



For Immediate Release:

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Connecticut's High School Students Continue Trend of Increased Test Taking on Advanced Placement (AP) Test for College Credit; Rates in Many Cities Improve

(HARTFORD, CONN.) An additional 2,000 high school students in Connecticut took at least one Advanced Placement Test for college credit in 2010 compared with the previous year, continuing a trend of greater participation and strong performance on these high-level academic assessments in Connecticut. According to the College Board, which administers the AP Testing program, Connecticut is among the highest performing states in the nation. Go to: <http://apreport.collegeboard.org>.

Typically, high school students take AP tests after completing college-level AP courses while in high school in order to meet the challenge of more demanding coursework and to earn college credit by scoring a 3, 4 or 5 on the AP exam. AP tests are offered in numerous subjects from U.S. History to Physics.

Highlights:

- A total of 20,135 high school students (Grades 9-12) took at least one AP test in 2010 compared to a total of 18,153 the previous year;
- The number of tests taken in 2010 was 35,314 compared with 31,295 in 2009, an increase of 4,019;
- The number of tests with passing scores (3, 4 or 5) in 2010 was 24,930 (70.6% of all tests) compared with 22,307 (71.3% of all tests) for 2009, an increase of 2,623;
- Students from all racial and ethnic groups (except American Indian which had a decline of three students) had increased participation rates and increased numbers of tests with passing scores*;
- The number of test takers and tests with passing scores increased in most of Connecticut's school districts; West Hartford led the state in number of test takers and number of tests;
- The number of test takers and tests with passing scores increased in most of Connecticut's urban districts with strong performance in **Stamford, New Haven** and **Danbury**;
- Districts with the highest number of AP test takers in 2010 are: **West Hartford** (903), **Stamford** (664), **Greenwich** (574), **Fairfield** (542) and **New Haven** (528);
- Districts/Schools** with the highest percentages of passing scores (3, 4 or 5): **Ridgefield** (94%); **Darien** (91.1%); **New Canaan** (90.9%); **Trumbull** (90.7%); **Weston** (90%); **Region 5, Amity** (89.3%); **Avon** (89%); **Westport** (88.6%); **Fairfield** (87.8%) and **East Lyme** (87.7%). (**with a minimum of 100 test takers.)

See attached file listing the 2010 AP performance of all Connecticut school districts, charter schools and Technical High Schools. The file provides data on tests taken by all high school students Grades 9 – 12.

Notes:

*Because data on race and ethnicity is self-reported, comparisons with previous years' performance or among groups are not appropriate.

**Districts/Schools with a minimum of 100 test takers.

