

The SAT[®]

A Guide to PDF Score Reports

The SAT[®] focuses on the core skills and knowledge most essential for success, and its scores convey a cohesive profile of college readiness.

IMPORTANT: Paper score reports are no longer supported; however, the Higher Education Reporting Portal allows you to access and print PDFs of student score reports. For more information about accessing scores online visit collegeboard.org/hedreports/help.

We will officially launch the new digital SAT internationally in March 2023 and in the U.S. in 2024. Scores from the digital SAT will be reported along with all other scores in a single electronic score report. The digital SAT will continue to measure the knowledge and skills that matter most for college and career readiness—as the current SAT does—but will reflect important changes to make the most of what it means to deliver an assessment digitally. We began reporting scores from students taking the new digital SAT as part of research studies and pilots in August 2022. Learn more about the changes coming with this transition at sat.org/digital.

Score Basics

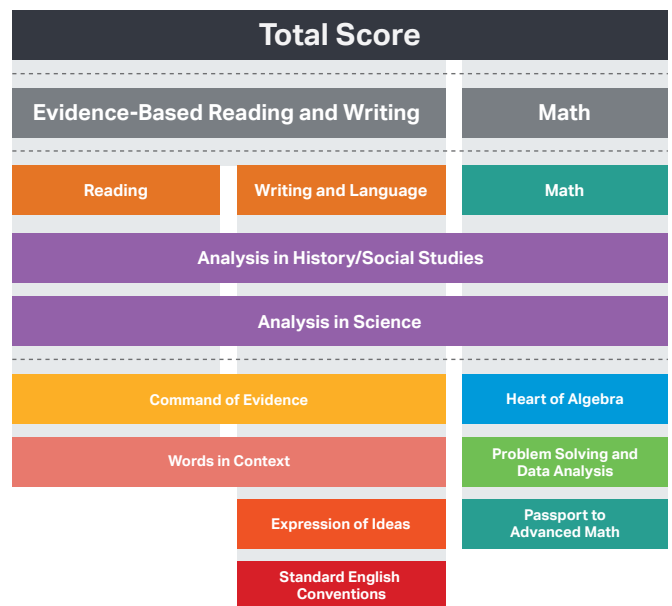
PDF score reports (downloadable and printable from the reporting portal) show scores for the SAT in a grid that lists scores from the six latest test dates. The most recent scores can be found on the left and shaded in blue. The scores include:

- Total score (400–1600)*
- Section scores (200–800)*
- Test scores (10–40)**
- Cross-test scores (10–40)**
- Subscores (1–15)**

* The digital SAT has the same total and section score ranges as the paper and pencil SAT.

** Not applicable to the digital SAT.

The graphic illustrates how the scores relate to the different portions of the test and to one another. For example, the two cross-test scores (Analysis in History/Social Studies and Analysis in Science) are based on questions in the paper SAT from across all three required tests: Reading, Writing and Language, and Math.



DISCONTINUED ESSAY

Most students taking the SAT after June 2021 don't have the option of taking the SAT Essay. You may still see some Essay scores (on a scale of 2–8) from students taking a state-provided assessment that includes the Essay. You'll also continue to see Essay scores earned before July 2021.

DISCONTINUED SAT SUBJECT TESTS

The final administration of the SAT Subject Tests™ was given in June 2021. If a student took one or more of these one-hour content-based tests, their score reports will continue to include them, unless the student chooses not to send them. SAT Subject Test scores appear in their own grid, below student information on the PDF score reports. The scores from the student's six latest test dates are listed (up to three different test scores per test date). The most recent scores are at the left and shaded in blue.

OLD SAT

Scores from the old SAT (given before March 2016) are listed on the PDF score reports in the grid below scores from the current SAT.

More About Scores

SAT SCORE RANGES

A student's scores are usually stable over different administrations of the same test and over short periods of time, but they do vary slightly. These variations are best captured by score ranges, rather than single score points.

Score ranges for the SAT vary by score type:

- Total: \pm 40 points
- Section: \pm 30 points
- Test Scores, subscores, and cross-test scores: \pm 2 points

SAT PERCENTILES

Use percentiles to compare test taker performance across the same test. See the Understanding SAT Scores brochure at satsuite.collegeboard.org/media/pdf/understanding-sat-scores.pdf or percentile data.

A student's SAT percentiles show the percentage of students whose score is equal to or lower than their score. Two types of percentile ranks, comparing student scores to two different reference populations, are provided for both total and section scores.

Nationally Representative Sample Percentiles are derived via research study samples of U.S. students in the 11th and 12th grades, weighted to represent all U.S. students in those grades, regardless of whether they typically take the SAT.

SAT User Percentiles are based on the actual scores of students in the past three graduating classes who took the SAT during high school.

COMPARING CURRENT AND OLD SAT SCORES

Because the current SAT is a different test than the SAT administered before March 2016, a score on one test isn't equivalent to the same score on the other. Get more information on how to compare scores using concordance tables at collegeboard.org/satconcordance.

Additional information about interpreting and using score data is provided at sat.org/highered.

SAT SUBJECT TEST INFORMATION

SAT Subject Test scores include a total score (200–800) for each test taken. For Language with Listening Subject Tests, subscores for reading and listening are provided (20–80). For the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean listening tests, a subscore for usage is also provided, and all are weighted similarly. For the French, German, and Spanish listening tests, the reading subscore counts about twice as much as the listening subscore.

Score ranges for SAT Subject Tests are roughly the student's score \pm 20–30. A student's SAT Subject Test percentile shows the percentage of students whose score is lower than their score. It's based on the most recent scores earned by students in 2018–21 graduating classes who took the test at any time during high school. Scores on different SAT Subject Tests should not be compared.

High School Information

Information about the student's high school includes advanced courses offered, enrollment, and types of students served. It's provided by the school and isn't independently verified.

Student Information

GEO MARKETS AND ETHNICITY

If your institution has access to Enrollment Planning Service™ through College Board Search, you'll see a geo market code near the student's name and address. College Board Search provides these codes to enhance geographic understanding of student populations and inform strategic recruitment plans. Learn more about College Board Search at cbsearch.collegeboard.org/.

Ethnic information is shared with your institution only if you opted to receive it.

EDUCATION, PLANS, AND ACTIVITIES

The score report also lists the student's high school course work, college plans, and activities. The data are collected through the optional SAT Questionnaire. To read the SAT Questionnaire items, refer to the *SAT Educator Guide*, available for download at sat.org/order-resources.

DATA TYPE	QUESTIONNAIRE ITEMS
Educational background	1–7
Student activities	8 and 9
Student plans	10–24

Electronic Score Reporting

All institutions have access to the Higher Education Reporting Portal at hedreports.collegeboard.org, where they can search for students and generate score reports or download files for versatile data management. To learn more about score file downloads, visit sat.org/esr.

You can still use the reporting portal to view essays of students who took the Essay before June 2021 or as a part of a state-provided assessment that included the Essay.

Contact Us

For more information, contact College Board at 855-475-3636 or hedreports@collegeboard.org.