



Geographic Education National
Implementation Project (GENIP)

Report on the Status of Geography Education in the United States

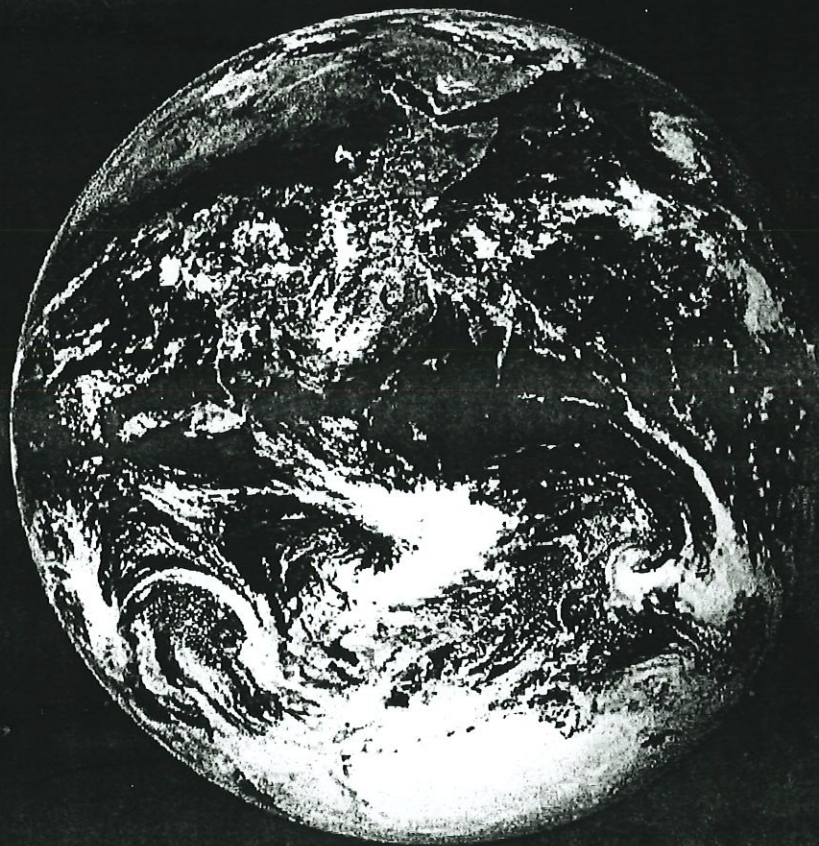


April 23, 2004

Prepared for GENIP by Zachary A. Moore

GENIP Report on the Status of Geography Curriculum in K-12 Education in the United States of America

Produced by: Zachary Andrew Moore
Date: April 23, 2004



 NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

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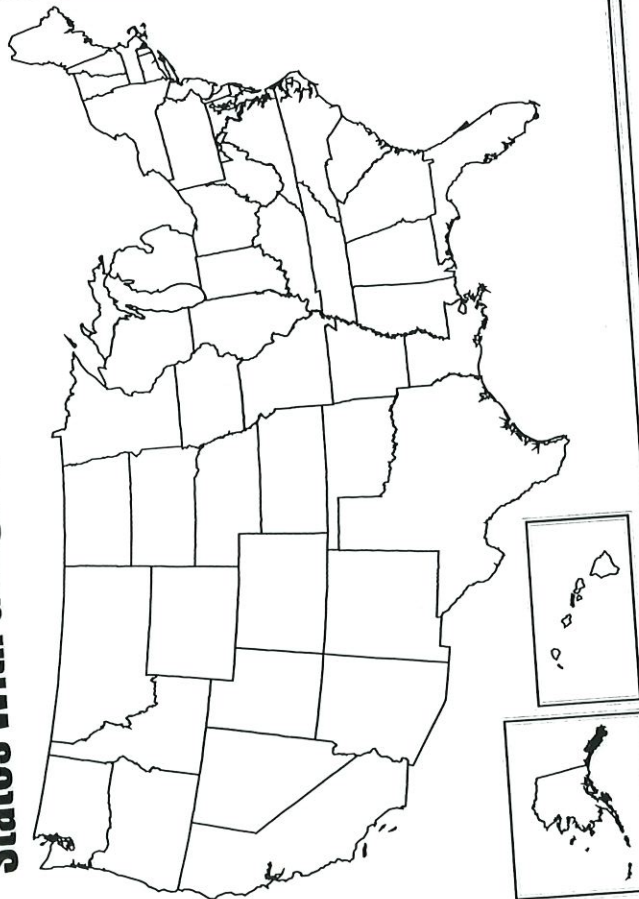
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State-by-State Social Studies/Geography Quick Reference Sheet

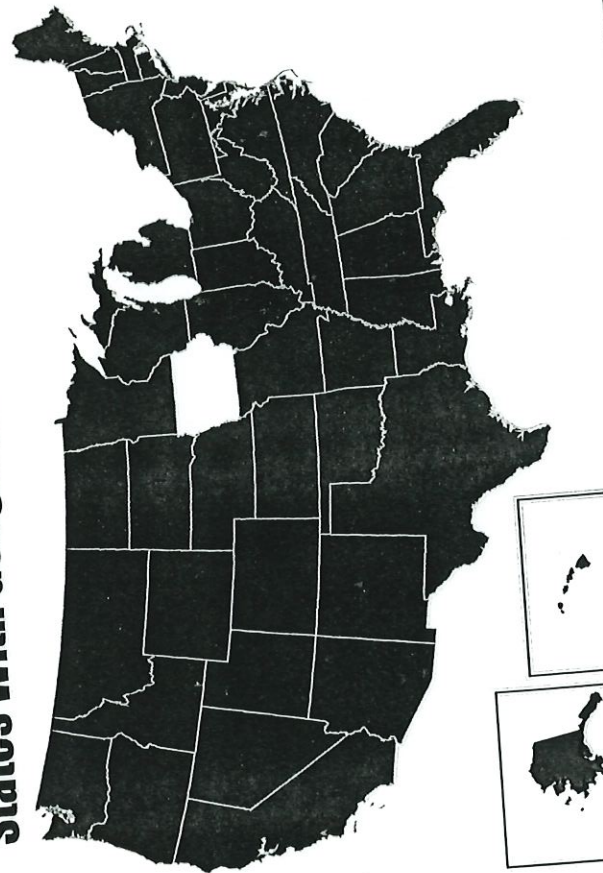
By: Zachary A. Moore, April 2004.

State	Following NCLB	PRAXIS	Assessment	High States	SubScore	Social Studies Content (Geography Classes)	AP	Social Studies Standards - Based Upon What
Alabama	Yes	Yes	10.11.12	Yes	No Info.	K-12 (1,4,7,8,9,10,11)	No	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Alaska	Yes	Yes	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Arizona	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No	K-12 (7)	Yes	Yes - Mirror Geography for Life, but focused on Arizona
Arkansas	Yes	Yes	4.6.8	No	No	K-12 (3,4,5,6,7,8)	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
California	Yes	No	8.10.11	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Colorado	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Connecticut	Yes	Yes	4.6.8.11	Yes	No	K-12 (4,6,7,8,9,11)	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Delaware	Yes	Yes	Not Tested	No	No	K-12 (8)	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
D.C.	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	Yes	K-12 (2,3,4,5,6,7,8)	Yes	Yes - Education Officials, Teachers, and Consultants
Florida	Yes	No	3,4,5,6,7,8,11	Yes	Yes	K-12 (7)	Yes	Yes - National Standards
Georgia	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No	K-12 (6,7)	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Hawaii	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	Yes	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Idaho	Yes	No	4,7,11	Yes	Yes	K-12 (5,6,7,8)	Yes	Yes - National Standards
Illinois	Yes	No	5	No	No	K-12	No	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Indiana	Yes	Yes	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	No	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Iowa	Yes	Yes	6,8,11	Yes	Yes	K-12 (6)	Yes	Yes - Education Officials, Teachers, and Consultants
Kansas	Yes	Yes	5,8,11	Yes	Yes	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Kentucky	Yes	No	3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11	Yes	No	K-12 (7)	Yes	Yes - Geography for Life
Louisiana	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards
Maine	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No	K-12 (3,4,5,6)	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Maryland	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Massachusetts	Yes	No	5,8,11	Yes	No Info.	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Michigan	Yes	Yes	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Minnesota	Yes	Yes	11	Yes	Yes	K-12	No	Yes - Education Officials, Teachers, and Consultants
Mississippi	Yes	No	4,8,11	No	No	K-12 (5,6)	No	Yes - National Standards
Missouri	Yes	No	4,8,11	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Montana	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Nebraska	Yes	Yes	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Nevada	Yes	Yes	Not Tested	No	No	K-12 (4,5,6,7)	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
New Hampshire	Yes	No	Not Tested	Yes	No Info.	K-12 (3,4,5,6)	Yes	Yes - Education Officials, Teachers, and Consultants
New Jersey	Yes	No	3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10	Yes	Yes	K-12 (5,9)	No	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
New Mexico	Yes	No	5,8,9,10,11	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
New York	Yes	Yes	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
North Carolina	Yes	Yes	Not Tested	No	Yes	K-12 (8)	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
North Dakota	Yes	Yes	4,6,10	No	No Info.	K-12	Yes	Yes - Education Officials, Teachers, and Consultants
Ohio	Yes	No	5,7	Local Decision	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards
Oklahoma	Yes	No	5,8,11	Not Tested	No	K-12 (4,5,6,7,8)	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Oregon	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards
Pennsylvania	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No	K-12 (7)	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Rhode Island	Yes	Yes	3,4,5,6,7,8	Yes	No Info.	K-12 (7)	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
South Carolina	Yes	No	3,4,5,6,7,8,11	Yes	Yes	K-12 (6)	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
South Dakota	Yes	Yes	3,4,5,6,7,8	Yes	Yes	K-12	No	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Tennessee	Yes	No	8,10,11	Not Tested	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Texas	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No	K-12 (8,9,10)	Yes	Yes - Education Officials, Teachers, and Consultants
Utah	Yes	Yes	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Vermont	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No	K-12 (7)	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Virginia	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No Info.	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Washington	Yes	No	3,4,5,6,7,8	Yes	Yes	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
West Virginia	Yes	No	4,8,10	Not Tested	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Wisconsin	Yes	No	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life
Wyoming	Yes	Yes	Not Tested	No	No	K-12	Yes	Yes - National Standards/Geography for Life

States With Geography Standards, 1989



States With Geography Standards, 2002



States With Geography Standards, 1998



Key Metrics

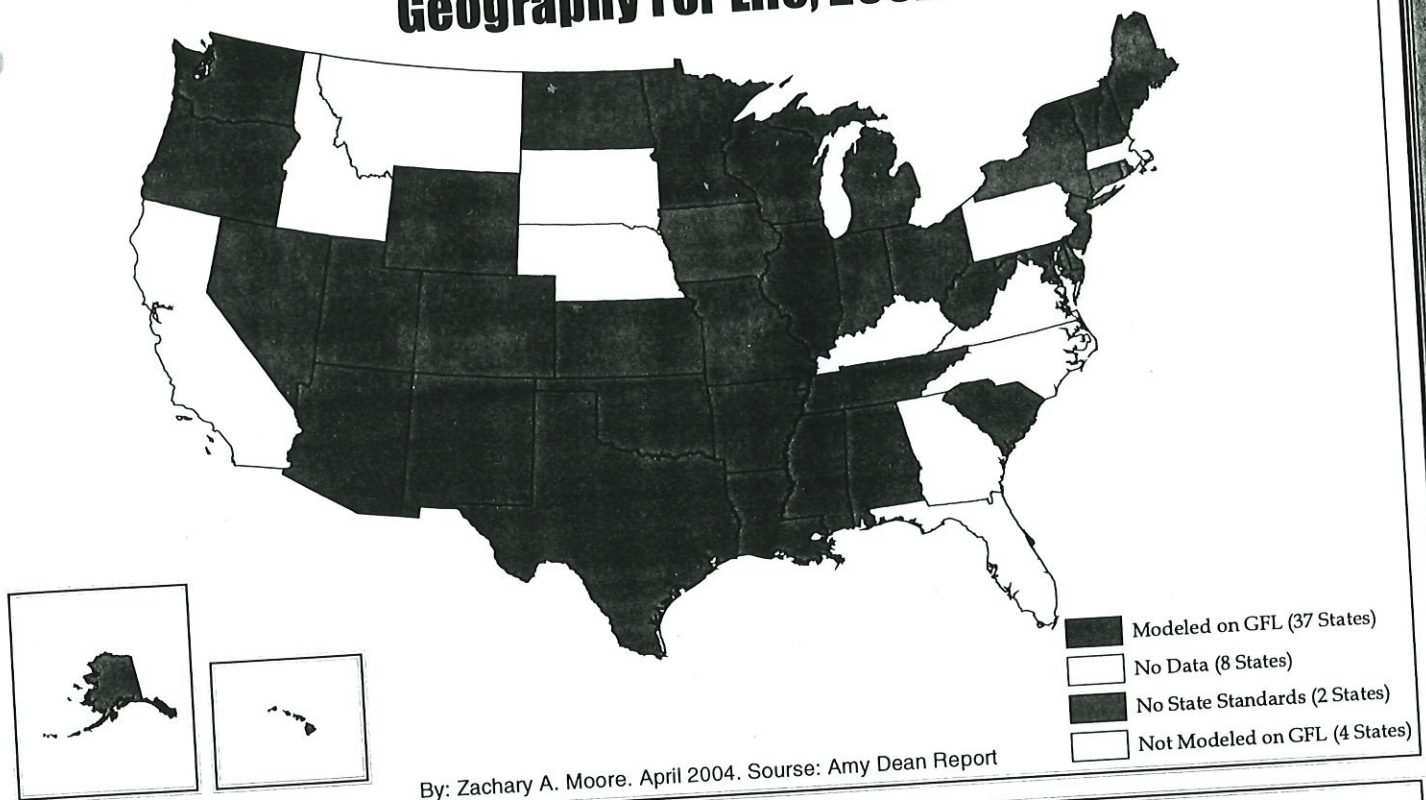
- 0 states had geography standards in 1989.
- 39 states and DC had geography standards in 1998.
- 48 states and DC had geography standards in 2002.
- From 1988 to 2002, the number of students taking a geography course increased from 30% to 55%. (+13.8 Million Students)
- Geography is required as a core academic subject in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.
- Over 100% growth in the number of AP Human Geography tests taken since 2001.

Map Key

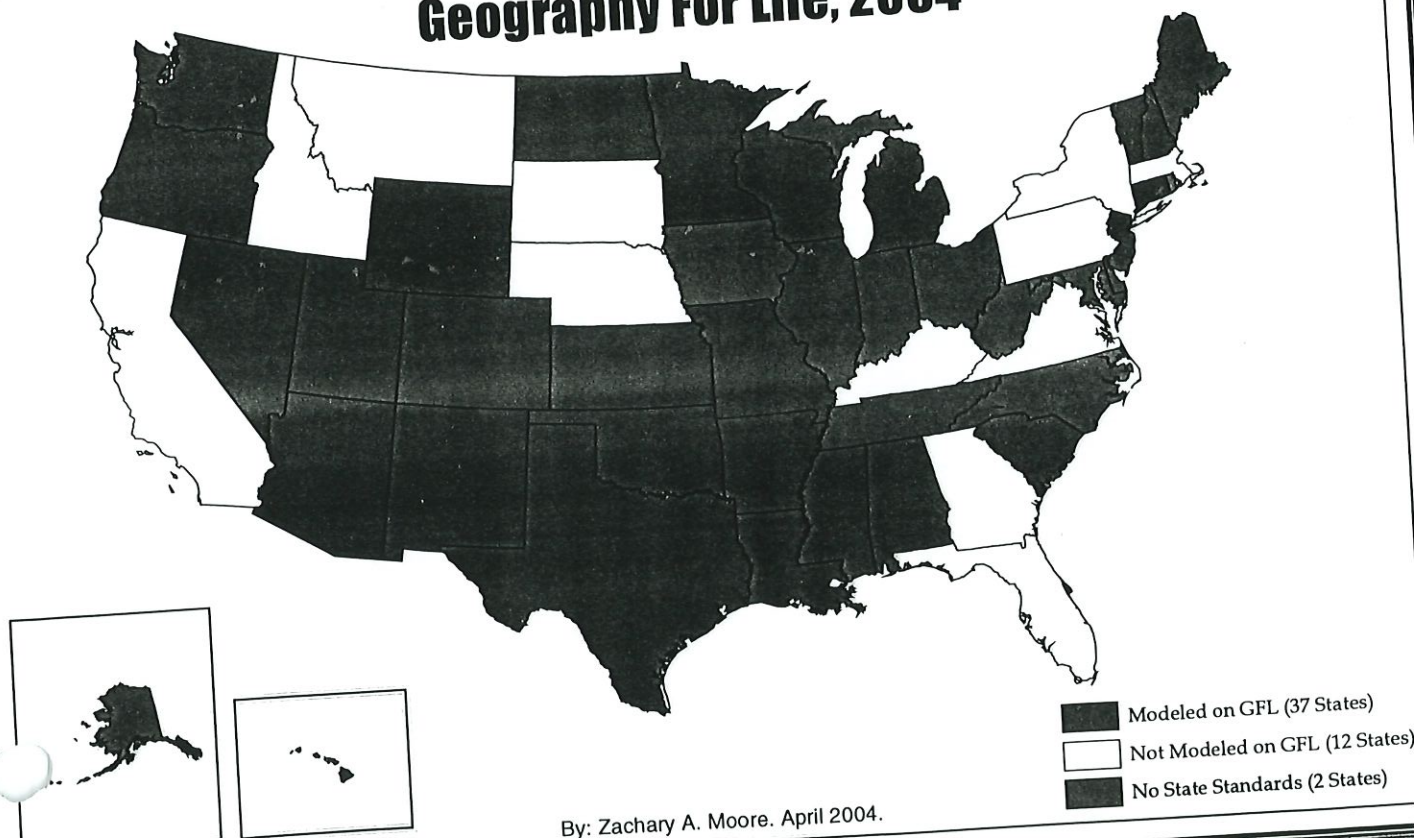
- No Standards in Place
- Standards in Place



