

Smarter Balanced Student Survey Responses-June 2014

Below is a summary of the results from the Smarter Balanced Field Test Student Survey administered in June 2014. The survey was designed to collect feedback on the student experiences from the Smarter Balanced Field Test administration to guide future development and administration procedures. Over 1,800 students provided responses to the survey. This survey is a nonscientific survey conducted by the CSDE Academic Office.

Question #	I attend:		
1	Answer	Response	%
	an elementary school	713	42.26%
	a middle school	432	25.61%
	a high school	533	31.59%
	other	9	0.53%
Total		1687	100.00%

Question #	What did you use to take the test? (Select all that apply.)		
2	Answer	Response	%
	Desktop	929	55.40%
	Other	29	1.73%
	Laptop	279	16.64%
	Not Sure	31	1.85%
	Chromebook	513	30.59%
	Tablet	13	0.78%
Total		1794	100.00%

Question #	Did you have enough space to comfortably complete the test?		
3	Answer	Response	%
	Yes	1370	82.63%
	No	288	17.37%
Total		1658	100.00%

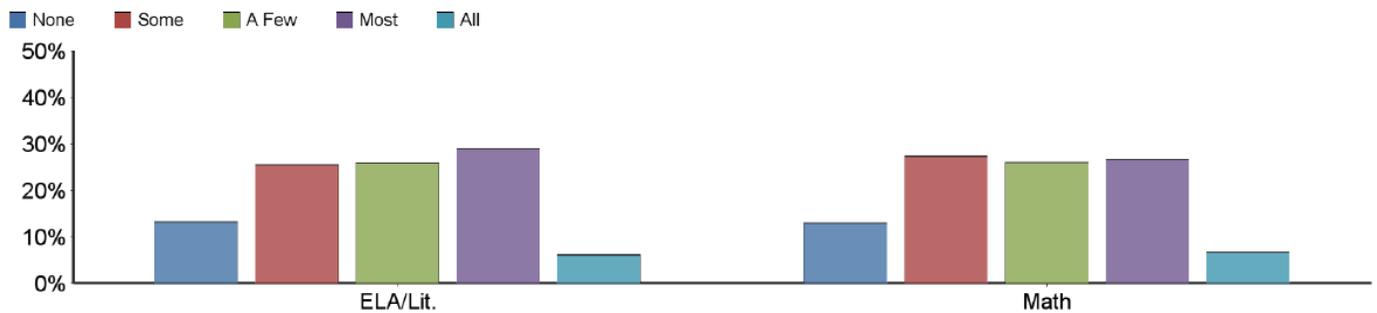
Question #	Did you take the Smarter Balanced Practice Test and/or Training Test before testing?		
4	Answer	Response	%
	Yes	1225	74.74%
	No	143	8.72%
	Not Sure	271	16.53%
Total		1639	100.00%

Question #	If yes, was that helpful?		
5	Answer	Response	%
	Yes	862	54.38%
	No	723	45.62%
Total		1585	100.00%

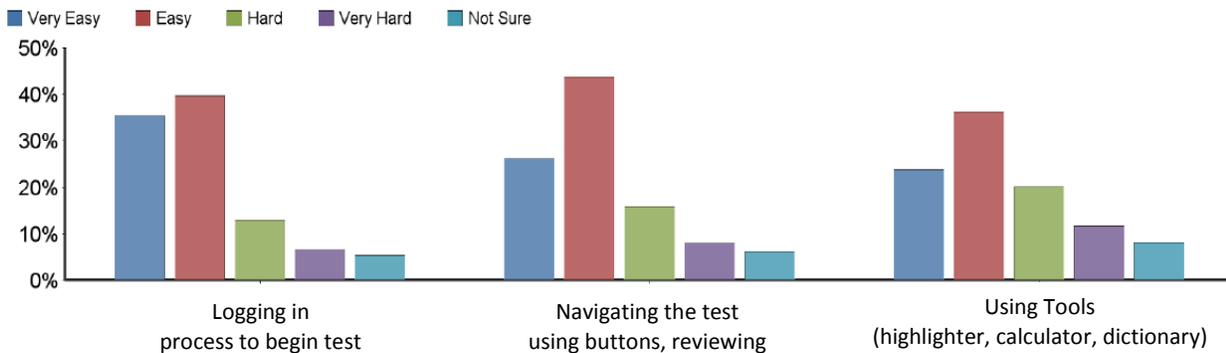
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Question # 6	How many times did you use the Smarter Balanced Practice Test and/or Training Test?		
	Answer	Response	%
	None	161	9.87%
	One	525	32.19%
	Two	396	24.28%
	More than two times	549	33.66%
Total		1631	100.00%

