



2021-2024 Literacy First Program Analysis



Literacy First

Using Austin ISD assessments, can we measure the effectiveness of Literacy First interventions by comparing performance to similar students who did not receive interventions?

Literacy First is an external organization that provides literacy and fluency interventions for Kindergarten through Second grade students in Austin ISD.

Literacy First provided a list of students that were identified for literacy interventions. Of those students, many did not receive services based on unknow factors. As those students qualified for services but did not receive them they are listed as a control group to compare performance to the group of students that did receive services. For each cohort year there are a total of 644 students evaluated with an even split between the Literacy First students and the control student group.

The following sections analyze the performance of Literacy First students against their control peer group. Each section is independent and any controls added will only affect the chart(s) in that section.

Data Sources:

2023 STAAR 3-8 Performance Report
2024 STAAR 3-8 Performance- SchoolCity
NWEA MAP Growth ComboAssessment- 2021-2022 MOY/EOY, 2022-2023 MOY/EOY
Literacy First Data Pull (04/08/2024)

1. 2023 STAAR RLA Performance Comparison

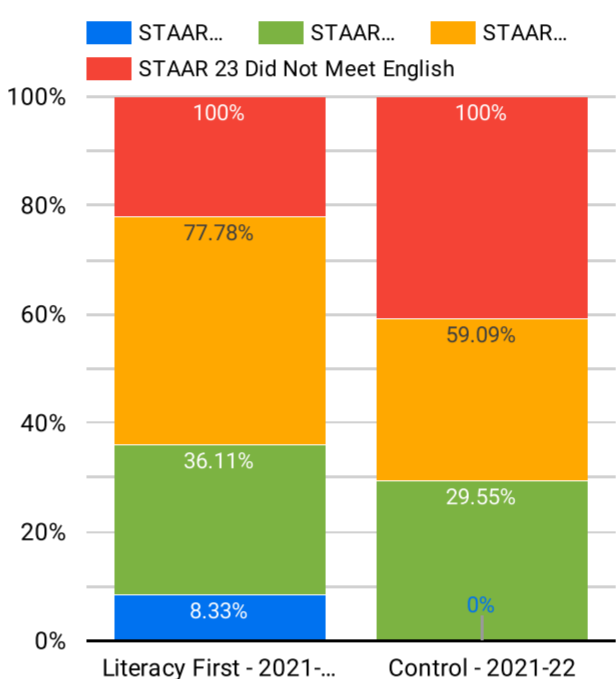
2023 3rd Grade STAAR Reading performance levels are displayed for the Literacy First and Control group students. These students were identified and received interventions in the 2021-2022 school year. English and Spanish language tests are disaggregated and connected to Literacy First language of services.

The State of Texas identifies students at the Meets Grade Level. The group that received Literacy First interventions performed at 36% at Meets and above in English and 23% in Spanish, while the group not receiving interventions performed at 30% in English and 6% in Spanish. Data labels are provided to show the combined performance level as a stacked metric (e.g. Meets and above).

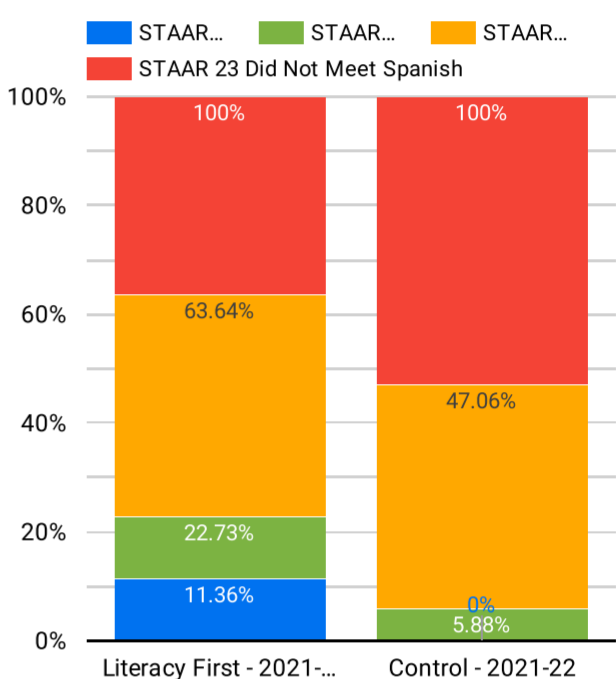
The State of Texas average for 3rd grade students at the Meets Grade Level and above for 2023 was 48%† and the Austin ISD average was 50%‡.

