

Score Change From PSAT/NMSQT to SAT®

shows how scores change for students who take the PSAT/NMSQT in October and the SAT the following spring.

Points to Note

- The PSAT/NMSQT reports scores on a scale from 20 to 80. Scores on the SAT® are reported on a 200-to-800 scale.
- The left-hand column of this table groups juniors by score ranges on the PSAT/NMSQT. Columns to the right show the percentage of students who gained or lost points when they took the SAT the following spring. The far right column shows the average SAT score for the group of juniors in each score range.
- On average, juniors taking the PSAT/NMSQT in October and the SAT the following spring have SAT scores that are 17 points higher in critical reading, 16 points higher in math, and 22 points higher in writing (equivalent to 1.7, 1.6, and 2.2 points, respectively, on the PSAT/NMSQT scale).
- Of the PSAT/NMSQT test-takers who took the SAT in the spring, 60% had SAT critical reading scores that were higher, 7% had scores that stayed the same, and 33% had lower scores; 58% had SAT math scores that were higher, 8% had scores that stayed the same, and 34% had lower scores; 62% had SAT writing scores that were higher, 6% had scores that stayed the same, and 32% had scores that were lower than their corresponding PSAT/NMSQT scores.
- Relatively low PSAT/NMSQT scores are followed by larger average gains than are relatively high PSAT/NMSQT scores.
- Several factors can influence the amount that scores will change, such as a student's academic course work and outside reading.

Percentage of Junior-Year Students with a Score Gain or Loss Between the PSAT/NMSQT and the SAT

CRITICAL READING

Junior-Year PSAT/NMSQT Scores	-140 & below	-110 to -130	-80 to -100	-50 to -70	-20 to -40	-10 to +10	+20 to +40	+50 to +70	+80 to +100	+110 to +130	+140 & above	Average of Junior-Year SAT Scores
68-72	1	1	4	11	22	24	22	10	5	1		694
63-67	1	1	3	9	19	27	20	13	5	1	1	652
58-62	1	1	3	8	17	24	23	15	6	2	1	609
53-57	1	1	2	7	15	23	24	16	8	2	1	563
48-52		1	3	7	15	22	24	17	8	3	1	515
43-47		1	2	7	14	22	23	17	9	3	1	469
38-42		1	2	5	11	20	23	20	11	5	2	429
33-37	1	1	2	4	9	16	22	21	13	7	3	386
28-32		1	3	3	7	12	17	22	18	10	7	352

MATHEMATICS

Junior-Year PSAT/NMSQT Scores	-140 & below	-110 to -130	-80 to -100	-50 to -70	-20 to -40	-10 to +10	+20 to +40	+50 to +70	+80 to +100	+110 to +130	+140 & above	Average of Junior-Year SAT Scores
68-72	1	1	4	11	22	24	19	11	6	1		700
63-67	1	1	4	8	17	27	22	12	5	2	1	656
58-62	1	1	3	9	16	23	23	16	6	2	1	611
53-57	1	1	3	8	15	21	22	16	9	3	1	566
48-52		1	3	7	15	23	22	16	9	4	1	522
43-47		1	2	6	13	21	24	18	9	4	2	475
38-42		1	2	5	13	21	25	18	10	4	2	426
33-37		1	2	6	11	16	23	20	13	5	3	380
28-32		1	4	5	9	16	18	20	15	8	4	341

WRITING

Junior-Year PSAT/NMSQT Scores	-140 & below	-110 to -130	-80 to -100	-50 to -70	-20 to -40	-10 to +10	+20 to +40	+50 to +70	+80 to +100	+110 to +130	+140 & above	Average of Junior-Year SAT Scores
68-72	2	4	9	15	19	20	15	9	5	2		680
63-67	1	2	7	13	19	20	18	11	5	3	1	643
58-62	1	1	4	9	16	21	20	14	8	3	2	607
53-57	1	1	3	8	15	20	21	16	9	5	2	569
48-52		1	3	7	13	19	21	17	11	5	3	525
43-47		1	2	6	12	19	21	18	12	6	3	482
38-42		1	2	5	11	18	21	19	13	7	4	435
33-37		1	2	4	9	16	21	20	14	8	6	393
28-32			2	3	7	12	19	20	17	10	9	360

Data are based on 585,947 students who took the PSAT/NMSQT as juniors in October 2007 and the SAT as juniors in spring 2008. The first SAT score from either the March, May, or June 2008 administration was used.