AMIRA METRICS GUIDE

PURPOSE

This guide explains Amira's key metrics—the ARM Score, ARM Percentile Rank, Estimated Mastery, MAST Score, and DRI Score. It provides definitions, examples, and guidance on how to interpret each measure, helping educators understand student performance in relation to national peers, grade-level standards, and risk indicators for reading difficulties.

Table of Contents

Reference Table 2

ARM Score 3

ARM PR 5

Estimated Mastery 6

MAST Score 7

DRI Score 9

Frequently Asked Questions 10

Reference Table

This table compares the different types of scores teachers can access in Amira. Each metric reveals a different piece of a student's reading ability, and they're meant to be used together, not on their own. See the sections that follow for full definitions and examples.

METRIC	WHAT IT MEASURES	HOW IT MEASURES	WHAT IT TELLS ME	HOW TO USE IT
ARM Score	Overall reading mastery, holistic and norm-referenced.	Composite of all assessed tasks, weighted by predictive value.	How a student's reading compares to national peers at the same grade.	Quick snapshot of national standing; not intended for standards-based instructional planning.
Estimated Mastery ARM Score	The current best estimate of a student's reading ability, based on all collected data to date.	Dynamic ARM score that updates automatically with every assessment and practice interaction.	A student's up-to-date estimated mastery level without needing a new assessment.	Monitor progress between formal assessment windows as students read with Amira.
MAST Score	Mastery of state and grade-level reading standards (criterion-referenced).	Weights and combines qualifying mastery evidence on a continuous, equal-interval scale.	The strength of a student's qualifying evidence for grade-level standards.	Review standards-level results, plan targeted or small-group instruction, and track growth across the year.
DRI Score	A student's likelihood of being at risk for reading difficulties, including dyslexia.	Score of 0–100 based on tasks sensitive to reading challenges (e.g., RAN, phonological awareness, word recognition, encoding).	Risk level — Low Risk, At Risk (Weaker Signals), or At Risk (Stronger Signals).	Universal screener to flag students for further evaluation or proactive support.

ARM Score

Amira Reading Mastery

What is the ARM Score?

The Amira Reading Mastery (ARM) score shows how a student's reading compares to other students across the country. ARM is a norm-referenced, holistic measure of a student's reading mastery and incorporates all skills assessed such as oral reading fluency, decoding, and vocabulary.

How to Read an ARM Score

An ARM score has two parts:

2 . **4**

PEER GRADE **PEER MONTH**

1. The number on the left (before the decimal) denotes "PEER GRADE" and indicates that this student's reading is typical of national peers at this grade level.

   Example: If the score starts with 2, the student is performing at a level typical of the median second grader in the U.S.

2. The number on the right (after the decimal) denotes "PEER MONTH" and indicates how this student compares to peers with the same GRADE designation.

SPECIFICS

.1

the student performs similarly to national peers at the beginning of the school year (1st month of school)

.5

the student performs similarly to national peers in the middle of the school year (5th month of school)

.9

the student performs similarly to national peers at the end of the school year (9th month of school)

EXAMPLE

2 **.4**

PEER GRADE PEER MONTH

If a student's ARM score is 2.4, this indicates they are performing on par with the average second grader nationally in the fourth month of the school year. **It does not mean the student is "reading at a second-grade level."**

> The ARM score does not reflect how a student's mastery aligns with State or District grade-level standards. Instead, it shows how a student's mastery compares to their national peer group. In other words, the ARM score is based on norms, and "peer comparison" is what norms represent.

Where To View It

The ARM score is the default score displayed in most reports. Teachers can view a student's ARM score from an assessment in the Benchmark Report or the Class Progress Report.



