



Mathematics Assessments

SBOE Ad Hoc Committee on Mathematics Framework

March 27, 2025

TEA Assessment Divisions



**José Ríos, Associate
Commissioner**



**Chris Rozunick, Division
Director**



**Jo Ann Bilderback, Director,
Math, Science, and Social
Studies**

Today's Topics

Overview of Texas Assessment Program

Performance Levels: STAAR vs NAEP

TEKS to TEST

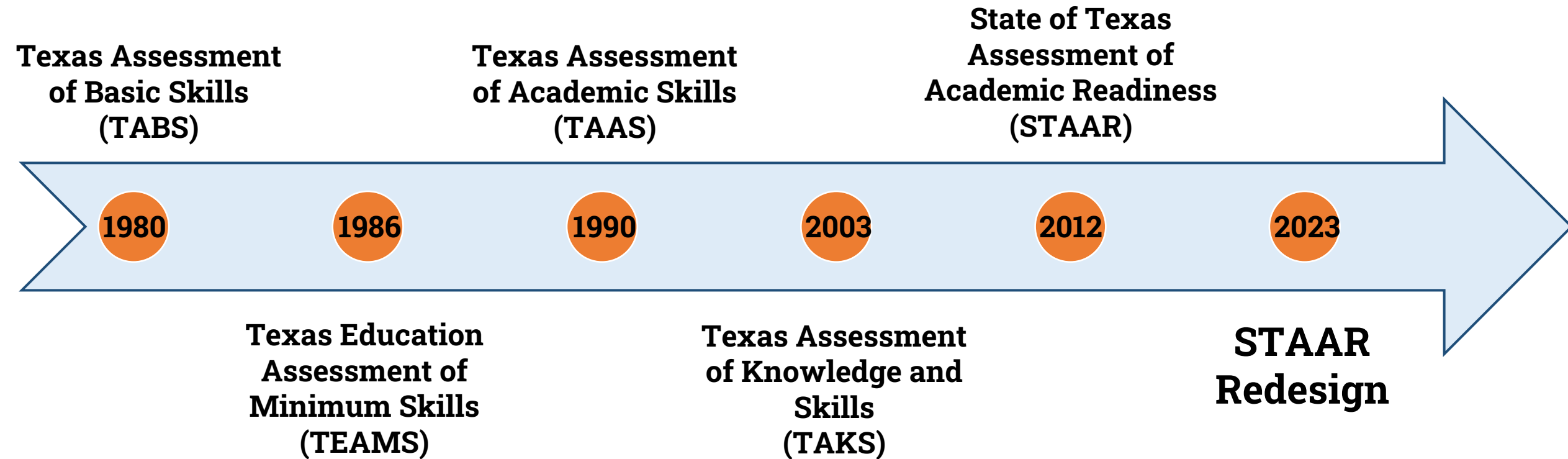
STAAR Resources

Questions



Overview of the Texas Assessment Program

Texas has a long history of statewide summative assessments to measure student learning



As the curriculum standards increased in rigor over the years, the state summative assessment followed

Exit Level TABS Item (1982)

BARRELS OF CRUDE OIL EXPORTED MONTHLY	
	= 1 Million Barrels
Texas	
Alaska	
Pennsylvania	
California	
Louisiana	

Which state exports the least amount of barrels of crude oil monthly?

- A Louisiana
- B Texas
- C Alaska
- D Pennsylvania

TABS assessed the Basic Skills Competencies. In this example of an Exit Level (HS) question from 1982, students are expected to read data from a pictograph.

This content is now aligned to 3.8A in the current TEKS.

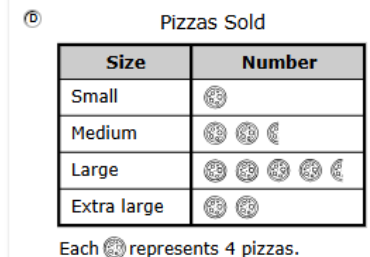
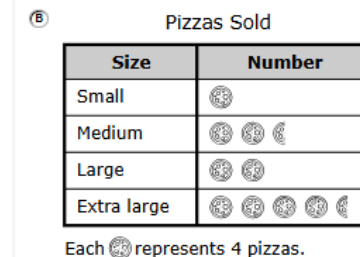
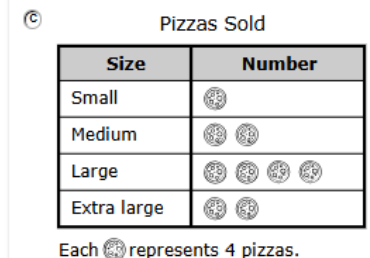
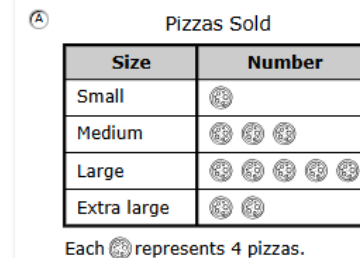
3.8A: summarize a data set with multiple categories using a frequency table, dot plot, pictograph, or bar graph with scaled intervals

A restaurant sells four sizes of pizza. The table shows the pizzas sold.

Pizzas Sold	
Size	Number
Small	4
Medium	10
Large	18
Extra large	8

**STAAR
Grade 3
(2024)**

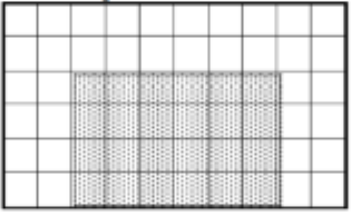
Which pictograph shows the data in the table?



