



## 2015 Technology Survey

### Technology Survey

To gather valuable technology-related school and district information and experiences during the first M-STEP administration, on May 26, 2015 MDE launched a survey among Michigan school, district and ISD Technology and/or assessment personnel involved in the online administration of the 2015 M-STEP. The survey encompassed 277 respondents

Survey questions focused on the type of network connection used for student devices; device platforms used to administer the assessment; and the number of schools supported by each respondent.

The survey also collected information on:

- Usefulness of the Technology User Guide for staff in installing and configuring the required software.
- Value of M-STEP Technology Training Videos for staff in configuring the software needed to administer the assessment.
- Helpfulness of M-STEP Online Administration and Training Videos, Technology Quick Start Guide, and Technology Webinars in guiding staff through the process of preparing their schools for the M-STEP online administration.
- Ease of installing the Testing Site Manager and the INSIGHT software.
- Use of the Load Simulator tool and Load Balancer hardware and software configuration.
- Use and value of technical support prior to and during testing.
- Preferred communication method to receive updates and other important information.
- Future technology purchasing plans.

Survey respondents filled various roles during the M-STEP administration including; District Technology Coordinator (55%), District or School Technology Support (27%), and, District and School Assessment Coordinators (11%). A smaller percentage of respondents had various other district roles (7%).

### Key Findings

#### ***Network Connection and Device Platforms Used on Student Devices***

- Over two-thirds of those surveyed used a combination of wired and wireless connections. Twenty percent used wired only and 13% wireless only.

- The most commonly used operating system reported: Windows 7 (78%), Chromebooks (43%), Windows XP (16%), Windows 8 (14%) and OS 10.9 (6%) or 10.10 (6%).

### ***Technology Support Level***

- Most respondents (70%) provided technology support to one-to-five schools, 21% supported 6-10 schools and 5% supported 21 or more schools.

### ***Usefulness of the Technology User Guide in Installing and Configuring the Required Software***

- Of those who used the guide, nearly 90% “agreed” or “strongly agreed” the User Guide contained the information needed to install and configure the required software for the M-STEP online administration.

### ***Helpfulness of Technology Training Videos in Configuring Required Software***

- Of those who used the training videos, 78% “agreed” or “strongly agreed” that the training videos were helpful in configuring the required software needed to administer the online M-STEP.

### ***Helpfulness of the Technology Quick Start Guide in Guiding Staff through the Process of Preparing School(s) for the M-STEP Online Administration***

- Of those reviewing the guide, 82% “agreed” or “strongly agreed” the Quick Start Guide was helpful.

### ***Value in the Technology Webinars Conducted by the Department and Vendor DRC***

- Nearly 70% “agreed” or “strongly agreed” that the webinars had value, 23% neither agreed nor disagreed.

### ***Installing the Testing Site Manager (TSM) software***

- Of those who installed the software, 84% “agreed” or “strongly agreed” installing the TSM was straightforward and easy.

### ***Installing the DRC INSIGHT Software***

- Of those who installed the DRC INSIGHT software, 83% “agreed” or “strongly agreed” installing the DRC INSIGHT software was straightforward and easy.

### ***Use of the Load Simulator tool in the TSM (Testing Sight Manager)***

- Nearly two-thirds (62%) of schools used the Load Simulator while 26% did not.
- 74% who used the Load Simulator found it “somewhat” or “very helpful”.

### ***Use of Technical Support Prior to and During M-STEP Administration***

- 35% contacted technical support prior to test administration.
- 55% contacted technical support during test administration.
- Of those who contacted technical support, over one-quarter (25%) rated the service as “very helpful”, 42% thought service was “helpful”, 19% thought it was “somewhat helpful”, 13% said it was “not very” or “not helpful”.

### ***Preferred Methods on Communication***

- Direct Email: 74%
- MDE Tech Coordinator List Serv: 55%
- MDE Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability: 40%
- TRIG website: 24%

### ***Use of Load Balancer***

- 5% used the load balancer for the Spring 2015 M-STEP online assessment.

### ***School/District Technology Expansion Purchasing Plans***

- Chromebook 77%
- Windows 65%
- iPad 36%

### ***School/District Plans to Go To 1:1 Devices***

- 16% indicated plans to go to 1:1 Devices.
- 68% did not have plans.
- 13% already had 1:1 Devices.