

2007 MCAS Technical Report



This document was prepared by the Massachusetts Department of Education. Jeffrey Nellhaus, Acting Commissioner of Education

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1. PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW OF THIS REPORT

The Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) is the Commonwealth's program for student assessment developed in accordance with the *Education Reform Law of 1993*. The main purposes of MCAS are

- to measure student, school, and district performance in meeting the state's learning standards as detailed in the *Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks*
- to improve student achievement and classroom instruction by providing diagnostic feedback with respect to the acquisition of skills and knowledge
- to help determine English language arts and mathematics competency at the grade 10 level for the awarding of high-school diplomas

The purpose of this 2007 MCAS Technical Report is to document the technical quality and characteristics of the 2007 MCAS tests, and to present evidence of the validity and reliability of the intended uses of those tests' results. MCAS tests were administered in the following grades and content areas in 2007:

- grade 3: English Language Arts, Mathematics
- grade 4: English Language Arts, Mathematics
- grade 5: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Technology/Engineering
- grade 6: English Language Arts, Mathematics
- grade 7: English Language Arts, Mathematics
- grade 8: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Technology/Engineering
- grade 10: English Language Arts, Mathematics
- End-of-course high school (grades 9/10):Biology, Chemistry, Introductory Physics, Technology/Engineering

Since passing the grade 10 English Language Arts and Mathematics tests is one requirement for receiving a high school diploma, retest opportunities in those tests were offered in August 2006, November 2006, and March 2007 to students in grades 10 and higher who had not yet passed one or both tests.¹

The following pilot tests were also administered:

- History and Social Science: grades 5 and 7
- End-of-course U.S. History: high school (grades 10/11)

This *Report* provides detailed information regarding test design and development; scoring; and analysis and reporting of MCAS 2007 results at student, school, district, and statewide levels. This detailed information includes but is not limited to the following:

¹ The August and November retests were identical test forms. Therefore, students who took the August retest in English Language Arts or Mathematics were not permitted to take the November retest for that subject.

- test administration
- equating and scaling of tests
- statistical and psychometric summaries, including
- item analyses
- reliability evidence
- validity evidence
- equating evidence

In addition, this *Report* includes technical appendices containing detailed item-level and summary statistics related to each 2007 MCAS test and its results.

The 2007 MCAS Technical Report is designed to supplement the technical reports issued for previous MCAS administrations by providing information specific to the 2007 MCAS test administration. Previous technical reports, as well as other documents referenced in this report, provide additional background information about the MCAS program and its development and administration.

This *Report* is primarily intended for experts in psychometrics and educational measurement. It assumes a working knowledge of measurement concepts, such as reliability and validity, and statistical concepts of correlation and central tendency. For some chapters, the reader is presumed to have basic familiarity with advanced topics in measurement and statistics, such as item response theory (IRT) and factor analysis.

2. MCAS 2007 TEST DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN

2.1 Standard MCAS Test Development and Design

The 2007 MCAS administration included operational tests in the following grades and content areas:

- grades 3–8 and grade 10 English Language Arts
- grades 3–8 and grade 10 Mathematics
- grades 5 and 8 Science and Technology/Engineering
- high school (grades 9 and 10) Science and Technology/Engineering end-of-course tests in Biology, Chemistry, Introductory Physics, and Technology/Engineering

The 2007 MCAS administration also included retest opportunities in English Language Arts and Mathematics for students in grades 10 and above who had not previously passed one or both tests. Retests were offered in August 2006, November 2006, and March 2007.²

Additionally, pilot tests in History and Social Science were administered in grades 5 and 7, and an end-of-course pilot test in U.S. History was administered to high school students in grades 10 and 11.

2.1.1 Item Design and Types

2.1.1.1 Common/Matrix-Sampled Item Design

The MCAS tests are constructed based on a *common/matrix-sampled item design*. Each test form contains both common and matrix-sampled items (with the exception of the English Language Arts Composition).

- <u>Common</u>. Individual student test scores and all student-level results are based exclusively on common items. All students in a grade are tested on the same set of common items. Common items comprise roughly 80 percent of items in each test form. These items are released to the public after testing is completed.
- <u>Matrix-Sampled</u>. Approximately 20 percent of the items in each test form are matrixsampled items; these items differ across test forms. Some matrix-sampled items are used to equate tests across administrations; some are used to field-test new items for future use as common or equating items.

Results of matrix-sampled equating items are combined with common item results to measure subtopics of the *Curriculum Framework* for that test's content area. These

² The August and November retests were identical test forms. Therefore, students who took the August retest in English Language Arts or Mathematics were not permitted to take the November retest for that subject.

results are reported at the school and districtlevels only (subject area subscores). Subject area subscores are the only reported MCAS scores that include results for matrix-sampled equating items (results for field-test items are not included).

2.1.1.2 Item Types

The four item types used on the MCAS tests allow for testing of broad knowledge and skills by the most efficient means. Each item type is described below.

 <u>Multiple-Choice</u>. Multiple-choice items appear on every MCAS test except the English Language Arts (ELA) Composition. Each multiple-choice item requires the student to select a single best answer from four response options.

Multiple-choice items are machine-scored. A correct response is assigned a score of 1 raw score point; each incorrect, blank, or multiple-response answer is assigned a score of 0 raw score points.

Open-Response. Open-response items appear on every MCAS test except the ELA Composition. Each open-response item requires the student to generate a response, rather than selecting a response from a list of options. Response types vary based on the tested content area (e.g., in English Language Arts, a written response one or two paragraphs; in Mathematics, creation of a chart, table, diagram, graph, and/or a written response).

Open-response questions are scored from 0 to 4 (0 to 2 for grade 3 Mathematics) on the basis of item-specific rubrics and are scored by trained professional scorers.

• <u>Short-Answer</u>. Short-answer items appear only on MCAS Mathematics tests. Each short-answer item requires the student to generate a brief response to a prompt (e.g., a numeric solution prompted by a computation, or a short statement).

Short-answer questions are scored by one or two trained professional scorers on a 0-1 scale, based on item-specific rubrics.

• <u>Writing Prompts</u>. Writing prompts appear only on ELA Composition tests. The prompt requires a student to draft a written composition; then, in a separate administration session, the student writes a final composition based on that draft.

Each composition is scored by at least two professional scorers (100% double-scored) who have been trained to use the MCAS Writing Composition Score Point Descriptions (Appendix E). The Score Point Descriptions include two dimensions for scoring: Topic Development and Standard English Conventions. The range of scores for Topic Development is 1 to 6 points; the range of scores for Standard English Conventions is 1 to 4 points. Each scorer independently assigns a score in each area; the two scorers' scores in each area are combined (added together) to report a total score range from 2 to 12 for Topic Development and a total score range from 2 to 8 for Standard English Conventions. The score for each dimension is reported separately in MCAS reports.

2.1.2 General Test Development Specifications

All MCAS tests have been developed and created in adherence to the principles of sound and ethical test construction set forth in the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* (1985, 1999). It should be noted that MCAS design and development have remained consistent across all test administrations. Listed below are the specifications that have guided the development of the MCAS tests.

2.1.2.1 Alignment with Standards and Performance Levels

Content Standards

All test items are based exclusively on the *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework* learning standards identified as eligible for assessment according to the *Guides to the MCAS* (http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/guides.html).

MCAS Performance Levels

Each MCAS test is designed to measure the range of performance identified by the four MCAS performance levels: *Warning/Failing, Needs Improvement, Proficient,* and *Advanced*,³ which are described in detail in section 5.1.1.1 of this *Report*.

2.1.2.2 Item Clarity

In addition to adhering to the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing*, items are reviewed and edited to ensure uniform style in accordance with the *MCAS Style Guide* (based primarily on the *Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th edition). Each MCAS item also meets the following specifications:

- The item reflects correct grammar, punctuation, usage, and spelling.
- The item is written in a clear, concise style.
- The item is unambiguous to students in its nature and scope.

2.1.2.3 Content Accuracy

All items and, where applicable, scoring guides are subjected to rigorous internal checks for content accuracy by DOE and testing contractor staff. In addition, the DOE contracts with established scholars in each content area (External Content Expert Reviewers). These External Content Expert Reviewers, along with Assessment Development Committees⁴, review test materials to assist in ensuring content accuracy.

³ At grade 3, test results in the top performance level are reported as *Above Proficient* rather than *Advanced*. The performance level of *Failing* is used only on grade 10 tests.

For the MCAS-Alt, the *Warning/Failing* performance level is subdivided into three additional MCAS-Alt performance levels, *Awareness, Emerging*, and *Progressing*. These MCAS-Alt performance levels are further described in section 5.1.2 of this *Report*.

2.1.2.4 Developmental Appropriateness

Developmental appropriateness guidelines for each tested grade level are provided in each content area's *Curriculum Framework*. The judgments of Assessment Development Committee members⁴ are strongly considered where an interpretation is required about the appropriateness of an item as it relates to the relevant *Framework* and best classroom practice.

2.1.2.5 Support and Model for Classroom Instruction

All MCAS items are developed to engage students and to support and model effective classroom instruction. The judgments of Assessment Development Committee members⁴ are strongly considered where an interpretation is required about the appropriateness of an item as it relates to the relevant *Framework* and best classroom practice.

2.1.3 Test Construction

The process of assembling test forms is a critical final phase of test development. To construct the MCAS 2007 operational tests, Department of Education and testing contractor staff, including content, editorial, and psychometric experts, assembled a common/equating test in each grade and content area that met all test specifications and adhered to sound psychometric parameters.

Each test form includes distinct "positions" for common, equating, and field-test items, as discussed in section 2.1.4. The testing contractor nominates items for common, equating, and field-test positions based upon test specifications and item performance data. The testing contractor also comments on items and provides those comments to the Department's Assessment Development Committees, Bias Committee, and Content Experts.

Section 2.1.4 provides construction specifications for test forms used during the 2007 MCAS administration.

2.1.3.1 Common Items

Each proposed common item is checked verbatim against the item as it appeared in field test administration. Nominations for the common test are accompanied by Test Characteristic Curves (TCCs) and Test Information Functions (TIFs) presenting the three projected cut scores for the proposed common test, compared to the previous year's test.

⁴ Assessment Development Committee members are primarily classroom teachers in the grade and subject area being developed.

2.1.3.2 Equating Items

Once common items are chosen for a specific grade/subject area test, equating items are assigned to some of the matrix positions on the various forms of that test. Together, these equating items form a set that is used among all forms of the test.⁵

- No single test form utilizes the entire set of equating items.
- Whenever possible, equating items are placed in the same positions and on the same form numbers as the previous year's test.

Equating items are nominated and chosen to form a set that is as similar as possible to that test's common item set in the following areas:

- <u>Number of Items</u>: e.g., the 2007 grade 3 Mathematics test included a total of 35 common items; the equating set was also comprised of 35 total items
- <u>Number of Each Item Type</u>: e.g., the grade 6 Mathematics test included 5 common short-answer items; the equating set also contained 5 short-answer items
- Number of Points Possible: e.g., on the grade 5 English Language Arts (ELA) test, the set of common items was responsible for 52 possible score points (36 points from multiple-choice items plus 16 from open-response items); the set of equating items could receive up to 60 possible points (36 points from multiple-choice items plus 24 from open-response items); the 8-point difference in points possible is due to the ELA test blueprint requirement that every equating reading passage include an open-response items in its associated set of items—resulting in the inclusion of 6 open-reponse items in the equating set—while one of the common passage's associated set of items includes only multiple-choice items, for a total of 4 open-response common items
- <u>Reporting Category Distribution</u>: e.g., on the grade 7 Mathematics test, common items that tested the Number Sense and Operations strand were responsible for 14 points on the test; in the test's equating set, equating items that measured the Number Sense and Operations strand were also responsible for 14 points
- <u>Average Difficulty (p-value or mean points scored) and Discrimination</u>: e.g., the grade 8 Science and Technology/Engineering test's common multiple-choice items had an average p-value of 0.65; the test's equating multiple-choice items also had an average p-value of 0.65

For data regarding the extent to which each 2007 MCAS test achieved these goals, see Appendix M.

⁵ In rare instances, equating items are repeated on more than one form (e.g., grade 10 Mathematics, where each equating item appears on two forms).

2.1.3.3 Field-Test Items

Department of Education content teams and testing contractor staff then selected field-test items that met the annual test development coverage specifications. Field-test items were placed into matrix positions on each common test form; placement considerations included whether the item would clue other matrix or common items within the form. Field test items were also placed to ensure the overall integrity of each test form in terms of content breadth and depth of coverage.

2.1.3.4 Special Test Formats

All MCAS 2007 operational tests were available in the following special formats, which were made available to eligible students with disabilities, as indicated:

- <u>Large-Print</u>. This form contained all common and matrix items found in the first form of the operational test (see Appendix H, accommodation 11).
- <u>Braille</u>. This form contained only common test items found in the operational test (see Appendix H, accommodation 12).
- <u>Electronic Text Reader CD</u>. This CD in Kurzweil format contained only common test items found in the operational test (see Appendix H, accommodations 18 and 28).

The following special test format was offered only for the grade 10 English Language Arts and Mathematics tests, and was made available to the students indicated:

 <u>Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic (RFB&D) CD</u>. This audio CD text reader contained only common test items found in the operational test (see Appendix H, accommodations 18 and 28).

The following special test formats were created only for the grade 10 Mathematics test, and were made available to the students indicated:

- <u>American Sign Language video</u>. This video contained only common test items found in the operational test (see Appendix H, accommodations 17 and 27).
- <u>Spanish/English version</u>. This form of the test contained all common and matrix items found in the first form of the operational test. Each item was presented twice: once in Spanish on a left-facing page, and once in English on a right-facing page. This form was made available to Spanish-speaking limited English proficient students who had been enrolled in school in the continental United States for fewer than three years if they could read and write in Spanish at or near grade-level.

The August 2006, November 2006, and March 2007 retests were available in large-print, Braille, Electronic Text Reader (Kurzweil) CD, and Spanish/English formats.

2.1.4 Content-Related Test Specifications

The 2007 MCAS administration included tests in three *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework* content areas:

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science and Technology/Engineering

It also included pilot tests at grades 5 and 7 in History and Social Science, and at the high school level (grades 10/11) in U.S. History.

Information is provided below about the development and design of each content area operational test and pilot test. The *Frameworks* can be found at <u>www.doe.mass.edu/frameworks</u>.

2.1.4.1 English Language Arts

Test Development

- Grades 3–8 and 10 English Language Arts Reading Comprehension tests. The Reading Comprehension portion of the MCAS English Language Arts (ELA) tests in grades 3–8 and 10 and of the ELA Retests measured the following learning standards of the Massachusetts English Language Arts Curriculum Framework:
 - Language strand: standards 4, 5, and 6
 - Reading and Literature strand: standards 8–17

Passages

Test sessions presented either two or three reading passages; each passage was followed by a group of associated assessment items. Each passage and its associated items were always assessed as an intact unit. The grade 3 test included 50 percent literary and 50 percent informational passages. The grades 4–8 and 10 tests and the Retests included 60 percent literary and 40 percent informational passages. Approximately 50 percent of the authors of test passages are listed in the *Framework*'s Appendices A and B.

 Grades 4, 7, and 10 Composition. The Composition portion of the ELA tests at grades 4, 7, and 10 and of the ELA Retests measured learning standards 19–23 of the Composition strand of the *Massachusetts English Language Arts Curriculum Framework*.

Learning standards 1, 2, 3, 7, 18, and 24–27 of the *Framework*, which were not feasible to incorporate into a large-scale state assessment program such as MCAS, were locally assessed (e.g., Language Standard 3, "Students will make oral presentations that demonstrate appropriate consideration of audience, purpose, and the information to be conveyed").

Table 2.1.4.1.1 shows the test specifications regarding distribution of common item points across *Framework* strands for the MCAS 2007 English Language Arts tests.

Table 2.1.4.1.1: MCAS 2007 TestsCommon Item Point Distribution across Framework Strands:Grades 3–8 and 10 English Language Arts

				Grade			
Framework Strand	3	4	5	6	7	8	10
Language	15%	8%	12%	12%	8%	12%	8%
Reading and Literature	85%	64%	88%	88%	64%	88%	64%
Composition		28%			28%		28%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Test Design

Table 2.1.4.1.2 shows the test design for each ELA test by grade level and item type.

Table 2.1.4.1.2: 2007 MCAS Administration Test Design: Grades 3–8 and 10 English Language Arts

	Grade and Test Re1 and Re2 = Retests									1C = M R = Ope		choice		SA = 3	Short-a Writing		ot					
	Rel and Rez = Relesis				lt	ems p	er Fori	n							Matrix	Items	Acros	ss Form	າຣ			
				Common Matrix			Т	otal P	ositio	15	Equ	uating	Positi	ons	Fiel	d-Test	t Positi	ons				
Grade	Test Name	Number of Forms	МС	SA	OR	WP	МС	SA	OR	WP	МС	SA	OR	WP	МС	SA	OR	WP	МС	SA	OR	WP
3	Reading Comprehension	20	40		2		8		1		160		20		32		4		128		16	
4	Reading Comprehension	15	36		4		12		2		180		30		36		6		144		24	
4	Composition	*2				1																**10
5	Reading Comprehension	15	36		4		12		2		180		30		36		6		144		24	
6	Reading Comprehension	15	36		4		12		2		180		30		36		6		144		24	
7	Reading Comprehension	15	36		4		12		2		180		30		36		6		144		24	
7	Composition	*2				1																**10
8	Reading Comprehension	15	36		4		12		2		180		30		36		6		144		24	
10	Reading Comprehension	38	36		4		12		2		456		76		96		16		360		60	
10	Composition	*2				1																**25
10Re1	Reading Comprehension	1	36		4																	
10Re1	Composition	1				1																
10Re2	Reading Comprehension	1	36		4																	
10Re2	Composition	1				1																

* "# of Forms" includes makeup operational forms.

** The ELA Composition is field tested out-of-state (rather than by an embedded field test).

GRADE 3 READING COMPREHENSION TEST

Common forms include 3 long passages and 4 short passages.

Each common long passage has 8 MC; each common short passage has 4 MC; 2 of the long common passages have one OR each. Matrix forms include either one long passage (with 8 MC, 1 OR) or two short passages (one with 4 MC; one with 4 MC, 1 OR). For equating, passages and their associated items appear in only one form.

All passages are field tested in 2 forms; short passages include an OR on one form but not on the other.

GRADES 4–8 AND 10 READING COMPREHENSION TESTS

All Grades

Common forms include 3 long passages and 3 short passages.

Each common long passage typically has 8 MC, 1 OR. Each common short passage typically has 4 MC; only one short passage has an OR. Each matrix form includes 1 long passage and 1 short passage. Each passage has 1 OR item.

All passages are field tested in two forms.

Grades 4–8

Equating items are divided among 3 forms; each passage and associated items appear on one form only.

Field test consists of 6 long passages (each with a total of 16 MC, 2 OR) and 6 short passages (each with a total of 8 MC, 2 OR).

Grade 10

Equating consists of 4 long passages and 4 short passages; each passage appears on two different test forms.

Field test consists of 15 long passages (each with a total of 16 MC, 2 OR) and 15 short passages (each with a total of 8 MC, 2 OR).

GRADE 10 RETEST

The grade 10 ELA Retest was administered in August 2006 (Re1), November 2006 (Re1), and March 2007 (Re2).

THE MASSACHUSETTS COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

2007 MCAS Technical Report

2.1.4.2 Mathematics

Test Development

The MCAS Mathematics tests at grades 3 through 8 and at grade 10 measured the learning standards of the five strands of the *Massachusetts Mathematics Curriculum Framework*:

- Number Sense and Operations
- Patterns, Relations, and Algebra
- Geometry
- Measurement
- Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability

Table 2.1.4.2.1 shows the test specifications regarding distribution of common item points across *Framework* strands for the MCAS 2007 Mathematics tests.

		Grade # = number of points per form % = percent per form												
	3	3 4 5 6 7 8 10												
Framework Strand	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
Number Sense and Operations	35%	14	35%	19	33%	18	33%	18	26%	14	26%	14	20%	12
Patterns, Relations, and Algebra	20%	8	20%	11	26%	14	26%	14	28%	15	28%	15	30%	18
Geometry	12.5%	5	12.5%	7	13%	7	13%	7	13%	7	13%	7	15%	9
Measurement	12.5%	5	12.5%	6	13%	7	13%	7	13%	7	13%	7	17%	10
Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability	20%	8	20%	11	15%	8	15%	8	20%	11	20%	11	18%	11
Total	100%	40	100%	54	100%	54	100%	54	100%	54	100%	54	100%	60

Table 2.1.4.2.1: MCAS 2007 TestsCommon Item Point Distribution across Framework Strands:Mathematics

Test Design

Table 2.1.4.2.2 shows the test design for each Mathematics test by grade level and item type.

						Т	'est l	Desig	gn: M	athen	natic	s									
			Types of Items																		
			MC = Multiple-choice OR = Open-response SA = Short-answer WP = Writing prompt Items per Form Matrix Items Across Forms																		
			Con	nmon			Ма	trix		Тс	otal P	ositio	ns	Equ	uating	Positi	ons	Field	d-Test	Positi	ons
Grade Tested	# of Forms	MC	SA	OR	WP	MC	SA	OR	WP	МС	SA	OR	WP	МС	SA	OR	WP	MC	SA	OR	WP
3	15	25	5	5		5	1	1		75	15	15		25	5	5		50	10	10	
4	15	29	5	5		7	1	1		105	15	15		29	5	5		76	10	10	
5	15	29	5	5		7	1	1		105	15	15		29	5	5		76	10	10	
6	15	29	5	5		7	1	1		105	15	15		29	5	5		76	10	10	
7	16	29	5	5		7	1	2		112	16	32		29	5	5		83	11	27	
8	16	29	5	5		7	1	2		112	16	32		29	5	5		83	11	27	
10	32	32	4	6		7	1	2		224	32	64		64	8	12		160	24	52	
10 Retest 1	1	32	4	6																	
10 Retest 2	1	32	4	6																	

Table 2.1.4.2.2: 2007 MCAS AdministrationTest Design: Mathematics

GRADE 3

OR are only 2 points (rather than 4 points). Each equating item appears in only one form. Each field test item is unique.

GRADES 4-6

Each field test item is unique.

GRADES 7-8

Each equating item appears in only one form. For field tests, 14 unique OR items (7 non-calculator; 7 calculator-allowed) fill the 27 OR field-test positions.

GRADE 10

Each equating item appears in two forms.

Only 27 unique OR items (14 non-calculator; 13 calculator-allowed) fill the 52 OR field-test positions.

NOTE: The original test design called for 24 unique OR items (12 non-calculator; 12 calculator-allowed). During form pulling, 27 OR items were included.

GRADE 10 RETEST

The Mathematics Retest was administered in August 2006 (Retest 1), November 2006 (Retest 1), and March 2007 (Retest 2).

2.1.4.3 Science and Technology/Engineering

Test Development

Grades 5 and 8

The MCAS Science and Technology/Engineering tests at grades 5 and 8 measured the learning standards of the four strands of the *Massachusetts Science and Technology/Engineering Curriculum Framework*:

- Earth and Space Science
- Life Science
- Physical Sciences
- Technology/Engineering

Table 2.1.4.3.1 shows the test specifications regarding distribution of common item points across *Framework* strands for the MCAS 2007 Science and Technology/Engineering tests at grades 5 and 8.

Table 2.1.4.3.1: MCAS 2007 Tests Common Item Point Distribution across *Framework* Strands: Science and Technology/Engineering Grades 5 and 8

	Gra	ade
Framework Strand	5	8
Earth and Space Science	25%	25%
Life Science	25%	25%
Physical Sciences	25%	25%
Technology/Engineering	25%	25%
Total	100%	100%

High School End-of-Course Tests

During the 2007 MCAS administration, four high school end-of-course tests were administered to students in grades 9 and 10:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Introductory Physics
- Technology/Engineering

Each test measured the Framework learning standards outlined for its specific discipline.

Any grade 10 student enrolled in one of these four disciplines was required to take the test for that discipline; any grade 9 student enrolled in one of these four disciplines was eligible but not required to take the test for that discipline. If a student had taken or was enrolled in courses in more than one discipline, he or she was given the option of selecting which test to take.

Biology Modules

For the High School Biology test only, modules, comprised of a stimulus (e.g., graphic, scenario) and a group of associated assessment items, were utilized. Each stimulus and its associated items were always assessed as an intact unit.

High School Science and Technology/Engineering Reporting Categories

Most MCAS tests report results through reporting categories that bear the same names as strands within the test's relevant *Curriculum Framework*. However, MCAS reporting categories for each high school end-of-course Science and Technology/Engineering test addressed one or more **subtopics** listed in the *Science and Technology/Engineering Curriculum Framework* for that discipline.

Tables 2.1.4.3.2 through 2.1.4.3.5 show the test specifications regarding distribution of common item points across reporting categories for each MCAS 2007 Science and Technology/Engineering high school end-of-course test. These tables also show which *Framework* subtopics are associated with each reporting category; a footnote to each table provides the *Framework* page numbers where these subtopics and their learning standards are found.

Table 2.1.4.3.2: MCAS 2007High School Biology TestCommon Item Point Distribution Across MCAS Reporting Categories

MCAS Reporting Category	%	Related Curriculum Framework Subtopic(s) ¹
Biochemistry and Cell Biology	25%	The Chemistry of Life
		Cell Biology
Genetics	20%	Genetics
Anatomy and Physiology	15%	Anatomy and Physiology
Evolution and Biodiversity	20%	Evolution and Biodiversity
Ecology	20%	Ecology
Total	100%	
1 High School Biology subtopic	s are found	on pages 54–56 of the Massachusetts Science and

1. High School Biology subtopics are found on pages 54–56 of the Massachusetts Science and Technology/Engineering Curriculum Framework.

Table 2.1.4.3.3: MCAS 2007High School Chemistry TestCommon Item Point Distribution Across MCAS Reporting Categories

MCAS Reporting Category	%	Related Curriculum Framework Subtopic(s) ²
Properties of Matter and Thermochemistry	25%	 Properties of Matter States of Matter, Kinetic Molecular Theory, and Thermochemistry
Atomic Structure and Periodicity	25%	 Atomic Structure and Nuclear Chemistry Periodicity
Bonding and Reactions	30%	 Chemical Bonding Chemical Reactions and Stoichiometry standard 8.4 from subtopic Acids and Bases and Oxidation-Reduction Reactions
Solutions, Equilibrium, and Acid-Base Theory	20%	 Solutions, Rates of Reaction, and Equilibrium Acids and Bases and Oxidation-Reduction Reactions (except standard 8.4, included in reporting category Bonding and Reactions)
Total	100%	

2. High School Chemistry subtopics are found on pages 69–71 of the Massachusetts Science and Technology/Engineering Curriculum Framework.

Table 2.1.4.3.4: MCAS 2007High School Introductory Physics TestCommon Item Point Distribution Across MCAS Reporting Categories

MCAS Reporting Category	%	Related Curriculum Framework Subtopic(s) ³
Motion and Forces	40%	 Motion and Forces
Motion and Forces	40%	 Conservation of Energy and Momentum
Heat and Heat Transfer	15%	Heat and Heat Transfer
Waves and Radiation	25%	 Waves
Waves and Radiation	25%	 Electromagnetic Radiation
Electromagnetism	20%	Electromagnetism
Total	100%	
3 High School Introductory Phy	sice subtoni	rs are found on names 7/-75 of the Massachusetts Science and

3. High School Introductory Physics subtopics are found on pages 74–75 of the *Massachusetts Science and Technology/Engineering Curriculum Framework.*

Table 2.1.4.3.5: MCAS 2007 High School Technology/Engineering Common Item Point Distribution Across MCAS Reporting Categories

%	Related Curriculum Framework Subtopic(s) ⁴					
20%	Engineering Design					
20%	 Construction Technologies 					
2076	 Manufacturing Technologies 					
200/	 Energy and Power Technologies—Fluid Systems 					
30%	 Energy and Power Technologies—Thermal Systems 					
200/	 Energy and Power Technologies—Electrical Systems 					
30%	 Communication Technologies 					
100%						
	20% 20% 30% 30%					

4. High School Technology/Engineering subtopics are found on pages 92–94 of the *Massachusetts Science and Technology/Engineering Curriculum Framework*.

Test Design

Table 2.1.4.3.6 shows the test design for each Science and Technology/Engineering test by grade level and item type.

Table 2.1.4.3.6: 2007 MCAS Administration Test Design: Science and Technology/Engineering

	Test Design. Science and Technology/Engineering																					
	Grade				Types of Items																	
HS = I	High School End-of-	Course							M	C = Mu	ultiple-o	choice	;	SA =	Short-a	answei	r					
	Test Type			OR = Open-response WP = Writing prompt																		
ST = Scien	ice and Technology/	Engineering																				
	Bio = Biology			Items per Form Matrix Items Across Forms																		
	Chem = Chemistry	,				•																
Intro.	Intro. Phy = Introductory Physics						To (al Danifiana - Environ Danifiana - Eistel Too) Dani						Desiti									
Tech/Er	ng = Technology/Eng	gineering	Common		Matrix		Total Positions		15	Equating Positions			Field-Test Positions									
Grade	Test Name	# of Forms	МС	SA	OR	WP	MC	SA	OR	WP	MC	SA	OR	WP	МС	SA	OR	WP	MC	SA	OR	WP
5	ST	17	34		5		7		1		119		17		34		5		85		12	
8	ST	17	34		5		7		1		119		17		34		5		85		12	
HS	Bio	14	40		5		12		2		168		28		40		5		128		23	
HS	Chem	12	40		5		12		2		144		24		40		5		104		19	
HS	Intro. Phy	10	40		5		12		2		120		20		40		5		80		15	
HS	Tech/Eng	5	40		5		20		2		100		10		21		1		79		9	

ALL TESTS (except HS Technology/Engineering) Each equating item appears in only one form.

HIGH SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING

A total of 38 MC and 3 OR were used for equating. Both common and matrix items were used as equating items (17 MC and 2 OR common equating; 21 MC and 1 OR matrix equating).

2.1.4.4 History and Social Science (Pilot Tests)

Pilot Test Development

During the 2007 MCAS administration, pilot tests in History and Social Science were administered at grades 5 and 7, and an end-of-course pilot test in U.S. History was administered at the high school level (grade 10 or 11).

These pilot tests were based on the learning standards of the *Massachusetts History and Social Science Curriculum Framework*.

The pilot tests served two purposes: 1) to produce item field-test classical statistics that would inform selection of common and equating items for future operational assessments; and 2) to release a common set of items for each pilot test, for which only Test Item Analysis Reports were generated. No scaled score or performance level results were reported for pilot tests. Test Item Analysis Reports were distributed only to schools and districts.

Modules

The pilot tests utilized modules that were comprised of a stimulus (e.g., graphic, map, historical document, scenario) and a group of associated assessment items. Each stimulus and its associated items were always assessed as an intact unit.

Pilot Test Design

Table 2.1.4.4 shows the design for each History and Social Science pilot test by grade level and item type.

Table 2.1.4.4: 2007 MCAS Administration Pilot Test Design: History and Social Science

							- <u>.</u>		··· / ·													
	Grade HS = High School	l								C = Mu = Open		choice	s of Ite	ems SA = S WP =								
	Pilot Test Name HSS = History and Social Science			Items per Form Matrix Items Across Forms*																		
05H =	End-of-Course U.S	. History		Con	nmon			Ма	atrix		T	otal P	ositio	ns	Equ	uating	Positi	ions	Fiel	d-Test	t Positi	ions
Grade	Test Name	# of Forms	МС	SA	OR	WP	MC	SA	OR	WP	MC	SA	OR	WP	MC	SA	OR	WP	МС	SA	OR	WP
5	HSS	7	29		1		19		3		133		21		N/A		N/A		133		21	
7	HSS	7	29		1		19		3		133		21		N/A		N/A		133		21	
HS	USH	6	41		1		17		5		102		30		N/A		N/A		102		30	

* Some matrix items were repeated across forms. Number of positions indicates available slots.

GRADE 5

125 unique MC items filled the 133 field-test positions. 19 unique OR items filled the 21 field-test positions.

GRADE 7

124 unique MC items filled the 133 field-test positions. 19 unique OR items filled the 21 field-test positions.

HIGH SCHOOL

Each field-test position was filled by a unique MC item. 27 unique OR items filled the 30 field-test positions.

2.2 MCAS Alternate Assessment (MCAS-Alt) Test Development and Design

Students with significant disabilities whose IEP or 504 teams determine that they cannot participate in standard MCAS tests, even with accommodations (see table 3.2.1.1), instead take the MCAS Alternate Assessment (MCAS-Alt). The MCAS-Alt assesses the same *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework* content areas and learning standards as those assessed by the standard MCAS tests (see section 2.1.4 and table 2.2.1 below).

Evidence of student performance is submitted in an MCAS-Alt portfolio, as outlined in the sections below.

2.2.1 Required Strands in Each Content Area

The MCAS-Alt portfolio indicates evidence of student performance in required strands within each content area assessed in that portfolio's grade. Table 2.2.1 shows the strands for which evidence is required in each content area, by grade.

Grade	English Language Arts Strands Required	Mathematics Strands Required	Science and Technology/Engineering Strands Required
3	 Language (General Standard 4) Reading and Literature (General Standard 8) 	 Number Sense and Operations Patterns Relations, and Algebra 	
4	 Language (General Standard 4) Reading and Literature (General Standard 8) Composition 	 Number Sense and Operations Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability 	
5	 Language (General Standard 4) Reading and Literature (General Standard 8) 	 Number Sense and Operations Measurement 	Any three of the four Science and Technology/ Engineering strands
6	 Language (General Standard 4) Reading and Literature (General Standard 8) 	 Number Sense and Operations Patterns Relations, and Algebra 	
7	 Language (General Standard 4) Reading and Literature (General Standard 8) Composition 	 Number Sense and Operations Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability 	
8	 Language (General Standard 4) Reading and Literature (General Standard 8) 	 Number Sense and Operations Geometry 	Any three of the four Science and Technology/ Engineering strands
10	 Language (General Standard 4) Reading and Literature (General Standard 8) Composition 	 Any three of the five Mathematics strands 	Any three learning standards in either Biology Chemistry Introductory Physics or Technology/ Engineering

Table 2.2.1: Content Areas and Strands Required on the 2007 MCAS-Alt, in Each Grade

2.2.1.1 Core Set of Evidence

Portfolios must include three or more pieces of primary evidence in each strand being assessed. Each piece of primary evidence must be labeled with the following:

- the student's name
- the date of the student performance
- the percentage of accuracy for the performance
- the percentage of independence for the performance

Accuracy refers to the percentage of correct responses or the score given the student's work. Independence refers to the level of assistance the student received during the activity.

One of the three required pieces of primary evidence must be a data chart (e.g., field data chart, line graph, bar graph) that shows the following information, at minimum:

- the targeted skill based on the learning standard being assessed
- five tasks performed by the student on five distinct dates
- percentage of accuracy for each performance
- percentage of independence for each performance
- growth over time, indicating that the student attempted a new skill

The two or more additional pieces of primary evidence must document the student's performance of <u>the same skill or outcome identified on the data chart</u>. The data chart plus at least two additional pieces of primary evidence form the "core set of evidence" required in each portfolio strand.

2.2.1.2 Examples of Portfolio Evidence

Table 2.2.1.2.1 gives examples of primary evidence in a sample mathematics portfolio, organized by strand.

	Mathematics Strands										
Number Sense and Operations			Patterns,	Relations, an	d Algebra	Geometry					
Po	ossible Evider	nce	Po	ossible Eviden	се	Possible Evidence					
Line Graph	Field Data Chart	Worksheet	Data Chart	Worksheet	Line Graph	Bar Graph	Work Sample	Work Sample			

Table 2.2.1.2.1: Examples of Evidence in a Grade 10 Mathematics Portfolio

Table 2.2.1.2.2 lists examples of different types of primary evidence that could be provided in a portfolio.

Table 2.2.1.2.2: S	ample Primary	/ Evidence in MCAS-Alt Portfolios for Different Grades

Type of Evidence	Evidence Provided in Portfolio (L.S. = learning standard)
	Bar graph showing percentages of accuracy and independence on 8 trials of "using a dictionary to determine the meanings of unfamiliar words." (ELA, Language, grade 4, L.S. 4.25) Line graph showing percentages of accuracy and independence on 10 trials of
Data Chart	"identifying community access words." (ELA, Language, grade 4, L.S. 4.13)
	Field data chart showing the student's responses to yes or no questions to distinguish between fact and opinion of a story that was read aloud. (ELA, Reading and Literature, grade 8, L.S. 8.17)
Work Sample	Student-created story using figurative language. (ELA, Reading and Literature, grade 8, L.S. 8.12)
(open responses By the student)	Student's journal entry describing their favorite part of a story. (ELA, Reading and Literature, grade 8, L.S. 8.22)
	Student-created list of substances, sorted in categories of acid or base. (STE, Physical Sciences, grade 8, L.S. 8.1)
	Completed worksheet on which student has matched the name of a shape to its corresponding picture.
Worksheet (simple activities with one correct response)	(Mathematics, Geometry, grade 10, L.S. 10.G.1) Completed worksheet on which student has matched earth science vocabulary words to their definitions.
	(STE, Earth and Space Science, grade 6, L.S. 7) Completed worksheet identifying different parts of a plant. (STE., Life Science, grade 7, L.S. 3)
Video	Video of a student using a spring balance to measure selected items, accompanied by a description of the activity indicating the percentages of accuracy and independence. (STE, Technology and Engineering, grade 8, L.S. 1.3)
Photo	Photograph of a student-created relief map, accompanied by a product description of the activity, and percentages of accuracy and independence. (STE, Earth and Space Science, grade 6, L.S. 1)

In addition to the required primary evidence, secondary evidence may be included, at the discretion of the teacher. Secondary evidence shows the context of the activity and may include, for example

- notes from teachers or peers describing the activity
- a photograph showing the context of the learning activity
- a self-evaluation or reflection sheet
- a work description label

2.2.2 Required Documentation

In addition to evidence of student performance in the content area being assessed, the MCAS-Alt portfolio must include the following:

- <u>Portfolio Cover Sheet.</u> Provides basic demographic information on the student and information about the contents of the portfolio
- <u>Required Portfolio Contents Checklist</u>. Ensures that all required elements of the portfolio have been included

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- <u>Student Introduction</u>. The student introduces the portfolio and expresses what he or she wants others to know about him or her as a learner
- <u>Verification Letter</u>. Assurance that parents have viewed the contents of their child's portfolio or, at minimum, have been invited by the school to do so
- <u>Weekly Schedule</u>. Demonstrates that the student is participating in the general education academic curriculum
- <u>Strand Cover Sheet</u>. Lists the strand and learning standard documented by the evidence, and how the student addressed the measurable goal; also helps educators make certain all required information and evidence are included
- <u>Principal's Certification of Proper Administration of MCAS-Alt (PCPA)</u>. Requires the principal to certify that the work in the portfolio reflects that of the participating student and that all proper MCAS-Alt procedures have been followed

2.2.3 MCAS-Alt Competency Portfolios for Students in Grade 10 and Beyond

In order to meet the Competency Determination standard for high school graduation, all publicly funded students in Massachusetts, including students with disabilities, must participate in MCAS and earn a score of *Needs Improvement* or higher on <u>both</u> the English Language Arts (ELA) assessment <u>and</u> the Mathematics grade 10 MCAS assessments. When a student has met both the Competency Determination standard and all local graduation requirements, the student is eligible to receive a high school diploma. Students are given multiple opportunities beyond grade 10 to pass these assessments.

When the IEP Team determines that a student requires an alternate assessment, an MCAS-Alt portfolio must be submitted in place of taking the standard MCAS test in that subject. If the student is able to demonstrate a level of performance in his or her portfolio **comparable to or higher than** that of a student who has received scores of *Needs Improvement* or higher on the grade 10 MCAS tests in ELA and Mathematics, the student will be awarded a Competency Determination. The requirements for the competency portfolio are described in detail in the section of the *Educator's Manual* entitled "Requirements in Each Subject to Earn a Competency Determination." The Department strongly encourages collaboration between general and special educators on the development of these portfolios.

A panel of ELA and mathematics experts reviews the work samples in each portfolio and makes individual determinations regarding scores in each subject.

3. TEST ADMINISTRATION AND PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

3.1 MCAS 2007 Test Administration Schedule

MCAS tests were administered during two periods in the spring of 2007:

- In March–April
 - Grades 3–8 and 10 English Language Arts
- In May–June
 - Grades 3–8 and 10 Mathematics
 - Grades 5 and 8 Science and Technology/Engineering
 - High School (grades 9/10) end-of-course Biology
 - High School (grades 9/10) end-of-course Chemistry
 - High School (grades 9/10) end-of-course Introductory Physics
 - High School (grades 9/10) end-of-course Technology/Engineering
 - Grades 5 and 7 History and Social Science pilot test
 - High School (grades 10/11) U.S. History pilot test

The 2007 MCAS administration also included retest opportunities in English Language Arts and Mathematics for students in grades 10 and above who had not previously passed one or both tests. Retests were offered in August 2006, November 2006, and March 2007.⁶

MCAS Alternate Assessment (MCAS-Alt) portfolios were required to be submitted no later than April 13, 2007.

Table 3.1 shows the complete 2006–2007 MCAS test administration schedule.

⁶ The August and November retests were identical test forms. Therefore, students who took the August retest in English Language Arts or Mathematics were not permitted to take the November retest for that subject.

Test Grade and Content Area	Test Administration Date(s)	Deadline for Return of Materials to Contractor	Deadline for Receipt of Returned Materials by Contractor		
	Retest Administration	n Windows			
August 1–3, 2006					
Mathematics Retest	August 1				
ELA Composition Retest	August 2				
ELA Reading Comprehension Retest		August 4	August 8		
Session 1	August 2				
Sessions 2 and 3	August 3				
November 8–17, 2006	1				
Mathematics Retest					
Session 1	November 8				
Session 2	November 9	Neversher 04	Neversher 20		
ELA Composition Retest	November 15	November 21	November 28		
ELA Reading Comprehension Retest	November 10				
Sessions 1 and 2	November 16				
Session 3	November 17				
March 5–9, 2007					
Mathematics Retest Session 1	March 5				
	March 5	-			
Session 2	March 6	March 13	March 16		
ELA Composition Retest	March 7	March 13	March 16		
ELA Reading Comprehension Retest	Manah O				
Sessions 1 & 2 Session 3	March 8 March 9	-			
	-April 2007 Standard Test A	Administration Window			
Grades 3–8	March 19–April 4				
ELA Reading Comprehension		_			
Grades 4, 7, and 10	March 20				
ELA Composition		_			
Grades 4, 7, 10	April 2	April 11	April 20		
ELA Composition Make-Up			·		
Grade 10 ELA Reading					
Comprehension	Manak 04				
Sessions 1 and 2	March 21				
Session 3	March 22				
	May–June 2007 Test Admin	istration Window			
Standard Tests and Pilot Tests	1				
Grades 3–8 Mathematics	4				
Grades 5 and 8 Science and					
Technology/Engineering	May 14–31				
	4	June 1	June 8		
Grades 5, 7, and High School					
(grades 10/11) History and Social					
Science Pilot Tests	May 00	4			
Grade 10 Mathematics, Session 1	May 22	4			
Grade 10 Mathematics, Session 2	May 23		<u> </u>		
End-of-Course High School (Grades	9/10) Science and Technol	ogy/Engineering Tests			
Biology	4				
Chemistry	June 5–7	June 11	June 15		
Introductory Physics	4				
Technology/ Engineering					

Table 3.1: 2006–2007 MCAS Test Administration Schedule

Administration windows included time for makeup testing except for retest windows. The *Principal's Administration Manual* was provided to each school prior to the testing windows; this document gave written guidelines for test scheduling, student participation, test security, and test administration. In addition, the Massachusetts Department of Education provided guidance on test administration procedures through regional workshops conducted prior to testing, and toll-free telephone support throughout the test administration period.

MCAS tests are administered in untimed sessions. Tests are designed so that each individual session can be completed in approximately 45 or 60 minutes. Schools were instructed to schedule a two-hour block of time for each test session to allow sufficient time for all students to complete each test session. However, schools were allowed to provide additional time to students who required more time to complete a session, provided that no test session could extend beyond the school day and that both ELA Composition sessions were completed on the same day.

Testing spaces were required to meet the following conditions:

- be free from noise or distractions
- be adequately lit and ventilated
- be furnished so that students can work comfortably and without disruption
- provide adequate individual work space so that each student is sufficiently separated from other students, ensuring test security
- be free from any and all materials containing content in the subject areas being tested, including classroom support materials (e.g., posters, maps, charts) and, when administering the ELA Reading Comprehension test, English-language dictionaries

3.2 MCAS Participation Requirements

All students educated in publicly funded Massachusetts schools must participate in MCAS, including

- students enrolled in public schools
- students enrolled in charter schools
- students enrolled in educational collaboratives
- students enrolled in approved and unapproved private special education schools and programs within and outside of Massachusetts
- students receiving educational services in institutional settings
- students in the custody of the Department of Social Services
- students in the custody of the Department of Youth Services

This policy of measuring the performance of all students and holding schools and districts accountable for the performance of all students increases the likelihood that all Massachusetts students educated with public funds are provided an opportunity to acquire the content knowledge and skills identified by the *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework* learning standards. Additionally, the participation of all students in MCAS is crucial because all students educated with public funds must earn a Competency Determination, which is awarded based on MCAS test results, as one condition for receiving a high school diploma.

3.2.1 Requirements for Participation of Students with Disabilities

As stated in the Purpose and Overview section of this document (section 1), MCAS fulfills the requirements of the *Education Reform Law of 1993*. The fundamental goal of education reform is to improve the performance of all students. Therefore, all students, including students with disabilities, are required to participate in MCAS.

For purposes of MCAS, a student with a disability has either an Individualized Education Program (IEP) provided under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or a plan provided under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. All students with disabilities must be engaged in an instructional program guided by the standards in the *Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks*. Students with disabilities must participate in grade-level tests that correspond with the grades in which they are enrolled as reported to the Department's Student Information Management System (SIMS); students with significant disabilities who are unable to take the standard MCAS tests, even with accommodations, must take the MCAS Alternate Assessment (MCAS-Alt).

During its annual meeting, a student's IEP or 504 team must determine how the student will participate in MCAS for each subject scheduled for assessment. This information, including any accommodations that a student will use (see Appendix H), must be documented in the student's IEP and should also be documented, when appropriate, in the student's 504 plan.

Table 3.2.1.1 describes which students should be considered for the standard tests, with or without accommodations, and which students should take the MCAS-Alt.