As the curriculum standards increased in rigor over the years, the state summative assessment followed

TAAS Example 4th Grade Math

11. Which sentence tells one way to find the area in square units of the shaded area.



- A Count the unshaded squares only
- B Count the shaded squares only
- C Count only the squares along the edge
- D Count all the square in the grid

TAAS assessed the Essential Elements. The content of this question is currently in the elementary grade-band, but it connects area to multiplication.

This content in the current TEKS is 3.6C.

3.6C: determine the area of rectangles with whole number side lengths in problems using multiplication related to the number of rows times the number of unit squares in each row

Lena draws a rectangle on a grid made of same-sized squares that do not overlap.

- Each square has an area of one square centimeter.
- There are 32 rows in the rectangle.
- Each row has 8 squares.

What is the area of the rectangle in square centimeters?

Enter your answer in the space provided.

← → ↶ ↷ ✕

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
0	$\frac{\Box}{\Box}$	

**STAAR
Grade 3
(2024)**

With the STAAR Redesign in 2023, non-multiple-choice questions were introduced

- ✓ Engage students in higher level thinking
- ✓ Provide more engagement/interaction
- ✓ Align with questions asked in the classroom and provide more authentic response
- ✓ Allow for more accessibility
- ✓ Provides more information on misconceptions

Math uses 10 non-multiple-choice question types.

Equation Editor

Hot Spot

Text Entry

Drag and Drop

Graphing

Match Table Grid

Number Line

Multi-select

Inline Choice

Fraction Model*

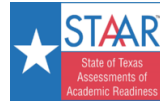
* Grades 3-5 only

[Math Samplers and Practice Tests](#) *online*

A photograph of several students walking on a modern school staircase. In the foreground, a boy with a blue backpack and a yellow shirt is walking down the stairs. Behind him, a girl with blonde hair and a boy are also walking down. On the opposite side of the stairs, two girls are walking up, smiling and talking. The staircase has glass railings and metal handrails. The background is bright and airy, suggesting a large, open school environment.

Performance Levels: STAAR vs NAEP

Overview of NAEP and STAAR



Purpose

Assesses the **Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)**

Measures content frameworks developed by the **National Assessment Governing Board**



Participation

Participation is **required for all students in Texas public schools**

Asks a nationally **representative sample** of students in **grades 4, 8, and 12** to participate



Administration

Assessments are administered over a few weeks in **Spring** for **2-5 hours** each. Students testing in the same subject and grade level take the **same test**.

Administered by NAEP staff on NAEP equipment in **90–120 minutes** on one day in **Jan-Mar**. Students in the same subject and grade see **different questions**.



Results and Uses

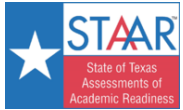
Measures state, district, school, and individual student results; used as a **measure of accountability**

Evaluates **trends in student achievement over time** by demographic groups for the nation, states, and some urban districts

Used to set state education policy, examine school and group performance, and make local decisions about curriculum and instruction

Results are **not reported for individual students or schools**

STAAR and NAEP define performance levels in different ways



Masters Grade Level: students are expected to succeed in the next grade with little/no intervention. Students demonstrate the ability to **think critically** and **apply the assessed knowledge/skills** in **familiar and unfamiliar contexts**.

Meets Grade Level: students have a high likelihood of success in the next grade but may need short-term, targeted intervention. Students generally demonstrate the ability to **think critically** and **apply the assessed knowledge/skills** in **familiar contexts**.

Approaches Grade Level: students are likely to succeed in the next grade with targeted intervention. Students generally demonstrate the **ability to apply the assessed knowledge/skills** in **familiar contexts**.

Did Not Meet Grade Level: students are unlikely to succeed in the next grade without significant, ongoing intervention. Students **do not demonstrate a sufficient understanding of the assessed knowledge/skills**.



NAEP's achievement levels indicate what students should know and be able to do according to the NAGB. The board sets the aspirational goal that all students should reach the NAEP Proficient achievement level.

NAEP Advanced: students with superior performance at each grade assessed



NAEP Proficient: students with solid academic performance for each grade assessed.

- Students demonstrate **competency over challenging subject matter**, including **subject-matter knowledge, application to real-world situations, and analytical skills** appropriate to the subject matter

NAEP Basic: students with partial mastery of prerequisite knowledge/skills that are fundamental for proficient work at each grade assessed

