

# HOW TO READ YOUR CHILD'S SCORE REPORT



Michigan schools assess the progress of students in grade 8 by using two types of assessments:

- The PSAT™ 8/9 measures what students in grade 8 know and can do in English language arts and mathematics.
- The M-STEP (Michigan Test of Educational Progress) measures what students know and are able to do in relation to Michigan's academic standards. Students in grade 8 take M-STEP tests in science and social studies.

Results from the PSAT 8/9 and M-STEP are a snapshot of your child's learning progress. Teachers use the results of the PSAT 8/9 and M-STEP along with tools and other strategies to identify learning and achievement levels. Talk with your child's teacher regularly about how your child is doing and how you can support their learning at home. Supporting a connection between home and school will greatly improve the impact of your child's learning. To learn more, visit the [PSAT 8/9 web page](http://www.michigan.gov/psat) (www.michigan.gov/psat), and/or the [M-STEP web page](http://www.michigan.gov/mstep) (www.michigan.gov/mstep).

PSAT 8/9 and M-STEP results are released in late summer to provide parents and teachers with valuable information on where students are doing well and where they might need additional support. Scores also can support instruction by helping educators better align curriculum and instruction to state standards.

## Score Report Components

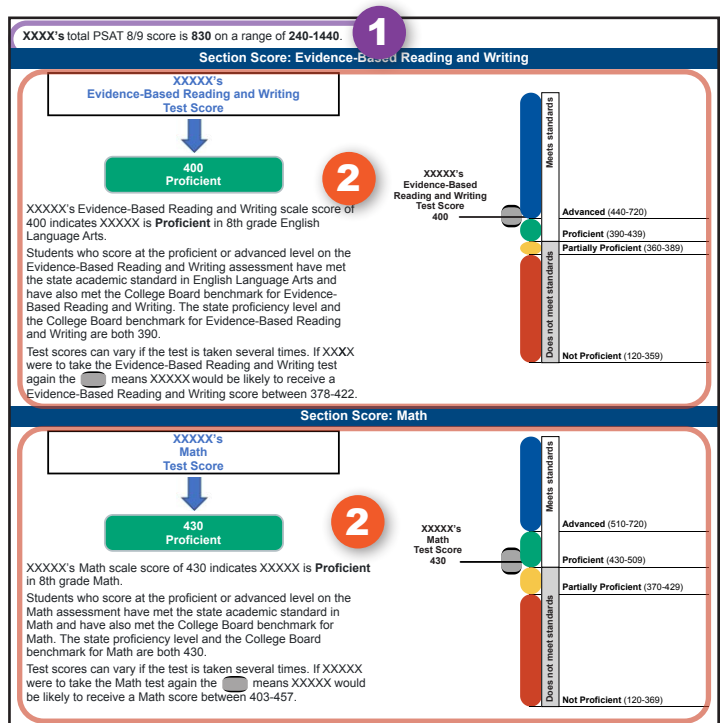
### PSAT 8/9 results: grade 8 Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, and Math

English language arts and mathematics assessment for students in grade 8

**1 Total Score** — This is your child's combined score for both subjects tested on the PSAT: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, and Math.

**2 Student Overall Performance Level and Scale Score** — Students receive a numerical scale score and, based on that score, are assigned one of four performance levels: Not Proficient, Partially Proficient, Proficient, or Advanced. This section of the report provides your student's numerical score and performance level.

Students who reach "Proficient" or "Advanced" levels have also met the College Board's grade-level benchmark for that subject. This means the student is on track for college readiness after high school graduation. The PSAT 8/9 benchmark scores for grade 8 are 390 for Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and 430 for Math.



## M-STEP results: grade 8 Science

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**Student Overall Performance Level and Scale Score** — Students receive a numerical scale score and, based on that score, are assigned one of four performance levels: Not Proficient, Partially Proficient, Proficient, or Advanced. This section of the report provides your student’s numerical score and performance level.

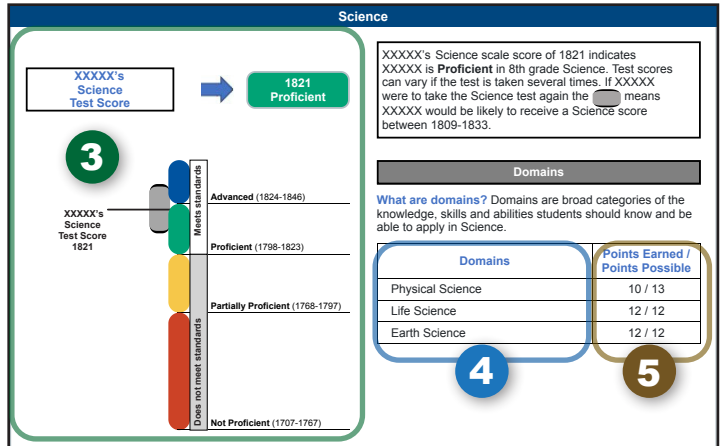
Students who reach “Proficient” or “Advanced” levels meet or exceed grade-level expectations in the assessed content and are on track to be career- and college-ready when they graduate from high school. Knowing this information now can help you start working early with your student’s teacher to ensure that your student is ready for what comes next.

4

**Domains** — Assessments in science include sub-categories, called domains, which relate directly to Michigan’s learning standards for those subjects. This section lists the domains that were assessed.

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**Points Earned/Points Possible** — This column describes the number of test items your student answered correctly (left-side number) compared to the total number of items tested (right-side number) in each domain for science or discipline for social studies. For example, a student whose point score is 5/7 correctly answered five of seven items.



## M-STEP results: grade 8 Social Studies

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**Disciplines** — Assessments in social studies include sub-categories, called disciplines, which relate directly to Michigan’s learning standards for those subjects. This section lists the disciplines that were assessed.

