



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: Arthur C. Johnson, Ph.D.
Superintendent

THROUGH: Ann Killets
Chief Academic Officer

DATE: September 14, 2004

SUBJECT: FY2000-FY2004 SAT I Results

The SAT I: Reasoning Test (SAT I) is an objective multiple-choice test measuring verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities. It is designed to be used with secondary school records and other information about the student in assessing readiness for college-level work. SAT performance and participation is a Key Result for the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC).

Tables 1 and 2 contain information about the participation rate and mean scores for the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation. Table 3 contains the data for Black, Hispanic, and White seniors in the SDPBC.

SAT results from multiple years can reveal trends in the demographic characteristics of the test takers and their academic preparation and can provide individual schools and districts with one way of self-evaluation and self-comparison. However, as indicated by the College Board (publisher of the SAT I), caution should be used in making comparisons between local, state, and national results. Results may differ because not all students in a high school, school district, or a state take the SAT I.

The FY2004 SDPBC verbal mean score was the same as Florida's but lower than the Nation's. The FY2004 SDPBC mathematics score was higher than Florida's but lower than the Nation's. Both the District's verbal and mathematics mean scores have remained stable since FY2000. The District continues to perform at a higher level in mathematics than in reading.

Statistically significant highlights of the SAT I results are presented below.

Participation Rate

- From FY2000 to FY2004 the SDPBC participation rate showed a downward trend.
- The FY2004 participation rate for Black students was higher than in FY2003.

Verbal Mean Scores

- The FY2004 verbal mean score for White students was lower than in FY2003.
- The FY2004 verbal mean score for Black students was lower than in FY2000.

Mathematics Mean Scores

- The FY2004 mathematics mean score for White students was lower than in FY2003.

These results will be shared with appropriate staff to provide direction for improvements in curriculum and instruction. Also, schools have received information about their SAT test takers and will use this information in the school improvement planning process.

If you have questions about the SAT I results, please contact Marc Baron, Executive Director of Research, Evaluation, and Accountability, at 434-8850. If you have questions about the instruction and the SAT I, please contact Brenda Magee, Director of Secondary and Career Education, at 434-8714. If you have questions about individual school efforts and the SAT I, please contact the appropriate area superintendent.

ACJ:MB:ds

w/attachments: Chief Officer of Administration
Chief Operating Officer
Area/Assistant Superintendents
High School Principals
Academic Executive Director/Directors

Table 1.

FY2000-FY2004 Number of Senior SAT I Test-Takers and Participation Rate by High School, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation

FISCAL YEAR	Number of Students Tested					Participation Rates				
	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
Atlantic	267	316	320	282	307	53%	61%	62%	67%	70%
Boca Raton	277	231	241	244	261	71%	66%	59%	63%	66%
Boynton Beach	.	.	a	167	127	.	.	a	46%	36%
Dreyfoos School of the Arts	199	204	268	258	274	85%	87%	88%	84%	90%
Forest Hill	113	103	86	93	88	42%	40%	37%	40%	37%
Glades Central	28	24	42	49	66	11%	10%	16%	23%	38%
John I. Leonard	208	203	218	271	261	51%	48%	48%	50%	50%
Jupiter	235	239	252	277	277	71%	65%	67%	72%	72%
Lake Worth	194	201	239	257	197	45%	50%	50%	50%	39%
Olympic Heights	358	345	357	388	381	74%	77%	71%	74%	72%
P. B. Gardens	260	256	299	261	261	65%	63%	64%	60%	54%
P. B. Lakes	190	190	208	194	204	44%	43%	43%	39%	46%
Pahokee	13	6	16	29	33	14%	6%	13%	22%	33%
Royal Palm Beach	152	193	230	286	297	50%	48%	52%	52%	52%
Santaluces	292	251	290	274	300	51%	46%	48%	53%	51%
Spanish River	371	402	417	473	467	69%	70%	67%	68%	69%
Suncoast	272	272	286	310	311	97%	95%	98%	99%	98%
W. T. Dwyer	180	209	237	256	248	53%	55%	57%	58%	59%
Wellington	405	399	462	526	487	71%	74%	72%	71%	67%
SDPBC	4,030	4,089	4,520	5,016	4,954	57%	57%	56%	56%	55%
Florida	67,266	69,363	75,664	83,397	87,290	58%	57%	58%	60%	61%
Nation	1,260,278	1,276,320	1,327,831	1,406,324	1,419,007	45%	45%	46%	48%	48%

Note. The SDPBC participation rates are determined by dividing the number of seniors who took the SAT I by the total number of seniors in the second nine weeks. Florida and national participation rates are determined by dividing the number of seniors who took the SAT I by the estimated number of graduating seniors, as reported by the Florida Department of Education. SDPBC = School District of Palm Beach County. '.' = School not in existence. 'a' = No senior class. NA=Not available. Palm Beach Central opened in FY2004 without a senior class.

Table 2.

FY2000-FY2004 SAT I Mean Scores of College-Bound Seniors by High School, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation

FISCAL YEAR	Verbal Mean Scores					Mathematics Mean Score				
	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
Atlantic	527	518	518	520	528	535	515	519	526	527
Boca Raton	497	500	504	484	487	499	496	504	483	487
Boynton Beach	.	.	a	416	437	.	.	a	441	447
Dreyfoos School of the Arts	561	560	545	554	569	524	523	523	527	540
Forest Hill	457	463	461	458	475	463	473	472	456	471
Glades Central	375	334	381	373	381	387	345	387	400	399
John I. Leonard	481	468	468	475	476	495	480	488	482	481
Jupiter	503	512	496	508	509	515	514	504	515	516
Lake Worth	469	471	459	481	488	479	483	480	490	509
Olympic Heights	506	496	513	504	512	521	507	529	520	514
P. B. Gardens	507	489	482	499	493	511	502	493	516	509
P. B. Lakes	450	439	450	446	433	455	451	451	445	438
Pahokee	421	365	382	394	372	449	350	398	416	388
Royal Palm Beach	479	484	474	470	471	457	478	482	475	463
Santaluces	475	484	474	492	483	472	475	471	486	477
Spanish River	517	512	522	532	521	538	532	538	542	535
Suncoast	542	541	572	550	549	561	551	588	565	569
W. T. Dwyer	485	471	491	497	490	496	491	507	517	507
Wellington	506	518	510	510	504	517	526	524	525	519
SDPBC	500	499	500	498	499	507	504	508	506	504
Florida	498	498	496	498	499	500	499	499	498	499
Nation	505	506	504	507	508	514	514	516	519	518

SDPBC = School District of Palm Beach County. '.' = School not in existence. a = No senior class. Palm Beach Central opened in FY2004 without a senior class.

Table 3.

FY2000-FY2004 SAT I SDPBC Results for African American, Hispanic, and White Seniors

	Black					Hispanic					White				
Fiscal Year	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004
Number of Test Takers	528	536	608	656	752	370	434	463	507	546	2186	2145	2294	2284	2319
Participation Rate	29%	30%	30%	28%	32%	43%	42%	38%	35%	37%	53%	53%	52%	49%	49%
Verbal Mean Score	427	419	427	421	416	482	484	477	470	478	522	523	522	525	521
Math Mean Score	429	420	434	421	421	487	483	487	480	480	527	528	529	531	526

Note. The participation rate for a disaggregated group is determined by dividing the number of seniors in a group who took the SAT I by the total number of district seniors in the group in the second nine weeks. The verbal and mathematics mean scores are calculated for college-bound seniors. SDPBC = School District of Palm Beach County.