

Comparison of MAP Growth and NSCAS Growth through-year assessment

MAP Growth and NSCAS Growth are different assessments with distinct purposes. This document outlines the differences and similarities of these assessments.

	MAP Growth	NSCAS Growth Winter 21-22 Pilot (ELA & Math, Winter 21-22)	NSCAS Growth (ELA & Math, Spring 2022) NSCAS Science General Summative (Spring 2022)
Purpose	<p>MAP Growth is an interim assessment used to measure a student’s performance level, independent of grade level, at different times of the school year, measuring each student’s academic growth both within the year and across multiple years. It reveals what each student knows and is ready to learn next and teachers can adjust their instruction to meet the learning needs of each student. The level of support informs goal-setting with normative information demonstrating how students are performing and growing relative to their peers nationally.</p>	<p>The NSCAS Growth Winter 21-22 Pilot is an important step forward in the transition to NSCAS Growth, a through-year adaptive assessment. NSCAS Growth is designed to replace MAP Growth and the NSCAS General Summative test for grades 3-8 in ELA and Mathematics (see column at right for more information).</p> <p>The winter pilot is required for students in one content area (ELA or Mathematics) and it provides an opportunity for districts to have an operational-like experience of through-year and to provide feedback on their experience.</p>	<p>NSCAS Growth unifies interim and summative measures in a single through-year approach designed to support instruction and improve equitable learning opportunity with results that are actionable at both the classroom and systems level.</p> <p>This adaptive interim assessment measures student performance relative to Nebraska’s grade-level expectations while also adapting off grade-level as needed to reveal student learning needs. It provides both RIT and grade-level performance information in the fall, winter, and spring; preserves access to normative information; and generates annual summative scores for accountability.</p> <p>It will be administered in spring 2022 in lieu of the NSCAS General Summative for ELA</p>



			<p>and mathematics. In the 2022-23 school year, NSCAS Growth will replace both MAP Growth and the NSCAS General Summative for ELA and Mathematics.</p> <p>The NSCAS General Summative for Science is administered once a year in the spring to satisfy state and federal requirements in determining school performance.</p> <p>Both NSCAS Growth for ELA and Mathematics and the NSCAS General Summative for science enable Nebraska to provide teachers, students, and families with an assessment of student progress in college and career-ready skills based on Nebraska’s Academic Standards.</p>
Description	<p>MAP Growth is a computer adaptive interim assessment created by NWEA that can be administered to students up to four times per year (fall/winter/spring/summer).</p>	<p>The NSCAS Growth Winter 21-22 Pilot is a computer adaptive assessment created by the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) in partnership with NWEA. Students in grades 3-8 in ELA and Mathematics will take one or both content areas assessment in the Winter 21-22.</p>	<p>NSCAS Growth is a computer adaptive assessment created by the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) in partnership with NWEA. Students in grades 3-8 in ELA and Mathematics.</p> <p>The students in grades 5 and 8 in Science take the NSCAS General Summative assessment in the spring 2022.</p>
Adaptability	<p>MAP Growth adapts <i>across grade levels</i>, adjusting to each student’s performance—whether on, above, or below grade level. It adapts across grades K-12 based on an item selection algorithm that considers difficulty level (based on the RIT scale) and content</p>	<p>The NSCAS Growth Winter 21-22 Pilot will measure student performance relative to Nebraska’s grade level standards and produce an NSCAS scale score, achievement level, and a linked RIT score. Items are aligned to the Range Achievement Level Descriptors for each standard, so the</p>	<p>NSCAS Growth will measure student performance relative to Nebraska’s grade level standards and produce an NSCAS scale score, achievement level, and a linked RIT score. Items are aligned to the Range Achievement Level Descriptors for each standard, so the assessment supports</p>



