

## SPS SAT Reasoning Test Results

### Class of 2010

1. A total of 677 students (66.4 %) of the Stamford Public Schools (SPS) Graduating Class of 2010 participated in the SAT Reasoning testing program of the College Board.

**Table 1**  
**SAT I Participation Rate for the**  
**Classes of 2005-2010 in Stamford Public Schools**

Class of	Participation Rate
2005	68.3%
2006	69.0%
2007	72.4%
2008	68.3%
2009	66.7%
2010	66.4%

2. The demographic profile of Class of 2010 SAT participants in SPS varies somewhat from Connecticut and the nation, which make comparisons of SAT achievement challenging. According to the College Board:

**The SAT is a strong indicator of trends in the college-bound population, but it should never be used alone for such comparisons because demographics and other nonschool factors can have a strong effect on scores.**

Table 2 indicates the participation by self-reported subgroup:

**Table 2**  
**SAT Participation by Self-Reported Subgroup, Class of 2010**  
**Stamford Public Schools, Connecticut, Nation**

	SPS		CT		Nation	
	N	% of Test Takers	N	% of Test Takers	N	% of Test Takers
American Indian	1	.1%	117	.3%	8,550	.6%
Asian	54	8.0%	1,849	5.1%	166,064	10.7%
Black	117	17.3%	3,673	10.0%	196,961	12.7%
Hispanic	145	21.4%	3,256	9.0%	222,380	14.4%
White	315	46.5%	24,763	68.6%	838,235	54.1%
Other	16	2.4%	7,763	2.2%	48,702	3.1%
No Response	29	4.3%	1,702	4.7%	67,098	4.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>677</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>36,076</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1,547,990</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Furthermore:

- a. 29% of 20% SPS test takers' first language was not English, compared to 7% statewide and 11% nationally;
  - b. Approximately 17% of SPS test takers were Black, compared to 9% statewide and 13% nationally; 21% of SPS test takers were Hispanic, compared to 9% statewide and 14% nationally;
  - c. 54% of SPS test takers come from families in which parents have a college or graduate degree, compared to 59% statewide and 56% nationally.
3. SPS students in the Class of 2010 demonstrated increases in mean scores on all three sections of the SATs - Reading, Math, and Writing - from the Class of 2009.
- a. The mean Critical Reading score for the SPS Class of 2010 reached 496, a nine point increase from the Class of 2009. Statewide and nationally, Critical Reading scores for the Class of 2010 remained unchanged from 2009. The SPS Class of 2010 averaged 13 points below the State means of 509 and five points below the national means of 501 in Critical Reading.

**Table 3a:  
SAT Critical Reading Mean Scores, Classes of 2006-2010  
Stamford Public Schools, Connecticut, Nation**

<b>Group</b>	<b>Class of 2006</b>	<b>Class of 2007</b>	<b>Class of 2008</b>	<b>Class of 2009</b>	<b>Class of 2010</b>	<b>1 Year Change, 2009-2010</b>	<b>5 Year Change</b>
SPS	478	473	484	487	496	+9	+18
Connecticut	512	510	509	509	509	0	-3
Nation	503	502	502	501	501	0	-2

- b. The mean Math score for the SPS Class of 2010 reached 505, a 15 point increase from the Class of 2009. Statewide and nationally, math scores for the Class of 2010 increased one point from 2009. The SPS Class of 2010 averaged nine points below the state mean of 514 and 11 points below the national mean at 516 in Mathematics.

**Table 3b:  
SAT Math Mean Scores, Classes of 2006-2010  
Stamford Public Schools, Connecticut, Nation**

<b>Group</b>	<b>Class of 2006</b>	<b>Class of 2007</b>	<b>Class of 2008</b>	<b>Class of 2009</b>	<b>Class of 2010</b>	<b>1 Year Change, 2009-2010</b>	<b>5 Year Change</b>
SPS	481	479	490	490	505	+15	+24
Connecticut	516	512	513	513	514	+1	-2
Nation	518	515	515	515	516	+1	-2

- c. The mean Writing score for the SPS Class of 2010 reached 499, a 12 point increase from the Class of 2009. Statewide the average Writing score increased by one point and decreased by one point nationally for the Class of 2010. The SPS Class of 2010 averaged 14 points below the state mean of 513 and seven points above the national average of 492 in Writing.

