



Successes in Connecticut's Public Schools

Continued Record Highs In Student Achievement

Connecticut: First in the Nation

SAT Participation

NAEP 8th Grade Writing

NAEP 4th Grade Reading Assessment

NAEP 8th Grade Reading Assessment

SATs

- Connecticut's 2001 SAT scores indicate sustained increases in the state average for math and verbal scores. Over 29,918 (84%) of eligible students took the test, ranking Connecticut **first in the nation** in SAT participation and up .5% from the previous year. This indicates more students aspiring to attend college. The national rate of participation was only 44%, unchanged from last year.
- Average verbal score up one point – (509)
- Average math score up one point – (510)
- Average verbal score (male) up four points
- Average verbal score (female) down three points
- Average math score (male) up one point
- Average math score (female) unchanged
- Average total scores for Black and Asian students were down one point and four points respectively. Hispanic students' average scores increased 14 points from an 8 point decline last year.
- The SAT I Reasoning Test results from 1991 to 2001 show an increased interest in education as a career.

PSATs

- Connecticut's PSAT/NMSQT verbal and math scores outperformed the nation 49.0 to 48.4 (verbal) and 49.2 to 49.0 (math). This test, which was taken by 61.8% of Connecticut's high school juniors, is a good predictor of future SAT test results.

AP

- More Connecticut students are taking AP exams and earning college credit. The number of Connecticut public school AP candidates increased 13.8% to 9,981 – more

than 1,000 over last year. Nationally, the growth in public school candidates taking APs was 10.3%. The percent of Connecticut public school students passing AP exams declined slightly from 71% to 70.3%. This passing percent is ranked 2nd nationally.

CAPT

- This most recent test is a new generation and therefore is not comparable to previous years' results. A new guideline, this year, has districts testing 80% of their special education students.
- Approximately 40,000 10th grade students took the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT-2).
- 13.7% of sophomores achieved the state goal on at least one section of the test.
- 22.6% achieved the goal on all four sections of the test.

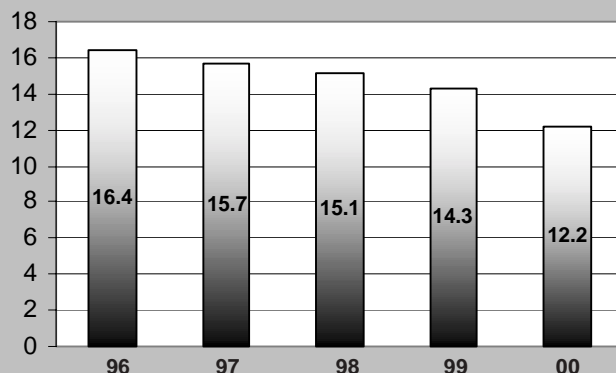
Connecticut Mastery Test

Percentage At or Above State Goal – 2000

Grade	Reading	Writing	Mathematics
4	57	57	60
6	62	61	58
8	66	60	55

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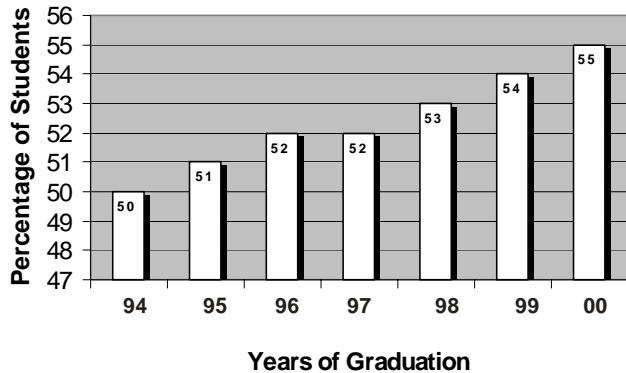
High School Dropout Rate (Cumulative Four-Year Rate)



Data was first collected statewide for the Class of 1995.

Other Connecticut Facts

High School Graduates Completing Three or More Years of a Foreign Language



There is no state graduation requirement in foreign language.

NAEP

- Connecticut ranked **third in the nation** in 4th grade math on the 2000 National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) assessment.
- Connecticut 8th graders are **ranked third in the nation** in math.
- The 4th grade science assessment has Connecticut **ranked fifth** and the 8th grade **ranked eighth**.
- Connecticut **ranked first in the nation** in 4th and 8th grade reading on the 1998 assessment.
- Connecticut's grade 8 average 1998 scale score was a statistical tie for **number one** in the nation with Maine, Massachusetts and Montana.
- From 1992 to 1998 Connecticut's percentage of 4th graders who performed at or above the NAEP proficiency level **increased** from 34 to 46%. No other state has made the significant gains that Connecticut's 4th graders have in reading.
- Connecticut ranked **first in the nation** in 8th grade writing on the 1998 NAEP with a score of 165. The national average writing score was 148, second place was 155.

Average Class Size

	1991-92	1998-99	1999-00
Kindergarten	19.6	18.6	18.5
Grade 2	20.7	20.1	19.8
Grade 5	22.0	21.5	21.8
Grade 7*	20.8	21.7	21.9
High School**	19.9	19.9	20.0

*English, Math, Social Studies, Science

**Algebra I, Biology, English, American History

Sources: Connecticut State Department of Education; 2001 Education Vital Signs, a publication of The American School Boards Journal; and Education Week - Quality Counts 2002.

Activities of Graduates

	Number of Graduates		Percentage of Graduates	
	2000	1992	1999	2000
Education				
4-Year College	17,619	52.1	60.6	59.5
2-Year College	4,687	16.9	15.3	15.8
Other Education	922	5.1	2.7	3.1
Work Force				
Military	842	3.4	2.4	2.8
Civilian Employment	4,369	16.0	14.8	14.8
Unemployed	197	2.3	0.9	0.7
Other	974	4.2	3.3	3.3
Total	29,610	100.0	100.0	100.0

Connecticut Vital Signs

- State share of local education budgets 43.3%.
- Federal special education share of the state budget 7%.
- In 2000-2001, Connecticut ranked 5th in the nation in **pull/teacher** ratios at 13.2, down from 14.4 in 1995-1996.
- Connecticut ranked 13th in the nation in 2000 in **high school completion rates** for those under 25 years old.
- Connecticut ranked 1st in the nation in 2000 in **per capita income**.

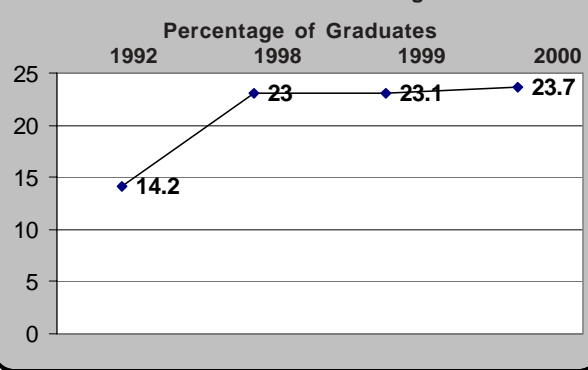
Average Hours of Instruction Per Year

	1991-92	1998-99	1999-00
Elementary	967	973	977
Middle/Jr. High	969	995	1,005
High School	970	990	995

Students per Computer

	1991-92	1998-99	1999-00
Elementary	17.8	6.2	5.8
Middle/Jr. High	12.0	5.3	4.8
High School	9.0	4.9	4.2

Courses for 2- or 4-Year College Credit



CABE recognizes that Connecticut public schools still face many challenges. We must still work together to achieve higher student achievement of all students. However, in debates on whether our schools are meeting the needs of our students and the people of Connecticut, we believe the answer is plainly "YES"!