

**-2005-**

EDUCATION  
ADVOCACY

SUPPORT

**CABE**

## Connecticut Association of Boards of Education

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# Successes in Connecticut's Public Schools

## Connecticut: Continued Success in Education

**SAT Participation (second in the nation)**

**More Students Taking A.P. Courses**

**Tied for 1<sup>st</sup> in 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading  
on NAEP**

### SATs

- Connecticut's SAT scores indicate sustained increases in the state average for math and verbal scores. Over 33,221 (85%) of eligible students took the test, ranking Connecticut **second in the nation** in SAT participation. This is an increase of 1,400 students from last year. The national rate of participation was only 48%. This indicates more students aspiring to attend college. Results since last year:
- Average verbal score up three points – (515)
- Average math score up one points – (515)
- Average verbal score (male) up three points
- Average verbal score (female) up four points
- Average math score (male) up two points
- Average math score (female) unchanged
- The SAT I Reasoning Test results from 2002 to 2003 show a slight (1%) decrease in interest in education as a career.

### Connecticut Average Total SAT Score by Racial/Ethnic Group For Public and Private School Students

Year	Black	Asian	Hispanic	White
2004	838	1072	901	1055
2003	835	1075	882	1058
2002	824	1082	877	1050
2001	836	1069	890	1054

### PSATs

- Students who took the PSAT as juniors scored 122 points higher on the SAT than those who didn't take the PSAT. This test, which was taken by 29,086 (62.0%) of Connecticut's high school juniors, is a good predictor of future SAT test results.
- Connecticut's **verbal** score out-performed the nation 47.9 to 47.2.
- The **math** score in Connecticut fell just below the national average 47.9 to 49.8
- Connecticut out-performed the nation in **writing** 50.0% to 49.8%.

### AP

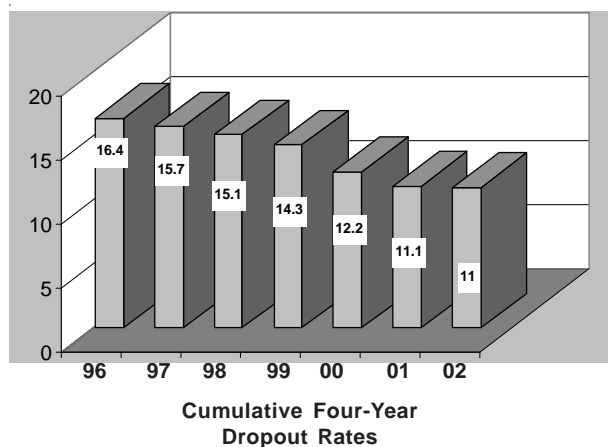
- More Connecticut students are taking AP exams and earning college credit. The number of Connecticut public school AP candidates was 11,858. The percent of Connecticut public school students passing AP exams decreased slightly from 71.8%% to 71.5%. The national average decreased also from 59.8% to 59.7%.

### Connecticut Mastery Test

#### Percentage At or Above State Goal – 2003

Grade	Reading	Writing	Mathematics
4	54.3	65.8	57.6
6	61.9	62.2	62.0
8	66.7	61.8	56.3

### High School Dropout Rate



## Other Connecticut Facts

### Connecticut Vital Signs

- In a comparison of the funding for lowest poverty districts and highest poverty districts, Connecticut has the smallest gap – \$6 – of all states reporting.
- State share of local education budgets down from 39.5% to 37.6%.
- The 2003-04 unaudited Federal share of special education costs shows an increase to 7.66% from 7.40% in 2002-03.
- In 2003-2004, Connecticut ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in the nation in *pupil/teacher* ratios at 13.4.
- Connecticut ranked 1st in the nation in 2003 in *per capita income*.

### Public School Choice in Connecticut

- 14 Charter Schools
- 45 Interdistrict Magnet Schools
- 17 Regional Vocational-Technical High Schools
- 19 Vocational-Agriculture Centers

### Average Class Size

	1998-99	2002-03	2003-04
Kindergarten	18.6	18.3	18.7
Grade 2	20.1	19.5	19.8
Grade 5	21.5	21.6	21.4
Grade 7*	21.7	21.7	21.6
High School**	19.9	20.1	20.3

\*English, Math, Social Studies, Science

\*\*Algebra I, Biology, English, American History

### Students and Technology

- Connecticut averages one instructional computer for every four students.
- 98% of schools in the state have some access to the Internet.
- In 72% of Connecticut schools, at least half the teachers reported using the Internet for instruction.

### CAPT

#### Connecticut Academic Performance Test Students at or Above Goal on the Content Areas of Mathematics, Science, Reading and Writing

*Note: The numbers are not “cumulative” thus, for example, students who are at or above goal in all four areas are not counted in any of the other areas.*

<b>Tested</b>	40,533	<b>None of Areas</b>	13,139 32.4%
<b>Only One Area</b>	5,382 13.3%	<b>Only Two Areas</b>	5,313 13.1%
<b>Only Three Areas</b>	5,471 13.6%	<b>All Four Areas</b>	11,228 27.7%

#### Percent of Students At or Above State Goal

Mathematics	46.1
Science	47.4
Reading Across the Disciplines	48.0
Writing Across the Disciplines	53.7

### NAEP

- 2003 Reading – Connecticut tied for 1<sup>st</sup> in 4<sup>th</sup> grade; Connecticut second in 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- 2003 Math – Connecticut in top ten in 4<sup>th</sup> grade; Connecticut in top seven in 8<sup>th</sup> grade

### Average Hours of Instruction Per Year

	1999-00	2002-03	2003-04
Elementary	977	986	984
Middle/Jr. High	1,005	1,006	1,014
High School	995	1,000	1,000

### Activities of Graduates

Education	Percentage of Graduates		
	1992	2002	2003
4-Year College	52.1	58.9	57.0
2-Year College	16.9	17.9	19.8

Sources: Connecticut State Department of Education; 2005 Education Vital Signs, a publication of The American School Boards Journal; and Education Week, The College Board, Education Trust and Education Daily. All are based on latest results available.

2/22/05

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