**Table 3c:  
SAT Writing Mean Scores, Classes of 2006-2010  
Stamford Public Schools, Connecticut, Nation**

<b>Group</b>	<b>Class of 2006</b>	<b>Class of 2007</b>	<b>Class of 2008</b>	<b>Class of 2009</b>	<b>Class of 2010</b>	<b>1 Year Change, 2009-2010</b>	<b>5 Year Change</b>
SPS	480	480	492	487	499	+12	+19
Connecticut	511	511	513	512	513	+1	+2
Nation	497	494	494	493	492	-1	-5

4. SAT results for Black and Hispanic students in the Class of 2010 trail those of their Asian and White peers in Stamford, but are beginning to match or exceed the SAT averages posted by Black and Hispanic students in the state and nation.
5. The percent of SPS students who report completing four or more years of math has increased steadily over five years, from 63% for the Class of 2006 to 77% for the Class of 2010. Similarly, the percent of SPS students who report completing four or more years of English and Language Arts has increased steadily over five years, from 82% for the Class of 2006 to 89% for the Class of 2010. Students also report an increase in completing three or more years of science, from 89% for the Class of 2006 to 92% for the Class of 2010.
6. A total of 23% of the 677 students in the SPS Class of 2010 who participated in the SAT testing program also took one or more of the SAT II subject tests. SPS students outperformed their peers in Connecticut and/or the nation 10 of the SAT II subject tests (shaded below).

**Table 4:  
SAT II Subject Test Mean Scores for Class of 2010  
Stamford Public Schools, Connecticut, Nation**

Subject Test	Number Tested	SPS	CT	Nation
		Mean Score	Mean Score	Mean Score
Literature	39	598	620	580
U.S. History	98	631	634	601
World History	1	Not reported	640	605
Math Level I	78	633	619	605
Math Level II	67	672	678	649
Biology (Ecological)	20	621	634	601
Biology (Molecular)	17	639	664	638
Chemistry	39	668	661	644
Physics	18	700	665	658
Chinese with listening	2	596	728	761
French	8	Not reported	616	620
French with listening	0	Not reported	637	639
German	1	Not reported	621	612
German with listening	0	Not reported	645	604
Modern Hebrew	0	Not reported	718	614
Italian	0	Not reported	666	663
Japanese with listening	0	Not reported	667	698
Korean with listening	0	Not reported	777	764
Latin	0	Not reported	607	619
Spanish	11	662	619	644
Spanish with listening	7	756	623	653

7. Increases in mean SAT scores occurred in Writing at all three high schools. Students in the Class of 2010 also achieved gains in Critical Reading and Writing at SHS and WHS. Increases of 20 points or more over the Class of 2009 were reached in Math by students at both SHS (from 483 to 509) and WHS (from 495 to 519) and in Writing by students at WHS (from 490 to 514).

**Table 5:  
Critical Reading, Math, and Writing SAT Mean Scores by High School  
Class of 2009 and Class of 2010**

	Stamford High				Westhill High				AITE				SPS Total			
	Mean Score		Participation Rate%		Mean Score		Participation Rate%		Mean Score		Participation Rate%		Mean Score		Participation Rate%	
	Class of		Class of		Class of		Class of		Class of		Class of		Class of		Class of	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
Critical Reading	471	485	65.6	65.9	495	507	66.1	64.3	502	488	74.7	76.6	487	496	66.7	66.4
Math	483	509			495	519			486	481			490	505		
Writing	482	501			490	514			489	493			487	499		