



OSPI Randy I. Dorn, State Superintendent

*Every student ready for
career, college, and life*

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

UPDATE: Educational Technology Assessments

December 2015

Authorizing legislation: RCW 28A.655.075

[\(<http://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=28A.655.075>\)](http://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=28A.655.075)

Peter D. Tamayo

Chief Information Officer at OSPI

Prepared by:

- **Dennis Small**, Educational Technology Director
Dennis.Small@k12.wa.us | 360-725-6384

Executive Summary

Educational technology assessments developed by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) are voluntarily administered in the elementary, middle, and high school grades. Teachers use the assessments to determine if students meet Washington's standards for educational technology. The assessments integrate standards from science, math, health, English language arts, social studies, and the arts.

In the 2014–2015 school year, school districts provided data on classroom-level use of educational technology assessments. This is the third year of the data collection. Districts must self-report *only if teachers used the OSPI-developed assessments*. There is no requirement to enter data related to specific assessments or other assessment strategies.

These are the results:

- 42% of Washington school districts reported using an OSPI-developed assessment for educational technology (up from 38% in 2013–2014).
- The most-used assessments were those that included standards for social studies: “You Decide” and “Constitutional Issues.”
- The educational technology assessments adapt well to instructional planning.
- The assessments helped students apply new knowledge across other subject areas.
- In some districts, students used the assessments to produce standardized samples of successful work for graduation portfolios.
- Districts want training for teachers that focuses on instructional technology and assessment strategies.

Background

In 2008, OSPI set standards for students in technology literacy and fluency, as directed by RCW 28A.655.075. In 2011, OSPI released educational technology assessments for classroom and project-based use to determine if students meet Washington’s standards. The law directs OSPI to report annually to the Legislature on the number of school districts that use the assessments each school year.

The assessments integrate subject-area standards (such as math, English language arts, health, etc.). Wherever possible, the educational technology assessments also align with the Common Core State Standards. Classroom activities are well-guided, easy to use, and come equipped with an inventory of free and low-cost digital resources.

Teachers began to use the assessments in the 2011–2012 school year. School districts are not required to use the OSPI-developed assessments, but if they do, they must report this to OSPI. The 2014–2015 school year is the fourth year for which we have data.

Update Status

Of the 295 school districts, 124 reported using an OSPI-developed assessment for educational technology in one or more grade levels. These data are self-reported by district-level staff whose understanding of assessment practice in the classroom could be limited. For this reason, we suspect the number of classrooms using the assessments is higher, but going unreported.

Teachers used the educational technology assessments that include standards for social studies— “You Decide” and “Constitutional Issues”—more often than the other assessments.

Table 1: Educational Technology Assessments Reported Used in 2014–15

	Districts Reporting	Total # of Assessments	Most-Used Assessment
Elementary	108	17,050	You Decide (5,680)
Middle School	102	21,755	Constitutional Issues (6,810)
High School	82	19,553	Constitutional Issues (4,969)

For the first time in 2014–2015, districts were also required to report the unduplicated count of students that were assessed at each level. Here were the student counts reported:

Table 2: Number of Students Assessed in Educational Technology in 2014–15

	Elementary	Middle School	High School
	26,589	22,265	17,796

Conclusion and Next Steps

OSPI will continue to gather this annual data. If funding is available, OSPI will work on further alignment with the Common Core State Standards (<http://www.k12.wa.us/corestandards>) and the Smarter Balanced performance assessments (<http://www.k12.wa.us/smarter>).

Visit the OSPI Educational Technology site for more information (<http://www.k12.wa.us/EdTech/Assessment/default.aspx>).

OSPI provides equal access to all programs and services without discrimination based on sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to the Equity and Civil Rights Director at 360-725-6162 or P.O. Box 47200 Olympia, WA 98504-7200.

Download this material in PDF at <http://k12.wa.us/LegisGov/Reports.aspx>. This material is available in alternative format upon request. Contact the Resource Center at 888-595-3276, TTY 360-664-3631. Please refer to this document number for quicker service: 15-0067.



Randy I. Dorn • State Superintendent
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Old Capitol Building • P.O. Box 47200
Olympia, WA 98504-7200