MEMORANDUM March 4, 2013

TO: Board Members

FROM: Terry B. Grier, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: **PRELIMINARY SAT/NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP QUALIFYING TEST (PSAT/NMSQT) REPORT: FALL 2012–2013**

CONTACT: Carla Stevens, Research and Accountability, (713) 556-6700

The results from the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) have been released by the College Board. The PSAT/NMSQT serves as preparation for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and as a qualifying examination for numerous scholarship programs, including the National Merit Scholarship Program. In addition, the PSAT/NMSQT can be utilized to identify students who may be successful in Advanced Placement (AP) courses. The PSAT/NMSQT is comprised of three sections: critical reading, mathematics, and writing.

The October 2012 test administration marks the tenth year of the Houston Independent School District (HISD) PSAT Initiative, which provided funding for the testing of all sophomores. On August 12, 2010, the HISD Board of Education expanded the PSAT for All program to include incoming ninth-graders. HISD provided the funding for free PSAT/NMSQT tests for incoming freshmen.

- A total of 11,992 freshmen, 10,384 sophomores, and 8,752 juniors took the PSAT in October of 2012.
- For ninth graders, the participation rate was 81.7 percent, down from 84.2 percent in 2011. The sophomore participation rate went from 89.6 percent in 2011 to 86.1 percent in 2012. For juniors, participation decreased from 2011 to 2012, with 80.6 percent of enrolled juniors taking the PSAT, compared to 82.7 percent in 2011.
- Total district participation decreased overall from 85.5 percent in 2011 to 82.8 percent in 2012.

The third administration in HISD of the ReadiStep, a low-stakes middle school assessment which prepares students for the PSAT/NMSQT and for the SAT, took place during October and November of 2012. The accompanying report includes an analysis of district-wide and campus PSAT/NMSQT results for ninth, tenth, and eleventh graders and results by student groups for the fall of 2011 and fall 2012. In addition, ReadiStep results are provided for the district and by campus for 2011 and 2012.

Administrative Response
After a review of the 2012-2013 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) report, the department of College and Career Readiness has the following response:

In the area of **College Readiness,** we have provided all high school campus test coordinators which include administrators, counselors, college access coordinators and instructional specialists with training on the benefits of using the Summary of Answers and Skills (SOAS) to aid instructional planning at the campus. This has been successful and we intend to continue providing yearly assistance to campuses that analyze their SOAS as a means to increase academic performance and preparedness for college entrance exams.

In the area of **Student Performance,** we will continue to work with the Curriculum Department and the College Board, to provide additional training to teachers that will focus more closely on strategies and best practices such as pacing on the test. This training will be provided in an effort to assist campuses as they work to increase student performance on the PSAT and close performance gaps.

In the area of **Student Participation,** we are concerned about the number of eligible special education students in the test administration. To improve in this area, we will collaborate with the Office of Special Education Services (OSES) senior managers for secondary schools and the College Board to ensure that all campus Students with Service Disabilities (SSD) coordinators and campus Special Education Chairpersons are trained on the approval process for testing with accommodations well before submission deadlines.

Attached is the complete report including an analysis of district-wide results as well as for all HISD schools that had participating students. Should you have further questions, please contact my office or Carla Stevens in the Department of Research and Accountability at 713-556-6700.

Terry B. Grier

TBG

cc: Superintendent's Direct Reports
Chief School Officers
Alan Summers

RESEARCH

Educational Program Report

PSAT/NMSQT Report 2012-2013

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PSAT/NMSQT
2012–2013

Introduction

The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which is a national examination administered in October of each year by the College Board, measures critical reading, mathematics problem solving, and writing skills. The PSAT/NMSQT serves as preparation for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). An important benefit is that the PSAT/NMSQT serves as a qualifying examination for numerous scholarship programs that are sponsored by corporations, colleges and universities, and other organizations, including the National Merit scholarships. In addition to the National Merit Scholarship finalists, other specific recognition is bestowed to high-scoring Hispanic students through the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) and to high scoring African American students through the National Scholarship Service (NSSFNS) which assists students in gaining access to postsecondary educational institutions.

The Student Search Service represents another important benefit for students of the PSAT/NMSQT program. For the fall 2012 administration, 73.4 percent of freshmen, 74.4 percent of sophomores, and 80.7 percent of juniors taking the PSAT/NMSQT registered to participate in this search service by which colleges and universities obtain names and addresses of tested students, and the colleges then directly contact the students with recruitment information and materials. As a result, the PSAT/NMSQT has come to serve as a vehicle to bring prospective students to the attention of colleges and universities.

HISD launched the "PSAT for All" initiative in 2003 as way to enroll more students in Advanced Placement (AP) courses and prepare them to be successful on the SAT which is required by most colleges. The district-wide initiative enables all HISD tenth-graders to take the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) for free. Today, HISD is more focused than ever on getting students to take more-rigorous courses and preparing them for college and careers. On August 12, 2010, the HISD Board of Education expanded the PSAT for All program to include ninth-graders. HISD provided the funding for free PSAT/NMSQT tests for incoming freshmen and uses the College Board Early Preparation Program to prepare them for the SAT and SAT Subject Tests. Students also received personalized feedback on their command of the skills needed to graduate from high school and succeed in college courses.

The College Board (2006) reports that the PSAT/NMSQT can be utilized to identify students who may be successful in AP courses. The College Board provides expectancy tables and AP Potential as resources for schools and the district to aid in identifying students who may be successful in AP courses. AP Potential uses a different combination of PSAT scores to predict success on each of the different AP subjects.

The purpose of this report was to provide an examination of the participation and performance of HISD students under the ninth year of the HISD PSAT for All. The report was also designed to compare the current year's results with the previous year's results, including the participation rates of freshmen, sophomores, and juniors as well as their mean scores. The fall of 2010 represents the first year for a new indicator from the College Board, the College Readiness Benchmark for sophomores and juniors, designed to help educators determine what students are considered on track to be ready for college. Also, new as of 2010 was the ReadiStep, an eighth-grade assessment to indicate readiness for the PSAT and SAT, which was administered to district students. Results from 2011 and 2012 for the College Readiness Benchmark and ReadiStep are presented in this report.

Administration and Scoring

The PSAT/NMSQT is a two-hour and ten-minute test. The reading questions are presented in two 25-minute sections. The mathematics questions are also presented in two 25-minute sections for a total of 100 minutes. For the writing section, a total of 30 minutes is allotted for completion. High schools administered the PSAT/NMSQT on their campuses on Wednesday, October 17, 2012. Three scaled scores are generated for each student: a reading score, a mathematics score, and a writing score. Each score ranges from 20 to 80; these numbers are analogous to the scaled scores of 200 to 800 generated by the SAT. Nationally, the average reading, mathematics, and writing scores are nearing the midpoint (50) of the 20 to 80 scale.

Methods

Participants

A total of 31,128 HISD students in grades 9–11 participated in the fall 2012 PSAT/NMSQT. The percentage of sophomores and juniors who participated decreased slightly from 86.3 percent in 2011 to 83.5 percent in 2012. The percent of students in grades 9 through 11 who participated in the fall of 2012 was 82.8 percent. With the initiative to test ninth graders, a total of 11,992 freshmen took the PSAT in the fall of 2012. The number of HISD campuses participating in the PSAT/NMSQT in the fall of 2012 was 42.

Data Collection and Analysis

The College Board reported test performance along with demographic information supplied by the students to HISD. These data included results for all HISD schools that had participating students. These data, together with enrollment data from the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) database, were analyzed. Data collected from the October submission and updated with the January resubmission were used to determine the total enrollment for district freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. Participation rates were calculated by dividing the number of students tested by the PEIMS snapshot of fall enrollment for the same group. Participation rates for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors were calculated across the district and by school.

Mean reading, mathematics, and writing scores for freshman, sophomores, and juniors were calculated by school, gender, and race/ethnicity. Demographic data used in the present report are based on students' self-reported data on the PSAT.

Results

Districtwide Participation

Of the 37,609 HISD 9th through 11th graders eligible to take the PSAT, a total of 31,128 students participated in the fall 2012 PSAT/NMSQT. These included 11,992 freshmen, 10,384 sophomores, and 8,752 juniors. Although Special Education and limited English proficient students were included in the enrollment count, they could have been exempted from taking the PSAT based on ARD and LPAC committee decisions. The junior year is the year when participation qualifies a student for National Merit scholarships and recognition; many students take the exam in the sophomore year to prepare for the junior year testing. In the fall of 2010, HISD introduced an initiative to provide free PSAT testing for all freshmen. **Table 1** shows the number and rate of participation for HISD freshmen, sophomores, and juniors from the fall of 2011 and the fall of 2012.