Question # 7	During the test (not the Practice or Training Test), about how many of the test questions were about things you learned in class?					
	None	Some	A Few	Most	All	Response
ELA/Lit.	206	408	418	472	103	1607
Math	202	434	408	421	110	1575



Question # 8	Please rate each from very easy to very hard:					
	Very Easy	Easy	Hard	Very Hard	Not Sure	Response
Logging in process to begin test	580	646	212	107	86	1631
Navigating the test (using buttons, reviewing)	424	717	257	127	102	1627
Using tools (highlighter, calculator, dictionary)	386	598	327	187	131	1629



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Question #	In your opinion, the Mathematics test questions were:		
9	Answer	Response	%
	Very difficult	409	25.00%
	Somewhat difficult	693	42.36%
	Neither difficult nor easy	359	21.94%
	Easy	119	7.27%
	Very easy	56	3.42%
Total		1636	100.00%

Question #	In your opinion, the Mathematics Performance Task was:		
10	Answer	Response	%
	Very difficult	381	24.74%
	Somewhat difficult	578	37.53%
	Neither difficult nor easy	368	23.90%
	Easy	149	9.68%
	Very easy	64	4.16%
Total		1540	100.00%

Question #	In your opinion, the ELA/Literacy test questions were:		
11	Answer	Response	%
	Very difficult	236	14.88%
	Somewhat difficult	526	33.17%
	Neither difficult nor easy	490	30.90%
	Easy	262	16.52%
	Very easy	72	4.54%
Total		1582	100.00%

Question #	In your opinion, the ELA/Literacy Performance Task was:		
12	Answer	Response	%
	Very difficult	236	14.92%
	Somewhat difficult	527	33.31%
	Neither difficult nor easy	493	31.16%
	Easy	254	16.06%
	Very easy	72	4.55%
Total		1582	100.00%

Question #	Did the Classroom Activities help you understand the topic of the Performance Tasks?		
13	Answer	Response	%
	Yes	887	55.23%
	No	719	44.77%
Total		1606	100.00%

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Question #	What did you like <i>best</i> about the Smarter Balanced test?
14	I liked best about the smarter balance test that they orginized the test nice and it was hard and very fun.
	/ using the cromebooks
	I likes how you could use a dictionary and highlighters in case you needed it.
	it fun to do new thing
	The length seemed to be appropriate
	What I liked best of the Smarter Balanced test was that it gave you highlighters to underline important words or sentences. What i also liked of the Smarter Balanced test was that you could go back to questions you were not so sure on and that helped you a lot.
	you did not have to worry about a broken pencil
	The smarter balanced test made me think about what to do. It was new and very complexed.
	I liked the way I could cross things out highlight things un highlight things uncross things take notes and put flags on things you don't understand. in my perception sbac made math reading and testing fun and it allowed me to have a better understanding of math and reading.
	I liked that loging in was very easy
	I liked that the Smarter Balance test was on the computer and had built in supplies. It was easy to find things like a highlighter so I wouldn't have to write. Having it on the computer was helpful too, this helped me stay focus
	how you were able to do the calculater and highlighter and notes because you could write down your thoughts and highlight important parts and add up digits without having trouble .with that it was kinda easy
	I liked that it could hepl me in sixth grade.
	I liked that we could highlight and strikethrough words and/or choices to an answer. It helped me a lot when finding evidence for the ELA test.
	I liked how the Smarter Balanced test had the flag symbol, so you could go back to a question later if you didn't understand it. /
	What I liked about the Smarter Balanced test was there was more privacy toward your answers.
	I liked how it was on a computer because their were not any pages to turn and my hands didn't get tired from writing because their was no writing. I also liked how it was so easy to use the tool that were available on the screen. They really helped me understand things better about the test.
	I liked how it was on a computer because their were not any pages to turn and my hands didn't get tired from writing because their was no writing. I also liked how it was so easy to use the tool that were available on the screen. They really helped me understand things better about the test.
	It has lots of things that help you and you have a lot of time to show your learning and knowledge.
	The thing I liked best about the smarter balanced test was that all of the kids answers were different and a little challenging so no one could copy. /
	nothing. I think it's silly and doesn't really give me a chance to show what I know.
	I didn't really like the test at all out of ten it rates 0 for me sorry but CMTs were better it was way too hard for me and my friends you know I really think pencil and paper shouldn't be removed.
	I didn't like it at all, not just because, like many people my age, I don't like taking tests,

