

All You Want to Know About Assessment



Office of Educational Assessment & Accountability

MERA Fall 2019

*State Assessment
2019 Results:
M-STEP, PSAT™ 8/9, and
SAT® with Essay*

2019 PSAT 8/9 Administration

- This was the first year that the College Board's PSAT™ 8/9 was administered to all students in grade 8.
- The PSAT 8/9 replaced the ELA and mathematics portions of the M-STEP for these students.
- The PSAT 8/9 is a “pre” test for the SAT® with Essay given to students in grade 11 to measure their college readiness.



Photo credit: Allison Shelley/The Verbatim Age

2019 PSAT 8/9 Administration, cont'd

- The PSAT 8/9 is a much different test than the M-STEP, so comparisons with previous years' scores cannot yet be made.
 - The PSAT is a timed, paper-pencil test that contains mostly multiple-choice items.
 - The M-STEP ELA and mathematics tests are given online, are not timed, and include a variety of technology enhanced items, as well as a full essay response.

Key take a ways from the results ...

- 3rd and 4th grade English language arts scores saw modest gains for the second straight year
- Michigan's efforts in early childhood educations and early literacy could be beginning to take root.
- Despite a significant number of “snow days” for many of Michigan's 822 districts test scores in many places increased or remained consistent despite fewer instructional days.

English Language Arts 2015-2019 (M-STEP/PSAT)

Grade	Subject	2019 Advanced/ Proficient	2018 Advanced/ Proficient	2017 Advanced/ Proficient	2016 Advanced/ Proficient	2015 Advanced/ Proficient	2019-18 Change
3	ELA	45.1	44.4	44.1	46	50.0	0.7
4	ELA	45.8	45	44.2	46.3	46.6	0.8
5	ELA	46.2	46.5	51.1	50.6	48.7	-0.3
6	ELA	41.7	41.4	43.6	45	44.7	0.3
7	ELA	42.7	43.4	44.8	47.1	49.1	-0.7
8	ELA (PSAT)	61.9	42.8	48	48.8	47.6	NA

Gain
Loss

This year's ELA scores increased in grades 3, 4, and 6; ELA scores declined in grades 5 and 7. Scores in grade 8 reflect first-year PSAT results and can not be compared with previous year results.

Mathematics 2015-2019 (M-STEP/PSAT)

Grade	Subject	2019 Advanced/ Proficient	2018 Advanced/ Proficient	2017 Advanced/ Proficient	2016 Advanced/ Proficient	2015 Advanced/ Proficient	2019-18 Change
3	Mathematics	46.7	45.7	46.8	45.2	48.8	1.0
4	Mathematics	41.8	42	42	44	41.4	-0.2
5	Mathematics	34.8	34.3	35	33.8	33.4	0.5
6	Mathematics	35.1	34.6	34.2	32.8	33.3	0.5
7	Mathematics	35.7	35.7	36.2	35.3	33.3	0.0
8	Mathematics (PSAT)	32.7	32.7	33.5	32.7	32.2	NA

Gain
Loss

Mathematics scores improved for students in grades 3, 5, and 6; they remained steady in grade 7 and dropped slightly in grade 4. Scores in grade 8 reflect first-year PSAT results and can not be compared with previous year results.

Social Studies 2015-2019 (M-STEP)

Grade	Subject	2019 Advanced/ Proficient	2018 Advanced/ Proficient	2017 Advanced/ Proficient	2016 Advanced/ Proficient	2015 Advanced/ Proficient	2019-18 Change
5	Social Studies	17.4	18.3	21.6	18.8	22.2	-0.9
8	Social Studies	28.0	29.3	31.4	29.3	29.7	-1.3
11	Social Studies	46.6	48.5	46	43.1	43.9	-1.9

Gain
Loss

Social Studies results show a decrease in all grades tested.

SAT[®] with Essay 11th Grade Results

Subject	2019 Advanced/ Proficient	2018 Advanced/ Proficient	2017 Advanced/ Proficient	2016 Advanced/ Proficient	2019-18 Change
ELA	53.3	57.8	60.3	60.1	-4.5
Mathematics	36.3	36.9	36.8	36.8	-0.6

Gain
Loss

ELA (Evidence-Based Reading and Writing), and mathematics declined this year, which echoes similar declines in other states.

MDE is actively engaged in conversations with the College Board on why we continue to see declining scores on the SAT with Essay in 11th grade.

Michigan's Assessment System: 2019-20

Michigan's Assessment System Over Time

Year	What Changed?	Why?
2015	First Year of M-STEP	Transition to a new assessment to measure new standards and use more advanced assessment practices
2016 & 2017	Removed ELA Performance Tasks in Grades 3, 4, 6, and 7 Used the SAT Plus Essay in 11 th grade for ELA and math only (eliminated the M-STEP ELA and Math) Began offering PSAT in 9 th and 10 th grade	Superintendent direction to reduce testing time
2018	Cut testing time in ELA and mathematics in grades 3-8	Legislative requirement to reduce testing time to no more than 3 hours on average for ELA and Math
2019	Transition 8 th grade mathematics and ELA test from the M-STEP to the PSAT 8/9 Optional use of benchmark assessments supported with state investment	* Department assessment vision * Legislative language that requires assessments in grades 8-10 to be aligned to the college entrance portion of the MME.

