

Student Growth in New Hampshire on the NECAP An Overview of Student Growth Percentiles

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September 16th, 2009

Relevant Topics

- What questions can student growth percentiles be used to address?
- What are student growth percentiles and percentile growth projections/trajectories?
- What role do the results from growth percentile analyses play in accountability system determinations?
- What role do the results from growth percentile analyses play in program evaluations?

What are the relevant questions for parents?

Yen (2007), from a state survey of parents, teachers and administrators, compiled a list of frequently voiced questions/concerns by stakeholder group.

Parent Questions

- Did my child make a year's worth of progress in a year?
- Is my child growing appropriately toward meeting state standards?
- Is my child growing as much in Math as Reading?
- Did my child grow as much this year as last year?

What are the relevant questions for teachers?

Yen (2007), from a state survey of parents, teachers and administrators, compiled a list of frequently voiced questions/concerns by stakeholder group.

Teacher Questions

- Did my students make a year's worth of progress in a year?
- Did my students grow appropriately toward meeting state standards?
- How close are my students to becoming Proficient?
- Are there students with unusually low growth who need special attention?

What are the relevant questions for administrators?

Yen (2007), from a state survey of parents, teachers and administrators, compiled a list of frequently voiced questions/concerns by stakeholder group.

Administrator Questions

- Did the students in our district/school make a year's worth of progress in all content areas?
- Are our students growing appropriately toward meeting state standards?
- Does this school/program show as much growth as that one?
- Can I measure student growth even for students who do not change proficiency categories?
- Can I pool together results from different grades to draw summary conclusions?

Descriptive Questions

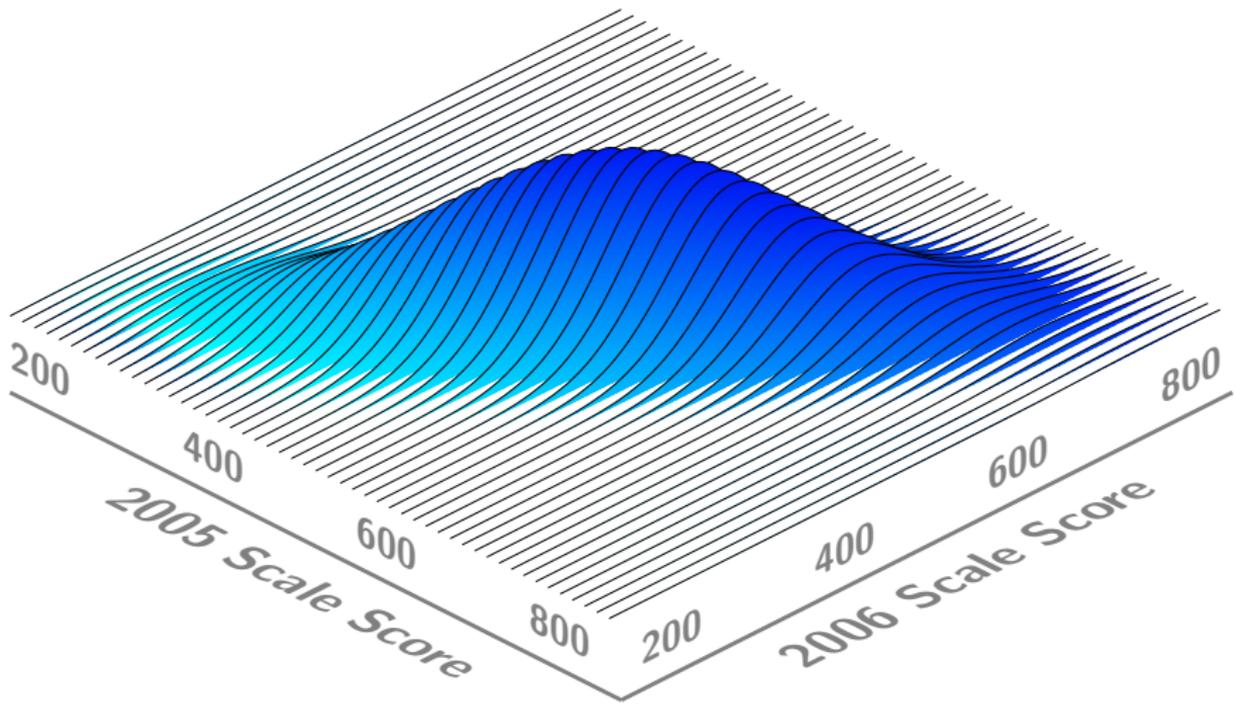
- Note that the questions put forward by stakeholders are primarily descriptive
- The questions are only peripherally associated with causality.
- High stakes accountability has transformed questions about student growth into questions about responsibility/cause: Teacher and School Effectiveness.
- Again, starting with descriptive questions, perhaps the place to begin is with description and a model supporting such ends.

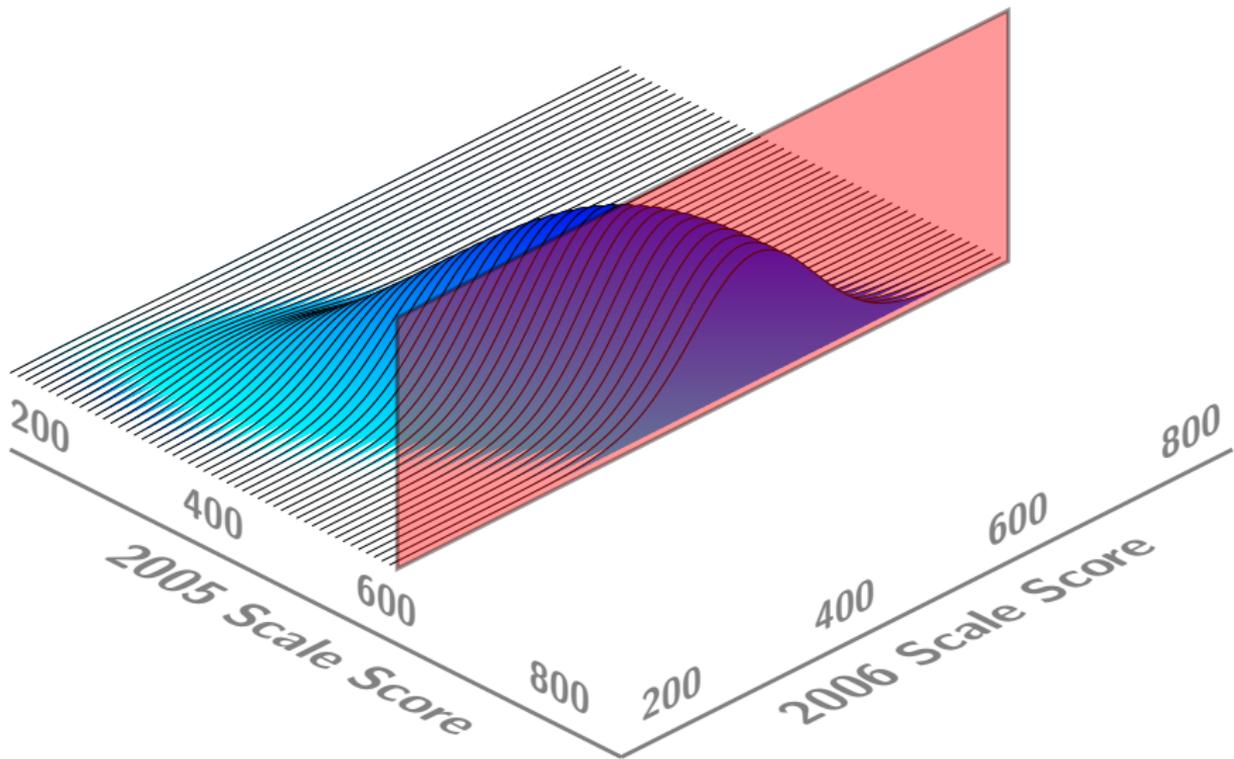
Descriptive Accountability

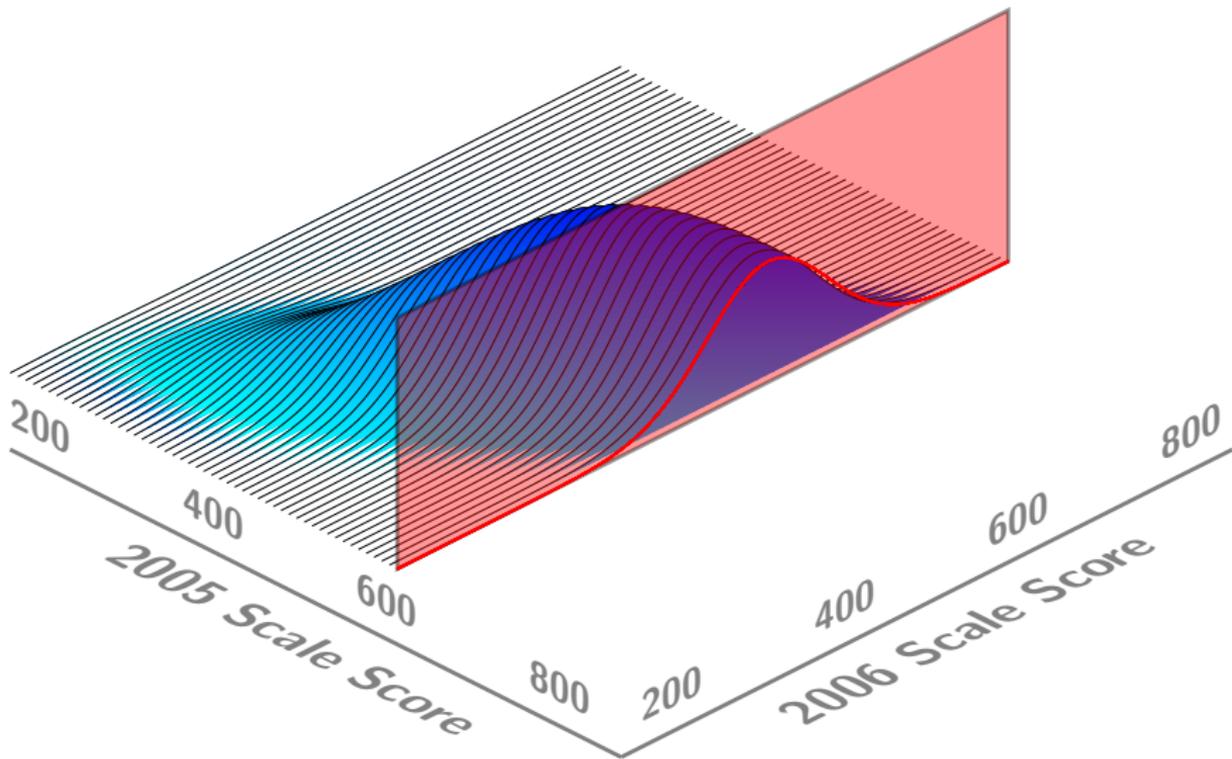
Accountability system results can have value without making causal inferences about school quality, solely from the results of student achievement measures and demographic characteristics. Treating the results as descriptive information and for identification of schools that require more intensive investigation of organizational and instructional process characteristics are potentially of considerable value. Rather than using the results of the accountability system as the sole determiner of sanctions for schools, they could be used to flag schools that need more intensive investigation to reach sound conclusions about needed improvements or judgments about quality [Linn, 2008, p. 21].

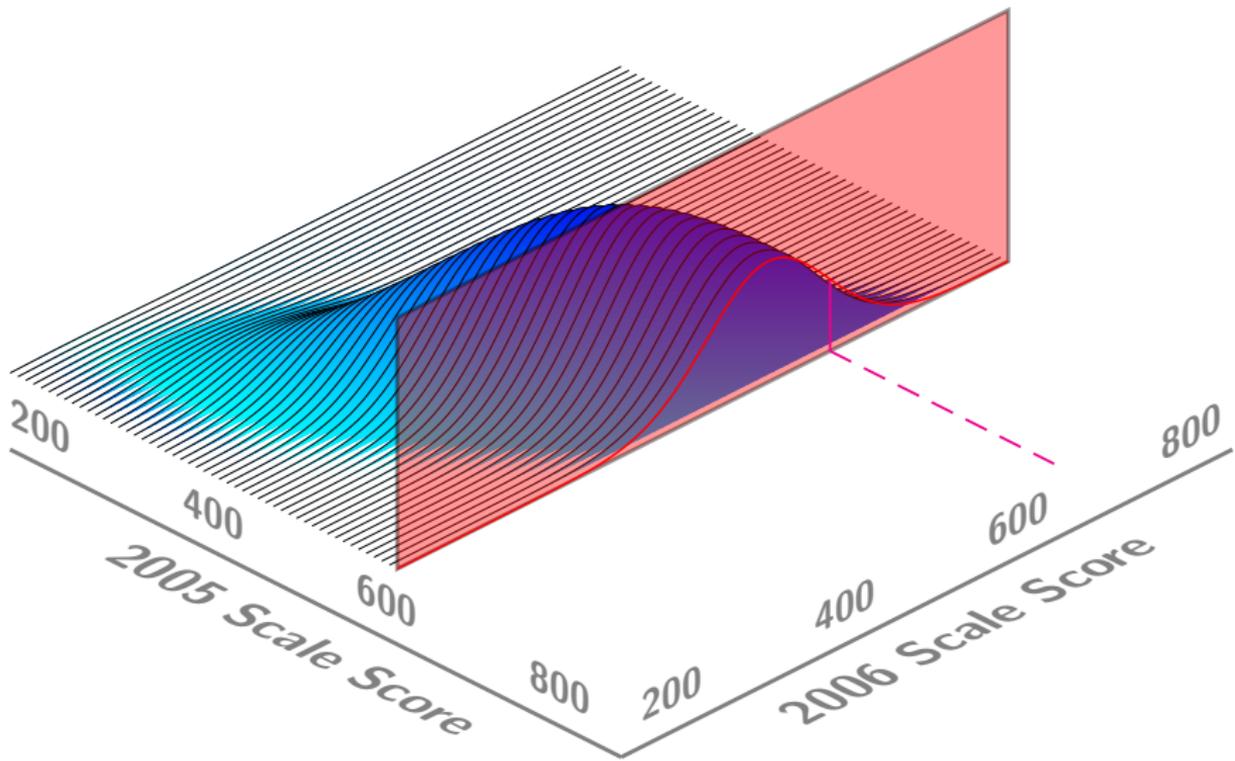
Describing Student Growth

- Measuring student growth, even with a vertical scale, is not a simple task.
- Some believe a vertical scale simplifies the task of measuring student growth.
- Even with an interval (or ratio) scale, growth is not easy to interpret. Consider, for example, height.
 - A child might grow 4 inches between ages 3 and 4.
 - 4 inches is a well understood quantity.
 - The 4 inch increase becomes really meaningful only when understood alongside the growth of other 3 to 4 year olds.
- **Student growth percentiles** were developed to provide a normative context for describing student growth.









Student Growth Percentiles

Should we be surprised with a child's current achievement given their prior achievement?

- Given a student's prior scale scores and the associated conditional density, their current scale score corresponds to a percentile of that conditional distribution.
- This percentile is the **student's growth percentile**.
- Growth percentiles are closely related to estimating the probability of observing a student's current achievement taking account of their past achievement:

$\Pr(\text{Current Achievement} | \text{Past Achievement})$.

- As such, growth percentiles describe the rarity of a student's current achievement conditional upon their prior achievement.

Student Growth Percentiles

Should we be surprised with a child's current achievement given their prior achievement?

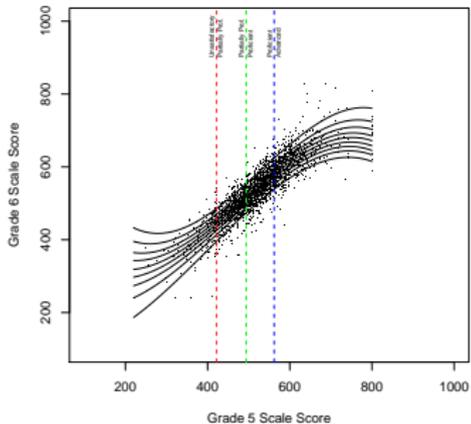
- Student growth percentiles answer this question.
- Consider a low achieving student with 90th percentile growth and a high achieving student with 10th percentile growth.
 - The low achieving student grew at a rate exceeding 90 percent of similar students.
 - The high achieving student grew at a rate exceeding just 10 percent of similar students.
 - The low achiever's growth is more *exemplary* (probabilistically) than the high achiever's.
- Judgments about the **adequacy** of student growth require external criteria.

Model for Student Growth Percentiles

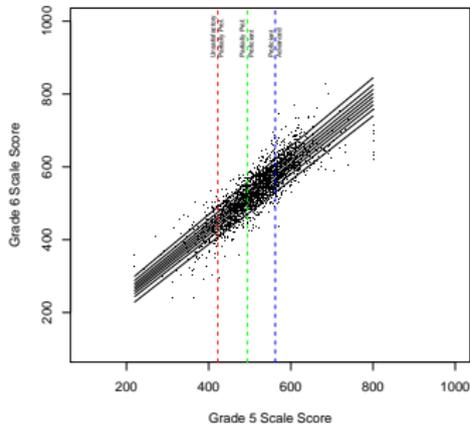
- Student growth percentiles are calculated using quantile regression with B-spline smoothing, a generalized additive model.
- Quantile regression is used to model the complete distribution of the response variable (current achievement)
- B-spline smoothing is used to accommodate non-linearity and heteroscedasticity of the data.
- The model/method is descriptive and all about data fit—it's a data mining procedure.
- The model quantifies *distance = rate · time* probabilistically.

Model for Student Growth Percentiles

Conditional Decile Regression Curves
2006–07 Math: Grade 5 versus 6



Conditional Decile Regression Lines
2006–07 Math: Grade 5 versus 6



Description, Inference, and Causality

Richard Berk in *Regression Analysis, A Constructive Critique* (2003) provides an account of the (ab)use of regression

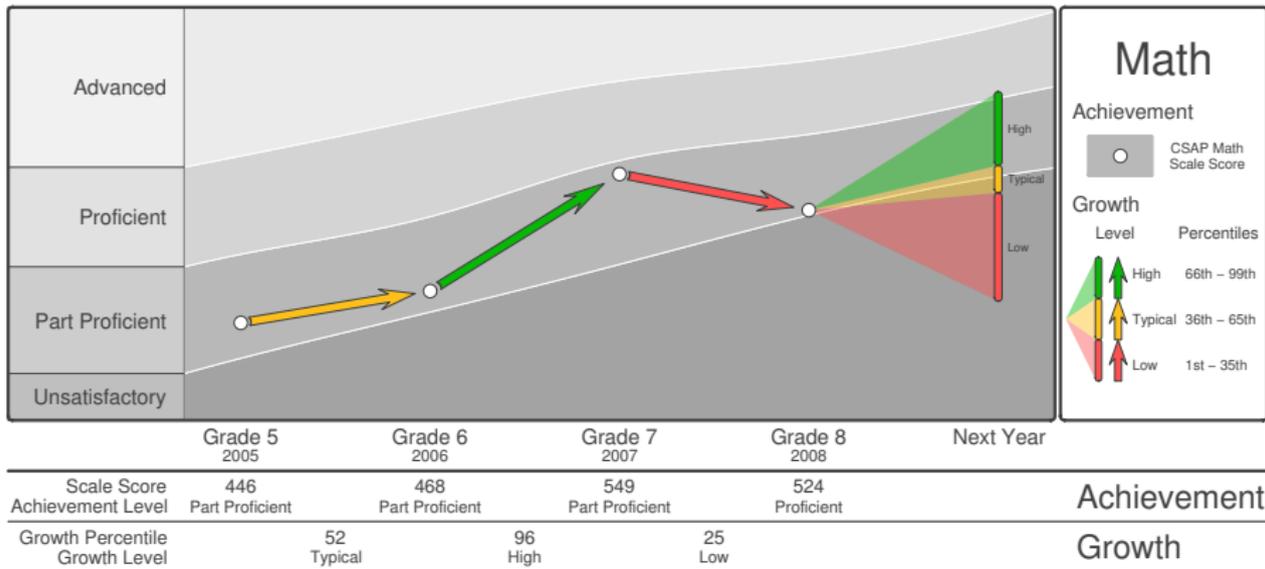
Three Cheers for Description Descriptive models are judged by their utility

Two Cheers for Inference Inferential models are judged based upon their ability to fulfill statistical criteria associated with generalizing from a sample to a population. What is the chance process?

