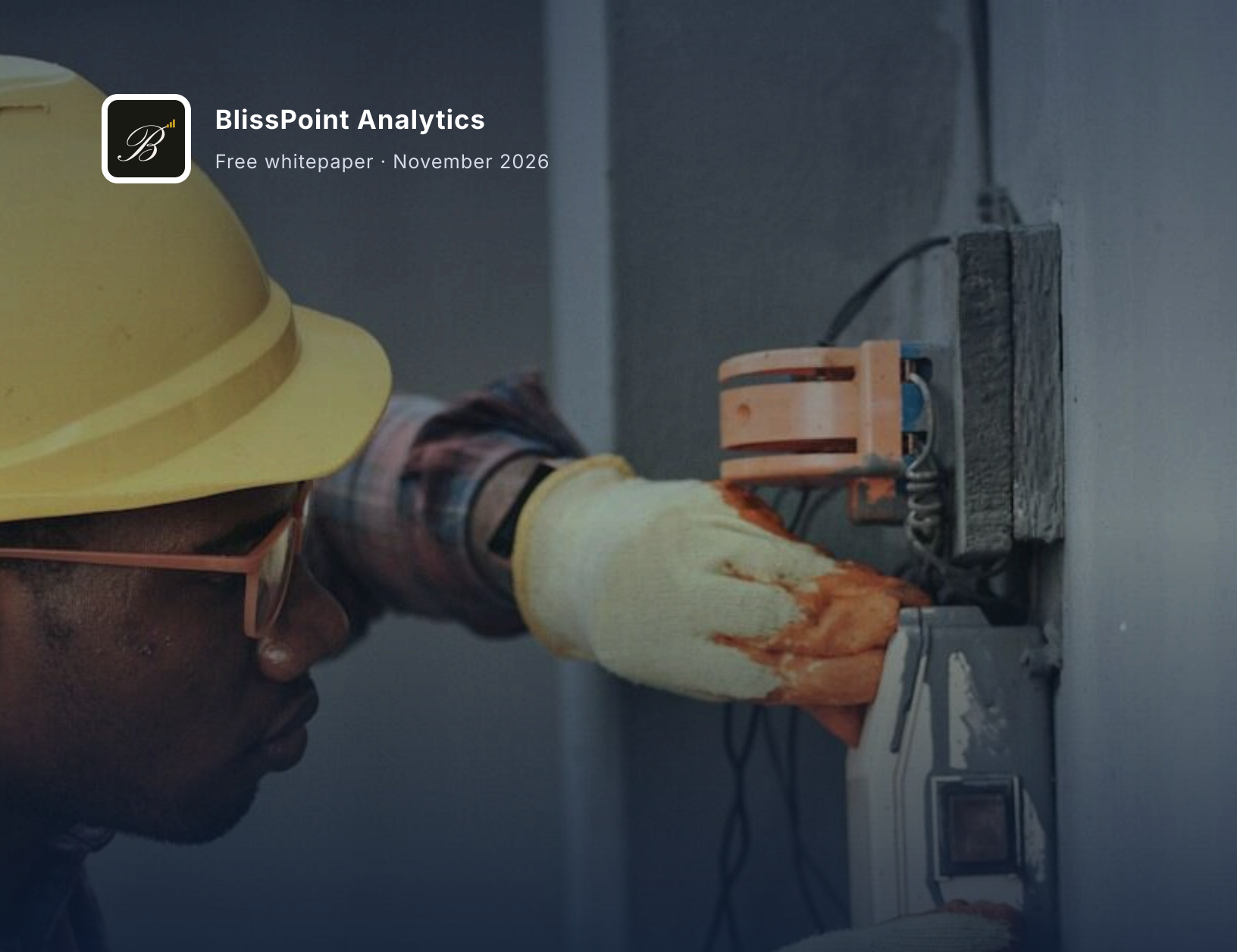


BlissPoint Analytics
Free whitepaper · November 2026

ASVAB · CAREERS · CIVILIAN PAY

The Complete ASVAB Line Score Guide

All ten Army line scores, the subtests behind each one, and the civilian careers they lean toward, with BLS pay and outlook.

