

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

math

Update on the New Mathematics Test

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<https://tinyurl.com/newmathtest>



Thank you to the Mathematics Placement Team

- Kim Morgan, Mathematics
- Corinne Forys, Advising
- Len Hernandez, Academic Success
- Cheryl Kollin, Advising
- Katie Rawlings, Orientation
- Fareed Shalhout, Orientation
- Jessica Addy, Provost Office
- Andrew Ura, Testing
- Laura Woodward, Testing



All placement tests given at Wayne are now computerized.

It is a very different experience to proctor 25 students in a quiet computer lab, compared to 100 plus students in a room in State Hall.

We have more control over the logistics of the room, and do not need to spend as much time on classroom management.



Features of the new test

More personalized experience

Immediate scoring.

A system to track time left for students.

Downloadable test preparation app.



New Website for Advisors

A new website was developed to help keep the advisors updated on all the changes.

<http://testing.wayne.edu/testing/cognos.php>

Testing News for Advisors

testing@wayne.edu

[General Testing Information](#)

- STARS has been updated to placements.
- [Summer Orientation](#)
- [Special Walk-in Test Dates](#)
- [Find the Best-matched Instru](#)
- [Undated Placement Cut Sco](#)

Encourage advisors in your area to contact us if they have questions.

(313)577-3400



Preliminary Feedback

Did we improve the student experience?

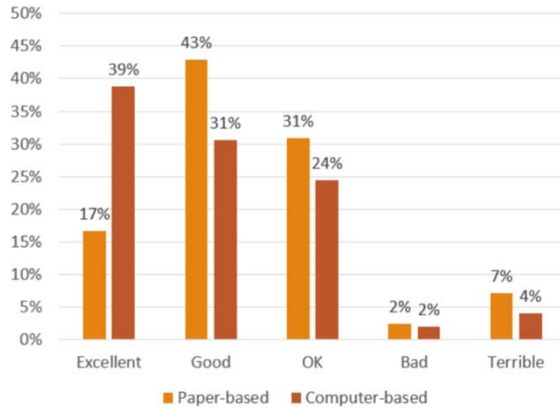
Was it a more customer-focused experience?

Was it a less stressful environment than the typical paper-pencil administration?

91 students participated.

- 42 evaluated the paper test
- 49 evaluated the computer test
- 5 evaluated both

Please Rate Your Experience (n=91)



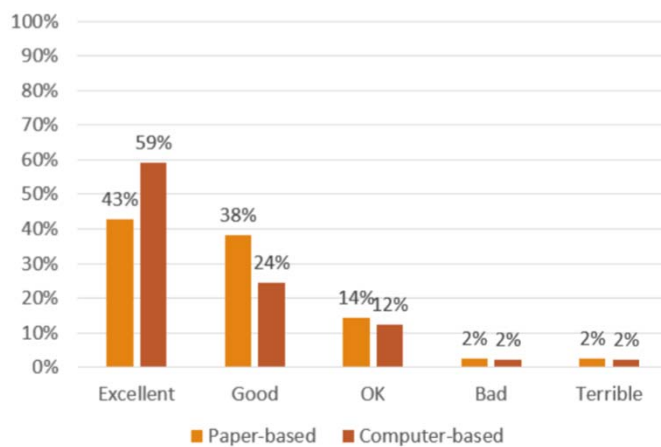
Experience improved.

The computer-based testing experience was rated higher than the paper-based experience

The percentage of students rating the testing experience as excellent increased 22% when the test was computer-based.

The average score also increased from 3.60 for the paper-based administration to 3.98 for the computer-based administration.

Please rate the respectfulness of the testing staff. (n=91)

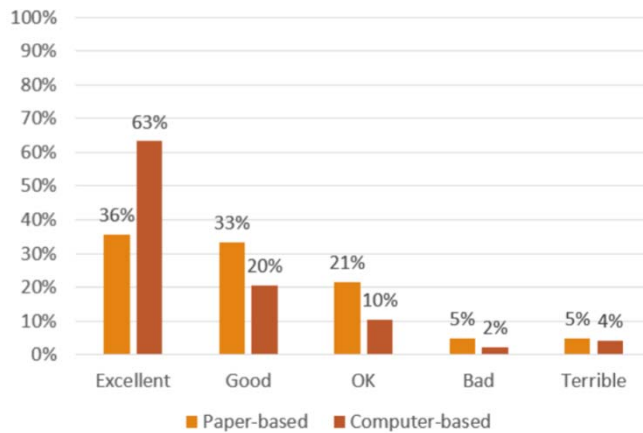


Respectfulness improved.

The percentage of students rating staff respectfulness as excellent increased 16%.

The average score for respectfulness increased from 4.17 to 4.37.

Please rate the friendliness of the testing staff. (n=91)



Friendliness improved.

The percentage of students rating staff friendliness as excellent increased 27%

The average score for friendliness increased from 3.90 to 4.37.

Student comments

PRO

I felt less pressure taking the computer test and that helped me to concentrate and perform better.

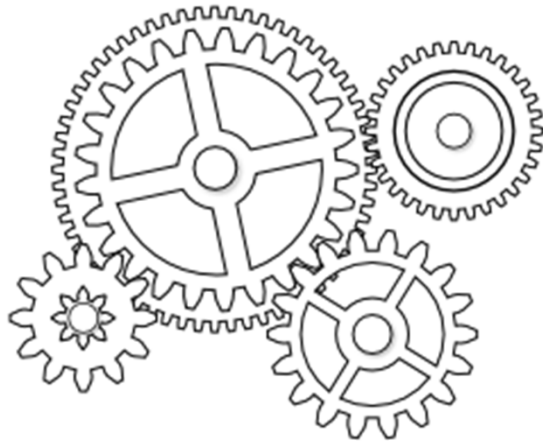
It wasn't as crowded and overwhelming as it was in State Hall.

I felt less pressure taking the computer test and that helped me to concentrate and perform better.

CONS

I prefer the paper-based environment because everything feels much easier and I think the computerized test complicates the process of taking a math exam. Taking the exam in the computerized environment was not ideal because of the constant clicking of the mouse to choose an answer and being required to type in certain answers. I think it would be much easier and less time consuming if the exams were paper-based.

I liked the paper environment better. I feel that I make more mistakes in a computerized environment because I do not have as clear of an idea of how long the test will be. On the other hand, in a paper environment, I know how many questions there are, which ones to skip, etc.



Next steps

We are looking at the student comments more deeply.

We are tinkering with our test administration approach, and our website to make things clearer.

We will continue to assess student perceptions of the test and use this information to evaluate whether these changes are helping.