The ATAR in every state: how the aggregate is built, and what each ATAR needed in 2025

State	What is scaled	The aggregate	Max	Tables
Victoria (VCE)	study scores 0-50	best English study + next three (primary four), + 10% of 5th and 6th; max two English, two Maths in the four	~210	VTAC, December
NSW, ACT (HSC)	HSC raw marks per unit, 0-50	best 10 units incl. 2 units of English	500	UAC Tables A3, A9
Queensland (QCE)	raw results 0-100; Applied grades; VET	best five: 5 General, or 4 General + 1 Applied or VET; English at C+	500	QTAC ATAR Report (no TEA table)
WA (WACE)	combined marks, standardised, 0-100	best four + 10% of best LOTE, of Methods, of Specialist	430	TISC, December
SA, NT (SACE)	scaled scores out of 20 (10)	best three 20-credit subjects + best 30 credits (halves and pairs allowed)	90.00	SATAC, December

The aggregate each ATAR needed in 2025

ATAR	Victoria	NSW / ACT	WA (TEA)	SA / NT	Queensland
99.95	211.42	479.4	405.5	89.30	not published
99	192.10	447.8	348.1	87.25	
98	183.81	433.2	326.7	85.50	
95	169.85	404.6	295.3	81.45	
90	155.19	370.7	269.6	76.45	
85	144.45	341.6	251.7	72.10	
80	135.65	313.8	237.9	68.25	
75	127.68	287.5	226.4	64.40	
70	120.42	262.0	215.7 (70.05)	60.55	
60	107.03	212.9	197.2	52.75	
50	94.06	165.7	178.4	44.85	

Victoria: VTAC minimum aggregate. NSW: UAC lowest aggregate of scaled marks (Table A9). WA: TISC minimum TEA. SA/NT: lowest aggregate in SATAC's table giving at least the ATAR. Queensland publishes the band allocation (7,535 of 30,167 eligible students at 90+, 14,758 at 80+, 20,920 at 70+ in 2025) but no aggregate table.

The three steps, everywhere

[ ] Scaling: each result is moved to a common scale that reflects how the students who took that subject did in all their subjects. A subject scales up because strong students take it, not because it is hard

[ ] The aggregate: the state's rule picks which scaled results count and how (above)

[ ] The rank: aggregates are ranked and expressed against the whole 16-to-20 age group with a participation model, so ATAR 80 means the top 20% of the age group, not of the Year 12 class

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What moves an ATAR, a worked example in each state, and your plan

Lever	Why it works
The weakest counted subject	every aggregate is a plain sum of the counted results, so five marks in the weakest counted subject are worth as much as five in the best, and cost less
The English result	Victoria counts the best English study whatever its score; NSW counts two units of English; Queensland and WA need it for eligibility or university entry
Bonuses and increments	Victoria: 10% of a 5th and 6th study; WA: 10% of a language, Methods and Specialist; SA: the flexible 30 credits. The only places a fifth or sixth subject adds anything
Choice by expected mark, not by scaling	a strong result in a subject that scales down still scales to a strong result; a weak result in one that scales up stays weak

Worked examples (2025 tables)

State	Results entered	Aggregate	ATAR (est.)
Victoria	English 36, Methods 38, Chemistry 37, Physics 35, Biology 33, Accounting 30 (study scores)	scaled 34.2 + 44.0 + 41.0 + 37.0 = 156.2, + 10% of 34.0 and 31.0 = 162.7	about 92.8
NSW	English Advanced 88, Maths Advanced 90, Chemistry 86, Physics 84, Economics 85 (HSC marks, all 2-unit)	scaled per unit 39.8, 39.7, 41.1, 38.8, 37.2: aggregate 393.2	about 93.3
Queensland	English 82, Methods 86, Chemistry 90, Physics 88, Economics 80 (raw results)	scaled 82.0 + 94.4 + 94.0 + 91.4 + 88.8 = 450.5	about 92.2 (modelled)
WA	English 66, Methods 72, Chemistry 70, Physics 68, Human Biology 62	best four 276 + 10% of Methods 7.2 = 283.2	about 92.9
SA / NT	English 16.5, Methods 17.0, Chemistry 16.0, Physics 15.0 (20 credits each), Research Project 7.5 (10)	49.5 + flexible (15.0 + 7.5) = 72.00	84.90

Every number above comes from the calculator on the page, with the method notes; the Queensland rank is modelled because QTAC publishes no TEA-to-ATAR table.

Your plan

State and subjects: _____

Mark I would bet on, each subject: _____

Aggregate now (from the calculator): _____

Estimated ATAR now, and the target: _____

The weakest counted subject: _____

Five more marks there is worth (ATAR): _____

The term's plan for that subject: _____