FICO® Score Differences

Minimum Score Criteria for all versions

- The credit file cannot be on a deceased consumer
- The credit file needs one trade line reported by a creditor within the last six months
- The credit file needs one trade line that is at least six months old

FICO® Score 8

- Authorized users – reengineered how score considers authorized user trades to help protect lenders from authorized user trade line abuse
- Increase from 10 scorecards to 12 scorecards for more refined risk
- Small amount collections (under $100) are not considered in the score
- Improved performance in scoring "thin" or "young" files
- FICO® 8 score uses the same 300-850® score range used for prior FICO® score versions.
- There are no changes to reason codes.
- There are no changes in minimum scoring requirements.
- There were no changes to the inquiry de-duping treatment.

FICO® Score 9

- A more refined way to assess collection information. Backed by scientific research, these improvements help credit grantors because they result in greater precision.
  - All paid collection agency accounts will be excluded from the score calculation regardless of the dollar amount.
  - FICO® Score 9 will also provide a more sophisticated treatment for unpaid collections, differentiating medical from non-medical collection agency accounts. This will help ensure that medical collections have a lower impact on the score, commensurate with the credit risk they represent.
- Further refined thin file treatments. FICO® Score 9 addresses credit grantors' desire for a more effective risk assessment of consumers with a limited credit history or so-called thin files. Validation results demonstrate improved risk prediction for this segment of the population.

The addition of a scorecard for consumers with a high amount of revolving debt. These consumers are at a greater risk of filing for bankruptcy. By breaking this group out separately, FICO® Score 9 can better predict bankruptcies and other forms of delinquency.

FICO® Score 10 // FICO® Score 10 T

- FICO® Score 10 relies on credit bureau data consistent with previous FICO® Score versions in the market today. It reflects a normal model development cadence extending features that were introduced in FICO® Score 8 and FICO® Score 9. FICO® Score 10 is designed to be backward compatible with previous score versions.
- FICO® Score 10 T incorporates a broader set of credit bureau data available, including trended data that captures unique aspects of the consumer financial profile over time. While the blueprint design is very similar, it uses new characteristics to enhance predictive power.

    Collections – The new FICO® Score 10 suite continues differentiating unpaid medical from unpaid non-medical collection agency accounts. This supports a more effective assessment of the true credit risk these accounts represent. In addition, FICO® Score 10 and FICO® Score 10 T ignore all paid collections, regardless of the amount.

    Non-traditional trade lines – As with all previous FICO® Score versions, FICO® Score 10 and FICO® Score 10 T include telecom and utilities in score calculation when present on the credit file. As was introduced with FICO® Score 9, FICO® Score 10, and FICO® Score 10 T also factor in rental trade lines when reported.

    Highly indebted – FICO® Score 10 and FICO® Score 10 T continue to incorporate a new core system scorecard focusing on highly-indebted consumers. These consumers are at a greater risk of filing for bankruptcy, and incorporating this feature helps better predict bankruptcies as well as other forms of delinquency.

    Both FICO® Score 10 and FICO® Score 10 T share similar features such as:
- Consistent score ranges from 300-850
- Scaled to similar odds-to-score relationship
- Same minimum scoring criteria

The primary difference introduced with FICO® Score 10 T is the use of new predictive characteristics generated from both traditional credit bureau data and trended credit bureau data. Users of FICO® Score 10 T will need to accommodate new reason codes used in consumer communication, such as risk-based pricing notices or when credit is declined.

In short, FICO® Score 10 is designed to be backward compatible with previous score versions. Its development on a newer data set helps ensure continued strong predictive power while minimizing operational changes that may be required to adopt the new score. Whereas FICO® Score 10 T incorporates additional credit bureau data allowing for even more refined predictive power, and as a result, outputs additional reason codes.