Michigan's Assessment System

State Assessments						
Grade	Test Type	Mandate	Test Name	Subjects	Given	Purpose
K-2	Benchmark	Required	Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessment or District-selected benchmark ¹	ELA, Mathematics	Fall, Winter, Spring	Within-year progress; program improvement
3	Summative Benchmark	Required	M-STEP	ELA, Mathematics	Spring	Proficiency; accountability
		Optional	District-selected benchmark assessment ^{1, 2}		Multiple	Within-year progress; program improvement
4	Summative Benchmark	Required	M-STEP	ELA, Mathematics	Spring	Proficiency; accountability
		Optional	District-selected benchmark assessment		Multiple	Within-year progress; program improvement
5	Summative	Required	M-STEP	ELA, Mathematics	Spring	Proficiency; accountability
	Summative	Required	M-STEP	Science ⁴ , Social Studies	Spring	Proficiency; accountability
	Benchmark	Optional	District-selected benchmark assessment	ELA, Mathematics	Multiple	Within-year progress; program improvement
6	Summative Benchmark	Required	M-STEP	ELA, Mathematics	Spring	Proficiency; accountability
		Optional	District-selected benchmark assessment		Multiple	Within-year progress; program improvement
7	Summative Benchmark	Required	M-STEP	ELA, Mathematics	Spring	Proficiency; accountability
		Optional	District-selected benchmark assessment		Multiple	Within-year progress; program improvement
8	Summative	Required	PSAT 8/9	ELA, Mathematics	Spring	Proficiency; accountability; college readiness
	Summative	Required	M-STEP	Science ⁴ , Social Studies	Spring	Proficiency; accountability
	Benchmark	Optional	District-selected benchmark assessment	ELA, Mathematics	Multiple	Within-year progress; program improvement
9	Summative	Required	PSAT 8/9	ELA, Mathematics	Spring	College Readiness
10	Summative	Required	PSAT 10	ELA, Mathematics	Spring	College Readiness
11 ³	Summative	Required	MME: SAT with Essay	ELA, Mathematics	Spring	College Readiness; accountability
		Required	MME: M-STEP	Science ⁴ , Social Studies	Spring	Proficiency; accountability
		Required	MME: ACT WorkKeys	Reading, Mathematics	Spring	Career Readiness

2020 Assessment Schedule

Spring 2020 Testing Schedule for Summative Assessments																					
Assessment	Week of																				
	2/3-2/7	2/10-2/14	2/17-2/21	2/24-2/28	3/2-3/6	3/9-3/13	3/16-3/20	3/23-3/27	3/30-4/3	4/6-4/10	4/13-4/17	4/20-4/24	4/27-5/1	5/4-5/8	5/11-5/15	5/18-5/22	5/25-5/29				
M-STEP Grades 5, 8, and 11											4 weeks										
M-STEP Grades 3, 4, 6, and 7														4 weeks							
MI-Access Alternate Assessments											7 weeks										
College Entrance: SAT w/Essay*											4/14 only		Makeup 4/28								
Accommodated Testing Window											4/14 – 4/28										
Work Skills: ACT Workkeys											4/15 only		Makeup 4/29								
Accommodated Testing Window											4/15 – 4/28		Makeup 4/29-5/6								
PSAT 8/9 (grade 8)*											4/14	Makeup 4/15-21	Makeup 4/28-29								
Accommodated Testing Window											4/14 – 4/28										
PSAT 8/9 (grade 9) and PSAT 10**											4/14, 15, or 16	Makeup 4/15-21	Makeup 4/28-29								
Accommodated Testing Window											4/14 – 4/28										
WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 and WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs	7 weeks																				
<p>* Schools must administer the PSAT 8/9 for 8th grade and SAT with Essay on April 14, 2020 (unless students are approved with accommodations that designate them to test in the accommodated testing window).</p> <p>** Schools must administer the PSAT 8/9 for 9th grade and PSAT 10 on April 14, 15, or 16, 2020 (unless students are approved with accommodations that designate them to test in the accommodated testing window).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools can choose which date works best for them as the initial test day. • The same grade must test on the same day at the same time. • Schools can administer multiple grades in one day. <p>NOTE: Paper/Pencil test dates for the M-STEP ELA, mathematics, science, and social studies assessments will occur on designated dates within the testing windows.</p>																					

M-STEP and Read by Grade Three

- Michigan’s Read by Grade Three law, adopted in 2016, requires schools to identify learners who are struggling with reading and writing and to provide additional help.
- Starting with the 2019-20 school year, the law says that performance on “the grade 3 state English language arts assessment” will be one factor in determining if third graders will be promoted to fourth grade.
- This year’s M-STEP ELA proficiency scores **cannot** be used to predict the percentage of students who might be retained next year. M-STEP performance levels, which are federally required for state summative assessments, do not correlate to a grade-level equivalency score.

