

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

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Approved Memorandum with Signatures is On File.

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TO: School Board Members

FROM: Katherine Blasik, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent
Office of Research and Evaluation

VIA: Frank Till
Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: 2002 SAT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

This week, the report of SAT national, state, and district results was released by The College Board. Detailed information regarding individual school results has been included in this report.

The SAT is a comprehensive, standardized college entrance test used to provide information for college admission. The SAT measures verbal and mathematical abilities deemed critical for successful college academic performance and is administered at various times throughout the year. Students elect to take the SAT or ACT based on personal preference or requirements of the college(s) of their choice.

Highlights of the report indicate:

- The number of Broward students participating in SAT testing in 2002 (7,801) has increased by 19 percent over last year.
- Nearly half (11) of 24 Broward high schools reporting SAT participation for at least two years, earned higher scores in at least one section of the SAT.
- Of the 25 Broward high schools with reported data, over three-fourths (22) recorded a higher participation rate.
- Broward African American/Black students achieved average SAT scores equal to or higher than African American/Black students in Florida and across the nation in Mathematics.
- Broward Hispanic or Latino students earned higher SAT Verbal scores than students across the nation and higher Mathematics scores than students in Florida and across the nation.

As seen in the attached report and in the ACT report released earlier this month, the 2001-2002 school year evidenced the greatest number of Broward County Public School students participating in standardized, comprehensive college entrance exams. According to The College Board, the most important factor affecting the interpretation of college admission test scores is

the participation rate. In some states, a limited number of college-bound seniors take the SAT. Typically, these students have strong academic backgrounds and are applicants to the nation's most selective colleges and scholarship programs. However, all students in Broward are encouraged to take college admission tests.

While student gains continue to be threatened by expanding areas of poverty, burgeoning student mobility, an increasingly diverse population of limited English speaking students, and continued severe overcrowding, Broward staff strive to provide the best education available to all students. As a result, Broward students continue to stabilize their gains across a wide area of assessments.

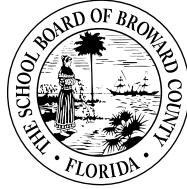
If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact **me at 954-760-3242 or Anne Dilgen, Director of Student Assessment, at 954-712-1748.**

FT/KAB/AD/DG: dg

Attachments

cc: Senior Management
Area Directors
Diane Carr, Executive Director, Core Curriculum
Frank Vodolo, Executive Director, Educational Programs
High School Principals

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA



Office of Research and Evaluation

2002 SAT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

The SAT I: Reasoning Test is a comprehensive, standardized college entrance test used to provide information for college admission. The instrument is designed to assess many of the skills that are important to students' success in college. The SAT is administered at various times throughout the year. Students elect to take the SAT or ACT based on the entrance requirements of the college(s) of their choice.

The SAT report is useful in placing student achievement in perspective and initiating educational plans for high school students. Broward high school guidance counselors use individual SAT results to assist students in making appropriate, timely and realistic post-secondary plans. School-based staff examine individual and school results and review other testing measures in a continuing effort to provide the most meaningful transition from school to career for all Broward students.

SAT Assessment Participation

This year again evidenced a significant increase in the number of Broward County Public Schools students taking standardized, comprehensive college entrance exams. According to The College Board, the most important factor affecting the interpretation of college admission test scores is the participation rate. In some states, a limited number of college-bound seniors take the SAT or ACT. Typically, these students have strong academic backgrounds and are applicants to the nation's most selective colleges and scholarship programs. In Broward, however, school staffs do not focus on select students but encourage all students to take college entrance examinations. **A record number (7,801) of Broward's 2001-2002 high school seniors took the SAT.**

While student gains continue to be threatened by expanding areas of poverty, burgeoning student mobility, an increasingly diverse population of limited English speaking students, and continued severe overcrowding, Broward staff strive to provide the best education available to all students. As a result, Broward students continue to stabilize their gains across a wide area of assessments.

According to The College Board, test results summarize information for seniors who took the SAT I Reasoning Test any time during their high school years through March 2002. If a student took a test more than once, the most recent score is used (The College Board, 2002).

SAT Assessment Results

Table 1 provides SAT participation rates and results for the district, state, and the nation. As three years of data is necessary to determine data trends, results are provided for 2000 through 2002. The number of students participating, as well as their overall average for the Verbal and Mathematics sections, are reflected in the table.

