Mc Graw Hill Achieve3000 Literacy™

2023–24

NATIONAL LEXILE® STUDY

How *Achieve3000 Literacy*™ Accelerates Reading Growth

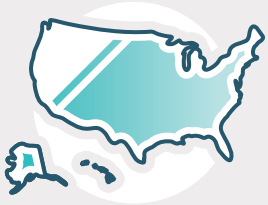
May 2025

Executive Summary

At the conclusion of the 2023–24 school year, the usage and performance data for students who used *Achieve3000 Literacy* during the preceding school year was aggregated and analyzed through multiple methods. This document is a summary of the results of that analysis (McGraw Hill, 2025).

Our Largest Reading Study Yet —at a Glance

50
States



(Plus Washington, D.C. and five U.S. territories)

1,243
Districts

5,944
Schools

1.4M
Students

67,419,217
Total Log-Ins

41,735,006
Activities

70L
Average Expected Lexile Growth

220L
Average Lexile Growth for Students with Highest Fidelity Usage

Accelerated literacy growth remains more important today than ever

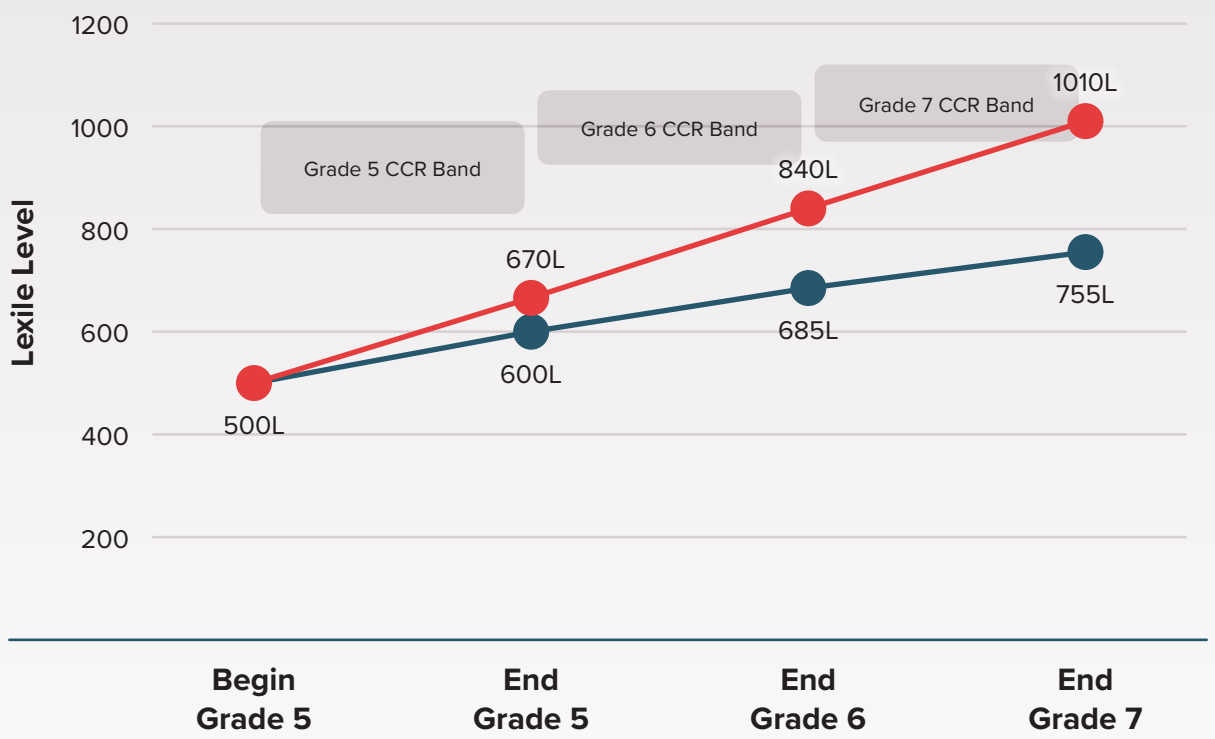
We all know that one of the impacts of the pandemic was learning loss. A 2023 paper published in Nature Human Behaviour suggests that students "lost out on about 35% of a normal school year's worth of learning," and that "the pandemic has exacerbated educational inequalities between children from different socioeconomic backgrounds, which were already large before the pandemic" (Betthäuser et al., 2023). That impact is still being felt today, which is why accelerated learning is so important.

