

The background is a solid blue color. On the left side, there is a large, stylized white star. In the bottom left corner, there is an illustration of an open book with its pages fanned out. The text "2023 A-F Accountability" is centered in the middle of the image in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

# 2023 *A–F* Accountability

We believe that all students can learn and achieve at high levels.



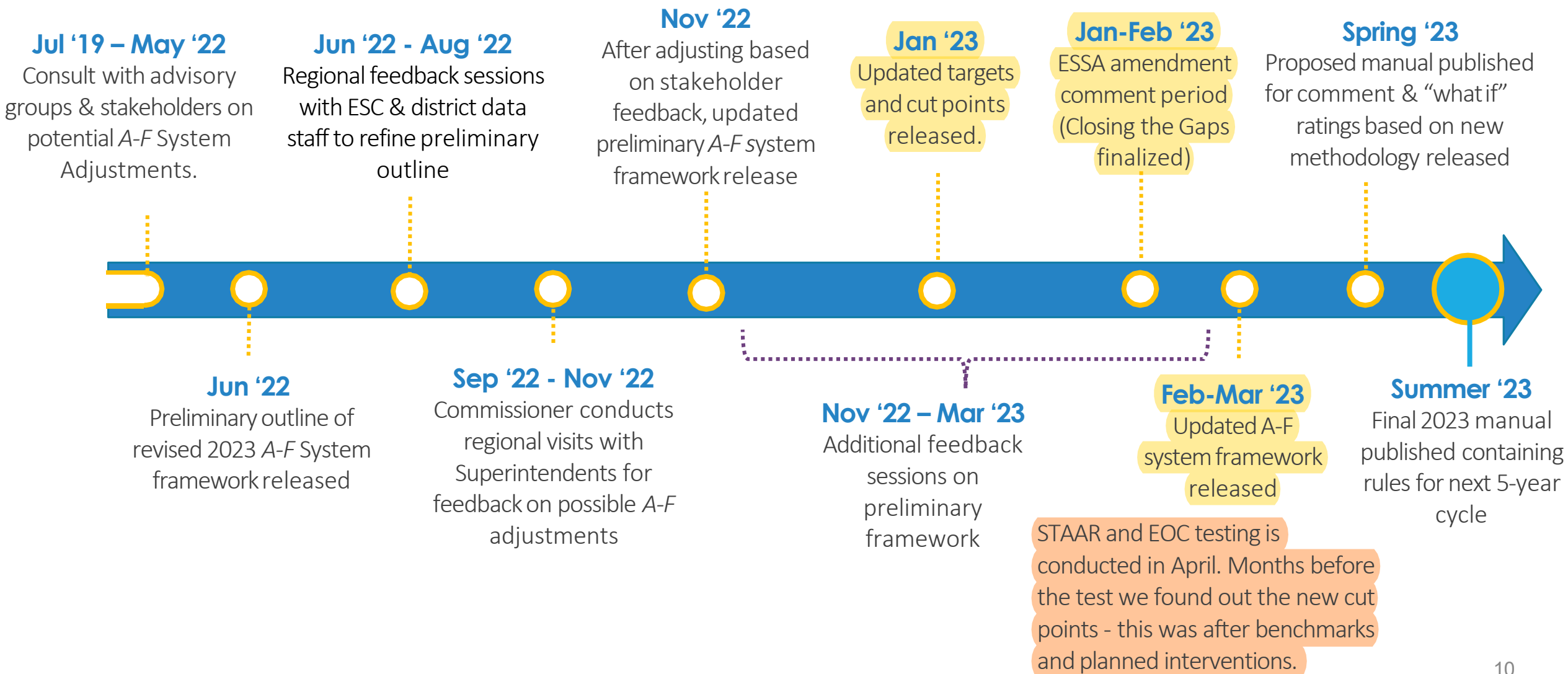
39.053(f) ... In consultation with educators, parents, and business and industry representatives, as necessary, the commissioner shall establish and modify standards to **continuously improve student performance** to achieve the goals of **eliminating achievement gaps** based on race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status and to ensure this state is a national leader in **preparing students for postsecondary success**.

Fostering a **culture that supports growth and continuous improvement** when this performance information is public is a difficult but **critical task for education leaders**.