ARM PR

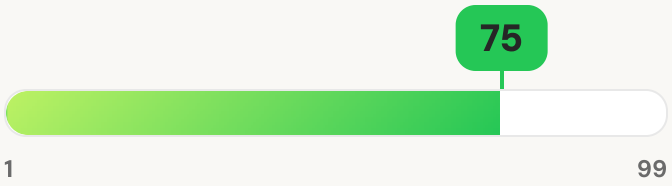
Amira Reading Mastery Percentile Rank

What is an ARM PR Score?

A Percentile Rank shows how a student is performing compared to peers nationwide, and is expressed as the percentage of students in the comparison group who scored below a student.

The ARM Score Percentile Rank shows where a student's ARM score falls on a scale of 1 to 99, reflecting their standing relative to other students.

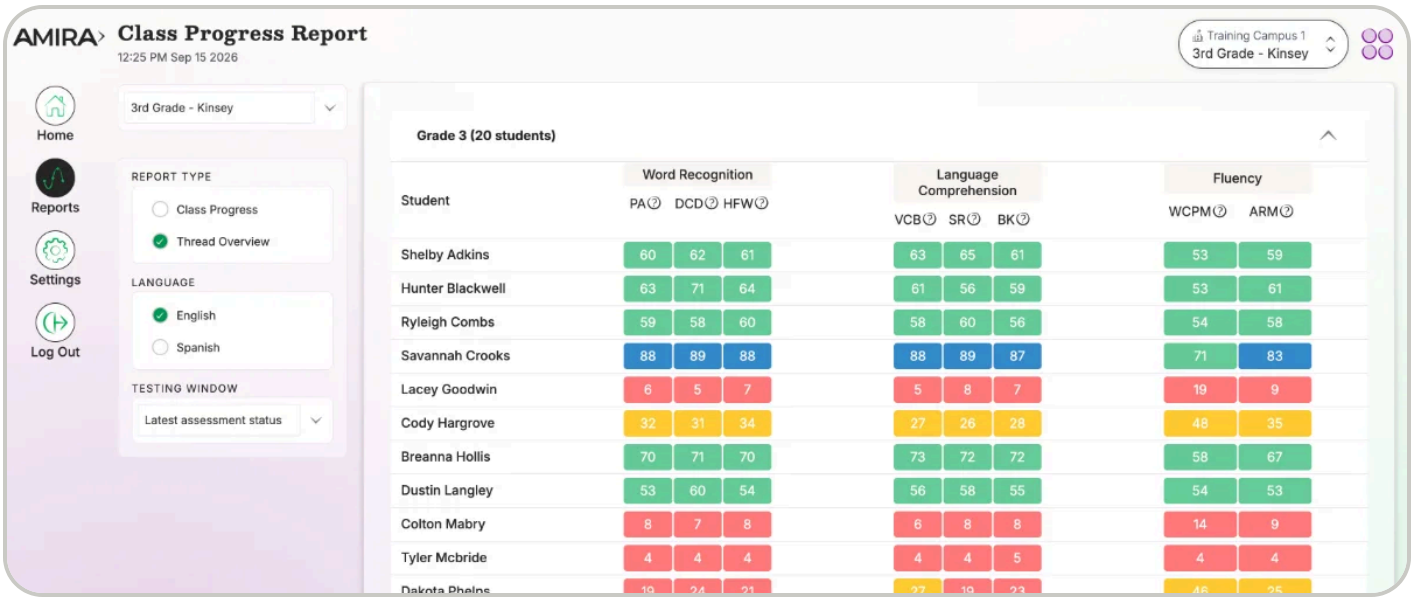
EXAMPLE



If a student's Percentile Rank is 75, this means they are performing better than 75% of students in the same grade nationwide, placing them in the top 25%.

Where To View It

The ARM score is the default score displayed in most reports. Teachers can view a student's ARM Score Percentile Rank from an assessment in the Class Progress Report. Toggle to "Thread Overview" to see percentile ranks broken down by the individual threads of the Reading Rope.



Estimated Mastery

Estimated Mastery ARM Score

What is an Estimated Mastery Score?