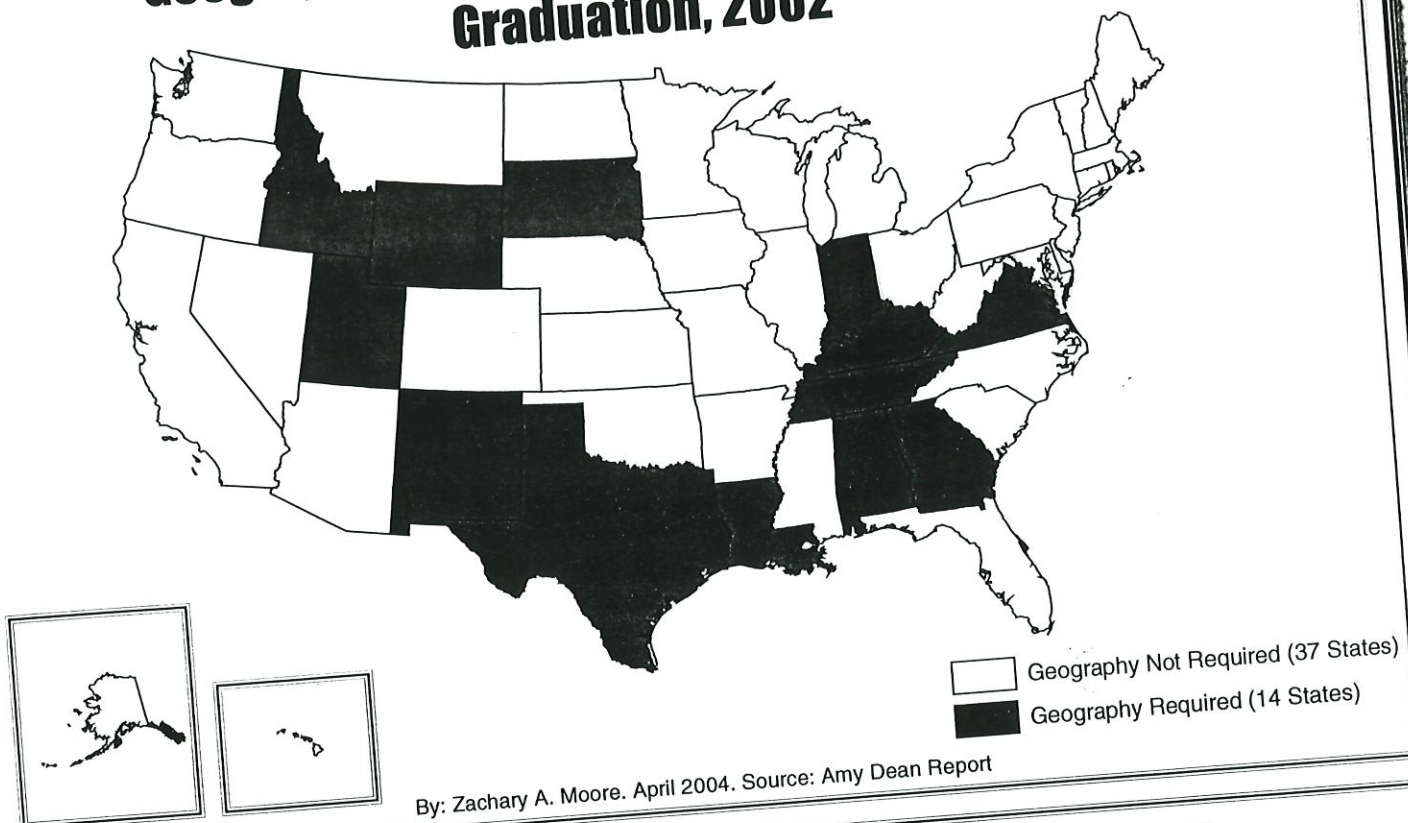
States with Social Studies Standards Modeled on Geography For Life, 2002



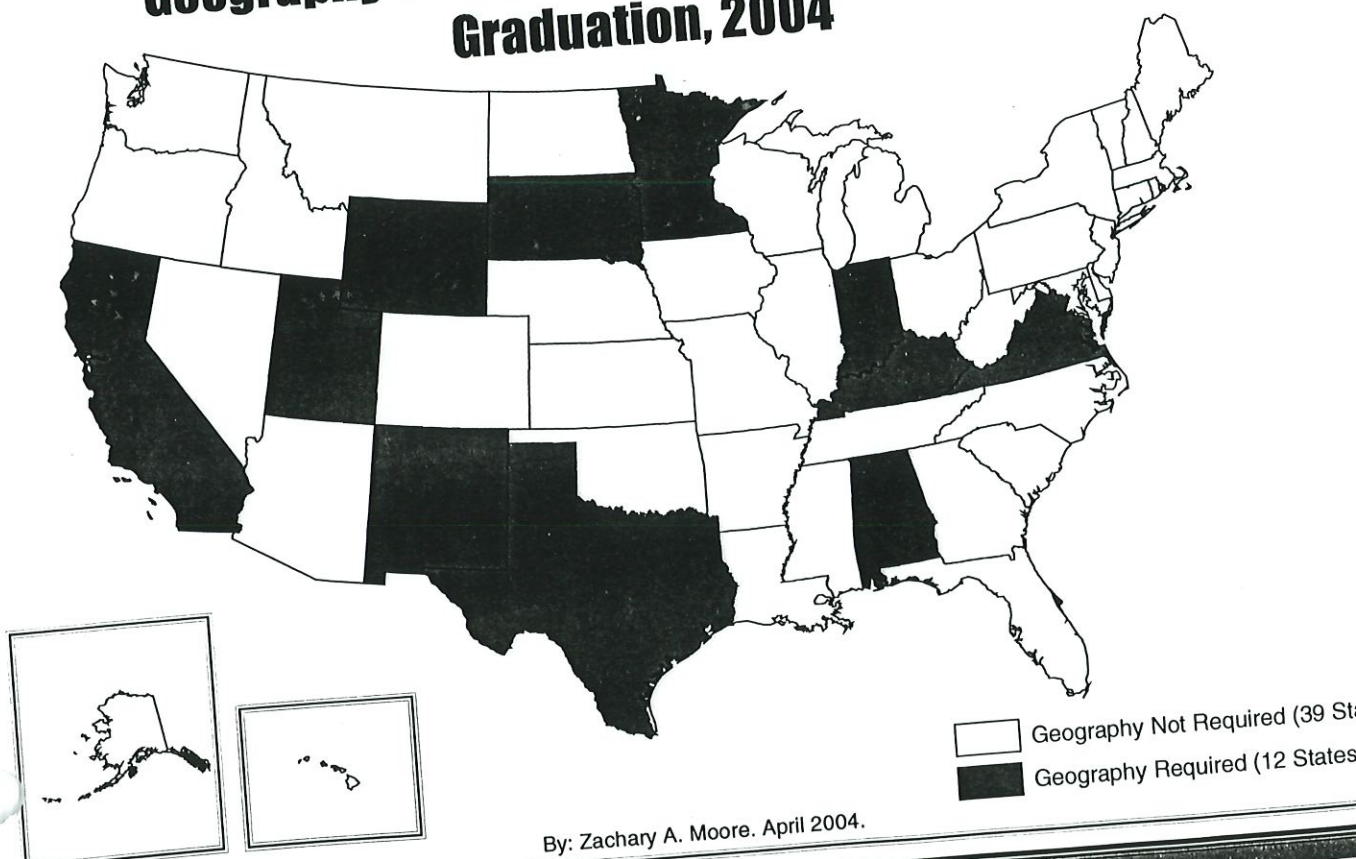
States with Social Studies Standards Modeled on Geography For Life, 2004



Geography Courses Required for High School Graduation, 2002



Geography Courses Required for High School Graduation, 2004



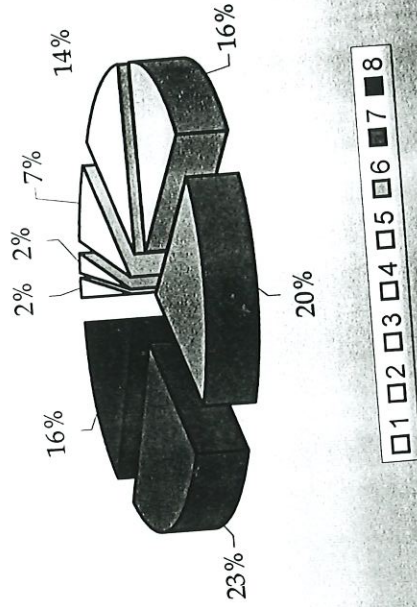
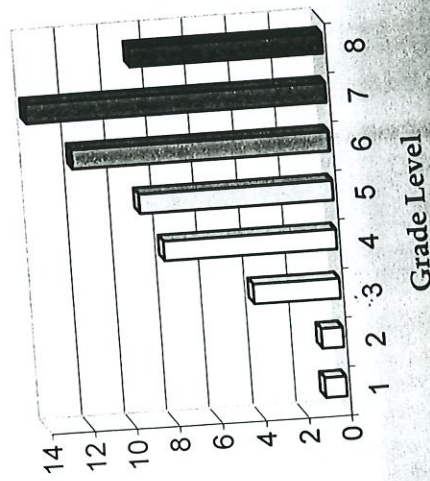
Percent of Geography Classes by Grade (Nationally)

1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade	5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
$\frac{1}{1.70\%}$	$\frac{1}{1.70\%}$	$\frac{4}{6.90\%}$	$\frac{8}{13.80\%}$	$\frac{9}{15.50\%}$	$\frac{12}{20.70\%}$	$\frac{14}{24.10\%}$	$\frac{9}{15.50\%}$

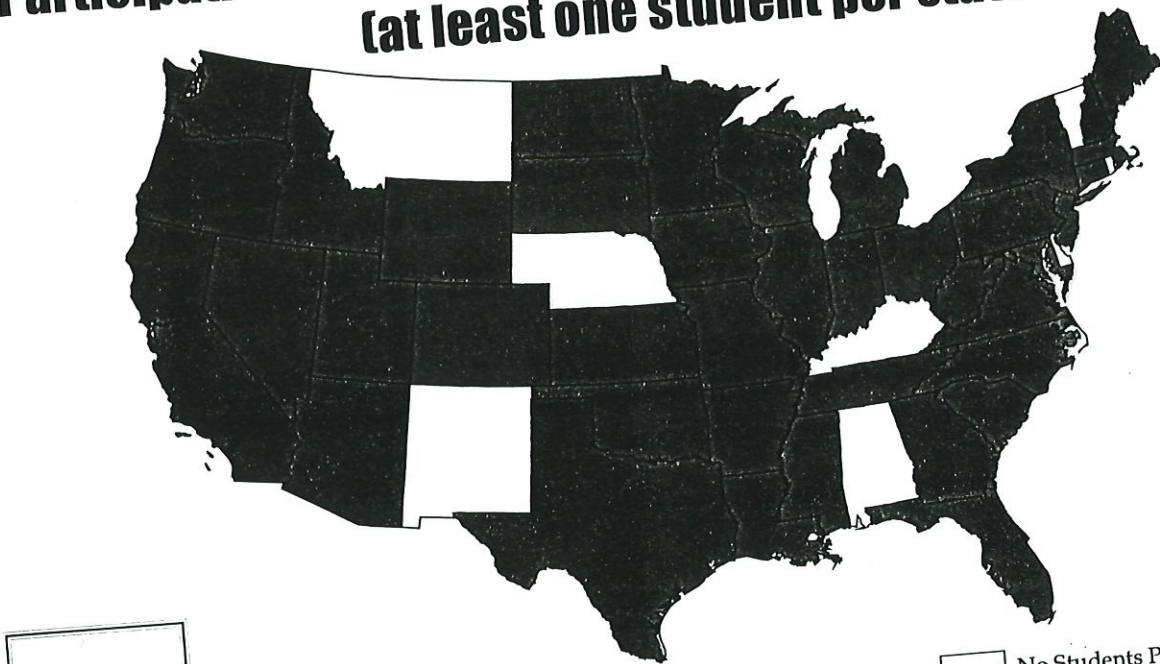
Number of Classes
Percentage

Percent of Geography Classes by Grade (Nationally)

Number of Geography Classes by Grade (Nationally)



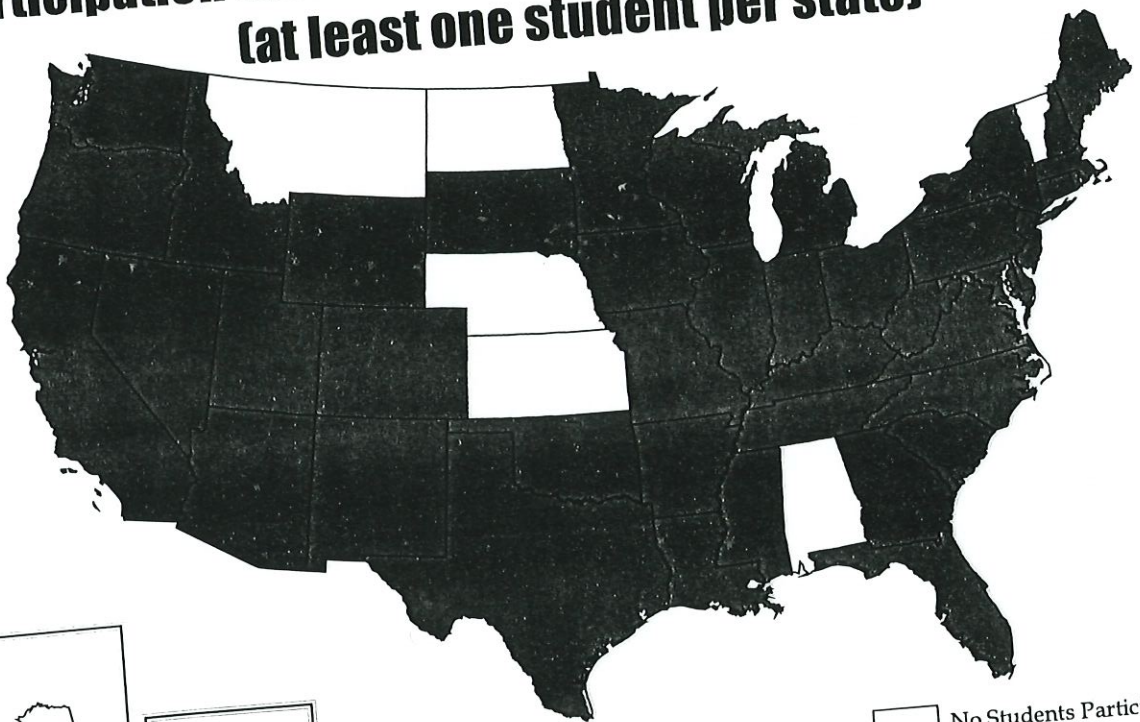
Participation in AP Human Geography Course & Exam, 2001 (at least one student per state)



No Students Participated (10 States)
 3,272 Students Participated (41 States)

By: Zachary A. Moore. April 2004. Source: Amy Dean Report

Participation in AP Human Geography Course & Exam, 2003 (at least one student per state)



No Students Participated (7 States)
 7,329 Students Participated (44 States)

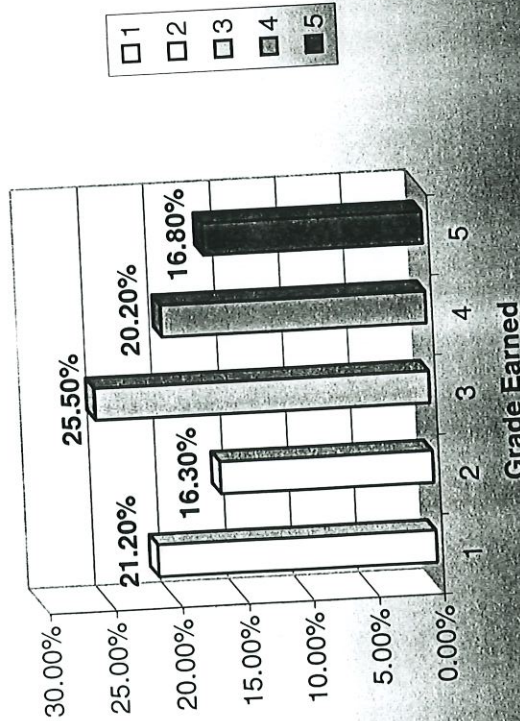
By: Zachary A. Moore. April 2004.

AP Human Geography Exam Score Percentages for 2001 and 2003

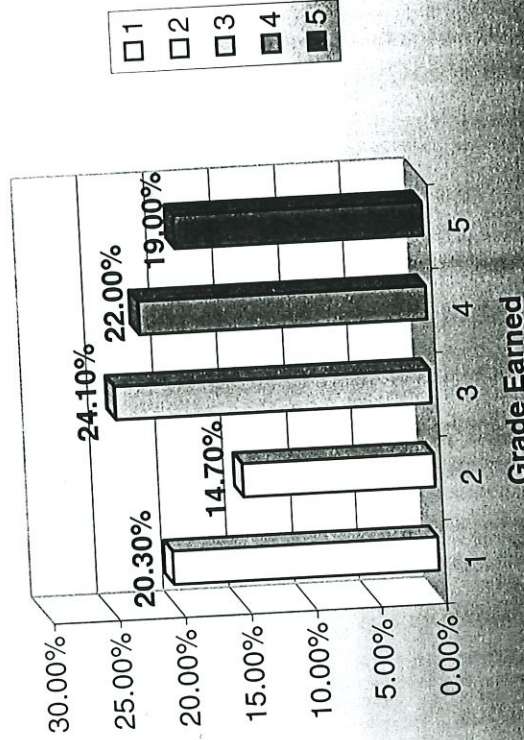
2001 Score Percentages
2003 Score Percentages

	1	2	3	4	5	Total Exams
2001 Score Percentages	21.20%	16.30%	25.50%	20.20%	16.80%	3,272
2003 Score Percentages	20.30%	14.70%	24.10%	22.00%	19.00%	7,329

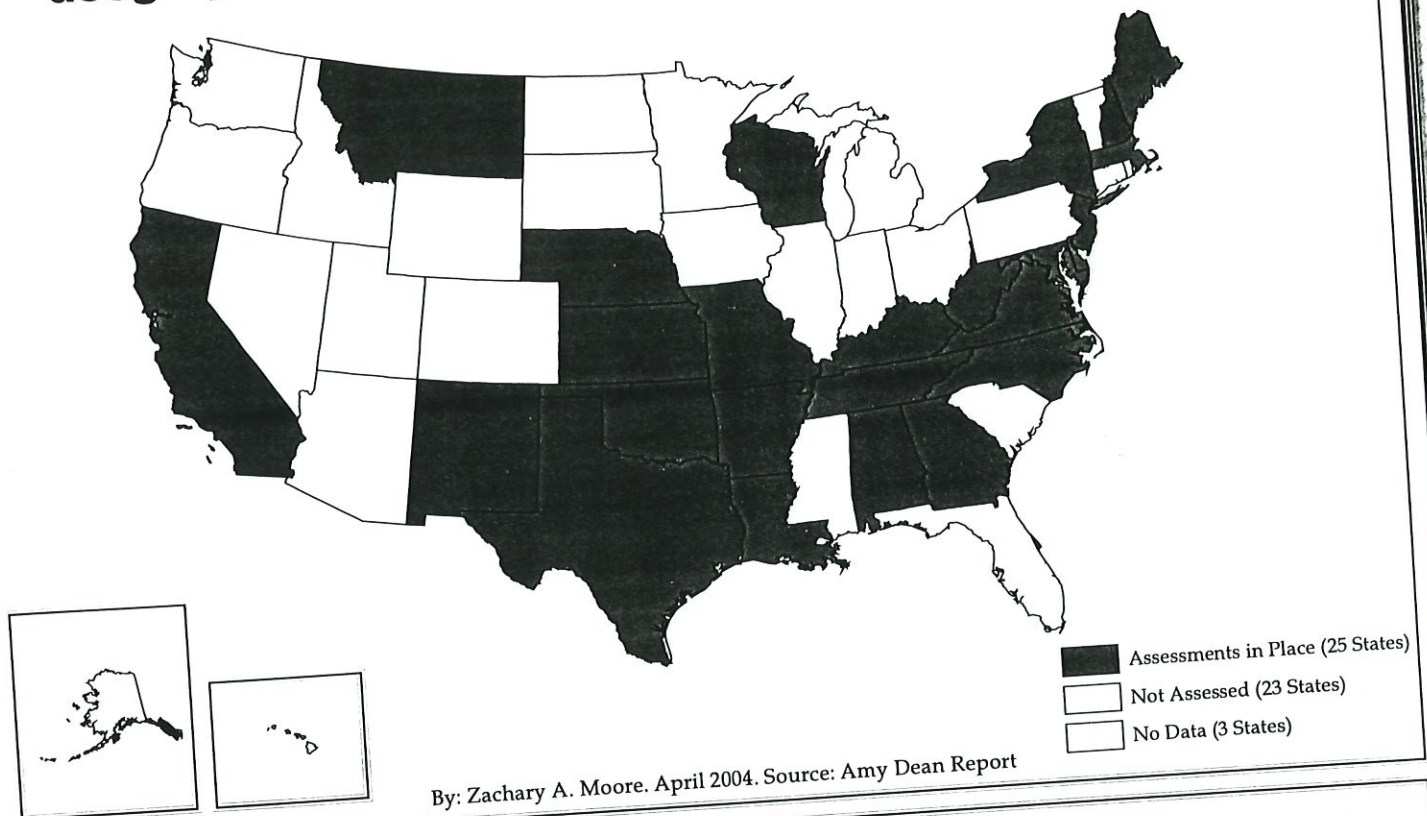
2001 AP Human Geography Exam Score Percentages