One Cheer for Causality Causal models are judged, in addition to inferential issues, by an external theory which plausibly relates causes/interventions and effects/outcomes.

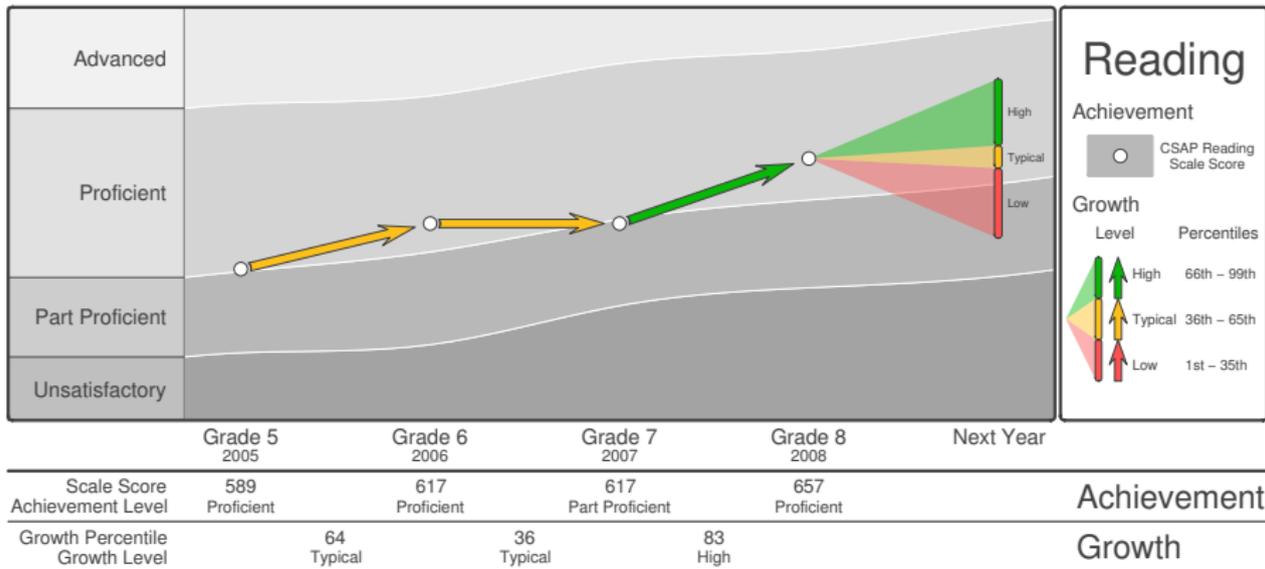
Combining Normative and Criterion-Referenced Growth

- Growth adequacy is determined by whether a student's growth is sufficient to reach/maintain desired achievement levels (e.g., proficiency).
- Percentile growth projections/trajectories are calculated for each student using the most recent historical NECAP longitudinal student growth analyses.
- These “growth-to-standard” trajectories indicate what it will take for the student to reach/maintain proficiency and other achievement levels.
- This approach to quantifying “adequate” growth (done by Colorado) was approved by the USED for use in AYP determinations as part of the Growth Model Pilot Program.



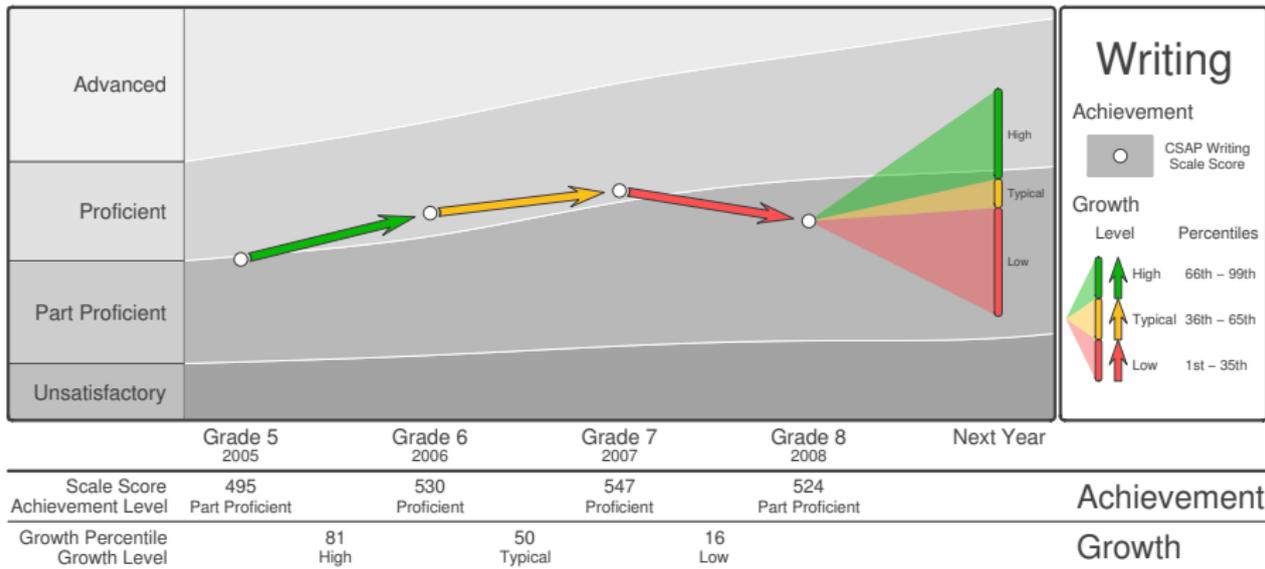
Achievement

Growth



Achievement

Growth



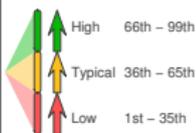
Writing

Achievement

○ CSAP Writing Scale Score

Growth

Level Percentiles

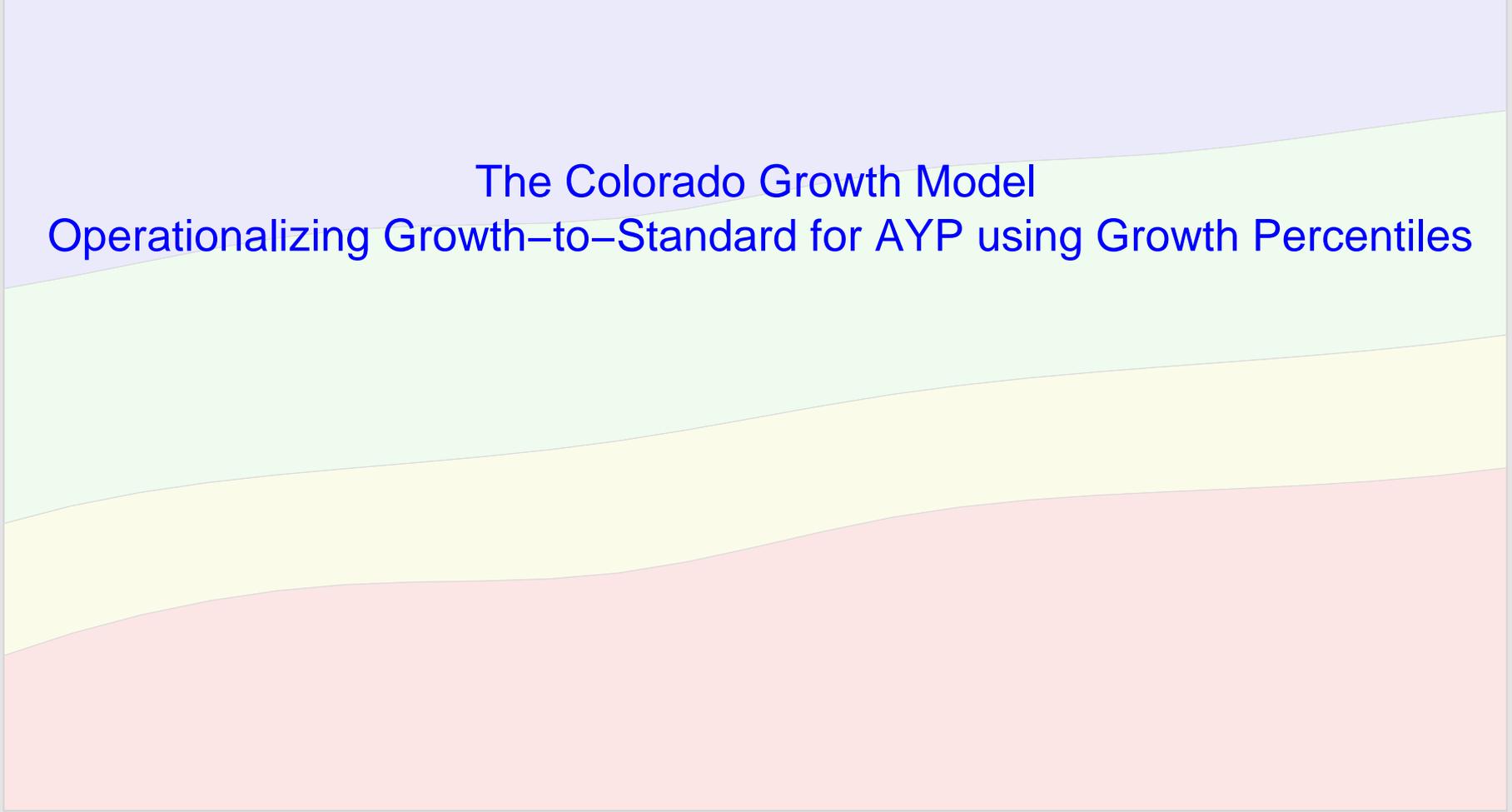


Achievement

Growth

The Colorado Growth Model

Operationalizing Growth-to-Standard for AYP using Growth Percentiles



Grade 4/2005

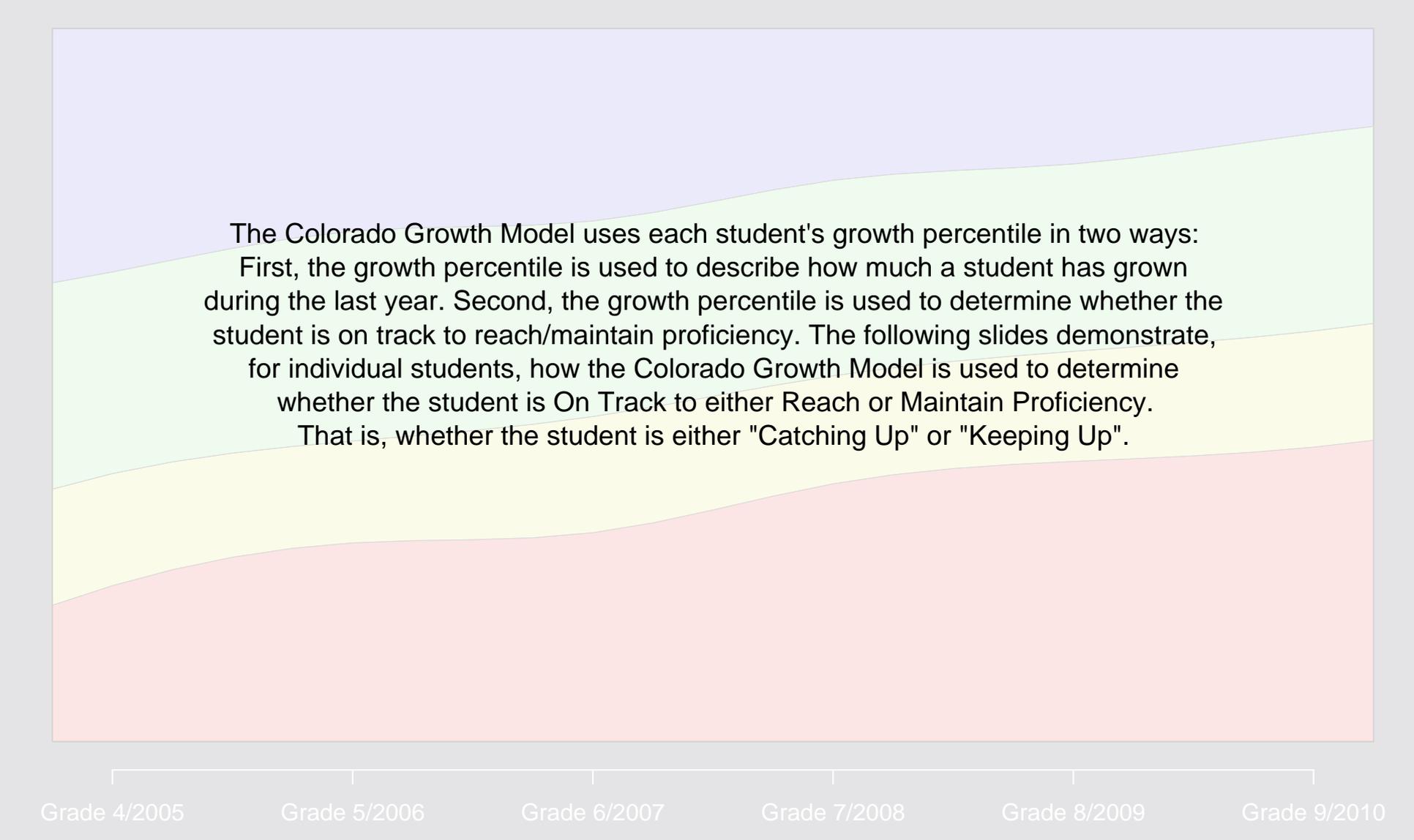
Grade 5/2006

Grade 6/2007

Grade 7/2008

Grade 8/2009

Grade 9/2010



The Colorado Growth Model uses each student's growth percentile in two ways:
First, the growth percentile is used to describe how much a student has grown during the last year. Second, the growth percentile is used to determine whether the student is on track to reach/maintain proficiency. The following slides demonstrate, for individual students, how the Colorado Growth Model is used to determine whether the student is On Track to either Reach or Maintain Proficiency. That is, whether the student is either "Catching Up" or "Keeping Up".