	Characteristics of Student's Instructional Program and Local Assessment	Recommended Participation in MCAS
OPTIO	N 1	
	 If the student is a) Generally able to demonstrate knowledge and skills on a paper-and-pencil test, either with or without test accommodations; and is b) Working on learning standards at or near grade-level expectations or is c) Working on learning standards that have been modified and are somewhat below grade-level expectations due to the nature of the student's disability 	Then The student should take the standard MCAS test , either with or without accommodations that are consistent with the instructional accommodation(s) used in the student's instructional program and that are documented in the approved IEP or 504 plan prior to testing. (see Appendix H for a list of MCAS test accommodations)
OPTIO	N 2	
	If the student is	Then
	 d) generally unable to demonstrate knowledge and skills on a paper-and-pencil test, even with accommodations, <i>and</i> is e) working on learning standards that have been substantially modified due to the nature and severity of his or her disability, 	The student should take the MCAS Alternate Assessment in this subject
	 and is f) receiving intensive, individualized instruction in order to acquire, generalize, and demonstrate knowledge and skills 	

Table 3.2.1.1: MCAS Participation Options for Students with Disabilities

OPTION 3	
 If the student is g) working on learning standards at or near grade-level expectations, and is h) sometimes able to take a paper-and-pencil test, either without or with one or more test accommodations(s), but is i) presented with unique and significant challenges in demonstrating knowledge and skills on a test of this format and duration 	 Then The student should take the standard MCAS test with necessary accommodations that are consistent with the instructional accommodation(s) used in the student's instructional program and that are documented in the approved IEP or 504 plan prior to testing. (see Appendix H for a list of MCAS test accommodations) However The Team may recommend the MCAS Alternate Assessment when the nature and complexity of the disability prevent the student from demonstrating knowledge and skills on the test even with accommodations (Instances in which a student in this category may require an alternate assessment are provided below.)

The following examples of unique circumstances are provided to expand a Team's understanding of the appropriate use of the MCAS-Alt. The MCAS-Alt may be administered if any of the following conditions exist:

- a student, as a consequence of either severe emotional or behavioral impairment or other disability(ies), is unable to maintain sufficient concentration to participate in standard testing, even with test accommodations
- a student with a severe health-related disability, neurological disorder, or other complex disability(ies) cannot meet the demands of a prolonged test administration
- a student with a significant motor, communication, or other disability would require more time than is reasonable or available for testing, even with the allowance of extended time

3.2.2 Requirements for Participation of Limited English Proficient Students

A student who is limited English proficient (LEP) is defined as "a student whose first language is a language other than English and who is unable to perform ordinary classroom work in English."

Spanish/English versions of the 2007 grade 10 MCAS Mathematics test and retest were available for Spanish-speaking LEP students who were eligible (see section 2.1.3).

MCAS participation requirements for LEP students are as follows:

- All LEP students, regardless of the number of years enrolled in U.S. schools, are required to participate in MCAS Mathematics and Science and Technology/Engineering tests scheduled for their grades.
- LEP students in their first year of enrollment in U.S. public schools (i.e., for 2007, students not enrolled prior to the 2006–2007 school year) have the option, but are not required, to take the grades 3–8 and 10 English Language Arts tests; the grades 5 and 7 History and Social Science pilot tests; and the grades 10/11 U.S. History end-of-course pilot test. Students who opt not to take these assessments are excused from MCAS examination in only these content areas for these grades; these students are required to take the Massachusetts English Proficiency Assessment (MEPA) tests in ELA.
- Results for tests taken by first-year LEP students were reported to the individual students' parents/guardians (see section 5.6 for a description of the report and Appendix I for a sample report). However, results for these students were not included in performance level or scaled-score aggregated 2007 school, district, or statewide results.
- LEP students in their **second year** of enrollment or beyond (i.e., for 2007, students who were enrolled in U.S. schools in 2004–2005 or before) are required to participate in **all** testing scheduled for their grades.

Additional information on the participation of LEP students is available in the publication *Requirements for the Participation of Students with Limited English Proficiency in MCAS and MEPA*, posted on the Department's Web site at <u>http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/part_req.html</u>.

4. MCAS 2007 SCORING

4.1 Scoring of Standard Test Items

Upon receipt of used MCAS answer booklets following testing, the testing contractor scans all student responses, along with student identification and demographic information. Imaged data for multiple-choice responses are machine-scored. Images of short-answer items, open-response items, and ELA Compositions are processed and organized by iScore, a secure, server-to-server electronic scoring software designed by Measured Progress, for hand-scoring.

Student responses that cannot be physically scanned (e.g., answer documents damaged during shipping) and typed responses submitted using test accommodation 23 are physically reviewed and scored on an individual basis by trained, qualified scorers. These scores are linked to the student's demographic data and merged with the student's scoring file by Measured Progress's data processing department.

4.1.1 Machine-Scored Items

Multiple-choice item responses are compared to scoring keys using item analysis software. Correct answers are assigned a score of one point; incorrect answers are assigned a score of zero points. Student responses with multiple marks and blank responses are also assigned zero points.

The hardware elements of the scanners monitor themselves continuously for correct read, and the software which drive these scanners monitor correct data reads. Standard checks include recognition of a sheet that does not belong, is upside down, or is backwards; and identification of critical data that is missing, including a student ID number or test form that is out of range or missing, and of page/document sequence errors. When a problem is detected, the scanner stops and displays an error message directing the operator to investigate and to correct the situation.

4.1.2 Hand-Scored Items

The images of student responses to short-answer and open-response items and to writing prompts are hand-scored. Imaged responses from all answer booklets are sorted into item-specific groups for scoring purposes. Readers review responses from only one item at a time; however, if necessary for scoring purposes, imaged responses from a student's entire booklet are always available for viewing, and the actual physical booklet is also available onsite.

For scoring of 2007 MCAS responses, at least 200 responses to items from previous MCAS administrations were "seeded" among all 2007 MCAS 4- and 6-point item responses (open-response items and ELA Compositions) for scaling and equating purposes (see section 4.3 for further information about scaling and equating).

During scoring, use of iScore minimizes the need for scorers to physically handle actual answer booklets and related scoring materials. Student confidentiality is easily maintained, as all MCAS scoring is "blind" (i.e., district, school, and student names are not visible to readers). Scorers have access to answer booklet numbers, which are readily linked within iScore to student scores. The use of iScore also ensures that access to student response images is limited to only those who are scoring or who are working for Measured Progress in a scoring management capacity.

4.1.2.1 Scoring Locations and Staff

Scoring Locations

The iScore database, its operation, and its administrative controls are all based in Dover, NH; however, MCAS 2007 test item responses were scored in the following locations:

- Troy, NY
 - grade 7 English Language Arts Composition
 - high school (grades 9/10) Biology, Chemistry, Introductory Physics, and Technology/Engineering
- Longmont, CO
 - grades 3–8 and 10 English Language Arts Reading Comprehension
 - grades 5-8 and 10 Mathematics
- Dover, NH
 - grades 4 and 10 English Language Arts Composition
 - grades 5 and 7 History and Social Science (pilot test)
 - grades 10/11 U.S. History (pilot test)
- Louisville, KY
 - grades 3–4 Mathematics
 - grades 5 and 8 Science and Technology/Engineering

The iScore system monitored accuracy, reliability, and consistency across all scoring sites. Constant daily communication and coordination were accomplished through e-mail, telephone, faxes, and secure Web sites, to ensure that critical information and scoring modifications were shared/implemented across all scoring sites.

Staff Positions

The following staff members were involved with scoring the 2007 MCAS responses:

- The MCAS Scoring Manager, an employee of Measured Progress, was located in Dover, NH and oversaw communication and coordination of scoring across all scoring sites.
- The **iScore administrator and assistant administrator**, an employee of Measured Progress, was located in Dover, NH and coordinated technical communication across all scoring sites.
- A Site Manager (SM), an employee of Measured Progress, was located at each scoring site and provided logistical coordination for his or her scoring site.

- A Chief Reader (CR) in each content area (Mathematics; Science and Technology/Engineering; History and Social Science/U.S. History; and, for English Language Arts, two CRs, one for Reading Comprehension and one for Writing/Composition) ensured consistency of scoring across all scoring sites for all grades tested in that content area. CRs also provided read-behind activities for Assistant Chief Readers. CRs were employees of Measured Progress.
- An Assistant Chief Reader (ACR) or Senior Quality Assurance Coordinator (QAC), selected from a pool of experienced Senior Readers, participated in benchmarking activities for each specific grade and content area combination. ACRs provided read-behind activities for QACs at their sites.
- Numerous Senior Readers (SRs), selected from a pool of skilled and experienced readers, provided read-behind activities for the scorers at their scoring tables (2–12 scorers at each table). SRs, with QACs, were trained and qualified immediately prior to scorer training.
- **Scorers** at each scoring site scored the operational MCAS 2007 student responses. The recruitment of scorers is described in section 4.1.2.2.

4.1.2.2 Scorer Recruitment and Qualifications

For scoring of the 2007 MCAS tests, Measured Progress actively sought a diverse scoring pool that was representative of the population of Massachusetts. The broad range of scorer backgrounds included scientists, editors, business professionals, authors, teachers, graduate school students, and retired educators. Demographic information for scorers (e.g., gender, race, educational background) was electronically captured and reported.

A Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science degree was required for scorers (also referred to as *readers*) of high school (grades 9–11 and retest) student responses. A four-year college degree was preferred for all other scorers. Scorers of the responses of grade 3 through grade 8 students were required to have successfully completed at least two years of college and to have demonstrated knowledge of the particular subject they scored. Potential scorers submitted documentation (e.g., resume and/or transcripts) of their qualifications.

Scorers were either temporary Measured Progress employees or were secured through the services of one or more temporary employment agencies. Due to confidentiality and test security concerns, teachers and administrators (principals, guidance counselors, etc.) employed by Massachusetts schools were not eligible to be MCAS scorers. All scorers signed a nondisclosure/confidentiality agreement.

4.1.2.3 Methodology for Scoring Constructed-Response Items

Constructed-response items were scored based on possible score points and scoring procedures, as shown in Table 4.1.2.3.1.

Possible Score Points

Table 4.1.2.3.1: Possible Score Points forMCAS Constructed-Response Item Types

Constructed-Response Item Type	Possible Score Points	Possible Highest Score
Open-Response	0–4	4
Short-Answer	0–2	2
English Language Arts Composition Topic Development	1–6	12*
English Language Arts Composition Standard English Conventions	1–4	8*
Non-Scorable Items	0	0

*Each English Language Arts Composition was scored by two scorers. Each scorer assigned two scores: one for Topic Development and one for Standard English Conventions. The total of the scores in each area became the student's reported score in that area. (For additional details, see section 2.1.1.2.)

<u>Non-Scorable Items</u>. Scorers could designate a response as non-scorable for any of the following reasons:

- response was blank (no attempt to respond to the question)
- response was unreadable (illegible, too faint to see, or only partially legible/visible) see Note below
- response was written in the wrong location (seemed to be a legitimate answer to a different question)—see Note below
- response was written in a language other than English
- response was completely off-task or off-topic
- response included an insufficient amount of material to make scoring possible
- response was an exact copy of the assignment
- response was incomprehensible
- student made a statement refusing to write a response to the question

Note: "Unreadable" and "wrong location" responses were eventually resolved, whenever possible, by researching the actual answer document to identify the correct location or to more closely examine the response and then assign a score.

Scoring Procedures

Scoring procedures for constructed-response items included both single-scoring and doublescoring. Single-scored items were scored by one scorer. Double-scored items were scored independently by two scorers, whose scores were tracked for agreement ("inter-rater agreement"; for further discussion of double-scoring and inter-rater agreement, also see section 4.1.2.6 and Appendix F).

Table 4.1.2.3.2 shows by which method(s) common and equating constructed-response item responses for each operational test were scored.

	by Grade and	lesi	
Grade	Test/Pilot Test Name	Responses Single-Scored	Responses Double-Scored
Grade		(per grade and	(per grade and
-		test/pilot test)	test/pilot test)
3	ELA Reading Comprehension	100%	10% randomly
4–8	ELA Reading Comprehension	100%	10% randomly
	Mathematics	100%	10% randomly
4, 7, and 10	ELA Composition		100%
5, 7, and 10/11	History and Social Science: one common item per pilot test	100%	10% randomly
5 and 8	Science and Technology/Engineering	100%	10% randomly
9	Biology		100%
	Chemistry		100%
	Introductory Physics		100%
	Technology/Engineering		100%
10	ELA Reading Comprehension		100%
	Mathematics		100%
	Biology	100%	10% randomly
	Chemistry	100%	10% randomly
	Introductory Physics	100%	10% randomly
	Technology/Engineering	100%	10% randomly
All	Unreadable responses		100%
	Blank responses		100%

Table 4.1.2.3.2: MCAS 2007 Methods of Scoring Common and Equating Constructed-Response Items by Grade and Test

For each History and Social Science pilot test (in addition to the common item scored as indicated in the table), at least 1500 responses to each other open-response item were single-scored; of these responses, at least 150 were randomly double-scored.

4.1.2.4 Scorer Training

Scorer training began with an introduction of onsite scoring staff, and an overview of the MCAS program's purpose and goals, including a discussion about the security, confidentiality, and proprietary nature of testing and scoring materials and procedures.

Next, scorers thoroughly reviewed and discussed the scoring guide for the item to be scored. Each item-specific scoring guide included the item itself and score point descriptions.

Following review of the item-specific scoring guide for any 2-, 4-, or 6-point constructedresponse item, scorers began reviewing or scoring response sets that were organized for specific training purposes:

- Anchor Set
- Training Set
- Qualifying Set

During training, scorers were able to highlight or mark hard copies of the Anchor, Training, and first Qualifying Sets, even if all or part of the set was also presented online via computer.

Anchor Set

Scorers first reviewed an Anchor Set of exemplary responses, approved by the Department, for the item to be scored. Responses in Anchor Sets were typical, rather than unusual or uncommon; solid, rather than controversial or borderline; and true, meaning that they had scores that could not be changed by anyone other than DOE test development staff.

For open-response items and ELA Compositions, each item-specific Anchor Set contained, whenever possible, the following:

- at least two responses representing the scoring guide's high score point
- at least two responses representing the scoring guide's low score point
- three responses representing each middle score point (one response representing the mid-high to high range for that score point; one response representing the middle range for that score point; and one response representing the mid-low to low range for that score point)

Anchor Sets for Mathematics short-answer items contained several responses representing the entire range of possible score points.

Responses were read aloud to the room of scorers and presented in descending score order. Trainers then announced the true score of each anchor response and facilitated a group discussion of the response in relation to the score point descriptions to allow scorers to internalize typical characteristics of each score point.

This Anchor Set served as a reference for scorers as they continued with calibration, scoring, and recalibration activities for that item.

Training Set

Next, scorers practiced applying the scoring guide to responses in the Training Set. The Training Set included 10 to 15 student responses designed to help establish the score point range and the range of responses within each score point. The Training Set often included unusual responses that were less clear or solid (e.g., were shorter than normal, employed atypical approaches, contained both very low and very high attributes, or were written in writing that was difficult to decipher). Responses in the Training Set were also presented in randomized score point order.

After scorers had independently read and scored a Training Set response, trainers would poll scorers or use online training system reports to record the initial range of scores. Then they would lead a group discussion of one or two responses, directing scorer attention to scoring issues that were particularly relevant to the specific scoring group, such as the line between two score points. Trainers modeled for scorers how to discuss scores by referring to the Anchor Set and to scoring guides.

<u>Training Sets for ELA Compositions (Writing)</u>: A separate training set was used for each of the two scoring dimensions, Topic Development and Standard English Conventions; during training using these sets, scorers issued only a score for the appropriate dimension. Next, scorers trained using a "mixed" Training Set, for which they assigned both a Topic Development and a Standard English Convention score to each composition in the set.

<u>Training Set for Mathematics Short-Answer Items</u>: In cases in which there was only one correct response to a short-answer item, no Training Set was provided. When there was more than one correct response to a short-answer item, the Training Set included only the number of correct-response samples necessary to illustrate all possible correct solutions (e.g., when there were two possible correct responses, two samples were included in the Training Set).

Qualifying Set

After the Training Set had been completed, for all items except Mathematics short-answer items, scorers were required to measurably demonstrate their ability to accurately and reliably score the item according to its scoring rubric by scoring responses in the Qualifying Set. The ten responses in the Qualifying Set, selected from an array of responses which clearly illustrated the range of score points for that item, were approved by the Department. Hard copies of the responses were also available to scorers so that they could make notes and refer back to specific responses during the post-qualifying discussion.

To be eligible to score operational 2007 MCAS responses, scorers of all items other than Mathematics short-answer items were required to demonstrate scoring accuracy rates of minimum 70 percent exact agreement and at least 90 percent exact-or-adjacent agreement. In other words, exact scores were required on at least seven of the Qualifying Set responses and either exact or adjacent scores were required on a total of nine of the 10 responses; scorers were allowed one discrepant score, as long as they had at least seven exact scores. ELA Composition (Writing) scorers had to qualify at the 70/90 percent threshold for both Topic Development and Standard English Conventions in the same Qualifying Set before they were allowed to score any operational responses.

Scorers who met the percentage requirements were allowed to score operational student responses. There were no specific Qualifying Sets for Mathematics short-answer items; to be eligible to score Mathematics short-answer items, scorers must have successfully met the minimum accuracy requirements for one or more of the Mathematics open-response items for that grade.

Retraining

Scorers who did not pass the first Qualifying Set were retrained as a group by reviewing their performance with scoring leadership and then scoring a second Qualifying Set of responses. If they achieved a scoring accuracy rate of minimum 70 percent exact and at least 90 percent exact-or-adjacent agreement on this second Qualifying Set (100 percent exact agreement for Mathematics short-answer items), they were allowed to score operational responses.

If scorers did not achieve the required scoring accuracy rates on the second Qualifying Set, they were not allowed to score responses for that item; they instead either began training on a different item or were dismissed.

4.1.2.5 Senior Quality Assurance Coordinator (QAC) and Senior Reader (SR) Training

QACs and select SRs were trained in a separate training session that occurred immediately prior to scorer training. QAC and SR training was identical to scorer training, with the following two exceptions:

- 1. Scoring accuracy rates for Qualifying Sets were higher for QACs and SRs than for regular scorers.
 - On Qualifying Sets for grades 3–8 items, QACs and SRs were required to achieve a scoring accuracy rate of minimum 80 percent exact agreement with at least 90 percent exact-or-adjacent agreement.
 - On Qualifying Sets for high school (grades 9/10, 10, and 10/11, and retest) items, QACs and SRs were required to achieve a scoring accuracy rate of minimum 80 percent exact agreement with 100 percent exact-or-adjacent agreement (no discrepant scores).

Any QAC or SR who did not achieve the required accuracy rate on a Qualifying Set was removed from leadership responsibilities for that item, and either served as a regular scorer for the item (if his or her accuracy rate was equal to the required eligibility rate) or began training on a different item.

During actual scoring of MCAS items, QACs and SRs were required to maintain the scoring accuracy rates described in section 4.1.2.6 below.

2. Items and their responses, as well as the Department's rationale behind the score points, were often discussed in greater detail with QACs and SRs than with regular scorers, so that they would be well equipped to handle questions from the regular scorers.

4.1.2.6 Monitoring of Scoring Quality Control and Consistency

Scorers were monitored for continued accuracy rates and scoring consistency throughout the scoring process, using the following methods and tools:

- Calibration Assessments
- Embedded Committee-Reviewed Responses (CRRs)
- "Read-Behind" Procedures
- Double-Scoring
- Scoring Reports

A scoring accuracy rate of minimum 70 percent exact and at least 90 percent exact-or-adjacent agreement was required on CRRs, read-behinds, and double-scoring (except for Mathematics short-answer item responses, which required 100 percent exact agreement). The required scoring accuracy rate for Calibration Assessments is discussed below.

If scorers met or exceeded the required accuracy rate, they continued scoring operational responses. Any scorer whose accuracy rate fell below the required rate for the particular item and monitoring method was retrained on that item and, upon approval by the QAC or CR, as appropriate (see below), allowed to resume scoring.

Scorers were given only two opportunities to be retrained on a particular item. If they fell below the required accuracy rate a third time on a Compilation Report, they were dismissed from scoring that MCAS item.

Calibration Assessments

Each scoring shift began with an individual or group review of the item, scoring guide, training notes, and Anchor Set. After scoring leadership confirmed that each scorer had completed this review, scorers of Mathematics short-answer items began scoring operational responses; scorers of other constructed-response items took an online Calibration Assessment to determine whether they were still calibrated to the scoring standard. The Calibration Assessment consisted of five responses representing the entire range of possible scores, including some with a score point of "0." If scorers were exact on 4 of the 5 responses, and at least adjacent on the fifth response, they began scoring operational responses.

Scorers who did not meet the accuracy requirement were retrained by discussing the Calibration Assessment responses in terms of the score point descriptions and the original Anchor Set. The QAC determined whether or when scorers received enough retraining to begin scoring operational responses. Scoring leadership also carefully monitored any scorer who did not pass a Calibration Assessment by significantly increasing the number of read-behinds for that scorer.

Embedded Committee-Reviewed Responses (CRRs)

Previously scored "embedded" CRRs were selected and loaded into iScore for "blind" distribution to scorers as a way to monitor scorer accuracy. CRRs, either chosen before scoring began or selected by scoring leadership during scoring, were formatted to appear identical to operational student responses so that scorers could not perceive any difference.

Between 5 and 30 CRRs were distributed at random points throughout the first full day of scoring to ensure that scorers were sufficiently calibrated at the beginning of the scoring period. Individual scorers often received up to 20 CRRs within the first 100 responses scored, and up to 10 additional responses within the next 100 responses scored on that first day of scoring.

If any scorer fell below the required scoring accuracy rate, no new responses were sent to his or her computer screen and he or she was retrained before being allowed by the QAC to continue scoring. Once allowed to resume scoring, scoring leadership carefully monitored these scorers by increasing the number of read-behinds.

"Read-Behind" Procedures

Read-behind scoring refers to the practice of having scoring leadership, usually an SR, score a response after another scorer has already scored the same response. QACs performed read-behinds for SRs.

Responses to be placed into the read-behind queue were randomly selected by scoring leadership. The iScore system allowed 1, 2, or 3 responses per scorer to be placed into the read-behind queue at a time. CRRs scored by a scorer for whom a read-behind was being performed were automatically placed into the read-behind queue.

The SR entered his or her score into iScore before being allowed to see the score assigned by the scorer for whom the read-behind was being performed. The SR then compared scores and the reported score was determined as follows:

- If there was exact agreement between the scores, no action was taken; the regular scorer's score remained.
- If the scores were adjacent (i.e., the difference was not greater than 1), the SR's score became the score of record; if there were a significant number of adjacent scores for this scorer, an individual scoring consultation was held with the scorer and the QAC determined whether or when the scorer could resume scoring.
- If there was a discrepant difference between the scores (a difference greater than 1 point), the SR's score became the score of record (see table 4.1.2.6.1). An individual consultation was held with the scorer, with the QAC determining whether or when the scorer could resume scoring.

oud Bolling Recording					
Reader	QAC/SR Resolution	Final*			
4	4	4			
4	3	3			
4	2	2			
* QAC score	* QAC score is score of record.				

Table 4.1.2.6.1: Examples of MCASRead-Behind Scoring Resolutions

A minimum of 5 read-behinds per scorer was conducted throughout each half-scoring day, with a minimum of 10 read-behinds per scorer conducted throughout each full-scoring day. If a scorer's scoring rate fell below the required accuracy percentage, additional read-behinds were performed.

In addition to the minimum daily read-behinds and read-behinds performed to maintain scoring accuracy percentages, scoring leadership could choose to do read-behinds on any scorer at any point during the scoring process, thereby providing an immediate, real-time "snapshot" of a scorer's accuracy.

Double-Scoring

Double-scoring refers to the practice of having two readers independently score a response, without knowing either the identity of the other scorer or the score assigned to the response by the other scorer. Section 4.1.2.3 provides information about which responses were double-scored.

If there was a discrepancy (a difference greater than 1 for items with 4 or more possible score points; a difference of 1 for 2-point, dichotomous, or correct/not correct items) between scores, the response was placed into an arbitration queue. Arbitration responses were reviewed by scoring leadership (SR, QAC, or ACR) without any background knowledge of scores assigned

by the two previous readers, and were resolved according to table 4.1.2.6.2 below. Appendix F provides the MCAS 2007 percentages of agreement between scorers for each grade and content area test.

	ouble-Se					
En	English Language Arts Composition Topic Development*					
Reader Resolution Chief Final						
#1	#2		¥1	_		#1
6	6					12
6	5					11
6	4		4			8
6	4		5			11
6	2		4	4		8
6	2		4	3		6
6	2		3			5
adjacent to either, fina resolution assigns a f score.	cal reader so preader #1 a l score sum score is still fourth score glish Lang	and/or s two h discre , which	#2 but n ighest a pant, a C is doubl	ot ident djacent Chief Re led to o	tical wi score eader btain a	ith Is. If (only) a final
	Standard I		h Conv	ventio		
Reader #	1 Reade	er #2	Resol #1		F	inal
4	4	4				8
4	4	4				8
4	-	3				7
4	2	2				8
4	2		3			7
4	1		3			7
4	1		2			3
*Identical or adjacent reader scores are summed to obtain final score. If needed, resolution score is summed with identical reader score; or, if resolution score is between readers #1 and #2, or is adjacent but not identical to either, then final score sums two highest scores.						
Open	-Response	e and	Short-	Answe	er Iter	ns*
Reader #	1 Reade	er #2	QAC Resol		F	inal
4	4					4
4	3					4
3	4					4
4	2		3			3
4	1		2			2
3	1		1			1
is used as	scores are in final. If read resolution sc	der sco	ores are i	neither		

Table 4.1.2.6.2: Examples of MCAS Double-Scoring Resolutions

Scoring leadership consulted individually with any scorer whose scoring rate fell below the required accuracy percentage and the QAC determined whether or when the scorer could resume scoring. Once allowed to resume scoring, scoring leadership carefully monitored these scorers by increasing the number of read-behinds.

Scoring Reports

Measured Progress's electronic scoring software, iScore, generated multiple reports that were used by scoring leadership to measure and monitor readers for scoring accuracy and consistency. These reports are further discussed in section 4.1.2.7 below.

4.1.2.7 Reports Generated During Scoring

The 2007 MCAS administration was complex; computer-generated reports were necessary to ensure all of the following:

- overall group-level accuracy, consistency, and reliability of scoring were maintained and acceptable
- immediate, real-time individual scorer data were available to allow early scorer intervention when necessary
- scoring schedules were maintained

The following reports were produced by iScore:

- The **Read-Behind Summary** report showed the total number of read-behind responses for each scorer, and noted the numbers and percentages of scores that were exact, adjacent, and discrepant between that scorer and the SR/QAC. Scoring leadership could choose to generate this report at pre-set times by choosing options (such as every 15 minutes, 30 minutes, or cumulatively for the day) from a pull-down menu. The report could also be filtered to select data for a particular item or across all items.
- The **Double-Blind Summary** report showed the total number of double-score responses scored by each scorer, and noted the numbers and percentages of scores that were exact, adjacent, and discrepant between that scorer and the SR/QAC.
- The Accuracy Summary report combined read-behind and double-score data, showing the total number of double-score and read-behind responses scored for each scorer, and noting his or her accuracy percentages and score point distributions.
- The **Embedded CRR Summary** showed, for each scorer and for either a particular item or across all items, the total number of responses scored, the number of CRRs scored, and the numbers and percentages of scores that were exact, adjacent, and discrepant between the scorer and the SR/QAC.
- Compilation Reports were generated multiple times during each scoring day. Each Compilation Report showed, for each item and all scorers, each scorer's Calibration Assessment results and combined read-behind statistics (a minimum of either 5 read-behinds per scorer for each half-scoring day or 10 read-behinds for each full scoring day). Compilation Reports highlighted scorers who fell below the minimum scoring accuracy percentages, and included one column noting any action taken by scoring leadership as a result (e.g., "retrained," "scores voided").

At the end of each scoring shift, a final Compilation Report was generated, rankordered so that the lowest exact percentage was listed first, and continuing lowest to highest. This report showed, for each scorer and for a particular item, the following:

- total number of responses scored
- total number of read-behind responses
- total number of Calibration Assessment responses scored (at least 5 per shift), and, of this number, the percentages of scores that were exact, adjacent, and discrepant between the scorer and the SR/QAC

If any scorer's accuracy percentage did not meet the required standard, all scores assigned for that shift by that scorer were voided and sent back out on the floor to be scored by other scorers during a subsequent scoring shift. Only this end-of-shift report was used to determine whether a scorer's scores would be voided.

• The **Qualification Statistics Report** listed each scorer by name and ID number, identified which Qualifying Set(s) they did and did not take and, for the ones they did take, whether they passed or failed. The total number of qualifications passed and failed was noted for each reader, as was the total number of individuals passing or failing a particular Qualifying Set.

The QAC could use this report to determine how the scorers within their specific scoring group performed on a specific Qualifying Set. QACs were able to highlight the word "passed" or "failed" in the report on a screen that described how a scorer performed on each question within that Qualifying Set. Each response within the set was identified by a booklet number. QACs could view an individual scorer's response by double-clicking the response's booklet number and could conference with the scorer as needed.

- The **Summary Report** showed the total number of student responses for an item, and identified, for the time at which the report was generated, the following:
 - the number of single and double-scorings that had been performed
 - the number of single and double-scorings yet to be performed

The following daily reports were sent to the Department of Education electronically:

- Compilation Report (by item)
- Summary Report (by field)

All other reports were also available to the Department. On reports provided to the Department, scorers were identified by unique ID numbers, rather than by name.

4.2 Scoring of MCAS-Alt Portfolios

All MCAS-Alt portfolios were reviewed and hand-scored by trained scorers according to the procedures described in this section and in Appendix D. Scores were entered onto score forms designed by Measured Progress and the DOE; score forms were scanned for accuracy and completeness.

About 10 percent of all portfolios were submitted electronically, using proprietary software (MCAS-Alt EV). These EV-submitted portfolios were scored electronically by scorers who viewed the on-screen portfolio images.

Security was maintained at the scoring site, with access to unscored portfolios and completed score forms restricted to DOE and Measured Progress staff. MCAS-Alt scoring leadership staff at each site included a Floor Manager (FM) and Table Leaders (TLs). Each Table Leader managed a table with four scorers. The FM managed all tables in a room of scorers.

Communication and coordination among scorers were maintained through daily meetings with TLs to ensure that critical information and scoring rules were implemented across all grade clusters.

4.2.1 MCAS-Alt Scoring Methodology

All portfolios in grades 3–8 were single-scored by one qualified scorer, with at least 20 percent double-scored (every fifth portfolio, or more frequently at the table leader's discretion; see section 4.2.2.6 for discussion of double-scoring).

All grade 10 portfolios were double-scored. In addition, any portfolio that received a score of "M" in any rubric area (i.e., missing or insufficient information submitted) was double-scored.

If scoring discrepancies were found on a double-scored portfolio, the portfolio was sent to the table leader, who assigned a resolution score that became the score of record.

4.2.1.1 Portfolio Completeness

Scorers ensured that each portfolio contained all required forms; that evidence was submitted for all required strands in each content area; and that all required evidence (i.e. one data chart and two related pieces of evidence) was submitted in each strand. If these requirements were not met, the portfolio received scores of M in Demonstration of Skills and Concepts <u>and</u> Independence (see sections B and C of section 4.2.1.2 below).

4.2.1.2 Scoring Dimensions

Once the completeness of the portfolio was ascertained, each strand was scored in all of the following scoring dimensions, in the order listed:

- A. Level of Complexity
- B. Demonstration of Skills and Concepts
- C. Independence
- D. Self-Evaluation
- E. Generalized Performance

MCAS-Alt 2007 score distributions for all scoring dimensions are provided in section 5.4 of this *Report*.

A. Level of Complexity

The score for Level of Complexity indicates how the student addressed *Curriculum Framework* learning standards. MCAS-Alt 2007 score distributions for individual strand and composite Level of Complexity are provided in section 5.4.1 of this *Report*.

Level of Complexity Score for Each Strand

Each strand was given a Level of Complexity score based on the scoring rubric for Level of Complexity (table 4.2.1.2.A1). Scorers assigned a Level of Complexity score based on the following:

- whether or not the evidence was aligned with a learning standard in the required strand
- whether the evidence met grade-level performance expectations, was modified below grade-level expectations, or addressed "access skills"

Table 4.2.1.2.A1: Scoring Rubric for Level of Complexity

	Score Point				
1	2	3	4	5	
Portfolio reflects little or	Student primarily addresses	Student addresses	Student addresses a	Student addresses a	
no basis on Curriculum	social, motor, and	Curriculum Framework	narrow sample of	broad range of	
Framework learning	communication "access	learning standards that	Curriculum Framework	Curriculum Framework	
standards in this strand.	skills" during instruction	have been modified below	learning standards (1 or	learning standards (3 or	
	based on Curriculum	grade-level expectations	2) at grade-level	more) at grade-level	
	Framework learning	in this strand.	expectations in this	expectations in this	
	standards in this strand.		strand.	strand.	

<u>Composite Level of Complexity Score</u>

A Composite Level of Complexity (CLC) score was determined for each assessed content area by averaging the three individual strand scores for Level of Complexity, according to table 4.2.1.2.A2 or, in the case of a two-strand content area, by combining the strand scores according to table 4.2.1.2.A3. This Composite score was used to determine whether the student's work would be measured against alternate achievement standards (ALT), indicating that the student had a significant cognitive disability; modified achievement standards (MOD); or grade-level achievement standards (GL).

Table 4.2.1.2.A2: Determination of Score for Composite Level of Complexity in Each Content Area: 3-Strand Portfolio

	J-Stranu	FUILIONU	
Strand 1 Level of Complexity	Strand 2 Level of Complexity	Strand 3 Level of Complexity	Composite Level of Complexity
Score	Score	Score	Standard
3, 2, or 1	3, 2, or 1	3, 2, or 1	ALT
3 (at or near grade level)	3	3	MOD
3, 2, or 1	3, 2, or 1	4 or 5	MOD
3, 2, or 1	4	4	MOD
3, 2, or 1	4	5	MOD
3, 2, or 1	5	5	GL
4	4	4	GL
4	4	5	GL
4	5	5	GL
5	5	5	GL

Table 4.2.1.2.A3: Determination of Score for Composite Level of Complexity in Each Content Area: 2-Strand Portfolio

Strand 1 Level of Complexity Score	Strand 2 Level of Complexity Score	Composite Level of Complexity Standard
3, 2, or 1	3, 2, or 1	ALT
3 (at or near grade level)	3	MOD
3, 2, or 1	4	MOD
3, 2, or 1	5	MOD
4	4	GL
4	5	GL
5	5	GL

B. Demonstration of Skills and Concepts

Each strand is given a score for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts that indicates the degree to which a student gave a correct (accurate) performance or response in demonstrating the targeted skill. The MCAS-Alt 2007 score distributions for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts are provided in section 5.4.2 of this *Report*.

Scorers confirmed that all portfolio evidence was correctly labeled with the following information:

- student's name
- date of performance
- percentage of accuracy
- percentage of independence

If any piece of evidence was not labeled correctly, that piece was not scorable and, if at least two other pieces of correctly labeled primary evidence were not submitted, the strand received scores of M in <u>both</u> Demonstration of Skills and Concepts <u>and</u> Independence (see section C below).

Scorers assigned a score to the strand for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts based on the average percentage of accuracy found in the data points in the final one-third time frame of the data chart, as described in section 5.1.2 of this document. Scores ranged from M ("Missing") to 4, based on the scoring rubric in table 4.2.1.2.B1.

	j				
		Score Point			
м	1	2	3	4	
The portfolio strand contains insufficient information to determine a score.	Student's performance is primarily inaccurate and demonstrates minimal understanding in this strand (0–25% accurate).	Student's performance is limited and inconsistent with regard to accuracy and demonstrates limited understanding in this strand (26–50% accurate).	Student's performance is mostly accurate and demonstrates some understanding in this strand (51–75% accurate).	Student's performance is accurate and of consistently high quality in this strand (76–100% accurate).	

Table 4.2.1.2.B1: Scoring Rubric for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts

C. Independence

The score for Independence shows the degree to which the student performed independently (i.e., without cues or prompts) during tasks or activities based on the learning standards being assessed. The MCAS-Alt 2007 score distributions for Independence are provided in section 5.4.3 of this *Report*.

Scorers assigned a score for Independence to each strand. If the percentage of independence was not indicated on at least three pieces of evidence, the strand was considered incomplete, and received scores of M in <u>both</u> Demonstration of Skills and Concepts <u>and</u> Independence. Scores ranged from M to 4 based on the scoring rubric for Independence (table 4.2.1.2.C1).

The procedure for determining a score for Independence in each strand was identical to that used to determine Demonstration of Skills and Concepts. For a more detailed explanation, including examples and exceptions to the standard procedures, see Appendix D.

Table 4.2.1.2.C1: Scoring Rubric for Independence

Score Point				
M	1	2	3	4
The portfolio strand contains insufficient information to determine a score.	Student requires extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance to demonstrate skills and concepts in this strand. (0-25% independent)	Student requires frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance to demonstrate skills and concepts in this strand. (26-50% independent)	Student requires some verbal, visual, and physical assistance to demonstrate skills and concepts in this strand. (51-75% independent)	Student requires minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance to demonstrate skills and concepts in this strand. (76-100% independent)

D. Self-Evaluation

The score for Self-Evaluation shows the frequency of self-correction, self-monitoring, goalsetting, reflection, and overall awareness by the student of his or her own learning. The MCAS-Alt 2007 overall score distributions for Self-Evaluation are provided in section 5.4.4 of this *Report*.

<u>Self-Evaluation Score in Each Strand</u>
 Each strand was given a score ranging from M to 2+ based on the scoring rubric shown in table 4.2.1.2.D1.

Table 4.2.1.2.D1: Scoring Rubric for Self-Evaluation, Individual Strand Score

-					
Score Point					
М	1	2+			
Evidence of self- correction, task- monitoring, goal-setting, and reflection was not found in this strand.	Student self-corrects, monitors, sets goals, and reflects on only one occasion in this strand.	Student self-corrects, monitors, sets goals, and reflects on two or more occasions in this strand.			

<u>Combined Self-Evaluation Score</u>

A final score for Self-Evaluation in the content area was determined by combining the three individual strand scores according to table 4.2.1.2.D2 or, in the case of a two-strand portfolio, by combining the two individual strand scores according to table 4.2.1.2.D3. Descriptors of the overall content area scores are shown in table 4.2.1.2.D4.

Table 4.2.1.2.D2: Determination of Combined Self-Evaluation Score for Each Content Area: 3-Strand Portfolio

Strand Score 1	Strand Score 2	Strand Score 3	Combined Content Area Score
М	М	М	М
М	М	1	1
М	М	2+	1
М	1	1	2
М	1	2+	2
М	2+	2+	2
1	1	1	3
1	1	2+	3
1	2+	2+	3
2+	2+	2+	4

Table 4.2.1.2.D3: Determination ofCombined Self-Evaluation Score for Each Content Area:2-Strand Portfolio

Strand Score 1	Strand Score 2	Combined Content Area Score
М	М	М
М	1	1
М	2+	1
1	1	2
1	2+	3
2+	2+	4

		Score Point		
М	1	2	3	4
Evidence of self- correction, task- monitoring, goal- setting, and reflection was not found in the student's portfolio in this content area.	Student infrequently self-corrects, monitors, sets goals, and reflects in this content area— evidence of Self- Evaluation was found in only one strand.	Student occasionally self-corrects, monitors, sets goals, and reflects in this content area— evidence of Self- Evaluation was found in two strands.	Student frequently self- corrects, monitors, sets goals, and reflects in this content area— evidence of Self- Evaluation was found either in three strands; or two or more examples were found in only one strand.	Student self-corrects, monitors, sets goals, and reflects all or most of the time in this content area—two or more examples of Self- Evaluation were found in each strand.

Table 4.2.1.2.D4: Rubric for Combined Self-Evaluation Score in Each Content Area

E. Generalized Performance

The score for Generalized Performance shows the numbers of contexts and instructional approaches in which knowledge and skills were demonstrated in the portfolio strand. The MCAS-Alt 2007 score distributions for Generalized Performance in each content area are provided in section 5.4.5 of this *Report*.

<u>Generalized Performance Score in Each Strand</u>

Scorers totaled the numbers of contexts and approaches in each strand to determine the score of either 1 or 2+, based on the rubric shown in table 4.2.1.2.E1.

Table 4.2.1.2.E1: Scoring Rubri	C
for Generalized Performance	

Score Point				
1	2+			
Student uses a single context or instructional approach to demonstrate knowledge and skills in this strand.	Student uses multiple contexts or instructional approaches to demonstrate knowledge and skills in this strand.			

<u>Combined Generalized Performance Score</u>

A final Generalized Performance score was determined in the content area by combining the three scores for individual strands, as shown in table 4.2.1.2.E2 or, in the case of a two-strand portfolio, by combining the two individual strand scores as shown in table 4.2.1.2.E3. Descriptors for the Combined Generalized Performance scores are shown in table 4.2.1.2.E4.

Table 4.2.1.2.E2: Determination of Combined Generalized Performance Score for Each Content Area: 3-Strand Portfolio

Strand Score 1	Strand Score 2	Strand Score 3	Resulting Overall Score					
1	1	1	1					
1	1	2+	2					
2+	2+	1	3					
2+	2+	2+	4					

Table 4.2.1.2.E3: Determination of Combined Generalized Performance Score for Each Content Area: 2-Strand Portfolio					
Strand Score 1	Strand Score 2	Resulting Overall Score			
1	1	1			
1	2	2			
1	3+	2			
2	2	3			
3+	2	3			
3+	3+	4			

Table 4.2.1.2.E4: Rubric for Combined Generalized Performance Score
in Each Content Area

Score Point							
1	2	3	4				
Student demonstrates knowledge and skills in one context; or uses one approach and/or method of response and participation in each strand.	Student demonstrates knowledge and skills in two or more contexts; or uses two or more approaches and/or methods of response and participation in only one strand.	Student demonstrates knowledge and skills in two contexts; or uses two approaches and/or methods of response and participation in each strand.	Student demonstrates knowledge and skills in three or more contexts; or uses three or more approaches and/or methods of response and participation in each strand.				

4.2.1.3 Scoring of "Competency Portfolios" for Grade 10 and Beyond

A student may earn a Competency Determination by submitting an MCAS-Alt portfolio that demonstrates knowledge and skills at levels comparable to a student who has earned a score of *Needs Improvement* or higher on the standard grade 10 MCAS tests in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Specific requirements for submission of competency portfolios are described in the *2007 Educator's Manual for MCAS-Alt*.

Each 2007 competency portfolio was evaluated by a panel of content area experts to determine whether it met grade 10 *Needs Improvement* performance level requirements. To receive a score of *Needs Improvement* or higher on a portfolio, the portfolio was required to demonstrate the following:

- knowledge and skills at the levels of a student who received scores of *Needs Improvement* or higher on the grade 10 ELA and Mathematics tests
- that the student had independently and accurately addressed all required learning standards and strands described in the portfolio requirements for ELA and mathematics

If the student's portfolio demonstrated a level of performance comparable to or higher than that of students who passed the standard grade 10 MCAS tests in ELA and Mathematics, the student was awarded a Competency Determination.

In 2007, of a total of 35 English Language Arts, 41 Mathematics, and 20 Science and Technology/Engineering portfolios submitted for consideration to earn a Competency Determination, eight English Language Arts portfolios and six Mathematics portfolios earned the Competency Determination. No Science and Technology/Engineering portfolios earned the Competency Determination.

4.2.2 Recruitment, Training, Qualification, and Monitoring of MCAS-Alt Scorers

4.2.2.1 Scorer Recruitment and Qualifications

The Department invited licensed Massachusetts educators to apply to participate in the threeweek summer MCAS-Alt Scoring Institute. Prospective scorers were required to meet all of the following conditions:

- must be a licensed educator or related-service provider in Massachusetts
- must have familiarity and experience with the following:
 - the MCAS-Alt
 - students with significant disabilities who take the MCAS-Alt
 - the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks
 - curriculum alignment for students with significant disabilities
- must be directly involved either with students taking the MCAS-Alt or their teachers

After a selection process conducted by the Department of Education, scorers were assigned to either a one- or a two-week session, based on scorer preference, experience, and level of responsibility. All scoring personnel participated in intensive training and signed a confidentiality agreement before reviewing actual student portfolios.

4.2.2.2 Selection of Training Materials

The MCAS-Alt Project Leadership Team (PLT) was comprised of DOE and Measured Progress staff, plus five Teacher Consultants. The PLT met for two days in order to accomplish the following:

- select sample portfolio strands to use for training, calibration, and qualification of scorers
- field test the 2007 Guidelines for Scoring Student Portfolios (Appendix D)

On the first day, the group reviewed and scored approximately 140 portfolios using the draft of the 2007 Guidelines, noting any scoring problems that arose during the review. All concerns were resolved either using the *Educator's Manual* or through additional scoring rules agreed upon by the Project Leadership Team and subsequently addressed in the final 2007 Guidelines.

Of the 140 portfolios reviewed, 62 sample strands were set aside as possible exemplars to train and calibrate scorers. These strands consisted of "solid" examples of each score point on the scoring rubric.

Each of these samples was triple-scored. Of the 62 double-scores, 37 were in exact agreement in all five scoring dimensions: Level of Complexity, Demonstration of Skills and Concepts, Independence, Self-Evaluation, and Generalized Performance.

These 37 samples were set aside and rescored. Scoring rationale sheets were developed and printed for scorer training. Of these 37 sample strands, the PLT decided to use 20, including several complete content areas, for scorer training and calibration. These 20 portfolio samples became the scorers' "sample set."

4.2.2.3 Recruitment and Training of Scorers

Recruitment

In April 2007, scorer applications were sent out to all Massachusetts teachers who had attended a training session for the MCAS-Alt during the previous year. Over 450 applications were returned. During the month of May, the PLT chose 274 applicants based on their familiarity with the MCAS-Alt to attend MCAS-Alt Scorer Training sessions.

Training

Scorers were thoroughly trained in all rubric areas and score points through review and "mock scoring" of a sample set of student portfolios selected to illustrate clear examples of each rubric score point.

First, scorers were given detailed instructions regarding how to review each piece of evidence and tally the data using a Strand Organizer (a sample is provided on page 33 of Appendix D). Scorers were then taught to then apply the resulting data to the rubrics (see section 4.2.1.2) for Level of Complexity, Demonstration of Skills and Concepts, Independence, Self-Evaluation, and Generalized Performance. After some basic instructions regarding the assignment of rubric scores, trainers reviewed the set of portfolio samples with scorers, discussing each piece of evidence and the score it should receive in each dimension. Trainers facilitated discussion and review among scorers to clarify the characteristics of each score point.

