

Scaling Math Achievement from Classroom and School to District and State

How Derivita helped Utah become a top-performing math state by turning its LMS into a robust instruction, assessment, and analytics platform.

Case Study Summary

This case study explores how Utah leveraged Derivita—a comprehensive math engine that seamlessly integrates with any LMS—to drive measurable improvements in math instruction and student outcomes. With strategic support from the Utah Education Network (UEN) and the Utah STEM Action Center, Derivita has quickly become one of the most widely used math platforms in the state. Featuring two districts diverse in size and context, this study examines how Derivita’s ability to embed high-quality content, tools, and data into Utah’s existing edtech infrastructure has contributed to statewide gains in math achievement.

Introduction

Derivita is a comprehensive math engine that transforms any LMS into a powerful platform for daily math instruction, assessment, and real-time analytics. Seamlessly integrated, Derivita brings math directly into the tools teachers and students already use—eliminating the need for separate logins, platforms, or workflows.

With rigorous, standards-aligned questions, dynamic content, time-saving automations, and built-in analytics from classroom to district, Derivita supports the full spectrum of math instruction: practice, feedback, assessment, and differentiation. For districts and states aiming to scale high-quality instruction, Derivita offers a user-friendly, easy-to-adopt, and sustainable solution that drives measurable improvement.

Strategic Adoption in Action: A Scalable Math Solution Effective Across Diverse Districts

Derivita is a Utah Education Network (UEN)–approved platform offered under a five-year statewide agreement, providing discounted licensing and a streamlined purchasing path for Utah districts.

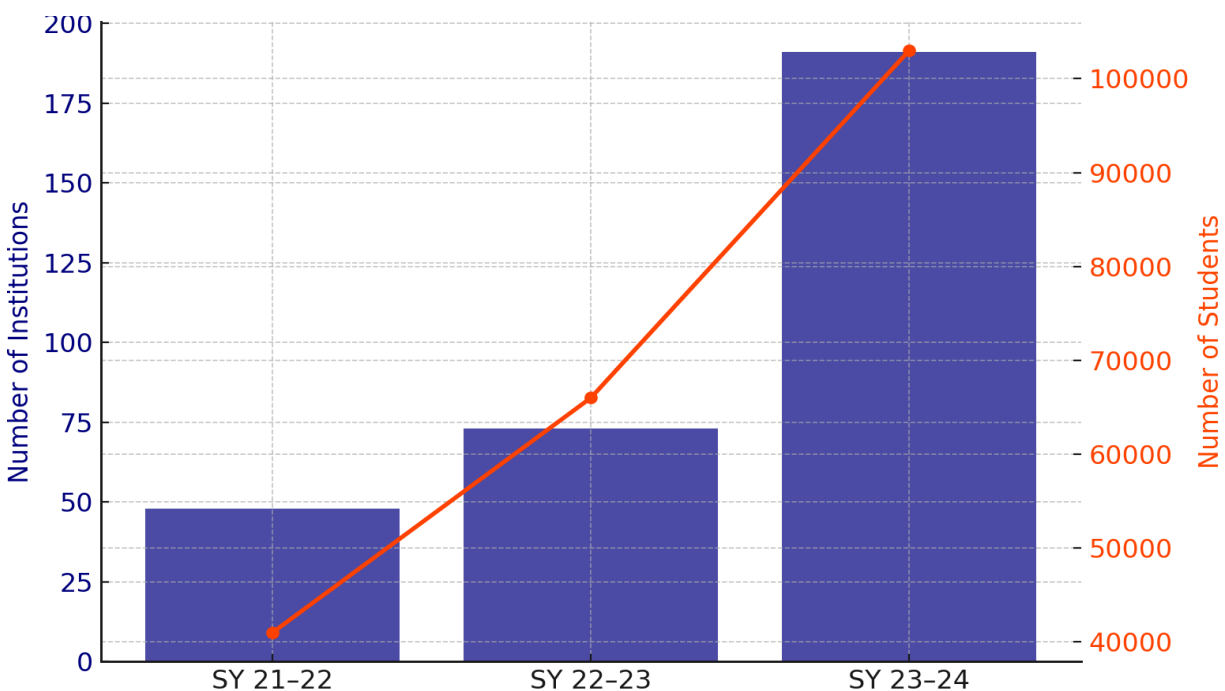
UEN is a state-supported agency that provides infrastructure, procurement support, and instructional resources to public schools and higher education institutions across Utah, making it a key partner in enabling scalable, cost-effective technology adoption.

Derivita is also an approved provider under the Utah STEM Action Center’s K–12 Math Personalized Learning Software Grant Program, which expands access through state-supported funding.

Although not mandated, Derivita has gained steady momentum across the state due to its instructional impact, LMS integration, and ease of use. Districts report stronger student engagement, more efficient teaching, and measurable growth in student performance.