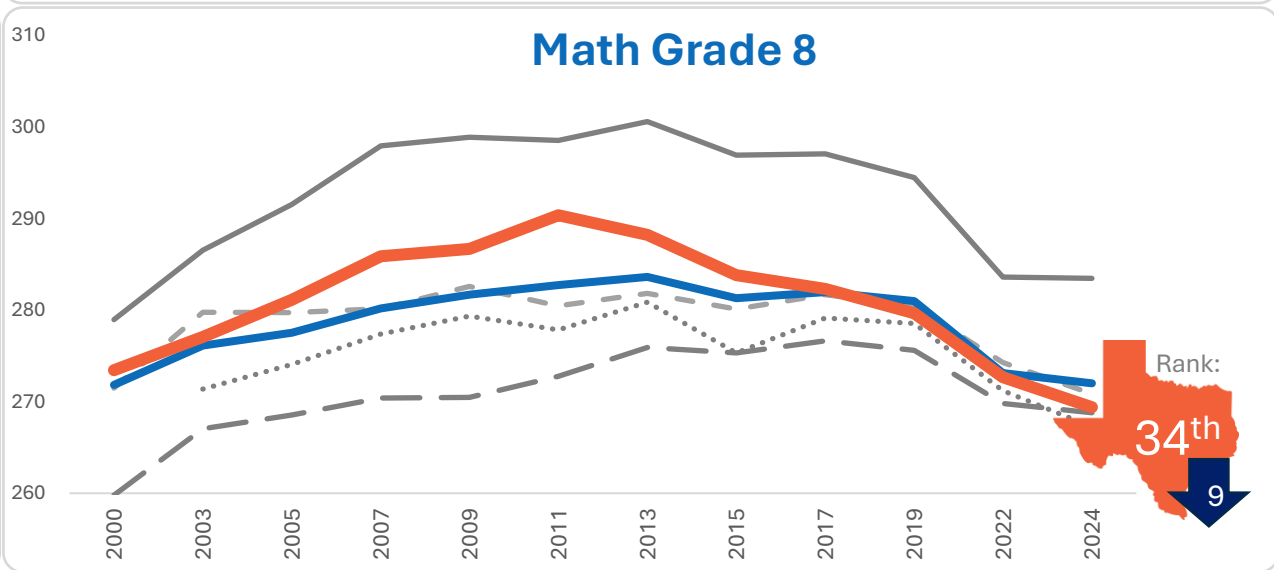
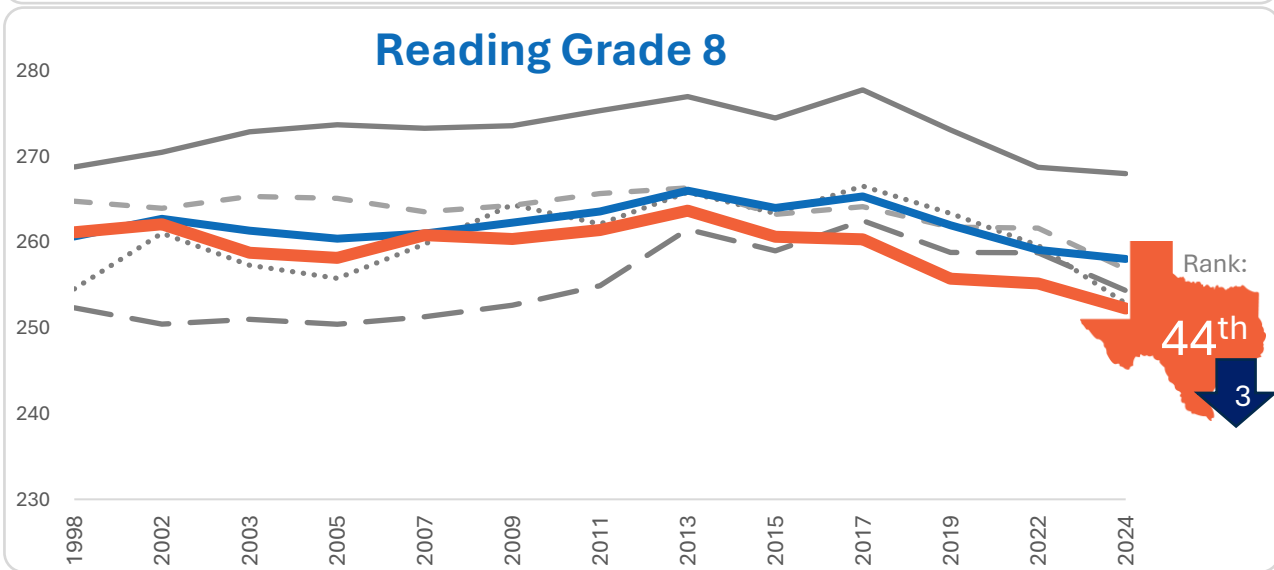
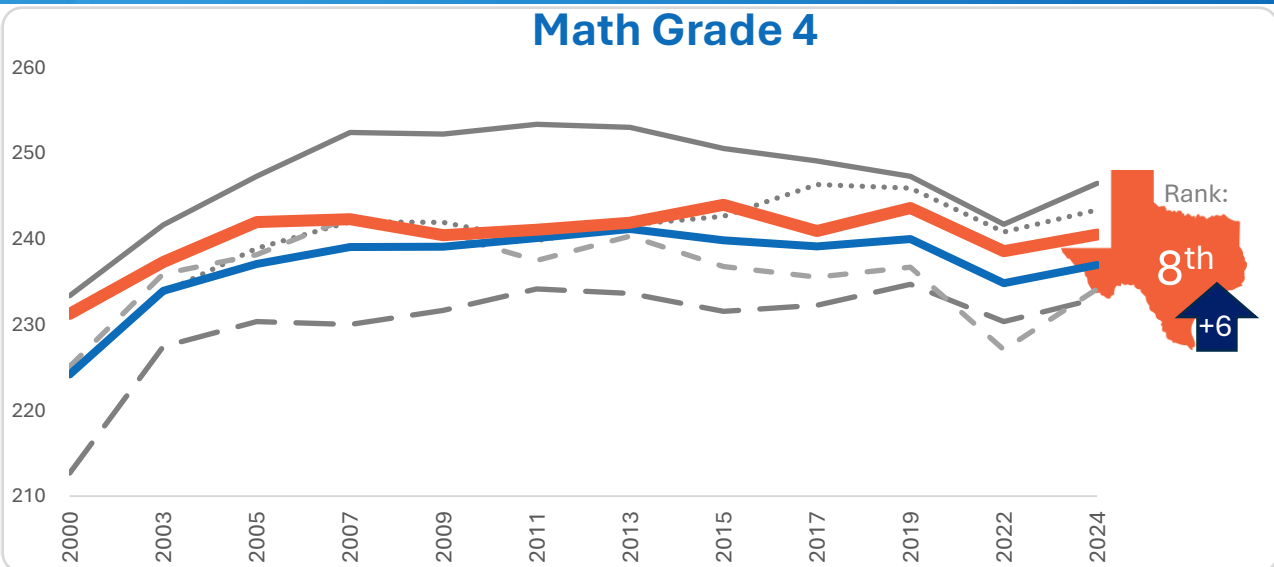