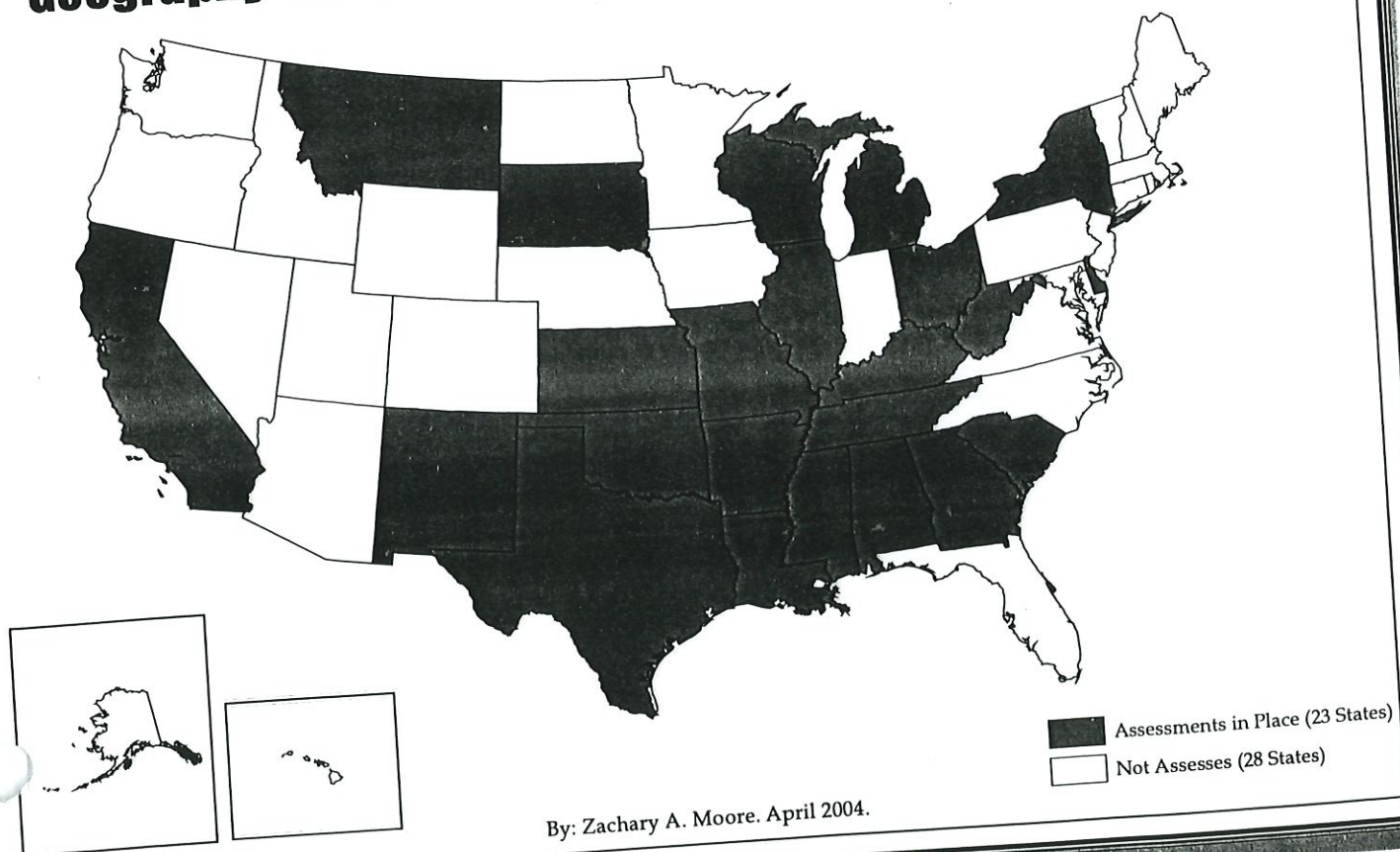
2003 AP Human Geography Exam Score Percentages



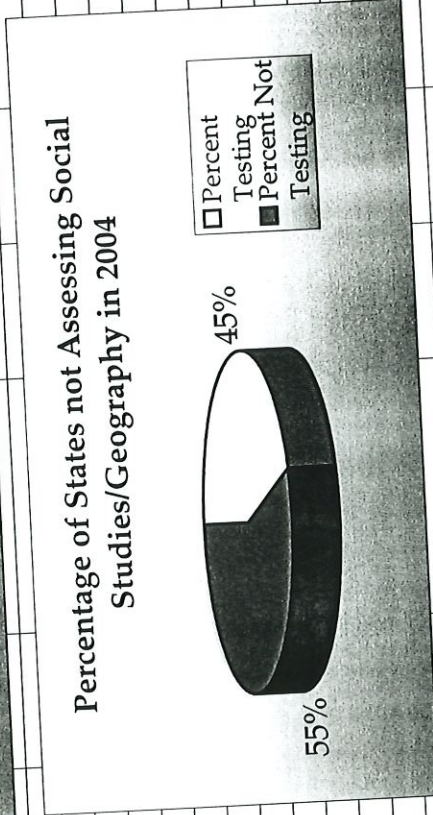
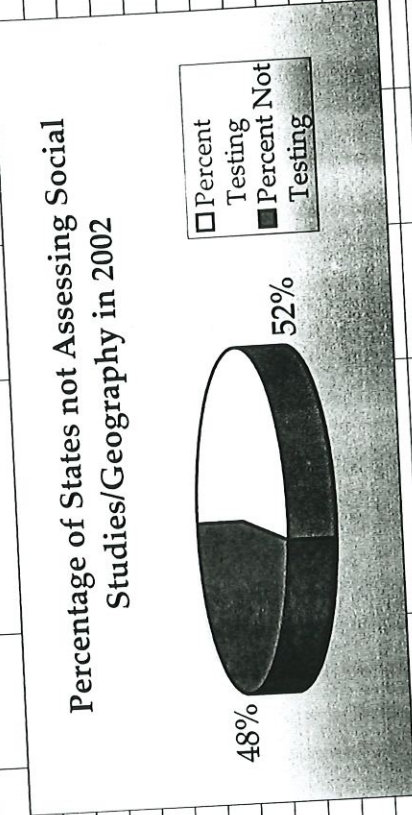
Geography Tested in Mandated State Assessments, 2002



Geography Tested In Mandated State Assessments, 2004



States Not Assessing Social Studies/Geography in 2002 and 2004



2002	2004
Alaska	Alaska
Arizona	Arizona
Colorado	Colorado
Connecticut	Connecticut
D.C.	D.C.
Florida	Florida
Hawaii	Hawaii
Idaho	Idaho
Illinois	Indiana
Indiana	Iowa
Iowa	Maine
Minnesota	Maryland
North Dakota	Massachusetts
Ohio	Minnesota
Oregon	Nebraska
Pennsylvania	Nevada
Rhode Island	New Hampshire
South Carolina	New Jersey
South Dakota	North Carolina
Utah	North Dakota
Vermont	Oregon
Washington	Pennsylvania
Wyoming	Rhode Island
	Utah
	Vermont
	Virginia
	Washington
	Wyoming

Year	2002	2004
Percent Testing	52%	45%
Percent Not Testing	48%	55%

By: Zachary A. Moore, April 2004.

States Assessing Social Studies/Geography and in What Grades

State	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Alabama												
Alaska												
Arizona												
Arkansas												
California												
Colorado												
Connecticut												
Delaware												
District of Columbia												
Florida												
Georgia												
Hawaii												
Idaho												
Illinois												
Indiana												
Iowa												
Kansas												
Kentucky												
Louisiana												
Maine												
Maryland												
Massachusetts												
Michigan												
Minnesota												
Mississippi												
Missouri												
Montana												
Nebraska												
Nevada												
New Hampshire												
New Jersey												
New Mexico												
New York												
North Carolina												
North Dakota												
Ohio												
Oklahoma												
Oregon												
Pennsylvania												
Rhode Island												
South Carolina												
South Dakota												
Tennessee												
Texas												
Utah												
Vermont												
Virginia												
Washington												
West Virginia												
Wisconsin												
Wyoming												

KEY

Yellow - Standardized Test

Red - High Stakes Test

Green - Not Tested

By: Zachary A. Moore, April 2004.

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1	Alabama
2	Alaska
3	Arizona
4	Arkansas
5	California
6	Colorado
7	Connecticut
8	Delaware
9	District of Columbia
10	Florida

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered		X			X				X	X	X	X	
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment											X	X	X
Standards in Place	Yes: National standards and Geography for Life were used in the development of their standards.												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Not Offered												

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered		X			X				X	X	X	X	
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment											X	X	X
Standards in Place	Yes: National standards and Geography for Life were used in the development of their standards.												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Not Offered												

Alabama Social Studies & Geography Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies courses are integrated throughout K-12. Social studies use history and geography as the central disciplines. However, specific core information and ideas from economics, law, and U.S. government are interwoven into all courses to provide for the program goals of historic, geographic, political, and economic literacy. Specific geography courses are taught in grades:

- 1 - History and Geography: Exploring My World
- 4 - Alabama History and Geography
- 7 - Citizenship World Geography
- 8 - World History and Geography to 1500
- 9 - World History and Geography Since 1500
- 10 - U.S. History and Geography: Beginnings to 1900
- 11 - U.S. History and Geography: 1900 to the Present

The courses offered in the 9th, 10th and 11th grade are required for graduation. AP courses are offered, but it is up to each school district as to what courses are offered. AP Human Geography is seldom offered, and in 2003 no student took the AP Human Geography course/exam.

State Assessment in Social Studies*

Social studies content is assessed in grades 10 (Alabama High School Graduation Exam), 11 (Alabama High School Graduation Exam), and 12 (American Government, Principles of Economics). Students passing the Alabama High School Graduation Exam in the 10th grade are not required to take the test in the 11th grade.

Social Studies Standards*

The Alabama social studies standards are partially derived from the national standards, Geography for Life, and various other discipline standards. In addition to these resources, school officials, educators, and several consultants were used to develop their standards. Beginning in March of 2003, a select committee will begin to revise the social studies course of study. The final results are to be submitted to the state board of education near the end of 2004.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

Alabama is attempting to follow the "highly qualified" teacher requirements established by NCLB. Presently, Alabama sets the academic major requirement at 32 hours, with at least 19 of these being in upper division courses. There is no subject matter test required for licensure. Alabama recently implemented a statewide test for teachers seeking certification, but this is a basic skills test only. The state offers Praxis II tests for teachers to prove their content competency on a voluntary basis.

* <http://www.alsde.edu/html/home.asp>

* http://www.dothan.k12.al.us/curriculum/state/Al_cos/current/socstu/ss-intro.pdf

** <http://www.teachingquality.org/policy/esea/DefinitionAnalysis.htm>

Alaska Social Studies & Geography Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies content is integrated throughout K-12. 3 units of credit in social studies elective courses are required for graduation. Of the electives, one semester of Geography/Area Studies is offered. AP Human Geography is not offered in the State of Alaska.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies/geography content is not tested on their state assessment.

Social Studies Standards**

In 1994, as part of an extensive review of curriculum in all subjects statewide, the Alaska Board of Education adopted standards relating to three of the social studies disciplines: government/citizenship, geography, and history. The Alaska Standards for Social Studies consist of three key elements which begin with the seven Government/Citizenship standards, followed by the six Geography standards, and concluding with the four History standards. The national standards were used as a resource when developing the Alaska Standards for Social Studies. Alaska's Geography Standards were partially derived from Geography for Life.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements***

Alaska is attempting to follow the NCLB "highly qualified" teacher requirements. In order to be considered "highly qualified" under NCLB, a teacher must: 1) hold at least a bachelor's degree; and 2) hold a full Alaska Teacher certificate (temporary, emergency, and preliminary are not "full" certificates; a provisional is a full certificate for NCLB purposes); and 3) have completed an additional NCLB specified requirement in each subject area the teacher teaches. A teacher also has the option to take the Praxis II test in order to be considered "highly qualified."

* <http://www.educ.state.ak.us/contentstandards/Geography.html>

** <http://www.educ.state.ak.us/tls/frameworks/ssstudies/first.htm>

*** <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/nclb/Presentations/36>

Arizona Social Studies & Geography Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies content is taught throughout grades K-12. Social studies standards are broken up into five grade level groups: 1) K: Readiness; 2) 1-3: Foundations; 3) 4-5: Essentials; 4) 6-8: Essentials; and 5) 9-12: Proficiency. Required social studies courses for graduation are determined by individual school districts, but usually consist of 3 unit credits. Of the required social studies electives, one credit of world history/geography is offered. AP Human Geography courses are taught in several high schools throughout the state. In 2003, 42 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This number is up from 38 students in 2001, a 10.5% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Arizona does not test social studies curriculum on their state standardized test.

Social Studies Standards**

Their social studies standards mirror the national standards and Geography for Life, but focus on the State of Arizona. To develop standards that reflected the needs of Arizona students, school officials and teachers throughout the state were also used in the process. Social studies standards are broken up into four sub-groups: 1) History; 2) Civics/Government; 3) Geography; and 4) Economics. There are also physical geography standards which are presented in Standard 4 (Life Science) and Standard 6 (Earth and Space Science) in Arizona's Science Standards. They connect directly with and form the foundation for the rest of the geography standards.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

Arizona follows the NCLB requirements for a "highly qualified" teacher. They do require a state assessment test for all teachers who teacher core academic subjects that are determined by NCLB. They do not require a content area bachelor's degree at this time.

* <http://www.ade.state.az.us/standards/ssstudies/standard3.asp>

** <http://www.ade.state.az.us/standards/ssstudies/>

The State of Arkansas

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered								X					
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is taught throughout K-12, and written into 3 grade clusters:												
Social Studies Assessment	K-4				5-8				9-12				
Standards in Place					[X]		[X]		[X]				
HQ Definition	Yes: National Standards, Geography for Life, and classroom teachers assisted in writing the standards												
AP Human Geography	Following the NCLB requirements												
	Yes: 76/2001 – 77/2003 (+1.3%)												

[X] Benchmark Test, Not State Assessment

Arkansas Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social Studies content is taught at Grades K-12. Social studies benchmarks have been developed for grades K – 8. The social studies framework is written in grade clusters (K-4, 5-8, and 9-12). Typically a geography specific course is taught at the seventh grade level. Geography is to be included in all K-12 Social Studies courses, as outlined in the Arkansas Standards for Accreditation. A minimum of four units of social studies must be offered in every program for grades 9-12. Three units of social studies are required for graduation. At this time, High School students must take:

- One year (unit) of World History
- One year (unit) of American History
- One semester (1/2 unit) of Civics/Government
- One social studies elective (i.e., some students take World Geography as a high school elective).

AP Human Geography courses are offered in Arkansas. AP courses must follow the College Board/AP outline and regulations. In 2003, 77 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 76 students in 2001, a 1.3% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Currently, Arkansas students are not assessed in geography or any other social studies subject. There is a benchmark exam at grades 4, 6, and 8.

Social Studies Standards**

National standards and Geography for Life were used in creating the K-12 Social Studies Framework. Classroom teachers were also asked to assist in writing the standards. The social studies standards are broken up into five strands which are drawn from the National Council for the Social Studies. These strands are: 1) Time, Community, and Change; 2) People, Places, and Environments; 3) Power, Authority, and Governance; 4) Production, Distribution, and Consumption; and 5) Social Sciences Processes and Skills.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

Arkansas follows the NCLB requirements for a “highly qualified” teacher. A content area bachelor’s degree is not required at this time and no pre-approval is required for schools to teach AP courses. To be a highly qualified in Arkansas in the core academic subject areas, a teacher must: hold at least a bachelor’s degree; and 2) be fully licensed with no requirements waived under emergency or temporary conditions; and demonstrate subject area competence in basic elementary school curriculum by: a) passing the Praxis II Early Childhood assessment; or meeting the criteria described in the Arkansas High Objective Uniform State Standard (e.g., certification, testing, academic degree, and HOUSS requirements). Core subject areas are English, Reading or Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Foreign Languages, Civics and Government, Economics, Arts, History, or Geography.

* <http://arkedu.state.ar.us/standards/>

** <http://arkedu.state.ar.us/curriculum/benchmarks.html#Social>

The State of California

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered				X	X	X	X	X	X				
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment									X		X	X	
Standards in Place	Yes: Developed by education officials, teachers, and consultants												
HQ	Following the NCLB requirements												
Definition													
AP Human Geography	Yes: 462/2001 – 594/2003 (+28.6%)												

California Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Currently, the *History-Social Science Content Standards for California Public Schools* (available for free download at http://www.cde.ca.gov/cdepress/Hist_SocSci_Stnd.pdf) outlines a high school curriculum that features history-social science courses at:

- 3rd grade (Continuity and Change, Local History and Geography)
- 4th grade (California History and Geography)
- 5th grade (U.S. History and Geography: Making a New Nation)
- 6th grade (World History and Geography: Ancient Civilizations)
- 7th grade (World History and Geography: Medieval and Early Modern Times)
- 8th grade (World History and Geography: Growth and Conflict)
- 10th grade (World History, Culture, and Geography)
- 11th grade (U.S. History and Geography)
- 12th grade (Principles of American Democracy and Economics)

All courses are full-year courses except for the 12th grade. Geography and geographical concepts are prominently featured in the 10th and 11th grade standards. While there is no required curriculum for grade 9, the *History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools* (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/cdepress/hist-social-sci-frame.pdf>) does provide suggestions for elective courses for that grade level that include Physical Geography (one semester) and World Regional Geography (one semester), among other possibilities (pp. 116-124). Three years of history/social science, including one year of U.S. history & geography; one year of world history, culture, and geography; and one semester each of American government and economics are required for graduation.