By Anthony L. Hammock, M.Sc., BlissPoint Analytics
Data: BLS OEWS May 2024, BLS Employment Projections 2025–2035, O*NET 31.0 · Cover photo: Emmanuel Ikwuegbu on Unsplash
blisspointanalytics.com/resources/whitepapers/asvab-line-score-guide

Executive summary

Your ASVAB score report carries two kinds of number. The AFQT decides whether you can enlist; line scores decide which military jobs you can train for. The Army uses ten of them, each the sum of particular subtests, and the same strengths point to civilian careers too.

10
Army line scores, each a fixed sum of subtests

3
formulas (CO, FA, OF) still list a subtest today's test no longer gives

$70,760
median of the median pay of the 21 civilian jobs matched in this guide

This guide explains every line score in plain words, shows the subtests behind it, and lists the civilian occupations whose O*NET skill ratings best match those subtests, with Bureau of Labor Statistics pay and outlook. A one-page cheat sheet sits at the end, before the next steps.

Who it's for

- **Students and recruits** reading a score sheet for the first time.
- **Parents** who want to know what the letters mean.
- **Counselors** linking results to career exploration.
- **Veterans** translating aptitudes into civilian work.

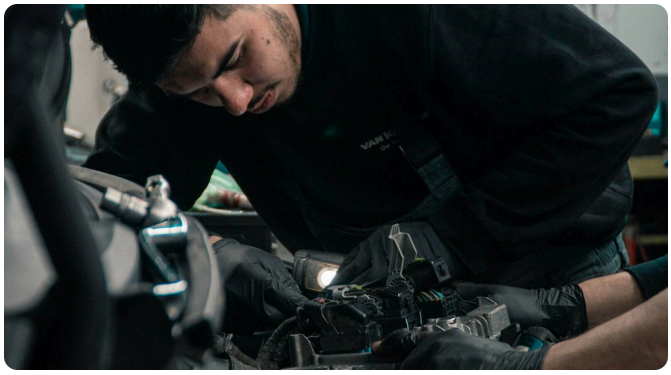


Photo: Sten Rademaker on Unsplash.

> **Two ground rules.** This guide gives no minimum scores: requirements differ by service and job and they change, so confirm with a recruiter. And civilian employers don't ask for ASVAB scores; use line scores to choose what to explore, not to rule anything out. BlissPoint Analytics is not affiliated with the U.S. DoD, any military service or the ASVAB program. Formulas and job requirements change: confirm with a recruiter.

01 AFQT vs line scores

One test, two kinds of score, two different jobs.

The AFQT: can you enlist?

The Armed Forces Qualification Test score is a **percentile** built from four subtests: Arithmetic Reasoning, Mathematics Knowledge, Word Knowledge and Paragraph Comprehension. It compares you with a national reference group and decides enlistment eligibility.

Line scores: which jobs?

Line scores (also called composite or aptitude area scores) are **sums of subtest standard scores**. Each service uses its own set to decide which jobs you qualify for. A strong AFQT doesn't guarantee a strong line score in every area, and the reverse is also true.

Subtest	Code	What it covers
General Science	**GS**	Physical and biological science
Arithmetic Reasoning	**AR**	Arithmetic word problems
Word Knowledge	**WK**	Word meanings and synonyms
Paragraph Comprehension	**PC**	Reading a passage and drawing information from it
Mathematics Knowledge	**MK**	High school math concepts and applications
Electronics Information	**EI**	Current, circuits, devices and systems
Auto and Shop Information	**AS**	Automotive maintenance and repair; wood and metal shop
Mechanical Comprehension	**MC**	Mechanical and physical principles
Assembling Objects	**AO**	Spatial reasoning: how parts fit together

The current ASVAB subtests. VE (Verbal Expression) is the verbal score the program forms from WK and PC. Source: official ASVAB site and the Army's classification chapter, as cited in the site's ASVAB guides.