Table 1: PSAT Participation Rates: HISD Freshman, Sophomores, Juniors, & Combined for Fall 2011 and 2012

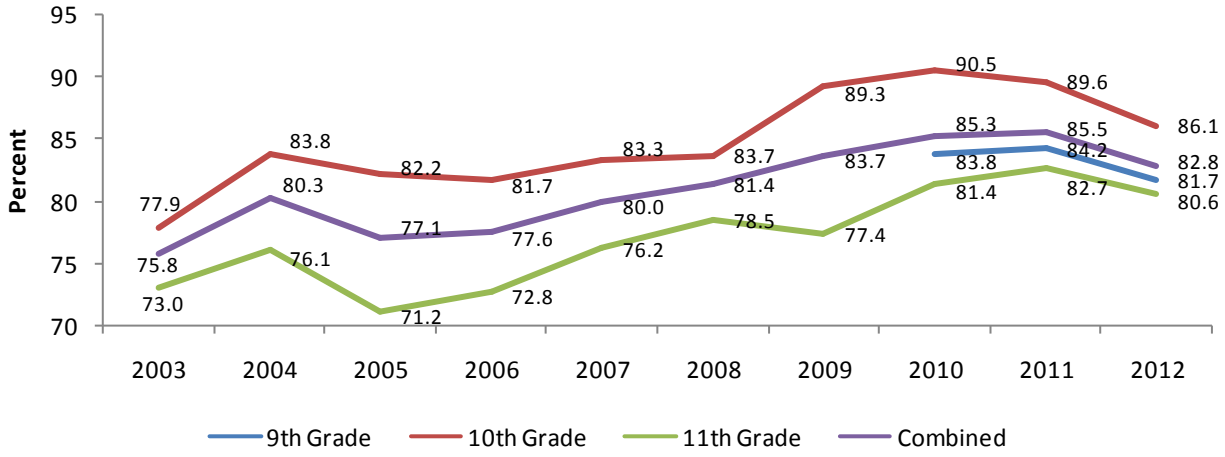
	2011			2012		
Grade	**N Enrolled**	**N Tested**	**% Tested**	**N Enrolled**	**N Tested**	**% Tested**
9th	14,623	12,312	84.2	14,680	11,992	81.7
10th	11,870	10,632	89.6	12,065	10,384	86.1
11th	11,076	9,162	82.7	10,864	8,752	80.6
Combined	37,569	32,106	85.5	37,609	31,128	82.8

*****_Enrollment data reflect PEIMS resubmission._

- The level of participation for all grade levels decreased from 2011 to 2012. Freshmen participation decreased from 84.2 percent in 2011 to 81.7 percent in 2012. Sophomore participation decreased 89.6 percent in 2011 to 86.1 percent in 2012. Junior participation decreased from 82.7 percent in 2011 to 80.6 percent in 2012. The participation rate for all tested students combined decreased from 85.5 percent in 2011 to 82.8 percent in 2012, in the tenth year of the district initiative.

Figure 1 shows a ten-year trend of PSAT participation rates for freshman, sophomores, juniors, and all students combined from the fall of 2003 to the fall of 2012. From 2003 to 2009, the combined grades are grades 10 and 11, and from 2010 to 2012, the combined grades include grades 9, 10, and 11.

Figure 1: PSAT Participation Rates, 2003-2012



Participation by student groups including gender and race/ethnicity was examined for the past two administrations of the PSAT. The results of this analysis, including the number of students enrolled, and the percent of students who participated, are provided in **Tables 2 and 3**.

Table 2: PSAT Participation Rates of HISD Freshman, Sophomores, Juniors & Combined, Fall 2011 & 2012, by Gender

	2011				2012			
	Female		Male		Female		Male	
Grade	N Enrolled	% Tested	N Enrolled	% Tested	N Enrolled	% Tested	N Enrolled	% Tested
9th	7,017	85.9	7,606	81.0	6,982	82.8	7,698	79.4
10th	5,805	90.0	6,065	88.2	6,043	86.3	6,022	84.8
11th	5,613	84.4	5,463	80.2	5,389	81.7	5,475	79.0
Combined	18,435	86.7	19,134	83.0	18,414	83.6	19,195	81.0

- Of the 18,414 females eligible to take the PSAT in 2012, 83.6 percent took the examination, compared to an 86.7 percent participation rate in the fall of 2011. Of the 19,195 males eligible to take the PSAT in 2012, 81.0 percent took the examination, a slight decrease from 83.0 percent in 2011.

Table 3: PSAT Participation Rates of HISD Freshman, Sophomores, Juniors, and Combined, Fall 2011 & 2012, by Ethnicity

	2012							
	African American		Asian American		Hispanic		White	
Grade	N Enrolled	%Tested	N Enrolled	%Tested	N Enrolled	%Tested	N Enrolled	%Tested
9th	3,919	72.2	468	91.9	8,723	77.1	1,399	65.8
10th	3,160	77.6	491	96.3	7,108	80.9	1,159	69.8
11th	2,858	71.6	419	92.6	6,318	77.4	1,132	69.2
Combined	9,937	73.8	1,378	93.7	22,149	78.4	3,690	68.1
	2011							
9th	4,033	70.0	498	90.8	8,770	78.3	1,165	74.8
10th	3,219	78.6	447	92.6	6,974	84.1	1,091	79.9
11th	3,163	73.8	410	98.0	6,349	79.1	1,012	75.9
Combined	10,415	73.8	1,355	93.6	22,093	80.4	3,268	76.8

Note: Students who did not provide ethnicity information are not included. Enrollments based on PEIMS resubmission. Rates may exceed 100% due to student self-reporting on PSAT demographic information.

- The 2012 participation rates for freshmen by race/ethnicity indicated that Asian American students had the highest participation rate with 91.9 percent testing, while White freshman had the lowest participation rate at 65.8 percent. The same trend held for sophomores and juniors, with Asian Americans showing the highest participation rate at 96.3 and 92.6 percent, respectively, while Whites had the lowest rate at 69.8 and 69.2 percent, respectively.

- When compared to 2011 participation rates, the percentage of freshman participating in 2012 improved for the Asian American and African American student groups, while participation decreased for the Hispanic and White student groups. The percentage of sophomores who participated in the 2012 PSAT increased only for Asian American students when compared to 2011 rates. The percentage of juniors participating during the fall of 2012 decreased for all student groups from the fall of 2011.

The gender composition of students that took the PSAT in the fall of 2011 and 2012 is presented in **Table 4**.

Table 4: Composition of 2011 and 2012 PSAT Takers by Gender

	N Tested		% Female		% Male	
Grade	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**
9th	12,312	11,992	48.3	48.2	50.9	51.0
10th	10,632	10,384	50.7	50.2	48.7	49.2
11th	9,162	8,752	50.1	50.3	49.4	49.4
Combined	32,106	31,128	49.6	49.5	49.7	49.9

Note: Percents may not total 100 due to "no responses."

- Of the 11,992 freshmen who took the PSAT in the fall of 2012, 48.2 percent were female and 51.0 percent were male. For sophomores, of the 10,384 taking the PSAT in the fall of 2012, 50.2 percent were female and 49.2 percent were male. For juniors participating in the 2012 PSAT, 50.3 percent were female and 49.4 percent were male. Overall, of the 31,128 students who took the PSAT in the fall of 2012, 49.5 percent were female and 49.9 percent were male.

The racial/ethnic composition of students that took the PSAT in the fall of 2011 and 2012 is presented in **Table 5**.

Table 5: Composition of PSAT Test Takers by Race/Ethnicity, Fall 2011 and 2012

	Freshmen		Sophomores		Juniors		Combined	
	2011	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**
Number Tested	12,312	11,992	10,632	10,384	9,162	8,752	32,106	31,128
% African Amer.	22.9	23.6	23.8	23.6	25.5	23.4	23.9	23.5
% Asian American	3.7	3.6	3.9	4.6	4.4	4.4	3.9	4.1
% Hispanic	55.8	56.1	55.2	55.4	54.8	55.9	55.3	55.8
% White	7.1	7.7	8.2	7.8	8.4	8.9	7.8	8.1

Note: Percents may not total 100 due to "no responses" or selection of ethnicities not included for the present analysis.

- Of the freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and combined taking the PSAT in 2012, over 50 percent of those tested were Hispanic. The African American student group made up the next largest percentage taking the PSAT, and the smallest percentages taking the 2012 PSAT were White and Asian American students. The relative composition of PSAT takers by race/ethnicity has remained fairly consistent over the past two years.

Participation by Schools

A total of 42 HISD secondary schools had students taking the fall 2012 PSAT/NMSQT. **Table 6** presents the percentages of test takers from each of these high schools that took part in the PSAT/NMSQT for the past two years.

- During the fall of 2012, 90 percent of the schools who tested freshmen had participation rates of 75 percent or higher. When comparing the participation rates from fall 2011 to the fall of 2012, it was found that of the 39 schools that tested freshman in both years, 19 schools showed improved participation rates or remained at 100 percent.

- Of the schools that tested sophomores in 2012, 90 percent had a sophomore participation rate of 75 percent or higher. When comparing the participation rates from fall 2011 to the fall of 2012, it was found that of the 40 schools that tested sophomores in both years, 17 schools showed improved participation rates or remained at 100 percent.

- In the fall of 2012, 92 percent of schools that tested juniors had a participation rate of 75 percent or higher. When comparing the participation rates from fall 2011 to the fall of 2012, it was found that out of the 38 schools who participated in both years, 18 schools showed improved participation rates for juniors or remained at 100 percent.