† <https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/news-and-multimedia/news-releases/news-2023/tea-releases-results-for-2023-staar-3-8-assessments>
‡ <https://lookerstudio.google.com/s/1YeQBUEP4NM>

2023 STAAR RLA (English Language)



2023 STAAR RLA (Spanish Language)



2. MAP Percentile Comparison

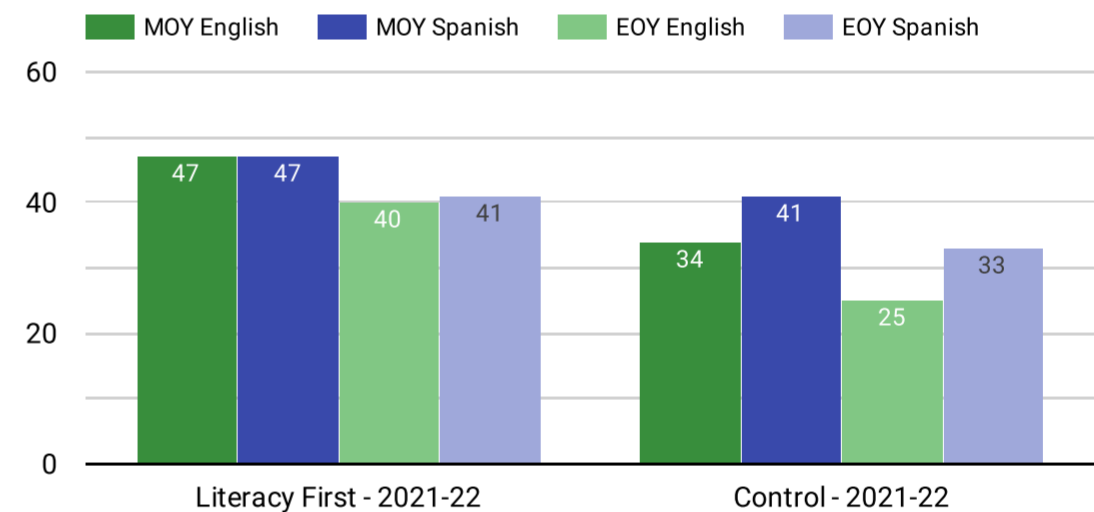
A percentile rank indicates how well a student performed in comparison to the students in the specific norm group on NWEA MAP Growth. A norm group indicates students in the same grade and subject. A student's percentile rank indicates that the student scored as well as, or better than, the percent of students in the norm group. For example, a student scoring at the 35th percentile scored as well as, or better than, 35 percent of students in the norm group. It also means that 65 percent of the students in the norm group exceeded this score.†

Percentile rank allows a comparison between students receiving Literacy First interventions and the control group. Students are identified by literacy first as receiving interventions in Spanish or English and linked to that language MAP results. Values and the Y axis are not displayed in percentage values (%) based on data reporting limitations, though values do represent a percentile ranking of 0 to 100. Percentile ranking is provided by NWEA as a metric of all students that use the MAP Growth assessment in the United States in the same grade and subject.

