

### **Why has the score report changed and how was the new format developed?**

The new score report format reflects both advances in the underlying science of assessment and changes to the examinations over time. The process used to design the new score report format included:

- The development of prototype score reports that better supported the intended inferences
- Focus group studies with students and other score users to identify preferences among prototypes and to evaluate their ability to make correct inferences (and not make incorrect inferences) from the prototype score report
- Approval of the new report by the CVAGC governance committee

The focus group results clearly demonstrated that the new score report format was viewed as a substantial improvement and that participants were both able to interpret the information provided in the new score report format appropriately and were less likely to make incorrect inferences.

### **How is my performance compared to others?**

Your overall performance is displayed in a chart within the distribution of scores from a recent group of senior students enrolled in veterinary schools accredited by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association who took the examination for the first time. The blue bars represent the distribution of this group's scores, with higher bars indicating more individuals with scores in that range. Your overall performance is marked with an orange rectangle and solid line. The black rectangle and dashed line indicates the minimum passing score. If your overall performance is toward the right side of the chart and to the right of the tallest blue bar, your performance was higher than others. If your overall performance is toward the left side of the chart, or to the left of the tallest blue bar, your performance was lower than others.

### **What is the standard error (SE), and what does it tell me about my performance?**

The standard error (SE) indicates how you might perform if you were to retest repeatedly under the same conditions (without learning or forgetting). Approximately two-thirds (or 68%) of the time your score would fall within one SE of your reported score (your score  $\pm$  1 SE); 95% of the time your score would fall within two SEs of your reported score. This information may be useful if you are planning to retake the examination.

### **How do I interpret my Relative Strengths and Weaknesses?**

Your score report shows both your overall performance and an indication of whether your performance in each content area within the examination was higher, lower, or similar to a recent group of senior students enrolled in veterinary schools accredited by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association who took the examination for the first time. For example, if your performance on the Canine questions was significantly greater than expected based on this comparison group you would receive a 'Higher' performance indicator for that content area.

### **How much of each content area appears on the examination?**

The "% Items Per Test" describes the breakdown of test questions on a typical examination by content area. For example, 24%–28% of items on the test were within the Canine content area. Though the amount of content in each area slightly varies between forms of the test, these percentages provide a guideline about how much content in each area is on the examination.

### **What is the best remediation strategy if I did not pass?**

The NAVLE is a highly integrative assessment and you should plan to review all content areas. In prioritizing which areas to review, you should take into account both the representation of that content area on the examination (based on the % items per exam next to the content area label) and your relative performance in that content area. Remediation strategies focused solely on relatively weak areas of performance are unlikely to be the most effective for failing examinees. In most cases, failing scores are best remediated through attention to all content areas.