



# Linking Study: Predicting Performance on The Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) Reading and Math Assessments using Classworks Universal Screeners



September 2024

## About This Whitepaper

Classworks conducted a study to determine if the Classworks Universal Screener assessments can predict achievement on end-of-year M-STEP assessments. Data was collected from over 6,000 students across 70 districts throughout the 2023-2024 school year.



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## Introduction

Understanding where students are with their learning and how they may perform helps you make informed decisions about students' interventions. Assessments that identify students at risk or in need of interventions better prepare you to support those students and give them the best opportunity to close gaps.

The objective of this linking study is to reveal whether Classworks Universal Screener Reading and Mathematics assessments help predict performance on the M-STEP assessments in reading and mathematics in grades three through eight.

## Main Findings

Results from the linking analysis revealed that Classworks Universal Screeners are accurate predictors of the M-STEP assessments, meaning as a Michigan educator you can use Universal Screener scores to:

1. Identify students likely to miss reading and math yearly progress goals with enough time to make meaningful adjustments to interventions well before the year-end test.
2. Predict the percent of students who will fall into the Proficient (Proficient or Advanced) or Non-proficient (Not Proficient or Partially Proficient) categories on the M-STEP to help district and building administrators plan resources and support accordingly.

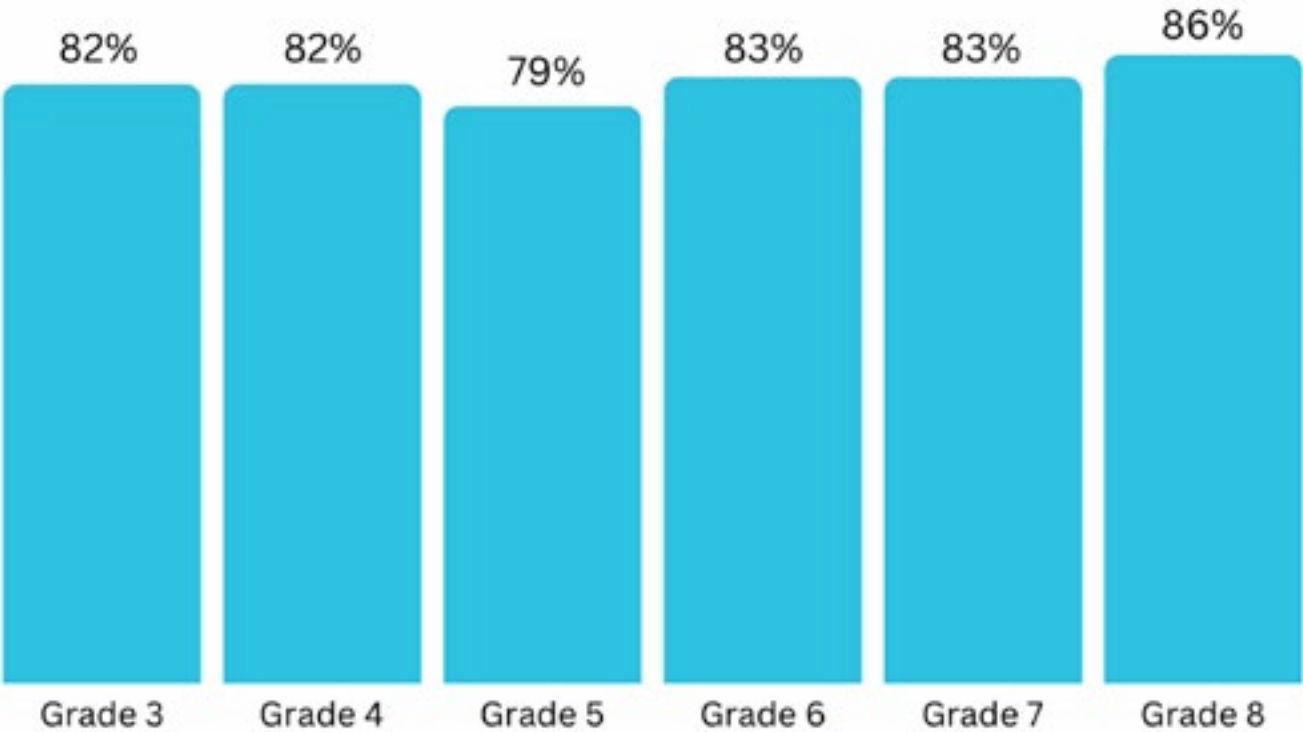
# Reading

## Predictive Accuracy of Universal Screener and M-STEP

The objective of our model was to measure how accurately the Classworks Universal Screener assessment scores predicted whether students were classified as proficient or non-proficient on the M-STEP in the subject of reading. Findings show that the Classworks Universal Screener reading assessments are accurate predictors of performance on M-STEP reading assessments. On average, students were correctly classified 83% of the time.