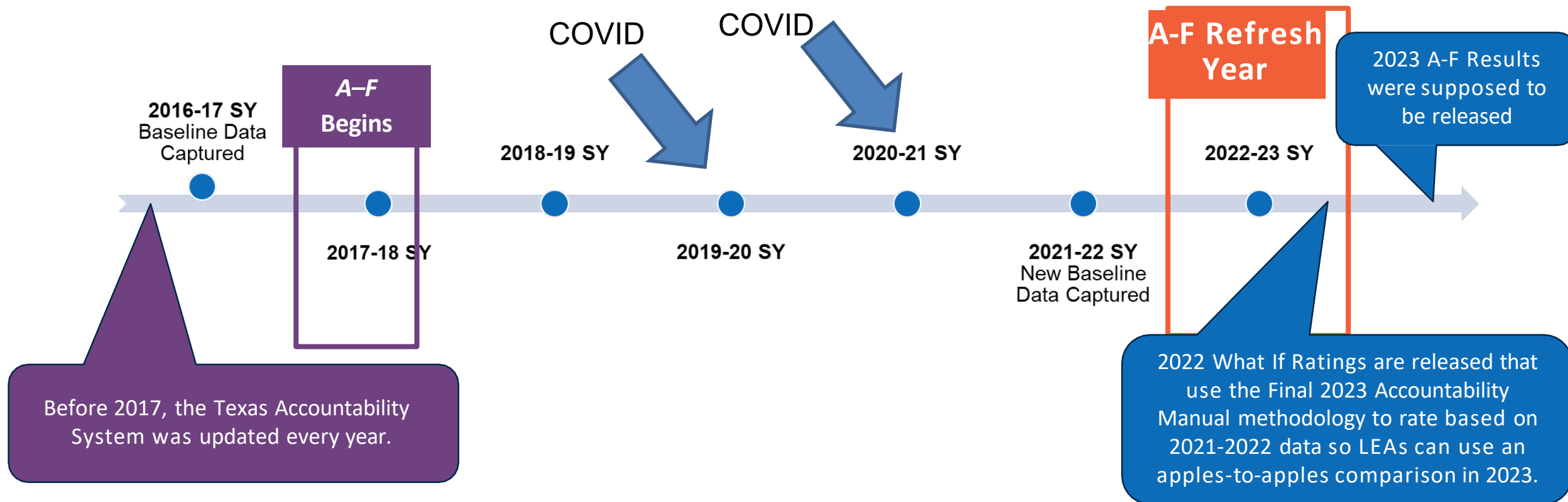
# 2023 *A–F* Accountability Results Statewide Summary

# 2023 A-F Refresh: Feedback Timeline



# The A-F system stayed the same during the first 5 years of the A-F system, but statute required updates to meet goals for students

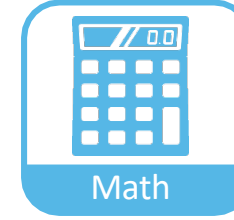
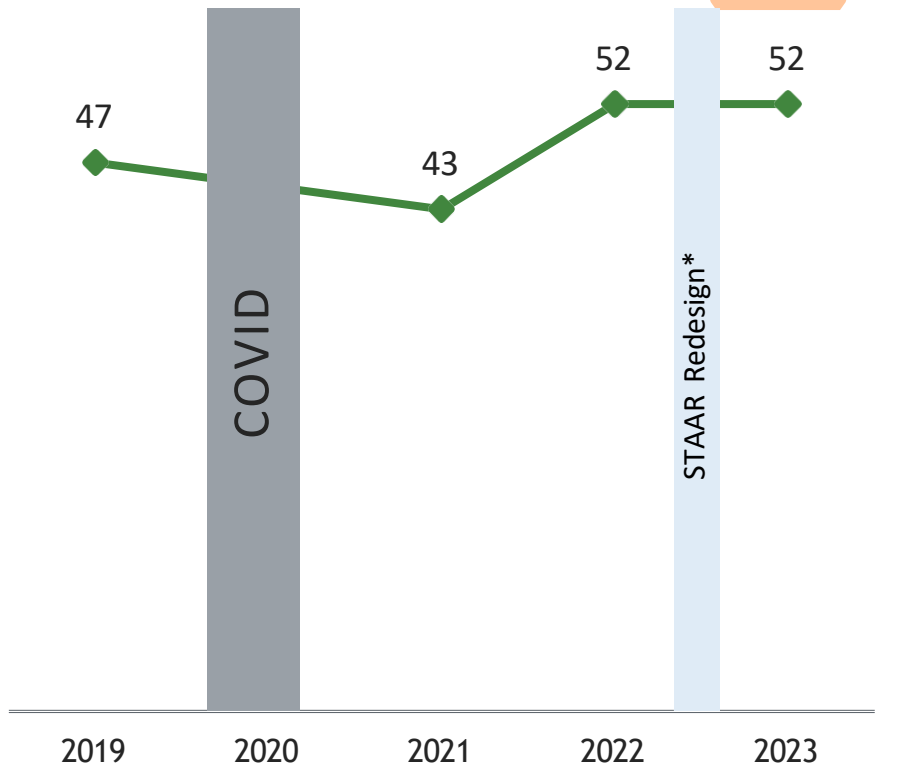
- To help school leaders reflect on performance improvements and parents to understand school system performance, A-F cut points remained unchanged since launch in 2017.
- But A-F indicators had to be updated given statutory requirements guiding the goals of the system. 2023 is the year for those changes.



