

Nevada Curriculum Matrix Summary

Nevada Proficiency Examination Program

The Nevada Proficiency Examination Program (NPEP) assesses Nevada's students enrolled in public and charter schools in specific grades and programs.

Test scores from the Criterion Referenced Tests (CRTs), the Writing Assessments, and the High School Proficiency Examination (HSPE) are used to determine Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for every public school and charter school in Nevada as required by NCLB.

English Language Arts

Nevada English Language Arts (ELA) assessment includes CRTs in reading in grades 3-8, the HSPE in grades 10 and/or 11, and Writing Assessments are required in grades 5, 8, and 12.

Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to assessments was obtained from the Nevada Department of Education's website. It provided the test item specifications for each indicator of progress on the *2007-2008 Reading Text Matrix*. The number of test item specifications per indicator at each tested grade level grade level was averaged. Standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each tested grade level and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. All writing indicators of progress that aligned with one of the traits in the *Six-Trait Analytical Writing Assessment Model* was given a High (H) priority designation. Indicators of progress that were not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The results can be found in Table 1.

Table 1. English Language Arts Designation Data.

Grade	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
3	13.33	1.78	11.55 = 12	0	1-12	>12
4	14.00	3.54	10.50 = 11	0	1-11	>11
5	14.00	3.54	10.50 = 11	0	1-11	>11
6	16.00	3.94	12.06 = 12	0	1-12	>12
7	16.00	3.94	12.06 = 12	0	1-12	>12
8	16.00	3.94	12.06 = 12	0	1-12	>12
Grade 10/11	16.67	3.89	12.78 = 13	0	1-13	>13

English Language Arts summary data are presented in Table 2.

Table 2. English Language Arts Assessment Data Summary.

English LA		Indicators of Progress	NCRT/HSPE			NESS*		
Grade	Standards		H	M	L	H 1-19	M 20-38	L 39-50
3	8	127	11	9	107	78	40	9
4	8	140	25	2	113	79	52	9
5	8	139	38	1	100	76	56	7
6	8	145	33	1	111	81	58	6
7	8	146	35	1	110	80	60	6
8	8	147	45	1	101	80	61	6
10/11	8	141	46	1	94	80	55	6
Totals	56	985	233	16	736	554	382	49

Mathematics

Nevada mathematics assessment includes CRTs in grades 3-8 and the HSPE in grades 10 and/or 11.

Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to assessments was obtained from the Nevada Department of Education's website. It provided the test item specifications for each indicator of progress on the *2007-2008 Mathematics Text Matrix*. The number of test item specifications per indicator at each tested grade level was averaged. Standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each tested grade level and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. Indicators of progress 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	11.25	2.04	9.21 = 9	0	1-9	>9
4	12.00	1.41	10.56 = 11	0	1-11	>11
5	12.00	2.00	10.00 = 10	0	1-10	>10
6	13.50	1.84	11.66 = 12	0	1-12	>12
7	13.50	1.84	11.66 = 12	0	1-12	>12
8	13.50	1.84	11.66 = 12	0	1-12	>12
10/11	15.00	5.02	9.98 = 10	0	1-10	>10

Mathematics summary data are presented in Table 4.

Table 4. Mathematics Assessment Data Summary.

Mathematics		Indicators of Progress	NCRT/HSPE			NESS*		
Grade	Standards		H	M	L	H 1-16	M 17-42	L 43-70
3	5	23	10	7	6	12	9	2
4	5	26	8	14	4	15	10	1
5	5	28	17	4	7	16	10	2
6	5	32	16	9	7	21	10	1
7	5	33	15	10	8	18	13	2
8	5	32	17	12	3	15	14	3
10/11	5	27	21	3	3	13	14	0
Totals	35	201	104	59	38	110	80	11

Science

Nevada science assessment includes CRTs in grades 3-8 and the HSPE in grades 10 and/or 11.

Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to assessments was obtained from the Nevada Department of Education's website. It provided the test item specifications for each indicator of progress on the *Science CRT Item Specifications*. The number of test item specifications per indicator at each tested grade level was averaged. Standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each tested grade level and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. Indicators of Progress 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	3.31	1.54	1.77 = 2	0	1-2	>2
8	3.30	1.70	1.60 = 2	0	1-2	>2
11	3.43	1.21	2.22 = 2	0	1-2	>2

Science summary data are presented in Table 6.

Table 6. Science Assessment Data Summary.

Science		Indicators of Progress	NCRT/HSPE			NESS*		
Grade	Standards		H	M	L	H 1-32	M 33-50	L 51-85
5	12	53	38	10	5	25	11	17
8	12	63	40	19	3	27	12	23
10/11	12	62	45	16	1	33	9	20
Totals	36	178	123	45	9	85	32	60

Totals for English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science

Table 7 presents the number of indicators of progress compared to the number of indicators of progress tested. Using this data, the percentage of indicators of progress tested was calculated.

Table 7. Totals and Percentages for English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science.

	Indicators of Progress	Indicators of Progress Tested	% Indicators of Progress Tested
English Language Arts	985	249	25.3%
Mathematics	301	163	54.2%
Science	178	168	94.4%
TOTAL	1,464	580	39.7%

References

Nevada Department of Education

<http://nde.doe.nv.gov/>

Nevada Curriculum and Instruction/Content Standards

<http://www.doe.nv.gov/standards.html>

Nevada Assessments

Assessment and Program Accountability: <http://nde.doe.nv.gov/APAC.htm>

Criterion Referenced Tests: http://nde.doe.nv.gov/Assessment_CRT.htm

High School Proficiency Examination: http://nde.doe.nv.gov/Assessment_HSPE.htm

Writing Assessment: http://nde.doe.nv.gov/Assessment_WA.htm

*NESS (National Essential Skills Study) in the preceding subject summary charts refers to the *International Center for Leadership in Education's* 2007-2008 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.