Grade 4/2005

Grade 5/2006

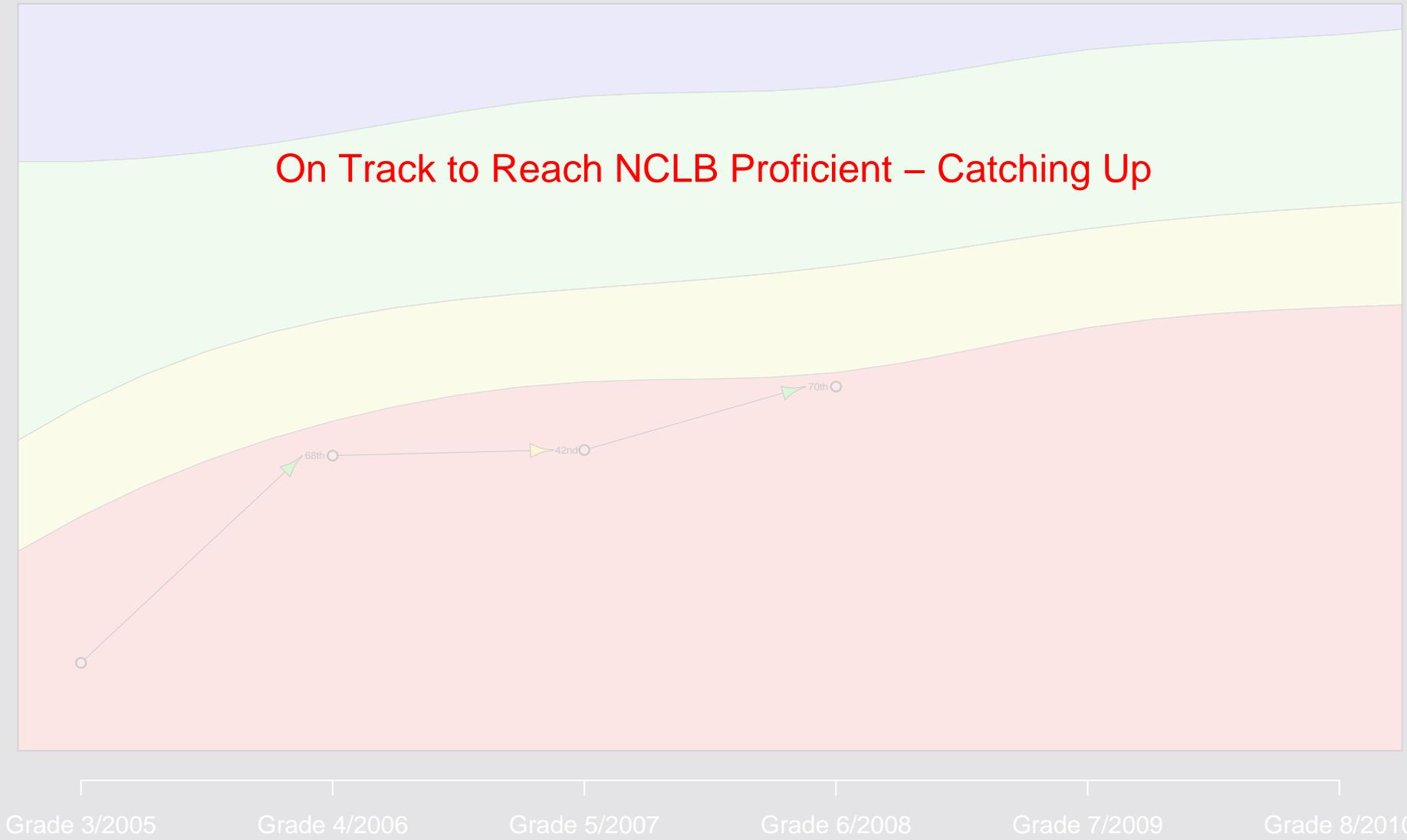
Grade 6/2007

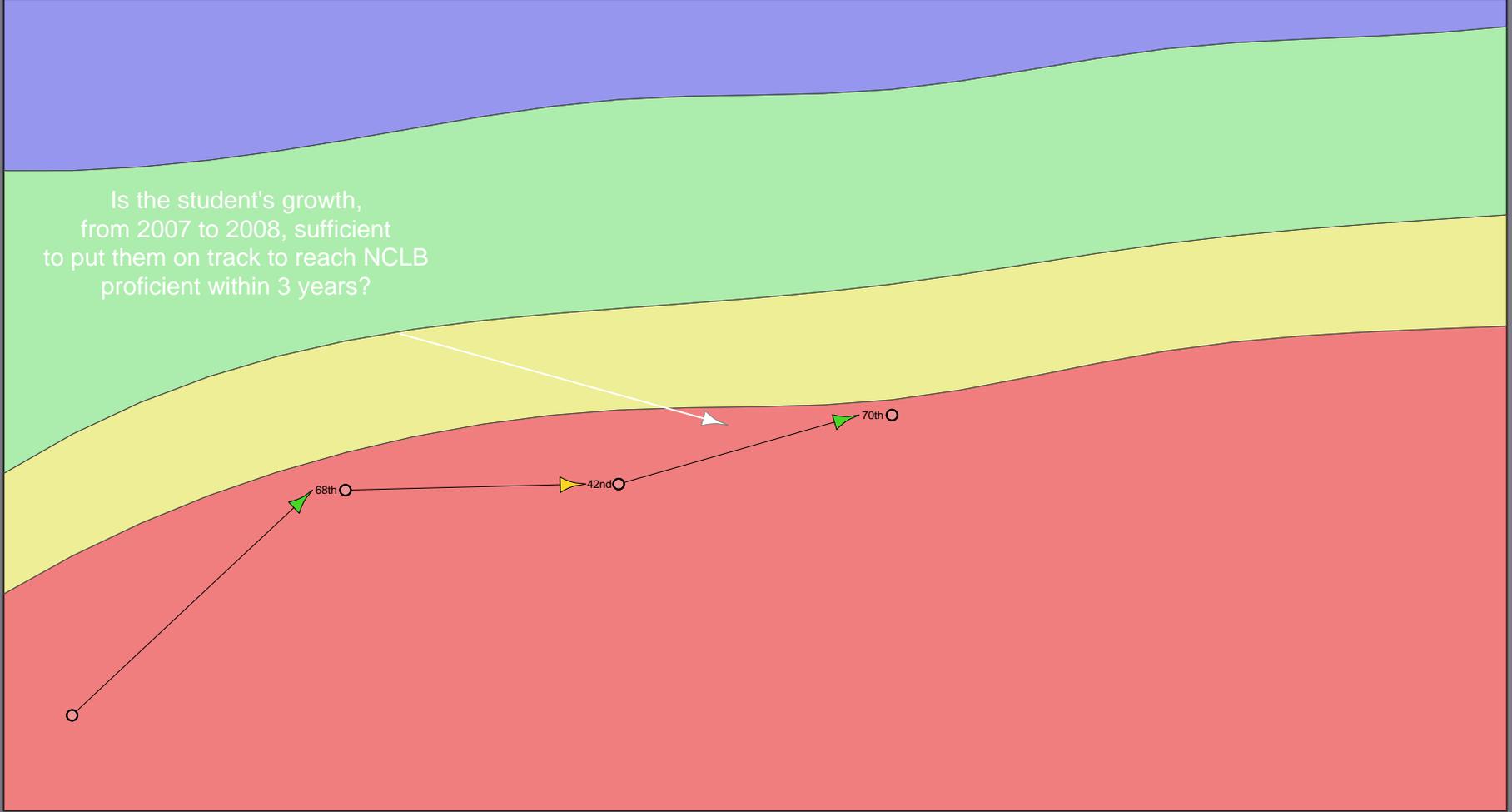
Grade 7/2008

Grade 8/2009

Grade 9/2010

On Track to Reach NCLB Proficient – Catching Up





Grade 3/2005

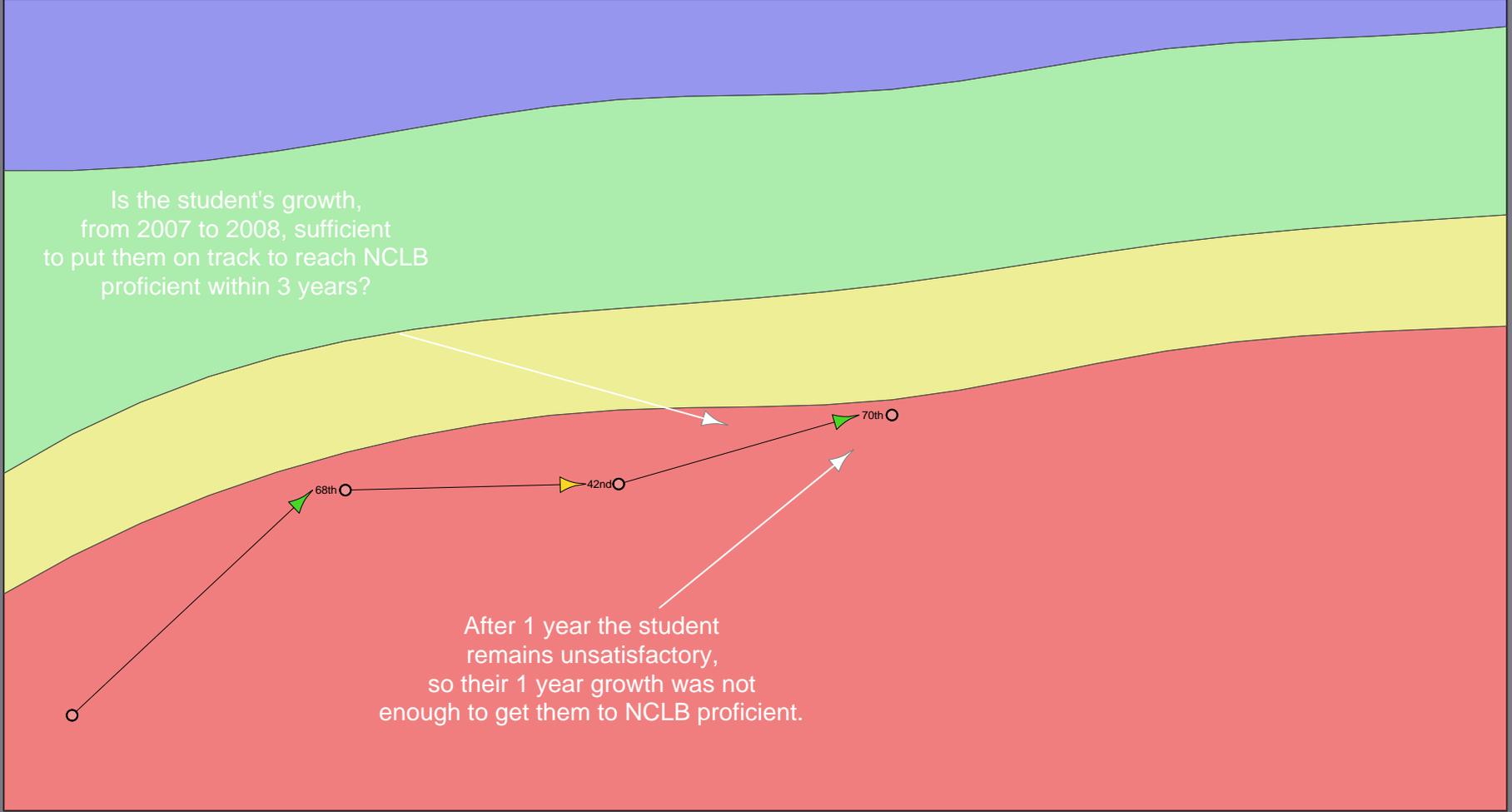
Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010



Grade 3/2005

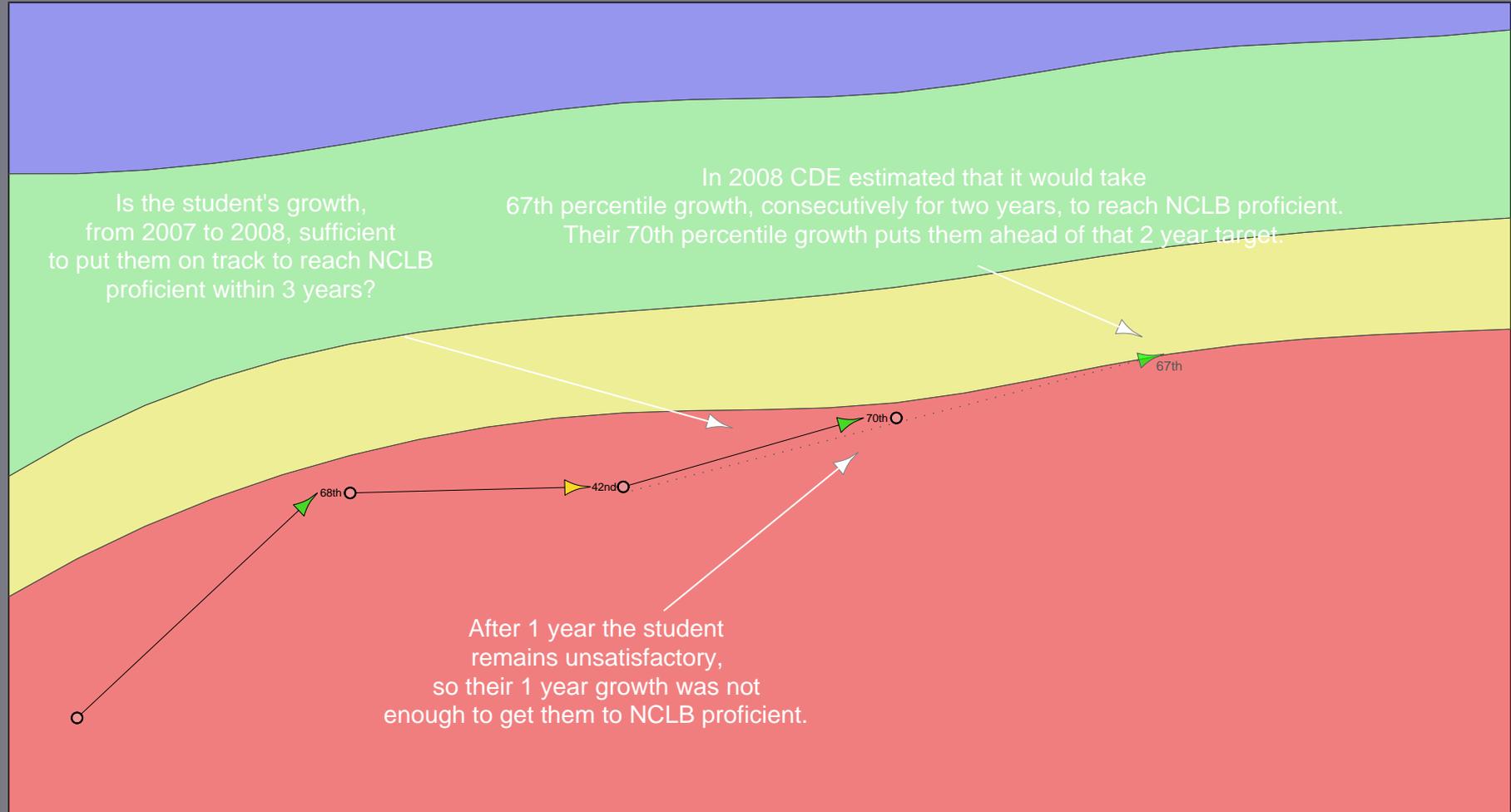
Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010



Grade 3/2005

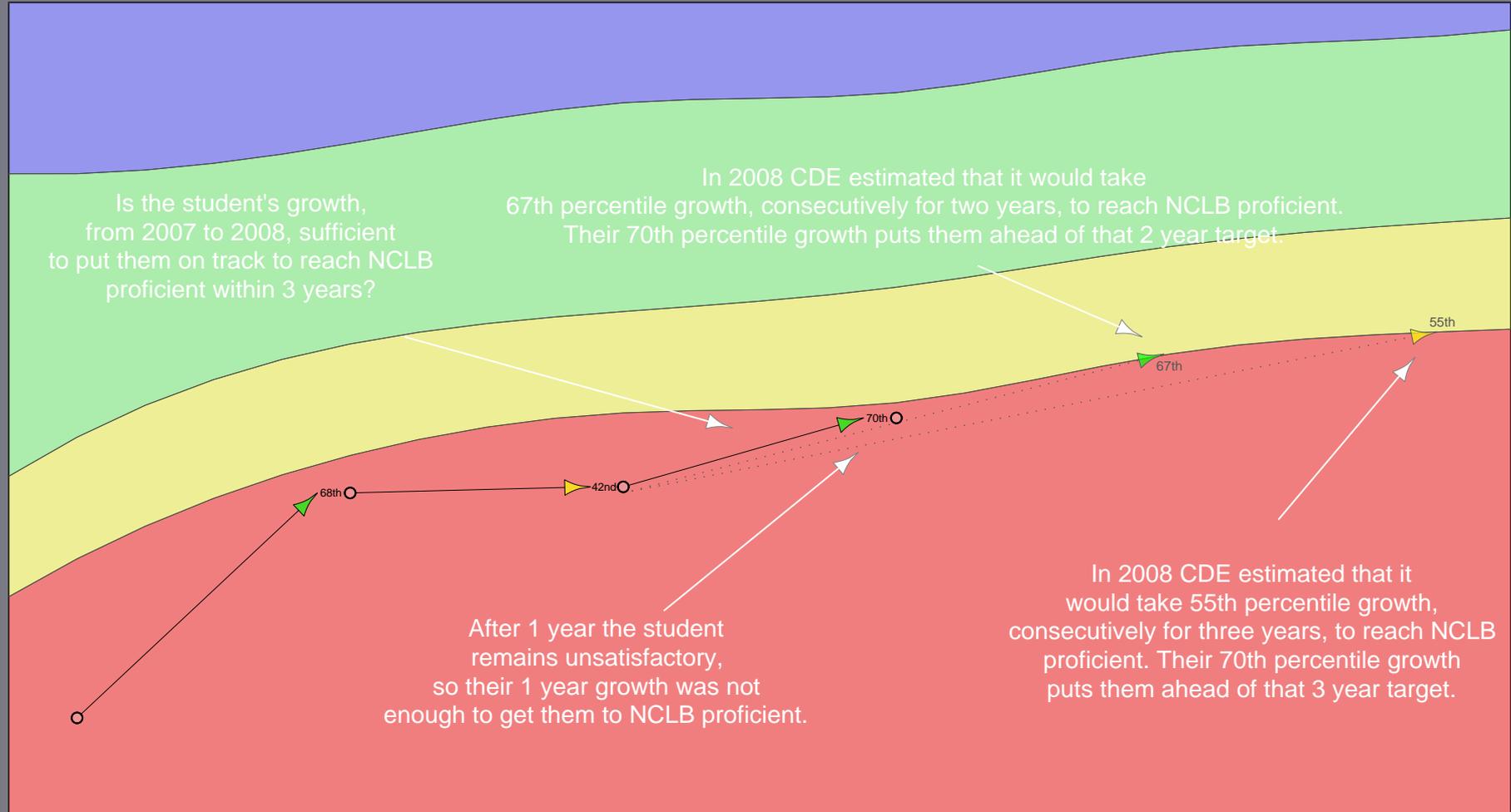
Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010



Grade 3/2005

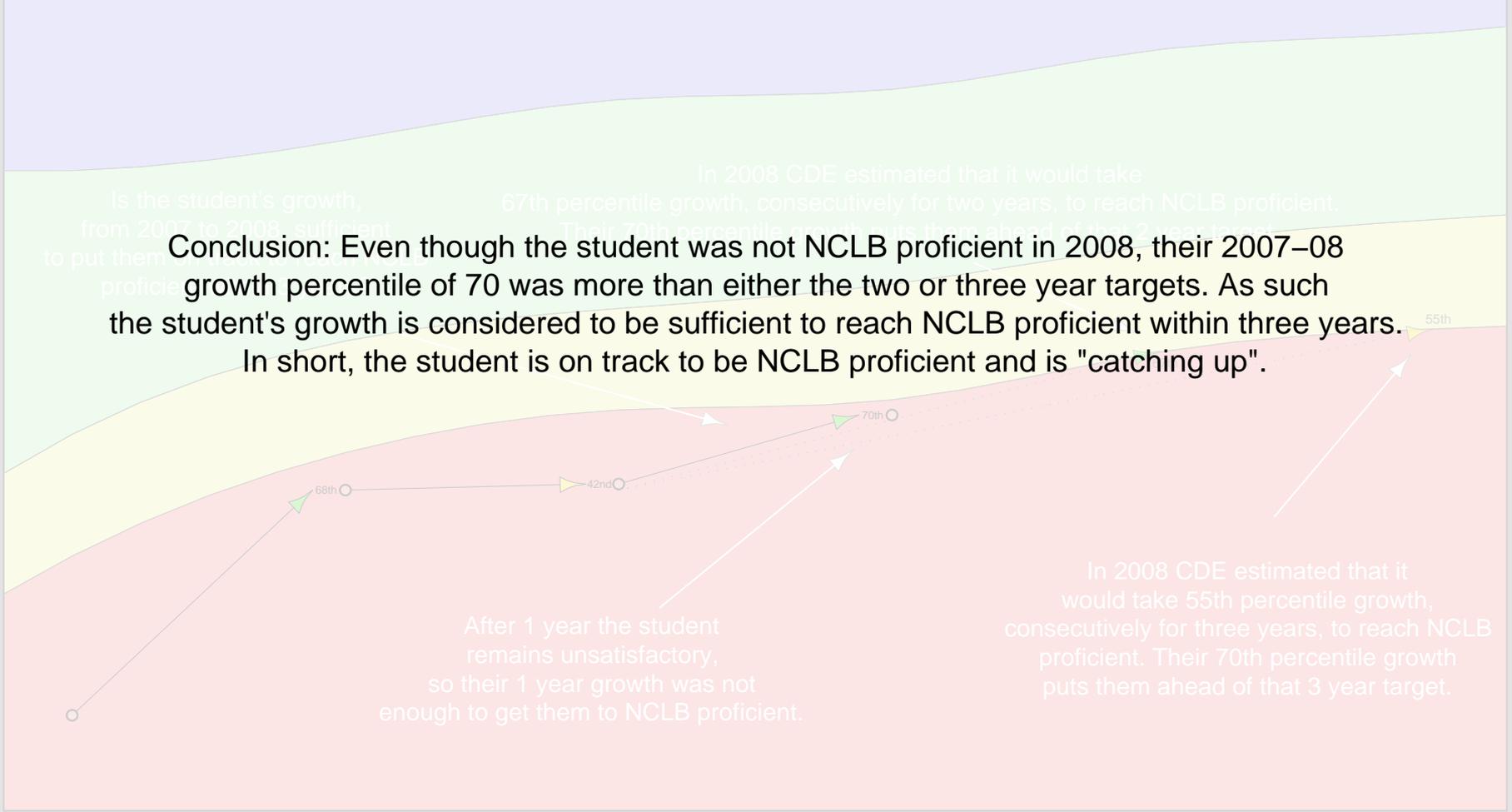
Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010



Is the student's growth, from 2007 to 2008, sufficient to put them on track to reach NCLB proficient?

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take 67th percentile growth, consecutively for two years, to reach NCLB proficient. Their 70th percentile growth puts them ahead of that 2 year target.

Conclusion: Even though the student was not NCLB proficient in 2008, their 2007–08 growth percentile of 70 was more than either the two or three year targets. As such the student's growth is considered to be sufficient to reach NCLB proficient within three years. In short, the student is on track to be NCLB proficient and is "catching up".

