



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA


ANN KILLETTS
CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER


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MEMORANDUM

TO: School Board Members
School District of Palm Beach County

FROM: Ann Killetts 
Chief Academic Officer

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

DATE: September 12, 2005

SUBJECT: FY2001-FY2005 SAT I Results

The SAT: 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.

In FY2005, the SAT included a new writing section that measures student ability to develop and express ideas effectively. Results of the writing section are not available to the District at this time.

SAT I 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), 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.

Tables 1 and 2 contain information about the participation rate and mean scores for the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC), Florida, and the Nation. Table 3 contains the data for Black, Hispanic, and White seniors in the SDPBC.

SAT I performance and participation is a Key Result for the SDPBC. Statistically significant highlights of the SAT I results are presented below.

Participation Rate

- In FY2005, there were 5,330 seniors who took the SAT I.
- The FY2005 SDPBC participation rate (57%) was higher than the Nation's (49%) but lower than Florida's (65%).
- The FY2005 SDPBC participation rates for all students and for White students (61%) were significantly higher than in FY2004.
- The participation rate for Black students (37%) has shown a significant upward trend since FY2003.

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Verbal and Mathematics Mean Scores

- The FY2005 SDPBC verbal and mathematics mean scores were higher than Florida's but lower than the Nation's.
- The District's verbal and mathematics mean scores have remained stable since FY2001.
- The District continues to perform at a higher level in mathematics (506) than in reading (500).

Verbal Mean Scores

- The FY2005 verbal mean scores of Black (417) and Hispanic (484) students have remained stable since FY2002.
- The FY2005 verbal mean score for White students (528) was significantly higher than in FY2004.

Mathematics Mean Scores

- The FY2005 mathematics mean scores for Black (422), Hispanic (487), and White (534) students have remained stable since FY2001.

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 Dean Stecker, Manager of Research and Evaluation at 434-8781. If you have questions about instruction and the SAT, 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.

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/Directors
High School Principals

Table 1.
FY2001-FY2005 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				
	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005
Atlantic	316	320	282	307	261	61%	62%	67%	70%	70%
Boca Raton	231	241	244	261	272	66%	59%	63%	66%	77%
Boynton Beach	.	a	167	127	168	.	a	46%	36%	42%
Dreyfoos School of the Arts	204	268	258	274	268	87%	88%	84%	90%	94%
Forest Hill	103	86	93	88	101	40%	37%	40%	37%	40%
Glades Central	24	42	49	66	101	10%	16%	23%	38%	48%
John I. Leonard	203	218	271	261	219	48%	48%	50%	50%	51%
Jupiter	239	252	277	277	305	65%	67%	72%	72%	69%
Lake Worth	201	239	257	197	218	50%	50%	50%	39%	44%
Olympic Heights	345	357	388	381	399	77%	71%	74%	72%	77%
P.B. Central	.	.	.	a	208	.	.	.	a	56%
P. B. Gardens	256	299	261	261	299	63%	64%	60%	54%	62%
P. B. Lakes	190	208	194	204	185	43%	43%	39%	46%	47%
Pahokee	6	16	29	33	18	6%	13%	22%	33%	19%
Royal Palm Beach	193	230	286	297	318	48%	52%	52%	52%	54%
Santaluces	251	290	274	300	325	46%	48%	53%	51%	57%
Spanish River	402	417	473	467	453	70%	67%	68%	69%	77%
Suncoast	272	286	310	311	306	95%	98%	99%	98%	98%
W. T. Dwyer	209	237	256	248	278	55%	57%	58%	59%	69%
Wellington	399	462	526	487	462	74%	72%	71%	67%	74%
SDPBC	4,089	4,520	5,016	4,954	5,330	57%	56%	56%	55%	57%
Florida	69,363	75,664	83,397	87,290	93,505	57%	58%	60%	61%	65%
Nation	1,276,320	1,327,831	1,406,324	1,419,007	1,475,623	45%	46%	48%	48%	49%

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.

Table 2.

FY2001-FY2005 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				
	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005
Atlantic	518	518	520	528	533	515	519	526	527	539
Boca Raton	500	504	484	487	491	496	504	483	487	492
Boynton Beach	.	a	416	437	443	.	a	441	447	447
Dreyfoos School of the Arts	560	545	554	569	562	523	523	527	540	540
Forest Hill	463	461	458	475	481	473	472	456	471	478
Glades Central	334	381	373	381	360	345	387	400	399	389
John I. Leonard	468	468	475	476	489	480	488	482	481	494
Jupiter	512	496	508	509	512	514	504	515	516	525
Lake Worth	471	459	481	488	487	483	480	490	509	492
Olympic Heights	496	513	504	512	515	507	529	520	514	519
P.B. Central	.	.	.	a	471	.	.	.	a	474
P. B. Gardens	489	482	499	493	488	502	493	516	509	507
P. B. Lakes	439	450	446	433	424	451	451	445	438	425
Pahokee	365	382	394	372	427	350	398	416	388	446
Royal Palm Beach	484	474	470	471	485	478	482	475	463	474
7Santaluces	484	474	492	483	483	475	471	486	477	475
Spanish River	512	522	532	521	533	532	538	542	535	548
Suncoast	541	572	550	549	563	551	588	565	569	582
W. T. Dwyer	471	491	497	490	497	491	507	517	507	515
Wellington	518	510	510	504	518	526	524	525	519	534
SDPBC	499	500	498	499	500	504	508	506	504	506
Florida	498	496	498	499	498	499	499	498	499	498
Nation	506	504	507	508	508	514	516	519	518	520

SDPBC = School District of Palm Beach County. '.' = School not in existence. a = No senior class.

Table 3.

FY2001-FY2005 SAT I SDPBC Results for Black, Hispanic, and White Seniors

	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	536	608	656	752	904	434	463	507	546	741	2145	2294	2284	2319	2893
Participation Rate	30%	30%	28%	32%	37%	42%	38%	35%	37%	47%	53%	52%	49%	49%	61%
Verbal Mean Score	419	427	421	416	417	484	477	470	478	484	523	522	525	521	528
Math Mean Score	420	434	421	421	422	483	487	480	480	487	528	529	531	526	534

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.