

89th Texas Legislature: What to Expect?

*Addie Gomez, Director of Advocacy
December 2024*















Agenda

- ❑ **Look back:** What the 2024 election season means for public education
- ❑ **Look ahead:** 89th Texas Legislature
 - ❑ Political landscape and milestones
 - ❑ Emerging issues
- ❑ **Q&A**

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The Texas House GOP Sweet 16

Steve Allison San Antonio 2 primary challengers		Travis Clardy Nacagdoches 1 primary challenger		Justin Holland Rockwall 2 primary challengers		Glenn Rogers Graford 1 primary challenger	
Ernest Bailes Shepherd 2 primary challengers		Drew Darby San Angelo 1 primary challenger		Ken King Canadian 1 primary challenger		Hugh Shine Temple 2 primary challengers	
Keith Bell Forney 1 primary challenger		Jay Dean Longview 2 primary challengers		John Kuempe Seguin 3 primary challengers		Reggie Smith Van Alstyne 1 primary challenger	
DeWayne Burns Cleburne 2 primary challengers		Charlie Geren Fort Worth 1 primary challenger		Stan Lambert Abilene 2 primary challengers		Gary VanDeaver New Boston 2 primary challengers	



POLITICS // ELECTION 2024

Texas House Republicans are being targeted with misleading ads on teacher pay, school funding

By **Jasper Scherer**, Austin Bureau
Feb 14, 2024

HOUSTON★CHRONICLE

NEWS

Advocates of school choice pour campaign contributions into Texas

In 2021-22, PACs pushing for school choice funneled at least \$4.5 million in state elections, compared with \$1.4 million spent by three leading teacher groups.

The Dallas Morning News

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott gets \$6M campaign donation from out-of-state school voucher champion

The Texas Newsroom | By **Lauren McGaughy**
Published January 16, 2024 at 5:05 PM CST

KUT NEWS



TEXAS NEWS

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott spending \$19 million to take down anti-voucher Republicans

Abbott's voucher proposal went down in flames after 21 House Republicans, mostly from rural districts, voted to pull it from a major education bill.



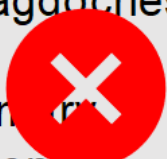


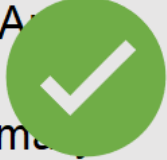
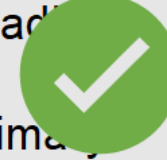








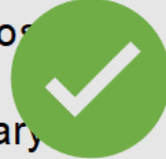
By **Sanford Nowlin** on Thu, Jan 11, 2024 at 11:36 am

SAN ANTONIO
CURRENT



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May Runoff Results

Steve Allison San Antonio 2 primary challengers 		Travis Clardy Nacagdoches 1 primary challenger 		Justin Holland Rockwall 2 primary challengers 		Glenn Rogers Graford 1 primary challenger 	
Ernest Bailes Shepherd 2 primary challengers 		Drew Darby San Antonio 1 primary challenger 		Ken King Candela 1 primary challenger 		Hugh Shine Temple 2 primary challengers 	
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Election Results

What does this mean for vouchers?

Yes

No

88th
Legislature

63

84

89th
Legislature

80-85*

65-70*



Contract with Texas

To Reform the House of Representatives and Select a Real Republican Speaker

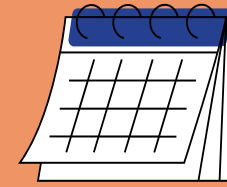
To keep the promises we've made to Texas voters we, the undersigned, expect the next Speaker of the House to advance the cause of liberty and adhere, at a minimum, to the following reforms to improve the integrity, transparency, and efficiency of the House:

1. Only solicit support for Speakership from Republican members
- 2. End the practice of awarding Democrats with committee chairmanships
- 3. Ensure all GOP legislative priorities receive a floor vote before any Democrat bills
4. Replace the current liberal Parliamentarians with staff committed to only offering advice on adherence to House rules, not to advancing their personal ideology
- 5. Limit the Speaker to two terms to reduce their power over individual members
- 6. Ensure there are no longer any Democrat-majority committees
7. Stop parliamentary abuse by requiring only substantial adherence to House rules to keep hyper-technical points of order from killing good legislation
- 8. Allow audio/video recording of all House proceedings, including point of order debates
9. Start substantive work as soon as Session begins to end delays that kill priority legislation
10. Reform the Calendars Committee to increase transparency and accountability
11. Select a Republican as Speaker Pro Tempore
12. Decentralize power by prohibiting the distribution of political funds from the Speaker

