

PSAT Participation and Performance of Grade 10 Students in the Montgomery County Public Schools 2001–2002 to 2005–2006

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Background

Since 2000–2001, the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has encouraged and paid for Grade 10 census administration of the PSAT. The PSAT is both a “practice” test for the SAT and a diagnostic tool used to identify students’ academic strengths and weaknesses and guide course selection decisions in Grades 11 and 12. Schools were expected to attain the target of 100% participation for all Grade 10 students.

In 2005–2006, district leaders modified the target of 100% PSAT participation for all Grade 10 students. MCPS recognized that PSAT participation could be frustrating and counterproductive for English Language Learners (ELL) and students enrolled in life-skills or community-based special education programs (Council of Chief State School Officers, 2001; MSDE 2005; Nalley & DeMeester, 2004; Von Secker, 2005). This research brief used modified targets and reporting rules to describe trends in PSAT participation and performance over the past five years.

Methodology

The students included in this analysis were enrolled in Grade 10 on September 30 of academic years 2001–2002 to 2005–2006. Three percent of Grade 10 students were exempt from PSAT calculations because they were enrolled in special schools, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Levels 1 or 2, or life-skills or community-based special education programs (exempt students).

The College Board reports PSAT verbal/critical reading, math, and writing scores in increments of 1 on scales of 20 to 80. The modified MCPS target for PSAT participation is 100% of students who are not exempt.

Over the past five years, 0.4% of all MCPS Grade 10 PSAT test takers were exempt students. However, because of changes in the rules used to select the

population of test takers, the PSAT results for 2001–2002 to 2004–2005 presented in this research brief differ slightly from those published prior to 2006.

Results

Participation

In 2005–2006, the MCPS Grade 10 PSAT participation rate was 91.4%, an increase of 6.7 percentage points compared with 2001–2002. The greatest five-year gains in PSAT participation were among African American (9.1 percentage points) and Hispanic (12.9 percentage points) students. As a result, racial ethnic differences in PSAT participation are narrowing (Figure 1).

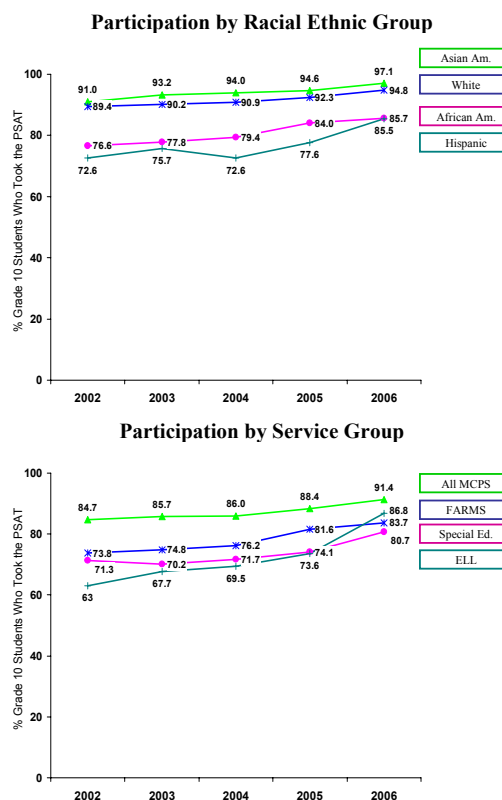


Figure 1. Percentage of students in the MCPS Grade 10 Classes of 2002 to 2006 who took the PSAT by racial/ethnic and service group.

Between 2001–2002 and 2005–2006, PSAT participation also increased for students who received Free and Reduced-price Meals System (FARMS), special education, or ELL services (Figure 1). Gains were greatest for students who received ELL services (23.8 percentage points), followed by increases of 9.9 and 9.4 percentage points for students who received FARMS or special education services, respectively. By 2005–2006, more than 80% of Grade 10 students who received FARMS, special education, or ELL services took the PSAT compared with less than 75% in 2001–2002.

