



Student Assessment News

Connecticut State Department of Education • Performance Office

August 25, 2021

[Archived Student Assessment News](#)
CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov

Summative Assessment Scores Available

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The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) has released scores in Cambium’s Centralized Reporting System (CRS) for those students who tested remotely in 2020-21 on the Smarter Balanced and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Summative Assessments.

We would like to thank districts for following the guidance set forth by the CSDE and testing students primarily in-person, which we believe was the optimal mode for testing for the 2020-21 test window. As a reminder, scores for in-person testing were previously released in late June on the CRS. For those districts that tested students remotely, we applaud the efforts of district staff who implemented this new construct for testing. The CSDE provided many supports and controls that were necessary to preserve the security and integrity of testing, and we sincerely appreciate your efforts to conduct remote testing in the spring of 2021.

Over the past month, the CSDE conducted analyses to explore the comparability between remote and in-person test scores. The analyses thus far, reveal the following:

- Of all students tested, approximately 88 percent tested in person, while approximately 12 percent tested remotely.
- Over 90 percent of those who tested remotely also accessed learning using a fully/mostly remote model.

After controlling for demographics and prior achievement:

- Among students in Grades 5 through 8 who accessed learning using a fully/mostly remote model, there was no significant difference in ELA performance between

those who tested remotely and those who tested in person.

- Among students in Grades 5 through 8 who accessed learning using a fully/mostly remote model, there was a significant difference in mathematics performance between those who tested remotely and those who tested in person. The performance of those who tested remotely was slightly higher than expected when compared to those who tested in person.
- In Grade 3 (in both subjects) and in Grade 4 (mathematics only), there was a significant difference in performance between those who tested remotely and those who tested in person. Students who tested remotely performed slightly higher than expected when compared to those who tested in person.

While remote test scores are generally assumed to be comparable to in-person test scores, further analyses will be needed to confirm if some of the slight differences described above are due to inherent differences in student achievement, and not due to the test mode.

Note the CRS will not separate remote test scores from in-person test scores. **Therefore, please interpret the combined aggregate scores with caution and, as always, consider these scores with multiple sources of student information.** When results are released through EdSight Secure after the school year begins, flags will be added to indicate not only the student’s test mode (i.e., in-person, remote), but also the student’s learning model.



Connecticut Alternate Assessment



Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment



Connecticut SAT School Day



Special Populations Updates

2021-22 Testing Designated Supports and Accommodations Form

The 2021-22 Testing Designated Supports and Accommodations Form and the annotated version of this form are now available for use with students who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP), students with a Section 504 Plan, and/or students who are English learners.

[Test Supports and Accommodations Form](#)

[Test Supports and Accommodations Form-Annotated Version](#)

2021-22 Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form

The Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form has been revised for use for the 2021-22 school year. Special education students with significant cognitive disabilities determined eligible for participation in the Alternate Assessment System by their Planning and Placement Team (PPT) **must** have this form submitted into the Data Entry Interface (DEI) by the trained teacher administering the Alternate (TEA) by specified deadlines. Please access these related resources:

[2021-22 Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form](#)

[Annotated Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions and Answers about the Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form](#)

[Frequently asked Questions and Answers about the Alternate Assessment System](#)

Smarter Balanced Braille Options for 2021-22

The Smarter Balanced Assessments will no longer be available in English Braille American Edition (EBAE). Please refer to [Braille Options 2021-22](#) to determine the best assessment accommodations for students with visual impairments requiring Braille supports.

Procedure to Update Assessment Contacts	
User Roles	Procedure to Update
District Administrator (DA) in TIDE for Smarter Balanced, NGSS, CTAA, CTAS	If you have not already updated DA status through the survey sent out to DAs, please email ctstudentassessment@ct.gov .
English Learner Assessment Coordinator (ELAC)	Request the district's Contacts Manager Writer update the ELAC contact information.*
Information Technology (IT)T Coordinator for LAS LINKS	Contact LASLinksPM@DataRecognitionCorp.com .
Connecticut SAT School Day Test Coordinator	Contact Michelle Rosado at michelle.rosado@ct.gov .
*Each local education agency (LEA) has one or more individuals with the Contacts Manager Writer role who can update contact information for any of the directories listed in Contacts Manager including ELAC. A list of individuals with the Contacts Manager Writer role is available here .	

Connecticut SAT School Day Updates

2022 Connecticut SAT School Day Digital Administration

This school year the administration of the Connecticut SAT School Day will transition from a paper-and-pencil test to a fully digital administration. In preparation for this change, please note the following important implementation and administration details:

- The test will be administered on March 23-25 & 29-30, 2022, with make-ups scheduled for April 26-28, 2022. Schools can use all of these days to administer the test digitally. All students do not need to be tested on the same day.
- All tests will be delivered using the Cambium

Assessment Incorporated test delivery system and supporting tools available through the College Board. Schools will be required to install the **College Board Secure Browser** in order to deliver the assessment.

- All students must complete all sections of the test in one day, unless a student has been approved for accommodations that extend testing time beyond one day.

More specific details including training regarding the digital transition will be made available shortly. Please direct any questions regarding the Connecticut SAT School Day to [Michelle Rosado](#).

Interim Assessment Item Portal Update

With similar functionality to [Smarter Balanced Sample Items Website](#), the [Interim Assessment Item Portal](#) (IAIP) provides educators with the ability to use interim assessment items in more flexible ways to support student learning. This [IAIP update](#) includes:

- 38 Focused Interim Assessments Blocks in ELA/literacy and mathematics;
- print on demand Braille;
- the ability to print Answer Key Information for tests; and
- functionality enhancements.

Check out the six new [Tools for Teachers](#) web pages designed to support use of the formative assessment process in classrooms and provide an easy access point for educators!

- ⇒ Accessibility Strategies
- ⇒ Instructional Resources
- ⇒ Interim Connections Playlist
- ⇒ Formative Strategies
- ⇒ Interim Assessment Item Portal
- ⇒ Professional Learning Strategies



Help us congratulate **Marlene Chameroy** in her retirement after 29 years of state service! She was a part of the Student Assessment Family for nearly ten years and provided assistance to many districts over the years on the phone and in person at various workshops and trainings. CSDE will miss her dearly and are most appreciative of her hard work, dedication, and never –ending support! Best wishes, Marlene! ❤️



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Summative Assessment Calendar for 2021-22

Assessment	Dates
LAS Links	January 3-March 4, 2022
NGSS Assessments	February 7-June 3, 2022 (Grade 11) March 28-June 3, 2022 (Grades 5 and 8)
Connecticut SAT School Day	March 23-25 and 29-30, 2022 Make-up Window: April 26-28, 2022
Connecticut Alternate Assessment—CTAA	March 28-June 3, 2022
Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment—CTAS (Administered throughout the year)	(Upload Window for Submission through the Data Entry Interface (DEI)) March 28-June 3, 2022 (Grades 5, 8, and 11)
Connecticut Smarter Balanced Assessments	March 28-June 3, 2022

Individual Student Reports

Student Individual Student Reports for Smarter Balanced, NGSS, CTAA and CTAS will be distributed to districts from Cambium Assessments Inc. by mid-September. These reports are similar to previously distributed reports that have been sent in past years.

Secure Browser for Smarter Balanced, NGSS, CTAA Available

The [2021-2022 Secure Browsers](#) are now available to download from Cambium.

Register for email updates

To automatically receive the *Student Assessment News* and/or other announcements, [register for e-mail updates](#) on the Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal.

