

Alaska Statewide Assessments

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development
Kelly Manning, Deputy Director of Innovation and Education Excellence

House Education Committee

March 24, 2025



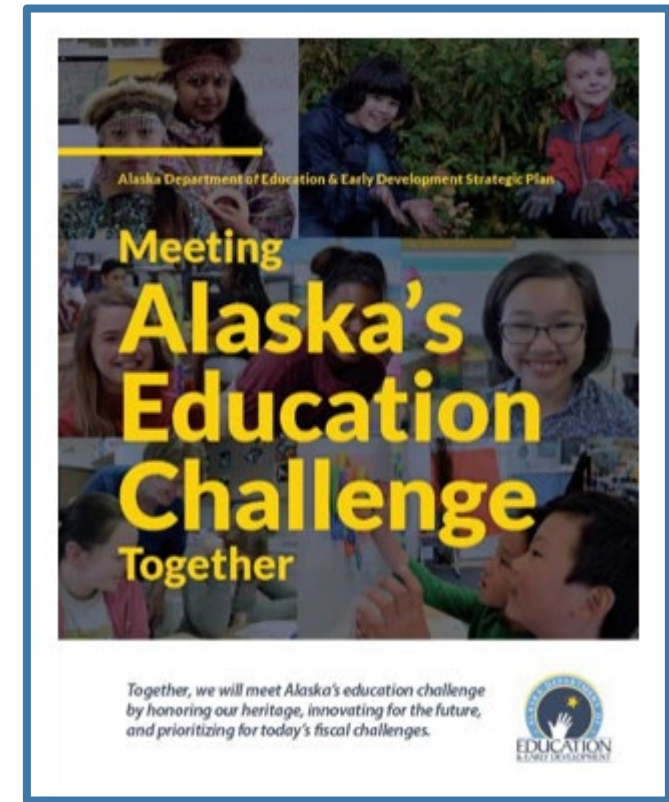
Mission, Vision, and Purpose

Mission	Vision	Purpose
An excellent education for every student every day.	All students will succeed in their education and work, shape worthwhile and satisfying lives for themselves, exemplify the best values of society, and be effective in improving the character and quality of the world about them. - Alaska Statute 14.03.015	DEED exists to provide information, resources, and leadership to support an excellent education for every student every day.

Strategic Priorities: Alaska's Education Challenge

Five Shared Priorities:

1. Support all students to read at grade level by the end of third grade.
2. Increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs.
3. Close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources.
4. Prepare, attract, and retain effective education professionals.
5. Improve the safety and well-being of students through school partnerships with families, communities, and tribes.





education.alaska.gov/akedchallenge



Agenda

- Overview of Statewide Assessments
- FY2025 Assessment Costs
- Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR)
- Alaska Science Assessment
- mCLASS DIBELS 8 Literacy Screener
- District Supports
- AK STAR and Alaska Science Assessment Participation Rates



Statewide Assessments

Assessment	Content	Students
<p>Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR)</p> 	<p>English language arts and mathematics</p>	<p>Grades 3-9</p>
<p>Alaska Science Assessment</p> 	<p>Science</p>	<p>Grades 5, 8, and 10</p>

Statewide Assessments

Assessment	Content	Students
<p>Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)</p> 	English language arts, mathematics, and science	Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in grades 3-9: ELA and math, grades 5, 8, and 10: science
<p>ACCESS for English Language Learners (ELLs), Alternate ACCESS, and Kindergarten ACCESS</p> 	English language proficiency	All English language learner students in grades K-12

Statewide Assessments

Assessment	Content	Students
<p>National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)</p> 	<p>Varies by years, but most commonly math and reading</p>	<p>A Sample of students across Alaska from grades 4, 8 (and sometimes 12)</p>
<p>Alaska Developmental Profile (ADP)</p> 	<p>13 goals and indicators in five domains from Alaska's Early Learning Guidelines</p>	<p>All kindergarten students and any first graders who did not attend kindergarten</p>

Statewide Assessments

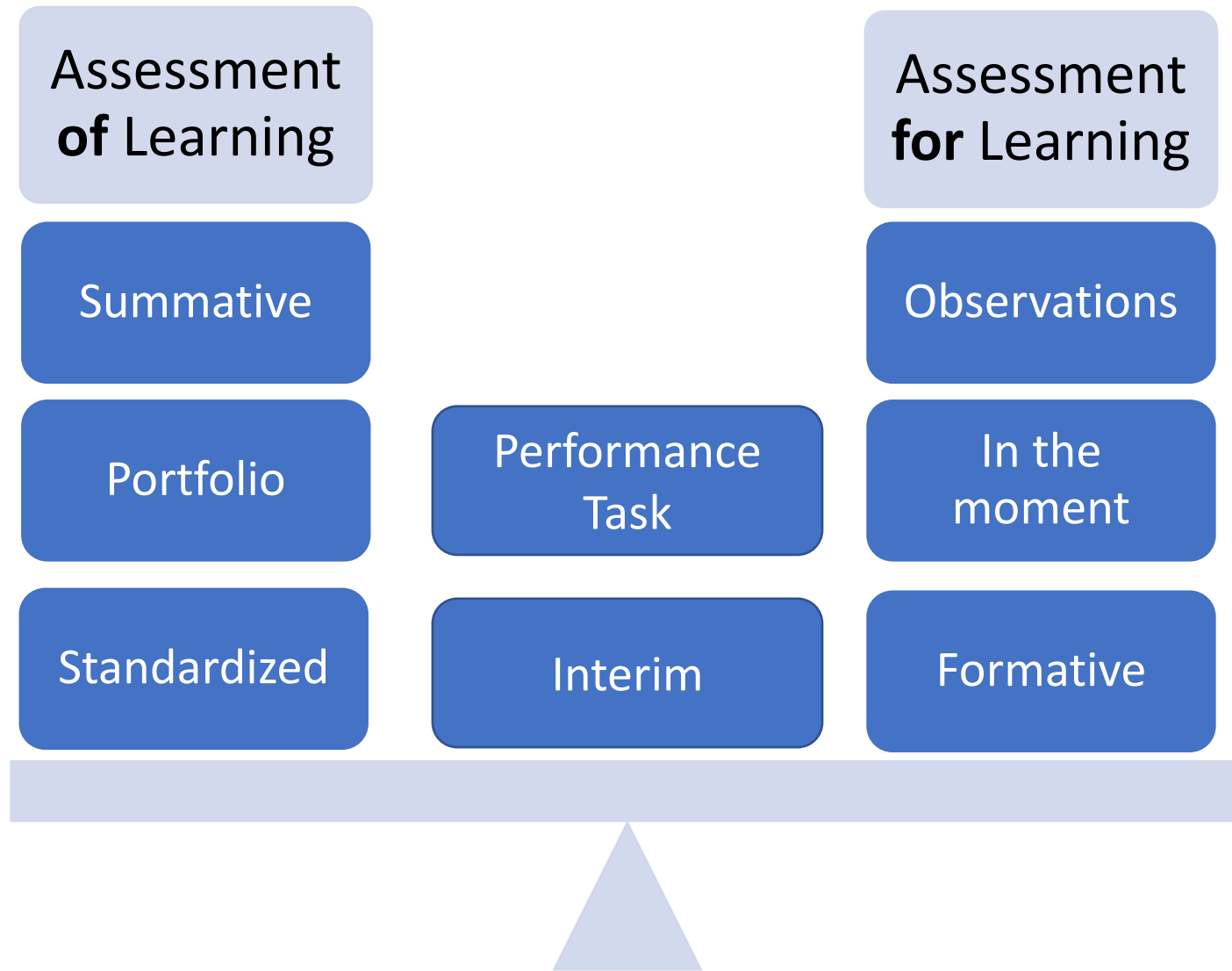
Assessment	Content	Students
mCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition Amplify. mCLASS	Early literacy skills as aligned to the requirements of the Alaska Reads Act	Students in grades K-3

