



**THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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## MEMORANDUM

October 29, 2013

**TO:** School Board Members  
**FROM:** E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent  
**SUBJECT: FY2013 SAT I RESULTS**

The College Board has recently released the results of the FY2013 SAT Reasoning Test (SAT I) for seniors in the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC).<sup>1</sup> The SAT I measures critical reading, mathematics, and writing abilities and is designed to be used with secondary school records and other information in assessing student readiness for college-level work.<sup>2</sup>

A preliminary analysis of the results showed the following:

- From FY2012 to FY2013
  - The SDPBC participation rates decreased by three percentage points for all students, as well as for Black, Hispanic, and White students.
  - SDPBC average scores decreased in reading (478 to 476), mathematics (484 to 478), and writing (463 to 461).
- From FY2009 to FY2013
  - The SDPBC participation rate increased by 20 percentage points (46% to 66%).
  - Participation rates increased for Black students (31% to 56%), for Hispanic students (42% to 59%), and for White students (53% to 69%).<sup>3</sup>

The College Board states that caution should be used in making comparisons between local, state, and national performance because not all students in a high school, a school district, or a state take the SAT I. This caution particularly applies to comparing results for the SDPBC across years, since the group of students taking the SAT has varied from year to year.

Tables 1 through 4 report data regarding the number of test takers, participation rates, and average scores for the SDPBC, its schools, the State, and the Nation. Table 5 reports disaggregated data for Black, Hispanic, and White seniors in the SDPBC.

<sup>1</sup> The report includes the SAT I results of FY2013 seniors who took the test at any time during high school.

<sup>2</sup> In addition, some students take the SAT in order to meet their reading or mathematics testing graduation requirement.

<sup>3</sup> The participation rates for FY2011 were unusually high because the SAT was offered to all juniors in the SDPBC at no charge during the school day in FY2010. The SAT I results of these students are reported as FY2011.

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

If you have questions about interpreting the SAT I results, please contact Mark Howard, Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment at 434-8781. If you have questions about instruction and the SAT I, please contact Keith Oswald, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Curriculum and Learning Support, at 357-1113. If you have questions about college readiness initiatives and the SAT I, please contact Joseph Lee, Assistant Superintendent, Safety and Learning Environment, at 434-8813. If you have questions about individual school efforts and the SAT I, please contact the appropriate area superintendent.

EWG/CA/FR/MH/bs

c/attachments

Division Chiefs  
Area/Assistant Superintendents  
Academic Directors  
Principals

Table 1. FY2009-FY2013 Number of Senior SAT I Test Takers and Participation Rates for Comprehensive High Schools, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation

High School	Number of Students Tested					Participation Rates				
	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013
Alexander W. Dreyfoos	253	291	337	290	307	76%	88%	100%	100%	100%
Atlantic	281	301	567	362	377	47%	47%	97%	73%	78%
Boca Raton	330	468	667	562	582	61%	73%	98%	79%	74%
Boynton Beach	62	84	328	337	346	24%	27%	96%	100%	89%
Forest Hill	154	151	405	169	191	38%	35%	92%	50%	42%
Glades Central	66	102	221	242	230	29%	40%	87%	100%	100%
John I. Leonard	133	150	464	260	229	32%	34%	90%	54%	41%
Jupiter	398	486	684	510	545	59%	69%	95%	76%	73%
Lake Worth	170	228	411	442	398	36%	53%	95%	99%	100%
Olympic Heights	169	270	422	318	365	47%	72%	100%	72%	66%
Pahokee Middle/Senior	29	33	99	41	97	26%	24%	85%	37%	84%
Palm Beach Central	282	475	670	464	442	49%	69%	98%	70%	66%
Palm Beach Gardens	214	266	613	402	390	43%	47%	98%	73%	70%
Palm Beach Lakes	96	108	440	317	350	25%	23%	92%	85%	76%
Park Vista	496	544	695	516	494	62%	77%	96%	78%	75%
Royal Palm Beach	184	202	453	229	240	36%	38%	93%	50%	49%
Santaluces	140	227	519	379	484	31%	42%	92%	80%	90%
Seminole Ridge	266	349	544	350	308	47%	59%	96%	60%	54%
Spanish River	291	379	534	433	446	64%	75%	100%	83%	79%
Suncoast	240	287	335	341	325	85%	90%	100%	100%	100%
Wellington	319	416	521	383	385	60%	78%	95%	76%	67%
West Boca Raton	340	380	473	359	345	64%	70%	95%	77%	72%
William T. Dwyer	185	193	405	286	319	46%	44%	91%	61%	62%
<b>SDPBC</b>	<b>5,311</b>	<b>6,724</b>	<b>11,412</b>	<b>8,344</b>	<b>8,591</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>66%</b>
Florida	72,178	78,985	94,700	92,281	112,554	59%	59%	62%	64%	67%
Nation	1,093,374	1,114,273	1,267,239	1,284,459	1,660,047	46%	47%	NA	NA	NA

Note. The SDPBC participation rates are determined by dividing the number of seniors who took the SAT I by the total number of seniors at the end of the first semester, including students at all SDPBC schools. Florida's participation rate is estimated only. SDPBC = School District of Palm Beach County. NA = not available.

