

PSAT Score Report

Understanding & Using It to Increase College Readiness



Some information about the PSAT...

- The PSAT/NMSQT is the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.
- The PSAT/NMSQT is a great primer for the SAT.
- PSAT/NMSQT scores are used to identify National Merit Scholars.
- PSAT/NMSQT is a 2 hour, 45 minute multiple choice test that is given once a year (in October) and taken by more than 3.4 million high school students nationwide.
- PSAT/NMSQT scores do not count toward college admissions applications.
- The PSAT/NMSQT has two sections: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, and Math. There is no penalty for guessing.
- PSAT/NMSQT multiple-choice questions are passage based and may include tables, graphs, and charts - math questions are centered around algebra, geometry, and some trigonometry.

How is the PSAT/NMSQT scored?



- Each section is scored on a scale of 160 - 760.
- There are three (3) scores on the score report that should be considered: total score, evidence-based reading and writing score, and math score.
- The PSAT/NMSQT is scored using the same rubric as the SAT; however, the score range differ:

PSAT/NMSQT = 320 - 1520

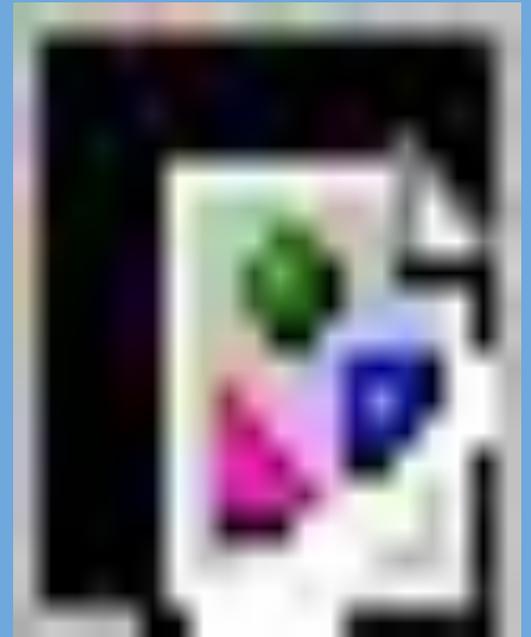
SAT = 400 - 1600

- The PSAT/NMSQT percentile compares the tester to everyone else who took the PSAT/NMSQT on that test date.
For example, 86th percentile means the student scored equal or higher than 86% of the students who took the test on that day.

Understanding the PSAT/NMSQT Big 3 Scores...

PSAT/NMSQT score report contains 3 scores known as the "Big 3 Scores."

- 1. TOTAL SCORE**
- 2. READING & WRITING SCORE**
- 3. MATH SCORE**



PSAT/NMSQT Total Score Overview

The **total score** is the sum of the reading & writing score and the math score. The score range is 320 - 1520.

The total score can help predict how a tester may score on the SAT.

The percentiles allow testers to see how they rank against other testers.

High scores/percentiles earn Nat'l Merit recognition.

PSAT/NMSQT Reading-Writing and Math Scores

The ***Reading & Writing*** portion of the PSAT is subdivided into READING and WRITING & LANGUAGE.

The ***Math*** portion is subdivided into MATH-Calculator and MATH-No Calculator.

Each portion (Reading-Writing and Math) have a score range of 160 - 760.

NOTE: Grade-level benchmarks can also be seen on the score report.

Using Your Score Report...

The score report gives you access to more detailed information about your score. By signing into the [PSAT.org/myscore](https://psat.org/myscore) website, students can do some of the following:

- Dig deeper into testing data and get free personalized practice
- Learn about the questions they missed
- Look at PSAT test questions that were missed and study the explanation to the correct answer
- Identify which answer explanation may need additional explanation from a teacher.

Useful Resources...

- College Board: [Understanding PSAT/NMSQT Scores Parent Webinar](#)
- PrepScholar: [ACT vs SAT: 11 Key Differences to Help You Pick the Right Test](#)

Where to go from here?

ACT/SAT Testing

- Juniors take the ACT Test at school in March
- It is encouraged for students to take an additional ACT and SAT at least once during their Junior year
- College Exploration through SCOIR
 - Parents receive their invitations through email