## PSAT 8/9

## Understanding Scores

UPDATED WITH ANSWER KEY AND SCORE CONVERSIONS

```
SEPT. 23, 2019-MAR. 27, 2020
```



## Contact Us


#### Abstract

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, College Board's membership 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 successincluding the SAT ${ }^{\circledR}$ and the Advanced Placement ${ }^{\circledR}$ Program. The organization also serves the education community through research and advocacy on behalf of students, educators, and schools. For further information, visit collegeboard.org.


## CONTACTS FOR

PARENTS AND STUDENTSpsathelp@info.collegeboard.org

- 866-433-7728
+1-212-713-8105 (International)
8 a.m. to 7 p.m. ET, Mon.-Fri.
GENERAL CONTACTS
$\triangle$ PSAT 8/9
P.O. Box 6720

Princeton, NJ 08541-6720
CONTACTS FOR EDUCATORS
psat89@info.collegeboard.org

- 888-477-PSAT (7728)
+1-212-237-1335 (International)
8 a.m.-8 p.m. ET, Mon.-Fri.


## The PSAT 8/9 and the SAT Suite of Assessments

## The SAT Suite of Assessments

The SAT ${ }^{\oplus}$ Suite of Assessments is an integrated system of tests that includes the SAT (for students in grades 11 and 12), the PSAT/NMSQT® and the PSAT ${ }^{\text {TM }} 10$ (for grades 10 and 11), and the PSAT ${ }^{\text {TM }} 8 / 9$ (for grades 8 and 9).

The tests measure the same skills and knowledge in gradeappropriate ways. They work together to show college readiness over time so educators, students, and parents 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 8/9 Measures

The PSAT 8/9 measures the skills and knowledge (at the level of content and skill appropriate for eighth and ninth grades) 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 8/9 Is Scored

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

To calculate section scores, we first compute the student's raw score-the number of questions correctly answered-for each section. Nothing is deducted for incorrect answers or for unanswered questions.

Next we convert each of the raw Math scores to a scaled section score of 120 to 720 . We also convert each of the raw Reading scores and the raw Writing and Language scores to scaled test scores of 8 to 38, and then combine these to produce Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section scores of 120 to 720 . 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 for academic progress. 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 gradelevel 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.


## USE STUDENT SCORES TO IDENTIFY STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

- Use test scores, as well as the cross-test scores and subscores online, 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 age 13 or over to go online for more details.

For further guidance on interpreting score reports, see the Professional Development modules for $\mathrm{K}-12$ educators at sat.org/educators.

## Score-Reporting Features

On pages 12-13 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 age 13 or over can access their online reports to obtain more information and guidance.

NOTE: Score reports for schools participating in the test administration research group or study 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. These 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. (The Question Analysis Report won't be available to schools participating in the test administration study or research group.)
- Access to the AP Potential ${ }^{T M}$ tool to pinpoint students who are likely to succeed in more challenging courses.


## PSAT 8/9 Scores

## Total Scores

## ONLINE AND PAPER SCORE REPORTS

The total score is the sum of the two section scores; its range is 240-1440.

## Section Scores

## ONLINE AND PAPER SCORE REPORTS

Your students receive scores in the range of 120-720 for each of 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

## ONLINE AND PAPER SCORE REPORTS

The range for the following test scores is 6-36:

- Reading
- Writing and Language
- Math


## Cross-Test Scores

## ONLINE SCORE REPORT ONLY

The range for cross-test scores is also 6-36. 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

## ONLINE SCORE REPORT ONLY

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


## Score Ranges

## ONLINE SCORE REPORT ONLY

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 8/9, these ranges are approximately:

- Total: $\pm 40$ points
- Evidence-Based Reading and Writing: $\pm 20$ points
- Math: $\pm 30$ points
- Test scores, subscores, and cross-test scores: $\pm 2$ points


## Score Scales and Score Changes

## Using PSAT 8/9 Scores to Project PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10 Scores

The SAT Suite—from the PSAT 8/9 through the SAT—uses a common score scale for the total, section, test, and crosstest 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 8/9 is 240-1440.

