

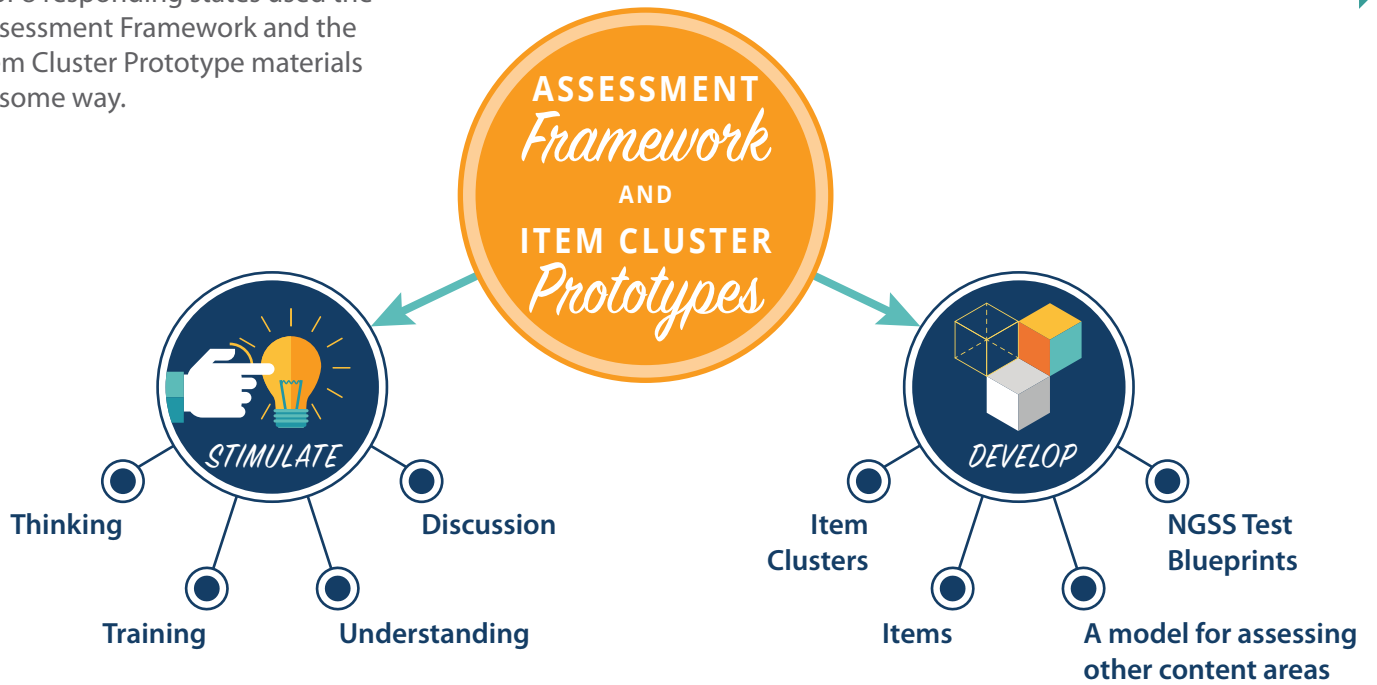
# HOW THE SAIC IS supporting NGSS ASSESSMENT IMPLEMENTATION



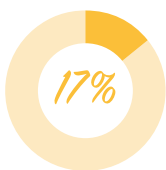
WestEd administered a survey designed to capture how the CCSSO Science Assessment Item Collaborative (SAIC) states have used the original SAIC materials, and how that use has evolved from the original documentation based on the unique needs of each state.

The SAIC materials are adaptable to and useful for states' diverse needs.

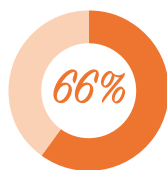
8 of 8 responding states used the Assessment Framework and the Item Cluster Prototype materials in some way.