An Estimated Mastery ARM score is the current best estimate of a student's ability today, reflecting their mastery level based on all collected data. It is a dynamic ARM score that updates with every interaction a student has within the Amira ecosystem, including assessments and practice - making it seamless to monitor progress as students read with Amira without administering an additional assessment.

EXAMPLE

2 **.4**

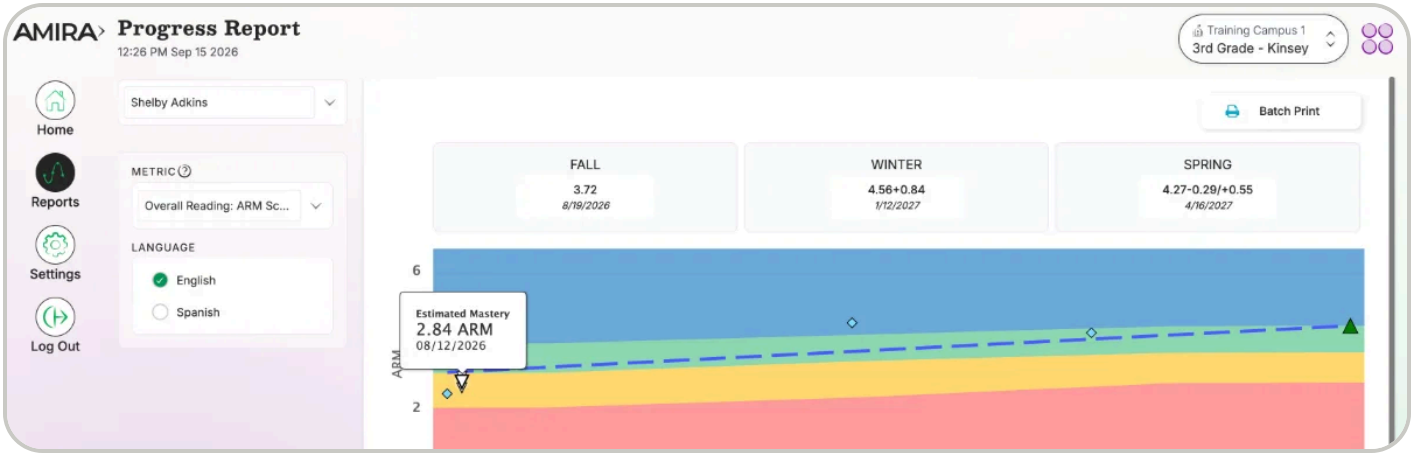
PEER GRADE **PEER MONTH**

UPDATES WITH EVERY INTERACTION

If a student's Estimated Mastery ARM score is 2.4, this indicates they are performing on par with the average second grader nationally in the fourth month of the school year.

Where To View It

The Estimated Mastery ARM score is displayed in the Class Progress Report in the far right hand column after assessment scores are shown. It is also displayed in the Progress Report; teachers can view this score by hovering over the Progress Line or viewing the Reading Mastery summary below the Progress graph.



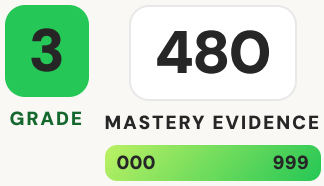
MAST Score

Mastery of Academic Standards & Targets

What a MAST Score?

Mastery of Academic Standards & Targets (MAST) is a criterion-referenced measure that weights and combines a student's qualifying mastery evidence across the reading standards for their state and grade. It is reported on a continuous within-grade scale and reflects only standards for which qualifying evidence is available. Unlike ARM, MAST reflects performance against grade-level standards rather than performance relative to national peers.

How To Read A MAST Score



A MAST score begins with the student's grade and is followed by a three-digit score from 000 to 999. Kindergarten scores use the three-digit score without a grade prefix. Higher numbers indicate stronger mastery evidence.