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

This also means that student growth across the SAT Suite is easy to determine. If a student takes the PSAT 8/9 this year and receives a 500 Math section score, then takes the PSAT/NMSQT or the PSAT 10 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 we have provided (only in online score reports) 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 (available online only) aren't on a vertical scale, and therefore comparing performance year after year should be based on relative performance rather than by calculating student growth across tests.

Students who wish to improve their performance on the PSAT/NMSQT or the PSAT 10 should follow these guidelines:

- Develop academic skills through challenging coursework.
- Read extensively and develop strong writing skills.
- Engage in deliberate practice in the three math areas that are emphasized the most in the assessments.


## Benchmarks and Red/Yellow/Green Performance

## The PSAT 8/9 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. Gradelevel 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 8/9 reports separate benchmarks for eighth and ninth 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, 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.

PSAT 8/9 Grade-Level Benchmarks

|  | Evidence-Based <br> Reading and Writing | Math |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8th Grade <br> PSAT 8/9 | 390 | 430 |
| 9th Grade <br> PSAT 8/9 | 410 | 450 |

## Additional Information Provided 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).

## Percentiles

A student's percentile rank represents the percentage of students who score equal to or lower than their score. For example, if a student's score is in the 75th percentile, 75\% of a comparison group achieved scores at or below that student's score. Two types of percentile ranks, comparing student scores to two different reference populations, are provided in this publication for both total and section scores.

Nationally representative percentiles are derived from a research study of U.S. students in the eighth or ninth grade and are weighted to represent all U.S. students in those grades, regardless of whether they typically take the PSAT 8/9.

User group percentiles are based on the actual scores of students who took the PSAT 8/9 in the past three school years.

Percentiles for Total Scores

| Total Score | 8TH GRADE |  | 9TH GRADE |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | PERCENTILES |  | PERCENTILES |  |
|  | Nationally Representative Sample | PSAT 8/9 | Nationally Representative Sample | PSAT 8/9 User |
| 1440 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 1430 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 1420 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 1410 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 1400 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 1390 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 1380 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 1370 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 1360 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 1350 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 1340 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 1330 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99 |
| 1320 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99 |
| 1310 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99 |
| 1300 | 99+ | 99+ | 99 | 99 |
| 1290 | 99+ | 99+ | 99 | 99 |
| 1280 | 99+ | 99+ | 99 | 99 |
| 1270 | 99+ | 99+ | 99 | 99 |
| 1260 | 99+ | 99 | 99 | 98 |
| 1250 | 99+ | 99 | 99 | 98 |
| 1240 | 99+ | 99 | 98 | 98 |
| 1230 | 99 | 99 | 98 | 98 |
| 1220 | 99 | 99 | 98 | 97 |
| 1210 | 99 | 99 | 98 | 97 |
| 1200 | 99 | 99 | 97 | 96 |
| 1190 | 99 | 98 | 97 | 96 |
| 1180 | 99 | 98 | 96 | 96 |
| 1170 | 98 | 98 | 96 | 95 |
| 1160 | 98 | 98 | 95 | 94 |
| 1150 | 98 | 97 | 94 | 94 |
| 1140 | 98 | 97 | 94 | 93 |
| 1130 | 98 | 97 | 93 | 92 |
| 1120 | 97 | 96 | 92 | 91 |
| 1110 | 97 | 96 | 91 | 91 |
| 1100 | 97 | 95 | 90 | 90 |
| 1090 | 96 | 95 | 89 | 89 |
| 1080 | 96 | 94 | 88 | 88 |
| 1070 | 95 | 93 | 87 | 86 |
| 1060 | 94 | 93 | 86 | 85 |
| 1050 | 94 | 92 | 84 | 84 |
| 1040 | 93 | 91 | 83 | 83 |
| 1030 | 92 | 90 | 81 | 81 |

