

2019-20 TCAP Social Studies

Grades 6-8 Assessment Fact Sheet

Revised Aug. 1

Social Studies Assessment Overview

This fact sheet provides information about the social studies assessments in grades 6-8. The social studies assessments in grades 6-8 will assess the 2019 [Tennessee Academic Standards for Social Studies](#), which require students to demonstrate historical awareness, geographical understanding, and the ability to analyze primary source documents.

For more information on TCAP assessments in grades 6-8, click [here](#).

Test Administration Schedule

For a full schedule of all statewide assessments, see the Statewide Assessment Schedule on the department's [website](#).

Test Administration times

The time for administration of the social studies assessment in grades 6-8 is outlined in Table 1.

Table 1. Subpart Timing

The following timing details for applicable to all social studies Grades 6-8 assessment and reflects both the number of operational assessment items and the number of field test assessment items.

Subpart 1	Subpart 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 minutes • 25-28 multiple choice or multiple select items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 minutes • 25-28 multiple choice or multiple select items

Performance Levels and Scale Scores

Student performance on Tennessee’s statewide assessments is categorized into four performance levels.

Table 2 provides information regarding student achievement at each performance level for the TCAP social studies tests. This information is provided on student reports so that students, parents, and educators may interpret student results in a meaningful way.

Table 2. Performance Levels

Level 1 (Below)	Level 2 (Approaching)	Level 3 (On-track)	Level 4 (Mastered)
Performance at this level demonstrates that the student has a minimal understanding and has a nominal ability to apply the grade/course-level knowledge and skills defined by the Tennessee Academic Standards.	Performance at this level demonstrates that the student is approaching understanding and has a partial ability to apply the grade/course-level knowledge and skills defined by the Tennessee Academic Standards.	Performance at this level demonstrates that the student has a comprehensive understanding and has a thorough ability to apply the grade/course-level knowledge and skills defined by the Tennessee Academic Standards.	Performance at this level demonstrates that the student has an extensive understanding and has an expert ability to apply the grade/course-level knowledge and skills defined by the Tennessee Academic Standards.

Performance level scale score ranges for the TCAP Social Studies assessments for grades 6-8 are provided in Table 3 below.

Table 3. Performance Levels for the TCAP Social Studies 6-8 Assessment Scale Scores

Assessment	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Grade 6	200-298	299-328	329-357	358-450
Grade 7	200-304	305-315	316-343	344-450
Grade 8	200-312	313-331	332-355	356-450

Assessment Blueprints

Assessment blueprints are designed to show educators a summary of what will be assessed on each assessment. This resource is designed to help educators as they plan for the upcoming school year. Assessment blueprints for 2019-20 can be found on the department website [here](#).

Test Administration Information

Within the state testing window, testing schedules are established **by the district at the school and/or district level**. It is at the district's discretion to allow schools to set their own testing schedules, independent of a district testing schedule. Please see details on subparts for each subject and grade level on the updated testing times chart [here](#). Districts can choose to combine subparts and administer them on the same day.

Item Types

The social studies assessments for grades 6-8 may consist of the following item types:

- Multiple choice
- Multiple select

Practice Tests

The practice test is a content-specific tool that allows students and test administrators the opportunity to gain exposure to a variety of test item types. The department has provided the following practice tools to support educators and students:

- **Paper practice tests:** PDF versions of practice tests are available and posted on Livebinder ([here](#)).

Additional Information

Please visit the [department's website](#) for more information about the statewide assessment program.