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 - ❑ Bill pre-filing & emerging issues
- ❑ **Q&A**

Important Dates



General Election
November 5

Bill Filing Begins
November 11

89th Legislative Session
January 14

Bill Filing Ends
March 14

Regular Session Ends
June 2

Most New Laws Take Effect
September 1

Heading into the 89th...



Possible Speaker Dade Phelan

- Uncertain Speaker position
- Committee Chair shake up
- 35 new House members
- 150 bill numbers reserved for priorities
- **Balance of power:**
 - **87 R / 63 D**



Governor Greg Abbott

- Will likely declare “education freedom” a 911 item
- Authority to call 30-day special sessions on topics of his choosing
- Unchecked veto authority



Lt. Governor Dan Patrick

- Endorsed Speaker Phelan’s opponent
- 2 new senators (Houston & RGV)
- 40 bill numbers reserved for priorities
- **Balance of power:**
 - **20 R / 11 D**

Senate Committee on Education

Brandon Creighton (Chair)
Donna Campbell (Vice-Chair)

Paul Bettencourt

Brian Birdwell

Pete Flores

Phil King

Morgan LaMantia

José Menéndez

Mayes Middleton

Tan Parker

Angela Paxton

Drew Springer

Royce West



House Committee on Public Education

Brad Buckley (Chair)
Alma Allen (Vice-Chair)

