VALUE-ADDED MODEL (VAM) SCORE RELEASE NOTES

2017-18 VAM data is set for release August 17, 2018. For more information about VAM, see below.

BACKGROUND ON THE VALUE-ADDED MODEL (VAM)	
FAQ Sheet Link	A complete VAM FAQ DOC is available on Louisiana Believes and is hyperlinked here. Please refer to this document for detailed information about VAM release.
What is the Value-Added Model?	The value-added model (VAM) measures students' success compared to similar peers year to year. Value-added is a statistical model that uses student characteristics to determine anticipated student performance in the current year. The VAM anticipates how well students will perform on the test in comparison to their peers with similar prior test scores and background. Once a student has taken state assessments, the model shows the extent to which his or her achievement was on target with what was expected (student expected score). The difference between a student's actual achievement and his or her expected achievement is known as the "value added."
Why use VAM?	Value-added data is an objective way of looking at student success, comparing a student's performance to his or her peers. Value-added data is sensitive to an individual student's prior achievement levels and demographics. By including these variables, the model takes into account individual student differences, which allows for a more accurate prediction of student scores.

What subjects are issued scores?	
VAM (Value Added Model Scores)	**TSG (Transitional Growth Scores)**
• Grades 4-8 Math, ELA, and Social Studies • VAM is included in teacher's overall evaluation results in 2017-2018. • *(3-8 Science not provided due to field testing this year)*	• English I, English II, Algebra, and Geometry • TSG is for informational purposes only in 2017-2018 while the tests are in transition to five levels, and are not a required component of teacher evaluations.
VAM Results in CIS	**TSG Results in CIS**
Compass VAM tab: • overall VAM score • results by subject • student level results by subject	Compass VAM tab: • results by subject • student level results by subject
Where can I access my VAM scores?	
In the Compass Information System (CIS), teachers will be able to view their overall VAM scores as well as VAM and Transitional Student Growth (TSG) data by subject and by student.	

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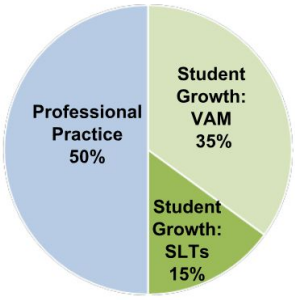
Which data are used in VAM?
The value-added model includes the following student characteristics: prior achievement on assessments for up to three years, special education status and disability category, gifted status, section 504 status, economically disadvantaged status, English language proficiency status, student absences, mobility, and student suspensions. These demographic data are as reported by the districts to the LDOE. Further information can be found in the linked FAQ at the top of the page.

How does VAM impact my teacher evaluation?	
Teacher evaluation ratings are comprised of 50 percent Professional Practice, or observations, and 50 percent Student Growth.	For teachers receiving VAM, the Student Growth component is comprised of 35 percent VAM data and 15 percent Student Learning Target (SLT) data.
	

VAM Score Scale			
The VAM model produces a student's expected score as well as the difference between the actual and expected score (called a student residual). Those student residuals, which can be positive or negative, are averaged by content in a teacher's classroom to measure the teacher effect. The teacher effect shows, on average, how well students met expected scores for a given teacher. A positive teacher effect indicates that, on average, students in a teacher's classroom met or exceeded their expected scores. A negative teacher effect indicates that, on average, students in a teacher's classroom did not meet their expected scores. Teachers are percentile ranked by content area and overall (combining all content areas). The percentile rank is the teacher performance compared to peers statewide. The overall percentile rank is the teachers' final VAM score, which is categorized into four effectiveness ratings as shown in the following chart. For example, a teacher ranked as 75 has performed at or better than 75% of the teachers statewide and would receive an effectiveness level of Effective: Proficient. Teacher Percentile Rank			
1-10 Ineffective	11-49 Effective: Emerging	50-79 Effective: Proficient	80-99 Highly Effective

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VAM Inquiries
All questions regarding VAM data should be sent to compass@la.gov. Due to an anticipated high volume of emails, please expect a response within 2-3 business days.

Procedure for requesting invalidation of a VAM score
Score invalidation is based upon number of days a teacher was not serving in the field. Invalidation requests should be completed in CIS one week prior to the close of CIS on September 7, 2018. All questions regarding this process should be sent to compass@la.gov. BESE policy outlining the invalidation rules is available here.