### Predictive Accuracy for the M-STEP to Universal Screener

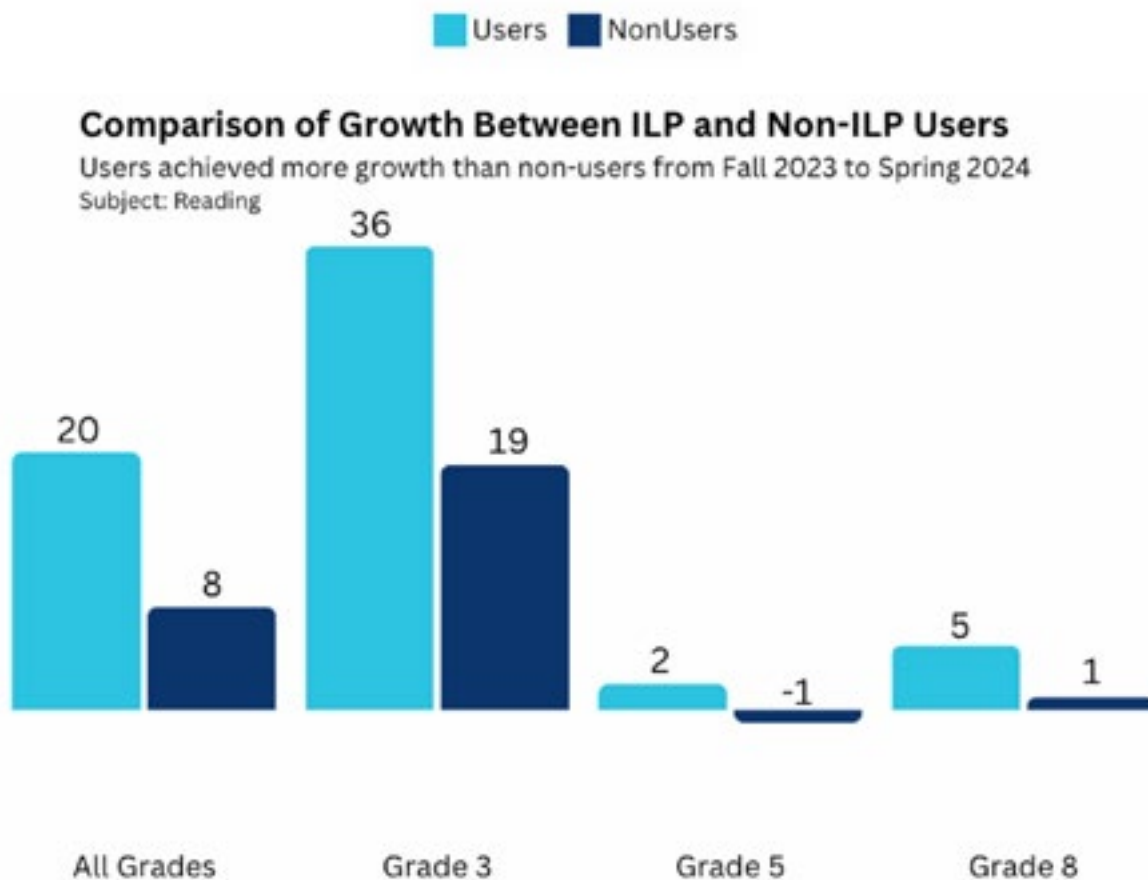
Subject: Reading



## Reading

### Impact of Classworks on Universal Screener Growth

When looking at the results of Universal Screener Reading assessments from fall 2023 to spring 2024, analysis shows students in benchmark grades who used Classworks instruction achieved substantially more growth when compared to students who had no usage. Across all grades analyzed, Classworks users experienced an average of 12 growth points more in reading than their peers.



