



# Understanding Student Growth with the LAS Links Yearly Score Gain Analysis Report



*Schools and districts  
can use information  
from the LAS Links  
score gain analysis to  
help set goals and  
evaluate growth for  
their students.*

## **Background**

DRC conducted a LAS Links growth analysis in September 2017. The resulting report provides information that educators can use to compare their students' score gains to other LAS Links students across the nation, and to set growth expectations for future tests.

## **What Is a Score Gain Analysis?**

A score gain analysis looks at student performance over time and examines how student scale scores change between test events. Analyzing the student score gains (or losses) across test events provides insight into average student growth by domain, grade band, and proficiency level.

## **What Does the LAS Links Score Gain Analysis Report Tell Us?**

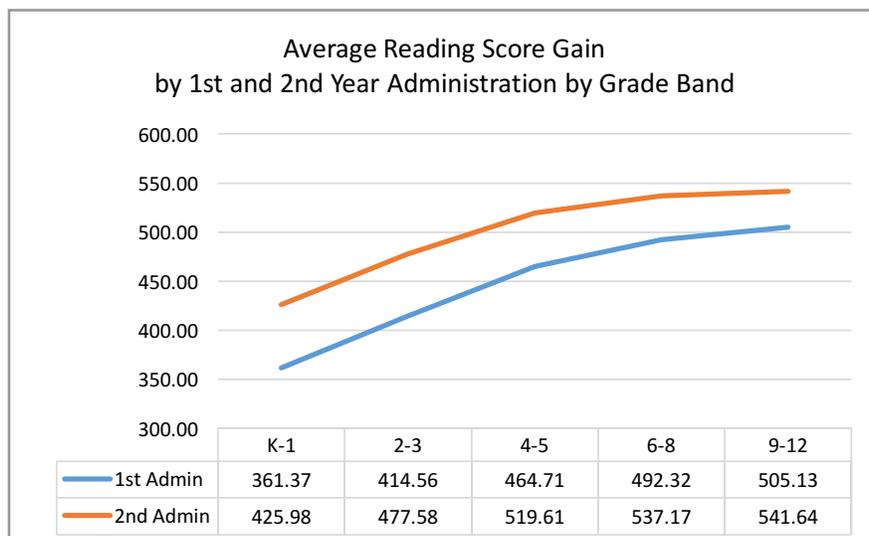
The LAS Links Yearly Score Gain Analysis Report provides the computation of student yearly scale score gains based on data collected from 2014 to 2017. The sample includes 311,034 students who tested on LAS Links Form C/D. The report shows the average score differences between students' first and second test administration for the Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking domains. Most second administrations occurred at about the 12-month interval.

For each domain, the report provides:

- The average student score gain by grade band
- The average student score gain by grade band and performance level
- The expected student score gain by beginning grade and beginning proficiency level

*Easy-to-understand graphs and tables are used throughout the report, helping educators quickly interpret the data.*

The following is an example of a score gain chart from the report, showing the average score differences by grade band for the Reading domain.



### How Can Educators Benefit from the LAS Links Growth Analysis Report?

The LAS Links Yearly Score Gain Analysis Report sheds light on student growth at each performance level on the path to language proficiency. The report provides context for educators as they track student progress, and can help answer question such as:

- Are my students progressing at a rate commensurate with other students across the nation?
- How does my students' growth compare to other LAS Links students?
- What gains should I expect my student to make in the coming months/years, based on how similar students are performing?

### How to Use the Report: Three Simple Steps

1. First, you will need to identify two consecutive test events for a given student, using your LAS Links student reports. (The score gain analysis is based on user data with administrations approximately one academic year apart.) You can use either the Individual Student Proficiency Reports or the Longitudinal and Roster Reports, depending on how many students you want to review at once.
2. For each domain, write down the student's score from their first administration (test event A) and their score from the second administration (test event B), along with their performance levels. (Note: the difference in score between the first and second administration is the measure of student growth, or score gain, for that domain.)
3. Now you can compare the student's growth to the national average for the corresponding domain, grade band, and performance level in the LAS Links Yearly Score Gain Analysis Report (Figures 1 through 8). You can also determine your student's expected score gains for their next test attempt (Tables 2 through 5).

*Tip: Use the links on Page 2 of the report to jump to the exact table or figure you want to view.*



**For more information or help with using the LAS Links Yearly Score Gain Analysis Report, please contact [LASLinksHelpDesk@datarecognitioncorp.com](mailto:LASLinksHelpDesk@datarecognitioncorp.com) or 866.282.2250.**