PAT Early Years Reading

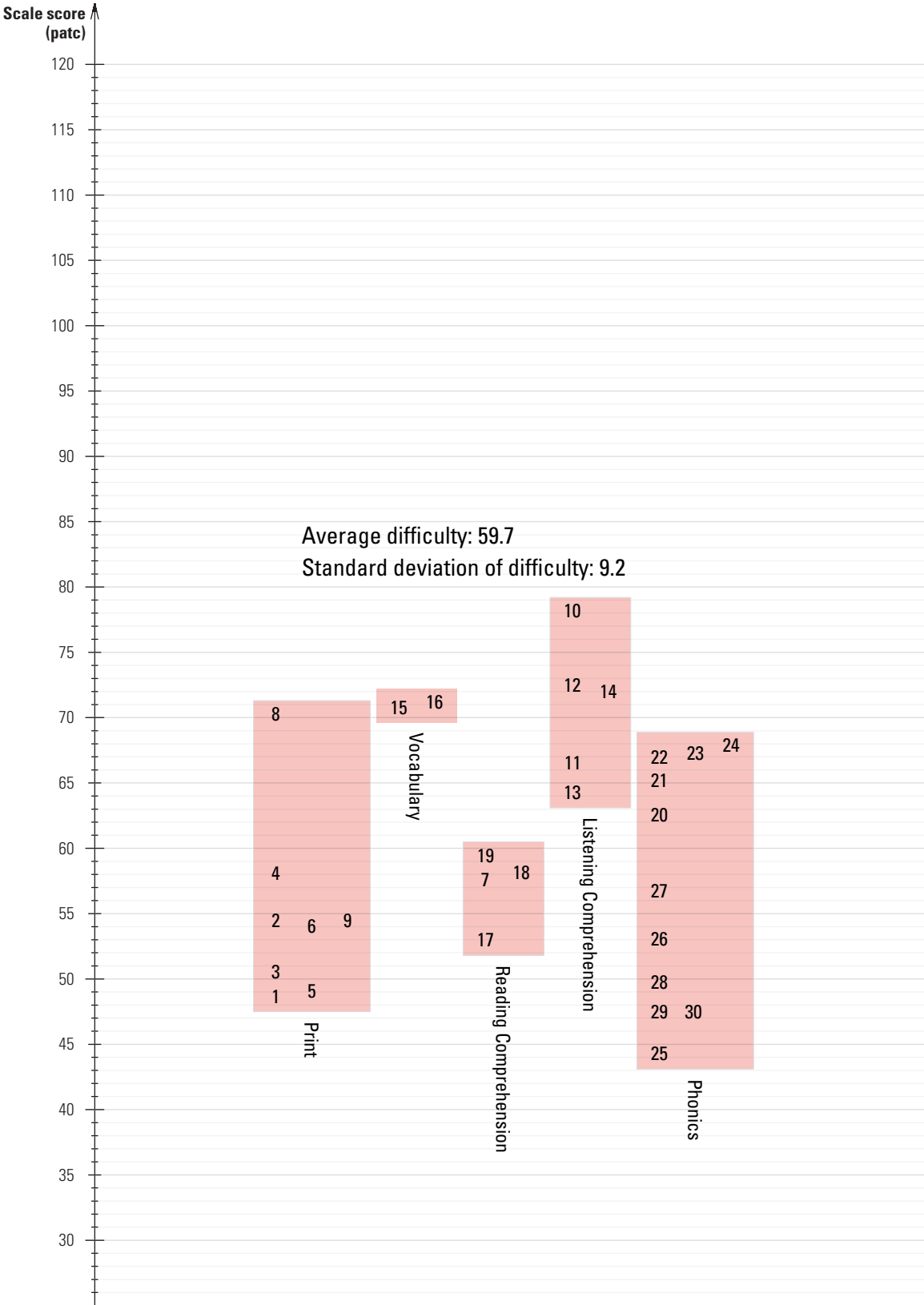Test and item difficulty

ACER
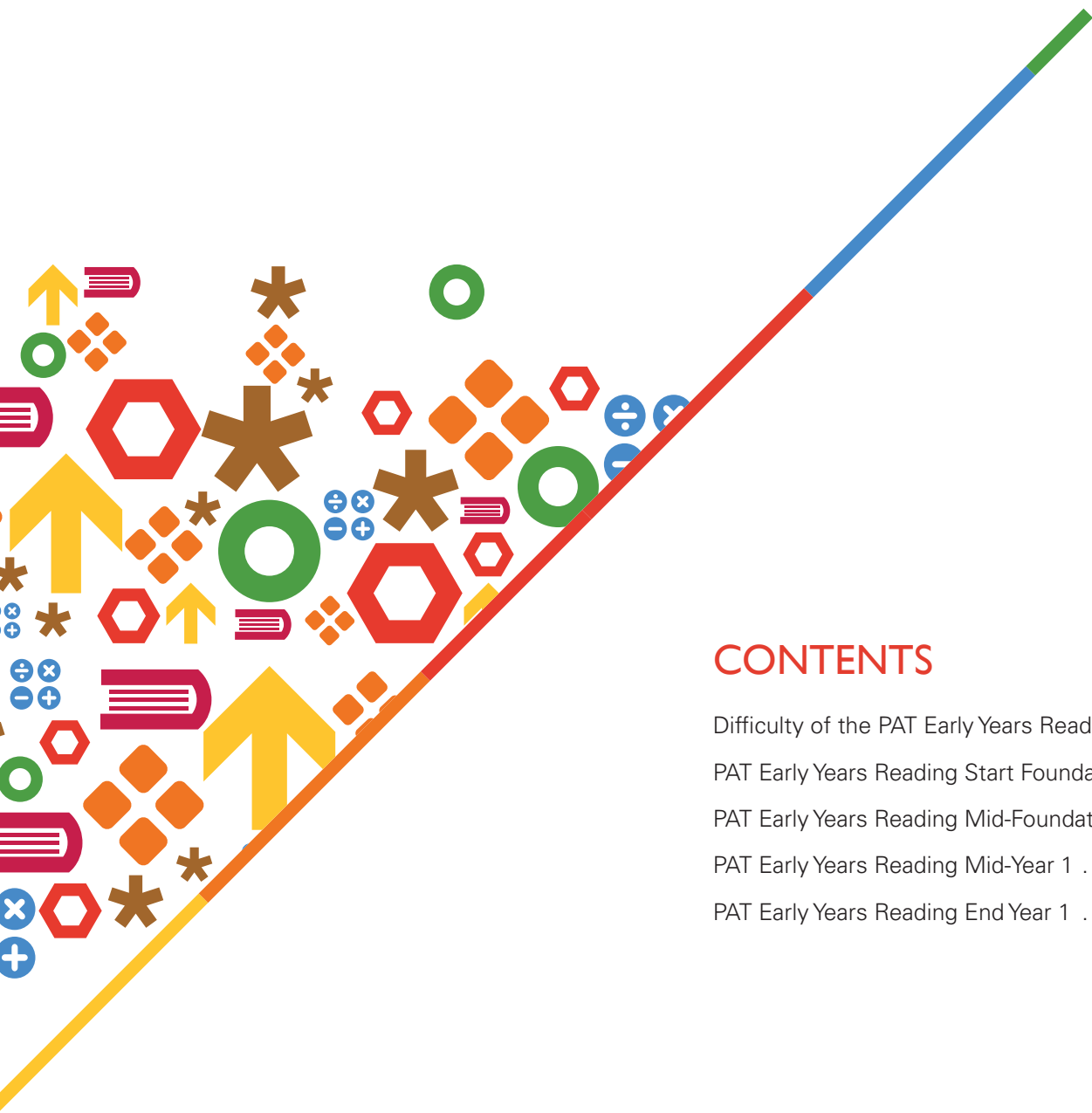
CONTENTS

Difficulty of the PAT Early Years Reading tests

Using Rasch measurement, the PAT Reading measurement scale was constructed, on which student achievement and item difficulty can be displayed. It is possible to report the mean difficulty of the