

# Connecticut Curriculum Matrix Summary

## Connecticut Student Assessment

Connecticut student assessment includes the Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) in grades 3-8 and the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) in grade 10. The CMT assesses how well students are reaching the standards of achievement in reading, writing, mathematics, and science. The CAPT assessment measures student achievements in writing across the disciplines (editing and revising), reading across the disciplines (response to literature and reading for information), mathematics, and science.

## English Language Arts

The English language arts CMT is administered in grades 3-8 in elementary and middle school and the CAPT is administered in grade 10. The Connecticut writing assessments are required in grades 5, 8, and no later than in grade 11 for high school.

## Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to reading and writing assessments was obtained from the Connecticut Department of Education website. The reading and writing assessment links within this site provided the number of test items per standard (sub-content areas in high school) administered in reading and writing (editing and revisions) assessments. The number of reading and writing test items for each standard or sub-content area at each assessed grade level was averaged. Standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each grade level assessed and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. The reading and writing standards that were not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The reading and writing priority designation results can be found in Table 1.

**Table 1. Reading and Writing Priority Designation Data**

Grade	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
				L = Low	M = Medium	H = High
3	10.67	4.27	6.40	0	1-6	>6
4	10.67	3.95	6.72	0	1-7	>7
5	11.17	4.76	6.40	0	1-6	>6
6	11.17	4.76	6.40	0	1-6	>6
7	11.67	5.67	5.99	0	1-6	>6
8	11.67	5.67	5.99	0	1-6	>6
9-12	13.33	7.12	6.21	0	1-6	>6

Reading and writing summary data are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2. Reading and Writing Assessment Data Summary**

Reading and Writing				CMT			NESS*		
Grade	Content Areas	Strands	Performance Expectations	H	M	L	H 1-19	M 20-38	L 39-50
3	3	12	92	44	1	47	68	17	7
4	3	12	91	53	2	36	70	16	5
5	3	12	82	47	3	32	46	28	8
6	3	12	71	46	1	24	43	20	8
7	3	12	61	40	1	20	38	17	6
8	3	12	62	41	1	20	35	20	7
	Standards	Component Statements	Grade Level Expectations	CAPT			NESS*		
9-12	4	13	51	20	16	15	28	20	3
<b>Totals</b>	22	85	510	291	25	194	328	138	44

**Mathematics**

The mathematics CMT is administered in grades 3-8 in elementary and middle school and the CAPT is administered in grade 10. It is designed to assess student achievement in numerical & proportional reasoning, geometry & measurement, working with data: probably & statistics, algebraic reasoning: patterns and functions, and intergraded understandings. The mathematics CAPT is designed to assess student achievement in algebraic reasoning: patterns and functions, numerical & proportional reasoning, geometry & measurement, and working with data.

**Testing Priority Designation**

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to mathematics assessments was obtained from the Connecticut Department of Education website. The mathematics assessment link within this site provided the maximum number of test items per strand administered in mathematics assessments. The number of mathematics test items per strand at each grade level grade level was averaged. Standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each grade level and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. Strands that were not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The results can be found in Table 3.

**Table 3. Mathematics Priority Designation Data**

Grade	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
				L = Low	M = Medium	H = High
3	5.22	1.15	4.07	0	1-4	>4
4	4.55	1.05	3.50	0	1-4	>4
5	4.86	1.36	3.50	0	1-4	>4
6	5.09	1.44	3.64	0	1-4	>4
7	5.22	1.41	3.81	0	1-4	>4
8	5.57	1.85	3.72	0	1-4	>4
<b>HS</b>	4.75	1.53	3.22	0	1-3	>3

Mathematics summary data are presented in Table 4.

**Table 4. Mathematics Assessment Data Summary**

Mathematics			CMT/CAPT			NESS*		
Grade	Standards	Strands	H	M	L	H 1-16	M 17-42	L 43-70
3	5	43	23	18	2	31	9	3
4	5	44	25	17	2	33	9	2
5	5	42	23	19	0	31	10	1
6	5	46	23	19	4	34	11	1
7	5	46	29	10	7	25	19	2
8	5	46	23	9	14	23	19	4
HS	4	39	31	8	0	21	16	2
<b>Totals</b>	34	306	177	100	29	198	93	15

## Science

The CMT and CAPT science assessments measure what students have learned over several years about core science concepts and about how scientific inquiry is done. The CMT is administered in grades 5 and 8; the CAPT is administered in grade 10.

### Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to science assessments was obtained from the Connecticut Department of Education website. The science assessment link provided the number of score points per content area in grades 5 and 8 and the number of score points per strand in grades 9 and 10. The percent of the score points per content area/strand was calculated. Using this data, standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each grade level and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. Science grade level expectations or expected performances that were not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The results can be found in Table 5.

**Table 5. Science Priority Designation Data**

Grade	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
				L = Low	M = Medium	H = High
5	16.80	3.58	13.22	0	1-13	>13
8	20.40	4.60	15.80	0	1-16	>16
9-10	20.00	8.25	11.75	0	1-12	>12

Science summary data are presented in Table 6.

**Table 6. Science Assessment Data Summary**

Science				CMT			NESS*		
Grade	Content Area	Strands	Grade Level Expectations	H	M	L	H 1-32	M 33-50	L 51-85
5	4	5	31	15	0	16	18	9	4
8	4	7	29	16	0	13	23	0	6
	Strands	Standards	Expected Performances	CAPT			NESS*		
9-10 Inquiry	1	3	10	10	0	0	10	0	0
9	3	9	26	26	0	0	17	2	7
10	2	6	19	19	0	0	11	8	0
<b>Totals</b>	14	30	115	86	0	29	79	19	17

### Totals for Reading/Writing, Mathematics, and Science

Table 7 presents the total number of grade level expectations or expected performances compared to the number of grade level expectations or expected performances tested. Using this data, the percentage of grade level expectations or expected performances tested was calculated for each discipline and the totals were combined for all three disciplines.

**Table 7. Totals and Percentages for Reading/Writing, Mathematics, and Science**

	Total # Grade Level Expectations/Expected Performances	# of Grade Level Expectations/Expected Performances Tested	% of Grade Level Expectations/Expected Performances Tested
Reading/Writing	510	316	62.0
Mathematics	306	277	90.6
Science	115	86	74.8
<b>TOTALS</b>	931	679	73.0

## References

### Connecticut Department of Education

<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/site/default.asp>

### Curriculum and Instruction

<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2618&Q=320954&sdePNavCtr=#45443>

**English Language Arts:** <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2618&q=320866>

**Mathematics:** <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2618&q=320872>

**Science:** <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2618&q=320890>

### Assessment

<http://www.csde.state.ct.us/public/cedar/assessment/index.htm>

### Connecticut Mastery Test

<http://www.csde.state.ct.us/public/cedar/assessment/cmt/index.htm>

## Connecticut Academic Performance Test:

<http://www.csde.state.ct.us/public/cedar/assessment/capt/index.htm>

\***NESS (National Essential Skills Study)** in the preceding subject summary charts refers to the *International Center for Leadership in Education's* 2007-08 national survey, a forced-ranking by approximately 13,000 adults of the proficiencies deemed most important for high school graduates in each of English Language Arts, Math, and Science.

- English Language Arts proficiencies ranked 1-19 were assigned a High (H) rating; items ranked 20-38 were assigned a Medium (M) rating; and items ranked 39-50 were assigned a Low (L) rating.
- Math proficiencies ranked 1-16 were assigned a High (H) rating; items ranked 17-42 were assigned a Medium (M) rating; and items ranked 43-70 were assigned a Low (L) rating.
- Science proficiencies ranked 1-32 were assigned a High (H) rating; items marked 33-50 were assigned a Medium (M) rating; and items ranked 51-85 were assigned a Low (L) rating.

Where English Language Arts, Math, and Science proficiencies overlapped across indicators in other subjects (for example an English Language Arts proficiency within a Science indicator), the rating of H, M, or L was designated to the proficiency in the subject of focus. A complete description of the *National Essential Skills Study* is provided elsewhere in this resource kit.

