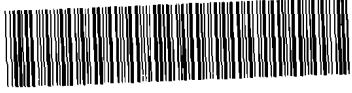


MASS. ED 21. 2 : Q25/2

UMASS/AMHERST



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**Massachusetts Teacher Tests™**

**QUALIFYING SCORE ALTERNATIVES AND EXAMINEE PASSING RATES**

Massachusetts Department of Education

June 16, 1998

**QUALIFYING SCORE ALTERNATIVES AND EXAMINEE PASSING RATES:  
COMMUNICATION AND LITERACY SKILLS TEST**

## Massachusetts Teacher Tests

### Qualifying Score Alternatives and Examinee Passing Rates

#### Communication and Literacy Skills Test

The notes below are an integral part of the following table.

- Data presented in the table are from the April 4, 1998 administration.
- S.E.M. = Standard Error of Measurement; Examinee Passing Rate = the percent of examinees at or above a score
- Estimated SEM =  $0.432 \times \sqrt{n}$ , where  $n$  = scorable multiple-choice/short answer items on the test
- “Percent Passing at Each Score” for the Reading Subtest indicates the percent of examinees at or above the number of multiple-choice and short-answer items correct.
- “Percent Passing at Each Score” for the Writing Subtest indicates the percent of examinees at or above the combined score for the subtest at the score points for the Grammar and Usage section and the score points for the combined score of the Mechanics, Summary, and Composition sections, and when each of the four sections of the test is weighted as 25%.
- “Percent Passing at Each Score” for the total Communication and Literacy Skills Test indicates the percent of examinees who are at or above the specified score for both subtests.
- Examinee passing rates reflect a compensatory scoring model in which higher scores on one section of the test may compensate for lower scores on another section of the test.
- Caution should be used in interpreting data based on small numbers of examinees.
- The examinees whose data are presented in this document may or may not reflect the same proportions of all types and capabilities of examinees in the population who will take the test in the future.

Massachusetts Teacher Tests  
 Qualifying Score Alternatives and Examinee Passing Rates

Field: 01 Communication & Literacy Skills -- Reading

Test Section	Section Length	Panel-based Qualifying Score(==>)	S.E.M.
Multiple Choice/ Short Answer	30 multiple choice items 6 short answer items	28 of 36 points	2.59

Score		Percent Passing at Each Score	
Number of Items Correct	Percent of Items Correct		
28	78		70%
25 (-1 SEM)	69		87%
23 (-2 SEM)	64		92%
Number of Examinees		1795	

Field: 01 Communication & Literacy Skills -- Writing

Test Section	Section Length	Panel-based Qualifying Score (-->)	S.E.M.	Section Weight
Grammar and Usage	14 multiple choice items 6 short answer items	17 of 23 points	2.07	25%
Mechanics, Summary and Composition	Written Mechanics Exercise Written Summary Exercise Written Composition Exercise	(25%) (25%) (25%)	17 of 24 points	75%

Score		Percent Passing at Each Score	
Grammar & Usage	Mechanics, Summary & Composition		
17	17		59%
15 (-1 SEM)	16		72%
13 (-2 SEM)	15		82%
Number of Examinees		1795	

Field: 01 Communication & Literacy Skills -- Total Test

Score	Percent Passing at Each Score	
At Panel-based Qualifying Score	51%	
At Panel-based Qualifying Score -1 SEM	68%	
At Panel-based Qualifying Score -2 SEM	79%	
Number of Examinees		1795

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this document.

**QUALIFYING SCORE ALTERNATIVES AND EXAMINEE PASSING RATES:  
SUMMARY TABLE FOR SUBJECT TESTS**

Massachusetts Teacher Tests

Qualifying Score Alternatives and Examinee Passing Rates

Subject Tests

The notes below are an integral part of the following table.

