# Spotlight

MICHIGAN Department of Education

## on Student Assessment and Accountability

**December 17, 2015**

*Happy Holidays!*

Quick Links . . . take you directly to articles or sections . . .


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**Key:** information Tech Coordinators also need to know

supports and accommodations information

## Spring 2015 M-STEP District and Building-Level Aggregate Data Publically Released

State, district, and building-level aggregate data were publically released this morning, December 17, 2015 at 10:00 AM. Therefore, this data is no longer under embargo.

The data were released on the MI School Data web site (www.mischooldata.org). The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) previously released Spring 2015 M-STEP state-level aggregate data and an accompanying press release on October 27, 2015. This press release is available at http://michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-37818_34785-368037--,00.html.

**M-STEP Data Located on MI School Data Site**

Spring 2015 M-STEP data can be found on the MI School Data Site (www.mischooldata.org) under the **Student Assessment** tab located under the left navigation category titled **Kindergarten–12th grade**. For a direct link to the Student Assessment page click here or type in the URL https://www.mischooldata.org/DistrictSchoolProfiles/AssessmentResults/AssessmentSummary.aspx.

Once on the assessment page, select either **Grade 3-8 Assessments** or **High School Assessments**.

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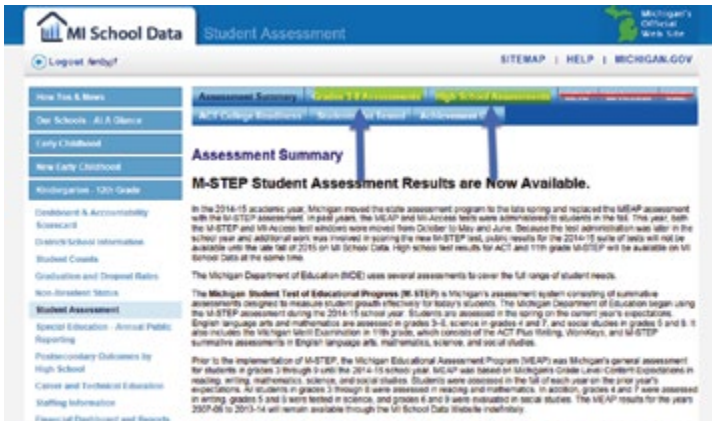
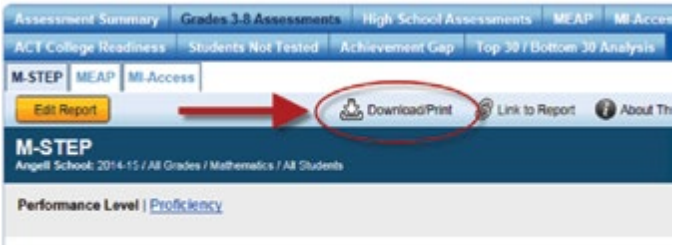
► Sign up for Spotlight (https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIMDE/subscriber/new) today! Enter your email address and select Spotlight under Student Assessment.

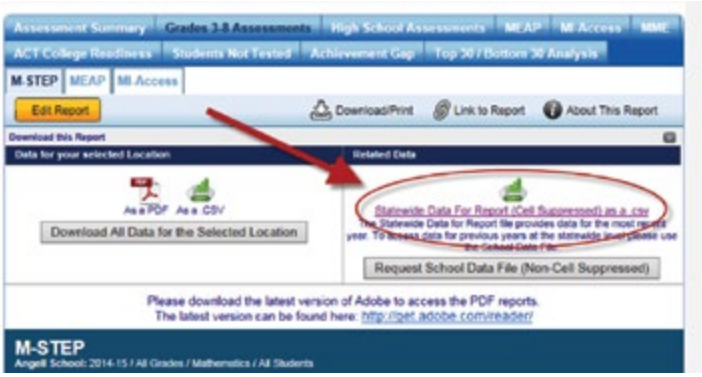
Once on the grade-specific assessment page, select **M-STEP** and using the drop-down menu, select the information you are interested in reviewing.




There is also a statewide demographic report available in an Excel format for download. Once a report is selected, click the **Download/Print** button. This will show the data available for your selection.




Then click **Statewide Data For Report** to download the whole demographics file for all entities in the system.



