

2017-18 Information Brief #3:

What are the most commonly used mathematics assessments for fifth graders?

- In the 2017-18 school year, the majority of states reported that they either used the Smarter Balanced or PARCC assessment, or an assessment that was similar to these two assessments. (Note that 33 states responded to this question.)

Table 1. Overview of State 5th-Grade Mathematics Assessments

Assessment	Number (33 total)	States
Smarter Balanced	10	California, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont
Similar to Smarter Balanced	7	Kentucky, Maine, Mississippi, Oregon, Texas, Washington, Wyoming
PARCC	5	District of Columbia, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, New Mexico
Similar to PARCC	2	Arizona, Rhode Island
Other	9	Minnesota, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin

- The type of assessment used often related to the range of topics on which 5th graders were assessed. The Smarter Balanced assessment includes a broad range of topics, whereas PARCC focuses on six specific topics, five of which make up the bulk of the assessment (See the figure below).

→ The figure below illustrates the differences between the Smarter Balanced and PARCC assessments, both in the range of topics covered by these assessments and the average points each topic represents of the total content in the assessment. (Note that the points reported below are averages across the states for these assessments and may not equal 100 percent.)

