

Spring 2026 Kentucky Item Release Information

The Kentucky release items are delivered as a package which consists of information posted on the [Kentucky Portal](#) and on PearsonAccess^{next} (PAN). 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. Each book will have all the items that are being released for that specific grade and content. The order of each book will be the same and will be as follows:
 - Released item, followed by the Released Item Performance statistics, followed by the Anchor sets with annotations (if applicable), followed by the next item, and so on through the book.
- There will be some slight differences in the books depending on the item types and those are listed here:
 - If the item is a standalone item, then the item will be on the first page of the book. If the item is associated with a passage, then the passage will be on the first page and the item will be on the following page.
 - After the item, the next page will be the Released Item Performance statistics. This will include the item UIN, associated standard, passage type (if applicable), and the item answer key.
 - The next page in the book will vary depending on the type of item.
 - If the item is Multiple Choice (MC), Multiple Select (MS), or Technology-enhanced (TE) item then the next page will be the next item.
 - If the item is a Short Answer (SA) or Extended Response (ER) item, then the next pages will contain the Anchor sets with annotations. Anchor Sets include 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. The annotations explain the score given to each response on the associated Anchor Set.
- 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 be listed like “_#” and the MS items will have two numbers listed like “_#, #.” The numbers correspond to the letters so 1=A, 2=B, 3=C, 4=D, and 5=E.

The information posted on PAN includes the following:

- The information posted 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.

Information regarding the different item types is listed 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.