



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA


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CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

ARTHUR C. JOHNSON, Ph.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: School Board Members
School District of Palm Beach County

FROM: Ann Killets 
Chief Academic Officer

THROUGH: Arthur C. Johnson, Ph.D. 
Superintendent

DATE: September 12, 2005

SUBJECT: FY2001-FY2005 ACT Results

The Department of Research and Evaluation has completed an analysis of the FY2005 ACT High School Profile Report produced by the ACT Corporation. Tables 1 and 2 contain data pertaining to the participation rate and average composite scores for participating School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) high schools, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation. Table 3 contains the data for Black, Hispanic, and White seniors in the SDPBC.

Individual schools and districts can use the ACT results from multiple years to conduct self-evaluation and self-comparisons; however, the ACT Corporation cautions against using the results of the ACT to compare performance between states and the Nation. ACT states the following in their report: "State norms may differ from national norms for non-educational reasons such as the demographic make-up of a state's ACT-tested graduates compared to the Nation."

Individual school results are presented in Tables 1 and 2. A brief summary of statistically significant participation rate and composite score changes since FY2001 is provided below.

Participation Rate

- ◆ This year, 2,693 SDPBC seniors took the ACT, which yielded a participation rate of about 29%. The participation rate in the SDPBC has remained stable for the past five years.
- ◆ The participation rate of Black seniors (32%) has shown a significant upward trend since FY2002.
- ◆ The participation rate of Hispanic (22%) and White seniors (25%) is significantly lower than their participation rate in FY2001.

Composite Scores

- ◆ The average score in the SDPBC (20.3) is significantly lower than the average score of FY2001.
- ◆ The average score of White seniors (22.8) is significantly higher than their average score in FY2001.
- ◆ The average score of Black seniors (16.5) has remained stable since FY2001.
- ◆ The average score of Hispanic seniors (19.5) is significantly lower than their average score in FY2001.

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These results will be shared with appropriate staff. Also, schools have received information about their ACT test takers and will use this information in the school improvement planning process.

If you have questions about the ACT, please contact Marc Baron, Chief of Performance Accountability, at 434-8850.

AJ:AK:MB:DS:jl

c/attachments:

- Chief Academic Officer
- Chief Officer of Administration
- Chief Operating Officer
- Chief of Performance Accountability
- Chief Public Information Officer
- Chief, Safety & Learning Environment
- Area/Assistant Superintendents
- Academic Executive Directors and Directors
- High School Principals

Table 1. FY2000-FY2005 Number of College-Bound Senior ACT Test-Takers and Participation Rate by High School, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation

	Number of ACT Test Takers					Participation Rate				
	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005
High School										
Atlantic	129	143	146	175	134	25%	28%	35%	40%	36%
Boca Raton	127	122	126	116	85	36%	30%	33%	29%	24%
Boynton Beach ^a	.	.	62	58	84	.	.	17%	17%	21%
Dreyfoos School of the Arts	75	108	129	138	121	32%	35%	42%	45%	43%
Forest Hill	58	50	46	53	39	22%	21%	20%	22%	16%
Glades Central	102	119	126	119	164	44%	46%	58%	68%	78%
John I. Leonard	129	114	165	169	123	31%	25%	30%	33%	28%
Jupiter	134	128	155	128	144	36%	34%	40%	33%	33%
Lake Worth	135	104	152	211	187	34%	22%	30%	41%	38%
Olympic Heights	138	158	153	173	175	31%	31%	29%	33%	34%
Pahokee	31	46	54	62	47	32%	36%	41%	61%	50%
P.B. Central ^b	.	.	.	.	101	.	.	.	.	27%
P. B. Gardens	114	111	105	105	132	28%	24%	24%	22%	27%
P. B. Lakes	85	78	94	89	110	19%	16%	19%	20%	28%
Park Vista ^c	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Royal Palm Beach	128	102	130	126	122	32%	23%	23%	22%	21%
Santaluces	164	173	128	132	164	30%	28%	25%	22%	29%
Spanish River	162	200	190	173	181	28%	32%	27%	25%	31%
Suncoast	152	137	147	142	136	53%	47%	47%	45%	44%
Wellington	210	237	263	219	220	39%	37%	35%	30%	35%
West Boca ^c	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
William T. Dwyer	84	90	104	115	116	22%	21%	23%	28%	29%
SDPBC	2,173	2,236	2,541	2,590	2,693	30%	28%	28%	29%	29%
Florida	51,118	51,935	55,784	56,431	58,302	43%	40%	42%	44%	N/R ¹
Nation	1,069,772	1,116,082	1,175,059	1,171,460	1,186,251	38%	39%	40%	40%	N/R ¹

