



Most students taking STAAR® end-of-course exams pass on first try

AUSTIN – Despite higher passing standards in place for the 2015-2016 school year, the success rates for all Texas high school students taking the five State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) end-of-course exams remained stable, according to preliminary statewide results released today by the Texas Education Agency. The results reflect passing rates for the spring 2016 administration of STAAR.

Texas students are required to pass five STAAR end-of-course exams – Algebra I, English I, English II, Biology, and U.S. History – in order to receive a high school diploma. In preliminary statewide results for the 2015–2016 school year for all testers, Texas students posted the highest statewide passing rates – above 90 percent – in U.S. History and Biology. Passing standards in all five STAAR end-of-course exams were raised this year.

Results for 2015-2016 – compared to the 2014-2015 school year, as well as the passing rate at 2016 passing standard and former 2015 passing standard – are as follows:

COURSE	2014-2015	2015-2016 At 2016 Passing Standard	2016 vs 2015 Using 2016 Standard	2015-2016 At 2015 Passing Standard	2016 vs 2015 Using 2015 Standard
ALGEBRA I	81%	81%	↔	82%	↑
BIOLOGY	92%	91%	↓	92%	↔
U.S. HISTORY	91%	94%	↑	94%	↑
ENGLISH I	63%	63%	↔	64%	↑
ENGLISH II	66%	66%	↔	66%	↔

In 2015, the 84th Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 149, which revised the state's assessment graduation requirements for students enrolled in Grades 11 or 12 during the 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 school years. Under the new requirements, a student who failed the end-of-course assessment for no more than two courses may receive a Texas high school diploma if the student has qualified to graduate by means of an Individual Graduation Committee determination.

Please note that TEA does not have district-level test results at this time. Those results are available from your local school districts and charters.

Comparison charts of statewide results and summary charts provide greater detail on all STAAR results. To review state-level reports, visit the Texas Education Agency website at <http://tea.texas.gov/staar/rpt/sum/>.

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