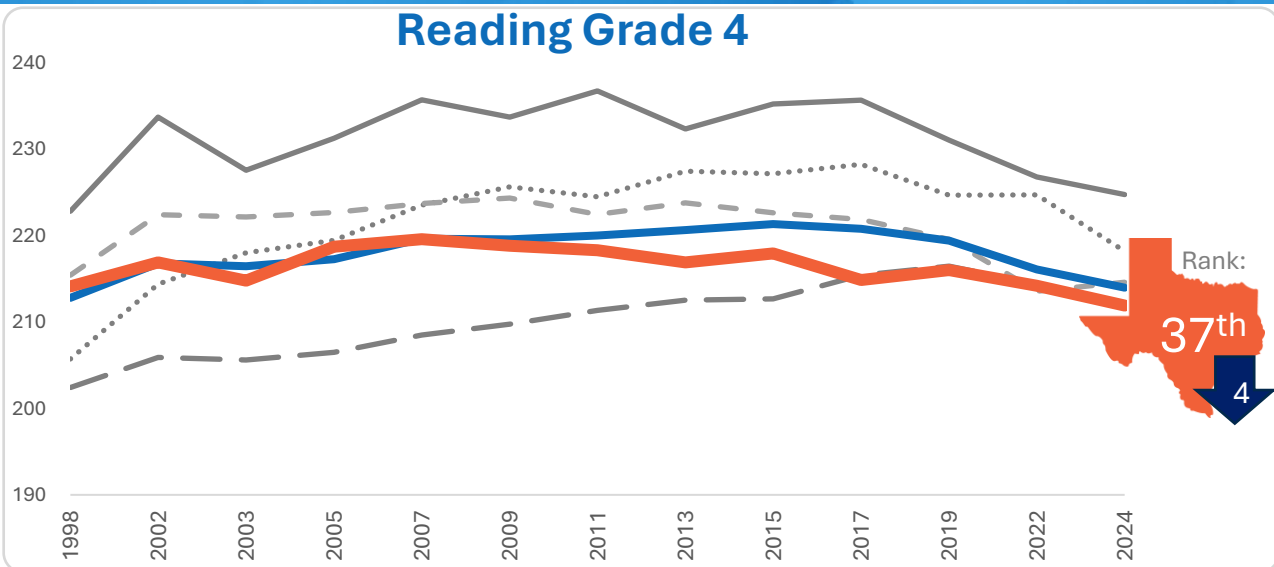
NAEP Below Basic: students do not meet Basic

