



**Dear Families,**

We want to share an important update about your child's Maine Through Year Assessment results. Starting this fall, the Maine Through Year Assessment will use a new set of national norms to help interpret one type of student score, known as the RIT score.

**What has not changed about the Maine Through Year Assessment?**

The Maine Through Year Assessment continues to consist of three administrations: a required fall administration, an optional winter administration, and a required spring administration. A portion of the spring administration will continue to be used to measure student achievement according to Maine's state academic standards using the Maine scale score. The Maine scale score aligns to an achievement level of Well Below State Expectations, Below State Expectations, At State Expectations, or Above State Expectations. The Maine scale score is not a RIT score, and this measure of student achievement according to Maine-specific state academic standards is not impacted by the change in the RIT score national norms.

**What has changed about the Maine Through Year Assessment?**

The new national norms will impact the interpretation of the score type known as the RIT score, which is used to compare a student's performance to their same-grade peers nationwide. RIT scores are used for comparisons to other students and for measuring growth across grade levels, not for measuring a student's achievement of state academic standards specific to a grade level.

**What does this mean for your child?**

You may notice that your child's RIT score percentile ranking looks different than before. This percentile represents where your child stands when compared with their peers today--not peers from several years ago. Because student performance has generally declined since the pandemic, the same score may now be associated with a higher percentile.

**How can you learn more?**

For more information about the Maine Through Year Assessment, please read the [Overview of the Maine Through Year Assessment for Families](#), review the [Maine Department of Education's Maine Through Year Assessment resources](#), or contact your student's teacher or school administrator.