> A line score is not a section of the test. Nobody takes a “General Technical” subtest: the service adds up several of your subtest scores, and the total is your line score.

Retired speed subtests. Coding Speed (CS) and Numerical Operations (NO) were speed subtests on older versions of the ASVAB; the current test no longer gives them. The Army still lists the CO, FA and OF formulas with them, and the official pages don't explain how that part is scored today, so ask a recruiter how your score was calculated.

02 The ten Army line scores

Formula, what it measures, and where it leads in civilian work.

HOME / ASVAB CIVILIAN CAREER BRIDGE / GT (GENERAL TECHNICAL) ON THE ASVAB

What does GT mean on the ASVAB? The General Technical score, explained

Updated November 2026. Reviewed by Anthony Hammock, I-O psychology consultant.

A GT score is the ASVAB General Technical line score: in the Army, your verbal score plus your Arithmetic Reasoning score (GT = VE + AR). It is the ASVAB line score that combines your verbal ability with your arithmetic reasoning, and in the Army it is the formula people mean when they say "GT score": the verbal score (VE) plus Arithmetic

Each line score has its own free guide on BlissPoint Analytics, like “What does GT mean on the ASVAB?”: read the GT guide.

CL Clerical

`CL = VE + AR + MK`

Records, data, finance, supply and administrative work: careful reading and accurate arithmetic.

Occupation (opens the Occupation Atlas)	Median pay	Growth 25–35	Employment
Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians	$64,200	+3.2%	62,130
Energy Auditors	$72,120	0.0%	137,210
Geothermal Production Managers	$121,440	+2.6%	234,380
Hydroelectric Production Managers	$121,440	+2.6%	234,380

Top civilian matches from the civilian jobs for a high CL score page (O*NET skill ratings, Job Zones 1–3).

CO Combat

`CO = AR + CS + AS + MC`

Practical math with mechanical and shop knowledge, for combat arms training with weapons, vehicles and equipment. CS no longer tested

Occupation (opens the Occupation Atlas)	Median pay	Growth 25–35	Employment
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	$78,680	+5.4%	136,390
Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians	$52,080	+10.7%	36,880
Electric Motor, Power Tool, and Related Repairers	$53,990	+4.4%	16,570
Robotics Technicians	$70,760	+2.6%	14,680

Top civilian matches from the civilian jobs for a high CO score page (O*NET skill ratings, Job Zones 1–3).

EL Electronics

`EL = GS + AR + MK + EI`

Science, math and electrical knowledge, for electronics, communications and systems maintenance.

Occupation (opens the Occupation Atlas)	Median pay	Growth 25–35	Employment
Robotics Technicians	$70,760	+2.6%	14,680
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	$78,680	+5.4%	136,390
Electro-Mechanical and Mechatronics Technologists and Technicians	$70,760	+2.6%	14,680
Hydroelectric Production Managers	$121,440	+2.6%	234,380

Top civilian matches from the civilian jobs for a high EL score page (O*NET skill ratings, Job Zones 1–3).

FA Field Artillery

`FA = AR + CS + MK + MC`

Precise calculation and mechanical understanding: positions, distances and heavy equipment.

CS no longer tested

Occupation (opens the Occupation Atlas)	Median pay	Growth 25–35	Employment
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	$78,680	+5.4%	136,390
Mechanical Engineering Technologists and Technicians	$68,730	+1.3%	37,450
Robotics Technicians	$70,760	+2.6%	14,680
Hydroelectric Production Managers	$121,440	+2.6%	234,380

Top civilian matches from the civilian jobs for a high FA score page (O*NET skill ratings, Job Zones 1–3).

GM General Maintenance

`GM = GS + AS + MK + EI`

Science, math, shop and electrical knowledge, for construction, utilities and equipment upkeep.