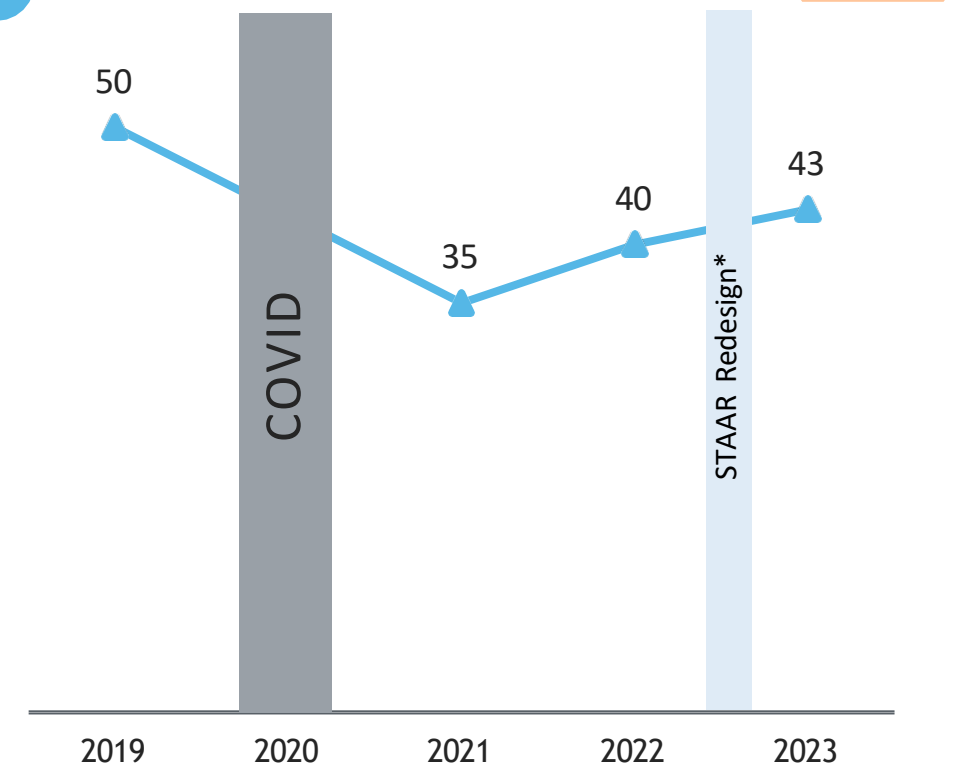
# Meets-Grade-Level Performance Over Time in Reading and Math