Table 6: PSAT Participation Rates of Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors, Fall 2011 & 2012

School	Freshmen		Sophomores		Juniors		Combined	
	2011 % Tested	2012 % Tested	2011 % Tested	2012 % Tested	2011 % Tested	2012 % Tested	2011 % Tested	2012 % Tested
Austin	93.6	91.5	90.4	91.5	97.7	90.5	93.8	91.2
Bellaire	93.1	88.9	88.4	78.1	59.2	57.1	80.7	76.5
Carnegie Vanguard	99.0	99.1	100.0	100.0	99.2	100.0	99.3	99.6
CEP/Beechnut Acad.	*	*	71.6	45.5	*	*	19.7	10.3
Challenge	97.6	98.4	97.5	98.4	99.0	98.2	98.0	98.3
Chavez	89.8	89.5	90.4	92.6	91.0	82.3	90.3	88.6
CLC HS	87.1	**	162.5	**	90.0	**	100.0	**
Davis	89.0	83.8	87.8	82.9	90.5	77.7	89.1	81.8
DeBakey	101.1	100.0	99.0	99.5	99.5	100.0	100.0	99.8
East Early College HS	100.0	98.4	100.0	99.2	91.7	97.3	97.5	98.3
Eastwood	98.1	100.0	100.0	99.1	99.0	99.0	99.0	99.4
Empowerment	97.7	105.9	100.0	94.7	97.7	100.0	98.2	98.4
Energ. for STEM Aca.	92.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	103.1	100.0	100.0	100.0
E-STEM West HS	100.0	76.0	90.0	78.8	96.4	79.6	95.9	77.6
Furr	74.5	78.6	87.6	84.7	71.5	77.1	77.5	80.4
Hope Academy	76.9	54.5	86.8	63.0	5.9	*	57.1	31.5
Houston Acad. Int'l.	97.6	98.3	99.1	100.0	98.8	100.0	98.5	99.4
Houston Math/Sci/Tec	88.7	89.2	88.4	86.9	89.9	88.9	89.0	88.3
HSLECJ	97.4	97.2	100.0	100.0	96.7	93.8	98.1	97.0
HSPVA	98.0	98.9	98.9	97.4	98.7	95.4	98.5	97.3
Jones	71.4	76.3	109.8	86.1	79.6	89.1	83.0	82.5
Jordan, Barbara	94.0	95.4	97.0	100.5	98.1	96.5	96.5	97.3
Kashmere	74.4	68.9	86.6	67.5	82.1	72.2	80.2	69.2
Lamar	93.6	92.0	92.3	91.4	89.4	89.1	92.0	90.8
Lee	75.2	89.8	91.2	92.4	92.5	94.8	85.4	92.2
Long Academy	**	97.4	**	*	**	*	**	97.4
Madison	80.0	84.6	83.5	82.6	85.1	77.1	82.7	81.8
Milby	87.7	87.2	106.7	98.6	84.4	89.6	92.4	91.4
Mt. Carmel Acad.	93.8	97.8	101.1	97.4	97.4	96.9	97.4	97.4
New Aspirations	36.0	**	38.2	**	37.9	**	37.5	**
North Houston EC	98.3	99.2	97.3	98.0	95.7	103.2	97.2	100.0
Reagan	92.2	90.9	95.9	95.9	92.3	93.5	93.5	93.2
Scarborough	89.6	88.8	78.7	79.3	88.1	87.7	85.6	85.5
Sharpstown HS	92.3	81.8	92.6	93.2	88.5	91.1	91.3	88.0
Sharpstown Internatl.	98.0	94.8	97.0	100.0	97.1	96.4	97.4	96.7
Sterling	75.6	46.3	72.8	86.1	67.9	82.5	72.6	68.0
Waltrip	88.6	90.1	95.2	90.2	87.7	90.3	90.6	90.2
Washington	81.5	76.5	75.2	89.3	85.2	82.6	80.6	82.0
Westbury	87.0	83.7	92.9	92.6	87.5	87.9	89.1	88.0
Westside	90.9	90.0	93.8	93.0	86.7	82.3	90.6	88.4
Wheatley	64.0	73.1	81.3	74.9	69.6	74.5	70.9	74.1
Worthing	87.5	76.7	80.8	81.5	79.2	78.9	83.0	78.8
Yates	77.2	81.9	86.7	83.3	82.2	91.2	81.6	84.9
Young Men's Coll Prep	**	100.0	**	100.0	**	*	**	100.0
Young Women's Coll Prep	**	94.9	**	96.8	**	*	**	95.9
HISD	**84.2**	**81.7**	**89.6**	**86.1**	**82.7**	**80.6**	**85.5**	**82.8**

**Campus did not test at indicated grade level. ** No test data for campus.*
Note: Participation rates greater than 100 are a result of comparing the testing file to the Fall PEIMS snapshot enrollment file.

Student Mean Performance

In the following sections, the performance of both HISD sophomores and juniors was compared to those for the state of Texas and for the nation for 2011 and 2012. Also, the performance of the individual grade levels tested, as well as the grades combined, was analyzed for the same time period. Data were presented in terms of district-wide and school-level performance, and by mean score for each section: reading, mathematics, and writing. Results were disaggregated by student groups for the district-wide results. Ten year trend data are shown in **Appendix A**.

HISD, Texas, and the Nation

Results from the PSAT/NMSQT for HISD sophomores and juniors compared with their statewide and nationwide counterparts for 2011 and 2012 administrations are presented in **Figures 2 and 3**. The College Board does not provide state or national data for freshmen.

Figure 2: Mean PSAT Scores of 10th Grade Students in HISD, Texas, and the Nation, Fall 2011 and 2012

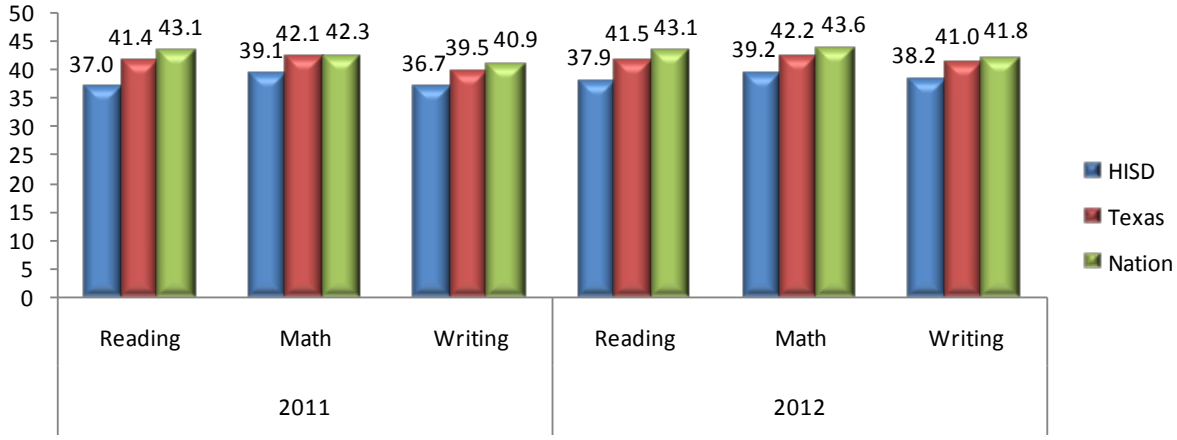
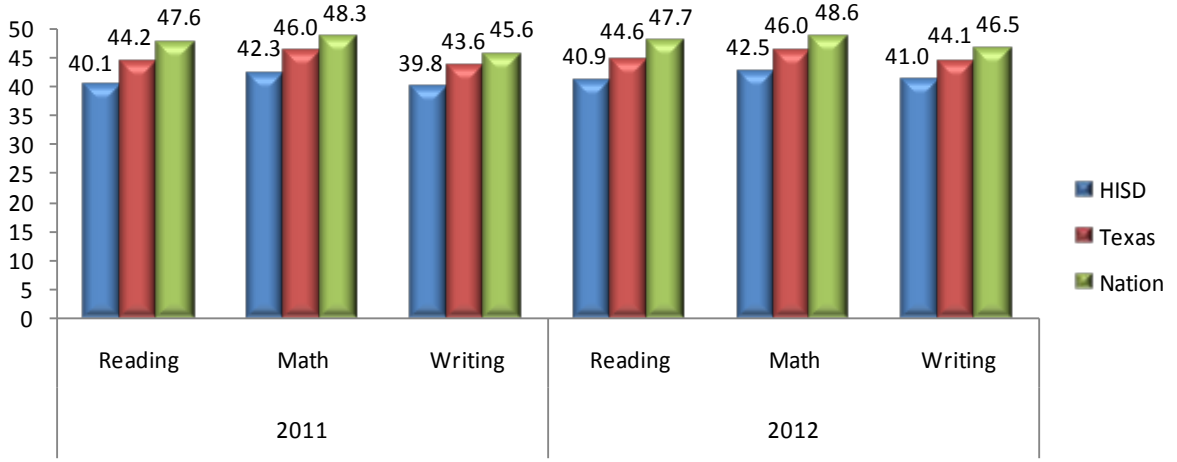


Figure 3: Mean PSAT Scores of 11th Grade Students in HISD, Texas, and the Nation, Fall 2011 and 2012



- When comparing the performance of HISD sophomores from 2011 to 2012, the mean reading and mathematics scores increased by 0.9 and .1 points, respectively. The mean writing score went up 1.5 points. Scores for sophomores in the state of Texas increased in all testing subjects over the same time period. Likewise, the national average scores for sophomores increased in mathematics and writing. Since the fall of 2011, HISD sophomores have narrowed the gap between their performance and that of their state counterparts in all subjects. Nationally, HISD sophomores narrowed the performance gap in all subjects but mathematics from 2011 to 2012.

- The average performance of HISD juniors in the fall of 2012 increased 0.8 points in reading from 2011, increased .2 points in mathematics, and up 1.2 in writing. Scores for juniors in the state of Texas increased in reading and writing, and nationally, increased in all testing subjects. Since the fall of 2011, HISD juniors have narrowed the gap between their performance and that of their state counterparts in all subjects. Nationally, HISD juniors narrowed the performance gap in reading and writing from 2011 to 2012.

District-wide Performance by PSAT Mean Score

Analysis of district-wide performance focused on the performance of freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and the combined performance of these three groups for 2011 and 2012. Results from the 2011and 2012 PSAT/NMSQT are presented in **Table 8**. The averages of student reading, mathematics, and writing scores were calculated and analyzed to describe the performance of specific student groups.