4.2.2.4 Scorer Qualification

Prior to scoring actual student portfolios, each scorer was required to demonstrate the ability to score by taking a qualifying assessment of 24 questions and scoring a sample portfolio of four strands. The qualifying score on the assessment was 85 (21 correct of 24 total questions). The qualifying rate of accuracy on the sample portfolio was 85 percent exact agreement overall for the five scoring dimensions (Level of Complexity, Demonstration of Skills and Concepts, Independence, Self-Evaluation, and Generalized Performance; i.e., exact agreement on 17 of 20 total scorable dimensions for the four strands).

Scorers who did not achieve the required accuracy rate on the qualifying assessment were retrained before taking another qualifying assessment. If they achieved an accuracy rate of at least 85 percent exact agreement, they were authorized to begin scoring student portfolios.

If a scorer did not meet the required accuracy rate on the second qualifying assessment, he or she was released from scoring. Virtually all scorers who had taken one or two qualifying assessments met the required accuracy rate.

4.2.2.5 Recruitment, Training, and Qualification of Table Leaders and Floor Managers

Table Leaders (TLs) and Floor Managers (FMs) were invited by the PLT to apply for the position based on their familiarity with MCAS-Al scoring procedures. All TLs were scorers (or TLs) from the previous year who had distinguished themselves as having an exemplary understanding of the scoring procedures. All FMs were TLs (or FMs) from the previous year who had distinguished themselves as having an exemplary understanding of the TL procedures.

TLs and FMs were trained and qualified prior to scorers by the DOE using the same methods and criteria used for scorers, with the exception that they were required to score 90 percent or better on both the test and the qualifying assessment. TLs and FMs also received training in logistical, management, and security procedures.

4.2.2.6 Monitoring of Scorers and Quality Control Procedures

The TL ensured that scorers at his or her table were consistent and accurate in their scoring. The FM monitored scoring consistency and the general flow of work in the room. TLs who had questions were referred to the FM.

Scorers were required to maintain a 80 percent exact agreement rate on all double-scored portfolios. When a scorer's rate of accuracy fell below this rate, the scorer was retrained. The FM determined whether a scorer could resume scoring. The TL regulated the number of double-scored portfolios for each scorer; on average, every fifth portfolio was double-scored.

Scoring consistency and accuracy were maintained using the following methods, described below:

- Read-Behind Scoring
- Double-Scoring
- Scorer Tracking Forms

Read-Behind Scoring

Read-behind scoring refers to the practice of a TL rescoring a portfolio and comparing his or her score with the one assigned by the previous scorer. If there was exact score agreement, the first scorer's score was retained as the score of record. If the scores differed, the TL's score became the score of record.

Read-behinds were performed on every scorer's first three portfolios. If those scores were consistent with the TL's resolution scores, a read-behind was performed on every fifth subsequent portfolio per scorer.

If a scorer's first three portfolio scores were inconsistent with the TL's resolution scores, the scorer was retrained. The TL determined when a retrained scorer could resume scoring. Additionally, a read-behind was performed on each subsequent portfolio for any scorer permitted to resume scoring, until consistency with the TL's scores was established.

The required rate of agreement for read-behinds (after the first 3 portfolios) was 80 percent exact agreement.

Double-Scoring

Double-scoring refers to a single portfolio being scored by two scorers at different tables, without knowledge by either scorer of the score assigned to the portfolio by the other.

All portfolios for students in grades 10–12 were double-scored. Scorers at grades 3–8 had at least one of their portfolios double-scored each morning and afternoon, and every fifth portfolio thereafter. At least 20 percent of portfolios for students in grades 3–8 were double-scored.

The required rate of scoring accuracy for double-scored portfolios was 80 percent exact agreement. When there was a discrepancy between scores, the TL scored the portfolio a third time and the TL's score became the score of record. The TL discussed discrepant areas with the responsible scorers and determined when they could resume scoring.

Tables showing the percentages of inter-scorer agreement for the 2007 MCAS-Alt are provided in section 4.2.3 below.

Scorer Tracking Forms

The TL maintained both a daily and a cumulative Scorer Tracking Form for each scorer. The daily form showed the number of portfolios scored by that scorer each day, along with the scorer's percentage of accuracy on read-behinds and double-scores.

Scoring leadership monitored scorers for output, with slower scorers remediated to increase their production.

4.2.3 MCAS-Alt Inter-Scorer Consistency

Appendix G contains tables showing rates of scoring consistency among MCAS-Alt scorers for 2007.

4.3 MCAS Equating and Scaling Procedures

4.3.1 Equating

The purpose of equating is to ensure that scores obtained from different forms of a test are equivalent to one another. Equating may be used when multiple test forms are administered in the same year and/or to equate one year's forms to those given in the previous year. Equating ensures that students are not given an unfair advantage or disadvantage because the items on the test form they took are easier or harder than items on forms taken by other students.

The data and rigorous procedures used to equate MCAS test results include evaluations of standard errors around item parameters, as well as the test characteristic curves (TCCs) that are the basis for MCAS equating and scaling procedures (see section 4.3.2). The TCCs for the MCAS 2007 tests are provided in section 6.1.5 of this *Report*.

4.3.1.1 Equating Methods

A raw-score-to-theta equating procedure was used to equate the MCAS 2007 tests. In each year of MCAS administration, every new form is equated back to the theta scale of the previous year's test form in a "chained linking design." Because the chain originates from the reference form, the theta scale of every new test form can be assumed to be the same as the theta scale of the reference form. Therefore, the following equating activities were involved for the MCAS 2007 administration:

- grades 4 and 8 Mathematics test scores were equated to the 1998 theta scale
- grades 3, 4, and 7 English Language Arts (ELA) and grade 6 Mathematics test scores were equated to the 2001 theta scale
- grades 5 and 8 Science and Technology/Engineering test scores were equated to the 2003 theta scale
- grades 5, 6, and 8 English Language Arts (ELA) and grades 3, 5, and 7 Mathematics test scores were equated to the 2006 theta scale

This method of equating has been used for MCAS tests since the 1998 scale was established, and it has been reviewed and approved by the MCAS Technical Advisory Committee (also see "Modification to 2007 Equating" below).

Previous equating for MCAS tests used the *anchor-test-nonequivalent-groups* design described by Petersen, Kolen, and Hoover (1989). In this equating design, no assumption is made about the equivalence of the examinee groups taking different test forms (i.e., the groups occur naturally). Instead, the comparability of the groups is evaluated through utilization of a set of anchor items (i.e., linking items). Equating for the MCAS 2007 administration used an external anchor test design in which linking items are not counted toward students' test scores.

For MCAS 2007 item calibration, the three-parameter logistic (3PL) model was used for dichotomous items, and the graded response model (GRM) was used for polytomous items. Calibration of parameter estimates in 2007 placed items on the 2005–06 scale by fixing the

parameters for the anchor items to 2005–06 calibration values. Again, the students who took the field test in 2005–06 and those who took the operational test in 2007 are not equivalent groups. Item Response Theory (IRT) is particularly useful in equating for nonequivalent groups (Allen and Yen, 1979). The item parameters are provided in Appendix B.

Prior to fixing their parameter values, the anchor items were evaluated for use as equating items using the delta method. Each dichotomous item has two p-values, one for the previous year's administration and one for the current year's administration. The p-values of each item were transformed to the delta metric. The delta scale is an inverse normal transformation of percentage correct to a linear scale with a mean of 13 and standard deviation of 4 (Holland and Wainer, 1993). A high delta value indicates a difficult item. For open-response items, the adjusted p-value (the average score divided by the maximum possible score) was transformed to the delta metric. The delta values were computed for the potential equating items for each grade-content category.

Figure 4.3.A is an example of a delta plot for equating items. Different shapes are used to identify different item types:

- ♦ = multiple-choice items
- \blacktriangle = short-answer items
- \bullet = open-response items

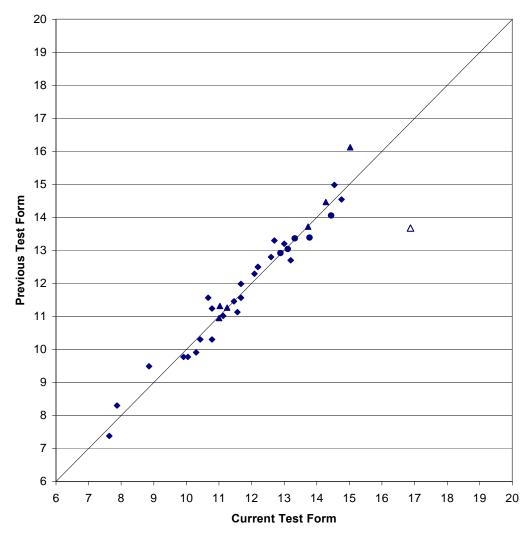
The perpendicular distance of each item to the regression line is computed. (Note that the line shown in Figure 4.3.A is the identity line, not the regression line.) The un-shaded (in this case, triangular) shape indicates the item with the greatest perpendicular distance from the regression line. Items that were not more than three standard deviations away from the regression line were used as equating items. For the 2007 MCAS administration, test items were excluded from use in equating, based on delta analysis results, for the following tests:

- One item was excluded from use in equating for each of the following tests:
 - grade 3 ELA
 - grade 5 Science and Technology/Engineering
 - grade 6 ELA
 - grade 7 ELA
 - grade 8 Mathematics
 - high school Biology
- Two items were excluded from use in equating for each of the following tests:
 - grade 4 Mathematics
 - grade 8 ELA

- No items were excluded from use in equating for the following tests:
 - grade 3 Mathematics
 - grade 4 ELA
 - grade 5 ELA
 - grade 5 Mathematics
 - grade 6 Mathematics
 - grade 7 Mathematics
 - grade 8 Science and Technology/Engineering
 - grade 10 ELA
 - grade 10 Mathematics
 - high school Chemistry
 - high school Introductory Physics
 - high school Technology/Engineering

The 2007 MCAS delta analyses tables are provided in Appendix A.

Figure 4.3.A: Sample Delta Plot (♦ MC ▲ SA ● OR)



THE MASSACHUSETTS COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM 2007 MCAS Technical Report

Modification to 2007 Equating

In 2007, the Department made a minor modification to the statistical technique that it uses to ensure the stability of the measurement of MCAS performance standards from year to year. From 1999 to 2006 the Department used a procedure known as the Fixed Common Item Parameters (FCIP) method to ensure that scaled scores were comparable from one year to the next (e.g., Li, Griffith, & Tam (1997)). This means, for example, that a student scoring 220 on the grade 4 Mathematics test in 2005 had approximately the same performance as a student scoring 220 on the 2006 grade 4 Mathematics test. The fundamental approach taken in FCIP equating involves fixing the item parameters for equating items—those items that are the same in two test administrations—to their values from the previous year. When the current year's non-equating items are calibrated simultaneously with equating items, the item parameters of the non-equating items are placed onto the previous year's scale.

In the winter of 2006, the Department's own studies and independently published academic findings showed that adjustments to the technique were warranted to enhance the precision of the measurement of changes in performance from one year to another. After a thorough review, the Department's MCAS Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) recommended that the technique be modified, and the Department accepted that recommendation. The new procedure—referred to as FCIP2—represents a slight modification to the Fixed Common Item Parameters method.

The specific modification made in FCIP2 is related to the PARSCALE software program (the IRT software program used for the MCAS program). Prior to 2007, the MCAS program used the default settings of PARSCALE to equate MCAS test items. In a recent study investigating various IRT fixed calibration methods, Kim (2006) included the optional subcommands *free(noadjust, noadjust)* and *posterior*.⁷ These two subcommands modify the manner in which PARSCALE updates the marginalized estimated ability distribution when doing IRT calibrations. When these subcommands are present, the IRT calibration process is more sensitive to differences in student performance across years. Consequently, a more accurate representation of student improvement (or decline) can be made.

After discussions with the MCAS TAC regarding the Kim study and FCIP equating, the Massachusetts Department of Education endorsed this refinement to the equating process. The two subcommands were added to the calibration statement in PARSCALE's command file to equate 2007 MCAS test items to items on the 2006 tests.

Internal and external analyses reveal that the 2007 threshold scores did not shift uniformly as a result of the adoption of the modified procedure—some shifted downward, some did not change, while others shifted upward. Therefore threshold score changes observed this fall are not *solely* due to the modified procedure. Internal and external analyses have affirmed that the adoption of this modified procedure has improved the measurement of change in student performance since 2006, as intended. Please note that the adoption of this method does not in any way inflate or deflate actual student performance. Instead, this method more precisely captures actual changes in student performance from year.

⁷ It should be noted that these subcommands were not the focus of the Kim study.

Because 2007 grade 10 results are pre-equated, this modification does not affect grade 10 results. The modified procedure will be applied to grade 10 English Language Arts and Mathematics results and high school Science and Technology/Engineering results for the first time in 2008.

4.3.1.2 Rescore Analyses

Testing Contractor Analysis

For the MCAS tests in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and grades 5 and 8 Science and Technology/Engineering, a rescore analysis was conducted by the testing contractor to evaluate potential constructed-response equating items. For each potential equating item, approximately 200 responses from the previous year's test were randomly selected and rescored during the 2007 scoring sessions. The scores for the two years were compared; any items found to have a large difference between average scores were excluded as equating items.

Using Cohen's effect size rules-of-thumb (wherein items with effect sizes greater than 0.80 are automatically removed as equating items), a handful of items whose effect sizes slightly exceeded the "negligible" range—up to 0.20 (e.g., grade 3 English Language Arts Item #234903)—were added to a "watch list" and were further studied in terms of content and model fit.

Results of this rescore analysis are shown in tables 4.3.1.2.1 through 4.3.1.2.3. As indicated in the last column of each table, no items were discarded from use as equating items on the 2007 tests as a result of the watch list evaluation or due to large differences between average scores over two years.

Grade 3 220259 4 2.2488 2.2927 0.9885 1.0108 0.0444 0.0439 234903 4 2.0878 2.3439 1.1737 1.1775 0.2182 0.2561 214025 4 1.4390 1.6268 1.2735 1.2395 0.1475 0.1878 214108 4 2.5415 2.6195 1.3231 1.2636 0.0590 0.0780	NO NO NO NO NO NO			
Grade 322025942.24882.29270.98851.01080.04440.043923490342.08782.34391.17371.17750.21820.256121402541.43901.62681.27351.23950.14750.187821410842.54152.61951.32311.26360.05900.0780	NO NO NO			
22025942.24882.29270.98851.01080.04440.043923490342.08782.34391.17371.17750.21820.256121402541.43901.62681.27351.23950.14750.187821410842.54152.61951.32311.26360.05900.0780	NO NO NO			
23490342.08782.34391.17371.17750.21820.256121402541.43901.62681.27351.23950.14750.187821410842.54152.61951.32311.26360.05900.0780	NO NO NO			
21402541.43901.62681.27351.23950.14750.187821410842.54152.61951.32311.26360.05900.0780	NO NO			
214108 4 2.5415 2.6195 1.3231 1.2636 0.0590 0.0780	NO			
	NO			
Grade 4	NO			
<u>228281</u> 4 1.8439 1.8927 0.9902 0.9769 0.0493 0.0488				
227667 4 1.7756 1.8585 0.8770 0.905 0.0946 0.0829	NO			
<u>227660</u> 4 1.9512 2.1195 0.8010 0.885 0.2101 0.1683	NO			
244114 4 2.1366 2.0390 0.8728 0.9745 -0.1118 0.0976	NO			
234967 4 1.8585 2.1829 1.0286 1.1447 0.3154 0.3244	NO			
225967 4 1.9415 2.0024 1.1203 1.1032 0.0544 0.0610	NO			
Grade 5				
205153 4 1.9978 1.875 0.7933 0.8608 -0.1548 0.1228	NO			
255425 4 2.0244 2.1659 0.9183 0.9062 0.1540 0.1415	NO			
208765 4 2.4341 2.3659 0.9275 0.9307 -0.0736 0.0683	NO			
<u>224817 4 1.8634 1.878 0.8894 0.8997 0.0165 0.0146</u>	NO			
205102 4 2.1220 2.1268 0.7649 0.9179 0.0064 0.0049	NO			
241467 4 1.8976 1.9683 0.8803 0.8505 0.0804 0.0707	NO			
Grade 6				
207339 4 1.8927 1.839 1.0064 0.9362 -0.0533 0.0537	NO			
250604 4 2.3512 2.4244 0.9645 1.0314 0.0759 0.0732	NO			
203165 4 2.2780 2.1659 0.8866 0.8789 -0.1265 0.1122	NO			
207670 4 2.2000 2.1902 0.902 0.9411 -0.0108 0.0098	NO			
245085 4 1.9073 2.0293 1.0712 1.0725 0.1138 0.1220	NO			
207360 4 2.3171 2.2098 0.9788 0.8944 -0.1096 0.1073	NO			
Grade 7				
224918 4 2.5366 2.4415 0.9802 0.9254 -0.0970 0.0951	NO			
225667 4 2.0560 1.8881 0.9713 0.8972 -0.1729 0.1679	NO			
225565 4 1.6058 1.5669 1.0230 1.0817 -0.0381 0.0389	NO			
225640 4 2.0439 1.9195 1.0039 0.9807 -0.1239 0.1244	NO			
225707 4 1.9781 1.9221 0.9052 0.9507 -0.0618 0.0560	NO			
225597 4 2.1024 2.0171 0.9996 0.9888 -0.0854 0.0854	NO			
Grade 8				
207639 4 2.5902 2.5000 0.9515 0.8978 -0.0948 0.0902	NO			
207124 4 1.9122 1.8171 1.0463 1.0351 -0.0909 0.0951	NO			
207248 4 2.6049 2.5829 0.9951 1.0473 -0.0221 0.0220	NO			
207193 4 2.4029 2.4733 0.9019 0.9613 0.0780 0.0704	NO			
227783 4 2.6019 2.3786 0.9357 0.9815 -0.2386 0.2233	NO			
204185 4 2.2195 1.9537 0.9954 0.9215 -0.2671 0.2659	NO			
Grade 10				
228468 4 2.2353 2.0588 1.0772 1.1361 -0.1638 0.1765	NO			
253938 4 1.7805 1.8976 0.9706 1.0045 0.1206 0.1171	NO			
227212 4 2.5545 2.4356 0.9225 0.9639 -0.1288 0.1188	NO			
227168 4 2.2000 2.2341 1.0236 1.0091 0.0334 0.0341	NO			
228485 4 2.1881 2.099 1.0313 1.0293 -0.0864 0.0891	NO			
227083 4 2.2439 2.2049 1.1683 1.0851 -0.0334 0.0390	NO			
254237 4 2.1073 2.2049 1.0161 1.0985 0.0960 0.0976	NO			
227186 4 1.9853 2.0637 1.1047 1.0985 0.0710 0.0784	NO			

Table 4.3.1.2.1: MCAS 2007 Rescore Analyses: English Language Arts

Table 4.3.1.2.2: MCAS 2007 Rescore Analyses: Mathematics								
ltem	Maximum	Old	New	Old	New	Effect	Absolute	
Reference	Score	Mean	Mean	SD	SD	Size	Difference	Discard?
				Grade 3				
203598	2	1.2537	1.2732	0.8229	0.7985	0.0237	0.0195	NO
203608	2	1.8390	1.8293		0.4363	-0.0228	0.0098	NO
218575	2	1.5659	1.5317	0.6565	0.7226	-0.0520	0.0341	NO
208002	2	1.3714	1.3667	0.8865	0.8965	-0.0054	0.0048	NO
203629	2	1.3902	1.4049	0.8911	0.8762	0.0164	0.0146	NO
	ł	·		Grade 4				
221891	4	1.9707	1.9366		1.6172	-0.0217	0.0341	NO
221891	4	1.9707	1.9366		1.6172	-0.0217	0.0341	NO
221949	4	1.8010	1.8204		1.6106	0.0121	0.0194	NO
222147	4	2.2049	2.3220		1.2855	0.0918	0.1171	NO
227323	4	2.4780	2.4878		1.3348	0.0069	0.0098	NO
227312	4	2.8537	2.9512		1.3206	0.0765	0.0976	NO
	1	r r		Grade 5				
207742	4	1.7854	1.7951	1.5626	1.4872	0.0062	0.0098	NO
198686	4	2.5951	2.6439	1.2943	1.3270	0.0377	0.0488	NO
198678	4	2.0780	2.0390	1.4663	1.4712	-0.0266	0.0390	NO
204647	4	1.7854	1.7756	1.3188	1.2986	-0.0074	0.0098	NO
217432	4	1.5073	1.5707	1.7011	1.7225	0.0373	0.0634	NO
				Grade 6				
229936	4	2.5047	2.5802	1.4092	1.4002	0.0536	0.0755	NO
229754	4	2.0439	2.0585	1.4256	1.4538	0.0103	0.0146	NO
217646	4	2.4780	2.3951	1.0756	1.0661	-0.0771	0.0829	NO
227711	4	1.4976	1.4976	1.1837	1.2042	0	0	NO
227723	4	2.0244	2.0585		1.6399	0.0218	0.0341	NO
		-		Grade 7				
205696	4	1.5756	1.5951	1.2728	1.2676	0.0153	0.0195	NO
208698	4	2.4634	2.5610		1.3113	0.0692	0.0976	NO
205646	4	1.6976	1.8829		1.4836	0.1249	0.1854	NO
205689	4	2.3073	2.3561	1.5612	1.5508	0.0312	0.0488	NO
198433	4	2.0483	2.0001		1.2664	-0.0379	0.0483	NO
			2	Grade 8	001	0.0010	0.0100	
226913	4	2.8829	2.8829		0.9191	0	0	NO
219722	4	1.4878	1.5073		1.1460	0.0182	0.0195	NO
227822	4	1.1220	1.1561	0.9575	0.9951	0.0357	0.0341	NO
229646	4	2.1268	2.1610		1.2796	0.0337	0.0341	NO
229040	4	3.11200	3.1122		1.1820	0.0274		NO
220132	4	5.1122	5.1122	Grade 10	1.1020	U	0	
229618	4	2.9254	2.9403		1.1181	0.0137	0.0149	NO
254553	4		1.7854		1.4492	-0.0206	0.0149	NO
254553	4	1.8146 1.6863			1.4492	0.1050	0.0293	NO
			1.8186					
229645	4	2.3610	2.3366		1.3503	-0.0178	0.0244	NO
227958	4	2.0293	1.9756	1.5299	1.483	-0.0351	0.0537	NO

Table 4.3.1.2.2: MCAS 2007 Rescore Analyses: Mathematics

Grades 5 and 8								
Item Reference	Maximum Score	Old Mean	New Mean	Old SD	New SD	Effect Size	Absolute Difference	Discard?
				Grade 5				
229272	4	2.3561	2.3463	1.2707	1.1527	-0.0077	0.0098	NO
245091	4	2.3317	2.3268	1.1717	1.3198	-0.0042	0.0049	NO
227843	4	1.8244	1.9024	1.3135	1.3105	0.0594	0.0780	NO
229060	4	1.8634	1.6634	1.1047	1.1848	-0.1810	0.2000	NO
227828	4	2.1602	2.2767	1.1357	1.1767	0.1026	0.1165	NO
				Grade 8				
246325	4	2.4293	2.4683	1.1898	1.1956	0.0328	0.0390	NO
229478	4	2.1659	2.1561	1.186	1.1996	-0.0082	0.0098	NO
227911	4	2.2341	2.1805	1.3771	1.2770	-0.039	0.0537	NO
227954	4	1.9561	1.8634	1.3300	1.2844	-0.0697	0.0927	NO
229455	4	2.4195	2.4878	0.9625	1.0294	0.0710	0.0683	NO

Table 4.3.1.2.3: MCAS 2007 Rescore Analyses: Science and Technology/Engineering

Redundant Analysis

In order to verify the accuracy of the testing contractor's equating analysis, a separate and independent equating analysis was conducted by the Research and Evaluation Methods Program at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst (UMass), using the same data, software (PARSCALE), and general procedures.

All discrepancies between the two analyses were thoroughly reviewed and the Department determined that discrepancies were all due to a combination of rounding procedures and idiosyncracies related to the particular scaling methodologies used in MCAS (see section 4.3.2 for details regarding scaling procedures).

4.3.2 Scaling

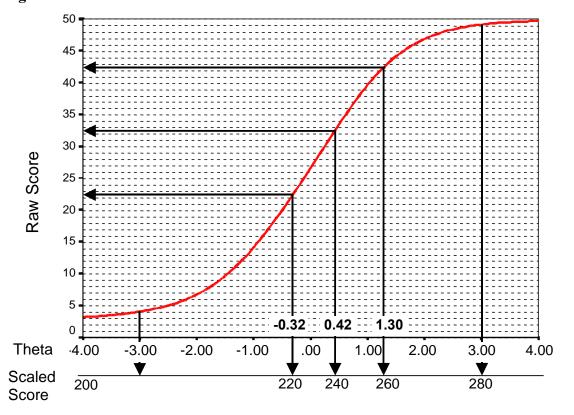
In the same way that a given temperature can be expressed as either degrees Fahrenheit or degrees Celsius, and a given distance can be expressed in either miles or kilometers, student scores on the MCAS tests can be expressed as either raw scores or scaled scores. Scaled scores supplement the MCAS proficiency-level results by providing information about the position of a student's results within a proficiency level. It is important to note that converting from raw scores to scaled scores does not change students' proficiency-level classifications.

With the exception of the grade 3 English Language Arts and Mathematics tests, for which results are reported only as raw scores (i.e., number correct), a student's MCAS 2007 test score in each content area is reported as an even-integer value on a scale that ranges from 200 to 280. The student's raw score, or total number of points, on the test is converted to a scaled score using the test characteristic curve (TCC).

Scaled scores offer the advantage over raw scores of simplifying the reporting of results across content areas, grade levels, and years. Because the standard-setting process (see section 5.1) typically results in different cut scores across content areas on a raw score basis, it is useful to

transform these raw cut scores to a scale that is more easily interpretable. For the MCAS tests, a scaled score of 240 is the cut score between the *Needs Improvement* and *Proficient* performance levels, regardless of the content area or year of testing, whereas the raw cut score between those two levels could be 35 in Mathematics but 33 in ELA. Using scaled scores greatly simplifies the task of understanding how a student performed.

Figure 4.3.B depicts the mechanics of the scaling procedure used for all grades and content areas in the MCAS program.





The scaled scores of 220, 240, and 260 represent the cut scores between performance levels. Therefore, scaled scores for the four performance levels include the following scores:

- Warning/Failing = 200-218
- Needs Improvement = 220–238
- Proficient = 240–258
- Advanced = 260-280

Scaled scores are obtained by a simple translation of ability estimates (θ s) using the linear relationship between threshold values on the θ metric and their equivalent values on the scaled score metric. Students' ability estimates are based on their responses to test items. Scaled scores are calculated using the linear equation

$$SS = m\hat{\theta} + b$$

where m is the slope and b is the intercept. A separate linear transformation was used for each performance level.

Appendix C contains the raw score-to-scaled score conversion tables for the MCAS 2007 administration.

4.3.2.1 Scaled Scores for Low-Scoring and High-Scoring Students

In the performance level of *Warning/Failing*, the upper threshold on the theta metric was established via standard setting, but there is no corresponding lower threshold. This is also true for the upper threshold of the *Advanced* performance level. Therefore, a modified procedure was necessary to calculate the scaling coefficients for the *Warning/Failing* and *Advanced* performance levels. Details of this procedure can be found in the *2001 MCAS Technical Report*.

4.3.2.2 Scaled-Score Error Band

In addition to an overall scaled score, an error band was also reported for each student. It was estimated by using the inverse of the square root of the test information function (Hambleton, Swaminathan, & Rogers, 1991).

$$SEM(\hat{\theta}_j) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{I(\theta_j)}}$$

where $SEM(\hat{\theta}_j)$ is standard error of measurement (SEM) and $I(\theta_j)$ is the test information at given θ_j .

The obtained SEMs were used to determine confidence intervals of the students' scaled scores for each MCAS 2007 test (specifically, ± 1 SEM). Transformation of the confidence interval from the theta metric onto the MCAS scaled-score metric was carried out by applying the same linear transformations used to convert student scores from the theta scale onto the MCAS scale.

5. REPORTING OF MCAS 2007 RESULTS

5.1 Standard Setting

The thresholds that define each performance level category are determined through the process of *standard setting*. Standard setting is a means of examining student performance in relation to a set of common, well-defined standards and determining what specific test scores define the boundaries of each performance category.

5.1.1 Standard Setting for the Standard MCAS Tests

MCAS results are reported in the form of performance levels and as scaled scores (except for grade 3 test results, which are reported only as raw scores) for individual students, schools, districts, and the state.⁸

Standards were validated in 2007 for grade 3 Mathematics. Standards were set in 2007 for the following tests:

- high school end-of-course Biology
- high school end-of-course Chemistry
- high school end-of-course Introductory Physics
- high school end-of-course Technology/Engineering

Detailed standard-setting procedures are described in the 2007 MCAS Standard Setting *Report* (www.mcasservicecenter.com, then click "MCAS"). Descriptions of the reports that provide MCAS 2007 results are provided in section 5.6; sample reports are provided in Appendices I, J, and K.

5.1.1.1 Performance Levels

MCAS results for standard MCAS tests are reported in four performance level categories:

- *Advanced/Above Proficient*: Students at this level demonstrate a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of rigorous subject matter, and provide sophisticated solutions to complex problems. The performance level of *Above Proficient* is used only at grade 3.
- *Proficient*: Students at this level demonstrate a solid understanding of challenging subject matter and solve a wide variety of problems.

⁸ Results for first-year LEP students are reported only at the individual student level in Parent/Guardian Reports.

- *Needs Improvement*: Students at this level demonstrate a partial understanding of subject matter and solve some simple problems.
- *Warning/Failing*: Students at this level demonstrate a minimal understanding of subject matter and do not solve simple problems. The performance level category of *Failing* is used only for high school (grades 9/10, grade 10, grades 10/11) tests.

5.1.1.2 Scaled-Score Cut Scores

The total range of MCAS scaled scores (which are reported as even integers from 200–280) is equally divided among the four performance categories, as shown in table 5.1.1.2.1:

Performance Level	Scaled Score Range
Advanced	260–280
Proficient	240–258
Needs Improvement	220–238
Warning/Failing	200–218

Table 5.1.1.2.1: MCAS Performance Levels and Scaled Score Ranges*

*No scaled scores are computed for the grade 3 tests; the grade 3 performance level of *Above Proficient* is based on raw score points.

It should be noted that scaled scores indicate comparable student position information *within* a performance level but not *across* performance levels. That is, the units of the scale can be assumed to be identical for a given performance level, though this assumption does not necessarily hold when compared to scale units within another performance level.

The steps for developing initial MCAS scaled scores are described in detail in the *1998 MCAS Technical Report*. These steps were substantially changed in 2001 to reduce error and enhance reporting of the lowest and highest test scores. Details of these changes can be found in the *2001 MCAS Technical Report* and are summarized in the *2002 MCAS Technical Report*. *MCAS Technical Reports* from 1998–2002 may be found online at www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/publications.html.

5.1.1.3 Raw-Score Cut Scores

Table 5.1.1.3 presents the raw scores relating to the various cuts for each grade/content area combination. For example, in Grade 3 Mathematics, the raw score cuts for *Warning: Needs Improvement, Needs Improvement: Proficient,* and *Proficient: Above Proficient* are 22, 30, and 37 out of a total possible score point of 40, so students with raw scores of 0–21, 22–29, 30–36, and 37–40 are classified as *Warning, Needs Improvement, Proficient,* and *Above Proficient,* respectively.

			Cut Score		
		V	V = Warning/Failir	ig	
Content Area	Grade Level	NI :	= Needs Improven	nent	Maximum
Content Area	Orace Lever		P = Proficient		Score
		A = Ac	dvanced/Above Pr	oficient	
		W:NI	NI:P	P:A	
	3	22	37	45	48
	4	37	52	62	72
	5	22	36	46	52
English Language Arts	6	22	35	47	52
	7	34	49	63	72
	8	20	33	47	52
	10	32	48	61	72
	3	22	30	37	40
	4	24	41	48	54
	5	24	38	48	54
Mathematics	6	26	38	47	54
	7	26	38	49	54
	8	23	37	48	54
	10	19	34	46	60
	5	24	36	44	54
	8	24	38	49	54
Science and	9/10 Biology	21	35	50	60
Technology/Engineering	9/10 Chemistry	24	36	48	60
	9/10 Intro.Phys	20	34	49	60
	9/10 Tech/Eng	24	37	52	60

Table 5.1.1.3:MCAS 2007 Performance Level Raw Cut Scores

For details regarding the method by which raw scores are converted to scaled scores, see section 4.3.2. The MCAS 2007 raw-score to scaled-score conversion tables for all grades and content area tests are presented in Appendix C.

5.1.2 Standard Setting for the MCAS-Alt

5.1.2.1 MCAS-Alt Performance Levels and Descriptors

MCAS-Alt performance levels and their descriptors are as follows:

- *Incomplete:* Insufficient evidence and information was included to allow a performance level to be determined in the content area (see section 2.2 for details regarding required portfolio evidence).
- Awareness: Students at this level demonstrate very little understanding of learning standards and core knowledge topics contained in the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for the content area. Students require frequent prompting and assistance, and their performance is primarily inaccurate.
- *Emerging:* Students at this level demonstrate a simple understanding at belowgrade-level expectations of a limited number of learning standards and core knowledge topics contained in the *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework* for the content area. Students require frequent prompting and assistance, and their performance is limited and inconsistent.

- Progressing: Students at this level demonstrate a partial understanding at belowgrade-level expectations of some learning standards and core knowledge topics contained in the *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework* for the content area. Students appear to be receiving challenging instruction, and are steadily learning new knowledge, skills, and concepts. Students require minimal prompting and assistance, and their performance is fundamentally accurate.
- *Needs Improvement:* Students at this level demonstrate a partial understanding of grade-level subject matter and solve some simple problems.
- *Proficient:* Students at this level demonstrate a solid understanding of challenging grade-level subject matter and solve a wide variety of problems.
- *Advanced/Above Proficient:* Students at this level demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of challenging grade-level subject matter and provide sophisticated solutions to complex problems. The performance level of *Above Proficient* is used only at grade 3.

The MCAS-Alt performance levels of *Incomplete, Awareness, Emerging,* and *Progressing* are included in the *Warning/Failing* performance level category figures on MCAS reports of school and district results, as shown in Figure 5.1.2.A.

5.1.2.2 Standard Setting for the MCAS-Alt

The standard-setting process used for the MCAS-Alt was described in a National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO) publication entitled "Massachusetts: One State's Approach to Setting Performance Levels on the Alternate Assessment (Synthesis Report 48) 2002" (http://education.umn.edu/NCEO/OnlinePubs/Synthesis 48.html). Following is a summary of the process:

Staff from the Department's offices of Student Assessment, Special Education, and Instruction and Curriculum, together with Measured Progress, its subcontractors, and the MCAS-Alt Statewide Advisory Committee began discussing performance levels in 1998. In order to define the MCAS-Alt performance levels, several important questions had to be answered:

- What will each performance level be called; how many performance levels will there be; and how will each be defined?
- Which numerical scores in which rubric areas will be counted in determining the overall performance level?
- How will numerical scores in those rubric areas be combined to yield a performance level?
- What range or combination of scores will yield a particular performance level?

What will each performance level be called; how many performance levels will there be; and how will each be defined?

A stakeholder technical advisory group recommended that performance levels be identical to performance levels on standard MCAS tests, but that the lowest performance level, called *Warning/Failing* for results on standard tests, be subdivided into three distinct levels to provide more meaningful descriptions of performance at these lower levels. Figure 5.1.2.A illustrates the performance levels and definitions used to report MCAS results for the standard tests and the alternate assessment, and the relationship between the two reporting scales.

Figure 5.1.2.A: Method Used to Aggregate Results of MCAS-Alt with Standard MCAS Tests

	Standard MCAS Tests						
Warning (Failing at Grade 10) Needs I		mprovement	nprovement Proficient		Advanced		
Students at this level demonstrate a minimal understanding of the subject matter and do not solve even simple problems.		e a partial ing of the tter and solve	understanding of challenging subject matter		Students at this level demonstrate a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of subject matter and provide sophisticated solutions to complex problems.		
	***** ****	****	• MCAS Alterr	nate As	sessment		
Awareness	Eme	erging	Progressi	ng	Needs Improvement	Proficient	Advanced
Students at this level demonstrate very little understanding of learning standards in the content area.	demonstra rudimenta understan limited nur learning st the conten have addr	ry ding of a mber of candards in it area and essed elow-grade-	Students at this level demonstrate a partial understanding of som learning standards in content area and hav addressed these at below-grade-level expectations.		(Same as above)	(Same as above)	(Same as above)

Which numerical scores in which rubric areas will be counted in determining the overall performance level?

Although different approaches were discussed between 1998 and 2001 (when performance levels were first reported), it was decided to use an "analytical rubric" based on reasoned perceptions of every score combination to determine performance levels. The following three scoring dimensions are included in the calculation of a performance level for each strand:

- Level of Complexity
- Demonstration of Skills and Concepts
- Independence

How will numerical scores in those rubric areas be combined to yield a performance level?

There are 80 possible score combinations for the three scoring dimensions. Each score combination was discussed, and a performance level was assigned to it on the basis of reasoned perceptions of what that score combination revealed about a student's performance (i.e., how complex, how accurate, and how independent). Figure 5.1.2.B shows the rationale for assigning the performance level for each score combination.

Figure 5.1.2.C on page 78 (taken from the 2007 Educator's Manual for MCAS-Alt) offers a different presentation of how raw scores in these three dimensions were analyzed to yield a performance level.

What range or combination of scores will yield a particular performance level?

A performance level was calculated for each of the required strands in each content area. The performance level scores for the strands of the content area were then averaged to yield an overall performance level for that content area.

Overall content area performance levels are aggregated with standard MCAS results as shown in Figure 5.1.2.A.

noode improvement (and higher)					
Needs Improvement (and higher)					
e Level 3 = Progressing					
5 5					
Performance Level 2 = <i>Emerging</i>					
Performance Level 1 = Awareness					
))					

Level of Complexity	Demonstration of Skills and Concepts	Independence	Performance Level	Rationale
1	1	1	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with little to no accuracy and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	1	2	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with little to no accuracy and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	1	3	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with little to no accuracy and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	1	4	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with little to no accuracy and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	2	1	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	2	2	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	2	3	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	2	4	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	3	1	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with a mostly accurate performance and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	3	2	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with a mostly accurate performance and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	3	3	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with a mostly accurate performance and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	3	4	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with a mostly accurate performance and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.

Performance Level 1 = Awareness
Performance Level 2 = <i>Emerging</i>
Performance Level 3 = Progressing
Performance Level 4 = <i>Needs Improvement</i> (and higher)

Level of Complexity	Demonstration of Skills and Concepts	Independence	Performance Level	Rationale
1	4	1	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with an accurate performance and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	4	2	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with an accurate performance and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	4	3	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with an accurate performance and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
1	4	4	1	Student is working on skills that are not related to the general curriculum, with an accurate performance and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	1	1	1	Student is working on Access Skills, with little to no accuracy and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	1	2	1	Student is working on Access Skills, with little to no accuracy and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	1	3	1	Student is working on Access Skills, with little to no accuracy and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	1	4	1	Student is working on Access Skills, with little to no accuracy and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	2	1	1	Student is working on Access Skills, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	2	2	1	Student is working on Access Skills, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	2	3	1	Student is working on Access Skills, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	2	4	1	Student is working on Access Skills, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	3	1	1	Student is working on Access Skills, with a mostly accurate performance and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.

Performance Level 1 = Awareness
Performance Level 2 = <i>Emerging</i>
Performance Level 3 = Progressing
Performance Level 4 = Needs Improvement (and higher)

Level of Complexity	Demonstration of Skills and Concepts	Independence	Performance Level	Rationale
2	3	2	1	Student is working on Access Skills, with a mostly accurate performance and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	3	3	2	Student is working on Access Skills, with a mostly accurate performance and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	3	4	2	Student is working on Access Skills, with a mostly accurate performance and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	4	1	1	Student is working on Access Skills, with an accurate performance and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	4	2	1	Student is working on Access Skills, with an accurate performance and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	4	3	2	Student is working on Access Skills, with an accurate performance and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
2	4	4	2	Student is working on Access Skills, with an accurate performance and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	1	1	1	Student is working on Entry Points, with little to no accuracy and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	1	2	1	Student is working on Entry Points, with little to no accuracy and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	1	3	1	Student is working on Entry Points, with little to no accuracy and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	1	4	1	Student is working on Entry Points, with little to no accuracy and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	2	1	1	Student is working on Entry Points, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	2	2	1	Student is working on Entry Points, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	2	3	2	Student is working on Entry Points, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	2	4	2	Student is working on Entry Points, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	3	1	1	Student is working on Entry Points, with a mostly accurate performance and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.

Performance Level 1 = Awareness
Performance Level 2 = Emerging
Performance Level 3 = Progressing
Performance Level 4 = Needs Improvement (and higher)

Level of Complexity	Demonstration of Skills and Concepts	Independence	Performance Level	Rationale
3	3	2	2	Student is working on Entry Points, with a mostly accurate performance and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	3	3	3	Student is working on Entry Points, with a mostly accurate performance and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	3	4	3	Student is working on Entry Points, with a mostly accurate performance and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	4	1	1	Student is working on Entry Points, with an accurate performance and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	4	2	2	Student is working on Entry Points, with an accurate performance and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	4	3	3	Student is working on Entry Points, with an accurate performance and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
3	4	4	3	Student is working on Entry Points, with an accurate performance and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	1	1	1	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with little to no accuracy and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	1	2	1	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with little to no accuracy and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	1	3	1	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with little to no accuracy and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	1	4	1	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with little to no accuracy and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	2	1	1	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	2	2	1	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.

Performance Level 1 = Awareness
Performance Level 2 = <i>Emerging</i>
Performance Level 3 = <i>Progressing</i>
Performance Level 4 = Needs Improvement (and higher)

Level of Complexity	Demonstration of Skills and Concepts	Independence	Performance Level	Rationale
4	2	3	2	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	2	4	2	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	3	1	1	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with a mostly accurate performance and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	3	2	2	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with a mostly accurate performance and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	3	3	3	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with a mostly accurate performance and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	3	4	3	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with a mostly accurate performance and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	4	1	1	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with an accurate performance and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	4	2	2	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with an accurate performance and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	4	3	3	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with an accurate performance and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
4	4	4	3	Student is addressing a narrow sample of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with an accurate performance and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.

Performance Level 1 = Awareness Performance Level 2 = Emerging Performance Level 3 = Progressing Performance Level 4 = Needs Improvement (and higher)

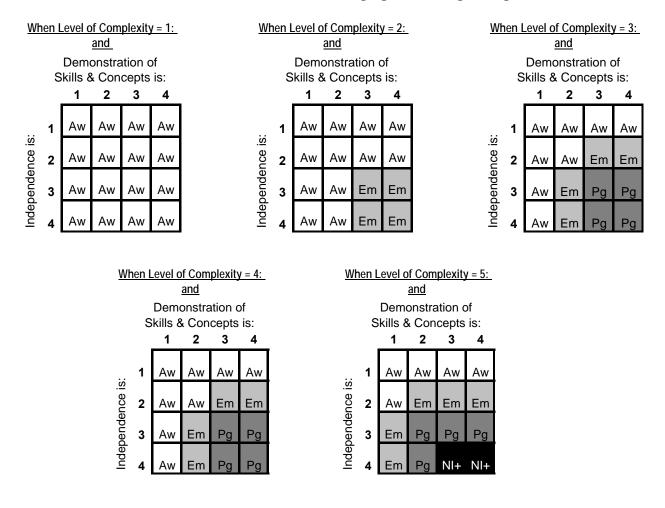
Level of Complexity	Demonstration of Skills and Concepts	Independence	Performance Level	Rationale
5	1	1	1	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with little to no accuracy and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	1	2	1	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with little to no accuracy and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	1	3	2	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with little to no accuracy and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	1	4	2	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with little to no accuracy and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	2	1	1	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	2	2	2	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	2	3	3	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	2	4	3	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with limited and inconsistent accuracy and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	3	1	1	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with a mostly accurate performance and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	3	2	2	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with a mostly accurate performance and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	3	3	3	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with a mostly accurate performance and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.

Performance Level 1 = Awareness Performance Level 2 = Emerging Performance Level 3 = Progressing Performance Level 4 = Needs Improvement (and higher)

Level of Complexity	Demonstration of Skills and Concepts	Independence	Performance Level	Rationale
5	3	4	4	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with a mostly accurate performance and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	4	1	1	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with an accurate performance and with extensive verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	4	2	2	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with an accurate performance and with frequent verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	4	3	3	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with an accurate performance and with some verbal, visual, and physical assistance.
5	4	4	4	Student is addressing a broad range of learning standards at grade-level expectations, with an accurate performance and with minimal verbal, visual, and physical assistance.

Figure 5.1.2.C: 2007 MCAS-Alt Performance Level Calculation Charts

Aw = Awareness; Em = Emerging; Pr = Progressing



5.2 Performance Level Results

5.2.1 Standard MCAS Test Performance Level Results

Tables 5.2.1.1.1 through 5.2.1.4.2 include results in each category for *all* students educated with Massachusetts public funds. All tables in this section were taken from the document, *Spring 2007 MCAS Tests: Summary of State Results* (www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/2007/results/summary.doc).

Statewide performance level results are disaggregated in the following categories:

- content area, by grade (section 5.2.1.1)
- student status, by grade and content area test (section 5.2.1.2)
 - non-disabled students
 - students with disabilities
 - limited English proficient (LEP), not including first-year LEP students
 - formerly limited English proficient (formerly LEP)
 - LEP and formerly LEP
 - low income
- race/ethnicity (section 5.2.1.3)
 - African American/Black
 - Asian
 - Hispanic/Latino
 - Native American
 - White
 - Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
 - Multi-Race (non-Hispanic/Latino)
- gender (section 5.2.1.4)

Content area (5.2.1.1), race/ethnicity (5.2.1.3), and gender (5.2.1.4) results include results for all of the following students:

- students with disabilities who took the tests with accommodations
- students with disabilities who took the tests *without* accommodations
- students with disabilities who participated in MCAS through the MCAS-Alt
- limited English proficient students, including, for grade 10 Mathematics, those LEP students who took the Spanish/English version of the test (but excluding results for first-year LEP students)
- formerly limited English proficient students

MCAS-Alt performance level results are further discussed in section 5.2.2.