Steve Allison

Charles Cunningham

Harold Dutton

Cody Harris

Brian Harrison

Cole Hefner

Gina Hinojosa

Oscar Longoria

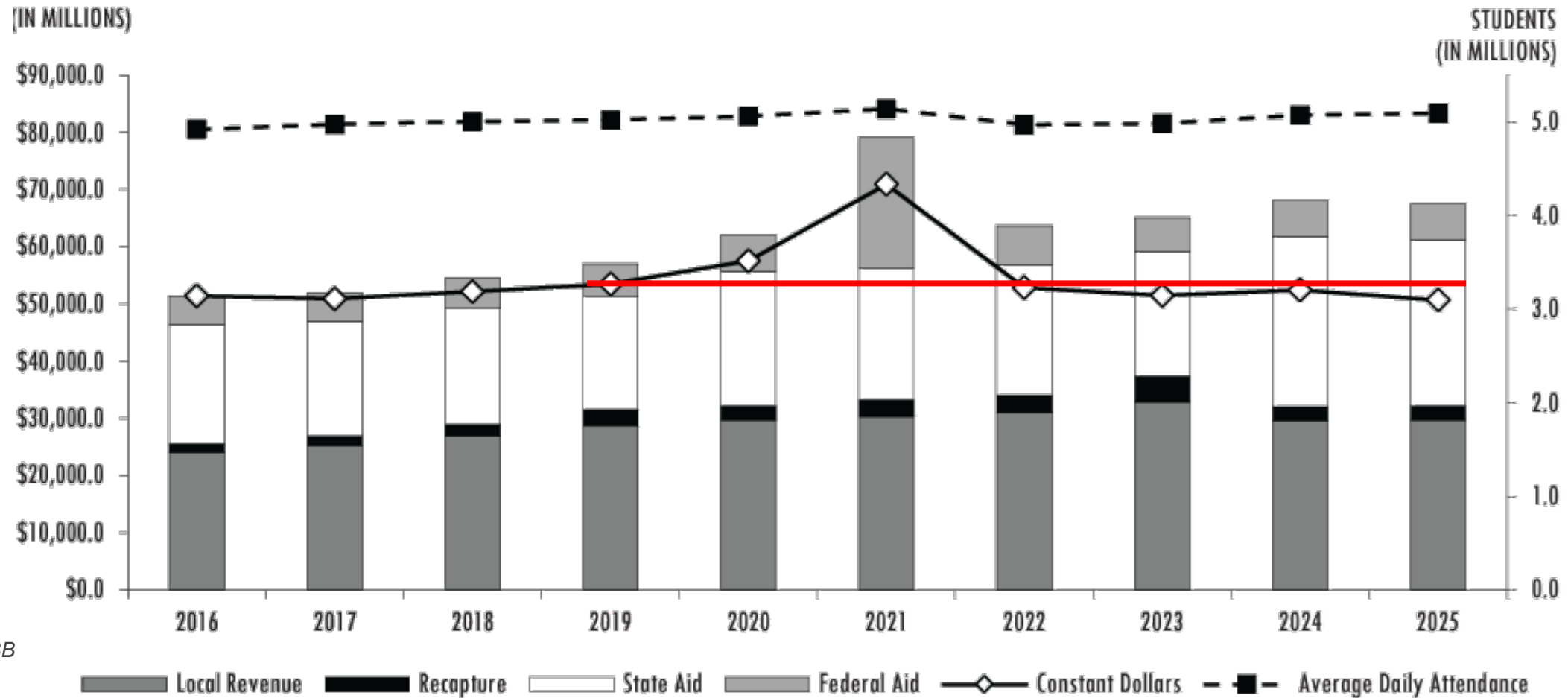
Matt Schaefer



Emerging Policy Issues



Inflation-Adjusted Funding





Buzz-worthy Issues: School Finance

- Basic Allotment increase vs. programmatic funding
- Special Education gap (~1.7B annual statewide)
- Increase in school safety allotment and/or grant funding
- Charter School Facilities Funding: capped at **\$60M**; **allotment** generates 6x that
- ADA vs. Enrollment-based funding
- Teacher pay raises: across-the-board, new TIA funding, combination of both?
- 540+ bills relating to property taxes filed so far!

Buzz-worthy Issues: Accountability & Assessments

- Texas Through-Year Assessment Pilot (TTAP)
 - Replace one-time assessment with formative, interim assessments combined with an end-of-year assessment
- Accountability standards for College, Career and Military Readiness
- Current environment around industry certifications (ie floral design)



Buzz-worthy Issues: School Safety

- School interaction with/authority relating to immigration enforcement
- Bipartisan movement toward increase in school safety per ADA and campus-based allotments
 - Note SB 260 (Huffman)
- Expansion of school marshal program eligibility
- Re-files relating to parental notification, school nurse/counselor requirements, and various training requirements




Buzz-worthy Issues: Other

- New proposals relating to school library material access/cataloguing
- Re-files relating to access and notifications required for a litany of sexual health-related curricula
- Several bills filed regulating school bathroom policies and policies relating to gender expression
- Early ed/pre-k?


MOAKCASEY.COM/BILL-TRACKER



← ↻ 🔒 https://www.moakcasey.com/bill-tracker/ A

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**LEGISLATIVE TRACKER**

Notable Bills Only?:
☐ Yes

Chamber:
☐ House
☐ Senate

Progress:
☐ Passed 1st chamber.
☐ Passed 2nd chamber.
☐ Signed by Governor.

Last Action Date:
From _____
To _____

Author:
Nothing selected ▼

Quick review:

Advocacy Dos and Don'ts for Texas Public Schools

- All public school employees (with limited exceptions in senior leadership) can, in their own time, using their own resources, advocate for or against or endorse any measure, candidate, or legislation.
- Public school employees cannot use their school capacity or any school resource or work time to advocate for or against or endorse specific ballot initiatives, candidates or political parties. Use of school resources includes equipment, technology, facilities, and e-mail accounts.
- Endorsing or persuading people to vote for or against a specific measure, candidate, or political party is strictly prohibited in an employee's official capacity.
- Voter registration and/or voter mobilization efforts based on a single side of a policy issue or political ideology is prohibited.
- All activities must be conducted without bias for or against a specific candidate, piece of legislation, or party.

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QUESTIONS?

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MOAKCASEY

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Data Dive

How are Texas students doing?