Note. Participation rates for the SDPBC are determined by dividing the number of seniors who took the ACT by the total number of seniors in the second nine weeks. The participation rates for Florida and the Nation are based on the estimated percent of graduates tested, as reported by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. ^aSchool opened in FY2002 without a senior class. ^bSchool opened in FY2004 without a senior class. ^cSchool opened in FY2005 without a senior class.

¹NR = not reported.

Table 2. FY2000-FY2005 ACT Average Composite Scores of College-Bound Senior ACT Test-Takers by High School, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation

ACT Average Composite Scores						
High School	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	
Atlantic	21.8	22.5	21.4	21.2	21.9	
Boca Raton	21.2	21.4	20.3	20.6	21.4	
Boynton Beach ^a	.	.	18.2	19.4	17.4	
Dreyfoos School of the Arts	22.3	21.7	22.1	22.9	23.4	
Forest Hill	19.3	18.0	17.7	17.7	19.5	
Glades Central	15.5	15.9	15.8	15.6	15.7	
John I. Leonard	19.8	20.0	20.1	19.0	20.0	
Jupiter	21.9	21.0	21.8	22.1	21.9	
Lake Worth	19.6	18.4	19.6	19.2	18.7	
Olympic Heights	22.4	22.1	21.6	21.8	22.0	
Pahokee	15.4	16.3	16.4	15.9	15.5	
P. B. Central ^b	.	.	.	.	19.2	
P. B. Gardens	19.8	20.7	20.9	20.8	19.8	
P. B. Lakes	17.4	18.5	17.8	17.6	16.5	
Park Vista ^c	.	.	.	.	.
Royal Palm Beach	19.9	19.0	19.9	19.4	19.7	
Santaluces	19.4	19.6	20.4	19.7	19.4	
Spanish River	21.9	21.4	22.7	23.0	23.3	
Suncoast	22.0	23.7	22.5	23.2	23.4	
Wellington	22.6	22.2	22.1	21.7	22.7	
West Boca ^c	.	.	.	.	.
William T. Dwyer	20.9	21.0	21.0	21.4	21.6	
SDPBC	20.6	20.6	20.5	20.4	20.3	
Florida	20.4	20.4	20.5	20.5	20.4	
Nation	21.0	20.8	20.8	20.9	20.9	

^aSchool opened in FY2002 without a senior class. ^b School opened in FY2004 without a senior class. ^c School opened in FY2005 without a senior class.

Table 3. FY2000-FY2005 SDPBC ACT Results for Black, Hispanic, and White Students

	Black					Hispanic					White				
	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Fiscal Year															
Number of Test Takers	464	488	612	673	772	257	271	309	344	353	1142	1158	1270	1171	1186
Participation Rate	26%	24%	26%	29%	32%	25%	22%	22%	23%	22%	28%	26%	27%	25%	25%
Average Composite Score	16.0	16.7	16.9	16.6	16.5	20.0	19.4	19.6	19.4	19.5	22.0	22.4	22.4	22.7	22.8

Note: The participation rate for a disaggregated group is determined by dividing the number of seniors in a group who took the ACT by the total number of district seniors in the group in the second nine weeks.