

1.0 General Information for Parents and Educators

1.1 Purpose of This Guide

This guide provides information on the individual student performance reports, school reports, and district reports specific to the spring 2025 Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) and Colorado Alternate (CoAlt) social studies assessment results. Section 2.0 outlines and explains elements of the individual student report to help parents and educators understand their students' test results. Sections 3.0 through 5.0 outline and explain elements of the school and district reports.

Please note that the sample reports included in this guide are for illustration purposes only. They are provided to show the basic layout of the reports and the information they provide. Sample reports do not include actual data from any administration.

1.2 Background

The CMAS social studies assessment is Colorado's standards-based assessment designed to measure the Colorado Academic Standards (CAS) in the content area of social studies. A small number of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who meet specific criteria may demonstrate their social studies content knowledge on the CoAlt assessment which measures the Extended Evidence Outcomes (EEOs) of the CAS. The purpose of the CMAS and CoAlt social studies assessments is to indicate the degree to which students have mastered the expectations of the CAS in social studies at the end of the tested grade level. Results are intended to provide one measure of a student's academic progress relative to the CAS. Results should be taken into consideration alongside other achievement information available locally.

CMAS and CoAlt social studies assessments were first administered across Colorado in 2013-2014. The social studies CAS were revised in 2022 and students saw items aligned to the revised standards for the first time in spring 2025. Per Colorado Revised Statute §22-7-1006.3 (1)(a)(III), social studies assessments are administered to a representative sample of Colorado students each year (at about one-third of schools across the state). These assessments are administered in grades 4 and 7 and are available online and on paper for CMAS; CoAlt is administered on paper. CMAS and CoAlt assessments are developed by Colorado educators, the Colorado Department of Education, and the testing contractor.

For information related to CMAS mathematics, English language arts (ELA) including Colorado Spanish language arts (CSLA), science, and CoAlt science assessments, refer to the full [CMAS and CoAlt Interpretive Guide to Assessment Reports](#).

1.3 Interpretation Consideration

Participation in the state assessments varies across schools, grade levels, and student groups. Review and thoughtfully take into consideration participation information when interpreting state assessment results, particularly at the district and school levels. As participation rates decrease and vary across student, school and district groups, challenges with interpreting results increase. Depending on the specific school or district, some student groups may be overrepresented in the results and others may be underrepresented. Participation information may indicate that conclusions should be drawn with caution or completely avoided in some cases.