Statewide Assessment Costs FY2025

Statewide Alaska Assessments	Annual Cost
AK STAR and MAP Growth	\$ 3,563.1
Alaska Science Assessment	\$ 1,945.5
Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)	\$ 320.3
ACCESS for English Language Learners	\$ 392.4
mCLASS DIBELS 8	\$ 600.0
NAEP – 100% direct federal funds, no cost to state	\$ -
TOTAL for FY2025	\$ 6,821.3

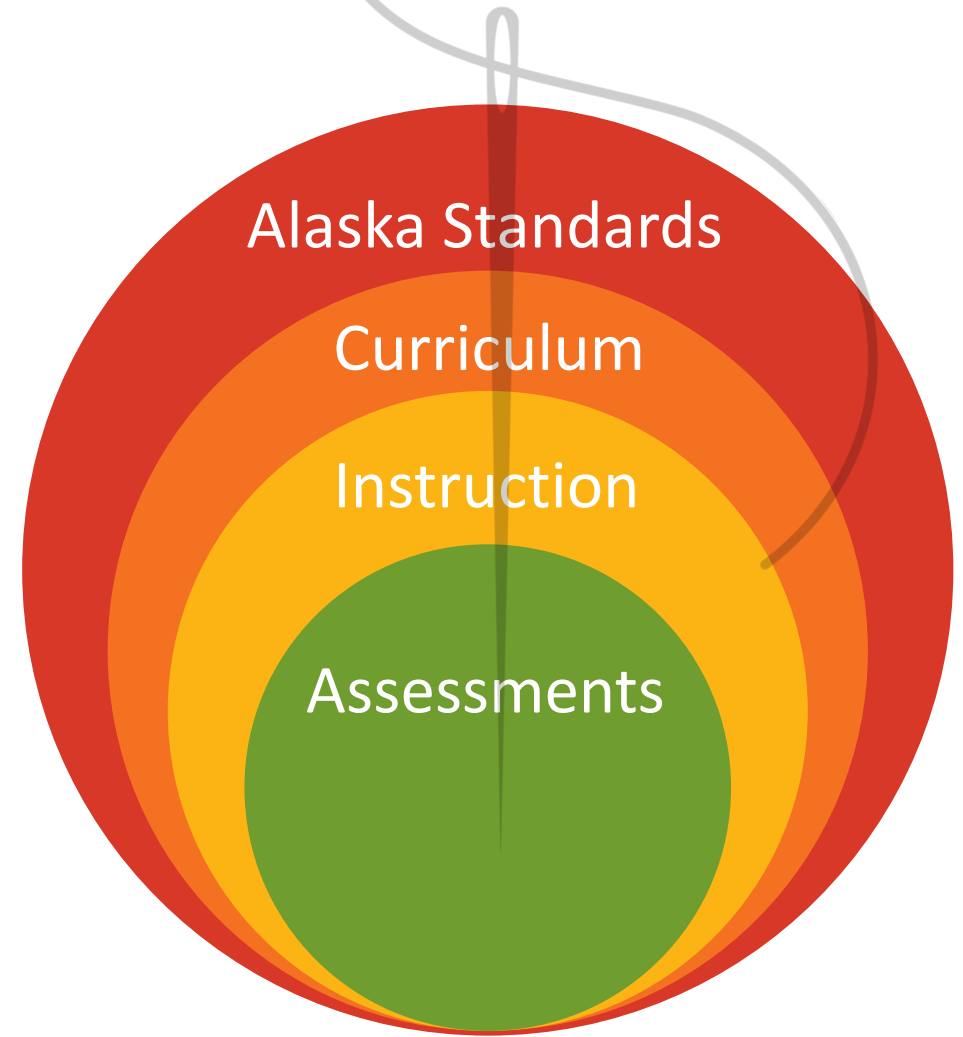
Costs listed in thousands

Balanced Assessment System



Balanced Assessment System Goals

- Thread the needle between standards, assessment, and instruction
- Broaden understanding of how assessment information can inform instruction
- Respond to student learning needs and celebrates growth
- Provide multiple levels of actionable data
- Meet multiple stakeholder needs
- Focus on assessment literacy



AK STAR

ALASKA SYSTEM OF ACADEMIC READINESS



AK STAR

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

AK STAR is administered each spring and is designed to measure how well students are meeting Alaska's academic standards and where students may need support.



