

STAAR 100-Point Scale Overview

The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) 100-Point Scale allows for the comparison of a student's performance with the performances of other students who took the same STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) assessment. The 100-Point Scale is defined using percentiles, which represent the percentage of students across the state who took the assessment and received a scale score less than the scale score of interest. Percentiles are calculated based on all students, except for out-of-school testers, who received valid scale scores on the assessment during the spring administration of that year.

For example, a student who earned a scale score of 4228 on the STAAR U.S. History assessment scored higher than 46 percent of other students who took the same test during the spring administration of that year.

STAAR U.S. History

Scale Score	Percentile
⋮	⋮
4170	42
4199	44
4228	46
4258	49
⋮	⋮

Frequently Asked Questions

- My student answered all the questions correctly and received the highest possible scale score in the table. Why is my student's score on the 100-Point Scale not equal to 100? The 100-Point Scale is defined using the percentile of the student scores. The percentile is not directly related to the percent of questions the student answered correctly. It is based on the percent of students who received lower scale scores, rounded to the closest whole number. In this example, your student did not score higher than 100 percent of students because he or she did not score higher than the other students who also received the highest possible scale score.
- How are percentiles calculated for the 100-Point Scale Table? A percentile associated with a specific scale score represents the percent of students who took the test and received a scale score less than the specific scale score. The following formula is used to calculate the percentile $p(S)$ for a scale score S , where N is the total number of students who took the test, and x is the number of students with scale scores less than S .

$$p(S) = \frac{x}{N} \times 100$$

If the calculated percentile is not a whole number, it is rounded to the closest whole number.

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- What if my student's scale score does not appear in the 100-Point Scale Table?
Each administration may result in different specific scale scores¹. The specific scale scores listed in the 100-Point Scale Table are the ones from the spring administration. If your student's scale score is not listed in the table, a range for the percentile can be obtained. The percentile associated with your student's scale score is between the percentiles for the scale scores in the table just above and just below your student's scale score.
For example, a student's scale score on the STAAR U.S. History assessment is 4220. The table indicates that the scale scores just below and above 4220 are 4199 and 4228. These two scale scores are associated with the percentiles 44 and 46, respectively. Therefore, the percentile associated with a scale score of 4220 is between 44 and 46.
- Why are multiple scale scores associated with the same value on the 100-Point Scale?
The percentile represents a percent of students who took the test. If the percentile for two scale scores is the same, this indicates that less than one percent of the students who took the test received the lower scale score.

¹ Refer to chapter 3, "Standard Technical Processes," in the [Technical Digests](#) for detailed information about equating and scale scores.