Occupation (opens the Occupation Atlas)	Median pay	Growth 25–35	Employment
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	$78,680	+5.4%	136,390
Robotics Technicians	$70,760	+2.6%	14,680
Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Commercial and Industrial Equipment	$71,300	+0.3%	59,990
Electro-Mechanical and Mechatronics Technologists and Technicians	$70,760	+2.6%	14,680

Top civilian matches from the civilian jobs for a high GM score page (O*NET skill ratings, Job Zones 1–3).

GT General Technical

`GT = VE + AR`

Reading and reasoning: the broad score many jobs and programs look at.

Occupation (opens the Occupation Atlas)	Median pay	Growth 25–35	Employment
Computer Systems Engineers/Architects	$108,970	+5.1%	439,380
Forensic Science Technicians	$67,440	+13.3%	19,450
Geothermal Production Managers	$121,440	+2.6%	234,380
Government Property Inspectors and Investigators	$78,420	+3.8%	397,770

Top civilian matches from the civilian jobs for a high GT score page (O*NET skill ratings, Job Zones 1–3).

MM Mechanical Maintenance

`MM = AS + MC + EI`

Shop, mechanical and electrical knowledge, for vehicle, aircraft and machinery maintenance.

Occupation (opens the Occupation Atlas)	Median pay	Growth 25–35	Employment
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	$78,680	+5.4%	136,390
Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians	$52,080	+10.7%	36,880
Elevator and Escalator Installers and Repairers	$106,580	+5.7%	23,340
Electric Motor, Power Tool, and Related Repairers	$53,990	+4.4%	16,570

Top civilian matches from the civilian jobs for a high MM score page (O*NET skill ratings, Job Zones 1–3).

OF Operators and Food

`OF = VE + NO + AS + MC`

Following written procedures and working safely with vehicles, machines and kitchens.

NO no longer tested

Occupation (opens the Occupation Atlas)	Median pay	Growth 25–35	Employment
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	$78,680	+5.4%	136,390
Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians	$52,080	+10.7%	36,880
Robotics Technicians	$70,760	+2.6%	14,680
Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines	$63,980	+6.7%	180,270

Top civilian matches from the civilian jobs for a high OF score page (O*NET skill ratings, Job Zones 1–3).

> Exploring searches like “what is a GT score” or “MM ASVAB”? The short answer: GT is reading plus reasoning, MM is shop, mechanics and electronics.

SC Surveillance and Communications

`SC = VE + AR + AS + MC`

Reading, reasoning and handling equipment, for surveillance and communications work.

Occupation (opens the Occupation Atlas)	Median pay	Growth 25–35	Employment
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	$78,680	+5.4%	136,390
Robotics Technicians	$70,760	+2.6%	14,680
Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians	$52,080	+10.7%	36,880
Electric Motor, Power Tool, and Related Repairers	$53,990	+4.4%	16,570

Top civilian matches from the civilian jobs for a high SC score page (O*NET skill ratings, Job Zones 1–3).

ST Skilled Technical

`ST = GS + VE + MK + MC`

Science, reading, math and mechanical understanding, for technical fields such as medicine and IT.

Occupation (opens the Occupation Atlas)	Median pay	Growth 25–35	Employment
Chemical Technicians	$57,790	+4.9%	55,640
Hydroelectric Production Managers	$121,440	+2.6%	234,380
Mechanical Engineering Technologists and Technicians	$68,730	+1.3%	37,450
Robotics Technicians	$70,760	+2.6%	14,680

