

2008 Scoring Band Descriptors

Band Score	Band Number	PROCESS Descriptors	Band Score	Band Number	RESULTS Descriptors
0–150	1	The organization demonstrates early stages of developing and implementing approaches to the basic Criteria requirements, with deployment lagging and inhibiting progress. Improvement efforts are a combination of problem solving and an early general improvement orientation.	0–125	1	Results are reported for a few areas of importance to the accomplishment of the organization's mission, but they generally lack trend and comparative data.
151–200	2	The organization demonstrates effective, systematic approaches responsive to the basic requirements of the Criteria, but some areas or work units are in the early stages of deployment. The organization has developed a general improvement orientation that is forward-looking.	126–170	2	Results are reported for several areas of importance to the Criteria requirements and the accomplishment of the organization's mission. Some of these results demonstrate good performance levels. The use of comparative and trend data is in the early stages.
201–260	3	The organization demonstrates effective, systematic approaches responsive to the basic requirements of most Criteria Items, although there are still areas or work units in the early stages of deployment. Key processes are beginning to be systematically evaluated and improved.	171–210	3	Results address many areas of importance to the accomplishment of the organization's mission, with good performance being achieved. Comparative and trend data are available for some of these important results areas, and some beneficial trends are evident.
261–320	4	The organization demonstrates effective, systematic approaches responsive to the overall requirements of the Criteria, but deployment may vary in some areas or work units. Key processes benefit from fact-based evaluation and improvement, and approaches are being aligned with organizational needs.	211–255	4	Results address some key customer/stakeholder, market, and process requirements, and they demonstrate good relative performance against relevant comparisons. There are no patterns of adverse trends or poor performance in areas of importance to the Criteria requirements and the accomplishment of the organization's mission.
321–370	5	The organization demonstrates effective, systematic, well-deployed approaches responsive to the overall requirements of most Criteria Items. The organization demonstrates a fact-based, systematic evaluation and improvement process and organizational learning, including innovation, that result in improving the effectiveness and efficiency of key processes.	256–300	5	Results address most key customer/stakeholder, market, and process requirements, and they demonstrate areas of strength against relevant comparisons and/or benchmarks. Improvement trends and/or good performance are reported for most areas of importance to the Criteria requirements and the accomplishment of the organization's mission.
371–430	6	The organization demonstrates refined approaches responsive to the multiple requirements of the Criteria. These approaches are characterized by the use of key measures, good deployment, and evidence of innovation in most areas. Organizational learning, including innovation and sharing of best practices, is a key management tool, and integration of approaches with organizational needs is evident.	301–345	6	Results address most key customer/stakeholder, market, and process requirements, as well as many action plan requirements. Results demonstrate beneficial trends in most areas of importance to the Criteria requirements and the accomplishment of the organization's mission, and the organization is an industry* leader in some results areas.
431–480	7	The organization demonstrates refined approaches responsive to the multiple requirements of the Criteria Items. It also demonstrates innovation, excellent deployment, and good-to-excellent use of measures in most areas. Good-to-excellent integration is evident, with organizational analysis, learning through innovation, and sharing of best practices as key management strategies.	346–390	7	Results address most key customer/stakeholder, market, process, and action plan requirements and include projections of future performance. Results demonstrate excellent organizational performance levels and some industry* leadership. Results demonstrate sustained beneficial trends in most areas of importance to the Criteria requirements and the accomplishment of the organization's mission.
481–550	8	The organization demonstrates outstanding approaches focused on innovation. Approaches are fully deployed and demonstrate excellent, sustained use of measures. There is excellent integration of approaches with organizational needs. Organizational analysis, learning through innovation, and sharing of best practices are pervasive.	391–450	8	Results fully address key customer/stakeholder, market, process, and action plan requirements and include projections of future performance. Results demonstrate excellent organizational performance levels, as well as national and world leadership. Results demonstrate sustained beneficial trends in all areas of importance to the Criteria requirements and the accomplishment of the organization's mission.

*Industry refers to other organizations performing substantially the same functions, thereby facilitating direct comparisons.