Table 5.2.1.1.1: Statewide MCAS Results, Grade 3;English Language Arts/Reading 2001–2007and Mathematics 2006–2007;Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level1

	Performance Level						
Content Area and Year	Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning			
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AF	RTS/READING ²						
2007	14	45	32	9			
2006	18	40	33	8			
2005		62	31	7			
2004		63	30	7			
2003		63	31	6			
2002		67	27	6			
2001		62	31	7			
MATHEMATICS ³							
2007	19	41	24	16			
2006	4	48	32	16			

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

2. To comply with NCLB, Massachusetts added the *Above Proficient* performance level for the Grade 3 Reading test in 2006. When comparing grade 3 English Language Arts student performance across years, the total percent of students scoring *Above Proficient* and *Proficient* in 2006 or 2007 can be compared to the percent scoring *Proficient* for Grade 3 Reading in any single year 2001–2005.

3. The *Above Proficient* standard in Mathematics was reset in 2007 to better discriminate student performance in the top reporting category. Therefore, comparisons should **not** be made between the 2006 and 2007 *Above Proficient* percents. However, comparisons may be drawn between 2006 and 2007 using each year's combined percent of students scoring *Proficient* and *Above Proficient*.

Table 5.2.1.1.2: Statewide MCAS Results, Grade 4;English Language Arts 2001–2007and Mathematics 1998–2007;Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level1

	Performance Level						
Content Area and Year	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning			
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS							
2007	10	46	34	10			
2006	8	42	39	11			
2005	10	40	40	11			
2004	11	45	35	10			
2003	10	46	34	9			
2002	8	46	37	10			
2001	7	44	38	11			
MATHEMATICS							
2007	19	29	39	13			
2006	15	25	45	15			
2005	14	26	44	15			
2004	14	28	44	14			
2003	12	28	44	16			
2002	12	27	42	19			
2001	10	24	46	19			
2000	12	28	42	18			
1999	12	24	44	19			
1998	11	23	44	23			

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

Table 5.2.1.1.3: Statewide MCAS Results, Grade 5; English Language Arts and Mathematics 2006–2007 and Science and Technology/Engineering 2003–2007; Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

		Performance Level				
Content Area and Year	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning		
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS						
2007	15	48	28	9		
2006	15	44	31	9		
MATHEMATICS		•				
2007	19	32	31	18		
2006	17	26	34	23		
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/E	NGINEERING					
2007	14	37	37	12		
2006	17	33	39	11		
2005	16	35	38	12		
2004	20	35	33	13		
2003	19	33	34	14		

Table 5.2.1.1.4: Statewide MCAS Results, Grade 6;English Language Arts 2006–2007and Mathematics 2001–2007;Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level1

	Performance Level					
Content Area and Year	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning		
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS						
2007	9	58	26	7		
2006	10	54	28	8		
MATHEMATICS						
2007	20	32	28	20		
2006	17	29	29	25		
2005	17	29	30	23		
2004	17	26	32	25		
2003	16	26	32	26		
2002	13	28	29	30		
2001	13	23	30	33		

Derfermenee Level

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

Table 5.2.1.1.5: Statewide MCAS Results, Grade 7; English Language Arts 2001–2007 and Mathematics 2006–2007;

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

	Performance Level					
Content Area and Year	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning		
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS						
2007	9	60	23	8		
2006	10	55	26	9		
2005	10	56	27	8		
2004	9	59	25	7		
2003	8	58	28	7		
2002	9	55	28	9		
2001	6	49	32	12		
MATHEMATICS						
2007	15	31	30	24		
2006	12	28	33	28		

Table 5.2.1.1.6: Statewide MCAS Results, Grade 8; English Language Arts 2006–2007, Mathematics 1998–2007, and Science and Technology/Engineering 2003–2007; Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

	Performance Level						
Content Area and Year	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning			
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS							
2007	12	63	18	6			
2006	12	62	19	7			
MATHEMATICS							
2007	17	28	30	25			
2006	12	28	31	29			
2005	13	26	30	31			
2004	13	26	32	29			
2003	12	25	30	33			
2002	11	23	33	33			
2001	11	23	34	31			
2000	10	24	27	39			
1999	6	22	31	40			
1998	8	23	26	42			
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/EN	GINEERING						
2007	3	30	44	24			
2006	4	28	43	25			
2005	4	29	41	26			
2004	5	28	35	31			
2003	4	28	37	30			

Table 5.2.1.1.7: Statewide MCAS Results, Grade 10;English Language Arts and Mathematics 1998–2007;Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

	Performance Level						
Content Area and Year	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Failing			
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS							
2007	22	49	24	6			
2006	16	54	24	7			
2005	22	42	25	11			
2004	19	43	27	11			
2003	20	41	28	11			
2002	19	40	27	14			
2001	15	36	31	18			
2000	7	29	30	34			
1999	4	30	34	32			
1998	5	33	34	28			
MATHEMATICS							
2007	41	27	22	9			
2006	40	27	21	12			
2005	34	27	24	15			
2004	29	28	28	15			
2003	24	27	29	20			
2002	20	24	31	25			
2001	18	27	30	25			
2000	15	18	22	45			
1999	9	15	23	53			
1998	7	17	24	52			

5.2.1.2 Percentages by Student Status

In tables 5.2.1.2.1 through 5.2.1.2.16, the category of "Students with Disabilities" includes **all** of the following students with disabilities:

- those who took the standard MCAS test *with* accommodations
- those who took the standard MCAS test without accommodations
- those who participated in MCAS through the MCAS-Alt

Table 5.2.1.2.1: Statewide MCAS Performance Level Results by Student Status 2004–2007 Grade 3 English Language Arts/Reading Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Student Status	Year		Perform	nance Level	
Category	rear	Above Proficient ²	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning
		GRADE 3 ENGLISH LAI	NGUAGE ARTS/REA	ADING	
Non-Disabled Students					
	2007	16	50	29	5
	2006	21	44	31	5
	2005		68	28	4
	2004		69	27	4
Students with Disabilitie	es	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	2007	3	24	44	29
	2006	5	23	47	25
	2005		32	45	23
	2004		32	45	22
Limited English Proficie	nt (LEP)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	2007	2	20	48	30
	2006	3	17	51	29
	2005		23	50	27
	2004		26	50	24
Formerly LEP		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	2007	8	36	42	13
	2006	12	35	43	10
	2005		39	48	13
	2004		43	45	12
LEP and Formerly LEP					
-	2007	4	25	46	25
	2006	5	22	49	24
	2005		28	49	23
	2004		32	48	20
Low Income	·	·			
	2007	4	32	46	18
	2006	6	28	48	17
	2005		38	47	15
	2004		40	46	14

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

2. To comply with NCLB, Massachusetts added the *Above Proficient* performance level for the Grade 3 Reading test in 2006. When comparing grade 3 English Language Arts student performance across years, the total percent of students scoring *Above Proficient* and *Proficient* in 2006 or 2007 can be compared to the percents scoring *Proficient* for Grade 3 Reading in the years 2004–2005.

Table 5.2.1.2.2:Statewide MCAS Performance Level Results by Student Status2006–2007 Grade 3 MathematicsPercentage of Students at Each Performance Level1

Student Status	Year	Performance Level				
Category	rear	Above Proficient ²	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning	
		GRADE 3 M	ATHEMATICS			
Non-Disabled Students						
	2007	22	45	23	11	
	2006	5	53	31	11	
Students with Disabilities	S					
	2007	5	23	30	42	
	2006	1	22	36	41	
Limited English Proficier	nt (LEP)	·				
	2007	5	25	30	40	
	2006	1	23	35	42	
Formerly LEP						
	2007	14	34	27	25	
	2006	4	42	32	22	
LEP and Formerly LEP						
	2007	7	28	29	36	
	2006	2	28	34	36	
Low Income						
	2007	7	31	31	31	
	2006	1	30	38	31	

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

The Above Proficient standard in Mathematics was reset in 2007 to better discriminate student performance in the top reporting category. Therefore, comparisons should **not** be made between the 2006 and 2007 Above Proficient percents. However, comparisons may be drawn between 2006 and 2007 using each year's combined percent of students scoring Proficient and Above Proficient.

Table 5.2.1.2.3: Statewide MCAS 2004–2007 Performance Level Results by Student Status Grade 4 English Language Arts

Student Status	Year	Performance Level			
Category	rear	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning
		GRADE 4 ENGLI	SH LANGUAGE ARTS		
Non-Disabled Students					
	2007	12	52	31	5
	2006	9	48	37	6
	2005	12	45	38	6
	2004	13	49	32	5
Students with Disabilitie	s				
	2007	1	18	47	34
	2006	1	15	48	36
	2005	1	16	51	32
	2004	1	20	49	30
Limited English Proficier	nt (LEP)				
	2007	1	16	47	36
	2006	1	13	46	40
	2005	1	11	47	41
	2004	1	16	46	36
Formerly LEP					
	2007	6	38	43	13
	2006	5	34	46	14
	2005	4	28	50	17
	2004	5	30	45	19
LEP and Formerly LEP					
	2007	3	24	45	28
	2006	2	20	46	31
	2005	3	20	49	29
	2004	3	22	46	29
Low Income					
	2007	3	29	48	21
	2006	2	25	49	23
	2005	2	24	53	21
	2004	3	28	49	20

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Table 5.2.1.2.4: Statewide MCAS 2004–2007 Performance Level Results by Student Status **Grade 4 Mathematics**

Student Status Category	Year		Perforr	nance Level	
	rear	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning
		GRADE 4	MATHEMATICS		
Non-Disabled Students	i				
	2007	22	33	38	7
	2006	17	28	45	9
	2005	16	30	44	10
	2004	16	32	43	9
Students with Disabiliti	es				
	2007	4	13	46	37
	2006	3	12	46	39
	2005	3	11	46	41
	2004	3	12	47	38
Limited English Proficie					
	2007	5	14	46	36
	2006	4	11	45	39
	2005	2	9	44	45
	2004	3	12	45	39
Formerly LEP					
	2007	14	25	44	17
	2006	13	22	47	19
	2005	8	18	50	23
	2004	9	19	47	26
LEP and Formerly LEP					
	2007	8	18	45	29
	2006	7	15	46	32
	2005	5	14	47	34
	2004	6	15	46	33
Low Income					
	2007	7	20	48	25
	2006	6	15	51	28
	2005	4	15	51	29
	2004	4	17	51	28

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Table 5.2.1.2.5:Statewide MCAS Performance Level Results by Student Status2006–2007 Grade 5 English Language ArtsPercentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Student Status	Year	Performance Level			
Category	Tear	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning
		GRADE 5 ENGL	ISH LANGUAGE ARTS	;	
Non-Disabled Students					
	2007	18	54	25	4
	2006	19	50	28	4
Students with Disabilities	S				
	2007	2	23	43	31
	2006	2	22	47	28
Limited English Proficier	nt (LEP)				
	2007	1	15	43	41
	2006	1	12	44	43
Formerly LEP					
	2007	6	39	42	12
	2006	6	33	47	14
LEP and Formerly LEP					
	2007	4	26	42	28
	2006	3	22	46	29
Low Income					
	2007	4	34	43	19
	2006	4	30	47	18

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

Table 5.2.1.2.6:

Statewide MCAS Performance Level Results by Student Status 2006–2007 Grade 5 Mathematics

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Student Status Category	Year	Performance Level			
	Tear	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning
		GRADE 5	MATHEMATICS		
Non-Disabled Students					
	2007	22	37	30	11
	2006	20	30	35	16
Students with Disabilitie	S				
	2007	3	14	33	50
	2006	3	11	31	55
Limited English Proficie	nt (LEP)				
	2007	4	15	31	50
	2006	3	10	28	59
Formerly LEP					
	2007	13	28	35	24
	2006	10	21	36	32
LEP and Formerly LEP					
	2007	8	21	33	38
	2006	7	15	32	46
Low Income				· · ·	
	2007	7	22	38	33
	2006	6	16	37	42

Table 5.2.1.2.7:Statewide MCAS 2004–2007 Performance Level Results by Student StatusGrade 5 Science and Technology/EngineeringPercentage of Students at Each Performance Level1

Student Status	Year	Performance Level					
Category	rear	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning		
	G	RADE 5 SCIENCE AND	TECHNOLOGY/ENGIN	IEERING			
Non-Disabled Students							
	2007	17	41	35	7		
	2006	19	36	37	7		
	2005	18	38	36	8		
	2004	22	37	31	9		
Students with Disabilities	S						
	2007	3	18	45	33		
	2006	5	18	48	30		
	2005	4	18	46	33		
	2004	6	20	42	32		
Limited English Proficier							
	2007	1	9	42	48		
	2006	1	9	43	47		
	2005	1	8	38	52		
	2004	2	13	36	49		
Formerly LEP							
	2007	4	24	51	21		
	2006	5	21	51	23		
	2005	5	19	50	26		
	2004	4	18	43	34		
LEP and Formerly LEP							
	2007	3	16	46	36		
	2006	3	15	46	36		
	2005	3	14	44	39		
	2004	3	15	39	43		
Low Income							
	2007	3	21	49	26		
	2006	5	20	51	24		
	2005	4	20	49	26		
	2004	6	21	45	28		

Table 5.2.1.2.8:Statewide MCAS Performance Level Results by Student Status2006–2007 Grade 6 English Language ArtsPercentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Student Status Category	Year	Performance Level			
	rear	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning
		GRADE 6 ENGL	ISH LANGUAGE ARTS	; ;	
Non-Disabled Students					
	2007	11	65	21	3
	2006	12	60	24	4
Students with Disabilitie	es		·		
	2007	1	26	45	28
	2006	1	25	46	28
Limited English Proficie	ent (LEP)		·		
	2007	0	15	44	41
	2006	1	13	43	43
Formerly LEP					
	2007	2	42	43	14
	2006	3	38	45	14
LEP and Formerly LEP			·		
	2007	1	26	44	29
	2006	1	23	44	31
Low Income					
	2007	2	40	41	16
	2006	2	36	45	17

Table 5.2.1.2.9: Statewide MCAS 2004–2007 Performance Level Results by Student Status **Grade 6 Mathematics**

Student Status Category	Year	Performance Level				
	rear	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning	
		GRADE 6	MATHEMATICS			
Non-Disabled Students	i					
	2007	24	37	27	12	
	2006	20	33	30	17	
	2005	21	33	31	16	
	2004	20	29	33	18	
Students with Disabiliti	ies					
	2007	3	13	30	54	
	2006	2	11	27	61	
	2005	2	11	29	58	
	2004	2	8	27	63	
Limited English Profici	ent (LEP)					
	2007	4	11	25	59	
	2006	3	8	23	67	
	2005	3	9	24	65	
	2004	3	9	24	64	
Formerly LEP						
	2007	10	25	33	33	
	2006	9	20	32	39	
	2005	7	19	33	41	
	2004	6	13	31	50	
LEP and Formerly LEP	- -					
	2007	6	17	28	48	
	2006	5	12	27	56	
	2005	5	13	28	54	
	2004	4	11	28	57	
Low Income	• •					
	2007	7	22	33	38	
	2006	5	17	32	46	
	2005	5	18	34	43	
	2004	5	15	34	47	

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Table 5.2.1.2.10: Statewide MCAS 2004–2007 Performance Level Results by Student Status Grade 7 English Language Arts

Student Status	Year	Performance Level				
Category	rear	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning	
		GRADE 7 ENGLIS	SH LANGUAGE A RTS			
Non-Disabled Students						
	2007	11	67	19	3	
	2006	12	61	22	4	
	2005	12	63	22	3	
	2004	10	66	21	3	
Students with Disabilitie	s					
	2007	1	27	43	30	
	2006	1	24	43	32	
	2005	1	25	48	26	
	2004	1	26	46	27	
Limited English Proficie	nt (LEP)					
	2007	1	15	39	45	
	2006	0	15	36	48	
	2005	1	15	44	40	
	2004	1	18	44	38	
Formerly LEP						
	2007	2	46	39	14	
	2006	3	38	42	17	
	2005	3	36	48	13	
	2004	2	37	43	18	
LEP and Formerly LEP						
	2007	1	27	39	32	
	2006	2	24	39	36	
	2005	2	25	46	27	
	2004	1	27	43	29	
Low Income	•					
	2007	2	44	37	16	
	2006	2	39	39	19	
	2005	2	39	44	15	
	2004	2	41	41	16	

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Table 5.2.1.2.11: Statewide MCAS Performance Level Results by Student Status 2006–2007 Grade 7 Mathematics

Student Status Category	Year	Performance Level			
	rear	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning
		GRADE 7	MATHEMATICS		
Non-Disabled Students					
	2007	17	36	31	16
	2006	15	32	34	19
Students with Disabilitie	s				
	2007	2	10	27	61
	2006	1	8	26	65
Limited English Proficie	nt (LEP)				
	2007	2	8	21	68
	2006	2	7	22	69
Formerly LEP					
	2007	7	20	33	40
	2006	6	15	32	46
LEP and Formerly LEP					
	2007	4	13	26	56
	2006	4	10	26	60
Low Income	·				
	2007	4	18	33	45
	2006	3	14	33	49

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

Table 5.2.1.2.12:

Statewide MCAS Performance Level Results by Student Status 2006–2007 Grade 8 English Language Arts

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Student Status	Year	Performance Level			
Category	Tear	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning
		GRADE 8 ENGL	ISH LANGUAGE ARTS	3	
Non-Disabled Students					
	2007	15	69	14	2
	2006	14	68	14	3
Students with Disabilitie	S				
	2007	1	35	39	25
	2006	1	34	39	27
Limited English Proficie	nt (LEP)				
	2007	0	17	43	40
	2006	0	17	37	45
Formerly LEP			·		
	2007	3	47	39	11
	2006	2	47	36	15
LEP and Formerly LEP			·		
	2007	2	27	42	29
	2006	1	28	37	35
Low Income			•		
	2007	3	51	32	13
	2006	3	49	33	16

Table 5.2.1.2.13: Statewide MCAS 2004–2007 Performance Level Results by Student Status **Grade 8 Mathematics**

Student Status	Year	Performance Level				
Category		Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning	
		GRADE 8	MATHEMATICS			
Non-Disabled Students						
	2007	21	32	31	16	
	2006	15	32	33	21	
	2005	16	30	32	23	
	2004	15	30	34	21	
Students with Disabiliti						
	2007	2	8	26	64	
	2006	1	7	24	68	
	2005	1	6	22	70	
	2004	1	6	25	67	
Limited English Proficie	ent (LEP)					
	2007	2	8	21	69	
	2006	1	8	18	73	
	2005	2	7	16	75	
	2004	3	7	22	68	
Formerly LEP						
	2007	7	18	29	46	
	2006	5	15	30	50	
	2005	5	13	27	55	
	2004	8	14	26	52	
LEP and Formerly LEP						
	2007	4	11	24	61	
	2006	3	10	23	65	
	2005	3	9	21	66	
	2004	5	10	24	61	
Low Income	·					
	2007	5	16	33	45	
	2006	3	14	31	52	
	2005	3	14	29	54	
	2004	3	13	32	52	

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Table 5.2.1.2.14:Statewide MCAS 2004–2007 Performance Level Results by Student StatusGrade 8 Science and Technology/EngineeringPercentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Student Status Category	Year		Perform	nance Level	
		Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning
	Gr	ADE 8 SCIENCE AND	TECHNOLOGY/ENGI	NEERING	
Non-Disabled Students	6				
	2007	4	34	45	17
	2006	5	32	45	18
	2005	4	34	43	19
	2004	6	32	37	24
Students with Disabilit	ies				
	2007	0	7	36	56
	2006	0	7	33	59
	2005	0	7	32	61
	2004	1	7	26	66
Limited English Profici	ent (LEP)				
•	2007	0	3	20	77
	2006	0	3	20	78
	2005	0	3	20	77
	2004	0	5	18	76
Formerly LEP					
	2007	1	10	39	51
	2006	0	8	37	54
	2005	1	8	32	59
	2004	1	9	23	66
LEP and Formerly LEP					
•	2007	0	5	26	68
	2006	0	4	26	70
	2005	1	5	25	69
	2004	1	7	21	71
Low Income	· ·			- · · ·	
	2007	0	11	42	46
	2006	0	9	40	50
	2005	0	10	39	51
	2004	1	10	30	59

Table 5.2.1.2.15:Statewide MCAS 2004–2007 Performance Level Results by Student StatusGrade 10 English Language ArtsPercentage of Students at Each Performance Level1

Student Status	Year		Perform	nance Level	
Category		Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Failing
		GRADE 10 ENGI	LISH LANGUAGE ARTS	S	
Non-Disabled Students					
	2007	25	53	19	3
	2006	18	58	20	3
	2005	26	46	22	5
	2004	22	48	24	6
Students with Disabiliti	es				
	2007	2	28	47	23
	2006	1	28	45	25
	2005	2	21	42	34
	2004	2	20	43	36
Limited English Proficie	ent (LEP)				
	2007	1	12	46	42
	2006	1	13	42	45
	2005	1	8	32	59
	2004	1	11	36	52
Formerly LEP					
	2007	5	34	49	12
	2006	4	39	42	15
	2005	4	25	45	26
	2004	7	25	40	28
LEP and Formerly LEP					
	2007	2	19	47	32
	2006	2	23	42	33
	2005	2	15	37	46
	2004	4	17	38	42
Low Income				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	2007	7	41	40	13
	2006	5	41	39	15
	2005	7	30	39	24
	2004	5	29	41	25

In table 5.2.1.2.16, the category of "Limited English Proficient (LEP)" includes students who took the Spanish/English version of the grade 10 Mathematics test (this was the only test for which a Spanish/English version was available in 2006 and 2007).

Table 5.2.1.2.16:Statewide MCAS 2004–2007 Performance Level Results by Student StatusGrade 10 MathematicsPercentage of Students at Each Performance Level1

Student Status	Year	Performance Level							
Category		Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Failing				
		GRADE 10	MATHEMATICS						
Non-Disabled Students	;								
	2007	48	28	19	5				
	2006	46	28	19	8				
	2005	40	28	22	10				
	2004	34	30	27	10				
Students with Disabiliti	ies		·						
	2007	9	22	37	32				
	2006	9	21	32	38				
	2005	6	19	33	41				
	2004	4	17	36	43				
Limited English Profici	ent (LEP)		•						
-	2007	11	16	34	39				
	2006	12	14	27	46				
	2005	9	13	29	49				
	2004	9	17	33	41				
Formerly LEP			•	· ·					
	2007	24	23	35	19				
	2006	23	23	30	24				
	2005	18	21	33	28				
	2004	23	17	29	32				
LEP and Formerly LEP			•						
•	2007	16	18	34	32				
	2006	17	18	28	37				
	2005	13	16	30	41				
	2004	15	17	31	37				
Low Income	• •								
	2007	21	26	33	19				
	2006	19	25	31	26				
	2005	14	21	33	31				
	2004	11	21	36	31				

Table 5.2.1.3.1: Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level										
Orresta Laura Laura I			Tatal Otivita it							
Grade Level and	Year	Advanced/		Needs	Warning/	Total Students				
Content Area		Above	Proficient	Improvement	Failing	Included				
		Proficient			·					
GRADE 3										
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/	2007	5	31	47	18	5,575				
READING ²	2006	6	29	49	16	5,468				
	2005	-	37	48	15	5,597				
MATHEMATICS ³	2007	6	29	32	33	5,578				
	2006	1	28	39	33	5,468				
		GF	RADE 4							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	3	29	48	21	5,427				
	2006	2	24	49	24	5,563				
	2005	3	24	52	22	6,015				
MATHEMATICS	2007	6	17	50	27	5,434				
	2006	4	14	52	31	5,574				
	2005	3	13	51	33	6,020				
GRADE 5										
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	4	35	43	18	5,558				
	2006	4	30	48	18	6,055				
MATHEMATICS	2007	5	20	38	36	5,559				
_	2006	4	14	37	45	6,079				
SCIENCE AND	2007	2	18	50	30	5,559				
TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2006	3	17	52	28	6,076				
	2005	3	17	50	29	6,000				
		GE	RADE 6			-,				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	3	40	43	15	6,109				
	2006	3	36	45	17	6,112				
MATHEMATICS	2007	6	21	32	41	6,094				
	2006	4	15	32	49	6,127				
	2005	4	17	33	46	6,580				
GRADE 7										
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	2	46	36	16	6,105				
	2006	3	39	40	19	6,525				
	2005	2	39	45	13	6,697				
MATHEMATICS	2000	3	17	34	47	6,108				
WIATHEWIATIOS	2007	2	12	34	52	6,547				
				n novt nago)	52	0,047				

African American / Black Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

(Table 5.2.1.3.1 continued on next page)

Table 5.2.1.3.1 (cont.): Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

African American / Black (cont.) Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

	Ī								
Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Total Students Included			
	GRADE 8								
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	4	52	32	13	6,412			
	2006	3	49	33	15	6,610			
MATHEMATICS	2007	4	15	34	47	6,399			
	2006	2	13	30	55	6,623			
	2005	2	12	29	56	6,514			
SCIENCE AND	2007	0	8	42	50	6,398			
TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2006	0	7	37	56	6,616			
	2005	0	7	37	55	6,505			
		GRA	DE 10						
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	6	40	41	12	6,056			
	2006	5	42	40	14	6,004			
	2005	6	30	43	21	5,541			
MATHEMATICS	2007	19	26	35	20	5,957			
	2006	17	24	33	26	5,930			
	2005	10	19	37	33	5,567			

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

2. To comply with NCLB, Massachusetts added the *Above Proficient* performance level for the Grade 3 Reading test in 2006. When comparing grade 3 English Language Arts student performance across years, the total percent of students scoring *Above Proficient* and *Proficient* in 2006 or 2007 can be compared to the percents scoring *Proficient* for Grade 3 Reading in 2005.

3. The Above Proficient standard in Mathematics was reset in 2007 to better discriminate student performance in the top reporting category. Therefore, comparisons should **not** be made between the 2006 and 2007 *Above Proficient* percents. However, comparisons may be drawn between 2006 and 2007 using each year's combined percent of students scoring *Proficient* and *Above Proficient*.

Table 5.2.1.3.2: Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Total Students Included				
GRADE 3										
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/	2007	20	44	28	8	3,457				
READING ²	2006	21	40	32	7	3,344				
	2005	-	62	31	7	3,423				
MATHEMATICS ³	2007	31	39	18	11	3,461				
	2006	8	55	26	11	3,349				
		GF	RADE 4							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	17	46	29	8	3,370				
	2006	15	43	33	10	3,442				
	2005	17	40	34	10	3,330				
MATHEMATICS	2007	32	31	30	7	3,391				
	2006	28	29	33	10	3,451				
	2005	24	29	37	10	3,342				
GRADE 5										
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	23	45	25	7	3,437				
	2006	22	43	27	8	3,353				
MATHEMATICS	2007	36	34	21	9	3,454				
	2006	32	28	26	13	3,354				
SCIENCE AND	2007	23	36	32	10	3,453				
TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2006	22	33	35	10	3,352				
	2005	21	33	34	12	3,283				
		GF	RADE 6							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	17	55	22	6	3,318				
	2006	17	52	25	6	3,250				
MATHEMATICS	2007	40	31	19	10	3,339				
	2006	32	30	22	15	3,253				
	2005	33	29	23	15	3,084				
GRADE 7										
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	17	58	19	6	3,335				
	2006	16	53	22	8	3,119				
	2005	18	53	24	6	3,219				
MATHEMATICS	2007	32	32	22	14	3,338				
	2006	28	30	26	16	3,141				

Asian Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

(Table 5.2.1.3.2 continued on next page)

Table 5.2.1.3.2 (cont.): Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

Asian (cont.)									
Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level ¹									
			-						

Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Total Students Included			
GRADE 8									
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	19	58	17	5	3,163			
	2006	20	56	18	6	3,250			
MATHEMATICS	2007	34	31	22	14	3,164			
	2006	27	32	22	18	3,254			
	2005	28	29	22	21	3,292			
SCIENCE AND	2007	7	35	38	20	3,162			
TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2006	8	31	38	23	3,253			
	2005	8	35	36	21	3,292			
		GRA	DE 10						
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	31	43	21	5	3,297			
	2006	23	49	22	6	3,115			
	2005	28	37	26	9	3,115			
MATHEMATICS	2007	64	18	13	5	3,261			
	2006	62	17	14	7	3,102			
	2005	54	21	17	8	3,115			

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

2. To comply with NCLB, Massachusetts added the *Above Proficient* performance level for the Grade 3 Reading test in 2006. When comparing grade 3 English Language Arts student performance across years, the total percent of students scoring *Above Proficient* and *Proficient* in 2006 or 2007 can be compared to the percents scoring *Proficient* for Grade 3 Reading in 2005.

3. The Above Proficient standard in Mathematics was reset in 2007 to better discriminate student performance in the top reporting category. Therefore, comparisons should **not** be made between the 2006 and 2007 *Above Proficient* percents. However, comparisons may be drawn between 2006 and 2007 using each year's combined percent of students scoring *Proficient* and *Above Proficient*.

Table 5.2.1.3.3: Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

Hispanic/Latino Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Fercentage of c				ance Level		
Grade Level and	Year	Advanced/			14/2	Total Students
Content Area	i eai	Above	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Included
		Proficient		Improvement	raiiiriy	Included
		RADE 3				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/	2007	4	28	46	22	9,636
READING ²	2006	6	24	49	21	9,220
	2005	-	32	49	19	9,124
MATHEMATICS ³	2007	7	28	30	35	9,663
	2006	1	26	37	36	9,228
	G	RADE 4				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	2	26	47	25	9,217
	2006	2	22	48	28	9,097
	2005	2	21	51	26	9,059
MATHEMATICS	2007	6	18	48	28	9,247
	2006	5	13	49	32	9,134
	2005	3	13	50	33	9,086
	G	RADE 5				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	4	30	43	23	9,204
	2006	4	25	48	23	9,123
MATHEMATICS	2007	6	20	36	39	9,228
	2006	5	15	34	47	9,132
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	3	17	49	31	9,222
	2006	3	17	50	30	9,128
	2005	4	17	48	32	9,058
	G	RADE 6				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	2	36	42	20	9,315
	2006	2	31	45	22	9,222
MATHEMATICS	2007	6	19	32	44	9,350
	2006	4	14	30	52	9,254
	2005	4	15	32	49	9,339
	G	RADE 7				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	2	40	37	21	9,407
	2006	2	34	39	24	9,416
	2005	2	35	45	18	9,573
MATHEMATICS	2007	3	16	31	50	9,411
	2006	2	12	31	55	9,446

(Table 5.2.1.3.3 continued on next page)

Table 5.2.1.3.3 (cont.): Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

Hispanic/Latino (cont.) Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

		Performance Level				Total			
Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	O (1)			
GRADE 8									
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	3	45	35	17	9,408			
	2006	3	43	34	20	9,616			
MATHEMATICS	2007	4	14	30	52	9,362			
	2006	3	12	29	56	9,638			
	2005	3	12	27	58	9,343			
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	0	7	37	55	9,338			
	2006	0	7	36	56	9,623			
	2005	1	8	33	58	9,327			
	G	RADE 10							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	6	36	41	16	8,511			
	2006	4	37	40	19	8,120			
	2005	6	28	41	25	7,293			
MATHEMATICS	2007	18	24	34	24	8,303			
	2006	15	22	31	31	7,954			
	2005	12	20	34	34	7,322			

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

To comply with NCLB, Massachusetts added the *Above Proficient* performance level for the Grade 3 Reading test in 2006. When comparing grade 3 English Language Arts student performance across years, the total percent of students scoring *Above Proficient* and *Proficient* in 2006 or 2007 can be compared to the percents scoring *Proficient* for Grade 3 Reading in 2005.
 The *Above Proficient* standard in Mathematics was reset in 2007 to better discriminate student performance in the top reporting category. Therefore, comparisons should **not** be made between the 2006 and 2007 *Above Proficient* percents. However, comparisons may be drawn between 2006 and 2007 using each year's combined percent of students scoring *Proficient* and *Above Proficient*.

Table 5.2.1.3.4: Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

Native American Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Fercentage of c				ance Level		
Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Total Students Included
	G	RADE 3				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/READING ²	2007	6	40	45	10	204
	2006	9	37	41	12	234
	2005	-	55	38	7	215
MATHEMATICS ³	2007	10	41	29	20	202
	2006	2	37	40	20	235
	G	RADE 4				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	4	38	43	16	232
	2006	3	35	48	14	214
	2005	3	28	57	11	231
MATHEMATICS	2007	10	21	50	19	229
	2006	7	20	57	15	215
	2005	7	19	52	22	231
	G	RADE 5				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	9	42	40	10	199
	2006	7	38	44	11	230
MATHEMATICS	2007	12	34	30	25	200
	2006	9	22	34	35	230
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	6	32	45	17	199
	2006	6	28	48	18	230
	2005	7	29	45	18	218
		RADE 6				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	4	48	37	11	226
	2006	5	42	43	11	215
MATHEMATICS	2007	10	23	34	34	226
	2006	10	20	30	41	219
	2005	9	29	27	35	248
		RADE 7				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	8	49	32	12	222
	2006	4	50	34	12	242
	2005	5	56	34	5	245
MATHEMATICS	2007	9	20	34	37	223
(T - 1 - 1	2006	4	20	36	40	240

(Table 5.2.1.3.4 continued on next page)

Table 5.2.1.3.4 (cont.): Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

Native American (cont.) Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

			Perform	ance Level		Total			
Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	O (1)			
GRADE 8									
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	6	63	24	8	236			
	2006	5	60	27	7	242			
MATHEMATICS	2007	8	24	37	31	238			
	2006	6	21	35	38	245			
	2005	6	22	34	38	223			
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	0	20	46	34	238			
	2006	2	19	45	34	244			
	2005	2	19	47	31	223			
	G	RADE 10							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	13	49	32	6	187			
	2006	8	54	31	8	195			
	2005	11	44	33	12	188			
MATHEMATICS	2007	32	22	33	13	184			
	2006	26	27	31	16	191			
	2005	18	29	28	26	188			

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

To comply with NCLB, Massachusetts added the *Above Proficient* performance level for the Grade 3 Reading test in 2006. When comparing grade 3 English Language Arts student performance across years, the total percent of students scoring *Above Proficient* and *Proficient* in 2006 or 2007 can be compared to the percents scoring *Proficient* for Grade 3 Reading in 2005.
 The *Above Proficient* standard in Mathematics was reset in 2007 to better discriminate student performance in the top reporting category. Therefore, comparisons should **not** be made between the 2006 and 2007 *Above Proficient* percents. However, comparisons may be drawn between 2006 and 2007 using each year's combined percent of students scoring *Proficient* and *Above Proficient*.

Table 5.2.1.3.5: Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

			Perform	ance Level		Total
Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Students Included
	G	RADE 3				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/READING ²	2007	16	50	28	6	50,862
	2006	21	45	29	5	51,025
	2005	-	70	26	4	51,880
MATHEMATICS ³	2007	22	45	22	11	50,900
	2006	5	53	31	11	51,038
	G	RADE 4				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	12	51	30	6	50,748
	2006	9	47	37	7	51,654
	2005	11	45	37	6	52,455
MATHEMATICS	2007	21	33	37	9	50,850
	2006	17	28	44	10	51,762
	2005	16	30	43	10	52,453
		RADE 5				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	17	53	24	5	51,403
	2006	19	50	27	5	52,314
MATHEMATICS	2007	21	36	30	13	51,504
	2006	19	29	34	17	52,388
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	17	42	34	7	51,500
	2006	20	38	36	6	52,368
	2005	19	40	35	7	53,231
		RADE 6				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	11	64	21	4	52,327
	2006	12	60	23	5	53,052
MATHEMATICS	2007	24	36	27	13	52,429
	2006	19	33	30	18	53,138
	2005	20	33	30	17	54,167
	G	RADE 7				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	11	65	19	5	53,212
	2006	12	60	22	5	53,808
	2005	12	63	22	4	55,337
MATHEMATICS	2007	17	35	30	18	53,212
	2006	14	32	33	20	53,906

White Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

(Table 5.2.1.3.5 continued on next page)

Table 5.2.1.3.5 (cont.): Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level								
			Perform	ance Level		Total		
Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Students Included		
	G	RADE 8						
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	15	68	14	4	54,020		
	2006	14	67	14	4	55,031		
MATHEMATICS	2007	20	32	30	18	53,974		
	2006	14	32	32	21	55,102		
	2005	15	30	31	23	56,466		
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	3	36	45	15	53,950		
	2006	5	34	45	16	55,084		
	2005	4	35	43	17	56,322		
	GI	RADE 10						
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	25	52	19	3	53,322		
	2006	18	58	20	4	54,827		
	2005	27	46	22	5	53,918		
MATHEMATICS	2007	46	29	19	6	52,941		
	2006	45	28	19	8	54,548		
	2005	40	29	22	9	53,946		

White (cont.) Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

2. To comply with NCLB, Massachusetts added the *Above Proficient* performance level for the Grade 3 Reading test in 2006. When comparing grade 3 English Language Arts student performance across years, the total percent of students scoring *Above Proficient* and *Proficient* in 2006 or 2007 can be compared to the percents scoring *Proficient* for Grade 3 Reading in 2005. 3. The *Above Proficient* standard in Mathematics was reset in 2007 to better discriminate student performance in the top reporting category. Therefore, comparisons should **not** be made between the 2006 and 2007 *Above Proficient* percents. However, comparisons may be drawn between 2006 and 2007 using each year's combined percent of students scoring *Proficient* and *Above Proficient*.

Table 5.2.1.3.6: Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

Hawaiian / Pacific Islander Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Ŭ T				ance Level					
Grade Level and	Year	Advanced/				Total Students			
Content Area	rear	Above	Proficient	Needs	Warning/ Failing	Included			
		Proficient		Improvement	Failing	Included			
	G	RADE 3							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/READING ²	2007	14	48	32	6	165			
	2006	24	33	33	9	54			
	2005	-	51	37	12	57			
MATHEMATICS ³	2007	25	38	25	13	167			
	2006	4	42	38	16	55			
GRADE 4									
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	6	51	37	6	163			
	2006	5	39	30	26	66			
	2005	13	42	39	7	402			
MATHEMATICS	2007	18	34	37	11	161			
	2006	11	20	44	26	66			
	2005	9	24	54	13	403			
	G	RADE 5							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	8	50	28	15	173			
	2006	10	49	35	6	418			
MATHEMATICS	2007	18	34	29	18	173			
	2006	14	26	42	19	420			
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	7	36	41	16	173			
	2006	13	32	45	9	420			
	2005	17	38	37	9	399			
	G	RADE 6							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	6	55	26	13	164			
	2006	8	53	33	6	393			
MATHEMATICS	2007	16	28	32	24	164			
	2006	18	34	28	19	401			
	2005	16	34	32	18	405			
	G	RADE 7							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	11	57	24	8	159			
	2006	5	56	30	9	402			
	2005	8	59	27	6	428			
MATHEMATICS	2007	16	35	25	24	161			
	2006	10	32	38	21	412			

(Table 5.2.1.3.6 continued on next page)

Table 5.2.1.3.6 (cont.): Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

Hawaiian / Pacific Islander (cont.) Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

i ereentage er etadente at Laen i errennanee Lever									
			Perform	ance Level		Total			
Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Students Included			
GRADE 8									
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	11	74	13	1	141			
	2006	12	63	17	8	425			
MATHEMATICS	2007	16	32	30	22	141			
	2006	12	26	38	24	430			
	2005	13	13	27	47	83			
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	1	23	60	17	141			
	2006	6	34	44	17	431			
	2005	2	25	30	42	83			
	G	RADE 10							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	19	47	20	14	118			
	2006	25	31	33	11	114			
	2005	16	38	29	17	100			
MATHEMATICS	2007	33	28	23	16	116			
	2006	40	21	17	22	112			
	2005	25	28	20	27	100			

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

2. To comply with NCLB, Massachusetts added the *Above Proficient* performance level for the Grade 3 Reading test in 2006. When comparing grade 3 English Language Arts student performance across years, the total percent of students scoring *Above Proficient* and *Proficient* in 2006 or 2007 can be compared to the percents scoring *Proficient* for Grade 3 Reading in 2005. 3. The *Above Proficient* standard in Mathematics was reset in 2007 to better discriminate student performance in the top reporting category. Therefore, comparisons should **not** be made between the 2006 and 2007 *Above Proficient* percents. However, comparisons may be drawn between 2006 and 2007 using each year's combined percent of students scoring *Proficient* and *Above Proficient*.

Table 5.2.1.3.7: Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

Multi-Race (non-Hispanic/Latino) Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Performance Level								
Grade Level and		Advanaged	Fenom	ance Lever		Total		
Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above	Proficient	Needs	Warning/	Students		
Contont Alou		Proficient	FIONCIEIN	Improvement	Failing	Included		
	G	RADE 3						
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/READING ²	2007	13	45	33	9	1,349		
	2006	20	40	33	7	1,234		
	2005	-	63	32	5	1,113		
MATHEMATICS ³	2007	18	39	25	17	1,352		
-	2006	5	48	31	16	1,234		
	G	RADE 4				,		
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	10	46	34	10	1,320		
	2006	7	41	43	9	1,146		
	2005	11	37	43	8	1,097		
MATHEMATICS	2007	20	31	34	15	1,323		
	2006	14	24	47	15	1,150		
	2005	15	25	47	13	1,099		
	G	RADE 5						
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	14	46	32	8	1,196		
	2006	16	44	32	8	1,130		
MATHEMATICS	2007	20	29	32	19	1,198		
	2006	18	25	35	22	1,135		
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	15	34	40	11	1,199		
	2006	18	31	41	10	1,135		
	2005	17	34	39	11	989		
	-	RADE 6			_			
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	12	55	26	7	1,271		
	2006	11	54	28	6	1,025		
MATHEMATICS	2007	22	31	27	21	1,272		
	2006	18	28	31	24	1,022		
	2005	20	28	29	23	856		
		RADE 7	le l		1			
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	9	61	24	6	1,099		
	2006	12	53	26	8	888		
	2005	12	56	26	6	873		
MATHEMATICS	2007	16	27	31	27	1,104		
	2006	16	24	32	28	890		

(Table 5.2.1.3.7 continued on next page)

Table 5.2.1.3.7 (cont.): Statewide MCAS Test Results By Race/Ethnicity

Multi-Race (non-Hispanic/Latino) (cont.) Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

Performance Level									
			Performance Level						
Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Students Included			
GRADE 8									
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	14	61	19	6	994			
	2006	13	63	18	6	899			
MATHEMATICS	2007	18	26	28	29	997			
	2006	13	27	31	29	903			
	2005	14	24	31	31	875			
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	5	27	42	26	995			
	2006	4	27	43	25	901			
	2005	4	26	43	27	874			
	G	RADE 10							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	24	46	24	5	900			
	2006	13	53	30	5	808			
	2005	20	44	28	8	736			
MATHEMATICS	2007	39	28	23	10	902			
	2006	34	29	25	12	805			
	2005	29	26	32	12	736			

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

To comply with NCLB, Massachusetts added the *Above Proficient* performance level for the Grade 3 Reading test in 2006. When comparing grade 3 English Language Arts student performance across years, the total percent of students scoring *Above Proficient* and *Proficient* in 2006 or 2007 can be compared to the percents scoring *Proficient* for Grade 3 Reading in 2005.
 The *Above Proficient* standard in Mathematics was reset in 2007 to better discriminate student performance in the top reporting category. Therefore, comparisons should **not** be made between the 2006 and 2007 *Above Proficient* percents. However, comparisons may be drawn between 2006 and 2007 using each year's combined percent of students scoring *Proficient* and *Above Proficient*.

5.2.1.4 Percentages by Gender

Table 5.2.1.4.1: Statewide MCAS Test Results By Gender

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level									
			Perform	ance Level		Total			
Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Students Included			
GRADE 3									
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/READING ²	2007	16	46	30	7	34,561			
	2006	21	41	32	7	34,262			
	2005	-	65	29	6	34,503			
MATHEMATICS ³	2007	18	42	25	16	34,581			
	2006	4	47	32	16	34,298			
	G	RADE 4							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	14	48	30	8	34,267			
	2006	11	46	35	9	34,409			
	2005	13	42	36	8	35,061			
MATHEMATICS	2007	18	29	40	13	34,355			
	2006	15	25	45	15	34,587			
	2005	14	26	45	15	35,064			
	G	RADE 5							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	19	48	26	7	34,395			
	2006	20	45	28	7	35,183			
MATHEMATICS	2007	18	32	32	18	34,465			
	2006	16	26	35	23	35,269			
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	14	35	38	12	34,455			
	2006	16	32	41	11	35,254			
	2005	15	34	39	12	35,066			
	G	RADE 6							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	13	60	22	5	35,203			
	2006	13	55	25	6	35,338			
MATHEMATICS	2007	20	33	28	19	35,271			
	2006	16	29	30	25	35,427			
	2005	17	29	31	22	35,899			

Female Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

(Table 5.2.1.4.1 continued on next page)

Table 5.2.1.4.1 (cont.): Statewide MCAS Test Results By Gender

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level									
		Performance Level				Total			
Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Students Included			
GRADE 7									
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	13	62	19	5	35,437			
	2006	14	57	22	7	35,740			
	2005	14	59	22	5	36,868			
MATHEMATICS	2007	14	32	32	23	35,435			
	2006	12	28	34	27	35,948			
GRADE 8									
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	17	63	15	4	35,925			
	2006	17	62	16	5	36,844			
MATHEMATICS	2007	17	29	31	24	35,878			
	2006	13	28	32	27	36,925			
	2005	13	27	31	29	37,092			
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	2	27	46	25	35,874			
	2006	4	27	44	25	36,910			
	2005	3	27	42	28	37,028			
	GI	RADE 10							
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	28	48	20	4	35,610			
	2006	20	54	20	5	35,948			
	2005	28	42	22	8	35,008			
MATHEMATICS	2007	42	28	22	8	35,304			
	2006	39	27	22	11	35,901			
	2005	35	27	25	14	35,048			

Female (cont.) Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

To comply with NCLB, Massachusetts added the *Above Proficient* performance level for the Grade 3 Reading test in 2006. When comparing grade 3 English Language Arts student performance across years, the total percent of students scoring *Above Proficient* and *Proficient* in 2006 or 2007 can be compared to the percents scoring *Proficient* for Grade 3 Reading in 2005.
 The *Above Proficient* standard in Mathematics was reset in 2007 to better discriminate student performance in the top reporting category. Therefore, comparisons should **not** be made between the 2006 and 2007 *Above Proficient* percents. However, comparisons may be drawn between 2006 and 2007 using each year's combined percent of students scoring *Proficient* and *Above Proficient*.

