



Education Consumers Foundation

Understanding achievement versus growth in Metro schools

About the Chart

- Each dot represents a Metro elementary or middle school
- Dots to the right have higher average achievement levels, as measured by TCAP performance
- Dots toward the top have higher yearly achievement growth (i.e., help students learn more per year), as measured by TVAAS performance
- Dot colors represent poverty level of the student body: Red=high, black=low, and green=intermediate

Facts and Conclusions

On the whole, schools deserve neither blame nor credit for the average achievement level of their student body as measured by TCAP proficiency scores. It is governed mostly by the poverty level of the students that are assigned. Notice that the high poverty schools (red dots) are mostly to the left and the low poverty schools (black dots) mostly to the right.

High poverty students enter a school months and years behind their peers in terms of education-related knowledge and skills. See *Schwab* or *Napier* elementary, for example. Low-poverty students enter a school well ahead of their peers, as seen with *Meigs Magnet* and *Martin Luther King*, for example.

Schools do deserve blame or credit for the annual amount of achievement growth made by their students as measured by TVAAS scores. It is governed mostly by the effectiveness of instruction used by the teachers, not by poverty. Given the way that scores are calculated on Tennessee's Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS), schools can be directly compared regardless of differences in their students.

Students in some high-poverty schools – *Paragon Mills* and *Amqui*, for example – gain far more than one year of academic growth per year in school. The longer students stay in such schools, the more they move up relative to state and national achievement averages. By contrast, students in other high-poverty schools fall further behind relative to their state and national peers. See *Joelton* and *Old Center* as examples.

The same holds true with low poverty schools. The longer students stay in a school like *Lockeland* or *Meigs*, for example, the more they move up relative to state and national averages. In *Eakin* or *Harpeth Valley*, however, the opposite happens. The longer students stay, the more they move down relative to state and national averages.

Over a 12 year school career, these differences in growth can result in profound differences in achievement.

- Sixty percent of Tennessee's first-time entering college freshmen need remedial/developmental studies. Many have attained only 8th and 9th grade levels of achievement despite 12 or more years of schooling.
- In the September 2008 study titled *Diploma to Nowhere*, Governor Roy Romer's Strong American Schools Foundation says simply that "A hoax is being played on America."

If the achievement levels of Metro students are to improve, more effective instruction, confirmed through higher TVAAS scores at more schools, is indispensable.

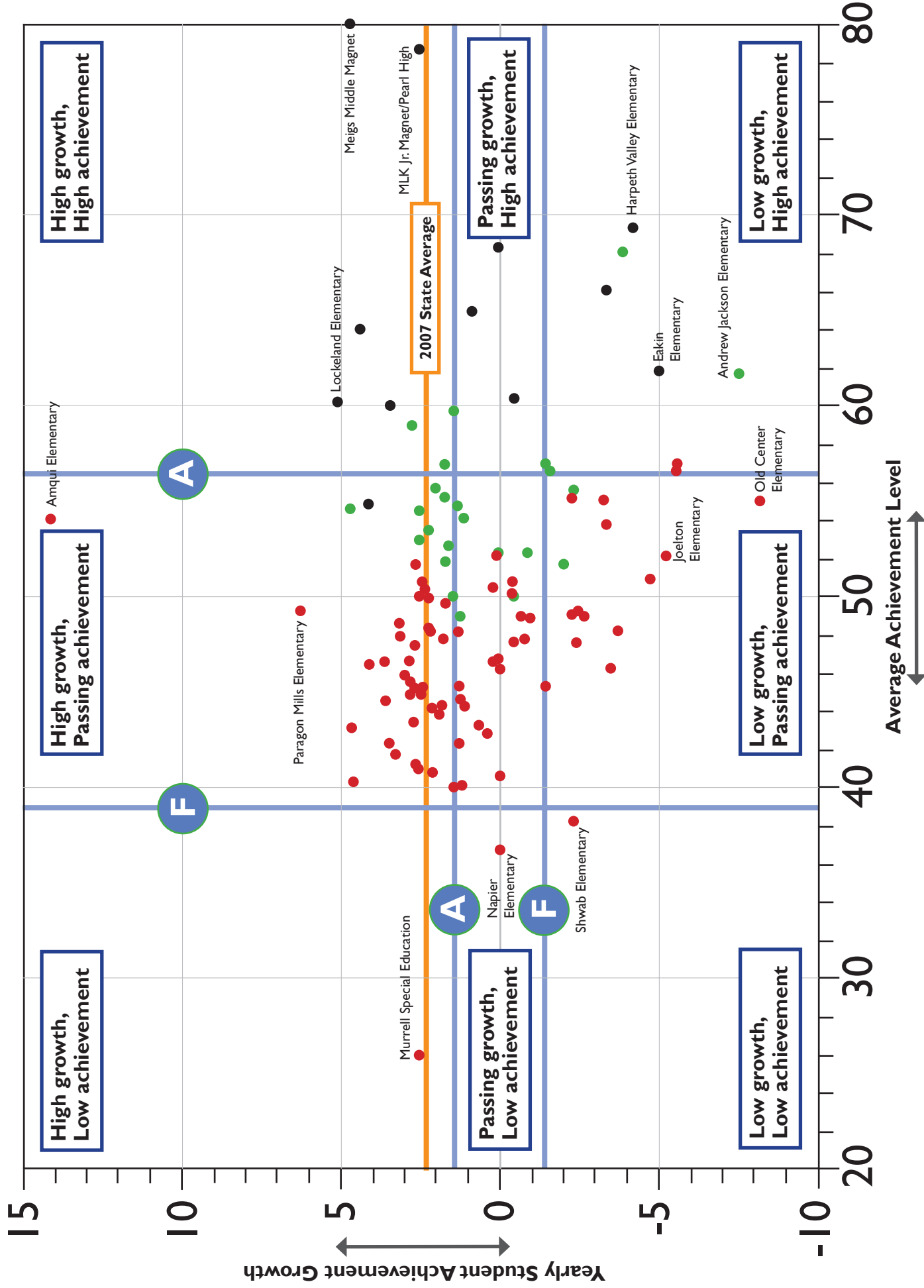
ECF is working to highlight the availability and application of value-added data in Tennessee; see the website below to learn more, or contact Dr. J.E. Stone (professor@education-consumers.org) to learn how you can support the Foundation's efforts.

