

**PRAXIS: The Professional Assessment
for Beginning Teachers**

**Comparison of Local, National and Post Baccalaureate Teachers:
1999-2001 Results**

**School of Education
Indiana University
June 2002**

**Prepared by
David R Reetz**

INTRODUCTION

The following document presents the PRAXIS results of teacher education candidates at Indiana University – Bloomington (IUB). This information will provide a quick comparison of all the IUB students to those already having completed their baccalaureate degree and the national norm. From this data, faculty and administrators can determine the degree of competency of current and exiting teacher education candidates and more particularly, the results of IU graduates with a baccalaureate degree.

INSTRUMENT

The Praxis Series: Professional Assessments for Beginning Teachers® is a set of rigorous and carefully validated assessments that provides accurate, reliable information for use by state education agencies in making licensing decisions. Colleges and universities also use the basic academic skills assessments to qualify individuals for entry into teacher education programs. The three categories of assessments in The Praxis Series correspond to the three milestones in teacher development:

- Entering a teacher training program
Praxis I: Academic Skills Assessments
- Licensure for entering the profession
Praxis II: Subject Assessments
- The first year of teaching
Praxis III: Classroom Performance Assessments

The Teacher Education program at Indiana University administers only PRAXIS I and PRAXIS II.

PRAXIS I: Academic Skills Assessments are taken early in a candidate's career to measure reading, writing and mathematic skills. Two formats are available to examinees, each measuring the same skills: paper and pencil and computer-based methods. The paper and pencil exam in Reading and Mathematics are each one-hour multiple choice tests. The Writing test includes a 30-minute multiple-choice and a 30-minute essay section. The computer-based test (CBT) covers the same material but is tailored to each candidate's performance level. They also offer a wider range of question types, provide immediate scores in reading and mathematics and are available on demand throughout the year by appointment, eliminating the need to register in advance.

PRAXIS II: Subject Assessments measure a candidate's knowledge of the subject(s) in which they are seeking certification. These tests are only offered in the paper and pencil format.

This information, in addition to further detail, can be found at the following website:
<http://www.teachingandlearning.org>

METHOD

Among the demographic information examinees are asked to provide, participants indicate their education level. The categories include: *Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior, Earned bachelor's degree, Earned bachelor's degree plus additional credits, Earned master's degree, Earned master's degree plus additional credits, Earned doctoral degree and no information*. The post baccalaureate category includes all graduates that have earned a bachelor's degree or more. For this analysis, all these examinees have been aggregated.

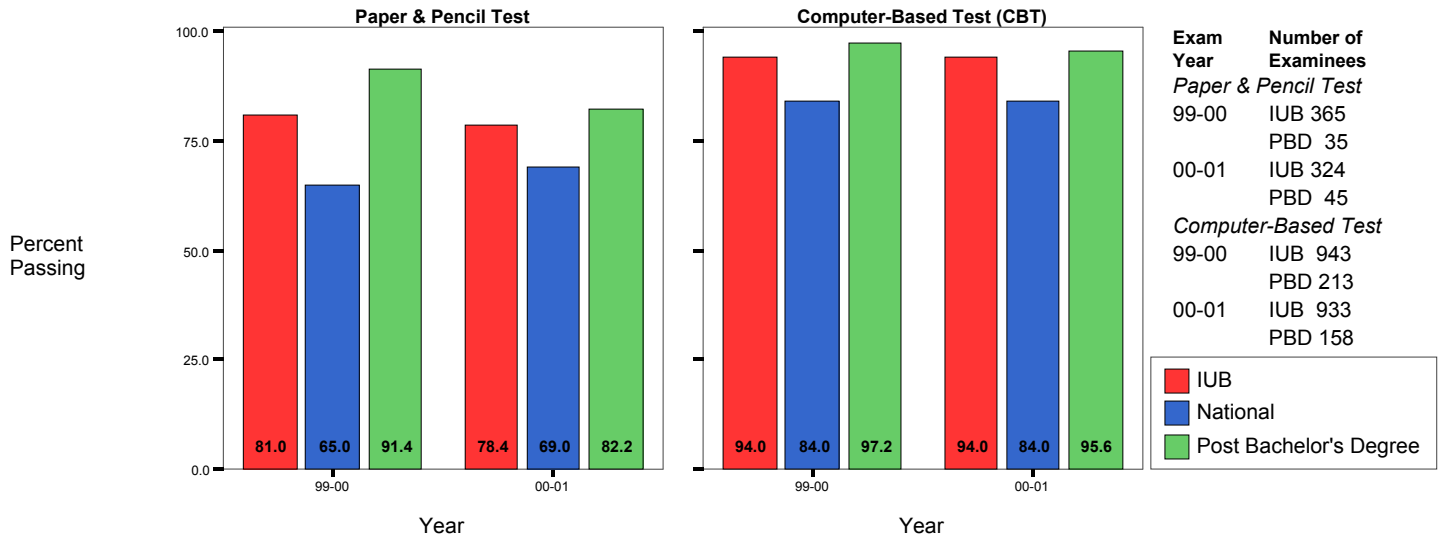
The information provided is limited to the percentage of students who passed each exam. Results are presented across two years of testing (1999-2001), comparing the scores of IUB students and those with a bachelor's degree or more, to all those who took the exams throughout the nation. The results of the Reading, Writing and Mathematic basic skills can be compared between testing formats (paper and pencil versus computer-based tests). The results of each subject area are also provided.

