

Florida Curriculum Matrix Summary

Introduction

The Curriculum Matrix data in this resource kit is provided as a guide to help educators in planning curriculum and instruction. All interpretations of state standards, Common Core [State Standards](#), and state assessment program data that were needed to construct the correlations in this Matrix were conducted by content area specialists in each discipline and reviewed by research managers. Where and if necessary, interpretations of the learning statements used in the correlations were verified by third-party reviewers and/or officials of the state's department of education. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the crosswalk and summary data. However, some learning outcome statements are, by their nature, subject to interpretation and determination of intent by content area specialists. Educators should always exercise their own best judgment in determining how to apply the data.

Care was taken to ensure that all data used in the analyses was current at the time of publication, but all standards and assessment data remain subject to updates as states revise or update their state standards or assessment programs. The International Center welcomes your feedback, advice, and suggestions about the data provided. The Center also eagerly encourages users to help us keep the data current for all educators in their state by advising us of any such updates. Please address all comments to: International Center for Leadership in Education, 1587 Route 146, Rexford, NY 12148 or info@LeaderEd.com.

Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test

The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) is made up of two kinds of tests: a criterion-referenced test (CRT) which measures how well students are meeting the *Sunshine State Standards* in reading, writing, mathematics, and science, and a norm-referenced test component (NRT) which allows educators and parents to compare Florida student performance on reading and mathematics with the performance of students nationwide.

English Language Arts

The Florida English language arts curriculum includes standards and benchmarks assessed by the FCAT and NRT in reading for grades 3-10 and in writing for grades 4, 8, and 10.

Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to assessments was obtained from the Florida Department of Education website. Assessment priorities were determined by examining the data from the *FCAT Reading Test Item Specifications Grades* documents. Writing data was accessed from *FCAT Writing+ Answer Key with New Benchmarks*. Data from these documents was used to identify test-eligible benchmarks and to determine their priority designations. The number of reading/language arts and writing test-eligible benchmarks per standard at each grade level was 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. The benchmarks that were not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The FCAT reading/language arts priority designation results can be found in Table 1.

Table 1. Reading/Language Arts Priority Designation Data

Grade	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
				L = Low	M = Medium	H = High
3	2.80	1.77	1.03	0	1	>1
4	2.89	1.76	1.13	0	1	>1
5	2.50	1.75	0.75	0	1	>1
6	2.17	1.35	0.82	0	1	>1
7	2.17	1.35	0.82	0	1	>1
8	2.08	1.38	0.70	0	1	>1
9-10	2.08	1.44	0.67	0	1	>1

English language arts summary data is presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Reading/Language Arts FCAT Summary Data

English Language Arts			FCAT			NESS ¹		
Grade	# Standards	# Benchmarks	H	M	L	H 1-19	M 20-38	L 39-50
3	20	75	13	2	60	61	12	2
4	20	80	30	2	50	66	13	1
5	22	77	14	3	60	61	15	1
6	19	76	13	3	60	56	19	1
7	20	78	10	3	65	56	21	1
8	20	80	20	2	55	57	21	2
9-10	19	81	17	6	58	59	19	3
Totals	140	547	117	21	408	416	120	11

Mathematics

The Florida mathematics curriculum includes Big Ideas and Supporting Ideas (i.e., standards) and benchmarks in grades 3-8, and 9-12 assessed by the FCAT and NRT.

Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to assessments was obtained from the Florida Department of Education website. Assessment priorities were determined by examining the data from the *FCAT Mathematics Test Item Specifications Grades* documents. Data from this document was used to identify the number of test items per test category. This document also aligned the test categories to the benchmarks. The number of test items per reporting category of Big Ideas and Supporting Ideas at each grade level was 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. The benchmarks that were not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The FCAT mathematics priority designation 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	12.19	7.28	4.91	0	1-5	>5
4	12.13	8.81	3.32	0	1-3	>3
5	14.63	8.68	5.95	0	1-6	>6
6	13.06	5.23	7.83	0	1-8	>8
7	10.50	3.06	4.44	0	1-4	>4
8	14.62	6.67	7.95	0	1-8	>8
9-10	14.62	12.13	2.49	0	1-2	>2
Algebra I EOC	29.25	19.11	10.14	0	1-10	>10

Mathematics summary data is presented in Table 4.

Table 4. Mathematics FCAT Summary Data

Mathematics			FCAT			NESS ¹		
Grade	# Big Ideas/ Supporting Ideas & Standards	# Benchmarks	H	M	L	H 1-16	M 17-42	L 43-70
3	7	17	15	2	0	11	5	1
4	7	21	21	0	0	13	6	2
5	3	23	19	4	0	14	9	0
6	3	19	14	5	0	16	3	0
7	3	22	21	0	1	15	5	2
8	3	19	15	1	3	10	8	1
9-12	42	230	82	5	143	81	90	59
Totals	68	351	187	17	147	160	126	65

Science

The Florida science curriculum includes standards and benchmarks in grades 5, 8, and 11 assessed by the FCAT and NRT.

Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to assessments was obtained from the Florida Department of Education website. Assessment priorities were determined by examining the data from the science crosswalks. Florida is in transition between the previous Sunshine State Science Standards and the recently adopted Next Generation Sunshine State Science Standards. The crosswalk between FCAT assessed benchmarks from the 1996 Sunshine State Science Standards and the new science standards identifies the benchmarks assessed on the science FCAT through 2010. Data from this document was used to identify the number of assessed benchmarks per Big Idea (standard). The number of assessed benchmarks per Big Idea at each grade level was 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. The benchmarks that were not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The FCAT science priority designation 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
K	1.60	1.01	0.59	0	1	>1
1	1.44	0.91	0.93	0	1	>1
2	1.70	1.28	0.42	0	1	>1
3	2.18	1.14	1.04	0	1	>1
4	2.42	1.44	0.98	0	1	>1
5	2.82	2.58	0.24	0	1	>1
6	2.40	1.72	0.68	0	1	>1
7	3.00	1.31	1.39	0	1	>1
8	3.00	2.10	0.90	0	1	>1
9-10	5.06	3.30	1.76	0	1-2	>2

Science summary data is presented in Table 6.

Table 6. Science FCAT Data Summary

Science			FCAT Standards Test			NESS ¹		
Grade	# Big Ideas & Standards	# Benchmarks	H	M	L	H 1-32	M 33-50	L 51-85
K	8	19	4	4	11	12	1	6
1	9	19	8	5	6	13	1	5
2	10	30	16	1	13	20	4	6
3	11	32	21	3	8	20	1	11
4	12	42	25	4	13	28	2	12
5	12	37	18	5	14	22	7	8
6	10	35	21	3	11	21	7	7
7	9	34	26	1	7	25	2	7
8	8	40	23	1	16	25	1	14
9-12	16	215	78	4	133	135	29	51
Totals	105	503	240	31	232	321	55	127

Totals for Florida English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science

Table 7 presents the number of standards/benchmarks compared to the number of standards/benchmarks tested.

Table 7. Total Percentage for all FCAT Tested Grade Levels in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science

	# Standards/ Benchmarks	# Standards/ Benchmarks Tested	% Standards/ Benchmarks Tested
English LA	547	138	25
Mathematics	351	204	58
Science	503	271	54
Totals	1401	613	44