How do we measure accelerated literacy growth? Expected growth is based on MetaMetrics's proprietary formula, which considers the student's initial Lexile® measure and the length of time from the student's beginning-of-year measure to the end-of-year measure (MetaMetrics, 2004). Actual growth is calculated by subtracting the student's beginning-of-year Lexile measure from her current or end-of-year Lexile measure. Accelerated growth is any growth above a student's expected growth. *Achieve3000 Literacy*™ is especially committed to making accelerated literacy growth possible for more students, especially below grade-level readers. When we consider shifts in Lexile growth, it is important to remember that students who are performing below grade-level often need to double or triple their expected growth over the course of two to three years to achieve college and career readiness by high school graduation. (See chart on page 3.)

This chart shows the expected growth and acceleration trajectories for a fifth grader who is reading two years below grade level. He would need to attain an accelerated rate of growth—1.7 times the expected rate of growth—to achieve college and career readiness by the end of seventh grade. The gap between expected and accelerated growth grows wider each year the student does not get on track for college and career readiness (CCR).

This student needs to attain 1.7 times their expected growth to get on track for college and career readiness.

Growth Trajectories for a Grade 5 Student Reading Two Years Below Grade Level

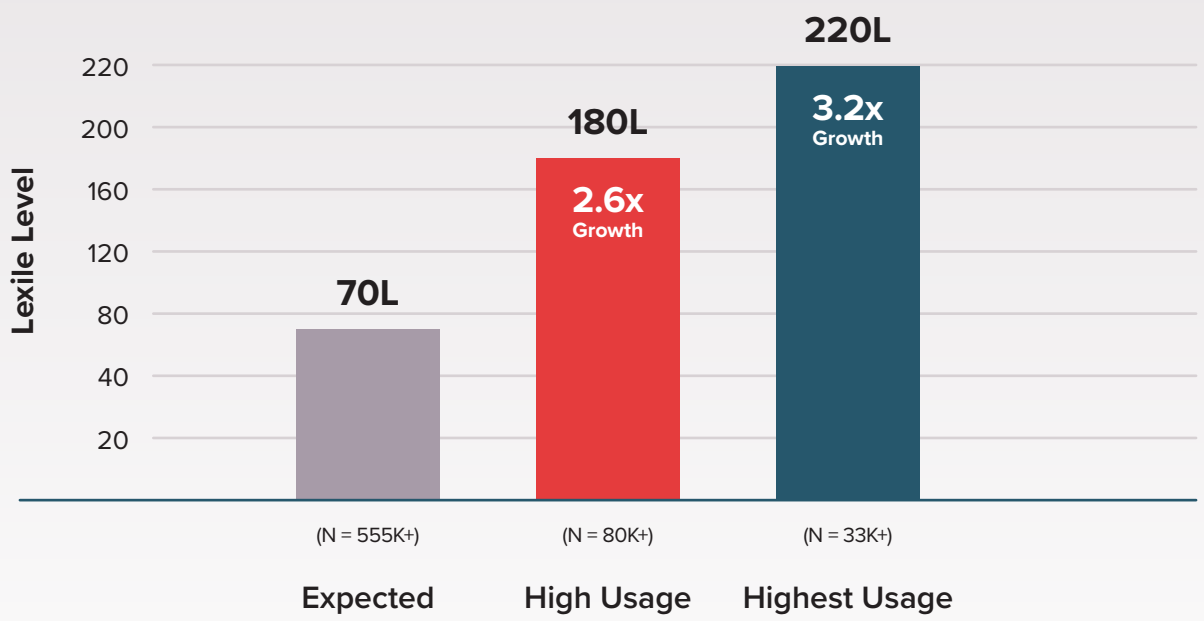


Accelerated Growth (+170L Per Year)

Expected Growth (70L–100L Per Year)

CCR Target Meets Range

Expected Versus Actual Growth



Expected Growth

High Usage
(40–79 activities + ≥ 75% AFTS)

Highest Usage
(80+ activities + ≥ 75% AFTS)