As indicated in Table 1, the number of Broward students participating in SAT testing in 2002 (7,801) has increased by 19 percent over last year. This significant 19 percent increase of Broward student participation in SAT testing surpassed the national participation rate increase of four percent (1,327,831), and the Florida student statewide SAT participation increase of nine percent (75,664) over 2001.

Broward students' average Verbal and Mathematics (475/489) scores do not meet those of students across Florida (496/499) and the nation (504/516). A negative trendline is seen in Broward's Verbal mean scores over the last three years (483, 479, 475). The slight decline of the average Verbal and Mathematics scores over the three year period may be a result of the significant increase in student population participating in the assessment. Broward Mathematics mean scores show mixed results for the same three-year period, slipping by six points in 2001 but rising by one point in 2002 (494, 488, 489).

Table 1: Broward, Florida and National SAT Scores 2000-2002			
Year	Number Tested	Verbal	Mathematics
Broward			
2000	6,388	483	494
2001	6,545	479	488
2002	7,801	475	489
Florida			
2000	67,266	498	500
2001	69,363	498	499
2002	75,664	496	499
Nation			
2000	1,260,278	505	514
2001	1,276,320	506	514
2002	1,327,831	504	516

Results by Ethnicity

As reported in Table 2, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian and Hispanic/Latino students posted Verbal scores in 2002 equal to or higher than scores in 2001. Mathematics scores increased this year from the previous year for American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, White and Other ethnic groups. Note: “No Response” indicates that students did not designate an ethnic category when they completed their Student Descriptive Questionnaire (SDQ).

Ethnicity	Number of Students			Verbal			Mathematics		
	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002
African American/Black	1,390	1,486	1,619	437	430	422	438	429	427
American Indian/Alaskan Native	18	24	10	463	450	458	463	447	492
Asian	298	295	349	480	483	483	537	526	534
Hispanic or Latino	959	1,037	1,118	475	472	469	486	482	480
White	2,634	2,445	2,510	512	513	511	525	521	526
Other	240	301	322	490	475	473	485	469	479
No Response	849	957	1,308	477	478	476	491	494	492

Table 2 illustrates three years of Broward data by ethnicity, Appendix A presents the percent of test takers and the average scores by ethnicity for the district, state, and the nation. As indicated by the appendix, Broward student ethnic demographics differ from the state and the nation.

- **African American/Black students comprise over one-fourth (27%) of SAT test takers in Broward compared to 15 percent in Florida and 11 percent across the nation.**
- **Broward African American/Black students achieved average SAT scores equal to or higher than African American/Black students in Florida and across the nation in Mathematics.**
- **Hispanic or Latino students comprise 19 percent of SAT test takers in Broward compared to 17 percent in Florida, but are nearly double the percentage (10%) across the nation.**
- **Broward Hispanic or Latino students earned higher SAT Verbal scores than students across the nation and higher Mathematics scores than students in Florida and across the nation.**
- **White students in Broward recorded higher SAT Mathematics scores than students across the state.**
- **An SAT achievement gap is noted for Black and Hispanic when compared to White participants in both Verbal and Mathematics.**

Individual School Results

Appendix B provides individual SAT school results for 25 Broward high schools and three charter schools. (Only two years of data are reported for William T. McFatter Technical, Pompano Beach Institute and North Lauderdale Academy Charter School as these schools did not have seniors participating in SAT assessment prior to 2001. Only one year of data is reported for Coral Springs and Pembroke Pines charter schools and the College Academy as these schools did not have seniors participating in SAT assessment prior to 2002.)

A review of individual school results finds that:

- Nearly half (11) of 24 Broward high schools, reporting SAT participation for at least two years, earned higher scores in at least one section of the SAT.
- Similarly, of the 25 Broward high schools with reported data, over three-fourths (22) reported a higher participation rate.

The *Profile of College Bound-Seniors*, which is sent to every high school, presents data for high school graduates who participated in the SAT Program during their high school years. The data in the report can be used to:

- Interpret scores of individual students within the broader context of data aggregated across groups of college-bound seniors;
- Study changes over time in the characteristics of students taking SAT I tests; and
- Look at year-to-year educational and demographic changes in student population, along with changes in test performance.

