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 uses computer-adaptive testing. This state summative assessment is an end-of-year test that measures how much students have learned during the school year. Approximately 99% of students participate in the WY-TOPP.

Wyoming's Alternate Assessment (WY-ALT), for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, aligns with 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. WY-TOPP and WY-ALT assess students in grades 4, 8, and 10 in Science.

Assessment scores are determined by a student's performance on all of the tested standards for each grade level. A Wyoming Educator Committee determines proficiency levels through a process called Standard Setting, using Wyoming student data following the administration of a new test. An educator committee set the proficiency levels for all 3 content areas in the summer of 2018, following the first administration of the WY-TOPP assessments. ELA proficiency levels have remained consistent since 2018. The Science test changed in 2022 to assess the new Science Standards, which significantly increased the rigor of learning expectations as we shifted to the 3 dimensions of science, and proficiency levels were set in the Summer of 2022. An educator committee validated both Math and Science proficiency levels in July 2026 to ensure alignment with the reduced 2023 Wyoming Content and Performance Standards. The 2026 event included minor adjustments to three Math grade levels.

WY-TOPP results help evaluate a school's strengths and weaknesses. Individual student results are provided to parents, but have no direct effect on student grades. Consider these results one piece of evidence of a student's learning. Please see your local school district for additional information about how the state-level results and other district-level and classroom-level results are used to improve learning.

The public is invited to experience a training test at **wyoassessment.org**, in the Administration Resources section. The ELA and Math training tests contain assessment items for grades 3–10. The ELA tests for grades 3, 6, and 9 also include sample listening questions. The Science training tests contain assessment items in each grade band (elementary, middle school, and high school).

2025-26 Assessment Highlights

District-by-district snapshots can be found **here** by content area and grade.

Participation

- Overall, 99% of students in the testing grades participated in WY-TOPP/WY-ALT Assessments.
- Virtual Education maintained its improved participation this year, with 97.8%.

Overall Proficiency

Overall proficiency increased this year. English, Math, and Science scores are at or above pre-pandemic levels. Compared to last year, student proficiency increased across the board.

- **ELA** scores continue to rise, up 1.6% this year.
- **Math** has steadily increased since 2021 and has officially exceeded pre-pandemic levels, up 4.1% this year.
- **Science** has improved for two years, with an additional 1.3% this year over last.

Proficiency Results

CONTENT AREA	Y1 17-18	Y2 18-19	Y3 20-21	Y4 21-22	Y5 22-23	Y6 23-24	Y7 24-25	Y8 25-26	24–25 CHANGE	25–26 CHANGE
	*		**	***			****	*****		
ELA (3-10)	53.1%	55.7%	53.9%	53.1%	53.6%	53.4%	55.7%	57.3%	+2.3%	+1.6%
Math (3-10)	49.2%	51.2%	48.0%	48.3%	49.0%	49.5%	50.8%	54.9%	+1.3%	+4.1%
Science (4, 8, 10)	48.5%	49.3%	47.4%	47.3%	48.3%	48.0%	51.2%	52.5%	+3.2%	+1.3%

* Year 1 is the baseline year of the WY-TOPP general assessment.
** Break in data due to covid.
*** WY-TOPP and WY-ALT Science tests changed in 2022 (Y4).
**** WY-TOPP ELA, grade 3 Writing was removed from the ELA test in 2025 (Y7)
***** WY-TOPP Math and Science blueprints and tests changed in 2026 (Y8).

The WY-TOPP assessment began in 2017-18. In the second year of assessment, immediately before COVID-19, proficiency rates increased, as shown in the table above and the chart below. In the spring of 2020, school districts received a waiver allowing them to forgo assessment; therefore, no data were produced.

Proficiency by Content Area

ELA: Proficiency increased in all grades except grades 7 & 8

- All grades except grade 7 are showing achievement above pre-pandemic levels.
- Grades 5 & 10 ELA saw the largest gains this year, with more than a 3% increase.
- Note that Writing is tested in grades 5, 7, and 9 and is part of the ELA score.

