

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

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Approved Memorandum with Signatures on File.

September 5, 2006

TO: School Board Members

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

VIA: Frank Till
Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: **2006 SAT PRELIMINARY RESULTS**

On August 29, 2006, The College Board released national, state, district and school SAT results. The SAT is a comprehensive, standardized college entrance test that provides information used for college admission processes. The SAT measures critical reading, mathematics, and writing abilities deemed necessary for successful college academic performance. Students elect to take the SAT and/or ACT based on personal preference or requirements of the college(s) of their choice.

A preliminary examination of the data revealed that with 9,282 participants, a record number of Broward County's 2005-06 high school seniors participated in SAT testing. Table 1 displays the mean 2005-06 SAT scores in Critical Reading, Mathematics, and Writing for Broward County, Florida, and the nation. Review of these data revealed that Broward's students registered scores that were lower than those of their peers across Florida and the nation. This performance difference is likely due to Broward staff encouraging *all* students to take college entrance examinations, not just the highest performing students.

Table 1

Mean SAT Scores, 2005-06

SAT Subtest	Broward	Florida	Nation
Critical Reading	478	496	503
Mathematics	485	497	518
Writing	462	480	497

Table 2 (next page) displays the mean 2005-06 SAT scores for Broward, Florida, and the nation for the three largest ethnic groups represented in Broward County. Examination of these data revealed performance gaps such that White students registered the highest score on average, followed by Hispanic and then Black students. This pattern was evident in Critical Reading, Mathematics, and Writing within the District, Florida, and across the nation.

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Table 2

Broward, Florida, and National Mean SAT Scores by Ethnic Group, 2005-06

Ethnicity	Number Tested	Critical Reading	Mathematics	Writing
Broward				
Black	2,414	432	427	417
Hispanic	1,780	481	490	462
White	3,274	511	522	497
Florida				
Black	12,575	431	424	418
Hispanic	14,498	479	476	463
White	49,721	518	521	502
Nation				
Black	150,643	434	429	428
Hispanic	68,734	458	463	450
White	825,921	527	536	519

Note. Of the total number of SAT Reasoning Test takers, 94% have scores on the SAT writing section.

Individual student test scores will be joined with student records in the District's Data Warehouse. This combined file will allow more extensive, detailed analysis of the data. A complete report of these analyses will be forthcoming later in September from the Student Assessment & School Performance Department. If you have any questions regarding this memorandum, **please contact me at 754 321-2470 or Russell Clement, Ph.D., Director of Student Assessment & School Performance, at 754 321-4257.**

FT/KB/RC/ML:tbm

cc: Senior Management
Area Directors
High School Principals
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