

Lexiles as a College Readiness Indicator

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Why Lexiles?

- We want leading indicators to be actionable
- The Lexiles measure itself suggests action
(although have not been fully validated)
- Measure is widely available:
 - Researchers/Educators – TAKS link
 - Parents (on TAKS parent reports)
 - Textbook publishers – Trade publishers
- The Lexiles model is based on the cognitive demands of the material

Calculating Lexiles and Reading Comprehension-Rate

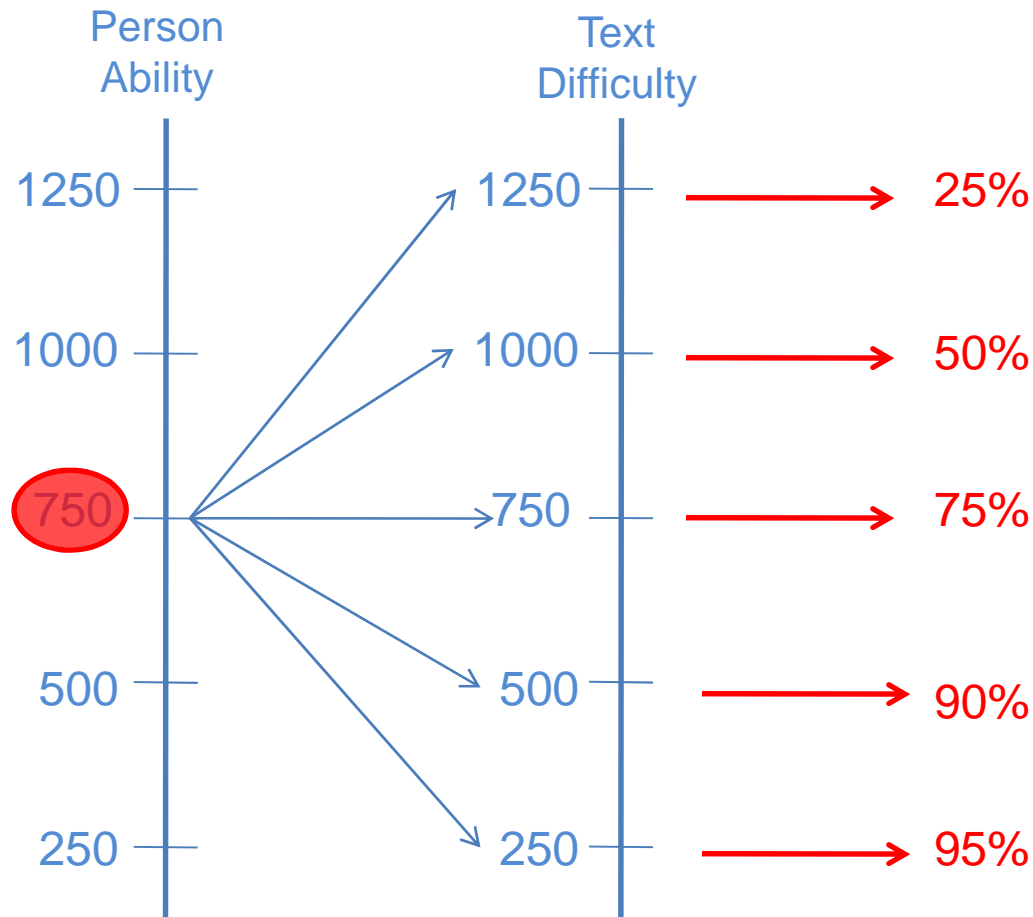
This rose-bush, by a strange chance, has been kept alive in history; but whether it had merely survived out of the stern old wilderness, so long after the fall of the gigantic pines and oaks that originally overshadowed it, or whether, as there is fair authority for believing, it had sprung up under the footsteps of the sainted Ann Hutchinson as she entered the prison-door, we shall not take upon us to determine.