2024 STAAR Results

Updated June 2024



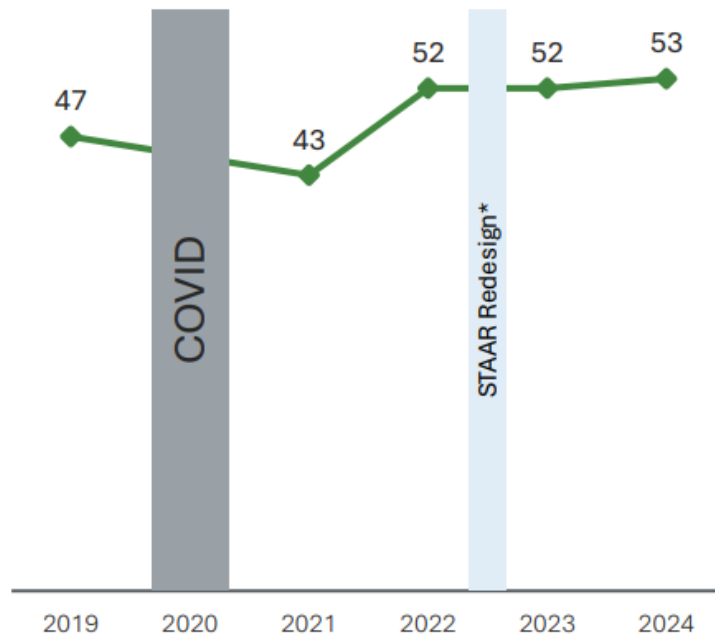
All Elementary and Secondary Student Results, 2019-2024



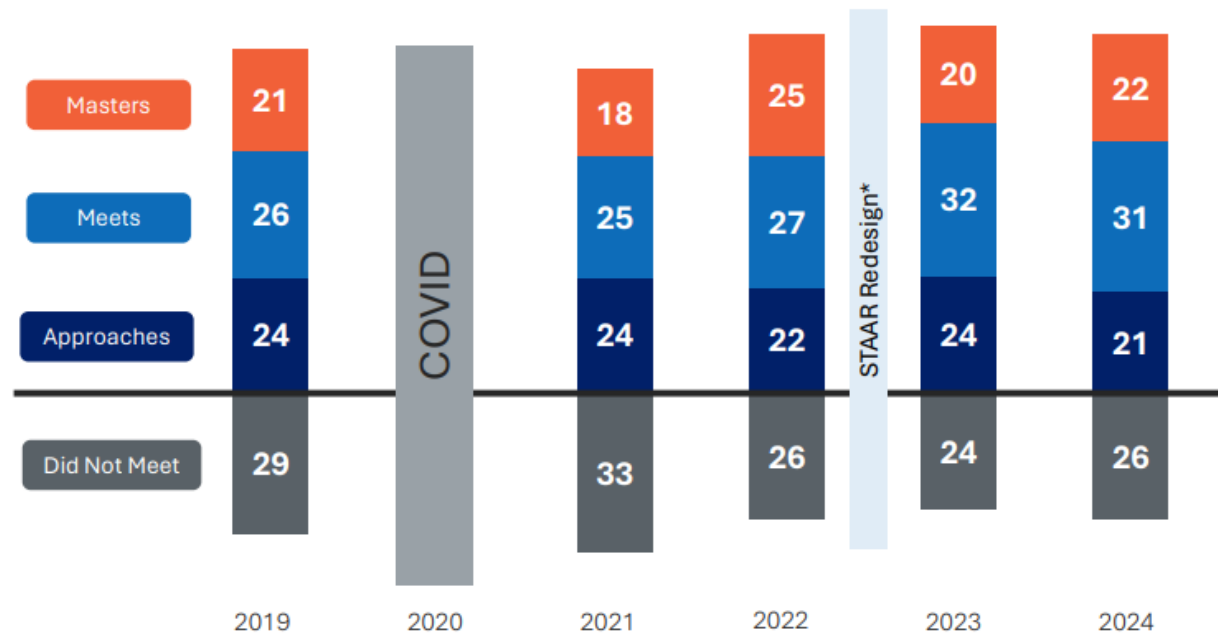
Overall RLA – Grades 3-8, English I & II



Percent of Students that Met Grade Level or Above in RLA
(Grades 3-8, English I & II)



Percent of Students by Performance Level – RLA
(Grades 3-8, English I & II)



*In 2023, the STAAR test was redesigned to better align with classroom instruction, which necessitated re-setting of standards and scales from 2022 to 2023.