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



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





# Did the refreshed methodology increase standards making it harder for campuses to achieve an A?

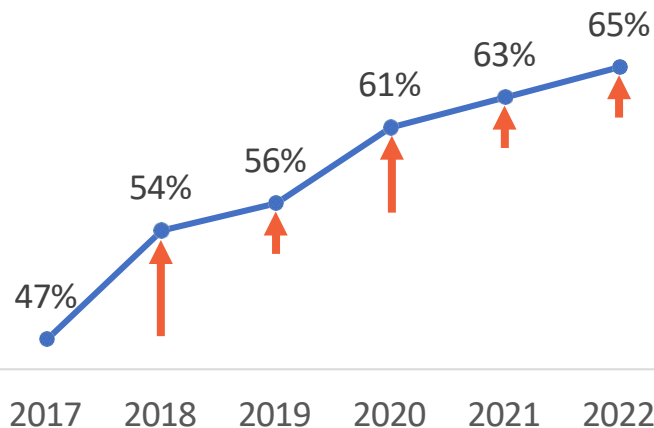
High School

Yes

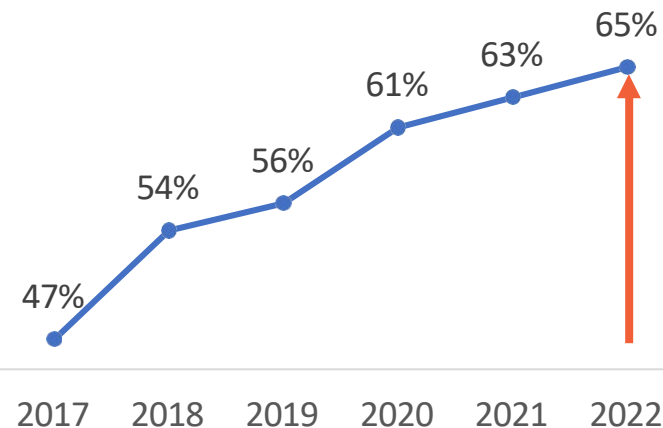
While the refresh allowed some High Schools to demonstrate higher performance, **CCMR and Grad Rates standards were increased**

- **There were no changes to STAAR achievement cut points** for high schools. Instead, there was improvement in the ability to differentiate how well campuses are Closing the Gaps for different student groups.
- College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) cut scores increased in the 2023 Refresh to ensure we are meeting statutory requirements to reflect appropriate goals for students given significant improvements in CCMR scores already achieved and previous cut points that were set lower than the long-term goal of 90.
- **Instead of using small annual updates as CCMR cut scores rose, the A-F system remained static for several years and was instead given a cumulative update in 2023.**

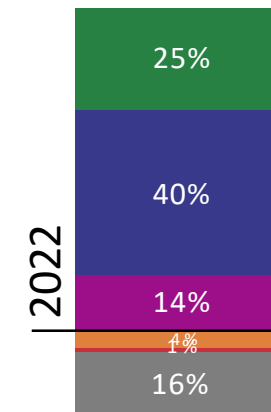
## Annual Updates (before A-F)



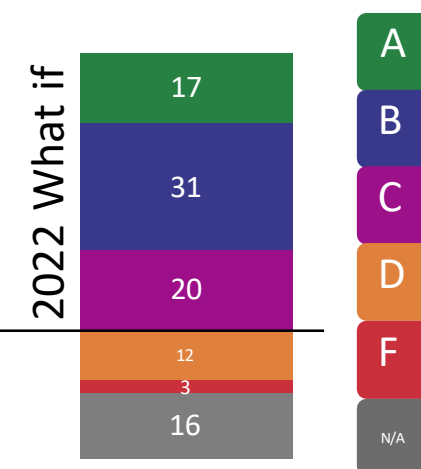
## Periodic Updates (A-F)



## 2022 HS Campus Scores using Old Methodology



## 2022 HS Campus Scores using Refreshed Methodology



Bar chart includes actual and *what-if* ratings for 1,801 HS in 2022.