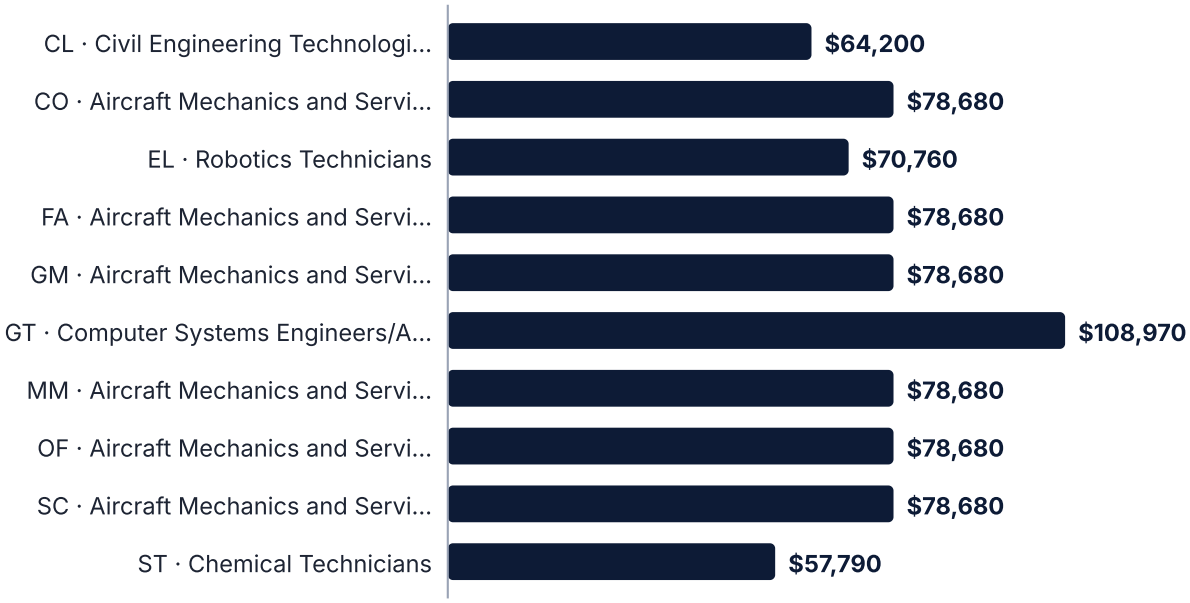
Top civilian matches from the civilian jobs for a high ST score page (O*NET skill ratings, Job Zones 1–3).

How the civilian jobs were picked. Each subtest maps to the O*NET skills that exercise the same ability (for example, Auto and Shop Information to Repairing and Equipment Maintenance). For every O*NET occupation in Job Zones 1–3, the match is the average importance O*NET gives those skills. Retired subtests (CS, NO) map to nothing. The same fixed rule builds the site's civilian jobs pages, so the lists can be checked. It shows where your tested strengths are used, not whether you qualify.

03 What the matched careers pay

BLS median pay for the top civilian match of each line score.

Median annual pay of each line score's top civilian match (May 2024)



Source: BLS Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, May 2024; matches from O*NET 31.0 skill ratings.

Several scores share a top match because their formulas overlap: aircraft mechanics and robotics technicians use mechanical, electrical and math skills that sit in CO, GM, MM, OF and SC alike. The point isn't one job per score; it's a cluster of work your strongest subtests point toward.

listed beside it.

Civilian occupations ranked by match with the MM subtests (O*NET skill importance)

Occupation	Match (1 to 5)	Strongest matching skills	Preparation (O*NET Job Zone)
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	4.05	Equipment Maintenance, Repairing, Troubleshooting	Medium Preparation Needed

The full list of 12 for each score is free on the site, for example civilian jobs for a high MM score.

Pay and outlook

Median annual wage (U.S.)	$62,350
Employment (U.S.)	742,580
Projected employment change, 2025–2035	+9.2%, faster than the 3.5% for all occupations

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, May 2024 national estimates and Employment Projections 2025–2035, for SOC 47-2111 (Electricians). Pay varies by location, employer and experience.

Every occupation links to its free Occupation Atlas page with BLS pay and outlook, like Electricians.

