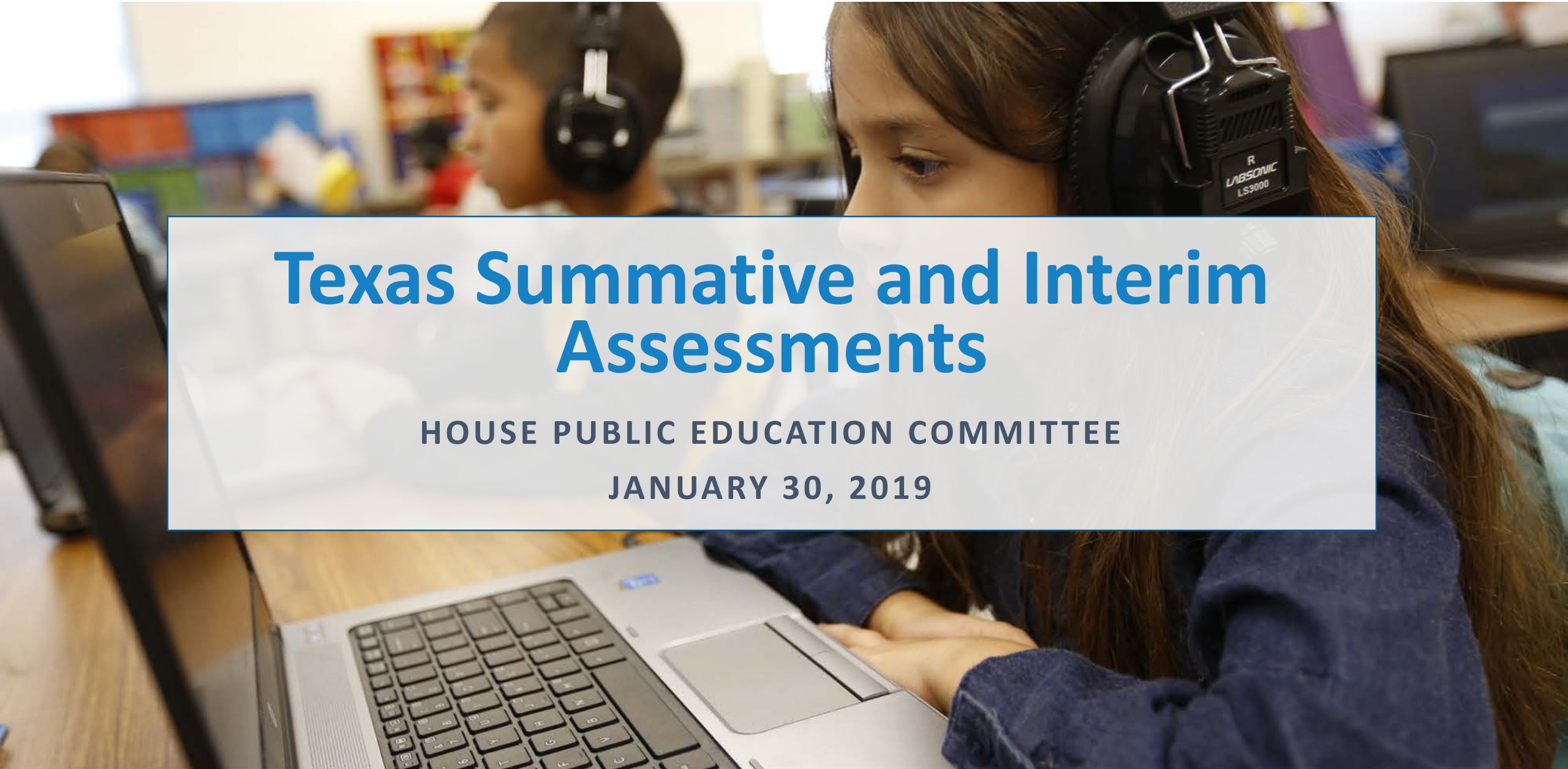
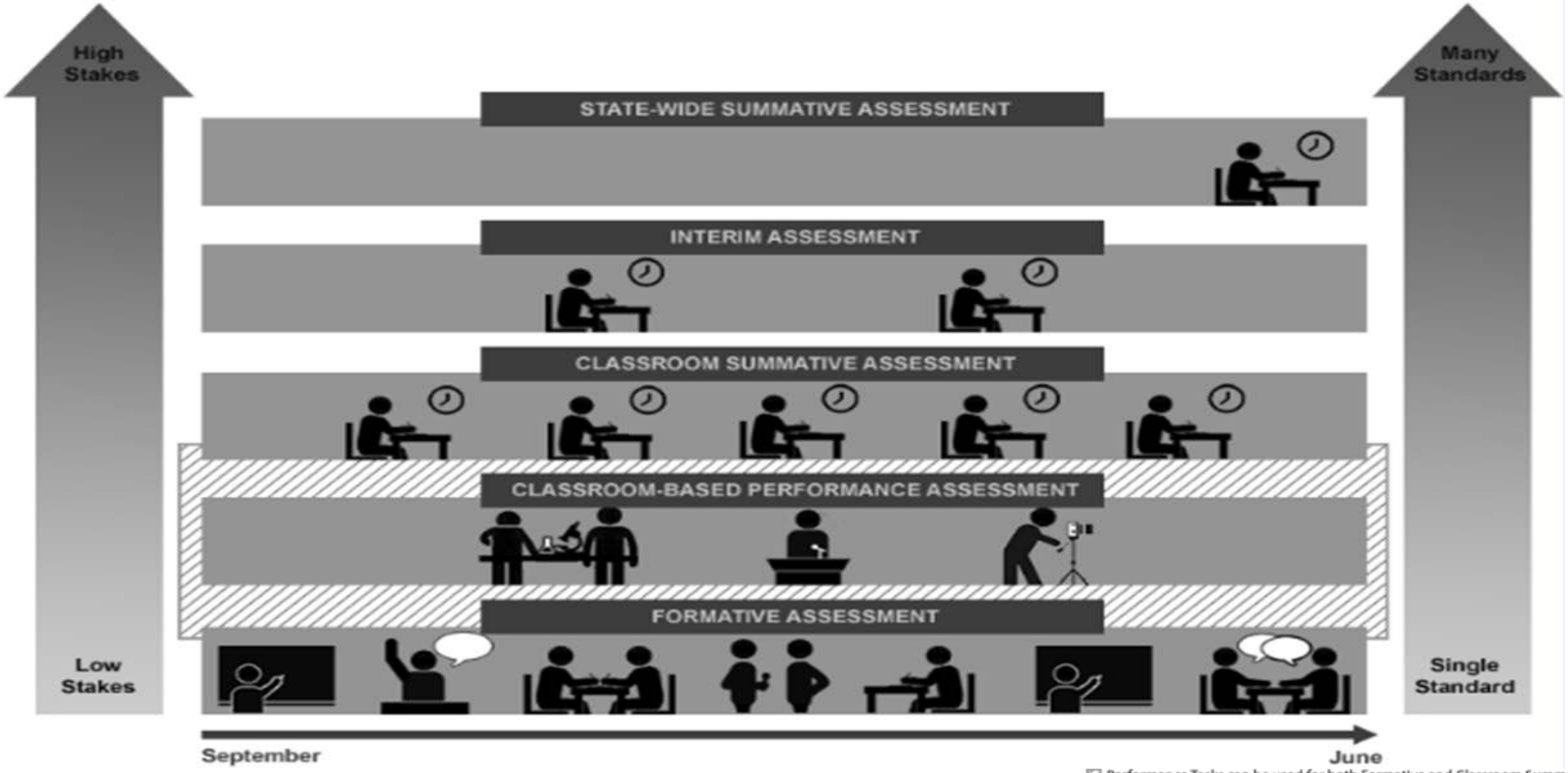