# Frequently Asked Questions

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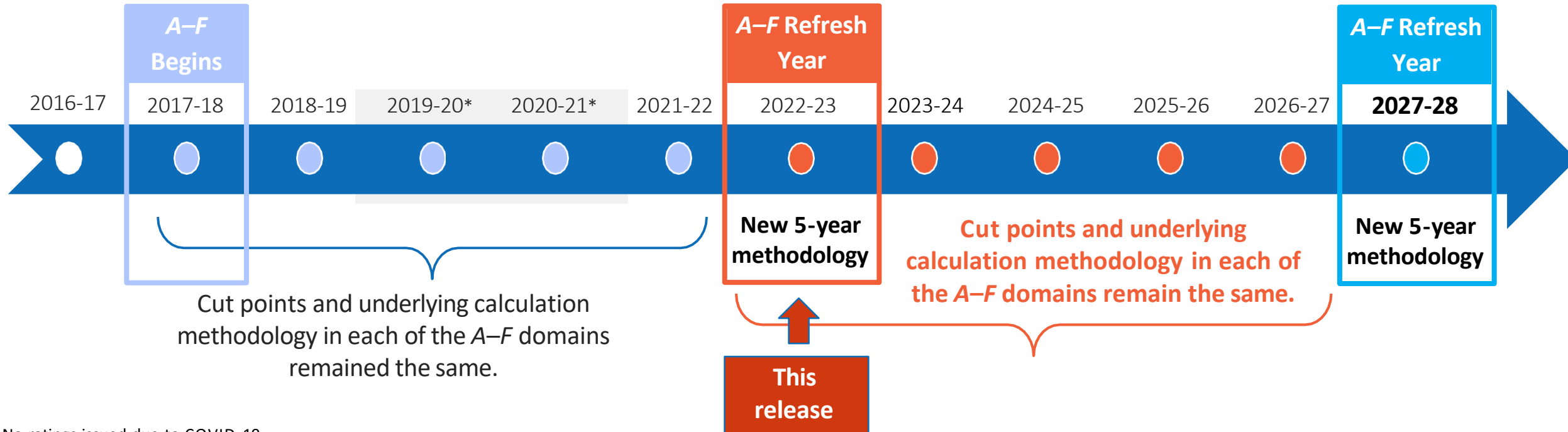
1. Is it possible for all campuses or districts to get an A under the *A–F* Accountability system?
2. Does the *A–F* system change every year?
3. Were 2023 campus scale scores lower than 2022 because of the refreshed methodology?
4. Did the refreshed methodology have an impact on district ratings?

## 2. Does the A–F system change every year?

**No**

Unlike before A–F, the system remains static for multiple years.

We don't keep changing the bar. The design remains unchanged in most years to allow year-over-year comparison. But we continuously receive feedback on how to improve the model, so we make design changes once every few years.