map
GROWTH™

INTERIM ASSESSMENT

MAP Growth is administered multiple times throughout a school year and is designed to measure student achievement in the moment and growth over time.

map GROWTH



***Fall Adaptive
Growth Assessment***

map GROWTH



***Winter Adaptive
Growth Assessment***

The assessment is an adaptive growth assessment personalized for each student, adapting above and below grade level as needed to provide teachers with accurate, actionable evidence to help inform instructional strategies regardless of how far students are above or below grade level. The fall and winter assessments provide:



projected proficiency information that is predicting the likelihood a student will be proficient on the AK STAR summative assessment



diagnostic information to inform instruction using the MAP Growth normative RIT scale, along with Instructional Area Scores



growth information when prior scores are available (i.e., meaning the student has taken the test in the past)

AK STAR



***Spring Adaptive Growth &
Summative Assessment***

The assessment is an adaptive assessment personalized for each student that includes growth and summative components. Leveraging each student's previous MAP Growth scores, the summative component addresses the breadth and depth of Alaska grade-level content standards, while the growth component addresses the needs of each student by adapting above and below grade level. It provides:



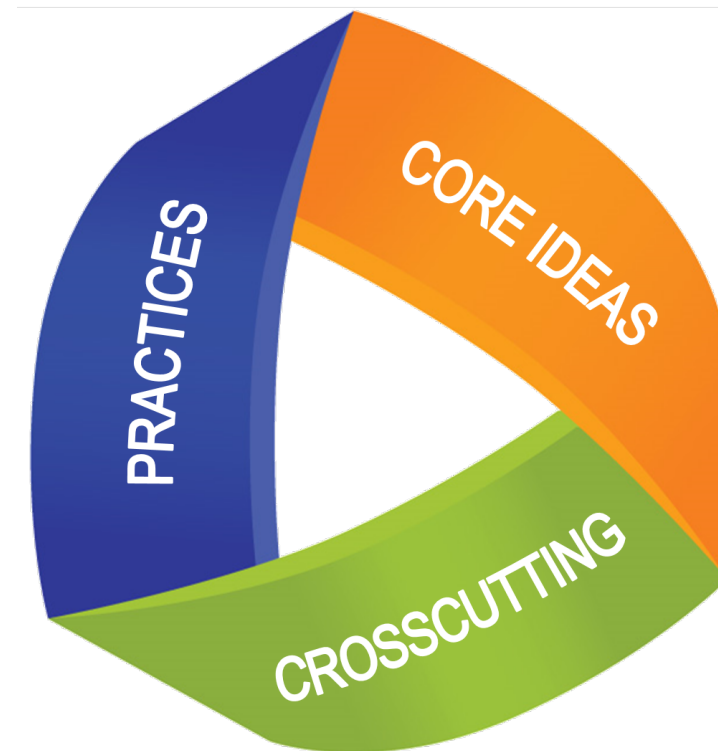
a summative test score and grade-level proficiency determination based on Alaska grade-level content standards



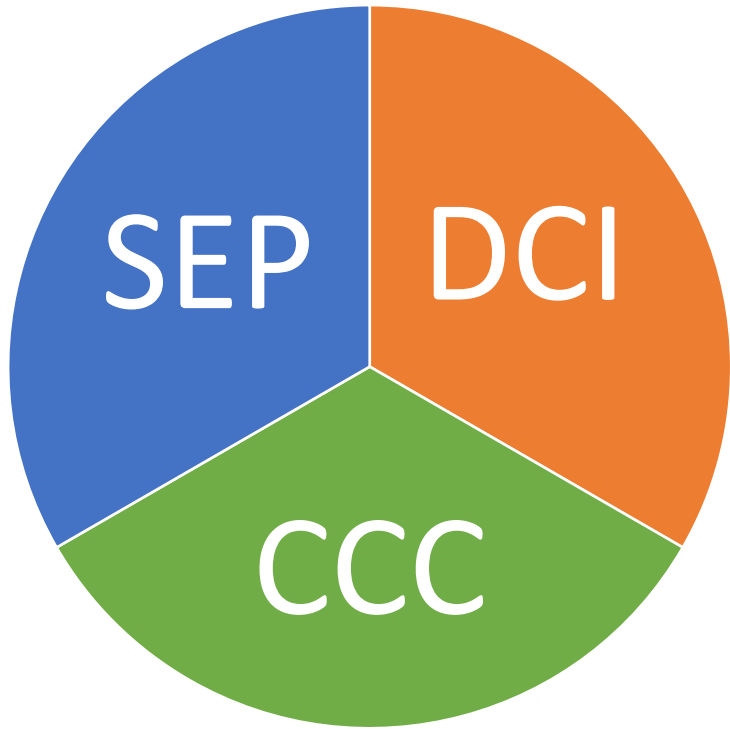
diagnostic information to inform instruction using the MAP Growth normative RIT scale, including a RIT scores specific to MAP Growth Instructional Areas

Alaska Science Standards

- K–12 Science Standards for Alaska
 - **SEPs** – Science and Engineering Practices
 - **DCIs** – Disciplinary Core Ideas
 - **CCCs** – Crosscutting Concepts
- Organized by Topics
 - Natural connections among the **DCIs**
 - Examples: Structure and Properties of Matter, Earth's Systems, and Energy



Standards Aligned Assessment



SEPs – Science and Engineering Practices

DCIs – Disciplinary Core Ideas

CCCs – Crosscutting Concepts

- Items align to a minimum of two dimensions.
 - DCI and SEP
 - DCI and CCC
 - DCI, SEP, and CCC
- Test Design
 - three sessions
 - 40 operational items and five field test items
 - Cluster-based item sets related to a phenomenon or a real-world problem
 - stimulus with associated items
 - Standalone items



Amplify. | mCLASS

- The mCLASS DIBELS 8 Screener from Amplify is the statewide literacy screener
 - Aligned to the Alaska Reads Act requirements
 - Used for early identification of students with reading deficiencies
 - Administered three times each school year in most Alaska districts
 - Two districts have been approved for a waiver to use an alternate screener: Matanuska Susitna Borough School District and Yupiit School District
 - Lower Kuskokwim has a waiver for one charter school
- Early identification of reading deficiencies and evidence-based intervention methods allows teachers and families to strategically and confidently help a student improve their reading skills

