman Middle	99.4	50.1%	785	98.3%	Ewing Marion Kauffman School	Kansas City
2	Thornfield Elem.	98.2	54.5%	47	71.1%	Thornfield R-I	Southwestern
3	Raymondville Elem.	97.1	51.5%	136	86.5%	Raymondville R-VII	Ozarks
4	Mark Twain Elem.	96.1	80.0%	42	75.3%	Mark Twain R-VIII	Southwestern
5	Shell Knob Elem.	94.5	39.7%	120	100.0%	Shell Knob 78	Southwestern
6	Green Forest Elem.	93.8	70.8%	186	76.1%	Green Forest R-II	Ozarks
7	North Wood Elem.	93.0	44.8%	193	57.7%	North Wood R-Iv	Ozarks
8	Laredo Elem.	92.9	85.7%	36	46.4%	Laredo R-VII	Northwestern
9	Manes Elem.	92.8	69.2%	46	88.0%	Manes R-V	Southwestern
10	Montrose Elem.	92.8	47.4%	61	43.0%	Montrose R-XIV	Western Plains
11	Cole Camp Middle	92.7	47.1%	220	60.3%	Cole Camp R-I	Western Plains
12	Pineville Elem.	92.5	43.8%	196	69.1%	McDonald Co. R-I	Southwestern
13	Polo Middle	92.3	37.8%	124	62.4%	Polo R-VII	Northwestern
14	Kingston Elem.	92.1	11.1%	33	53.8%	Kingston 42	Northwestern
15	Southwest City Elem.	92.0	47.9%	326	84.7%	McDonald Co. R-I	Southwestern
16	Bevier Elem.	91.9	31.6%	114	73.9%	Bevier C-4	Northeastern
17	Scuola Vita Nuova Charter	91.3	39.0%	279	99.4%	Scuola Vita Nuova	Kansas City
18	Avilla Elem.	91.3	21.6%	136	57.9%	Avilla R-XIII	Kansas City
18	KC International-Wallace	91.3	15.1%	621	100.0%	KC International Academy	Southwestern
20	Taneyville Elem.	91.2	43.9%	135	76.8%	Taneyville R-II	Southwestern

# Section C. Middle School PRiME Growth Scores

In this section, we present four tables highlighting the Missouri middle schools with the highest PRiME Growth Scores. We first present the Growth Scores for ELA by schoolwide achievement (Table 9) and subgroup achievement (Table 10) before presenting the PRiME Growth Scores for mathematics (Tables 11 and 12).

There are **504 middle schools** with PRiME Growth Scores located across 399 districts and nine regions. Middle schools have schoolwide ELA Growth Scores ranging from 61.8 to 102.3. ELA Growth Scores for the subgroup range from 66.8 to 103.8. Schoolwide math Growth Scores range from 68.9 to 105.2, while math Growth Scores for the subgroup range from 69.7 to 107.0. For simplicity and clarity in the tables that follow, we cap the growth scores at 100.

We see that most of the top middle schools appear on more than one list in this section, so our rankings feature 40 different middle schools. Six schools in the middle school section appeared on all four top 20 rankings for schoolwide and subgroup achievement in ELA and math. Three of those schools are in the Southwestern region of the state, including Greenfield High, Marionville Middle, and Spokane Middle. The other three schools include Brunswick High in Northeastern Missouri, Crest Ridge High in the Western Plains, and Licking High in the Missouri Ozarks. Again, we also see a range of proficiency rates for the top-growth schools in this category. Only two middle schools ranked with the highest Growth Scores in the state have a proficiency score higher than 70.

For each of the four tables in this section, we note a few key results:

- For **Table 9**, a charter school earned the top spot on this list of ELA schoolwide achievement. Allen Village Junior in Kansas City has a PRiME Growth score of 100.0 and 51.7% of students are proficient or advanced. Greenfield High in Southwestern Missouri came very close to the top spot and has a proficiency rating of 52.6.%
- **Table 10** shows the top 20 middle schools with outstanding growth for subgroup achievement for ELA in the state. Again, we see Allen Village Junior and Greenfield High in the top two spots. Eight Southwestern schools rank top in the state on this list.
- **Table 11** focuses on mathematics schoolwide, and three schools achieved the PRiME Growth Score of 100, including Northwest High in the Western Plains region, Central High in Southwestern Missouri, and Russell Hawkins Jr. High in the Bootheel. Schools vary in enrollment size and the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch ranges from 32.3% at Russell Hawkins Jr. High to 100% at Eminence High.
- **Table 12** ranks the top 20 middle schools for student growth in the category of subgroup achievement in mathematics. Northwest High in Western Plains and Greenfield High in Southwestern Missouri earn the top PRiME Growth Score of 100.0.



