



# In a Minute



Volume 4, Issue 9: New Features for Spring 2014-15

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## Review and analyze students' 2015 STAAR results in the updated STAAR module

**WHAT:** The STAAR module provides four years-worth of detailed analyses of district-, school-, and student-level *State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR)* results. Students in grades 3-8 completed all 2015 STAAR 3-8 subject tests in March and April. Secondary students completed the English I and English II STAAR EOCs in late March and the remaining STAAR EOCs in early May. STAAR 3-8 Reading results for grades 5 and 8 are now available on MyData Portal. Remaining STAAR 3-8 and STAAR EOC results will be posted in late May and early June.

**WHY:** This module presents current and prior-year STAAR results in user-friendly tables and charts. STAAR 3-8 measures students' mastery of grade-relevant concepts in the core subject areas, while STAAR EOCs assess students' course-specific knowledge in the core subject areas. Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies are the core subject areas of interest.

**WHERE:** *Evaluate > STAAR*

**HOW:** Two sections on the left side allow users to filter information shown in the adjacent chart. Use **Page Options** to select the test grade, subject area, test language, test year, and chart type of interest. Use **Roster Options** to select the enrollment year of interest. Selecting a prior enrollment year makes available additional chart types. Click **Select Roster** to view results for a specific course or section. Click **Show data table** and **Show student data** to view individual student performance and performance summaries for each item of the assessment.

**CONTACT:** For more information on STAAR, contact State and National Assessment at 972-925-6410.

**ANALYSIS TIP:** *How do I examine my students' performance on the particular SEs assessed on the grade 8 STAAR 3-8 Reading test?*

- Click on the roster of interest under **Roster Options** on the summary page. On the next page, click on the test of interest in **Detailed Analysis** (i.e. Grade 8 Reading). Then click on the checkbox next to **Show student data by SE** under **Page Options**. The resulting table reports the percentage of items correct for each tested SE.

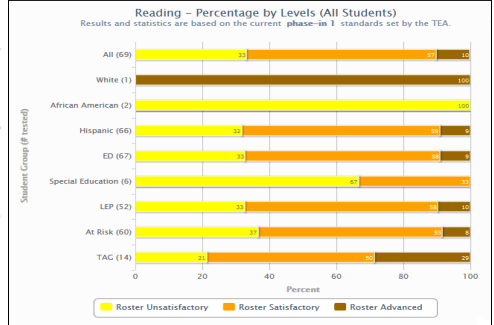


Figure 1. The Detailed Analysis reports the roster-level performance on each administered subject test.

## Announcements

Teachers now have access to their 2014-15 rosters as a part of the TEI Roster Verification process. The deadline for teachers to submit corrections is May 29 at 5 pm. The deadline for principals to review submitted rosters is June 12 at 5 pm. The TEI Roster Verification module and instructions are available from the *Improve* menu.

## STAAR Spotlight Rosters identify students in need of supplementary instruction

**WHAT:** The 2015 STAAR Spotlight Rosters present a summary of student performance on all STAAR 3-8 and STAAR EOC subject tests. These specialty rosters highlight students who scored below the "Satisfactory" performance level cutoff on at least one STAAR 3-8 or STAAR EOC subject test in the current year.

**WHY:** This data tool helps campus administrators and instructional coaches to easily pinpoint those students who are struggling in one or more subject areas evaluated on the state assessments. Additionally, the STAAR Spotlight Rosters highlight those core subject areas where large groups of students would benefit from supplementary instruction.

**WHERE:** *Monitor > STAAR Spotlight Rosters*

**HOW:** Two sections on the left side allow users to filter the information displayed in the report. Select the assessment and subject of interest with **Page Options**. Use **Roster Options** to choose the enrollment year and roster of interest. Click **Submit** to run the report. Click **Export to Excel** to export and save the roster as an Excel file.

No.	ID	Name	Reading Score
1	1111111	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
2	2222222	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
3	3333333	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
4	4444444	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
5	5555555	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
6	6666666	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
7	7777777	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
8	8888888	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
9	9999999	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
10	1010101	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
11	1101101	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
12	1201101	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
13	1301101	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
14	1401101	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
15	1501101	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
16	1601101	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
17	1701101	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
18	1801101	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
19	1901101	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0
20	2010102	STUDENT SAMPLE	1415.0

Figure 2. Roster of students who scored below Satisfactory on the grade 8 STAAR 3-8 Reading subject test.

**CONTACT:** For more information on STAAR, contact State and National Assessment at 972-925-6410.

**ANALYSIS TIP:** *Now that I have identified my students who failed the 2015 grade 5 STAAR 3-8 reading test, how do I see their performance on the prior-year STAAR 3-8 reading test?*

- Click **Export to Excel** located at the top of the roster. On the resulting page, click on the **Reading** checkbox under **STAAR 3-8 2015** and **STAAR 3-8 2014**. Then click **Export to Excel** at the top of the page. When prompted, click **OK**. The result is an Excel file that contains 2014 and 2015 STAAR 3-8 reading results for students who failed the grade 5 reading test in 2015.