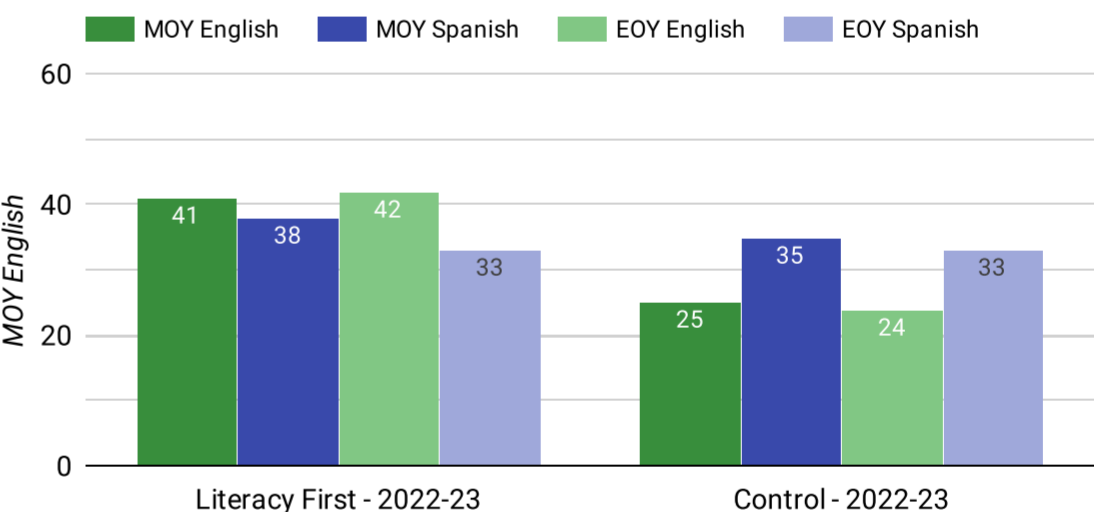
NWEA assessments are given three times during an academic year- beginning of year (BOY), middle of year (MOY), and end of year (EOY). MOY and EOY windows are displayed for both English and Spanish language.

† https://connection.nwea.org/s/article/Explanation-of-Percentile-Rank-1405100524418?language=en_US

2021-2022 MAP Test Percentile Rank (Median)



2022-2023 MAP Test Percentile Rank (Median)



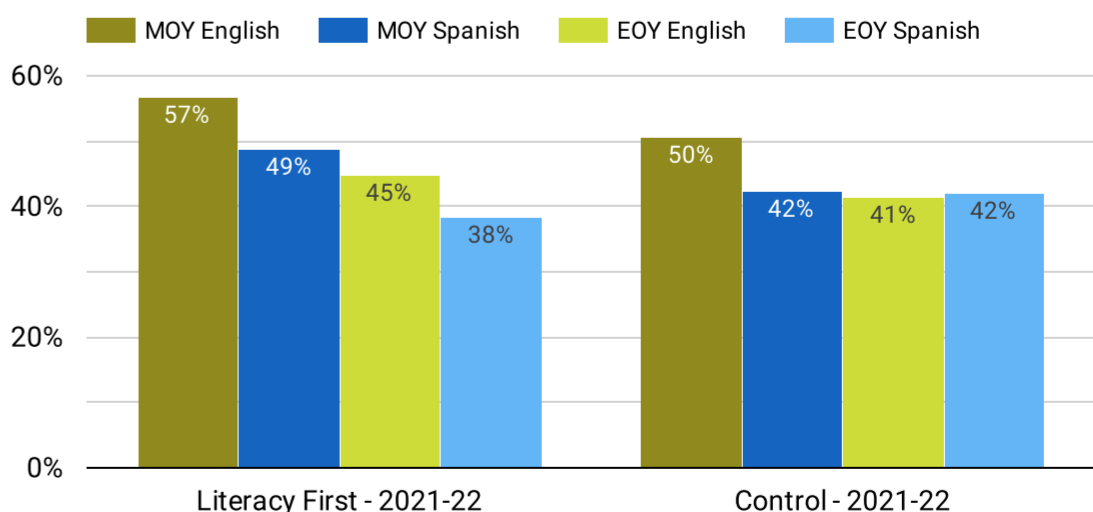
3. MAP "Met Projected Growth" Rate Comparison

NWEA provides a Met Projected Growth value of Yes or No for students with consecutive testing windows of MAP Growth. The values are binary and can be used to calculate a "growth rate" of a group of students. Met Projected Growth rate is used to compare students receiving Literacy First interventions to their control group peers.