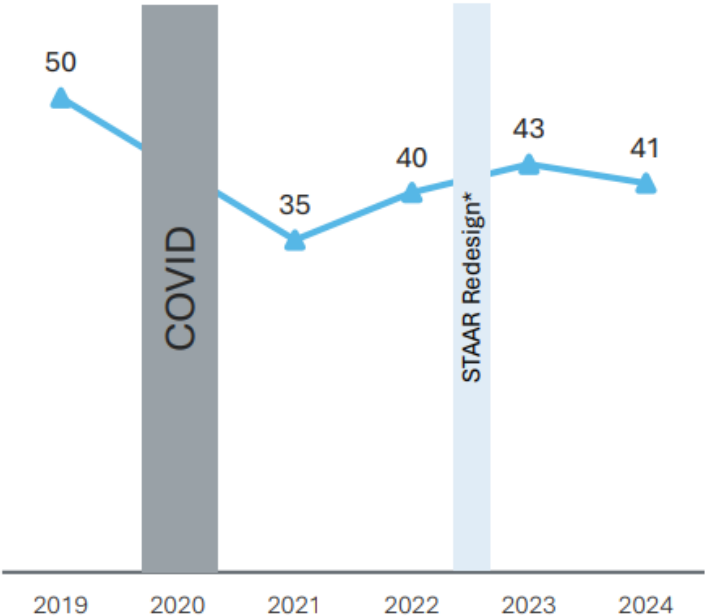
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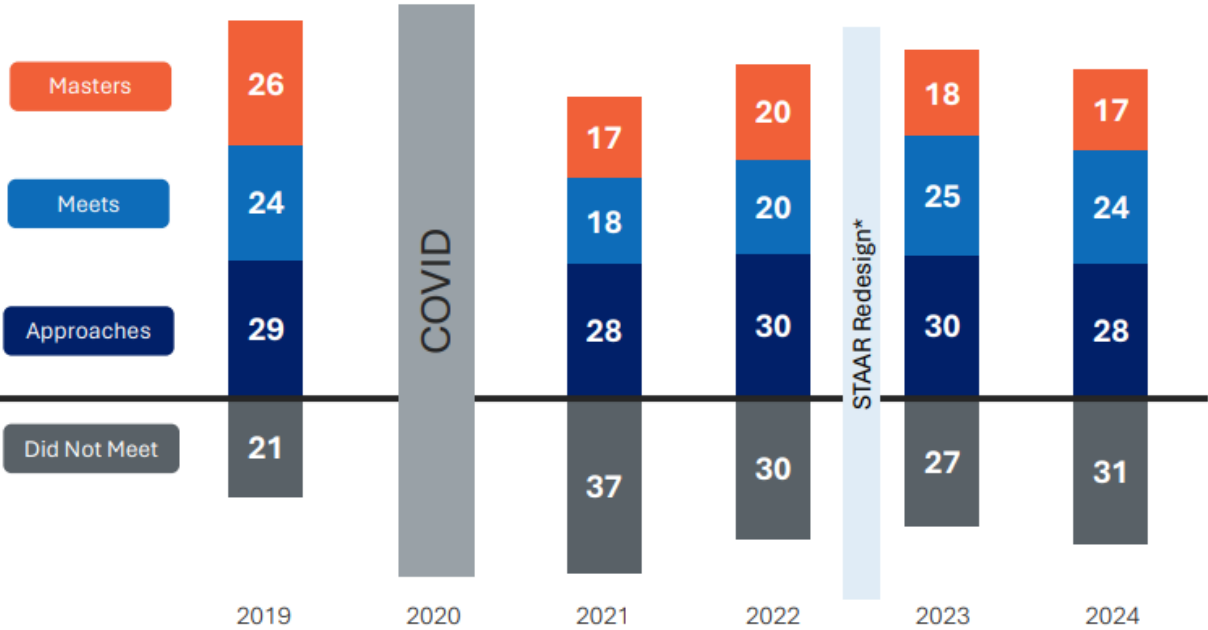
Overall Math - Grades 3-8 and Algebra I