Table 5.2.1.4.2: Statewide MCAS Test Results By Gender

r ercentage of c				ance Level		Total
Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Students Included
	G	RADE 3				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/READING ²	2007	12	44	33	10	36,687
	2006	16	40	35	9	36,262
	2005	-	60	32	8	36,749
MATHEMATICS ³	2007	20	40	24	16	36,742
	2006	4	48	31	16	36,329
	G	RADE 4				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	7	43	38	12	36,210
	2006	5	38	43	14	36,509
	2005	6	37	44	13	37,415
MATHEMATICS	2007	19	30	39	13	36,280
	2006	15	25	45	15	36,771
	2005	14	27	44	16	37,439
	G	RADE 5				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	11	48	31	11	36,775
	2006	11	44	34	10	37,398
MATHEMATICS	2007	20	33	30	18	36,851
	2006	17	26	33	23	37,478
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	14	38	36	12	36,850
	2006	17	33	38	11	37,466
	2005	16	35	37	12	37,631
	G	RADE 6				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	6	56	29	9	37,527
	2006	7	53	30	10	37,884
MATHEMATICS	2007	21	31	27	20	37,603
	2006	17	29	29	25	38,021
	2005	18	28	30	24	38,697

Male Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

(Table 5.2.1.4.2 continued on next page)

Table 5.2.1.4.2 (cont.): 2005–2007 Statewide MCAS Test Results By Gender

			Performance Level			
Grade Level and Content Area	Year	Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Total Students Included
GRADE 7						
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	6	58	27	10	38,102
	2006	7	53	29	12	38,326
	2005	6	54	31	9	39,414
MATHEMATICS	2007	15	30	29	26	38,122
	2006	13	27	32	28	38,649
	G	RADE 8				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	8	63	21	8	38,449
	2006	8	62	21	9	39,161
MATHEMATICS	2007	17	27	29	26	38,397
	2006	12	27	30	30	39,303
	2005	13	25	30	32	39,706
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING	2007	3	32	42	23	38,348
	2006	4	29	42	26	39,288
	2005	4	31	40	25	39,637
	G	RADE 10				
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	2007	16	50	27	7	36,781
	2006	11	53	28	8	36,812
	2005	18	42	28	12	35,616
MATHEMATICS	2007	42	27	21	10	36,360
	2006	40	26	20	13	36,846
	2005	36	27	22	15	35,671

Male (cont.) Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level¹

1. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. For the purpose of computing school, district, and state results, students who were absent with or without a medically documented excuse from any subject area MCAS test were not included in performance results but were counted as non-participants for that subject area.

 To comply with NCLB, Massachusetts added the *Above Proficient* performance level for the Grade 3 Reading test in 2006. When comparing grade 3 English Language Arts student performance across years, the total percent of students scoring *Above Proficient* and *Proficient* in 2006 or 2007 can be compared to the percents scoring *Proficient* for Grade 3 Reading in 2005.
 The *Above Proficient* standard in Mathematics was reset in 2007 to better discriminate student performance in the top reporting category. Therefore, comparisons should **not** be made between the 2006 and 2007 *Above Proficient* percents. However, comparisons may be drawn between 2006 and 2007 using each year's combined percent of students scoring *Proficient* and *Above Proficient*.

5.2.2 MCAS-Alt Performance Level Results

Tables 5.2.2.1 through 5.2.2.8 show MCAS-Alt performance level results for the year 2007 for each grade.

Table 5.2.2.1: 2007 MCAS-Alt Performance Level Results Grade 3 English Language Arts and Mathematics

Performance Level Results							
		Content Area					
Performance Level	English Lang	guage Arts	Mathe	matics			
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*			
Incomplete	135	12.77	109	10.45			
Awareness	7	.66	19	1.82			
Emerging	58	5.49	45	4.31			
Progressing	856	80.98	869	83.32			
Needs Improvement	1	.09	1	.10			
Proficient	0	.00	0	.00			
Above Proficient	0	.00	0	.00			
Total	1057		1043				

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.2.2.2: 2007 MCAS-Alt Performance Level Results Grade 4 English Language Arts and Mathematics

Performance Level Results							
		Content Area					
Performance Level	English Lan	guage Arts	Mathe	matics			
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*			
Incomplete	0	.00	96	8.09			
Awareness	7	.62	14	1.18			
Emerging	113	9.98	51	4.30			
Progressing	915	80.83	1024	86.34			
Needs Improvement	0	.00	1	.08			
Proficient	0	.00	0	.00			
Advanced	0	.00	0	.00			
Total	1132		1186				

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.2.2.3: 2007 MCAS-Alt Performance Level Results Grade 5 English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science and Technology/Engineering

Performance Level Results								
		Content Area						
Performance Level	English Lar	English Language Arts		Mathematics		Science and		
	English Edi	iguage / iito	Matric	matics	Technology/	Engineering		
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*		
Incomplete	167	14.26	173	14.13	105	9.56		
Awareness	10	.85	20	1.63	5	.46		
Emerging	56	4.78	52	4.25	116	10.56		
Progressing	938	80.10	978	79.90	872	79.42		
Needs Improvement	0	.00	1	.08	0	.00		
Proficient	0	.00	0	.00	0	.00		
Advanced	0	.00	0	.00	0	.00		
Total	1171		1224		1098			

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.2.2.4: 2007 MCAS-AltPerformance Level ResultsGrade 6 English Language Arts and Mathematics

Performance Level Results							
	Content Area						
Performance Level	English Lan	guage Arts	Mathe	matics			
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*			
Incomplete	142	13.17	196	17.35			
Awareness	15	1.39	20	1.77			
Emerging	56	5.19	53	4.69			
Progressing	862	79.96	858	75.93			
Needs Improvement	3	.28	3	.27			
Proficient	0	.00	0	.00			
Advanced	0	.00	0	.00			
Total	1078		1130				

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.2.2.5: 2007 MCAS-Alt Performance Level Results Grade 7 English Language Arts and Mathematics

Performance Level Results						
	Content Area					
Performance Level	English Lang	guage Arts	Mathe	matics		
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*		
Incomplete	116	11.47	174	16.11		
Awareness	9	.89	20	1.85		
Emerging	123	12.17	59	5.46		
Progressing	761	75.27	823	76.20		
Needs Improvement	2	.20	4	.37		
Proficient	0	.00	0	.00		
Advanced	0	.00	0	.00		
Total	1011		1080			

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.2.2.6: 2007 MCAS-Alt Performance Level Results Grade 8 English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science and Technology/Engineering

Performance Level Results								
		Content Area						
Performance Level	English Lar	h Language Arts Mathematics		matics	Science and Technology/Engineering			
	Number	Percent*	rcent* Number Percent*		Number	Percent*		
Incomplete	146	15.35	156	15.37	112	11.70		
Awareness	12	1.26	6	.59	6	.63		
Emerging	39	4.10	43	4.24	104	10.87		
Progressing	751	78.97	808	79.61	734	76.70		
Needs Improvement	3	.32	2	.20	1	.10		
Proficient	0	.00	0	.00	0	.00		
Advanced	0	.00	0	.00	0	.00		
Total	951		1015		957			

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.2.2.7: 2007 MCAS-AltPerformance Level ResultsHigh School (Grades 9/10) Science and Technology/Engineering

Performance Level Results					
	Conter	nt Area			
Performance Level	Science and Techr	nology/Engineering			
	Number	Percent*			
Incomplete	153	21.19			
Awareness	13	1.80			
Emerging	93	12.88			
Progressing	463	64.13			
Needs Improvement	0	.00			
Proficient	0	.00			
Advanced	0	.00			
Total	722				

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.2.2.8:2007 MCAS-AltPerformance Level ResultsGrade 10 English Language Arts and Mathematics

Performance Level Results

	Content Area					
Performance Level	English Lang	juage Arts	Mathematics			
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*		
Incomplete	91	12.18	100	13.19		
Awareness	11	1.47	16	2.11		
Emerging	125	16.73	110	14.51		
Progressing	519	69.48	532	70.18		
Needs Improvement	1	.13	0	.00		
Proficient	0	.00	0	.00		
Advanced	0	.00	0	.00		
Total	747		758			

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

5.3 Standard MCAS Test Scaled-Score Distributions

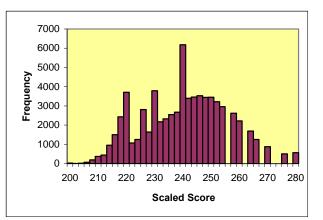
Tables 5.3.1 through 5.3.18 and figures 5.3.A through 5.3.JJ show the 2007 scaled-score distributions for each grade and content area combination. No scaled scores were calculated for grade 3 test results or for test results of first-year LEP students in any grade. Analyses were conducted only on students who attempted all sessions and who were not coded as "not tested."

In some cases, two or more low score points map onto the same scaled score, while in other cases, no raw scores map onto a scaled score. This explains why scaled score distributions contain spikes and gaps that are not evident in raw score distributions.

Table 5.3.1:2007 MCASScaled Score DistributionGrade 4 English Language Arts

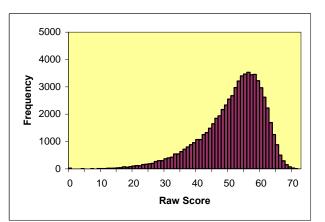
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	30	0.04	0.04
202	7	0.01	0.05
204	23	0.03	0.09
206	69	0.10	0.19
208	192	0.28	0.46
210	371	0.53	1.00
212	447	0.64	1.64
214	961	1.38	3.02
216	1502	2.16	5.19
218	2434	3.50	8.69
220	3709	5.34	14.03
222	1075	1.55	15.58
224	1255	1.81	17.38
226	2811	4.05	21.43
228	1648	2.37	23.80
230	3785	5.45	29.25
232	2172	3.13	32.38
234	2334	3.36	35.74
236	2548	3.67	39.41
238	2674	3.85	43.26
240	6183	8.90	52.16
242	3400	4.90	57.06
244	3464	4.99	62.04
246	3530	5.08	67.13
248	3442	4.96	72.08
250	3453	4.97	77.05
252	3222	4.64	81.69
254	2966	4.27	85.96
256	0	0.00	85.96
258	2621	3.77	89.73
260	2224	3.20	92.94
262	0	0.00	92.94
264	1695	2.44	95.38
266	1256	1.81	97.19
268	0	0.00	97.19
270	883	1.27	98.46
272	0	0.00	98.46
274	0	0.00	98.46
276	504	0.73	99.18
278	0	0.00	99.18
280	568	0.82	100.00

Figure 5.3.A: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 4 English Language Arts



Ν	69,458
Mean	240.14
Std. Deviation	14.73
Skewness	0.10
Kurtosis	-0.40

Figure 5.3.B: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 4 English Language Arts

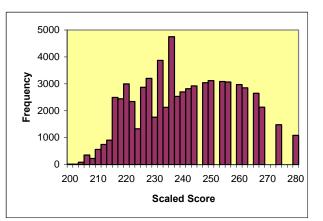


Ν	69,458
Mean	51.08
Std. Deviation	9.68
Skewness	-1.04
Kurtosis	1.28

Table 5.3.2:2007 MCASScaled Score DistributionGrade 4 Mathematics

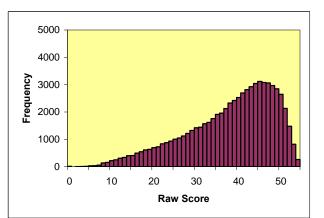
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	19	0.03	0.03
202	14	0.02	0.05
204	90	0.13	0.18
206	359	0.52	0.69
208	226	0.32	1.02
210	564	0.81	1.83
212	746	1.07	2.90
214	910	1.31	4.21
216	2496	3.59	7.80
218	2445	3.51	11.31
220	2995	4.30	15.61
222	2345	3.37	18.99
224	1328	1.91	20.89
226	2873	4.13	25.02
228	3200	4.60	29.62
230	1760	2.53	32.15
232	3871	5.56	37.72
234	2127	3.06	40.77
236	4750	6.83	47.60
238	2535	3.64	51.24
240	2700	3.88	55.12
242	2817	4.05	59.17
244	2925	4.20	63.38
246	0	0.00	63.38
248	3042	4.37	67.75
250	3119	4.48	72.23
252	0	0.00	72.23
254	3083	4.43	76.66
256	3067	4.41	81.07
258	0	0.00	81.07
260	2971	4.27	85.34
262	2849	4.09	89.44
264	0	0.00	89.44
266	2648	3.81	93.24
268	2135	3.07	96.31
270	0	0.00	96.31
272	0	0.00	96.31
274	1481	2.13	98.44
276	0	0.00	98.44
278	0	0.00	98.44
280	1085	1.56	100.00

Figure 5.3.C: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 4 Mathematics



Ν	69,575
Mean	240.33
Std. Deviation	17.16
Skewness	0.24
Kurtosis	-0.78

Figure 5.3.D: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 4 Mathematics

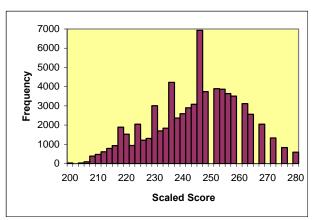


Ν	69,575
Mean	37.95
Std. Deviation	10.37
Skewness	-0.78
Kurtosis	-0.07

Table 5.3.3:2007 MCASScaled Score DistributionGrade 5 English Language Arts

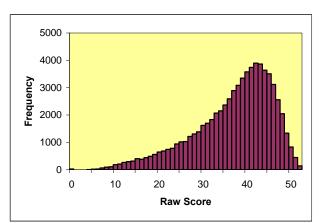
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	30	0.04	0.04
202	2	0.00	0.05
204	31	0.04	0.09
206	91	0.13	0.22
208	391	0.56	0.78
210	475	0.68	1.46
212	618	0.88	2.34
214	786	1.12	3.46
216	935	1.33	4.79
218	1891	2.70	7.49
220	1531	2.18	9.67
222	944	1.35	11.02
224	2054	2.93	13.95
226	1215	1.73	15.68
228	1310	1.87	17.55
230	3009	4.29	21.84
232	1698	2.42	24.27
234	1838	2.62	26.89
236	4227	6.03	32.92
238	2370	3.38	36.30
240	2595	3.70	40.00
242	2897	4.13	44.13
244	3087	4.40	48.54
246	6929	9.88	58.42
248	3742	5.34	63.76
250	0	0.00	63.76
252	3896	5.56	69.32
254	3866	5.52	74.83
256	3641	5.19	80.03
258	3508	5.00	85.03
260	0	0.00	85.03
262	3117	4.45	89.48
264	2563	3.66	93.14
266	0	0.00	93.14
268	2050	2.92	96.06
270	0	0.00	96.06
272	1335	1.90	97.96
274	0	0.00	97.96
276	835	1.19	99.16
278	0	0.00	99.16
280	592	0.84	100.00

Figure 5.3.E: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 5 English Language Arts



Ν	70,099
Mean	243.88
Std. Deviation	15.47
Skewness	-0.15
Kurtosis	-0.46

Figure 5.3.F: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 5 English Language Arts

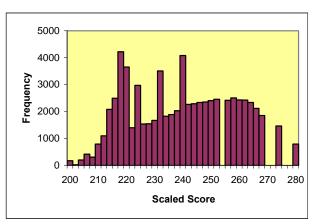


Ν	70,099
Mean	36.83
Std. Deviation	8.98
Skewness	-0.92
Kurtosis	0.44

Table 5.3.4:2007 MCASScaled Score DistributionGrade 5 Mathematics

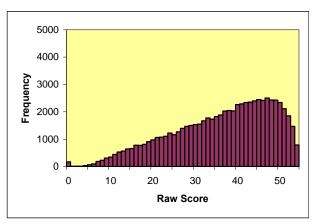
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	174	0.25	0.25
202	21	0.03	0.28
204	200	0.28	0.56
206	418	0.59	1.16
208	308	0.44	1.59
210	789	1.12	2.71
212	1099	1.56	4.28
214	2084	2.96	7.24
216	2494	3.54	10.78
218	4223	6.00	16.78
220	3650	5.19	21.97
222	1396	1.98	23.95
224	2973	4.22	28.17
226	1534	2.18	30.35
228	1550	2.20	32.56
230	1670	2.37	34.93
232	3509	4.99	39.92
234	1826	2.59	42.51
236	1888	2.68	45.19
238	2030	2.88	48.08
240	4082	5.80	53.88
242	2266	3.22	57.10
244	2291	3.26	60.35
246	2339	3.32	63.68
248	2358	3.35	67.03
250	2403	3.41	70.44
252	2453	3.49	73.93
254	0	0.00	73.93
256	2419	3.44	77.36
258	2505	3.56	80.92
260	2433	3.46	84.38
262	2426	3.45	87.83
264	2340	3.32	91.15
266	2118	3.01	94.16
268	1852	2.63	96.79
270	0	0.00	96.79
272	0	0.00	96.79
274	1467	2.08	98.88
276	0	0.00	98.88
278	0	0.00	98.88
280	791	1.12	100.00

Figure 5.3.G: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 5 Mathematics



Ν	70,379
Mean	239.67
Std. Deviation	18.14
Skewness	0.12
Kurtosis	-1.00

Figure 5.3.H: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 5 Mathematics

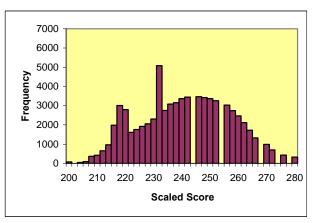


Ν	70,379
Mean	36.18
Std. Deviation	11.72
Skewness	-0.57
Kurtosis	-0.50

Table 5.3.5:2007 MCASScaled Score DistributionGrade 5 Science & Tech/Engineering

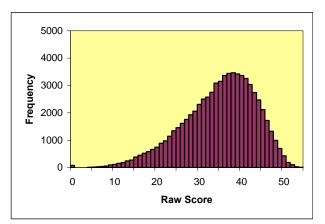
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	78	0.11	0.11
202	3	0.00	0.12
204	48	0.07	0.18
206	96	0.14	0.32
208	367	0.52	0.84
210	422	0.60	1.44
212	655	0.93	2.37
214	969	1.38	3.75
216	1989	2.83	6.58
218	3011	4.28	10.85
220	2799	3.98	14.83
222	1616	2.30	17.13
224	1762	2.50	19.63
226	1929	2.74	22.37
228	2059	2.93	25.30
230	2310	3.28	28.58
232	5082	7.22	35.81
234	2752	3.91	39.72
236	3084	4.38	44.10
238	3154	4.48	48.58
240	3368	4.79	53.37
242	3445	4.90	58.26
244	0	0.00	58.26
246	3465	4.92	63.19
248	3422	4.86	68.05
250	3366	4.78	72.83
252	3256	4.63	77.46
254	0	0.00	77.46
256	3036	4.31	81.78
258	2743	3.90	85.67
260	2474	3.52	89.19
262	2118	3.01	92.20
264	1720	2.44	94.64
266	1328	1.89	96.53
268	0	0.00	96.53
270	990	1.41	97.94
272	698	0.99	98.93
274	0	0.00	98.93
276	429	0.61	99.54
278	0	0.00	99.54
280	324	0.46	100.00

Figure 5.3.I: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 5 Science & Tech/Engineering



Ν	70,367
Mean	240.34
Std. Deviation	15.87
Skewness	0.08
Kurtosis	-0.77

Figure 5.3.J: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 5 Science & Tech/Engineering

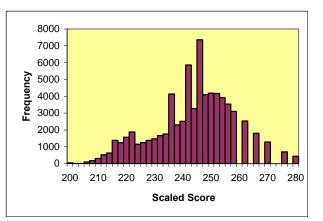


Ν	70,367
Mean	34.68
Std. Deviation	8.47
Skewness	-0.61
Kurtosis	0.17

Table 5.3.6:2007 MCASScaled Score DistributionGrade 6 English Language Arts

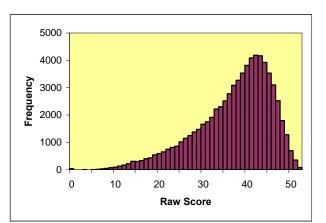
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	41	0.06	0.06
202	6	0.01	0.07
204	7	0.01	0.08
206	95	0.13	0.21
208	174	0.24	0.45
210	304	0.42	0.87
212	526	0.73	1.61
214	636	0.89	2.49
216	1381	1.93	4.42
218	1248	1.74	6.16
220	1572	2.19	8.35
222	1880	2.62	10.97
224	1152	1.61	12.58
226	1250	1.74	14.32
228	1382	1.93	16.25
230	1473	2.05	18.30
232	1665	2.32	20.62
234	1754	2.45	23.06
236	4135	5.76	28.83
238	2300	3.21	32.04
240	2514	3.50	35.54
242	5866	8.18	43.72
244	3273	4.56	48.28
246	7355	10.25	58.53
248	4089	5.70	64.23
250	4188	5.84	70.07
252	4167	5.81	75.88
254	3924	5.47	81.35
256	3535	4.93	86.28
258	3102	4.32	90.60
260	0	0.00	90.60
262	2528	3.52	94.12
264	0	0.00	94.12
266	1798	2.51	96.63
268	0	0.00	96.63
270	1284	1.79	98.42
272	0	0.00	98.42
274	0	0.00	98.42
276	694	0.97	99.39
278	0	0.00	99.39
280	439	0.61	100.00

Figure 5.3.K: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 6 English Language Arts



Ν	71,737
Mean	243.55
Std. Deviation	13.89
Skewness	-0.27
Kurtosis	-0.02

Figure 5.3.L: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 6 English Language Arts

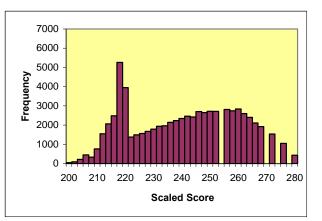


Ν	71,737
Mean	37.04
Std. Deviation	8.48
Skewness	-0.90
Kurtosis	0.51

Table 5.3.7:2007 MCASScaled Score DistributionGrade 6 Mathematics

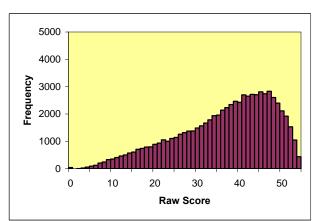
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	48	0.07	0.07
202	96	0.13	0.20
204	218	0.30	0.50
206	450	0.63	1.13
208	337	0.47	1.60
210	767	1.07	2.66
212	1548	2.15	4.82
214	2064	2.87	7.69
216	2489	3.46	11.15
218	5258	7.31	18.46
220	3954	5.50	23.96
222	1380	1.92	25.88
224	1493	2.08	27.96
226	1569	2.18	30.14
228	1673	2.33	32.47
230	1789	2.49	34.96
232	1939	2.70	37.65
234	1965	2.73	40.39
236	2143	2.98	43.37
238	2239	3.11	46.48
240	2345	3.26	49.74
242	2465	3.43	53.17
244	2426	3.37	56.54
246	2703	3.76	60.30
248	2654	3.69	63.99
250	2718	3.78	67.77
252	2711	3.77	71.55
254	0	0.00	71.55
256	2811	3.91	75.45
258	2743	3.82	79.27
260	2834	3.94	83.21
262	2603	3.62	86.83
264	2402	3.34	90.17
266	2116	2.94	93.12
268	1922	2.67	95.79
270	0	0.00	95.79
272	1536	2.14	97.92
274	0	0.00	97.92
276	1054	1.47	99.39
278	0	0.00	99.39
280	438	0.61	100.00

Figure 5.3.M: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 6 Mathematics



Ν	71,900
Mean	240.39
Std. Deviation	18.63
Skewness	0.03
Kurtosis	-1.12

Figure 5.3.N: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 6 Mathematics

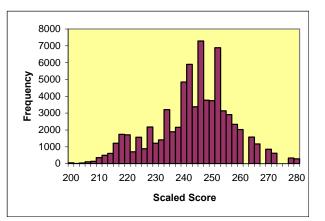


Ν	71,900
Mean	36.42
Std. Deviation	11.24
Skewness	-0.66
Kurtosis	-0.32

Table 5.3.8:2007 MCASScaled Score DistributionGrade 7 English Language Arts

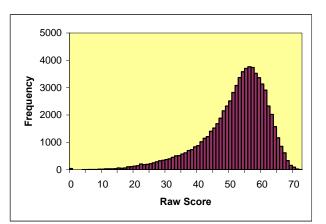
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	47	0.06	0.06
202	10	0.01	0.08
204	33	0.05	0.12
206	109	0.15	0.27
208	135	0.19	0.46
210	353	0.49	0.95
212	490	0.67	1.62
214	607	0.84	2.45
216	1214	1.67	4.12
218	1736	2.39	6.51
220	1713	2.36	8.87
222	701	0.96	9.83
224	1572	2.16	12.00
226	884	1.22	13.21
228	2175	2.99	16.20
230	1212	1.67	17.87
232	1410	1.94	19.81
234	3207	4.41	24.22
236	1886	2.59	26.82
238	2155	2.96	29.78
240	4844	6.66	36.45
242	5902	8.12	44.57
244	3374	4.64	49.21
246	7289	10.03	59.24
248	3766	5.18	64.42
250	3739	5.14	69.56
252	6888	9.48	79.04
254	3137	4.32	83.35
256	2911	4.00	87.36
258	2332	3.21	90.56
260	2023	2.78	93.35
262	0	0.00	93.35
264	1579	2.17	95.52
266	1167	1.61	97.12
268	0	0.00	97.12
270	857	1.18	98.30
272	617	0.85	99.15
274	0	0.00	99.15
276	0	0.00	99.15
278	332	0.46	99.61
280	284	0.39	100.00

Figure 5.3.O: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 7 English Language Arts



Ν	72,690
Mean	243.38
Std. Deviation	13.52
Skewness	-0.33
Kurtosis	0.08

Figure 5.3.P: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 7 English Language Arts

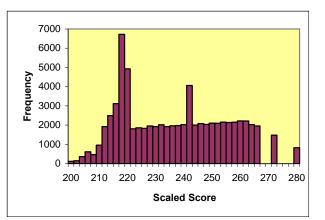


Ν	72,690
Mean	51.58
Std. Deviation	10.12
Skewness	-1.17
Kurtosis	1.71

Table 5.3.9: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 7 Mathematics

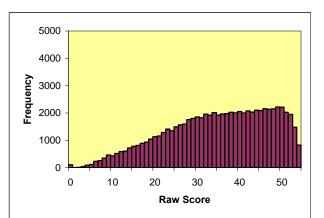
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	117	0.16	0.16
202	152	0.21	0.37
204	358	0.49	0.86
206	615	0.85	1.71
208	464	0.64	2.35
210	957	1.32	3.66
212	1924	2.65	6.31
214	2492	3.43	9.74
216	3118	4.29	14.03
218	6720	9.24	23.27
220	4927	6.78	30.05
222	1805	2.48	32.53
224	1860	2.56	35.09
226	1828	2.51	37.61
228	1960	2.70	40.30
230	1923	2.65	42.95
232	2020	2.78	45.73
234	1929	2.65	48.38
236	1966	2.70	51.08
238	1980	2.72	53.81
240	2026	2.79	56.59
242	4063	5.59	62.18
244	2002	2.75	64.94
246	2080	2.86	67.80
248	2032	2.80	70.59
250	2106	2.90	73.49
252	2093	2.88	76.37
254	2159	2.97	79.34
256	2138	2.94	82.28
258	2155	2.96	85.25
260	2223	3.06	88.30
262	2213	3.04	91.35
264	2029	2.79	94.14
266	1954	2.69	96.83
268	0	0.00	96.83
270	0	0.00	96.83
272	1479	2.03	98.86
274	0	0.00	98.86
276	0	0.00	98.86
278	0	0.00	98.86
280	827	1.14	100.00

Figure 5.3.Q: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 7 Mathematics



Ν	72,694
Mean	236.83
Std. Deviation	18.27
Skewness	0.24
Kurtosis	-1.03

Figure 5.3.R: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 7 Mathematics

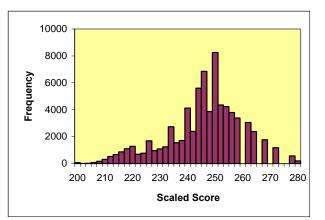


Ν	72,694
Mean	34.91
Std. Deviation	12.04
Skewness	-0.42
Kurtosis	-0.66

Table 5.3.10:2007 MCASScaled Score DistributionGrade 8 English Language Arts

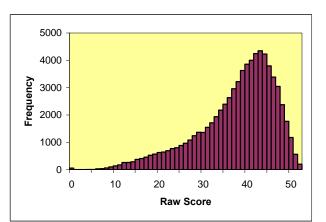
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	67	0.09	0.09
202	8	0.01	0.10
204	19	0.03	0.13
206	73	0.10	0.23
208	167	0.23	0.45
210	315	0.43	0.88
212	528	0.72	1.60
214	670	0.91	2.51
216	871	1.18	3.69
218	1101	1.50	5.19
220	1276	1.73	6.93
222	695	0.94	7.87
224	772	1.05	8.92
226	1693	2.30	11.22
228	973	1.32	12.54
230	1088	1.48	14.02
232	1247	1.70	15.72
234	2736	3.72	19.44
236	1551	2.11	21.55
238	1715	2.33	23.88
240	4119	5.60	29.48
242	2397	3.26	32.74
244	5600	7.61	40.35
246	6853	9.32	49.67
248	3861	5.25	54.91
250	8251	11.22	66.13
252	4353	5.92	72.05
254	4230	5.75	77.80
256	3802	5.17	82.97
258	3387	4.60	87.57
260	0	0.00	87.57
262	3046	4.14	91.71
264	2378	3.23	94.95
266	0	0.00	94.95
268	1773	2.41	97.36
270	0	0.00	97.36
272	1177	1.60	98.96
274	0	0.00	98.96
276	0	0.00	98.96
278	565	0.77	99.72
280	203	0.28	100.00

Figure 5.3.S: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 8 English Language Arts



Ν	73,560
Mean	245.78
Std. Deviation	13.49
Skewness	-0.49
Kurtosis	0.34

Figure 5.3.T: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 8 English Language Arts

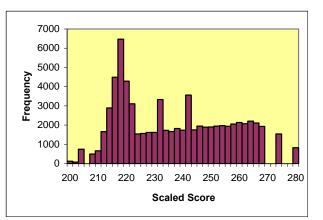


Ν	73,560
Mean	37.53
Std. Deviation	8.87
Skewness	-1.01
Kurtosis	0.73

Table 5.3.11: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 8 Mathematics

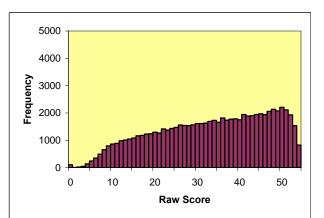
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	124	0.17	0.17
202	76	0.10	0.27
204	745	1.01	1.29
206	0	0.00	1.29
208	499	0.68	1.97
210	661	0.90	2.87
212	1662	2.26	5.13
214	2891	3.94	9.06
216	4490	6.11	15.17
218	6472	8.81	23.98
220	4285	5.83	29.82
222	3111	4.23	34.05
224	1543	2.10	36.15
226	1566	2.13	38.28
228	1618	2.20	40.49
230	1618	2.20	42.69
232	3326	4.53	47.22
234	1734	2.36	49.58
236	1666	2.27	51.84
238	1822	2.48	54.32
240	1739	2.37	56.69
242	3564	4.85	61.54
244	1755	2.39	63.93
246	1947	2.65	66.58
248	1893	2.58	69.16
250	1904	2.59	71.75
252	1946	2.65	74.40
254	1972	2.68	77.08
256	1939	2.64	79.72
258	2061	2.81	82.53
260	2136	2.91	85.43
262	2076	2.83	88.26
264	2208	3.01	91.27
266	2114	2.88	94.14
268	1935	2.63	96.78
270	0	0.00	96.78
272	0	0.00	96.78
274	1540	2.10	98.87
276	0	0.00	98.87
278	0	0.00	98.87
280	828	1.13	100.00

Figure 5.3.U: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 8 Mathematics



Ν	73,466
Mean	237.30
Std. Deviation	18.95
Skewness	0.28
Kurtosis	-1.09

Figure 5.3.V: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 8 Mathematics

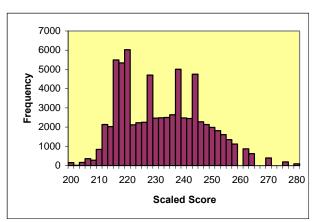


Ν	73,466
Mean	33.34
Std. Deviation	13.16
Skewness	-0.31
Kurtosis	-0.96

Table 5.3.12:2007 MCASScaled Score DistributionGrade 8 Science & Tech/Engineering

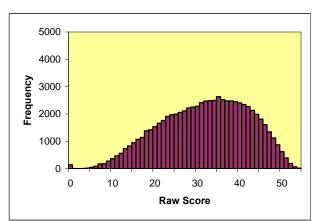
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	153	0.21	0.21
202	15	0.02	0.23
204	164	0.22	0.45
206	362	0.49	0.95
208	281	0.38	1.33
210	845	1.15	2.48
212	2134	2.91	5.39
214	2028	2.76	8.15
216	5497	7.49	15.63
218	5343	7.28	22.91
220	6028	8.21	31.12
222	2117	2.88	34.00
224	2228	3.03	37.04
226	2256	3.07	40.11
228	4707	6.41	46.52
230	2471	3.37	49.89
232	2488	3.39	53.28
234	2499	3.40	56.68
236	2639	3.59	60.27
238	5012	6.83	67.10
240	2477	3.37	70.47
242	2450	3.34	73.81
244	4758	6.48	80.29
246	2276	3.10	83.39
248	2133	2.91	86.30
250	1988	2.71	89.00
252	1814	2.47	91.47
254	1610	2.19	93.67
256	1346	1.83	95.50
258	1123	1.53	97.03
260	0	0.00	97.03
262	875	1.19	98.22
264	624	0.85	99.07
266	0	0.00	99.07
268	0	0.00	99.07
270	396	0.54	99.61
272	0	0.00	99.61
274	0	0.00	99.61
276	191	0.26	99.87
278	0	0.00	99.87
280	95	0.13	100.00

Figure 5.3.W: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 8 Science & Tech/Engineering



Ν	73,423
Mean	232.29
Std. Deviation	14.32
Skewness	0.37
Kurtosis	-0.56

Figure 5.3.X: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 8 Science & Tech/Engineering

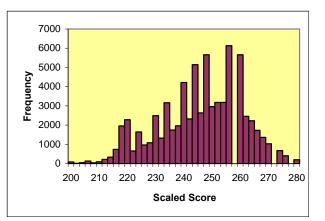


Ν	73,423
Mean	31.80
Std. Deviation	10.23
Skewness	-0.28
Kurtosis	-0.60

Table 5.3.13: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 10 English Language Arts

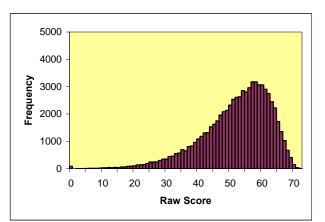
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	89	0.12	0.12
202	18	0.02	0.15
204	46	0.06	0.21
206	135	0.19	0.40
208	38	0.05	0.45
210	91	0.13	0.58
212	215	0.30	0.88
214	338	0.47	1.34
216	737	1.02	2.36
218	1955	2.71	5.07
220	2286	3.17	8.24
222	652	0.90	9.14
224	1647	2.28	11.43
226	965	1.34	12.76
228	1083	1.50	14.26
230	2498	3.46	17.72
232	1323	1.83	19.56
234	3163	4.38	23.94
236	1748	2.42	26.36
238	1962	2.72	29.08
240	4214	5.84	34.92
242	2325	3.22	38.14
244	5146	7.13	45.27
246	2634	3.65	48.92
248	5662	7.84	56.76
250	2962	4.10	60.87
252	3182	4.41	65.27
254	3177	4.40	69.68
256	6138	8.50	78.18
258	0	0.00	78.18
260	5661	7.84	86.02
262	2453	3.40	89.42
264	2226	3.08	92.51
266	1728	2.39	94.90
268	1362	1.89	96.79
270	1028	1.42	98.21
272	0	0.00	98.21
274	676	0.94	99.15
276	409	0.57	99.71
278	0	0.00	99.71
280	206	0.29	100.00

Figure 5.3.Y: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 10 English Language Arts



Ν	72,178
Mean	245.70
Std. Deviation	14.58
Skewness	-0.35
Kurtosis	-0.42

Figure 5.3.Z: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 10 English Language Arts

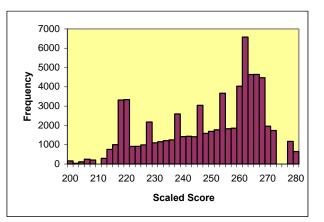


Ν	72,178
Mean	51.82
Std. Deviation	10.71
Skewness	-1.03
Kurtosis	1.37

Table 5.3.14: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 10 Mathematics

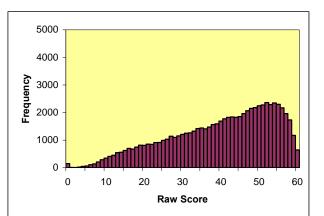
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	163	0.23	0.23
202	34	0.05	0.28
204	114	0.16	0.44
206	249	0.35	0.78
208	206	0.29	1.07
210	0	0.00	1.07
212	291	0.41	1.48
214	759	1.06	2.55
216	1003	1.41	3.95
218	3316	4.65	8.60
220	3333	4.67	13.27
222	913	1.28	14.55
224	914	1.28	15.83
226	990	1.39	17.22
228	2176	3.05	20.27
230	1097	1.54	21.80
232	1154	1.62	23.42
234	1209	1.69	25.12
236	1251	1.75	26.87
238	2592	3.63	30.50
240	1422	1.99	32.49
242	1439	2.02	34.51
244	1410	1.98	36.49
246	3041	4.26	40.75
248	1590	2.23	42.98
250	1690	2.37	45.35
252	1774	2.49	47.83
254	3668	5.14	52.97
256	1827	2.56	55.53
258	1856	2.60	58.13
260	4029	5.65	63.78
262	6576	9.22	73.00
264	4638	6.50	79.50
266	4641	6.50	86.00
268	4474	6.27	92.27
270	1963	2.75	95.02
272	1733	2.43	97.45
274	0	0.00	97.45
276	0	0.00	97.45
278	1172	1.64	99.09
280	646	0.91	100.00

Figure 5.3.AA: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution Grade 10 Mathematics



Ν	71,353
Mean	248.85
Std. Deviation	18.24
Skewness	-0.53
Kurtosis	-0.87

Figure 5.3.BB: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution Grade 10 Mathematics

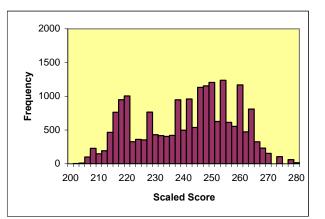


Ν	71,353
Mean	39.93
Std. Deviation	13.43
Skewness	-0.57
Kurtosis	-0.57

Table 5.3.15: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution HS Biology

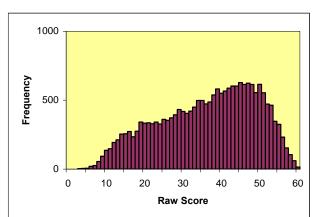
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	0	0.00	0.00
202	3	0.01	0.01
204	11	0.05	0.07
206	101	0.50	0.57
208	229	1.14	1.71
210	148	0.73	2.44
212	193	0.96	3.40
214	466	2.31	5.71
216	763	3.78	9.49
218	949	4.71	14.20
220	1006	4.99	19.19
222	327	1.62	20.81
224	361	1.79	22.60
226	354	1.76	24.35
228	766	3.80	28.15
230	432	2.14	30.29
232	418	2.07	32.37
234	405	2.01	34.37
236	421	2.09	36.46
238	948	4.70	41.16
240	498	2.47	43.63
242	960	4.76	48.39
244	538	2.67	51.06
246	1132	5.61	56.67
248	1154	5.72	62.40
250	1205	5.98	68.37
252	628	3.11	71.49
254	1237	6.13	77.62
256	614	3.04	80.67
258	555	2.75	83.42
260	1169	5.80	89.21
262	472	2.34	91.56
264	811	4.02	95.58
266	325	1.61	97.19
268	232	1.15	98.34
270	154	0.76	99.10
272	0	0.00	99.10
274	105	0.52	99.62
276	0	0.00	99.62
278	61	0.30	99.93
280	15	0.07	100.00

Figure 5.3.CC: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution HS Biology



Ν	20,166
Mean	241.19
Std. Deviation	16.62
Skewness	-0.24
Kurtosis	-0.98

Figure 5.3.DD: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution HS Biology

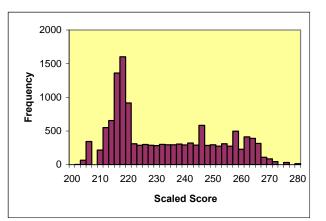


Ν	20,166
Mean	36.36
Std. Deviation	12.56
Skewness	-0.36
Kurtosis	-0.84

Table 5.3.16: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution HS Chemistry

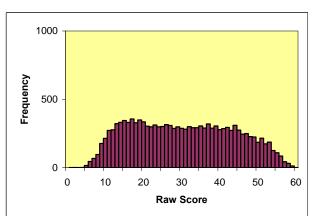
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	1	0.01	0.01
202	3	0.02	0.03
204	64	0.48	0.51
206	342	2.55	3.06
208	0	0.00	3.06
210	215	1.60	4.66
212	550	4.10	8.76
214	654	4.88	13.64
216	1361	10.15	23.79
218	1601	11.94	35.73
220	916	6.83	42.56
222	309	2.30	44.86
224	287	2.14	47.00
226	299	2.23	49.23
228	288	2.15	51.38
230	282	2.10	53.48
232	300	2.24	55.72
234	293	2.18	57.90
236	293	2.18	60.09
238	306	2.28	62.37
240	291	2.17	64.54
242	320	2.39	66.93
244	289	2.16	69.08
246	584	4.35	73.44
248	286	2.13	75.57
250	295	2.20	77.77
252	273	2.04	79.81
254	310	2.31	82.12
256	275	2.05	84.17
258	496	3.70	87.87
260	228	1.70	89.57
262	411	3.06	92.63
264	390	2.91	95.54
266	313	2.33	97.87
268	110	0.82	98.70
270	85	0.63	99.33
272	44	0.33	99.66
274	0	0.00	99.66
276	32	0.24	99.90
278	0	0.00	99.90
280	14	0.10	100.00

Figure 5.3.EE: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution HS Chemistry



Ν	13,410
Mean	232.96
Std. Deviation	18.43
Skewness	0.46
Kurtosis	-1.13

Figure 5.3.FF: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution HS Chemistry

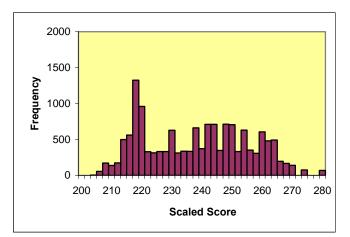


Ν	13,410
Mean	30.36
Std. Deviation	13.20
Skewness	0.12
Kurtosis	-1.07

Table 5.3.17: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution HS Introductory Physics

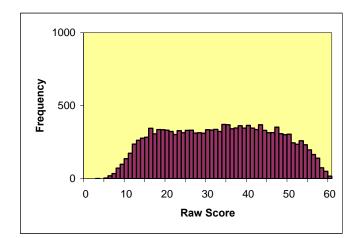
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	0	0.00	0.00
202	1	0.01	0.01
204	4	0.03	0.03
206	55	0.37	0.40
208	171	1.15	1.55
210	137	0.92	2.47
212	174	1.17	3.64
214	500	3.36	7.01
216	561	3.77	10.78
218	1325	8.91	19.69
220	959	6.45	26.13
222	329	2.21	28.35
224	315	2.12	30.46
226	331	2.23	32.69
228	332	2.23	34.92
230	628	4.22	39.14
232	311	2.09	41.24
234	336	2.26	43.49
236	333	2.24	45.73
238	662	4.45	50.18
240	372	2.50	52.69
242	711	4.78	57.47
244	711	4.78	62.25
246	347	2.33	64.58
248	712	4.79	69.37
250	706	4.75	74.11
252	331	2.23	76.34
254	631	4.24	80.58
256	353	2.37	82.96
258	308	2.07	85.03
260	606	4.07	89.10
262	482	3.24	92.34
264	493	3.31	95.66
266	197	1.32	96.98
268	166	1.12	98.10
270	140	0.94	99.04
272	0	0.00	99.04
274	75	0.50	99.54
276	0	0.00	99.54
278	0	0.00	99.54
280	68	0.46	100.00

Figure 5.3.GG: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution HS Introductory Physics



Ν	14,873
Mean	238.16
Std. Deviation	17.18
Skewness	0.09
Kurtosis	-1.11

Figure 5.3.HH: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution HS Introductory Physics

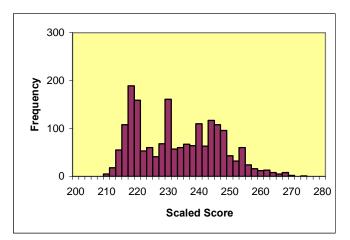


Ν	14,873
Mean	33.10
Std. Deviation	13.21
Skewness	-0.01
Kurtosis	-1.06

Table 5.3.18: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution HS Tech/Engineering

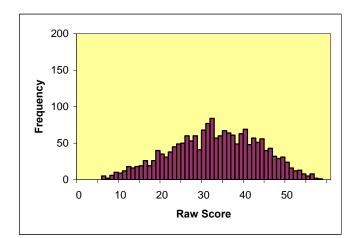
Score	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
200	0	0.00	0.00
202	0	0.00	0.00
204	0	0.00	0.00
206	0	0.00	0.00
208	0	0.00	0.00
210	5	0.27	0.27
212	18	0.96	1.22
214	55	2.92	4.14
216	108	5.74	9.88
218	189	10.04	19.92
220	159	8.44	28.36
222	53	2.81	31.17
224	60	3.19	34.36
226	41	2.18	36.54
228	68	3.61	40.15
230	161	8.55	48.70
232	57	3.03	51.73
234	60	3.19	54.91
236	67	3.56	58.47
238	64	3.40	61.87
240	110	5.84	67.71
242	63	3.35	71.06
244	117	6.21	77.27
246	108	5.74	83.01
248	96	5.10	88.10
250	43	2.28	90.39
252	32	1.70	92.09
254	60	3.19	95.27
256	24	1.27	96.55
258	16	0.85	97.40
260	12	0.64	98.04
262	13	0.69	98.73
264	8	0.42	99.15
266	5	0.27	99.42
268	8	0.42	99.84
270	2	0.11	99.95
272	0	0.00	99.95
274	1	0.05	100.00
276	0	0.00	100.00
278	0	0.00	100.00
280	0	0.00	100.00

Figure 5.3.II: 2007 MCAS Scaled Score Distribution HS Tech/Engineering



Ν	1,883
Mean	233.29
Std. Deviation	13.33
Skewness	0.29
Kurtosis	-0.89

Figure 5.3.JJ: 2007 MCAS Raw Score Distribution HS Tech/Engineering



Ν	1,883
Mean	32.78
Std. Deviation	10.52
Skewness	-0.16
Kurtosis	-0.54

5.4 MCAS-Alt Scoring Dimension Results

Tables 5.4.1.1 through 5.4.5.9 include 2007 results for the MCAS-Alt in each of the following scoring dimensions:

- Level of Complexity (section 5.4.1)
- Demonstration of Skills and Concepts (section 5.4.2)
- Independence (section 5.4.3)
- Self-Evaluation (section 5.4.4)
- Generalized Performanced (section 5.4.5)

For information on the determination of score in each dimension, see section 4.2.