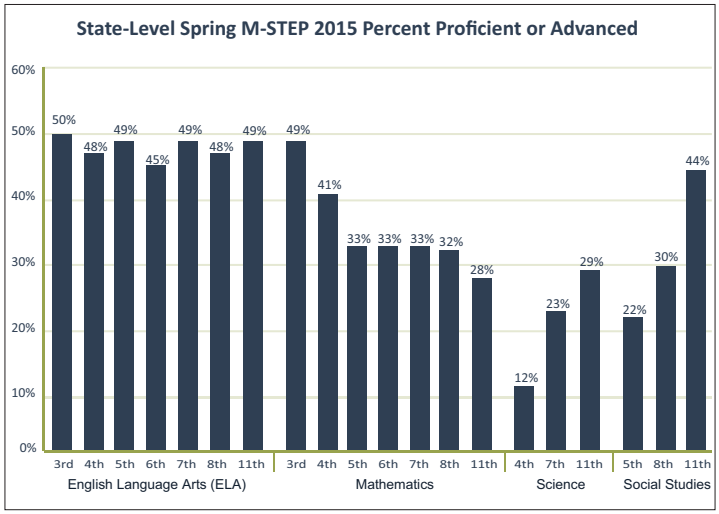

## State-Level Spring M-STEP 2015 Preliminary Analysis

The Office of Strategic Evaluation, Research and Accountability (OESRA) has developed the preliminary analysis of Spring 2015 M-STEP state-level data.

### Overall State Proficiency

The graph below shows proficiency rates (percent proficient or advanced) by grade for all tested subjects on the M-STEP. Students tested proficient at the highest rate in third grade English Language Arts (ELA) at 50%, followed by other grades in ELA. Mathematics proficiency in third and fourth grades were near ELA proficiency rates, but fell to less than 35% for fifth through eleventh grades.

Science overall had the lowest percentage of students scoring proficient or above, with only 12% statewide proficiency in fourth grade science and 23% proficiency in seventh grade science. Both science and social studies showed a different pattern from ELA and mathematics in terms of proficiency rates across grades, rising from elementary to middle school and again in high school.



## M-STEP Update on Classroom Activities

The Office of Standards and Assessment has decided to remove the classroom activities associated with the mathematics and English language arts (ELA) Performance Tasks (PT). In the last few months, the performance tasks in all grades underwent extensive review to determine if the classroom activity associated with the performance task was crucial to student understanding the context of the performance task. The ELA performance tasks were determined to have sufficient embedded resources to allow students to demonstrate what they know and can do without participating in a preceding classroom activity. Similarly, most of the mathematics performance tasks can stand on their own without a classroom activity. However, the review documented four mathematics performance tasks for which the classroom activities are likely necessary additional supports for students. Those four PTs have been removed from the pool of available performance tasks.

For the Spring 2016 M-STEP administration, the mathematics assessment will continue to contain performance tasks at grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, but there will no longer be classroom activities to administer. The updated ELA assessment will contain performance tasks at grades 5 and 8 only, which will no longer require classroom activities.

## January 6, 2016 Supports and Accommodation Refresher Webinar Web Access Instructions

If you missed last week's Supports and Accommodations Refresher Webinar, don't worry – there are two additional opportunities available. The next webinar will be held on **January 6, 2016 from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM**. This webinar will also be recorded and posted on the MDE website. The last webinar will be held **January 28, 2016 from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM**. The following directions instruct you on how to access the webinar:

1. Click the link below, or type the URL into your web browser.

   Join Meeting

   https://stateofmichiganmdeweb.centurylinkccc.com/CenturylinkWeb/SOMOldBAA

2. In the screen that appears, select the **Enter as a guest** radio button. Type your first and last name, and email address, in the spaces provided. Then click **Join Meeting**.

3. Once in the meeting, a pop-up will appear where you will be prompted to either have the meeting call your phone, or call your computer. Select **Call My Phone**, type your phone number, including the area code, in the space provided, and click **Connect Me**. The meeting will call your phone, and you will be automatically placed in the meeting.

If you have any questions concerning this webinar, please call (877) 560-8378, option 8, or email baa@michigan.gov.