items in each of the PAT Early Years Reading tests in scale score (patc) units. These mean item difficulties – or test difficulties – are shown together with their standard deviations in the table below.
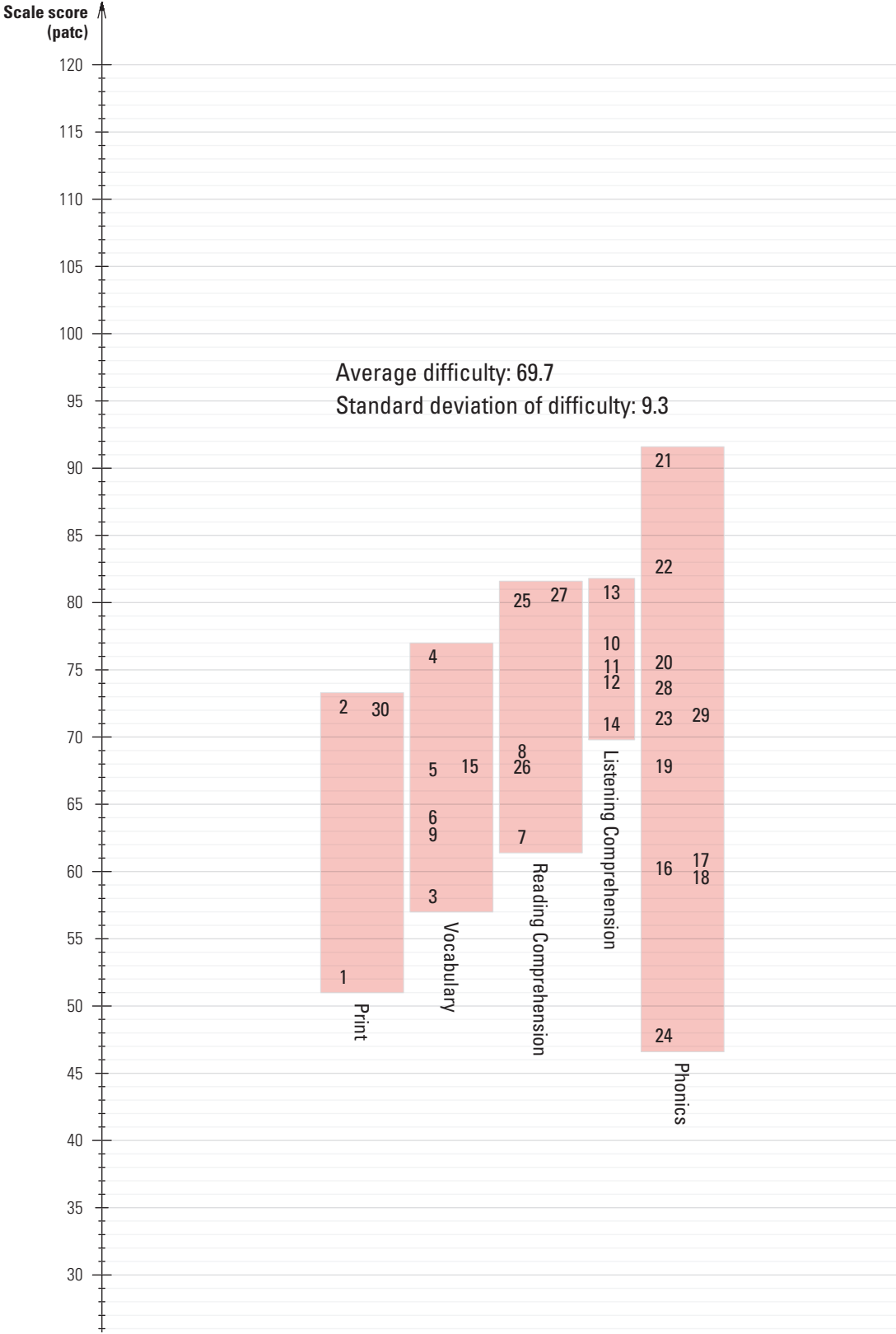
PAT Early Years Reading	No. of items	Mean item difficulty (patc)	Standard deviation (patc)
Start Foundation	30	59.7	9.2
Mid-Foundation	30	69.7	9.3
Mid-Year 1	30	76.5	8.8
End Year 1	24	82.6	8.8

The locations of the PAT Early Years Reading items on the measurement scale are shown on the following pages. Items have been placed in shaded blocks according to the strand to which they belong. Each block illustrates the span of difficulty for a strand. The item numbers written in the block identify the items belonging to the strand.