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Question #	What did you like <i>best</i> about the Smarter Balanced test?
14	but because the test took away from valuable class time. As a junior especially, it is vital to be in class. Being forced out of classes for several days is a HUGE hassle that ultimately did not help anyone. The SBAC test was a total waste of time.
	I did not like anything about the smarter Balance test. It had nothing to do with what we did in class. I would so much rather do cmts. it was a lot easier than the cmts and reall stupid. They always asked the same questions over and over again in a different way.
	To be honest, i didn't like the Smarter Balanced test. I like the old fashion way, sitting down with a paper and pencil. But, there was something that were okay. I liked the fact that you could highlight some part of the paragraph, or in the turtles preformance task how you could use little symbols and bold words. Besides that i didn't like it. I didn't like sitting for and hour and staring at a screen for a hour.
	Nothing. I thought it was a waste of time. It did not accurately reflect the abilities of the students taking the test. Rather it catered to the lowest denominator of students in our grade. The smarter students were left wondering how that test could accurately assess someone's performance in school. It was poorly set up material-wise and didn't even seem to ask questions on material taught in class. I felt like iy was a waste of time because we had to take valuable time out of various classes to go and take the test rather then just spending a day working on it like we did with CAPT. /
	I didn't like anything, to be completely honest. Nobody even explained to us why they switched to an online test, rather than the old CMT's on paper.
	I did not like it at all. I find online testing to be very difficult, because reading on a screen is painful for my eyesight and actually damages my eyesight. When reading and writing on paper, I am able to think and process what I am writing, but when it is online, I cannot type as logically and often miss points when I'm reading. The switch to online testing is a very bad idea, in my opinion, and many of my colleagues agree with me wholeheartedly.
	I did not enjoy the test. It was difficult and hard to understand. Navigating it was very confusing also. I didnt understand how to use the calculator and none of the teachers would answer any of my questions. Also i felt that all the questions were things that i had never learned before so therefore i chose not to answer any of them.
	I didn't really like the smarter balance test, not because of the difficulty nor the subjects but the software is sort of hard to use. Maybe you can update in the future but overall I liked the testing.
	I didnt like how some of the questions were worded.
	I didn't like anything about it. A lot of the questions in the math were very hard for me and the gallons for the tank for the turtle confused me alot. I am also a good math student and I had a very hard time with it/ A lot of the questions were about stff I did,t learn in school.
	I couldnt complete the test comfortably because I was it was paper and pencil. In the math portion it really got to me that I couldn't label. IN the ELA performance task the passage was WAY TOO LONG. I did like that we got to write a story but I wish that we could have been able to chose weither we wanted ot write a fiction or non-fiction story. Again this test was too long and was too hard and 5the Cmts were easier
	I did not like the test. I felt that the questions were very hard to understand and things that i have never seen before. The lesson before hand was not helpful and had no point to it.