When

Why

How

Screenener

3x a year- *during* the learning

Determine a student's risk for reading difficulty and the need for intervention – inform instruction

Amplify.
mCLASS

Interim

3x a year- *during* the learning
Standalone in fall/winter; integrated with AK STAR in spring

Provide growth information and identify focus areas for next steps in student learning – inform instruction

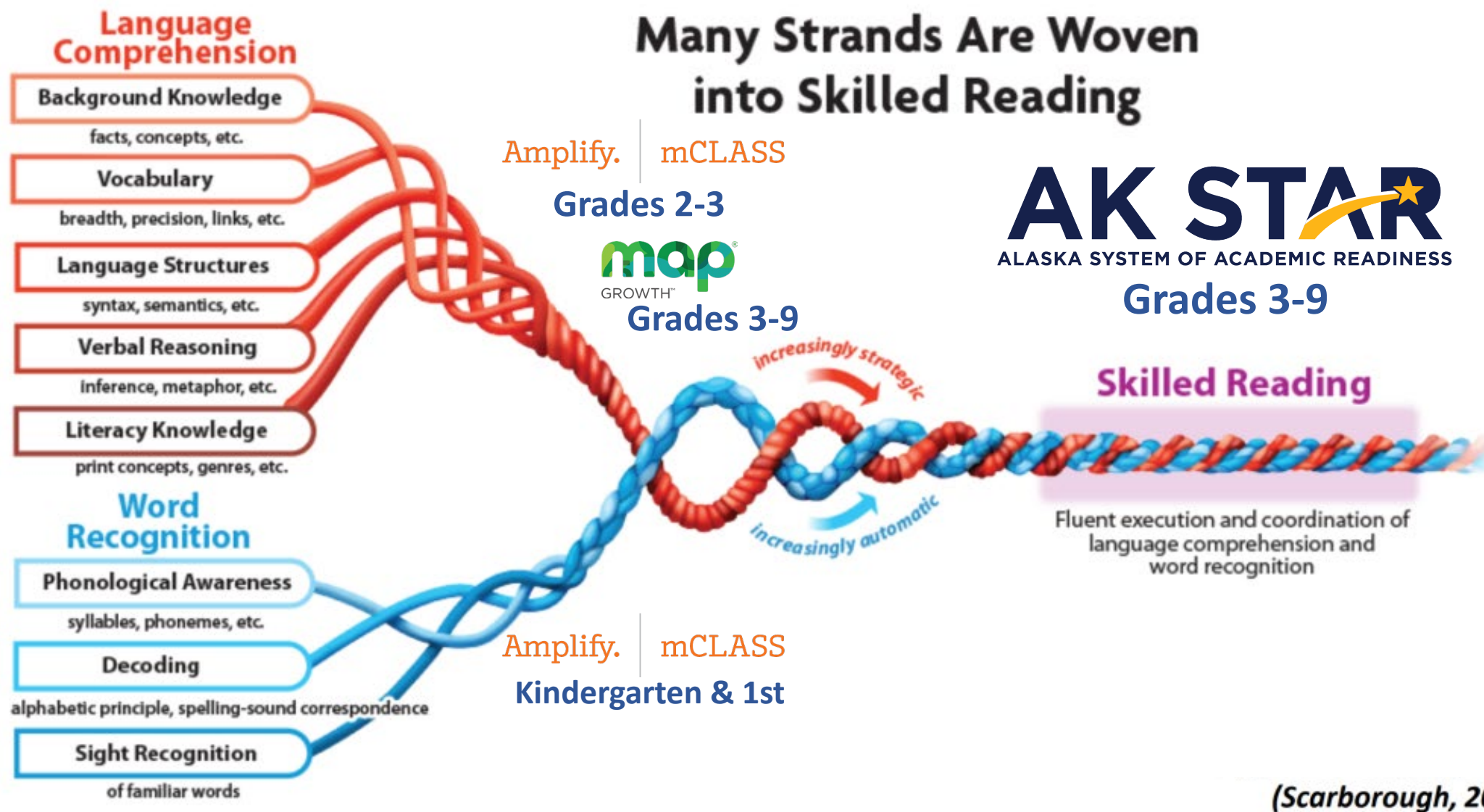
map[®]
GROWTH™

Summative

End of school year *after* the learning in grades 3-9

Collect evidence of student knowledge, skill, or mastery of grade-level standards – measures learning

AK
STAR
ALASKA SYSTEM
OF ACADEMIC READINESS



Support for Administration of Assessment

- In-person District Test Coordinator (DTC) Training
- Monthly DTC webinars hosted by DEED
- Weekly communication with DTCs on current topics
- Provide Testing Manuals and Handbook
- Vendor support lines – call in or email
- State support lines – call in or email

Support for Interpretation of Results

- Interpretive Guides for Educators
- Interpretive Guides for Families
- Toolkits with information and documents on reading and understanding data from assessments designed for districts to use with community
- Data literacy Professional Learning opportunities
 - Webinars
 - Certified Facilitator Training
 - Scheduled District Trainings

AK STAR and Alaska Science Assessment Participation Rate

Student Participation in Spring 2022 Assessments

AK STAR English language arts

79.7%

92.8%

14.9%

AK STAR mathematics

79.5%

92.5%

14.9%

Alaska Science Assessment

75.2%

88.5%

12.5%

- All Alaska Schools
- Non-Correspondence Schools
- Correspondence Schools

AK STAR and Alaska Science Assessment Participation Rate

Student Participation in Spring 2023 Assessments

AK STAR English language arts	AK STAR mathematics	Alaska Science Assessment	
81.5%	81.3%	76.6%	<div><div></div> All Alaska Schools</div> <div><div></div> Non-Correspondence Schools</div> <div><div></div> Correspondence Schools</div>
93.9%	93.6%	89.6%	
19.0%	19.0%	13.3%	