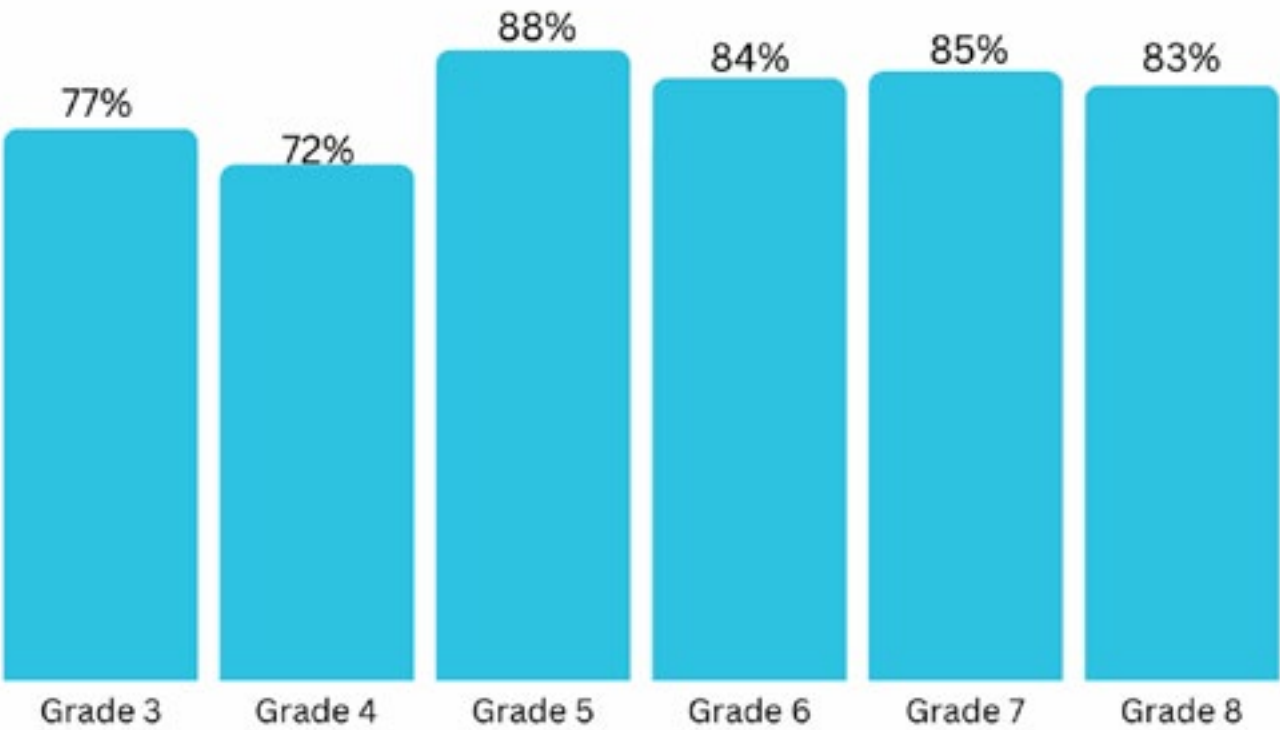
# Mathematics

## Predictive Accuracy of Universal Screener and Michigan STEP

The objective of our model was to measure how accurately the Classworks Universal Screener assessment scores predicted whether students were classified as proficient or non-proficient on the M-STEP in the subject of mathematics. Findings indicate that the Classworks Universal Screener math assessments are accurate predictors of M-STEP math assessments. On average, students were correctly classified 82% of the time.