Texas Summative and Interim Assessments

HOUSE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

JANUARY 30, 2019

Assessment Systems



State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) Development Overview

Spring 2012

The STAAR program was implemented for the following grades/subjects and courses:

- Reading and mathematics (Grades 3–8)
- Writing (Grades 4 and 7)
- Science (Grades 5 and 8)
- Social studies (Grade 8)
- English I, English II, Algebra I, biology and U.S history (End-of-Course)

Spring 2016

STAAR English III and Algebra II were made available for districts to administer as **optional assessments**.

2018–2019 Operational Assessment Administration Timeline

Dec. 3–7, 2018
STAAR December Administration

Feb. 25–April 5, 2019
TELPAS and TELPAS Alternate Administrations

April 1–23, 2019
STAAR Alternate 2 Administration

April 9–12, 2019
STAAR April Administration

- Grades 4 and 7 writing
- English I and English II
- Grades 5 and 8 reading and math

May 6–17, 2019
STAAR May EOC Administration

- Algebra I
- Biology
- U.S. History

May 13–24, 2019
STAAR May Administration

- Grades 3–8 reading and math
- Grades 5 and 8 reading and math retests
- Grades 5 and 8 science
- Grade 8 social studies
- English III (optional)
- Algebra II (optional

June 24–28, 2019
STAAR June Administration

- Grades 5 & 8 reading and math retests
- English I and English II
- Algebra I
- Biology
- U.S. History

STAAR Overview

Example: Grade 3 Mathematics

Standard Being Assessed

(4) (G) Use strategies and algorithms, including the standard algorithm, to **multiply a two-digit number by a one-digit number**. Strategies may include mental math, partial products, and the commutative, associative, and distributive properties.

