

Average SAT Scores of College-Bound Seniors (1952 – present)

Class Year	SAT ¹									SAT (1941-42 scale)					
	Verbal / Critical Reading / ERW			Mathematics			Writing ²			Verbal			Mathematics		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1952	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	476	---	---	494	---	---
1953	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	476	---	---	495	---	---
1954	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	472	---	---	490	---	---
1955	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	475	---	---	496	---	---
1956	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	479	---	---	501	---	---
1957	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	473	---	---	496	---	---
1958	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	472	---	---	496	---	---
1959	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	475	---	---	498	---	---
1960	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	477	---	---	498	---	---
1961	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	474	---	---	495	---	---
1962	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	473	---	---	498	---	---
1963	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	478	---	---	502	---	---
1964	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	475	---	---	498	---	---
1965	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	473	---	---	496	---	---
1966	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	471	---	---	496	---	---
1967	543	540	545	516	535	495	†	†	†	466	463	468	492	514	467
1968	543	541	543	516	533	497	†	†	†	466	464	466	492	512	470
1969	540	536	543	517	534	498	†	†	†	463	459	466	493	513	470
1970	537	536	538	512	531	493	†	†	†	460	459	461	488	509	465
1971	532	531	534	513	529	494	†	†	†	455	454	457	488	507	466
1972	530	531	529	509	527	489	†	†	†	453	454	452	484	505	461
1973	523	523	521	506	525	489	†	†	†	445	446	443	481	502	460
1974	521	524	520	505	524	488	†	†	†	444	447	442	480	501	459
1975	512	515	509	498	518	479	†	†	†	434	437	431	472	495	449
1976	509	511	508	497	520	475	†	†	†	431	433	430	472	497	446
1977	507	509	505	496	520	474	†	†	†	429	431	427	470	497	445
1978	507	511	503	494	517	474	†	†	†	429	433	425	468	494	444
1979	505	509	501	493	516	473	†	†	†	427	431	423	467	493	443
1980	502	506	498	492	515	473	†	†	†	424	428	420	466	491	443
1981	502	508	496	492	516	473	†	†	†	424	430	418	466	492	443
1982	504	509	499	493	516	473	†	†	†	426	431	421	467	493	443
1983	503	508	498	494	516	474	†	†	†	425	430	420	468	493	445
1984	504	511	498	497	518	478	†	†	†	426	433	420	471	495	449
1985	509	514	503	500	522	480	†	†	†	431	437	425	475	499	452
1986	509	515	504	500	523	479	†	†	†	431	437	426	475	501	451
1987	507	512	502	501	523	481	†	†	†	430	435	425	476	500	453
1988	505	512	499	501	521	483	†	†	†	428	435	422	476	498	455
1989	504	510	498	502	523	482	†	†	†	427	434	421	476	500	454
1990	500	505	496	501	521	483	†	†	†	424	429	419	476	499	455
1991	499	503	495	500	520	482	†	†	†	422	426	418	474	497	453
1992	500	504	496	501	521	484	†	†	†	423	428	419	476	499	456
1993	500	504	497	503	524	484	†	†	†	424	428	420	478	502	457
1994	499	501	497	504	523	487	†	†	†	423	425	421	479	501	460
1995	504	505	502	506	525	490	†	†	†	428	429	426	482	503	463
1996	505	507	503	508	527	492	†	†	†	---	---	---	---	---	---
1997	505	507	503	511	530	494	†	†	†	---	---	---	---	---	---
1998	505	509	502	512	531	496	†	†	†	---	---	---	---	---	---
1999	505	509	502	511	531	495	†	†	†	---	---	---	---	---	---
2000	505	507	504	514	533	498	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2001	506	509	502	514	533	498	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2002	504	507	502	516	534	500	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2003	507	512	503	519	537	503	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2004	508	512	504	518	537	501	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2005	508	513	505	520	538	504	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2006	503	505	502	518	536	502	497	491	502	†	†	†	†	†	†
2007	501	503	500	514	532	499	493	487	499	†	†	†	†	†	†
2008	500	502	499	514	532	499	493	486	499	†	†	†	†	†	†
2009	499	502	497	514	533	498	492	485	498	†	†	†	†	†	†
2010	500	502	498	515	533	499	491	485	497	†	†	†	†	†	†
2011	497	500	495	514	531	500	489	482	496	†	†	†	†	†	†
2012	496	498	493	514	532	499	488	481	494	†	†	†	†	†	†
2013	496	499	494	514	531	499	488	482	493	†	†	†	†	†	†
2014	497	499	495	513	530	499	487	481	492	†	†	†	†	†	†
2015	495	497	493	511	527	496	484	478	490	†	†	†	†	†	†
2016	494	496	493	508	524	494	482	475	487	†	†	†	†	†	†
2017	533	532	534	527	538	516	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2018	536	534	539	531	542	522	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2019	531	529	534	528	537	519	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†

2020	528	523	532	523	531	516	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

---Not available. †Not applicable.

¹Data for 1967 to 1986 were converted to the recentered scale by using a formula applied to the original mean and standard deviation. For 1987 to 1995, individual student scores were converted to the recentered scale and then the mean was recomputed. For 1996 to 1999, nearly all students received scores on the recentered scale; any score on the original scale was converted to the recentered scale prior to recomputing the mean. From 2000 to 2016, all scores were reported on the recentered scale. From 2017 on, the scale for the version of the SAT introduced in March, 2016 is used.

²Writing data are based on students who took the SAT writing section, which was introduced in March 2005.

The class year refers to the year in which an academic year ends and the graduating year for the senior class. For example, 1980 refers to the academic year 1979-1980 and the data shown for this date include seniors in the class of 1980. Data prior to class year 1967 include all tests taken by all participants and may include a small number of students other than seniors. Data for class years 1967 through 1971 are estimates derived from the test scores of all participants. Data for class years 1972 through 2006 include seniors who took the SAT any time during their high school years through March of their senior year. Data for class years 2007 to 2015 include seniors who took the SAT any time during their high school years through June of their senior year. Data for class year 2016 includes seniors who took the SAT any time during their high school years through January, 2016. If a student took a test more than once, the most recent score was used. The SAT was formerly known as the SAT I: Reasoning Test and the Scholastic Aptitude Test. Possible scores on each part of the SAT range from 200 to 800. The Verbal section became known as the Critical Reading section in 2005, which in turn became the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section in 2016.

SOURCES: College Entrance Examination Board, College-Bound Seniors: Total Group Profile [National] Report; College Board, Report on Declining SAT Scores (1977); National Center for Education Statistics (nces.ed.gov)