## Percentiles for Total Scores (continued)

| 8TH GRADE 9TH GRADE |  |  |  |  |  | 8TH GRADE |  | 9TH GRADE |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | PERCENTILES |  | PERCENTILES |  |  | PERCENTILES |  | PERCENTILES |  |
| Total Score | Nationally Representative Sample | PSAT 8/9 User | Nationally Representative Sample | $\begin{aligned} & \text { PSAT 8/9 } \\ & \text { User } \end{aligned}$ | Total Score | Nationally Representative Sample | $\begin{aligned} & \text { PSAT 8/9 } \\ & \text { User } \end{aligned}$ | Nationally Representative Sample | PSAT $8 / 9$ User |
| 1020 | 91 | 89 | 80 | 80 | 600 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 4 |
| 1010 | 89 | 88 | 78 | 78 | 590 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| 1000 | 88 | 87 | 76 | 77 | 580 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| 990 | 86 | 86 | 74 | 75 | 570 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 980 | 85 | 85 | 72 | 73 | 560 | 1 | 3 | 1 - | 2 |
| 970 | 83 | 83 | 70 | 72 | 550 | 1- | 2 | 1 - | 2 |
| 960 | 80 | 82 | 68 | 70 | 540 | 1 - | 2 | 1- | 1 |
| 950 | 78 | 80 | 66 | 68 | 530 | 1 - | 2 | 1 - | 1 |
| 940 | 77 | 79 | 64 | 66 | 520 | 1 - | 1 | 1- | 1 |
| 930 | 75 | 77 | 62 | 64 | 510 | 1 - | 1 | 1- | 1 |
| 920 | 73 | 76 | 60 | 62 | 500 | 1 - | 1 | 1- | 1 |
| 910 | 71 | 74 | 57 | 60 | 490 | 1- | 1 | 1 - | 1 |
| 900 | 69 | 72 | 55 | 58 | 480 | 1- | 1 | 1- | 1 |
| 890 | 67 | 70 | 53 | 56 | 470 | 1- | 1 | 1- | 1 - |
| 880 | 65 | 69 | 50 | 54 | 460 | 1- | 1 | 1- | 1 - |
| 870 | 62 | 67 | 48 | 52 | 450 | 1- | 1 - | 1- | 1 - |
| 860 | 60 | 65 | 46 | 50 | 440 | 1- | 1 - | 1- | 1 - |
| 850 | 57 | 62 | 43 | 48 | 430 | 1 - | 1 - | 1- | 1 - |
| 840 | 55 | 60 | 41 | 46 | 420 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - |
| 830 | 52 | 58 | 38 | 44 | 410 | 1- | 1 - | $1-$ | 1 - |
| 820 | 50 | 56 | 36 | 42 | 400 | 1 - | 1 - | 1- | 1 - |
| 810 | 47 | 53 | 33 | 40 | 390 | 1 - | 1- | 1 - | 1 - |
| 800 | 44 | 51 | 31 | 37 | 380 | 1 - | 1 - | 1- | 1 - |
| 790 | 41 | 48 | 29 | 35 | 370 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - |
| 780 | 38 | 46 | 26 | 33 | 360 | 1 - | 1 - | 1- | 1 - |
| 770 | 35 | 43 | 24 | 31 | 350 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - |
| 760 | 32 | 40 | 22 | 29 | 340 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - |
| 750 | 29 | 38 | 20 | 27 | 330 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - |
| 740 | 26 | 35 | 18 | 25 | 320 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - |
| 730 | 23 | 32 | 16 | 23 | 310 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - |
| 720 | 21 | 29 | 14 | 21 | 300 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - |
| 710 | 19 | 27 | 12 | 19 | 290 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - |
| 700 | 16 | 24 | 11 | 17 | 280 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | $1-$ |
| 690 | 14 | 22 | 9 | 15 | 270 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - |
| 680 | 13 | 19 | 8 | 13 | 260 | $1-$ | $1-$ | $1-$ | $1-$ |
| 670 | 11 | 17 | 7 | 12 | 250 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - |
| 660 | 9 | 15 | 5 | 10 | 240 | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - |
| 650 | 8 | 13 | 4 | 9 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 640 | 6 | 11 | 4 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 630 | 5 | 10 | 3 | 7 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 620 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 610 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |

## Percentiles for Section Scores

|  | $8^{\text {TH }}$ GRADE |  |  |  | 9TH CRADE |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Evidence-Based Reading and Writing |  | Math |  | Evidence-Based Reading and Writing |  | Math |  |
|  | PERCENTILES |  | PERCENTILES |  | PERCENTILES |  | PERCENTILES |  |
| Section Score | Nationally Representative Sample | PSAT $8 / 9$ User | Nationally Representative Sample | PSAT 8/9 User | Nationally Representative Sample | PSAT 8/9 User | Nationally Representative Sample | PSAT 8/9 User |
| 720 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 710 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 700 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ |
| 690 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99 |
| 680 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99 |
| 670 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99 | 99 | 99 |
| 660 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 |
| 650 | 99+ | 99+ | 99+ | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 98 |
| 640 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 98 | 99 | 98 |
| 630 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 98 | 98 | 98 | 98 |
| 620 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 97 | 97 | 98 | 97 |
| 610 | 99 | 98 | 99 | 99 | 96 | 96 | 97 | 97 |
| 600 | 98 | 98 | 99 | 98 | 95 | 95 | 97 | 96 |
| 590 | 98 | 97 | 99 | 98 | 94 | 94 | 96 | 96 |
| 580 | 97 | 96 | 99 | 98 | 93 | 92 | 95 | 95 |
| 570 | 96 | 95 | 98 | 97 | 91 | 90 | 94 | 93 |
| 560 | 95 | 94 | 98 | 96 | 89 | 88 | 92 | 92 |
| 550 | 94 | 93 | 97 | 96 | 87 | 86 | 90 | 91 |
| 540 | 92 | 91 | 96 | 95 | 85 | 84 | 88 | 89 |
| 530 | 91 | 90 | 94 | 93 | 82 | 82 | 86 | 86 |
| 520 | 89 | 88 | 93 | 92 | 79 | 79 | 83 | 84 |
| 510 | 86 | 86 | 91 | 90 | 76 | 76 | 80 | 81 |
| 500 | 84 | 84 | 88 | 88 | 73 | 73 | 77 | 78 |
| 490 | 81 | 82 | 85 | 85 | 69 | 70 | 74 | 74 |
| 480 | 78 | 79 | 83 | 82 | 66 | 67 | 69 | 71 |
| 470 | 74 | 77 | 79 | 79 | 62 | 64 | 65 | 67 |
| 460 | 71 | 74 | 75 | 76 | 59 | 61 | 60 | 63 |
| 450 | 67 | 71 | 69 | 72 | 55 | 57 | 55 | 59 |
| 440 | 63 | 67 | 63 | 68 | 51 | 54 | 49 | 55 |
| 430 | 58 | 64 | 58 | 64 | 47 | 50 | 44 | 50 |
| 420 | 54 | 60 | 53 | 59 | 42 | 47 | 39 | 46 |
| 410 | 49 | 56 | 50 | 55 | 38 | 43 | 35 | 42 |
| 400 | 44 | 51 | 46 | 50 | 33 | 39 | 32 | 38 |
| 390 | 39 | 47 | 38 | 44 | 29 | 35 | 27 | 33 |
| 380 | 33 | 42 | 30 | 39 | 25 | 31 | 21 | 28 |
| 370 | 27 | 37 | 26 | 33 | 21 | 27 | 18 | 24 |
| 360 | 22 | 32 | 22 | 28 | 17 | 23 | 15 | 21 |

