

# Norms and Comparative Data

This center allows participants involved with school improvement planning to better understand how MAP® Growth™ is normed and why norms and comparative data have implications for using data to monitor student growth and achievement.

**1.** Access the [2020 norms study](#).

Within your work group, divide the sections on pages 2–6 to address this question: *What are the key/unique features of NWEA® norming processes, and how do these features affect the various ways metrics can be used to support student growth?*

**2.** Consider the differences between normative and comparative data:

- Normative data reflects typical performance among a group of students; it shows how “real kids” performed within a representative sample
- Comparative data combines normative data with a second data set to provide additional context for decision-making

**3.** Open the resources listed:

- [Comparative data sheet](#)
- [MAP College Readiness Benchmarks](#)

**4.** Use your own data:

- Find the [Class Breakdown by Proficiency](#) and your [State Linking Study](#)
- Explore how your school or district can use these resources to support student-centered school improvement processes

**5.** Be prepared to report to the larger group:

- Summarize new learning
- Suggest ways this information can be used throughout the year with school improvement planning