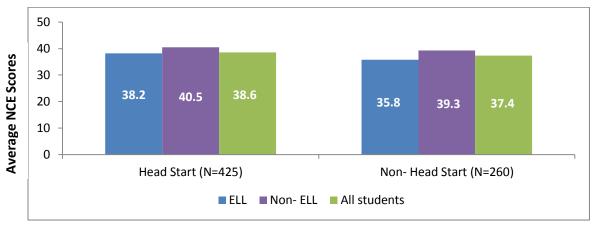This report brief evaluates prekindergarten (pre-K) students' achievement on the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test-IV (PPVT) and Test de Vocabularío en Imagenes Peabody (TVIP) in fall 2014. The PPVT and the TVIP measure knowledge of receptive vocabulary in English and Spanish, respectively (Dunn & Dunn, 2007). Receptive (i.e., hearing) vocabulary is one domain of language development, and vocabulary recognition is a precursor to the development of reading skills.

In fall 2014, 685 pre-K students, in 43 classrooms, at Dobie Prekindergarten Center, Lucy Read Prekindergarten Demonstration School, Anita Uphaus Early Childhood Center, and Widen Elementary School were tested. The Early Childhood Department at Austin Independent School District (AISD) collaborates with Austin Head Start provider, Child Inc., to provide dual enrollment for families who qualify for both Head Start and pre-K. In fall 2014, there were 24 Head Start classrooms in AISD, all located at the aforementioned campuses.

How did students dual enrolled in Head Start and AISD pre-K compare with students only enrolled in AISD pre-K on the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test (PPVT) and the Test de Vocabulario en Imágenes (TVIP)? Students who were dual enrolled in AISD pre-K students' average normal curve equivalent (NCE) score of 38.6 was in the *low average* range on the Peabody (Figure 1 and Table 2). Pre-K students who were not enrolled in Head Start' NCE score was 37.4, also in the *low average* range.

Figure 1. Prekindergarten Peabody Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE) Results, by Head Start Enrollment Status and English Language Learner (ELL) Status, Fall 2014

Source. AISD student records, Department of Research and Evaluation

Table 2. Interpretation of Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE) Scores

Range of performance	NCE scores	National percentile
Very low	1–24	1–11
Low	25–35	12–25
Low average	36–44	26–39
Average	45–55	40–60
High average	56–64	61–74
High	65–75	75–88
Very high	76–99	89–99

How did prekindergarten (pre-K) students perform on the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test (PPVT) and the Test de Vocabulario en Imágenes (TVIP) in Fall 2014? Austin Independent School District (AISD) pre-K students' average normal curve equivalent (NCE) score of 37.5 was in the *low average* range on the Peabody (Tables 1 and 2). On average, English language learners (ELLs) scored lower on the Peabody than non-ELLs.

Table 1. Prekindergarten Peabody Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE) Results, by English Language Learner (ELL) Status and Vertical Team, Fall 2013

Campus	All tested students		Non-ELL		ELL	
	# students tested	Avg. NCE	# students tested	Avg. NCE	# students tested	Avg. NCE
All schools	**685**	**38.2**	**198**	**39.8**	**487**	**37.5**
Dobie Pre-K	248	30.0	55	39.4	193	27.3
Read	265	47.1	71	43.1	194	48.6
Uphaus	108	36.3	32	37.1	76	36.0
Widen	64	36.1	40	36.5	24	35.3

Source. AISD student records, Department of Research and Evaluation

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References.

Dunn, L., & Dunn, L. (2007). *Examiner's manual for the Peabody picture vocabulary test* (4th ed.)*.* San Antonio, TX: Pearson PsychCorp.