## Table II

## Program Characteristics

Tabulation of the grade levels at which subjects are tested in the various states reveals little uniformity of practice. The subjects of reading, math and language arts are most generally tested. Grade levels most often tested are 3 or 4,8 and 11. Arizona tests students every year from first grade through twelfth, Kentucky K-12. Thirty-four states reported having an assessment program test in reading. Of these states, all but Wyoming which requires a writing test, also have a math test. Twenty-four states include language arts in their testing programs. Writing is tested in 16 states.

Somewhat less than half as many districts administer science, social studies and writing tests as administer reading, math and language usage or language arts tests. A few states include subjects such as citizenship, critical thinking, personal or life-skills, business and career education, art and music, reference skills, computer literacy, environment, energy and health as part of the state assessment program.

A few states have multiple subject-area tests across several grade levels. Alabama, for example, tests reading in grades $1,2,4,5,7,8$ and 10 ; math at levels 2, 4, 5,8 and 10 ; language arts at $1,2,4,5,7,8$ and 10 ; science at $2,5,8$ and 10 and social studies in grades 2, 5, 8 and 10 .

Sources of testing instruments used in the state assessment program were the state education agency in 13 cases, the state education agency through a contractor in 8 cases, and a publisher\% standardized test in 19 cases. The majority of states administer tests to all students in grade levels to be tested in a particular year rather than using sampling procedures. In most cases, testing of particular grade levels year after year is followed. However, in a few cases the tests are administered to different students in different subjects from year to year so that the impact of the program is spread over several years.


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| State | ```State Assessment Table 11 Program Characteristics``` |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Notes |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Instr | comments | Bed |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Subjects tested | Grade levels | SEA | Custom <br> developed <br> SEA thru <br> Contracto | $\begin{gathered} \text { Publ. } \\ \text { stan- } \\ \text { dardized } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Writind } \\ & \text { Sample } \end{aligned}$ | Other | Approx. <br> no. tested <br> ('84-85), al <br> subjects |  |  |  |
| Georqla | Reading, Math | 1, 3, 6, 8, 10 | $\mathbf{Y}^{\prime}$ | N | N | 985-86 piloting holist1d with some rrimary trait or grades $6,8,10$ | N | 320,000 * | N | $\mathbf{Y}$ | Use Georgia teachers to rite all test. goes through contranct with Gorgia St. Univ. (acts as fiscal agent to do item writing) SEA copyRight tests |
| Hawaii | Readinq, Math Wring Science Critical Tkq. Athletics/P. Health Social Studie | $\begin{aligned} & 2,3,6,8,10 \\ & 3,6 \\ & 3 \\ & 3 \\ & \\ & 3 \end{aligned}$ | Y | Y | SAT <br> (at all <br> grade <br> levels) | SAT (holistic analytical |  | 88,000 | N | Y | Moved test from 4th to 3rd grade. |
| Idaho | Reading, Math <br> Lanuage Arts <br> Writing, <br> Science, Socia <br> Studies | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Grade } 11 \\ & \text { Grade } 11 \\ & \end{aligned}$ | N | N | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Test of } \\ & \text { Achievement } \\ & \text { and } \\ & \text { Proficiency } \end{aligned}$ | N | N | 11,917 N | N | $Y$ | For those takinq all subtests. |
| Illinois | Reading <br> Math <br> Lanquaqe Arts <br> Writing <br> science <br> Social Studie | $\begin{aligned} & 4,8,11 \\ & 4,8,11 \\ & 4,8,11 \\ & 4,8,11 \\ & 4,8,11 \\ & 4,8,11 \end{aligned}$ | $\mathbf{Y}$ | N | N | N | N |  | N | Y |  |
|  | ote: This varies year and subjeod subject areat subjects each | es year-to area-tothey cycle year. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indiana | Readlnq, Math Writing | $\begin{aligned} & 3 \\ & 3,6 \end{aligned}$ | 'i | Y | For <br> pilot | Holisti and P.T | N | 63,100 N | $N$ | Y | Another qrade to be determlned. |






Scl : State test Ls Ln Ats first year. This year Lt 1 s not
mandatory. (198586 Lt wL1l ~.) ll?st is thus be=
qlven to a non-random non-stratified sample of the 21,000
eligible fupils.

| State | ```Stat* Ae8*8sment Tablo II Program Characteristics``` |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Notoa |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Ins | wments | Ised |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Sub]ects tested | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Grade } \\ & \text { levels } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | S w | Custom weloped 5EA th~ :ontracto | $\begin{array}{r} F^{\prime} \text { ubl. } \\ \text { stan- } \\ \text { dardize } \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Writim } \\ \text { SSmpl } \end{gathered}$ | 3the) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Approx. } \\ \text { tested } \\ (\sim 4-85), \text { al } \\ \text { subjects } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |
| West Virginia | leading, Math, ktnguage Arts, ;clence, <br> locial Studies | 3, 6, 9, 11 | u | $N$ | CTBS | $N$ | N | 115,000 | $N$ | N | $\gamma$ |  |
| Wisconsin - Not avmlable for interview |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wyoming | teadinq, <br> kiting | 4,8,11 | $N$ | $N$ | Yrs : oncurr Iith Iationa :esting 'prlmar .rait) | $\mathrm{t}^{N}$ | N | 0,000 | $N$ | [ 0 [ | $N$ |  |


[^0]:    SOURCE; Data Complied for the Office of Technology Assessment by Northwest Regional Educational Lapgratory,