Table 8: PSAT Mean Reading, Math, and Writing Scores by Student Group: Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, & Combined, Fall 2011 & 2012

	2012											
	Freshmen			Sophomores			Juniors			Combined		
Student Group	Reading	Math	Writing	Reading	Math	Writing	Reading	Math	Writing	Reading	Math	Writing
All	36.2	36.9	36.3	37.9	39.2	38.2	40.9	42.5	41.0	38.1	39.2	38.2
Afr. Amer.	35.3	34.9	34.9	36.5	36.8	36.5	38.9	39.3	38.5	36.7	36.8	36.5
As. Amer.	46.0	48.8	44.8	47.0	51.4	45.7	52.4	57.1	51.9	48.3	52.2	47.2
Hispanic	35.1	36.2	35.5	36.4	38.2	37.1	39.1	41.2	39.5	36.6	38.3	37.1
White	44.7	44.4	44.4	48.7	48.5	48.6	52.3	52.8	52.1	48.3	48.3	48.1
Female	36.5	36.8	37.3	38.3	39.1	39.2	41.2	42.3	42.0	38.5	39.2	39.3
Male	36.0	36.9	35.3	37.6	39.3	37.2	40.5	42.6	39.9	37.8	39.3	37.2
	2011											
All	34.7	36.1	35.0	37.0	39.1	36.7	40.1	42.3	39.8	37.0	38.9	36.9
Afr. Amer.	34.2	34.2	34.2	35.6	36.3	35.3	38.5	39.3	38.2	35.9	36.4	35.8
As. Amer.	44.7	48.2	43.0	47.2	52.2	46.3	49.0	55.4	48.5	46.9	51.8	45.8
Hispanic	33.4	35.4	34.1	35.3	38.2	35.3	38.3	41.1	38.3	35.4	38.0	35.7
White	45.3	44.6	43.3	49.1	48.8	46.6	52.4	53.6	50.2	48.8	48.8	46.6
Female	35.6	36.1	35.9	37.9	39.0	37.8	40.8	42.1	40.8	37.9	38.8	38.0
Male	34.0	36.2	34.1	36.2	39.2	35.7	39.3	42.6	38.8	36.2	39.0	35.9

- In the fall of 2012, Asian American freshmen and juniors reported the highest average mean scores on the reading test at 46.0 and 52.4 percent, while White sophomores recorded the highest average mean score on the reading test at 48.7 percent. Asian American freshmen, sophomores, and juniors reported the highest average mean scores on the math test at 48.8, 51.4, and 57.1 percent. Regarding the writing test, Asian American freshman reported the highest average mean score at 44.8 percent, while White sophomores and juniors recorded the highest average mean score at 48.6 and 52.1 percent.

- When compared to 2011, PSAT results for the all students group showed increases at every grade in every subject. African American and Hispanic students at all grade levels remained constant or reported an increase in each testing field. Asian American freshmen and sophomores reported increased in each testing field, while Asian American sophomores' mean averages decreased in each testing field. The mean averages of White students for all grade levels decreased from 2011 to 2012 on the reading and math portions, while increasing for writing.

- Male and female students for each grade level remained the same or showed increases in average PSAT scores from 2011 to 2012 for each testing field.

The fall 2012 PSAT mean scores for the reading, mathematics, and writing sections were also examined to determine the relationship between the performances of student ethnic groups and gender. Specifically, the interactions between student racial/ethnic groups, African American, Asian, Hispanic, and White with gender were examined. These results are presented in **Appendix B.**

The fall 2012 PSAT mean scores for the reading, mathematics, and writing sections were also examined to determine the relationship between the performances of student groups. Specifically, the achievement gap between minority student groups, Hispanic and African American students, and their White cohorts was examined. The district-wide differences in mean scores were calculated for freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and those grades combined for 2011 and 2012. These results are presented in **Table 10.**

Table 10: PSAT Mean Score Achievement Gap for Reading, Math, and Writing: Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, & Combined, Fall 2011 & 2012

	Freshmen			Sophomores			Juniors			Combined		
2012												
	Reading	**Math**	**Writing**	**Reading**	**Math**	**Writing**	**Reading**	**Math**	**Writing**	**Reading**	**Math**	**Writing**
Afr. Amer - White	-9.4	-9.5	-9.5	-12.2	-11.7	-12.1	-13.4	-13.5	-13.6	-11.6	-11.5	-11.6
Hispanic - White	-9.6	-8.2	-8.9	-12.3	-10.3	-11.5	-13.2	-11.6	-12.6	-11.7	-10.0	-11.0
2011												
Afr. Amer - White	-11.1	-10.4	-9.1	-13.5	-12.5	-11.3	-13.9	-14.3	-12.0	-12.9	-12.4	-10.8
Hispanic - White	-11.9	-9.2	-9.2	-13.8	-10.6	-11.3	-14.1	-12.5	-11.9	-13.4	-10.8	-10.9

- In fall 2012, the largest achievement gap for freshmen was between White and Hispanic students on the reading PSAT at -9.6 points. On the mathematics section, the largest achievement gap was -9.5 between White and African American students, and in writing the largest gap for freshmen was between White and African American students at -9.5 points. From 2011 to 2012, the PSAT achievement gaps for freshmen decreased in writing for White and Hispanic students, and decreased for both groups in reading and mathematics.

- In fall 2012, the largest achievement gap between White sophomores and their minority cohorts on the reading PSAT was -12.3 between White and Hispanic students. On the mathematics section, the largest achievement gap was -11.7 between White and African American students. On the writing section, the largest achievement gap was -12.1 between White and African American students. From 2011 to 2012, the achievement gaps between White student performance and minority student performance for sophomores decreased on all sections of the PSAT except for writing.

- The results of the analysis of the achievement gaps between juniors indicated that the largest mean differences in PSAT scores were between White and African American students for writing at -13.6 and math at -13.5. From 2011 to 2012, the achievement gaps between White student performance and minority student performance increased in writing and decreased in reading and mathematics.

School Performance by Mean Score

Analysis of school-level results focused on the performance of freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and the combined performance of these three groups for 2011 and 2012. Results from the 2011 and 2012 PSAT/NMSQT are presented in **Tables 11–14**. The averages of student reading, mathematics, and writing scores were calculated and analyzed to describe student performance.

- For the fall 2012 test administration, the highest mean reading, mathematics, and writing scores were recorded by freshmen at Carnegie Vanguard High School at 51.3, 52.0, and 52.1 points, respectively (**Table 11**).

- When comparing performance at each school from 2011 to 2012, it was found that of the 39 campuses that tested freshmen in both years, 33 campuses (85 percent) showed improved mean reading performance, 26 schools (67 percent) exhibited improved performance in mathematics, and 34 campuses (87 percent) displayed improved mean scores in writing (**Table 11**).

- For the fall 2012 test administration, the highest mean reading, mathematics, and writing scores were recorded by sophomores at Carnegie Vanguard High School at 59.0, 59.3, and 57.6 points, respectively (**Table 12**).

- When comparing performance at each school from 2011 to 2012, it was found that of the 40 campuses that tested sophomores in both years, 26 campuses (65 percent) showed improved mean reading performance, 17 schools (43 percent) improved in mean mathematics performance, and 35 campuses (88 percent) showed improved mean scores in writing (**Table 12**).

- For the fall 2012 test administration, the highest mean reading and writing scores of juniors were reported by students at Carnegie Vanguard High School, with 62.4 and 60.2, respectively. The highest mean mathematics score was achieved by juniors at DeBakey High School for Health Professions at 62.9 (**Table 13**).

- When comparing junior performance from the fall of 2011 to the fall of 2012, it was found that for the 38 campuses with results for both years, 23 campuses (61 percent) showed an improvement in reading scores, 18 campuses (47 percent) showed an increase in mathematics scores, and 26 campuses (68 percent) showed improvement in writing scores (**Table 13**).

- When comparing overall performance from the fall of 2011 to the fall of 2012, it was found that for the 40 campuses with results for both years, 35 campuses (88 percent) showed an improvement in reading scores, 24 campuses (60 percent) showed an increase in mathematics scores, and 33campuses (83 percent) showed improvement in writing scores (**Table 14**).

Table 11: PSAT Mean Reading, Math, and Writing Scores by School: Freshmen, Fall 2011 & 2012

	Reading		Math		Writing	
School	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**
Austin	30.6	32.6	33.0	34.2	31.3	33.1
Bellaire	39.7	41.0	40.1	41.4	38.9	40.9
Carnegie Vanguard	52.6	51.3	53.2	52.0	49.8	52.1
Challenge	42.9	42.0	44.0	43.8	43.4	43.0
Chavez	32.6	34.2	34.9	35.8	33.1	35.0
CLC HS	30.6	**	33.1	**	32.4	**
Davis	32.0	33.9	33.6	34.3	32.9	34.4
DeBakey	47.6	49.1	51.6	51.4	47.0	48.7
East Early College	40.2	41.1	43.4	45.0	40.7	42.4
Eastwood	36.8	40.0	39.1	43.0	37.7	41.1
Empowerment	35.3	35.1	34.3	35.6	34.5	37.2
Ener. for STEM Aca.	38.2	36.8	35.8	38.4	35.1	35.6
E-STEM West HS	32.0	34.3	35.8	38.1	35.0	35.1
Furr	31.7	33.7	33.9	34.8	32.7	33.9
Hope Academy	29.8	32.7	38.8	30.0	30.0	25.0
Houston Acad. Int'l	37.9	39.9	38.8	39.4	38.6	41.4
Houston M/S/T	30.9	32.7	33.4	32.6	32.0	32.3
HSLECJ	37.8	37.9	38.1	38.5	37.9	38.6
HSPVA	46.6	46.9	44.9	46.2	45.2	47.6
Jones	31.9	31.6	33.0	31.9	31.7	29.8
Jordan, Barbara	34.8	35.6	36.1	37.1	35.3	35.9
Kashmere	30.2	32.1	30.9	30.5	30.4	31.0
Lamar	39.7	39.5	39.8	39.8	39.2	39.4
Lee	31.2	32.6	33.3	33.4	31.6	32.5
Long Academy	**	35.6	**	38.2	**	36.7
Madison	30.9	33.7	32.3	33.7	31.5	33.2
Milby	31.6	33.5	33.9	35.2	32.2	32.9
Mount Carmel Acad.	35.8	37.8	35.0	36.7	35.7	37.7
New Aspirations	31.8	**	35.2	**	33.1	**
North Houston EC	36.2	36.9	39.4	39.4	38.1	38.1
Reagan	34.1	36.1	35.4	37.3	34.3	36.7
Scarborough	32.9	33.1	33.6	32.9	32.4	33.3
Sharpstown HS	30.2	32.7	32.7	33.6	31.3	32.4
Sharpstown Internatl.	32.6	35.0	33.7	37.1	33.6	36.1
Sterling	31.0	32.0	32.4	31.3	31.0	31.9
Waltrip	33.9	34.8	35.4	36.0	34.2	35.4
Washington	33.2	33.8	33.8	33.9	32.9	32.7
Westbury	32.1	33.9	33.1	32.8	32.7	33.0
Westside	37.4	38.6	37.2	38.6	36.9	38.4
Wheatley	30.2	31.9	31.4	30.9	31.2	31.4
Worthing	30.2	32.2	31.3	32.0	31.0	32.3
Yates	31.7	34.4	32.0	33.1	32.3	33.0
Young Men's Coll Prep	**	41.4	**	42.4	**	36.3
Young Women's Coll Prep	**	37.2	**	38.4	**	38.7
HISD	**34.7**	**36.2**	**36.1**	**36.9**	**35.0**	**36.3**

