

WEST VIRGINIA CASE STUDY



West Virginia Department of Education Leverages Lexile and Quantile Measures to Engage Parents and Students in College and Career Planning

West Virginia State Superintendent of Schools Steven L. Paine, Ed.D., and the West Virginia Board of Education have set forth a bold vision for the Mountain State's more than 270,000 k-12 students: "Prepare and empower all students to pursue knowledge for life, contribute to their community as responsible citizens and succeed in the workforce."

To help achieve this ambitious goal, state education leaders are leveraging Lexile and Quantile measures and tools, such as the **Lexile® Growth Planner** and **Quantile® Growth Planner**, to help students navigate the path to success.

West Virginia Department of Education

(<https://wvde.us>)
Charleston, West Virginia

Steven L. Paine, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

Vaughn Rhudy, Ed.D.
*Executive Director, Office of
Assessment*

CREATING A MORE SEAMLESS ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UNDER A COMMON METRIC

Executive Director of the Office of Assessment Vaughn Rhudy, Ed.D., explained how West Virginia's use of Lexile and Quantile measures at the state level began. "West Virginia has had a long history with reporting Lexile and Quantile measures. We included Lexile and Quantile scores on student reports for our previous statewide assessment known as WESTEST 2 from 2009 to 2014. When we became a member of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium and began administering a new assessment in 2015, Lexiles and Quantiles were not reported. However, West Virginia, along with other states, worked collaboratively with Smarter Balanced and MetaMetrics to conduct linking studies for Lexiles and Quantiles so that we could continue to report those measures for our students," said Rhudy. "When we withdrew from Smarter Balanced in 2017, we knew we wanted to continue to report Lexile and Quantile measures for our students on whatever our new assessments were going to be moving forward."

In 2017, when the state released two requests for proposals (RFPs) to procure new assessments in Grades 3-8 and high school, a criterion for the new tests was that they were linked to Lexile and Quantile measures.

American Institutes for Research (AIR) won the bid for the new summative assessment in Grades 3-8 called the West Virginia General Summative Assessment (WVGSA), and College Board won the bid to administer the SAT School Day to students in Grade 11. The West Virginia Department of Education worked with AIR and College Board to conduct state-specific Lexile and Quantile linking studies for their assessments in spring 2018, and Lexile and Quantile scores were reported for both assessments in fall 2018.

In fact, Superintendent Paine was one of 10 chief state school officers from around the country who encouraged the College Board to link its college admissions tests to MetaMetrics® measures. College Board and ACT are currently working with MetaMetrics to conduct national linking studies for their college entrance exams so they can be used in any state wanting to report Lexile and Quantile measures.

"West Virginia reports Lexile and Quantile measures from its assessments providing teachers and parents with important information for personalizing learning and charting growth toward college and career readiness. Now by linking the SAT and PSAT to Lexile and Quantile measures, our students who take these tests will continue to have access to those measures as powerful tools for navigating a path to success in school, college and career."

— State Superintendent Steven L. Paine, Ed.D.

PROVIDING INFORMATION TO SUPPORT PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parent outreach has played a critical role in West Virginia's success with ensuring that all students are on the path to success in school, college and careers. To communicate information about their students' Lexile and Quantile measures, state leaders collaborated with MetaMetrics to develop a Lexile and Quantile Parent Report. Provided to parents every August, the four-page, full-color report includes a student's Lexile and Quantile measures, links to the Lexile and Quantile websites where parents can learn more information and view a list of frequently asked questions. In addition, the report provides parents with tips for discussing their students' learning with teachers.

"We've had great parent feedback on the new West Virginia Lexile and Quantile Parent Report, and we've made some tweaks to the report based on what parents told us," said Rhudy. "Overall, parents have indicated the information is very helpful. Plus, many school districts are hosting parent education workshops to talk about the reports and how to use Lexiles and Quantiles."

CAREER EXPLORATION USING THE GROWTH PLANNERS

The West Virginia Lexile and Quantile Parent Report also features the Lexile and Quantile Growth Planners. Launched in June 2018, this free online tool allows educators, parents and students to forecast student reading and math growth starting at third grade and compare that forecasted performance to the text and mathematical demands of college and careers. With the Growth Planners' career exploration feature, students and parents can select from hundreds of careers and evaluate the outlook for a career, including educational requirements, salary range and job demand. The information available from the Lexile and Quantile Growth Planners directly supports the West Virginia Department of Education's goal of ensuring all students are prepared for success in the workforce.

At the end of the 2018-2019 school year, the West Virginia Department of Education provided districts with a document that lists various resources to help parents combat summer learning loss. The new handout features information about **Quantile® Summer Math Challenge** and links to the **Lexile® Find a Book** tool and other fun learning activities and resources.

Student: FIRSTNAME MI LASTNAME
Student ID: 12345X

Grade: 8
Test Date: Spring 2019

School: PLACEHOLDER SCHOOL NAME (SCHOOL ID#)
District: PLACEHOLDER COUNTY (DISTRICT ID #)

Lexile Measure: 825L

Quantile Measure: 1000Q

WEST VIRGINIA LEXILE® AND QUANTILE® MEASURES REPORT

Lexile Measures Help You:

- Find books and other texts to read at your student's level.
- Monitor growth toward college and career readiness.
- Discuss your student's progress with his or her teachers.

Quantile Measures Help You:

- Find mathematics resources at your student's level.
- Monitor growth toward college and career readiness.
- Discuss your student's progress with his or her teachers.

Monitor Your Student's Progress with the Lexile® Growth Planner & Quantile® Growth Planner

GET STARTED WITH THE: LEXILE GROWTH PLANNER QUANTILE GROWTH PLANNER

EASY CAREER EXPLORATION

With the Growth Planner's career exploration feature, your student can select from hundreds of careers and evaluate the outlook for a career, including educational requirements, salary range and job demand. Your student can also make job comparisons within the same field and see the reading (Lexile) and mathematics (Quantile) demands associated with specific careers.

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THIS EXAMPLE FROM THE CAREER FEATURE

Field Manufacturing, Career: Machinists

CAREER OVERVIEW - MACHINISTS

EDUCATION LEVEL REQUIRED

Associate's Degree/Post-Secondary Certification (14 years)

BRIGHT OUTLOOK

The following occupations have been rated to have a Bright Outlook. Click on the Occupation to learn more on O*NET.

Computer User Support Specialists
Welders, Cutters, and Welder Fitters
Manufacturing Production

YOUR GROWTH PLANNER RESULTS

Lexile Measure: 825L
Quantile Measure: 1000Q

SAMPLE COVER PAGE
West Virginia Lexile & Quantile Report

LEARN MORE ABOUT LEXILE & QUANTILE MEASURES AT WVDE.US/LEXILESANDQUANTILES

MAPPING A PATH FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

The vision of innovative leadership at the West Virginia Department of Education and the efforts of its more than 23,000 educators in 691 schools, in collaboration with the state's students and parents, are yielding great results. In fact, the Mountain State leads the nation with a 90.2 percent graduation rate, and every year more and more students are graduating ready for college and the workforce. Rhudy concluded, "Putting data such as Lexile and Quantile measures in the hands of teachers, parents and students and providing them with information and tools like the Growth Planners to help them interpret those data are critical to ensuring that all of our state's students are successful."



For More Information
About the West Virginia Department of Education, visit <https://wvde.us>.

Learn More

About Lexile Measures:
LEXILE.COM

About Quantile Measures:
QUANTILES.COM