PAT Early Years Reading Start Foundation

Average difficulty: 59.7
Standard deviation of difficulty: 9.2

PAT Early Years Reading Mid-Foundation

Scale score (patc)

Average difficulty: 69.7
Standard deviation of difficulty: 9.3

Print

Vocabulary

Reading Comprehension

Listening Comprehension

Phonics

PAT Early Years Reading Mid-Year 1

Scale score (patc)

Average difficulty: 76.5
Standard deviation of difficulty: 8.8

Vocabulary

Reading Comprehension

Phonics
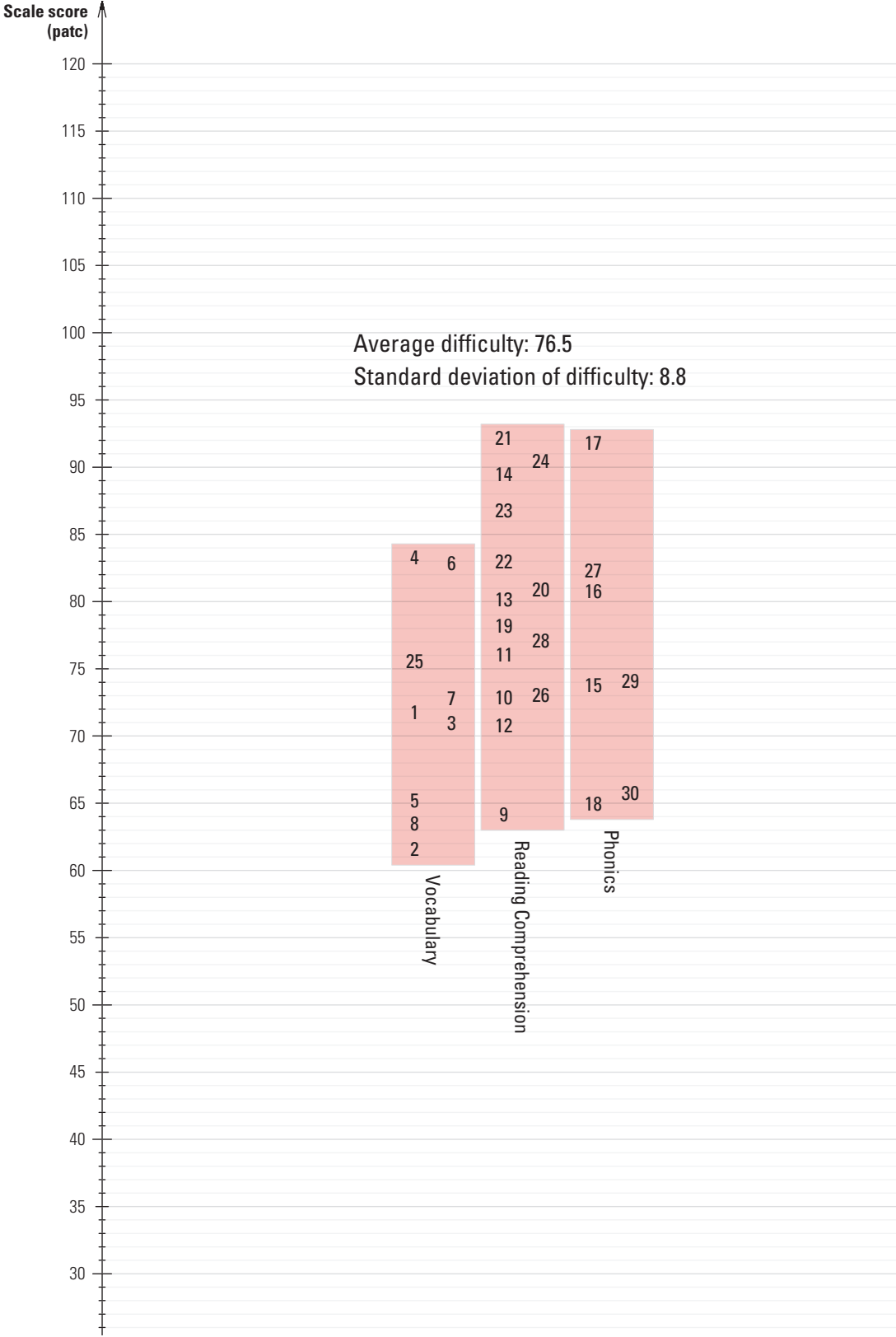
PAT Early Years Reading End Year 1

Scale score (patc)

Average difficulty: 82.6
Standard deviation of difficulty: 8.8