Assessment Item

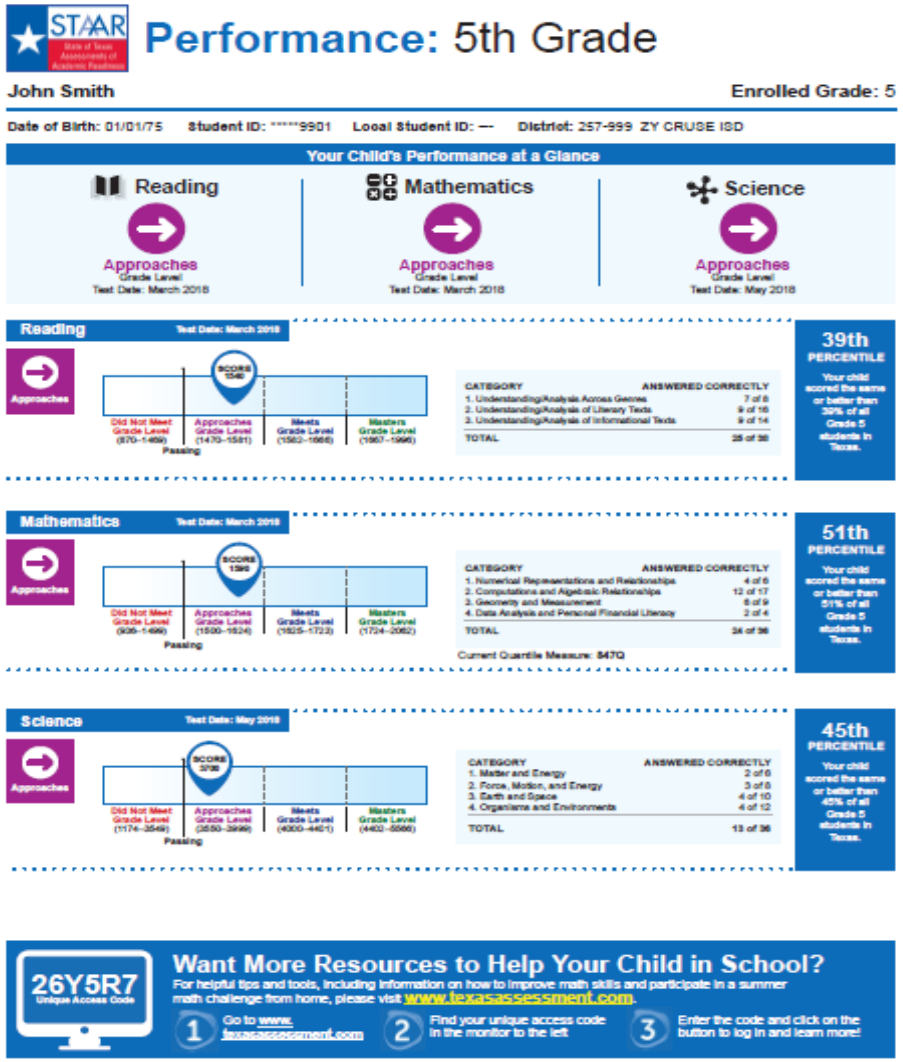
A baseball league bought 9 boxes of baseballs. Each box contained 36 baseballs. How many baseballs did the league buy?

