

COLLEGE READINESS

Scholastic Aptitude Test—SAT-I

DISTRICT TARGET:

- By 2008, increase from 63% to 74%, the percentage of students at the comprehensive high schools who take the SAT at least once, while maintaining or improving the district's average score.

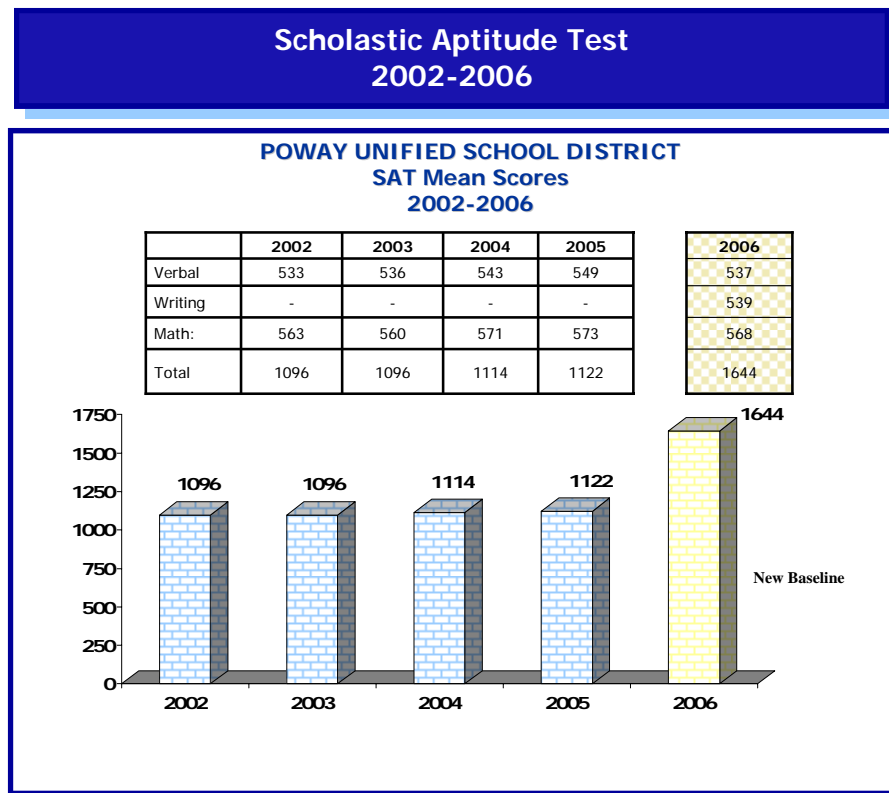
NOTABLE FACTS:

The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT-I) is a voluntary test taken outside the normal school day, generally by eleventh and twelfth grade students who plan to attend college. Poway Unified values the SAT-I as a measure of academic rigor and student intention to attend college and established a target to increase voluntary participation while maintaining high mean scores. In 2005, the SAT-I was revised to include a writing test and the maximum scale score increased from 800 to 2400. Also, the verbal and math portions of the test were revised making year-to-year comparisons impossible. The district will maintain its target of 74% participation, however the new baseline score will be 1644.



WHAT IS BEING MEASURED:

The Scholastic Aptitude Test measures verbal and mathematical reasoning skills. In 2006 a new test was introduced with the verbal, math, and writing sections of the SAT-I, each worth 800 points. A total score of 2400 is possible. The chart below shows the average SAT-I scores for Poway Unified students over five years.



WHAT THE RESULTS SHOW:

The average mean score improved dramatically in 2005. There was a six-point gain in verbal scores, and a two-point gain in mathematics. The three-year trend continues to be positive. A new baseline for mean scores (1644) was established in 2006.

COLLEGE READINESS Scholastic Aptitude Test - SAT-I

DISTRICT TARGET:


- By 2008, increase from 63% to 74%, the percentage of students at the comprehensive high schools who take the SAT-I at least once, while maintaining or improving the district's average score.

WHAT IS BEING MEASURED:

Beginning 2006, the "new" SAT-I established new baseline data. The district will continue to pursue its goal to increase student participation to 74% by 2008 without falling below the 2006 baseline. The table below shows the participation rates for the last three years and the mean scores for 2006.

"New" SAT-I Results - Percent Tested and Mean Scores

	Percent Tested 2002-2006					Mean Scores 2006			
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Critical Reading	Writing	Mathematics	Total
Poway Unified	55%	63%	66%	67%	68%	537	539	568	1,644
San Diego	41%	41%	49%	49%	49%	501	501	518	1,520
California	37%	37%	40%	40%	41%	503	497	518	1,518
Mt. Carmel	66%	68%	65%	72%	73%	526	528	562	1,616
Poway High	53%	64%	63%	66%	67%	545	544	567	1,657
Rancho Bernardo	62%	64%	68%	74%	74%	539	546	578	1,663
Westview ¹	-	-	-	66%	68%	535	533	561	1,629

 In year four of a six-year effort, this district target has been achieved.

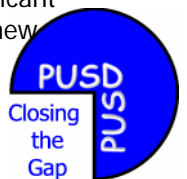
¹ Westview graduated its first class in 2005

WHAT THE RESULTS SHOW:

The district made small gains in the percentage of students electing to participate in the SAT-I in 2006. The districtwide gains are insufficient to achieve a 74% participation rate by 2008. There is a significant difference between Poway's four comprehensive high schools. Mean scores for 2006 will provide a new baseline.

NEXT STEPS:

Investigate causes for the 47 point difference between the highest and lowest high schools.



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SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST BY ETHNICITY 2006

WHAT IS BEING MEASURED:

The chart shows the ethnic comparison of graduates who took the SAT-I at least once while in high school and the average score for each group in 2006 for Poway, California, and the nation.

SAT Mean Scale Scores by Ethnicity

2006		CRITICAL READING			MATH			WRITING		
Ethnic Group	PUSD Number Tested	PUSD	CA	USA	PUSD	CA	USA	PUSD	CA	USA
African American	40	490	435	430	509	426	430	487	434	424
Asian/Filipino*	393	542	504	508	603	563	567	546	508	508
Hispanic	109	503	440	451	524	449	459	508	442	445
White	912	540	534	524	561	546	535	543	553	514
Other/No Response	228	514	497	496	546	515	505	519	501	489
Average Score		537	495	503	568	516	518	539	495	497

* SAT combined Asian and Filipino for reporting purposes.

WHAT THE RESULTS SHOW:

There is a significant gap between the performance of African American students and other ethnic groups. Conclusions are limited due to the relatively low number of students in this subgroup. All Poway Unified ethnic groups scored higher than their counterparts in the state and nation. African American students in Poway Unified scored slightly below the state and national averages for all groups combined.



NEXT STEPS:

Continue to provide support services needed for students to enroll in more rigorous courses. Target services such as AVID, see pages 68-69. Institute a districtwide communication plan to inform parents and staff about SAT-I testing, and implement programs that encourage participation. Focus on African American and Hispanic students.