How to Compare TELPAS Scores in 2013 and 2014

TELPAS score reports include student TELPAS scores from 2014 and 2013. Last year's scores are provided so that the progress students' make in learning English can be seen. However, comparisons between the 2014 TELPAS scores and the 2013 TELPAS scores are difficult to interpret due to the changes made to TELPAS in 2014:

1) TELPAS reading standards were changed.
2) The TELPAS composite scores were calculated using new weights for reading, writing, listening, and speaking and new composite cut scores.

If a student's TELPAS proficiency ratings stayed the same or even decreased from 2013 to 2014, this does not necessarily mean that his or her English skills have stayed the same or decreased. It may be because of the changes to TELPAS in 2014. It is possible to adjust the 2013 reading and composite ratings in order to make the 2013 and 2014 scores more comparable.

To calculate an adjusted 2013 TELPAS reading proficiency rating with the new 2014 TELPAS reading standards, the 2013 TELPAS reading scale score can be compared to the scale scores in the following table:

TELPAS Reading	Beginning (1)	Intermediate (2)	Advanced (3)	Advanced High (4)
Grade 2	578 or less	579-644	645-700	701 or greater
Grade 3	619 or less	620-673	674-731	732 or greater
Grades 4–5	642 or less	643-697	698-765	766 or greater
Grades 6–7	651 or less	652-711	712-782	783 or greater
Grades 8–9	660 or less	661-719	720-795	796 or greater
Grades 10–12	679 or less	680-736	737-814	815 or greater

For example, if a student is in grade 6 and his or her TELPAS reading scale score was 744 in 2013, then the TELPAS reading proficiency rating would be Advanced because it is between the scale scores of 712 and 782.

To calculate an adjusted 2013 TELPAS composite score with the 2014 weights and cut scores, use the following formula:

(Reading Rating x 0.5) + (Writing Rating x 0.3) + (Listening Rating x 0.1) + (Speaking Rating x 0.1) = Composite Score

Using the hypothetical student above with an Advanced TELPAS reading proficiency rating (Advanced = 3), an intermediate writing rating (Intermediate = 2), an advanced listening rating (Advanced = 3), and an advanced high speaking rating (Advanced High = 4), the adjusted 2013 composite score would be: (0.5 x 3) + (0.3 x 2) + (0.1 x 3) + (0.1 x 4) = 2.8. The adjusted 2013 composite rating would be 3 (Advanced), as can be seen by using the composite score (2.8) and the following table:

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

More information about the changes to TELPAS can be found in the following documents:

"Changes to TELPAS Starting in 2014":
http://www.tea.state.tx.us/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=25769809085&libID=25769809087

"TELPAS Standards Review Questions and Answers":
http://www.tea.state.tx.us/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=25769808469&libID=25769808471 (English)
http://www.tea.state.tx.us/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=25769809086&libID=25769809088 (Spanish)