

2016-17 Evaluation of Assessment of Course Performance

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At-a-Glance

For the 2016-17 school year, Local Assessment, in conjunction with the Department of Teaching and Learning (T&L), developed the *Assessments of Course Performance (ACPs)* as standardized final semester tests in grades kindergarten through 12 for Mathematics, Reading/Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, English as a Second Language (ESL), World Languages, Instructional Technology, Health, Physical Education and Visual & Performing Arts courses. Overall, 139 tests were developed and seven were trans-adapted in Spanish. With nine single-semester tests and four high school tests also used for middle school students, a total of 159 ACPs were administered during the 2016–17 school year.

ACP Development

Prior to the test development phase, T&L provided outlines, called blueprints, detailing the Student Expectations (SEs) that required assessment items. In addition, T&L provided item blueprints, which directed item writers to measure specific aspects of SEs with special content to ensure item validity.

The processes of item writing, editing, item analyses, and test approvals were managed through the Office of Test Development. Tests comprised approximately three-quarters of the well-performing items from the previous year and one-quarter new or revised items. Item writing during the summer generally focused on expanding and revising test item banks. All test blueprints and formula charts were published on MyData Portal and Assessment websites at the beginning of the school year. All tests were aligned to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) using the Curriculum Map developed by each content area. After administration began, alignment pages were also published on the MyData Portal and Assessment websites. These pages assured that each test item's SE was in the Curriculum Map.

Example Item Sets for ACPs

Local Assessment developed a representative set of items for each ACP, or Example Items, for teachers to gain an understanding of the format and rigor of the ACPs. Beginning in October for semester one and February for semester two, Example Items were available for download, and teachers could use these items, along with the test blueprint, as guides for preparing students for the ACP. They were intended to provide an understanding of some, not all, possible approaches to assessing the given SE. Each Example

Item had the correct answer as well as the content SE listed in the key.

Valid and Reliable Tests

The development of valid and reliable assessments is crucial for the evaluation of student knowledge and mastery of instructional material. Therefore, it is essential that the data provided by tests be valid and reliable. Content validity was demonstrated through the use of item and test blueprints, developed by T&L, and Curriculum Map alignment pages, ensuring each item was aligned with the curriculum. Cronbach's alpha, a coefficient used to provide a general indicator of consistency across items within a test, ranges from 0 to 1, with 0 indicating no test reliability. Coefficients approaching 1 indicate high test reliability. Of the 159 ACPs administered, 151 ACPs had a reliability of .70 or higher, of which 103 were equal to or above .80. Five ACPs had a reliability between .69 and .64.

Curriculum Alignment

The ACPs were designed as measures of the taught curriculum. Although every SE in the curriculum was not measured, significant SEs were identified and included in the test design process. Teachers were surveyed and asked to indicate the extent to which the ACPs successfully matched what was taught in the course. The results are presented in Table 1. Between 80% and 90% of the teachers reported courses and ACPs had a 75% to 100% match. Given that there were more SEs taught than can be appropriately measured on a 90-minute test, this level of matching was acceptable.

Table 1: ACPs Aligned with Taught Curriculum

Question	Response Category	Sem 1 (%)	Sem 2 (%)
To what extent does the ACP successfully assess (match) what is taught in this course?	100% match	36.8	25.3
	About 75% match	53.1	56.3
	About 75% match	8.4	14.0
	About 75% match	1.4	4.4
	No match at all	0.3	0.0

Scaled Scores

All 2016–17 ACP tests used scaled scores rather than raw scores. Tests aim to have at least 55% correct set to equal a scale score of 70, or passing. However, some tests have lower or higher passing percentages based on test difficulty. The 55% criterion was lowered on 54 and raised on 32 of 109 first semester tests, and lowered on 30 and raised on 12 of 49 second semester

tests. Maintaining the 55% standard would have led to unreasonably high or low passing rates.

Semester One Results

Table 2 reports semester one results for the 109 ACPs administered, including the mean ACP scale score and standard deviation, and the percentage of students passing the ACP. The mean scale score ranged from a low of 67.3 (Math Models) to a high of 89.3 (Kindergarten Reading), while the median scale score was 73.9. The percent of students passing the ACPs ranged from 41.8% (RLA 8 ESL YR 1) to 94.4% (Kindergarten Spanish Reading).

