

# A Parent's Guide to the 2020-2021 STAAR Progress Measure

## WHAT IS THE STAAR PROGRESS MEASURE?

The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) Progress Measure gives you information about how much your child has improved in a subject area. Due to the impact of COVID-19, STAAR testing was suspended for spring and summer 2020. As a result of the gap year, the 2020-2021 STAAR progress measure is calculated based on a student's gain score—the scale score difference between the current 2020-2021 accountability year and the prior 2018-2019 accountability year. This year's calculation measures progress across two years. Please refer to the Questions and Answers document on the Texas Education Agency's [Progress Measures](#) webpage for further information and exceptions.

## WHICH GRADES AND SUBJECTS HAVE A STAAR PROGRESS MEASURE?

Since the progress measure is calculated across two years, students taking the grade 4 test in 2020-2021 is unlikely to have taken the grade 3 test in 2018-2019. Therefore, STAAR progress measures will not be reported for students taking the grade 4 STAAR tests. In 2020-2021, the STAAR Progress Measure will be applicable and reported for the tests listed below:

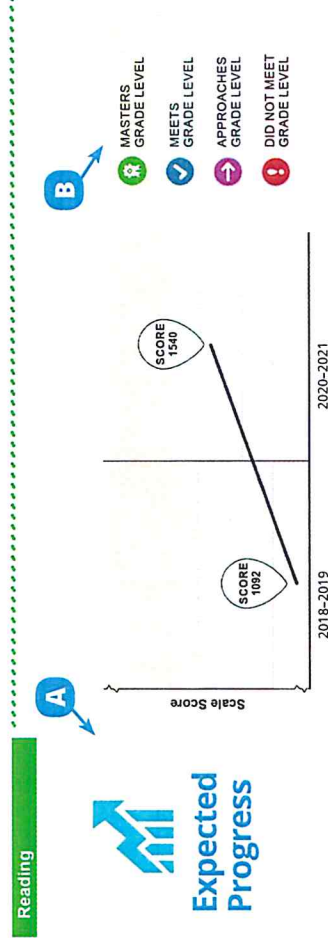
- grades 5-8 reading (English)
- grade 5 reading (Spanish)
- grades 5-8 mathematics (English)
- grade 5 mathematics (Spanish)
- English II
- Algebra I

## DID MY CHILD RECEIVE A STAAR PROGRESS MEASURE?

Your child received a STAAR Progress Measure if he or she met the requirements listed below:

- Your child must have taken a higher grade-level or course-level test in 2020-2021 than he or she did in 2018-2019. For example, he or she took the Algebra I test in 2020-2021 and the grade 7 mathematics test in 2018-2019.
- For STAAR reading tests, your child must have taken the lower grade-level and higher grade-level tests in the same language (English or Spanish) in 2018-2019 and 2020-2021, respectively.
- For STAAR mathematics tests, the lower grade-level and higher grade-level tests can be in either language (English or Spanish) in 2018-2019 and 2020-2021, respectively.
- Students taking the STAAR Algebra I or English II test in 2020-2021 must be first-time test takers.

## Part of a STAAR Report Card for grade 5 reading is shown below:



**A** The STAAR Progress Measure is reported on your child's STAAR Report Card and can be accessed through the Texas assessment [student data portal](#). Your child will receive one progress measure for each applicable test.

**B** The performance levels give you information about how well your child performed on the test this year.



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## HOW ARE THE STAAR PERFORMANCE LEVELS DIFFERENT FROM THE STAAR PROGRESS MEASURE?

The STAAR Performance Levels (labeled B on the Report Card image) give you information about how well your child performed on the test this year. If your child achieves *Approaches Grade Level* performance, this category indicates that students are likely to succeed in the next grade or course with targeted academic intervention. If your child achieves *Meets Grade Level* performance, this category indicates that students have a high likelihood of success in the next grade or course but may still need some short-term, targeted academic intervention. If your child achieves *Masters Grade Level* performance, this category indicates that students are expected to succeed in the next grade or course with little or no academic intervention.

It is possible that your child made progress even if he or she did not pass the test (*Did Not Meet Grade Level*). This progress can be measured and is reported as the STAAR Progress Measure. The progress measure helps you view your child's academic achievement in a different way. The progress measure tells you two things: whether your child improved from 2018–2019 to 2020–2021 and, if he or she did improve, how much improvement was made.

The amount of progress your child made from 2018–2019 to 2020–2021 is classified as *Limited*, *Expected*, or *Accelerated*. If your child's progress measure is *Expected*, he or she has shown expected academic improvement from 2018–2019 to 2020–2021. If your child's progress measure is *Accelerated*, your child has shown an amount of academic improvement from 2018–2019 to 2020–2021 that was much larger than expected.

Progress measures are reported within a content area (mathematics, reading, and high school English). The progress measure is not available for all tests; students may receive a progress measure for some tests but not for others.

## IS PROGRESS MEASURED THE SAME WAY FOR ALL STUDENTS IN TEXAS?

Progress is measured in the same way for all students including English learners (ELs) who take STAAR or STAAR Spanish in the 2020–2021 accountability year.

## RESOURCES FOR STAAR PROGRESS MEASURES

Refer to the Texas Education Agency's Progress Measures webpage for additional information and resources.