AK STAR and Alaska Science Assessment Participation Rate

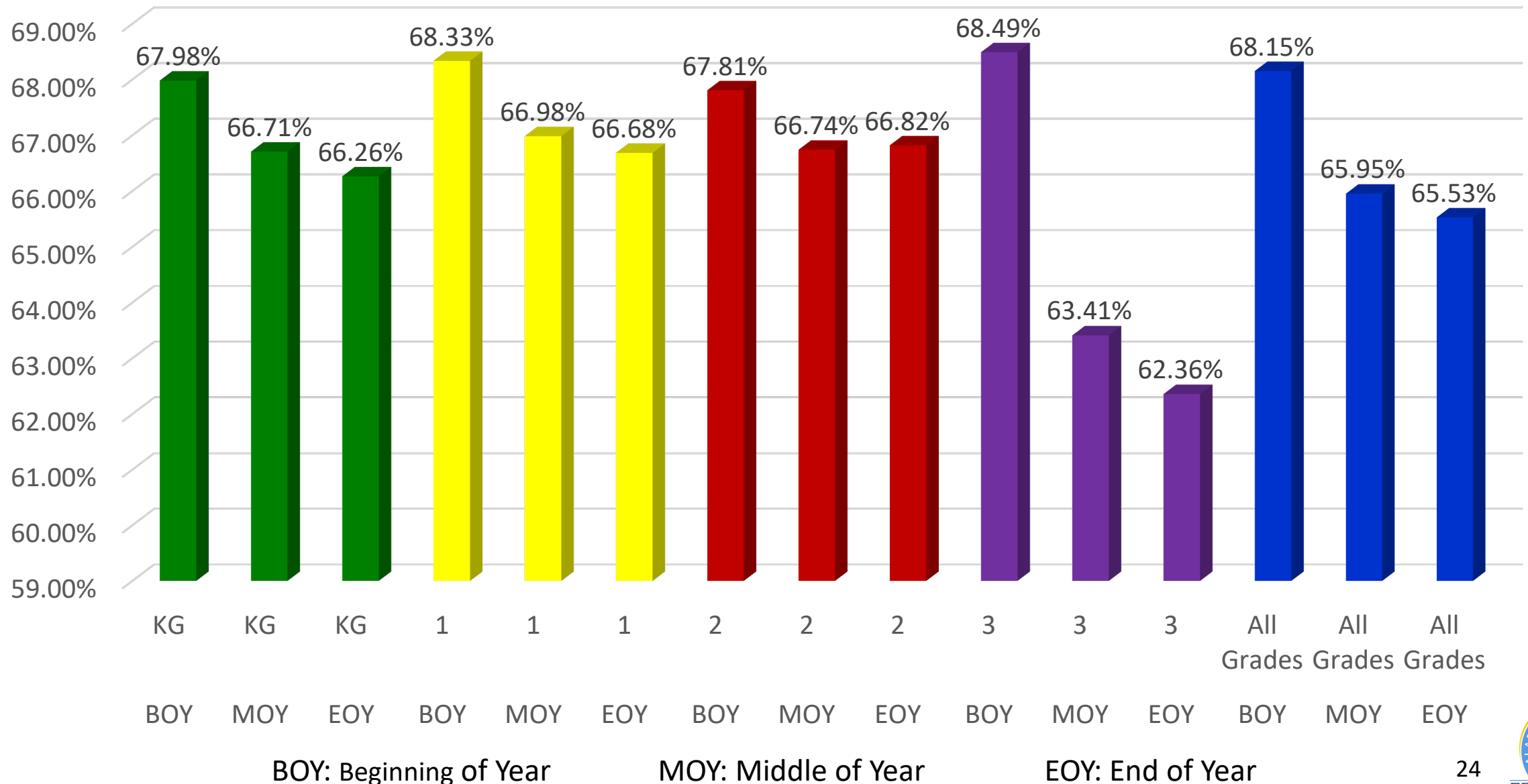
Student Participation in Spring 2024 Assessments

AK STAR English language arts	AK STAR mathematics	Alaska Science Assessment	
80.2%	80.0%	74.8%	<div><div></div>All Alaska Schools</div> <div><div></div>Non-Correspondence Schools</div> <div><div></div>Correspondence Schools</div>
94.4%	94.2%	89.9%	
14.7%	14.6%	10.5%	

2023-2024 mCLASS DIBELS 8 Literacy Screener Participation Rate by Grade

Amplify.