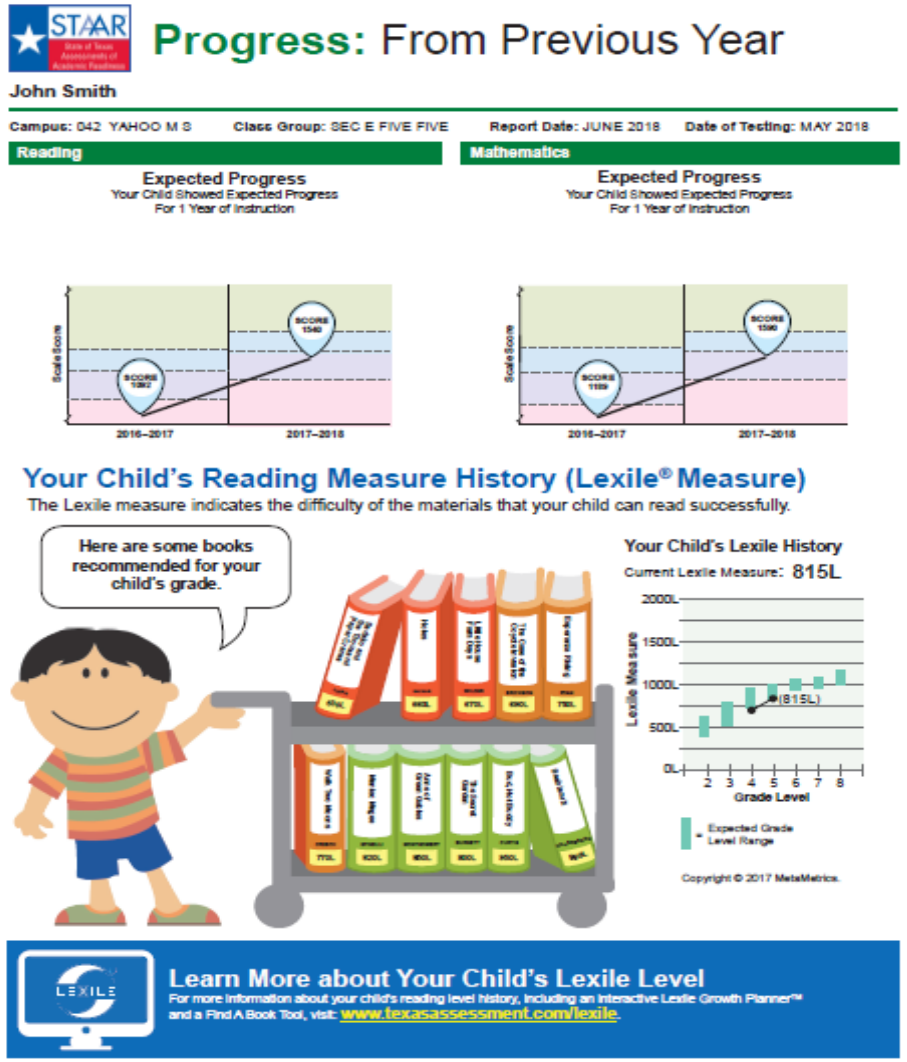
A 324
B 274
C 84
D 34

Example: Grade 3 Reading Language Arts

Standard	Passage	Assessment Item
(6) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Poetry. Students understand, **make inferences** and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of **poetry** and provide evidence from text to support their understanding.	**Pants** *by Mordicai Gerstein* We go everywhere together. You carry my treasures for me. When I find grass on your knees and sand in your pockets, I know where I've been. We go everywhere together except the washing machine. "Don't let them put me in there!" you beg. "Or at least come with me!" But all I can do is watch you go round and round in the little window, tumbling in the suds, like me when I'm caught in an ocean wave.	When the speaker of the poem says "you," he is talking to — **A** his pants **B** his dryer **C** the grass **D** the ocean

STAAR Report Card





http://texasassessment.com/families/understanding-the-test-score/

Educator Involvement

Teacher Institutes

- Each summer (2017 and 2018), approximately **200 Texas teachers participated in STAAR item development.**
- Teacher Institutes will continue to occur each summer to provide input about the assessment program and **improve Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) fluency in practice.**

Writing

- In 2017, educators were invited to participate in meetings to identify representative responses for each score for STAAR writing prompts.
- In the 2017–2018 school year, about **900 teachers participated in the Texas Writing Pilot**.

External Item Review Educator Committees

- Annually, approximately **500 educators review prospective items** prior to field testing.
- Although some current Texas teachers write items for the vendor, **TEA continues to explore ways to include more educators in item writing.**

Texas Commission on Next Generation Assessments and Accountability Recommendations (Sep. 2016)

1. Implement an individualized, integrated system of Texas designed state assessments using computerized-adaptive testing and instruction aligned with the state's curriculum framework.
   - **TEA has made available free, online interim assessments.**
2. Allow the commissioner of education to approve locally developed writing assessments.
   - **The Texas Writing Pilot has been implemented. Preliminary feedback on instructional impact is promising. An appropriation would be required to explore more fully.**
3. Support the continued streamlining of the TEKS.
   - **The State Board of Education (SBOE) has streamlined mathematics, science, and reading language arts standards and adopted streamlined social studies standards in November 2018.**

STAAR Administration Options to Consider

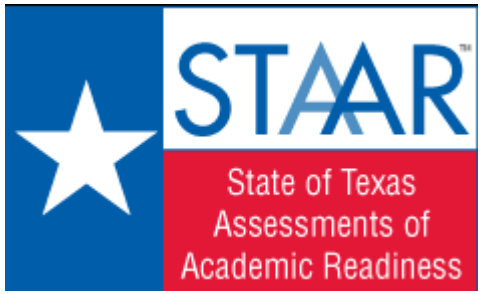
Multiple Test Sections

- Allows for fewer questions in a section
- Provides **stronger alignment to regular classroom instructional experiences**
- Accessible to all students with clear breaks
- Allows for continued instruction during test window
- Allows for differentiation by section so that subtests, such as decoding, **can support improved accuracy for students with dyslexia and other learning disabilities**

Flexible Scheduling

- Can be **given over multiple days**
- Allows schools and districts to schedule each section to fit unique school schedules
- Includes an open test window over two-three weeks
- **No content specific assigned test dates**

Assessment Costs (Per Test)



