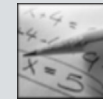




State Content Area Summary Report

Test Date: Spring 2011

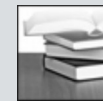
Content Areas:



Algebra I



Biology



Literature

This report provides valuable information about performance on the Pennsylvania Keystone Exams. It displays information about how Commonwealth students performed by content area.

The Commonwealth's goal is to enable all students to become lifelong learners and reach their full potential.

About the Keystone Exams

The Keystone Exams are end-of-course assessments designed to assess performance in the content areas of Algebra I, Biology, and Literature. Future content areas to be assessed include Algebra II, Chemistry, English Composition, Geometry, U.S. History, World History, and Civics and Government. The exams are offered in both paper/pencil and online formats.

The Keystone Exams were developed by Pennsylvania educators and are aligned to the Keystone Exams Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content.

The Keystone Exams are one component of Pennsylvania's new system of high school graduation requirements. To receive a diploma, a student must also meet local school district credit and attendance requirements, complete a culminating project, and pass any additional district requirements.

For detailed information about how the Keystone Exams are being integrated into the Pennsylvania graduation requirements, please contact the Pennsylvania Department of Education or visit www.pdesas.org.

www.pdesas.org

All Content Areas



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

KEYSTONE EXAMS ITEMS

Common items within a content area are administered to all eligible students regardless of the exam form they are assigned. Only the common items are used in determining students' scores and their corresponding performance levels. This practice ensures all students are evaluated using the same sets of items.

Field Test items vary between forms. These items are included only as a means for gathering statistical information about an item that might be used in a future assessment. Field Test items are not included in the results of students, schools, or the district.

KEYSTONE EXAMS SCORES

The Keystone Exam score is a scale score computed from the number of points a student receives on the exam (i.e., raw score). For every possible raw score on an exam form, there is a corresponding scale score. Most state testing programs use scale scores for reporting purposes. A given scale score has the same interpretation regardless of the length or difficulty of the exam. For example, a scale score of 1300 always implies the same level of student performance and always falls in the same performance level. The student's Keystone Exam score is used to place the student in the appropriate performance level. The items on the Keystone Exams change with each administration, but they continue to measure the same Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content.

Please note that percentages in the following tables may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

KEYSTONE EXAMS PERFORMANCE LEVELS



Advanced: Superior academic performance indicating an in-depth understanding and exemplary display of the skills included in the Keystone Exams Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content.



Proficient: Satisfactory academic performance indicating a solid understanding and adequate display of the skills included in the Keystone Exams Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content.



Basic: Marginal academic performance indicating work approaching, but not yet reaching, satisfactory performance. Performance indicates a partial understanding and limited display of the skills included in the Keystone Exams Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content. The student may need additional instructional opportunities and/or increased student academic commitment to achieve the Proficient level.



Below Basic: Inadequate academic performance indicating little understanding and minimal display of the skills included in the Keystone Exams Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content. There is a major need for additional instructional opportunities and/or increased student academic commitment to achieve the Proficient level.

KEYSTONE EXAMS ASSESSMENT ANCHORS AND ELIGIBLE CONTENT

The Keystone Exams Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content are designed to clarify the Academic Standards that may be assessed in the Keystone Exams. An Assessment Anchor is reported only if five or more possible points come from items aligned with the Assessment Anchor. Results based on fewer than five items are not considered statistically reliable.

Performance Level Summary by Content Area

Algebra I
Biology
Literature

Test Groups	Total Tested	Below Basic		Basic		Proficient		Advanced	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
State: All Testers	94,939	18,994	20.0%	39,230	41.3%	25,948	27.3%	10,767	11.3%
State: All Testers	46,998	14,905	31.7%	15,343	32.6%	12,434	26.5%	4,316	9.2%
State: All Testers	42,815	7,966	18.6%	13,510	31.6%	18,521	43.3%	2,818	6.6%

¹ If a percentage is not displayed within the graph, consult the table for the actual percentage.

Please note that percentages in the tables may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