Percent of Students that Met Grade Level or Above in Math
(Grades 3-8 & Algebra I)



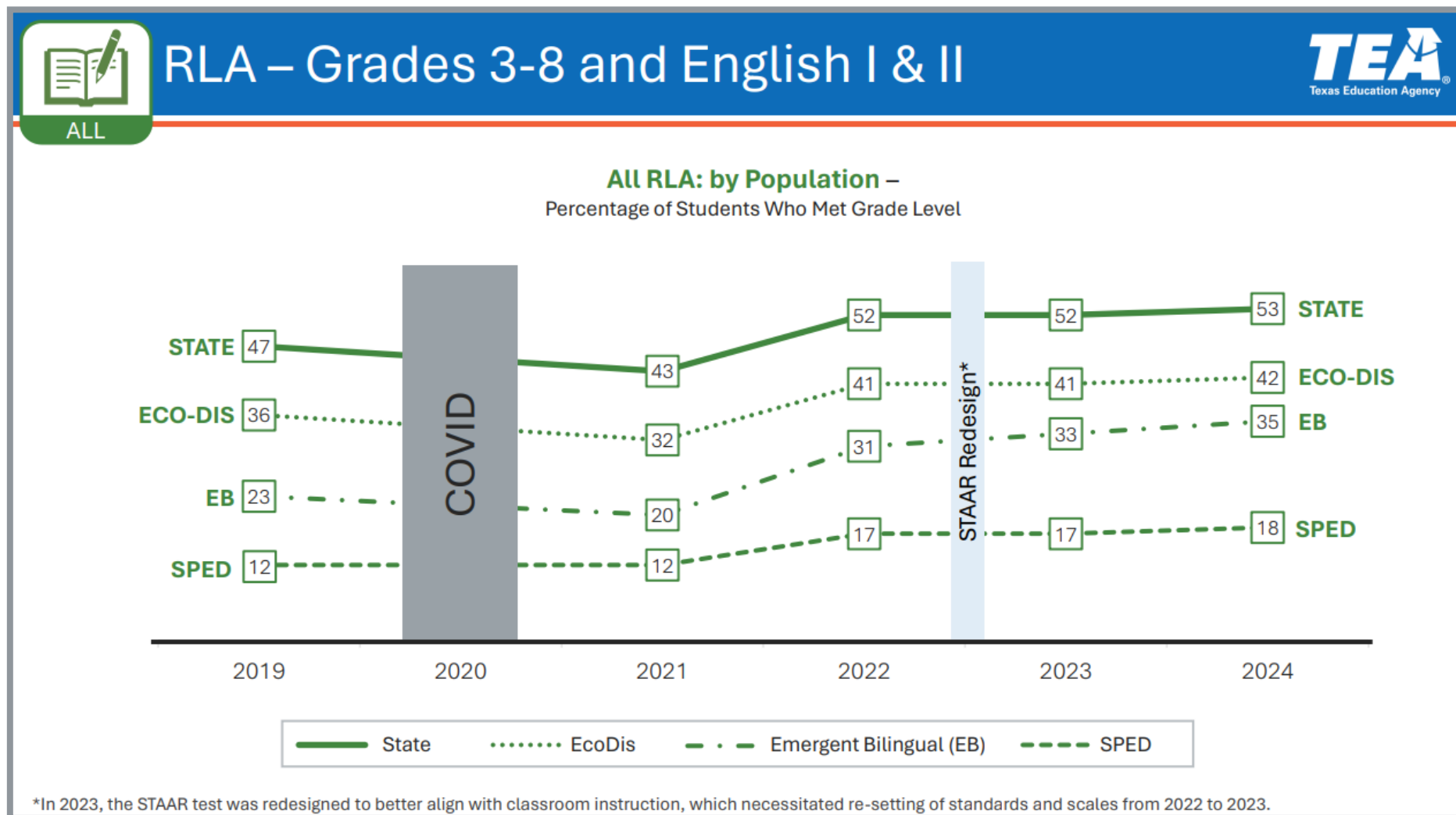
Percent of Students by Performance Level – Math
(Grades 3-8 & Algebra I)



