About the SAT. The SAT is an assessment of critical reading, mathematical reasoning, and writing skills created and administered through the College Board. The SAT score range is 200 to 800 points for each of the three subtests. A perfect SAT score is 2400 . Students generally take the SAT during their junior or senior year of high school, and many colleges and universities use the SAT to make admission decisions. The College Board provides an annual summary of student performance at the end of each academic year. Results from the annual summary are described in this brief.

AISD student participation in SAT testing remained steady in 2012 ( $n=2,774$ ), compared to participation in 2011 ( $\mathbf{n}=\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{7 4 7}$ ). However, an increase in the 2012 SAT test participation was found for students who categorized themselves as Mexican/Mexican American (+77), Other (+11), or did not identify their race/ethnicity ( +10 ) in 2012 (Figures 1 and 2).

Figure 1. Number of AISD Students Taking the SAT


Figure 2. Number of AISD Students Taking the SAT


Source. College Board Profile Report, 2012

The 2012 overall average SAT score for AISD students (1496) was greater than the state average score (1434) and comparable to the national SAT average score (1498). Overall, the district's average SAT score remained about the same between 2011 and 2012, and continued to be lower than the district's average score 5 years ago. Similarly, the 2012 average SAT scores at the state and national levels have decreased, compared with average scores last year and from 5 years ago.

Figure 3. AISD, State, and National Overall Average SAT Scores, 2006-2012


[^0]Compared with the year prior, the 2012 average SAT scores in each subject areas remained about the same in 2012, with slight increases in reading and math and a slight decrease in writing (Figures 4, 5 and 6). National SAT scores in each subject area remained about the same. Between 2011 and 2012, state scores fell slightly in each subject area. However, AISD students' average scores in each subject area were above that of the state in 2012. AISD students' average score in reading was similar to the national average score in reading, above the nation average score in math, and below the national average score in writing.

Figure 4. SAT Average Scores: Critical Reading


Between 2011 and 2012, all student ethnic/racial groups were found to have an increase in their average SAT scores in writing (Table 1). The overall average SAT score also increased for Native American, Asian, Mexican/Mexican American, and Other students in both reading and math. Average SAT scores remained about the same for White students in reading and math. Decreases in average SAT scores were found for students who did not identify their ethnicity/race category in reading and math. Native American students experienced a decrease in their average math score between 2011 and 2012.

Figure 5. SAT Average Scores: Math


Figure 6. SAT Average Scores: Writing


Table 1. SAT Average Scores by Subject Area, 2011 and 2012

| Critical Reading |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Math |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\mathbf{2 0 1 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 2}$ | Diff. | $\mathbf{2 0 1 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 2}$ | Diff. | $\mathbf{2 0 1 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 2}$ | Diff. |  |
| Native American | 512 | 551 | 39 | 572 | 553 | -19 | 504 | 513 | 9 |  |
| Asian | 514 | 538 | 24 | 585 | 602 | 17 | 512 | 518 | 6 |  |
| African American | 408 | 416 | 8 | 427 | 439 | 12 | 390 | 397 | 7 |  |
| Mexican American | 433 | 444 | 11 | 468 | 478 | 10 | 422 | 426 | 4 |  |
| Puerto Rican | 467 | 509 | 42 | 475 | 530 | 55 | 426 | 530 | 104 |  |
| Other Hispanic | 438 | 438 | 0 | 465 | 466 | 1 | 426 | 466 | 40 |  |
| White | 571 | 571 | 0 | 591 | 590 | -1 | 554 | 590 | 36 |  |
| Other | 492 | 523 | 31 | 526 | 533 | 7 | 482 | 533 | 51 |  |
| No Response | 515 | 494 | -21 | 517 | 507 | -10 | 492 | 507 | 15 |  |
| All Students | 493 | 497 | 4 | 521 | 523 | 2 | 480 | 523 | 43 |  |

## SAT Test Results, 2011-2012

SAT test performance by campus varied widely across the district with scores ranging between 1948 at LASA High School and 1117 at Reagan High School (Table 3). Between 2011 and 2012, average SAT scores remained about the same for most schools (Figure 7). The SAT Benchmark score of 1550 or higher has been determined to predict a high likelihood of college success and completion (College Board, 2012). The following institutions received the most SAT score reports from AISD students and are listed in order: Texas State University, University of Texas at Austin, University of Texas at San Antonio, Texas A\&M University at College Station, and Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

Table 3. SAT Campus, District, State, and National Average Scores, 2012

| School | Number <br> Tested | 318 | Critical <br> Reading | Math | Writing |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | Total

Source. College Board Profile Report, 2012
Figure 7. SAT Average Scores by School, 2011 and 2012


Source. College Board Profile Report, 2012

## Reference

College Board (2012, September). College-bound seniors district profile report for Austin Independent School District (AISD), College Board.


[^0]:    Source. College Board Profile Report, 2012.