References

College Entrance Examination Board and Educational Testing Service (2002) *College Bound Seniors, A Profile of SAT Program Test Takers 2002*, New York, NY: The College Board

APPENDIX A

Broward, Florida, and national SAT Results by Ethnicity: Percent of Test-Takers Responding and Mean Scores, 2002				
Ethnic Group	Number	Percent	Verbal	Mathematics
Broward				
African American/Black	1,619	27	422	427
American Indian/Alaskan Native	10	<1	458	492
Asian	349	6	483	534
Hispanic or Latino	1,118	19	469	480
White	2,510	42	511	526
Other	322	5	473	479
No Response			476	492
Florida				
African American/Black	9,018	15	426	425
American Indian/Alaskan Native	316	1	490	488
Asian	2,902	5	502	544
Hispanic or Latino	10,700	17	476	477
White	36,315	59	521	523
Other	2,376	4	494	495
No Response			493	495
Nation				
African American/Black	122,684	11	430	427
American Indian/Alaskan Native	7,506	1	479	483
Asian	103,242	10	501	569
Hispanic or Latino	104,155	10	452	459
White	698,659	65	527	533
Other	38,967	4	502	514
No Response			501	516

APPENDIX B

Table A: 2000-2002 SAT School by School Test Results for North Area				
School	Year	Number Tested	Verbal Score	Math Score
Coconut Creek	2000	204	444	451
	2001	176	458	461
	2002	185	445	452
Coral Springs	2000	397	490	505
	2001	384	486	506
	2002	423	485	507
Deerfield Beach	2000	228	466	465
	2001	239	494	493
	2002	307	466	472
Blanche Ely	2000	186	477	487
	2001	183	462	472
	2002	223	461	477
Pompano Beach	2001	54	432	443
	2002	122	435	419
Stoneman Douglas	2000	545	518	531
	2001	514	519	527
	2002	623	513	532
Taravella	2000	454	508	535
	2001	458	506	533
	2002	540	503	531

Table B: 2000-2002 SAT School by School Test Results for North Central Area				
School	Year	Number Tested	Verbal Score	Math Score
Boyd Anderson	2000	211	477	479
	2001	255	451	452
	2002	239	442	444
Northeast	2000	145	450	460
	2001	189	449	451
	2002	250	444	448
Nova	2000	310	521	554
	2001	327	527	545
	2002	366	524	542
Piper	2000	329	468	466
	2001	288	468	476
	2002	377	459	466

Table C: 2000-2002 SAT School by School Test Results for South Central Area				
School	Year	Number Tested	Verbal Score	Math Score
Dillard	2000	197	436	435
	2001	185	422	431
	2002	210	402	420
Fort Lauderdale	2000	182	462	483
	2001	171	457	460
	2002	203	460	466
William T. McFatter Technical	2001	3	*	*
	2002	71	464	480
Plantation	2000	259	475	485
	2001	283	468	473
	2002	325	466	480
South Plantation	2000	288	478	488
	2001	274	483	481
	2002	296	481	491
Stranahan	2000	211	497	499
	2001	213	501	499
	2002	234	478	485
Western	2000	551	497	511
	2001	522	493	502
	2002	604	494	518
*Note: Mean scores are reported by College Board when there are five or more test takers.				

School	Year	Number Tested	Verbal Score	Math Score
Cooper City	2000	301	510	520
	2001	367	513	528
	2002	413	511	528
Flanagan, Charles	2000	673	482	494
	2001	600	471	481
	2002	755	477	487
Hallandale	2000	134	428	435
	2001	147	437	427
	2002	134	415	417
Hollywood Hills	2000	164	475	487
	2001	190	468	474
	2002	213	463	482
McArthur	2000	172	461	465
	2001	200	445	435
	2002	199	429	433
Miramar	2000	137	434	424
	2001	172	411	411
	2002	210	428	431
South Broward	2000	110	451	482
	2001	135	460	470
	2002	171	456	465
The College Academy at BCC	2002	16	511	509

School	Year	Number Tested	Verbal Score	Math Score
Coral Springs	2002	52	465	448
North Laud. Academy	2001	16	471	446
	2002	38	414	425
Pembroke Pines	2002	2	*	*

*Note: Mean scores are reported by College Board when there are five or more test takers.