## Percentiles for Section Scores (continued)

|  | $8^{\text {TH }}$ GRADE |  |  |  | 9TH CRADE |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Evidence-Based Reading and Writing |  | Math |  | Evidence-Based Reading and Writing |  | Math |  |
|  | PERCENTILES |  | PERCENTILES |  | PERCENTILES |  | PERCENTILES |  |
| Section Score | Nationally Representative Sample | PSAT 8/9 User | Nationally Representative Sample | PSAT 8/9 User | Nationally Representative Sample | PSAT 8/9 User | Nationally Representative Sample | PSAT 8/9 User |
| 350 | 17 | 27 | 19 | 24 | 13 | 19 | 12 | 17 |
| 340 | 13 | 22 | 16 | 20 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 15 |
| 330 | 9 | 17 | 13 | 16 | 7 | 12 | 8 | 12 |
| 320 | 6 | 13 | 11 | 14 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 10 |
| 310 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 10 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 7 |
| 300 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 |
| 290 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 280 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 5 | $1-$ | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 270 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 1- | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 260 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1- | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 250 | 1- | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1- | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 240 | 1 - | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1- | 1 | 1- | 1 |
| 230 | 1- | 1 | 1 | 1 | $1-$ | 1 | $1-$ | 1 |
| 220 | $1-$ | 1 | $1-$ | 1 | $1-$ | $1-$ | $1-$ | 1 |
| 210 | 1- | 1 | 1- | 1 | 1- | $1-$ | $1-$ | 1 |
| 200 | 1 - | 1 - | 1- | 1 | 1 - | 1 - | $1-$ | 1 |
| 190 | 1- | 1- | 1- | 1 | 1- | $1-$ | $1-$ | 1 - |
| 180 | 1- | 1- | 1- | 1 | 1 - | 1- | 1 - | $1-$ |
| 170 | $1-$ | 1- | 1- | 1- | $1-$ | $1-$ | $1-$ | $1-$ |
| 160 | 1- | $1-$ | $1-$ | $1-$ | $1-$ | $1-$ | $1-$ | $1-$ |
| 150 | 1 - | $1-$ | $1-$ | 1 - | 1 - | $1-$ | $1-$ | $1-$ |
| 140 | 1 - | $1-$ | $1-$ | 1 - | 1 - | 1 - | $1-$ | $1-$ |
| 130 | 1- | 1- | 1- | 1- | 1- | 1 - | $1-$ | $1-$ |
| 120 | 1- | 1- | 1- | 1- | 1- | 1- | $1-$ | $1-$ |

## Answer Key

September 23, 2019-March 27, 2020, Test Form

| Reading Test |  | Writing and Language Test |  | Math Test No Calculator |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SECTION 1 |  | SECTION 2 |  | SECTION 3 |  |
| 1 | C | 1 | C | 1 | C |
| 2 | D | 2 | C | 2 | B |
| 3 | A | 3 | B | 3 | B |
| 4 | C | 4 | D | 4 | D |
| 5 | C | 5 | A | 5 | A |
| 6 | B | 6 | D | 6 | C |
| 7 | B | 7 | A | 7 | D |
| 8 | C | 8 | C | 8 | D |
| 9 | D | 9 | A | 9 | B |
| 10 | A | 10 | C | 10 | A |
| 11 | B | 11 | B | 11 | 4 |
| 12 | C | 12 | A | 12 | 24 |
| 13 | C | 13 | A | 13 | 9 |
| 14 | B | 14 | D |  |  |
| 15 | D | 15 | C | Math Test Calculator |  |
| 16 | A | 16 | A |  |  |
| 17 | B | 17 | A |  |  |
| 18 | A | 18 | C | SECTION 4 |  |
| 19 | A | 19 | C | 1 | B |
| 20 | B | 20 | B | 2 | D |
| 21 | D | 21 | A | 3 | C |
| 22 | D | 22 | B | 4 | C |
| 23 | C | 23 | D | 5 | B |
| 24 | D | 24 | D | 6 | C |
| 25 | C | 25 | B | 7 | A |
| 26 | D | 26 | C | 8 | D |
| 27 | B | 27 | B | 9 | A |
| 28 | A | 28 | B | 10 | B |
| 29 | C | 29 | A | 11 | A |
| 30 | C | 30 | A | 12 | D |
| 31 | B | 31 | C | 13 | A |
| 32 | B | 32 | D | 14 | A |
| 33 | C | 33 | A | 15 | B |
| 34 | D | 34 | B | 16 | A |
| 35 | B | 35 | D | 17 | A |
| 36 | A | 36 | A | 18 | D |
| 37 | D | 37 | B | 19 | D |
| 38 | C | 38 | C | 20 | C |
| 39 | D | 39 | B | 21 | B |
| 40 | A | 40 | D | 22 | 3 |
| 41 | D |  |  | 23 | 3 |
| 42 | D |  |  | 24 | 1368 |
|  |  |  |  | 25 | 25 |