 Table 9: Top Growth Middle Schools in English Language Arts, Schoolwide Achievement

Deals	Oshaal	PRiME	MAP Prof.	School	F/R	District	Derien
капк	School	Growth Score	& Adv.	Enr.	Lunch	DISTRICT	Region
1	Allen Village Junior*	100.0	51.7%	159	92.7%	Allen Village Charter	Kansas City
2	Greenfield High*	100.0	52.6%	202	64.3%	Greenfield R-IV	Southwestern
3	Mansfield Jr. High	99.4	62.9%	176	54.5%	Mansfield R-IV	Southwestern
4	Crest Ridge High	97.8	53.9%	241	39.3%	Johnson Co. R-VII	Western Plains
4	Marionville Middle	97.8	57.7%	174	64.4%	Marionville R-IX	Southwestern
6	Licking High	95.9	53.7%	420	61.1%	Licking R-VIII	Ozarks
7	Clarkton High	95.6	25.9%	172	100.0%	Clarkton C-4	Bootheel
8	St. Clair Jr. High	94.7	53.6%	439	53.5%	St. Clair R-XIII	Ozarks
8	Summersville High	94.7	59.4%	189	65.2%	Summersville R-II	Ozarks
10	Brookside Charter Middle Sch.	94.4	30.2%	200	100.0%	Brookside Charter Sch.	Kansas City
10	Brunswick High	94.4	57.4%	111	54.5%	Brunswick R-II	Northeastern
10	Spokane Middle	94.4	47.1%	170	43.2%	Spokane R-VII	Southwestern
13	Dadeville Sr. High	94.1	75.0%	74	27.5%	Dadeville R-II	Southwestern
13	El Dorado Springs Middle	94.1	43.5%	299	52.5%	El Dorado Springs R-II	Southwestern
13	Glasgow High	94.1	56.0%	181	40.2%	Glasgow	Central
16	Anderson Middle	93.7	53.9%	271	65.0%	McDonald Co. R-I	Southwestern
16	Central High	93.7	61.7%	1700	53.7%	Springfield R-XII	Southwestern
16	Weaubleau High	93.7	66.7%	175	57.9%	Weaubleau R-III	Western Plains
19	Cainsville High	93.4	55.6%	43	52.4%	Cainsville R-I	Northwestern
19	East Prairie Jr. High	93.4	43.8%	169	67.5%	East Prairie R-II	Bootheel
19	St. Elizabeth High	93.4	60.8%	100	17.8%	St. Elizabeth R-IV	Central
19	Westran Middle	93.4	35.7%	121	58.9%	Westran R-I	Northeastern



Table 10: Top Growth Middle Schools in English Language Arts, Subgroup Achievement

Rank	School	PRiME Growth Score	MAP Prof. & Adv.	School Enr.	% Subgroup Eligible	District	Region
1	Allen Village Junior*	100.0	51.4%	159	99.3%	Allen Village Charter	Kansas City
2	Greenfield High*	100.0	46.3%	202	74.2%	Greenfield R-IV	Southwestern
3	Marionville Middle	99.1	52.0%	174	65.3%	Marionville R-IX	Southwestern
4	Mansfield Jr. High	98.2	53.3%	176	63.8%	Mansfield R-IV	Southwestern
5	Clarkton High	97.2	25.9%	172	100.0%	Clarkton C-4	Bootheel
6	Licking High	96.6	45.0%	420	68.0%	Licking R-VIII	Ozarks
7	St. Clair Jr. High	96.4	48.1%	439	57.0%	St. Clair R-XIII	Ozarks
8	Brookside Charter Middle Sch.	96.0	30.2%	200	100.0%	Brookside Charter	Kansas City
9	Crest Ridge High	95.9	45.5%	241	44.4%	Johnson Co. R-VII	Western Plains
10	Spokane Middle	95.9	33.3%	170	51.5%	Spokane R-VII	Southwestern
11	Walnut Grove High	95.6	48.1%	125	40.8%	Walnut Grove R-V	Southwestern
12	El Dorado Springs Middle	95.4	30.9%	299	85.4%	El Dorado Springs R-II	Southwestern
13	Summersville High	94.9	45.2%	189	64.3%	Summersville R-II	Ozarks
14	Weaubleau High	94.9	61.0%	175	61.6%	Weaubleau R-III	Western Plains
15	Sullivan Middle	94.5	47.4%	479	61.3%	Sullivan	Ozarks
16	Spring Garden Middle	94.2	35.7%	525	100.0%	St. Joseph	Northwestern
17	Cainsville High	94.0	53.3%	43	72.7%	Cainsville R-I	Northwestern
18	Brunswick High	94.0	64.0%	111	55.2%	Brunswick R-II	Northeastern
19	Lamar Middle	93.5	31.0%	296	58.9%	Lamar R-I	Southwestern
20	Anderson Middle	93.3	45.2%	271	64.6%	McDonald Co. R-I	Southwestern



