



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Commissioner of Insurance (113-1C)

333 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas 78701 ★ PO Box 149104, Austin, Texas 78714-9104
(512) 676-6020 | F: (512) 490-1045 | (800) 578-4677 | TDI.texas.gov | @TexasTDI

June 30, 2016

The Honorable Greg Abbott, Governor
The Honorable Dan Patrick, Lieutenant Governor
The Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House

Dear Governors and Speaker:

In accordance with Texas Insurance Code, Section 4002.008, the Texas Department of Insurance conducted its annual review and analysis of the first-time pass rates for insurance agent and adjuster license examinations, including limited and single lines licenses during the period of September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2015. Pearson VUE, the agency's contracted exam services vendor for fiscal year 2015, collected self-reported demographic information for all candidates that participated in an end-of-exam survey.

Analysis of demographics, exam data, and pass rates has been provided by Pearson VUE, including an executive summary highlighting constructs and analysis for their report. As required by HB 1757, 81st Texas Legislature, Regular Session, this letter conveys the 2015 Pearson VUE report that indicates exam scores were correlated to demographic information.

Pearson VUE concluded: "Across the five exams with sufficient overall volume for meaningful demographic comparisons, males scored significantly higher than females. Caucasian/White (non-Hispanic) candidates typically scored significantly higher than Asian American/Pacific Islander, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino American, and Native American candidates. English speakers scored significantly higher than Spanish speakers for all lines except the Limited Lines exams." Additionally, examinees with income less than \$25,000 generally scored lower.

TDI works periodically with Pearson VUE and industry stakeholders to analyze and adjust exam content and clarity. Agency staff and industry subject matter experts convene annually to review exams to improve test questions and results.

Concurrent to the collection of another year of demographic data, TDI will continue to work with stakeholders and its exam vendor in order to improve our state exam process.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information and for your consideration of this report. If you have any questions regarding this report, I will be happy to respond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Mattax".

David C. Mattax
Commissioner of Insurance