- Data presented in the table are from the April 4, 1998 administration.
- SEM = Standard Error of Measurement; (I) = number of scorable multiple-choice/short-answer items on the test; Examinee Passing Rate = the percent of examinees at or above a score
- Estimated SEM =  $0.432 \times \sqrt{n}$ , where  $n$  = scorable multiple-choice/short-answer items on the test
- Score = the number and percent of items correct
- Except where noted below, for the subject tests, “Number of Examinees and Their Percent At or Above Score” indicates the number of examinees and the percent of those examinees at or above the combined score for the test when the “Panel-based Qualifying Score” is the panel-based qualifying score calculated from the number of multiple-choice/short-answer items and on the two open-response items, and when the multiple-choice/short-answer and open-response sections are weighted as 75% and 25%, respectively.
- For Spanish, French, German, and Italian, “Number of Examinees and Their Percent At or Above Score” indicates the number of examinees and the percent of those examinees at or above the combined score for the test when the “Panel-based Qualifying Score” is the panel-based qualifying score calculated from the number of multiple-choice/short-answer items and on the two open-response items, and when the multiple-choice and open-response sections are weighted as 67% and 33%, respectively.
- For Russian, Chinese, and Portuguese, “Number of Examinees and Their Percent At or Above Score” indicates the number of examinees and percent of those examinees at or above the combined score for the test when the “Panel-based Qualifying Score” is the panel-based qualifying score calculated from the number of multiple-choice/short-answer items and on the four open-response items, and when the multiple-choice/short answer and open-response sections are weighted as 33% and 67%, respectively.
- Examinee passing rates reflect a compensatory scoring model in which higher scores on one section of the test may compensate for lower scores on another section of the test.
- Caution should be used in interpreting data based on small numbers of examinees.
- The examinees whose data are presented in this document may or may not reflect the same proportions of all types and capabilities of examinees in the population who will take the test in the future.
- No examinees took the German, Italian, Russian, or Portuguese tests on April 4, 1998.

## Massachusetts Teacher Tests

### Qualifying Score Alternatives and Examinee Passing Rates Subject Tests

Test	(I)	Number of Examinees and Their Percent At or Above Score								
		At Panel-based Qualifying Score			At Panel-based Qualifying Score - 1 S.E.M.			At Panel-based Qualifying Score - 2 S.E.M.		
		Score	N	% Pass	Score	N	% Pass	Score	N	% Pass
02 Early Childhood	(64)	47 (73%)	270	64	43 (67%)	270	79	40 (63%)	270	87
03 Elementary	(64)	45 (70%)	771	60	42 (66%)	771	70	38 (59%)	771	80
04 Middle School	(64)	49 (77%)	20	75	45 (70%)	20	80	42 (66%)	20	80
05 Social Studies	(64)	43 (67%)	58	57	40 (63%)	58	60	36 (56%)	58	64
06 History	(64)	46 (72%)	81	51	42 (66%)	81	64	39 (61%)	81	73
07 English	(64)	43 (67%)	116	58	40 (63%)	116	67	36 (56%)	116	73
08 Reading	(64)	44 (69%)	14	50	41 (64%)	14	64	37 (58%)	14	79
09 Mathematics	(64)	50 (78%)	65	37	46 (72%)	65	46	43 (67%)	65	49
10 General Science	(64)	47 (73%)	13	77	43 (67%)	13	77	40 (63%)	13	85
11 Physics	(64)	53 (83%)	4	100	49 (77%)	4	100	46 (72%)	4	100
12 Chemistry	(64)	51 (80%)	16	69	47 (73%)	16	81	44 (69%)	16	81
13 Biology	(64)	45 (70%)	38	58	42 (66%)	38	68	39 (61%)	38	68
14 Earth Science	(64)	50 (78%)	5	60	46 (72%)	5	60	43 (67%)	5	80
15 Latin	(44)	32 (73%)	5	40	30 (68%)	5	60	27 (61%)	5	80
16 Music	(64)	51 (80%)	41	59	48 (75%)	41	68	44 (69%)	41	73
17 Visual Art	(64)	40 (63%)	36	61	36 (56%)	36	64	33 (52%)	36	69
19 Business	(64)	46 (72%)	13	69	42 (66%)	13	77	39 (61%)	13	77
20 Home Econ	(64)	48 (75%)	1	100	45 (70%)	1	100	41 (64%)	1	100
21 Health Ed	(64)	52 (81%)	20	70	48 (75%)	20	85	45 (70%)	20	90
22 Physical Ed	(64)	44 (69%)	61	82	41 (64%)	61	87	37 (58%)	61	95
24 ESL	(64)	48 (75%)	14	57	44 (69%)	14	71	41 (64%)	14	79
25 Special Needs	(64)	44 (69%)	131	77	41 (64%)	131	86	37 (58%)	131	91
26 French	(44)	34 (77%)	7	57	32 (73%)	7	86	29 (66%)	7	86
27 German	(44)	32 (73%)	0	-	29 (66%)	0	-	26 (59%)	0	-
28 Spanish	(44)	32 (73%)	25	48	29 (66%)	25	64	26 (59%)	25	72
29 Chinese	(50)	36 (72%)	1	100	33 (66%)	1	100	30 (60%)	1	100
30 Italian	(44)	31 (70%)	0	-	28 (64%)	0	-	25 (57%)	0	-
31 Russian	(50)	36 (72%)	0	-	33 (66%)	0	-	30 (60%)	0	-
32 Portuguese	(50)	39 (78%)	0	-	36 (72%)	0	-	32 (64%)	0	-
33 Technology Ed	(64)	46 (72%)	2	0	43 (67%)	2	50	39 (61%)	2	100

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this document.