- 2017–2018 ETS contract cost : $92,973,976
- Total STAAR tests administered: 10,361,006
- **Average cost per test administered: $8.97**

- 2017–2018 Pearson contract cost : $15,554,613
- Total STAAR Alt 2 and TELPAS tests: 2,520,718
- **Average cost per test administered: $6.17**

- **2017–2018 ACT cost per test with writing: $62.50**
- 2017–2018 ACT cost per test, no writing: $46.00

- **2018–2019 SAT cost per test with essay: $64.50**
- 2018–2019 SAT cost per test, no essay: $47.50

- **MAP cost per test: $13.50**

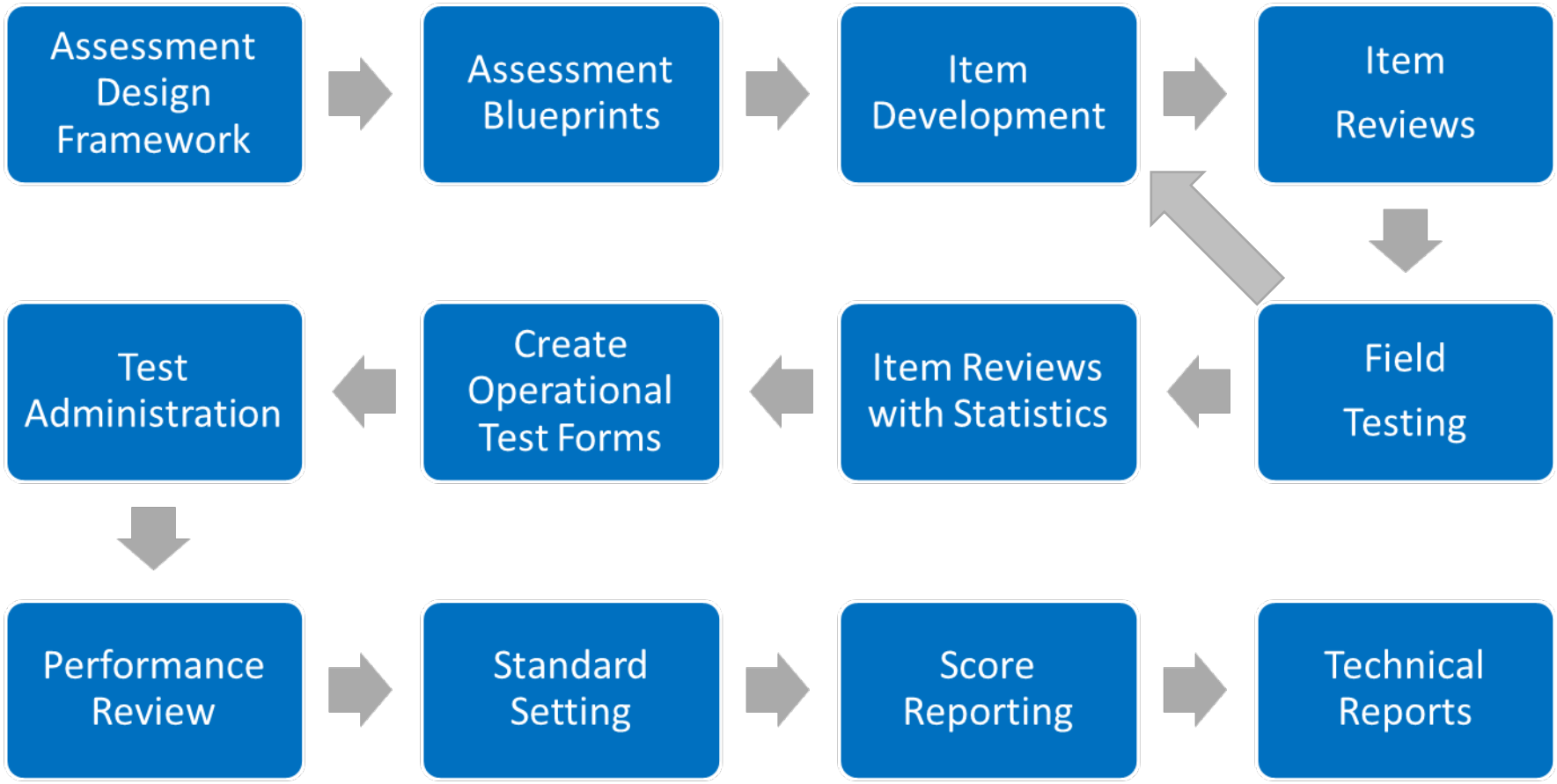
Assessment Costs (Total)

Program	2016	2017	2018	2019
STAAR	$68,018,213	$78,604,369	$92,973,976	$83,534,982
STAAR Alternate 2	$3,665,163	$3,671,074	$5,784,583	$6,544,619*
TELPAS	$7,119,603	$8,233,618	$9,522,347	$8,789,089*
TAKS	$2,758,774	$2,498,995	$247,683	$47,750*
TOTAL	**$81,561,753**	**$93,008,056**	**$108,528,589**	**$98,916,440***

