

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For the 2022–23 school year, Assessment's Test Development, 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 three 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, 119 tests were developed and four were trans-adapted into Spanish. With six single-semester tests and four high school tests also used for middle school students, a total of 133 ACPs were administered the 2022–23 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 a specific aspect of the SE to ensure item validity as well as to create a specific type of item. Technology-enhanced items were part of the ACPs for the 2022–23 school year.

The processes of item writing, editing, item analyses, and test approvals were managed through 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 the Assessment website at the beginning of the school year. All tests were aligned to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) using T&L's curriculum guides developed by each content area. After administration began, alignment pages were published on the Assessment website, which showed the specific aspect of the SE that each item measured.

Example Item Sets for ACPs

Test Development developed a representative set of items for each ACP, called Example Items, for teachers and students to gain an understanding of the format and rigor of the ACPs. At the beginning of each semester, Example Items were available in Dallas Assessment Navigator (DAN) as tests. Teachers could activate the Example Item test for students and 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. They also provided students with exposure to the technology-enhanced item types.

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 by using item and test blueprints as well as alignment pages, which ensured each item was aligned with the curriculum. Cronbach's alpha, a coefficient used to provide a general indicator of internal 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 133 ACPs administered, reliability scores were generated for all tests. Ninety-five ACPs had a reliability score equal to or above .80. All but eight ACPs had a reliability of .70 or higher.

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. About 75% 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 120-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?	About 100%	31.1	32.8
	About 75%	43.6	42.6
	About 50%	18.8	21.3
	About 25%	6.5	3.3

Scaled Scores

All 2022–23 ACPs used scaled scores to report student achievement. 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 76 of 90 first semester tests and raised on 10. For second semester, it was lowered on 34 of 43 tests and raised on seven. 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 90 ACPs administered, including the mean ACP scale score, standard deviation, and the percentage of students passing the ACP. The mean scale score ranged from a low of 64.4 (Pre-Calculus) to a high of 80.4 (Grade 5 Spanish Language Arts), while the median scale score was 72.1. The percent of students passing the ACPs ranged from 33.1% (Pre-Calculus) to 80.4% (English Language Arts 7 Honors).

Table 2: Semester One ACP Results

ACP	Mean Scale Score	Scale Score SD	Percent Passing
Grade 3 Mathematics	73.7	13.6	60.9
Grade 3 Spanish Mathematics	65.0	13.0	38.1
Grade 4 Mathematics	76.5	14.5	67.3
Grade 4 Spanish Mathematics	67.1	13.7	39.9
Grade 5 Mathematics	79.4	15.0	74.0
Grade 5 Spanish Mathematics	71.7	15.3	55.0
Mathematics 6	73.9	8.7	66.0
Mathematics 6 Honors	73.4	10.9	62.3
Mathematics 7	69.5	8.6	46.9
Mathematics 7 Honors	76.8	12.8	67.5
Mathematics 8	70.2	11.9	49.3
Algebra I	69.0	14.4	48.1
Algebra I Honors	75.5	14.4	66.7
Geometry	71.0	9.2	49.6
Geometry Honors	73.1	12.5	58.2
Algebra II	69.1	11.6	47.1
Algebra II Honors	71.1	15.0	57.1
Pre-Calculus	64.4	12.3	33.1
Pre-Calculus Honors	66.7	15.2	43.8
Grade 3 Reading	67.8	13.0	42.5
Grade 3 Spanish Reading	73.2	12.6	58.2
Grade 4 Reading	71.1	11.6	54.4
Grade 4 Spanish Reading	72.1	12.2	56.7
Grade 5 Reading	75.7	11.0	70.8
Grade 5 Spanish Reading	80.4	12.8	78.0
English LA 6	69.4	7.6	47.5
English LA 6 Honors	74.8	9.2	71.4
English LA 7	72.1	11.0	57.3
English LA 7 Honors	77.7	10.9	80.4
English LA 8	72.8	10.1	61.2
English LA 8 Honors	76.6	10.5	78.0
English I	68.1	10.1	47.2
English I Honors	71.7	10.8	60.6
English II	69.3	9.7	50.6
English II Honors	72.4	11.1	64.4
English III	70.0	10.0	52.6