After 1 year the student remains unsatisfactory, so their 1 year growth was not enough to get them to NCLB proficient.

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take 55th percentile growth, consecutively for three years, to reach NCLB proficient. Their 70th percentile growth puts them ahead of that 3 year target.

Grade 3/2005

Grade 4/2006

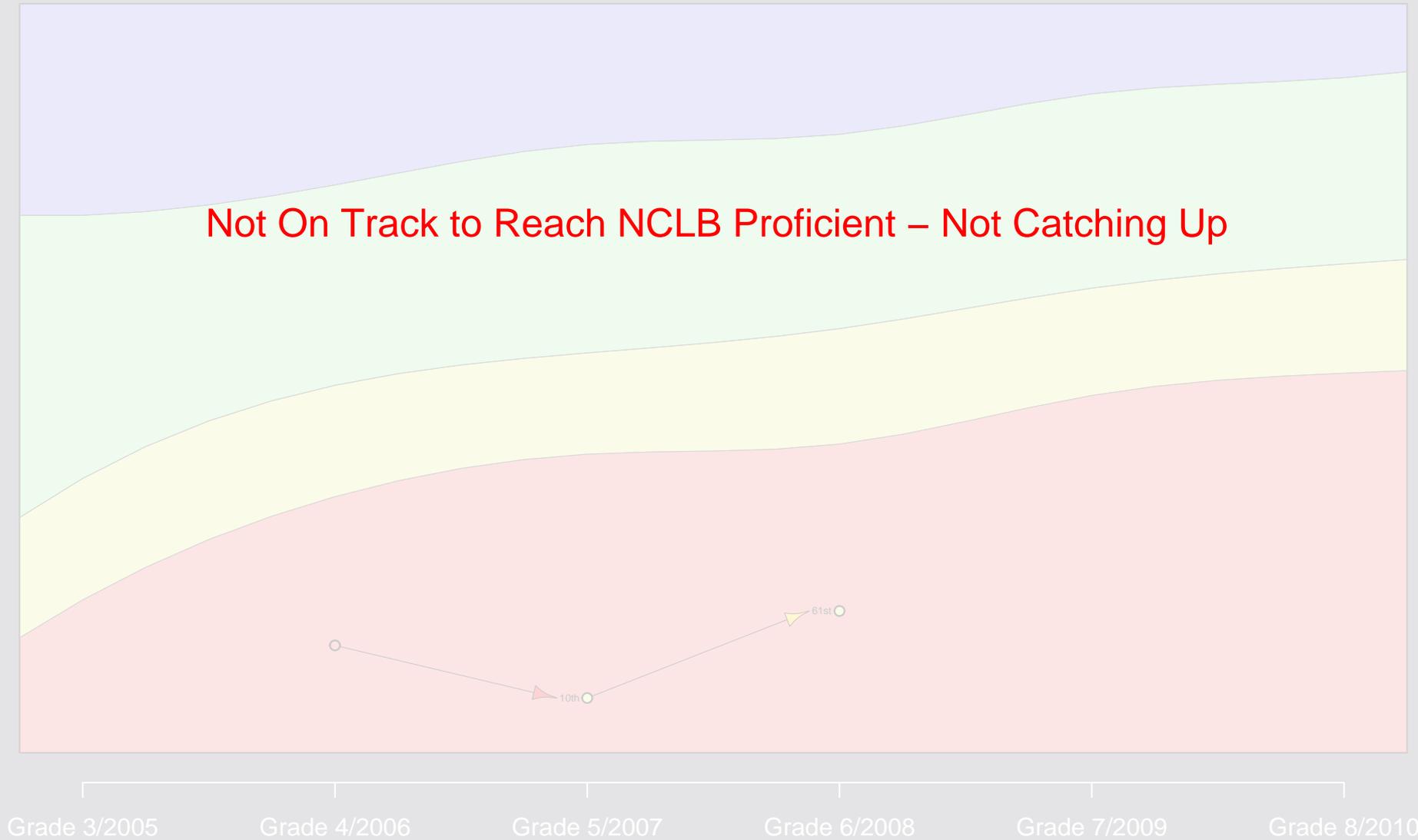
Grade 5/2007

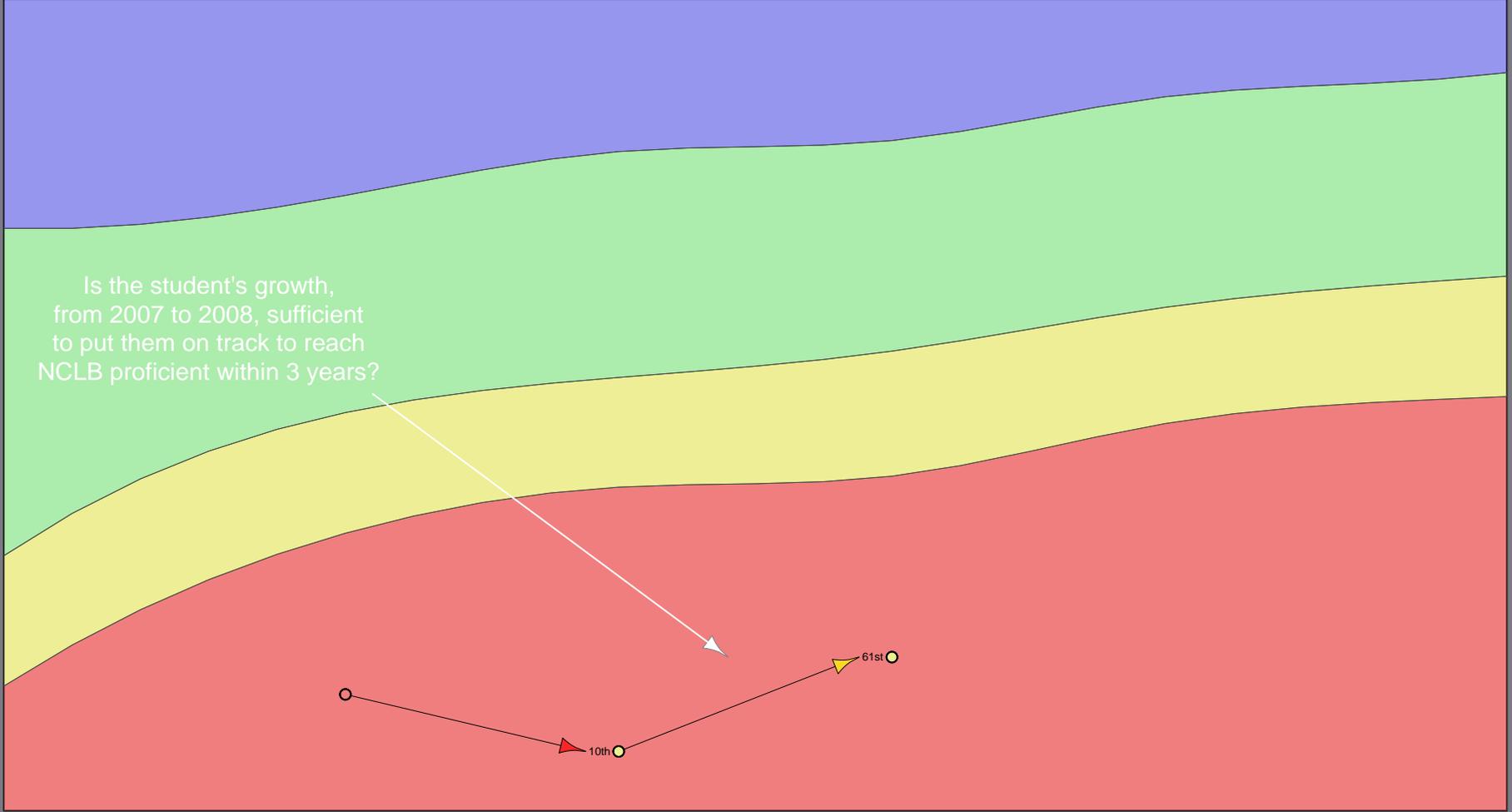
Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010

Not On Track to Reach NCLB Proficient – Not Catching Up





Grade 3/2005

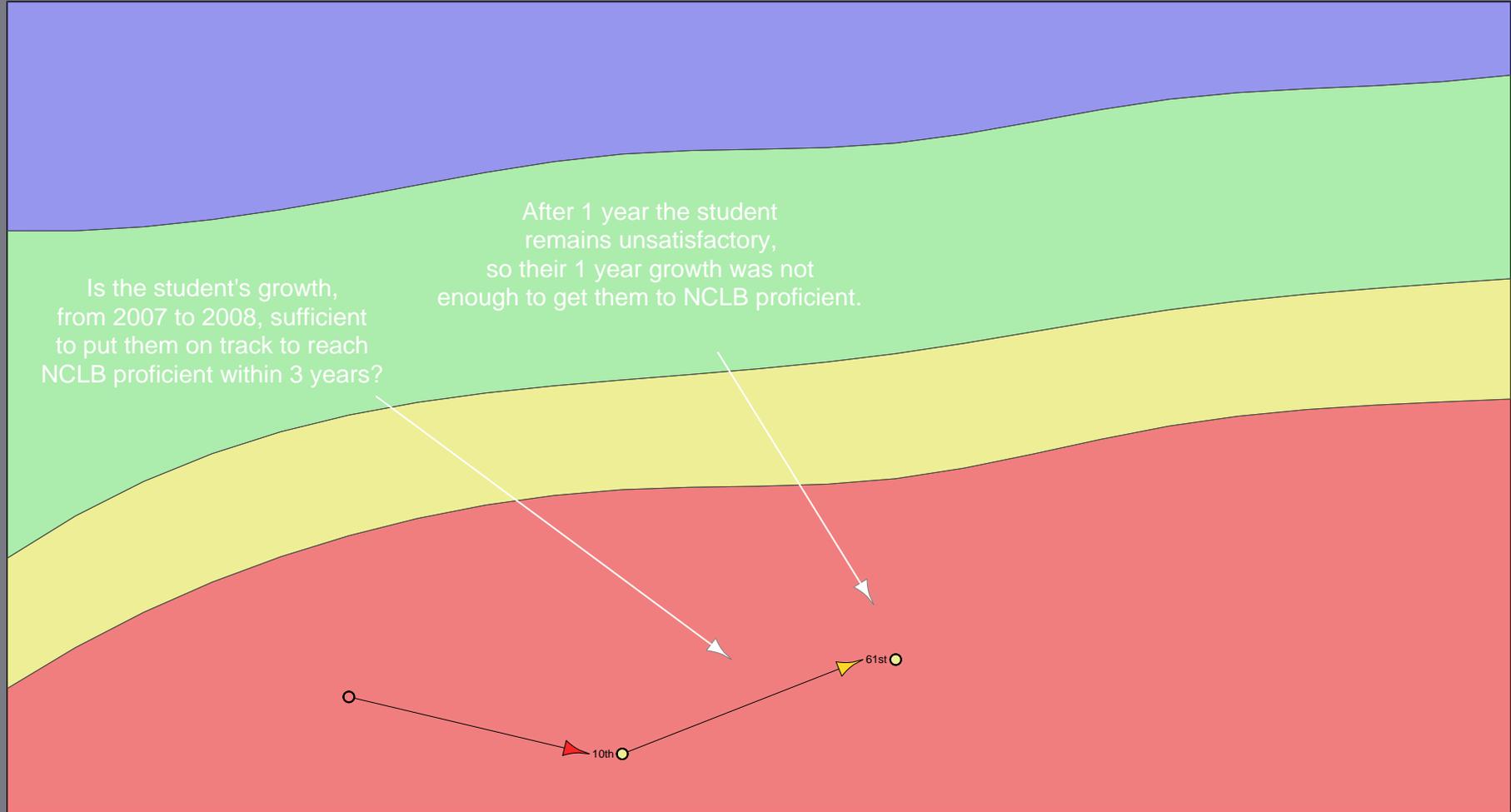
Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010



Grade 3/2005

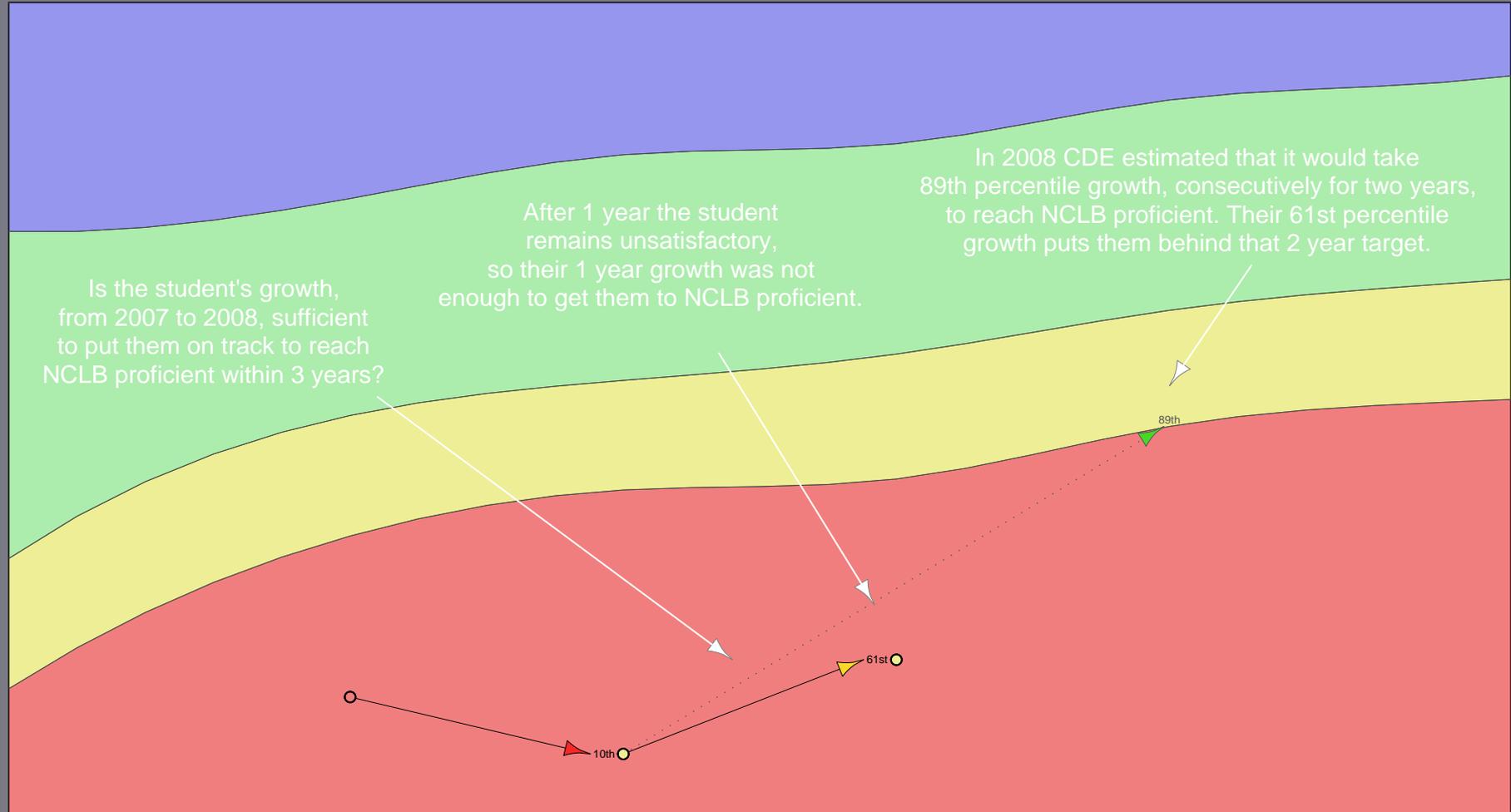
Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010



Is the student's growth, from 2007 to 2008, sufficient to put them on track to reach NCLB proficient within 3 years?

After 1 year the student remains unsatisfactory, so their 1 year growth was not enough to get them to NCLB proficient.

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take 89th percentile growth, consecutively for two years, to reach NCLB proficient. Their 61st percentile growth puts them behind that 2 year target.

Grade 3/2005

Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

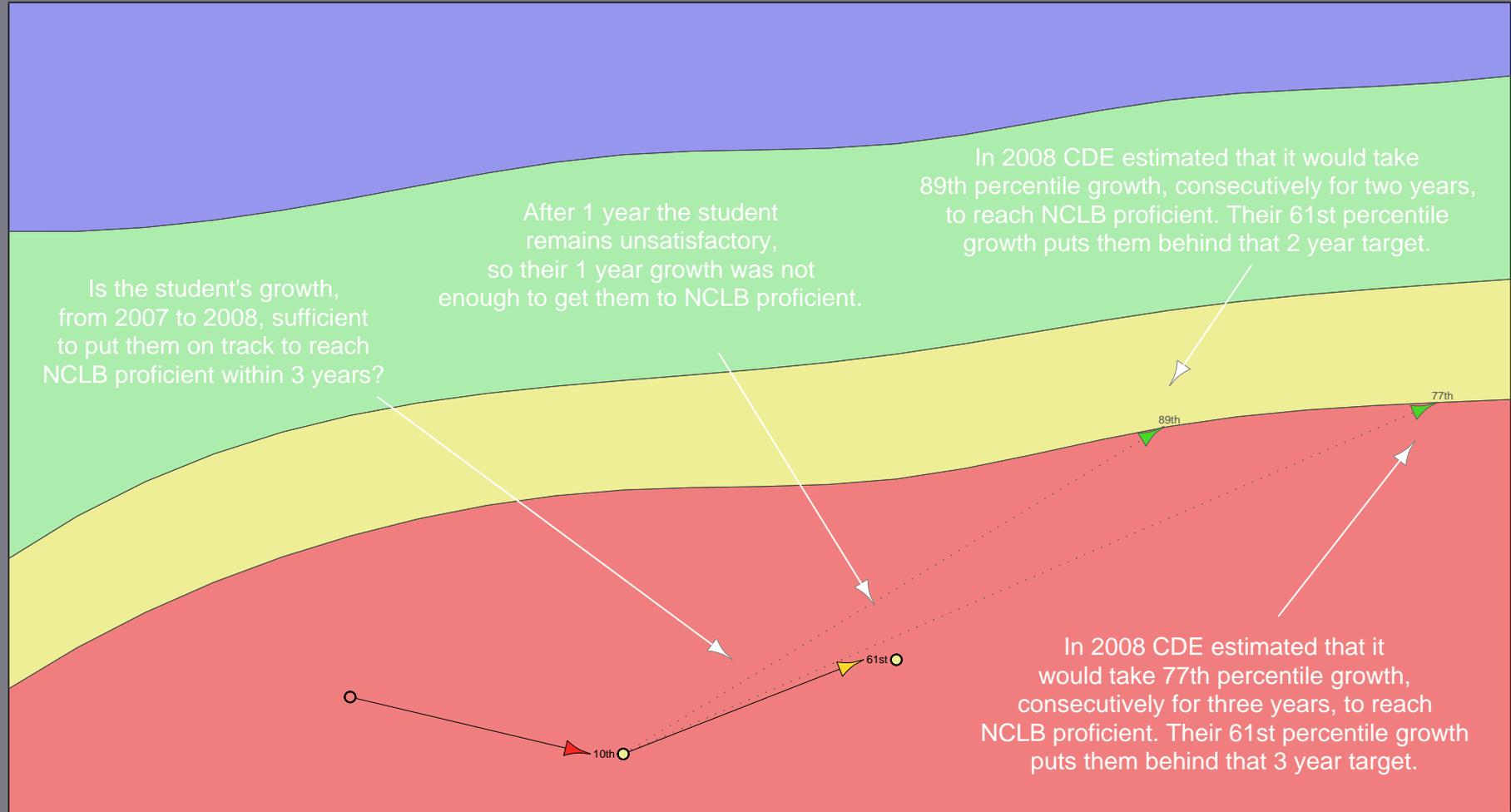
Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010

