PSAT 10
Understanding Scores
2022
Contact Us

About College Board
College Board is a mission-driven not-for-profit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, College Board was created to expand access to higher education. Today, the membership association is made up of over 6,000 of the world’s leading educational institutions and is dedicated to promoting excellence and equity in education. Each year, College Board helps more than seven million students prepare for a successful transition to college through programs and services in college readiness and college success—including the SAT®, the Advanced Placement® Program, and BigFuture®. The organization also serves the education community through research and advocacy on behalf of students, educators, and schools. For further information, visit collegeboard.org.

About the PSAT 10
As one of the assessments in College Board's SAT Suite of Assessments, the PSAT™ 10 is designed to measure the skills and knowledge that current research shows are essential for college and career readiness and success. The PSAT 10 covers the same content areas as the PSAT/NMSQT®. Both the PSAT/NMSQT and the PSAT 10 serve as a check-in on student progress to help pinpoint areas for development. Educational Testing Service (ETS) administers the PSAT 10 for College Board.

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PSAT 10
Score Report Resources

Thank you for administering the 2022 PSAT 10 at your school. Included is information about student score reports for you, your students, and their parents/guardians.

What’s Included
This document delves deeper into the meaning of your students’ scores, including what the assessment measures, how it is scored, and how you can use the data to monitor your students’ progress.

The brochure also provides a sample score report walk-through so you can interpret your students’ score reports.

Related Resources
Visit our Data Tables and Technical Resources page at research.collegeboard.org/programs/sat/data/data-tables-technical-resources and select Understanding Scores then PSAT 10 Score Information to find percentile tables for total and section scores.

An online version of the PSAT 10 Understanding Scores 2022 brochure and Parent Tutorial flyers in English and Spanish can be found at satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-10/scores/k12-educators/guides-online-score-reports. Hand them out to inform parents/guardians and students about students’ score reports.

Go to satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-10/scores/understanding-scores/your-score-report-explained to watch and share the video guiding students through their score report.
The PSAT 10 and the SAT Suite of Assessments

The SAT Suite of Assessments
The SAT Suite of Assessments is an integrated system of tests that includes the SAT (for students in grades 11 and 12), the PSAT/NMSQT (for grades 10 and 11), the PSAT 10 (for grade 10), and the PSAT™ 8/9 (for grades 8 and 9).

The tests measure the same skills and knowledge in grade-appropriate ways. They work together to show college readiness over time so educators, students, and parents/guardians can monitor student progress. Their content reflects the kind of meaningful, engaging, and challenging work that students find in the best middle school and high school courses taught today.

What the PSAT 10 Measures
The PSAT 10 measures the skills and knowledge that research shows are the most important for success in college and career. The Reading Test measures comprehension and reasoning skills and focuses on close reading of passages in a wide array of subject areas. The Writing and Language Test measures a range of skills, including command of evidence, expression of ideas, and the use of standard English conventions in grammar and punctuation. The Math Test covers a range of math practices, with an emphasis on problem solving, modeling, using tools strategically, and using algebraic structure.

How the PSAT 10 Is Scored
Students receive a total score that is the sum of their scores on the two sections (the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section and the Math section).

Next, we convert the raw Reading Test score and the raw Writing and Language Test score to scaled test scores of 8–38. Then, we combine these to produce a scaled Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section score of 160–760. We also combine the raw Math Test scores and convert them to a scaled Math section score of 160–760. This conversion process adjusts for slight differences in difficulty among versions of the test and provides a score that is consistent across different versions. The scaled scores are the scores provided on score reports.

How You Can Use the Student Score Report
The student score report clearly summarizes a student’s current achievement levels and encourages next steps to increase college and career readiness. You can help students by going over their score reports and helping them understand what their scores mean. Here’s how:

TALK WITH STUDENTS ABOUT COLLEGE READINESS
For each section, the score report includes an indicator that shows whether the student’s score meets the grade-level benchmark. These benchmarks allow students and educators to understand how students are progressing toward college readiness.

- If a student is meeting the benchmark for a section, remind them to continue to take rigorous courses and work hard to stay on track for college success.
- If a student is not meeting the benchmark for a section, connect them to classroom work that is focused on areas that need improvement. Khan Academy® can help supplement this work.