## English Learner Assessment and Accountability Snags FAQ

Pupil accounting staff, English Learner (EL) Assessment Coordinators, and other building/district administrators should review the English Learner (EL) Assessment and Accountability Snags FAQ document (http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/EL_Assessment__Accountability_Pitfalls_FAQ_508664_7.pdf?20151217110541). This document outlines a variety of situations related to identification of ELs and requirements to assess EL students while also providing solutions for districts experiencing difficulties. For example, did you know you can check a student's current EL status and history in MSDS? You also may not know that the Secure Site is updated with MSDS data daily at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM with student demographic data from MSDS. If the district submits the student enrollment data in MSDS through

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a General Collection or Student Record Maintenance (SRM) File which changes the primary educational providing entity (PEPE) to the district/school, users of the Secure Site can access a student's historic assessment scores, including the W-APT and WIDA and ensures districts do not re-screen a student.

The Division of Accountability Services (DAS), Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI), and the Office of Field Services (OFS) strongly encourage districts to review this document collectively with staff involved in pupil accounting as well as assessment for this student group. **Note: The deadline for requesting 'False LEP' approvals through the Secure Site is January 8, 2016.**

Directions on how to submit 'False LEP' appeals can be found on the Secure Site Training page (www.mi.gov/securesitetraining) under the **Quick Reference** section using the link for **WIDA Exceptions**.

## More Chrome Devices Supported for Online Testing

Non-touchscreen devices using the Chrome operating system will be supported for online testing, along with selected touchscreen devices. This was previously "non-touchscreen Chromebooks," which is now expanded to other devices using Chrome OS such as Chromeboxes and Chromebases. The Technology User Guide and related documentation will be updated to reflect this.

The touchscreen Chrome devices that have been tested are the Acer C720P, Lenovo N20P, Dell Chromebook 11, and HP Chromebook 14 G3. These may not be the only touchscreen Chrome devices that work, but they are the only ones that have been QA tested and are fully supported by DRC.

## Updating PSAT 9, PSAT 10 and SAT Access on the Secure Site

Attention District Administrator and Nonpublic School Administrator level users of the Secure Site: PSAT for students in grades 9 and 10, SAT, and early literacy (being piloted in Spring 2016) assessments are new for Spring 2016. With this in mind, you as administrator level user of the Secure Site will have access to the new test cycles in the Secure Site but all other users will not.

District administrators and Nonpublic School Administrator level users of the Secure Site will need to log on to the Secure Site and update users access to allow PSAT 9, PSAT 10, SAT, and early literacy assessments as needed. Users will need this access if they will be involved in any of the activities on the Secure Site for PSAT 9, PSAT 10, SAT, and/or early literacy including updating pre-identification, viewing material orders, reviewing Accountable Students and Test Verification process, and viewing scores on the Secure Site.

Directions on changing access for a user can be found on the Secure Site training web page (www.michigan.gov/securesitetraining), click on the "Approving, Creating, Modifying Users-Security" link under the **Quick Reference** section.

## Comparability Between Online and Paper/Pencil Modes

Please note: We are aware that there is the potential for differences between scores of schools that administered M-STEP online, and schools that did a paper/pencil administration. This is not unexpected, given both the transitional nature of this first year of assessment and two administration modes. We are going to be conducting a statewide comparability study this winter and will present our findings in a future Spotlight.

## SAT Corner

*Information on SAT™, PSAT 8/9™, and PSAT10™ provided by the College Board*

### Accommodations Requests – Submit by February 16, 2016

College Board has completed the Attending Institution (AI) code setup for schools and will be sending email notifications to Test Center Supervisors and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Coordinators in early January. Once you receive that email, all schools should begin the process of requesting College Board Accommodations for college-reportable scores. Remember, if a student has been approved for a College Board Accommodation previously, for example if they tested PSAT/NMSQT in fall 2015, they do not need to be resubmitted.

**Requests should be submitted for all students requiring accommodations for PSAT 8/9 (9th grade), PSAT 10 (10th grade), and SAT with Essay (11th grade).** The state-sponsored administration requires ALL accommodations requests to be submitted through SSD Online (https://www.collegeboard.org/students-with-disabilities – scroll down and click on **Sign In to SSD Online**) this may be different than what you did in Fall 2015. In addition to College Board Accommodations, the College Board will be supporting State-Allowed Accommodations (SAAs) for students taking the Michigan-sponsored assessments in April 2016. SAAs are in place to provide accommodations or supports to students who may not want to use College Board Accommodations, or for those such as an English Learner who requires a glossary when taking College Board assessments. SAAs provide scores to students, K-12 educators, and the Michigan Department of Education (MDE); however, students who test with an SAA will NOT receive a college reportable score.