Table 11: Top Growth Middle Schools in Mathematics, Schoolwide Achievement

Rank	School	PRiME Growth Score	MAP Prof. & Adv.	School Enr.	F/R Lunch	District	Region
1	Northwest High*	100.0	55.2%	149	45.7%	Pettis Co. R-V	Western Plains
2	Central High*	100.0	40.6%	1700	53.7%	Springfield R-XII	Southwestern
3	Russell Hawkins Jr. High*	100.0	56.5%	809	32.3%	Jackson R-II	Bootheel
4	Greenfield High	99.8	42.7%	202	64.3%	Greenfield R-IV	Southwestern
5	Gilman City High	99.6	42.9%	56	65.5%	Gilman City R-IV	Northwestern
6	Adair Co. High	97.9	52.5%	80	37.7%	Adair Co. R-II	Northeastern
7	South Nodaway High	97.4	68.6%	89	41.9%	South Nodaway Co. R-IV	Northwestern
8	Eminence High	96.9	36.6%	139	100.0%	Eminence R-I	Ozarks
9	Richmond Middle	96.7	52.3%	347	45.0%	Richmond R-XVI	Northeastern
9	Westran Middle	96.7	36.5%	121	58.9%	Westran R-I	Western Plains
11	Leeton Middle	96.7	75.0%	66	49.3%	Leeton R-X	Western Plains
12	Marionville Middle	96.1	52.3%	174	64.4%	Marionville R-IX	Southwestern
13	Brunswick High	95.7	47.9%	111	54.5%	Brunswick R-II	Northeastern
14	Licking High	95.5	44.2%	420	61.1%	Licking R-VIII	Ozarks
15	Northeast Nodaway High	95.4	51.7%	106	44.2%	Northeast Nodaway Co. R-V	Northwestern
16	Spokane Middle	95.3	42.0%	170	43.2%	Spokane R-VII	Southwestern
17	Crest Ridge High	94.7	37.8%	241	39.3%	Johnson Co. R-VII	Western Plains
18	Union Star High	94.7	40.9%	76	40.8%	Union Star R-II	Northwestern
19	Osage Middle	94.3	54.8%	464	42.8%	School of the Osage	Central
20	Richland High	94.3	39.8%	247	51.1%	Richland R-IV	Ozarks



Table 12: Top Growth Middle Schools in Mathematics, Subgroup Achievement

Rank	School	PRiME Growth Score	MAP Prof. & Adv.	School Enr.	% Subgroup Eligible	District	Region
1	Northwest High*	100.0	37.1%	149	55.5%	Pettis Co. R-V	Western Plains
2	Greenfield High*	100.0	38.8%	202	74.3%	Greenfield R-IV	Southwestern
3	Central High	99.9	18.4%	1700	23.6%	Springfield R-XII	Southwestern
4	Gilman City High	99.4	41.4%	56	78.8%	Gilman City R-IV	Northwestern
5	Russell Hawkins Jr. High	99.3	41.1%	809	37.7%	Jackson R-II	Bootheel
6	Eminence High	98.8	36.6%	139	100.0%	Eminence R-I	Ozarks
7	South Nodaway High	98.4	57.9%	89	60.0%	South Nodaway Co. R-IV	Northwestern
8	Marionville Middle	96.6	42.9%	174	65.3%	Marionville R-IX	Southwestern
9	Westran Middle	96.3	25.7%	121	63.2%	Westran R-I	Northeastern
10	<b>Richmond Middle</b>	96.3	42.4%	347	48.8%	Richmond R-XVI	Western Plains
11	Crest Ridge High	96.3	41.9%	241	44.4%	Johnson Co. R-VII	Western Plains
12	Frontier Sch. of Innovation	96.0	30.7%	308	100.0%	Frontier Schools	Kansas City
13	Licking High	95.8	40.5%	420	68.0%	Licking R-VIII	Ozarks
14	Brunswick High	95.6	43.5%	111	55.2%	Brunswick R-II	Northeastern
15	Adair Co. High	95.5	25.0%	80	53.4%	Adair Co. R-II	Northeastern
16	Frontier Sch. of Excellence	95.3	30.1%	99	100.0%	Frontier Schools	Kansas City
17	Richland High	95.0	29.6%	247	55.9%	Richland R-IV	Ozarks
18	Spokane Middle	94.9	25.0%	170	51.3%	Spokane R-VII	Southwestern
19	Allen Village Junior	94.6	33.8%	159	99.3%	Allen Village	Kansas City
20	Union Star High	94.3	45.0%	76	51.0%	Union Star R-II	Northwestern