RESULTS

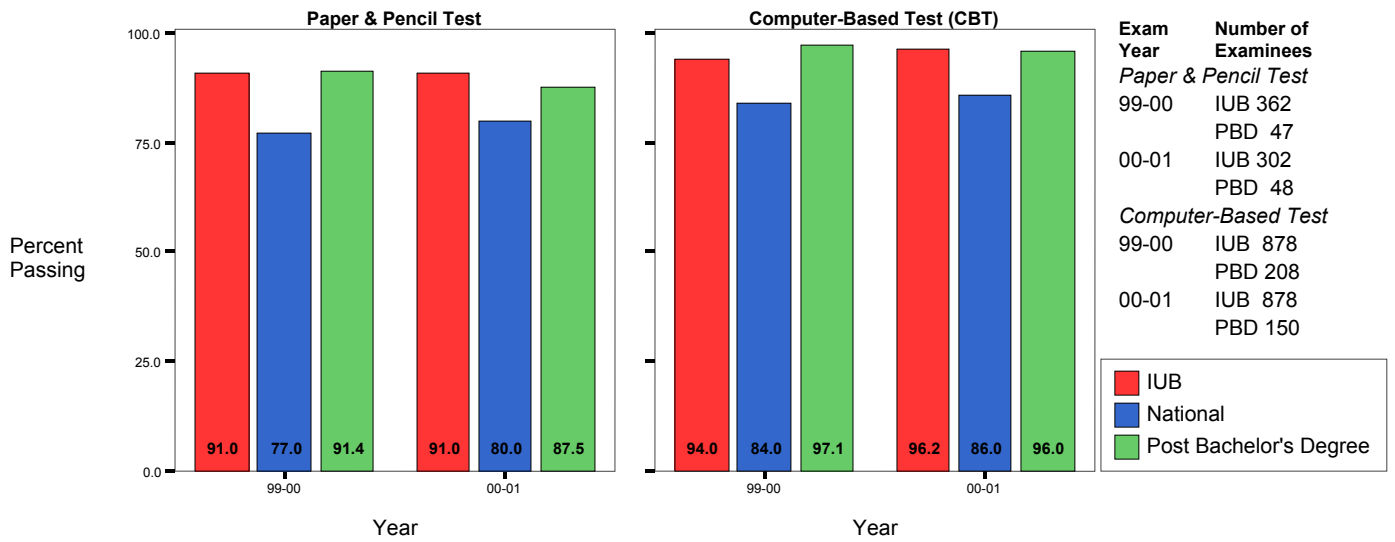
Several conclusions can be drawn from the following data:

- Teacher Education candidates at Indiana University - Bloomington routinely achieve higher passing rates on the basic skills than the national average. Additionally, those candidates that have already completed a bachelor's degree pass the PRAXIS exams at a marginally higher percentage than the overall IUB candidates.
- Of the subject scores reported, an overwhelming majority of IUB candidates with a bachelor's degree pass.
- Post bachelor's degree candidates perform significantly higher on the CBT format of the basic Reading skills test compared to the pencil and paper format.