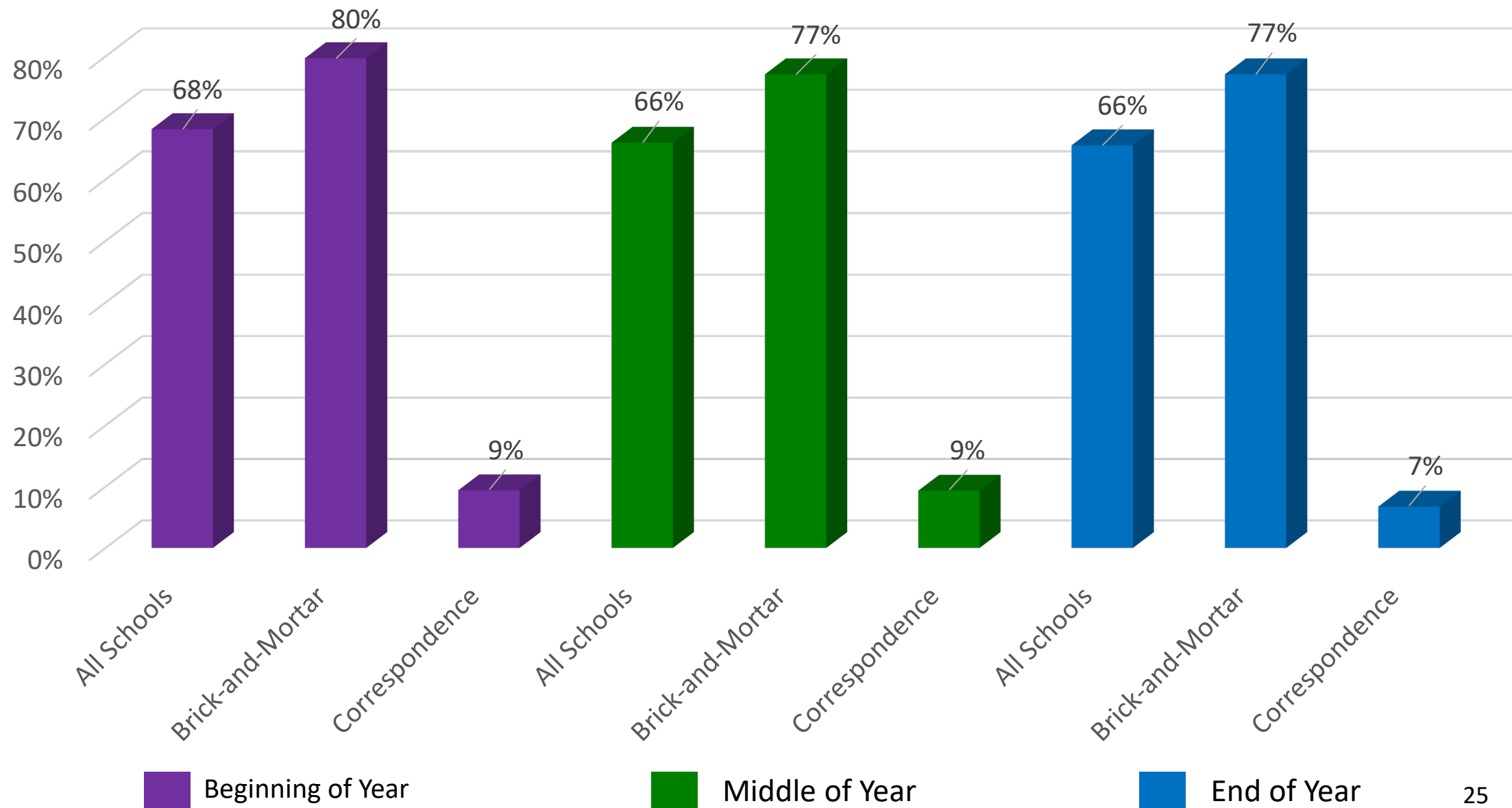
mCLASS



2023-2024 mCLASS DIBELS 8 Participation Rate by School Type

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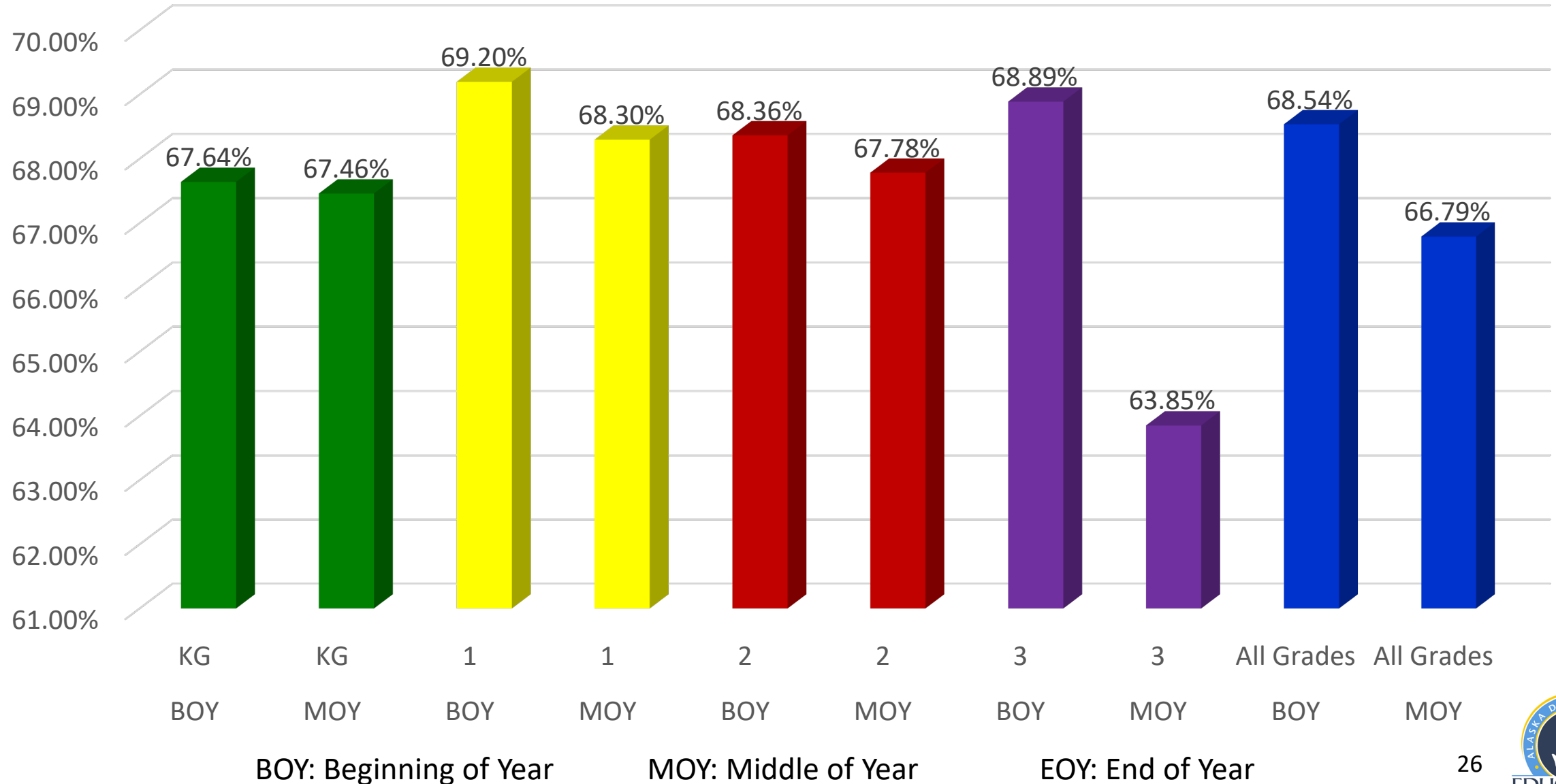
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2024-2025 mCLASS DIBELS 8 Literacy Screener Participation Rate by Grade

