

SAS® EVAAS®

TVAAS: What's New in 2017

Data and Analytic Changes

Missing 2015–16 School Year Data for Grades 3–8

During the 2015–16 school year, Tennessee suspended testing in grades 3–8 for mathematics, English language arts, science, and social studies assessments, and scale scores were not available for these assessments. As a result, the 2016–17 TVAAS reporting in grades 5–8 for mathematics, English language arts, and science does not include 2015–16 test scores as part of a student's prior test history.

To accommodate missing 2015–16 data for grades 3–8, the 2016–17 reporting for EOC subjects will include students' 2015–16 test scores from EXPLORE in their prior test history. EXPLORE was administered in grade 8 through the 2015–16 school year and can provide some information about students' performance as eighth graders in the 2015–16 school year. For more details, see Section 3.1.7 (pg. 19) in the [Technical Documentation of 2017 TVAAS Analyses](#).

No Growth Measures for Grades 1 and 4, or in Social Studies for Grades 3–8

Because statewide testing begins in grade 3, it is not possible to provide a growth measure for grade 4 without the 2015–16 test scores in grade 3. A small subset of districts have grade 2 data from 2014–15, but the Tennessee Department of Education has a consistent approach across the state, as grade 4 TVAAS is typically available to all districts in the state through the gain-based model for measuring growth. The exclusion of grade 4 growth measures applies to district, school, and teacher reporting for 2016–17.

The K–2 (SAT 10) assessments were administered for the last time during the 2015–16 school year and were replaced by the new optional grade 2 assessment in 2016–17. As a result, growth measures are no longer available for grade 1. Moreover, 2016–17 will be the last year that growth measures will be available for grade 2 based on the current Tennessee Department of Education policy to only administer an end-of-year grade 2 assessment in the spring. Please note that any portfolio growth model data in early grades is calculated separately and will not be incorporated in any TVAAS data. For more information about portfolio growth data, please contact TEAM.Questions@tn.gov.

Finally, because social studies assessments in grades 3–8 were field tested in 2016–17, 2016–17 growth measures are not available for social studies in grades 3–8 for 2016–17. This does not apply to the end-of-course exam for U.S. history, which has a growth measure available for 2016–17.

Teacher Evaluation Composites

For the 2016–17 reporting year, there are up to three evaluation composites available for each teacher.

- The first is a **single-year evaluation composite** comprised solely of value-added measures from the current year reporting (i.e., 2016–17).

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- The second is a **multi-year evaluation composite** that includes up to three years' reporting (i.e., 2014–15, 2015–16, and 2016–17) together at 35%, where 2014–15 and 2015–16 are weighted at 25% and 2016–17 at 10%. This composite will be available for any teachers with 2016–17 TVAAS data and 2014–15 and/or 2015–16 TVAAS data.
 - The third option is a **multi-year evaluation composite without 2015–16 data**. This composite excludes any 2015–16 data and weighs 2014–15 data at 25% and 2016–17 data at 10%. Note that this adjusted multi-year option is available only for teachers who received 2014–15 teacher TVAAS reports.

Change in Student Test Score Used in ACT Reporting

Because students can take the ACT several times throughout their high school career, there are several possible scores to use in TVAAS reporting. For a more equitable comparison of students' schooling experiences across a similar period in time, TVAAS district and school growth measures for ACT will use the "junior day" data in the 2016–17 reporting—the test score obtained during students' junior year of high school. This data is a change from previous years' reporting, which used the "cohort" data—the highest test score for a group of students identified based on their graduation year of high school. As in the past, the ACT TVAAS considers students' testing histories through grade 8 and provides a measure of student growth over multiple years of high school instruction. For more details regarding this change, see Section 3.2.5 (pg. 26) of the [Technical Documentation of 2017 TVAAS Analyses](#).

Web Reporting Changes

Grade 2 Reports

Due to the change from K–2 assessments to the optional grade 2 assessment, the 2016–17 TVAAS reporting for grade 2 is available as a separate test in the Reports menu. Reporting from previous years will continue to be available under the Early Grades heading.

Teacher Scatterplots

In addition to the existing district and school scatterplots, the 2016–17 reporting includes teacher scatterplots. This feature is available to authorized users who have been granted access to the TVAAS Teacher Summary Reports. Users will only be able to graph data for the teachers whose reports they are authorized to view. The teacher scatterplots offer a powerful and flexible way to view teacher data with a focus on exploring the relationship between two variables, such as teachers' TVAAS growth measures and their students' average entering achievement.

EXPLORE/PLAN

Web reporting for the EXPLORE/PLAN assessments is no longer displayed in TVAAS as these assessments are no longer administered to all students as a part of Tennessee's assessment program. EXPLORE data will still be included in student history reports on the web because it is included in the set of predictors for EOC assessments in place of the missing 3–8 data (as explained above). PLAN data will be removed entirely from the TVAAS reporting and models.

Guided Paths

The [TVAAS web application](#) now includes a new feature to help users better understand their TVAAS data and increase the usability of the TVAAS site. Upon login, users will see any available guided paths.

These paths provide users with step-by-step instructions and guiding questions designed to help them reflect on their data and use it for planning and improvement. The guided paths also are designed to ease navigation to multiple relevant reports for each user. To submit any questions or feedback about this new feature, users will click [Contact Us](#) on any TVAAS page. The **Reports** menu on the blue bar allows users to see and navigate the full list of reports. To return to guided paths, users will click **Home** on the top right or the home icon on the blue bar.

Projections for AP subjects

Starting with the 2016–17 reporting, student projections for Advanced Placement (AP) assessments will be available for English Language and Composition, U.S. History, Human Geography, Biology, Psychology, World History, and Statistics. Similar to existing projections, the AP projections provide the likelihood that a student will obtain a certain score on the AP assessment, based on the student’s prior testing history. For AP, this is displayed as a likelihood of 2 or higher, 3 or higher, and 4 or higher. Student projections are provided for students who last tested in grade 6 or above and who have three prior test scores from any statewide assessment (e.g., TNReady). These projections are intended to assist with college and career readiness and course planning for students and educators.