Table 2. FY2009-FY2013 Number of Senior SAT I Test Takers and Participation Rates for Charter High Schools

High School	Number of Students Tested					Participation Rates				
	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013
G-Star	54	96	185	108	131	47%	59%	100%	71%	70%
Inlet Grove	75	106	134	107	133	55%	83%	100%	74%	91%
Leadership Academy West	NA	25	28	6	5	NA	56%	88%	26%	NA
Mavericks	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	1%
Quantum	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	2%
Riviera Beach Maritime	NA	NA	NA	10	18	NA	NA	NA	40%	41%
South Tech	78	107	258	110	96	20%	25%	63%	27%	25%
Toussaint L'Ouverture	NA	NA	NA	11	4	NA	NA	NA	12%	4%
Worthington	NA	NA	NA	NA	4	NA	NA	NA	NA	5%

Note. The SDPBC participation rates are determined by dividing the number of seniors who took the SAT I by the total number of seniors at the end of the first semester, including students at all SDPBC schools. Florida's participation rate is determined by dividing the number of seniors who took the SAT I by the number of graduating seniors, as determined by the Florida Department of Education. NA = not available at this time.

Table 3. FY2009-FY2013 SAT I Average Scores of College-Bound Seniors for Comprehensive High Schools, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation

High School	Critical Reading Average Score					Mathematics Average Score					Writing Average Score				
	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013
Alexander W. Dreyfoos	575	565	575	579	579	546	537	546	552	546	558	550	563	571	566
Atlantic	522	530	447	499	454	530	529	446	496	456	503	514	435	478	451
Boca Raton	500	495	474	518	513	505	508	479	521	523	478	479	471	509	506
Boynton Beach	444	405	347	362	382	436	408	353	376	382	423	385	333	360	366
Forest Hill	480	470	414	469	464	475	464	415	459	450	457	454	402	437	439
Glades Central	398	381	349	352	359	405	396	363	377	376	403	381	356	350	355
John I. Leonard	463	439	401	443	460	462	449	409	443	460	437	412	387	412	423
Jupiter	529	517	492	530	527	538	531	503	536	523	507	499	484	517	515
Lake Worth	482	426	388	388	389	482	430	403	396	400	458	409	374	379	379
Olympic Heights	488	466	444	494	491	503	470	450	495	485	473	449	424	481	467
Pahokee Middle/Senior	*	426	377	404	380	*	437	393	417	416	*	425	380	397	382
Palm Beach Central	488	488	460	496	500	497	490	465	502	495	471	466	440	472	480
Palm Beach Gardens	472	479	414	453	454	495	495	429	465	456	456	461	403	434	436
Palm Beach Lakes	441	443	368	372	377	429	435	372	385	379	423	422	355	364	375
Park Vista	497	497	473	500	512	510	506	481	508	514	479	474	455	484	487
Royal Palm Beach	466	463	404	454	438	464	463	407	451	441	456	444	399	427	416
Santaluces	473	439	401	422	407	472	436	418	433	414	457	426	388	407	393
Seminole Ridge	500	484	439	495	500	494	493	443	491	494	466	463	420	460	462
Spanish River	536	529	504	539	542	542	548	524	560	556	535	525	504	539	540
Suncoast	573	578	570	583	589	588	593	586	595	602	559	566	556	566	568
Wellington	514	501	486	511	499	526	502	499	518	507	502	476	471	495	489
West Boca Raton	512	499	486	516	513	539	518	500	533	527	500	492	478	499	504
William T. Dwyer	490	492	434	479	484	509	509	446	488	487	472	474	425	458	472
<b>SDPBC</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>461</b>
Florida	497	496	483	489	492	498	498	486	490	490	480	479	466	472	475
Nation	501	501	493	491	496	515	516	506	505	514	493	492	482	481	488

\* = Not reported due to fewer than 30 students.

Table 4. FY2009-FY2013 SAT I Average Scores of College-Bound Seniors for Charter High Schools

High School	Critical Reading Average Score					Mathematics Average Score					Writing Average Score				
	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013
G-Star	505	491	464	509	511	468	463	427	481	471	481	478	445	495	504
Inlet Grove	445	417	398	427	425	434	390	411	427	416	421	392	394	402	397
Leadership Academy West	NA	*	333	*	*	NA	*	322	*	*	NA	*	325	*	*
Mavericks	NA	NA	NA	NA	*	NA	NA	NA	NA	*	NA	NA	NA	NA	*
Riviera Beach Maritime	NA	NA	NA	*	*	NA	NA	NA	*	*	NA	NA	NA	*	*
South Tech	403	420	382	426	431	392	409	384	401	430	394	399	365	400	402
Quantum	NA	NA	NA	NA	*	NA	NA	NA	NA	*	NA	NA	NA	NA	*
Toussaint L'Ouverture	NA	NA	NA	*	*	NA	NA	NA	*	*	NA	NA	NA	*	*
Worthington	NA	NA	NA	NA	*	NA	NA	NA	NA	*	NA	NA	NA	NA	*

NA = Not available. \* = Not reported due to fewer than 30 students.

Table 5. FY2009-FY2013 SAT I SDPBC Results for Black, Hispanic, and White Seniors

	Black					Hispanic					White				
	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Number of Test Takers	983	1,224	2,564	2,034	2,138	966	1,343	2,427	1,768	1,949	2,810	3,292	4,415	3,609	3,577
Participation Rate	31%	34%	68%	59%	56%	42%	46%	80%	62%	59%	53%	62%	85%	72%	69%
Critical Reading Average Score	438	427	390	405	404	489	481	434	469	463	526	520	500	524	524
Mathematics Average Score	435	424	392	405	402	490	480	441	472	469	535	530	508	531	526
Writing Average Score	423	409	381	389	388	472	462	424	453	452	507	504	487	509	510

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 at the end of the first semester. This includes seniors enrolled in comprehensive high schools and charter schools.