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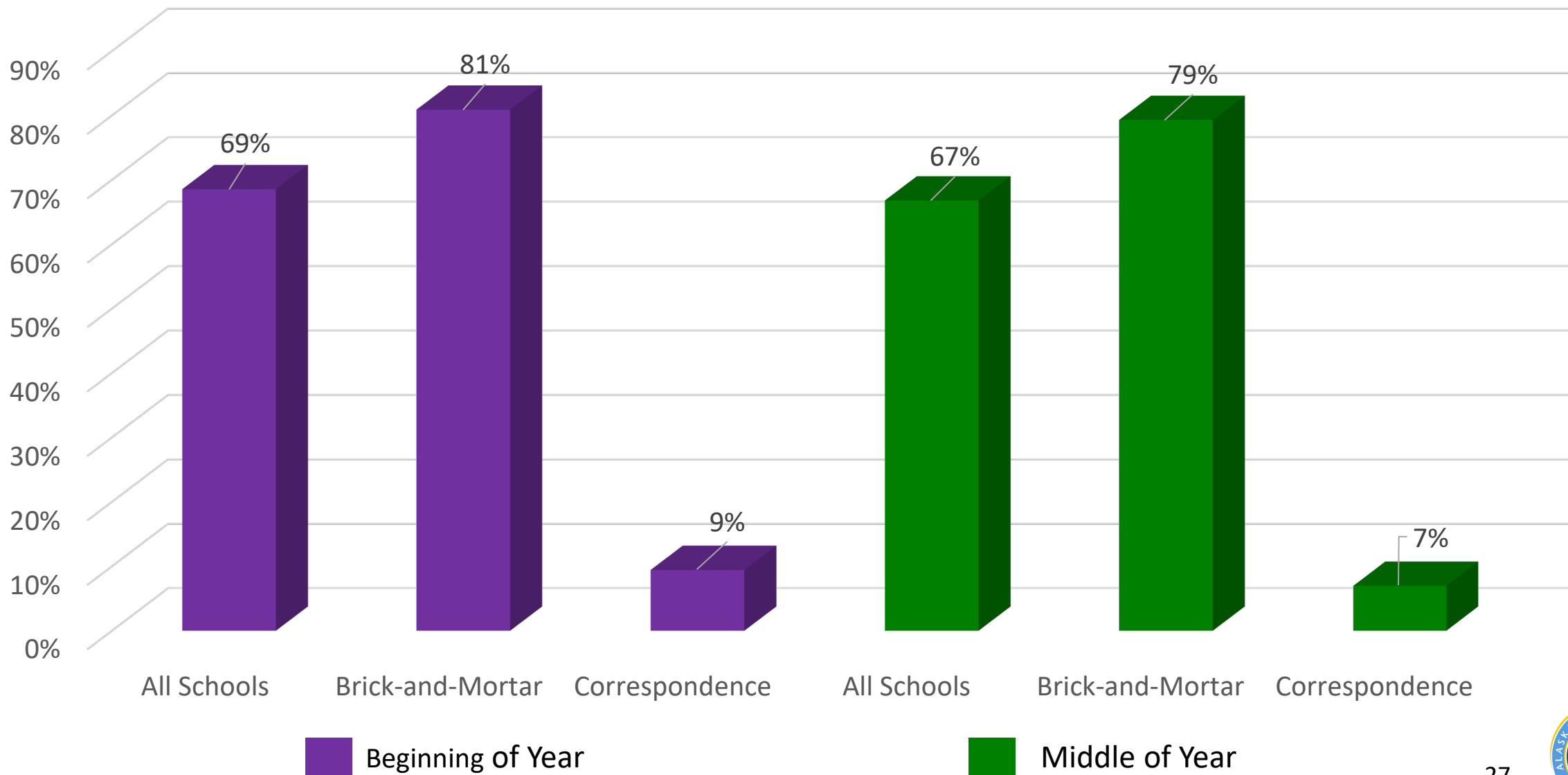
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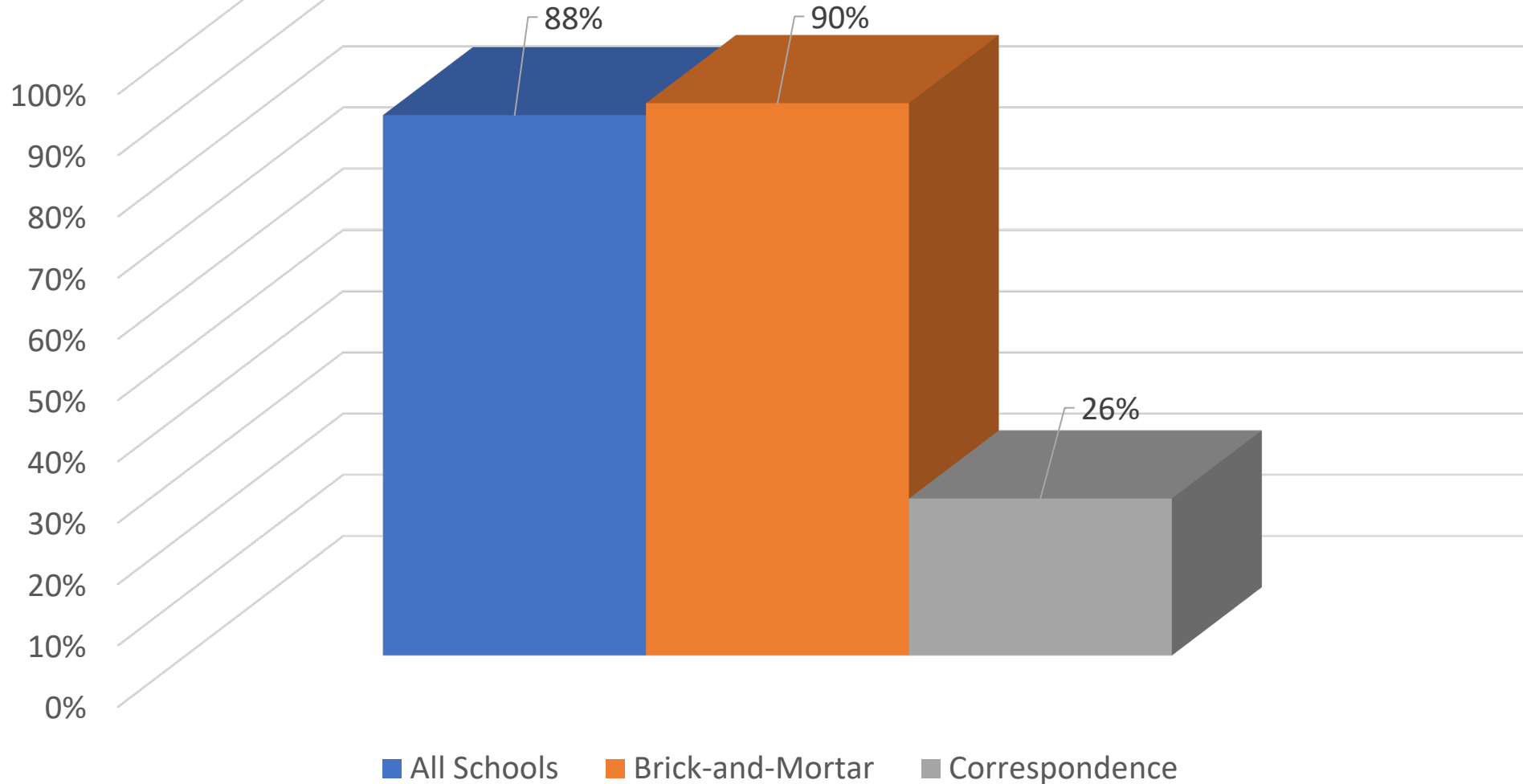
2024-2025 mCLASS DIBELS 8
Participation Rate by School Type