NOTE: For more detailed information about scores, visit psat.org/8-9-resources.

## Score Conversions

Score conversions show how raw scores are converted into test scores, cross-test scores, and subscores.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE

- The section score for the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section is calculated by adding the Reading Test score to the Writing and Language Test score and multiplying that figure by 10.
- The section score for the Math section is calculated by multiplying the Math Test score by 20.
- The digital Reading Test conversion is adjusted for mode differences, based on comparability studies. As we continue to administer the SAT Suite digitally, College Board will monitor performance and make needed adjustments to achieve comparable scale scores across testing modes.

Score Conversions

| Raw Score (\# of correct answers) | Reading Test Score (Paper and Pencil) | Reading Test Score (Digital) | Writing and Language Test Score (Paper and Pencil/Digital) | Math Test Score (Paper and Pencil/Digital) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 42 | 36 | 36 |  |  |
| 41 | 34 | 33 |  |  |
| 40 | 33 | 32 | 36 |  |
| 39 | 32 | 32 | 34 |  |
| 38 | 31 | 31 | 32 | 36 |
| 37 | 31 | 30 | 31 | 34 |
| 36 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 32 |
| 35 | 30 | 29 | 29 | 30.5 |
| 34 | 29 | 28 | 28 | 29.5 |
| 33 | 28 | 28 | 28 | 28.5 |
| 32 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 28 |
| 31 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 27 |
| 30 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 26.5 |
| 29 | 26 | 25 | 25 | 26 |
| 28 | 26 | 24 | 24 | 25.5 |
| 27 | 25 | 24 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 24 | 23 | 23 | 24.5 |
| 25 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 24.5 |
| 24 | 23 | 22 | 22 | 24 |
| 23 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 23.5 |
| 22 | 22 | 21 | 21 | 23 |
| 21 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 22.5 |
| 20 | 21 | 20 | 20 | 22 |
| 19 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 22 |
| 18 | 20 | 20 | 19 | 21.5 |
| 17 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 21 |
| 16 | 19 | 19 | 18 | 20.5 |
| 15 | 19 | 19 | 17 | 20 |
| 14 | 18 | 18 | 17 | 19.5 |
| 13 | 18 | 18 | 16 | 19 |
| 12 | 17 | 18 | 16 | 18.5 |
| 11 | 17 | 17 | 15 | 18 |
| 10 | 16 | 17 | 15 | 17.5 |
| 9 | 16 | 16 | 14 | 16.5 |
| 8 | 15 | 16 | 14 | 16 |
| 7 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 15 |
| 6 | 14 | 15 | 13 | 13.5 |
| 5 | 13 | 14 | 12 | 12.5 |
| 4 | 12 | 13 | 12 | 11 |
| 3 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 10 |
| 2 | 9 | 10 | 9 | 8.5 |
| 1 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 7.5 |
| 0 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |

## The PSAT 8/9 Score Report

## A Case Study: Ima B. Student's PSAT 8/9 Score Report

Take a look at Ima B. Student's sample score report below and on the next page. Use the corresponding information to help you interpret your student's PSAT 8/9 Score Report.


