



Progress Report
Performance on English Language Arts
State Assessment

Submitted by the Kansas Board of Regents
Office of Literacy

Kansas Blueprint for Literacy

December 1, 2025

The purpose of this report is to fulfill the requirements to report on the Kansas Blueprint for Literacy per K.S.A. 74-32,290 through 74-32,296.

PROGRESS REPORT STATE ASSESSMENT SCORES

K.S.A. 74-32,291 (7) (A) (i) requires the literacy advisory committee to submit a progress report to the Legislature on: (i) English language arts state assessment scores for each grade level and all defined subgroups, including, but not limited to, English language learners, students receiving free meals pursuant to the national school lunch act, students in custody of the Secretary for Children and Families and race and ethnicity subgroups.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) provided three-year trend data to comply with the requirements of K.S.A 74-32,291 (7) (A) (i). The appendix contains graphic illustrations of the data for the academic years 2023 through 2025.

It is important to note that the 2025 English Language Arts assessment was updated in 2025 with revised scoring. KSDE provides the following explanation:

The [KSDE](#) 2025 ELA assessment changes and cut scores were implemented to align with new assessments that better reflect what students know and can do, addressing a misalignment where many "proficient" students were previously labeled as "not proficient". Key changes include revising cut scores to be more consistent with other measures like the [ACT](#) and college success, updating performance level descriptors to "limited," "basic," "proficient," and "advanced," and expanding the scoring range to 400-700 to provide a more nuanced view of student performance.

Terms to know (KSDE, September 2025)

Cut Scores: Cut scores are specific points on a test's scoring scale that separate distinct levels of student performance. They determine the minimum score a student must achieve to be placed into a particular performance category – Limited, Basic, Proficient, Advanced.

2025 State Assessment Performance Level Descriptors

- A student at Level 1 shows a limited ability to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of (third, fourth, fifth, etc.) grade (ELA, Math, Science) standards.
- A student at Level 2 shows a basic ability to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of (third, fourth, fifth, etc.) grade (ELA, Math, Science) standards.
- A student at Level 3 shows a proficient ability to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of (third, fourth, fifth, etc.) grade (ELA, Math, Science) standards.
- A student at Level 4 shows an advanced ability to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of (third, fourth, fifth, etc.) grade (ELA, Math, Science) standards.

SUMMARY

The change in performance cut scores is intended to provide clarity for educators, families, and students as to individual student performance. Determination of growth in student proficiency levels between the assessment performance across academic years requires a correlation study of the previous and new assessment.

Rather than attempt to determine year over year growth without access to the necessary correlation study, the following information summarizes performance levels solely based on the 2025 assessment. Additionally, the summary analysis includes 1) All students, 2) students in major demographic groups, and 3) performance by grade levels. A report on all demographic groups is provided in the attached appendix.

DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP	LV1 (Limited)	LV2 (Basic)	LV3 (Proficient)	LV4 (Advanced)	LV1 and LV2	LV 3 and LV4
ALL STUDENTS	28.36	27.15	34.79	9.68	55.51	44.47
FREE & REDUCED	40.62	29.01	26.07	4.27	69.63	30.34
AA	46.48	27.54	22.31	3.65	74.02	25.96
HISPANIC	41.94	29.22	24.82	4.00	71.16	28.82
WHITE	21.68	26.44	39.74	12.12	48.12	51.86
FOSTER CARE	50.87	26.73	19.53	2.85	77.60	22.38
ELL	69.46	21.68	8.41	0.42	91.14	8.83
SPECIAL EDUCATION	61.77	20.91	13.97	3.33	82.68	17.30

Of all students in third through tenth grades, 55.51 percent are performing below proficiency, while 44.47 percent of students are performing at proficiency and advanced levels. Examining performance data by demographic groups reveals significant improvements are needed for all groups, across all grade levels.

Performance by grade level:

GRADE	LV1 (Limited)	LV2 (Basic)	LV3 (Proficient)	LV4 (Advanced)	LV1 and LV2	LV3 and LV4
3	27.20	20.93	39.18	12.67	48.13	51.46
4	27.52	23.26	37.18	11.28	50.78	48.46
5	27.40	23.40	39.13	10.05	50.80	48.15
6	28.32	30.12	32.53	9.02	58.44	41.44
7	28.63	29.42	34.62	7.31	58.05	41.93
8	29.61	29.88	31.95	8.34	59.49	40.29
10	29.54	32.51	28.72	9.21	62.05	37.93

Refer to the appendix for detailed performance levels on the 2025 English Language Arts state assessment results disaggregated by subgroups.