



Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness >

Volume 8, 2015 - Issue 3

409 | 14
Views | CrossRef citations to date | Altmetric

INTERVENTION, EVALUATION, AND POLICY STUDIES

Benchmarks for Expected Annual Academic Growth for Students in the Bottom Quartile of the Normative Distribution

Nancy K. Scamacca , Anna-Mária Fall & Greg Roberts

Pages 366-379 | Accepted author version posted online: 09 Oct 2014, Published online: 02 Jul 2015

Cite this article <https://doi.org/10.1080/19345747.2014.952464>

Check for updates

Sample our
Education
Journals
**>> Sign in here to start your access
to the latest two volumes for 14 days**

Full Article

Figures & data

References

Citations

Metrics

Reprints & Permissions

Read this article

Share

Abstract

Effect sizes are commonly reported for the results of educational interventions. However, researchers struggle with interpreting their magnitude in a way that transcends generic guidelines. Effect sizes can be interpreted in a meaningful context by benchmarking them against typical growth for students in the normative distribution. Such benchmarks are not currently available for students in the bottom quartile. This report remedies this by providing a comparative context for interventions involving these students. Annual growth effect sizes for K-12 students were computed from nationally normed assessments and a longitudinal study of students in special education. They reveal declining growth over time, especially for reading and math. These results allow researchers to better interpret the effects of their interventions and help practitioners by quantifying typical growth for struggling students. More

longitudinal research is needed to show growth trajectories for students in the bottom quartile.

Keywords:

Effect sizes

education evaluation

low-performing students

Related research

People also read

Recommended articles

Cited by
14

Performance Trajectories and Performance Gaps as Achievement Effect-Size Benchmarks for Educational Interventions >

Howard S. Bloom et al.

Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness

Published online: 13 Oct 2008

Information for

Authors

R&D professionals

Editors

Librarians

Societies

Opportunities

Reprints and e-prints

Advertising solutions

Accelerated publication

Corporate access solutions

Open access

Overview

Open journals

Open Select

Dove Medical Press

F1000Research

Help and information

Help and contact

Newsroom

All journals

Books

Keep up to date

Register to receive personalised research and resources
by email

 Sign me up

  

  

Copyright © 2026 Informa UK Limited Privacy policy Cookies Terms & conditions

Accessibility



Registered in England & Wales No. 01072954
5 Howick Place | London | SW1P 1WG