- The Scarlet Letter (1400L)

Cloze item:

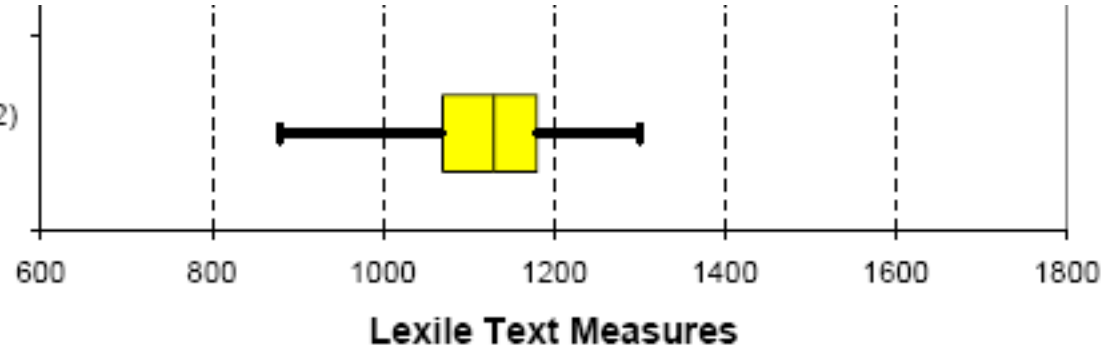
The rose-bush serves as a vibrant _____ for this tale.

Comparing Text Difficulty and Person Ability

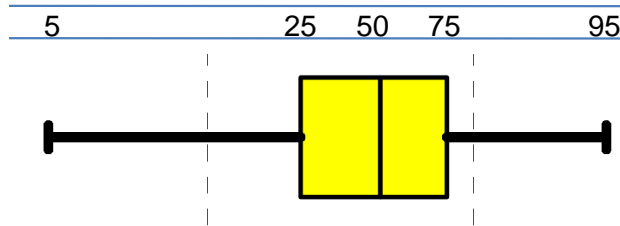


Estimates of Reading Demands by Setting (from Williamson, 2006a)

High School (11-12)
(n=75)