10th

61st

89th



Grade 3/2005

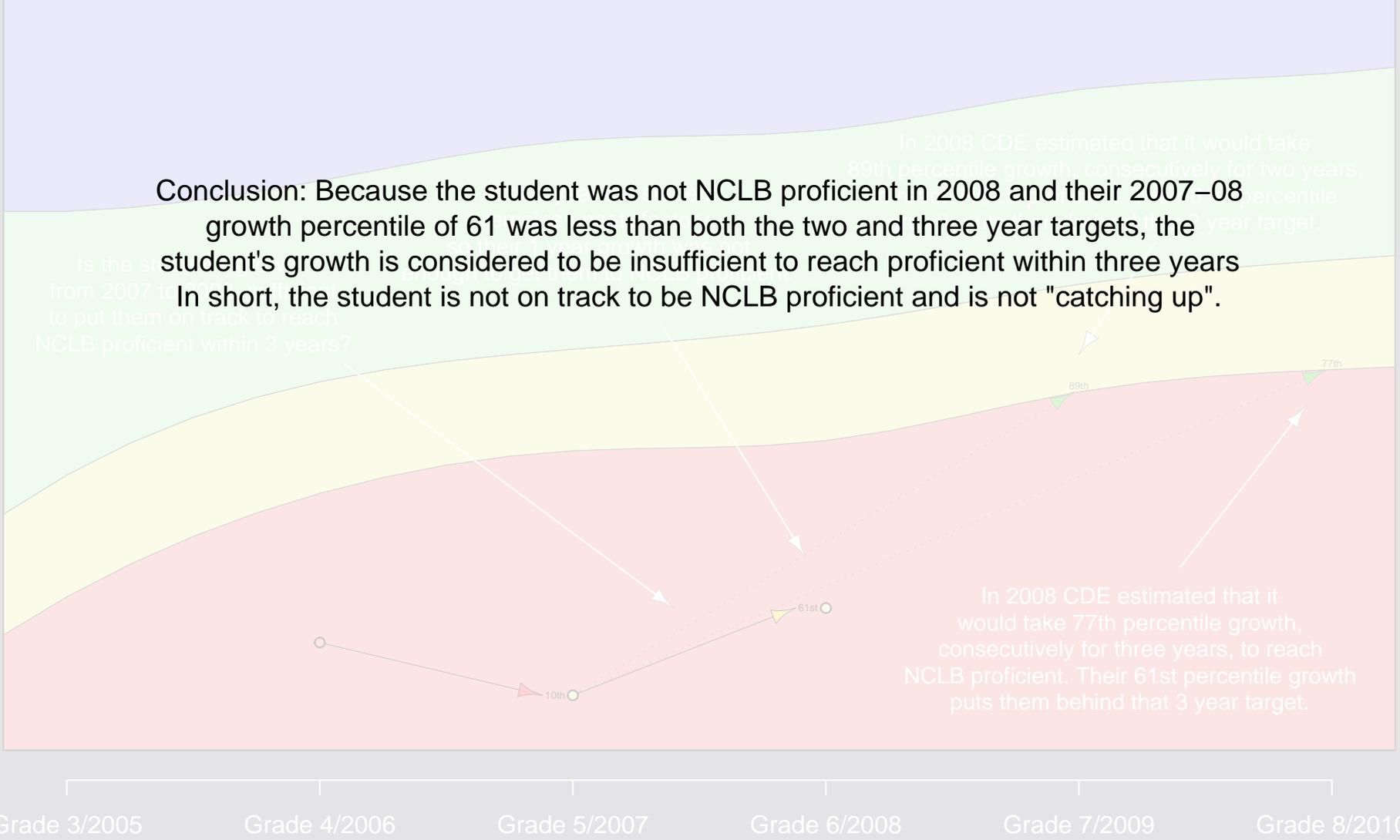
Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

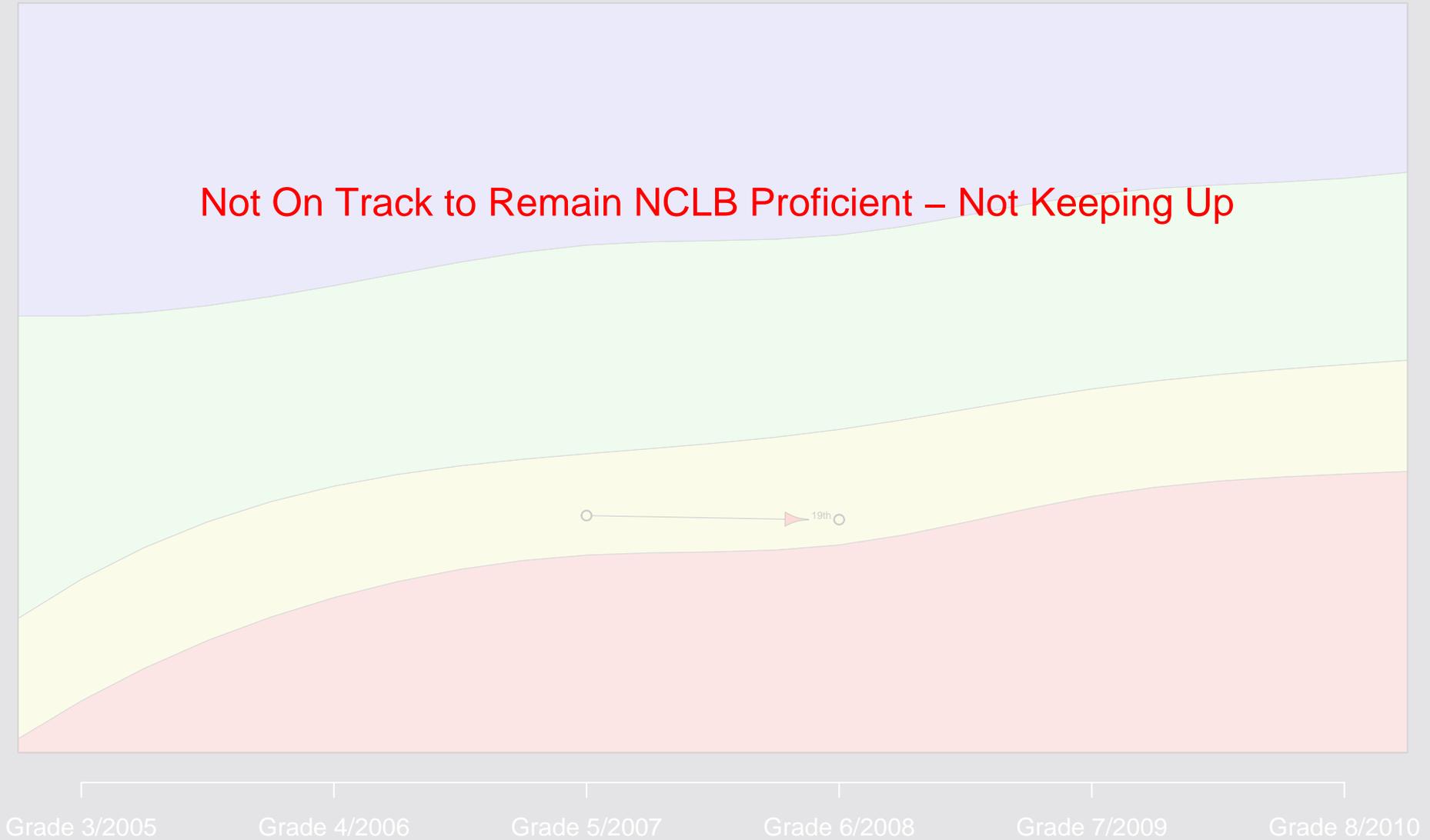
Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

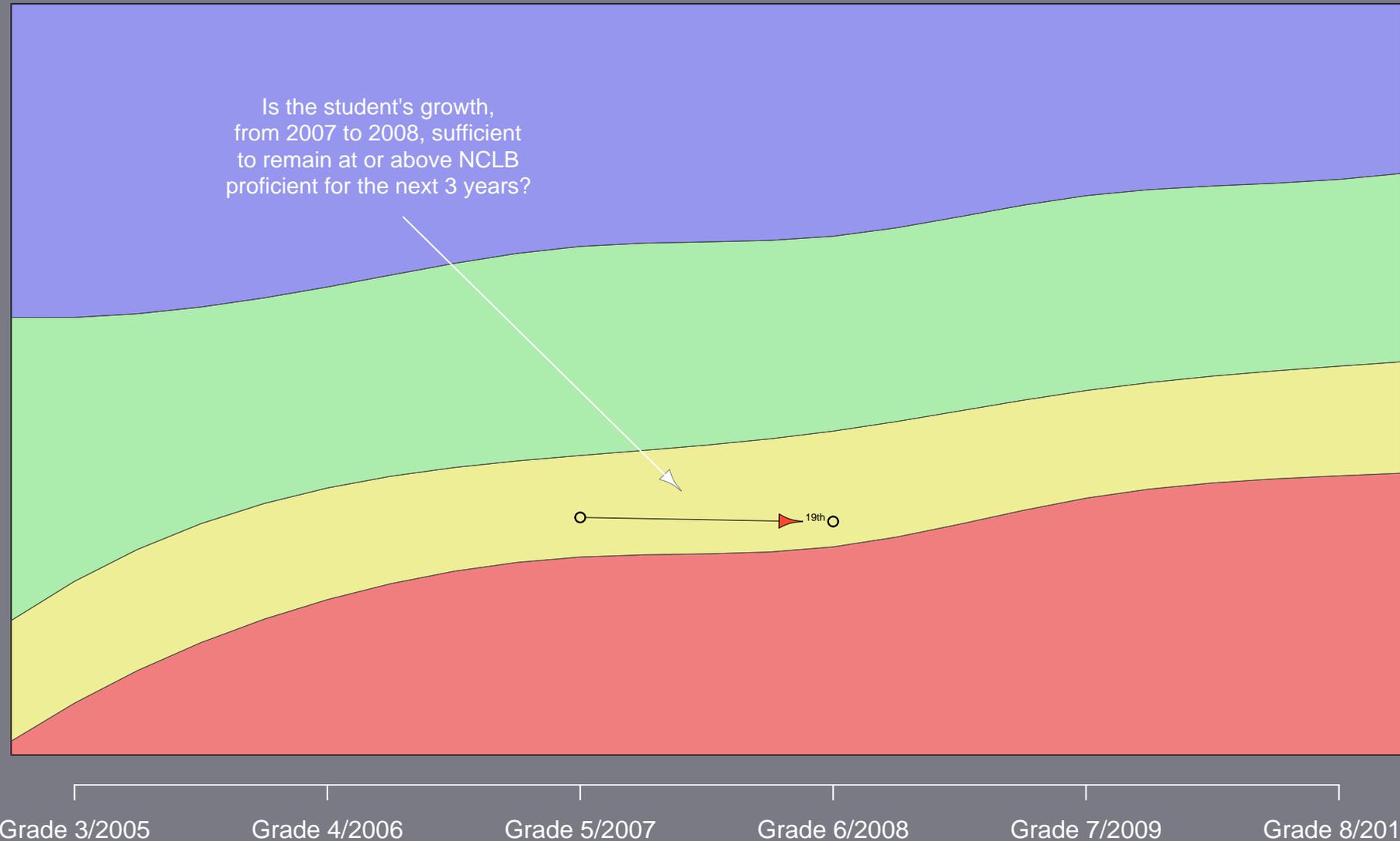
Grade 8/2010



Not On Track to Remain NCLB Proficient – Not Keeping Up



Is the student's growth,
from 2007 to 2008, sufficient
to remain at or above NCLB
proficient for the next 3 years?



Grade 3/2005

Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

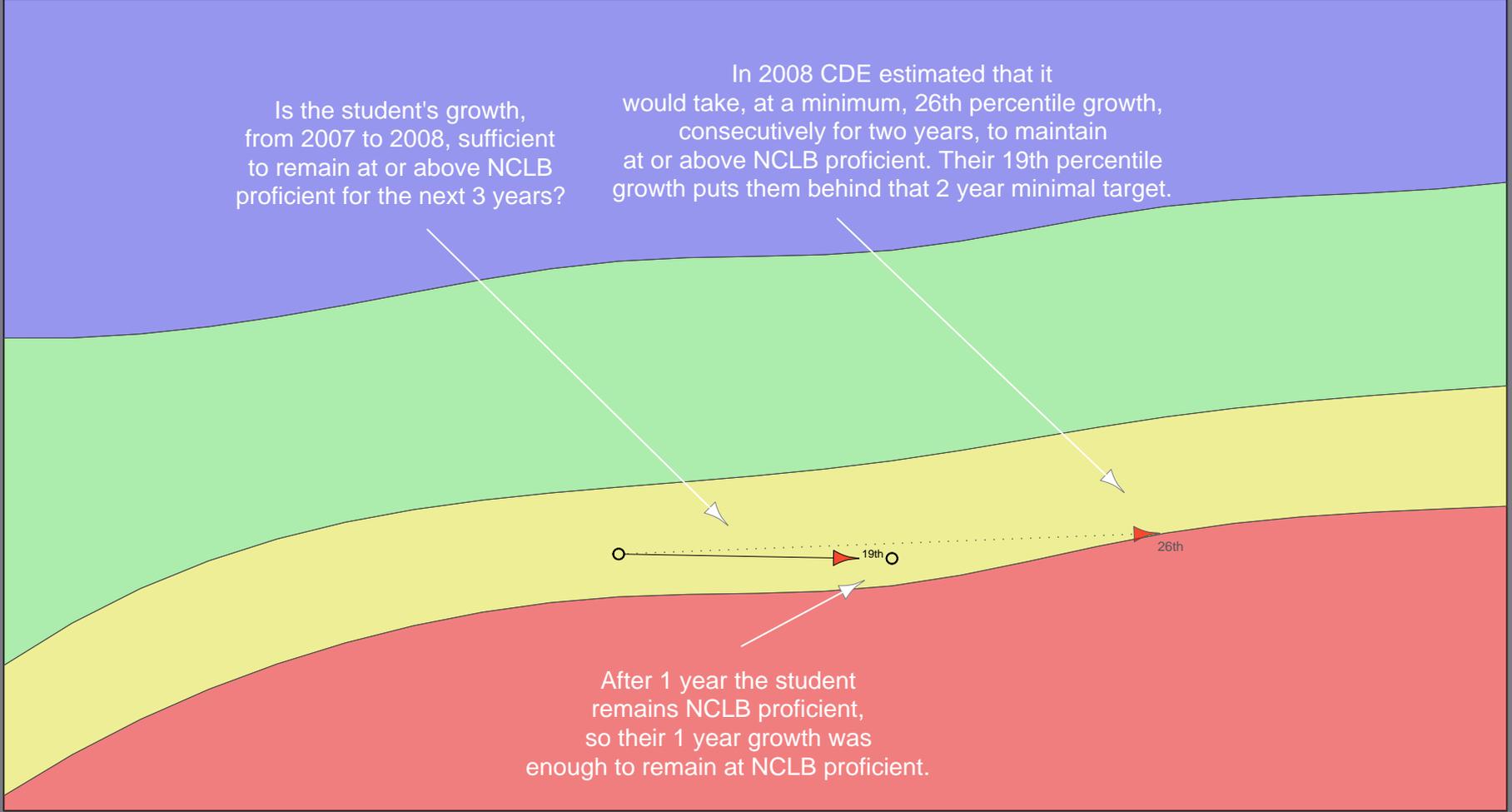
Grade 8/2010

19th

Is the student's growth,
from 2007 to 2008, sufficient
to remain at or above NCLB
proficient for the next 3 years?

After 1 year the student
remains NCLB proficient,
so their 1 year growth was
enough to remain at NCLB proficient.





Is the student's growth, from 2007 to 2008, sufficient to remain at or above NCLB proficient for the next 3 years?

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take, at a minimum, 26th percentile growth, consecutively for two years, to maintain at or above NCLB proficient. Their 19th percentile growth puts them behind that 2 year minimal target.

After 1 year the student remains NCLB proficient, so their 1 year growth was enough to remain at NCLB proficient.

Grade 3/2005

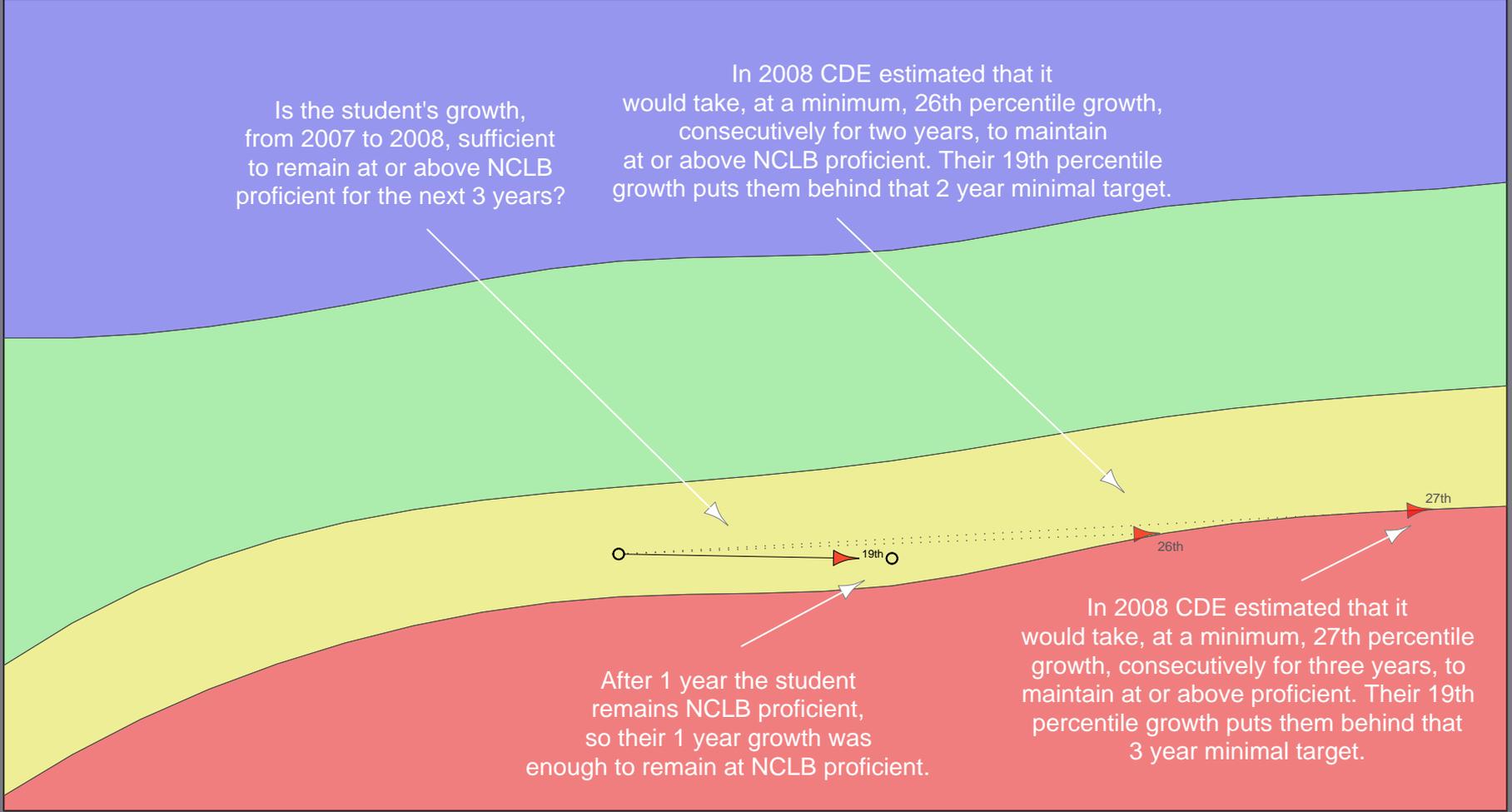
Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010



Is the student's growth, from 2007 to 2008, sufficient to remain at or above NCLB proficient for the next 3 years?