Under current law, districts that accept state instructional materials funds are required to certify that all students in grades K-12 have instructional materials that are aligned to the state's content standards. The standards-aligned curriculum outlines course requirements for 10th-12th grade as noted above; 9th grade history-social science is an elective course. More detailed information is provided in the *History-Social Science Framework*.

AP courses are widely offered in schools throughout California. In History-Social Science, AP courses are taught in Macro and Microeconomics, Comparative Government and Politics, U.S. Government and Politics, European History, U.S. History, World History, Psychology, and Human Geography. In 2003, 594 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 462 students in 2001, a 28.6% increase. For more details and statistical information about California course enrollments, you can visit the California's Department of Education's Dataquest site at <http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>. Select "Course Enrollments" and you will find a menu that allows you to search for this and other data.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Currently, California students are assessed in history-social science at grades 8, 10 and 11. Those assessments are the California Standards Tests, and are based upon the content standards for the appropriate grade level being tested. For more information, visit the Standards and Assessments Division's history-social science page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/statetests/history/index.html>.

The questions are mapped to the different elements in our content standards for grades 10 and 11. A number of these deal with issues of geographical significance, but there is no separate reporting out for a "geography" category.

Social Studies Standards

California's standards have been recognized as among the most rigorous in the nation; the Thomas Fordham Institute's most recent annual survey (*Effective State Standards for U.S. History: A 2003 Report Card*, online at http://www.edexcellence.net/doc/History_Standards2003.pdf) gave California an "A" ranking, placing California's history-social science standards in third place, after Indiana and New York.

The *History-Social Science Content Standards for California Public Schools* were adopted by the State Board of Education on October 9, 1998. The following text is excerpted from the standards document (pp. v-vi):

"The recommended history-social science standards build on the work of exemplary documents from both within and outside California, most notably the History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools, a document strengthened by the consensus that elicited it and nationally recognized for its emphasis on historical events presented within a chronological and geographic context.

The standards reflect guidance and input from countless members of the California teaching community and other citizens who attended the meetings of the State Board and Standards Commission. Their input contributed substantively to the discussions and the drafts, as did the input gathered from the nine directed community input meetings hosted by the Standards Commission throughout the state in January 1998 and from the five field hearings held by the State Board throughout the state in August 1998. At those forums, parents, teachers, administrators, and business and community leaders helped define key issues. Current practice and the state of history-social science instruction in California were also given special consideration during the process. In addition, history-social science from around the nation reviewed and submitted formal comments on the first and second drafts. The more than 70 reviewers included eminent historians, geographers, economists, and political scientists. Their input helped immeasurably to strengthen the rigor and quality of the standards."

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

The requirement for "highly qualified" teachers was put into place by the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation. That legislation mandated that all classrooms have a "highly qualified" teacher by 2005-06 – a requirement that new hires at schools receiving federal Title I funds must now meet.

The California State Board of Education adopted a plan at its June 2003 meeting in which it outlined a program for meeting the requirements for "highly qualified" teachers in all classrooms by 2005-06. To meet the NCLB teacher requirement, an individual needs to meet the following criteria:

- ◆ Be fully credentialed or in an approved intern program for less than three years, AND
- ◆ Have demonstrated subject matter competence appropriate for the grade level and core academic subjects for one's current assignment.

The teacher credentialing process is administered by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC, online at <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/default.html> >). Classroom teachers authorized under emergency permits, waivers, or pre-intern certificates do not meet the NCLB teacher requirement for those assignments. A draft NCLB Teacher Requirements Resource Guide, which answers this and other questions, is available on their Web site at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/pr/nclb/teachqual/nclbresourceguide.doc>

[illegible][illegible]

Colorado Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12. The content is broken up into three benchmarks: K-4, 5-8, and 9-11. Each local school board defines graduation requirements for its district. The requirements vary from district to district. The state considers a graduate to be any student who has met the graduation requirements of his or her local school district. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 671 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 324 in 2001, a 107.1% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Colorado does not test social studies content on their state assessment.

Social Studies Standards**

Many sources were used to develop the Colorado Model Content Standards. They include the national standards, Geography for Life, school officials, and teachers. The Model Content Standards are broken up into 13 individual disciplines, which include geography as a stand alone discipline. The geography standards are arranged in an orderly progression from conceptually simple to complex and from acquisition of basic knowledge to the synthesis and application of knowledge. They move from basic tools and locational information in Standard 1 to the fundamental concepts of physical and human geography in Standards 2-4. Then, Standard 5 brings the human and physical systems together to examine their interrelationships. Finally, content from Standards 1-5 is brought together and applied to practical problems in Standard 6. The six geography standards are then broken down into suggested grade level expectations for each grade in K-12.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

Colorado is currently using the NCLB requirements to define a "highly qualified" teacher. All teachers of core academic subjects are considered highly qualified in Colorado, if they have state certification (which may be alternative state certification), hold a bachelor's degree, and have demonstrated subject area competency. Core academic subjects include English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography. All new hires in Title I programs after the start of the 2002-03 school year must meet these requirements; all existing teachers must meet these requirements by the end of the 2005-06 school year.

* <http://www.cde.state.co.us/download/pdf/geography.pdf>

** http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_std.htm

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered													
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is recommended to be taught throughout K-12. However, it is the local school districts who design their social studies curriculum, not the state.												
	Benchmark 1			Benchmark 2			Benchmark 3						
Social Studies Assessment	Not Tested												
Standards in Place	Yes: National standards and Geography for Life were used to help develop their standards												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 85/2001 – 69/2003 (-18.8%)												

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered													
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is recommended to be taught throughout K-12. However, it is the local school districts who design their social studies curriculum, not the state.												
	Benchmark 1			Benchmark 2			Benchmark 3						
Social Studies Assessment	Not Tested												
Standards in Place	Yes: National standards and Geography for Life were used to help develop their standards												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 85/2001 – 69/2003 (-18.8%)												

Connecticut Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Although social studies curriculum is recommended to be taught throughout K-12, it is left up to the local school districts. Specific social studies knowledge benchmarks are broken up into K-4, 5-8, and 9-12, but each school district designs its own social studies curriculum according to the requirements embedded in state statute. A minimum of 3 credits in social studies is required for graduation, but geography courses are not one of the requirements. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 69 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is down from 85 students in 2001, a 18.8% decrease.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies/geography content is not tested on the state assessment. Local decision for testing in social studies prevails. Because social studies content is not tested, it is difficult to make assumptions about the states social studies program of instruction.

Social Studies Standards**

Within their social studies standards there are 4 content standards. The content standards are: 1) History; 2) Civics and Government; 3) Geography; and 4) Economics. These standards are partially derived from the national standards, the respected discipline standards, and teacher input. The geography content standards are broken up into 4 subcategories which are: 1) Places and Regions; 2) Physical Systems; 3) Human Systems; and 4) Human and Environmental Interactions. The geography content standards partially model Geography for Life.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements***

Connecticut follows the NCLB "highly qualified" teacher requirements. Teachers who are teaching core academic subjects must hold at least a bachelor's degree; and at the elementary level, demonstrate by passing a state test on subject knowledge and teaching skills in reading/language arts, writing, mathematics and other areas of the basic elementary school curriculum (in Connecticut, this is Praxis I in reading, writing and mathematics and Praxis II elementary tests); at the middle and high school levels, demonstrate a high level of competency by: passing a state test in each academic subject in which the teacher teaches (Middle School Praxis or Praxis II or the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages [ACTFL]); or have successfully completed, in each academic subject in which the teacher teaches an undergraduate major or a graduate degree or coursework equivalent to an undergraduate major or advanced certification or credentials.

* <http://www.state.ct.us/sde/dtl/curriculum/frsocst.pdf> -

** <http://www.state.ct.us/sde/dtl/curriculum/frsocst.pdf>

*** http://www.csde.state.ct.us/public/der/nclb/cletters/series_02-03_c-24_hqt.pdf

Delaware Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Some social studies content is taught at every grade level K-12 per the Delaware Social Studies Standards. All public school students in grades K-8 must be enrolled in a social studies program, and high school students in grades 9-12 must complete three credits in social studies to graduate from high school. Geography is often integrated with the other social studies content in the elementary grades (K-5). A separate geography course, often world geography, is usually taught in 6th or 7th grade. A separate geography course is sometimes offered in high school, but most often it is integrated into the world and U.S. history courses. Only one or two high schools offer AP Human Geography courses in grades 10-12. In 2003, 4 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 0 students in 2001.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies curriculum is tested on a statewide assessment given in grades 4, 6, 8, and 11. Geography content comprises 25% of the questions and geography learning is reported as a separate sub-score.

Social Studies Standards*

Delaware has social studies standards with identifiable strands in civics, economics, geography and history (adopted in 1995 and revised in 2001). National standards in each discipline were used as a resource during the development of the state standards. The geography strand has four identifiable standards which are: 1) Maps; 2) Environment; 3) Places; and 4) Regions. Grade cluster standards are set in grades K-3, 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12 for the four geography standards, which state what a student should know for each identifiable standard during each grade cluster.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

To be considered "highly qualified" in Delaware, a teacher must: a) Earn a bachelor's degree from an accredited 4-year college or university; b) Earn teaching experience by: i) completing a student teaching program, or ii) completing 91 days of successful full-time teaching at the grade/and or subject to be assigned, or iii) enroll in the Alternative Routes to Licensure and Certification program; and c) Pass an examination of general knowledge such as Praxis I. An initial license may not be renewed. It may be extended upon proof of exigent circumstances.

* http://www.doe.state.de.us/Standards/Social_studies/ss_toc.html

The District of Columbia

[illegible]

Washington, D.C. Social Studies/Geography Curriculum **Information**

Curriculum Background

Social studies curriculum is taught throughout K-12. Geography courses are taught in:

- 4th grade (U.S. Geography)
- 6th grade (Eastern Hemisphere Geography World Cultures)
- 7th grade (Western Hemisphere Geography)
- 9th grade (D.C. History and World Geography)

Courses containing geography content are taught in the 8th grade (United States History: U.S. History and Geography from 1800 to 1900), 9th grade (District of Columbia History and Government – District of Columbia), and 11th grade (United States History: U.S. History and Geography from 1900 to the Present). ½ credit of World geography is required for graduation. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the district. In 2003, 18 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is down from 31 students in 2001, a 41.9% decrease.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies curriculum is not tested in the district.

Social Studies Standards*

The social studies standards include the study of history, geography, government, and other social sciences. In a continuance of instruction from the early grades through high school, students study the people of the United States and the world. The content standards are supported by performance standards for each grade or course. Teachers are expected to use standards-based curriculum documents to guide instruction in their classrooms. These content and performance standards are addressed at every grade level and spiraled throughout the curriculum in each content area.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

The definition of "highly qualified" teacher in NCLB is used for Washington, D.C.'s definition. In general a "highly qualified" teacher is one with full certification, a bachelor's degree and demonstrated competence in subject knowledge and teaching. (Core subjects include English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history and geography.) The NCLB act also calls for *all* teachers of the core academic subjects (teaching in Title I programs or elsewhere) to be "highly qualified" by the end of school year 2005-06.

* <http://www.k12.dc.us/dcps/curriculum/content/intro-stl.pdf>

** <http://www.k12.dc.us/dcps/dcpsnclb/dcnclbteachers.html>

The State of Florida

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered									X				
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment	Not tested												
Standards in Place	Yes: McRels wrote them based upon the national standards												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 390/2001 – 1,109/2003 (+184.4)												

Florida Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies/geography courses are taught in Middle & High School. They are electives, usually in 9th grade. Although three credits of social studies are required for graduation, geography is not one of the requirements. AP Human Geography courses are offered at the High School level. In 2003, 1,109 students took the AP Human geography course/exam. This is up from 390 students in 2001, a 184.4% increase. The lack of state social studies assessments is impacting social studies education in K-12.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies/geography curriculum is not tested on state assessment.

Social Studies Standards*

Florida has adopted social studies/geography standards. McRels wrote them based on the national standards. The Standards approved in 1996 were written in seven subject areas, each divided into four separate grade clusters (PreK-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12). This format was chosen to provide flexibility to school districts in designing curriculum based on local needs. However, as Florida moves toward greater accountability for student achievement at each grade level, the Sunshine State Standards have been further defined. In the subject areas of language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, the Sunshine State Standards have been expanded to include Grade Level Expectations. These Grade Level Expectations will eventually become the basis for state assessments at each grade 3-10 in language arts and mathematics--and may eventually be used in state assessments in science and social studies.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

Florida follows the NCLB "highly qualified" teacher requirements. Presently, A Broad Field Social Science certificate will suffice as highly qualified for social studies. In addition, all Florida teachers who give instruction in the core academic subjects at any level must meet the following criteria in order for a "highly qualified" response to be provided: hold an acceptable bachelor's or higher degree, and hold a valid Florida certificate in-field in the subject area assigned. In addition: All (elementary, middle, and secondary) "not new" teachers of core academic subjects must meet one of the following criteria in order for a "highly qualified" response to be provided: has passed the appropriate subject area test in the area assigned or has a satisfactory or better performance evaluation in the area assigned or has a major or equivalent courses in the subject area assigned as shown on a valid certificate for middle and secondary teachers only. "New" elementary teachers (hired after the first day of school in the 2002-03 school year) must meet one of the following criteria in order for a "highly qualified" response to be provided: has passed the appropriate subject area test in the area assigned or hold a valid in-field Professional Certificate in the area assigned.

*<http://www.firn.edu/doe/curric/prek12/frame2.htm>

**http://www.firn.edu/doe/bin00050/dataweb/database_0304/student_0304/elementu/pdf/eelu/st105_6.pdf

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Geography Courses Offered			X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment				X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
Standards in Place	Yes: Developed by education officials, teachers, and consultants												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 132/2001 – 296/2003 (+124.2%)												

Assessment Testing: Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests

Georgia Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies courses and content is integrated throughout K-12. Geography content is taught in:

- 2nd grade (Cultures and Customs Now and Then)
- 3rd grade (Communities)
- 4th grade (The Early Development of the United States)
- 5th grade (The United States through Modern Times)
- 6th and 7th grade (Cultural and Geographic Study of Selected Regions)
- 8th grade (Geography and History and State and Local Governments)

Social studies courses are offered as electives in grades 9-12. Elective courses are: World Geography, Asian Studies, Latin American Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Local Area Studies/Geography, Advanced Placement Human Geography, and International Baccalaureate Geography I. 3 credit units in social studies are required for graduation. This does not include any geography courses. AP Human Geography is offered in Georgia. In 2003, 296 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 132 students in 2001, a 124.2% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies content is tested on the Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. Social studies material is also tested on the Georgia High School Graduation Test in the 11th grade.

Social Studies Standards**

The Social Studies Framework for grades K – 12 consists of four strands: History, Geography, Government/Civics, and Economics. Each strand has 3 sub strands that guide the study of the social studies. The Social Studies Framework for grades K – 12 was developed by Georgia social studies educators during the Phase I process of the revision. The 3 geography sub strands are: 1) Physical and Human Systems; 2) Tools of Geography; and 3) Cultural Perspectives. Although these standards remain in place, the quality core curriculum for all content areas, including social studies, is undergoing an in-depth revision. The revised document will be ready by the 2004-2005 school year.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements***

Georgia follows the NCLB requirements for a “highly qualified” teacher. A teacher must be certified to teach by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission and be teaching in their field/s of certification. In general, a new teacher must hold a bachelor’s degree, hold a valid Georgia teaching certification, have a teaching assignment that is appropriate for the field/s listed on the Georgia teaching certificate, and have verification of subject matter content by having a major or equivalent in the subject/s they teach.

* <http://www.fcboe.org/gradreq/NewGRADREQ.html>

** http://www.georgiastandards.org/_documents/socialstudies/Socialstudies-overview.pdf

*** <http://www.gapsc.com/nclb/Admin/Files/ImpPolicy.pdf>

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Hawaii Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies content is integrated throughout K-12. Their social studies standards are broken up into four grade clusters: K-3, 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Although no geography specific courses are offered in K-8, the second semester 7th grade social studies course is linked to geographical concepts. World Geography (one semester) is the only geography elective available in grades 9-12. 4 units in social studies courses are required for graduation. AP Human Geography is offered in the state. In 2003, 1 student took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 0 students in 2001.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies content is not tested on the state assessment.

Social Studies Standards

Their social studies standards mirror the national standards and Geography for Life. The Social Studies Content Standards are based upon five major disciplines within the Social Studies. They are History, Political Science/Civics, Cultural Anthropology, Geography, and Economics. The standards represent the essence of each discipline; therefore require focusing on open-ended problems and issues, themes and major concepts and the skills and processes that are endemic to each discipline.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

Hawaii follows the NCLB definition of a "highly qualified" teacher. In order to comply with NCLB regulations, a "highly qualified" teacher in Hawaii is defined as a teacher who holds at least a bachelor's degree and in each core academic subject taught has a Hawaii license for teaching, or has successfully completed a state approved teacher education program, or has successfully completed an undergraduate major, a graduate degree, course work equivalent to an undergraduate major, or advanced certification or credential.

* <http://doe.k12.hi.us/standards/accn/accn20022004.pdf>

** http://arch.k12.hi.us/pdf/nclb/2003/SEA%20Final%2012_04.pdf

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered							X	X					Offered as electives
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment	Not Tested												
Standards in Place	Yes: Partially derived from the national standards												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 12/2001 – 52/2003 (+333.3%)												

[illegible]

Idaho Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies curriculum is integrated throughout K-12. Geography courses are taught in:

- 6th grade (Geography and Cultures: Western Hemisphere)
- 7th grade (Geography and Cultures: Eastern Hemisphere).

Geography courses are not required in high school, but they are offered as electives in just a few districts. For graduation, a student must take five (5) required social studies credits, including government (two (2) credits), U.S. history (two (2) credits), and economics (one (1) credit). Current world affairs and geography are integrated into all social studies instruction. Although courses such as geography, sociology, world affairs and world history may be offered as electives, they are not to be counted as a social studies requirement. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 52 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 12 students in 2001, a 333.3% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Idaho does not require a state test in social studies/geography; however, they state that they have strong state standards for social studies with a K-12 strand dedicated to geography, and a separate set of middle school geography standards – the state provides an end-of-course knowledge test in 7th grade for geography as all standards must be assessed. Discreet sub-scores are only from the EOC.