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Question #	What did you like <i>least</i> about the Smarter Balanced test?
15	The questions I felt were very difficult and were on many topics which I had not learned
	i didnt like that for the spell cheak you had to exit it to edit the word then you had to open it up again. I also didnt like that on the adio storys you couldnt say were you wanted to go you have to listen to the whole thing again. Finnaly i dint like thatalmost all of the questions were just repeats of the others.
	I didn't like the test was really long. Also some of the tool were funky. Like the highlighter tool. When I would highlight more than one paragraph and I wanted to delete the highlight something it would erase all of my highlighting.
	How there is not a Button for the highlighting the letters that you wanted Or a notepad button for the notepad / / The right clicking was Fine but I would rather button so We can easily do it
	The many parts to one question made me lose interest, and the classroom activities made the students feel as though they were being treated like young children. The classroom activities contained information that was common sense and they were ultimately a waste of time. The students would've been more likely to answer the questions with more effort if they didn't have to sit through the classroom activities. The majority of students did not try on the Smarter Balanced test and therefore, the data will not be accurate.
	That if you didn't finish the test you would have to take the rest of it the next day. Also that you couldn't look back at the notes you took the day before.
	that the teachers were pressuring us to take a test that didn't help me in the least
	I found that the test did nothing for me. Since we knew that it didnt count no one took it seriously. I didnt answer any of the questions to my ability. I felt when i did read the questions that they were worded in a very confusing way and made me not want to try and answer them.
	Everything. It took up time from my honors and ap classes and i didnt get anything out of it. It was worse than captstone. I tried to get out of it but they wouldnt let me. The worst part was that we didnt get any scores back so you were making us take a pointless test for absolutely nothing. because no scores were generated i chose to not answer anything and not write anything. I did enjoy typing random numbers and letters though.
	I felt it was too short. It didn't have enough questions in it. Could you expand it to 50, 60 even 70!
	I COULD NOT label ANYTHING!!!! I had quite a few problems trying to write fractions in the boxes. I also feel that the tests were to long and we never got a break.
	I didn't like the color of the screen. The screen was to bright ;(. The screen should be green.
	The whole thing you highlighted could completely erase.
	I hated that the test was poorly formatted and the layout was confusing.
	writing down on scrap paper was difficult to translate to the screen. You could not rewind the audio to a specific part. The essays were unclear /
	I don't like the fact that if I don't understand a question and want to move on to another page I couldn't we should be allowed to skip a page if we don't understand the question or questions but when we want to end the test it will tell us to go back and complete the questions we skipped.
	I did not like logging in because it was a lot of numbers to put in then I lost my place and had to delete it all and re-type it.

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Question #	What did you like <i>least</i> about the Smarter Balanced test?
15	That many of the math questions were harder than anything I had imagined. They destroyed the confidence of nearly all students (including me, and I am quite competent with the hardest math class I can take at my age). We had not learned how to complete many questions- not because our teachers were not doing well, but because the range of math skills needed could not have been taught in the several months leading up to the test.
	What i didn't like about the Smarter Balanced testes were that we did not learn most ofthe stuff on the test so it was harder and not easy to under stand. Also we didnt get any mints or gum which helps keep kids occupied so they do noit talk or fidgit. Another thing is it was hard to read for a long time with out getting side tracked.
	That the laptops took up a lot of room, so it was uncomfortable
	How much space the laptop took up and also how you had to figure out where some of the tools were.last i didn't like how you had to look at a computer screen for a long time. it really hurt my eyes
	HARD TO NAVIGATE / THOSE ACTIVITIES WE DID BEFORE DID NOT HELP ME AT ALL IT JUST WASTED TIME / WE DIDNT GET RESULTS BACK IF WERE GOING TO SPEND SO MUCH TIME ON IT WHY CANY WE SEE HOW WE DID / it sucked plain and simple / i wanted to go home / i hate it / made me feel dumb / why we do dis any way
	I didn't like a lot of things. / It was hard to navigate. / It was hard to log in. / The questions took to long to complete. / One question relied on another so if you got one wrong you essentially got everything wrong. / a lot more!
	I least liked how the teachers kept on telling us that it was so much harder than everything we were used to because i made everyone nervous