M-STEP and Read by Grade Three, cont'd

- The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has established a reading cut score in collaboration with educators and technical experts to support the law's requirements.
- The table indicates the recommended actions resulting from past M-STEP data, had the law applied to those students.

Student ELA Score	Action	Approx. students 2019	Approx. students 2018
0-1252	Student subject to retention and eligible for additional support	4.1%	5%
1253-1271	Student eligible for promotion, with support	17.3%	17.5%
1272 or above	Student eligible for promotion to grade 4	78.6%	77.5%

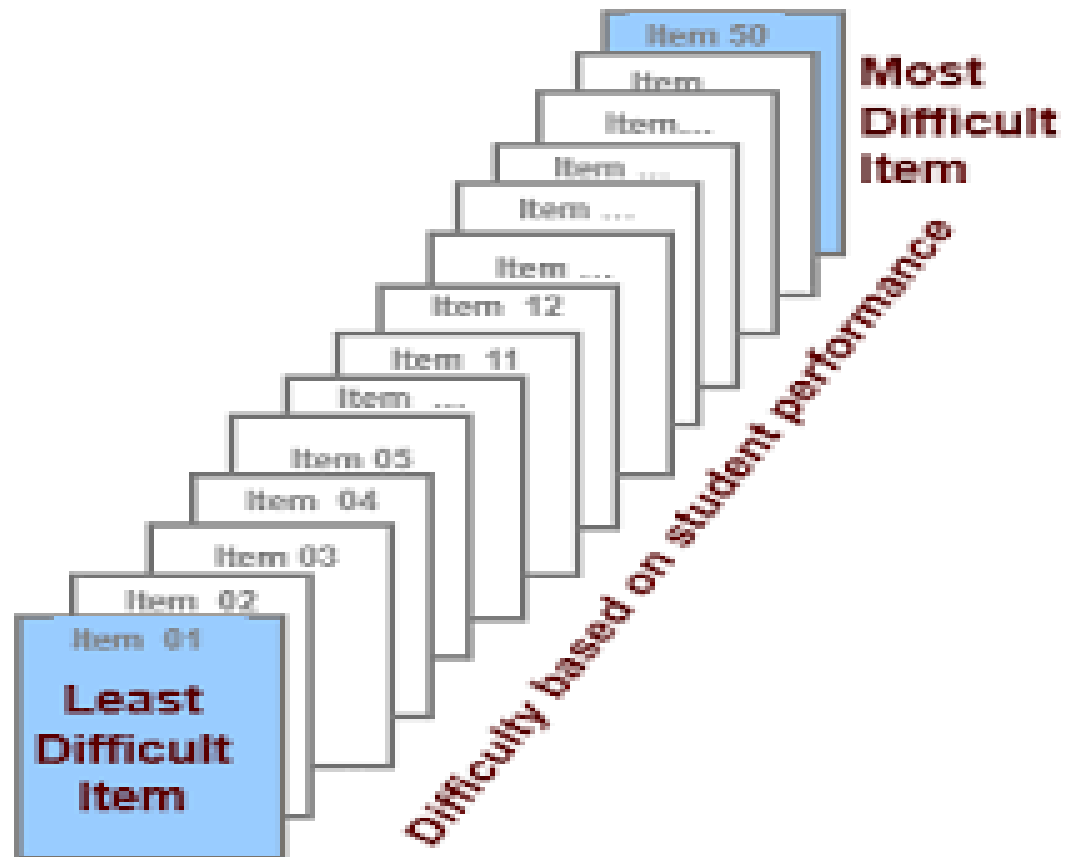
How did we establish this “cut score”

- The law requires that we use the M-STEP ELA exam
- M-STEP ELA produces a “proficiency” score on English language arts
- The law requires MDE to identify students “at least 1 grade level” behind.
- Hmmmmmm.....
- Worked with educators to create unique Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs)
- Used those PLD’s to facilitate a “bookmark method” standard setting process, specifically for use by RBG3. This created two “cuts”.

How did we establish this “cut score”

- The standard setting included ALL items from the M-STEP ELA exam.
- There’s no way to reliably create just a “reading score” from the blueprint. (It’s an ELA test)
- However “Writing Constructed-response Items” are typically on the more difficult end of the ordered item booklet in the standard setting process. (I’ll explain)

How did we establish this “cut score”



Reimbursement for Vendor-Provided Assessment Options

- Districts may select vendor-provided assessment options that meet defined criteria (see [Fact Sheet](#)).
- For 2019-20 this funding was removed from the State School Aid budget.
- MDE still encourages the use of through-year benchmark assessments (but at district cost)

Looking forward ...

- MDE is committed to continued improvements to Michigan's state assessment system that promote student learning and provide meaningful information for educators and parents.
- Continued work with stakeholders to look at opportunities to enhance and improve the system.

Questions?

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