Reading pay and growth

- **Median pay** is the national middle: half earn more, half less. Location and experience move it a lot.
- **Growth** compares projected 2025–2035 employment change with +3.5% for all occupations.
- **Employment** tells you how many openings a field is likely to have, not just how fast it grows.

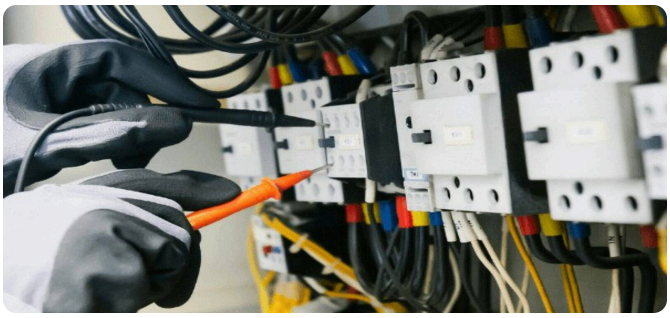


Photo: Toolmash Expo on Unsplash.

04 How each branch differs

Same subtests, different formulas and names.

Only the Army uses all ten names above. The other services turn the same subtests into job qualifications their own way, so **compare subtests, not composite numbers**.

Service	What it calls them	How it works
Army	Line scores (aptitude areas)	Ten: CL, CO, EL, FA, GM, GT, MM, OF, SC, ST. Each job lists the scores it requires.
Marine Corps	Composite scores	A smaller set with some of the same names but different formulas: its GT adds Mechanical Comprehension; its CL is verbal plus Mathematics Knowledge; its MM adds Arithmetic Reasoning.
Air Force	Aptitude areas (MAGE)	Four: Mechanical, Administrative (VE + MK), General (VE + AR) and Electronic (GS + AR + MK + EI). Mechanical has been revised over time.
Navy	Rating requirements	No fixed set: each rating (job) lists the subtests to add.

Sources: official ASVAB site composite table, the Army's classification chapter and MCO 1230.5C, as cited in the site's ASVAB guides. Confirm current formulas with a recruiter.

The free line scores by branch page keeps this comparison current, with links to each service's official source.

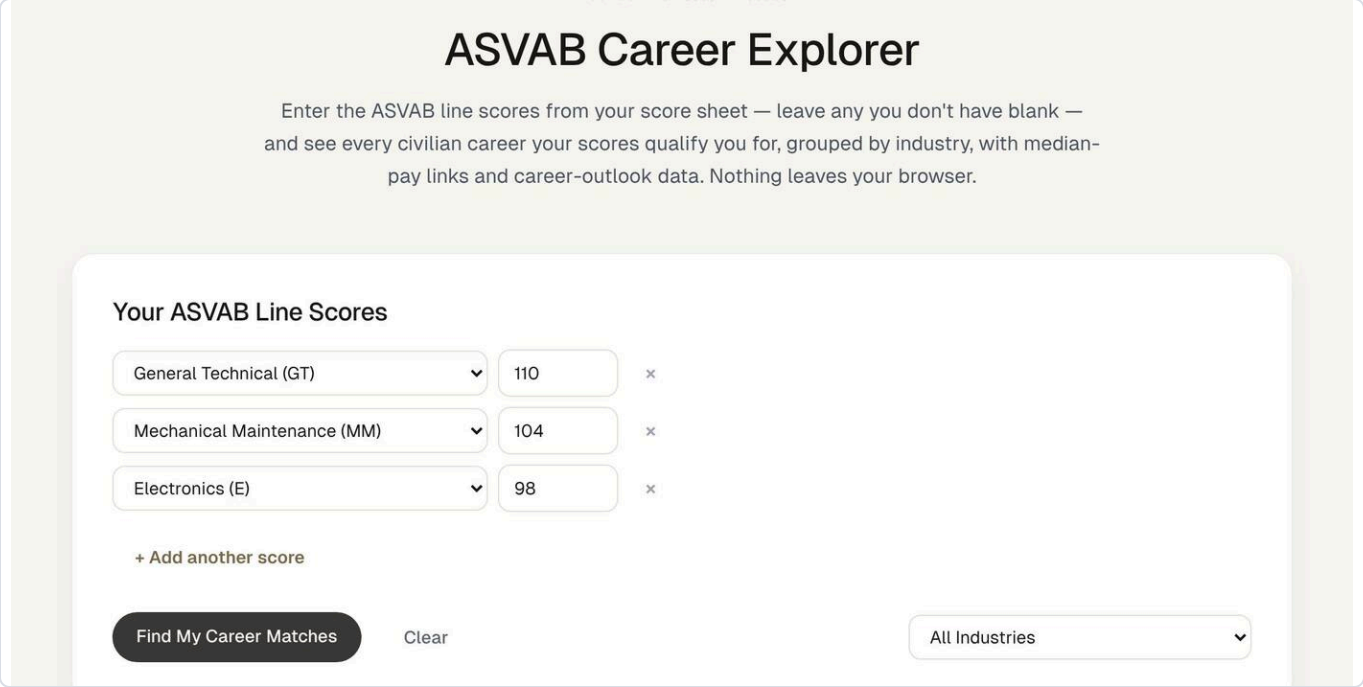
> Compare subtests, not composite numbers: the same subtest scores can produce different composite numbers in different services.