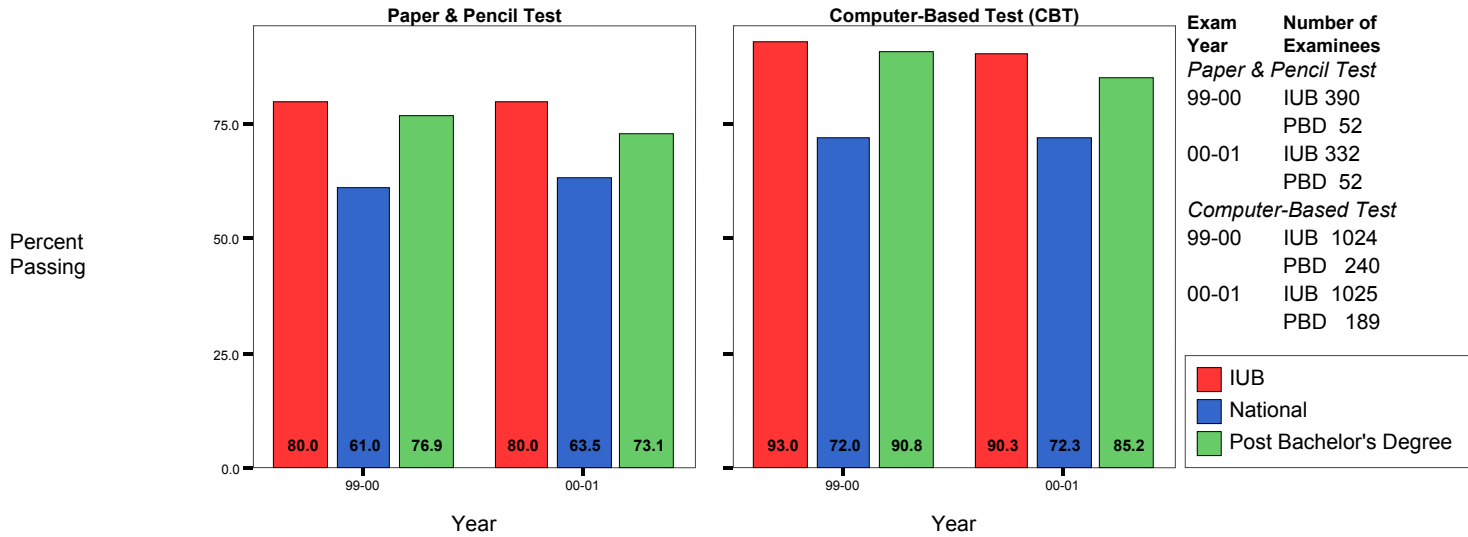
PPST Reading



PPST Writing



PPST Mathematics



Content Areas

Content Area	Year					
	99-00			00-01		
	Total Examinees	Total Examinees Reported	% Passed	Total Examinees	Total Examinees Reported	% Passed
Art Education	4	4	100	6	6	100
Biology	15	12	100	10	10	100
Chemistry	1			--		
Early Childhood Education	4	4	100	3	3	100
General Science	10	10	100	5	5	100
Mathematics	7	7	100	8	8	100
Music Education	7	7	100	3	3	100
Physical Education	4	4	100	5	5	100
Spanish	5			--		
Education in Elementary Schools	49	45	100	47	45	98
English, Lit. & Comp: Content Knowledge	39	36	81	29	26	88
Health Education	4	4	100	5	5	
Social Studies	--			31	26	96