A National Comparison: NAEP 2024

4 th Grade Reading				8 th Grade Reading			4 th Grade Math				8 th Grade Math		
	2022	2024	Change	2022	2024	Change		2022	2024	Change	2022	2024	Change
Scale Score 	216	214	-2	259	257	-1	Scale Score 	235	237	+2	273	272	-1
	214	212	-2	255	252	-3		239	241	+2	273	269	-4
Texas Rank	33rd	37th	-4	41st	44th	-3	Texas Rank	14th	8th	+6	25th	34th	-9

Student Group	Reading		Math	
	4 th Grade	8 th Grade	4 th Grade	8 th Grade
African American	9th	12th	1st	12th
Asian/Pacific Islander	7th	5th	2nd	11th
Hispanic	16th	38th	4th	14th
White	14th	16th	2nd	25th
English Learners	5th	1st	2nd	1st
Special Education	22nd	32nd	12th	32nd
Low Income	18th	42nd	4th	22nd
Non-Low Income	26th	26th	10th	38th
Texas Rank: Adjusted	9th	10th	3rd	6th

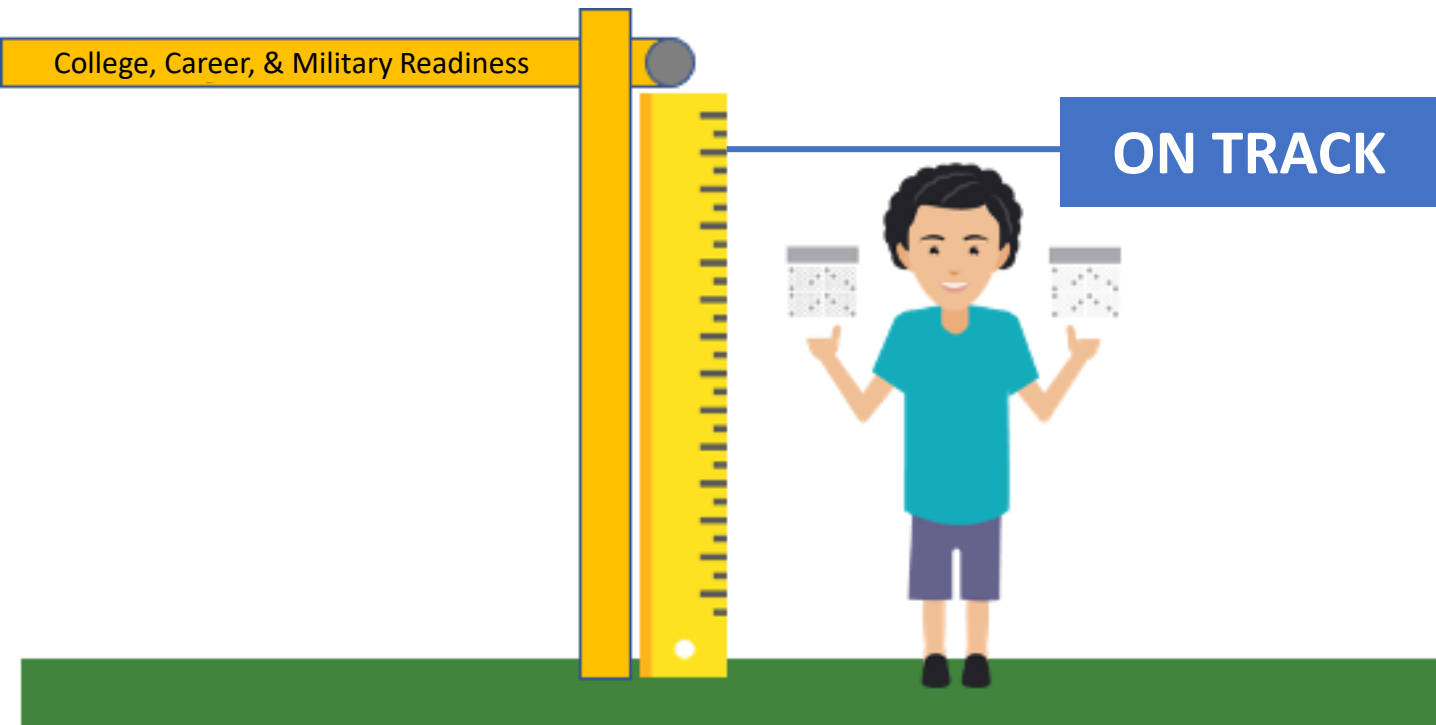
NAEP 2024 Results



A photograph of the Texas State Capitol building in Austin, Texas. The building is a large, ornate structure with a prominent dome. In front of the building is a wide, paved walkway lined with mature green trees. Several people are walking on the path. The sky is clear and blue. A semi-transparent blue rectangle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text 'TEKS to Test'.

TEKS to Test

SBOE defines what all students should know and be able to do at each grade level – Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)



The State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) assesses the TEKS. Therefore, the SBOE's work in TEKS adoption drives the state summative assessment.

STAAR is a state “summative” assessment

Assessments provide educators and parents with helpful information to support strong teaching and guide students to their full potential.

State summative assessments serve several primary purposes:

- To serve as a bar for rigor and standards alignment in planning
- To determine mastery of a breadth of knowledge & skills for students
- To help determine which individual students should receive additional holistic supports
- To evaluate the effectiveness of curriculum and instruction programs after delivery

STAAR has been proven valid, reliable, aligned to the TEKS, with passage readability on grade-level

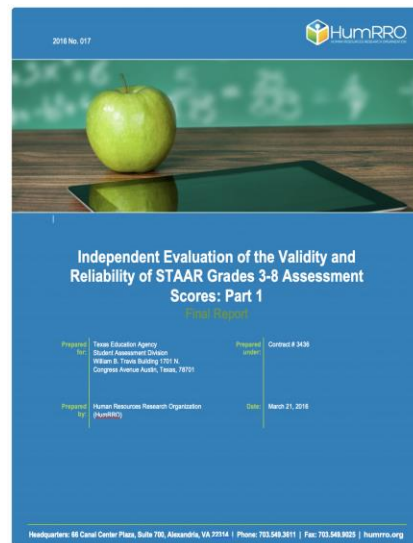
House Bill 743, Rep. Huberty/Sen. Seliger

84th Texas Legislature

“The assessment instrument must, on the basis of empirical evidence, be determined to be **valid and reliable** by an entity that is independent of the agency and of any other entity that developed the assessment instrument.”

Analysis Completed in 2016

Findings: STAAR was found to be valid. The evaluation confirmed the “**test bears a strong association with on-grade curriculum requirements.**”



House Bill 3, Rep. Huberty/Sen. Taylor

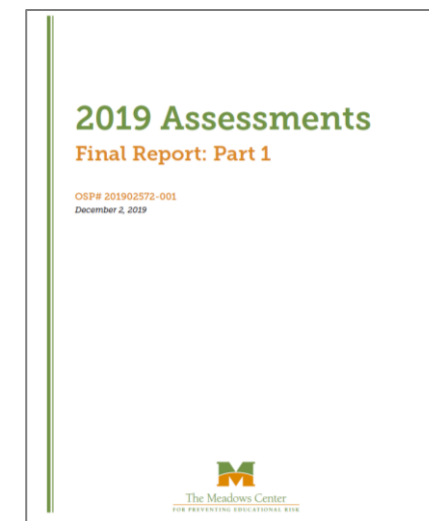
86th Texas Legislature

Required an institution of higher education to conduct a study on the state assessment instruments to independently evaluate the readability and alignment.

Analysis Completed in 2019

Findings: Across grade levels and subjects, all tests included in the study **were aligned with the TEKS** for the grade level tested.

- **91% of passages met the criterion for readability** as defined in the study in terms of text complexity



