



# The College Board's Redesigned SAT Benchmarks

The College Board

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Michigan Educational Research Association (MERA)



# Overview

- + The Pre-2016 SAT College and Career Readiness Benchmark
- + The rationale for changing the benchmarks
- + The criteria for the current benchmarks
- + Data and Results for the current benchmarks

# Pre-2016 Benchmarks

- + The pre-2016 SAT College and Career Readiness Benchmark was a composite score of 1550
- + This was calculated using logistic regression
  - Approximately 70,000 students from 110 four-year institutions
- + The regression was calculated as a 65% probability of obtaining a first-year grade point average (FYGPA) of 2.67 (B-) or higher
  - Criteria informed by a standard setting panel
  - Logistic regression was used to calculate the benchmark

# Why Change?

- + The literature on college and career readiness has evolved in a number of ways
  - Four-year vs. two- and four-year institutions (Conley, 2007)
  - Focus on credit bearing coursework
  - Specify introductory coursework
  - Growing consensus that a high probability of obtaining a C or higher is a good indicator of college readiness
    - PARRC
    - ACT
- + Desire for more targeted feedback
  - The pre-2016 benchmark was based on composite scores and so we couldn't provide feedback by subject.
  - The current college and career readiness indicator is comprised of both ERW and Math benchmarks and students receive feedback on each of these subject areas.

# Pre-2016 vs. Current Benchmarks

Pre-2016 (Old) SAT Benchmark	Current SAT Benchmark
Based on data obtained from four-year institutions	Based on data from two- and four-year institutions
The percent college and career ready is based on achieving the composite score	The percent college and career ready is based on achieving the 2 section benchmarks (Evidence Based Reading & Writing and Math)
FYGPA	Individual course outcomes
Includes coursework in first year	Includes coursework in first semester
All coursework included	Coursework is related to the relevant SAT section
	Only non-remedial coursework included
	Only introductory (100-level) coursework included
Calculated based on a 65% probability of earning at least a 2.67 (B-) in the first year of college	Calculated separately based on a 75% probability of earning at least a 2.0 (C) in related first semester courses

# New Approach to Benchmarks/ Methodology

- + There are be two SAT benchmarks
  - Evidence Based Reading & Writing (ERW)
  - Math
    - Students must meet or exceed both to be considered college ready
- + Benchmarks are based on a 75% probability of obtaining a C or higher
  - ERW scores are linked to history, literature, social science and writing courses.
  - Math scores are linked to algebra, pre-calculus, calculus, and statistics courses.
- + If multiple courses per student, the course with the **lowest grade** is used in the calculation.
- + Logistic regression was used to calculate the benchmark.
- + Outcome data from the current SAT is not available, so we used data from the pre-2016 SAT (2009 cohort) and concorded it to the current SAT
  - Pre-2016 (SAT CR & SAT W)  $\longrightarrow$  SAT ERW
  - Pre-2016 SAT M  $\longrightarrow$  SAT M
- + Logistic regression was used to calculate the benchmark.
- + We weighted at the student level by school type (2-and 4-year) and we weighted the four-year institutions by selectivity.

# Benchmark Results

## Pre-2016 SAT Benchmark Values at Two- and Four-Year Institutions

School Type	Benchmark Value	
	Two-Year	Four-Year
ERW (400-1600 scale)	850	840
Math (200-800 scale)	500	510

Note: The Pre-2016 ERW benchmark is based on the sum of CR & W and is on a 400-1600 scale while the Pre-2016 Math score is on a 200-800 scale.

## Pre-2016 and Current Scale Benchmarks and Attainment Rates

	Pre-2016 Scale	Current Scale	Attainment Rate
ERW	850	480	72%
Math	500	530	54%
Both			50%

- + These benchmarks will be evaluated once we have current SAT data for the graduating high school class of 2017 and first semester outcome data.

# Overall Validity Evidence

		Variable	CCR	Not CCR
Four-Year College Outcomes	Percent Attaining	Enrolled in Remedial Coursework in 1st Year	5.3	26.7
		Retained to 2nd Year	88.8	77.6
		Retained to 3rd Year	81.4	64.0
		Graduated in 4 Years	52.6	27.6
		Graduated in 5 Years	76.1	51.9
	Mean	FYGPA	3.07	2.57
		CGPA	3.25	2.90
Two-Year College Outcomes	Percent Attaining	Enrolled in Remedial Coursework in First Year	30.6	63.0
		Retained to 2nd Year or Transferred to a 4-Yr School	85.7	80.1
		Retained to 3rd Year or Transferred to a 4-Yr School	71.7	62.8
		Graduated in 2 Years	13.5	6.7
		Graduated in 3 Years	28.3	19.8
	Mean	FYGPA	2.81	2.30
		CGPA	2.73	2.23
Workforce Training Outcomes	Percent Attaining	Graduated in 2 Years	10.3	6.0
		Graduated in 3 Years	27.8	22.0
	Mean	Overall FYGPA	3.08	2.75
		Occupational FYGPA	3.26	2.94
		Overall CGPA	3.12	2.78
		Occupational CGPA	3.28	3.01



# Validity Evidence by Content Area

		Outcome	Met the ERW Benchmark	Did Not Meet the ERW Benchmark
Four-Year College Outcomes	Percent	Reading/ Writing Remediation	4.0	25.5
	Mean	Literature/ Social Science/ History/ Writing FYGPA	3.02	2.29
Two-Year College Outcomes	Percent	Reading/ Writing Remediation	15.7	52.9
	Mean	Literature/ Social Science/ History/ Writing FYGPA	2.71	2.03

		Outcome	Met the Math Benchmark	Did Not Meet the Math Benchmark
Four-Year College Outcomes	Percent	Math Remediation	2.7	17.5
	Mean	Math FYGPA	2.79	2.14
Two-Year College Outcomes	Percent	Math Remediation	3.1	27.7
	Mean	Math FYGPA	2.50	1.94

# Questions?

- + Please contact Jeff Wyatt [jwyatt@collegeboard.org](mailto:jwyatt@collegeboard.org) with any questions.
- + Thank you!!!