



# National Board of Medical Examiners

## Customized Examination

### Percent Correct Score Interpretation Guide

**School:** 000000 - Generic Medical School

**Examination Name:** Examination Name

**Test Dates:** MM/DD/YYYY to MM/DD/YYYY

**Order ID:** B00000

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NBME customized examinations provide medical schools with a tool for measuring students' understanding of a series of content areas defined by each school. Course objectives vary across schools, and customized examinations can be targeted to meet the specifics of a given curriculum. NBME neither sets nor recommends a "passing" score. Generally, customized examinations should be used in conjunction with other indicators of student performance to determine grades.

#### ***Customized Examination Scores***

Percent correct scores were computed for the total test and the content areas that were defined by your faculty during the test construction process. Percent correct scores represent the percentage of items answered correctly. Percent correct scores are influenced by the overall difficulty of the test; therefore, these scores can only be used to compare performance on test administrations of this same customized exam form. Percent correct scores should not be interpreted as percentile ranks.

#### ***Roster and Frequency Distribution of Scores***

A Roster of Percent Correct Scores is provided for each administration. The roster of scores shows a total test percent correct score for each examinee and percent correct scores for the content areas that you selected to appear on the roster. A content area must have at least 25 items in order for the score to be reported on the roster. Numerical scores for content areas with less than 25 items are not reported due to low reliability.

A frequency distribution of the total test percent correct score for the total group is provided if two or more examinees tested during the dates shown above. The distribution shows the number and percentage of examinees at each score, along with corresponding cumulative frequencies and percentages.

#### ***Item Analysis Report***

If 10 or more examinees in the current administration met the criteria for inclusion in an item analysis (IA), an online IA report is provided to help you interpret their performance on each item. Examinees who did not take the exam under standard timing conditions, scored more than 3 standard deviations below the mean, omitted more than 10% of the items, and other examinees who were removed at the request of your school were not included in the IA. Item text and related images along with content area information, item difficulty, and the percentage of examinees answering each option are shown. If the IA is based on at least 40 examinees, discrimination indices are also provided. Historical item difficulties for each item based on USMLE Step 1 and/or an NBME subject examination are provided for gross comparative purposes only. Since these values were computed when items appeared in examinations administered in different contexts, caution is advised when interpreting and comparing historical item statistics. Most of this same information is also provided in a printable report and a CSV file.

Further information on interpreting the online IA report can be viewed by clicking on the Help link on the IA screen. The online IA report is available for six months from the date it was posted and can only be accessed with the use of an RSA SecurID® key provided to your school's Executive Chief Proctor.

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***Scaled Score Feedback***

Scaled scores provide a useful tool for comparing the scores of your students to one another as well as comparing student performance across test administrations of the same exam. Scaled scores are computed to have a mean of 70 and a standard deviation of 8 for the scaling group. For the first administration of an exam, the scaling group consists of examinees from that administration only. For subsequent administrations of the same exam, your school has the option at any time to select the scaling group to be used to compute scaled scores. Scaling groups can be defined based on examinees from the current administration, previous administrations, or a combination of examinees from current and previous administrations of the same exam. **It is important to note that scaled scores for this administration can only be compared to other administrations of this same exam that used the same scaling group.**

If there were less than 25 examinees in the scaling group for this test administration, only a percent correct score report has been posted. In order to receive scaled score feedback which includes a roster and individual performance profiles, you must define a scaling group of at least 25 examinees and link it to this administration. Please access the Scaling Group Application on the NBME Medical School Portal to complete this task.

**National Board of Medical Examiners  
Customized Examination  
Percent Correct Score Descriptive Statistics**

**School:** 000000 - Generic Medical School

**Test Dates:** MM/DD/YYYY to MM/DD/YYYY

**Examination Name:** Examination Name

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Percent correct score descriptive statistics appear below for the total test and all content areas defined by your school. If a scaling group was identified for this order or an item analysis was produced, reliability and the standard error of measurement (SEM) values will also appear. If your order has only one examinee, descriptive statistics will only appear for the total test and content areas with at least 25 items.

The reliability coefficient estimate refers to a score's expected consistency. An examination score is reliable to the extent that administration of a different random sample of items from the same content domain would result in little or no change in a candidate's rank order in the group. Reliability is affected by the homogeneity of the items and of the candidates, as well as by the length of the examination. Measurement error is present in all test scores, and the SEM provides an index of the imprecision of scores. Like the standard error for a laboratory study, the SEM is expressed on the same scale as the test scores and can be used to construct confidence intervals around the scores. For example, if an examinee receiving a percent correct score of 60 was tested repeatedly with similar exams, 95% of the scores received should fall between 52 and 68 (60 plus/minus two times an SEM of 4).

If a scaling group was identified for this order, the reliability and SEM below are computed based on the scaling group of examinees excluding examinees who did not take the exam under standard timing conditions, examinees scoring more than 3 standard deviations below the mean, examinees who omitted more than 10% of the items, and other examinees that were removed at the request of your school. If a scaling group was not identified for this examination and an item analysis was produced, then the reliability and SEM are computed based on the examinees used for the item analysis. If a scaling group was not identified, had too few examinees, or there were not enough examinees for an item analysis, the reliability and SEM were not computed.

ID	Content Area	N Items	SEM	Reliability	Mean	Total Group (N=100)		
						SD	Low	High
	Total Test	100	5	0.7	81.2	7.3	57	96
1	Content Area 1	40	7	0.43	86.1	8.4	56	100
2	Content Area 2	25	7	0.41	81.7	8.9	50	100
*	Content Area 3	17	9	0.37	83.8	11.9	25	100
*	Content Area 4	12	8	0.4	78.1	12.6	47	100

\* This content area does not appear on the roster but may appear on the individual performance profile.

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### Total Test Percent Correct Score Frequency Distribution (Based on All Examinees Tested)

School: 000000 - Generic Medical School

Test Dates: MM/DD/2014 to MM/DD/YYYY

Examination Name: Examination Name

Order ID: B00000

Total Test Percent Correct			Cumulative Frequency		Total Test Percent Correct			Cumulative Frequency	
Score	Count	%	Count	%	Score	Count	%	Count	%
58	1	1	1	1	79	10	6	75	47
60	1	1	2	1	80	10	6	85	53
61	1	1	3	2	81	5	3	90	56
64	1	1	4	2	82	13	8	103	64
67	1	1	5	3	83	6	4	109	68
68	1	1	6	4	85	7	4	116	72
69	4	2	10	6	86	10	6	126	78
70	6	4	16	10	87	6	4	132	82
71	6	4	22	14	88	5	3	137	85
72	2	1	24	15	89	7	4	144	89
73	7	4	31	19	90	5	3	149	93
75	6	4	37	23	91	5	3	154	96
76	10	6	47	29	92	3	2	157	98
77	4	2	51	32	93	3	2	160	99
78	14	9	65	40	97	1	1	161	100

**National Board of Medical Examiners  
 Customized Examination  
 Roster of Percent Correct Scores**

School: 000000 - Generic Medical School

Test Dates: MM/DD/YYYY to MM/DD/YYYY

Examination Name: Examination Name

Order ID: B00000

ID	Name	Total Test % Correct Score	Content Area ID* (% Correct Scores)	
			1	2
00001	EXAMINEE A	76	96	96
00002	EXAMINEE B	84	88	82
00003	EXAMINEE C	66	72	64
00004	EXAMINEE D	78	76	86
00005	EXAMINEE E	93	96	89

\* Refer to Descriptive Statistics page for content area names. Note that if no scores are listed, no content areas with at least 25 items were selected to appear on the roster.