Social Studies Standards

Social studies/geography standards are derived from the national standards. For each grade in K-12 there are specific geography standards that state what a student will be able to do. There are also specific content knowledge and skill standards that say what a student must know by the end of the specific grade.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

Although the definition of a “highly qualified” social studies/geography teacher is in discussion, the State of Idaho continues to define for itself many aspects of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001(NCLB). A teacher seeking an Idaho license to teach in a core academic subject area must meet the definition of a NCLB “highly qualified” teacher. All teachers must have a bachelor’s degree. New teachers must complete an approved teacher preparation program or an approved alternative certification program. New elementary teachers must pass a rigorous state test in elementary curriculum and a rigorous state test in pedagogy. New middle school or secondary academic core teachers must meet one of the following:

- a. Earn a major in the subject area they are to teach,
- b. Earn credits equal to a major in the subject area,
- c. Earn an advanced degree in the subject area,
- d. Earn an advanced certificate in the subject area, or
- e. Pass a rigorous state subject area test.

* <http://www2.state.id.us/adm/adminrules/rules/idapa08/0203.pdf>

The State of Illinois

[illegible]

Illinois Social Studies & Geography Information

Curriculum Background

The social studies standards are taught in all grade levels. However, they become most defined between 4th and 12th grades. United States History is required in High School and with that is the requirement for government and civics. Usually government is a separate course. They also require consumer education in high school. 2 years of social science is required for graduation. Geography, World History, Economics and others are considered electives. It is up to the school district to determine any requirements beyond what is in the school code. AP courses are offered in some schools, usually at the senior level. In 2003, 330 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 232 students in 2001, a 42.2% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies/geography is presently tested on the state assessment in 4th, 7th, and 11th grade, and will be moved to 5th and 8th grade in 2006. The state assessment covers all of the goals of social studies/geography. The test results are reported as a sub-score as a cluster of standards. These tests are high-stakes tests which are legislatively mandated.

Social Studies Standards*

Illinois has had social science standards since 1997. The national standards and Geography for Life were sources used to develop the social science standards. Dr. Norman Bettis helped many times to get the Illinois Geography written and used in their schools. The social studies standards are broken into 5 goals, with geography being one of the goals. The geography goals are broken into 4 learning standards for early elementary, late elementary, middle/junior high school, early high school, and late high school.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

Illinois follows the NCLB "highly qualified" teacher requirements for the Core Academic Subjects – NCLB defines the "core academic subjects" as including English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history and geography. Note: NCLB has identified several specific subject areas under the general areas of the sciences and social sciences. The Illinois criteria treat these subject areas consistent with the new state certification structure and the standards for these academic areas. This includes an expectation for core competencies and specific designations related to subject areas. There is a core area test for new teachers over all of social studies and specific tests within each area (e.g., geography, history, economics, etc.)

* <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/ils/socscience/sog17.html>

The State of Indiana

K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered					X	X	X	X				Electives
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-8											
Social Studies Assessment	Not Tested											
Standards in Place	Yes: Follow the NCGE/National Geography Society Geography for Life standards											
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements											
AP Human Geography	Yes: 3/2001 – 22/2003 (+633.3%)											

Indiana Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies/geography courses are embedded in the K-8 social studies standards – see <http://www.doe.state.in.us/standards/welcome.html> for the K-12 social studies academic standards. The K-8 academic standards are a required component of the curriculum. Geography content is taught in:

- 5th grade (The United States – The Founding of the Republic)
- 6th grade (Peoples, Places and Cultures in Europe and the Americas)
- 7th grade (Peoples, Places and Cultures in Africa, Asia, and the Southwest Pacific)
- 8th grade (United States History – Growth and Development)

The high school academic standards are required to earn the academic credit. The high school world geography course is an elective that may be taken at any time during the high school experience. 4 credits of social studies are required for graduation and some school districts require world geography for graduation, but the state does not. AP Human Geography is offered at the high school level. In 2003, 22 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 3 students in 2001, a 633.3% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Currently social studies content is not assessed on the state assessment.

Social Studies Standards*

The NCGE/National Geography Society Geography for Life standards were used in developing their state standards in geography. The standards are organized around five content areas: history, civics and government, geography, economics, and individual, society and cultures. The geography content standards are then broken into 6 sub-standards which are: 1) The World in Spatial Terms; 2) Places and Regions; 3) Physical Systems; 4) Human Systems; 5) Environment and Society; and 6) The Uses of Geography.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

As defined by NCLB, a “highly quality” teacher in Indiana is one who possesses at least a bachelor’s degree and is either state-certified or licensed by having passed a state licensing exam. In addition, NCLB addresses teacher quality in subject knowledge, stating that:

- All new elementary school teachers must pass a state test of general subject knowledge and teaching skills.
- New middle school and secondary school teachers must have either studied their subject as an undergraduate or graduate major (or have advanced certification), or must pass a state subject test.
- Existing teachers must have either met the applicable subject matter knowledge criteria for new teachers, or must demonstrate competence in all subjects taught based on a state standard of evaluation.

* <http://www.indianastandards.org/grade2.asp?subj=soc>

The State of Iowa

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered													
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment	Not Tested												
Standards in Place	No Standards												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 9/2001 – 8/2003 (-11.1%)												

Iowa Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies content is a basic of the K-12 curriculum. Although Iowa has not adopted social studies/geography standards, many school districts have established social studies benchmarks. Iowa has set minimum standards stipulating what classes should be offered in high schools. It is recommended that students take 3 units of social studies. However, the state has not set minimum high school graduation requirements. Some schools offer AP Human Geography. In 2003, 8 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is down from 9 students in 2001, an 11.1% decrease.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies curriculum is not tested on the state assessment.

Social Studies Standards

Iowa has not adopted any social studies/geography standards.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

A "highly qualified" teacher must have a bachelor's degree, hold either an initial or standard state teaching license, and have state endorsement in the core subject he or she teaches. Iowa uses the Praxis II examinations to assess subject matter competency of program graduates. They currently set no minimum pass score and use the test results to provide the legislature with general program performance not individual student performance. Once teachers in Iowa obtain their standard license, they must regularly take additional courses to stay current in teaching practices and the subject they teach.

[illegible][illegible]

Kansas Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Kansas has established curriculum standards for geography and social studies. Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12. Three units of social studies, which shall include one unit of United States history and at least 1/2 unit of United States government, including the Constitution of the United States, and a course of instruction in Kansas history and government is required. AP Human Geography courses are offered throughout the state. In 2003, 0 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is down from 3 students in 2001.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies content, including geography, is assessed at grades 6, 8, and 11 on the Kansas State Assessment Test.

Social Studies Standards**

The social studies/geography standards were derived from teachers, school officials, the national standards, and Geography for Life. Specific standards are defined for civics-government, economics, geography and history for grades K-8, and High School.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements***

Kansas follows the "highly qualified" teacher requirements of the NCLB. The state definition of HQT is: 1) has full state certification; or 2) passed the state teacher examination; 3) holds a license to teach; and 4) no requirements are waived on an emergency, temporary or provisional basis.

* <http://www.ksde.org/outcomes/socialstudies.pdf>

** <http://www.ksde.org/outcomes/ssdraft.html>

*** http://www.kckps.org/federal2/pdf_files/nclb/hqtchrs_title2.pdf

The State of Kentucky

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered							X						
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment						X			X				X
Standards in Place	Yes: Standards were developed by state officials, educators, and consultants												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 0/2001 – 16/2003												

Kentucky Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies/geography courses are taught throughout K-12. Geography courses are offered in the 6th grade (World Geography), and as an elective in grades 9-12 (World Geography). Three credits for social studies are required for high school graduation. These credits must incorporate the five social studies disciplines of U.S. history, economics, government, world geography, and world civilization. Districts and schools can arrange the essential content within the three-credit requirement to best meet their need. AP Human Geography courses are offered for grades 9-12. Most are taken by Juniors and Seniors. In 2003, 16 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 0 students in 2001.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies/geography curriculum is assessed in the 5th and 8th grade, and is tested on the state assessment test in 11th grade. The scores are reported as a sub-domain within social studies.

Social Studies Standards*

Kentucky has adopted social studies/geography standards that are based upon input from teachers, school officials, and consultants. The social studies standards have five strands which are: 1) Government and Civics; 2) Culture and Society; 3) Economics; 4) Geography; and 5) Historical Perspective. Each of the five areas is further organized around three to four assertions or broad content statements. The same assertions are used across the grade level clusters (elementary--assessment at grade 5, middle level--assessment at grade 8, and high school--assessment at grade 11).

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

The NCLB has three basic requirements for being considered "highly qualified" in core academic subjects. The teacher must have at least a bachelor's degree, must be fully certified in the state where he/she teaches, and has demonstrated competency in the core academic subjects he/she teaches. The Praxis exam is also used to verify "highly qualified" educators.

Kentucky also issues interdisciplinary certification in English and social studies at the middle and secondary school levels. In accordance with aforementioned policy on standards-based preparation, teachers certified in these areas hold the equivalent of a major with sufficient credits in the related areas to be deemed "highly qualified." A middle or secondary school English teacher is "highly qualified" to instruct reading/writing in addition to English at the respective grade level. A middle or secondary social studies teacher is "highly qualified" to instruct history, political science, economics, and geography at the respective grade level.

*<http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Instructional+Resources/Curriculum+Documents+and+Resources/Core+Content+for+Assessment.htm>

The State of Louisiana

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered													
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment				[X]	X	[X]	[X]	[X]	X	[X]	[X]	X	
Standards in Place	Yes: National standards and Geography for Life were used as resources												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 1/2001 – 8/2003 (+700%)												

Assessment Testing: [X] indicates the IOWA test, and X indicates the state assessment.

Louisiana Social Studies/Geography Curriculum

Information

Curriculum Background

Social Studies content is taught throughout K-12 in Louisiana. They have developed K-12 content standards as well as Grade Level Expectations (GLEs) for K-12 in all 4 core content areas. AP courses are offered at the high school level. What is offered varies from district to district relative to qualified teachers and student interest. In 2003, 8 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 1 student in 2001, a 700% increase. World Geography is offered as a high school course and may be taken for either elective or graduation credit. 3 Carnegie units in Social Studies are required for graduation:

- American History 1 unit
- Civics 1/2 unit
- Free Enterprise 1/2 unit
- CHOICE: One of the following...World Geography, Western Civilization, World History for 1 unit.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Louisiana test social studies in grades 3-11 either on the state test or the IOWA. State assessments are in the 4 core content areas at grades 4, 8 and 11, while the IOWA test is assessed in grades 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10. In 2006 they will have augmented CRTs called the ILEAP21, in grades 3, 5, and 7. Social Studies is part of the high stakes testing program in the 11th grade. Students must pass mathematics, English Language Arts and either social studies or science to graduate. Social studies is not broken into sub-scores.

Social Studies Standards

The national standards were used by state committees as a guide when the state standards were developed. Their standards are closely aligned with national standards in the 4 strands of economics, history, geography and civics. They had committee members who belonged to the Louisiana Geography Alliance, the Louisiana Council for Economic Education and the Louisiana Council for Social Studies sit on the development committees.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

Resources have been developed for social studies teacher in Louisiana that address geography education including the Social Studies Guide to Statewide Assessment, Focused Learning Lessons, Teacher to Teacher Videos and various professional development offerings related to standards based instruction and GLEs.

“Highly qualified” depends on whether you are teaching at the elementary, middle or high school level. Some of this is still being worked out, but they follow the NCLB highly qualified teacher requirements.

The State of Maine

[illegible]

Maine Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Geography is taught throughout K-12. Although geography is not a separate course in K-6, they have Geography standards that are required to be taught and assessed at the local level. They do not have a state curriculum. However, many Middle Schools have a World Geography course in the 7th grade. At the high school level, while there is some geography courses provided, they are not required by the state. High School social studies programs do need to teach and assess the geography standards. The Local Assessment Systems for each school district are required to certify that each student meet the standards for geography and other social studies clusters.. History, Civics/Government and Economics. Maine is just starting to see AP Human Geography courses begin to appear in various schools' Programs of Study. Bangor High School has been a pilot sight for AP Human Geography. In 2003, 39 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 1 student in 2001, a 3,800% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

For over 15 years, Social Studies, including Geography, was a major component of the MEA (Maine State Assessment Program). Due to the demands of No Child Left Behind, this part of the MEA was discontinued. They did report, by individual standards. Currently, each district must have a Local Assessment System which includes assessing each student on Geography Standards K-12. Districts must also report the results at the student level for each of the clusters.

Social Studies Standards

Their Geography Standards (called Learning Results in Maine) were based on the "Geography for Life" national standards. Presently their Learning Results are being reviewed and revised. Through revisions they hope to increase the number and quality of the Geography Standards in Maine's Learning Results. This review process will begin in the spring of 2004. Geography is one of the social studies clusters.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements*

Maine is in the midst of a process to define the definition/requirements for a "highly qualified" social studies/geography teacher. They are currently following the NCLB requirements, which require a teacher to have at least a bachelor's degree; and have a valid state certification for which no requirements have been waived; and demonstrate content knowledge in core academic subject(s) taught. In Maine, full certification for "highly qualified" means: provisional certification, professional certification, or Master Teacher certification.

* <http://www.maine.gov/education/edlets/2004/adlet/7>

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The State of Maryland

[illegible]

Maryland Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Geography is integrated in their Voluntary State Curriculum and concepts are taught from pre-K through high school. Each school system in Maryland has control over what courses are taught as electives. Geography is not a required course; however, geographic concepts are assessed on our Government High School Assessment. Some local school systems do have Geography as an elective course, but the state does not know which jurisdictions are currently offering these courses. Some local school systems do have AP Human Geography courses, but the state does not know which jurisdictions are currently offering these courses. In 2003, 179 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 40 students in 2001, a 347.5% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Geography is a goal that is assessed on the Maryland High School assessment. You can view the assessment items by goal through this link: http://mdk12.org/mspp/high_school/look_like/government/intro.html. Geography is assessed in the third goal and items are tagged by indicators 3.1.1, 3.1.2, and 3.1.3. To view the Core Learning Goals (document used for assessment) and view the Geographic concepts assessed view this link: http://mdk12.org/mspp/high_school/what_will/socialstudies/index.html. Under the Government Core Learning Goals, it is measured under Goal Three, and in U.S. History, geographic concepts are integrated throughout the goals (which are representative eras). It has not yet been determined if geography scores will be reported as a sub-score.

Social Studies Standards

Maryland has adopted social studies/geography standards based on the National Geography Standards for Life.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

To be considered "highly qualified" in Maryland, all K-12 teachers and middle grades teachers who teach a core academic subjects must: 1) Hold at least a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited institution of higher education (IHE); 2) Hold a valid Standard Professional Certificate or Advanced Professional Certificate or Resident Teacher Certificate; and 3) Demonstrate high level of competency in *each* of the core academic subjects in which the teacher teaches by one of the following: a) passing the applicable state content test in *each* of the core academic subjects in which the teacher teaches; or b) completing an academic major; or c) completing the coursework equivalent to an academic major; or d) earning a graduate degree; or e) achieving certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, in *each* of the core academic subjects in which the teacher teaches; or f) meeting the requirements of Maryland's High Objective Uniform State Standard of Evaluation (HOUSSE).



The State of Massachusetts

[illegible]

Massachusetts Social Studies/Geography Curriculum

Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies content is integrated throughout K-12. Course offerings are as follows:

- Grade 3: Massachusetts and its Cities and Towns: Geography and History
- Grade 4: North American Geography with Optional Standards for One Early Civilization
- Grade 5: United States History, Geography, Economics, and Government: Early Exploration to Westward Movement
- Grade 6: World Geography

Graduation requirements are determined by local school districts. As a result, the requirements vary from district to district. Out of the 226 local and regional public schools in the state, 87% require at least 3 years of history/social science courses. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 59 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 31 students in 2001, a 90.3% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies*

Social studies (Referred to as Social Science) curriculum was tested on the state assessment test in grades 5, 8, and 10, but is no longer tested as of 2003.

Social Studies Standards

The national standards were used to help develop Massachusetts social studies standards. The History and Social Science Curriculum Framework presents the academic content, concepts, and skills in history, geography, economics, and civics and government that are essential to the study of democracy, and to the development of educated and responsible citizens.

The learning standards, concepts, and skills in the History and Social Science Curriculum Framework are organized into grade level sets for preK-K and grades 1 through 7. Starting in grade 8 and continuing through high school, this framework presents learning standards, concepts, and skills for world history and United States history as well as for two senior electives, one in economics and one in civics and government. The learning standards, concepts, and skills describe what students should know and be able to do as a result of their studies in history and social science. The learning standards describe the knowledge of history, geography, economics, and civics that students are expected to acquire at a particular grade level.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

A "Highly qualified" Massachusetts teacher must possess a valid Massachusetts teaching license at either the preliminary, initial, or professional level (formerly known as the provisional, provisional with advanced standing, and standard level) and demonstrate subject matter competency in the areas they teach. NCLB subject matter competence requirements are applied differently to those who teach at different levels.

* <http://www.aft.org/edissues/standards/MSM2001/downloads/states/ma.pdf>

** http://www.doe.mass.edu/nclb/hq/hq_memo.html



The State of Michigan

[illegible]

Michigan Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies/geography is an integrated study of the social sciences. K-12 social studies curriculum is designed to meet the 25 standards established by the state. Only one course in Government/Civics is required for graduation. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 96 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 17 students in 2001, a 464.7% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies content is tested on the MAEP assessment test in grades 5, 8, and 11.

Social Studies Standards**

The Michigan social studies standards were partially derived from the national standards and Geography for Life. The social studies standards are one of the four standards (English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) within the content standards. The social studies standards are further divided into 7 sub-standards which are: 1) Historical Perspective; 2) Geographic Perspective; 3) Civic Perspective; 4) Economic Perspective; 5) Inquiry; 6) Public Discourse & Decision Making; and 7) Citizen Involvement.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements***

Michigan law requires that a person employed in an elementary or secondary school with instructional responsibilities shall hold a certificate, permit, or vocational authorization valid for the position to which he/she is assigned to be considered "highly qualified."

A "highly qualified" teacher at the elementary level must hold at least a bachelor's degree, and full state certification including passage of the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) basic skills test and the comprehensive elementary examination. New elementary teachers who are assigned to teach specific content area(s) in grades 6-8 must pass the appropriate MTTC subject area examination.

A "highly qualified" teacher at the middle and secondary levels (grades 7-12) must hold at least a bachelor's degree and full state certification, including passage of the MTTC basic skills test and subject area major and minor examinations.

* http://www.michigan.gov/documents/MichiganCurriculumFramework_8172_7.pdf

** http://www.michigan.gov/documents/MichiganCurriculumFramework_8172_7.pdf

*** <http://www.mea.org/design.cfm?p=5236>



The State of Minnesota

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography courses offered													
State standards													
Current standards													
Assessment													
Standards													
Place													
2													
Definition													
P Human													
Geography													

Electives

High School

Middle Level

Not Tested

Yes: National standards and Geography for Life were used to help develop their standards

Following the NCLB requirements

Yes: 180/2001 – 233/2003 (+29.4%)

Minnesota Social Studies/Geography Curriculum **Information**

Curriculum Background*

Social studies standards are integrated throughout K-12. Social studies standards are broken up into 4 categories: Primary (K-3), Intermediate (4-5), Middle Level (6-8), and High School (9-12). 4 units of social studies are required for high school graduation, which includes at least a year of geography. AP Human Geography courses are offered throughout the state. In 2003, 233 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 180 students in 2001, a 29.4% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies content is not tested on the state assessment test.