** Fewer than 5 tested.*
*** No test data for campus*

Table 12: PSAT Mean Reading, Math, and Writing Scores by School: Sophomores, Fall 2011 & 2012

	Reading		Math		Writing	
School	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**
Austin	32.6	33.8	36.5	36.3	32.3	33.7
Bellaire	43.6	44.7	45.4	45.7	43.2	44.7
Carnegie Vanguard	56.7	59.0	57.1	59.3	53.4	57.6
CEP/Beechnut Acad.	30.4	32.7	34.2	32.1	32.4	31.8
Challenge	46.3	45.9	47.3	48.1	45.6	47.0
Chavez	34.6	36.1	37.9	38.8	34.8	37.2
CLC HS	34.0	**	34.7	**	32.6	**
Davis	32.7	35.6	35.6	38.1	33.4	35.8
DeBakey	52.7	53.1	58.3	57.2	51.8	52.9
East Early College	42.7	42.0	46.6	47.2	43.1	45.1
Eastwood	40.5	40.3	43.7	43.5	41.2	40.5
Empowerment	38.9	37.9	39.9	37.7	36.8	38.5
Ener. for STEM Aca.	37.8	32.5	39.6	37.0	36.5	33.5
E-STEM West HS	31.6	34.4	38.5	39.0	34.5	36.5
Furr	33.4	34.8	36.0	36.4	34.1	35.1
Hope Academy	30.8	30.8	30.7	31.0	29.8	29.1
Houston Acad. Int'l	41.3	40.6	42.8	42.0	39.3	41.2
Houston M/S/T	32.4	34.1	35.8	35.8	32.7	34.2
HSLECJ	40.7	39.9	40.8	40.3	39.6	40.3
HSPVA	51.7	50.0	49.6	49.6	49.4	50.7
Jones	31.0	33.8	34.2	34.2	32.2	33.1
Jordan, Barbara	34.6	37.2	37.1	39.3	34.7	38.1
Kashmere	30.2	32.9	32.1	32.2	30.9	32.0
Lamar	43.5	42.6	43.7	42.8	41.5	42.9
Lee	32.7	34.0	35.6	35.0	32.2	34.2
Madison	32.8	33.4	34.9	34.2	32.5	33.0
Milby	33.6	34.3	36.1	36.8	33.1	34.8
Mount Carmel Acad.	37.3	39.2	37.6	35.9	36.8	38.5
New Aspirations	30.5	**	34.9	**	30.8	**
North Houston EC	40.9	40.7	44.2	44.2	41.1	42.1
Reagan	36.7	37.0	38.5	37.7	36.3	37.6
Scarborough	31.8	34.9	35.0	35.5	32.1	35.6
Sharpstown HS	31.5	33.3	35.8	35.1	32.8	32.9
Sharpstown Internatl.	33.4	35.6	36.9	38.5	33.7	37.0
Sterling	33.9	33.1	35.6	32.1	33.3	32.1
Waltrip	35.3	36.4	37.4	37.3	35.9	36.8
Washington	33.2	34.7	35.5	36.0	33.3	34.8
Westbury	32.6	34.1	33.8	34.7	33.0	34.2
Westside	41.1	40.7	41.4	41.0	39.4	40.6
Wheatley	32.6	33.5	34.1	33.2	31.9	32.3
Worthing	32.7	32.7	33.2	33.1	32.3	33.2
Yates	32.4	34.1	33.7	34.0	33.4	34.3
Young Men's Coll Prep	**	38.0	**	44.6	**	38.7
Young Women's Coll Prep	**	40.6	**	40.2	**	40.8
HISD	**37.0**	**37.9**	**39.1**	**39.2**	**36.7**	**38.2**

** Fewer than 5 tested.*
*** No test data for campus.*

Table 13: PSAT Mean Reading, Math, and Writing Scores by School: Juniors, Fall 2011 & 2012

	Reading		Math		Writing	
School	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**
Austin	35.4	36.4	38.6	39.5	35.4	37.0
Bellaire	52.4	52.2	55.0	54.9	52.1	52.5
Carnegie Vanguard	59.5	62.4	60.7	62.1	57.0	60.2
Challenge	49.4	49.0	49.7	50.0	48.7	49.7
Chavez	36.8	37.5	39.4	40.9	36.7	38.5
CLC HS	34.1	**	37.0	**	37.9	**
Davis	34.8	36.9	39.1	39.3	35.3	36.9
DeBakey	55.3	57.8	63.5	62.9	56.3	58.6
East Early College	45.9	46.5	50.4	51.1	47.5	48.2
Eastwood	44.0	44.9	46.4	47.7	42.9	45.4
Empowerment	45.2	43.2	46.4	48.9	45.2	45.0
Ener. for STEM Aca.	39.5	41.5	42.2	41.8	40.0	40.8
E-STEM West HS	35.5	34.8	40.0	39.0	35.3	37.3
Furr	34.6	35.9	36.9	38.0	35.2	35.9
Hope Academy	32.7	**	31.3	**	32.0	**
Houston Acad. Int'l	46.6	46.1	46.5	45.8	45.4	45.3
Houston, M/S/T	33.9	36.0	36.7	38.0	34.4	36.8
HSLECJ	42.1	44.0	43.5	44.6	42.1	43.7
HSPVA	54.2	55.1	53.0	54.6	52.3	55.6
Jones	34.3	33.2	34.4	35.8	33.4	32.9
Jordan, Barbara	36.7	36.9	39.2	40.2	37.6	37.4
Kashmere	32.6	33.8	34.0	34.0	33.7	32.4
Lamar	46.6	46.5	47.2	46.8	44.5	46.1
Lee	34.5	35.3	37.9	37.4	33.9	35.5
Madison	36.0	35.3	38.2	36.6	35.6	35.2
Milby	37.6	36.8	39.2	39.0	37.5	36.8
Mt. Carmel Academy	42.2	41.8	42.0	42.3	41.3	42.0
New Aspirations	37.6	**	35.0	**	36.5	**
North Early College	44.8	44.0	50.4	47.8	45.5	43.6
Reagan	39.4	40.2	42.6	41.4	39.6	39.9
Scarborough	35.4	35.9	38.1	37.1	35.4	35.2
Sharpstown HS	35.8	35.6	39.3	38.8	36.2	35.9
Sharpstown Internatl.	36.7	39.1	40.6	41.0	37.5	39.8
Sterling	35.7	34.9	37.1	34.7	35.6	35.0
Waltrip	39.4	40.1	41.2	40.2	39.9	39.6
Washington	36.2	37.5	37.4	40.4	35.4	37.3
Westbury	36.9	36.2	37.0	36.8	36.4	37.0
Westside	45.2	45.8	46.8	46.1	43.2	44.7
Wheatley	32.5	34.7	35.4	35.5	32.7	34.6
Worthing	34.8	34.8	35.4	35.1	34.1	34.4
Yates	34.9	36.3	35.7	35.4	34.7	35.9
HISD	**40.1**	**40.9**	**42.3**	**42.5**	**39.8**	**41.0**

** Fewer than 5 students tested.*
*** No test data for campus.*

Table 14: PSAT Mean Reading, Math, and Writing Scores by School: Combined Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors 2011 & 2012

