

Understanding STen scores

STen scores go from 1 to 10. The table below describes what the different STen scores tell you about your child's achievement in English reading and maths.

STen score	What the score means	Proportion of children who get this score
8-10	Well above average	$\frac{1}{6}$
7	High average	$\frac{1}{6}$
5-6	Average	$\frac{1}{3}$
4	Low average	$\frac{1}{6}$
1-3	Well below average	$\frac{1}{6}$

If your child's STen score is 5 or 6, you will know that his/her performance on the test is average. About one third of children in Ireland have STen scores in this band. You can see from the table that there are also STen scores above and below the average.

As with other tests your child does in school, his/her result on a standardised test can be affected by how he/she feels on the test day or by worry or excitement about a home or school event. This means that each test result is **an indication** of your child's achievement in English reading and maths. You play an important role in encouraging and supporting your child no matter what he/she scores on the test.

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