Unless otherwise specified, "descriptions" referenced in the evidence statements could include but are not limited to written, oral, pictorial, and kinesthetic descriptions.

HS-PS2-1

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

HS-PS2-1. **Analyze data to support the claim that Newton's second law of motion describes the mathematical relationship among the net force on a macroscopic object, its mass, and its acceleration.** [Clarification Statement: Examples of data could include tables or graphs of position or velocity as a function of time for objects subject to a net unbalanced force, such as a falling object, an object rolling down a ramp, or a moving object being pulled by a constant force.] [*Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to one-dimensional motion and to macroscopic objects moving at non-relativistic speeds.*]

The performance expectation above was developed using the following elements from *A Framework for K-12 Science Education*:

Science and Engineering Practices

Analyzing and Interpreting Data
Analyzing data in 9–12 builds on K–8 and progresses to introducing more detailed statistical analysis, the comparison of data sets for consistency, and the use of models to generate and analyze data.

- Analyze data using tools, technologies, and/or models (e.g., computational, mathematical) in order to make valid and reliable scientific claims or determine an optimal design solution.

Connections to Nature of Science

Science Models, Laws, Mechanisms, and Theories Explain Natural Phenomena

- Theories and laws provide explanations in science.
- Laws are statements or descriptions of the relationships among observable phenomena.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

PS2.A: Forces and Motion

- Newton's second law accurately predicts changes in the motion of macroscopic objects.

Crosscutting Concepts

Cause and Effect

- Empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and make claims about specific causes and effects.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the course:		
1	Organizing data	
	a	Students organize data that represent the net force on a macroscopic object, its mass (which is held constant), and its acceleration (e.g., via tables, graphs, charts, vector drawings).
2	Identifying relationships	
	a	Students use tools, technologies, and/or models to analyze the data and identify relationships within the datasets, including:
		i. A more massive object experiencing the same net force as a less massive object has a smaller acceleration, and a larger net force on a given object produces a correspondingly larger acceleration; and
		ii. The result of gravitation is a constant acceleration on macroscopic objects as evidenced by the fact that the ratio of net force to mass remains constant.
3	Interpreting data	
	a	Students use the analyzed data as evidence to describe* that the relationship between the observed quantities is accurately modeled across the range of data by the formula $a = F_{net}/m$ (e.g., double force yields double acceleration, etc.).
	b	Students use the data as empirical evidence to distinguish between causal and correlational relationships linking force, mass, and acceleration.
	c	Students express the relationship $F_{net}=ma$ in terms of causality, namely that a net force on an object causes the object to accelerate.