To learn more about ECF's Tennessee Project, visit:

www.education-consumers.org

Which Nashville Schools Grow Achievement?

Achievement Level versus Achievement Growth
2005-2007 Reading/Math, Grades 4-8



Find Your School on the MNPS Achievement Level vs Achievement Growth Chart

Number	Name	Avg.Achievement	Average gain	Free/reduced %	Number	Name	Avg.Achievement	Average gain	Free/reduced %
1	Alex Green Elementary	40.2	1.15	100%	56	Inglewood Elementary	44.2	1	100%
2	Amqui Elementary	54.1	14.2	100%	57	Isaac Litton Middle School	45.6	2.55	100%
3	Andrew Jackson Elementary	61.7	-7.4	58%	58	J.E. Moss Elementary	49.5	3	100%
4	Antioch Middle School	49.6	2.15	96%	59	Jere Baxter Middle School	43.6	2.7	100%
5	Apollo Middle School	45.3	1.15	100%	60	Joelton Elementary	52.3	-5.3	92%
6	Bailey Middle School	40.8	1.95	100%	61	Joelton Middle School	44.5	2.05	100%
7	Bellevue Middle School	59.4	1.45	54%	62	John B Whitsett Elementary	45.7	2.4	100%
8	Bellshire Elementary	44.5	3.35	100%	63	John Early Paideia Middle	48.4	1.35	83%
9	Bordeaux Elementary	41.2	0.05	100%	64	John F. Kennedy @ Marshall	48.9	1.3	73%
10	Brick Church Middle School	42.9	0.55	100%	65	John T. Moore Middle School	56.8	1.7	66%
11	Brookmeade Elementary	50.8	-4.7	100%	66	Jones Paideia Magnet	49.8	1.45	61%
12	Buena Vista Elementary	48.3	-3.7	100%	67	Julia Green Elementary	65.9	-3.3	30%
13	Cameron Middle School	41.0	2.6	100%	68	Kirkpatrick Elementary	43.4	4.6	100%
14	Carter Lawrence Magnet	49.9	-0.45	71%	69	Lakeview Elementary	50.5	0.2	86%
15	Chadwell Elementary	46.6	0.1	100%	70	Lockeland Elementary	60.4	5.1	47%
16	Charlotte Park Elementary	47.2	3.35	100%	71	Margaret Allen Middle School	47.9	1.75	100%
17	Cockrill Elementary	46.3	2.7	100%	72	Martha Vaught Middle School	45.6	2.5	100%
18	Coile Elementary	49.1	-2.3	100%	73	MLK Jr. Magnet-Pearl High	78.8	2.5	15%
19	Cora Howe Elementary	47.6	-0.55	100%	74	Mary Werthan Shayne Elementary	56.6	-1.6	64%
20	Cotton Elementary	45.5	2.65	100%	75	McGavock Elementary	49.9	2.65	100%
21	Crieve Hall Elementary	67.9	-3.85	52%	76	McKissack Prof. Dev. School	42.2	3.3	100%
22	Croft Middle Design Center	59.2	2.7	58%	77	McMurray Middle School	47.2	3.95	100%
23	Cumberland Elementary	45.7	0.25	100%	78	Meigs Middle Magnet School	79.9	4.7	18%
24	Dalewood Middle School	42.5	3.45	100%	79	Mt. View Elementary	52.5	0.25	80%
25	Dan Mills Elementary	50.1	-0.5	95%	80	Murrell Special Education	26.6	2.5	100%
26	Dodson Elementary	54.7	-3.4	86%	81	Napier Elementary	37.2	0.1	100%
27	Donelson Middle School	47.7	2.1	92%	82	Neely's Bend Elementary	45.9	2.8	100%