	area. MAP Growth projects student performance on the NSCAS summative test.	assessment supports deeper on-grade adaptivity to meet students where they are, whether in the earliest or most advanced stages of on-grade performance. It also adapts <i>outside of grade level</i> as needed for students who are performing below or above grade.	deeper on-grade adaptivity to meet students where they are, whether in the earliest or most advanced stages of on-grade performance. It also adapts <i>outside grade level</i> as needed for students who are performing below or above grade. The Science General Summative measures student performance in relation to Nebraska's grade level standards. Students are only presented with items aligned to their grade level.
Participation	Optional	One pre-assigned content area is required. Districts may choose to opt into the other content area.	Required
Content Areas	Reading - Grades K-2, 3-8, 9-10 Language Usage - Grades 2, 3-8, 9-10 Mathematics - Grades K-2, 3-8, 9-10 Science - Grades 2, 3-8, 9-10 MAP Growth is available at other grade levels. The grade levels and content areas listed above are part of the NDE state contract.	English Language Arts (ELA) - Grades 3-8 Mathematics - Grades 3-8 * Off-grade content outside of these grade levels may be seen for ELA and math as part of adaptivity	English Language Arts (ELA) - Grades 3-8* Mathematics - Grades 3-8 * Science - Grades 5 and 8 * Off-grade content outside of these grade levels may be seen for ELA and math as part of adaptivity
Item Types	MAP Growth items	Item types used will be the same item types used in previous NSCAS assessments and MAP Growth.	Item types used will be the same item types used in previous NSCAS assessments and MAP Growth.
Accessibility	In the MAP Growth user interface, the following terms are used to organize accessibility features: Universal Tools, Designated Supports, and Accommodations.	In NSCAS Growth Winter 21-22 Pilot, the following terms are used to organize accessibility features: Universal Tools, Linguistic Supports, and Accommodations.	In NSCAS Growth, the following terms are used to organize accessibility features: Universal Tools, Linguistic Supports, and Accommodations.



		The enhanced platform supports all of the embedded accessibility features supported in past NSCAS assessments and MAP Growth.	The enhanced platform supports all of the embedded accessibility features supported in past NSCAS assessments and MAP Growth.
Universal Tools	Students taking MAP Growth have these embedded universal features in their toolbar: zoom, highlighter, line reader, notepad, and eliminate answer choice.	Students taking NSCAS Growth Winter 21-22 Pilot have these embedded universal features in their toolbar: zoom, highlighter, guideline, notepad, and answer eliminator/striker. Calculator and reference sheets are also available for math, as applicable to the grade and content. The enhanced platform supports all of the embedded accessibility features supported in past NSCAS assessments and MAP Growth.	Students taking NSCAS Growth have these embedded universal features in their toolbar: zoom, pencil/highlighter, guideline, notepad, and answer eliminator/striker. Calculator and reference sheets are also available for math, as applicable to the grade and content. The enhanced platform supports all of the embedded accessibility features supported in past NSCAS assessments and MAP Growth.
Accommodations - Features that are available in accordance with a student's 504 or IEP plan	Text-to-Speech (TTS) – Text-to-Speech can be enabled on all tests. Proctors are able to select which parts of a question are read aloud. Here are the options for TTS that MAP Growth proctors can assign: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question directions • Assets such as reading passages • Questions/prompts • Answer choices Braille - MAP Growth uses refreshable Braille. Paper forms of MAP Growth are not available.	Text-to-Speech (TTS) - District or School Assessment Contacts are able to assign TTS to students. All text is read aloud except for reading passages measuring reading comprehension on ELA. Spanish read aloud is not permitted for the pilot, Spanish audio files can be made available for Spanish paper/pencil assessments. If a student has a 504, IEP, or English Learner value of 1 = Yes EL or 4 = Monitor in Expanded Student Data under Manage Students, the student qualifies for TTS assignment on English Language Arts and Math tests.	Text-to-Speech (TTS) - District or School Assessment Contacts are able to assign TTS to students. All text is read aloud except for reading passages measuring reading comprehension on ELA. Spanish read aloud is not permitted for NSCAS Growth or Science, Spanish audio files can be made available for Spanish paper/pencil assessments. If a student has a 504, IEP, or English Learner value of 1 = Yes EL or 4 = Monitor in Expanded Student Data under Manage Students, the student qualifies for TTS assignment on English Language Arts and