\*For simplicity and clarity, PRiME caps growth scores at 100. In reality, some schools may have growth scores above 100. You can explore more in the downloadable data file available at <a href="http://www.sluprime.org/education-reports">www.sluprime.org/education-reports</a>.

## **Preview of What's Next**

Over the coming weeks, PRiME will produce two subsequent reports based on the PRiME Growth Scores. In our next publication on student growth, we will highlight high-growth schools within each of the nine DESE supervisory regions. The report will follow a similar structure to this statewide report, showing growth in both English language arts and math for both schoolwide and subgroup achievement.

Our third publication will include an analysis of schools that are "beating the odds," where we examine schools with high concentrations of students in the subgroup category and highlight those schools that are exhibiting high growth. This allows us to recognize those schools that are best serving traditionally underserved students and shrinking achievement and opportunity gaps.

You can also view some of our existing work on the Missouri growth model, in particular our <u>"Unpacking the Missouri</u> <u>Growth Model</u>" policy brief and our coming <u>blog posts on the</u> <u>PRIME Growth Scores</u>.

## Conclusion

In this report, we show the highest-growing schools for ELA and mathematics at the overall, schoolwide level, as well as growth for historically underserved student populations.

Notably, the schools earning high PRiME Growth Scores run the gamut, from urban to rural, from large schools to small, from schools with students starting off at high levels of proficiency or at low levels, and schools from all corners of the state. Additionally, we show that schools typically seen as "low-performing" based on proficiency rates are often showing some of the highest academic growth. These are the schools that are doing the most to help shrink the opportunity and achievement gap for their students, as continued high levels of year-over-year growth will undoubtedly lead to more students achieving proficiency over time.

Examining and understanding student growth is critically important for education leaders and policymakers. This effort allows us to paint a more complete picture of school effectiveness and student learning. Knowing where students start in the beginning of an academic year and what they gain throughout is as important now, during the COVID-19 pandemic, as ever before. The MAP assessment results from the spring of 2021, while not currently used for any sort of school accountability, are an important baseline to recognize what skills have been most adversely impacted and what unfinished learning exists because of the past two school years occurring during the COVID-19 pandemic. Going forward, by focusing on student growth rather than on point-in-time proficiency levels, we can better understand and recognize which schools are helping their students regain their footing and, hopefully, share these lessons to support more students across the state.

## **Recommendations**

PRIME's intention with this report is to encourage civic leaders, educators, and the public to focus on student growth when they consider the results of standardized assessments for Missouri students. We encourage school administrators to examine the PRIME Growth Scores closely for all schools in their districts. As we have seen in the data, there are many Missouri schools statewide that are successfully growing student learning regardless of their proficiency rates, and it is important for us to know what is happening in these high-growth schools.

While this report uses only publicly available data, superintendents, principals, and classroom teachers have the opportunity to look closely at their student-level data to learn more about classrooms generating excellent student growth and to understand where more support is needed. Lessons from high-growth classrooms may well be used to support students throughout schools and districts. Looking closely at student-level data might allow school leaders to identify what curriculum or pedagogy is working well in meeting students' needs.

Superintendents and principals should also pay close attention to subgroup Growth Scores. Ensuring that classrooms serving traditionally underserved students are making good academic progress is critical to delivering an equitable education for all students.

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## **Our Role at PRiME**

Our role at PRiME is to communicate data and evidence to education stakeholders. DESE generates meaningful growth scores for schools in multiple subjects each year. It is our hope that this report helps to communicate these growth data to school leaders and educators; these are the experts who can make the best use of this information within Missouri's schools.

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