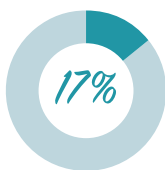
6 of 8 states used the Item Cluster Prototypes **extensively** or as a **starting point to then build upon**.



used prototypes in an RFP



used prototypes as examples of NGSS item clusters for educators and vendors



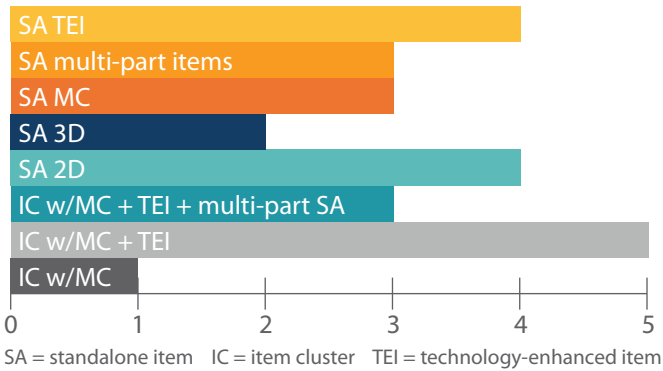
used prototypes in trainings for item development committees

6 of 7 states used the materials to **direct current development vendors** in ongoing NGSS assessment efforts.

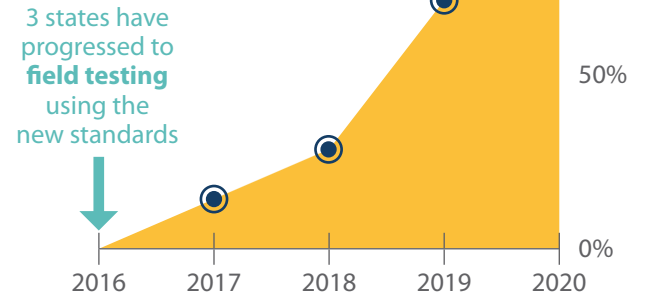


## States have common item development needs in achieving NGSS alignment.

Number of states developing NGSS-aligned items, by item type:

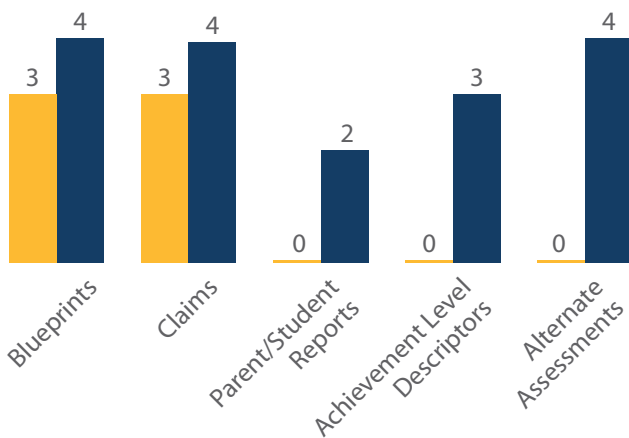


Percentage of responding states anticipating the administration of NGSS-aligned operational tests:



## States should collaborate in addressing similar issues in assessing the NGSS.

States need similar NGSS-aligned materials (those **currently developed** by states compared to those **under construction**):



States need assistance and input from **psychometricians** to “brainstorm through the roadblocks to come up with nontraditional evaluations and to provide a validity argument for use of item clusters.”



**The goal of the SAIC was to support the development of high-quality assessment items aligned to the NGSS that are accessible to states.** The nature of assessments aligned to the NGSS is significantly different from traditional science assessments. Before moving to item development, the group determined that it would be useful to **develop materials establishing a shared understanding** of the nuance of the new assessments.

Therefore, the SAIC, in partnership with WestEd, developed several materials: an assessment framework, item specifications guidelines, and prototype item clusters for grade 5 and high school. **These materials are freely available to all states.** The SAIC Item Cluster Prototypes were designed to follow the principles and recommendations set forth in the SAIC Assessment Framework and Item Specifications Guidelines for an NGSS-aligned, large-scale summative assessment item cluster.

We thank the following states for their invaluable input:

- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Hawaii
- Illinois
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Nevada
- Washington

Learn more and download valuable materials at

[www.csai-online.org/spotlight/science-assessment-item-collaborative](http://www.csai-online.org/spotlight/science-assessment-item-collaborative)

“The SAIC has been an **incredibly important process** and whether teams use the outcomes of that process or if they jump off from that point to something even further afield—none of it would have happened without the SAIC process.”

“Participation in the SAIC gave us a **starting point** for getting the development of our large scale assessment of the NGSS off the ground.”

“The Assessment Framework **provided the structure** needed to begin writing clusters within our [state education] team and with teacher committees.”