EXAMPLE A 3rd grade student has a score of 3480:

- The first digit **3** identifies Grade 3
- The last three digits **480** summarizes the strength of the student's qualifying mastery evidence across the Grade 3 standards represented in the score.

GRADE	EMERGING	APPROACHING	PROFICIENT
K	000–338	339–459	460–999
1	000–294	295–483	484–999
2	000–319	320–546	547–999
3	000–400	401–586	587–999
4	000–466	467–585	586–999
5	000–443	444–567	568–999
6	000–315	316–564	565–999
7	000–358	359–546	547–999
8	000–391	392–582	583–999

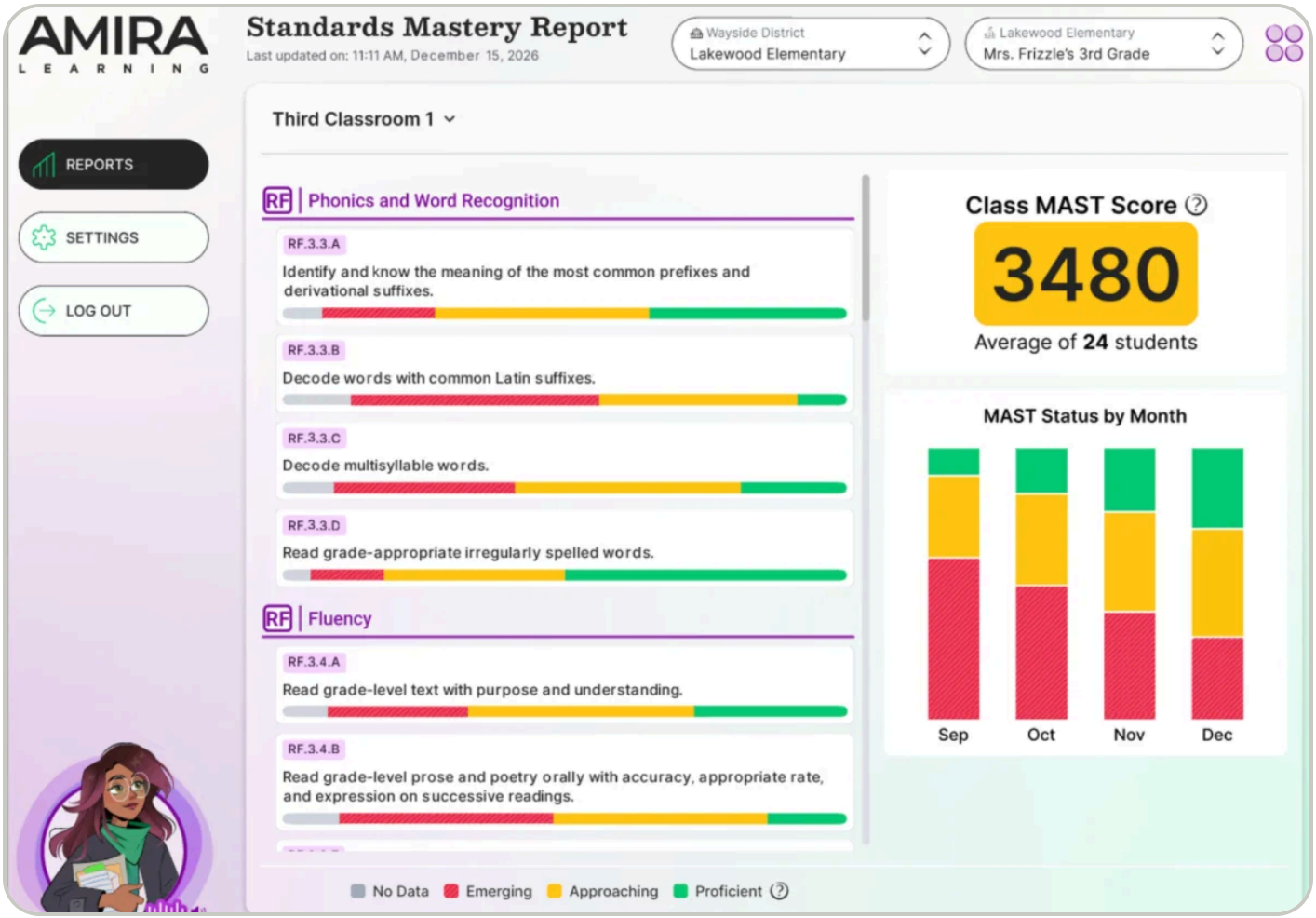
MAST Across The School Year

Lower MAST scores are expected at the beginning of the school year because students are beginning instruction on new grade-level standards. As instruction progresses and students demonstrate stronger mastery, their MAST scores should generally increase. Teachers should use MAST as an overall summary and review the standards-level results to identify specific strengths and instructional needs and plan small-group or targeted instruction.