5.4.1 Level of Complexity

In 2007, 94 percent of all portfolio strands received a Level of Complexity score of 3, signifying that the student was addressing learning standards below grade-level expectations. A small number (2.96 percent) of students accessed the learning standards through "access skills" and received a score of 2. A total of 1.59 percent of students received a score of 4 or 5, signifying that the student was addressing learning standards at or above grade-level expectations.

The tables in section 5.4.1 show the distribution of Level of Complexity scores on the 2007 MCAS-Alt for all strands and content areas, by grade.

Table 5.4.1.8 shows scores at each score point for all grades and content areas combined. Tables 5.4.1.9 and 5.4.1.10 show the 2007 statewide MCAS-Alt Composite Level of Complexity score distributions by content area and for combined content areas, respectively

Table 5.4.1.1: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Level of Complexity by Strand, Grade 3

	Content Area											
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		М	lathemati	cs			Scien	ce and	
		ng = Lang				ber Sense			Technology/Engineering			
			(Reading)	Pattri	Pattrns = Patterns, Relations, and Algebra Geom = Geometry					Earth = Ea	rth Science	e
	Comp =	Compositio	on (Writing)	Geom = Geometry Meas = Measurement					Life = Life Science			
				Data = I		s = Measur vsis, Statist		Phys = Physical Sciences Tch/E = Technology/Engineering				
				Dulu = I	Jata / thaty			TCH/E = Technology/Engineering				
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn Pattrns Geom Meas Data				Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E	
1	2	0		0	0							
2	27	45		31	31							
3	986	980		992 971								
4	17	13		21	18							
5	2	2		1 1								

Table 5.4.1.2: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Level of Complexity by Strand, Grade 4

						Content	t Area							
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		M	athemati	cs			Scien	ce and			
	Read =		uage (Reading) on (Writing)	Pattrr	ns = Patter Geo Meas	per Sense ns, Relatio m = Geom = Measure sis, Statisti	ns, and Al etry ement	gebra	Technology/Engineering Earth = Earth Science Life = Life Science Phys = Physical Sciences Tch/E = Technology/Engineering					
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn					Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E		
1	1	0	0	0				0						
2	23	39	32	31				27						
3	1053	1058	1071	1121				1102						
4	16	18	16	35				30						
5	0	0	0	1 1				1						

Table 5.4.1.3: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Level of Complexity by Strand, Grade 5

						Content	t Area					
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		M	athemati	cs			Sciend	ce and	
	Read =		uage (Reading) on (Writing)	Pattrr	NmbSn = Number Sense and Operations Pattrns = Patterns, Relations, and Algebra Geom = Geometry Meas = MeasurementTechnology/Engin Earth = Earth Sci Life = Life Scier Phys = Physical Sci 							
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSnPattrnsGeomMeasData				Data	Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E
1	2	2		2			3		1	1	0	0
2	28	42		33			32		30	29	23	17
3	1059	1088		1144			1105		964	977	836	317
4	34	31		45			48		16	17	13	5
5	0	0		1			4		1	0	0	0

Table 5.4.1.4: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Level of Complexity by Strand, Grade 6

						Content	t Area							
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		M	athemati	cs			Scien	ce and			
	Read =		uage (Reading) on (Writing)	Pattrr	ns = Patter Geo Meas	ns, Relatio m = Geom = Measure	ement	gebra	E Ph	Technology/Engineering Earth = Earth Science Life = Life Science Phys = Physical Sciences Tch/E = Technology/Engineering				
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and ProbabilityNmbSnPattrnsGeomMeasData				Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E		
1	0	0		0	1									
2	27	43		31	30									
3	983	1000		1049 1013										
4	31	25		41	40									
5	4	7		7 5										

Table 5.4.1.5: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Level of Complexity by Strand, Grade 7

						Conten	t Area						
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		M	athemati	cs			Scien	ce and		
	Read =		uage (Reading) on (Writing)	Pattrr	ns = Patter Geo Meas	ns, Relatio m = Geom = Measure	urement Phys = Physical Sciences						
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability NmbSn Pattrns Geom Meas Data					Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E	
1	0	0	0	0				0					
2	30	33	32	28				35					
3	938	946	927	1011 974									
4	17	17	17	33 38									
5	3	3	3	7 4									

Table 5.4.1.6: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Level of Complexity by Strand, Grade 8

						Content	t Area						
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		M	athemati	cs			Sciend	ce and		
		ng = Langi				ber Sense			Tec	hnology/	Engineer	ring	
		Literature		Pattrr		ns, Relatio	,	gebra	Earth = Earth Science				
	Comp =	Compositio	on (Writing)	Geom = Geometry Meas = Measurement					Life = Life Science				
				Meas = Measurement					Phys = Physical Sciences				
				Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability					Tch/E = Technology/Engineering				
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn Pattrns Geom Meas Data				Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E		
1	0	0		0		0			0	0	0	0	
2	19	27		14		16			12	19	17	18	
3	895	894		967 945					837	834	608	417	
4	14	16		31 34					9	14	15	7	
5	5	4		2 2					6	4	2	0	

Table 5.4.1.7: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Level of Complexity by Strand, Grades 10 and High School (9/10)

				<u> </u>		•/							
						Conter	nt Area						
		h Languag rade 10 oni		Ν		n tics (grade Inber Sense a	• •	S			ology/Engi I-of-course		
	Read =	ng = Langua Literature (R Composition	eading)	Pattrn = Patterns, Relations, and Algebra Geom = Geometry Meas = Measurement Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability						Bio = Biology Chem = Chemistry Phys = Introductory Physics T/E = Technology/Engineering			
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrn	Geom	Meas	Data	Bio	Chem	Phys	T/E	
1	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	
2	31	38	28	26	17	23	9	10	29	27	25	0	
3	747	757	767	635 484 367 445 413					678	624	599	6	
4	6	18	16	14	26	21	22	13	14	12	11	5	
5	23	10	16	22	11	17	15	16	1	2	1	0	

 Table 5.4.1.8: 2007 MCAS-Alt

 Statewide Score Distribution for Level of Complexity by Strand for All Grades

		nglish Language Arts Mathematics						Conter	nt Area								
	English	Langua	ge Arts		Ма	athematio	cs			S	cience al	nd Techn	ology/Er	ngineerin	g		
										Grades	5 and 8			Grade	s 9/10		
	LangReadCC52			Pattr	NmbSn = Number Sense and Operations Pattrn = Patterns, Relations, and Algebra Geom = Geometry Meas = Measurement Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability					Earth = Earth Science Life = Life Science Phys = Physical Sciences Tch/E = Technology/Engineering				Bio = Biology Chem = Chemistry Phys = Introductory Physics T/E = Technology/Engineering			
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrns	Geom	Meas	Data	Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E	Bio	Chem	Phys	T/E	
1	5	2	2	3	1	2	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	
2	181	262	88	192	77	36	39	70	42	48	40	35	29	27	25	0	
3	6598	6660	2699	6861	2431	1275	1508	2445	1801	1811	1444	734	678	624	599	6	
4	133	127	41	214	68	44	57	74	25	31	28	12	14	12	11	5	
5	18	6598 6660 2699 6861 2431 1275 1508 133 127 41 214 68 44 57				6	7	4	2	0	1	2	1	0			

Table 5.4.1.9: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Composite Level of Complexity by Content Area, All Tested Grades

ALT = portfolios for students with significant cognitive disabilities GL = portfolios measured against grade-level learning standards MOD = portfolios measured against modified learning standards MIS = not determined due to missing data

Score	Content Area												
Point	English Language Arts	Mathematics	Science and Engine	••									
	Language Arts		Grades 5 & 8	High School									
ALT	6638	6942	1912	617									
GL	104	183	13	11									
MOD	67	86	45	9									
MIS	338	225	85	85									

Table 5.4.1.10: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Composite Level of Complexity, All Content Areas Combined

ALT = portfolios for students with significant cognitive disabilities GL = portfolios measured against grade-level learning standards MOD = portfolios measured against modified learning standards MIS = not determined due to missing data

	G	rade Level
Score Point	Grades 3–8 and 10	High School (Grades 9/10) End-of-Course Science and Technology Tests
ALT	15492	617
GL	300	11
MOD	198	9
MIS	648	85

5.4.2 Demonstration of Skills and Concepts

The tables in section 5.4.2 show the 2007 statewide distribution of all MCAS-Alt scores for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts in all portfolio strands, by grade. Table 5.4.2.8 shows the statewide score distribution by strand for all grades combined.

Table 5.4.2.1: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts by Strand, Grade 3

				Ny	Ottant	i, Orau	50						
						Conten	t Area						
	La Read =	ng = Lang Literature	age Arts uage (Reading) on (Writing)	Pattri	Sn = Num ns = Patter Geo Meas	athemati ber Sense ms, Relatio om = Geon = Measur sis Statist	and Opera ons, and Al netry ement	gebra	Science and Technology/Engineering Earth = Earth Science Life = Life Science Phys = Physical Sciences Tch/E = Technology/Engineering				
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and ProbabilityNmbSnPattrnsGeomMeasData				Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E	
М	76	56		60	62								
1	1	0		4	2								
2	4	8											
3	53	65		63	68								
4	900	911		903	878								

Table 5.4.2.2: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts by Strand, Grade 4

				Ny	Ottanie	, oraac	, ,					
						Conten	t Area					
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		М	athemati	cs			Scien	ce and	
	Read =		uage (Reading) on (Writing)	Pattrr	ns = Patter Geo Meas	oer Sense ns, Relatio m = Georr = Measure sis, Statist	ns, and Al netry ement	gebra	Technology/Engineering Earth = Earth Science Life = Life Science Phys = Physical Sciences Tch/E = Technology/Engineering			
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and ProbabilityNmbSnPattrnsGeomMeasData					Life	Phys	Tch/E
М	73	56	53	48				52				
1	4	5	7	4				4				
2	4	5	10	7 6								
3	62	93	109	75				70				
4	950	956	940	1054				1028				

Table 5.4.2.3: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts by Strand, Grade 5

				J		., •••••••						
						Conten	t Area					
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		М	athemati	cs			Sciend	ce and	
	Read =		uage (Reading) on (Writing)	Pattrr	ns = Patter Geo Meas	ber Sense ns, Relatio m = Geom = Measure sis, Statist	ns, and Alg etry ement	gebra	E Ph	hnology/ Earth = Ear Life = Life lys = Physi = Technol	rth Science Science cal Scienc	es
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrns	Geom	Meas	Data	Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E
М	85	73		87			104		85	90	67	22
1	0	0		3			0		1	0	0	0
2	7	7		9			6		5	7	5	0
3	77	98		94			79		86	53	73	24
4	954	985		1032			1003		835	874	727	293

Table 5.4.2.4: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts by Strand, Grade 6

				Ŋ	otranu	, Graue	, 0					
						Content	t Area					
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		M	athemati	cs			Scien	ce and	
	Read =		uage (Reading) on (Writing)	Pattrr	ns = Patter Geo Meas	ber Sense ns, Relatio m = Geom = Measure sis, Statisti	ns, and Al letry ement	gebra	l Ph	Earth = Ea Life = Life iys = Phys	/Enginee rth Science Science ical Science logy/Engin	e xes
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrns	Geom	Meas	Data	Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E
М	77	64		105	98							
1	0	1		0	1							
2	9	11		18	10							
3	78	94		79	69							
4	881	905		926	911							

Table 5.4.2.5: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts by Strand, Grade 7

						Conten	t Area					
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		М	athemati	cs			Scien	ce and	
		ng = Lang				ber Sense				hnology		
			(Reading) on (Writing)		Geo Meas	ns, Relatio m = Geom = Measure sis, Statist	etry ement	0	Pł	Earth = Ea Life = Life nys = Phys = Technol	e Science ical Scienc	es
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrns	Geom	Meas	Data	Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E
М	82	72	78	106				81				
1	1	1	1	3				4				
2	11	9	13	11				10				
3	62	91	67	85				67				
4	832	826	820	874				889				

Table 5.4.2.6: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts by Strand, Grade 8

						.,						
						Conten	t Area					
	La Read =	ng = Lang Literature	age Arts uage (Reading) on (Writing)		Sn = Numl ns = Patter	athemati ber Sense ns, Relatio om = Georr	and Opera			Sciend hnology/ Earth = Ear Life = Life	Enginee th Science	
				Data = D	Meas	= Measure sis, Statist	ement	obability		ys = Physi = Technol	cal Scienc	
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrns	Geom	Meas	Data	Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E
М	84	73		100		82			84	97	57	45
1	1	1		1		1			0	1	1	0
2	5	12		10		9			6	6	5	4
3	56	76		77		66			51	57	43	25
4	787	779		826		839			723	710	536	368

Table 5.4.2.7: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts by Strand, Grades 10 and High School (9/10)

						Conter	nt Area	•				
		h Languag rade 10 on			ImbSn = Num		nd Operation				ology/Engi -of-course	
	Read =	ng = Langua Literature (R Composition	eading)			om = Geome s = Measurer	try nent		F T/	Bio = E Chem = C Phys = Introdu E = Technolo	0,	s Ig
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrn	Geom	Meas	Data	Bio	Chem	Phys	T/E
М	81	75	94	90	72	51	67	32	103	88	82	0
1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
2	13	16	16	15	9	14	12	8	13	9	12	0
3	70	99	82	70	58	53	46	24	61	51	47	0
4	643	633	636	522	399	311	366	388	546	516	495	11

Table 5.4.2.8: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Demonstration of Skills and Concepts by Strand for All Grades

								Conter	t Area							
	English	n Langua	ge Arts		Ма	athemati	cs			S	cience al	nd Techn	ology/Er	ngineerin	g	
	-	Lang = Language NmbSn = Number Sense and Operation Read = Literature (Reading) Pattrn = Patterns, Relations, and Algel Geom = Geometry Geom = Geometry								Grades	5 and 8			Grade	s 9/10	
	Read = Literature (Reading) Pattrn = Pattrns, Relations, and Algebra Comp = Composition Geom = Geometry (Writing) Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and Proba							jebra	Ph	Earth = Ear Life = Life ys = Physi = Technol	Science cal Scienc	es	Phy T/E =	Bio = E Chem = C s = Introdu Technolo		sics ering
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrns	Geom	Meas	Data	Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E	Bio	Chem	Phys	T/E
М	552	461	216	584					169	187	124	67	103	88	82	0
1	7	8	9	16	3	2	0	8	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
2	51	63	34	82 28 20 14 21					11	13	10	4	13	9	12	0
3	452	607	249	536	188	115	118	156	137	110	116	49	61	51	47	0
4	5873	5929	2327	6073	2140	1096	1316	2247	1558	1584	1263	661	546	516	495	11

5.4.3 Independence

The tables in section 5.4.3 show the 2007 statewide distribution of MCAS-Alt scores for Independence in all strands and grades. Table 5.4.3.8 shows the statewide score distribution by strand for all tested grades combined.

	Sta	Statewide Score Distribution for Independence by Strand, Grade 3 Content Area Inglish Language Arts Mathematics Science and Lang = Language NmbSn = Number Sense and Operations Battrns = Patterns, Relations, and Algebra Technology/Engineering mp = Composition (Writing) Pattrns = Patterns, Relations, and Algebra Life = Life Science Meas = Measurement Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability The Technology/Engineering													
						Conten	t Area								
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		М	athemati	ics			Scien	ce and				
	Read =	Literature	(Reading)	Pattri	Pattrns = Patterns, Relations, and Algebra Geom = Geometry Meas = Measurement					Earth = Ea Life = Life iys = Phys	rth Science Science ical Scienc	e ces			
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and ProbabilityNmbSnPattrnsGeomMeasData				Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E				
М	76	56		60	62										
1	2	3		4	6										
2	18	19		20	16										
3	97	95		107	99										
4	841	867		854	838										

Table 5.4.3.1: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Independence by Strand, Grade 3

Table 5.4.3.2: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Independence by Strand, Grade 4

						Conten	t Area					
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		М	athemati	cs			Scien	ce and	
	Read =		uage (Reading) on (Writing)	Pattrr	ns = Patter Geo Meas	ber Sense ns, Relatio m = Geom = Measure sis, Statist	ns, and Al letry ement	gebra	l Pr	Earth = Ea Life = Life iys = Phys	/Enginee rth Science e Science ical Scienc logy/Engin	e es
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrns	Geom	Meas	Data	Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E
М	73	56	53	48				52				
1	5	6	2	9				6				
2	11	15	39	10				24				
3	101	122	145	122				123				
4	903	916	880	999				955				

Table 5.4.3.3: 2007 MCAS-Alt

Statewide Score Distribution for Independence by Strand, Grade 5

						Content	t Area					
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		М	athemati	cs			Scien	ce and	
	Read =	ng = Lang Literature Compositio		Pattrr	ns = Patter Geo Meas	per Sense ns, Relatio m = Geom = Measure sis, Statisti	ns, and Alg letry ement	gebra	E Ph	Earth = Ea Life = Life lys = Physi	Enginee rth Science Science ical Scienc ogy/Engine	es
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrns	Geom	Meas	Data	Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E
М	85	73		87			104		85	90	67	22
1	3	3		8			9		5	5	6	2
2	17	23		23			18		16	19	16	6
3	98	136		139			143		119	93	96	39
4	920	928		968			918		787	817	687	270

	Sta	tewide	Score Di	stributi	on for l	ndence	by Stra	ind, Gra	ade 6			
						Conten	t Area					
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		М	athemati	cs			Scien	ce and	
	Read =		uage (Reading) on (Writing)	Pattrr	ns = Patter Geo Meas	ns, Relatic m = Geom = Measure	ement	gebra	l Pr	Earth = Ea Life = Life hys = Phys = Techno	rth Science e Science ical Scienc	e xes
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn						Life	Phys	Tch/E
М	77	64		105	99							
1	6	6		11	7							
2	20	22		26	23							
3	99	139		110	101							
4	843	844		876	859							

Table 5.4.3.4: 2007 MCAS-AltStatewide Score Distribution for Independence by Strand, Grade 6

Table 5.4.3.5: 2007 MCAS-Alt

Statewide Score Distribution for Independence by Strand, Grade 7

						Content	Area					
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		М	athemati	cs			Scien	ce and	
	La	ng = Langi	lage	Nmb	Sn = Numl	ber Sense	and Opera	ations	Tec	hnology	Enginee	ring
		Literature		Pattrr		ns, Relatio	,	I	Earth = Ea	rth Science	9	
	Comp =	Compositio	on (Writing)			om = Geom	,			e Science		
				Data [= Measure				ical Scienc		
				Data = L	Jata Analy	sis, Statisti	cs, and Pr	I ch/E	= lechno	logy/Engin	eering	
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability NmbSn Pattrns Geom Meas Data				Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E	
М	82	72	78	106				81				
1	5	4	7	10				9				
2	22	25	23	18				24				
3	97	119	126	108				119				
4	782	779	745	837				818				

Table 5.4.3.6: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Independence by Strand, Grade 8

						Content	t Area					
	Englis	h Langu	age Arts		М	athemati	cs			Sciend	ce and	
		ng = Lang				ber Sense			Tec	hnology/	Enginee	ring
			(Reading)	Pattrr		ns, Relatio		gebra	E	Earth = Ear)
	Comp = 0	Compositio	on (Writing)			m = Geom = Measure	,	6	Life = Life			
				Data = D		sis, Statisti			ys = Physi = Technol			
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrns	Geom	Meas	Data	Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E
М	84	73		100		82	_		84	96	57	45
1	2	4		4		6			3	2	4	1
2	23	20		12		14			14	25	9	9
3	86	118		95		94			88	96	71	41
4	738	726		803		801			675	652	501	346

Table 5.4.3.7: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Independence by Strand, Grades 10 and High School (9/10)

					Oladoo								
							Conter	nt Area					
		English Language Arts (grade 10 only) Lang = Language Read = Literature (Reading) Comp = Composition (Writing)		Mathematics (grade 10 only)			Science and Technology/Engineering (grades 9/10 end-of-course tests) Bio = Biology Chem = Chemistry Phys = Introductory Physics T/E = Technology/Engineering						
				NmbSn = Number Sense and Operations Pattrn = Patterns, Relations, and Algebra Geom = Geometry Meas = Measurement Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability									
-	core Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrn	Geom	Meas	Data	Bio	Chem	Phys	T/E
	Μ	80	75	94	90	72	51	67	32	102	88	82	0
	1	9	6	11	8	7	8	5	8	9	5	5	0
	2	25	41	45	22	29	21	18	10	17	36	31	0
	3	102	113	123	80	73	45	63	66	96	90	87	1
	4	591	588	556	498	357	305	338	336	499	446	432	10

Table 5.4.3.8: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Independence by Strand for All Tested Grades Combined

	Content Area															
	English	n Langua	ge Arts	Mathematics				Science and Technology/Engineering								
	_	-	-							Grades	5 and 8			Grade	s 9/10	
	Lang = Language Read = Literature (Reading) Comp = Composition (Writing)		NmbSn = Number Sense and Operations Pattrn = Patterns, Relations, and Algebra Geom = Geometry Meas = Measurement Data = Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability			Earth = Earth Science Life = Life Science Phys = Physical Sciences Tch/E = Technology/Engineering			Bio = Biology Chem = Chemistry Phys = Introductory Physics T/E = Technology/Engineering							
Score Point	Lang	Read	Comp	NmbSn	Pattrns	Geom	Meas	Data	Earth	Life	Phys	Tch/E	Bio	Chem	Phys	T/E
М	31	31	19	54	20	12	12	21	8	7	10	3	9	5	5	0
1	136	163	103	131	67	32	32	54	30	44	25	15	17	36	31	0
2	673	830	386	757	271	135	198	303	207	189	167	80	96	90	87	1
3	5544	5583	2111	5765	2000	1054	1206	2054	1462	1469	1188	616	499	446	432	10
4	551	461	216	584	226	126	164	163	169	186	124	67	102	88	82	0

5.4.4 Self-Evaluation

The tables in section 5.4.4 show the 2007 statewide MCAS-Alt score distribution for Self-Evaluation in each content area and grade tested. Table 5.4.4.8 shows the statewide score distribution for all tested grades combined. Table 5.4.4.9 shows the 2007 statewide MCAS-Alt Self-Evaluation score distributions for combined content areas.

Table 5.4.4.1: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Self-Evaluation by Content Area, Grade 3

Glade 5					
Score	Content Area				
Point	English Language Arts	Mathematics			
М	13	15			
1	49	26			
2	22	21			
3	13	23			
4	960	958			

Table 5.4.4.2: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Self-Evaluation by Content Area, Grade 4

010.001					
Score	Content Area				
Point	English Language Arts	Mathematics			
М	16	16			
1	13	39			
2	65	19			
3	54	29			
4	984	1083			

Table 5.4.4.3: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Self-Evaluation by Content Area, Grade 5

Score	Content Area					
Point	English Language Arts	Mathematics	Science and Technology/ Engineering			
М	23	22	24			
1	70	46	13			
2	25	29	36			
3	26	24	65			
4	1027	1103	960			

Table 5.4.4.4: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Self-Evaluation by Content Area, Gı 96

Grade (6
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Score	Content Area				
Point	English Language Arts	Mathematics			
М	17	14			
1	49	58			
2	25	20			
3	18	18			
4	969	1020			

Table 5.4.4.5: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Self-Evaluation by Content Area, Grade 7

014401					
Score	Content Area				
Point	English Language Arts	Mathematics			
М	15	15			
1	12	43			
2	64	23			
3	61	35			
4	859	964			

Table 5.4.4.6: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Self-Evaluation by Content Area, Grade 8

	Content Area						
Coore Daint	Content Area						
Score Point	English Language Arts	Mathematics	Science and Technology/ Engineering				
М	15	16	18				
1	36	35	22				
2	7	13	41				
3	24	24	46				
4	869	927	830				

Table 5.4.4.7: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Self-Evaluation by Content Area, Grades 10 and High School (9/10)

	Content Area					
Score Point	English Language Arts (grade 10 only)	Mathematics (grade 10 only)	Science and Technology/ Engineering (grades 9/10)			
M	16	13	17			
1	15	13	57			
2	37	28	33			
3	37	48	49			
4	642	656	566			

Table 5.4.4.8: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Self-Evaluation by Content Area for All Tested Grades

Score	Content Area						
Point	English Language Arts	Mathematics	Science and Technology/ Engineering				
	Language Arts		Grades 5 & 8	High School			
М	115	111	42	17			
1	244	260	35	57			
2	245	153	77	33			
3	233	201	111	49			
4	6310	6711	1790	566			

Table 5.4.4.9: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Self-Evaluation, All Content Areas Combined

	Grade Level				
Score Point	Grades 3–8 and 10	High School (Grades 9/10) End-of-Course Science and Technology Tests			
М	268	17			
1	539	57			
2	475	33			
3	545	49			
4	14811	566			

5.4.5 Generalized Performance

The tables in section 5.4.5 show the 2007 statewide MCAS-Alt score distributions for Generalized Performance, disaggregated by content area. Table 5.4.5.8 shows the statewide score distribution by content area. Table 5.4.5.9 shows the statewide score distribution for all tested grades combined.

Saara	Content Area							
Score Point	English Lar	nguage Arts	Mathematics					
Font	Number	Percent	Number	Percent				
1	72	6.81	72	6.90				
2	130	12.30	75	7.19				
3	293	27.72	346	33.17				
4	562	53.17	550	52.73				

Table 5.4.5.1: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Generalized Performance by Content Area, Grade 3

 Table 5.4.5.2: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution

 for Generalized Performance by Content Area, Grade 4

Score	Content Area							
Point	English Lar	nguage Arts	Mathematics					
Font	Number	Percent	Number	Percent				
1	49	4.33	55	4.64				
2	250	22.08	133	11.21				
3	340	30.04	339	28.58				
4	493	43.55	659	55.56				

Table 5.4.5.3: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Generalized Performance by Content Area, Grade 5

			Conter	nt Area		
Score Point	English Lar	nguage Arts	Mathe	matics	Science and Technology/Engineering	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	67	5.72	63	5.15	28	2.55
2	154	13.15	152	12.42	134	12.20
3	3 333		358	29.25	277	25.23
4	617	52.69	651	53.19	659	60.02

Table 5.4.5.4: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Generalized Performance by Content Area, Grade 6

	Score		Conter	nt Area		
	Point	English Lar	nguage Arts	Mathematics		
	Font	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
	1	62	5.75	57	5.04	
	2	137	12.71	147	13.01	
I	3	319	29.59	350	30.97	
	4	560	51.95	576	50.97	

Table 5.4.5.5: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Generalized Performance by Content Area, Grade 7

Score	Content Area						
Point	English Lar	nguage Arts	Mathematics				
Font	Number	Percent	Number	Percent			
1	34	3.36	41	3.80			
2	212	20.97	128	11.85			
3	305	30.17	285	26.39			
4	460	45.50	626	57.96			

			Conter	it Area		
Score Point	Enalish Lai	English Language Arts				ce and Ængineering
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	50	50 5.26		3.65	22	2.30
2	106	11.15	114	11.23	106	11.08
3	3 272 28.60		285	28.08	207	21.63
4	523	54.99	579	57.04	622	64.99

Table 5.4.5.6: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Generalized Performance by Content Area, Grade 8

Table 5.4.5.7: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Generalized Performance by Content Area, Grades 10 and High School (9/10)

			Conter	nt Area		
Score Point	English Language Arts (grade 10 only)		Mathematics (grade 10 only)		Science and Technology/Engineering (grades 9/10)	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	59	7.90	49	6.46	50	6.93
2	191	25.57	157	20.71	135	18.70
3	262	35.07	325	42.88	203	28.12
4	235	31.46	227	29.95	334	46.26

Table 5.4.5.8: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Generalized Performance by Content Area for All Tested Grades

Score				Conter	nt Area			
Point	English Language		Mathematics		Science and Technology/		ology/Engin	eering
	Ar	ts	Wather	natics	Grades	5 and 8	High S	School
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	393	5.50	374	5.03	50	2.43	50	6.93
2	1180	16.51	906	12.18	240	11.68	135	18.70
3	2124	29.72	2288	30.77	484	23.55	203	28.12
4	3450	48.27	3868	52.02	1281	62.34	334	46.26

Table 5.4.5.9: 2007 MCAS-Alt Statewide Score Distribution for Generalized Performance, All Tested Content Areas Combined

		Grade	Level		
Score Point	Grade and	es 3–8 I 10	High School (Grades 9/10) End-of-Course Science and Technology/Engineerin		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
1	817	4.91	50	6.93	
2	2326	13.98	135	18.70	
3	4896	29.43	203	28.12	
4	8599	51.68	334	46.26	

5.5 MCAS-Alt Participation Data

MCAS-Alt student portfolios were measured against either *alternate achievement standards, modified achievement standards*, or *grade-level achievement standards*, based on the following criteria:

- the level of complexity of the evidence in the portfolio
- whether it was determined that the student was working at or near grade-level expectations, somewhat below grade-level expectations, or well below grade-level expectations (pursuant to U.S. Department of Education Title 1 regulations; also see section 4.2.1.2.A)

Tables 5.5.1 through 5.5.7 show statewide participation data for the 2007 MCAS-Alt disaggregated by method of measurement (i.e., the numbers and percentages of MCAS-Alts measured on grade-level standards and on alternate achievement standards).

Orace of English Language Arts and Mathematics									
2007 MCAS-Alt Participation									
Assessment format and		Conter	nt Area						
Achievement Standard Measured	English Lan	guage Arts	Mathe	matics					
Achievement Standard Measured	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*					
Standard MCAS test, measured on grade-level achievement standards	70254	98.52	70280	98.54					
MCAS-Alt, measured on grade-level achievement standards	11	.02	16	.02					
MCAS-Alt, measured on modified achievement standards	10	.01	7	.01					
MCAS-Alt, measured on alternate achievement standards	995	1.40	997	1.40					
MCAS-Alt, achievement standards level not determined	41	.06	23	.03					
Total	71311		71323						

Table 5.5.1: 2007 MCAS-Alt Participation ResultsGrade 3 English Language Arts and Mathematics

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.5.2: 2007 MCAS-Alt Participation Results Grade 4 English Language Arts and Mathematics

2007 MCAS-Alt Participation								
Assessment format and	Content Area							
Achievement Standard Measured	English Lang	guage Arts	Mathe	matics				
Achievement Standard Measured	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*				
Standard MCAS test, measured on Grade-level achievement standards	69385	98.39	69459	98.32				
MCAS-Alt, measured on Grade-level achievement standards	9	.01	29	.04				
MCAS-Alt, measured on Modified achievement standards	14	.02	7	.01				
MCAS-Alt, measured on Alternate achievement standards	1046	1.48	1123	1.59				
MCAS-Alt, achievement standards level not determined	63	.09	27	.04				
Total	70517		70645					

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.5.3: 2007 MCAS-Alt Participation Results Grade 5 English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science and Technology/Engineering

2007 MCAS-Alt Participation									
	Content Area								
Assessment format and Achievement Standard Measured	English Language Arts		Mathematics		Science and Technology/Engineering				
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*			
Standard MCAS test, measured on Grade-level achievement standards	70149	98.36	70128	98.28	70240	98.46			
MCAS-Alt, measured on Grade-level achievement standards	25	.04	39	.05	6	.01			
MCAS-Alt, measured on Modified achievement standards	16	.02	19	.03	22	.03			
MCAS-Alt, measured on alternate achievement standards	1073	1.50	1132	1.59	1032	1.45			
MCAS-Alt, achievement standards level not determined	57	.08	34	.05	38	.05			
Total	71320		71352		71338				

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.5.4: 2007 MCAS-Alt Participation Results Grade 6 English Language Arts and Mathematics

2007 MCAS-Alt Participation												
Assessment format and	Content Area											
Achievement Standard Measured	English Lan	guage Arts	Mathe	matics								
Achievement Standard Measured	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*								
Standard MCAS test, measured on grade-level achievement standards	71809	98.52	71759	98.45								
MCAS-Alt, measured on grade-level achievement standards	26	.04	35	.05								
MCAS-Alt, measured on modified achievement standards	9	.01	15	.02								
MCAS-Alt, measured on alternate achievement standards	1003	1.38	1031	1.41								
MCAS-Alt, achievement standards level not determined	40	.05	49	.07								
Total	72887		72889									

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.5.5: 2007 MCAS-Alt Participation Results Grade 7 English Language Arts and Mathematics

	2007 MCAS-	Alt Participation									
Assessment format and	Content Area										
Achievement Standard Measured	English Lan	guage Arts	Mathe	matics							
Achievement Standard Measured	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*							
Standard MCAS test, measured on grade-level achievement standards	72566	98.63	72512	98.53							
MCAS-Alt, measured on grade-level achievement standards	13	.02	32	.04							
MCAS-Alt, measured on modified achievement standards	9	.01	9	.01							
MCAS-Alt, measured on alternate achievement standards	925	1.26	1001	1.36							
MCAS-Alt, achievement standards level not determined	64	.09	38	.05							
Total	73577		73592								

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.5.6: 2007 MCAS-Alt Participation Results Grade 8 English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science and Technology/Engineering

	2007 M	CAS-Alt Part	icipation			_			
			Conter	nt Area					
Assessment format and Achievement Standard Measured	English Lar	nguage Arts	Mathe	matics	Science and Technology/Engineeri				
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*			
Standard MCAS test, measured on grade-level achievement standards	73482	98.72	73304	98.63	73300	98.71			
MCAS-Alt, measured on grade-level achievement standards	14	.02	22	.03	7	.01			
MCAS-Alt, measured on modified achievement standards	5	.01	21	.03	23	.03			
MCAS-Alt, measured on alternate achievement standards	901	1.21	948	1.28	880	1.19			
MCAS-Alt, achievement standards level not determined	31	.04	24	.03	47	.06			
Total	74433		74319		74257				

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 5.5.7: 2007 MCAS-Alt Participation Results Grade 10 English Language Arts and Mathematics; and Grades 9/10 Science and Technology/Engineering

	2007 M	CAS-Alt Part	icipation			
			Conter	nt Area		
Assessment format and Achievement Standard Measured	English Lar (grade ź			matics 10 only)	Technology/	ce and Engineering s 9/10)
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*
Standard MCAS test, measured on grade-level achievement standards	71724	98.97	70934	98.94	101087	99.29
MCAS-Alt, measured on grade-level achievement standards	6	.01	10	.01	11	.01
MCAS-Alt, measured on modified achievement standards	4	.01	8	.01	9	.01
MCAS-Alt, measured on alternate achievement standards	695	.96	710	.99	617	.61
MCAS-Alt, achievement standards level not determined	42	.06	30	.04	85	.08
Total	72471		71692		101809	

*Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

5.6 MCAS Spring 2007 Reports of Test Results

The following reports provided spring 2007 MCAS test results:

- <u>Parent/Guardian Report</u>. Each Parent/Guardian Report provided results for one student. Two copies of the student's report were sent to the student's school, one to be placed in the student's school record (along with a label for the student's file) and one to be distributed to the student's parent or guardian along with an interpretive guide (*Guide to the 2007 MCAS for Parents/Guardians*). The Parent/Guardian Report was translated into 9 different languages (Cape Verdean, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Haitian Creole, Khmer, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese), based on the state's demographics. Sample reports in English for both the standard tests and for the MCAS-Alt are provided in Appendix I.
- School Report. Each School Report provided results for one tested grade and content area for the school receiving the report, for the school district, and for the state. This report was provided to schools online via a secure website. Schools that tested more than one content area and/or grade received a separate report for each grade and content area tested. An interpretive guide for the report (Guide to Interpreting the Spring 2007MCAS Reports for Schools and Districts) was available to schools on the Department's website (www.doe.mass.edu/mcas). A sample report is provided in Appendix J.
- District Report. Each District Report provided combined results for one tested grade and content area for all schools in the district as well as for all schools statewide. This report was provided online via a secure website. The format of the District Report was the same as that of the School Report. Districts received a separate report for each grade and content area tested in the district. An interpretive guide for the report (*Guide to Interpreting the Spring 2007 MCAS Reports for Schools and Districts*) was available to districts on the Department's website (www.doe.mass.edu/mcas). For a sample report, see the School Report provided in Appendix J.
- <u>Test Item Analysis Reports</u>. Samples of both reports described below are provided in Appendix K.
 - <u>School Test Item Analysis Roster</u>. This report provided results for each student in a school in one grade and content area test, showing points scored for each constructed-response item, as well as the student's correct or incorrect choice for each multiple-choice item.
 - <u>District Test Item Analysis Report Summary</u>. This report provided overall performance for all students in one grade at the district level and at the state level for each item of a content area test. Each report showed average scores and percentages across the district and state for each correct/incorrect multiple-choice

answer and for each score point on constructed-response items on the test. Each district receives a separate *Test Item Analysis Report Summary* for each content area and grade tested in the district.

- <u>School Test Item Analysis Report Summary</u>. This report provided overall performance for all students in one grade at the school, district, and state levels for each item of a content area test. Each report showed average scores and percentages across the school, district, and state for each correct/incorrect multiple-choice answer and for each score point on constructed-response items on the test. Each school receives a separate *Test Item Analysis Report Summary* for each content area and grade tested in the school.
- <u>Statewide Report</u>. This report was made available to the public and reported via the Department's website at www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/results.html.

6. STATISTICAL AND PSYCHOMETRIC SUMMARIES

6.1 Item Analyses

As noted in Brown (1983), "A test is only as good as the items it contains." A complete evaluation of a test's quality must include an evaluation of each question. Both the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* and the *Code of Fair Testing Practices in Education* include standards for identifying quality questions. Questions should assess only knowledge or skills that are identified as part of the domain being measured and should avoid assessing irrelevant factors. They should also be unambiguous and free of grammatical errors, potentially insensitive content or language, and other confounding characteristics. Further, questions must not unfairly disadvantage test takers from particular racial, ethnic, or gender groups.

Both qualitative and quantitative analyses are conducted to ensure that MCAS questions meet these standards. Previous sections in this report have outlined the qualitative checks on question quality. Three categories of statistical evaluations are performed to ensure that MCAS questions meet these standards:

- difficulty indices
- item-test correlation
- subgroup differences in item performance (differential item functioning)

The results of these evaluations for the 2007 MCAS administration are presented below.

6.1.1 Difficulty Indices

All common and equating items were evaluated in terms of difficulty and relationship to overall score according to standard classical test theory practice. Difficulty was measured by averaging the proportion of points received across all students who received the item.

Multiple-choice and short-answer items (i.e., dichotomous items) were scored correct or incorrect; for these items, the difficulty index was simply the proportion of students who answered correctly.

Open-response items and ELA Compositions (i.e., polytomous items) received scores within ranges specific to the item type.

- Open-response items were scored 0–4.
- ELA Compositions were scored by two different scorers, each of whom assigned a separate score for each ELA Composition scoring dimension:
 - one score for Standard English Conventions (1–4 points)
 - one score for Topic Development (1–6 points)

The two scorers' scores were combined (summed) for each dimension, resulting in a final Standard English Conventions score in the range 2-8 and a final Topic Development score in the range 2-12.

By computing difficulty as the average *proportion* of points received, the indices for dichotomous items and polytomous items were effectively placed on the same scale (i.e., 0.00 to 1.00).

Although this index is traditionally referred to as a measure of difficulty (as it is here), it is properly interpreted as an easiness index, because larger values indicate easier items. An index of 1.00 indicates that every student received full credit for the item; such items provide little information about differences in student ability, but do indicate knowledge or skills that have been mastered by most students. Similarly, an index of 0.00 indicates that no student received credit for the item; such items provide little information about differences in students.

In general, to provide best measurement, difficulty indices should range from near-chance performance (i.e., 0.25 for four-option, multiple-choice items; essentially 0.00 for open-response items) to 0.90. Indices outside this range indicate items that were either too difficult or too easy for the target population. Nonetheless, on a standards-referenced assessment such as MCAS, it may be appropriate to include some items with very low or very high item difficulty values to ensure sufficient content coverage.

6.1.2 Item-Test Correlation

Within classical test theory, item-test correlation is referred to as an item's *discrimination*, because it indicates the extent to which successful performance on the item discriminates between high and low scores on the full test. For MCAS open-response items, the item-test correlation used as the discrimination index was the *Pearson product-moment* correlation; for MCAS dichotomous items, the *point-biserial* correlation. The theoretical range of these statistics is -1.0 to +1.0, with a typical range from 0.2 to 0.6.

The discrimination index can be interpreted as a measure of construct consistency, because the strength of correlation measures how closely an item assesses the same knowledge and skills assessed by other items that contribute to the criterion total score. For the 2007 MCAS administration, the criterion score for each item was the total score for all items.

6.1.3 Summary of Item Analysis Results

Summary statistics of the difficulty and discrimination indices for each item are provided in tables 6.1.3.1 through 6.1.3.7. In general, the 2007 MCAS item difficulty and discrimination indices were within acceptable and expected ranges.

It should be noted that comparison of indices across grade levels is complicated, because the indices are population-dependent. To be able to make direct comparisons, either the items or

students must be common across groups. Since this was not the case for MCAS administrations, it cannot be determined whether any differences in performance across grade levels were due to differences in student ability, differences in item difficulty, or both. However, difficulty indices tended to decrease as grade level increased, i.e., average item scores were lower at higher grades.

Also, comparing difficulty indices of multiple-choice and constructed-response items (for the MCAS administration: short-answer items, open-response items, or ELA Composition writing prompts) is inappropriate because multiple-choice items can be answered correctly by guessing. Difficulty indices for multiple-choice items tend to be higher than difficulty indices for short-answer items, open-response items, or ELA Composition writing prompts (i.e., students perform better on multiple-choice items than they do on other item types). Similarly, when compared to multiple-choice items, the larger range of allowable scores for constructed-response items would tend, all else being equal, to yield discrimination indices that are larger than those for multiple-choice items (due to the effect on correlations of score variability). Note: In tables 6.1.3.1 through 6.1.3.7, the numbers in "()" denote standard deviation values.

			Item Type				
Grade Level	Statistics	All	Multiple-Choice	Open-Response and Writing Prompt			
	Difficulty	0.78 (0.10)	0.79 (0.09)	0.58 (0.10)			
3	Discrimination	0.45 (0.07)	0.44 (0.06)	0.54 (0.08)			
	Number of Items	78	72	6			
	Difficulty	0.76 (0.13)	0.79 (0.09)	0.51 (0.04)			
4	Discrimination	0.43 (0.08)	0.41 (0.07)	0.54 (0.06)			
	Number of Items	82	72	10			
	Difficulty	0.74 (0.10)	0.77 (0.08)	0.55 (0.05)			
5	Discrimination	0.43 (0.08)	0.4 0 (0.06)	0.58 (0.05)			
	Number of Items	82	72	10			
	Difficulty	0.73 (0.13)	0.75 (0.11)	0.55 (0.05)			
6	Discrimination	0.42 (0.09)	0.40 (0.07)	0.58 (0.05)			
	Number of Items	82	72	10			
	Difficulty	0.75 (0.13)	0.78 (0.11)	0.53 (0.05)			
7	Discrimination	0.44 (0.10)	0.41 (0.08)	0.62 (0.03)			
	Number of Items	82	72	10			
	Difficulty	0.75 (0.10)	0.77 (0.09)	0.59 (0.05)			
8	Discrimination	0.44 (0.10)	0.42 (0.07)	0.63 (0.04)			
	Number of Items	82	72	10			
	Difficulty	0.72 (0.11)	0.74 (0.10)	0.59 (0.05)			
10	Discrimination	0.39 (0.10)	0.36 (0.07)	0.57 (0.05)			
	Number of Items	152	132	20			

Table 6.1.3.1: MCAS 2007Average Difficulty and Discrimination of Different Item TypesGrades 3 through 8 and Grade 10 English Language Arts

			Item Type	
				Short-Answer and
Grade Level	Statistics	All	Multiple-Choice	Open-Response
	Difficulty	0.77 (0.12)	0.78 (0.12)	0.73 (0.09)
3	Discrimination	0.43 (0.08)	0.42 (0.07)	0.45 (0.09)
	Number of Items	70	50	20
	Difficulty	0.70 (0.12)	0.71 (0.12)	0.66 (0.13)
4	Discrimination	0.43 (0.09)	0.40 (0.07)	0.50 (0.09)
	Number of Items	78	58	20
	Difficulty	0.70 (0.11)	0.72 (0.10)	0.61 (0.12)
5	Discrimination	0.46 (0.10)	0.43 (0.08)	0.54 (0.11)
	Number of Items	78	58	20
	Difficulty	0.70 (0.13)	0.73 (0.10)	0.61 (0.17)
6	Discrimination	0.48 (0.10)	0.46 (0.07)	0.53 (0.13)
	Number of Items	78	58	20
	Difficulty	0.66 (0.12)	0.67 (0.12)	0.64 (0.13)
7	Discrimination	0.49 (0.10)	0.45 (0.07)	0.60 (0.11)
	Number of Items	78	58	20
	Difficulty	0.62 (0.14)	0.64 (0.13)	0.56 (0.14)
8	Discrimination	0.49 (0.11)	0.45 (0.08)	0.61 (0.10)
	Number of Items	78	58	20
	Difficulty	0.56 (0.15)	0.57 (0.15)	0.54 (0.15)
10	Discrimination	0.43 (0.13)	0.38 (0.08)	0.59 (0.13)
	Number of Items	126	96	30

Table 6.1.3.2: MCAS 2007Average Difficulty and Discrimination of Different Item TypesGrades 3 through 8 and Grade 10 Mathematics

Table 6.1.3.3: MCAS 2007

Average Difficulty and Discrimination of Different Item Types Grades 5 and 8 Science and Technology/Engineering

		Item Type									
Grade Level	Statistics	All	Multiple-Choice	Open-Response							
	Difficulty	0.71 (0.14)	0.74 (0.12)	0.52 (0.09)							
5	Discrimination	0.35 (0.09)	0.33 (0.07)	0.49 (0.06)							
	Number of Items	78	68	10							
	Difficulty	0.63 (0.13)	0.65 (0.13)	0.49 (0.07)							
8	Discrimination	0.40 (0.11)	0.37 (0.08)	0.62 (0.06)							
	Number of Items	78	68	10							

Table 6.1.3.4: MCAS 2007Average Difficulty and Discrimination of Different Item TypesHigh School Biology

			Item Type	
Grade Level	Statistics	All	Multiple-Choice	Open-Response
	Difficulty	0.57 (0.15)	0.59 (0.14)	0.42 (0.11)
High School	Discrimination	0.43 (0.11)	0.40 (0.08)	0.66 (0.06)
	Number of Items	90	80	10

Table 6.1.3.5: MCAS 2007Average Difficulty and Discrimination of Different Item TypesHigh School Chemistry

			Item Type	
Grade Level	Statistics	All	Multiple-Choice	Open-Response
	Difficulty	0.55 (0.15)	0.57 (0.14)	0.40 (0.10)
High School	Discrimination	0.43 (0.11)	0.40 (0.08)	0.67 (0.06)
	Number of Items	90	80	10

Table 6.1.3.6: MCAS 2007Average Difficulty and Discrimination of Different Item TypesHigh School Introductory Physics

			Item Type	
Grade Level	Statistics	All	Multiple-Choice	Open-Response
	Difficulty	0.58 (0.13)	0.60 (0.13)	0.48 (0.06)
High School	Discrimination	0.44 (0.11)	0.41 (0.09)	0.65 (0.05)
	Number of Items	90	80	10

Table 6.1.3.7: MCAS 2007 Average Difficulty and Discrimination of Different Item Types High School Technology/Engineering

			Item Type	
Grade Level	Statistics	All	Multiple-Choice	Open-Response
	Difficulty	0.58 (0.12)	0.59 (0.11)	0.48 (0.12)
High School	Discrimination	0.34 (0.11)	0.32 (0.09)	0.58 (0.04)
	Number of Items	67	61	6

6.1.4 Differential Item Functioning (DIF)

The *Code of Fair Testing Practices in Education* explicitly states that subgroup differences in performance should be examined when sample sizes permit, and actions should be taken to make certain that differences in performance are due to construct-relevant, rather than irrelevant, factors. The *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* includes similar guidelines.