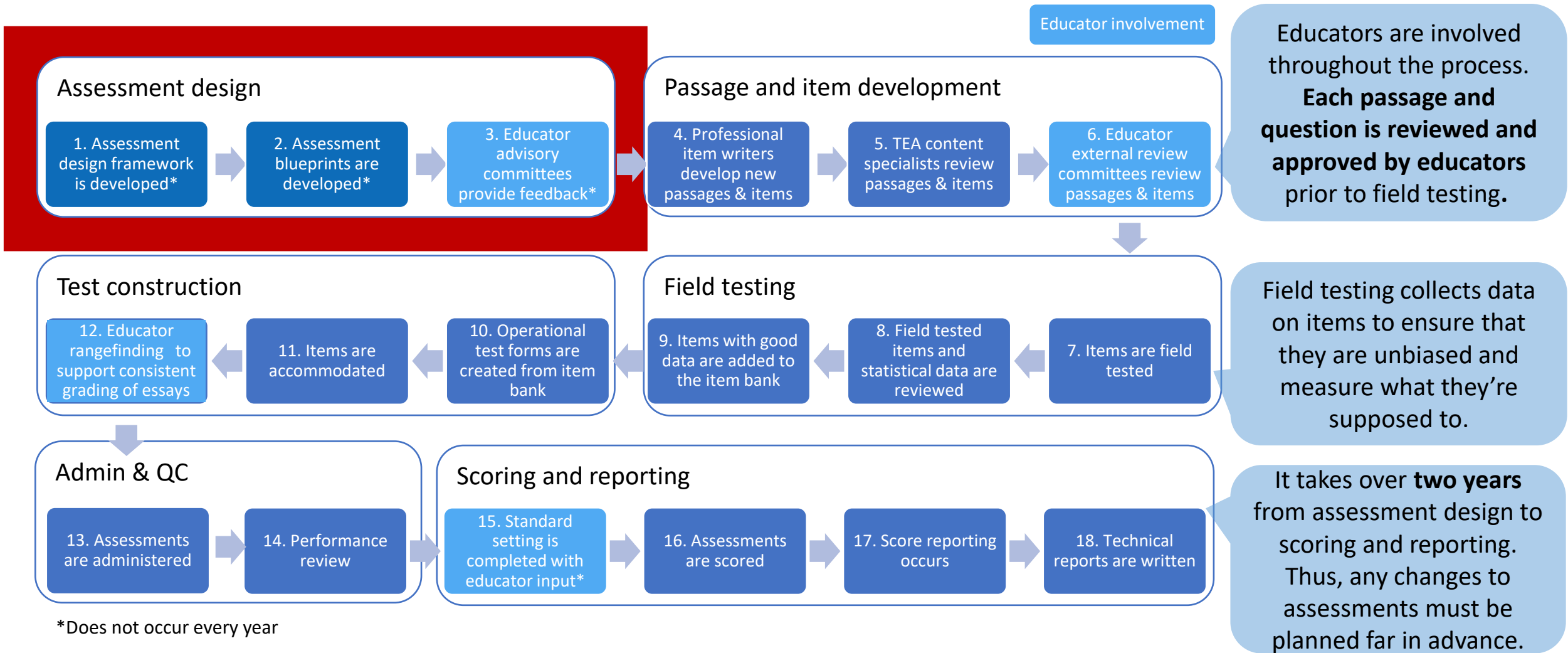
House Bill (HB) 3906 improved instructional alignment for STAAR

- The question wasn't whether STAAR is designed to accurately measure student knowledge and skills. We know the answer, and it has been and continues to be: yes.
- The question is whether STAAR could be designed differently in order to more positively influence instructional practices.

Measuring whether students have learned a concept well isn't the same as teaching it well

STAAR was redesigned because of HB 3906 effective 2022-23, so that it now aligns with strong instructional practices, while still accurately measuring student mastery.

Creating high-quality assessments is a rigorous process



Educator committees provide feedback on assessing the newly adopted TEKS

Assessment design

1. Assessment design framework is developed*



2. Assessment blueprints are developed*



3. Educator advisory committees provide feedback*



- **Assessed Curriculum**: List of standards appropriate to use on a large-scale summative assessment
- **Frequency to assess standards**: The designation for “Readiness” or “Supporting” indicates the frequency a standard is assessed
- **Reference Materials**: List of formulas, measurement tools, etc.
- **Blueprint**: Outline of how the assessment will be constructed
- **Questions/Communications**: Educators help identify questions that may arise from the field and provide suggestions on communications

The language of the student expectation (SE) is honored when determining if is appropriate to include in the assessed curriculum for the summative assessment

4.4C - determine the approximate measures of angles in degrees to the nearest whole number using a protractor

4.4D - draw an angle with a given measure

4.4E - determine the measure of an unknown angle formed by two non-overlapping adjacent angles given one or both angle measures

*The content in these standards is skill-based and lends itself to formative assessment **AND** a large-scale summative assessment.*

The content in these standards is instruction-based and lends itself to formative assessment in the classroom rather than a large-scale summative assessment.

4.4A - illustrate the measure of an angle as the part of a circle whose center is at the vertex of the angle that is "cut out" by the rays of the angle. Angle measures are limited to whole numbers

4.4B - illustrate degrees as the units used to measure an angle, where $\frac{1}{360}$ of any circle is one degree and an angle that "cuts" $\frac{n}{360}$ out of any circle whose center is at the angle's vertex has a measure of n degrees. Angle measures are limited to whole numbers

The way some standards are written allows us multiple ways to assess a standard

3.5A – represent one- and two-step problems involving addition and subtraction of whole numbers to 1,000 using pictorial models, number lines, and equations.

represent **one-step problems** involving **addition** of whole numbers to 1,000 using **pictorial models**

represent **one-step problems** involving **addition** of whole numbers to 1,000 using **number lines**

represent **one-step problems** involving **addition** of whole numbers to 1,000 using **equations**.

represent **one-step problems** involving **subtraction** of whole numbers to 1,000 using **pictorial models**

represent **one-step problems** involving **subtraction** of whole numbers to 1,000 using **number lines**

represent **one-step problems** involving **subtraction** of whole numbers to 1,000 using **equations**.

represent **two-step problems** involving **addition** of whole numbers to 1,000 using **pictorial models**

represent **two-step problems** involving **addition** of whole numbers to 1,000 using **number lines**

represent **two-step problems** involving **addition** of whole numbers to 1,000 using **equations**.

represent **two-step problems** involving **subtraction** of whole numbers to 1,000 using **pictorial models**

represent **two-step problems** involving **subtraction** of whole numbers to 1,000 using **number lines**

represent **two-step problems** involving **subtraction** of whole numbers to 1,000 using **equations**.

Process standards are not directly assessed but provide support to the content standards

STAAR questions are aligned to content standards.