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take, at a minimum, 26th percentile growth, consecutively for two years, to maintain at or above NCLB proficient. Their 19th percentile growth puts them behind that 2 year minimal target.

After 1 year the student remains NCLB proficient, so their 1 year growth was enough to remain at NCLB proficient.

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take, at a minimum, 27th percentile growth, consecutively for three years, to maintain at or above proficient. Their 19th percentile growth puts them behind that 3 year minimal target.

Grade 3/2005

Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010

Is the student's growth, from 2007 to 2008, sufficient to remain at or above NCLB proficient for the next 3 years?

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take, at a minimum, 26th percentile growth, consecutively for two years, to maintain at or above NCLB proficient. Their 19th percentile growth puts them behind that 2 year minimal target.

Conclusion: Even though the student was NCLB proficient in 2008, their 2007–08 growth percentile of 19 was less than both the two and three year minimum targets. As such, the student's growth is considered to be insufficient to remain NCLB proficient over the next three years. In short, the student is not on track to remain NCLB proficient and is not "keeping up".

After 1 year the student remains NCLB proficient, so their 1 year growth was enough to remain at NCLB proficient.

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take, at a minimum, 27th percentile growth, consecutively for three years, to maintain at or above proficient. Their 19th percentile growth puts them behind that 3 year minimal target.

Grade 3/2005

Grade 4/2006

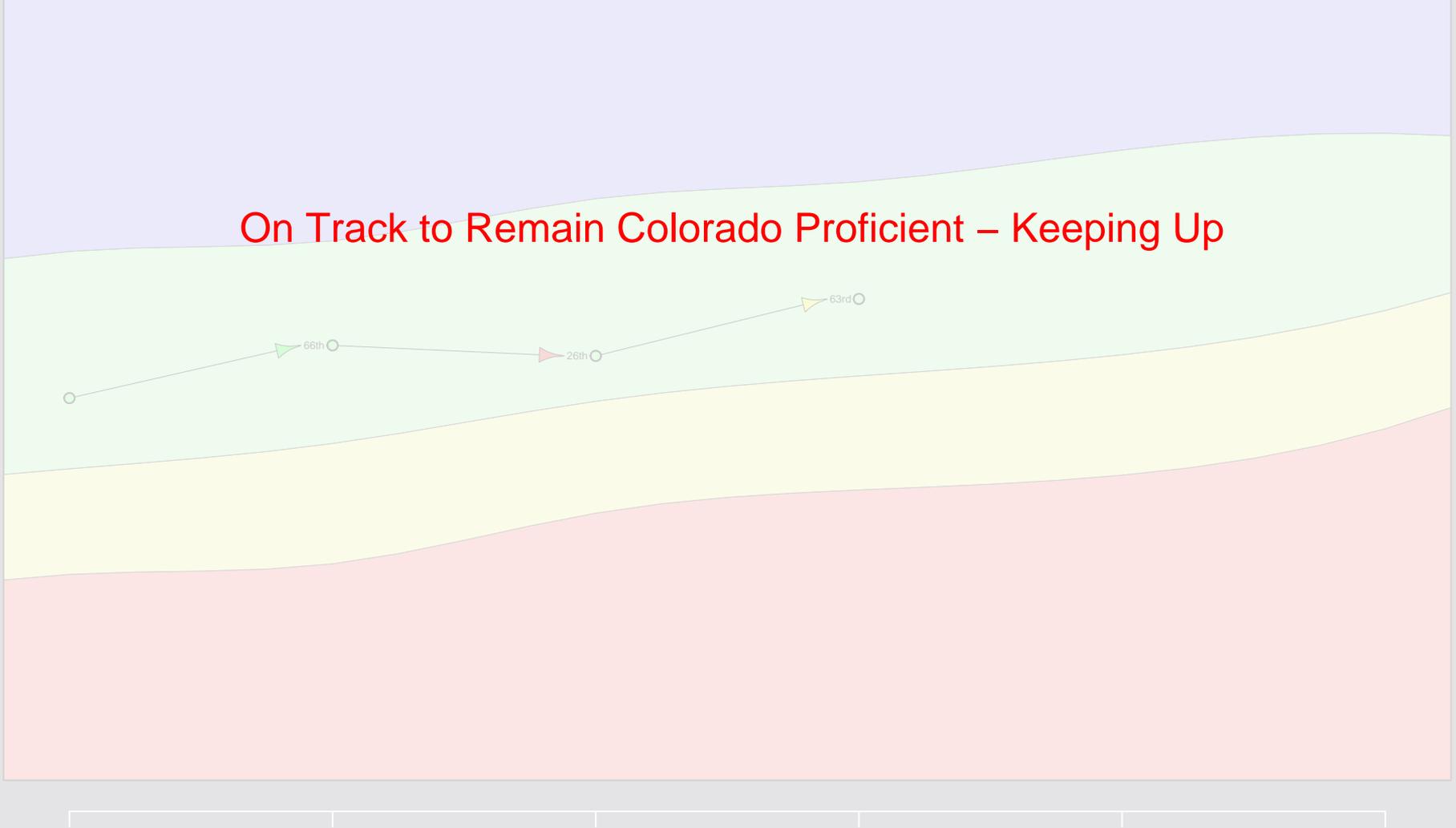
Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010

On Track to Remain Colorado Proficient – Keeping Up



Grade 5/2005

Grade 6/2006

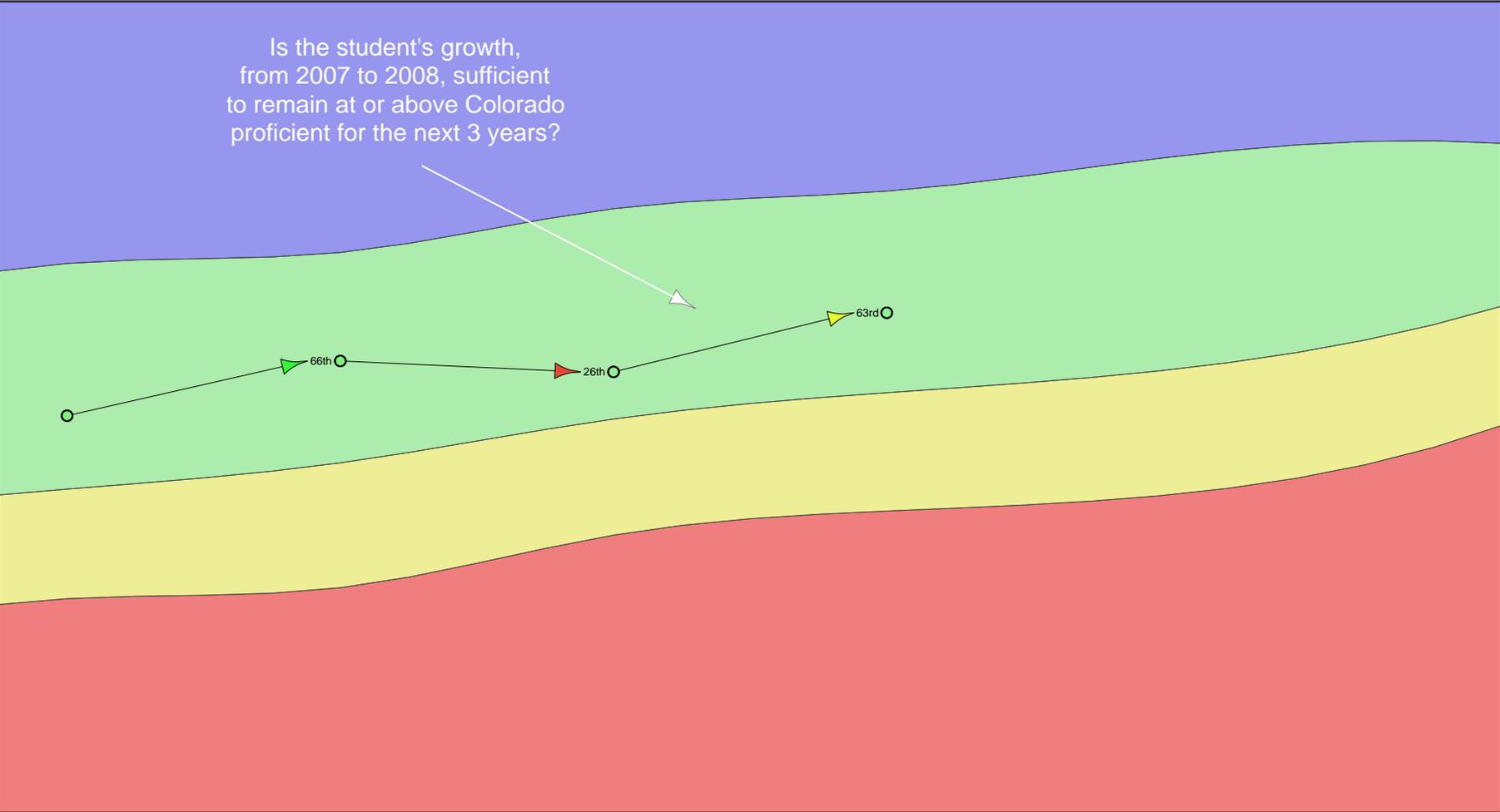
Grade 7/2007

Grade 8/2008

Grade 9/2009

Grade 10/2010

Is the student's growth,
from 2007 to 2008, sufficient
to remain at or above Colorado
proficient for the next 3 years?



Grade 5/2005

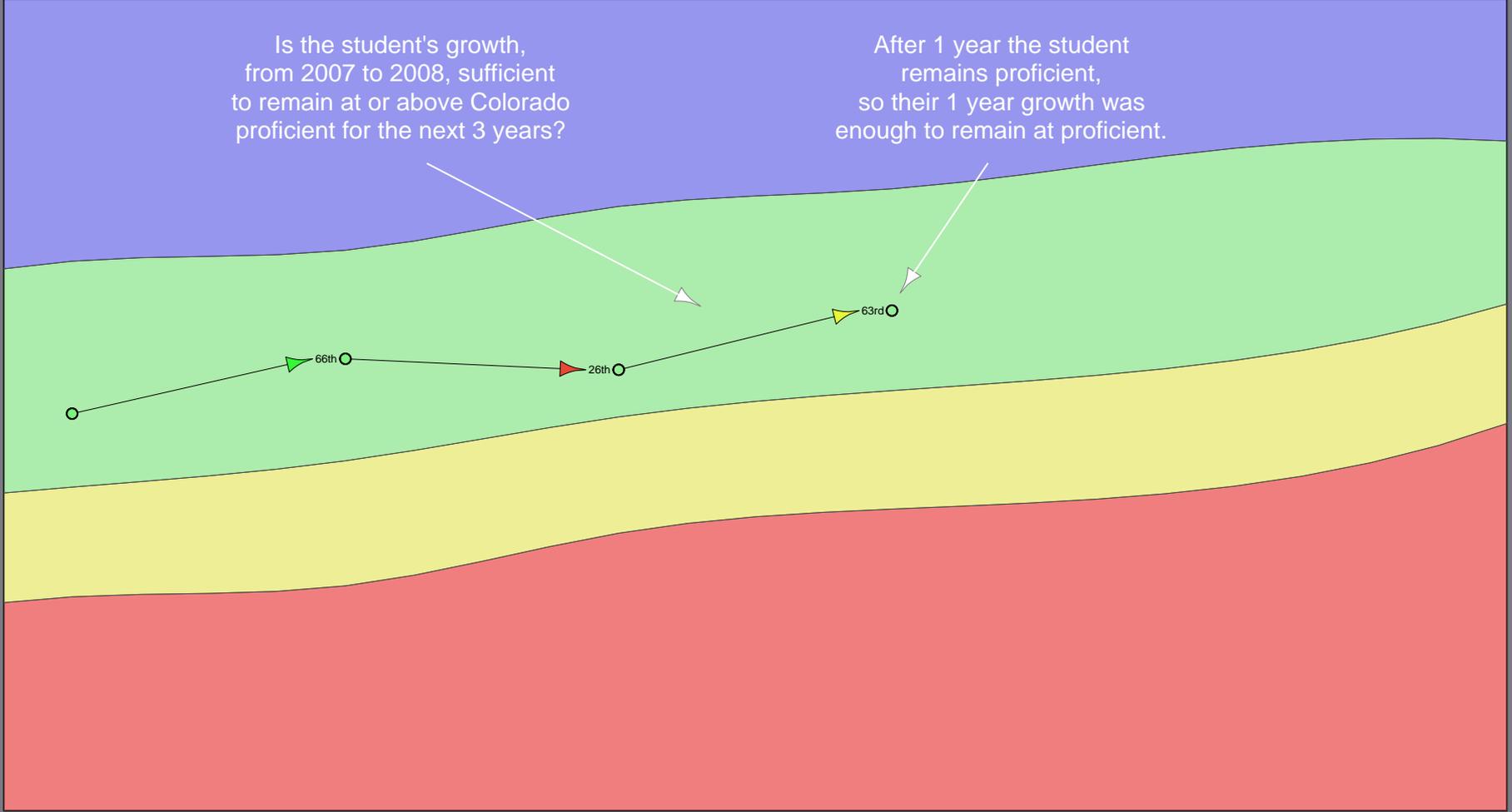
Grade 6/2006

Grade 7/2007

Grade 8/2008

Grade 9/2009

Grade 10/2010



Is the student's growth, from 2007 to 2008, sufficient to remain at or above Colorado proficient for the next 3 years?

After 1 year the student remains proficient, so their 1 year growth was enough to remain at proficient.