English IV	73.0	8.7	62.6
Table continues			

Table 2 con't

ACP	Mean Scale Score	Scale Score SD	Percent Passing
Grade 5 Science	77.1	14.5	72.5
Grade 5 Spanish Science	74.1	12.2	63.1
Science 6	69.9	7.2	48.1
Science 6 Honors	71.5	9.3	56.4
Science 7	70.9	11.9	51.6
Science 7 Honors	75.7	12.2	69.0
Science 8	71.7	10.3	56.4
Physics 8 Honors	72.8	10.5	57.9
Astronomy 8	72.2	10.6	60.0
Biology	72.6	9.1	58.3
Biology Honors	75.6	11.1	69.7
Chemistry	69.2	7.6	44.3
Chemistry Honors	73.1	12.6	61.1
Physics	70.5	7.4	51.2
Physics Honors	74.5	11.9	60.6
Environmental Systems	72.2	10.6	59.7
Astronomy	70.5	9.2	56.3
World Cultures 6	68.7	8.6	42.4
World Cultures 6 Honors	73.9	11.4	63.4
Texas Studies 7	68.7	8.9	40.5
Texas Studies 7 Honors	73.5	10.6	60.4
US Studies 8	70.8	9.3	48.0
US Studies 8 Honors	76.3	11.4	69.7
World Geography	70.1	9.5	46.6
World Geography Honors	72.7	12.4	62.9
World History	70.8	9.8	52.2
World History Honors	75.4	9.9	72.8
US History	70.7	11.3	53.6
Government	71.8	11.7	57.7
Economics	75.9	12.1	69.9
Reading LA 6 ESL YR 1	70.5	7.2	53.2
Reading LA 6 ESL YR 2	71.1	8.8	49.1
Reading LA 7 ESL YR 1	69.4	6.4	46.6
Reading LA 7 ESL YR 2	70.6	7.4	53.3
Reading LA 8 ESL YR 1	69.1	7.9	46.2
Reading LA 8 ESL YR 2	70.7	11.3	45.4
English I ESOL Beg	69.1	9.0	38.6
English I ESOL Inter	70.5	8.4	47.6
English II ESOL Inter	70.1	7.6	47.5
Technology Applications	71.5	11.8	55.7
MS Health Education 8	76.3	11.3	76.1
HS Health Education	75.5	11.4	74.0
PE 6	74.7	9.3	73.7
PE 7 & 8	76.4	9.2	77.4
MS Art I Studio	77.5	9.5	76.0
Studio Art I	73.9	9.6	68.7

Table continues

Table 2 con't

<i>ACP</i>	Mean Scale Score	Scale Score SD	Percent Passing
MS Varsity Band	71.8	10.9	51.8
HS Varsity Band	71.8	12.3	54.8
French I	73.1	10.0	65.2
French II	73.0	11.0	68.0
Spanish I	77.1	11.1	73.2
Spanish II	76.7	11.1	73.1
Spanish Heritage Spkr Fund	73.8	10.2	67.3

Semester Two Results

Table 3 reports semester two results for the 43 *ACPs* administered, including the mean *ACP* scale score, standard deviation, and the percentage of students passing the *ACP*. Fewer *ACPs* were administered in the second semester because many courses for grades three through 11 required students to take the state test. The mean scale score ranged from a low of 67.5 (Environmental Systems) to a high of 82.2 (Spanish II), while the median scale score was 74.0. The percent of students passing the *ACPs* ranged from 40.4% (World Cultures 6) to 83.9% (Spanish II).

Table 3: Semester Two *ACP* Results

<i>ACP</i>	Mean Scale Score	Scale Score SD	Percent Passing
Geometry	69.8	8.3	44.9
Geometry Honors	74.3	12.5	58.5
Algebra II	73.7	9.5	61.4
Algebra II Honors	77.5	11.7	72.4
Pre-Calculus	70.6	10.6	48.3
Pre-Calculus Honors	75.1	14.2	61.2
English III	72.0	9.7	57.8
English IV	73.6	11.2	61.8
Science 6	69.4	7.7	43.0
Science 6 Honors	78.2	10.4	76.7
Science 7	75.1	9.5	66.8
Physics 8 Honors	74.7	9.1	68.3
Astronomy 8	72.7	11.8	57.6
Chemistry	70.8	8.2	48.2
Chemistry Honors	73.8	12.3	61.8
Physics	71.6	7.1	58.9
Physics Honors	75.0	9.0	66.6
Environmental Systems	67.5	12.3	46.9
Astronomy	74.5	11.4	58.5

Table continues

Table 3 con't

<i>ACP</i>	Mean Scale Score	Scale Score SD	Percent Passing
World Cultures 6	68.8	7.3	40.4
World Cultures 6 Honors	76.5	10.7	71.1
Texas Studies 7	69.5	9.4	48.4
Texas Studies 7 Honors	74.6	10.4	65.2
World Geography	71.4	10.2	49.8
World Geography Honors	76.9	10.7	74.2
World History	69.7	10.0	48.5
World History Honors	73.9	11.3	66.7
Government	70.9	15.5	55.6
Economics	73.6	14.0	65.6
Technology Applications	75.1	11.7	66.9
MS Health Education 8	75.4	12.2	72.2
HS Health Education	75.4	12.0	73.5
PE 6	74.0	10.2	66.8
PE 7 & 8	76.2	10.0	75.6
MS Art I Studio	70.7	8.5	57.1
Studio Art I	74.1	9.5	63.2
MS Varsity Band	70.5	12.5	51.4
HS Varsity Band	75.6	10.5	68.0
French I	76.4	9.5	72.5
French II	74.7	8.0	72.4
Spanish I	80.4	11.4	79.7
Spanish II	82.2	10.9	83.9
Spanish Heritage Spkr Fund	73.8	8.0	68.4

Course Grades

Scale score results were used in the calculation of the final semester grade for grades three through twelve. 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 Language Arts (English), Science, and Social Studies were required to take the respective *ACPs* for each course. High school students enrolled in up to two courses and were assessed with the respective *ACPs* for each course.

©2023 Dallas Independent School District (Dallas ISD)

Mail a written request for permission to use or reproduce any part of this document to:

Dallas ISD Department of Evaluation and Assessment; H. B. Bell School Support Center; 2909 Buckner Blvd.; Box 10; Dallas, TX 75228

An electronic version of this report and full 2022-23 report can be found at www.dallasisd.org/Page/888.

For more information, please contact Program Evaluation at evaluation@dallasisd.org.