Where To View It

Teachers can access a student's MAST score in the Standards Mastery Report. This report displays the class average MAST score, and teachers can use the dropdown menu to view individual students' scores.

To learn more about MAST, see the **MAST Practitioner's Guide**.



DRI Score

Dyslexia Risk Indicator

What is a DRI Score?

The Dyslexia Risk Indicator (DRI) Score is a measure representing a student's likelihood of being at risk for reading difficulties, including dyslexia.

How to Read a DRI Score

DRI scores range from 0-100, with higher scores indicating higher risk.

FOR GRADES 1-8:

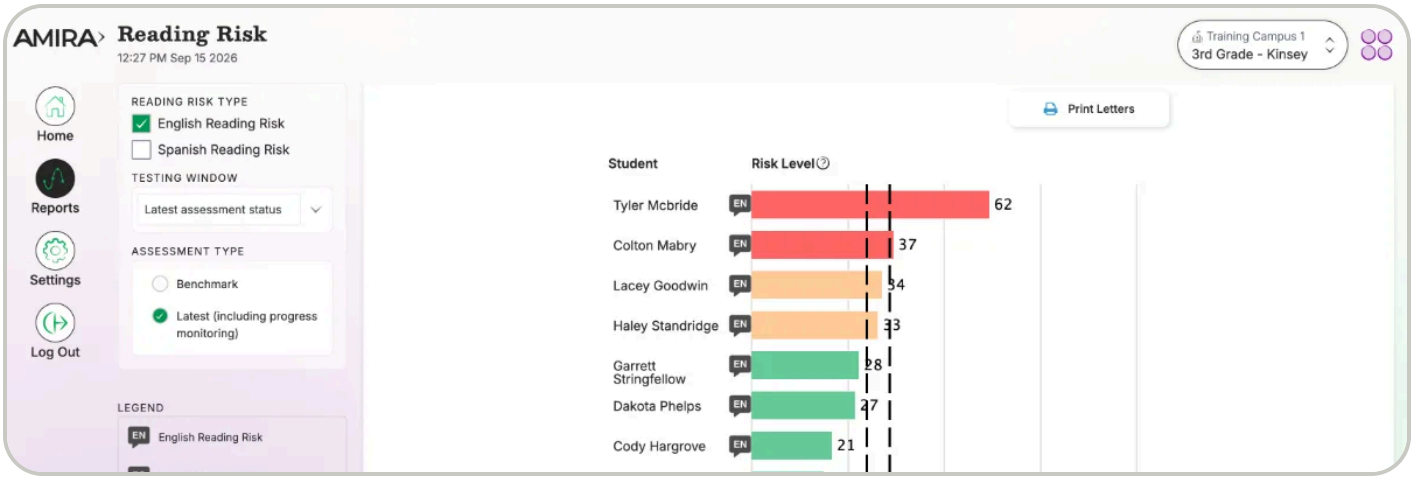
< 30	30–36	> 36
Low Risk	**At Risk, Weaker Signals**	**At Risk, Stronger Signals**
	Pre-K–K: 30–33	Pre-K–K: > 33

SPECIAL VALUES

0 is the lowest possible risk and will not display a green score bar. **-1** means the assessment was taken but no valid score could be generated due to limited or incomplete performance data (common for early readers still learning letters and sounds).

