



Good SAT Scores for the Ivy League Plus

Find out the standards you
need to meet



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INTRO

SAT Scores and the Ivy League



Setting a target SAT score to aim for is important, but what if you want to shoot for the stars and get an Ivy League-caliber SAT score?

While your SAT score isn't the only factor that determines whether or not you get accepted to Ivy League-level schools, it does play a significant role in helping colleges compare candidates from different high schools. This is even more true for international students who don't have AP or IB courses in their schools: US colleges and

universities use those courses as ways to evaluate the academic potential of students attending a wide range of high schools, including students from countries with different grading systems altogether.

Your personal [target SAT score](#) is determined by the scores of students attending the schools you want to attend. If you're aiming for top-tier schools like the Ivy League, Stanford, MIT, or UChicago, this target score is going to necessarily be higher than it would be for less selective institutions, but just how high does this score have to be?

To answer this question, we've compiled a chart of the 25th and 75th percentile scores from all eight Ivy League schools (Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton, UPenn, and Yale) as well as from MIT, UChicago, and Stanford. The chart on the next page includes averages of section scores from all the schools as well as the total SAT scores.

Ivy League Plus SAT Scores

School Names	New SAT 25th %ile Scores			New SAT 75th %ile scores		
	EBRW	Math	TOTAL	EBRW	Math	TOTAL
MIT	740	780	1500	800	800	1600
Yale	740	740	1490	800	800	1600
Princeton	730	740	1470	800	800	1590
UPenn	730	740	1470	790	800	1590
Stanford	730	730	1450	790	800	1590
Columbia	730*	730*	1510	790*	800*	1580
Harvard	740*	740*	1470	800*	800*	1580
Dartmouth	710	700	1410	790	790	1580
Brown	710*	700*	1410**	780*	790*	1570**
UChicago	740*	745*	1490**	800*	800*	1560**
Cornell	700	710	1390**	760	780	1540**
Average	727	732	1455	791	796	1580

*Starred scores represent data collected from IPEDS; section scores may not add up to the total score

**Brown, UChicago, and Cornell provided CR+M old SAT total scores (out of 1600); new SAT total scores calculated using the College Board's [concordance tables](#).

The New SAT scores in the previous table were calculated using data from school websites and National Center for Educational Statistic's IPEDS data center and the College Board's converter tool and concordance tables. If you want to find old SAT scores for Ivy League Plus schools, take a look at the table below:

Ivy League Plus Old SAT Scores

School Names	Old SAT 25th %ile Scores				Old SAT 75th %ile scores			
	Reading	Math	Writing	TOTAL	Reading	Math	Writing	TOTAL
MIT	710	760	700	2170	800	800	790	2390
Yale	710	710	720	2140	800	790	800	2390
Princeton	690	710	700	2100	790	800	790	2380
UPenn	690	710	700	2100	780	800	790	2370
Stanford	690	700	690	2080	780	800	780	2360
Columbia	690*	700*	700*	2180	780*	790*	780*	2340
Harvard	700	710*	710*	2100	800	800	800	2350
Dartmouth	660	670	670	2000	780	780	780	2340
Brown	660*	670*	670*	1410**	770*	780*	780*	1560**
UChicago	720*	715*	710*	1450**	800*	800*	780*	1550**
Cornell	650	680	No Data	1330**	740	770	No Data	1510**
Average	688	703	697	2098	784	792	787	2366

*Starred scores represent data collected from IPEDS; section scores may not add up to the total score

**Brown, UChicago, and Cornell provided CR+M total scores (out of 1600); they are not included in the total SAT averages

Data above collected and calculated from individual school websites and National Center for Educational Statistic's [IPEDS data center](#).

2: What Does This Mean For You?

- > **Key Point:** 1580 or above increases your chances of acceptance; 1450 or below means you're not likely to get in.



Going by our [standard recommendations](#) for setting target scores, you'd need to get a **1580 new SAT score** to be on par with the top 75% of students admitted to Ivy League Plus schools; **students with scores below 1450 on the new SAT are unlikely to be accepted.**

Realistically speaking, few students apply **exclusively** to Ivy League Plus schools because they are so selective. If you do, you might fail to get into any college at all.



25th/75th Percentile Score Differences

Not all schools have an equally wide range of SAT scores. There's a lot more SAT score wiggle room for the middle 50% of students who apply to schools with big gaps between the 25th and 75th percentile SAT scores.

- School with the largest spread: **Dartmouth** (170 point difference)
- Schools with the smallest spread: **Columbia and UChicago** (70 point difference)

Of course, a high SAT score doesn't guarantee you admission to any school. Other quantitative measures like GPA also matter a great deal. For example, Harvard's [scatterplot](#) of admitted students for Fall 2016 shows the vast majority of students had a high school GPA of 3.8 or better out of 4.0. However, your chances of getting into an Ivy League Plus-caliber school are **greatly increased** with a high SAT score *and* a high GPA.

> **Conclusion:** A score of **1580 or above** on the SAT means that you are **highly competitive** for the top schools in the country, while a score of **1450 or below** likely **shuts you out** of most of the Ivy League Plus schools.

AND NOW WHAT?

Through this guide, you've learned a lot about what SAT score you need to get to have the best chance of getting accepted to an Ivy League Plus school. Make sure you match your goals with the specific schools you want to get into to find the most realistic target score.

We at PrepScholar believe we've built the best SAT prep program in the world. But even if you don't work with us at PrepScholar, we hope you found this guide useful.

Next up: Read our free Ebook on the PrepScholar system today: [Click here to get your Ebook!](#)

or **call us** at **1(866) 811-5546**, where one of our Academic Advisers will walk you through the best options for you and your family.

We'd love to hear from you.

Finally, if you found this guide helpful, please share it with any other people who might benefit.

Good luck!

-The PrepScholar Team