Social Studies Standards**

Minnesota used the national standards and Geography for Life to help develop their 2004 revised social studies standards. The Minnesota Academic Standards in History and Social Studies are organized by grade level into seven strands: 1) U.S. History, 2) World History, 3) Essential Skills, 4) Government and Citizenship, 5) Geography, 6) Economics, and 7) Minnesota History (appears at grade 6 only). One or more categories or sub-strands of standards are listed under each strand. For example, the Geography strand includes the sub-strands of Concepts of Location, Maps and Globes, and Physical Features.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements***

Minnesota follows the NCLB requirements for a "highly qualified" teacher. The Minnesota definition of a "highly qualified" teacher in a core academic area requires all three of the following: 1) The teacher holds a valid full state teacher license (a five-year Professional or Continuing license) for the core academic subject he/she is teaching and; 2) The teacher has a minimum of a bachelor's degree and; 3) The teacher has a major (for secondary teachers), or sufficient subject matter competency for the assignment (for elementary and middle level teachers), in the core academic subject area(s); or, has taken and passed the Praxis II content test in the core academic subject area; or, has demonstrated subject matter competence via the Minnesota HOUSSE Process.

* <http://edstar.ncrel.org/mn/MNSubj.asp?SubjID=27>

** <http://education.state.mn.us/content/059712.pdf>

*** <http://education.state.mn.us/content/060052.pdf>



The State of Mississippi

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography uses red lines content													
all lines assessment													
Standards Place													
Definition Human Geography													
Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-8, and offered as elective in 9-12. Benchmarks are set at grades:													
Benchmark K-4				Benchmark 5-8				Benchmark 9-12					
								[X]					
Yes: National standards and Geography for Life were used to help develop their standards													
Following the NCLB requirements													
Yes: 4/2001 – 1/2003													

Assessment Test: [X] indicates tested on the state subject test in the 11th grade, but not tested on state assessment test

Mississippi Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies curriculum is integrated throughout K- 8, and as electives in grades 8-12. Elective courses are:

- United States History: 1877 to the Present
- Introduction to World Geography
- Advanced World Geography
- Biblical History of the Ancient Middle East 2000 B.C.-100 A.D.
- Introduction to the Social Sciences
- Local Culture

Mississippi requires 3 units of social studies electives for graduation. Some school districts offer AP Human Geography courses. In 2003, 1 student took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is down from 4 students in 2001, a 75% decrease.

State Assessment in Social Studies**

Although social studies content (US History from 1877) is tested on the state subject test usually in the 11th grade, which is required for graduation, it is not tested on the state assessment test at any level.

Social Studies Standards***

The social studies standards in Mississippi mirror the national standards and Geography for Life. The Mississippi Social Studies Framework is comprised of four (4) essential strands: History, Geography, Civics, and Economics. The strands overlap and combine in the competencies, showing the integrated and complex nature of the social studies. Benchmarks serve as broad social studies goals that students should accomplish by grades 4, 8, and 12. Benchmarks serve as indicators of student accomplishment of competencies and may or may not be tested.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements****

Mississippi follows the "highly qualified" teacher requirements of the NCLB Act. A new elementary teacher (K-6) obtains an initial license by: 1) Holding a baccalaureate degree; and 2) Acquiring the necessary pedagogical skills by completing one of the following: a) an approved pre-service teacher preparation program for elementary education from a regionally/nationally-accredited Institution of Higher Learning; or b) an approved alternate route to certification program (4-8 only) for middle/secondary education; and, demonstrating content knowledge by passing rigorous State approved tests (Praxis) covering subject knowledge and teaching skills in reading, writing, mathematics, and other areas of the basic elementary school curriculum.

A new middle (7-8) secondary teacher who teaches a core academic subject (English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography) holds at least a bachelor's degree and at least a Class A Educator License with an endorsement for every core academic subject the teacher teaches. The initial license is obtained by: 1) Holding a baccalaureate degree; and 2) Acquiring the necessary pedagogical skills by completing one of the following: a) an approved pre-service teacher preparation program from a regionally/nationally-accredited Institution of Higher Learning (middle school teachers) or b) an

approved alternate route certification program for middle/secondary education; and,
demonstrating content knowledge by passing rigorous State approved tests (Praxis).

- * <http://marcopolo.mde.k12.ms.us/frameworks.html>
- ** <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/acad/osa/index.html>
- *** http://marcopolo.mde.k12.ms.us/downloads/social_studies/ss_gen_introduction.pdf
- **** http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/ed_licensure/doc/Highly_Qualified_Definition_final.doc



The State of Missouri

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered													
Social Studies Content													
Social Studies Assessment					X				X				X
Standards in Place	Yes: National standards and Geography for Life were used to help develop their standards												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 33/2001 – 53/2003 (+60.6%)												

Missouri Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies/geography courses are integrated throughout K-12. Social studies/geography courses, including AP Human Geography, are offered in grades 9-12. At least two units must be selected to enable students to master important knowledge and skills in the areas of civic knowledge and responsibility; economic systems and functions; governmental functions; geography; world history; and American history. One of the two units must be American history; and the equivalent of one-half unit must be in government. In 2003, 53 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 33 students in 2001, a 60.6% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies/geography is tested on the state assessment in grades 4, 8, 11. The scores can be analyzed on the content standard analysis.

Social Studies Standards

Missouri has adopted social studies/geography standards that are based largely upon the national standards and Geography for Life. The social studies content is broken up into 3 grade ranges: 1) K-4; 2) 5-8; and 3) 9-12.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements*

A "highly qualified" teacher must have a BS in Social Studies Education or a BS in Geography with required Education hours. Other than this requirement, they must pass the requirements set by NCLB and Missouri. These requirements are as follow: To be considered "highly qualified" in Missouri, a teacher must have: a baccalaureate degree from a college or university having a teacher education program approved by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education or from a college or university having a teacher education program approved by the state education agency in states other than Missouri; must have recommendation of designated official for teacher education in the college or university; must have a grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale overall and in the major area of study; must complete the content knowledge or specialty area test designated by the State Board of Education with a score equal to or greater than the Missouri qualifying score; and completion of professional requirements, as determined by the recommending college or university, which may exceed these minimum requirements.

*<http://www.dese.mo.gov/schoollaw/rulesregs/pending/compendium/Compendium.pdf#page=9>

The State of Montana

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered													
Social Studies Content	Social studies content is integrated throughout K-12, with 3 benchmarks at grades 4, 8, and 12												
Social Studies Assessment Standards in Place	Benchmark 1 (K-4)				Benchmark 2 (5-8)				Benchmark 3 (9-12)				
					[X]				[X]				[X]
Yes: Developed by state officials, educators and consultants													
Following the NCLB requirements													
Not Offered													
AP Human Geography													

Assessment Testing: [X] indicates that social studies content is tested on the IOWA test, not the state assessment.

Montana Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies content is an integrated study of the social sciences and humanities, which includes geography for K – 12. Benchmarks are set at the end of grades 4, 8, and 12. 4 units of social studies curriculum are required for graduation. Graduation requirements are determined by local school districts. Some districts require social studies/geography courses for graduation while others do not. AP Human Geography courses are not offered in the state.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies curriculum is not tested on the state assessment, but it is tested on the IOWA test in grades 4, 8, and 11.

Social Studies Standards**

Montana's social studies standards were developed by state officials, teachers and various consultants. 6 social studies content standards help indicate what all students should know, understand and be able to do in a specific content area, which includes geographical knowledge and skills in content standard 3. Benchmarks are also used to define the expectations for students' knowledge, skills and abilities along a developmental continuum in each content area.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements***

The definition of "highly qualified" teacher in NCLB has been approved by the U.S. Department of Education for Montana to mean a teacher that is properly certified and endorsed in all areas of the teaching assignment, and has a subject area bachelor's degree.

* <http://www.metnet.state.mt.us/accreditation/HTM/ContStds-SocSt.pdf>

** <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/>

*** <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/PDF/TitleI/ImpNewReq.pdf>

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered						X	X						Electives
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment	Not Tested												
Standards in Place	Yes: Partially derived from the national standards												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Not Offered												

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered						X	X						Electives
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment	Not Tested												
Standards in Place	Yes: Partially derived from the national standards												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Not Offered												

Nebraska Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies is an integrated study of the social sciences and humanities, which includes geography for K – 12. Benchmarks are set at the end of grades 1, 4, 8, and 12. AP Human Geography courses are not offered in the state. Geography content/courses are offered in:

- 5th grade (United States History and Geography)
- 6th grade (American Neighbors and World Geography)
- 9-12 elective (World Geography).

Nebraska is a local control state, so high school graduation requirements are determined by each school district.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies curriculum is not tested on the state assessment.

Social Studies Standards

Nebraska's social studies standards partially mirror the national standards. The Nebraska social studies standards are broken into 4 benchmarks, which are at the end of the 1st, 4th, 8th, and 12th grade. Geography content is required for each grade range contained in the benchmarks.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

The definition of "highly qualified" teacher in NCLB is used for Nebraska's definition. A "highly qualified" elementary teacher is one who: 1) obtained full State certification and holds a license to teach (no waivers or provisional basis); 2) holds a bachelor's degree; and 3) has demonstrated, by passing a rigorous State test, subject knowledge and teaching skills in reading, writing, mathematics and other areas of the basic elementary school curriculum.

A "highly qualified" middle or secondary teacher is one who: 1) obtained full State certification and holds a license to teach (no waivers or provisional basis); 2) holds a bachelor's degree; 3) passed a rigorous State academic subject test in each of the academic subject in which the teacher teaches; or 4) can demonstrate successful completion, in each of the academic subjects in which the teacher teaches, of an academic major, a graduate degree, coursework equivalent to an undergraduate academic major, or advanced certification or credentialing.

* <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/ndestandards/sciencedrft.htm>

** <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/Title1/fedprgm/NEBRASKARESPONSE.pdf>

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered													Electives
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment	Not Tested												
Standards in Place	Yes: National standards and Geography for Life were used to help develop their standards												
HQ	Following the NCLB requirements												
Definition	Yes: 28/2001 – 37/2003 (+32.1%)												
AP Human Geography													

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered													Electives
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment	Not Tested												
Standards in Place	Yes: National standards and Geography for Life were used to help develop their standards												
HQ	Following the NCLB requirements												
Definition	Yes: 28/2001 – 37/2003 (+32.1%)												
AP Human Geography													

Nevada Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies curriculum is integrated throughout K-12, and social studies courses are offered as electives in 9-12. Geography performance standards are set at grades 2, 3, 5, 8, and 12. Although 2 units of social studies are required for graduation, geography is not one of the requirements. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 37 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 28 students in 2001, a 32.1% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies curriculum is not tested on the state assessment.

Social Studies Standards**

Their social studies standards were partially derived from the national standards and Geography for Life. Nevada's newly revised social studies standards contain 4 main subject areas: 1) Civics; 2) Economics; 3) Geography; and 4) History. Each subject area, including geography, is broken down into specific content standards and performance standards.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements***

The definition of "highly qualified" teacher in NCLB is used for Nevada's definition. Elementary teachers - must have passed the competency tests to be considered highly qualified. For highly qualified purposes these tests are: Praxis II - Specialty Area Tests. Middle school and secondary teachers - must have demonstrated competency in each of the subjects they teach in the following ways: passed the Praxis II - Core Subject Assessments or successfully completed one of the following... an academic major - coursework equivalent to an undergraduate academic major - a graduate degree in the subject being taught - a professional license in the subject being taught issued by Nevada licensing - National Board Certification in the subject being taught.

* <http://www.nde.state.nv.us/sca/standards/standardsfiles/social/geoperf.pdf>

** <http://www.doe.nv.gov/sca/standards/standardsfiles/social/index.html>

*** <http://www.doe.nv.gov/nclb/hqtr/HQTR.doc>

New Hampshire Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Course offerings are mainly a matter of local option in New Hampshire. All high schools are required to offer geography, but the grade level and focus are local choices. The exceptions are a required US History course, and required one semester Economics course, but even those are placed by local option. New Hampshire has many AP Social Studies courses at 10, 11, and 12- all local option, but only one high school offers AP Human Geography. In 2003, 31 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 1 student in 2001, a 3,000% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies/geography curriculum was taken off of the state assessment in 2003 due to budget constraints.

Social Studies Standards*

New Hampshire's content framework is based on the significant body of research in social studies education, curriculum design, and effective instructional practices carried out over the past decade by leading councils, commissions, the national standards, and Geography for Life. The framework is broken down into curriculum standards and proficiency standards, which include geography. In the geography curriculum standard, proficiency standards are set at grades 6 (known as Elementary) and 10 (known as Secondary).

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

The definition/requirements of a "highly qualified" social studies/geography teacher are currently under discussion. As of now, a "highly qualified" teacher of geography must meet social studies requirements (in-depth knowledge of two areas, acquaintance with four), but this is subject to change. It is recommended that a teacher have a subject areas bachelor's degree and/or pass the Praxis II.

* <http://www.ed.state.nh.us/CurriculumFrameworks/k-126.htm>

The State of New Hampshire

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered													
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is a matter of local decision and not required by the state												
Social Studies Assessment Standards in Place	Not Tested as of 2003												
HQ Definition AP Human Geography	Yes: Partly derived from the national standards, Geography for Life, and other resources Following the NCLB requirement Yes: 1/2001 – 31/2003 (+3,000%)												

New Hampshire Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Course offerings are mainly a matter of local option in New Hampshire. All high schools are required to offer geography, but the grade level and focus are local choices. The exceptions are a required US History course, and required one semester Economics course, but even those are placed by local option. New Hampshire has many AP Social Studies courses at 10, 11, and 12- all local option, but only one high school offers AP Human Geography. In 2003, 31 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 1 student in 2001, a 3,000% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies/geography curriculum was taken off of the state assessment in 2003 due to budget constraints.

Social Studies Standards*

New Hampshire's content framework is based on the significant body of research in social studies education, curriculum design, and effective instructional practices carried out over the past decade by leading councils, commissions, the national standards, and Geography for Life. The framework is broken down into curriculum standards and proficiency standards, which include geography. In the geography curriculum standard, proficiency standards are set at grades 6 (known as Elementary) and 10 (known as Secondary).

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

The definition/requirements of a "highly qualified" social studies/geography teacher are currently under discussion. As of now, a "highly qualified" teacher of geography must meet social studies requirements (in-depth knowledge of two areas, acquaintance with four), but this is subject to change. It is recommended that a teacher have a subject areas bachelor's degree and/or pass the Praxis II.

* <http://www.ed.state.nh.us/CurriculumFrameworks/k-126.htm>

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New Jersey Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies curriculum is integrated throughout K-12. They also specify geography, civics and economics for three grade clusters: K-4, 5-8 and 9-12. Social studies courses are offered as electives in 9-12. 3 units of social studies are required for graduation (2 years of US History and 1 year of World History). AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 43 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 15 students in 2001, a 186.7% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies curriculum is not tested on the state assessment.

Social Studies Standards**

The national standards and Geography for Life were both used to help develop the first New Jersey social studies standards. Presently the social studies standards are being revised. The new standards contain five social studies standards, each which has a number of lettered strands. These standards are: 1) Civics; 2) World History; 3) United States/New Jersey History; 4) Economics; and 5) Geography. National standards and Geography for Life are also being referred to during the revision process.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

New Jersey uses the "highly qualified" teacher requirements set by the NCLB Act of 2001. A 'highly qualified' teacher in New Jersey must hold at least a bachelor's degree; be fully certified/licensed by New Jersey; and demonstrate competence in each of the core academic subjects in which the teacher teaches. Teachers demonstrate competence in the subject(s) they teach by either: Passing a rigorous state test or completing an academic major, graduate degree, coursework equivalent to an undergraduate academic major, or national certification or credentialing; or meeting the requirements of a high, objective uniform standard of evaluation (HOUSE), which is now being developed by New Jersey.

* <http://www2.prs.k12.nj.us/District/BoardPolicies/6000Group/6146.html>

** <http://www.state.nj.us/njded/cccs/drafts/ss.pdf>

The State of New Mexico

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered					X	X	X	X					
Social Studies Content													
Social Studies Assessment													
Standards in Place													
HQ													
Definition													
AP Human Geography													

3 required social studies electives

Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12

Yes: Developed by the New Mexico Board to Education and based upon the national standards and Geography for life

Following the NCLB requirements

Yes: 0/2001 – 7/2003

Assessment Testing: [X] The norm-referenced test (grades 3-9), and the New Mexico High School Competency Exam (10th grade)

New Mexico Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies content is taught throughout K-12. The state statute requires that all 4th, 5th, and 6th grade classes must provide instruction in social studies, including geography. 7th grade instruction must include a course in New Mexico History and Geography. Three units of social studies are required for graduation:

- United States History and Geography
- World History and Geography
- Government and Economics

AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 7 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 0 students in 2001.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social science content is tested on the norm-referenced test (NRT) for students in grades 3-9. The results of this assessment are counted within the state's accountability report. Social science content is also tested on the New Mexico High School Competency Exam (NMHSCE) during the second semester of the 10th grade. Students must pass this test to graduate. The state graduation examination on social science shall include a section on the constitution of the United States and the constitution of New Mexico.

Social Studies Standards*

The New Mexico State Board of Education adopted K-12 social studies content standards, benchmarks, and performance standards in June 2001. Content Standards, Benchmarks, and Performance Standards in social studies are developed into four disciplinary strands: 1) History (New Mexico, United States, and World); 2) Geography; 3) Government and Civics; and 4) Economics. The geography strand is broken down into 6 benchmarks for: 1) K-4; 2) 5-8; and 3) 9-12.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

New Mexico follows the definition of a "highly qualified" teacher established by the NCLB Act of 2001. A "highly qualified" teacher must hold at least a bachelor's degree, and have passed all required State test(s) for licensure or endorsements, or accepted comparable licensure tests from another state, and has obtained full State licensure as a teacher, including licensure obtained through alternative routes, and hold a license to teach in New Mexico.

* http://164.64.166.11/cilt/downloads/standards/stand_ss.pdf

** http://164.64.166.11/fedpro/downloads/titleII/ci_def_highly_qual_new.pdf

The State of New York

[illegible]

New York Social Studies/Geography Curriculum

Information

Curriculum Background

Geography is taught throughout the Per-K through 12th grade New York State Social Studies Program. Included is the web site for the Social Studies Resource Guide with Core Curriculum <<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/ssrg.html>>. Geography is infused throughout the grades. At the commencement level they have a two-year course entitled Global History and Geography. At the elementary level, geography is taught throughout the program with quite a lot of geography at grades, 3, 4, 5 and 6 <<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/pub/pubss.html>>. See Social Studies Instructional Strategies & Resources: Pre-kindergarten Through Grade 6. Although 8 credits (4 units) in social studies are required for graduation, geography is not one of the requirements. Many school districts do offer AP Courses and Administer AP Examinations. AP Human Geography is offered throughout New York. In 2003, 101 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 70 students in 2001, a 44.3% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

If you look at their test specification grids for the four state social studies test, you will see that social studies is tested in all four:

1. Grade 5 Elementary Level Social Studies Test
2. Grade 8 Intermediate Level Social Studies Test
3. Grade 9 and 10 Global History and Geography Regents
4. Grade 11 United States History and Government Regents

They publish the specific test specification grid for each of their examinations. Schools can pullout information about geography for each student.

