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SAT SCORE TREND REMAINS FLAT; TEST-FIXATED SCHOOL POLICIES HAVE NOT IMPROVED COLLEGE READINESS EVEN AS MEASURED BY OTHER STANDARDIZED EXAMS

SAT results for the nation's high school seniors continue to stagnate according to data released today by the test's sponsor, the College Board. Overall SAT averages have dropped by 21 points since 2006 when the test was last revised. Score gaps between racial groups increased, often significantly over that period.

Bob Schaeffer, Public Education Director of the National Center for Fair & Open Testing (FairTest), said, "Proponents of 'No Child Left Behind,' 'Race to the Top,' and similar state-level programs promised that a focus on testing would boost college readiness while narrowing gaps between ethnic groups. SAT score trends show a total failure, according to their own measures. Scores have declined since 2006 for every group except Asians. Doubling down on unsuccessful policies with more high-stakes K-12 testing, as Common Core exam proponents propose, is an exercise in futility, not meaningful school improvement. Nor will revising the SAT, as currently planned, address the nation's underlying educational issues."

Schaeffer continued, "At the same time, the number of schools dropping SAT and ACT admissions exam requirements has soared. This year at least 14 more colleges and universities including Wesleyan, Beloit, Temple and Montclair State have adopted test-optional policies for all or many applicants." A list of more than 840 such bachelor-degree granting institutions is posted at <http://www.fairtest.org/university/optional> and regularly updated.

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2014 COLLEGE-BOUND SENIORS SAT SCORES -- with score changes from 2006*

	READING	MATH	WRITING	TOTAL
ALL TEST-TAKERS	497 (- 6)	513 (- 5)	487 (- 10)	1497 (-21)
Female	495 (- 7)	499 (- 3)	492 (-10)	1486 (- 20)
Male	499 (- 6)	530 (- 6)	481 (- 10)	1510 (- 22)
Asian, Asian Amer. or Pacific Islander	523 (+13)	598 (+20)	530 (+18)	1656 (+51)
White	529 (+ 2)	534 (- 2)	513 (- 6)	1576 (- 6)
African American or Black	431 (- 3)	429 (0)	418 (- 10)	1278 (- 13)
Amer. Indian or Alaskan Native	483 (- 4)	484 (- 10)	461 (- 13)	1428 (- 27)
Mexican or Mexican American	450 (- 4)	461 (- 4)	443 (- 9)	1354 (- 17)
Puerto Rican	456 (- 3)	450 (- 6)	443 (- 5)	1349 (- 14)
Other Hispanic or Latino	451 (- 7)	459 (- 4)	443 (- 7)	1353 (- 18)

* High school graduates in the class of 2006 were the first to take the SAT "Writing" Test. The "No Child Left Behind" mandate to test every child in grades 3-8 and at least once in high school went into effect in the 2005-2006 academic year.

2014 COLLEGE-BOUND SENIORS SAT SCORES BY FAMILY INCOME

	READING	MATH	WRITING	TOTAL
\$ 0 - \$20,000	436	459	429	1324
\$20,000 - \$40,000	467	481	455	1403
\$40,000 - \$60,000	489	500	474	1463
\$60,000 - \$80,000	504	512	487	1503
\$80,000 - \$100,000	516	526	501	1543
\$100,000 - \$120,000	527	539	513	1579
\$120,000 - \$140,000	531	542	518	1591
\$140,000 - \$160,000	539	552	527	1618
\$160,000 - \$200,000	544	558	534	1636
More than \$200,000	569	588	565	1722