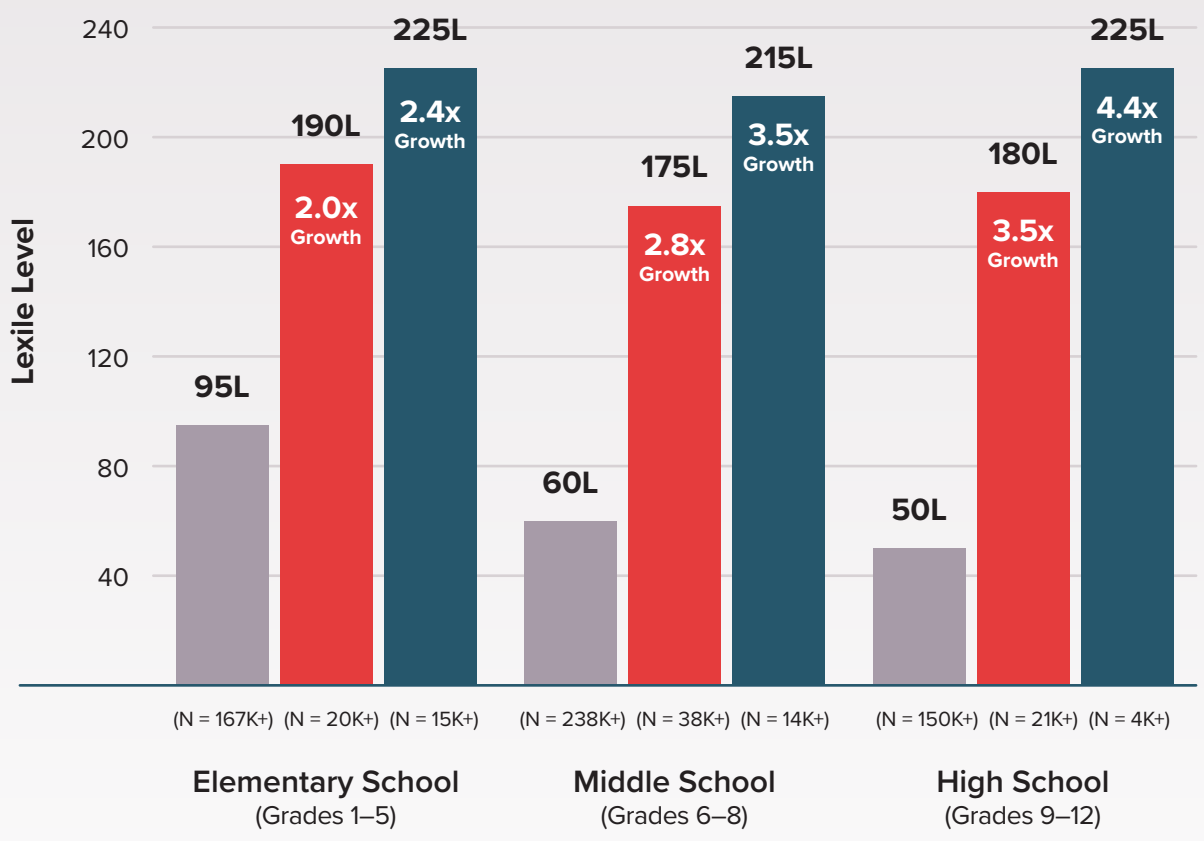
Achieve3000 Literacy's™ patented methodology for delivering just-right content at the just-right time ensures that students who maintain an average first-try score (AFTS) of 75% or more on the assessments embedded within each lesson will receive more challenging texts to help them grow. Because the text is matched to every student's reading level, it is fair and reasonable to expect that they can attain a 75% average over the course of the school year. For this reason, our two usage categories only look at students who achieved an AFTS of ≥75%.

On average, students attained more than 3.2 times their expected Lexile growth when completing two or more activities per week with an average first-try score of ≥75%.

Students also experienced accelerated growth across all grade levels.

On average, students across all grade levels experienced accelerated growth when completing one or more activities per week with an AFTS of ≥75%.

Expected Versus Actual Lexile Growth by School Level



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The journey to college and career readiness begins here