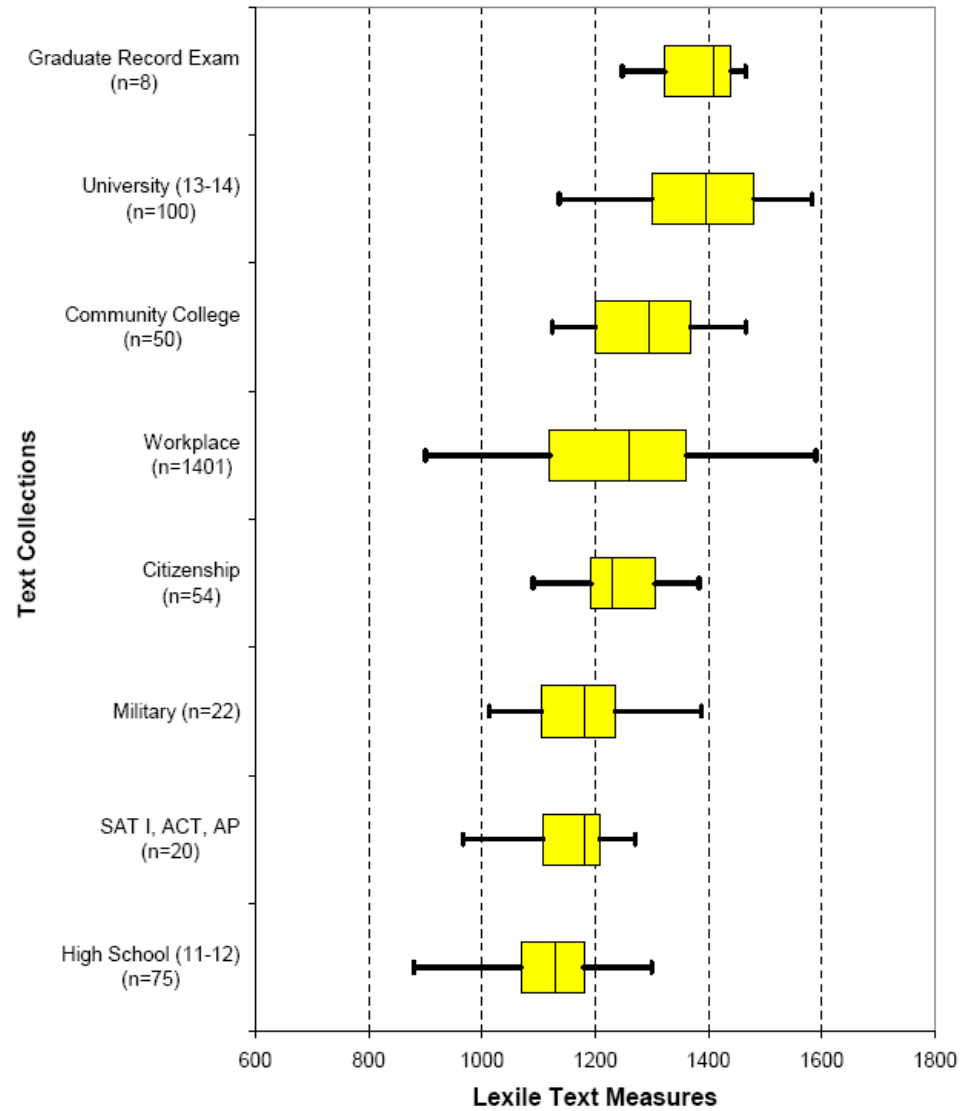
Percentile



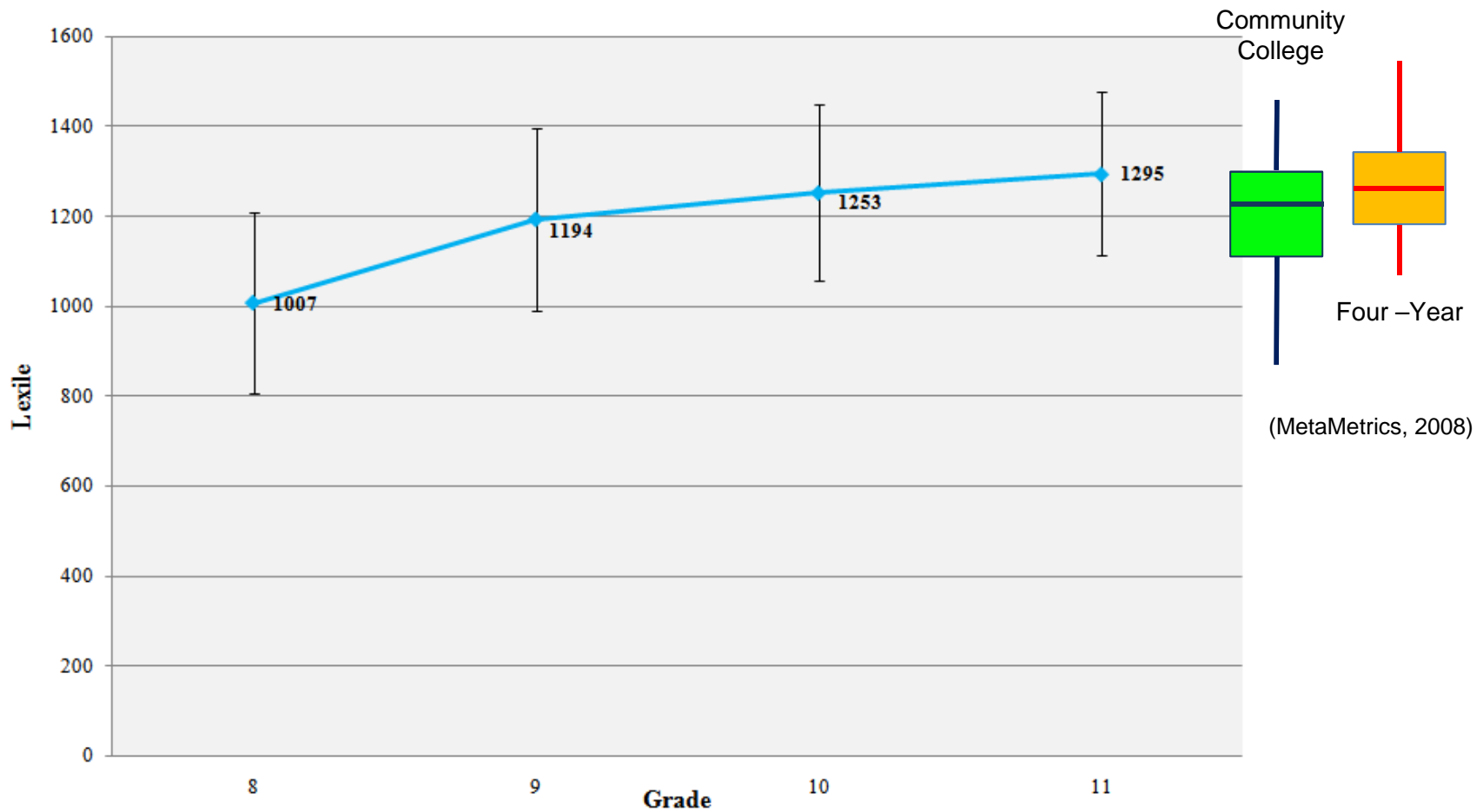
Number of
texts used in
this estimate