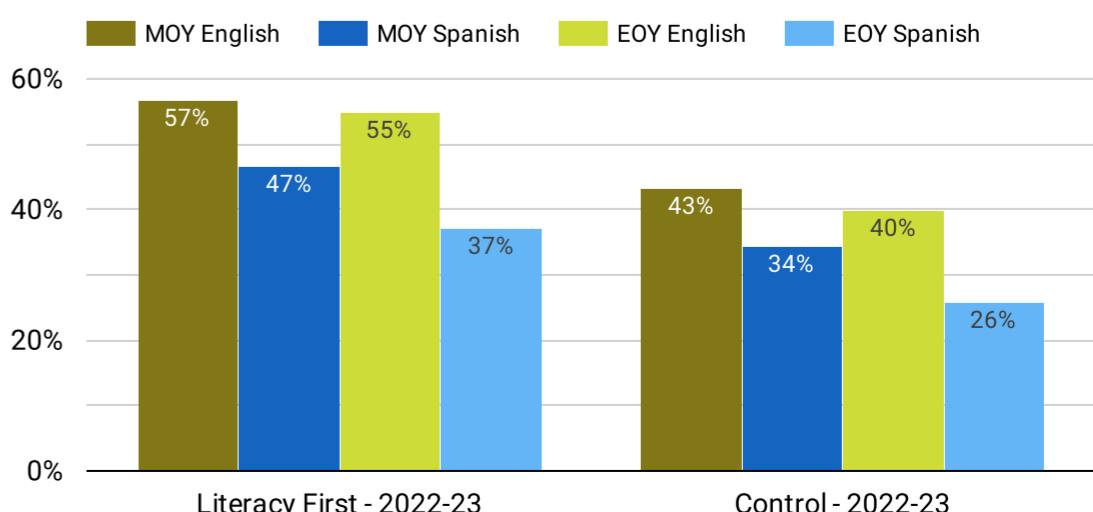
A student's growth projection depends on their grade, subject, and starting RIT, and indicates the average growth for all students in the same grade, subject, and starting RIT. For example, if a student's growth projection from fall to spring is 5 RIT points, this means that of all students in the same grade and subject, and starting at the same initial RIT, the average growth was 5 RIT points. Remember that about 50% of students will be above average, and about 50% will be below average, so you can expect about half of a typical group of students to meet or exceed their growth projection.†

† https://connection.nwea.org/s/article/How-do-I-interpret-a-student-s-growth-projection-What-does-it-mean?language=en_US

