

Interpreting Your ASVAB Results—A Review Based on Mike Carney’s Visit (08-09)

General Information: The ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) is a test which measures one’s abilities. The eight ASVAB test areas include General Science, Arithmetic Reasoning, Word Knowledge, Paragraph Comprehension, Mathematics Knowledge, Electronics Information, Auto and Shop Information, and Mechanical Comprehension. While several composites are determined based on these test scores, three composites are specifically formed to assist students in career exploration. These composite scores include verbal skills, math skills, and science and technical skills.

Scores: Although standard scores are provided, percentiles allow for easier interpretation. For example, if a student scored in the 73rd percentile, one could translate this to “for every 100 students tested, the student scored as well as or better than seventy-three of them.” Additionally, this score reflects a strength as the 50th percentile is considered average. Note the scores are grade-specific, gender-specific, and combined. The AFQT score indicated on the middle left side of the results sheet is for military use. This number is an overall score, though it is heavily weighted in the area of math. For military entrance, the score should be approximately 30 (this varies by military branch and area of interest within the military). The AFQT score is only valid for two years. Additionally, *the most current score is used*, which may not always be the *best* score.

Career Exploration: “The ASVAB Career Exploration Guide” (you will receive this upon Mr. Carney’s visit) is available to all students who took the September test. Items of particular interest within this guide include:

- FYI (Find Your Interests)—Follow all of the instructions. Your most important score is the highest one.
- Instructions for Using the OCCU-Find—p. 26
- RIASEC Occupations—p. 28-41
 - check the areas to explore further
 - look at second interest code
 - three columns to right show importance of skills
 - explore careers and see how your scores match the requirements

Closing: The ASVAB provides information but does not tell one what to do. Furthermore, the ASVAB does not address the element of success. The ASVAB website (www.asvabprogram.com) is an additional resource to further career exploration. The OCCU-Find access code at the bottom right of your ASVAB results sheet allows for expanded access on the site.

Please ask Mrs. Evans if you would like more information about the ASVAB and the career program element.

The following chart can be used to give students an *approximate* ACT or SAT score:

AFQT (middle left of results sheet)	ACT	SAT—Math	SAT—Verbal
0-9	6-7	200-299	200-249
10-15	8-9	300-325	250-299
16-30	10-12	326-375	300-349
31-49	13-17	376-449	350-399
50-64	18-20	450-499	400-475
65-92	21-26	500-649	476-599
93-99	27-33	650-800	600-750