TAKS Performance Standards Overlay on Text Demands

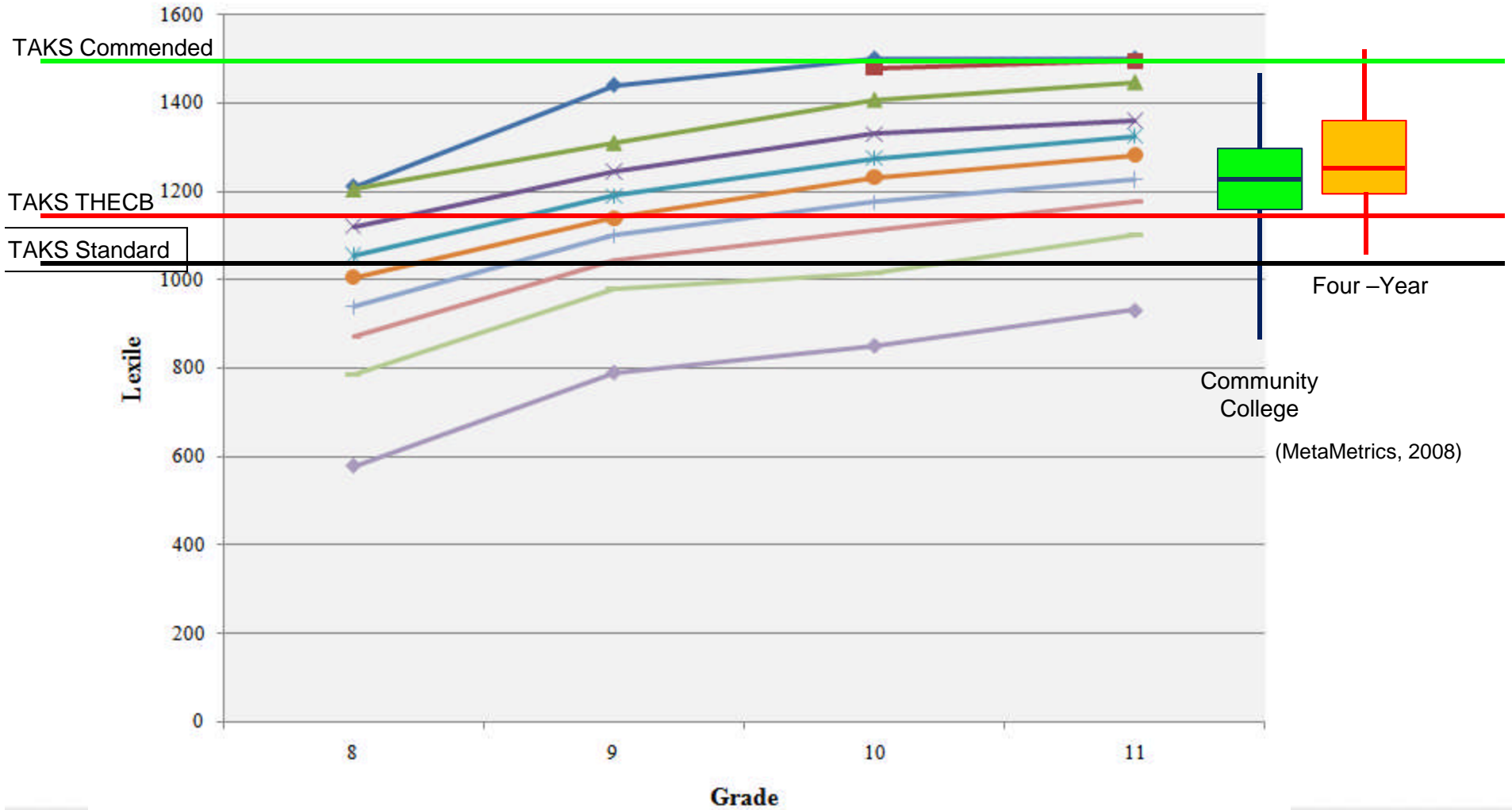
(adapted from Williamson, 2006a)