The PSAT 10 and the SAT Suite of Assessments
USE STUDENT SCORES TO IDENTIFY STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

- Use test scores, cross-test scores, and subscores to evaluate a student’s relative strengths and weaknesses and to determine which skills need practice.

- Use the red/yellow/green coding on section scores to evaluate how your student is performing relative to other students who are meeting or exceeding the benchmark.
  - Highlight the areas in green as the student’s strengths.
  - Prioritize areas in the red range for additional work and practice.

HELP STUDENTS DECIDE ON NEXT STEPS

- Work with your students to think of ways to develop each of the skills you have identified for focus and improvement.

- Encourage students to link their College Board account to Khan Academy for a free, personalized study plan.

For further guidance on interpreting score reports, see the Professional Development for K-12 Educators e-modules at sat.org/educators.

Score Reporting Features

On pages 8–9 of this booklet, you’ll find an annotated sample score report that includes detailed explanations of the information that students receive about their college readiness skills. Students can access their online reports to obtain more information and guidance, including free, personalized Khan Academy instruction and practice based on their results.

**NOTE:** Score reports for schools testing in 2022 won’t include question-level details.

The online reporting portal at k12reports.collegeboard.org offers you an array of powerful tools to assess your students’ progress and plan instruction that delivers what they need. The tools include:

- Flexible reports that can be sorted and filtered by key demographics.

- Instructional planning support using test subscores in specific content areas, benchmarks, information for cross-subject tasks, and data for prescribing interventions when students are behind or ahead.

- Question Analysis Report that helps educators connect subscores to state standards, analyze students’ strengths and weaknesses, learn which mistakes were the most common, and look for opportunities to reinforce skills.

- Access to the AP Potential™ tool to pinpoint students who are likely to succeed in more challenging courses.
PSAT 10 Scores

Total Scores
The total score is the sum of the two section scores; its range is 320–1520.

Section Scores
Your students receive scores in the range of 160–760 for each of the two sections. The Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section score combines the scores for the Reading Test and the Writing and Language Test. The Math section score is derived from the Math Test score, including the calculator and no calculator portions.

Test Scores
The range for the following test scores is 8–38:

- Reading
- Writing and Language
- Math

Cross-Test Scores
The range for cross-test scores is also 8–38. These scores represent student performance on select questions across the three tests and show a student’s strengths in the following domains:

- Analysis in History/Social Studies
- Analysis in Science

Subscores
Subscores in the range of 1–15 offer feedback on student performance in the following skill areas:

- Command of Evidence
- Words in Context
- Expression of Ideas
- Standard English Conventions
- Heart of Algebra
- Problem Solving and Data Analysis
- Passport to Advanced Math

Score Ranges
A student’s ability is better represented by score ranges than points. Score ranges are derived from the standard error of measurement and show how much a student’s scores would likely vary if they took a different administration of the test under identical conditions.

From recent administrations of the PSAT 10, these ranges are approximately:

- Total: ±40 points
- Section: ±30 points
- Test scores, subscores, and cross-test scores: ±2 points
Using PSAT 10 Scores to Project SAT Scores

The SAT Suite—from the PSAT 8/9 through the SAT—uses a common score scale for the total, section, test, and cross-test scores. The ranges reported for each assessment reflect grade-level appropriateness within the common scale. Thus, while the total range for the SAT is 400–1600, the total range for the PSAT 10 is 320–1520.

This common score scale means that a student who took the PSAT 10 and received a Math section score of 500 would be expected to also get a 500 on the SAT or the PSAT 8/9 if they had taken either of those tests on that same day; a score of 500 represents the same level of academic achievement on all three assessments.

This also means that student growth across the SAT Suite is easy to determine. If a student takes the PSAT 10 this year and receives a 500 Math section score, and then takes the SAT next year and earns a 550 Math section score, that student has shown a growth of 50 points, which likely resulted from hard work both in and out of school.

The total, section, test, and cross-test scores have been vertically scaled to allow the accurate measurement of growth from test to test. Encourage students to focus on the section scores if they are curious about the growth they can expect to see in their scores over the next year. They should look at the set of projected score ranges provided for students that reflect typical growth. Of course, a student’s individual growth will be shaped by the courses taken and by the practice the student undertakes between assessments.