28	Dupont Elementary	51.8	0.1	100%	83	Neely's Bend Middle School	44.5	1.8	100%
29	Dupont Hadley Middle School	55.4	1.4	75%	84	Norman Binkley Elementary	51.0	-0.5	100%
30	Dupont Tyler Middle School	55.4	4.1	75%	85	Old Center Elementary	55.0	-7.9	100%
31	Eakin Elementary	62.0	-4.8	40%	86	Paragon Mills Elementary	48.8	6.35	100%
32	East Literature Magnet	56.2	2.05	53%	87	Park Avenue Elementary	42.4	1.35	100%
33	Ewing Park Middle School	41.5	2.6	100%	88	Pennington Elementary	55.7	-2.25	65%
34	Fall-Hamilton Elementary	45.3	1.2	100%	89	Percy Priest Elementary	68.6	0.05	35%
35	Gateway Elementary	49.0	-2.6	100%	90	Robert E. Lillard @ Kings	54.8	1.25	79%
36	Glenciff Elementary	46.5	2.75	100%	91	Rose Park Math/Science	53.1	2.15	72%
37	Glendale Elementary School	60.5	-0.45	39%	92	Rosebank Elementary	47.5	-0.9	100%
38	Glengarry Elementary	49.5	1.75	100%	93	Ross Elementary	48.7	-0.7	100%
39	Glenn Elementary School	43.0	0.6	100%	94	Shwab Elementary	38.0	-2.6	100%
40	Glenview Elementary	48.5	-2.6	100%	95	Smithson Craighead Academy	40.4	4.45	100%
41	Goodlettsville Elementary	56.7	-5.4	93%	96	Stanford Elementary Montessori	59.9	3.4	34%
42	Goodlettsville Middle School	47.7	2.5	100%	97	Stratton Elementary	46.2	-3.4	100%
43	Gower Elementary	52.7	1.7	66%	98	Sylvan Park Paideia	52.1	-0.8	53%
44	Gra-Mar Middle School	44.1	1.85	100%	99	Thomas A. Edison Elementary	57.1	-1.45	61%
45	Granbery Elementary	64.7	0.8	29%	100	Tom Joy Elementary	47.5	-2.65	100%
46	H. G. Hill Middle School	51.3	2.35	84%	101	Tulip Grove Elementary	51.6	-2	78%
47	Harpeth Valley Elementary	69.4	-4.25	26%	102	Tusculum Elementary	46.0	0.1	100%
48	Haynes Health/Med. Science	48.2	2.1	84%	103	Two Rivers Middle School	54.8	2.2	77%
49	Haywood Elementary	45.1	-1.25	100%	104	Una Elementary	50.6	2.3	91%
50	Head Middle Magnet	63.8	4.45	41%	105	W.A. Bass Middle School	40.2	1.4	100%
51	Henry Maxwell Elementary	51.9	2.6	95%	106	Warner Elementary	48.9	-0.85	100%
52	Hermitage Elementary	56.8	-5.45	87%	107	West End Middle School	55.2	4.6	76%
53	Hickman Elementary	53.9	-3.25	82%	108	Westmeade Elementary	55.2	-2.25	81%
54	Hull Jackson Montessori	53.4	2.15	71%	109	William Henry Oliver Middle	55.1	1.7	63%
55	IT Creswell Arts Magnet	52.0	1.8	66%	110	Wright Middle School	47.9	2.85	100%

Schools in black: 50% or less of students participate in free/reduced lunch programs • Schools in green: 51-80% of students participate in free/reduced lunch programs •

Schools in red: more than 80% of students participate in free/reduced lunch programs

Pale blue lines indicate the cutoff points for "A" and "F" grades on each scale