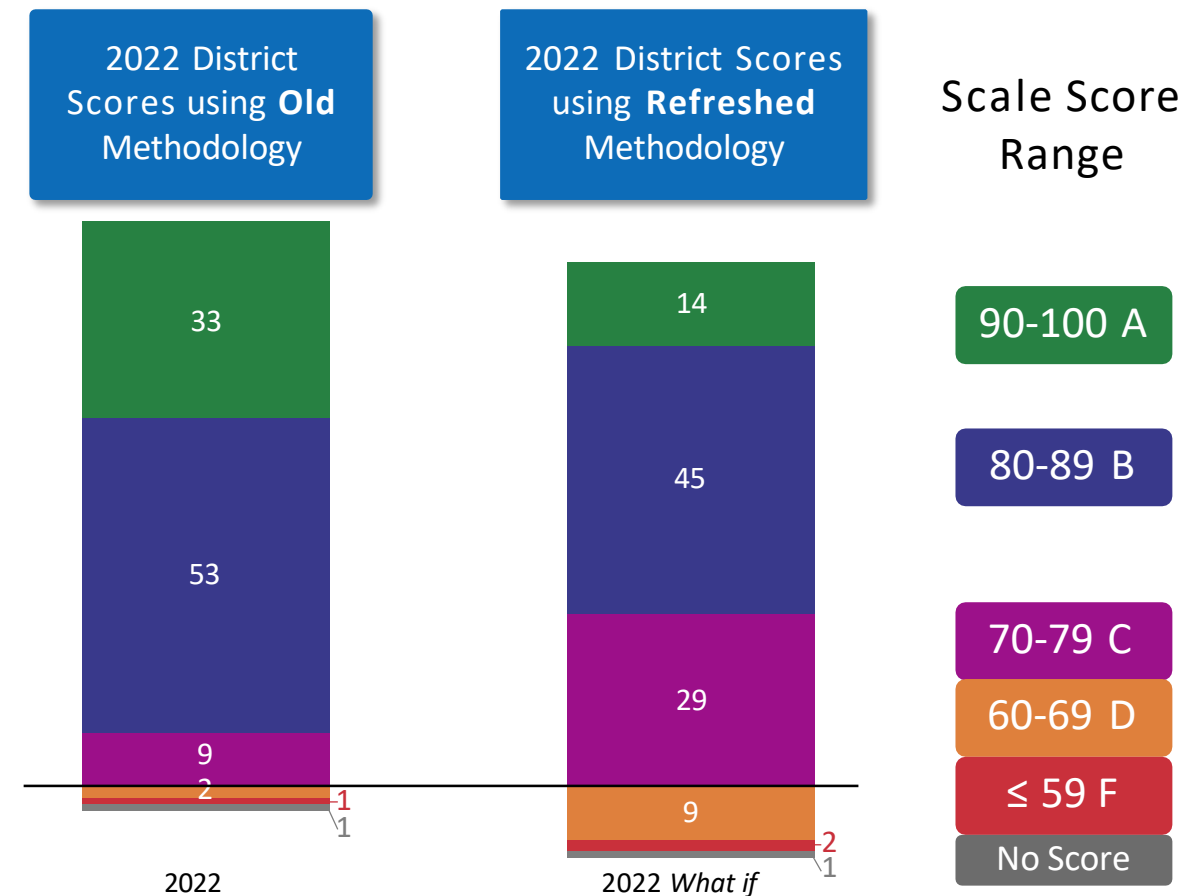


## 4. Did the refreshed methodology have an impact on district ratings?

**Yes**

**The new district methodology better aligns district scores to campus scores.  
This had the effect of decreasing district scores.**

- Under the previous system, a district could have received an A when none of its campuses received an A, which was confusing to the public.
- To be more transparent, the refreshed methodology now issues district ratings based on the weighted average of campus ratings by enrollment.
- This change means that elementary and middle school outcomes are more reflected in district ratings under the refreshed A-F system. And higher standards for CCMR at high school tended to lower high school campus ratings, which are part of that district average.



The Texas state flag, featuring a white five-pointed star on a blue field and a white vertical stripe on a red field, is prominently displayed in the foreground. The background is a blurred classroom scene with students at desks, all overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

# *A-F* System Design 2023-2027

# Additional Information

## 1. The 2023 school ratings were delayed because of lawsuits

\* The ratings were originally set for release in August 2023 but were delayed until this spring – April 2025 due to over 100 Texas school districts filing a lawsuit. The lawsuit was based on the fact that TEA introduced new accountability measures, specifically raising the bar for college and career readiness from 60% to 88% (for an A rating) months before the end of the year. A judge issued an injunction that blocked the ratings from being released.

# Additional Information

2. The STAAR 2.0 is harder and structurally different:

\*STAAR 2.0 introduced new questions formats like drag and drop, multi part answers and short written responses to include evidence based writing in order to reduce multiple choice questions. Many educators indicated there was not ample time to prepare for the measurable more rigorous test, especially to the writing component



# Additional Information

3. According to information gathered during the lawsuit, TEA didn't fully account for the Covid learning loss impact.

\*Yes, TEA paused school ratings during the height of the pandemic and allowed for some flexibility in 2022 but by 2023 it returned to pre-pandemic standards and implemented a tougher rating criteria despite data showing students were still recovering from learning loss.

# Additional Information

4. No additional funding was provided by the state to focus on learning loss or improve student instruction

\*In 2023, the Texas legislature had an opportunity to raise the basic per student funding allotment; however no legislation was passed even after multiple special session. The funding allotment has not changed for public school districts since 2019.

# Additional Information

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So where is Brackett in our data regarding student achievement? Shared annually with the Board since 2021

						NEW STAAR REDESIGN		
Preliminary STAAR Reports _ C		2019	COVID 2020	2021	2022 District	DISTRICT 2023	District 2024	
3rd	Reading	76		80	83	77	78	
	Math	74		64	79	76	86	
4th	Reading	86		79	87	82	90	
	Math	76		64	75	84	80	
	Writing	73		83				
5th	Reading	88		76	90	82	79	
	Math	93		68	71	62	70	
	Science	71		68	87	62	53	
6th	Reading	68		56	78	75	80	
	Math	87		77	81	81	71	
7th	Reading	77		88	87	85	89	
	Math	69		56	41	48	46	
	Writing	72		69				
8th	Reading	81		91	95	86	90	
	Math	93		73	73	87	84	
8th	Social Studi	89		77	60	57	62	
8th	Science	88		72	74	59	74	
H.S. End of Course	English I	77		90	92	90/90	93	
	English II	71		81	92	90/95	94	
	Alg. 1	93		73	83	85/100	88	
	Biology	86		77	91	92/98	85	
	History	94		91	97	98/100	100	