The process standards are embedded throughout the TEKS K-12. They are critical to a good math program (pedagogy). From an assessment perspective, assessing a process standard on its own doesn't show student progress.

- A. Apply mathematics to **real-world** problems
- B. Use a **problem-solving** model that incorporates analyzing given information
- C. Select tools to solve problems
- D. Communicate mathematical ideas using multiple representations
- E. Create and use representations
- F. Analyze mathematical relationships to **connect and communicate mathematical ideas**
- G. Display, explain, and justify mathematical ideas and arguments

While assessing content, students naturally have to apply process standards

4.4(F) Use strategies and algorithms, including the standard algorithm, to **divide up to a four-digit dividend by a one-digit divisor**

4.1B use a problem-solving model that incorporates analyzing given information, formulating a plan or strategy, determining a solution, justifying the solution, and evaluating the problem-solving process and the reasonableness of the solution

4.1C select tools, including real objects, manipulatives, paper and pencil, and technology as appropriate, and techniques, including mental math, estimation, and number sense as appropriate, to solve problems

Calvin drives 1,924 miles over 4 days. He drives the same number of miles each day.

How many miles does Calvin drive each day?

☐ A 7,696 mi

☐ B 480 mi

☐ C 481 mi

☐ D 1,920 mi

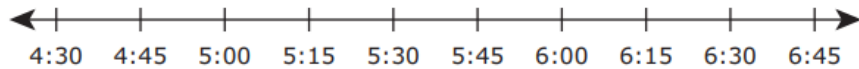
Spring 2024

- A. Apply mathematics to **real-world** problems
- B. Use a **problem-solving** model that incorporates analyzing given information
- C. Select tools to solve problems
- D. Communicate mathematical ideas using multiple representations
- E. Create and use representations
- F. Analyze mathematical relationships to **connect and communicate mathematical ideas**
- G. Display, explain, and justify mathematical ideas and arguments

We want to allow the students to use multiple ways to solve the problem.

There are multiple process standards reflected in each standard assessed and this is optimal for students to show their knowledge

- 3 Thomas put a ham in the oven at 4:45 P.M. After 15 minutes he put a cake in the oven. The ham and the cake were in the oven together for 60 minutes. Then Thomas took them both out of the oven.



At what time did Thomas take both the ham and cake out of the oven?

- A 5:45 P.M.
- B 6:30 P.M.
- C 5:15 P.M.
- D 6:00 P.M.

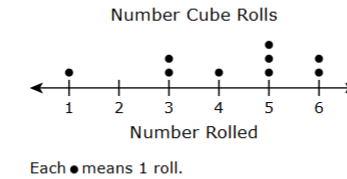
Grade 3 Math STAAR Example (2016)

- A. Apply mathematics to **real-world** problems
- B. Use a **problem-solving** model that incorporates analyzing given information
- E. Create and use representations
- F. Analyze mathematical relationships to **connect and communicate mathematical ideas**

Ben rolls a number cube 10 times and records the results shown.

6 3 5 4 4 1 5 3 6 5

He then creates the dot plot shown with the results.



Complete the sentence by selecting the correct answers from the drop-down menus.

Ben's dot plot is incorrect because there should be above the number

Grade 3 Math STAAR Example (2024)

- A. Apply mathematics to **real-world** problems
- B. Use a **problem-solving** model that incorporates analyzing given information
- D. Communicate mathematical ideas using multiple representations
- E. Create and use representations
- F. Analyze mathematical relationships to **connect and communicate mathematical ideas**



STAAR Resources

STAAR resources are available on the TEA website for easy access to released test materials and materials specific to content areas

STAAR Resources

Student Assessment Overview

STAAR

- Mathematics Resources
- Reading Language Arts Resources
- Science Resources
- Social Studies Resources
- STAAR Spanish Resources
- Released Test Questions**
- STAAR Alternate 2

TELPAS

- TELPAS Alternate

Released Test Questions

Released Test Questions

Beginning with the 2022–2023 school year, STAAR assessments are administered primarily online. Direct links to the STAAR released online tests are included in the chart below. All versions (accommodated, braille, ASL, etc.) of STAAR tests are available on the [Practice Test Site](#). Since STAAR is now an online assessment with technology enhanced items, PDF versions of STAAR released tests are no longer available.

Click on the tabs below to find each year's released test forms or sample test questions.

2024

2023

2022

2021

Sample Test Questions

Expand All

Grade 3

Grade 4

Grade 5

Grade 6

Grade 7

Grade 8

High School

• Scoring Guides are available on the following webpages: [STAAR Reading Language Arts Resources](#), [STAAR Science Resources](#), [STAAR Social Studies Resources](#), and [STAAR Spanish Resources](#).
• To get printed copies of STAAR braille released tests, complete the [order form](#).
• [Previous STAAR Released Questions](#) are available.

Grade 3

Math

- [Math Test Form](#)
- [Math Answer Key](#)
- [Math Item Rationale](#)
- [Math Student Expectations Tested](#)

Grade 3 Math

- [Math Test Form](#)
- [Math Answer Key](#)
- [Math Item Rationale](#)
- [Math Student Expectations Tested](#)

The released test form is on-line and provides the same tools available to students in the testing platform

Navigation
forwards/
backwards

The screenshot displays the STAAR Grade 3 Mathematics Released Test interface. At the top, a progress bar shows '0% 2024 STAAR Grade 3 Mathematics Released Test' and identifies the user as 'GUEST, GUEST (TSDS ID: GUEST)' in a 'GUEST SESSION'. On the left, a 'Items' dropdown menu is visible. A green box highlights the 'Back', 'Next', and 'Save' navigation buttons. On the right, a green box highlights the reference materials toolbar, which includes icons for Ruler, References, Notepad, Graph/Draw, Line Reader, Zoom Out, and Zoom In. A third green box highlights a menu icon (three horizontal lines) located between the navigation and reference toolbars. The main content area shows question 1: 'A school had 375 hot dogs to sell during a carnival. After the carnival ended, 83 hot dogs were not sold. How many hot dogs were sold during the carnival?'. Below the question are four multiple-choice options: (A) 292, (B) 312, (C) 458, and (D) 282.

