What is a Good FICO Credit Score?

So now that you know how credit scores are calculated, the next logical question is simple - What's a good credit score? The answer to this question is pretty simple if you understand the national distribution of credit scores, which is shown in the table below. The table can be used to help you understand what an average credit score is and what a good credit score is. These statistics are from Fair Isaac Corp. the company who produces the FICO Score.

National Credit Scores

% of Population	Credit Score
2%	300 - 499
5%	500 - 549
8%	550 - 599
12%	600 - 649
15%	650 - 699
18%	700 - 749
27%	750 - 799
13%	800 - 850

Interpreting Credit Score Data

There are a couple of things we can learn from this credit score data. The first is that the credit score scale range is from 300 - 850. We can also learn that the average credit score is right around 700. Actually, 700 is technically the median, which means that roughly half the population scores above 700 and half the population scores below 700. Most lenders would simply view 700 as an average credit score - and that's an important point.

If 700 is an average credit score, then a good credit score is anything above 700 - and the higher the score, the better. Many lenders perceive scores above 700 as a sign of a person or household with good financial health.

On the other hand, individuals with scores below 600 may be viewed as high risk and may even be turned downed for credit or charged a higher interest rate on a loan.