	Reading		Math		Writing	
School	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**
Austin	32.7	34.0	35.8	36.3	32.9	34.4
Bellaire	44.1	44.6	45.5	45.7	43.5	44.6
Carnegie Vanguard	55.7	56.3	56.3	56.7	52.8	55.7
CEP/Beechnut Acad.	30.4	32.7	34.2	32.1	32.4	31.8
Challenge	46.0	45.5	46.8	47.2	45.8	46.4
Chavez	34.3	35.7	37.0	38.1	34.6	36.7
CLC HS	32.1	**	34.3	**	33.5	**
Davis	33.1	35.3	35.8	36.9	33.8	35.5
DeBakey	51.5	52.8	57.2	56.5	51.2	52.9
East Early College	42.7	43.0	46.5	47.6	43.4	45.1
Eastwood	40.4	41.7	43.1	44.7	40.6	42.2
Empowerment	40.0	37.9	40.3	38.7	39.2	39.0
Energ. for STEM Aca.	38.7	37.2	40.2	39.2	37.9	36.8
E-STEM West HS	32.4	34.4	37.3	38.5	34.9	36.0
Furr	32.9	34.7	35.3	36.2	33.7	34.9
Hope Academy	30.4	31.3	30.3	30.7	30.0	28.0
Houston Acad. Int'l	41.4	41.9	42.3	42.2	40.7	42.5
Houston M/S/T	32.3	34.1	35.2	35.2	33.0	34.2
HSLECJ	40.0	40.3	40.6	40.8	39.7	40.6
HSPVA	50.5	50.5	48.8	50.0	48.6	51.1
Jones	32.2	32.8	33.7	33.7	32.3	31.7
Jordan, Barbara	35.5	36.5	37.6	38.8	36.0	37.1
Kashmere	30.9	32.8	32.2	31.9	31.5	31.7
Lamar	42.9	43.0	43.2	43.3	41.4	42.9
Lee	32.8	33.9	35.6	35.1	32.6	34.0
Madison	33.2	34.0	35.0	34.6	33.1	33.7
Milby	33.8	34.7	36.1	36.8	33.9	34.7
Mt. Carmel Academy	38.2	39.6	37.9	38.5	37.7	39.5
New Aspirations	33.2	**	35.0	**	33.3	**
North Houston EC	40.3	40.3	44.2	43.6	41.2	41.1
Reagan	36.5	37.6	38.5	38.6	36.5	38.0
Scarborough	33.3	34.3	35.4	34.7	33.3	34.5
Sharpstown HS	32.2	33.7	35.6	35.5	33.2	33.5
Sharpstown Internatl.	34.0	36.3	36.6	38.6	34.6	37.4
Sterling	33.1	33.4	34.6	32.7	32.9	33.0
Waltrip	35.9	37.0	37.8	37.7	36.4	37.2
Washington	34.2	35.1	35.5	36.4	33.9	34.7
Westbury	33.6	34.7	34.4	34.6	33.8	34.6
Westside	40.9	41.5	41.4	41.7	39.6	41.1
Wheatley	31.7	33.3	33.4	33.0	31.9	32.6
Worthing	32.3	33.0	33.0	33.1	32.3	33.2
Yates	32.9	34.9	33.6	34.0	33.3	34.2
Young Men's Coll Prep	**	39.6	**	43.6	**	37.6
Young Women's Coll Prep	**	39.0	**	39.4	**	39.8
HISD	**37.0**	**38.1**	**38.9**	**39.2**	**36.9**	**38.2**

** Fewer than 5 students tested.*
*** No test data for campus.*

College Readiness Benchmark Performance

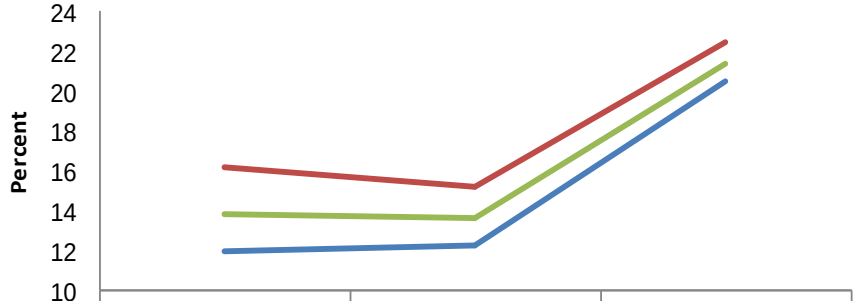
The College Readiness Benchmark has been added to PSAT/NMSQT reporting to help educators have a better understanding of which students are on track to have the skills necessary for success in college. The PSAT/NMSQT College Readiness Benchmark was developed based on the SAT College Readiness Index, which was computed as part of an SAT validity study. This year, the methodology for calculating the PSAT/NMSQT changed so that it parallels the calculation for SAT college readiness benchmarks. For both sophomores and juniors, the PSAT/NMSQT benchmarks are the scores associated with a 65-percent likelihood of achieving a first year college grade point average of 2.67 or higher. The score needed for juniors has been identified as a combined score (reading, mathematics, and writing) of 142, and the combined score for sophomores is 133. Currently, there is no benchmark score for freshmen. For 2010 and 2011, the College Board College Readiness Benchmark for sophomores was a combined score of 145, and the benchmark for juniors was 152. The 2011 and 2012 PSAT performance of sophomores, juniors, and combined grade levels was evaluated in terms of the College Board College Readiness Benchmark, and results for each campus are presented in **Table 15**.

- In 2012, the percentage of sophomores in Texas meeting the College Board College Readiness Benchmark was 34.2, compared to the nation at 41.3 percent. Seven HISD campuses exceeded the state's percentage meeting this standard, and six campuses exceeded the nation's percentage meeting the college readiness benchmark.

- The percentage of juniors meeting the College Board Readiness Benchmark in 2012 was 36.5 for Texas and 49.0 for the nation. Nine campuses had higher percentages of students meeting the benchmark than the state, and six campuses exceeded the nation's percentage meeting the benchmark.

Figure 4 shows the percent of students who met the College Readiness Benchmark, according to the standards the College Board set for the specified year.

Figure 4: Percent Meeting College Readiness Benchmark*, 2010-2012



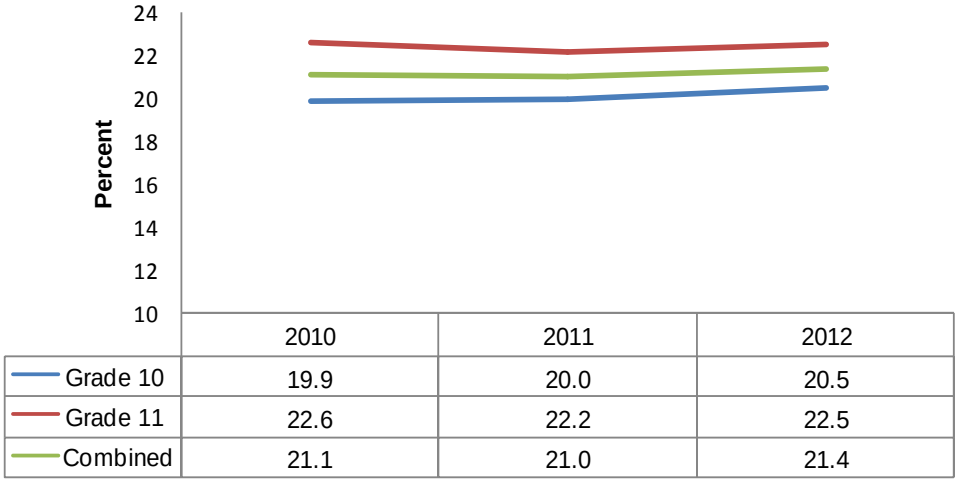
	2010	2011	2012
Grade 10	11.9	12.2	20.5
Grade 11	16.2	15.2	22.5
Combined	13.8	13.6	21.4

Percentages meeting the benchmarks published for that year are shown.

- The percentage of students in combined grades 10 and 11 meeting the College Board Readiness Benchmark jumped from 13.6 in 2011 to 21.4 in 2012. This increase is largely due to the lower standards set in 2012.

Figure 5 shows the percent of students who would have met the College Readiness Benchmark, according to the 2012 standards, had the 2012 standards been applied in 2010 and 2011.

Figure 5: Percent Meeting College Readiness Benchmark, Using 2012 Standards* 2010-2012



	2010	2011	2012
Grade 10	19.9	20.0	20.5
Grade 11	22.6	22.2	22.5
Combined	21.1	21.0	21.4

Percentages recalculated for comparison purposes to 2012 standards.

- The percentage of combined 10th and 11th graders who met the College Readiness Benchmark, according to the 2012 standards, has increased slightly over the past three years from 21.1 in 2010 to 21.4 in 2012.

Table 15: Percent of Sophomores and Juniors Meeting College Readiness Benchmark, Fall 2011 & 2012

	Sophomores		Juniors		Combined	
School	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**
Austin	0.9	4.6	2.6	4.1	1.8	4.4
Bellaire	33.6	49.2	56.2	69.2	42.6	57.0
Carnegie Vanguard	79.8	98.7	89.9	97.2	84.8	98.1
CEP/Beechnut Acad.	0.0	0.0	**	**	0.0	0.0
Challenge	34.8	65.8	38.8	63.0	36.7	64.5
Chavez	2.5	14.0	3.2	11.0	2.9	12.8
CLC HS	0.0	***	22.2	***	9.1	***
Davis	3.1	9.2	3.6	8.4	3.3	8.8
DeBakey	77.1	93.7	85.4	95.7	81.2	94.6
East Early College	26.0	50.4	32.3	56.5	28.8	53.2
Eastwood	18.8	27.3	17.3	40.6	18.0	33.5
Empowerment	4.8	19.4	20.9	22.2	15.6	20.0
Ener. for STEM Aca.	7.7	0.0	9.1	21.4	8.5	12.0
Ener. STEM West	0.0	9.8	0.0	5.1	0.0	7.5
Furr	2.9	7.1	0.8	7.6	2.0	7.3
Hope Academy	0.0	0.0	*	**	0.0	0.0
Houston Acad. Int'l	15.5	23.5	22.6	38.8	18.5	30.4
Houston M/S/T	1.0	5.3	1.4	3.3	1.2	4.4
HSLECJ	15.4	18.1	12.7	25.4	14.2	21.7
HSPVA	55.6	75.7	60.3	77.0	57.7	76.3
Jones	0.9	3.4	3.7	1.2	2.1	2.5
Jordan, Barbara	2.2	8.8	3.5	7.3	2.9	8.0
Kashmere	0.0	2.4	1.0	1.4	0.5	1.9
Lamar	26.0	38.2	28.8	41.7	27.2	39.9
Lee	2.3	6.2	1.1	5.5	1.7	5.9
Madison	2.6	2.7	2.3	5.2	2.4	3.8
Milby	1.0	6.4	2.9	5.6	1.8	6.0
Mount Carmel Ac.	5.3	17.6	9.5	16.0	7.1	16.7
New Aspirations	0.0	***	4.5	***	2.1	***
North Houston EC	16.4	29.0	22.7	35.7	19.2	32.3
Reagan	5.8	14.6	8.8	14.3	7.1	14.5
Scarborough	0.0	8.0	3.5	4.4	1.8	6.3
Sharpstown HS	1.8	4.7	3.7	7.2	2.7	5.7
Sharpstown Internatl.	1.5	8.9	4.0	10.2	2.6	9.5
Sterling	1.9	3.2	2.0	1.2	2.0	2.3
Waltrip	5.7	11.4	9.0	12.9	7.1	12.2
Washington	5.1	7.4	5.2	12.9	5.1	9.9
Westbury	1.3	4.4	3.3	5.1	2.2	4.7
Westside	18.8	30.0	27.3	38.0	22.7	33.9
Wheatley	1.5	3.7	0.0	2.1	0.9	3.0
Worthing	2.2	5.1	2.6	8.0	2.4	6.4
Yates	0.5	2.6	1.1	3.0	0.8	2.8
Young Men's Coll Prep	***	23.8	***	**	***	23.8
Young Women's Coll Prep	***	19.7	***	**	***	19.7
HISD	**12.2**	**20.5**	**15.2**	**22.5**	**13.6**	**21.4**
Texas	**20.6**	**34.2**	**25.9**	**36.5**	**N/A**	**N/A**
Nation	**27.7**	**41.3**	**37.0**	**49.0**	**N/A**	**N/A**