### Predictive Accuracy for the M-STEP to Universal Screener

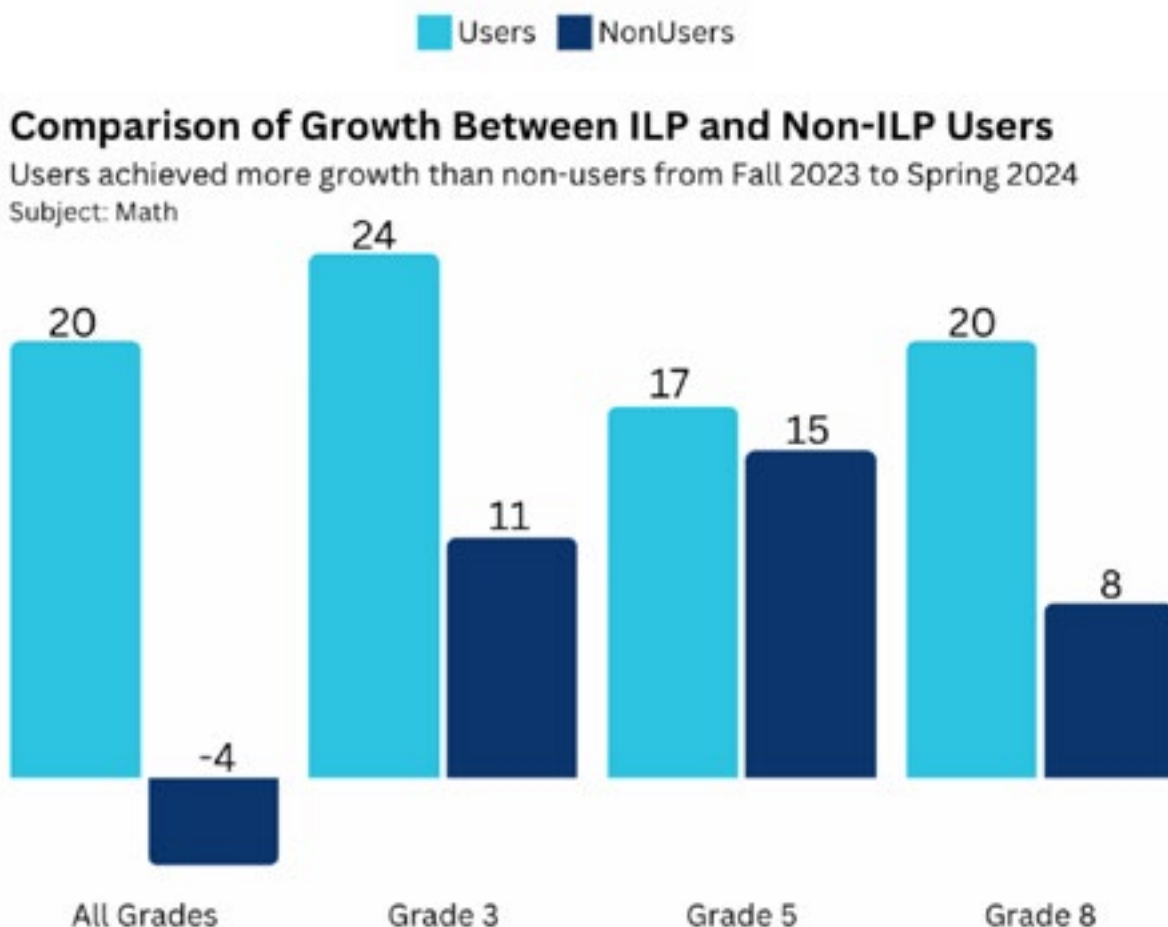
Subject: Math



## Mathematics

### Impact of Classworks Instruction on Universal Screener Growth

When looking at the results of Universal Screener Mathematics assessments from fall 2023 to spring 2024, analysis shows students in benchmark grades who used Classworks instruction achieved substantially more growth than students who had no usage. Across all grades analyzed, Classworks users had an average of 24 more growth points in math than their peers.





## Conclusion

The findings show there is a positive relationship between Classworks usage and growth reflected on the Classworks Universal Screener.

In addition, there is a high predictive accuracy between the Classworks Universal Screener assessments and the Michigan STEP assessments in Reading and Mathematics. Therefore, students using Classworks may experience more growth on their Universal Screener assessments and, in turn, experience more growth on their end of grade M-STEP assessments.

## About Classworks

Since 2003, millions of students have used Classworks to close learning gaps, keep pace, and grow! Our mission is to deliver the most compelling individualized learning experience that helps teachers provide an equitable learning environment for students of all abilities and ethnic and social backgrounds.

For more information:  
Contact Classworks at [hello@classworks.com](mailto:hello@classworks.com),  
call 770-325-5555, or visit [www.classworks.com](http://www.classworks.com).