Grade 5/2005

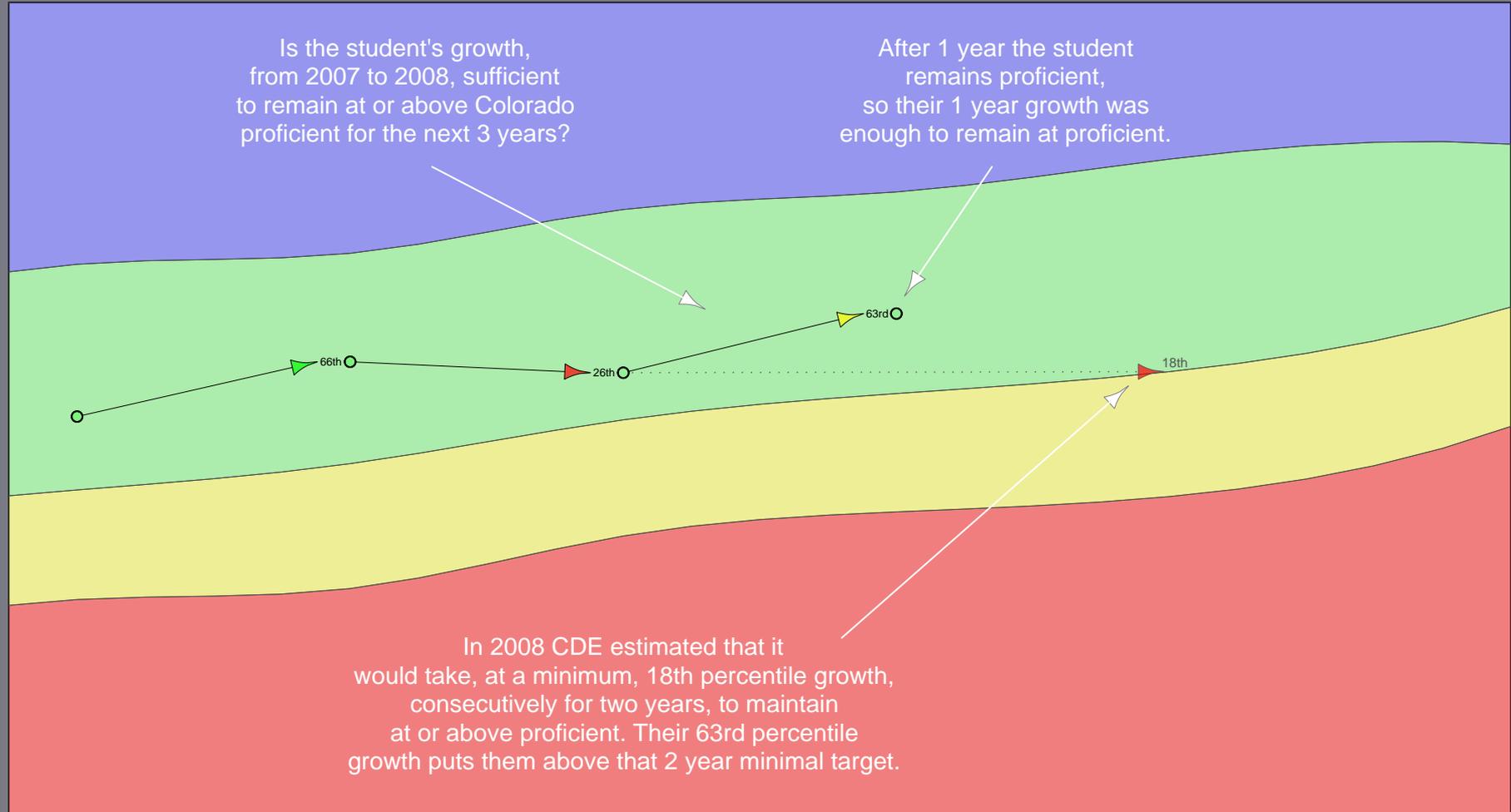
Grade 6/2006

Grade 7/2007

Grade 8/2008

Grade 9/2009

Grade 10/2010



Grade 5/2005

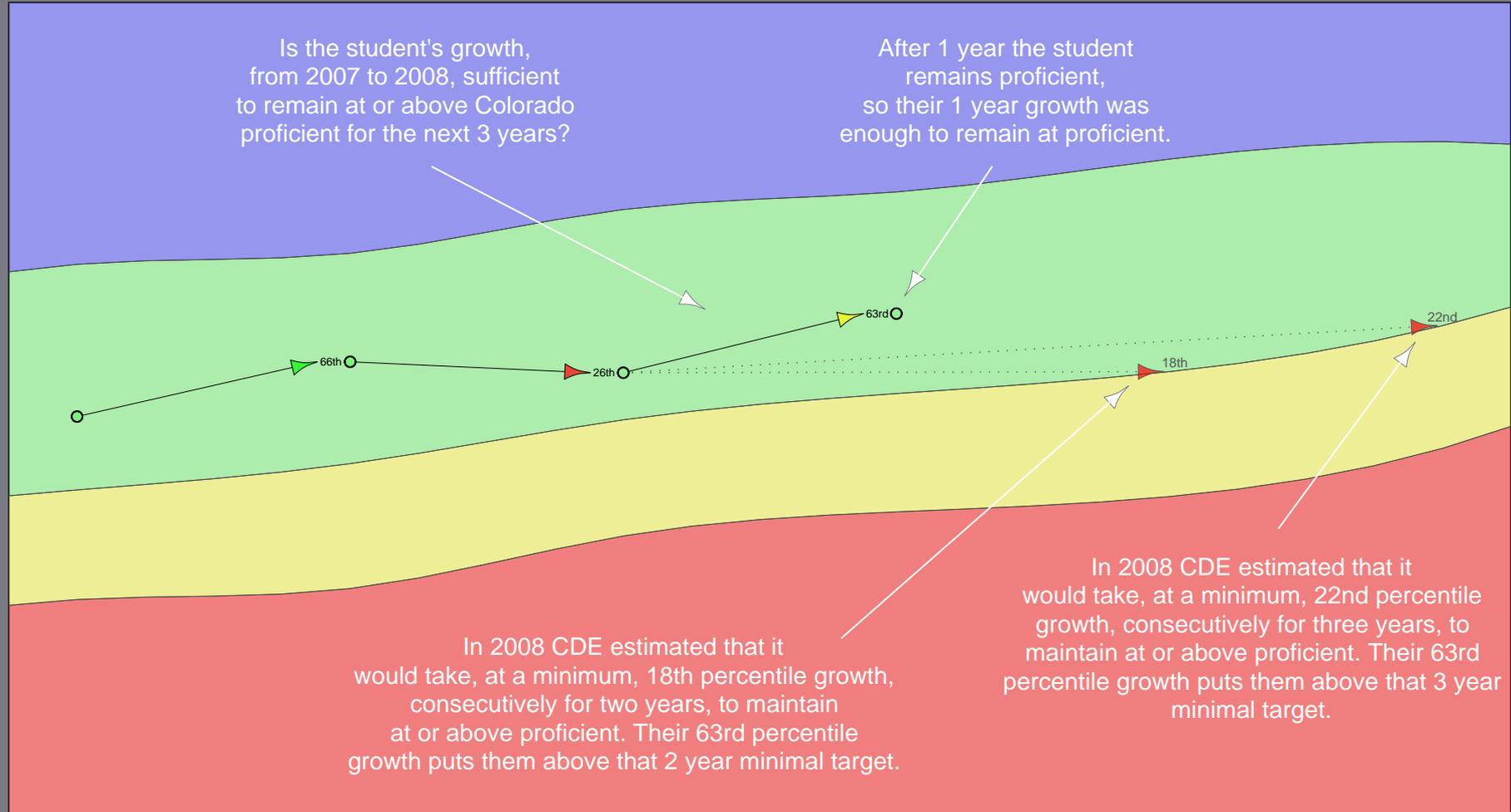
Grade 6/2006

Grade 7/2007

Grade 8/2008

Grade 9/2009

Grade 10/2010



Grade 5/2005

Grade 6/2006

Grade 7/2007

Grade 8/2008

Grade 9/2009

Grade 10/2010

Is the student's growth, from 2007 to 2008, sufficient to remain at or above Colorado proficient for the next 3 years?

After 1 year the student remains proficient, so their 1 year growth was enough to remain at proficient.

Conclusion: Because the student was Colorado proficient in 2008 and their 2007–08 growth percentile of 63 was greater than both the two and three year minimum targets, the student's growth is considered to be sufficient to remain proficient during the next three years. In short, the student is on track to remain Colorado proficient and is "keeping up".

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take, at a minimum, 18th percentile growth, consecutively for two years, to maintain at or above proficient. Their 63rd percentile growth puts them above that 2 year minimal target.

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take, at a minimum, 22nd percentile growth, consecutively for three years, to maintain at or above proficient. Their 63rd percentile growth puts them above that 3 year minimal target.

Grade 5/2005

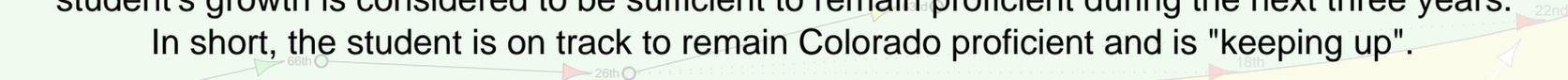
Grade 6/2006

Grade 7/2007

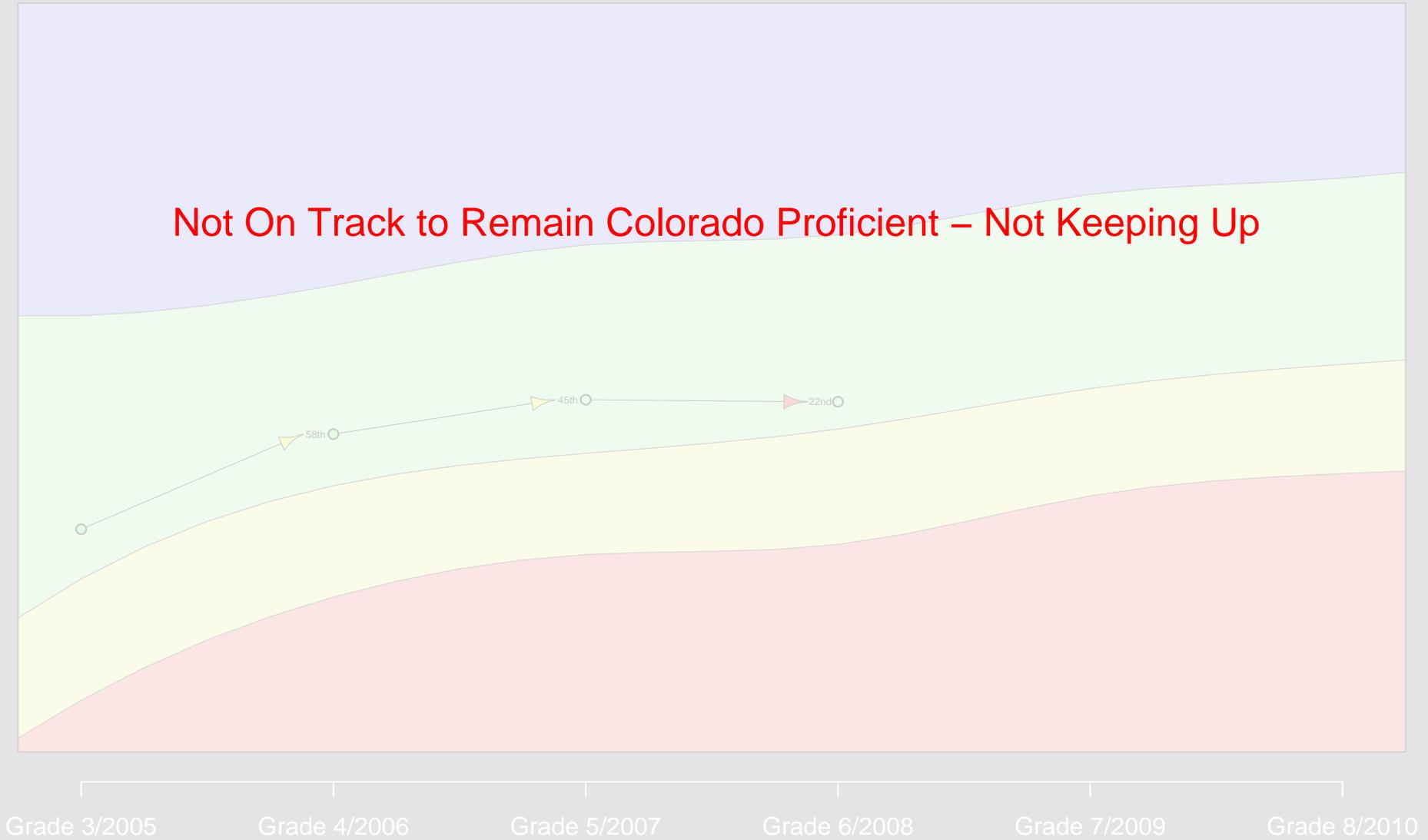
Grade 8/2008

Grade 9/2009

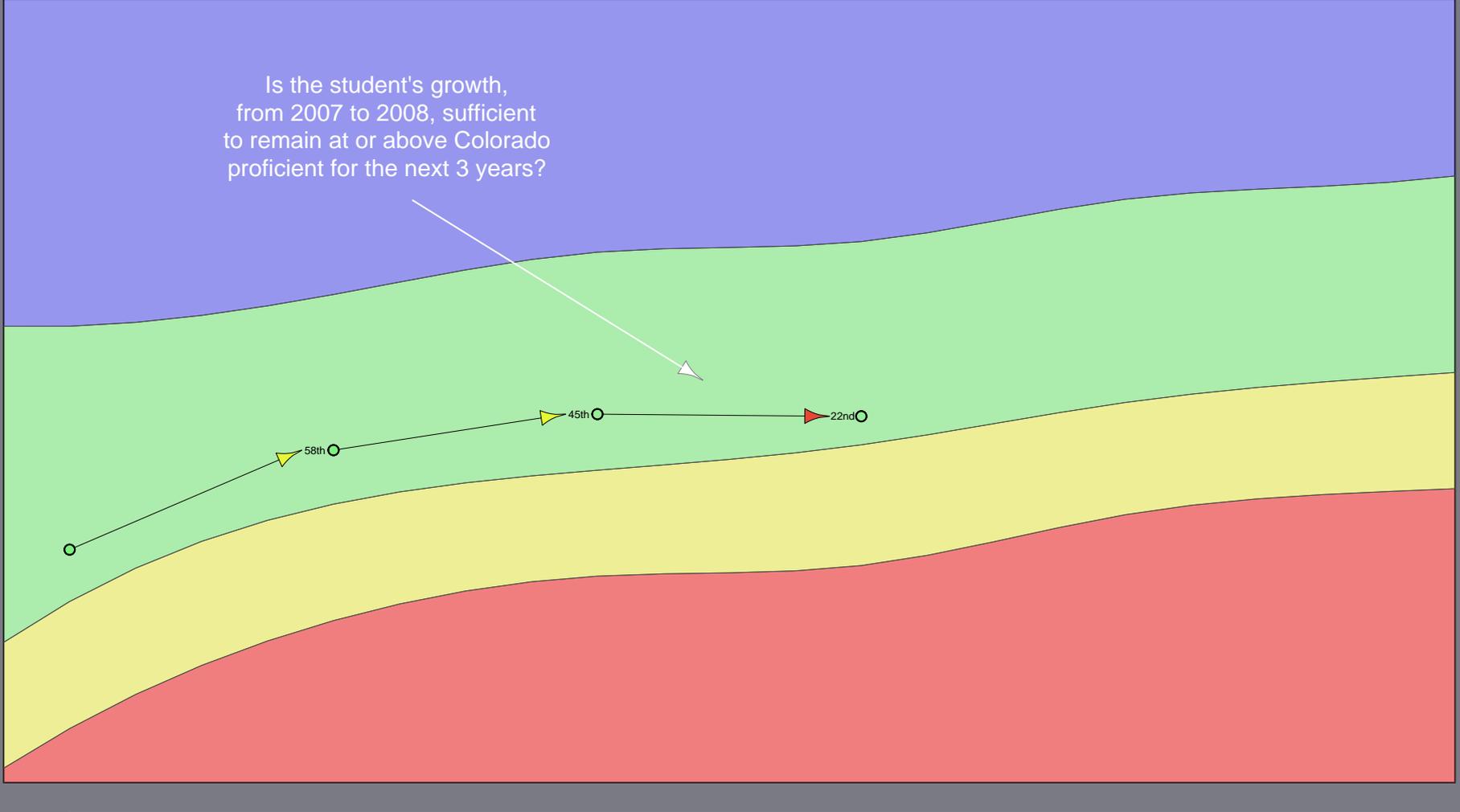
Grade 10/2010



Not On Track to Remain Colorado Proficient – Not Keeping Up



Is the student's growth,
from 2007 to 2008, sufficient
to remain at or above Colorado
proficient for the next 3 years?



Grade 3/2005

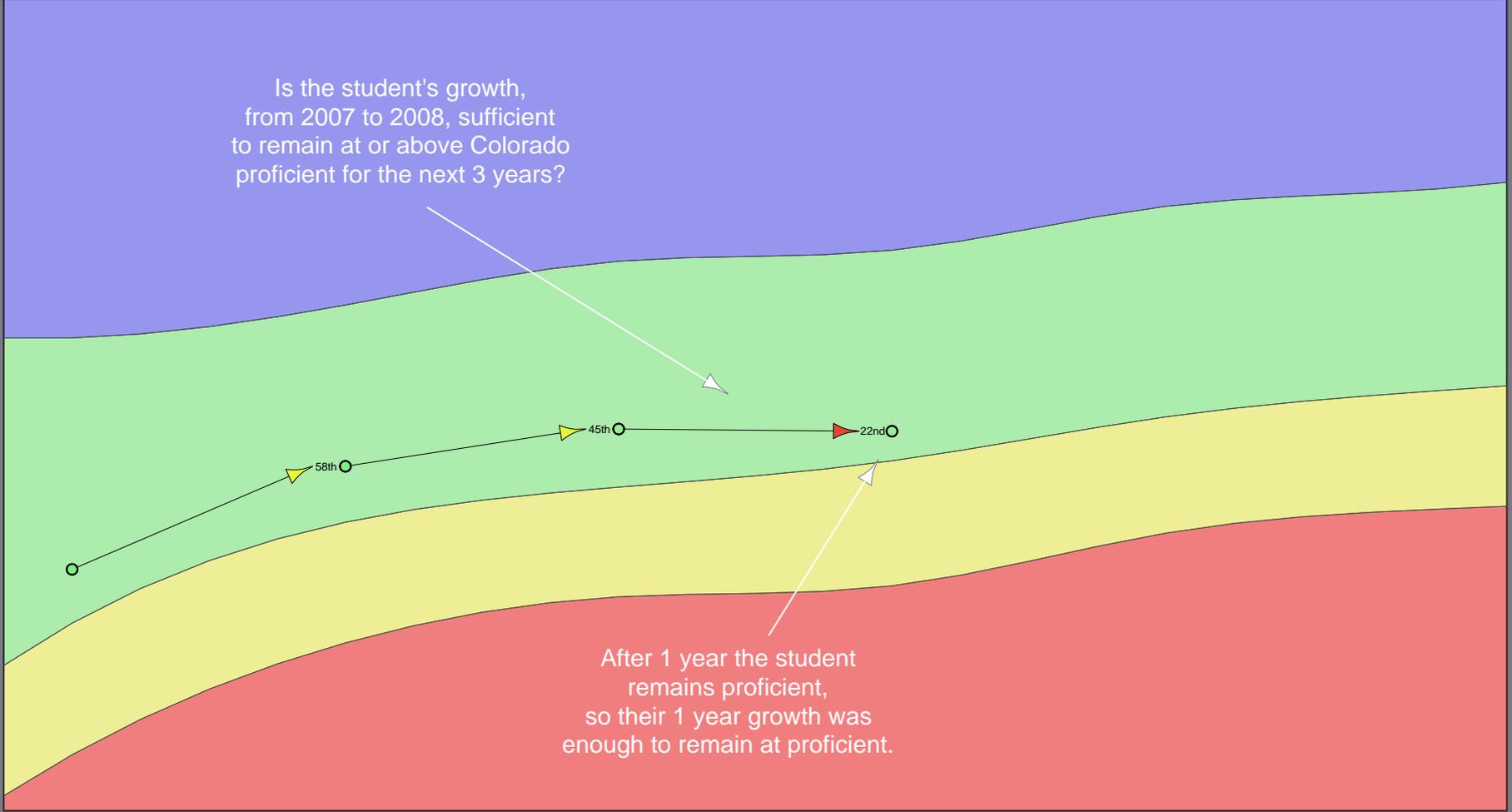
Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010



Grade 3/2005

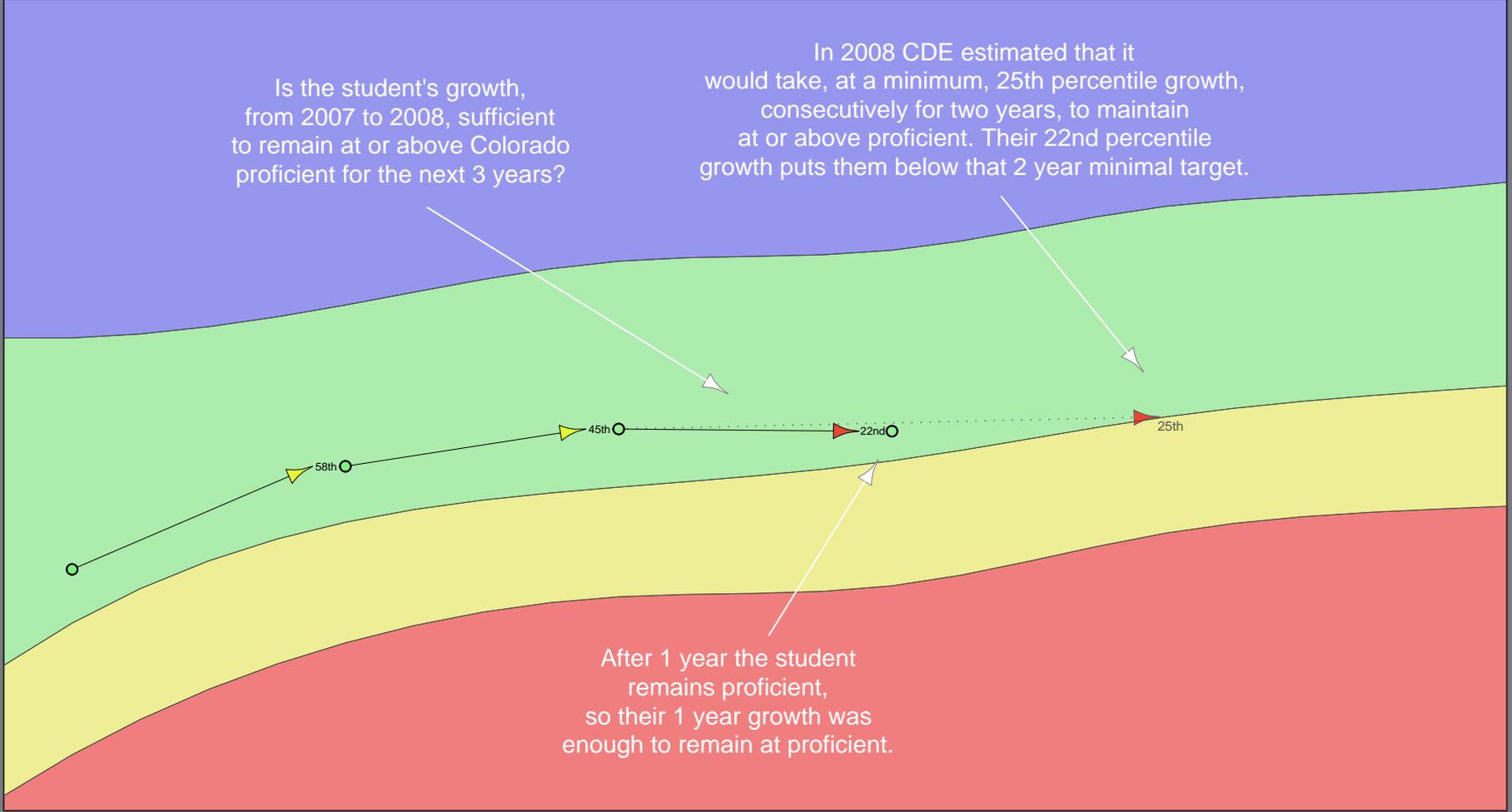
Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010



Is the student's growth, from 2007 to 2008, sufficient to remain at or above Colorado proficient for the next 3 years?

