

A Tale of Three Assessments

NWEA ASSESSMENTS

Maine Through Year Assessment: Fall, Winter, & Spring

MAP Growth

ADAPTIVE

The assessment adapts by changing the difficulty of the questions based on the student's previous answers.

NORMATIVE

Normative assessments determine if an individual's performance is at a level equal to, above, or below average. Percentile scores are frequently used, showing the percentage of individuals that score equal to or below the tester. This means comparing the individual's performance to a group.

RIT SCORE

RIT scores are used to measure growth over time and across grade levels. A student's RIT score represents the ability level at which a student has a 50% probability of answering a question correctly.

Maine Through Year Assessment: Spring

ADAPTIVE

The assessment adapts by changing the difficulty of the questions based on the student's previous answers.

CRITERION-REFERENCED

Criterion-referenced assessments measure a student's knowledge and skills against an academic standard or benchmark. In criterion-referenced assessments, the performance of other students does not affect a student's score.

MAINE-SPECIFIC SCALE SCORE

The Maine-specific scale score is used to measure student performance according to grade-level standards. Scores are aligned to an achievement level of Well Below, Below, At, and Above State Expectations.

Cut Scores

On this assessment, cut scores represent the difficulty level at which a student has a 50% probability of answering a question at that achievement level correctly.

MEA SCIENCE

Maine Science Assessment

FIXED FORM

Questions on the assessment are "fixed," or the same for all students.

CRITERION-REFERENCED

Criterion-referenced assessments measure a student's knowledge and skills against an academic standard or benchmark. In criterion-referenced assessments, the performance of other students does not affect a student's score.

SCALE SCORE

The scale score is used to measure student performance according to grade-level standards. Scores are aligned to an achievement level of Well Below, Below, At, and Above State Expectations.

Cut Scores

On this assessment, cut scores represent the difficulty level at which a student has a 67% probability of answering a question at that achievement level correctly.



Note on Cut Scores

Cut scores based on 50% probability are common for adaptive tests and align with how RIT scores are determined. Cut scores based on 67% probability are more common for fixed form assessments.