

Procedure to be adopted for compilation of NORMALIZED SCORES for Multi-Session Papers in Visva - Bharati Recruitment TEST - 2023

The National Testing Agency is conducting the recruitment examinations for non-teaching positions at Viswa-Bharati University, Santiniketan. As notified vide NTA Public Notice dated 14th June, 2023, in the first phase, the examinations for the posts of Laboratory Attendant, Lower Division Clerk and MTS are beginning from 27th June, 2023. The examinations for the posts of Lower Division Clerk & MTS shall be held in multiple shifts.

It is being informed to all concerned that the process of normalization shall be followed for normalizing the marks across shifts to make them amenable to comparisons.

Procedure:

The raw score of each candidate in each shift will be normalised using the **Equi-percentile method**, the raw score for each candidate appearing will be converted into **NTA Score** (Percentile Score & Normalized Score) using the following three steps.

Step1: Convert Raw Scores into Percentile Scores.

The percentiles are calculated separately for each shift.

1. Record the number of candidates who have appeared in a shift. Denote this number by N .
2. Sort all the candidates in one shift in decreasing order of their marks.
3. Note the *raw marks* for each candidate. Suppose this is denoted by T . Count the number of candidates in that shift whose raw scores are less than or equal to T . Denote this number by m .
4. The percentile score for this candidate is then calculated as:

$$P = \frac{m}{N} * 100$$

Illustration:

Suppose that the examination is held in two different shifts, $S1$ and $S2$, say. Consider six candidates A, B, C, D, E and F out of which A, B, C are from shift $S1$ and the other three D, E and F are from shift $S2$.

Let the raw marks of the six candidates be x_A, x_B, x_C (shift $S1$ marks) and y_D, y_E, y_F (shift $S2$ marks).

For candidates A, B, C , the percentiles are calculated using the total marks obtained by candidates appearing in shift $S1$ as explained above.

Similarly, for candidates D, E, F , the percentiles are calculated using the total marks obtained by candidates appearing in shift $S2$ as explained above.

Let the respective percentiles be denoted by $P_A, P_B, P_C, P_D, P_E, P_F$.

The above data is summarised in the following table. The terms in red colour indicate that these are the **output of this step**.

Shift S1			Shift S2		
Candidate	Raw score	Percentile	Candidate	Raw score	Percentile
A	x_A	P_A	D	y_D	P_D
B	x_B	P_B	E	y_E	P_E
C	x_C	P_C	F	y_F	P_F

Since the calculation for percentiles in any shift depends only on the data from that shift alone, there is a separate table for each shift.

Step2: Pull-back the percentiles to the marks scale for each session to get Normalised Score.

- The data across all sessions tabulated at the end of *step 1* is collated into a single table.
- The columns for the shift-wise raw score should be kept separate.
- All the records are then sorted in decreasing order of the percentiles.

Illustration (Continued):

In the illustrative example given above, suppose that the percentiles of the six candidates satisfy

$$P_E > P_A > P_C = P_F > P_B > P_D$$

Then the collated table would be as given below:

Candidate	Percentile	RawscoreS1	RawScoreS2
E	P_E	—	y_E
A	P_A	x_A	—
C&F	$P_C = P_F$	x_C	y_F
B	P_B	x_B	—
D	P_D	—	y_D

Candidate C from shift *S1* and candidate F from shift *S2* have the same percentile. The relevant entries under “Raw Score S1” and “Raw Score S2” are the actual raw scores x_C and y_F respectively. This has the obvious interpretation that marks x_C of shift *S1* are equivalent to marks y_F of shift *S2*.

Candidates A and B, appearing in shift *S1*, have a blank entry in column “Raw Score S2”, as there is no corresponding candidate having exactly the same percentile from shift *S2*. Similarly, Candidates D and E, appearing in shift *S2*, have a blank entry in column “Raw Score S1”, as there is no corresponding candidate having exactly the same percentile from shift *S1*.

- In the remaining part of this *Step 2*, the blank entries in the two “Raw Score” columns are filled up using linear interpolation.
- Consider a record (row) whose entry in the column “Raw Score S1” is blank. The blank will be replaced by the interpolated score X which is calculated as:

$$X = x_1 + \frac{x_2 - x_1}{p_2 - p_1} (P - p_1)$$

Where:

- P is the corresponding entry in “Percentile” column
- x_1 is the first *non-blank* entry BELOW X . i.e., $x_1 < X$ and there is no other non-blank entry in the column between x_1 and X .
- x_2 is the first *non-blank* entry ABOVE X . i.e., $x_2 > X$ and there is no other non-blank entry in the column between x_2 and X .
- p_1 is the entry in the “Percentile” column corresponding to x_1 from the column “Raw Score S1”.
- p_2 is the entry in the “Percentile” column corresponding to x_2 from the column “Raw Score S1”.

Note that there may be several blank entries between x_1 and x_2 .

- All the blank entries in column “Raw Score S1” can now be replaced by the interpolated values.
- The blank entries in column “Raw Score S2” are also replaced using a similar procedure.

Illustration (Continued):

The table in the illustrative example would look like the following, where the entries in red indicate the addition output at the end of this step.

Candidate	Percentile	Raw Score S1	Raw Score S2
E	P_E	$\textcolor{red}{X_E}$	y_E
A	P_A	$\textcolor{brown}{x_A}$	$\textcolor{red}{Y_A}$
C&F	$P_C = P_F$	$\textcolor{brown}{x_C}$	y_F
B	P_B	$\textcolor{brown}{x_B}$	$\textcolor{red}{Y_B}$
D	P_D	$\textcolor{red}{X_D}$	y_D

i. Highest Raw Score and Percentile Score: -

Session	Total Candidates Appeared	Highest Raw Score	Candidates who scored EQUAL OR LESS THAN Highest Raw Score	Percentile Score	Remarks
Session-1	28012	200	28012	100.0000000 [(28012/28012) *100]	i.e., All the highest raw scores would be normalized to 100 Percentile Score for their respective session.
Session-2	32541	194	32541	100.0000000 [(32541/32541) *100]	
Session-3	41326	188	41326	100.0000000 [(41326/41326) *100]	
Session-4	40603	200	40603	100.0000000 [(40603/40603) *100]	

ii. Lowest Score and Percentile Score: -

Session	Total Candidates Appeared	Lowest Raw Score	Candidates who scored EQUAL OR LESS THAN Highest Raw Score	Percentile Score	Remarks
Session-1	28012	-40	1	0.0035699 [(1/28012) *100]	i.e., Percentile Score of all the lowest raw scores are different i.e., Percentile Score depend on the total number of candidates who have taken the examination for their respective session.
Session-2	32541	-36	1	0.0030730 [(1/32541) *100]	
Session-3	41326	-36	1	0.0024198 [(1/41326) *100]	
Session-4	40603	-40	1	0.0024629 [(1/40603) *100]	

Step1: Convert Raw Score into Percentile Score

The percentile score for this candidate is then calculated as:

$$\text{Percentile Score} = 100 \times \frac{\text{No. of Candidates appeared from the session with raw score EQUAL TO OR LESS than T Score}}{\text{Total No. of Candidates appeared in the session}}$$

The above method is based on the work: "Normalization of marks in multi-session examinations", Abhay G. Bhatt et al, CURRENT SCIENCE, Vol. 118, No. 1, 10 January 2020