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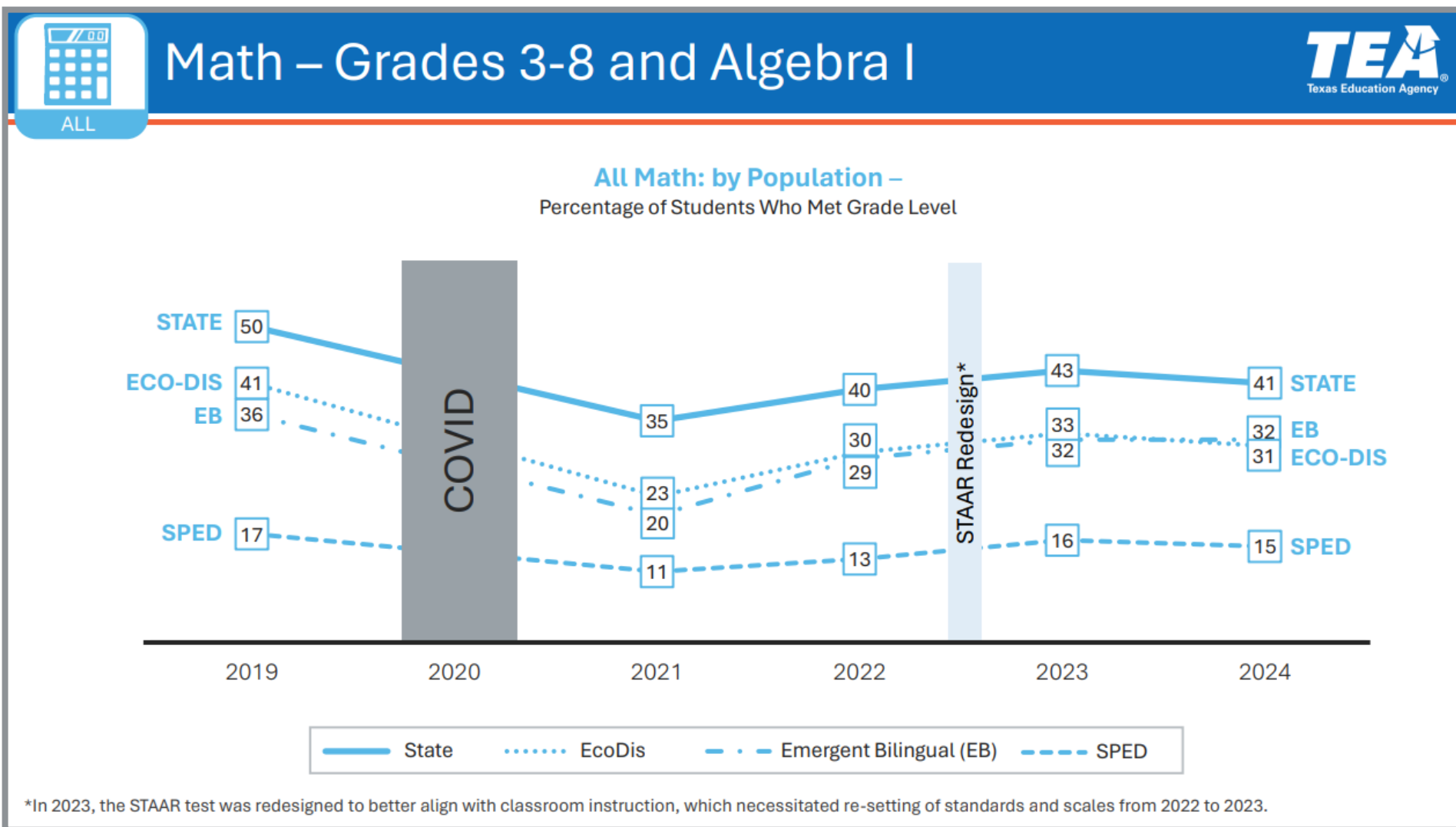
All Elementary and Secondary Student Results, 2019-2024