Growing Momentum Across Utah

In just three years, Derivita has grown by over 365%, with adoption across rural, suburban, and urban districts. Today, more than 1 in 3 Utah students in grades 6–12 use Derivita for math, demonstrating both scale and sustained instructional value.



Why This Matters

Districts and states face growing pressure to improve math outcomes while navigating tighter budgets and uncertain funding streams. This has led to a renewed focus on eliminating underused tools and maximizing the value of existing platforms. Derivita stands out as a rare example that improves math outcomes at scale precisely because it integrates seamlessly into existing technology infrastructure—simplifying adoption, streamlining workflows, and amplifying the impact of current investments.

- **UEN-Approved and Grant-Funded:** After a rigorous review process, the Utah Education Network approved Derivita for secondary schools, offering pre-negotiated pricing and a statewide contract vehicle that simplifies procurement and reduces cost of entry. The Utah STEM Action Center also approved Derivita for its K–12 Math Personalized Learning Software Grant

Program—giving districts another avenue to secure funding and PD support.

- **Adoption Fueled by Local Wins:** Derivita's growth wasn't driven by mandates, it expanded because educators saw results. Districts cited improvements in teacher satisfaction, time savings, and student growth as key factors behind continued adoption.
- **Data That Goes Beyond Usage:** While many platforms offer digital practice, Derivita delivers measurable gains, particularly in Median Growth Percentile (MGP), a trusted metric for year-over-year student progress.

Why MGP Matters

Assessment leaders recognize that Median Growth Percentile (MGP) paints a clearer picture of instructional impact than raw proficiency scores. MGP measures how much growth students make compared to academic peers with similar past performance, making it critical for equity-focused, improvement-driven districts.

- **MGP of 50** = average growth
- **Above 50** = students growing faster than academic peers
- **Below 50** = slower-than-average growth

*Proficiency tells you **where** a student is. MGP tells you **how far** they've come. For any district leader focused on equity and acceleration, that distinction matters.*

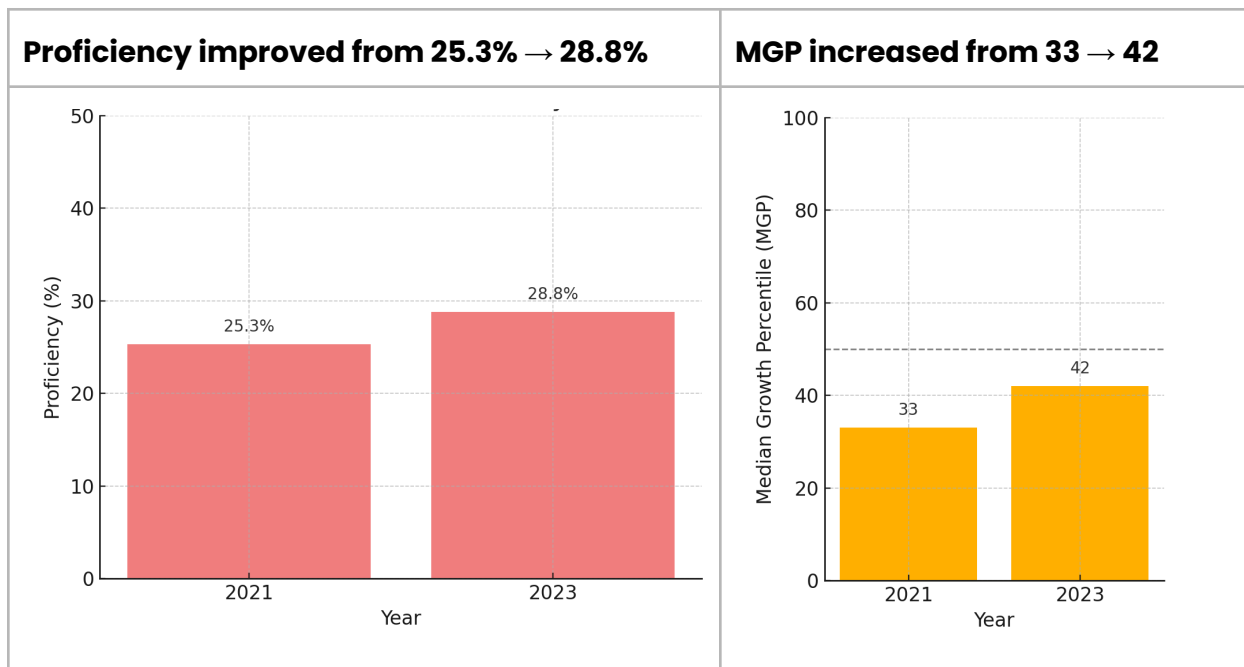
From Title I to Top Performers: Derivita's Impact in Two Distinctly Different Utah Schools

School A – Urban, High-Need Context

Located in a well-regarded district, this Title I middle school serves a population with high student mobility and historically low achievement. Ranked in the top 100 schools in Utah, it enrolls a high percentage of low-income students who have traditionally underperformed compared to state averages. Despite these challenges, the school benefits from strong district leadership and modern facilities.