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## Discover detailed information about students' most recent STAAR performance with the STAAR Confidential Student Reports (CSRs)

**WHAT:** The STAAR Confidential Student Reports (CSRs), created by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), provide a comprehensive overview of each student's performance all reporting categories assessed in each STAAR subject test. Students receive a report for each test taken in a subject area during the test administration of interest.

**WHY:** STAAR CSRs provide parents, teachers, counselors, and campus decision-makers with a thorough explanation of each student's STAAR results. Not only do these reports present the students' scores (i.e. weight scores, scale scores, and percent correct), they also indicate how the student performed in comparison to the requirement for each performance level.

**WHERE:** Reports > STAAR 3-8 or STAAR EOC CSRs and My Students or My School

**HOW:** Click on the link for test administration and subject of interest.

**CONTACT:** For more information on the STAAR CSRs, visit the TEA's Interpreting Assessment Reports page at [tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/interpguide/](http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/interpguide/).

The screenshot shows a STAAR Confidential Student Report (CSR) for a student named 'SAMPLE STUDENT'. The report is for the STAAR 3-8 Reading test, administered on March 31, 2015. The student's score is 187, which is at the Level II (Satisfactory) performance level. The report includes a bar chart showing the student's score compared to the state average and a table of scores for each reporting category. The student's score is 187, which is at the Level II (Satisfactory) performance level. The report also includes a table of scores for each reporting category and a table of scores for each reporting category.

The screenshot shows the STAAR 3-8 Teacher Roster for a specific course group. The roster lists students and their scores for the STAAR 3-8 Reading test. The students are listed in a table with columns for Student Name, Score, and Status. The scores are listed in a table with columns for Student Name, Score, and Status. The status is listed in a table with columns for Student Name, Score, and Status.

Figure 3. Teacher roster for specific course group.

## TRV FAQ: Why do some students have checkmarks after their names, while other students have “x’s”? Can this information be updated?

TEI rosters include the names of all students who were scheduled with you for at least one day. Students with checkmarks after their names are those that were properly scheduled with you and in attendance a sufficient number of days in the term. These students are eligible for inclusion in your TEI metrics. Students without the checkmark will not be included in your TEI metrics. If a student has an “x” next to their name when they should have a checkmark, simply click on the empty box next to his or her name to change the “x” to a checkmark. You must provide a reason for linking each student in the *Comment* column. Click *I'm Finished* to complete your review.

## Destination 2020 Spotlight: STAAR 3-8 Parent Notification of Student Performance Letters inform parents of efforts to improve test performance

**WHAT:** The STAAR 3-8 Parent Notification of Student Performance Letters provide a uniform method for notifying parents of their grade 5 and 8 students' results on the STAAR 3-8 Reading subject test. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) created these letters to ensure that schools properly enforce the grade advancement requirements of the Student Success Initiative (SSI). Per the SSI for 2015, grade 5 and 8 students must pass STAAR 3-8 Reading subject tests in order to advance to the next grade level. A grade 5 or 8 student who does not pass the subject test can only advance to the next grade level if his or her grade placement committee decides unanimously that he or she will perform at grade level after receiving additional instruction.

**WHY:** The parent notification letters provide an efficient method for keeping parents well-informed of their students' progress in the areas of reading. Because the letters are sent only to parents of students who failed the subject test, their focus is on outlining the school's plans for ensuring that students achieve the required amount of progress in the subject area. Updated letters will be available after each STAAR administration.

**WHERE:** Reports > STAAR (General)

**HOW:** Hover over the *STAAR (General)* heading on the left side. Click on the letter pertaining to the test of interest in the desired language (ex. SSI Parent Notification of Student Performance (R ENG)). The result is a word document containing a template that users can customize for each student.

**CONTACT:** For more information on the STAAR 3-8 Parent Notification of Student Performance Letters, visit the TEA's Student Success Initiative page at [tea.texas.gov/index4.aspx?id=25769814800](http://tea.texas.gov/index4.aspx?id=25769814800).

**ANALYSIS TIP:** How do I collaborate with my colleagues to develop an instructional plan for my students who struggled with the grade 5 STAAR 3-8 Reading subject test?

- The Accelerated Instruction Plan (AIP) module, available from the *Monitor* menu, allows teachers to work together to address students' instructional needs. This module provides a centralized means for creating, editing, and sharing customized instructional plans for each identified student.

The screenshot shows the STAAR 3-8 Parent Notification of Student Performance Letter template. The letter is addressed to the parents of a student named 'SAMPLE STUDENT'. The letter informs the parents of the student's performance on the STAAR 3-8 Reading test and outlines the school's plans for ensuring that the student achieves the required amount of progress in the subject area. The letter includes a section for the parent to provide input on the student's progress and a section for the parent to provide input on the student's progress.

Figure 4. English version of Parent Notification Letter.