

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

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August 28, 2003

TO: School Board Members

FROM: Katherine Blasik, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent  
Research, Evaluation, Assessment & Boundaries

**SIGNATURES ON FILE**

VIA: Frank Till  
Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: **2003 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 and/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 2003 (7,776) has increased by seven percent over last year.
- Over three-fourths (22) of 29 Broward high school programs, reporting SAT participation for at least two years, earned higher scores in at least one section of the SAT.
- Of the 29 Broward high school programs with reported data for two years, over one-third (12) reported a higher participation rate.
- African American/Black students comprise over one-fourth (29%) of SAT test takers in Broward compared to 15 percent in Florida and 12 percent across the nation.
- Broward Asian students achieved average SAT Verbal scores equal to Asian students in Florida.
- 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.

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As seen in the attached report, the 2002-03 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. In Broward, however, all students 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 Dr. Sean Leonard, Research Specialist, Student Assessment, at 754-321-4257.**

FT/KAB/AD/DG:dg  
Attachment

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

# THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA



## Research, Evaluation, Assessment & Boundaries

### 2003 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 and/or ACT based on the entrance requirements of the college(s) of their choice.

Information provided in 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 (7,776) of Broward's 2002-2003 high school seniors took the SAT.**

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 April 2003. If a student took a test more than once, the most recent score is used (The College Board, 2003).

#### **SAT Assessment Results**

Table 1 provides SAT participation rates and results for Broward, Florida and the Nation. As three years of data is necessary to determine data trends, results are provided for 2001 through 2003. 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 2003 (7,776) has increased by seven percent over last year. This seven percent increase of Broward student participation in SAT testing surpassed the national participation rate increase of six percent (1,406,324) but fell short of the Florida student statewide SAT participation increase of 10 percent (83,397) over 2002.

Broward students' average Verbal and Mathematics (480/487) scores do not meet those of students across Florida (498/498) and the Nation (507/519). Broward Mathematics mean scores remained relatively stable for the three-year period depicted in the table, increasing by one point in 2002 and slipping by two points in 2003 (488, 489, 487). Broward Verbal scores rebounded by five points in 2003 over the previous year (475/480).

<b>Table 1: Broward, Florida and National SAT Scores 2001-2003</b>			
Year	Number Tested	Verbal	Mathematics
<b>Broward</b>			
2001	6,545	479	488
2002	7,236	475	489
2003	7,776	480	487
<b>Florida</b>			
2001	69,363	498	499
2002	75,664	496	499
2003	83,397	498	498
<b>Nation</b>			
2001	1,276,320	506	514
2002	1,327,831	504	516
2003	1,406,324	507	519

### Results by Ethnicity

As reported in Table 2, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Hispanic/Latino and White students posted Verbal scores in 2003 equal to or higher scores in 2002. Mathematics scores increased this year from the previous year for Asian and Hispanic/Latino students.

<b>Table 2: Broward Mean SAT Scores by Ethnicity 2001-2003</b>									
Ethnicity	Number of Students			Verbal			Mathematics		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
African American/Black	1,486	1,619	1,704	430	422	420	429	427	418
American Indian/Alaskan Native	24	10	20	450	458	461	447	492	439
Asian	295	349	347	483	483	504	526	534	538
Hispanic or Latino	1,037	1,118	1,116	472	469	475	482	480	484
White	2,445	2,510	2,386	513	511	514	521	526	524
Other	301	322	302	475	473	475	469	479	477
No Response	957	1,308	1,901	478	476	490	494	492	498

Note: "No Response" indicates that students did not designate an ethnic category when they completed their Student Descriptive Questionnaire (SDQ).

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 (29%) of SAT test takers in Broward compared to 15 percent in Florida and 12 percent across the nation.**
- **Broward Asian students achieved average SAT Verbal scores equal to Asian students in Florida.**
- **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.**
- **An SAT achievement gap is noted for Black and Hispanic mean scores when compared to White participants in both Verbal and Mathematics in Broward, Florida and across the nation.**

### **Individual School Results**

Appendix B provides individual SAT school results for 27 Broward high school programs and four charter schools. Only two years of data are reported for College Academy at BCC, Coral Springs Charter and Pembroke Pines Charter School as these schools did not have seniors participating in SAT assessment prior to 2002. Only one year of data is reported for Cypress Bay and Parkway Academy Charter, as these schools did not have seniors participating in SAT assessment prior to 2003.