** Fewer than 5 tested. ** Tested only one of the grades.*
**** No test data for campus.*

Eighth-Grade ReadiStep Assessment

Administration and Scoring

The ReadiStep assessment from the College Board is a low-stakes middle school assessment which serves as the first step on the "College Readiness Pathway" preparing students for the PSAT/NMSQT and for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). In addition, the ReadiStep can be used to provide information on achievement gaps to educators so that they may help students graduate from high school college-ready. Like the PSAT/NMSQT and SAT, the ReadiStep has three sections: critical reading, mathematics, and writing skills.

New to 2012–13, ReadiStep scores are reported on a scale of 1.0 to 7.0, in increments of 0.1. Previously, ReadiStep scores were reported on a scale of 2.0 to 8.0, in increments of 0.2. This revised scale is related directly to the PSAT/NMSQT and SAT score scales, so ReadiStep scores can now be interpreted in relation to those programs. For example, a score of 4.0 on ReadiStep is like a 40 on the PSAT/NMSQT.

District-wide Results

The third administration of the ReadiStep in HISD took place in October and November of 2012. The results of the ReadiStep are provided below for the fall 2012 administration. A total of 10,353 eighth graders took the ReadiStep in the fall of 2012. **Table 16** provides results for HISD eighth graders for the 2011 and 2012 administration. Note that the scoring scales are different for the two years, so direct comparison across years cannot be made.

Table 16: ReadiStep Performance of HISD Eighth Graders, Fall 2011 & 2012

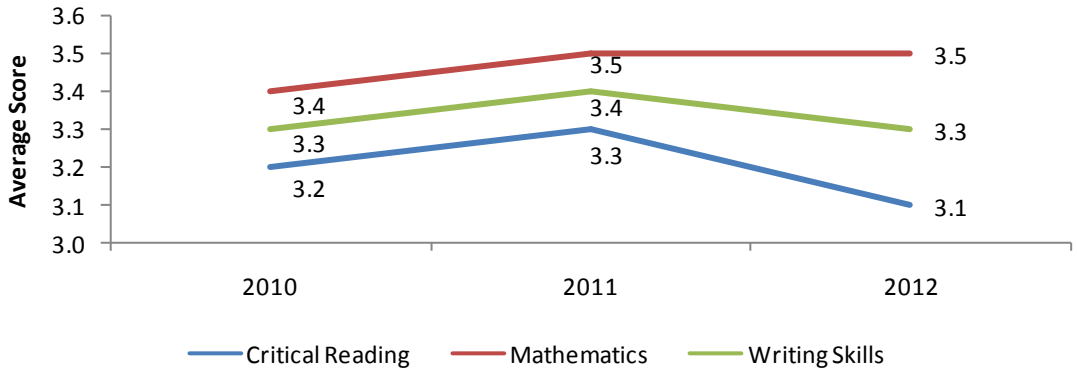
	2012	
Subject	**Mean Score**	**National Percentile**
Critical Reading	3.1	N/A*
Mathematics	3.5	N/A*
Writing Skills	3.3	N/A*
	2011	
Critical Reading	4.3	18
Mathematics	4.9	38
Writing Skills	4.8	38

**N/A: Not available as of the date this report was published.*
Scale changed from 2 to 8 in 2011 to 1 to 7 in 2012.

- For the ReadiStep assessment, scores are reported on a scale of 1–7. On the 2012 administration of the ReadiStep, HISD students scored an average of 3.1 in critical reading, 3.3 in writing skills, and 3.5 in mathematics.

Figure 6 shows the average ReadiStep scores for all students for 2010–2012, according to the 2012 scale conversion, had the 2012 scale scores been applied in 2010 and 2011.

Figure 6: Average ReadiStep Scores for All Students, Using 2012 Scale Conversion, 2010-2012



- The average critical reading score, according to the 2012 standards, has decreased slightly over the past three years from 3.2 in 2010 to 3.1 in 2012. The average math score has increased from 3.4 in 2010 to 3.5 in 2012, and the average writing skills score has remained the same at 3.3 over the three years.

Student Group Performance

The averages of student reading, mathematics, and writing scores were calculated and analyzed to describe the performance of specific student groups on the fall 2011 and fall 2012 ReadiStep assessment. Those results are presented in **Table 17.**

Table 17: ReadiStep Mean Scores by Student Group, Fall 2011 & 2012

	2012		
Student Group	**Reading**	**Math**	**Writing**
All	3.1	3.5	3.3
African American	3.0	3.3	3.2
Asian American	4.1	4.8	4.3
Hispanic	3.0	3.4	3.2
White	4.2	4.4	4.3
Female	3.2	3.5	3.4
Male	3.1	3.5	3.3
	2011		
All	4.3	4.9	4.8
African American	4.2	4.7	4.7
Asian American	5.4	6.2	5.8
Hispanic	4.1	4.8	4.7
White	5.6	5.9	5.9
Female	4.3	4.9	4.9
Male	4.2	5.0	4.7

Scale changed from 2 to 8 in 2011 to 1 to 7 in 2012.

- For the 2012 ReadiStep assessment, the highest mean scores in reading were reported by the White student group at 4.2. The highest mean writing scores were reported by students in the White and Asian student groups, 4.3. In math, Asian American students led all other student groups with a mean score of 4.8.

- Female eighth-graders outscored their male counterparts in reading and writing, with mean scores of 3.2 and 3.4, respectively, while males and females reported the same results in math, with a mean score of 3.5.

The fall 2012 ReadiStep mean scores for the reading, mathematics, and writing sections were also examined to determine the relationship between the performances of student ethnic groups and gender. Specifically, the interactions between student racial/ethnic groups, African American, Asian, Hispanic, and White with gender were examined. These results are presented in **Table 18.**

- On the 2012 ReadiStep, African American and Asian American females outperformed their male counterparts in reading, and females in all ethnic groups outperformed males in writing. In mathematics, all males, outside of African Americans who reported equal performance with females, received higher mean scores than their female counterparts.

Table 18: Fall 2011 & 2012 ReadiStep Mean Reading, Math, and Writing Scores by Interaction of Student Ethnic Group and Gender

Student Group	Reading	Math	Writing
2012			
African Amer. Female	3.1	3.3	3.3
African Amer. Male	3.0	3.3	3.1
Asian American Female	4.2	4.7	4.4
Asian American Male	4.1	4.9	4.1
Hispanic Female	3.0	3.4	3.3
Hispanic Male	2.9	3.5	3.2
White Female	4.2	4.3	4.4
White Male	4.1	4.5	4.3
2011			
African Amer. Female	4.2	4.7	4.8
African Amer. Male	4.1	4.7	4.5
Asian American Female	5.7	6.2	6.1
Asian American Male	5.2	6.1	5.6
Hispanic Female	4.1	4.8	4.7
Hispanic Male	4.1	4.9	4.6
White Female	5.6	5.8	6.0
White Male	5.6	5.9	5.8

Scale changed from 2 to 8 in 2011 to 1 to 7 in 2012.

Campus Level Results

Table 19 provides the campus-level scores for the ReadiStep for the fall of 2011 and 2012. Again, direct comparison across years is not recommended.

- For the ReadiStep assessment in HISD in the fall of 2012, the highest mean scores in reading, mathematics, and writing were found at T.H. Rogers, with scores of 5.3, 5.7, and 5.5, respectively.