Broken Down by Special Population



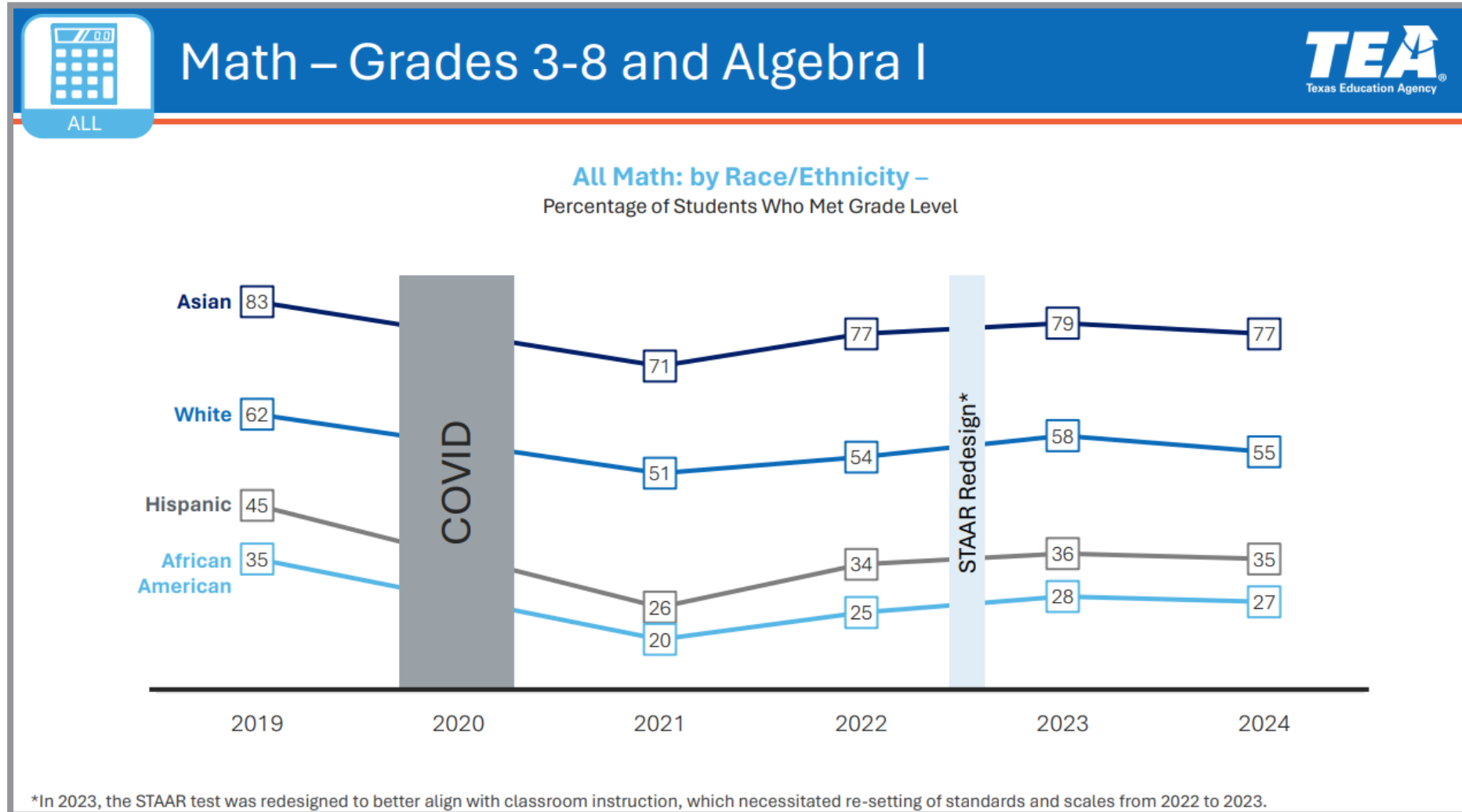
All Elementary and Secondary Student Results, 2019-2024

Broken Down by Special Population



All Elementary and Secondary Student Results, 2019-2024

Broken Down by Ethnicity



All Elementary and Secondary Student Results, 2019-2024

Broken Down by Ethnicity