*Pending amendment

Appendix

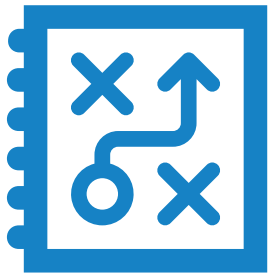
Assessment Development Life Cycle



Interim Assessment Tool

- **ALIGNED:** The Interim Assessments are a TEA-provided tool that align to the TEKS and the STAAR program.
- **FREE:** The tool is available to public school districts and charter schools for free.
- **ACTIONABLE:** The tool provides actionable data, allowing ALL students to demonstrate academic improvement.

Uses of the Interim Assessment Tool



- Identifies gaps in the mastery of knowledge and skills, especially for students who are below grade level but working their way toward grade level.
- Monitors academic progress across a school year.
- Predicts STAAR performance.

HB 1164 (84th): Writing Pilot

- The HB 1164 (84th Legislature) writing pilot concluded at the end of the 2017–2018 school year.
- TEA is exploring options to extend the writing pilot work. However, a statewide rollout would require additional state funds.
- TEA is exploring options to include automated scoring of writing samples to ensure minimum validity and reliability in scoring.

2017–2018 Participation	
ESC Regions	16
Districts/Charters	67
Teachers	900
Students	30,410

Possible Changes to Blueprint Requiring Statutory Authorization

Subject	Grade 3			Total Time	Total Items
	Subtest 1	Subtest 2	Subtest 3		
Reading Language Arts	75 minutes 1 prompt	35 minutes 19 items	35 minutes 15 items / 1 edit task (5 edits)	**145 minutes**	**34 MC** **2 CR**
Math	55 minutes 10 items + performance task	20 minutes 10 items	20 minutes 11 items	**95 minutes**	**31 MC** **1 CR**

Subject	Grades 4 and 5			Total Time	Total Items
	Subtest 1	Subtest 2	Subtest 3		
Reading Language Arts	75 minutes 1 prompt	35 minutes 19 items	35 minutes 15 items / 1 edit task (5 edits)	**145 minutes**	**34 MC** **2 CR**
Math	55 minutes Gr4: 10 items + performance task Gr5: 12 items + performance task	20 minutes Gr4: 10 items Gr5: 12 items	20 minutes Gr4: 10 items Gr5: 12 items	**95 minutes**	**30 MC + 1 CR** **36 MC + 1 CR**
Science Grade 5		40 minutes 25 items	38 minutes 24 items	**78 minutes**	**49 MC**

Possible Changes to Blueprint Requiring Statutory Authorization

Subject	Grades 6, 7, and 8			Total Time	Total Items
	Subtest 1	Subtest 2	Subtest 3		
Reading Language Arts	90 minutes 1 prompt	35 minutes 19 items	35 minutes 15 items / 1 edit task (5 edits)	**160 minutes**	**34 MC 2 CR**
Math	60 minutes Gr6: 12 items + performance task Gr7: 12 items + performance task Gr8: 12 items + performance task	25 minutes Gr6: 10 items Gr7: 12 items Gr8: 12 items	25 minutes Gr6: 10 items Gr7: 12 items Gr8: 12 items	**110 minutes**	**32 MC + 1 CR 36 MC + 1 CR 36 MC + 1 CR**
Science Grade 8		48 minutes 35 items	47 minutes 34 items	**95 minutes**	**69 MC**
Social Studies Grade 8	30 minutes 1 extended response item	45 minutes 25 items	45 minutes 25 items	**120 minutes**	**50 MC 1 CR**

Possible Changes to Blueprint Requiring Statutory Authorization

Course	Subtest 1	Subtest 2	Subtest 3	Total Time	Total Items
English I	90 minutes 1 prompt	40 minutes 17 items	45 minutes 17 items / 1 edit task (7 edits)	**175 minutes**	**34 MC** **2 CR**
English II	90 minutes 1 prompt	40 minutes 17 items	45 minutes 17 items / 1 edit task (7 edits)	**175 minutes**	**34 MC** **2 CR**
English III	90 minutes 1 prompt	40 minutes 17 items	45 minutes 17 items / 1 edit task (7 edits)	**175 minutes**	**34 MC** **2 CR**
Algebra I	45 minutes 13 items	30 minutes 9 items	30 minutes 8 items	**105 minutes**	**30 MC**
Algebra II	45 minutes 16 items	30 minutes 11 items	30 minutes 12 items	**105 minutes**	**39 MC**
Biology		45 minutes 25 items	45 minutes 25 items	**90 minutes**	**50 MC**
U.S. History	60 minutes 1 extended response item	45 minutes 25 items	45 minutes 25 items	**150 minutes**	**50 MC** **1 CR**