Table 19: ReadiStep Participation and Mean Scores by School, Fall 2011 & 2012

	N Tested		Reading		Math		Writing	
School	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**	**2011**	**2012**
Attucks	0	126	*	2.6	*	3.1	*	2.9
Black	135	0	4.4	*	4.8	*	4.7	*
Briarmeadow	46	41	5.3	3.9	5.6	4.3	5.6	4.2
Burbank	388	395	4.0	3.0	5.0	3.5	4.8	3.3
Clifton	304	263	4.3	3.1	5.1	3.7	4.8	3.4
Cullen	156	174	3.7	2.9	4.3	3.2	4.3	3.0
Deady	276	290	3.8	2.7	4.6	3.1	4.4	2.9
Dowling	306	345	4.1	3.0	4.7	3.3	4.7	3.1
Edison	259	211	3.8	2.8	4.7	3.2	4.4	3.0
Ener. for Excel. Acad.	0	99	*	2.8	*	3.5	*	3.1
Ener. for Excel. Cent.	0	43	*	3.2	*	3.2	*	3.4
Ener. for STEM West	96	93	3.4	3.0	4.8	3.3	4.3	3.3
Fleming	188	210	4.0	2.6	4.5	2.9	4.5	2.9
Fondren	178	214	3.9	2.7	4.4	3.1	4.3	2.8
Fonville	321	310	3.9	2.7	4.5	3.1	4.5	3.0
Grady	164	156	4.7	3.3	5.1	3.6	5.0	3.6
Gregory-Lincoln	96	100	4.2	2.9	4.6	3.3	4.7	3.3
Hamilton	391	445	4.8	3.3	5.2	3.7	5.4	3.6
Hartman	452	463	3.7	3.0	4.9	3.5	4.7	3.2
Henry	264	296	3.6	2.8	4.4	3.2	4.1	2.9
Hogg	217	226	3.8	2.8	4.8	3.2	4.6	3.0
Holland	218	225	3.9	2.9	4.4	3.1	4.4	3.1
Jackson	280	337	3.9	2.8	4.6	3.2	4.3	2.9
Johnston	442	461	4.9	3.6	5.3	3.7	5.4	3.8
Kaleidoscope	31	0	4.1	*	5.1	*	4.6	*
Key	82	52	4.2	1.7	3.9	1.9	4.1	2.3
Lanier	391	402	5.5	4.3	5.9	4.6	5.9	4.4
Las Americas	13	37	3.7	2.5	4.4	2.5	4.2	2.3
Long Academy	212	246	3.7	2.8	4.4	3.3	4.2	3.0
Marshall	302	0	3.8	*	4.5	*	4.3	*
McReynolds	225	212	4.0	2.8	4.7	3.2	4.6	3.0
Ortiz	287	302	3.9	2.8	4.7	3.3	4.7	3.0
Pershing	539	534	4.8	3.5	5.2	3.7	5.2	3.6
Pilgrim	70	83	3.6	2.5	4.6	3.2	4.3	3.0
Pin Oak	385	380	5.5	4.2	5.8	4.6	5.8	4.4
Pro-Vision	0	49	*	2.8	*	3.0	*	3.0
Project Chrysalis	58	68	5.0	3.7	5.6	3.9	5.7	3.9
Revere	266	245	4.1	2.9	4.9	3.3	4.7	3.2
Rice	155	153	4.9	3.4	5.2	3.7	5.4	3.6
Rogers	120	135	6.6	5.3	7.1	5.7	6.8	5.5
Rusk	0	46	*	3.1	*	3.6	*	3.4
Ryan	85	81	3.9	2.8	4.7	3.1	4.5	2.8
Sharpstown Internatl.	140	138	4.1	2.9	4.7	3.6	4.6	3.2
Stevenson	422	446	4.3	3.3	5.1	3.8	4.8	3.4
Sugar Grove	156	210	4.1	2.8	4.6	3.1	4.6	3.1
Thomas	187	155	3.2	2.7	4.3	3.0	4.0	2.8
Welch	334	272	4.1	2.9	4.5	3.2	4.6	3.0
Westbriar	429	417	4.8	3.4	5.3	3.8	5.2	3.6
Wharton	29	25	4.8	3.4	5.6	3.9	5.3	4.0
Williams	132	142	3.5	2.7	4.4	3.0	4.4	2.8
Woodson	115	0	3.8	*	4.4	*	4.4	*
HISD	**10,342**	**10,353**	**4.3**	**3.1**	**4.9**	**3.5**	**4.8**	**3.3**

** Fewer than five students tested.*
Scale changed from 2 to 8 in 2011 to 1 to 7 in 2012

Conclusion

The purpose of this report was to provide an examination of the participation and performance of HISD students under the innovative HISD PSAT Initiative, PSAT for All. The investigation was also designed to supply a comparison of current year PSAT results with the results from the previous year. The results from this report indicated that under the HISD PSAT Initiative, the percent of student participation on the PSAT in the district decreased slightly from the previous year. Specifically, for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors combined, there was a decrease in the overall participation rate from 85.5 in 2011 to 82.8 in 2012, which falls short of the 100 percent participation goal of the initiative. All grade levels improved their mean scores in reading, mathematics, and writing from 2011 to 2012. In addition, the College Board's College Readiness Benchmark indicator for sophomores and juniors, and ReadiStep performance for district eighth graders are provided for 2012. When applying the 2012 scoring conversion, ReadiStep performance for eighth grade students in 2012 decreased 0.1 points in reading and 0.2 points in writing remained the same in mathematics when compared to 2011.

Administrative Response

After a review of the 2012-2013 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) report, the department of College and Career Readiness has the following response:

In the area of **College Readiness,** we have provided all high school campus test coordinators which include administrators, counselors, college access coordinators and instructional specialists with training on the benefits of using the Summary of Answers and Skills (SOAS) to aid instructional planning at the campus. This has been successful and we intend to continue providing yearly assistance to campuses that analyze their SOAS as a means to increase academic performance and preparedness for college entrance exams.

In the area of **Student Performance,** we will continue to work with the Curriculum Department and the College Board, to provide additional training to teachers that will focus more closely on strategies and best practices such as pacing on the test. This training will be provided in an effort to assist campuses as they work to increase student performance on the PSAT and close performance gaps.

In the area of **Student Participation,** we are concerned about the number of eligible special education students in the test administration. To improve in this area, we will collaborate with the Office of Special Education Services (OSES) senior managers for secondary schools and the College Board to ensure that all campus Students with Service Disabilities (SSD) coordinators and campus Special Education Chairpersons are trained on the approval process for testing with accommodations well before submission deadlines.

Appendix A: HISD PSAT Mean Reading, Math, and Writing Scores for Grades 9-11, Fall 2003-2012

PSAT Mean Reading, Math, and Writing Scores by Student Group: Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors, Fall 2003-2012									
	9th Grade			10th Grade			11th Grade		
Year	Reading	Math	Writing	Reading	Math	Writing	Reading	Math	Writing
2003				36.1	37.2	41.4	39.7	40.7	44.4
2004				36.3	38.3	42.4	39.3	41.7	45.3
2005				37.3	38.5	41.6	40.2	41.5	44.2
2006		Not Tested		37.5	39.2	36.6	41.5	42.8	40.7
2007				36.9	38.7	37.1	40.7	42.5	40.7
2008				36.3	39.5	37.4	39.8	42.6	41.0
2009				37.2	39.8	37.2	40.0	43.1	40.1
2010	34.7	37.8	33.6	37.1	40.2	35.5	40.4	43.4	38.8
2011	34.7	36.1	35.0	37.0	39.1	36.7	40.1	42.3	39.8
2012	36.2	36.9	36.3	37.9	39.2	38.2	40.9	42.5	41.0

Appendix B: HISD PSAT Mean Reading, Math, and Writing Scores by Interaction of Student Ethnicity and Gender for Grades 9-11 and Combined, Fall 2011 and 2012

PSAT Mean Reading, Math, and Writing Scores by Interaction of Student Ethnic Group and Gender: Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, & Combined, Fall 2011 & 2012												
2012												
	Freshmen			**Sophomores**			**Juniors**			**Combined**		
Student Group	**Reading**	**Math**	**Writing**	**Reading**	**Math**	**Writing**	**Reading**	**Math**	**Writing**	**Reading**	**Math**	**Writing**
Afr. Amer. Female	35.9	35.3	36.3	37	37.1	37.5	39.5	39.6	39.8	37.3	37.1	37.7
Afr. Amer. Male	34.6	34.5	33.6	35.7	36.4	35.2	38.3	39.1	37.2	36	36.4	35.1
Asian Am. Female	47.4	49.4	47.1	47.5	50.9	46.4	52.7	55.8	52.3	48.9	51.8	48.3
Asian Am. Male	44.9	48.3	42.8	46.6	52	44.9	52.2	58.2	51.4	47.8	52.7	46.2
Hispanic Female	35.1	36.1	36.4	36.4	37.9	37.9	39.3	41.1	40.5	36.8	38.1	38
Hispanic Male	35.1	36.4	34.7	36.4	38.6	36.3	38.9	41.4	38.5	36.6	38.5	36.3
White Female	44.7	43.8	45.1	49.7	48.3	50.2	53.2	52.5	53.5	49.1	48.1	49.4
White Male	44.7	45.1	43.9	47.7	48.7	46.9	51.3	53	50.6	47.6	48.6	46.9
2011												
Afr. Amer. Female	35.2	34.4	35.3	36.7	36.5	36.5	39.8	39.6	39.7	37.2	36.7	37
Afr. Amer. Male	33.1	34	33.1	34.4	36.1	34.1	37.1	38.9	36.6	34.7	36.2	34.5
Asian Am. Female	46.4	48.3	44.4	47.7	51.5	47	48.9	55	49.4	47.6	51.4	46.8
Asian Am. Male	43	48.3	41.5	46.8	52.7	45.7	49.2	56	48	46.3	52.3	45
Hispanic Female	33.8	35.2	34.8	35.8	38	36.2	38.8	40.8	39.1	36	37.8	36.5
Hispanic Male	33	35.7	33.5	34.8	38.5	34.4	37.7	41.6	37.5	34.9	38.2	34.9
White Female	47	44.4	45	50.2	48.1	47.7	53.3	53.2	51.9	50.1	48.4	48.1
White Male	43.7	44.9	41.7	47.9	49.6	45.4	51.6	54.1	48.6	47.5	49.3	45.1