

Understanding PSAT Scores



Using Your PSAT™ 8/9 Scores
to Prepare for College

 CollegeBoard



Get to Know the PSAT™ 8/9

- + The PSAT™ 8/9 is highly relevant to your future success because it focuses on the skills and knowledge at the heart of education. It measures:
 - What you learn in high school
 - What you need to succeed in college
- + The PSAT 8/9 measures reading, writing and language, and math skills developed over many years, both in and out of school.
- + The PSAT 8/9 does not ask you to recall facts from literature, history, or science, or to complete math formulas, because it measures your reasoning and critical thinking skills.
- + You don't have to discover secret tricks or cram the night before.
- + There is no penalty for guessing on PSAT 8/9
- + 2 hours 25 minutes





Benefits of Taking the PSAT™ 8/9

- + Get a baseline of your college readiness
- + Prepare for the new PSAT/NMSQT® (2015) and SAT® (March 2016)
- + Get free, personalized, and focused practice through Khan Academy®
- + Start getting ready for college with college and career planning tools
- + See which AP® courses you might be ready for



How Do I Access My PSAT™ 8/9 Scores and Reports?



1. Review your online score reports
2. Review your paper score report



Understanding My Paper Score Report



Get your full report online
studentscores.collegeboard.org

access code **A02670146P**



Free Practice

Practice the skills you'll need for high school and beyond – free online on khanacademy.org/sat



