

3D GROWTH

Data-Driven Decision-Making for Student Success

To help school district leaders maximize student performance, E3 Alliance created **3D Growth**, a powerful set of analytic tools and consulting services centered around student academic growth. Based on Student Growth Percentiles (SGP), a nationally-reviewed and widely-adopted methodology designed to gauge the academic growth experienced by students, **3D Growth** offers a powerful opportunity for data-driven decision making to improve student success. **3D Growth** strengthens conversations about student performance by **expanding understanding of achievement** from a one-dimensional view to multiple dimensions.

- 1) **3D Growth** increases opportunities to improve school performance by adding depth to understanding of student performance for all educators
- 2) **3D Growth** equips decision makers with new tools and information to help them identify best practices as well as opportunities for improvements in policy and practice

The percentage of students that pass the state's standardized assessments is one useful measure of performance, but there are more powerful dimensions to be examined in efforts to gain a comprehensive understanding of student learning. **3D Growth** is used to measure each student's academic growth relative to academic peers from across the state. For each school, individual student-level growth scores are used to determine the median growth experienced by the students it serves. **3D Growth** scores can also be calculated by grade, examination subject and subpopulation for a deeper level of analysis.

"3D Growth has provided all of us a different way to look at the performance of students and staff. It is eye opening and has led to thoughtful conversations and better practices."

- Becky Burnett, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instructional Services, Lake Travis ISD

3D Growth is offered throughout the state of Texas as a way to help district administrators identify high-performing schools and "bright spots" within districts, identify opportunities for improvement, and inform efforts to chart a path toward increased student achievement. It is a robust consultative service anchored in a complex statistical methodology that requires access to multiple years of individual test scores for every student in the state and large-scale computing power to run the calculations. *E3 Alliance is the only organization in Texas with the current capability to calculate these scores. Because E3 is a nonprofit dedicated to leveraging effective data for positive change, we can offer **3D Growth** far more cost-effectively than private sector tools. We have seen the power of **3D Growth** to inform powerful conversations about needed changes in policy and practice.*



3D Growth incorporates key characteristics not found in other academic growth measures:

- Its transparent, nonproprietary calculation methodology can be understood and analyzed by external reviewers
- It has been widely accepted by both district leadership and teachers’ organizations and has been adopted for use in at least 15 states
- It is not impacted by transitions in assessments (e.g. from TAKS to STAAR)
- It measures growth in all levels of students, with little ceiling effect and no bias toward the “bubble kids” at the borderline of passing or failing
- It differentiates across schools and groups of students; it is not a “Lake Wobegon” model where almost everyone is above average
- It includes easy to understand charts and graphics as part of the multi-dimensional analysis
- Key findings can readily lead to positive impacts on policy and practice

Sample Uses of 3D Growth:

For Schools:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Identify comparable schools with very different growth outcomes to target replicable practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare outcomes for different student demographic groups • Focus on practices to help high-needs student groups, e.g. ELLs ✓ Examine differences between grades within schools related to campus policy or practice
For Districts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Identify district patterns related to policy or school structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher placement • Grade structures in schools • Curriculum ✓ Leverage growth metrics in district strategic planning
For Communities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Identify replicable practices in schools across a region ✓ Locate geographic areas target rich for community support ✓ Provide robust data to policy makers on what works

3D Growth is offered in tiered packages that include:

- Campus-level scores for students across subpopulation, grade, and subject, with available options for deep-dives on critical student groups such as ELLs
- Coded data tables and easy to understand graphical charts relevant to the data provided
- A narrative of the key findings of the analysis
- Presentations of findings to stakeholder groups
- Consulting services to assist with interpretation of the data

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