

Kentucky Item Release Information

The Kentucky release items are delivered as a package which consists of information posted on the Kentucky Portal and information provided directly to the schools and districts. For each grade and content, a sample set of items are released along with the statistics for each item. On all the associated documentation for each item there will be a Unique Identification Number or UIN. This number can be used across the different types of information to link the information together.

The information posted to the Kentucky Portal includes the following:

- A test book PDF for each grade and content that shows each released item. This will contain the UIN for each item. The UIN is located in the upper left hand corner of the item. At the end of the UIN number for Multiple Choice (MC) and Multiple Select (MS) items there will be an underscore followed by one or two numbers. Those numbers are the answer key for the item. The MC items will have be listed like “_#” and the MS items will have two numbers listed like “_#,#”. The number correspond to the letters so 1=A, 2=B, 3=C, 4=D, and 5=E.
- Tables of combined item statistics with a page for the overall statistics and a page with the item breakout statistics for each released item. Information will include the item UIN, associated standard, passage type (if applicable), and the item answer key.
- For the Short Answer (SA) and Extended Response (ER) items, each item will also include the following:
 - Anchor Sets – The first part for each item includes the prompt, all sources given to the students, the scoring rubric, an exemplar sample (when available), and answer cues (when available). The second part for each item is the actual student responses and the scores associated with each response. Each response is sequentially numbered like a101, a102, a103, etc.
 - Practice Sets – This shows the actual student responses that the scorers used to practice scoring. Each response is sequentially numbered like p101, p102, p103, etc. for Practice Set #1 and p201, p202, p203, etc. for Practice Set #2.
 - Qualification Sets – This shows the actual student responses that the scorers had to score in order to qualify to score each item. Each response is sequentially numbered like q101, q102, q103, etc. for Qualification Set #1 and q201, q202, q203, etc. for Qualification Set #2.
 - Annotation Sets – This document contains annotations regarding the associated Anchor sets, and Practice sets. In each of the Anchor and Practice sets the responses are numbered and those numbers are referenced accordingly in the Annotation set to help tie together the information from the different sets. The annotations explain the score given to each response on the associated Anchor and Practice Sets.

Note: In some cases, there will be multiple SA or ER items released and in those cases there will be a Anchor, Practice, Qualification, and Annotation set for each item.

The information provided to the districts and schools will include a data file with district and school level information and a student level data file with information on each release item. The district and school data file will include the district/school code, grade, subject, item ID (UIN), item standard, reporting category, item type, number of students, max points, percent correct when applicable, percent per score point when applicable, percent per answer choice for multiple choice items. The student level file will include the district/school code, district and school name, student SSID, grade, student demographics, and item information.

Statistics are provided for each item showing performance for all students tested, including by student demographic group. For all items, the overall performance (i.e., average item score) is shown for all students and by groups of students. The performance of students within each item is also shown and varies by the type of test item. For example, in selected response items, the percentage of students choosing specific answer options is shown across all students and groups of students. For open-ended items, the percentage of students obtaining each possible score point is shown across all students and groups of students. More details of this are provided below.

Multiple Choice Items

Multiple choice items include four answer options with directions to select one option as a response. The performance statistics provided for these items include overall percent correct (i.e., the percent of students answering these items correctly), including by student demographic group, and the percent of students that selected each answer option, also including by groups of students. The answer key and content standard assessed are also provided for reference.

Multi-select Items

Multi-select items include five answer options with directions to select two options as a response. These items are worth two points—one point for each correct option selected. The performance statistics provided for these items include overall average item score (i.e., the average number of points achieved), including by student demographic group, and the percent of students obtaining each possible score (i.e., 0, 1, or 2 points), also including groups of students. Students obtaining a score of 0 on these items did not select either of the correct answer choices. Students obtaining a score of 1 on these items did select one of the correct answer choices and not the other. Students obtaining a score of 2 on these items selected both correct answers. The answer key and content standard assessed are also provided for reference.

Technology-enhanced Items

Technology-enhanced (TE) items are machine-scorable, computer-based items that require interactions that go beyond traditional items. TE items may ask students to drag responses into correct categories, select multiple correct answers, or model a response using the technology. These items are worth 1 or 2 points depending on the number of interactions to which students are required to respond. The performance statistics provided for these items include overall average item score (i.e., the average number of points achieved), including by student demographic group, and the percent of students obtaining each possible score (i.e., 0, 1, or 2 points), also including groups of students. The content standard assessed is also provided for reference.

Open Ended Items

Open ended items involve students constructing extended responses to given scenarios. These items are worth four points and are scored according to criteria presented in a scoring rubric. The performance statistics provided for these items include overall average item score (i.e., the average number of points achieved), including by student demographic group, and the percent of students obtaining each possible score (i.e., 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 points), also including groups of students. The content standard assessed is also provided for reference.