

# Vermont Curriculum Matrix Summary

## Tri-State New England (TSNE) Grade Expectations (GEs)

The TSNE GEs are specified for the development of a common, large-scale, state-level assessment. Partner states have or may include additional GEs for use within each state for local assessment purposes.

## English Language Arts

The reading portion of the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) is used in Vermont to assess students on a statewide basis. Vermont reading GEs identify content knowledge and skills expected of all students for large-scale assessment in grades 3-8. Reading GEs for grades 9-10 are assessed in grade 11. Writing GEs are assessed on the NECAP in grades 4, 7, 8, and high school GEs in grade 11.

## Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to assessments was obtained from the Vermont Department of Education website. It provided the number of GEs per standard eligible for state assessment. The number of state assessment eligible GEs per standard at each grade level grade was then 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. GEs not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The results can be found in Table 1.

**Table 1. Reading/Writing Designation Data.**

	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
				L = Low	M = Medium	H = High
<b>Grade 2</b>	4.50	0.45	4.05	0	1-4	>4
<b>Grade 3</b>	4.50	0.45	4.05	0	1-4	>4
<b>Grade 4</b>	4.70	1.28	3.41	0	1-3	>3
<b>Grade 5</b>	4.75	0.97	3.78	0	1-4	>4
<b>Grade 6</b>	4.75	0.97	3.78	0	1-4	>4
<b>Grade 7</b>	6.00	1.92	4.09	0	1-4	>4
<b>High School</b>	5.20	1.85	3.35	0	1-3	>3

English language arts summary data are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2. English Language Arts Assessment Data Summary.**

English LA		Grade Expectations (GEs)	NECAP			NESS*		
Grade	Standards		H	M	L	H 1-19	M 20-38	L 39-50
<b>2</b>	16	60	9	7	44	45	12	3
<b>3</b>	17	76	10	8	58	56	16	4
<b>4</b>	17	80	43	5	32	57	18	5
<b>5</b>	19	90	16	3	71	65	19	6
<b>6</b>	18	95	17	2	76	71	18	6
<b>7</b>	18	100	46	17	37	76	18	6
<b>High School</b>	18	112	45	10	57	85	19	8
<b>Totals</b>	123	613	186	52	375	455	120	38

## Mathematics

The mathematics portion of the NECAP is used in Vermont to assess students on a statewide basis. Vermont mathematics GEs identify content knowledge and skills expected of all students for large-scale assessment in grades 3-8. Mathematics high school GEs are assessed in grade 11.

### Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to assessments was obtained from the Vermont Department of Education website. It provided the number of GEs per standard eligible for state assessment. The number of state assessment eligible GEs per standard at each grade level was then 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. GEs 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
2	3.00	0.63	2.67	0	1.2	>2
3	3.25	0.74	2.51	0	1-3	>3
4	4.25	0.98	3.27	0	1-3	>3
5	3.75	0.39	3.36	0	1-3	>3
6	3.75	0.39	3.36	0	1-3	>3
7	4.00	0.63	3.36	0	1-3	>3
High School	3.75	1.60	2.15	0	1-2	>2

Mathematics summary data are presented in Table 4.

**Table 4. Mathematics Assessment Data Summary.**

Mathematics		Grade Expectations (GEs)	NECAP			NESS*		
Grade	Standards		H	M	L	H 1-16	M 17-42	L 43-70
2	5	23	10	2	11	12	11	0
3	5	25	8	5	12	15	10	0
4	5	27	14	3	10	18	9	0
5	5	27	12	3	12	18	9	0
6	5	26	13	4	9	17	9	0
7	5	26	13	3	10	19	7	0
High School	5	22	10	5	7	15	7	0
<b>Totals</b>	35	176	80	25	71	114	62	0

## Science

The Vermont science curriculum includes the GEs eligible for assessment in grade spans 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, and 9-12. The science GEs are written for grade spans 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, and high school. They describe the science knowledge and abilities students should demonstrate at the end of each grade span. Since the large-scale high school science assessment is given near the end of grade 11, the GEs for high school for all students are aligned with the content for the assessment.

## Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to assessments was obtained from the Vermont Department of Education website. It provided the number of GEs eligible for state assessment per standard. The number of state assessment eligible GEs per standard at each grade span was then averaged. Standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each grade span and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. GEs 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
3-4	5.80	1.77	4.23	0	1-4	>4
5-6	7.20	2.67	4.53	0	1-5	>5
7-8	6.60	2.86	3.74	0	1-4	>4
High School	9.00	4.87	4.14	0	1-4	>4

Science summary data are presented in Table 6.

**Table 6. Science Assessment Data Summary.**

Science		Grade Expectations (GEs)	NECAP			NESS*		
Grade	Standards		H	M	L	H 1-32	M 33-50	L 51-85
3-4	5	32	23	9	0	24	4	4
5-6	5	40	36	4	0	30	4	6
7-8	5	34	28	6	0	28	1	5
High School	5	47	43	4	0	31	5	11
<b>Totals</b>	20	153	130	23	0	113	14	26

### Totals for English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science

Table 7 presents the number of GEs compared to the number of GEs assessed. Using this data, the percentage of GEs that are state assessed was calculated.

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

	Grade Expectations	Grade Expectations Assessed	% Grade Expectations Assessed
English Language Arts	613	238	38.9%
Mathematics	176	105	59.7%
Science	153	153	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	942	496	52.7%

## References

Vermont Department of Education  
<http://www.education.vermont.gov/>

## Grade Expectations

[http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pubs/framework.html#grade\\_expectations](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pubs/framework.html#grade_expectations)

## Assessment and Accountability

[http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm\\_assessment.html](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_assessment.html)

## NECAP Information

[http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm\\_assessment/necap.html](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_assessment/necap.html)

\***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.