The standardization differential item functioning (DIF) procedure (Dorans and Kulick, 1986) is designed to identify items for which subgroups of interest perform differently, beyond the impact of differences in overall achievement. The DIF procedure determines the difference in item performance for groups of students matched for achievement on the total test in the following ways:

- by calculating average item performance for students at every total score
- by calculating an overall average
- by weighting the total score distribution so it is the same for the two groups

When differential performance between two groups occurs on an item (i.e., a DIF index in the "low" or "high" categories, explained below), it may or may not be indicative of item bias. Course-taking patterns; group differences in interests; and differences in opportunity to learn, such as a difference in school curricula, can lead to a differential performance between subgroups. Both the *Code of Fair Testing Practices in Education* and the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* assert that test items must be free from construct-irrelevant sources of differential difficulty. However, if subgroup differences in performance are related solely to construct-relevant factors, the item should be considered for inclusion on a test.

For the 2007 MCAS tests, three subgroups were evaluated for DIF:

- male/female
- White/African American
- White/Hispanic

Other race/ethnicity groups (e.g., Asians) were not analyzed using DIF procedures, because limited sample sizes would have inflated type I error rates.

Computed DIF indices theoretically range from -1.00 to 1.00 for multiple-choice items; those for constructed-response items (short-answer, open-response, and ELA Composition writing prompts) are adjusted to the same scale. Dorans and Holland (1993) suggest that index values between -0.05 and 0.05, dubbed Type A, should be considered "negligible." Most MCAS items fell within this range. The authors further suggest that items with values between -0.10 and -0.05 and 0.10, or Type B, could be considered "low" DIF, but should be inspected to ensure that no possible effect is overlooked. Finally, they recommend that items with values outside the [-0.10, 0.10] range, or Type C, should be considered "high" DIF and be carefully examined. Each 2007 MCAS test item was categorized according to these guidelines provided by Dorans and Holland (1993).

- **Tables 6.1.4.1.1 to 6.1.4.1.15** show the number of items classified into each DIF category by test form and item type (i.e., multiple-choice or open-response—in English Language Arts, open-response includes ELA Composition writing prompts at grades 4, 7, and 10; in Mathematics, open-response includes short-answer items at all grades).
 - For male versus female subgroups, only 6 forms contained 2 items categorized as Type C/high DIF (e.g., High School Chemistry, form 11); 1 form had 3 high DIF items (common items on Introductory Physics).
 - For White versus African American subgroups, only 5 forms had 2 items with high DIF; 3 forms had more than 2 items with high DIF (grade 10 ELA forms 13 and 38; High School Technology/Engineering common form).
 - For White versus Hispanic subgroups, only 4 forms had 2 items with high DIF; 5 forms had more than 2 items with high DIF (grade 10 ELA forms 2, 14, 25, 26, and 38).
- **Tables 6.1.4.2.1 through 6.1.4.2.9** show the number of items, by item type, in each of the three DIF categories that favor males or females. Considering only common items (on which individual student scores are based):
 - One common item was categorized as having high DIF on 5 tests (grade 7 ELA, grade 8 Mathematics and Science, grade 10 ELA, and High School Chemistry).
 - Two common items had high DIF on the High School Technology/Engineering test.
 - Three common items had high DIF on the High School Introductory Physics test.

6.1.4.1 DIF Analysis by Test Form

Table 6.1.4.1.1: MCAS 2007 DIF Analysis by Form Grade 3 English Language Arts

			Male/Female DIF Class								White/African American DIF Class							White/Hispanic DIF Class										
		All MC OR				All MC				OR			All				MC			OR								
Grade Level	Form Number	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С
3	Common	41	1	0	39	1	0	2	0	0	39	3	0	37	3	0	2	0	0	38	4	0	36	4	0	2	0	0
	01	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	7	2	0	6	2	0	1	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0
	02	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	6	3	0	5	3	0	1	0	0
	13	8	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	0	3	5	1	2	5	1	1	0	0	5	3	1	4	3	1	1	0	0
	14	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	8	0	1	7	0	1	1	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0

A = negligible DIF, B = low DIF, C = high DIF

Table 6.1.4.1.2: MCAS 2007 DIF Analysis by Form English Language Arts Grades 4–8 and 10

A = negligible DIF, B = low DIF, C = high DIF

	I								DIE	וטי				DIF			<u> </u>					14/7	14-1	11		le		
					ale/I DIF			•			V	vni		Afric DIF			eric	can					nite/ł DIF			IC		
			All			MC	33		OR						MC	33		OR			All			MC	33		OR	
Grade	Form						~							_		~						~	_		~			
Level	Number	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С
4	Common	39	1	0	35	1	0	4	0	0	37	2	1	33	2	1	4	0	0	36	4	0	32	4	0	4	0	0
	01	8	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	5	3	1	4	3	1	1	0	0
	03	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0
	05	8	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0
	08	3	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	4	0	1	3	0	1	1	0	0	3	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0
	10	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	7	2	0	6	2	0	1	0	0
	12	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0
5	Common	38	2	0	34	2	0	4	0	0	33	7	0	29	7	0	4	0	0	34	6	0	30	6	0	4	0	0
	01	8	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	0	7	1	1	6	1	1	1	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0
	03	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	1	3	0	1	1	0	0	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0
	05	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	8	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	0	8	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	0
	08	3	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0
	10	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	6	3	0	5	3	0	1	0	0	7	2	0	6	2	0	1	0	0
	12	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0
6	Common	33	7	0	31	5	0	2	2	0	35	5	0	31	5	0	4	0	0	36	3	1	32	3	1	4	0	0
	01	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	8	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0
	03	3	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0
	05	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	8	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	0
	08	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0
	10 12	6 5	3 0	0	5 4	3	0	1	0	0	5 2	4 3	0	4	4	0	1	0	0	8	0	1 0	7	0	1	1	0	0
7	Common	37	2	1	4 34	0	1	3	0 1	0	2 37	3	0	33	3	0	1	0	0	37	1 2	1	33	1	0	4	0	0
	01	9	2	0	34 8	0	0	3	0	0	8	3	0	<u>33</u> 7	3	0	4	0	0	9	2	0	8	2	0	4	0	0
	03	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	3	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0
	05	8	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	8	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	0
	08	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	3	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0
	10	7	2	0	6	2	0	1	0	0	5	3	1	4	3	1	1	0	0	7	1	1	6	1	1	1	0	0
	12	4	1	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0
8	Common	36	4	0	34	2	0	2	2	0	33	7	0	29	7	0	4	0	0	30	8	2	26	8	2	4	0	0
	01	5	4	0	4	4	0	1	0	0	8	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	0	7	2	0	6	2	0	1	0	0
	03	3	2	0	3	1	0	0	1	0	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	0
	05	7	1	1	6	1	1	1	0	0	7	2	0	6	2	0	1	0	0	8	0	1	7	0	1	1	0	0
	08	4	1	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0
	10	8	1	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	6	3	0	6	2	0	0	1	0	8	0	1	7	0	1	1	0	0
	12	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	3	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0
10	Common	35		1	32	3	1	3	1	0	34	6	0	30	6	0	4	0	0	35	5	0	31	5	0	4	0	0
	01	12	2	0	12	0	0	0	2	0	10	2	2	8	2	2	2	0	0	8	5	1	6	5	1	2	0	0
	02	11	3	0	11	1	0	0	2	0	8	4	2	6	4	2	2	0	0	5	5	4	3	5	4	2	0	0
	13	10	4	0	10	2	0	0	2	0	9	2	3	7	2	3	2	0	0	11	1	2	9	1	2	2	0	0
	14	8	4	2	7	3	2	1	1	0	6	6	2	4	6	2	2	0	0	4	5	5	3	4	5	1	1	0
	25	13	1	0	12	0	0	1	1	0	10	3	1	8	3	1	2	0	0	10	1	3	8	1	3	2	0	0
	26	9	5	0	9	3	0	0	2	0	3	9	2	1	9	2	2	0	0	5	5	4	3	5	4	2	0	0
	37	10	4	0	10	2	0	0	2	0	10	2	2	8	2	2	2	0	0	10	3	1	8	3	1	2	0	0
	38	8	4	2	8	2	2	0	2	0	6	3	5	4	3	5	2	0	0	6	2	6	4	2	6	2	0	0

Table 6.1.4.1.3: MCAS 2007 DIF Analysis by Form

Grade 3 Mathematics A = pegligible DIF B = low DIF C = bigh DIF

								giig	JIDI	e Di	<i>,</i>							<i>,</i>	דוכ								
				ale/	-)			V	Vhi		\fric			erio	can					nite/ł			ic		
				DIF		SS							DIF		SS							DIF		SS			
		All		I	MC			OR			All			NC			OR		1	All			MC			OR	
Form Number	A	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С
Common	32	3	0	24	1	0	8	2	0	27	7	1	21	3	1	6	4	0	30	4	1	22	2	1	8	2	0
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
3	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
4	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
5	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
6	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
7	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
8	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
9	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
10	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
11	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
12	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
13	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
14	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
15	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0

Table 6.1.4.1.4: MCAS 2007 DIF Analysis by Form Grade 4 Mathematics

A = negligible DIF, B = low DIF, C = h	niah DIF
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			_		/=		<u> //</u>	ogn	910								-				1.6.						
			1	Male							Wh	ite/				nerica	an				W	hite					
						ass									ass							DIF		ass			
		All			MC		C)R			All			MC		C)R			All			MC		C)R	
Form Number	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С
Common	37	2	0	27	2	0	10	0	0	33	6	0	23	6	0	10	0	0	34	5	0	24	5	0	10	0	0
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
3	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
4	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0
5	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
6	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0
7	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
8	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
9	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
10	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
11	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
12	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
13	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0
14	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
15	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

Table 6.1.4.1.5: MCAS 2007 DIF Analysis by Form Grade 5 Mathematics

						A =	= neg	ligi	bie	DIF	<u>, в</u>	=1	ow I	UIF	·, C	= 1	nıgı	าบ									
				Male	/Fe	ma	le			V	Vhi	te/A	fric	an /	Am	erio	can				Wł	nite/ł	lis	pan	ic		
				DIF	: CI	ass							DIF	Cla	SS							DIF	Cla	SS			
	-	All		l	MC		C	R		-	All			MC			OR			All		I	MC			OR	
Form Number	A	В	С	A	В	С	А	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С
Common	35	4	0	25	4	0	10	0	0	32	7	0	24	5	0	8	2	0	36	3	0	27	2	0	9	1	0
1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
3	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
4	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0
5	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
6	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0
7	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
8	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0
9	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
10	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
11	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
12	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
13	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
14	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
15	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

A = negligible DIF, B = low DIF, C = high DIF

Table 6.1.4.1.6: MCAS 2007 DIF Analysis by Form Grade 6 Mathematics

A = negligible DIF,	B - IOW DIE	C = high DIE
A = Hequiquble DIF	D = 10W DIF	C = IIIQII DIF

	-							9.	<i>y.</i>				- 101					-							-		
				ale/	-		•			V	Vhi		\fric			erio	can				W	hite/			nic		
				DIF	Cla	SS							DIF	Cla	SS							DIF	Cla	ISS			
		All		I	MC			OR			All		I	NC			OR			All			MC		(OR	
Form Number	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С
Common	32	7	0	23	6	0	9	1	0	33	5	1	25	4	0	8	1	1	34	5	0	25	4	0	9	1	0
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
3	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
4	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0
5	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
6	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0
7	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
8	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0
9	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
10	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
11	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
12	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
13	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
14	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
15	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0

Table 6.1.4.1.7: MCAS 2007 **DIF Analysis by Form**

Grade 7 Mathematics A = nealiaible DIF B = low DIF C = high DIF

						Α	= n	egii	ιgιμ							C = I		D									
			Ν	lale/	Fer	nal	е				Wh	nite/	Afri	can	An	nerica	an				W	hite/	His	par	nic		
				DIF	Cla	ISS							DIF	CI	ass							DIF	Cla	ISS			
		All			MC		(OR			All		I	NC		C)R			All			MC		(OR	
Form Number	A B C A B C						Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С
Common	32	7	0	24	5	0	8	2	0	37	1	1	27	1	1	10	0	0	36	3	0	26	3	0	10	0	0
1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
2	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
4	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
5	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
6	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
7	3	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0
8	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0
9	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	4	1	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0
10	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0
11	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
12	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0

Table 6.1.4.1.8: MCAS 2007 DIF Analysis by Form Grade 8 Mathematics

						<u> </u>	= ne	glig	gible	e DI	F, I	<u>B =</u>	low	DI	F, (C =	: hig	gh I	DIF								
			Ν	lale/ DIF			е			~	Nhi		Afric DIF			erio	can				W	hite/ DIF			nic		
		All		l	MC		(OR			All		-	МC			OR			All		l	MC		(OR	
Form Number	Α	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С
Common	31	6	2	23	5	1	8	1	1	31	8	0	24	5	0	7	3	0	36	3	0	27	2	0	9	1	0
1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
2	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
3	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
4	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
5	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
6	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
7	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0
8	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0
9	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0
10	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	3	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0
11	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
12	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0

high DIE ^

Table 6.1.4.1.9: MCAS 2007 DIF Analysis by Form Grade 10 Mathematics A = negligible DIF, B = low DIF, C = high DIF

								gii	ומוק	e D							<u> </u>	n L	או								
			N	lale/ DIF			е				Wh	ite//	Afric DIF			eric	an				W	hite/ DIF			ic		
					MC	155		OR						MC	155		OR			All			MC	155		OR	
		AII									AII									AII		- 1	VIC				<u> </u>
Form Number	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С
	36	6	0	28	4	0	8	2	0	40	1	1	31	1	0	9	0	1	39	3	0	30	2	0	9	1	0
Common 01	30	0 2	0	∠o 2	4	0	0	2	0	40	0	1	4	0	0	9	0	1	39 4	3 0	0	30 4	2	0	0	1	0
01	2 3	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	4	0	1	4	0	1	1	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0
02	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	-	0	∠ 3	1	0	0	0	~
03	2	2	-	2	2 1	-	2	-	0	2		-	0	ა 1	-	2	-	0	3 1	1	0	0	1	•	1	-	0
04	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	2	2	0	0		1	0
05	∠ 3	2	•	2	2	0	1	0	0	3	2	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	2	 1	0	1	0	0	
06	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0
07	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0
	3	-	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	4	2	· ·	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	2	0	3	2	0	1	-	0
09 10	4	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	4	1	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	4	0	1	3 1	0	1	1	0	0
10	3	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
12	2	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	3 1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0
12	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
13	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	4	2	0	0	0	0
14	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	2 1	2	1	2	2	0	0	0
15	2	2	0	 1	2	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	1	2	1	0	0
17	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0
17	2	2	0	1	<u> </u>	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
10	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	3	0	1	2	0	0	1	0
20	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0
20	3	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	2	2	0	2	1	0	0	1	0
21	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	1	0	0
23	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	3	2	0	0	0	0
24	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	1	0	0
26	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
28	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
	•	÷	v	Ĵ	Ŭ	, ,	•	Ŭ	•						÷		·			Ŭ		, v		÷		L Č	

Table 6.1.4.1.10: MCAS 2007DIF Analysis by FormGrade 5 Science and Technology/EngineeringA = nealiaible DIF. B = low DIF. C = high DIF

						A =	= ne	giig	ומון	e Di	г, I	5 =	IOW	וט	r, (<u> – –</u>	- MQ	jn i	JIF								
			Ν	lale/	Fer	mal	е			V	Vhi		\fric			erio	can				WI	hite/		•	nic		
				DIF	Cla	ass							DIF	Cla	SS							DIF	Cla	ISS			
		All		-	MC		•	OR			All		-	MC			OR			All			MC		(OR	
Form Number	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С
Common	31	8	0	27	7	0	4	1	0	34	5	0	29	5	0	5	0	0	34	5	0	29	5	0	5	0	0
1	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0
2	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
3	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
4	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
5	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
6	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0
7	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
8	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
9	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
10	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
11	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
12	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0

Table 6.1.4.1.11: MCAS 2007DIF Analysis by FormGrade 8 Science and Technology/EngineeringA = negligible DIF, B = low DIF, C = high DIF

						A =	= 110	yng	JIDI	e Di								_									
			Ν	lale/ DIF			e			V	Vhi		Afric DIF			erio	can				W	hite/ DIF			nic		
		All		I	MC		(OR			All		I	MC			OR			All			MC		(OR	
Form Number	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С
Common	35	3	1	31	2	1	4	1	0	35	3	1	30	3	1	5	0	0	34	5	0	30	4	0	4	1	0
1	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
2	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
3	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
4	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
5	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
6	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0
7	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
8	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
9	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0
10	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
11	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
12	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0

Table 6.1.4.1.12: MCAS 2007 DIF Analysis by Form High School Biology

A = negligible DIF, B = low DIF, C = high DIF																													
	Male/Female DIF Class										White/African American DIF Class										White/Hispanic DIF Class								
	All			MC			OR			All			MC			OR			All			MC			(
Form Number	Α	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С		
Common	38	7	0	34	6	0	4	1	0	40	5	0	35	5	0	5	0	0	43	2	0	38	2	0	5	0	0		
1	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0		
2	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0		
3	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	З	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0		
4	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0		
5	6	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	0	5	1	0	4	1	0	1	0	0	6	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	0		
6	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	1	0	0		
7	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0		
8	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	З	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0		
9	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0		
10	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0		
11	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0		
12	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0		
13	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0		
14	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0		

A = negligible DIF, B = low DIF, C = high DI.

Table 6.1.4.1.13: MCAS 2007 DIF Analysis by Form High School Chemistry

A = negligible DIF, B = low DIF, C = high DIF																													
	Male/Female DIF Class										White/African American DIF Class										White/Hispanic DIF Class								
	All			MC	/IC		OR		All			MC			OR			All			MC			OR					
Form Number	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	А	В	С	A	В	С	A	В	С		
Common	41	3	1	36	3	1	5	0	0	35	10	0	30	10	0	5	0	0	37	8	0	32	8	0	5	0	0		
1	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0		
2	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0		
3	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0		
4	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0		
5	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0		
6	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0		
7	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0		
8	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0		
9	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0		
10	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0		
11	2	0	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0		
12	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0		

Table 6.1.4.1.14: MCAS 2007 **DIF Analysis by Form**

High School Introductory Physics A = negligible DIF, B = low DIF, C = high DIF

		A = negii Male/Female							IYIL		,				<i>,</i>		<u> </u>										
			N	lale/ DIF	-		e				Whit		frica DIF C			rica	an					nite/ DIF			nic		
		All			MC		(OR			All		I	MC			OR			All		I	MC			OR	
Form Number	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	A	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С
Common	36	6	3	32	5	3	4	1	0	35	10	0	32	8	0	3	2	0	42	2	1	37	2	1	5	0	0
1	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	1	3	0	1	0	1	0	4	0	1	3	0	1	1	0	0
2	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	4	0	1	3	0	1	1	0	0
3	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
4	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	2	1	0	0	1	0
5	5	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	4	0	1	0	0	0
6	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	0
7	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	3	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	4	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0
8	4	1	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	3	1	1	3	1	1	0	0	0
9	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0
10	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0

Table 6.1.4.1.15: MCAS 2007 DIF Analysis by Form **High School Technology/Engineering** A = negligible DIF. B = low DIF. C = high DIF.

							A =	neg	jiig	eidi	DIF,	В=	= 100	V DIF	, C	= m	gn L	ЛГ									
			Ν		Fema Class	-					W	/hite		ican / F Cla		erica	an					ite/H DIF (C		
		All			MC		(OR			All			MC			OR			All			MC		(OR	
Form Number	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	Α	В	С
Common	27	16	2	24	14	2	3	2	0	25	13	7	21	12	7	4	1	0	34	10	1	30	9	1	4	1	0
1	2	2	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	1	1	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	3	1	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	1	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

6.1.4.2 DIF Categorization by Gender and Item Type

Table 6.1.4.2.1: MCAS 2007 **DIF Categorization by Gender and Item Type Grade 3 English Language Arts** *MC = multiple-choice, OR = open-response*

			Neglig	ible DIF			Low	DIF			High	DIF	
Grade Level	ltem Type	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%
3	MC	43	27	70	97%	0	2	2	3%	0	0	0	0%
	OR	6	0	6	100%	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%

Table 6.1.4.2.2: MCAS 2007 **DIF Categorization by Gender and Item Type English Language Arts** Grades 4-8 and 10

MC = *multiple-choice*, *OR* = *open-response* and *writing prompt*

			Negligi	ble DIF			Low	/ DIF			Hig	h DIF	
Grade Level	ltem Type	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%
4	MC	41	22	63	88%	0	8	8	11%	0	1	1	1%
	OR	9	1	10	100%	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
5	MC	25	42	67	93%	1	4	5	7%	0	0	0	0%
	OR	10	0	10	100%	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
6	MC	28	33	61	85%	0	11	11	15%	0	0	0	0%
	OR	8	0	8	80%	2	0	2	20%	0	0	0	0%
7	MC	26	39	65	90%	0	6	6	8%	0	1	1	1%
	OR	8	0	8	80%	2	0	2	20%	0	0	0	0%
8	MC	25	37	62	86%	0	9	9	13%	0	1	1	1%
	OR	5	0	5	50%	5	0	5	50%	0	0	0	0%
10	MC	55	56	111	84%	5	11	16	12%	0	5	5	4%
	OR	5	0	5	25%	15	0	15	75%	0	0	0	0%

Table 6.1.4.2.3: MCAS 2007 **DIF Categorization by Gender and Item Type** Mathematics Grade 3

MC = *multiple-choice*, *OR* = *open-response* and *short-answer*

			Neglig	ible DIF			Low	DIF			High	DIF	
Grade Level	ltem Type	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%
3	MC	29	20	49	98%	0	1	1	2%	0	0	0	0%
	OR	9	9	18	90%	1	1	2	10%	0	0	0	0%

Table 6.1.4.2.4: MCAS 2007 DIF Categorization by Gender and Item Type Mathematics

Grades 4–8 and 10

MC = multiple-choice, OR = open-response and short-answer

			Neglig	ible DIF			Low	DIF			High	DIF	
Grade Level	ltem Type	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%
4	MC	29	21	50	86%	0	8	8	14%	0	0	0	0%
	OR	13	7	20	100%	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
5	MC	34	20	54	93%	1	3	4	7%	0	0	0	0%
	OR	14	5	19	95%	1	0	1	5%	0	0	0	0%
6	MC	31	19	50	86%	2	6	8	14%	0	0	0	0%
	OR	15	4	19	95%	0	1	1	5%	0	0	0	0%
7	MC	29	23	52	90%	2	4	6	10%	0	0	0	0%
	OR	9	7	16	80%	3	1	4	20%	0	0	0	0%
8	MC	25	21	46	79%	3	8	11	19%	0	1	1	2%
	OR	10	7	17	85%	1	1	2	10%	0	1	1	5%
10	MC	35	39	74	77%	4	18	22	23%	0	0	0	0%
	OR	22	5	27	90%	0	3	3	10%	0	0	0	0%

Table 6.1.4.2.5: MCAS 2007 DIF Categorization by Gender and Item Type Science and Technology/Engineering Grades 5 and 8

MC = multiple-choice, OR = open-response

			Neglig	ible DIF			Low	DIF			High	DIF	
Grade Level	Item Type	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%
5	MC	25	34	59	87%	1	8	9	13%	0	0	0	0%
	OR	8	1	9	90%	1	0	1	10%	0	0	0	0%
8	MC	30	31	61	90%	0	6	6	9%	0	1	1	1%
	OR	7	1	8	80%	2	0	2	20%	0	0	0	0%

Table 6.1.4.2.6: MCAS 2007 DIF Categorization by Gender and Item Type High School Biology

MC = multiple-choice, OR = open-response

_				Neglig	ible DIF			Low	DIF			High	DIF	
	Grade Level	ltem Type	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%
ſ	H.S.	MC	35	35	70	88%	2	8	10	13%	0	0	0	0%
		OR	9	0	9	90%	1	0	1	10%	0	0	0	0%

Table 6.1.4.2.7: MCAS 2007 DIF Categorization by Gender and Item Type High School Chemistry MC = multiple obsize OB = open response

				MC = r	nuitipie-	cnoice, O	PR = ope	en-respons	е				
			Neglig	ible DIF			Low	DIF			High	DIF	
Grade Level	ltem Type	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%
H.S.	MC	29	36	65	81%	2	10	12	15%	0	3	3	4%
	OR	9	1	10	100%	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%

Table 6.1.4.2.8: MCAS 2007 DIF Categorization by Gender and Item Type High School Introductory Physics

			Nealia	ible DIF	nunipic-		Low	DIF	0		Hiah	DIF	
Grade Level	ltem Type	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%
H.S.	MC	29	36	65	81%	3	9	12	15%	1	2	3	4%
	OR	8	1	9	90%	1	0	1	10%	0	0	0	0%

MC = multiple-choice, OR = open-response

Table 6.1.4.2.9: MCAS 2007 DIF Categorization by Gender and Item Type High School Technology/Engineering

				MC = I	multiple	-choice, (DR = op	en-respons	se				
			Neglig	ible DIF			Low	DIF			High	DIF	
Grade Level	ltem Type	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%	Favor Female	Favor Male	Number	%
H.S.	MC	16	17	33	54%	7	13	20	33%	3	5	8	13%
	OR	0	3	3	50%	3	0	3	50%	0	0	0	0%

6.1.5 Item Response Theory (IRT) Analyses

IRT uses mathematical models to define the relationship between an unobserved measure of student ability, usually called *theta* (θ), and the probability (p) of the student getting a dichotomous item correct or of getting a particular score on a polytomous item. This process is called *item calibration*. All MCAS items were calibrated using IRT.

Calibration establishes a set of item parameters that specifies the nonlinear, monotonically increasing relationship between θ and p that has been modeled for each item. Once the item parameters are known, the estimated theta ($\hat{\theta}$) for each student can be calculated on the same scale. Like raw scores, $\hat{\theta}$ is considered to be an estimate of a student's true score (a general representation of student performance), but has some characteristics that may make its use preferable for rank-ordering students in terms of ability. Section 4.3.2 on scaling explains the relationships among raw scores, estimated thetas, and scaled scores.

Several IRT models are commonly used to specify the relationship between θ and *p* (Hambleton and van der Linden, 1997; Hambleton and Swaminathan, 1985). For MCAS 2007, the 3PL model was used for dichotomous items. The 3PL model can be defined as:

$$P_i(1|\theta_j) = c_i + (1 - c_i) \frac{\exp Da_i(\theta_j - b_i)}{1 + \exp Da_i(\theta_j - b_i)}$$

where

i indexes the items, *j* indexes students, *a* represents item discrimination, *b* represents item difficulty, *c* is the pseudo-guessing parameter, and *D* is a normalizing constant equal to approximately 1.701.

The graded-response model (GRM) was used for polytomous MCAS 2007 items. In the GRM, an item is scored in m + 1 graded categories that can be viewed as a set of m dichotomies. At each point of dichotomization (i.e., at each threshold), a two-parameter model can be used. This implies that a polytomous item with m + 1 categories can be characterized by m item category threshold curves (ICTC) of the two-parameter logistic form:

$$P_{ik}^{*}\left(1\left|\theta_{j}\right.\right) = \frac{\exp Da_{i}\left(\theta_{j}-b_{i}+d_{ik}\right)}{1+\exp Da_{i}\left(\theta_{j}-b_{i}+d_{ik}\right)}$$

where i indexes the items, j indexes students, k indexes threshold, a represents item discrimination, b represents item difficulty, d represents threshold, and D is a normalizing constant equal to 1.701.

After computing *m* ICTCs in the GRM, m + 1 item category characteristic curves (ICCC) are derived by subtracting adjacent ICTC curves:

$$P_{ik}(1 | \theta_j) = P_{i(k-1)}^{*}(1 | \theta_j) - P_{ik}^{*}(1 | \theta_j)$$

where

 P_{ik} represents the probability that the score on item *i* falls in category k

 P_{ik}^* represents the probability that the score on item *i* falls above the threshold *k* ($P_{i0}^* = 1$ and $P_{i(m+1)}^* = 0$)

Finally, the item characteristic curve (ICC) for polytomous items is computed as a weighted sum of ICCCs, where each ICCC is weighted by a score assigned to a corresponding category:

$$P_{i}(1 | \theta_{j}) = \sum_{k}^{m+1} w_{ik} P_{ik}(1 | \theta_{j})$$

For more information about item calibration and determination, the reader is referred to Lord and Novick (1968) or Hambleton and Swaminathan (1985). For information about the GRM, see Ostini and Nering (2006).

Test Characteristic Curves (TCCs) are computed by summing the ICCs of all items that contribute to the raw score of a test. TCCs display the expected (average) raw score associated with each θ_j value between -4.0 and 4.0. Using the notation introduced above, the expected raw score at a given value of θ_j is

$$E(X \mid \theta_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n P_i(1 \mid \theta_j),$$

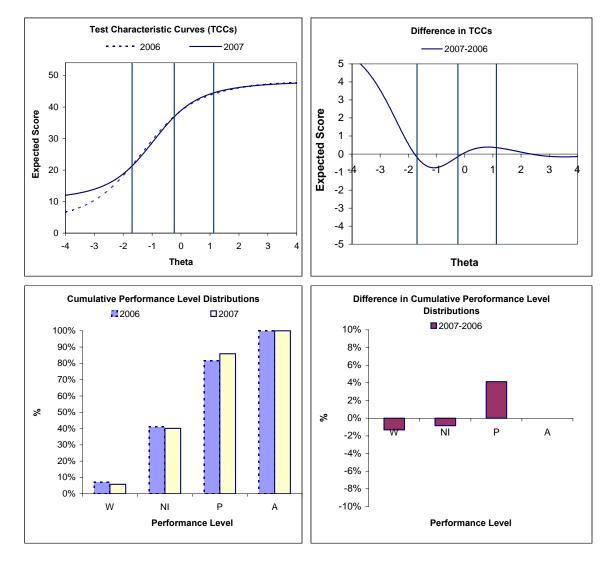
where

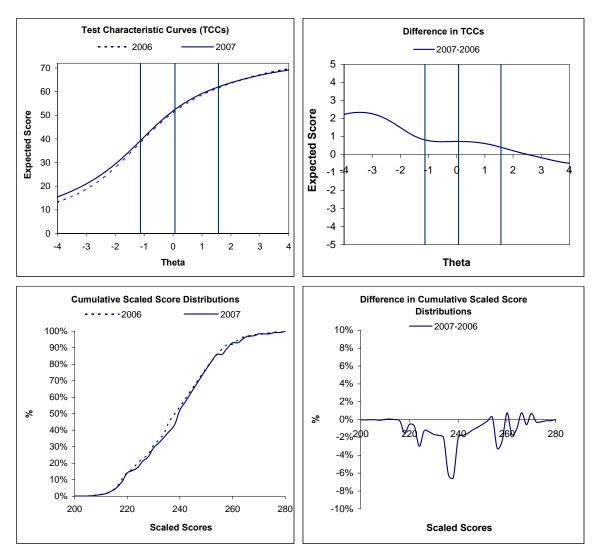
i indexes the items (and *n* is the number of items contributing to the raw score), *j* indexes students (here, θ_j runs from -4.0 to 4.0), and $E(X | \theta_j)$ is the expected raw score for a student of ability θ_j .

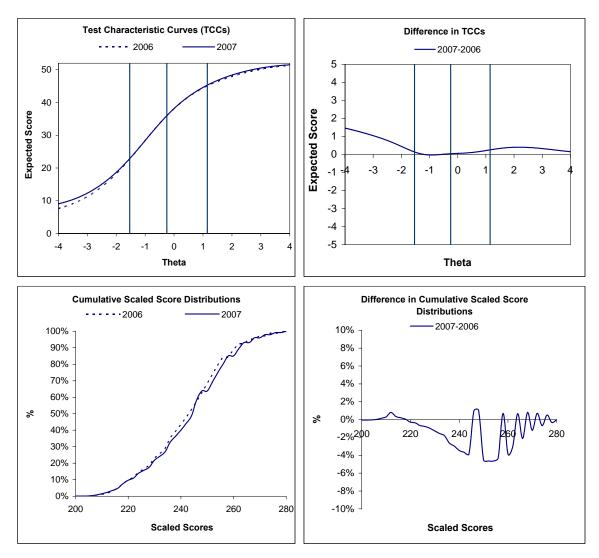
The expected raw score is monotonic, in that it increases with θ_j , consistent with the notion that students of high ability tend to earn higher raw scores than do students of low ability. Most TCCs are "S-shaped" in that they are flatter at the ends of the distribution and are steeper in the middle.

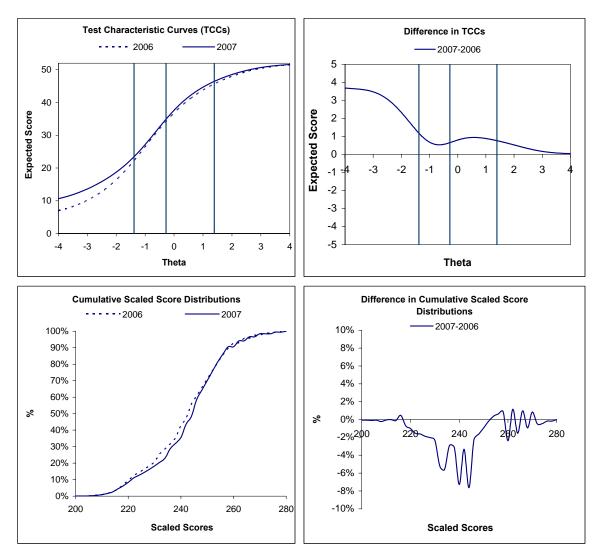
Figure 6.1.5.A on pages 179–198 presents, for each grade and content area test combination, the 2007 MCAS Test Characteristic Curve (TCC), along with the 2006 TCC, when applicable. The difference between the 2007 and 2006 TCCs is also provided wherever applicable. Below the TCC information is a plot of the 2007 cumulative scaled score distribution (at grade 3, cumulative performance level distribution), along with the 2006 cumulative distribution when applicable. Finally, the difference in cumulative distributions is shown, if applicable. A positive shift in cumulative distribution (i.e., a shift to the right when comparing one year to the next) would suggest that student performance has improved.

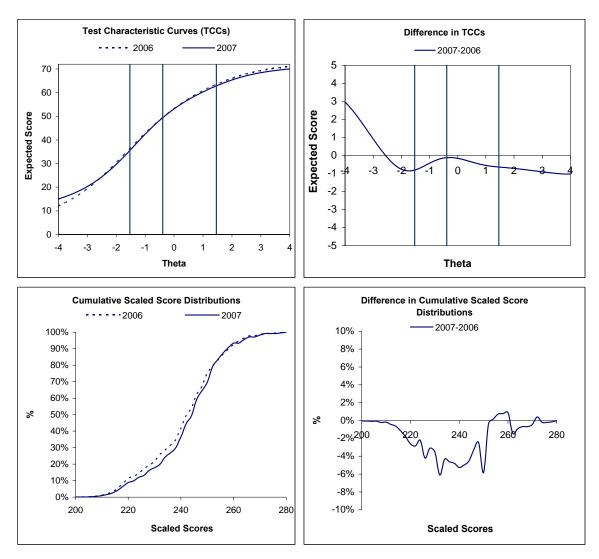
Figure 6.1.5.A: MCAS 2007 Administration Calibration Statistics By Grade and Content Area

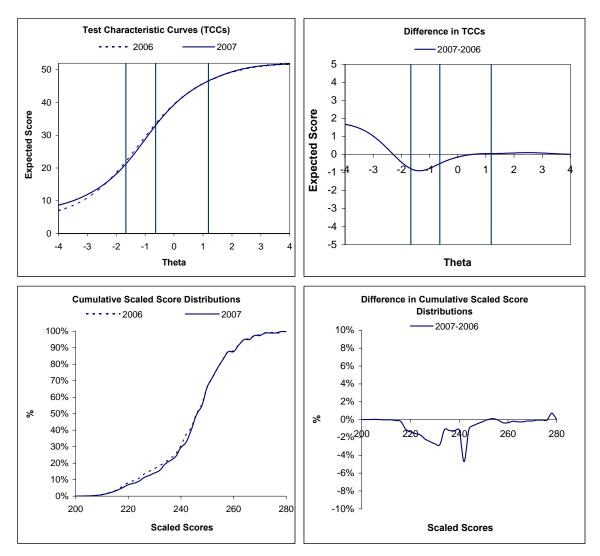


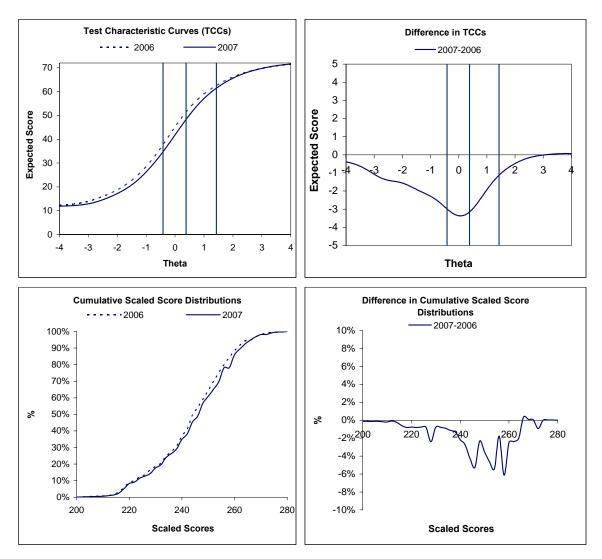


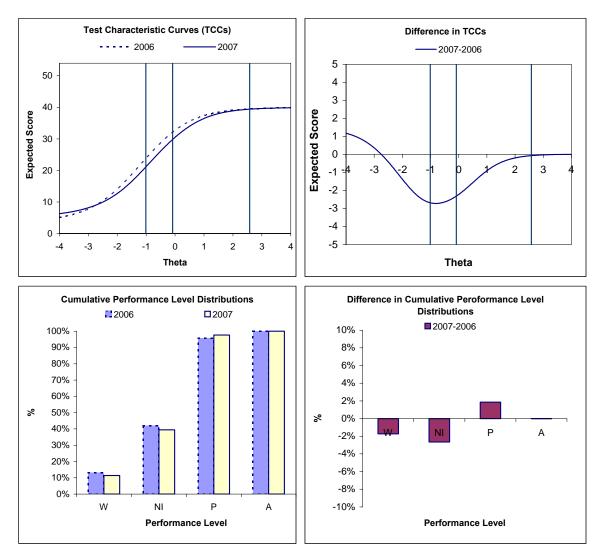


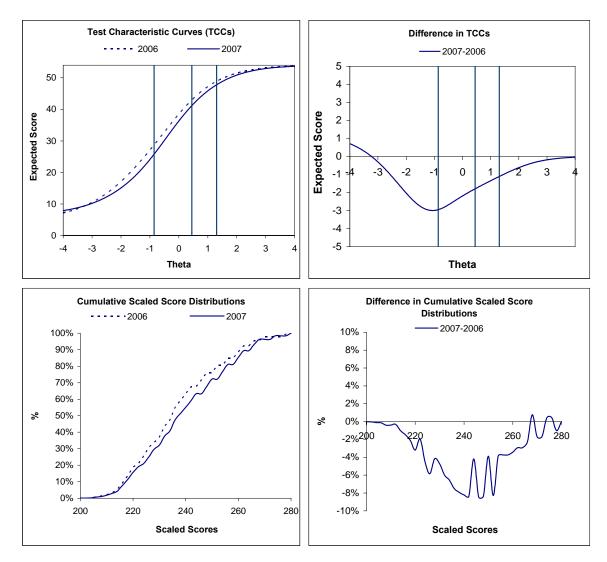


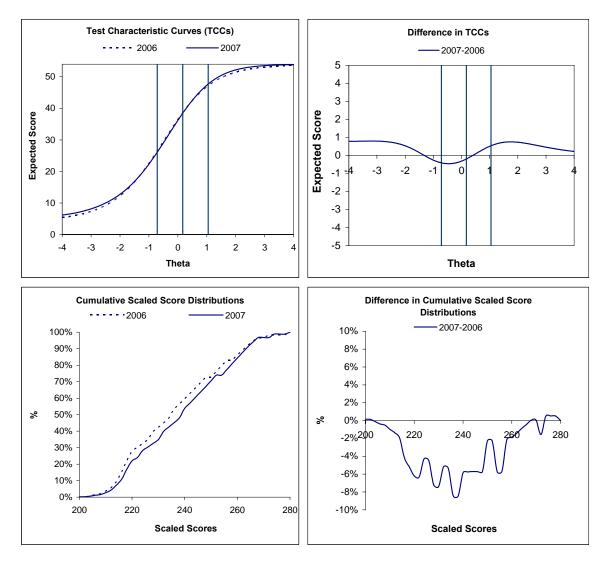


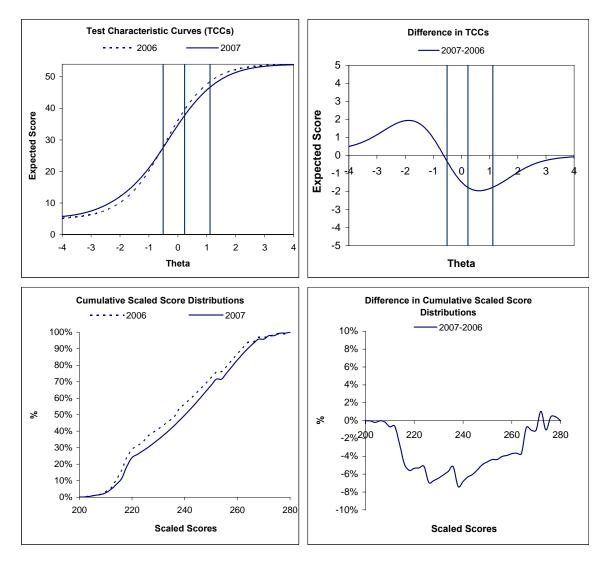


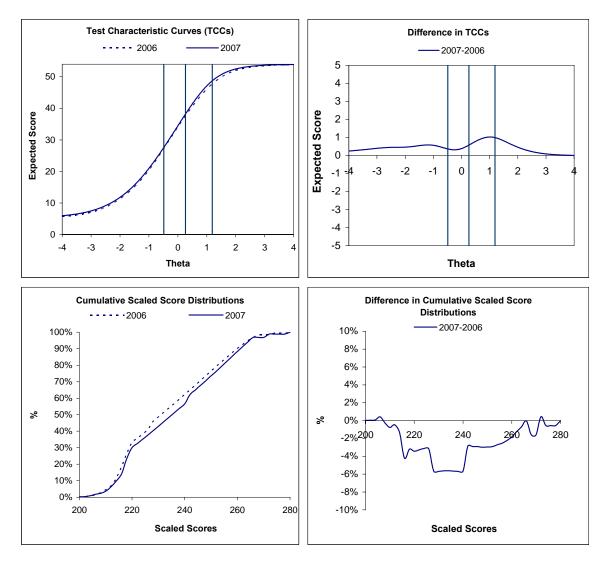


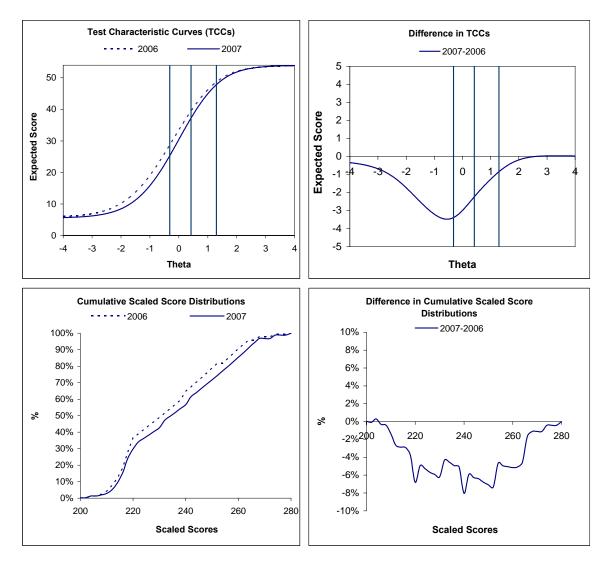


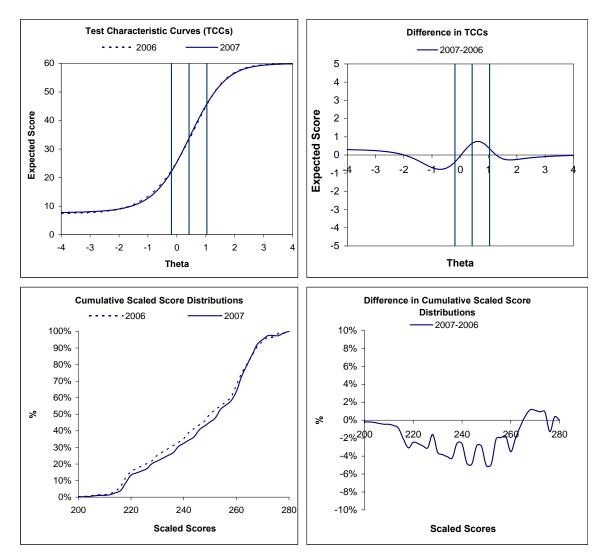


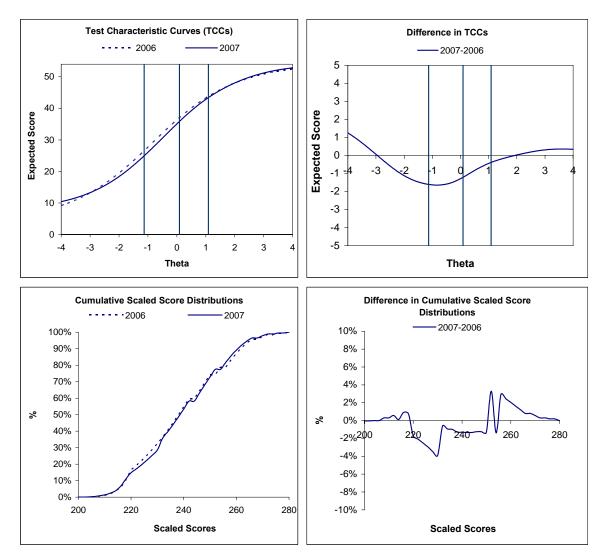




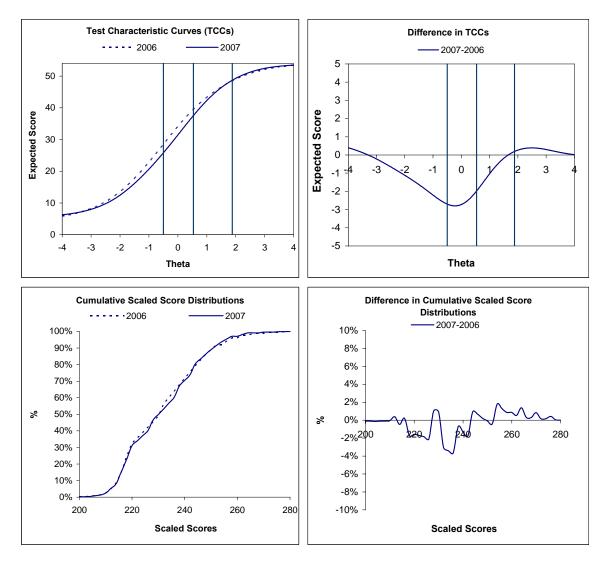




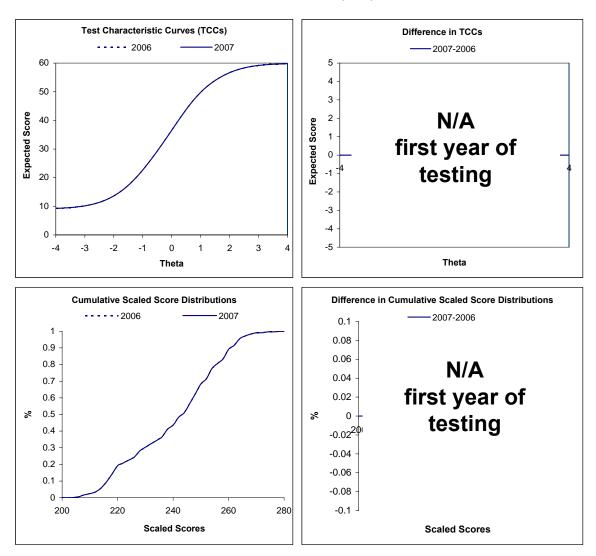




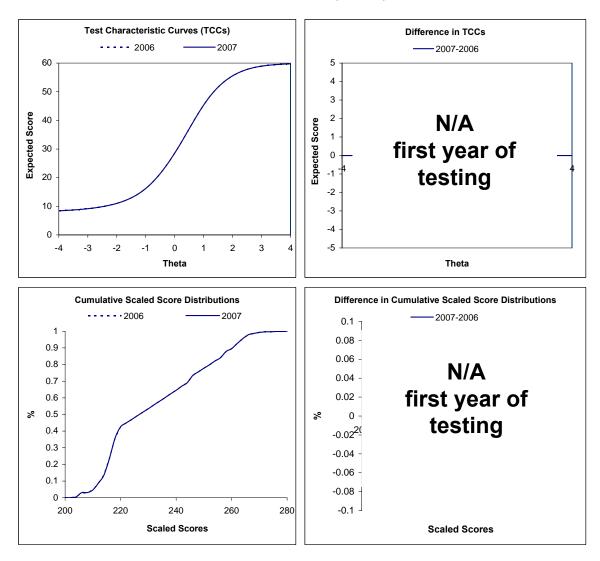
MCAS0607 SCI Grade 05



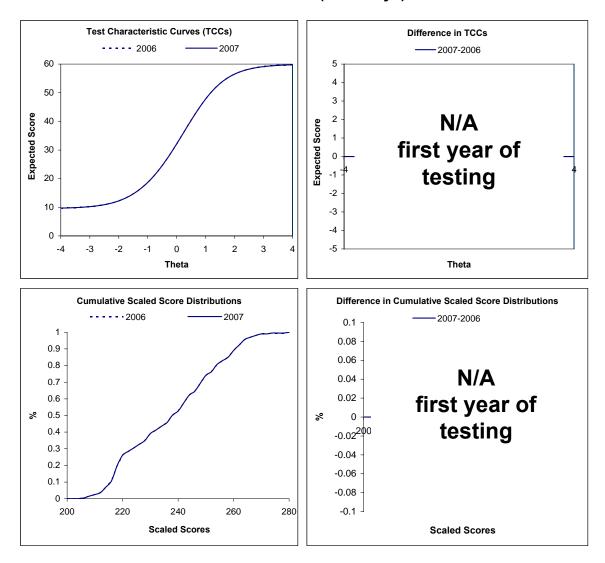
MCAS0607 SCI Grade 08



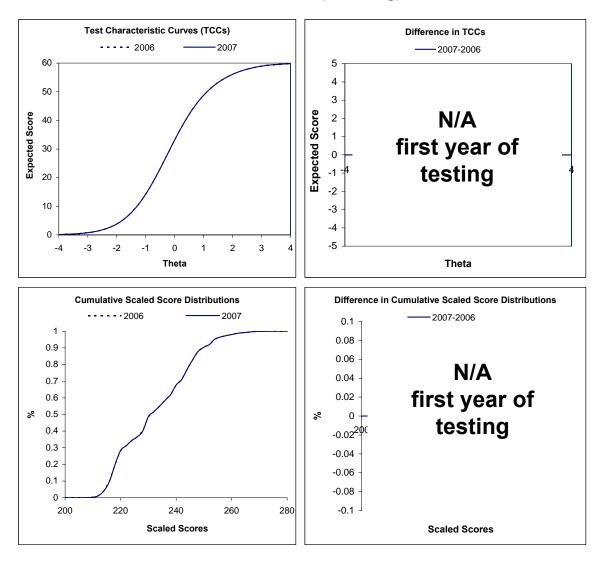
MCAS H.S. SCI (Bio)



MCAS H.S. SCI (Chem)



MCAS H.S. SCI (Intro Phys)



MCAS H.S. SCI (Tech/Eng)

6.2 Assessment Reliability

No academic assessment can measure student performance with perfect accuracy; some students will receive scores that underestimate their true ability, and other students will receive scores that overestimate their true ability. Items that function well together will produce an assessment that has a low amount of error and can therefore be described as "reliable."

