

Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) Reading
Standards Review and Composite Score Changes

In August 2013, a standards review meeting was held to evaluate the TELPAS reading proficiency standards in light of the new STAAR assessments. Table 1 provides the resulting TELPAS reading proficiency level cut scores, which were approved by the commissioner of education.

Table 1: Recommended Proficiency Level Cut Scores for TELPAS Reading

TELPAS Reading	Intermediate	Advanced	Advanced High
Grade 2	579	645	701
Grade 3	620	674	732
Grades 4–5	643	698	766
Grades 6–7	652	712	783
Grades 8–9	661	720	796
Grades 10–12	680	737	815

Additional information regarding the TELPAS standards review can be found at the following link: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=25769808469&libID=25769808471>

In addition, TEA reviewed the contributions of each of the TELPAS domains—reading, writing, listening, and speaking—to the composite score. Historically, reading has been given the majority of the weight (75%) when calculating composite scores. Based on feedback from educators, second language acquisition experts, and TELPAS audit results, TEA made the decision to change the domain weights that are used in the calculation of TELPAS composite ratings. The previous and new TELPAS domain weights are provided in Table 2.

Table 2: TELPAS Domain Weights

Domain Weights	Reading	Writing	Listening	Speaking
Previous	75%	15%	5%	5%
New	50%	30%	10%	10%

Finally, TEA adjusted how composite ratings are calculated using composite scores obtained from the weighted sum of each of the domain ratings. The previous and new ranges of composite scores that correspond to the four proficiency levels are provided in Table 3.

Table 3: TELPAS Composite Scores and Ratings

Composite Rating	Previous Composite Score Range	New Composite Score Range
1	1.0-1.5	1.0-1.4
2	1.6-2.5	1.5-2.4
3	2.6-3.5	2.5-3.4
4	3.6-4.0	3.5-4.0

Impact data, or the percent of students within each of the four TELPAS proficiency levels, is provided in Figure 1 based on the previous and new reading standards, domain weights, and composite ranges.

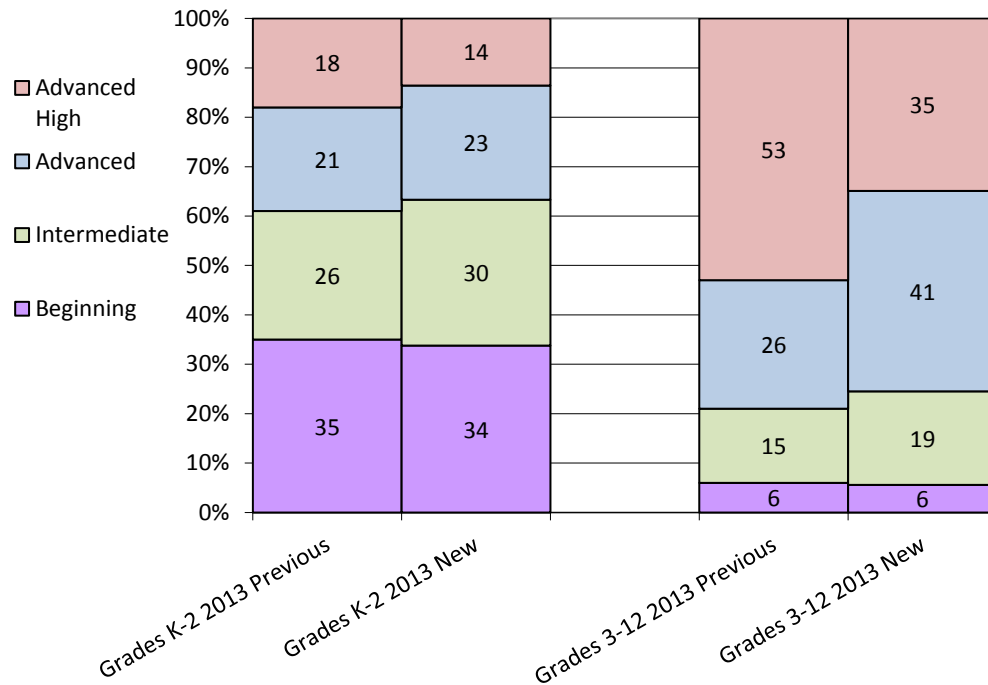


Figure 1: TELPAS Composite Impact Data

NOTE. Impact data is based on student performance on TELPAS reading in spring 2013.

Changes to the TELPAS reading proficiency standards, domain weights, and composite score ratings will take effect with the 2014 TELPAS administration.