

# Kansas Curriculum Matrix Summary

## Kansas Assessment Program

The Kansas General Assessments (KGA) are administered to students in grades 3-8 and 10 for mathematics and in grade 11 for reading. The assessments are developed to measure targeted learning indicators in the Kansas Curricular Standards.

## Kansas Reading and Writing Assessments

The Kansas reading assessments are administered yearly in the spring in grades 3-8 in elementary and middle schools and grades 9-11 in high school. The Kansas writing assessments are required in grades 5, 8, and no later than the grade 11 for high school. Writing assessments are not part of Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) but are used for Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA) calculations.

## Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to reading assessments was obtained from the Kansas Department of Education website. The reading assessment link within this site provided the maximum number of test items per benchmark administered in reading assessments. The number of reading test items for each benchmark at each grade level/span was averaged. Standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each grade level/span and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. The reading learning indicators that were not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The reading priority designation results can be found in Table 1.

The method for determining Writing priority designations was different from the methods use to set reading priority designations due to the nature of writing assessments. Writing priority designations were assigned according to the percentage of test eligible writing indicators for each benchmark. The percent of writing test eligible indicators per benchmark at each tested grade level/span was averaged. Standard deviations were calculated for each tested grade level/span and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. The writing learning indicators that were not identified as test eligible were given a Low (L) priority designation. The writing priority designation results can be found in Table 2.

**Table 1. Reading Designation Data.**

Grade	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
				L = Low	M = Medium	H = High
<b>3</b>	5.27	0.92	4.35	0	1-4	>4
<b>4</b>	5.29	0.93	4.36	0	1-4	>4
<b>5</b>	5.29	0.93	4.36	0	1-4	>4
<b>6</b>	5.00	0.97	4.03	0	1-4	>4
<b>7</b>	5.25	0.94	4.31	0	1-4	>4
<b>8</b>	5.18	0.92	4.26	0	1-4	>4
<b>HS</b>	5.06	0.87	4.19	0	1-4	>4

**Table 2. Writing Designation Data.**

Grade	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
				L = Low	M = Medium	H = High
5	61.5	31.5	30.0	0	1-30	>30
8	100	0	100	0	0	All
HS	100	0	100	0	0	All

Reading and writing summary data are presented in Table 3.

**Table 3. Reading and Writing Assessment Data Summary.**

Reading and Writing				KSA			NESS*		
Grade	Standards	Benchmarks	Learning Indicators	H	M	L	H 1-19	M 20-38	L 39-50
3	3	9	86	6	3	77	72	11	3
4	3	10	108	9	5	94	85	19	4
5	3	10	108	27	9	72	85	20	3
6	3	10	112	8	8	96	88	21	3
7	3	10	111	10	6	95	87	21	3
8	3	10	111	29	5	77	87	21	3
HS	3	10	107	31	6	70	84	21	2
<b>Totals</b>	21	69	743	120	42	581	588	134	21

## Mathematics

The Kansas mathematics assessments are administered yearly in the spring in grades 3-8 and 9-11. Mathematics assessments are used for AYP and QPA calculations.

### Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to mathematics assessments was obtained from the Kansas Department of Education website. The mathematics assessment link within this site provided the maximum number of test items per benchmark administered in mathematics assessments. The number of mathematics test items per benchmark at each grade level grade level/span was averaged. Standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each grade level/span and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. Knowledge and Application Learning Indicators that were not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The results can be found in Table 4.

**Table 4. Mathematics Priority Designation Data.**

Grade	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
				L = Low	M = Medium	H = High
3	7.89	3.19	4.59	0	1-5	>5
4	7.50	3.56	3.94	0	1-4	>4
5	8.25	2.90	5.35	0	1-5	>5
6	8.89	3.80	5.09	0	1-5	>5
7	9.25	3.12	6.13	0	1-6	>6
8	8.60	2.53	6.07	0	1-6	>6
HS	7.80	3.61	4.19	0	1-4	>4

Mathematics summary data are presented in Table 5.

**Table 5. Mathematics Assessment Data Summary.**

Mathematics				KSA			NESS*		
Grade	Standards	Benchmarks	Knowledge/ Application Indicators	H	M	L	H 1-19	M 20-38	L 39-50
3	4	14	90	12	1	77	56	32	2
4	4	14	94	9	5	80	58	34	2
5	4	14	98	11	4	83	66	30	2
6	4	14	101	11	2	88	66	31	4
7	4	14	111	14	2	95	72	35	4
8	4	14	110	12	3	95	67	36	7
HS	4	14	111	13	2	96	63	37	11
<b>Totals</b>	28	98	715	82	19	614	448	235	32

## Science

The Kansas science assessments are administered yearly in the spring in grades 4 and 7. High school students are tested in two parts with the last part being administered by the end of grade 11. Science assessments are used for QPA calculations.

### Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to science assessments was obtained from the Kansas Department of Education website. The science assessment link provided the number of science test eligible learning indicators within each benchmark. The percent of the science tested learning indicators per benchmark was calculated. Using this data, standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each grade level/span and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. Science learning indicators that were not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The results can be found in Table 6.

**Table 6. Science Priority Designation Data.**

Grade	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
				L = Low	M = Medium	H = High
4	72.10	28.11	44.00	0	1-44	>44
7	68.26	25.63	42.57	0	1-43	>43
HS	49.19	24.96	24.23	0	1-24	>24

Science summary data are presented in Table 7.

**Table 7. Science Assessment Data Summary.**

Science				KSA			NESS*		
Grade	Standards	Benchmarks	Learning Indicators	H	M	L	H 1-19	M 20-38	L 39-50
4	7	15	43	19	3	21	30	10	3
7	7	23	54	28	3	23	38	7	9
HS	7	27	92	33	4	55	55	19	18
<b>Totals</b>	21	65	189	80	10	99	123	36	30

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

Table 8 presents the total number of learning indicators compared to the number of learning indicators tested. Using this data, the percentage of learning indicators tested was calculated for each discipline and the totals combined for all three disciplines.

**Table 8. Totals and Percentages for Reading/Writing, Mathematics, and Science.**

	Total # of Learning Indicators	# of Learning Indicators Tested	% of Learning Indicators Tested
Reading/Writing	743	162	21.8
Mathematics	715	101	14.1
Science	189	90	47.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,647	353	21.4

**References**

**Kansas Department of Education**

<http://www.ksde.org/>

**Kansas Academic Standards**

<http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1678>

**Reading** - <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=142>

**Writing** - <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1726>

**Mathematics** - <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=141>

**Science** - <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=144>

## Kansas Assessment

<http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=420>

**Reading** - <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=159>

**Writing** - <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=165>

**Mathematics** - <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=156>

**Science** - <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=163>

\***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.