Score Report

## What are Ima's scores?

Ima's Evidence-Based Reading and Writing score is 460, and her Math score is 440. In Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, Ima's score exceeds the benchmark, and she is on track for college readiness. In Math, Ima is close to meeting the benchmark. Test scores, cross-test scores, and subscores can give Ima a better understanding of areas to work on.

## What are Ima's score percentiles?

Since Ima is in the ninth grade, the percentiles compare her scores with those of all ninth graders in the nation. Ima scored as well as or better in Evidence-Based Reading and Writing than 59\% of a nationally representative group of ninth-grade students. In Math, she scored as well as or better than 49\% of a nationally representative group of freshmen. Additional percentiles are available in Ima's online score report.

## How can Ima learn more about her scores?

If Ima is age 13 or older, she can visit psat.org/myscore to see her full score report, learn how to prepare for the SAT, and see her potential for AP® coursework. If she's under age 13 , she can talk to her school counselor to find out this information.


Score Report

## What are Ima's next steps?

If Ima is age 13 or over, when she visits psat.org/myscore she can see her potential for AP coursework, learn more about careers and majors that align with her interests with Career Finder ${ }^{\text {Tw }}$, and search for more information about colleges.

How can Ima measure her progress?
When she becomes a sophomore, Ima can take the PSAT/NMSQT or the PSAT 10 to measure the progress she's made since she took the PSAT 8/9. She can continue to take advantage of practice resources by visiting satpractice.org.

How can Ima learn from her answers?
The score report is designed to help Ima see how she performed by showing whether the answer was correct, incorrect, or omitted.

NOTE: For students at schools participating in the test administration study or research group, the actual questions, answers, and answer explanations won't be provided, and the score report won't include the correct answer column.


Score Report

## Your Summary Score Report



The PSAT 8/9 Sample Score Report (continued)

## YOUR SCORE TODAY

## Your Total Score <br> 900

You are in the $55^{\text {th }}$ percentile


You scored equal to or higher than $55 \%$ of students
Your Evidence-Based

Reading and Writing Score

460
You are in the $59^{\text {th }}$ percentile


Your score shows that
you're on track to be
ready for college.

## Your Test Scores*

${ }_{2}^{\text {Reding }}$

Writing and Language
23 *Additional detailed scores, like test scores, provide students with
of their performance.
440
You are in the $49^{\text {th }}$ percentile


Your score shows that
! you're almost on track to be ready for college, but you need to keep building your skills.

Your Math Score

Ima B. Student 2019, 9th Grade

## YOUR PATH TOMORROW

## Here's what else is waiting for you online:

## Course

1 Recommendations
Congrats! Your scores show you're ready to succeed in AP ${ }^{\circledR}$ courses. Talk to your counselor about signing up.

- Career Finder ${ }^{\text {rux }}$

2 Explore careers and majors that align with your interests, hear from people with different jobs and backgrounds, and create and share a personalized plan.

## College Search

3 Use your preferences, interests, and PSAT $8 / 9$ scores to explore colleges, majors and careers.

## You're On Your Way

Congrats! You made a smart move when you took the PSAT 8/9.

Now invite your parents along for the ride—point them to a website where they can:

- Get college planning tips.
- Sign up for email and text reminders.
- Browse FAQs.

Topics include scholarships, financial aid, high school coursework, and more.

Tell your parents about collegeboard.org/parents.


A PARENT'S GUIDE TO COLLEGE
© 2019 The College Board. College Board, AP, SAT, and the acorn logo are registered trademarks of the College Board. PSAT and BigFuture are trademarks College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Visit the College Board on the web: collegeboard.org.
cademy is a registered trademark in the United States and other jurisdictions.

## Your Question-Level Feedback


${ }^{*}$ For schools participating in the test administration study or research group, students will see if they answered questions correctly. Actual questions, answers, and answer explanations will not be provided.