Table 2: Semester One ACP Results

ACP	Mean Scale Score	Scale Score SD	Percent Passing
K Math	84.8	15.5	85.6
K Spanish Math	84.2	12.8	83.3
Grade 1 Math	84.0	15.6	82.8
Grade 1 Spanish Math	85.0	12.5	89.2
Grade 2 Math	82.1	13.4	80.7
Grade 2 Spanish Math	76.9	14.4	61.1
Grade 3 Math	74.5	13.7	60.9
Grade 3 Spanish Math	69.0	11.8	44.3
Grade 4 Math	75.0	13.1	64.7
Grade 4 Spanish Math	71.8	9.8	52.2
Grade 5 Math	73.8	12.7	63.5
Grade 5 Spanish Math	70.6	11.2	52.5
Math 6	72.4	8.7	59.5
Math 6 Pre-AP	76.4	9.8	74.0
Math 7	71.6	9.4	55.3
Math 7 Pre-AP	77.7	15.6	73.7
Math 8	71.2	10.9	56.2
Algebra I Pre-AP	74.9	13.2	67.3
Algebra I	69.9	12.9	51.5
Geometry	71.3	7.6	57.6
Geometry Pre-AP	73.6	8.7	65.8
Algebra II	68.5	11.3	49.3
Algebra II Pre-AP	73.9	10.0	68.5
Pre-Calculus	71.1	10.3	49.7
Pre-Calculus Pre-AP	73.9	9.9	67.6
Math Models	67.3	10.1	44.2
K Reading	89.3	11.4	92.8
K Spanish Reading	89.0	11.1	94.4
Grade 1 Reading	83.5	11.6	90.3
Grade 1 Spanish Reading	86.3	13.1	91.4
Grade 2 Reading	81.5	14.9	76.9
Grade 2 Spanish Reading	81.2	17.5	79.9
Grade 3 Reading	71.1	14.9	56.3
Grade 3 Spanish Reading	72.4	13.9	59.9

Table continues

Table 2 con't

ACP	Mean Scale Score	Scale Score SD	Percent Passing
Grade 4 Reading	75.3	14.4	68.2
Grade 4 LA	70.1	17.9	58.3
Grade 4 Spanish Reading	77.2	13.2	74.7
Grade 4 Spanish LA	73.0	18.3	67.9
Grade 5 Reading	76.7	13.6	70.8
Grade 5 Span Reading	78.0	13.6	75.7
Reading LA 6	73.1	11.7	62.5
Reading LA 6 Pre-AP	77.7	12.3	81.5
Reading LA 7	73.5	11.4	65.6
Reading LA 7 Pre-AP	79.8	9.8	85.8
Reading LA 8	74.2	10.8	66.4
Reading LA 8 Pre-AP	78.1	11.7	80.1
English I	71.3	14.5	59.0
English I Pre-AP	76.3	12.6	75.1
English II	72.4	8.7	63.6
English II Pre-AP	76.9	10.4	76.9
English III	72.7	10.5	66.2
English IV	74.8	11.4	73.4
Grade 5 Science	76.0	16.4	67.9
Grade 5 Spanish Science	74.6	15.3	69.6
Science 6	72.1	11.6	58.4
Science 6 Pre-AP	79.6	12.2	81.9
Science 7	68.2	13.4	48.6
Science 7 Pre-AP	77.8	9.7	80.7
Science 8	71.8	10.7	62.5
Physics 8	71.4	8.9	55.0
Astronomy 8	70.6	11.3	56.0
IPC	69.5	10.1	52.5
Biology	72.4	9.4	62.8
Biology Pre-AP	74.7	10.6	67.7
Chemistry	69.4	8.0	45.2
Chemistry Pre-AP	77.2	10.8	75.7
Physics	69.1	6.8	44.7
Physics Pre-AP	73.4	8.7	66.2
Env Sys	74.9	9.0	73.6
Astronomy	69.9	9.1	52.2
Social Studies 6	69.4	12.3	51.7
Social Studies 6 Pre-AP	78.0	10.2	80.6
Texas Studies 7	69.8	10.1	46.7
Texas Studies 7 Pre-AP	78.5	12.0	76.3
US Studies 8	70.5	8.0	50.8
US Studies 8 Pre-AP	74.7	9.2	70.2
World Geography	71.5	9.5	56.9
World Geography Pre-AP	75.8	9.6	76.4
World History	70.3	10.1	52.9
World History Pre-AP	76.5	9.5	76.7