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take, at a minimum, 25th percentile growth, consecutively for two years, to maintain at or above proficient. Their 22nd percentile growth puts them below that 2 year minimal target.

After 1 year the student remains proficient, so their 1 year growth was enough to remain at proficient.

Grade 3/2005

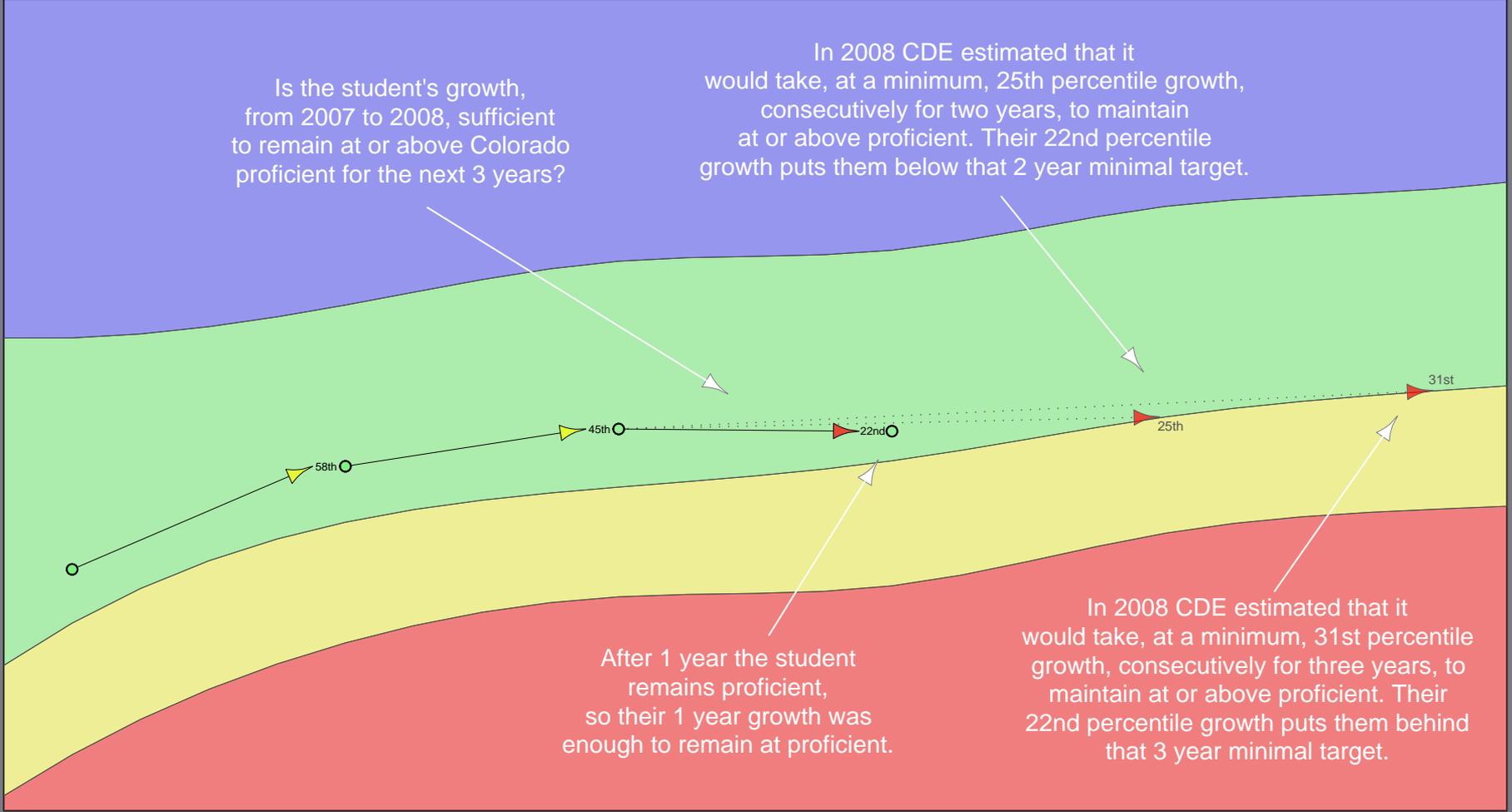
Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010



Is the student's growth, from 2007 to 2008, sufficient to remain at or above Colorado proficient for the next 3 years?

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take, at a minimum, 25th percentile growth, consecutively for two years, to maintain at or above proficient. Their 22nd percentile growth puts them below that 2 year minimal target.

After 1 year the student remains proficient, so their 1 year growth was enough to remain at proficient.

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take, at a minimum, 31st percentile growth, consecutively for three years, to maintain at or above proficient. Their 22nd percentile growth puts them behind that 3 year minimal target.

Grade 3/2005

Grade 4/2006

Grade 5/2007

Grade 6/2008

Grade 7/2009

Grade 8/2010

Is the student's growth, from 2007 to 2008, sufficient to remain at or above proficient for the next 3 years?

In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take, at a minimum, 25th percentile growth, consecutively for two years, to maintain at or above proficient. Their 22nd percentile growth puts them below that 2 year minimal target.

Conclusion: Even though the student was proficient in 2008, their 2007–08 growth percentile of 22 was less than both the two and three year minimum targets. As such, the student's growth is considered to be insufficient to remain Colorado proficient over the next three years. In short, the student is not on track to remain Colorado proficient and is not "keeping up".

After 1 year the student remains proficient, so their 1 year growth was enough to remain at proficient.

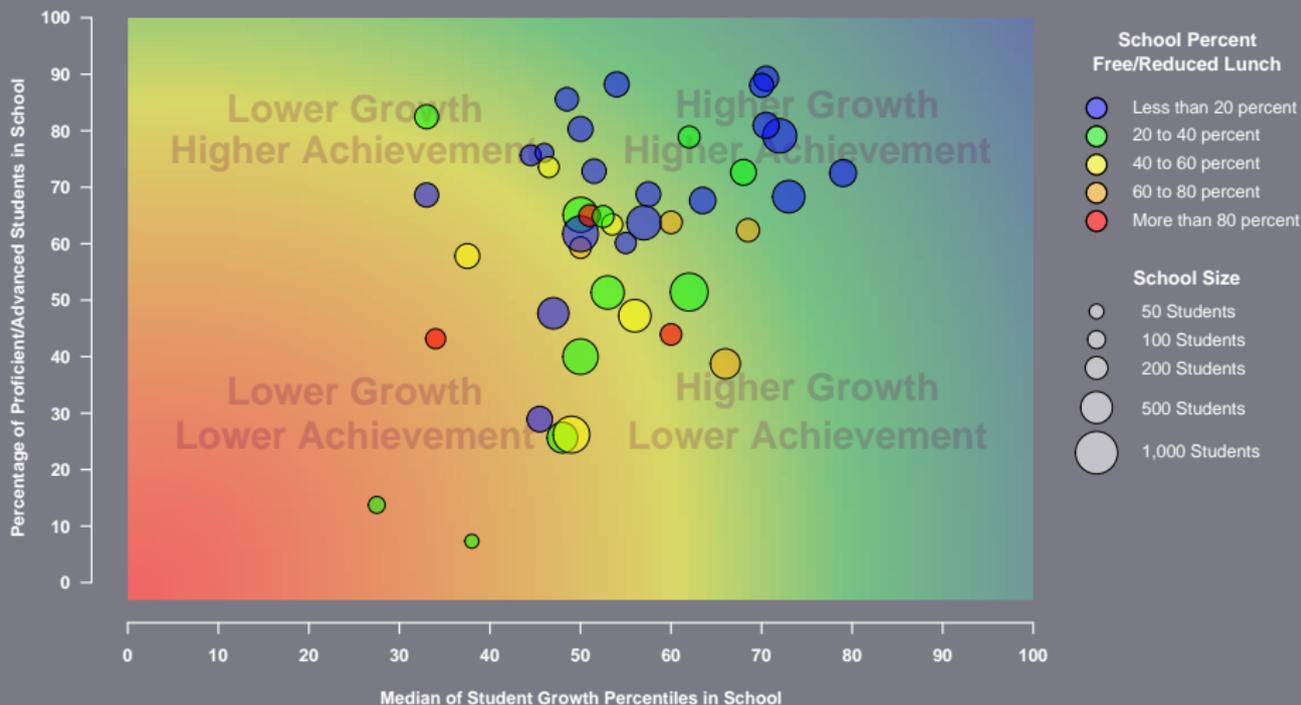
In 2008 CDE estimated that it would take, at a minimum, 31st percentile growth, consecutively for three years, to maintain at or above proficient. Their 22nd percentile growth puts them behind that 3 year minimal target.



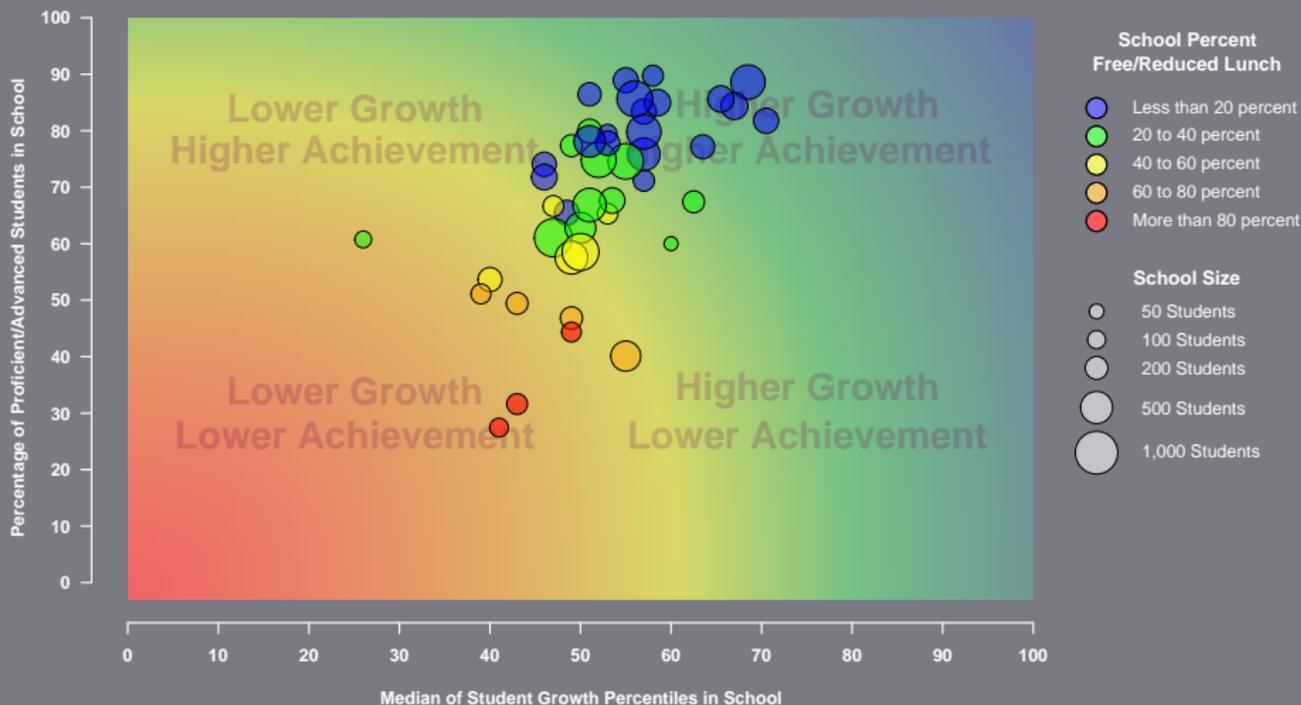
Going from Students to Schools

- It's of interest to examine schools where students demonstrate, on average, extraordinarily high and low student growth.
- To summarize the student growth percentiles associated with a school (or other grouping) calculate the median of the student growth percentiles.
- If students were randomly assigned to schools, expect to see a median of 50.
- Values greatly above or below 50 are of interest in identifying best practices or providing extra support.
- Examining growth with achievement sheds new light on school performance.

Mountain View School District: 2007 CSAP Math School Results
Student Growth versus Student Achievement by Free/Reduced Lunch Percentage



Mountain View School District: 2007 CSAP Reading School Results
Student Growth versus Student Achievement by Free/Reduced Lunch Percentage



Growth, Effectiveness, and Value-Added

Fundamental Premise

“Good” schools bring about student growth in excess of that found at “bad” schools.

- “Good schools” are often called highly effective schools.
- What’s the relationship between **growth** and **effectiveness**?
- Effectiveness indicates who/what is responsible for the growth (value-added models).

Economic Disadvantage vs School Effectiveness TN Elementary Schools 2008

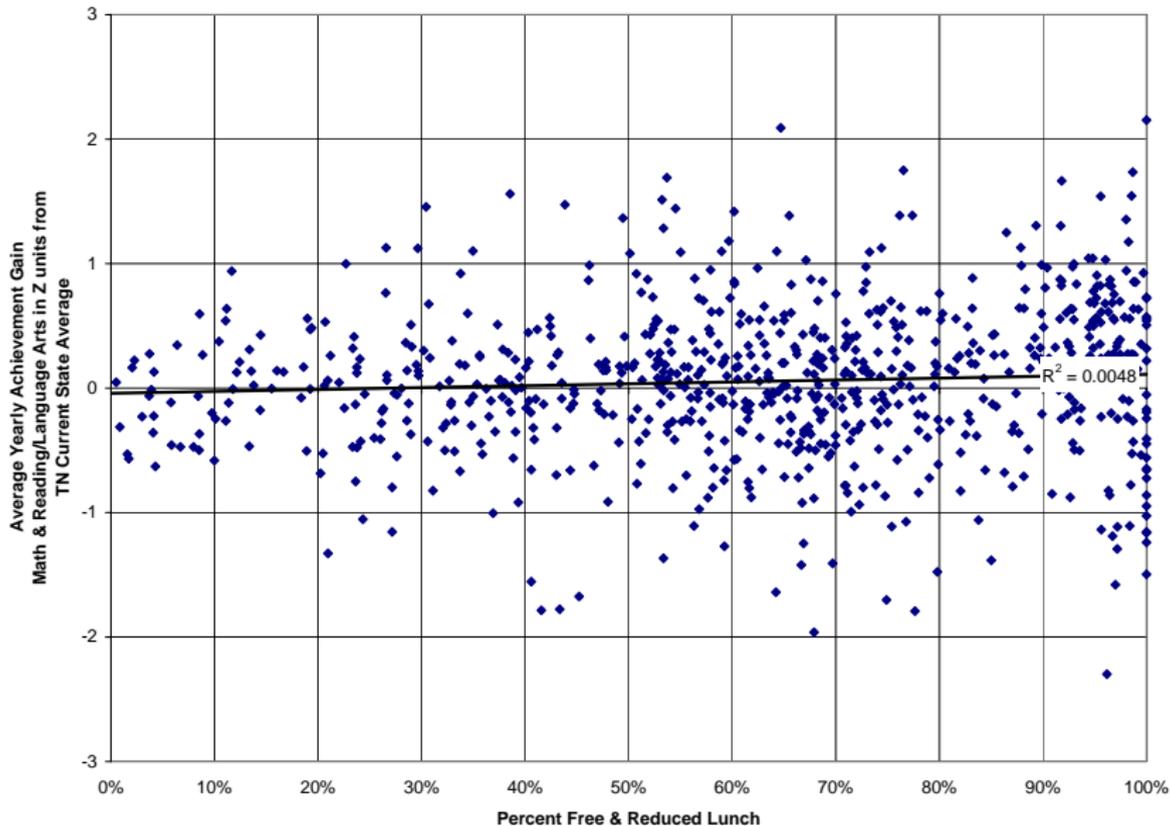
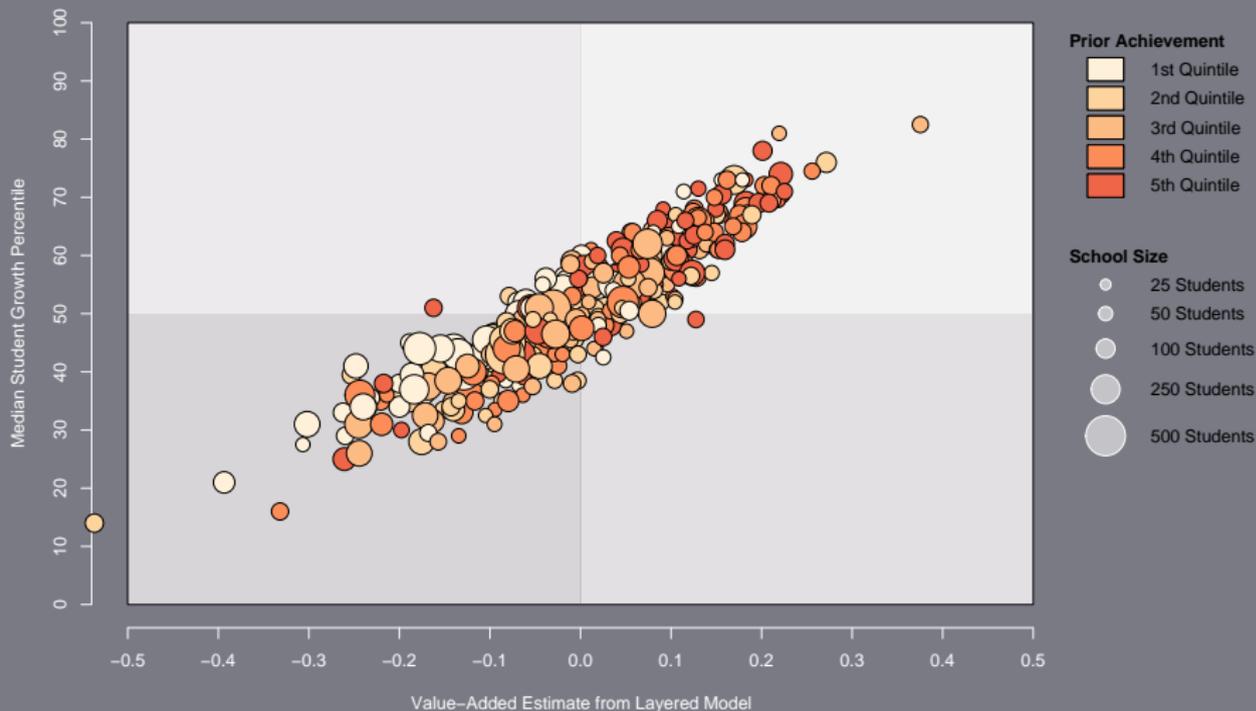


Figure 4c: Grade 6 (2006) Layered Model versus Quantile Regression Estimates (SEP3ML Scale) by Prior Achievement Quintile (School Size ≥ 50)



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