Math: Proficiency increased in all grades.

- All grades saw scores near or above pre-pandemic levels.

Science: Grades 4 & 10 saw increases this year. Grade 8 decreased by 1.2%. Scores remain above the pre-pandemic high.

Annual Results by Grade

CONTENT AREA	Y1 17-18	Y2 18-19	Y3 20-21	Y4 21-22	Y5 22-23	Y6 23-24	Y7 24-25	Y8 25-26
	*		**	***			****	*****
3 ELA	51.4%	54.8%	50.3%	47.9%	48.2%	52.4%	53.1%	55.7%
4 ELA	49.2%	49.1%	48.7%	47.4%	45.5%	49.7%	51.3%	52.6%
5 ELA	58.6%	55.6%	54.6%	57.0%	54.9%	54.6%	57.8%	61.3%
6 ELA	57.5%	60.8%	58.9%	58.1%	59.8%	58.6%	58.1%	60.8%
7 ELA	54.3%	58.6%	53.3%	54.7%	54.4%	55.3%	58.8%	56.5%
8 ELA	58.0%	60.7%	60.6%	58.4%	59.8%	56.9%	61.4%	60.9%
9 ELA	44.4%	52.7%	52.2%	49.5%	52.6%	50.6%	54.7%	55.6%
10 ELA	50.9%	52.8%	51.9%	51.6%	53.7%	49.0%	50.4%	54.7%
3 Math	51.3%	53.5%	50.5%	51.6%	53.5%	56.1%	58.2%	61.2%
4 Math	50.9%	52.9%	49.8%	52.3%	51.1%	54.5%	57.4%	62.6%
5 Math	53.0%	55.4%	51.2%	52.5%	53.7%	52.3%	55.2%	61.0%
6 Math	51.9%	55.1%	48.1%	51.5%	51.5%	52.7%	50.2%	56.9%
7 Math	49.2%	52.0%	47.0%	47.3%	49.1%	48.1%	50.1%	52.9%
8 Math	51.7%	54.5%	50.9%	48.6%	49.6%	49.5%	49.8%	53.9%
9 Math	41.5%	40.4%	41.8%	41.6%	41.0%	47.7%	43.2%	46.5%
10 Math	42.9%	45.2%	44.7%	41.6%	43.7%	41.5%	43.2%	45.0%
4 Science	51.8%	52.0%	48.2%	49.6%	50.2%	52.0%	55.3%	56.2%
8 Science	46.8%	47.5%	46.2%	45.9%	48.1%	45.7%	49.3%	48.1%
10 Science	46.2%	48.3%	47.9%	46.5%	46.6%	46.4%	49.2%	53.3%

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Annual Comparison by Grade

CONTENT AREA	Y6 TO Y7 CHANGE	Y7 TO Y8 CHANGE	Y2 TO Y8 CHANGE
3 ELA	0.7%	2.6%	0.9%
4 ELA	1.6%	1.3%	3.5%
5 ELA	3.2%	3.5%	5.7%
6 ELA	- 0.5%	2.7%	0.0%
7 ELA	3.5%	- 2.3%	- 2.1%
8 ELA	4.5%	- 0.5%	0.2%
9 ELA	4.1%	0.9%	2.9%
10 ELA	1.4%	4.3%	1.9%
3 Math	2.1%	3.0%	7.7%
4 Math	2.9%	5.2%	9.7%
5 Math	2.9%	5.8%	5.6%
6 Math	- 2.5%	6.7%	1.8%
7 Math	2.0%	2.8%	0.9%
8 Math	0.3%	4.1%	- 0.6%
9 Math	1.5%	3.3%	6.1%
10 Math	1.7%	1.8%	- 0.2%
4 Science	3.3%	0.9%	4.2%
8 Science	3.6%	- 1.2%	0.6%
10 Science	2.8%	4.1%	5.0%