Number of Student Expectations

Reading Language Arts		
	Current	Streamlined
Grade 3	80	65
Grade 4	68	63
Grade 5	78	63
Grade 6	75	64
Grade 7	73	63
Grade 8	73	64
English I	72	62
English II	73	62

Mathematics	
	Streamlined
Grade 3	52
Grade 4	53
Grade 5	46
Grade 6	59
Grade 7	50
Grade 8	52
Algebra I	56

Science		
	Prior	Streamlined
Grade 5	38	32
Grade 8	40	37
Biology	58	51

Social Studies	
	Current
Grade 8	110
U.S. History	130

* Currently being streamlined for adoption November 2018

Number of Student Expectations
All Grades

Reading Language Arts				
	Prior	Streamlined	Readiness	Supporting
Kindergarten	73	56	N/A	N/A
Grade 1	85	60	N/A	N/A
Grade 2	76	62	N/A	N/A
Grade 3	80	65	12	11
Grade 4	68	63	R - 13 W - 11	R - 14 W - 25
Grade 5	78	63	15	19
Grade 6	75	64	13	21
Grade 7	73	63	R - 14 W - 11	R - 20 W - 18
Grade 8	73	64	13	21
English I	72	62	20	37
English II	73	62	20	39
English III	70	63	21	32
English IV	69	63	N/A	N/A

Mathematics			
	Current	Readiness	Supporting
Kindergarten	36	N/A	N/A
Grade 1	50	N/A	N/A
Grade 2	50	N/A	N/A
Grade 3	52	13	31
Grade 4	53	13	28
Grade 5	46	12	24
Grade 6	59	16	35
Grade 7	50	13	25
Grade 8	52	13	27
Algebra I	56	16	33
Geometry	49	N/A	N/A
Algebra II	55	16	32

Note: Readiness and supporting standards reflect assessment of current RLA standards

Kindergarten	31	30	N/A	N/A
Grade 1	33	32	N/A	N/A
Grade 3	35	31	N/A	6
Grade 4	32	29	N/A	5
Biology	**58**	**51**	**16**	**19**
IPC	40	42	N/A	N/A
Chemistry	61	58	N/A	N/A
Physics	51	41	N/A	N/A

Notes: The science grade 5 assessment measures standards for grades 3, 4, and 5
The science grade 8 assessment measures standards for grades 6, 7, and 8

Kindergarten	38	N/A	N/A
Grade 1	51	N/A	N/A
Grade 3	59	N/A	N/A
Grade 4	80	N/A	N/A
Grade 5	81	N/A	N/A
Grade 6	82	N/A	N/A
Grade 7	81	N/A	N/A
World History	123	N/A	N/A
World Geography	67	N/A	N/A
U.S. History	**130**	**43**	**66**
U.S. Government	80	N/A	N/A
Economics	82	N/A	N/A

* Currently being streamlined for adoption November 2018

Cognitive Complexity of STAAR

Using the Depth of Knowledge (DOK) definitions below, independent analysts rated the cognitive complexity associated with each STAAR item on the 2016 tests.

Recall (Level 1)

- Students are required to recall a fact, definition, procedure, or piece of information.

Basic Application (Level 2)

- Students are required to use a skill or concept.

Strategic Thinking (Level 3)

- Students are required to demonstrate deep content knowledge and engage in abstract thinking.

Extended Thinking (Level 4)

- Students are required to demonstrate complex reasoning processes, higher-order thinking, and deep conceptual understanding.

Depth of Knowledge
Mathematics and Science

Mathematics	Total Number of Items	DOK 1 (Recall)		DOK 2 (Basic Application)		DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking)		DOK 4 (Extended Thinking)	
Grade 3	46	22	**48%**	24	**52%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**
Grade 4	48	20	**42%**	28	**58%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**
Grade 5	50	16	**32%**	34	**68%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**
Grade 6	52	26	**50%**	26	**50%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**
Grade 7	54	13	**24%**	41	**76%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**
Grade 8	56	20	**36%**	36	**64%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**
Algebra I	54	23	**43%**	31	**57%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**

Science	Total Number of Items	DOK 1 (Recall)		DOK 2 (Basic Application)		DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking)		DOK 4 (Extended Thinking)	
Grade 5	44	13	**30%**	31	**70%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**
Grade 8	54	12	**22%**	42	**78%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**
Biology	54	17	**37%**	37	**69%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**

Depth of Knowledge State Comparison

Mathematics	DOK 1 *(Recall)*	DOK 2 *(Basic Application)*	DOK 3 *(Strategic Thinking)*	DOK 4 *(Extended Thinking)*
Texas Grade 4	***42%***	***58%***	***0%***	***0%***
Florida Grade 5	27%	44%	29%	0%
Massachusetts Grade 4	40%	58%	2%	0%
Texas Grade 8	***36%***	***64%***	***0%***	***0%***
Florida Grade 7	25%	58%	17%	0%
Massachusetts Grade 8	40%	46%	14%	0%