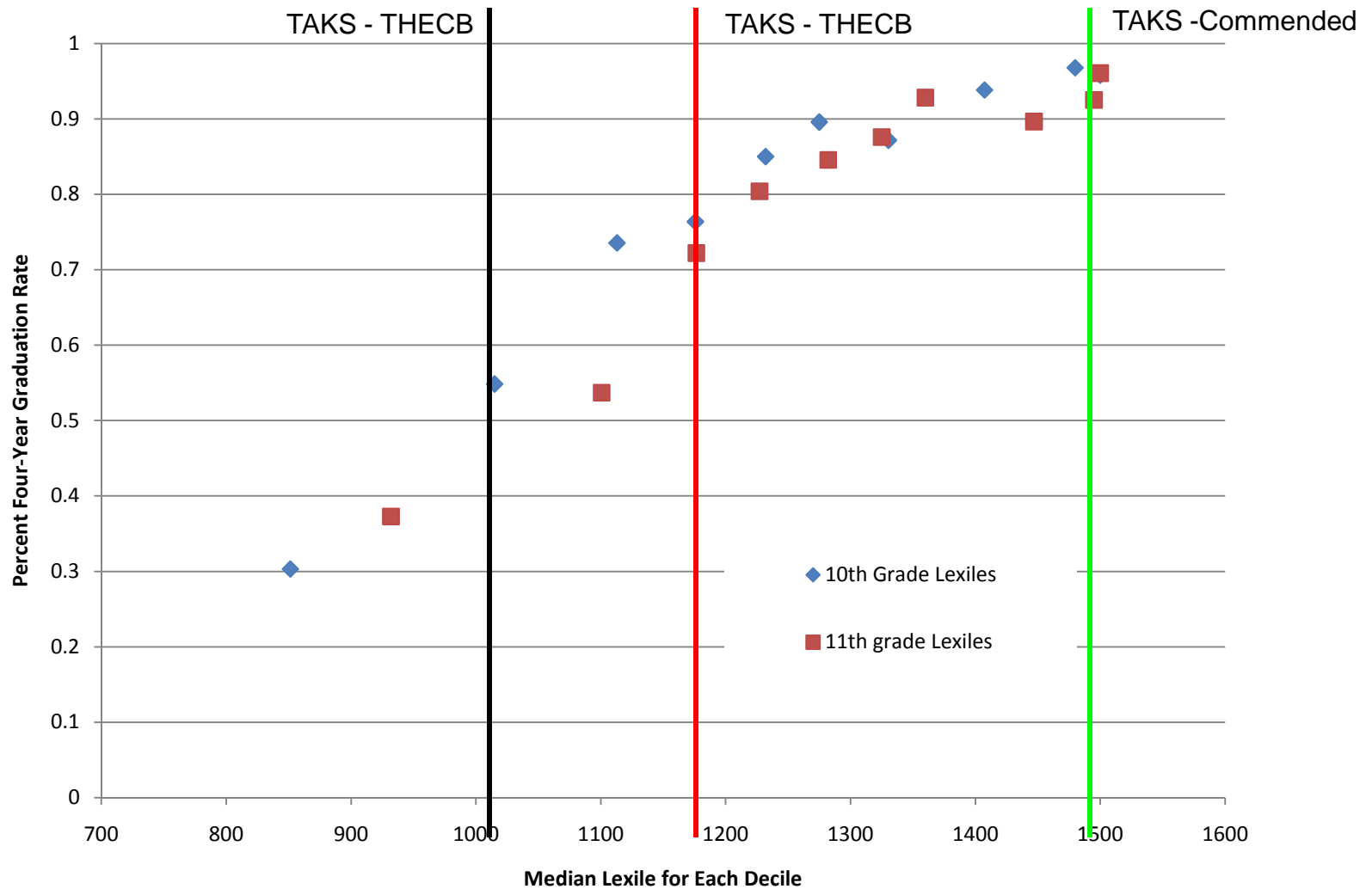
Median Lexile Performance 2009/2010 for 1 District



Median Lexile Performance by Decile for 2009/2010 1 District



Four-Year Graduation Rates by Lexile Level



Next Steps

- Link Lexiles performance to post-secondary performance – ERC and the NSC
- Develop potential indicator for 6th grade readiness – and for 9th grade
- Provide to parents longitudinally
- Conduct individual growth curve analyses to identify warning patterns
- Actionable indicator? – research on these *actions*