Same letters, different meaning. An Army GT and a Marine Corps GT are not the same formula, so a number from one service isn't directly comparable with the same number from another.

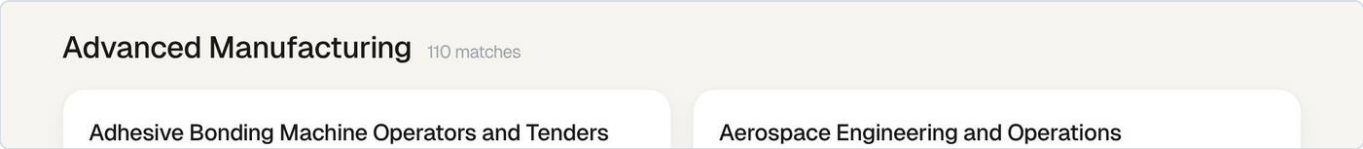
05 Try it with your own scores

The free ASVAB crosswalk on BlissPoint Access.

Enter the line scores from your score sheet, leave the rest blank, and the free ASVAB crosswalk groups civilian careers by industry with pay and outlook links. Nothing leaves your browser. The example below uses made-up scores.



Example scores (GT 110, MM 104, Electronics 98) entered in the crosswalk. Illustration only.



Results start with an industry group and its matching occupations.

> **Use it to explore, then check.** The crosswalk is a starting list. Open each occupation in the Occupation Atlas for tasks and training, and confirm any military job requirement with a recruiter. BlissPoint Analytics is not affiliated with the U.S. DoD, any military service or the ASVAB program. Formulas and job requirements change: confirm with a recruiter.

Cheat sheet: the ten Army line scores

Score	Formula	In plain words	Civilian careers it leans toward
CL Clerical	**VE + AR + MK**	Records, data, finance, supply and administrative work: careful reading and accurate arithmetic.	Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians, Energy Auditors · more
CO Combat	**AR + CS + AS + MC** CS not tested today	Practical math with mechanical and shop knowledge, for combat arms training with weapons, vehicles and equipment.	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians, Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians · more
EL Electronics	**GS + AR + MK + EI**	Science, math and electrical knowledge, for electronics, communications and systems maintenance.	Robotics Technicians, Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians · more
FA Field Artillery	**AR + CS + MK + MC** CS not tested today	Precise calculation and mechanical understanding: positions, distances and heavy equipment.	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians, Mechanical Engineering Technologists and Technicians · more
GM General Maintenance	**GS + AS + MK + EI**	Science, math, shop and electrical knowledge, for construction, utilities and equipment upkeep.	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians, Robotics Technicians · more
GT General Technical	**VE + AR**	Reading and reasoning: the broad score many jobs and programs look at.	Computer Systems Engineers/Architects, Forensic Science Technicians · more
MM Mechanical Maintenance	**AS + MC + EI**	Shop, mechanical and electrical knowledge, for vehicle, aircraft and machinery maintenance.	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians, Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians · more
OF Operators and Food	**VE + NO + AS + MC** NO not tested today	Following written procedures and working safely with vehicles, machines and kitchens.	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians, Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians · more
SC Surveillance and Communications	**VE + AR + AS + MC**	Reading, reasoning and handling equipment, for surveillance and communications work.	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians, Robotics Technicians · more
ST Skilled Technical	**GS + VE + MK + MC**	Science, reading, math and mechanical understanding, for technical fields such as medicine and IT.	Chemical Technicians, Hydroelectric Production Managers · more