Depth of Knowledge
Reading Language Arts

Reading Language Arts	Total Number of Items	DOK 1 (Recall)		DOK 2 (Basic Application)		DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking)		DOK 4 (Extended Thinking)	
Grade 3 Reading	40	5	**13%**	35	**87%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**
Grade 4 Reading	44	4	**9%**	36	**82%**	4	**9%**	0	**0%**
Grade 5 Reading	46	2	**4%**	39	**85%**	5	**11%**	0	**0%**
Grade 6 Reading	48	0	**0%**	48	**100%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**
Grade 7 Reading	50	1	**2%**	49	**98%**	0	**0%**	0	**0%**
Grade 8 Reading	52	0	**0%**	47	**90%**	5	**10%**	0	**0%**
English I	53	1	**2%**	46	**87%**	6	**11%**	0	**0%**
English II	58	0	**0%**	53	**91%**	5	**9%**	0	**0%**

Depth of Knowledge State Comparison

Reading Language Arts	DOK 1 *(Recall)*	DOK 2 *(Basic Application)*	DOK 3 *(Strategic Thinking)*	DOK 4 *(Extended Thinking)*
Texas Grade 4	***9%***	***82%***	***9%***	***0%***
Florida Grade 3	0%	75%	25%	0%
Massachusetts Grade 4	9%	64%	27%	0%
Texas Grade 8	***0%***	***90%***	***10%***	***0%***
Florida Grade 8	6%	61%	33%	0%
Massachusetts Grade 8	<5%	59%	34%	3%

Nebraska Depth of Knowledge (DOK)

Reading and ELA	Total Number of Items	DOK 1 *(Recall)*		DOK 2 *(Basic Application)*		DOK 3 *(Strategic Thinking)*		DOK 4 *(Extended Thinking)*	
Grade 3	35–62	19–33	%	14–25	%	2–4	%	0	0%
Grade 4	34–64	17–30	%	15–30	%	2–4	%	0	0%
Grade 5	34–62	14–26	%	18–32	%	2–4	%	0	0%
Grade 6	34–64	13–25	%	16–30	%	5–9	%	0	0%
Grade 7	32–59	11–20	%	16–30	%	5–9	%	0	0%
Grade 8	33–60	9–18	%	19–33	%	5–9	%	0	0%
Grade 11	32–58	7–14	%	18–31	%	7–13	%	0	0%

Mathematics	Total Number of Items	DOK 1 *(Recall)*		DOK 2 *(Basic Application)*		DOK 3 *(Strategic Thinking)*		DOK 4 *(Extended Thinking)*	
Grade 3	27–59	18–42	%	8–15	%	1–2	%	0	0%
Grade 4	32–79	14–47	%	18–32	%	0	%	0	0%
Grade 5	35–81	18–50	%	16–29	%	1–2	%	0	0%
Grade 6	36–85	18–51	%	18–34	%	0	%	0	0%
Grade 7	44–87	15–37	%	29–50	%	0	%	0	0%
Grade 8	37–87	10–37	%	25–46	%	2–4	%	0	0%
Grade 11	38–82	8–28	%	24–42	%	6–12	%	0	0%

https://www.education.ne.gov/assessment/nesa-archives/nesa-mathematics/

Some Research-Based Assessment Types

Adaptive Assessments

- An assessment that is tailored specifically to each student based on his or her performance on previous items within the assessment.
- These types of assessments allow for more accurate growth measures (specifically high- and low-performing students)

Portfolio Assessments

- An assessment that learners complete together with their teachers.
- The writing pilot and proposed writing program use a portfolio approach.

Classic Standardized Summative Assessments

- An assessment that contains the same questions for all test takers.
- The STAAR assessments currently use this design.

Assessment: Cost Breakdown and Potential Savings

Possible Savings ($6.7M)

- Eliminate non-federally mandated assessments (e.g., Grade 8 Social Studies).
  - **$0.5M SAVINGS**

- Eliminate optional assessments (Algebra II and English III).
  - **$1.6M SAVINGS**

- Eliminate additional SSI administrations.
  - **$2.4M SAVINGS**

- Eliminate summer EOC administration.
  - **$2.2M SAVINGS**

Assessment Options to Consider

Add funds for SAT or ACT.

- Increase of universal SAT or ACT costs of ~$20M including writing (Juniors only) per TEC §39.0261(a)(3).
- Decrease in district and/or parent out-of-pocket expenses (varies, min. $20M+ savings statewide).
- Decrease in EOC retesting for students who use SAT or ACT as substitutes for EOC assessments.
- Supports federal testing requirements for accelerated students.