	<p>Large Print - MAP Growth uses the Zoom tool to provide enlarged font. Paper forms of MAP Growth are not available.</p> <p>Spanish - MAP Growth is available in Spanish math and reading; these assessments are aligned to the Common Core.</p>	<p>Braille – Available in a paper Braille form</p> <p>Large Print – Available in a large print paper form.</p> <p>Spanish – Available in Spanish as an online test and a paper form.</p>	<p>Mathematics tests. For Science tests, any student can be assigned TTS.</p> <p>Braille – Available in a paper Braille form</p> <p>Large Print – Available in a large print paper form.</p> <p>Spanish – Available in Spanish as an online test and a paper form.</p>
Security requirements	<p>URL-based or Secure Browser</p> <p>Adherence to district test security policies.</p>	<p>Secure Browser required. New secure testing browsers will be needed in order to test on the NSCAS Growth platform and will be different from the secure browsers used in previous NSCAS General Summative and MAP Growth administrations.</p> <p>Adherence to NDE test security policies.</p>	<p>Secure Browser required. New secure testing browsers will be needed in order to test on the NSCAS Growth platform and will be different from the secure browsers used in previous NSCAS General Summative and MAP Growth administrations.</p> <p>Adherence to NDE test security policies.</p>
Results	<p>MAP Growth test results are delivered in the form of a 3-digit scale score, called the “RIT” score. The RIT (Rasch Unit) scales is a stable, vertical difficulty scale that supports comparison of scores over time to tell how much academic growth a student has made. You can compare scores over time to tell how much academic growth a student has made. NWEA reports also contain normative data from our norms study. You can find the percentile ranking for a particular RIT score on most reports, allowing you to compare a student's RIT score with other students in the same grade and subject.</p>	<p>The NSCAS Growth Winter 21-22 Pilot assessment results for ELA and Mathematics will be delivered with an NSCAS Growth scale score, achievement level, and a linked RIT score. In ELA and Mathematics, the RIT scale score is a 3-digit number, and the NSCAS Growth scale score is a 4-digit number. Each content area is scaled separately; therefore, the scores for one content area cannot be compared to another content area.</p> <p>Individual student results on these tests are placed into one of the following three achievement levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing 	<p>The NSCAS Growth assessment results are delivered with an NSCAS scale score and achievement level. In ELA and Mathematics, results will also include a linked RIT score. The RIT scale score is a 3-digit number, and the NSCAS scale score is a 4-digit number. Each content area is scaled separately; therefore, the scores for one content area cannot be compared to another content area.</p> <p>Individual student results on these tests are placed into one of the following three achievement levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing • On Track



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Track • College and Career Ready (CCR) Benchmark 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College and Career Ready (CCR) Benchmark
Alignment	<p>Reading – 2014 Nebraska’s College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts</p> <p>Language – 2014 Nebraska’s College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts</p> <p>Mathematics – 2015 Nebraska’s College and Career Ready Standards for Mathematics</p> <p>Science – 2017 Nebraska’s College and Career Ready Standards for Science</p>	<p>ELA – 2014 Nebraska’s College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts and the NSCAS Range Achievement Level Descriptors</p> <p>Mathematics – 2015 Nebraska’s College and Career Ready Standards for Mathematics and the NSCAS Range Achievement Level Descriptors</p>	<p>ELA – 2014 Nebraska’s College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts and the NSCAS Range Achievement Level Descriptors</p> <p>Mathematics – 2015 Nebraska’s College and Career Ready Standards for Mathematics and the NSCAS Range Achievement Level Descriptors</p> <p>Science – 2017 Nebraska’s College and Career Ready Standards for Science</p>
Practice Test/Item Type Sampler	<p>User Name: Grow</p> <p>Password: Grow</p>	Users will be able to access the Item Type Sampler through the platform	Users will be able to access the Item Type Sampler through the platform