



Parent & Community Member Overview - Assessment

Assessment 101

The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) reinforces the authority of states to decide which statewide assessments are the most appropriate for its students. Wyoming's state assessment, the Wyoming Test of Proficiency and Progress (WY-TOPP), assesses students on the [Wyoming Content and Performance Standards](#). It is administered online and is a computer-adaptive assessment. This state summative assessment is an end-of-year test that measures how much students have learned during the school year.

Wyoming's Alternate Assessment (WY-ALT), for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, is aligned to the [Wyoming Extended Standards](#). Approximately 1% of students participate in the WY-ALT.

Students in grades 3-10 take the WY-TOPP and WY-ALT assessments for Math and English Language Arts (ELA). Grade 5, 7, and 9 students are also assessed in Writing on WY-TOPP. Students in grades 4, 8, and 10 are assessed in Science on WY-TOPP and WY-ALT. More information is available [here](#) for statewide assessments.

Assessment scores are determined by a student's performance on all of the tested standards for each grade level. Proficiency levels are determined by a Wyoming Educator Committee in a process called Standard Setting, using Wyoming student data, following the administration of a new test. The committee sets levels based on a student's ability to meet the standards, not on performance compared to other students. All 3 content areas were set by an educator committee in the summer of 2018 following the first administration of the WY-TOPP assessments. ELA and Math proficiency levels have remained consistent since 2018. Science was reset in 2022 after students were assessed on the new Science Standards.

Overall proficiency is determined at a statewide or district level and not at the student level. Scores are not rounded or adjusted on a bell curve and are averaged for all 55,247 Wyoming 3-10 grade students, spanning a wide range of ages and knowledge bases. Student achievement is one indicator for school performance but is not indicative of the overall educational system.

The public is invited to experience a training test at wyoassessment.org, in the Students and Families section.

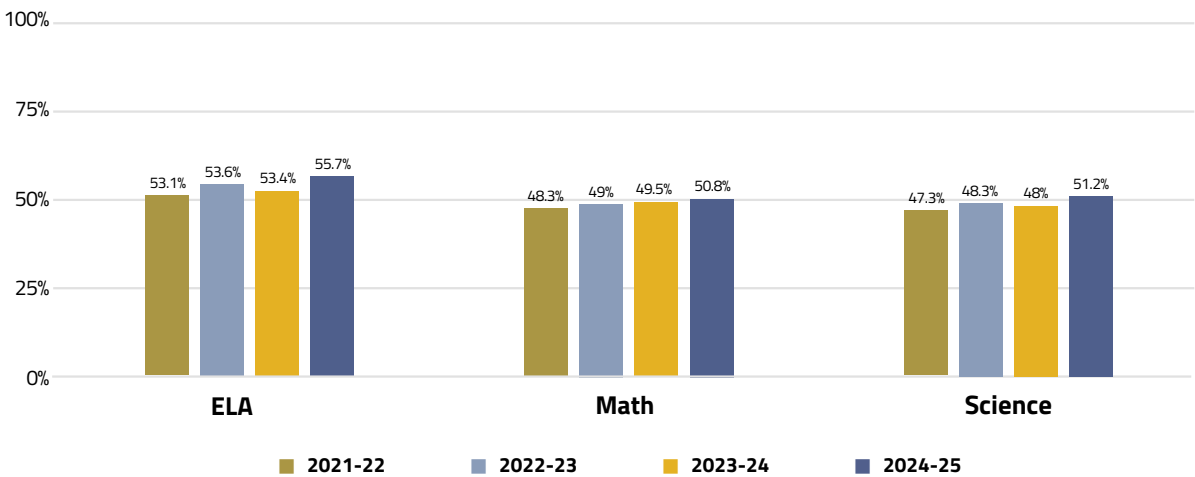
2024-25 Assessment Highlights

District-by-district snapshots can be found [here](#) by content area and grade. Overall, 99% of students in the testing grades participated in WY-TOPP/WY-ALT Assessments. Virtual Education participation improved from ~95% last year to ~97% this year.

Overall Proficiency

- Overall proficiency saw an increase for 2025.
- **ELA** scores have returned to 2019 pre-pandemic achievement levels, following a slight decrease last year and an increase of 2.3% this year. Statewide proficiency was 55.7%.
- **Math** has seen a steady increase since 2021 and remains only 0.4% below pre-pandemic levels. Statewide proficiency was 50.8%.
- **Science** saw a slight decrease last year and an increase of 3.2% this year, and has surpassed pre-pandemic levels. Statewide proficiency was 51.2%.

Statewide Proficiency Annual Comparison



Statewide proficiency is an average of all students. Typical statewide averages of student proficiency range between 30-80%. The chart demonstrates overall proficiency related to Wyoming’s rigorous standards and assessments. Educators set those rigorous standards for Wyoming; 100% proficiency might suggest that the system is not holding high expectations of students.

Proficiency by Grade

ELA: Increases in proficiency were seen in all grades except grade 6.

- Grades 4, 5, 7, 8, and 9 are all showing achievement above pre-pandemic levels.
- Grades 8 & 9 ELA show the largest gains this year, more than a 4% increase.
- Note that Writing is tested in grades 5, 7, and 9 and is part of the ELA score. This is the first year that grade 3 did not include writing.

Math: Increases in proficiency were seen in all grades except grade 6.

- Grades 3, 4, and 9 saw scores above pre-pandemic levels.
- Grades 3 & 4 Math continue to improve and surpass pre-pandemic results by more than 4%.
- Grades 6 & 8 Math continue to be an area of concern, showing scores more than 4% below pre-pandemic levels.

Science: Scores not only increased this year but have all surpassed their pre-pandemic levels.

- Note that Wyoming had a new WY-TOPP and WY-ALT Science test in the 2021-22 school year, aligned to the 2016 Science Standards and the 2018 Science Extended Standards. This year was year 4 of testing students on those science standards.

GRADE AND CONTENT	LAST YEAR'S CHANGE 2023-24	THIS YEAR'S CHANGE 2024-25	CHANGE PRE- PANDEMIC TO POST 2019-25
3 ELA	4.2%	0.7%	-1.7%
4 ELA	4.2%	1.6%	2.2%
5 ELA	-0.3%	3.2%	2.2%
6 ELA	-1.2%	-0.5%	-2.7%
7 ELA	0.9%	3.5%	0.2%
8 ELA	-2.9%	4.5%	0.7%
9 ELA	-2.0%	4.1%	2.0%
10 ELA	-4.7%	1.4%	-2.4%
3 Math	2.6%	2.1%	4.7%
4 Math	3.4%	2.9%	4.5%
5 Math	-1.4%	2.9%	-0.2%
6 Math	1.2%	-2.5%	-4.9%
7 Math	-1.0%	2.0%	-1.9%
8 Math	-0.1%	0.3%	-4.7%
9 Math	0.7%	1.5%	2.8%
10 Math	-2.2%	1.7%	-2.0%
4 Science	1.8%	3.3%	3.3%
8 Science	-2.4%	3.6%	1.8%
10 Science	-0.2%	2.8%	0.9%