The school adopted Derivita early, using it across classrooms to strengthen instruction and better support struggling learners.

Results (2021–2023)



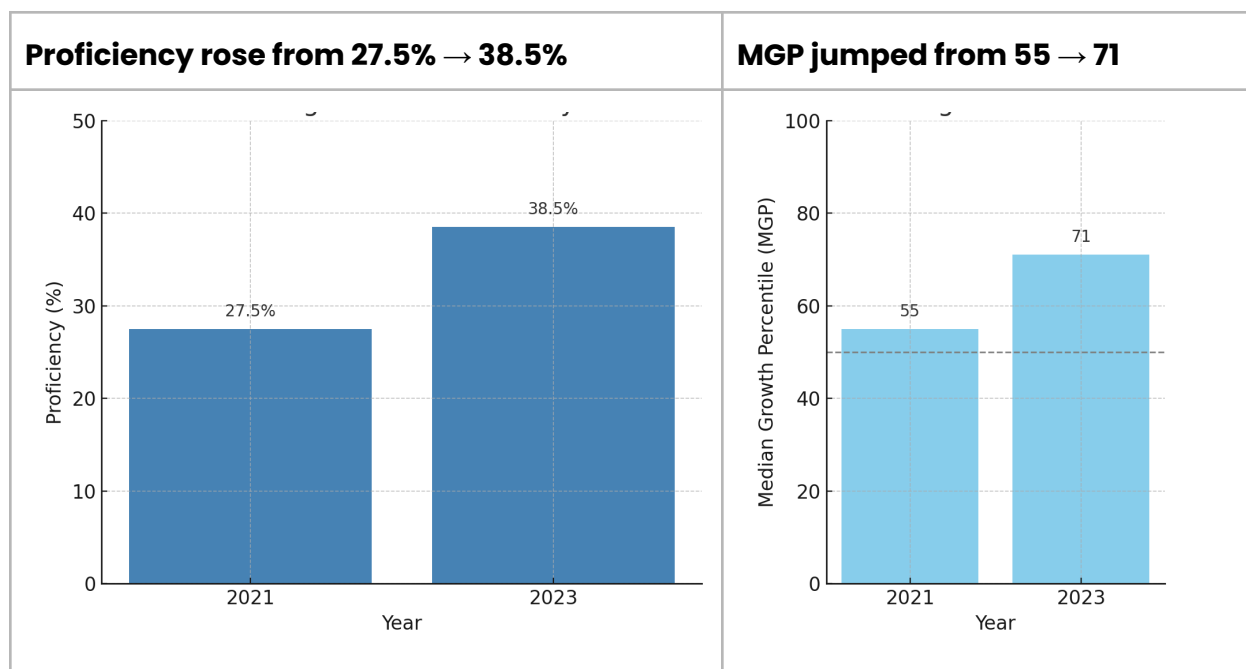
Teachers gained back instructional time and reported faster student feedback cycles:

“We’re seeing a shift in student confidence and how quickly they bounce back from mistakes.” — Math Teacher, School A

School B – Large District, High-Performing School

Part of one of Utah’s largest districts, serving over 40,000 students across 1,300 square miles—this high school ranks among the top 100 in the state. With 27% of students enrolled in AP courses and a growing Gifted & Talented program, the school serves a diverse student population, including 16% economically disadvantaged students.

The school adopted Derivita to increase rigor, streamline grading, and support consistent instruction across learning levels.

Results (2021–2023)

Students demonstrated stronger conceptual retention and advanced into higher-level math:

“Even our strongest students are being pushed in new ways. And we’re saving time on grading without losing insight.”

— Department Chair, School B

The Takeaway

Utah's standout performance on the 2024 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) provides important context for Derivita's statewide growth:

- Utah scored 10 points above the national average in 8th-grade math
- 35% of students performed at or above the NAEP Proficient level (vs. 28% nationally)
- 70% reached Basic or above (vs. 59% nationally)
- Utah was one of the few states with no statistically significant post-pandemic learning loss

These results mirror the rapid expansion of Derivita across the state. Since 2021, usage has grown more than 365%, spanning over 190 schools and more than 80% of Utah districts—from large urban systems to small rural communities. Derivita's ability to embed directly within the LMS has made it both easy to adopt and impactful to implement, supporting daily instruction, feedback, and real-time analytics without disrupting existing workflows.

While multiple factors contributed to statewide achievement, and this study does not assert a direct causal link between Derivita and NAEP scores, the timing, scale, and alignment of Derivita with Utah's instructional goals suggest it played an instrumental role in the state's math success story.

For district and state leaders seeking scalable, measurable improvements in math, while minimizing disruption and maximizing existing investments, Utah's approach offers a compelling, proven blueprint for success.