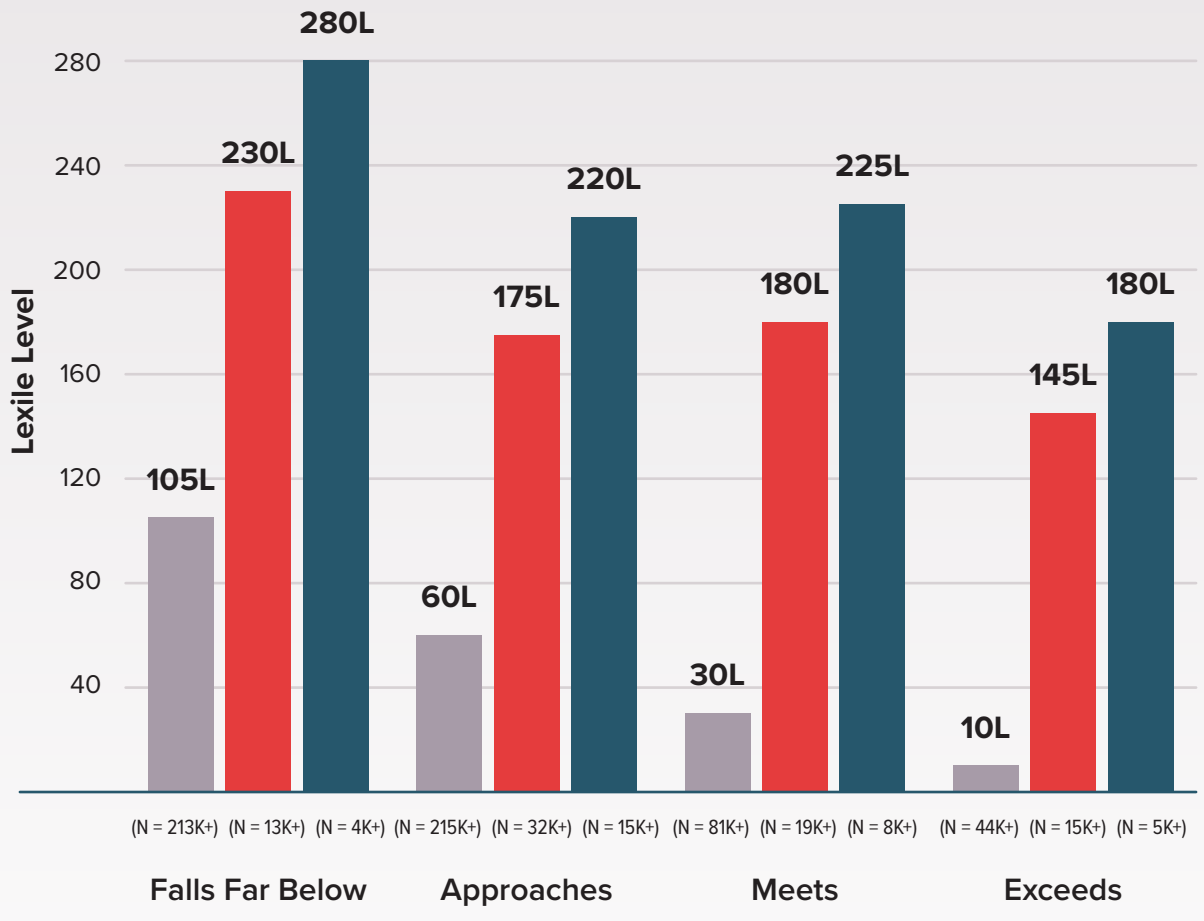
It's useful to think of CCR as a journey. Since expectations have shifted toward a more rigorous outcome, it is critical to understand that for below grade-level readers, it will take two or three years to reach CCR reading levels. Because we know a student's expected growth, and we know the approximate Lexile measure students need to attain to be competitive in the workforce and successful in college, we can make a prediction about whether or not a student is or isn't "on track" to reach 1300L by the end of their high school year, depending on their grade level and current Lexile measure. Students who are in the two "not on track" categories shown in the table below are not meeting the CCR targets for their grade, while students in the two "on track" categories are meeting grade-level targets and can be expected to read at or above 1300L by the time they graduate, as long as they continue to achieve expected or greater growth every year.

College and Career Readiness Proficiency Ranges

	Not on Track		On Track	
Grades	Falls Far Below	Approaches	Meets	Exceeds
1	BR115 and Below	BR110 to 185L	190L—530L	535L and Above
2	150L and Below	155L—415L	420L—650L	655L and Above
3	265L and Below	270L—515L	520L—820L	825L and Above
4	385L and Below	390L—735L	740L—940L	945L and Above
5	500L and Below	505L—825L	830L—1010L	1015L and Above
6	555L and Below	560L—920L	925L—1070L	1075L and Above
7	625L and Below	630L—965L	970L—1120L	1125L and Above
8	660L and Below	665L—1005L	1010L—1185L	1190L and Above
9	775L and Below	780L—1045L	1050L—1260L	1265L and Above
10	830L and Below	835L—1075L	1080L—1335L	1340L and Above
11/12	950L and Below	955L—1180L	1185L—1385L	1390L and Above

The study found that, on average, students exceeded their expected Lexile growth. This difference persisted across all CCR levels, including those students who were not on track at the start of the school year.

Expected Versus Actual Lexile Growth by College and Career Readiness (CCR)



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REFERENCES

McGraw Hill (2025). 2023–24 National Lexile Study. https://www.mheducation.com/prek-12/program/microsites/achieve-3000-literacy.html

MetaMetrics, Inc. (2004). Unpublished growth data.

Betthäuser, B.A., Bach-Mortensen, A.M. & Engzell, P. (2023). A systematic review and meta-analysis of the evidence on learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. Nature Human Behaviour. 7, 375–385.

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