Core Course Work

Use your results to create a core course work plan in high school

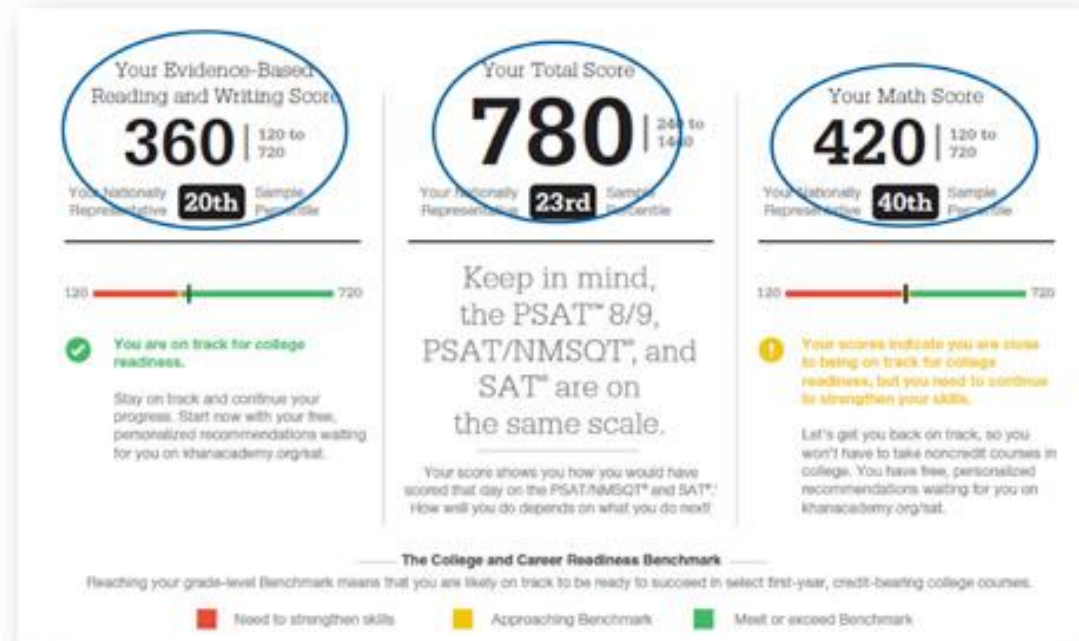


Explore

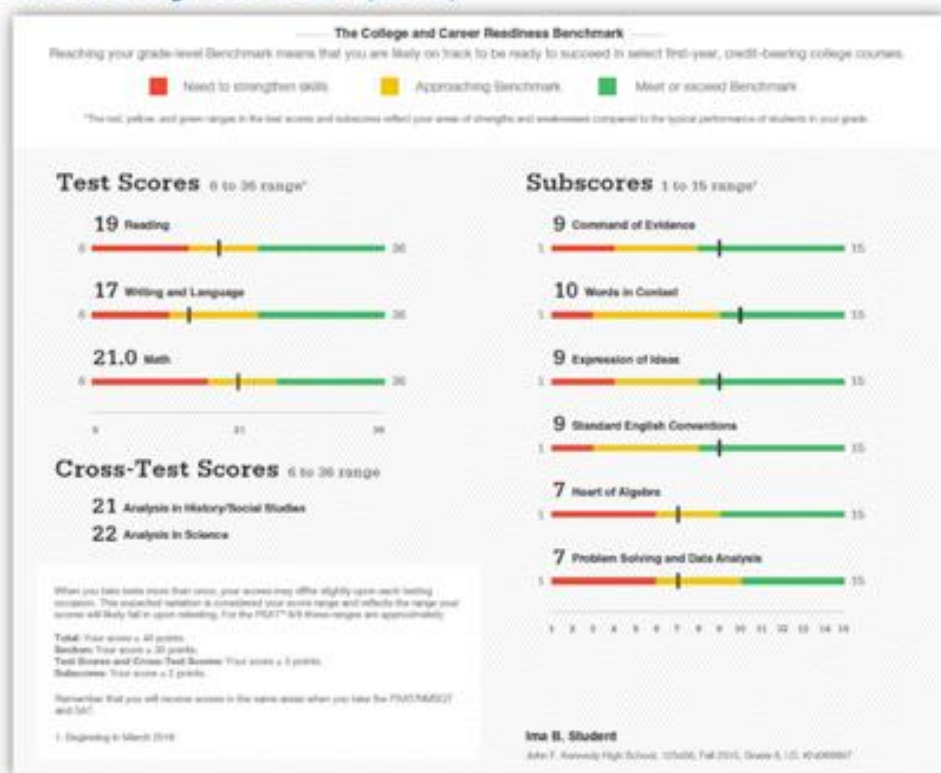
Begin to explore careers that might interest you – link directly from your online score report



What Are My Scores?

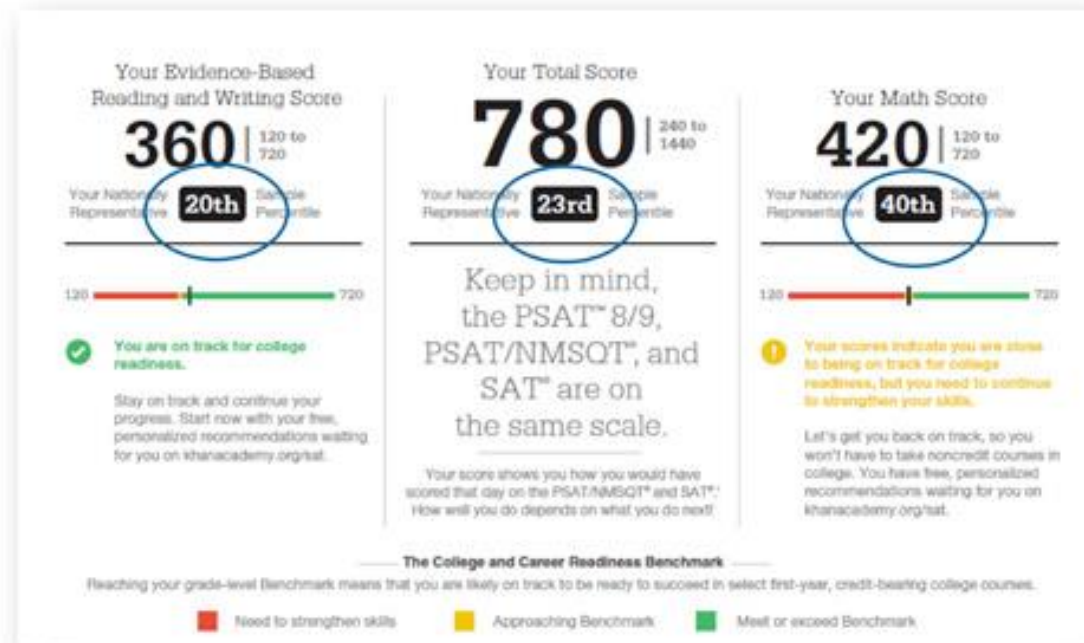


What Are My Scores? (cont.)





