



New Mexico Measures of Student Success and Achievement (NM-MSSA) – Mathematics Operational Test Blueprint (Spring 2025 and Beyond)



Guidance for NM-MSSA Mathematics

- All eligible students in **grades 3-8** will take the NM-MSSA Mathematics.
- The Math assessments are **not timed**. For planning purposes, a **recommended time** is provided. Students with a legal plan (e.g., IEP, 504) may have time extended beyond the recommended time.
- All test items are aligned to and assess the [New Mexico Common Core State Standards](#).
- New, custom-developed **field test items** will be embedded within the operational test form at each grade level.
- The [Teaching, Learning, and Assessment \(TLA\) New Mexico Instructional Scope](#) should be used as a resource to plan instruction and plan classroom formative assessment.
- For additional details and samples of item types, view the [Math Test Specifications](#) document.

Item Type Information

- **MS-1:** worth 1 point; machine-scored multiple choice, multi-select, or technology enhanced interactions.
- **CR-3:** worth 3 points; single or multi-part prompt; human-scored; two trait rubric—concepts and procedures (0-2 points) and mathematical practices (0-1 points)
- **Browser-based (online) practice tests** for NM-MSSA can be accessed at: <https://nmpracticetest.cognia.org/student/login>.
- Additional **downloadable (paper-based) practice tests and teacher resources** are available at the [Help and Support Site](#).

Calculator Usage and Recommended Times

Grades	Session	Calculator Use	Estimated Time (Minutes)	Total Estimated Time (Minutes)
3, 4, 5, 6	1	No Calculator	60	120
	2	Basic Calculator	60	
7, 8	1	No Calculator	60	120
	2	Scientific Calculator	60	

Item Types

Grades	Discrete Items		Total Number of Operational Items	Total Operational Points
	MS-1	CR-3		
3, 4, 5	45	2	47	51
6, 7	48	2	50	54
8	49	2	51	55

Depth of Knowledge (DOK) Distribution

Percentages for the distribution of operational (core) test points across the cognitive complexity levels (DOK classification) are noted in the table below.

Grades	DOK1	DOK2	DOK3
3, 4, 5, 6	5-25%	50-80%	5-30%
7, 8	0-30%	50-80%	5-30%



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Mathematics Grades 3, 4, 5		Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5	
		Ideal # of Core Pts	Ideal % of Core Pts	Ideal # of Core Pts	Ideal % of Core Pts	Ideal # of Core Pts	Ideal % of Core Pts
Concepts & Procedures	Operations & Algebraic Thinking	16-19	32-39%	9-12	18-25%	4-7	8-15%
	Number & Operations in Base Ten	4-7	8-15%	9-12	19-25%	11-14	22-29%
	Number & Operations—Fractions	6-9	12-19%	15-18	30-37%	11-14	22-29%
	Measurement & Data	12-15	24-31%	5-8	10-17%	11-14	22-29%
	Geometry	2-5	4-11%	2-5	4-11%	3-6	6-13%
Subtotal		49	100%	49	100%	49	100%
Mathematical Practices	Problem Solving*	≥ 8	≥ 15%	≥ 8	≥ 15%	≥ 8	≥ 15%
	Reasoning* & Argument Modeling*	≥ 8	≥ 15%	≥ 8	≥ 15%	≥ 8	≥ 15%
	Structure & Repeated Reasoning*	≥ 8	≥ 15%	≥ 8	≥ 15%	≥ 8	≥ 15%
	Total	51**		51**		51**	

Mathematics Grades 6, 7		Grade 6		Grade 7	
		Ideal # of Core Pts	Ideal % of Core Pts	Ideal # of Core Pts	Ideal % of Core Pts
Concepts & Procedures	Ratios & Proportional Relationships	8-11	15-22%	8-11	15-22%
	The Number System	11-14	22-27%	7-10	13-20%
	Expressions & Equations	14-17	26-33%	15-18	28-35%
	Geometry	5-8	9-16%	5-8	9-16%
	Statistics & Probability	5-8	9-16%	8-11	15-22%
Subtotal		52	100%	52	100%
Mathematical Practices	Problem Solving*	≥ 8	≥ 15%	≥ 8	≥ 15%
	Reasoning* & Argument Modeling*	≥ 8	≥ 15%	≥ 8	≥ 15%
	Structure & Repeated Reasoning*	≥ 8	≥ 15%	≥ 8	≥ 15%
	Total	54**		54**	

Mathematics Grade 8		Grade 8	
		Ideal # of Core Pts	Ideal % of Core Pts
Concepts & Procedures	Functions	9-12	16-23%
	The Number System	3-6	5-12%
	Expressions & Equations	15-18	28-34%
	Geometry	10-13	18-25%
	Statistics & Probability	7-10	13-19%
Subtotal		53	100%
Mathematical Practices	Problem Solving*	≥ 8	≥ 15%
	Reasoning* & Argument Modeling*	≥ 8	≥ 15%
	Structure & Repeated Reasoning*	≥ 8	≥ 15%
	Total	55**	

*All or most items dually coded to Concepts and Procedures and Mathematical Practices standards

**Constructed response items are scored for both Concepts & Procedures and Mathematical Practices.