

Table 136.—Scholastic Assessment Test¹ score averages, by selected student characteristics: 1995–96, 1996–97, and 1997–98

Selected characteristics	1995–96			1996–97			1997–98		
	Verbal score	Mathematics score	Percentage distribution	Verbal score	Mathematics score	Percentage distribution	Verbal score	Mathematics score	Percentage distribution
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
All students	505	508	100	505	511	100	505	512	100
High school rank									
Top decile	591	606	22	589	606	22	590	607	21
Second decile	530	539	22	529	541	23	530	543	22
Second quintile	494	496	28	494	498	27	494	500	28
Third quintile	455	448	24	455	451	23	454	453	24
Fourth quintile	429	418	4	428	420	4	427	421	4
Fifth quintile	411	401	1	411	404	1	408	403	1
High school grade point average									
A+ (97–100)	617	632	6	613	630	6	613	629	7
A (93–96)	573	583	14	570	583	15	569	582	15
A- (90–92)	545	554	15	542	553	16	542	554	16
B (80–89)	486	485	49	485	486	49	483	487	48
C (70–79)	432	426	15	432	428	14	430	428	13
D, E, or F (Below 70)	414	408	0	411	409	0	408	411	0
Intended college major									
Agriculture/natural resources	491	484	2	492	486	2	491	487	2
Architecture/environmental design	492	519	3	492	523	2	494	524	2
Arts: visual/performing	520	497	6	522	501	7	520	502	7
Biological sciences	546	545	6	545	546	6	545	546	6
Business and commerce	483	500	13	482	504	13	484	505	14
Communications	527	497	4	523	498	4	523	501	4
Computer or information sciences	497	522	3	498	526	4	500	529	5
Education	487	477	8	485	479	9	483	480	9
Engineering	525	569	8	523	570	8	525	571	9
Foreign/classical languages	556	534	—	554	535	0	552	538	1
General/interdisciplinary	576	553	—	567	548	0	568	549	0
Health and allied services	500	505	19	499	507	19	497	505	18
Home economics	458	452	—	459	456	0	458	459	0
Language and literature	605	545	1	609	546	1	605	549	1
Library and archival sciences	554	512	—	561	522	0	547	525	0
Mathematics	552	628	1	549	623	1	552	629	1
Military sciences	503	505	—	505	507	0	504	507	0
Philosophy/religion/theology	560	536	—	558	538	1	558	538	1
Physical sciences	575	595	1	572	593	1	571	592	1
Public affairs and services	458	448	3	457	450	3	459	453	3
Social sciences and history	532	509	11	531	510	11	531	512	11
Technical and vocational	435	441	1	437	447	1	440	448	1
Undecided	500	507	7	504	514	7	510	520	6
Degree-level goal									
Certificate program	434	439	1	435	444	1	436	447	1
Associate degree	422	415	2	422	418	2	421	419	2
Bachelor's degree	476	476	23	475	478	23	475	480	23
Master's degree	514	518	29	513	520	30	513	523	31
Doctoral or related degree	548	552	24	547	552	24	548	554	23
Other	430	438	1	432	444	1	435	446	1
Undecided	502	503	20	504	508	20	505	510	19
Family income									
Less than \$10,000	429	444	4	428	445	5	427	446	5
\$10,000 to \$20,000	456	464	8	454	464	9	451	463	9
\$20,000 to \$30,000	482	482	10	480	482	12	477	482	11
\$30,000 to \$40,000	497	495	12	496	497	14	495	497	13
\$40,000 to \$50,000	509	507	10	507	508	12	506	509	11
\$50,000 to \$60,000	517	517	9	515	518	11	514	518	11
\$60,000 to \$70,000	524	525	7	522	526	9	521	525	9
\$70,000 to \$80,000	531	533	6	529	533	7	527	532	8
\$80,000 to \$100,000	541	544	7	540	544	9	539	546	9
More than \$100,000	560	569	9	559	571	12	559	572	13
Highest level of parental education									
No high school diploma	414	439	4	412	441	4	411	441	4
High school diploma	475	474	31	474	476	34	473	477	34
Associate degree	489	487	7	488	489	8	489	491	8
Bachelor's degree	525	529	25	524	530	28	525	532	28
Graduate degree	556	558	23	556	560	25	556	563	25

¹ Formerly known as the Scholastic Aptitude Test.
—Data not available.

SOURCE: College Entrance Examination Board, *National Report on College Bound Seniors*, various years. (Copyright © 1998 by the College Entrance Examination Board. All rights reserved). (This table was prepared July 1999).

NOTE.—Because of survey item nonresponse, percentages may not add to 100 percent. Possible scores on each part of the SAT range from 200 to 800.