Reference
Materials,
Notepad,
Graph/Draw,
and other
screen
features

This provides stakeholders an opportunity to see exactly how the online tools available to students during STAAR will function.

The STAAR online test form provides multiple accessibility tools and accommodation supports

Accessibility Tools

- ★ Highlighter
- ★ Notepad
- ★ Help
- ★ Guideline
- ★ Color
- ★ Zoom
- ★ Mouse Pointer
- ★ Line Reader
- ★ Mark for Review
- ★ Answer Eliminator

Content-Specific Accessibility Tools

- ★ Basic, Scientific, and Graphing Calculators
- ★ Customary and Metric Rulers
- ★ Mathematics Reference Materials
- ★ Science Reference Materials
- ★ Spelling Assistance

Tools to Support Student-specific Accommodations

- ★ Content and language supports (pop-ups, rollovers, and pre-reads)
- ★ Text-to-speech
- ★ Speech-to-text
- ★ Refreshable braille
- ★ ASL videos
- ★ Basic calculators for certain tests

- TEA developed a [video](#) to demonstrate the available online accommodations and support local assessment decisions.



- To learn more, visit the [Accommodation Resources](#) webpage within TEA's website

The answer key provides information about the content assessed, the question types, and the frequency the content is assessed

STAAR Spring 2024 Grade 3 Math Answer Key

Item Position	Item Type	TEKS Assessed	Maximum Number of Points	Correct Answer(s)	Reporting Category	Readiness or Supporting
1	Multiple Choice	3.2.4.A	1	A	2	Readiness
2	Multiple Choice	3.1.2.D	1	D	1	Readiness
3	Inline Choice	3.4.8.A	2	2 dots, 4. See Appendix 1.1	4	Readiness
4	Multiple Choice	3.1.2.B	1	C	1	Supporting
5	Multiple Choice	3.4.9.B	1	B	4	Supporting
6	Multiple Choice	3.3.7.B	1	A	3	Readiness
7	Multiple Select	3.2.5.A	2	B, E See Appendix 1.2	2	Readiness

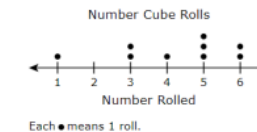
STAAR Spring 2024 Grade 3 Math Appendix

1.1

Ben rolls a number cube 10 times and records the results shown.

6 3 5 4 4 1 5 3 6 5

He then creates the dot plot shown with the results.



Complete the sentence by selecting the correct answers from the drop-down menus.

Ben's dot plot is incorrect because there should be 2 dots above the number 4.

1.2

Jada is traveling to visit her aunt who lives 789 miles away. She needs to travel 321 more miles to arrive at her aunt's house.

Which representations can be used to find the number of miles Jada has already traveled?

Select **TWO** correct answers.

☐ $321 - \square = 789$

☒ $321 + \square = 789$

☐ $789 + 321 = \square$

☐

?
789 321

☒

789
? 321

With this information on one document, teachers and parents don't have to search in multiple places for this information.

Item Rationale documents provide explanations for the correct answer(s) and possible misconceptions for distractor answer choices

STAAR Spring 2024 Grade 3 Mathematics Rationales

Item Position	Rationale	
1	Option A is correct	To determine how many hot dogs were sold during the carnival, the student should have subtracted the number of hot dogs that were not sold, 83, from the total number of hot dogs the school started with, 375.
	Option B is incorrect	The student likely understood that 83 should be subtracted from 375 but subtracted the smaller digit from the larger digit in the tens place. The student needs to focus on understanding how to regroup numbers, when needed, for subtraction.
	Option C is incorrect	The student likely misunderstood the question and therefore added 375 and 83 rather than subtracting 83 from 375. The student needs to focus on choosing the correct operations when solving word problems.
	Option D is incorrect	The student likely understood that 83 should be subtracted from 375 but did not regroup correctly in the tens place, reducing the digits in both the hundreds place and the tens place by 1 (rewriting 375 as 2 ¹ 65 [2 hundreds, 16 tens, 5 ones]). The student needs to focus on understanding how to regroup numbers, when needed, for subtraction.

The Rationales provide a problem-solving method for the correct answer and information about possible student misconceptions for the incorrect answers.

STAAR Spring 2024 Grade 3 Mathematics Rationales

Item Position	Rationale	
3	2 dots, 4	To determine why Ben's dot plot (a graphical way of showing the frequency of an event by placing a dot or dots above a value on a number line) is incorrect, the student should have matched the numbers from the results shown (the ten times the number cube was rolled) to the numbers of dots on the number line. The number 1 was rolled 1 time, so the 1 dot above 1 on the number line is correct. No 2s were rolled, so it is correct that there are no dots above 2. The number 3 was rolled 2 times, so the 2 dots above 3 are correct. The number 4 was rolled 2 times, so there should be 2 dots above the 4; however, there is only 1 dot. Therefore, Ben's dot plot is incorrect because there should be 2 dots above the number 4.

Non-multiple-choice questions

Multiple-choice and similar non-multiple-choice questions

A photograph of several students walking on a modern staircase with glass railings. The students are dressed in casual attire, including t-shirts, jeans, and backpacks. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a school environment. A semi-transparent blue rectangle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the word 'Questions' in white text.

Questions

Thank you for the discussion today.



TE★AS ASSESSMENT