SAT–ACT Score Comparisons

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Points to Note

• Equivalent scores are those with the same percentile ranks for a common group of test-takers.

• A concordance table is dependent upon the sample used to establish the relationship between two sets of scores. Other available SAT—ACT tables use different samples of colleges and students than this table, resulting in slightly different equivalent scores. For this reason, the best concordance table is one that is established for and used by a specific institution.

• Data in this table are based on 103,525 test-takers who took both the SAT and the ACT between October 1994 and December 1996.

• SAT scores do not cover the full range of the ACT scale due to differences in how percentiles are distributed at the top and bottom of the two scales.

• Although the new SAT will have significant changes that will more closely align the test with current instructional practices, the new SAT field trial research has conclusively demonstrated that scores on the new critical reading section will be comparable to scores on the current verbal section, and scores on the new math section will be comparable to scores on the current math section. Therefore, current concordance tables can still be used to compare new SAT and ACT scores.

Source References: