

# Interpreting Your GRE® Scores: 2023–24

This publication is intended to assist you in interpreting your GRE® test scores. The interpretive information is updated annually. ETS publishes score use guidelines in the [GRE Guide to the Use of Scores](#), to encourage programs to use the scores appropriately.

## General Test Score Interpretive Information

- The range of scores for the Verbal Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning measures of the GRE General Test is 130 to 170, in one-point increments. The range of scores for the Analytical Writing measure is 0 to 6, in half-point increments. If you have not answered at least one question within a measure, an NS (No Score) is reported for that measure.
- Scores from the different General Test measures should not be directly compared because each measure is scaled separately. You can use the percentile ranks provided on your score report to compare your relative performance among the measures. These percentile ranks are based on the scores of all test takers who tested between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2022. Note that although a given score represents approximately the same level of ability regardless of when the score was earned, its percentile rank may vary, depending on the scores of the group with which it is compared.
- Scores on the Verbal Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning measures reflect the number of questions answered correctly, as well as the difficulty level of each section.
- Analytical Writing essay responses are evaluated on a 6-point holistic scale, including receiving a score from the e-rater® scoring engine, a computerized program developed by ETS that is capable of identifying essay features related to writing proficiency. In holistic scoring, scores are assigned on the basis of the overall quality of an essay in response to the assigned task. A single score is reported for the Analytical Writing measure. For more information, review the [scoring guides and the Analytical Writing Score Level Descriptions](#).
- After you take the computer-delivered General Test, you can select the GRE Diagnostic Service from your ETS account to view more detailed information about your performance on the test.
- Table 1 presents General Test performance information. (Definitions of statistical terms are presented in the glossary on the back page.)

**Table 1: General Test Performance Information**

(Based on the performance of all test takers who tested between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2022)

Measure	Number of Test Takers	Mean	SD
Verbal Reasoning	1,185,163	150.94	8.48
Quantitative Reasoning	1,187,394	155.44	9.78
Analytical Writing	1,182,875	3.56	0.88

- Table 2 presents mean scores for the seven broad intended graduate major fields. For additional interpretive information about the GRE General Test, visit [www.ets.org/gre/test-takers/general-test/scores/understand-scores.html](#).

**Table 2: General Test Mean Scores Classified by Intended Broad Graduate Major Field**

(Based on the performance of seniors and nonenrolled college graduates who tested between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2022)

Intended Broad Graduate Major Field	Verbal Reasoning	Quantitative Reasoning	Analytical Writing
Business	152	158	3.7
Education	151	148	3.8
Engineering	151	160	3.5
Humanities & Arts	157	151	4.1
Law	155	153	4.2
Life Sciences	151	150	3.8
Physical Sciences	152	161	3.5
Social & Behavioral Sciences	154	153	4.0

## Subject Test Score Interpretive Information

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- The range of scores for each GRE Subject Test is from 200 to 990, in 10-point increments, although the actual range for any particular Subject Test is usually smaller.
  - Your Subject Test score is based on the number of questions you answered correctly.
  - Because scores are calculated independently for each test, Subject Test scores should be compared only with other scores on the same Subject Test. A score of 780 on the Mathematics Test, for example, is not equivalent to a 780 on the Physics Test.
  - Scores on the same Subject Test generally are directly comparable across years. A Psychology Test score of 720 in 2023, for example, should be considered equivalent to a Psychology Test score of 720 earned in 2022.
  - Percentile rank information for Subject Test total scores is based on the scores of all test takers who tested between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2022. Note that, although a given score represents approximately the same level of ability regardless of when the score was earned, its percentile rank may vary depending on the scores of the group with which it is compared.
  - Table 3 shows Subject Test performance information for the total test. These data are based on the scores of all individuals who took the Subject Test between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2022.
  - For additional interpretive information about the GRE Subject Tests, visit [www.ets.org/gre/test-takers/subject-tests/scores/understand-scores.html](http://www.ets.org/gre/test-takers/subject-tests/scores/understand-scores.html).
- Beginning in September 2023, percent correct scores in content areas will be reported on the GRE Physics Test and GRE Psychology Test. These scores will be reported on a range of 0 to 100 percent and indicate the percent of questions you answered correctly within a content area. Percent correct scores cannot be compared from one edition of a test to another because these scores are not equated.
  - For GRE Physics Tests taken between April 2021 and April 2023, and GRE Psychology Tests taken prior to September 2023, subscores are reported on a range of 20 to 99, in one-point increments. The previously reported scaled subscores cannot be compared to the percent correct scores in content areas that begin September 2023.

**Table 3: Subject Test Total Score Performance Information**

(Based on the performance of all test takers who tested between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2022)

Subject Test	Number of Test Takers	Mean	SD
Mathematics	11,269	674	153
Physics	16,455	715	164
Psychology	8,049	620	110

## Glossary of Statistical Terms

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**Mean**—an average obtained by adding all the scores from a group of test takers and dividing the sum by the number of test takers in the group.

**Percentile rank**—the percent of test takers in a group or subgroup who obtained scores below a specified score on a particular test.

**Standard deviation (SD)**—a measure of the extent to which test takers' scores on a test generally differ from one another.