Social Studies Standards

Panels of teachers, social studies supervisors, college folk and consultants helped us develop their standards. If you look at their standard documents, you will find a listing of the people who were involved. There are 5 Social Studies standards:

- History of the United States and New York.
- World History
- Geography
- Economics
- Civics, Citizenship and Government

This information may be found at: <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/ssls.html>

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements*

New York is using the NCLB definition of "highly qualified", and they require a subject area bachelor's degree for initial certification. Elementary school teachers are "highly qualified" if they: 1) Have a bachelor's degree; and 2) Have a transitional, conditional provisional, provisional or permanent certificate from New York State; and 3) Passed the New York State test of knowledge of the elementary school curriculum, which is the New York State Teacher

Certification Examinations (NYSTCE) Liberal Arts and Sciences Test (LAST); and 4) Passed the New York State test for elementary teaching skills, the NYSTCE Elementary Assessment of Teaching Skills-Written (Elementary ATS-W).

Middle and secondary school teachers are "highly qualified" if they: 1) Have a bachelor's degree; and 2) Have a transitional, conditional provisional, provisional or permanent certificate from New York State; and 3) Demonstrate a high level of competency in each of the subjects they are teaching by: a) Passing a Content Specialty Test in each of the subjects; or b) Completing an undergraduate major or coursework equivalent to an undergraduate major in each of the subjects, which means at least 30 credit hours; or c) Having a graduate degree in each of the subjects; or e) Having advanced certification in each of the subjects.

* <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/nclb01-c.html>

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered						X				X			
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment	Not Tested												
Standards in Place	Yes: Closely parallel the national standards and Geography for Life												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 17/2001 – 290/2003 (+1,605.9%)												

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Geography Courses Offered						X				X			
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment	Not Tested												
Standards in Place	Yes: Closely parallel the national standards and Geography for Life												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 17/2001 – 290/2003 (+1,605.9%)												

North Carolina Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies curriculum, which includes geography, is taught throughout K – 12. Geography content/courses are offered in:

- 5th grade (North Carolina: Geography and History)
- 9th grade (North Carolina Geography and History)

The State Board of Education graduation requirements for social studies are: World History; Civics and Economics; and United States History. Students must also complete the End-of-Course Exams in *Civics and Economics* and *United States History*, and the Exit Exam. Two domains, problem solving and processing information, focus on social studies content and social studies skills. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 290 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 17 students in 2001, a 1,605.9% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

The end-of-grade reading test in middle school includes social studies items. At the high school level, civics, economics, and U.S. history are currently the tested subjects.

Social Studies Standards

On April 6, 2001, the State Board of Education approved the revised Social Studies Standard Course of Study. The revised standards were implemented in the 2003-04 school year. The goals and objectives of *The North Carolina Social Studies Standard Course of Study* closely parallel the national social studies curriculum standards. The national content standards for history, geography, civics and government, economics, and psychology support this document and provide guidance for implementing the strands across the disciplines. Geography for Life was also used as a resource for the geography standards.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

North Carolina follows the definition of a "highly qualified" teacher established by the NCLB Act of 2001. However, they do not require a subject area bachelor's degree for initial certification. The state also has five types of licenses that will not be considered highly qualified, and yet these licenses will not be completely eliminated until June 30, 2006, leaving three more years for unqualified teachers to populate classrooms. By 2006, to demonstrate competence in a core academic subject area and be considered "highly qualified," a new elementary teacher must pass the required Praxis II test. A new middle or secondary school teacher must: pass the required Praxis II test; or hold an undergraduate degree in the core subject area; or have coursework equivalent to an undergraduate major (24 semester hours) in the core subject area; or hold a graduate degree in the core subject area; or have master's level licensure or above in the core subject area; or hold National Board of Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification in the core subject area.

* <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/socialstudies/2003-04/socialstudies.pdf>

** <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/nclb/hqkeypoints.html>

North Dakota Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

North Dakota content standards in social studies are currently set at grades 4, 8, and 12. In 2003, the state began revising their standards for grades K-12. Actual course selections are determined by local school districts. The state does not set curriculum for local school districts. AP social studies/geography courses are offered in some school districts. These classes are determined by the local school district, not the state. In 2003, 0 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is down from 1 student in 2001.

State Assessment in Social Studies

North Dakota does not employ a state assessment for social studies.

Social Studies Standards*

North Dakota's social studies standards were partially derived from the national standards and Geography for Life. Their social studies standards are broken into content standards and benchmarks for K-4, 5-8, and 9-12. Geography is one of nine content standards. They began revising their social studies standards in 2003.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

North Dakota follows the NCLB requirements for a "highly qualified" teacher. This means that a "highly qualified" teacher in North Dakota must have a State certification/licensing, a bachelor's degree, and have passed a rigorous state test. The rigorous state test may include the Praxis II and the PLT test.

* <http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/standard/content/SSStudies.pdf>

** <http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/general/reauthoriz/qualified.shtm>

The State of Ohio

[illegible]

Ohio Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Geography and AP Human Geography courses are offered based on local decision. In 2003, 44 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is down from 60 students in 2001, a 26.7% decrease. There is no High School requirement for geography. For information regarding their suggested course of study (scope and sequence), see the Ohio Academic Content Standards in Social Studies posted on their Website. The Scope and Sequence is explained in the "Overview" section of the standards publication:
http://www.ode.state.oh.us/academic_content_standards/acssocialstudies.asp

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies/geography is tested on the state assessment in the 4th, 6th, and 10th grade. The state assessment test is being moved to grades 5, 8, and 10. The new testing schedule is posed at:
http://www.ode.state.oh.us/proficiency/diagnostic_achievement/PDFs/hb3testingschedule.pdf.
The new achievement and diagnostic tests will all be in place by 2007-2008 school year. Currently the social studies/geography test scores are reported as a discreet sub-score for grades 4, 6, and 10. On the new test, there will be no discreet sub-score for grade 10, and it has not been determined for grades 5 and 8.

Social Studies Standards

Ohio's social studies standards are modeled off of national and state standards as well as the previous Ohio model. Look at the "Overview" section in the standards publication- it references four sources used/consulted and explains the writing process:
http://www.ode.state.oh.us/academic_content_standards/acssocialstudies.asp.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

Ohio follows the definition of a "highly qualified" teacher established by the NCLB Act of 2001. However, they presently do not require a subject area bachelor's degree for initial certification. By 2006, a subject area bachelor's degree, certification, and the Praxis II test will be required to be considered highly qualified.

[illegible][illegible]

Oklahoma Social Studies/Geography Curriculum

Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies curriculum is taught throughout K-12. Curriculum instruction is organized by grade level for grades 1-5, by grade level and subject title in grades 6-8, and by subject area for grades 9-12 to facilitate their use by educators. Geography content/courses are taught in the 8th grade (World Geography), and offered as an elective in 9-12 (Geography). Students must complete three units or sets of courses in social studies in order to graduate. These courses must include one unit of U.S. history; one-half unit to one unit of U.S. government; one-half unit of Oklahoma history; and another one-half unit to one unit of either world history, geography, economics, anthropology, or other social studies course. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 115 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 65 students in 2001, a 76.9% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies*

Social studies curriculum is tested in the 5th and 7th grade. The material covered on the test is "United States History, Constitution, and Government" and "Geography".

Social Studies Standards**

The social studies standards in Oklahoma are partially modeled off of the national standards and Geography for Life. The social studies standards are organized by curriculum standards, performance expectations, and classroom activities. There are ten thematic strands in social studies. The ten thematic strands do not contain a specific geography strand, but contain topics which relate to geography knowledge and content.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

Oklahoma follows the definition of a "highly qualified" teacher established by the NCLB Act of 2001. They require a subject area bachelor's degree, license/certificate in the subject(s) taught, and passed a state certification test in level/subject taught.

* <http://www.sde.state.ok.us/home/defaultie.html>

** <http://www.ncss.org/standards/toc.html>

The State of Oregon

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specific Geography Courses Offered													
Social studies Content													
Social Studies Assessment						X			X		X		
Standards in Place	Yes: Partially derived from the national standards and Geography for Life												
HQ	Following the NCLB requirements												
Definition	Yes: 29/2001 – 34/2003 (+17.2%)												
AP Human Geography													

Assessment Testing: Social studies assessment testing at grades 5, 8, and 10 are optional. They are not required by the state, but up to individual districts.

Oregon Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Oregon has a standards-based system in social sciences that cover grades K-CIM (Certificate of Initial Mastery, approximately Grade 10). Benchmark standards are included in the structure at Grades 3, 5, 8, and CIM. Three (3) units of social sciences is required at the high school level and must include Civics and Government, Economics (including Personal Finance), Geography, and History. Many, but not all, schools offer AP Human Geography courses. In 2003, 34 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 29 students in 2001, a 17.2% increase. In social sciences, the most popular are U.S. History, European History, U.S. Government and Politics, Geography and Psychology. The grade level varies from school to school, however most are offered to 11th and 12th graders.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies content is tested on the state assessment, but is not required. Individual school districts determine if they will test social studies material. The test is available at grades 5, 8, and CIM. Geography is not reported as a discreet subscore, although disaggregated data is available on request.

Social Studies Standards

Oregon has adopted social studies standards. A number of documents have provided guidance in developing drafts of the standards:

- Civics Framework for the 1998 National Assessment of Educational Progress.
- Content Standards: A Compendium of Standards and Benchmarks for K-12 Education by McREL and ASCD (2000).
- Expectations of Excellence: Curriculum Standards for Social Studies, National Council for the Social Studies, 1994.
- Geography for Life: National Geography Standards 1994, Geography Education Standards Project, 1994.
- Geography Framework for the 1994 National Assessment of Educational Progress.
- National Standards for Civics and Government, Center for Civic Education, 1994.
- National Standards for United States History: Exploring the American Experience, National Center for History in the Schools.
- National Standards for World History: Exploring Paths to the Present, National Center for History in the Schools.
- U.S. History Framework for the 1994 National Assessment of Educational Progress.
- Voluntary National Content Standards in Economics, National Council on Economic Education, 1997.
- Various state standard documents

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

From the Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, the State agency that establishes criteria for Oregon teachers, <http://www.tspc.state.or.us/pub.asp?id=41> :
"Meets the federal definition of "highly qualified teacher" and applies to school districts that receive Title I, part A funds from the federal government". However, they do not require a subject area bachelor's degree for initial certification. Also worth noting, the federal government defined Economics as a Social Studies area. For this reason, Oregon has said that a Social

Studies endorsement can teach any one of the four social studies areas defined in the federal law:
Civics and Government, History, Geography and Economics.

[illegible][illegible]

Pennsylvania Social Studies/Geography Curriculum

Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies curriculum is taught throughout K-12. Social studies education and curriculum is broken up into: 1) Primary Education; 2) Intermediate Level Education; 3) Middle Level Education; and 4) High School Education. In primary education, intermediate level education, middle level education, and high school education, planned instruction in social studies, which includes geography, is taught to every student every year. The planned instruction should correlate to the Academic Standards for all social studies areas, which includes the Academic standards for Geography. The state does not require specific courses for graduation. Requirements are set by local boards, but must include culminating project and local assessments linked to the state academic standards, which for grades 1-12 include geography and world history. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 54 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 44 students in 2001, a 22.7% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Pennsylvania does not test social studies content at the state level.

Social Studies Standards*

Pennsylvania's social studies standards were developed by education officials, teachers, and consultants. The social studies standards consist of four subject areas: 1) Civics and Government; 2) Economics; 3) Geography; and 4) History. The geography standards are broken down into four academic standards which are: 1) Basic Geography Literacy; 2) The Physical Characteristics of Places and Regions; 3) The Human Characteristics of Places and Regions; and 4) The Interactions Between People and Places.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

Pennsylvania follows the requirements set by the NCLB Act of 2001 to determine a "highly qualified" teacher. They do require a subject area bachelor's degree for initial certification at this point. By the 2005-2006 school year, a fully certified teacher must have a bachelor's degree, a content area major and have passed a content area test. In addition, fully certified teachers in Pennsylvania have completed pedagogical course work in education, including student teaching.

* http://www.pde.state.pa.us/stateboard_ed/lib/stateboard_ed/pdfgeography.pdf

Rhode Island Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies is the integrated study of the social sciences and humanities to promote civic competence. Social studies content is central to the curriculum for elementary and secondary school students, K-12. Geography content/courses are offered in 4th through 12th grade. Middle school and high school students typically have courses on United States, world history, and geography. The 9th grade course is United States and World history and geography to 1750. The 10th grade course is United States and World history and geography from 1750 to 1900. Two units of social studies/history are required for graduation. The two course offerings in the 9th and 10th grade may be used to fulfill the graduation requirements. AP Human Geography is offered in the state. In 2003, 1 student took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 0 students in 2001.

State Assessment in Social Studies*

State testing of social studies in Rhode Island is a local decision. Although there is no plan to include social studies in Rhode Island's State Assessment program in the foreseeable future, Rhode Island tests social studies content on the NAEP test and the *Comprehensive Social Studies Assessment Project* (CSSA) test. This test measures student's knowledge and thinking skills in history, geography, civics and economics at the upper elementary, middle school and high school levels. CSSAP is a multi-measure assessment system.

Social Studies Standards*

Rhode Island's decision to recommend that teachers and school administrators use national social studies content standards rather than to support the development of Rhode Island's own state social studies standards within a (RI Board of) Regents-endorsed state curriculum framework was made in part to encourage local school districts to choose which standards its social studies curriculum would be based upon. The rationale underlying this decision as well as specific guidance as to how Rhode Island local school districts can develop their own standards based curricula are set out in *Education Standards in Rhode Island: State of Development*, a document prepared by the RI Department of Education's Office of Instruction in the summer, 2001.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

Rhode Island follows the "highly qualified" teacher requirements established by the NCLB Act of 2001. By 2005-2006, a "highly qualified" teacher must hold a bachelor's degree, hold full state certification, and demonstrate subject matter competency in the core academic subjects that the teacher teaches. Rhode Island requires a "highly qualified" teacher to have a provisional certification, professional certification, or life professional certification.

*http://www.ridoe.net/standards/frameworks/social_studies/RI%20SOCIAL%20STUDIES%20GUIDE%20PART%20I.pdf

** http://www.ridoe.net/teacher_cert/Highly_Qualified/NCLB%20and%20HQ-%20Teacher%20final.pdf

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The State of South Carolina

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Specific Geography Courses Offered													
Social Studies Content													
Social Studies Assessment													
Standards in Place													
HQ Definition													
AP Human Geography													
Social Studies/geography content is integrated throughout grades K-12													
Yes: Partially based upon the national standards and Geography for Life													
Following the NCLB requirements													
Yes: 37/2001 – 223/2003 (+502.7%)													

Assessment Testing: Social studies content is tested on the Palmetto Achievement Challenge test.

South Carolina Social Studies/Geography Curriculum

Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies content, with a geography component is taught at grades K-12. They require one unit of US history, ½ unit of economics, and ½ unit of American Government at the high school level. In addition, they require 1 unit of another social studies, which may include Global Studies/World Geography. They highly recommend a world studies for the other unit. High school AP courses are offered in European History, US Government, US History, World History, Psychology, and Human Geography. In 2003, 223 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 37 students in 2001, a 502.7% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies/geography is tested on the Palmetto Achievement Challenge (PACT) test in grades 3-8. Additional grades are being considered. The grades are not reported as a discreet sub-score.

Social Studies Standards

They have adopted social studies/geography standards based upon the national standards. The standards are currently undergoing a revision. Presently, geography is one of four strands in the social studies standards. This strand is strand III: People, Places, and Environments.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements*

South Carolina follows the NCLB "highly qualified" teacher requirements. An early childhood or elementary school teacher must hold appropriate South Carolina certification with no waivers and must demonstrate appropriate content knowledge by achieving a passing score on the following state-approved certification examination(s): a) Praxis II in Elementary Education: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; and b) Praxis II in Elementary Education: Content Area Exercises.

A middle or secondary school teacher must hold appropriate South Carolina certification with no waivers and must demonstrate appropriate content knowledge by achieving one of the following options for each subject area in which the teacher teaches: 1) a passing score on a state-approved certification examination in each core academic subject in which the teacher teaches; or 2) a major in the content area(s) in each core academic subject in which the teacher teaches, or coursework equivalent to an undergraduate major, as established and verified by the Division of Teacher Quality; or 3) a master's, master's plus thirty, or doctorate in each core academic subject in which the teacher teaches.

* <http://www.gwd50.k12.sc.us/HQ-Teachers.htm>

The State of South Dakota

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specific Geography Courses Offered								X					
Social Studies Content													
Social Studies Assessment				X	X	X	X	X	X				X
Standards in Place	Yes: Partially derived from the national standards												
HQ	Following the NCLB requirements												
Definition	Yes: 1/2001 – 46/2003 (+4,500%)												
AP Human Geography													

Assessment Testing: Tested in grades 3-8 and 11 on the Dakota STEP and STAARS test.

South Dakota Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies, with a geography component is taught at grades K-12. Although courses throughout K-12 have some geography content, only one class, World geography is taught in the 7th grade. Geography is offered as an elective in 9-12. 3 units of social studies courses are required for graduation, including ½ credit of geography. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 46 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 1 student in 2001, a 4,500% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies*

South Dakota test social studies content, including geography, in grades 3-8 and 11 on the Dakota STEP and STAARS test.

Social Studies Standards**

South Dakota's social studies standards were partially derived from the national standards. The South Dakota Social Studies Standards document outlines the four major areas of social studies: History, geography, civics, and economics. The standards are organized into separate grade levels so that a parent, local school board member, classroom teacher, or administrator could quickly review what social studies learning is expected at a specific grade level. The goal of geography instruction is to provide an understanding of the human and physical characteristics of the earth's places and regions; how people of different cultural backgrounds interact with their environment; and how the United States, South Dakota, and local communities are affected by conditions and events in distant places. Geographic skills include the ability to use diagrams, globes, maps, and software programs; to interpret graphs, tables, diagrams, and pictures; to observe and record information; and to assess information from various sources.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

South Dakota follows the NCLB "highly qualified" teacher requirements. A highly qualified teacher must hold full state certification, a bachelor's degree, and pass a state test.