2021-2022 MAP Met Projected Growth Rate



2022-2023 MAP Met Projected Growth Rate





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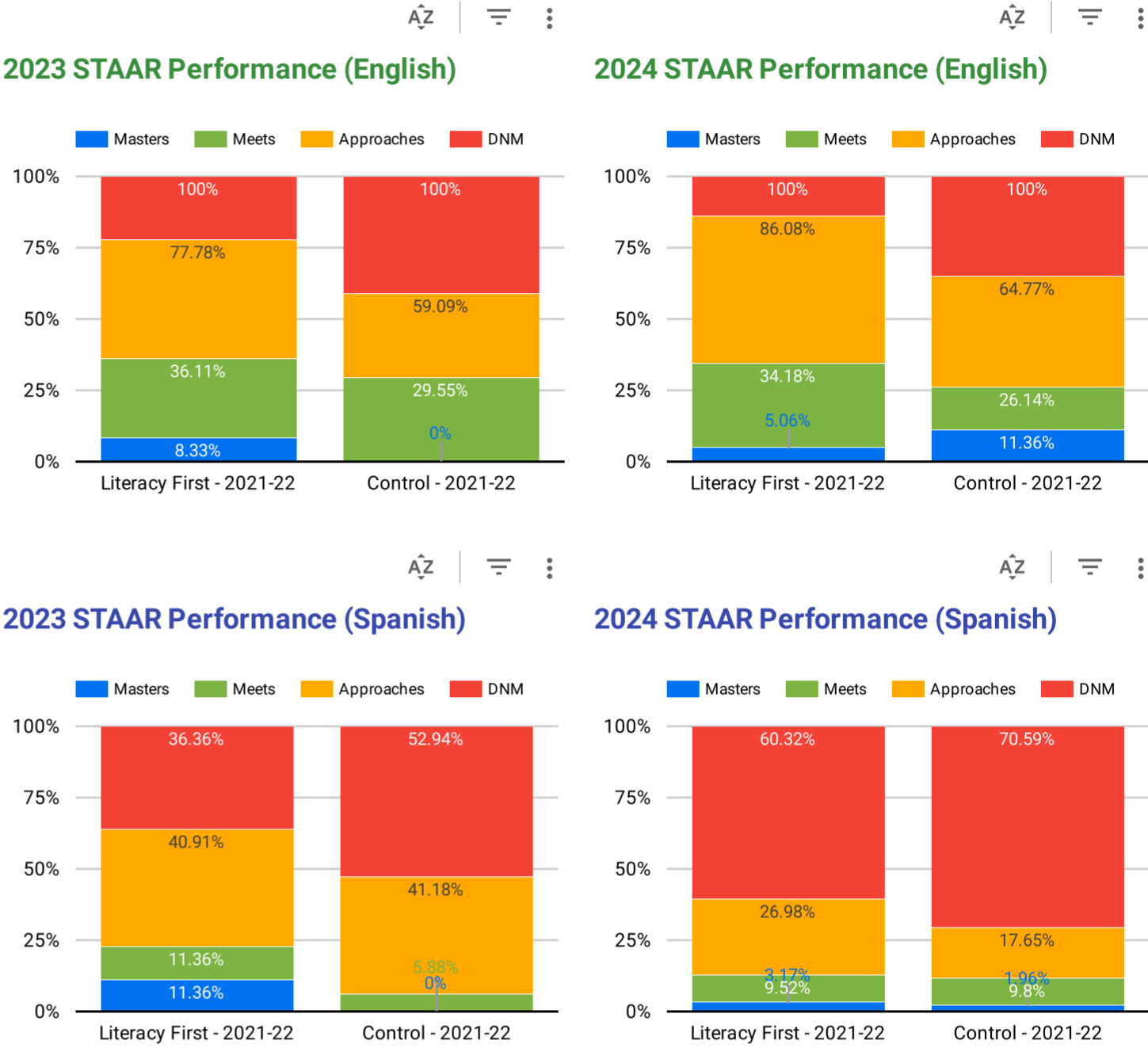
Additional Views for 2021-2022 Cohort

Additional STAAR Analysis

The 2021-22 Literacy First Cohort (LF Cohort) and Control Group are displayed by STAAR performance, comparing 2023 STAAR RLA and 2024 STAAR RLA performance. Values are stacked to show the rates of Approaches and Above.

The top stacked bar charts show the group change for students that took the English language RLA test. The LF Cohort showed higher Both groups showed a significant gain in the Approaches and Above level from 2023 to 2024, however both groups decreased in the Meets and Above level.

The bottom charts show students taking the Spanish language RLA test. Students in the LF group performed better than the Control group in both years at the Approaches and above level. Performance at the Meets and Above leveled out in 2024 for both groups. This view also represents a downward trend in Approaches and Meets performance levels for both groups.



Additional MAP Growth Analysis

MAP Growth analysis is expanded from page one using the 2021-22 LF and Control cohorts. MAP growth is given during windows, and the MOY window allows for four years of comparison. The Achievement (Test) percentile median is used as a value to show student performance.

Bar charts split English and Spanish language MAP results. Students who received LF interventions are tied to the language identified on the LF data. English language shows an advantage for LF students in both languages, then levels out for English in 2023-24. Spanish is less consistent with fluctuations favoring the LF cohort outside of 2023-24.