Where To View It

Teachers can view a student's DRI score in the Reading Risk Report. If you do not have this report in your dashboard, your district may request to have it enabled.



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the ARM score based on?

The ARM score is a composite measure that combines results from all tasks observed. Each task is weighted based on how well it predicts reading outcomes, with skills like Oral Reading Fluency gaining more influence as students progress to higher grades. Alongside the overall score, subscores highlight performance in key literacy areas such as Phonemic Awareness, Vocabulary, and Comprehension. This adaptive design ensures the ARM score reflects a comprehensive view of a student's reading ability, rather than just isolated tasks.

What is the MAST score based on?

The MAST score summarizes a student's progress toward mastering their state's reading standards for their grade. It combines eligible skill evidence from Amira Assessment, Tutor, and Instruct while accounting for differences in skill difficulty and measurement information. It is not a percentage or simple average, and completing more activities does not automatically raise it.

What is the DRI score based on?

The DRI score is generated based on students' performance on tasks sensitive to reading challenges. Tasks with higher contribution to the DRI include Rapid Automatized Naming (RAN) and Phonological Awareness in lower grades, and Word Recognition and Encoding/Spelling in upper grades. The DRI serves as a universal screener to flag students for further evaluation or proactive support, but it is important to note that it is not a diagnostic tool.

What do the colors in my reports mean?

Districts have the ability to configure their own cutlines for reports displaying the ARM score. View a walkthrough **here**.

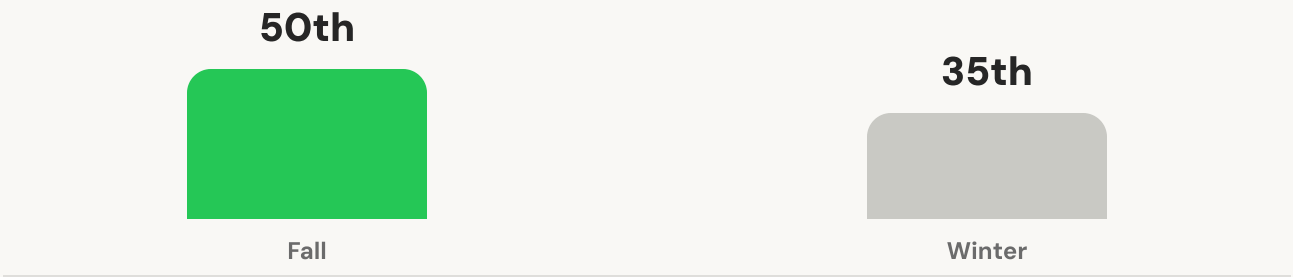
Why might a student's ARM score appear lower or higher than I might have expected?

The ARM score provides a snapshot of overall performance. It does not indicate that a student has mastered the content or skills of a particular grade level. Instead, the score reflects how a student performed across tasks and represents their reading ability in comparison to national peers in the same grade.

Why might a student's percentile rank go down?

"Norm-referenced" scores such as ARM and percentile rank provide a standard by which students' performance is compared to that of their peers. One example of percentile rank you are probably familiar with is the measurement of height and weight at the pediatrician's office. Assessing students multiple times a year is important to ensure students are on track to acquire the knowledge and skills they need for their grade level.

Most students' scores will increase from the fall to the winter. Therefore, if a student has a similar score in the fall and the winter, their percentile rank, or the comparison of their score compared to other students scores, will likely go down. For example, a student who is in the 50th percentile in the fall and performs similarly on their winter assessment might now be in the 35th percentile rank in the winter when compared to their peers in that window.



SAME SCORE, NEW COMPARISON WINDOW