* <http://www.state.sd.us/deca/OCTA/testing/PDF/SDAssessmentSystem.pdf>

** <http://www.state.sd.us/deca/OCTA/contentstandards/social/standards/#organiz>

The State of Tennessee

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specific Geography Courses Offered								X					
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is embedded in K-6 and 8												
Social Studies Assessment				X	X	X	X	X	X				
Standards in-Place	Yes: Derived partially from the national standards, the State of Texas standards, and Geography for Life												
HQ	Yes: Derived partially from the national standards, the State of Texas standards, and require the PRAXIS II test												
Definition	Following the NCLB requirements and require the PRAXIS II test												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 20/2001 – 20/2003												

Tennessee Social Studies/Geography Curriculum **Information**

Curriculum Background

Social studies content is taught throughout K-12. Social studies/geography classes are imbedded in K-6 & 8, taught as a separate course in the 7th grade (Tennessee and World Geography), and taught as electives in high school (World Geography elective). Three units of credit are required for high school graduation. A student can take either geography or world history for one of the required credits in high school. Some AP Human Geography courses are offered throughout the state. In 2003, 20 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This number was the same for 2001.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies/geography is assessed in grades 3-8, and reported as a separate category.

Social Studies Standards*

Their social studies/geography standards were derived from the National Standards, and other leading states such as Texas. The Social Studies Curriculum Standards include the Process Standards, Content Standards, Learning Expectations and Accomplishments necessary to insure that K-12 Tennessee students develop the social studies skills needed to succeed in school, in the workplace, and in their lives. The foundation of the curriculum standards includes the four process standards: communication, data analysis, historical awareness, and acquiring information and six content standards: culture, economics, geography, government and civics, history, and individuals, groups, and interactions.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

A "highly qualified" teacher must have 24 content hours, passed Praxis, positive value added scores in 7th grade social studies, or points on a professional matrix. For their middle school social studies, a teacher has to be deemed "highly qualified" in either history or geography. The state has recently adopted subject-specific tests (Praxis II) for middle grades teachers who wish to use the test option to prove "highly qualified" status, so new and existing middle school teachers are now able to use the test option to meet HQT.

* <http://www.state.tn.us/education/ci/cistandards2001/ss/cisspreface.htm>

The State of Texas

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specific Geography Courses Offered							X						
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12.												
Social Studies Assessment									X		X	X	
Standards in Place	Yes: Based largely upon the national standards and Geography for Life												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 293/2001 – 1,272/2003 (+334.1%)												

Texas Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Geography is part of the social studies curriculum each school year. However, at grade 6 (World Cultures) and high school (World Geography Studies), a substantial amount of the course work is dedicated to teaching geography. In 2003-2004, approximately 335,000 students took World Geography Studies. Three years of social studies and successful completion of the TAKS test are required to graduate. Required social studies courses include U.S. History since Reconstruction, World History Studies, World Geography Studies (one credit), and Government/Economics. AP Human Geography (one-half to one credit) courses are offered throughout the state. In 2003, 1,272 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 293 students in 2001, a 334.1% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies content is tested on the TAKS test in grades 8, 10 and 11. The TAKS test is a high-stakes test required for graduation.

Social Studies Standards**

The geography strand of the social studies standards are partially derived from the national standards and Geography for Life. Geography is one of eight strands in the state mandated social studies curriculum, K-12. The eight strands are: 1) History; 2) Geography; 3) Economics; 4) Government; 5) Citizenship; 6) Culture; 7) Science, Technology, and Society; and 8) Social Studies Skills. The geography strand definition is: Relationships among people, places, and environments result in geographic patterns on Earth's surface. Students can compete in the global economy, ensure the viability of Earth's environments, and comprehend the cultures of the diverse people who share the planet through an understanding of geographic relationships.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements***

Texas follows the NCLB "highly qualified" teacher requirements. By the 2005-2006 school year, a teacher must have at least a bachelor's degree; and full state certification; and demonstrated competency in the core academic subject area assigned. Teachers must also pass either the Elementary Comprehensive Examination for Certification of Educators in Texas (ExCET) or the grade-level appropriate Texas Examination of Educator Standards (TExES). Currently, the NCLB definition of "highly qualified" does not completely align to the current state certification structure and assignment rules.

* http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/resources/grad/grad_broch.pdf

** <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/ssc/downloads/toolkits/Shared%20Sections/Resources/Framework/Framework.PDF#xml=http://www.tea.state.tx.us/www.tea.state.tx.us/cgi/texis/webinator/search/xml.txt?query=social+studies+standards&db=db&id=f0d91a8a88996814>

*** <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/nclb/bulletins/Bulletin1-1HQ.pdf>

The State of Utah

[illegible]

Utah Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background*

Social studies curriculum is taught throughout K-12. Geography content is taught in the 3rd (General Social Studies), 4th (General Social Studies), 5th (General Social Studies), and 7th (Utah Studies) grade. Specific geography courses are offered as electives in 9-12 grades (Geography for Life, .5 credits; Geography for Life, .5 credits; and Gifted Geography for Life, 1.0 credit). Geography for Life is designed as a semester course, but is recommended to be a year-long course. Three units of credit in social studies are required for graduation. Of these credits, ½ unit of Geography for Life is required for graduation. AP Human Geography is offered as an elective in grades 8 through 12. In 2003, 164 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 100 students in 2001, a 64% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies curriculum is not tested on the state assessment, and it is not foreseeable in the near future.

Social Studies Standards

Specific social studies standards are set at grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9-12. The standards are aligned with the specific course taught for the specific grade level. Geography standards are evident in grades 3, 4, 5, 7, and 9-12.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

The Utah Office of Education is still tweaking its definition of "highly qualified" teacher, which must comply with the following federal guidelines. By Jan. 8, 2006, all teachers must be fully licensed by the state or pass a state teacher licensing exam. In addition, they must not have licensure requirements waived on an emergency, temporary or provisional basis. All teachers not new to the profession must hold a bachelor's degree and have demonstrated competency in every academic subject they teach by a complex evaluation system that is objective and uniform throughout the state. Elementary teachers new to the profession (after Jan. 8, 2002) must hold a bachelor's degree and pass a rigorous state test to demonstrate their subject knowledge and teaching skills in reading, writing, math and other Utah core areas. Middle school and high school teachers new to the profession must hold a bachelor's degree. In addition, they must pass a rigorous state test in every academic subject area they teach or have completed an academic major, graduate degree, coursework equivalent to an undergraduate academic major or received a teaching endorsement in every academic subject they teach.

* <http://www.uen.org/core/>

** <http://www.sltrib.com/2003/Mar/03282003/utah/42708.asp>

The State of Vermont

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specific Geography Courses Offered													
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12 and broken up into 3 categories:										9-12 cluster		
Social Studies Assessment	K-4 cluster					5-8 cluster					Not Tested		
Standards in Place	Yes: Partially derived from the national standards and Geography for Life												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Not Offered												

Vermont Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Although social studies curriculum is taught throughout K-12, there are no mandatory course offerings. Vermont does not offer AP Human Geography courses.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies curriculum is not tested on the state assessment.

Social Studies Standards*

Vermont has established social studies standards. They are named the Vermont Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities. Although the social studies standards were recently revised and more specific than the previous standards, many feel they are still not clear and specific enough. Their History and Social Sciences Standards consist of 8 strands which includes geography. The geography strand consists of two sections: 1) Geographical Knowledge; and 2) Movements and Settlements. These two sections are broken down into grade categories for K04, 5-8, and 9-12.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

The definition of "highly qualified" teacher in NCLB is used for Vermont's definition. By the 2005-2006 school year, a teacher must hold at least a bachelor's degree, be appropriately licensed for the assignment, and demonstrate subject matter competence in the core academic subject(s) she/he teaches. An elementary teacher (K-6) must pass the Praxis II – Elementary Education test. A middle school grade teacher (5-9) in social studies/geography must pass the Praxis II – Middle Grades Social Studies test, or Praxis II – Social Studies test, or have a minor or its equivalent in history, geography, economics, or civics and government with a minimum of 3 credits in the other 3 areas. A high school teacher (7-12) in social studies/geography must pass the Praxis II – Social Studies test, or have a major, its equivalent, or an advanced degree in history, geography, economics, or civics, and government, with a minimum of 3 credits in the other 3 areas.

* <http://www.state.vt.us/educ/new/pdfdoc/pubs/framework.pdf>

** <http://www.state.vt.us/educ/new/pdfdoc/laws/nclba/hqt/comparison.pdf>

Virginia Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies curriculum is taught throughout K-12. All courses contain components on history, geography, civics, and economics, except Civics and Economics and Virginia and United States Government, which do not have geography components. Geography curriculum/courses are offered as electives in:

- 8th grade (World History and Geography to 1500 A.D.)
- 9th grade (World History and Geography: 1500 A.D. to the Present)
- 10th grade (World Geography)

A student pursuing a standard diploma must take and pass three history social science courses, which include one course in world history/geography. Students pursuing an advanced studies diploma must take and pass four history and social science courses, which includes two courses in world history/geography. Students must pass specific subject test in order to graduate, and the World Geography test is one option. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 462 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 223 students in 2001, a 107.2% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies curriculum is not tested on the state assessment. There are Standards of Learning assessments that are required in the 3rd grade and 8th grade.

Social Studies Standards*

The Standards of Learning for Virginia Public Schools describe the commonwealth's expectations for student learning and achievement in grades K-12 in English, mathematics, science, history/social science, technology, the fine arts, foreign language, health and physical education, and driver education, which includes geography in the history/social science section. Their social studies standards are broken down by grade levels. Each grade level standards describes what a student should know for the specific course in each grade. The national standards and Geography for life was used as one resource for their geography standards.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

The definition of "highly qualified" teacher in NCLB is used for Virginia's definition. Based on the No Child Left Behind legislation and the nonregulatory draft guidance document titled, *Improving Teacher Quality, State Grants*, Title II, Part A, June 6, 2002, the term "highly qualified" used in reference to any public elementary, middle, or secondary school teacher in the core academic subjects means that the teacher: holds full state licensure as a teacher, including licensure through alternate routes; and teaches only in the area or areas of endorsement.

In addition, a teacher who is entering the profession through an alternate route program may meet the definition of a highly qualified teacher if the participant in the program: 1) is permitted by the state to assume functions as a regular classroom teacher; 2) has a bachelor's degree; 3) has demonstrated subject matter competence by passing the state professional teacher assessments; and 4) is making satisfactory progress toward full licensure, as prescribed by the Board of Education.

The Department of Education and Old Dominion University provided 2 free online courses (World History and Geography, Part I and II) for all geography teachers to take. This is a route for teachers to remain highly qualified

* http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Instruction/History/hist_ss_framework.html

** http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/nclb/NCLB_QA-hqteachers.pdf

Washington Social Studies/Geography Curriculum

Information

Curriculum Background

Although it is recommended that social studies curriculum be taught throughout K-12, individual districts are controlled locally as to their curriculum. The state requires for graduation that a minimum of one credit for U.S. History and its constitution, one half credits for Washington State History and its constitution, and one credit for Contemporary World Problems be taken by students. Otherwise it is up to the district to direct additional credits in the social studies. AP Human Geography courses are taught in the state. In 2003, 38 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 12 students in 2001, a 216.7% increase. Due to budget cuts, social studies is one of three subjects that are now being developed and that may get cut.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies curriculum is not tested on the state assessment. It is possible that there may be social studies content on the 2007-2008 state assessment.

Social Studies Standards*

The social studies standards comprise the study of relationships among people, and between people and the environment. The standards recognize the challenges and benefits of living in a diverse cultural and ideological society. The resulting interactions are contextualized in space and time and have social, political, economic, and geographical dimensions. The social studies standards are broken down into five essential academic learning requirements which are: 1) Civics; 2) Economics; 3) Geography; 4) History; and 5) Social Studies Skills. There are geography benchmarks set at grades 5, 8, and 10 for the five themes of the geography learning requirements. The five geography themes are: 1) Place; 2) Region; 3) Human Environment Interaction; 4) Location; and 5) Movement.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

Washington's "highly qualified" means that teachers teaching in core academic subjects must hold full state teacher certification and at least a baccalaureate degree, and be endorsed in the core academic subject(s) assigned to teach, or pass a state test of subject knowledge and teaching skills, or hold National Board certification in the core academic subject(s) assigned to teach, or have a degree, major, or the equivalent of a major in the core academic subject(s) assigned to teach or have satisfactory annual evaluations based upon a uniform state standard of evaluation.

* <http://www.k12.wa.us/curriculumInstruct/SocStudies/geographyEALRs.aspx>

** <http://www.k12.wa.us/bulletinsmemos/bulletins2003/b034-03.pdf>

The State of West Virginia

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specific Geography Courses Offered								X					
Social Studies Benchmarks	Social studies/geography content is integrated throughout K-12												
Social Studies Assessment				[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]				
Standards in Place	Presently developing new standards. Past standards mirrored the national standards and Geography for Life.												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 1/2001 – 46/2003 (+4,500%)												

Assessment Testing: [X] Tested on a criterion-referenced test, not the state assessment.

West Virginia Social Studies/Geography Curriculum

Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies curriculum is taught throughout K-12. A geography specific course is required in the 7th grade (World Geography), and a geography course (World Geography) is offered as an elective in high school (9-12). Although three credit units in social studies is required for graduation, geography is not one of the requirements. AP Human Geography courses are offered. In 2003, 46 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 1 student in 2001, a 4,500% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

A criterion-referenced test is given in grades 3-8. End-of-course tests are required for high school courses. Although social studies content is not tested on the state assessment, they are working with CTB/McGraw Hill to develop a criterion referenced state test that aligns with the new content standards and objectives.

Social Studies Standards*

The West Virginia social studies content standards, objectives and performance descriptors combine to give teachers a powerful resource for planning instruction. The sequencing of the grade level objectives and the levels of performance descriptors acknowledge that students acquire skills and knowledge in increments and at different rates. Geography is one of four stands in the social studies content standards. There is a specific geography stand for each grade (K-12) which outlines various objectives and performance descriptors.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements**

To be considered "highly qualified" and to qualify for a professional teaching certificate in West Virginia an individual must have completed: 1) a bachelor's degree at an accredited institution of higher education (IHE); and 2) the general requirements for a license to work in the public schools of WV; and 3) a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4 point scale; and 4) the minimum proficiency levels for the state-adopted tests for licensure; and 5) *One* of the following: a) complete an accredited state approved teacher education program; or b) have out-of-state teaching experience for 3 out of the most recent 7 years and possess a valid out-of-state professional teaching certificate; or c) have National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification; or d) hold a valid out-of-state professional teaching certificate and meet the minimum proficiency levels on the state-adopted tests for licensure.

* <http://boe.plea.k12.wv.us/cso/socialstudies.htm#k12>

** <http://www.sreb.org/main/HQT/HQT-WestVirginia.pdf>

Wisconsin Social Studies/Geography Curriculum

Information

Curriculum Background

Social studies is taught in each grade K-8, however, because Wisconsin is a local control state, they do not collect information regarding what aspects of social studies are taught and when. The Wisconsin Model Academic Standards which shape curriculum and instruction in Wisconsin identify 5 strands--history, geography, political science, economics, and behavioral sciences.

At the high school level, Wisconsin requires a minimum of 3 credits of social studies to graduate from high school that include the study of state and local government. There are no state-required courses that must be offered. Local high schools may require specific courses, but again, the state does not collect that information.

AP Human Geography courses are offered and vary from district to district regarding what grades they are offered. Frequently, it is at the 10th, 11th and 12th grade levels. In 2003, 71 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is up from 63 students in 2001, a 12.7% increase.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies is part of state assessment at grades 4, 8, and 10. The social studies tests are aligned to the academic standards and thus have items related to history, geography, political science, economics, and behavioral science. Geography is reported as a subset of social studies. Students must pass the social studies section of the Wisconsin High School Graduation Test in order to graduate.

Social Studies Standards

The state adopted standards in social studies; geography is a strand in those standards. A variety of documents was used as resource material in the development of standards including the standards developed by the National Council of Social Studies and the separate standards publications developed by leading organizations in geography, economics, and civics. A task force jointly appointed by the governor and state superintendent developed the Wisconsin standards.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements*

In order to be considered a "highly qualified" elementary teacher, one must meet the criteria in #1 and, in addition, provide evidence that they have "demonstrated subject knowledge and teaching skills in reading, writing, mathematics, and other areas of the basic elementary school curriculum... which may consist of a passing level of performance on a State-required certification or licensing test or tests in reading, writing, mathematics, and other areas of the basic elementary school curriculum." PI 34 requires that prospective elementary teachers take a content test to qualify for a license beginning in 2004-2005. In the interim, students are being assessed (taking tests) in all areas they will be teaching as part of the PI 34 approved program being completed.

Middle and secondary teachers - This includes those hired after the first day of school in 2002-2003. In order to be "highly qualified" the teacher must hold at least a bachelor's degree and have demonstrated a high level of competency in each of the academic subjects in which the teacher

teaches by “passing a rigorous State academic subject test in each of the academic subjects in which the teacher teaches (which may consist of a passing level of performance on a State-required certification or licensing test or tests in each of the academic subjects in which the teacher teaches); or...successful completion, in each of the academic subjects in which the teacher teaches, of an academic major, a graduate degree, coursework equivalent to an undergraduate academic major, or advanced certification or credentialing.” PI 34 requires that middle and secondary teachers take a content test in the subject or subjects they intend to teach beginning in 2004-2005. In the interim, students are taking “tests in each of the academic subjects” they will be teaching as part of the PI 34 approved program being completed.

* <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/esea/pdf/hqteachers.pdf>

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The State of Wyoming

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Specific Geography Courses Offered													
Social Studies Content	Social studies/geography content is recommended to be taught in K-12, but is left up to the local school districts												
Social Studies Assessment	Not Tested												
Standards in Place	Yes: Partially derived from the national standards and Geography for Life												
HQ Definition	Following the NCLB requirements												
AP Human Geography	Yes: 15/2001 – 5/2003 (-66.7%)												

Wyoming Social Studies/Geography Curriculum Information

Curriculum Background

Although social studies curriculum is recommended to be taught throughout K-12, social studies offerings are determined by the local districts. Three units of credit in social studies are required to graduate from high school in Wyoming. Beginning in the fall of 2004, there will be a geography requirement to graduate from high school. AP Human Geography courses are offered in the state. In 2003, 5 students took the AP Human Geography course/exam. This is down from 15 students in 2001, a 66.7% decrease.

State Assessment in Social Studies

Social studies curriculum is not tested on the state assessment.

Social Studies Standards*

Wyoming Social Studies Content and Performance Standards specify the essential learning that students must master. Content and performance standards are identified for grade spans K-4, 5-8, and 9-12 with benchmarks at grades 4, 8, and 11. National standards and several states' standards were referenced to establish the rigor of the Wyoming Social Studies Content and Performance Standards. The standards have been organized into five major strands: 1) Citizenship, Government, and Democracy; 2) Culture and Cultural Diversity; 3) Production, Distribution, and Consumption; 4) Time, Continuity, and Change; and 5) People, Places, and Environments. The strand, People, Places, and Environments, relies heavily on geographical concepts.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements

The definition of "highly qualified" teacher in NCLB is used for Wyoming's definition. Wyoming's Professional Teaching Standards Board is involved in the selection of the Praxis II examination for teachers and is piloting it for all new teachers beginning fall 2003. The state is also piloting elementary and middle school content area tests. Currently, all secondary school teachers are required to have a major in the subject they teach for certification.

* <http://www.k12.wy.us/eqa/nca/pubs/standards/socstud.pdf>