A review of individual school results finds that:

- Over three-fourths (22) of 29 Broward high school programs, reporting SAT participation for at least two years, earned higher scores in at least one section of the SAT.
- Of the 29 Broward high school programs with reported data for two years, over one-third (12) 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 (2003) *College Bound Seniors, A Profile of SAT Program Test Takers 2003*, New York, NY: The College Board

College Entrance Examination Board and Educational Testing Service (2003) *College Bound Seniors, District/Group Highlights Report 1999- 2003*, New York, NY: The College Board

## APPENDIX A

<b>Broward, Florida, and National SAT Results by Ethnicity: Percent of Test-Takers Responding and Mean Scores, 2003</b>				
Ethnic Group	Number	Percent	Verbal	Mathematics
<b>Broward</b>				
African American/Black	1,704	29%	420	418
American Indian/Alaskan Native	20	<1%	461	439
Asian	347	6%	504	538
Hispanic or Latino	1,116	19%	475	484
White	2,386	41%	514	524
Other	302	5%	475	477
<b>Florida</b>				
African American/Black	9,686	15%	426	421
American Indian/Alaskan Native	362	<1%	484	473
Asian	2,806	4%	504	545
Hispanic or Latino	11,349	18%	476	475
White	36,553	58%	521	520
Other	2,578	4%	490	488
<b>Nation</b>				
African American/Black	125,657	12%	431	426
American Indian/Alaskan Native	7,452	<1%	480	482
Asian	100,970	10%	508	575
Hispanic or Latino	107,492	10%	453	459
White	670,260	64%	529	534
Other	39,146	4%	501	513

## APPENDIX B

<b>Table A: 2001-2003 SAT School by School Test Results for North Area</b>				
School	Year	Number Tested	Verbal Score	Math Score
Coconut Creek	2001	176	458	461
	2002	185	445	452
	2003	197	443	449
Coral Springs	2001	384	486	506
	2002	423	485	507
	2003	397	492	512
Deerfield Beach	2001	239	494	493
	2002	307	466	472
	2003	280	472	478
Blanche Ely	2001	183	462	472
	2002	223	461	477
	2003	205	450	459
Pompano Beach	2001	54	432	443
	2002	122	435	419
	2003	71	475	465
Stoneman Douglas	2001	514	519	527
	2002	623	513	532
	2003	622	520	529
Taravella	2001	458	506	533
	2002	540	503	531
	2003	548	505	527

<b>Table B: 2001-2003 SAT School by School Test Results for North Central Area</b>				
School	Year	Number Tested	Verbal Score	Math Score
Boyd Anderson	2001	255	451	452
	2002	239	442	444
	2003	272	448	448
Northeast	2001	189	449	451
	2002	250	444	448
	2003	239	468	463
Nova	2001	327	527	545
	2002	366	524	542
	2003	360	505	525
Piper	2001	288	468	476
	2002	377	459	466
	2003	345	456	457

<b>Table C: 2001-2003 SAT School by School Test Results for South Central Area</b>				
School	Year	Number Tested	Verbal Score	Math Score
Dillard	2001	185	422	431
	2002	210	402	420
	2003	215	410	413
Fort Lauderdale	2001	171	457	460
	2002	203	460	466
	2003	158	462	448
William T. McFatter Technical	2001	3	*	*
	2002	71	464	480
	2003	89	482	502
Plantation	2001	283	468	473
	2002	325	466	480
	2003	303	472	472
South Plantation	2001	274	483	481
	2002	296	481	491
	2003	312	465	474
Stranahan	2001	213	501	499
	2002	234	478	485
	2003	183	479	478
Western	2001	522	493	502
	2002	604	494	518
	2003	573	504	519
* No data reported when less than 10 students tested.				



School	Year	Number Tested	Verbal Score	Math Score
Cooper City	2001	367	513	528
	2002	413	511	528
	2003	419	513	526
Flanagan, Charles	2001	600	471	481
	2002	755	477	487
	2003	623	487	496
Hallandale	2001	147	437	427
	2002	134	415	417
	2003	105	425	416
Hollywood Hills	2001	190	468	474
	2002	213	463	482
	2003	201	476	475
McArthur	2001	200	445	435
	2002	199	429	433
	2003	221	449	459
Miramar	2001	172	411	411
	2002	210	428	431
	2003	209	416	408
South Broward	2001	135	460	470
	2002	171	456	465
	2003	168	467	469
The College Academy at BCC	2002	16	511	509
	2003	103	556	556

School	Year	Number Tested	Verbal Score	Math Score
Coral Springs	2002	52	465	448
	2003	61	468	448
North Laud. Academy	2001	16	471	446
	2002	38	414	425
	2003	47	427	409
Parkway Academy	2003	15	385	364
Pembroke Pines	2002	2	*	*
	2003	224	488	487

\* No data reported when less than 10 students tested.