



How to Interpret the Grade Equivalent (GE) Score

Grade Equivalent

A Grade Equivalent (GE) indicates the normal grade placement of students for whom a particular score is typical. For example, if a seventh-grade student received a GE of 10.0, this means that the student scored as well on a STAR Math™ test as the typical tenth-grade student taking the same test. It does not necessarily mean that the seventh-grade student has mastered tenth-grade math curriculum -- only that he or she obtained a Scaled Score as high as the average beginning tenth-grade student in the norms group .

On past occasions, students scoring particularly high on a STAR Math test would receive GE scores far beyond their actual grade. In these situations, the large discrepancy between their actual grade level and their GE score was sometimes misleading for educators. For this reason, a cap is now applied to the GE score when it exceeds a certain threshold as explained below.

Grade Equivalent Cap

For STAR Math Renaissance Place Real Time™ customers, GE scores will be capped when they exceed three grade levels above the student's actual grade placement. When a student's scaled score produces a GE that is greater than the start of three grades above the student's current grade, STAR Math will report that student's GE is greater than the cap grade but will not report the specific GE score. Because this cannot happen to students in tenth grade or above, the potential for a capped GE will only exist for K-9 students. When applicable, the GE cap will now appear on all STAR Math reports – even those showing test scores from tests taken prior to this update.

For example, a fourth grade student cannot receive a GE score above 7.0 at any time of the year. If their GE score is above a 7.0, the reports will show a capped GE score of ">7".

Grade Placement	Grade Equivalent	Grade Equivalent Reported as
4.6	6.9	6.9
4.6	7.0	7.0
4.6	7.1	>7

More About GE Scores

GE scores in STAR Math 3.x and higher range from 0.0 to 12.9+. Because the GE scale expresses individual "months" in tenths, the scale does not cover the summer months. Table 2 indicates how the decimalized GE tenths correspond to the various calendar months. Since the norming of STAR Math 2.0 took place during the seventh month of the school year, GEs ending in 0.7 are empirically based; in other words, they provide conversions based on actual normative medians. All other portions of the scale are formed by fitting a curve to the grade-by-grade medians and finding Scaled Scores that fit the curve.

Further information about GE and other STAR Math scores can be found in the STAR Math Technical Manual.

Month	Decimal Increment	Month	Decimal Increment
July	0.0 or 0.99*	January	0.4
August	0.0 or 0.99*	February	0.5
September	0.0	March	0.6
October	0.1	April	0.7
November	0.2	May	0.8
December	0.3	June	0.9

*Depends on School Year Entered