Table continues

Table 2 con't

ACP	Mean Scale Score	Scale Score SD	Percent Passing
US History	70.8	10.4	57.0
Government	74.4	11.5	70.2
Economics	75.4	9.7	74.9
Reading LA 6 ESL YR 1	70.9	10.6	43.8
Reading LA 6 ESL YR 2	72.0	12.5	50.0
Reading LA 7 ESL YR 1	70.2	11.0	47.3
Reading LA 7 ESL YR 2	73.8	11.1	55.2
Reading LA 8 ESL YR 1	70.1	11.1	41.8
Reading LA 8 ESL YR 2	69.5	11.5	49.2
English I ESOL Beg	71.0	9.3	46.3
English I ESOL Inter	71.3	9.3	47.4
English II ESOL Inter	70.5	9.3	48.5
Tech Apps	71.3	10.5	55.5
Web Design	72.1	8.0	63.6
MS Health Education 6	72.7	11.7	62.6
MS Health Education 7	78.6	14.3	78.1
MS Health Education 8	76.2	10.9	76.8
HS Health Education	79.2	11.1	79.8
Studio Art I	75.5	10.3	71.2
MS Art 1 Foundations	75.0	9.6	69.3
PE 6	75.1	9.7	73.3
PE 7 & 8	81.3	10.6	85.5
MS Varsity Band	73.4	11.2	62.5
HS Varsity Band	76.6	11.2	72.8
Spanish I	83.7	15.4	78.0
Spanish II	80.2	15.6	77.0
French I	76.1	13.2	63.4
French II	72.9	16.0	60.5
Spanish Native Spkrs I	73.4	10.4	63.1
Spanish Native Spkrs II	74.4	11.6	67.3

Semester Two Results

Table 3 reports semester two results for the 49 ACPs administered, including the mean ACP scale score and standard deviation, and the percentage of students passing the ACP. Fewer ACPs were administered in the second semester because many courses for grades kindergarten through eleven required students to take a state or national test. The mean scale score ranged from a low of 68.2 (Astronomy) to a high of 85.7 (Spanish II), while the median scale score was 75.1. The percent of students passing the ACPs ranged from 42.4% (Astronomy) to 87.4% (Science 6 Pre-AP).

Table 3: Semester Two ACP Results

ACP	Mean Scale Score	Scale Score SD	Percent Passing
Geometry	72.0	9.2	55.3
Geometry Pre-AP	76.0	11.0	71.7
Algebra II	74.3	9.0	67.7
Algebra II Pre-AP	76.4	9.4	73.4
Pre-Calculus	73.0	10.9	60.8
Pre-Calculus Pre-AP	76.2	12.9	70.9
Math Models	70.7	7.5	55.7
English III	71.1	10.3	57.9
English IV	70.9	9.3	53.0
Science 6	70.9	12.0	54.4
Science 6 Pre-AP	80.7	9.4	87.4
Science 7	76.3	11.1	73.5
Physics 8	74.7	7.4	73.8
Astronomy 8	69.4	10.4	50.2
IPC	73.1	10.9	63.9
Chemistry	72.1	9.0	57.1
Chemistry Pre-AP	75.1	10.5	71.6
Physics	71.2	6.4	59.1
Physics Pre-AP	72.4	6.8	65.3
Env Sys	69.0	14.3	51.9
Astronomy	68.2	7.5	42.4
Social Studies 6	72.2	10.2	55.6
Social Studies 6 Pre-AP	78.3	9.9	82.1
Texas Studies 7	72.5	11.9	60.3
Texas Studies 7 Pre-AP	78.3	10.3	81.3
World Geography	71.6	10.5	56.6
World Geography Pre-AP	77.2	10.3	79.2
World History	71.8	12.7	59.6
World History Pre-AP	75.1	11.5	70.5
Government	71.0	14.6	61.1
Economics	71.8	11.1	55.6
Tech Apps	72.7	12.0	60.3
Web Design	70.2	8.3	55.1
MS Health Education 6	74.1	13.7	64.8
MS Health Education 7	80.3	13.3	82.2
MS Health Education 8	78.4	11.9	79.1
HS Health Education	79.8	11.1	82.1
Studio Art I	75.5	10.0	73.4
MS Art 1 Foundations	76.9	9.9	75.7
PE 6	75.4	10.0	77.1
PE 7 & 8	82.3	10.5	87.4
MS Varsity Band	75.4	10.0	72.0
HS Varsity Band	77.9	10.7	78.1
Spanish I	85.0	15.7	79.5
Spanish II	85.7	14.5	82.2
French I	76.8	13.6	62.7
French II	75.8	13.6	65.5
Spanish Native Spkrs I	76.6	11.0	75.3
Spanish Native Spkrs II	76.3	9.6	77.6

Course Grades

Scale score results were used in the calculation of the final semester grade for grades three through 12. For kindergarten through grade two, *ACP* scores were not factored into final semester grades. For grades three through five, *ACP* scale score results accounted for 5% of the final semester grade. Middle school results accounted for 10% of the final semester grade, while high school *ACP* scale score results accounted for 15% of the final semester grade.

Summer School ACPs

Summer school classes were provided for all students who did not pass courses during the school year. High school students who were instructed in Mathematics, Reading, Science, Social Studies and Health were required to take the respective *ACP*. High school students enrolled in up to two courses and were assessed with both the first- and second-semester *ACPs* for that course.

The full 2016-17 report can be found at www.dallasisd.org/Page/888. For more information, please contact Program Evaluation at evaluation@dallasisd.org.

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