There are a number of ways to estimate an assessment's reliability. One approach is to split all test items into two groups and then correlate students' scores on the two half-tests. This procedure is known as a *split-half estimate of reliability*. If the two half-test scores correlate highly, items on the two half-tests are likely to be measuring very similar knowledge or skills. This is evidence that the items complement one another and function well as a group. This also suggests that measurement error will be minimal.

The split-half method requires psychometricians to select items that contribute to each halftest score. This decision may have an impact on the resulting correlation. Cronbach (1951) provided a statistic that avoids this concern about the split-half method. Cronbach's α coefficient is an estimate of the average of all possible split-half reliability coefficients. Cronbach's α is computed using the following formula:

$$\alpha \equiv \frac{n}{n-1} \left[1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma^{2}_{(Y_{i})}}{\sigma^{2}_{x}} \right]$$

where

i indexes the item, *n* is the total number of items, $\sigma^2(Y_i)$ represents individual item variance, and σ_x^2 represents the total test variance.

6.2.1 Reliability and Standard Errors of Measurement

Table 6.2.1 presents descriptive statistics, Cronbach's α coefficient, and raw score standard errors of measurement for each 2007 MCAS test administration and grade level.

Table 6.2.1: MCAS 2007 Test Reliabilities, Descriptive Statistics, and Standard Errors of Measurement

Content Area	Grade Level	Number of Students	Raw Score Points	Minimum Score	Maximum Score	Mean Score	SD	Rel	SEM
	3	70,282	48	0	48	36.35	8.53	0.91	2.57
	4	69,458	52	0	52	37.12	7.39	0.90	2.56
English	5	70,099	52	0	52	36.83	8.98	0.90	2.86
Language Arts	6	71,737	52	0	52	37.04	8.48	0.90	2.75
(Composition not	7	72,690	52	0	52	38.30	8.51	0.90	2.69
included)	8	73,560	52	0	52	37.53	8.87	0.90	2.75
	10	72,178	52	0	52	37.14	8.83	0.90	2.81
	3	70,412	40	0	40	29.83	7.50	0.89	2.51
	4	69,575	54	0	54	37.95	10.37	0.89	3.39
	5	70,379	54	0	54	36.18	11.72	0.90	3.66
Mathematics	6	71,900	54	0	54	36.42	11.24	0.92	3.15
	7	72,694	54	0	54	34.91	12.04	0.92	3.44
	8	73,466	54	0	54	33.35	13.16	0.92	3.66
	10	71,353	60	0	60	39.93	13.43	0.92	3.75
	5	70,367	54	0	54	34.68	8.47	0.85	3.29
Saianaa and	8	73,423	54	0	54	31.80	10.23	0.89	3.46
Science and	HS Bio	62,894	60	0	60	31.90	12.34	0.91	3.63
Technology/ Engineering	HS Chem	13,410	60	1	60	30.36	13.20	0.91	3.92
Linginisetting	HS Phys	14,873	60	3	60	33.10	13.21	0.92	3.74
	HS T/E	1,883	60	6	60	32.78	10.52	0.88	3.66

SD = Standard Deviation Rel = Reliability SEM = Standard Error of Measurement

6.2.2 Stratified Coefficient Alpha (α)

According to Feldt and Brennan (1989), a prescribed distribution of items over categories (such as different item types) indicates the presumption that at least a small, but important, degree of unique variance is associated with the categories. In contrast, Cronbach's coefficient α is built on the assumption that there are no such local or clustered dependencies. A stratified version of coefficient α corrects for this problem:

$$\alpha_{strat} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{j=1}^{k} \sigma_{x_j}^2 (1 - \alpha)}{\sigma_x^2}$$

where

j indexes the subtests or categories,

 $\sigma_{x_i}^2$ represents the variance of the k individual subtests or categories,

 α is the unstratified Cronbach's α coefficient, and

 σ_x^2 represents the total test variance.

Stratified coefficient α was calculated separately for each grade/content combination. The stratification was based on item types (multiple-choice v. open-response). These results are provided in table 6.2.2. Note that in table 6.2.2, N_{mc} refers to the number of multiple-choice items on a given test, while N_{or} denotes the number of open-response items (with number of possible points on OR items in parentheses).

Content Area	Grade Level	Cronbach's α	Cronbach's $\alpha_{\rm mc}$	N _{mc}	Cronbach's $lpha$ or	Nor	Stratified α
	3	0.91	0.91	40	0.51	2 (8)	0.91
	4	0.90	0.89	36	0.77	4 (16)	0.91
	5	0.90	0.89	36	0.80	4 (16)	0.92
English Language Arts	6	0.90	0.88	36	0.78	4 (16)	0.91
English Eanguage Ans	7	0.90	0.89	36	0.82	4 (16)	0.92
	8	0.90	0.89	36	0.84	4 (16)	0.92
	10	0.90	0.89	36	0.81	4 (16)	0.92
	3	0.89	0.86	25	0.71	10 (15)	0.89
	4	0.89	0.86	29	0.77	10 (25)	0.90
	5	0.90	0.89	29	0.78	10 (25)	0.91
Mathematics	6	0.92	0.90	29	0.81	10 (25)	0.93
	7	0.92	0.88	29	0.84	10 (25)	0.93
	8	0.92	0.90	29	0.84	10 (25)	0.93
	10	0.92	0.88	32	0.87	10 (28)	0.93
	5	0.85	0.81	34	0.72	5 (20)	0.86
	8	0.89	0.84	34	0.81	5 (20)	0.90
Science and	HS Bio	0.91	0.89	40	0.83	5 (20)	0.93
Technology/Engineering	HS Chem	0.91	0.89	40	0.85	5 (20)	0.93
	HS Phys	0.92	0.90	40	0.84	5 (20)	0.93
	HS T/E	0.88	0.84	40	0.77	5 (20)	0.89

Table 6.2.2: MCAS 2007 Test Coefficients Cronbach's α and Stratified α

6.2.3 Reliability of Performance Level Categorization

All test scores contain measurement error; thus, classifications based on test scores are also subject to measurement error. For the 2007 MCAS administration, after students were classified into performance levels, empirical analyses were conducted to determine the statistical accuracy and consistency of those classifications.

6.2.3.1 Accuracy

Accuracy refers to the extent to which decisions based on test scores match decisions that would have been made if the scores did not contain any measurement error. Accuracy must be estimated because errorless test scores do not exist.

6.2.3.2 Consistency

Consistency measures the extent to which classification decisions based on test scores match the decisions based on scores from a second, parallel form of the same test. Consistency can be evaluated directly from actual responses to test items if two complete, parallel forms of the test are administered to the same group of students. This is usually impractical, especially on lengthy tests, such as the MCAS administration. To overcome this issue, techniques have been developed to estimate both accuracy and consistency of classification decisions on the basis of a single administration of a test. The technique developed by Livingston and Lewis (1995) was used for MCAS because their technique can be used with both open-response and multiple-choice items.

6.2.3.3 Calculating Accuracy and Consistency

All of the accuracy and consistency estimation techniques described herein make use of the concept of "true scores" in the sense of classical test theory. A true score is the score that would be obtained on a test that had no measurement error. It is a theoretical concept that cannot be observed, although it can be estimated. Following Livingston and Lewis (1995), the true-score distribution for the MCAS tests was estimated using a four-parameter beta distribution, which is a flexible model that allows for extreme degrees of skewness in test scores.

In the Livingston and Lewis method, the estimated true scores are used to classify students into their "true" performance categories, labeled "true status." After various technical adjustments (described in Livingston and Lewis, 1995), to calculate accuracy, a 4×4 contingency table was created for each content area test and grade level. The cells in the table show the proportions of students who were classified into each performance category by their actual (or observed) scores on the MCAS test and by their true scores (i.e., true status).

To estimate consistency, the true scores are used to estimate the distribution of classifications on an independent, parallel test form. After statistical adjustments (see Livingston and Lewis, 1995), a new 4×4 contingency table was created for each MCAS test and grade level that showed the proportions of students who were classified into each performance category by the actual test and who would be classified into each performance category by another (hypothetical) parallel test form. Consistency, which is the proportion of students classified into exactly the same categories by both forms of the test, is the sum of the diagonal for the new contingency table.

6.2.3.4 Карра (к)

Another way to measure consistency is to use Cohen's (1960) coefficient κ (kappa), which assesses the proportion of consistent classifications after removing the proportion of consistent classification that would be expected by chance. Cohen's κ can be used to estimate the classification consistency of a test from two parallel forms of the test. The second form in this case was the one estimated using the Livingston and Lewis (1995) method. Because Cohen's κ is corrected for chance, the values of κ are lower than other consistency estimates.

6.2.3.5 Results of Accuracy, Consistency, and Kappa Analyses

Summaries of the accuracy and consistency analyses are provided in tables 6.2.3.5.1 through 6.2.3.5.20.

The first section of each table shows the overall accuracy and consistency indices, as well as κ . The overall index is, as described, the sum of the diagonal elements of the appropriate contingency table.

The second section of each table shows accuracy and consistency values, conditional upon performance level. For instance, the conditional accuracy value is 0.831 for the *Needs Improvement* category for grade 4 ELA. This indicates that, of the students whose true scores placed them in the *Needs Improvement* category, 83.1 percent would be expected to be in the *Needs Improvement* category if categorized according to their actual scores. The corresponding consistency value of 0.783 indicates that 78.3 percent of the grade 4 students in the *Needs Improvement* category would be expected to score in the *Needs Improvement* category again if a second, parallel test form were administered.

The third section of each table provides data at each of the cut points. These values indicate the accuracy and consistency of the dichotomous decisions, either above or below the associated cut point. In addition, false positive and false negative accuracy rates are provided. These values are estimates of the proportions of students who were categorized above the cut when their true score would place them below the cut, and vice-versa.

	<u> </u>	staue s Eng	giish Language	e Arts		
Overall Indices	Αςςι	iracy	Consisten	су	Карра (к)	
Overall mulces	0.7	'65	0.689		0.538	
	Performa	nce Level	Accurac	y C	Consistency	
Indices Conditional on Level	War	ning	0.816		0.730	
	Needs Im	provement	0.813		0.758	
On Level	Proficient		0.733		0.686	
	Above Proficient		0.729		0.554	
		Accuracy			Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency	
Indices at Cut Points	W: NI	0.973	0.013	0.014	0.963	
	NI :P	0.916	0.049	0.036	0.883	
	P:AP	0.875	0.094	0.031	0.842	

Table 6.2.3.5.1: 2007 MCAS Accuracy and Consistency Grade 3 English Language Arts

Table 6.2.3.5.2:2007 MCASAccuracy and ConsistencyGrade 4 English Language Arts

Overall Indices	Accu	iracy	Consisten	су	Карра (к)		
Overall indices	0.8	21	0.751		0.630		
Indices Conditional on Level			Accurac	у	Consistency		
	War	ning	0.815		0.714		
	Needs Im	provement	0.831		0.783		
	Proficient		0.798		0.731		
	Advanced		0.861		0.736		
		Accuracy			Consistency		
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negative	S		
Indices at Cut Points	W:NI	0.969	0.014	0.018	0.956		
i onto	NI :P	0.910	0.051	0.039	0.875		
	P:A	0.943	0.040	0.018	0.920		

Table 6.2.3.5.3:2007 MCASAccuracy and ConsistencyGrade 5 English Language Arts

Overall Indices	Αςςι	iracy	Consisten	су	Карра (к)		
Overall indices	8.0	320	0.750		0.631		
			Accurac	y C	Consistency		
Indices Conditional on Level	War	ning	0.802		0.697		
	Needs Im	provement	0.818		0.765		
	Proficient		0.801		0.744		
	Advanced		0.877		0.754		
		Accuracy			Consistense		
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency		
Indices at Cut Points	W: NI	0.974	0.011	0.015	0.964		
	NI:P	0.915	0.048	0.037	0.882		
	P:A	0.930	0.049	0.021	0.904		

Table 6.2.3.5.4:2007 MCASAccuracy and ConsistencyGrade 6 English Language Arts

			<u> </u>			
Overall Indices	Accu	racy	Consisten	су	Карра (к)	
Overall malces	0.8	30	0.765		0.623	
				y C	Consistency	
Indices Conditional on Level	War	ning	0.786		0.663	
	Needs Im	provement	0.802		0.741	
	Proficient		0.844		0.804	
	Advanced		0.861		0.706	
		Accuracy			Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency	
Indices at Cut Points	W:NI	0.977	0.009	0.013	0.968	
	NI :P	0.914	0.047	0.039	0.881	
	P:A	0.939	0.045	0.016	0.916	

Table 6.2.3.5.5:2007 MCASAccuracy and ConsistencyGrade 7 English Language Arts

Overall Indices	Accu	iracy	Consisten	су	Карра (к)		
	0.8	38	0.774			0.643	
la dia se Osa diti su sl			Accurac	у	С	onsistency	
	War	ning	0.801			0.685	
Indices Conditional on Level	Needs Im	provement	0.812			0.752	
	Proficient		0.850		0.808		
	Advanced		0.863		0.733		
		Accuracy				Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negat	ives	Consistency	
Indices at Cut Points	W:NI	0.978	0.009	0.013		0.969	
1 0/110	NI:P	0.919	0.044	0.038		0.887	
	P:A	0.942	0.041	0.018		0.919	

Table 6.2.3.5.6:2007 MCASAccuracy and ConsistencyGrade 8 English Language Arts

Overall Indices	Accuracy		Consisten	су	Карра (к)		
Overall indices	0.8	46	0.787		0.646		
			Accuracy		Consistency		
Indices Conditional on Level	War	ning	0.786		0.661		
	Needs Im	provement	0.798		0.731		
	Proficient		0.861		0.832		
	Advanced		0.875		0.743		
		Accuracy			Consistensy		
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency		
Indices at Cut Points	W:NI	0.983	0.007	0.010	0.976		
	NI:P	0.930	0.037	0.033	0.902		
	P:A	0.933	0.048	0.019	0.909		

Table 6.2.3.5.7: 2007 MCASAccuracy and ConsistencyGrade 10 English Language Arts

			0 0 0			
Overall Indices	Accu	iracy	Consisten	су	Карра (к)	
Overall Indices	0.8	39	0.775		0.663	
			Accurac	y (Consistency	
Indices Conditional on Level	Fai	ling	0.808		0.697	
	Needs Im	provement	0.823		0.763	
	Proficient		0.827		0.776	
	Advanced		0.891		0.800	
		Accuracy			Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	consistency	
Indices at Cut Points	F:NI	0.982	0.008	0.011	0.974	
	NI :P	0.928	0.038	0.034	0.899	
	P:A	0.929	0.046	0.024	0.902	

Table 6.2.3.5.8: 2007 MCAS Accuracy and Consistency Grade 3 Mathematics

Overall Indices	Accu	iracy	Consisten	су	Карра (к)		
Overall mulces	0.7	27	0.638			0.495	
Indices Conditional			Accurac	у	С	onsistency	
	War	ning	0.824			0.757	
on Level	Needs Im	provement	0.682			0.587	
	Proficient		0.695		0.626		
	Above Proficient		0.791		0.637		
		Accuracy				Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negat	ives	Consistency	
Indices at Cut Points	W:NI	0.952	0.025	0.024		0.933	
· onto	NI :P	0.909	0.053	0.038		0.874	
	P:AP	0.866	0.095	0.038		0.825	

Table 6.2.3.5.9: 2007 MCAS Accuracy and Consistency Grade 4 Mathematics

Overall Indices	Accu	iracy	Consisten	су	Карра (к)		
Overall mulces	0.7	56	0.673		0.537		
			Accuracy		Consistency		
Indices Conditional on Level	War	ning	0.813		0.732		
	Needs Im	provement	0.807		0.755		
	Proficient		0.637		0.543		
	Advanced		0.815		0.670		
		Accuracy			Consistensy		
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency		
Indices at Cut Points	W:NI	0.960	0.019	0.021	0.944		
	NI:P	0.903	0.059	0.039	0.866		
	P:A	0.892	0.075	0.033	0.854		

Table 6.2.3.5.10: 2007 MCAS Accuracy and Consistency Grade 5 Mathematics

Overall Indices	Accu	iracy	Consisten	су	Карра (к)	
Overall indices	0.7	71	0.689		0.575	
			Accurac	у (Consistency	
Indices Conditional on Level	War	ning	0.825		0.759	
	Needs Im	provement	0.752		0.680	
	Proficient		0.713		0.633	
	Advanced		0.870		0.734	
		Accuracy			Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	consistency	
Indices at Cut Points	W:NI	0.947	0.027	0.026	0.925	
· · · · · ·	NI :P	0.909	0.055	0.036	0.875	
	P:A	0.915	0.062	0.023	0.885	

Table 6.2.3.5.11: 2007 MCAS Accuracy and Consistency Grade 6 Mathematics

		0.000	o mathemation			
Overall Indices	Accu	iracy	Consisten	су	Kappa (к)	
Overall indices	0.7	92	0.714		0.613	
			Accurac	y C	Consistency	
Indices Conditional on Level	War	ning	0.859		0.806	
	Needs Im	provement	0.760		0.684	
	Proficient		0.731		0.649	
	Advanced		0.875		0.766	
		Accuracy			Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency	
Indices at Cut Points	W:NI	0.951	0.025	0.024	0.932	
	NI :P	0.921	0.046	0.033	0.890	
	P:A	0.920	0.054	0.026	0.890	

Table 6.2.3.5.12: 2007 MCAS Accuracy and Consistency Grade 7 Mathematics

Overall Indices	Accuracy		Consister	су	Карра (к)	
Overall indices	0.798		0.723		0.621	
Indices Conditional on Level			Accuracy		Consistency	
	Warning		0.858		0.810	
	Needs Improvement		0.746		0.667	
	Proficient		0.775		0.706	
	Advanced		0.877		0.735	
Indices at Cut Points			Accuracy	Consistency		
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency	
	W:NI	0.939	0.032	0.029	0.915	
	NI :P	0.919	0.050	0.032	0.887	
	P:A	0.940	0.045	0.015	0.919	

Table 6.2.3.5.13: 2007 MCAS Accuracy and Consistency Grade 8 Mathematics

Overall Indices	Accuracy		Consistency		Карра (к)
Overall indices	0.798		0.723		0.627
Indices Conditional on Level			Accuracy		Consistency
	Warning		0.857		0.814
	Needs Improvement		0.761		0.684
	Proficient		0.741		0.661
	Advanced		0.886		0.766
Indices at Cut Points		Accuracy			Consistency
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency
	W:NI	0.939	0.034	0.028	0.915
	NI :P	0.924	0.047	0.029	0.895
	P:A	0.935	0.047	0.018	0.911

Table 6.2.3.5.14: 2007 MCAS Accuracy and Consistency Grade 10 Mathematics

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Overall Indices	Accu	iracy	Consisten	су	Карра (к)	
	0.824		0.757		0.644	
Indices Conditional on Level			Accuracy		Consistency	
	Failing		0.807		0.722	
	Needs Improvement		0.766		0.689	
	Proficient		0.723		0.635	
	Advanced		0.927		0.872	
Indices at Cut Points		Accuracy			Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency	
	F:NI	0.969	0.015	0.016	0.957	
	NI :P	0.935	0.036	0.029	0.909	
	P:A	0.919	0.050	0.030	0.888	

Table 6.2.3.5.15: 2007 MCASAccuracy and ConsistencyGrade 5 Science and Technology/Engineering

			ia reenneregy			
Overall Indices	Accuracy		Consistency		Карра (к)	
Overall indices	0.749		0.657		0.505	
Indices Conditional on Level			Accuracy		Consistency	
	Warning		0.765		0.638	
	Needs Improvement		0.762		0.700	
	Proficient		0.694		0.603	
	Advanced		0.840		0.676	
Indices at Cut Points		Accuracy			Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency	
	W:NI	0.950	0.021	0.029	0.929	
	NI :P	0.880	0.072	0.049	0.834	
	P:A	0.919	0.059	0.022	0.888	

Table 6.2.3.5.16: 2007 MCAS Accuracy and Consistency Grade 8 Science and Technology/Engineering

Overall Indices	Accu	iracy	Consisten	су	Карра (к)	
Overall indices	0.806		0.731		0.594	
Indices Conditional on Level			Accurac	y C	Consistency	
	Warning		0.833		0.768	
	Needs Improvement		0.798		0.743	
	Proficient		0.803		0.721	
	Adva	nced	0.760		0.471	
Indices at Cut Points		Accuracy			Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	consistency	
	W:NI	0.929	0.036	0.035	0.901	
	NI :P	0.905	0.060	0.035	0.869	
	P:A	0.972	0.024	0.004	0.960	

Table 6.2.3.5.17: 2007 MCAS Accuracy and Consistency High School Biology

		J -	Series Bielegy			
Overall Indices	Accuracy		Consisten	су	Карра (к)	
	0.812		0.740		0.632	
Indices Conditional on Level			Accuracy		Consistency	
	Failing		0.826		0.757	
	Needs Improvement		0.782		0.709	
	Proficient		0.813		0.755	
	Advanced		0.853		0.740	
Indices at Cut Points		Accuracy			Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Gonsistency	
	F:NI	0.955	0.023	0.022	0.938	
	NI :P	0.928	0.041	0.031	0.900	
	P:A	0.929	0.047	0.024	0.902	

Table 6.2.3.5.18: 2007 MCAS Accuracy and Consistency High School Chemistry

Overall Indices	Accuracy		Consistency		Карра (к)
Overall indices	0.815		0.743		0.647
Indices Conditional on Level			Accuracy		Consistency
	Failing		0.889		0.860
	Needs Improvement		0.743		0.648
	Proficient		0.760		0.672
	Advanced		0.863		0.754
Indices at Cut Points			Accuracy	Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency
	F:NI	0.930	0.040	0.030	0.902
	NI :P	0.935	0.039	0.026	0.910
	P:A	0.949	0.033	0.018	0.929

Table 6.2.3.5.19: 2007 MCAS Accuracy and Consistency High School Introductory Physics

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Overall Indices	Accuracy		Consisten	су	Карра (к)	
	0.809		0.735		0.635	
Indices Conditional on Level			Accuracy		Consistency	
	Failing		0.814		0.753	
	Needs Improvement		0.778		0.701	
	Proficient		0.806		0.738	
	Advanced		0.880		0.775	
Indices at Cut Points			Accuracy	Consistency		
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency	
	F:NI	0.936	0.035	0.029	0.911	
	NI :P	0.927	0.043	0.030	0.898	
	P:A	0.946	0.036	0.018	0.925	

Table 6.2.3.5.20:2007 MCASAccuracy and ConsistencyHigh School Technology/Engineering

Overall Indices	Accu	iracy	Consisten		Карра (к)	
	0.804		0.727		0.586	
Indices Conditional on Level			Accuracy		Consistency	
	Failing		0.818		0.740	
	Needs Improvement		0.769		0.704	
	Proficient		0.838		0.765	
	Advanced		0.777		0.494	
Indices at Cut Points		Accuracy			Consistency	
		Accuracy	False Positives	False Negatives	Consistency	
	F:NI	0.929	0.034	0.037	0.901	
	NI :P	0.897	0.063	0.040	0.857	
	P:A	0.978	0.019	0.004	0.968	

6.3 Validity

Evidence is presented in detail throughout this document to support inferences of student achievement of the learning standards of the *Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks*, as measured by MCAS, including test development, test alignment, test administration, scoring, equating, item analyses, reliability, scaled scores, performance levels, and reporting. The purpose of this section of the document is to discuss how MCAS ensures the validity of its tests and their results.

6.3.1 Validity Evidence for Standard MCAS Tests

MCAS tests are rigorously examined in reference to the guidelines provided in the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* (1985, 1999), which provide criteria for the evaluation of tests, testing practices, and effects of test use for a broad set of assessments, including alternate assessments.

The *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* describes sources of evidence to consider when constructing a validity argument. Examples of standards prescribed by the manual, as well as evidence of how MCAS tests satisfy these standards, are presented below.

 <u>Standard 1.2 (p.17)</u>: "The test developer should set forth clearly how test scores are intended to be interpreted and used."

For the 2007 MCAS operational administration, the *Guide to Interpreting the Spring 2007 MCAS Reports for Schools and Districts* provides this information. The *Guide* outlines general guidelines for the interpretation and use of MCAS reports, gives instructions on how to read and interpret specific reports, and provides information on how to make appropriate comparisons and inferences from statistics. Additionally, the *Guide to the 2007 MCAS for Parents/Guardians* provides information on how parents and guardians should interpret MCAS results.

Standard 1.13 (p.20): "When validity evidence includes statistical analyses of test results, either alone or together with data on other variables, the conditions under which the data were collected should be described in enough detail that users can judge the relevance of the statistical findings to local conditions. Attention should be drawn to any features of a validation data collection that are likely to differ from typical operational testing conditions and that could plausibly influence test performance."

This standard concerns the degree to which the data collected for validity evidence may be generalized to operational conditions. Most of the statistical evidence of validity for the 2007 MCAS tests (see section 6.3.1.2 on Internal Structure) was derived from the tests themselves; thus, this evidence is immediately applicable to MCAS. Whenever validity evidence was accrued from a subset of the Massachusetts test-taking population, rather than the entire population (e.g., study of the concordance between MCAS and other instruments, described

below), any potential differences between sample and population were thoroughly documented.

• <u>Standard 1.14 (p.20)</u>: "The patterns of association between and among scores on the instrument under study and other variables should be consistent with theoretical expectations."

Massachusetts has accumulated a substantial amount of evidence of the criterion-related validity of MCAS tests. This evidence shows that MCAS test results are correlated strongly with relevant measures of academic achievement. Specific examples include the following:

After the MCAS program was first introduced, the Department commissioned two separate studies (Gong, 1999; Thacker & Hoffman, 1999) to examine the relationship between performance on the MCAS tests of students in two large urban districts in Massachusetts and performance of the same sample of students on a locally administered, national standardized achievement test. Gong (1999) examined the relationship between MCAS scores and performance on the Metropolitan Achievement Test (MAT-7) at grade 10 and the relationship between MCAS scores and the Stanford Achievement Test (SAT-9) scores at grade 4. Thacker and Hoffman (1999) examined the relationship between MCAS scores and performance on the Stanford 9 at grades 4, 8, and 10. The two studies also examined the relationship between MCAS performance and students' enrollment in specific courses.

These studies found that students in each of the four MCAS performance levels (*Warning/Failing, Needs Improvement, Proficient,* and *Advanced*) generally performed similarly on a commercially available, standardized instrument. That is, students at higher performance levels on MCAS also tended to perform at higher performance levels on the commercial tests. It was also found that students who scored *Proficient* or *Advanced* on MCAS tended to score above the 75th percentile on the Stanford 9 tests. Students who scored at the *Needs Improvement* level on MCAS scored around the 50th percentile, and students whose MCAS performance was at the *Warning/Failing* level consistently averaged below the 25th percentile on the Stanford-9.

The two studies mentioned above were based on the results of individual school districts, since the commercially available tests (MAT-7 and Stanford) were administered by the districts rather than by the Commonwealth. One commercially available standardized test, however, has been administered to students statewide. From 1996–1998, third-grade students were administered the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) in reading. Fourth-grade students who completed the 1998 MCAS tests had also taken the ITBS reading tests as third-graders in 1997. Although the MCAS and ITBS tests were administered approximately one year apart and differed slightly in what was assessed—reading only on ITBS and reading and writing on grade 4 MCAS—the results from these two tests provide an opportunity to examine the relationship between performance on MCAS and performance on an external measure. A comparison of the performance of approximately 55,000 students who were assessed statewide revealed a strong relationship—a positive correlation of approximately 0.75—between the performances on the MCAS and ITBS tests. Students who performed at

higher levels on the MCAS test tended to score at the higher percentile ranks on the ITBS test.

In 2005–2006, Massachusetts looked to other large-scale assessments in which its students participated to further demonstrate the strength of the state's MCAS tests. Two in particular, the NAEP and the SAT I tests, demonstrated results that in most instances paralleled trends seen on MCAS over recent years. Additionally, an examination of MCAS and NAEP revealed that there was a strong correlation between performances on the two instruments in both reading and mathematics. This correlation provides evidence that MCAS and NAEP content and performance standards are closely related.

In addition to the above, the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* advocates that evidence in the following three general areas be considered (pp. 11–17):

- test content
- internal structure
- consequences of testing

Although each of the sources may speak to a different aspect of validity, they are not distinct types of validity. Instead, each contributes to a body of evidence about the comprehensive validity of score interpretations.

6.3.1.1 Test Content

Test content validity is the degree to which MCAS items align to the *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework* learning standards for each content area and grade level. Evidence of test content validity is described in detail in section 2 of this document, "MCAS 2007 Test Development and Design."

Assessment Development Committees

The primary gauge of the developmental appropriateness of MCAS test items is the review of all MCAS test items by Massachusetts teachers who serve on MCAS Assessment Development Committees (ADCs). All ADC members have experience teaching students in the subject and grade level for which items are being developed (e.g., grade 5 ELA Reading Comprehension items are reviewed by Massachusetts teachers who are currently teaching or have recently taught grade 5 reading), so that all items are reviewed by individuals who are best equipped to evaluate the developmental appropriateness of test material. The following gives a chronological listing of the steps taken to review the content of every operational MCAS item:

- Item is provided by Measured Progress (MP) to Massachusetts Department of Education (DOE) for review 10 days prior to ADC meeting.
- Item is reviewed by DOE for alignment with *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework* and for content accuracy.
- Item is returned to MP with edits.
- Item is reviewed by ADC panelists for alignment, content accuracy, and bias.
- Post-ADC debriefing: Item is reviewed by MP and DOE developers.

- Item is presented to Bias Committee for review.
- Item and comments from Bias Committee are reviewed by DOE; decision is made to field test.
- Item is field-tested.
- Item is sent to expert reviewer for content and alignment review. Expert reviewers are scholars in their respective fields. Their charge is to review items for content accuracy and to recommend that items be kept as is, edited, or deleted. There is a selection/recruitment process for expert reviewers with final approval by DOE.
- Item is reviewed by ADC panelists for statistics (performance), alignment, content, and expert review comments. Panelists make recommendations.
- DOE makes final decision to designate item as a common item, and item becomes part of that year's test.

Additionally, for the English Language Arts tests, each reading passage is subjected to a minimum of two readability tests, and the grade-level appropriateness of vocabulary within test items is checked against a widely used grade-level guide for vocabulary, the *EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies*.

Items and reading passages may be rejected and removed from further consideration at any point in the above processes.

Bias Committee

Four two- to three-day Bias Committee meetings are held annually to review passages and items in order to ensure that students are not disadvantaged by test materials for reasons that are not educationally relevant. The Bias Committee consists of classroom teachers, school administrators, and other educators from the community.

Each item is reviewed two times, once before field testing and again after field testing. Items and passages are checked for conformity to the standards outlined in *Bias Issues in Test Development*. Committee members decide whether to recommend that materials be kept as is, edited, or deleted. The decisions of the Bias Committee are reviewed by the DOE for a final determination.

6.3.1.2 Internal Structure

Standard 1.11 of the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* states (p.20): "If the rationale for a test use or interpretation depends on premises about the relationships among parts of the test, evidence concerning the internal structure of the test should be provided."

Evidence of the internal structure of MCAS tests is provided through detailed statistical analyses within this document. Technical characteristics of the internal structures of the assessments are presented in terms of the following:

- classical item statistics (item difficulty, section 6.1.1; item-test correlation, section 6.1.2)
- differential item functioning analyses (section 6.1.4)
- a variety of reliability coefficients (section 6.2)
- standard errors of measurement (section 6.2.1)
- item response theory parameters and procedures (section 6.1.5)

In addition, psychometricians closely examine theoretically derived and empirically derived item characteristic curves. This allows for the evaluation of item model fit as well as a structural evaluation across all MCAS test items. Redundant analysis performed by the University of Massachusetts at Amherst also supports data structure found through Item Response Theory analysis. Each test is equated to the same grade and content test from the prior year to preserve the meaning of scores over time. Detailed discussions of equating, scaling, and item analyses are provided in sections 4.3 and 6.1 of this document.

6.3.1.3 Consequences of Testing

Reporting information is provided in section 5 of this document, "Reporting of MCAS 2007 Results." The state has ascertained that reporting structures are consistent with the subdomain structures of its academic content standards, i.e., item interrelationships are consistent with the *Framework* on which the test is based. MCAS reporting categories report results for items that are grouped by *Framework* subtopic or content categories. Educators also have the flexibility to customize reports for local needs using a data analysis tool provided to each school system.

The consequences of MCAS testing are consistent with the purposes of the MCAS program, which have been widely documented and have remained unchanged since the introduction of the program in 1998. The state has specified the purposes of the assessments, delineating the types of uses and decisions most appropriate to each. The purposes of MCAS examinations, which are common among standard tests and alternate assessments, are as follows:

- to evaluate the performance of students, schools, districts, and the state based upon the *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework* content standards and the MCAS performance standards
- to improve classroom instruction and student academic achievement by providing data that assist local educators in improving curriculum design and instruction
- to relate MCAS test scores to AYP requirements, in concert with other evidence, to determine NCLB federal funding
- to certify students for eligibility to earn a high school diploma: the state's high school Competency Determination requirement was first applied to the class of 2003 in English Language Arts and Mathematics; students in the class of 2010 will also be required to earn a Competency Determination in Science in order to be eligible for a Massachusetts high school diploma

6.3.2 Validity Evidence for the MCAS-Alt

According to the 2007 Educator's Manual for MCAS-Alt, the purposes of the MCAS-Alt are as follows:

- to include difficult-to-assess students in assessment and accountability, as required by law
- to determine whether students with significant disabilities are receiving a program of instruction based on the state's academic learning standards
- to measure the extent to which students have learned the academic curriculum
- to use assessment results to provide challenging academic instruction for students with disabilities
- to provide an alternative pathway for some students to earn a Competency Determination in order to be eligible to receive a diploma

To demonstrate validity for the MCAS-Alt, two types of validity are discussed below:

- content validity
- procedural validity

6.3.2.1 Content Validity

Content validity is the degree to which an assessment measures the knowledge and skills it was designed to measure. Content validity is generally determined by the expert judgment of content area specialists who review the assessment instrument, and by the judgment of qualified portfolio scorers who are closely monitored during the scoring process.

MCAS-Alt portfolio content is based on the *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework* learning standards that describe the concepts, skills, and knowledge that students are expected to learn by the end of each grade cluster from PreK through grade 12.

The Resource Guide to the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks for Students with Significant Disabilities provides instructional and assessment strategies for teaching students with disabilities the same learning standards as regular education students. The Resource Guide is intended to promote "access to the general curriculum," as required by law, and to assist educators of students with significant cognitive disabilities.

The *Resource Guide* was developed by panels of educational experts in each content area, including DOE staff, contractor staff, higher education faculty, panelists, and regular and special educators. Each section was written, reviewed, and validated by panels of content area experts to ensure that each modified standard (entry point) was based on the essence of the grade-level learning standard on which it was based.

Specific guidelines help teachers assemble MCAS-Alt portfolios based on academic outcomes in the subject and strand being assessed, while maintaining the flexibility necessary

to meet the needs of diverse learners. The requirements for constructing student portfolios necessitate that challenging skills based on grade-level content standards will be taught in order to produce the needed evidence. It is therefore virtually guaranteed that students will be taught, and will make progress on, academic skills at an appropriate level of complexity. Rigorous scoring procedures include holding scorers to high standards of accuracy and consistency, using monitoring methods that include frequent double-scoring and recalibration to verify and validate portfolio scores. These procedures, along with DOE review of each year's MCAS-Alt results, confirm that the MCAS-Alt is being successfully used for the purposes for which it was intended.

6.3.2.2 Procedural Validity

Procedural validity is shown by thorough documentation of the process used to develop the assessment instrument and of the processes of scoring, standard setting, and describing and reporting performance. Although procedural evidence does not guarantee validity of assessment results, the lack of procedural evidence can negatively affect credibility of results.

Procedural validity is determined based on a review of the following questions:

- Who participated in the development process?
- How were decisions made during development?
- Was the plan implemented as discussed?
- After implementation, was the plan reviewed at intervals, and revised as needed?
- Was the development process documented?

Who participated in the development process?

The MCAS-Alt was developed by a group of diverse stakeholders, including representatives from special education, regular education, and higher education; and administrators from urban and non-urban districts; collaboratives; and approved special education private schools. Also included in the development process were psychometricians, education and assessment policy makers, inclusion specialists, attorneys, special education advocates, and the Northeast Regional Resource Center.

External members of the original MCAS-Alt Development Committee were Dr. Ed Roeber, Dr. Sue Bechard, Dr. Kenneth Warlick, and Dr. Jacqui Kearns, who served in key roles in the development and implementation of large-scale alternate assessments in Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Washington, Washington D.C., and West Virginia.

As the MCAS-Alt is revised and updated to reflect new mandates and greater efficiencies, DOE staff continue to consult recognized experts in the field of alternate assessment for their views and ideas.

How were decisions made during development?

Care was taken to include all stakeholder viewpoints during development and revision of the assessment. While making decisions, developers kept the following guidelines in mind:

- The MCAS-Alt should parallel the standard MCAS test.
- The MCAS-Alt should provide results that can be used to make valid and reliable decisions.
- The MCAS-Alt should be flexible enough for a wide range of students to participate.
- The MCAS-Alt should not unnecessarily burden the state's teachers.

All discussions and recommendations made by the technical and stakeholder advisory committees are documented and maintained in the public minutes of the statewide MCAS-Alt Advisory Committee, Project Leadership Team, and Technical Advisory Committee meetings.

Was the plan implemented as discussed?

The 2007 MCAS-Alt was administered as stipulated in published materials on implementation, scoring, and reporting of this assessment. Intensive training was provided for teachers during the year, including

- thirty-five DOE-sponsored training sessions each year
- online publications and training modules
- monthly newsletters
- three Teacher's Network meetings annually (see below for more information about the Teacher's Network)
- a three-week scoring institute emphasizing the professional development of participants

Materials were delivered to schools within the specified time frame. Portfolios were scored as indicated using the scoring rubric from the 2007 Educators Manual, disseminated in the fall of 2006, and the 2007 Guidelines for Scoring Student Portfolios (Appendix D). Scores were analyzed using the 2007 decision rules. Reports were generated in accordance with those rules and shipped to schools. Score appeals were received and reviewed using the procedures outlined in the policy that was posted and sent to schools with the materials in spring and fall.

After implementation, was the plan reviewed at intervals, and revised as needed?

Both the MCAS-Alt Advisory Committee and the MCAS-Alt Teacher's Network meet quarterly to review the status of the MCAS-Alt and to recommend changes, as needed, to the DOE. The Advisory Committee has discussed every change made to the MCAS-Alt since its inception. The Teacher's Network includes about 100 educators directly responsible for administering the MCAS-Alt. This group evaluates the effectiveness of the current policies, and advises on future directions.

Was the development process documented?

Minutes of every meeting of the MCAS-Alt Advisory Committee have been recorded and kept on file at the DOE, along with all research reports and other documentation. Additional documentation can be found on the DOE MCAS-Alt web page, including the following:

- definition and purpose of the assessment
- definition of assessment standards
- description of the assessment method and rationale for its choice
- selection and training of scorers
- description of scoring procedures and rubrics used
- feedback from scorers, including their level of satisfaction with the training and scoring processes
- description of procedures used to determine student-level results, as well as aggregated results
- description of procedures used to set performance levels
- monthly reports from the testing contractor provided to the DOE
- state performance and participation results from 2001-2006
- MCAS and MCAS-Alt Technical Reports

6.3.3 MCAS 2007 High School Science and Technology/Engineering Tests: Psychometric Evaluation

In 2007, the Department commissioned a series of studies to investigate the psychometric properties of the MCAS High School Science and Technology/Engineering assessments in Biology, Chemistry, Introductory Physics, and Technology/Engineering. The results of the studies may be found at www.mcasservicecenter.com/files/MCAS/2006MCASHS_PA.pdf.

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