Subtests: **VE** Verbal Expression (Word Knowledge + Paragraph Comprehension); **AR** Arithmetic Reasoning; **MK** Mathematics Knowledge; **GS** General Science; **EI** Electronics Information; **AS** Auto and Shop Information; **MC** Mechanical Comprehension; **CS** Coding Speed (no longer tested); **NO** Numerical Operations (no longer tested). AFQT = AR + MK + WK + PC (a percentile, for enlistment). No minimum scores are given: confirm requirements with a recruiter. BlissPoint Analytics is not affiliated with the U.S. DoD, any military service or the ASVAB program. Formulas and job requirements change: confirm with a recruiter.

What to do next

1. **Find your strongest two or three line scores** on your score sheet, and read their free guides: CL, CO, EL, FA, GM, GT, MM, OF, SC, ST.
2. **Open the civilian jobs pages** for those scores and shortlist five occupations.
3. **Read each one in the Occupation Atlas:** tasks, skills, training, BLS pay and outlook.
4. **Talk to a recruiter** about military paths, and to a counselor about civilian ones. Both routes can lead to the same career.

Occupation Atlas
Tasks, skills, pay and outlook for every U.S. occupation. Free, no sign-in.

Free ASVAB crosswalk
Enter your scores, see civilian careers by industry.

ASVAB line scores explained
The overview of GT, MM, EL, CL and the rest.

ASVAB civilian career bridge
Every line score guide and civilian jobs page.

What is OCCU-Find?
The official program's career search, explained.

Hiring veterans guide
For employers reading military experience.

2030 future skills calculator
How roles line up with the skills expected to grow.

Next read: Beyond OCCU-Find
Turn your results into a career plan, with worksheets.

For counselors and parents: pair this guide with Beyond OCCU-Find, which walks students from interests to a training plan. For veterans: the Military to Civilian Career Guide.

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Reference 8 was checked through search results quoting the publisher, because those sites were not reachable when this paper was built. Pay is the BLS OEWS national median annual wage for May 2024; growth is the BLS projected employment change 2025–2035 (all occupations +3.5%).

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- Screenshots: public pages of blisspointanalytics.com and the free ASVAB crosswalk on blisspointaccess.com, captured November 2026.

About BlissPoint Analytics

BlissPoint Analytics builds workforce analytics tools grounded in industrial and organizational psychology: Organization Viewer for org charts, costs and workforce planning, the free Occupation Atlas, the free ASVAB career guides and free calculators. It was founded by Anthony L. Hammock, M.Sc., a 20+ year Industrial and Organizational Psychology consultant, software developer, and Brandeis University graduate studies professor of Talent Insights and Workforce Metrics.

What is BlissPoint Analytics? · Pricing (free up to 50 people) · Occupation Atlas

Disclaimer. This paper is informational, not career, legal or financial advice. Pay and projections are national figures and vary by location, employer and experience. BlissPoint Analytics is not affiliated with the U.S. DoD, any military service or the ASVAB program. Formulas and job requirements change: confirm with a recruiter.