When applying for accommodations for SAT, PSAT 10, or PSAT 8/9, we recommend applying for College Board Accommodations first, unless the accommodation requested is one of the following, as defined by MDE:

- Reading test directions in the student's native language.
- Reading content and questions in the student's native language.
- Use of a bilingual word-for-word, non-electronic translation glossary for English language learners.
- Signing of the content and test questions in American Sign Language (ASL).
- Student responds in American Sign Language (ASL).

In each of the accommodations above, the test will need to be administered in a separate room and schools are expected to provide the translator or glossary per MDE and College Board guidelines included in the Supervisor manuals.

All SAAs should be submitted via the SSD Online system (https://www.collegeboard.org/students-with-disabilities – scroll down and click on **Sign In to SSD Online**) beginning in January 2016. At that time, once logged in, SSD Coordinators will see a link in the upper left hand corner to go to the SAA Dashboard. For SAA requests, the submission of student information should be initiated from the SAA Dashboard. All SAA requests will be automatically approved and do not require

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documentation. **All requests must be submitted by February 16, 2016**, for SAT for 11th-graders, PSAT 10 for 10th-graders, and PSAT 8/9 for ninth-graders in order to ensure that the appropriate materials will be provided on test day. SAAs are available only for the Michigan-sponsored administration.

The College Board will be covering SAAs in further detail in our Accommodations webinar on January 13, 2016, at 3:30 PM. To register, click here or go to: https://collegeboardtraining.webex.com/collegeboardtraining/, select the **Event Center** tab and look in the **Other Events** section for the January webinar entitled "Understanding College Board Accommodations for Michigan".

# Important Dates

## Approaching Deadlines!

### WIDA

- **December 18, 2015:** Deadline to enter all scores of students who were administered the W-APT during Cycle I (August 15 – December 4) into the Secure Site.
- **December 28, 2015:** Deadline for the **Initial Material Order** screen to order WIDA Braille and enlarged print.

### Supports and Accommodations

- **January 6, 2015 – 3:00–4:00 PM:** Webinar on universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations for the 2016 M-STEP, MI-Access, SAT, ACT WorkKeys, and WIDA

### SAT/PSAT/WorkKeys/M-STEP

- **January 7, 2016:** Last date to submit Student Record Maintenance (SRM) for DAS to Pre-ID students for SAT, PSAT, WorkKeys, and/or M-STEP assessments.

## January 2016

### WIDA

- **January 8, 2016:**
  - **WIDA Test Exceptions Window** – Deadline for educators to request a waiver from the Spring 2016 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 or the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs for some students with specific disabilities
  - **WIDA 'False LEP' appeals Window** – Deadline for schools and districts to submit appeals in the Secure Site (www.mi.gov/baa-secure) requesting review of 'False LEP' cases for possible correction within the MSDS.

### M-STEP

- **January, 15, 2016:** Deadline to request an off-site administration of the M-STEP. To request access, go to the Spring 2016 M-STEP Off-Site Authorization Request (https://baameap.wufoo.com/forms/spring-2016-offsite-test-administration-request/).

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# Important Dates

### SAT, PSAT10, PSAT 8/9

- **January, 15, 2016:** Deadline to request an off-site administration of the SAT, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9.
- **January 25, 2015 – 9:00–10:00 AM:** Webinar on universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations for the 2016 M-STEP, MI-Access, SAT, ACT WorkKeys, and WIDA assessments.

### SAT/PSAT/WorkKeys/M-STEP

- **Week of January 11, 2016:** The **Pre-ID Student Report** will be available to schools for students taking the SAT, PSAT, WorkKeys, and/or M-STEP on the Secure Site (www.michigan.gov/baa-secure).

### M-STEP/MI-Access

- **Week of January 11, 2016:** The **Online Sessions** function for putting students into online sessions for M-STEP and MI-Access FI will be available.

### SAT, PSAT10, PSAT 8/9

- **January 13, 2016, 3:30 PM:** "Understanding College Board Accommodations for Michigan" webinar.

## February 2016

### SAT, PSAT10, PSAT 8/9

- **February 16, 2016:** Deadline to submit State-Allowed Accommodations (SAA) requests to ensure that the appropriate materials will be provided on test day.

► Access previous Spotlight editions (http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_31168-280911--,00.html)

**Have Other Questions?**

For assessment questions, please email BAA@michigan.gov.

For accountability questions, please email MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov.

For phone assistance with assessment or accountability issues, call 877-560-8378 and select the appropriate menu option.