Subscores aren’t on a vertical scale, and therefore comparing performance year over year should be based on relative performance rather than by calculating student growth across tests.

Students who wish to improve their performance on the SAT should follow these guidelines:

- Develop academic skills through challenging coursework.
- Read extensively and develop strong writing skills.
- Engage in deliberate practice in the 3 math areas that are emphasized the most in the assessments.
- Take practice tests and upload their results to Khan Academy for free, personalized practice of the skills they need to improve. To learn more, go to psat.org/practice.
Benchmarks and Red/Yellow/Green Performance

**PSAT 10 Grade-Level Benchmarks**

The SAT Suite offers grade-level benchmarks that can be used to gauge whether students are on track for becoming college ready each year in grades 8–12. Grade-level benchmarks represent the section scores on each assessment that students should meet or exceed to be considered on track to be college ready.

The PSAT 10 reports benchmarks for 10th graders to help them understand their level of readiness for college and career training programs. The benchmarks help educators better understand how many students and also which students are on track to have the skills necessary for college entry level, credit-bearing courses. Equipped with this information, educators can support students who need extra help while there is still time for improvement. Teachers can also accelerate the progress of students who meet or exceed the benchmarks.

**RECOMMENDED USES**

Grade-level benchmarks can help educators:

- Identify students who are on track for success in college and career readiness.
- Identify students who may need extra support while there is still time for improvement.
- Find students who may be ready for more challenging coursework.

Grade-level benchmarks shouldn’t be used to assign academic tracks, to discourage students from pursuing college, or to keep students from participating in challenging courses. Rather, the benchmarks are intended to help all students better prepare for life after high school.

**What the Benchmarks Mean**

The College and Career Readiness Benchmarks for the current SAT predict a 75% likelihood of achieving a C or higher in related first-semester, credit-bearing college courses. The benchmarks are set at the section level, so there is a benchmark for Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and a benchmark for Math.

Score reports for the PSAT/NMSQT, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 include grade-level benchmarks based on how students grow from year to year toward the SAT benchmarks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PSAT 10 Grade-Level Benchmarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10th Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading and Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Information to Help You Understand Progress Toward College Readiness**

The student score report provides further context for understanding scores by showing a color-coded bar chart for the section scores. Students who met or exceeded the benchmark will be in the green portion of the score band. If students didn’t meet the benchmark but were close (within one year’s growth), their scores will be in the yellow portion. Students who have a score indicating more than a year’s growth below the grade-level benchmark will have a score in the red portion of the score band. Additionally, for each of the test scores and subscores, we have provided a color-coded guide to a student’s relative strengths (green) and weaknesses (red).
Understanding 2022 PSAT 10 Results

Access the student score report and discover next steps.

Viewing the Score Report

Students should sign in to their College Board account or create a new one at studentscores.collegeboard.org. A dashboard will show their most recent scores.

Total Score

Selecting the arrow next to the score leads to their detailed score report.

Section Scores

This student’s Evidence-Based Reading and Writing score is 430, and their Math score is 480. In both Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and Math, the student’s score has reached the benchmark. This means they are on track for college readiness.

Percentiles

This student scored as well as or better in Evidence-Based Reading and Writing than 39% of a nationally representative group of sophomores. In Math, they scored as well as or better than 57% of a nationally representative group of sophomores.

Next Steps

The dashboard includes links to Popular Tools like AP Potential™, SAT® Registration, and Student Search Service®.

Score Details

Selecting Score Details takes the student to more information about test scores and subscores.

Test Questions

For PSAT™10, students can see the question content and answer explanation with their scores.
Understanding 2022 PSAT 10 Results (continued)

Test Scores
Test scores range from 8 to 38. This student scored a 26 and is in the yellow on the Reading Test, indicating they are below the average student performance of those who met the benchmark by 1 year or less.

Next Steps for Students and Parents:
View a video walk-through of the score report: satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-10/scores/understanding-scores/your-score-report-explained
Learn more about understanding and using scores: satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-10/scores
Connect to scholarships: satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-10/scholarships-recognition
Connect to colleges with Student Search Service: studentsearchservice.org
Practice for the SAT: satpractice.org

Next Steps for Educators:
Learn about sharing scores with your students: satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-10/scores/k12-educators/best-practices-sharing-results