What Are My Score Percentiles?



What Are My Score Ranges?



When you take tests more than once, your scores may differ slightly upon each testing occasion. This expected variation is considered your score range, and reflects the range your scores will likely fall in upon retesting. For the PSAT/NMSQT®, these ranges are approximately:

- Total:** Your score \pm 40 points.
- Section:** Your score \pm 30 points.
- Test Scores and Cross-Test Scores:** Your score \pm 3 points.
- Subscores:** Your score \pm 2 points.

Remember that you will receive scores in the same areas when you take the SAT.

- Beginning in March 2016

Score Report Data:

- Your Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Score: **360** (SAT score) / 20th Percentile
- Your Total Score: **780** (SAT score) / 23rd Percentile
- Your Math Score: **420** (SAT score) / 40th Percentile

Subscores (1 to 10 range):

- 9 Command of Evidence
- 10 Words in Context
- 9 Expression of Ideas
- 9 Analyze Argument
- 7 Craft of Argument
- 7 Analyze Reading and Test Strategies

Cross-Test Scores (1 to 10 range):

- 21 Analyze in History/Social Studies
- 22 Analyze in Science

What Are My Areas of Strength? What Skills Do I Need to Build?

Your Scores: Next Steps

Your score indicates that you are already fairly able to:

Reading Test Improve your skills by focusing on your ability to:

- 1 Analyze text as needed to explore the explicit and implicit meanings of each choice within a passage or challenging text.
- 2 Draw on self-knowledge or experience to interpret a passage or text to support claims or points in an analysis or argument.
- 3 Assess complex, challenging text to interpret the information presented in the text or logical inferences.
- 4 Analyze text as needed to explore the explicit and implicit meanings of each choice within a passage or challenging text.

19
4 to 50

- 1 Read an additional passage or claim in a context of text to support claims or points in a challenging text.
- 2 Use a variety of evidence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience.
- 3 Assess an argument to explore the explicit and implicit meanings of each choice within a passage or text.
- 4 Draw on self-knowledge or other in a context of text to support claims or points in a challenging text.
- 5 Use a variety of evidence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience.

Writing and Language Test

- 1 Draw inferences and conclusions from a passage or challenging text.
- 2 Analyze the central ideas or a passage or challenging text.
- 3 Identify explicit and implicit meanings and logical inferences in a passage or challenging text.
- 4 Analyze text as needed to explore the explicit and implicit meanings of each choice within a passage or challenging text.

17
3 to 35

- 1 Draw inferences and conclusions and logical inferences from a challenging text.
- 2 Analyze information presented quantitatively to explain an explicit claim and analyze and support the information presented in a passage or challenging text.
- 3 Evaluate how the selection of specific words shapes meaning and tone in a challenging passage.
- 4 Use a variety of evidence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience.
- 5 Draw on self-knowledge or other in a context of text to support claims or points in a challenging text.

Math Test

- 1 Interpret a claim or graphically to use variables with explicit coefficients that represent a context. Solve the equation of a line of best fit and interpret the slope and intercept of the line in the context of the situation given a linear model in a passage.
- 2 Interpret simple statistics understanding and using range of data.
- 3 Draw conclusions from a graph, location, or equation that represents a context and require multiple steps.
- 4 Calculate and interpret frequency distributions using tables and other representative methods.

21.0
3 to 35

- 1 Determine how a graph may be affected by a change in the equation.
- 2 Determine the value of a constant or coefficient for an equation with multiple or infinite many solutions.
- 3 Using a specified model, make a prediction and compare the predicted values with the actual values in the data set.
- 4 When a context is required for the data set, interpret the data with effective graphs.
- 5 Determine whether two events are independent given their probabilities.
- 6 Use a variety of evidence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience.

What Are My Next Steps?



- + Continue to take challenging courses in high school
- + Link scores with Khan Academy
- + Set up a practice plan and stick to it
- + Utilize other resources to research and prepare for college