Amplify.

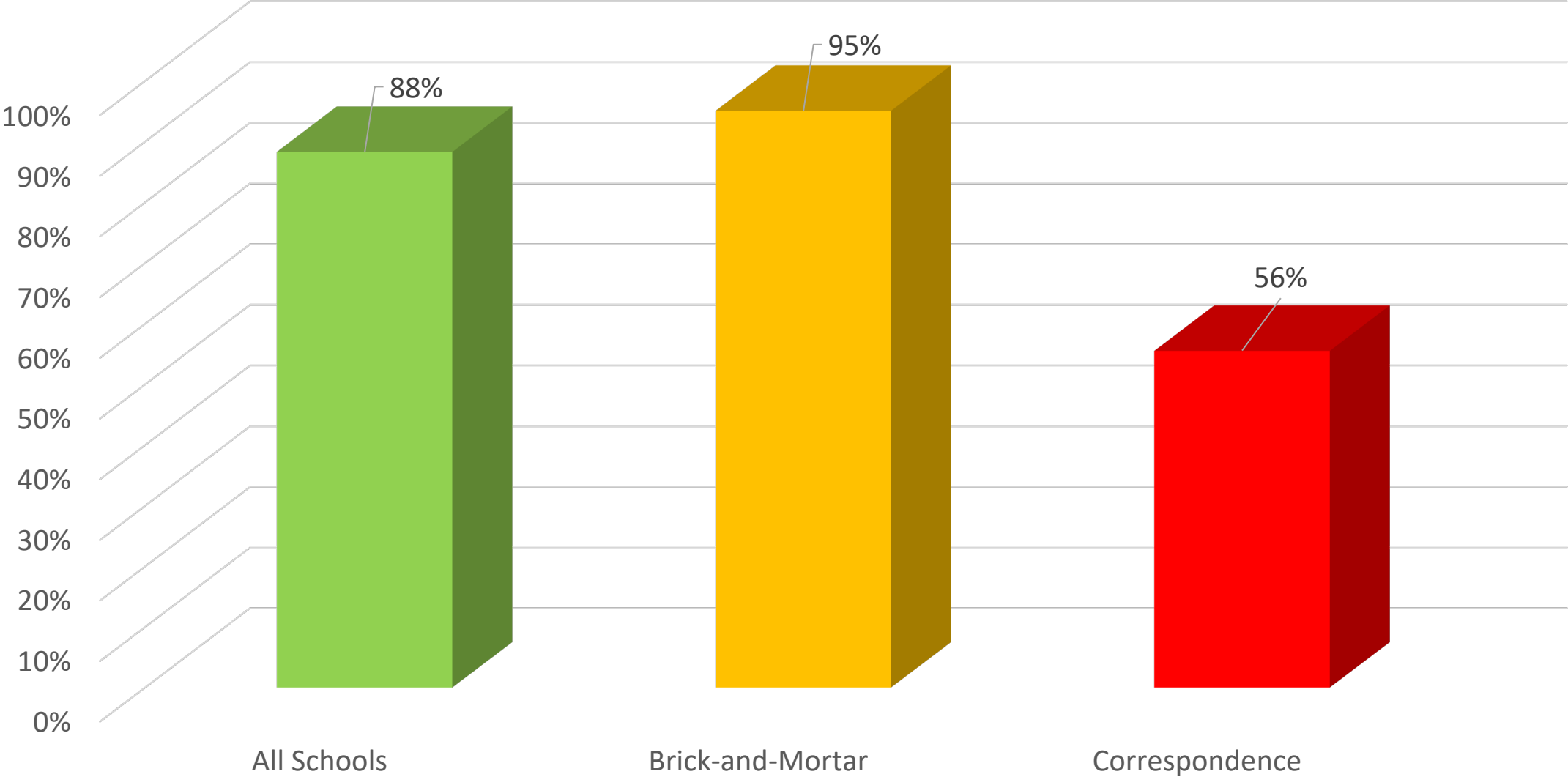
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2023-2024 WIDA Access for English Language Learners Participation Rate by School Type



2024-2025 Alaska Developmental Profile Participation Rate by School Type



Stay Connected



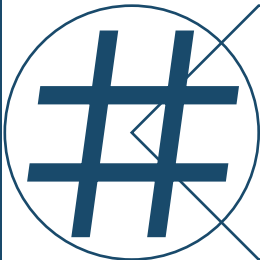
Website

- education.alaska.gov
- <https://education.alaska.gov/assessments>



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