Performance

In 2005–2006, the MCPS Grade 10 mean PSAT critical reading (43.4), math (45.1), and writing (46.0) scores were 1.0, 0.8, and 0.1 points lower, respectively, than in 2001–2002 (Table 1). However, nationally, the five-year declines in mean PSAT scores were more than twice as large (College Board, 2006). In 2005–2006, the national mean Grade 10 PSAT critical reading (42.5), math (44.0), and writing (44.9) scores were 2.6, 1.5, and 1.3 points lower, respectively, than in 2001–2002.

Table 1
Mean Grade 10 Verbal/Critical Reading, Math,
and Writing Scores for MCPS and the Nation
by Academic Year

Group	Mean Score				
	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006
Verbal/Critical Reading					
MCPS	44.4	44.5	43.9	43.6	43.4
Nation	45.1	44.5	43.0	42.5	42.5
Math					
MCPS	45.9	46.5	45.1	46.0	45.1
Nation	45.5	45.5	43.9	44.2	44.0
Writing					
MCPS	46.1	45.7	47.3	47.8	46.0
Nation	46.2	45.9	46.3	46.4	44.9

Note: In 2004–2005, the College Board replaced the PSAT verbal subtest with the critical reading subtest.

Small declines in mean PSAT scores were anticipated given the increases in PSAT participation by a more diverse group of test takers (College Board, 2002). What is noteworthy is that MCPS mean PSAT critical reading, math, and writing scores remained above the national averages even though a greater percentage of Grade 10 students took the PSAT. In 2005–2006, more than 91% of MCPS Grade 10 students took the PSAT compared with approximately 45% of Grade 10 students in the

nation (College Board, 2006; Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, 2003).

Discussion

In 2005–2006, MCPS Grade 10 PSAT participation climbed to the historic high of 91.4%, a rate twice the national average. Nonetheless, PSAT performance held steady and remained above the national average.

There continued to be differences associated with gender, race/ethnicity, and participation in FARMS, special education, and ELL services. In addition, there were differences in PSAT participation and performance of students of the same gender, race/ethnicity, or service group who attended different schools. Data provided in the Appendix can be used to guide discussions about some of the sources of these differences.

References

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Table A1
2001–2002 to 2005–2006 MCPS Grade 10 PSAT Participation
by Demographic Group

Group	N Students					N Took PSAT					% Took PSAT				
	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006
All MCPS	9879	10344	10786	10860	11184	8372	8869	9274	9603	10218	84.7	85.7	86.0	88.4	91.4
Male	4990	5284	5474	5571	5703	4178	4464	4668	4860	5164	83.7	84.5	85.3	87.2	90.5
Female	4889	5060	5312	5289	5481	4194	4405	4606	4743	5054	85.8	87.1	86.7	89.7	92.2
African American	2022	2284	2281	2368	2609	1548	1776	1812	1989	2235	76.6	77.8	79.4	84.0	85.7
Male	984	1082	1130	1174	1308	729	790	872	950	1087	74.1	73.0	77.2	80.9	83.1
Female	1038	1202	1151	1194	1301	819	986	940	1039	1148	78.9	82.0	81.7	87.0	88.2
Asian American	1449	1498	1579	1561	1542	1319	1396	1484	1477	1497	91.0	93.2	94.0	94.6	97.1
Male	740	775	825	790	810	668	715	777	738	791	90.3	92.3	94.2	93.4	97.7
Female	709	723	754	771	732	651	681	707	739	706	91.8	94.2	93.8	95.8	96.4
Hispanic	1302	1496	1694	1770	1935	945	1133	1230	1374	1654	72.6	75.7	72.6	77.6	85.5
Male	665	795	880	902	994	489	590	627	686	836	73.5	74.2	71.3	76.1	84.1
Female	637	701	814	868	941	456	543	603	688	818	71.6	77.5	74.1	79.3	86.9
White	5084	5030	5214	5131	5065	4543	4536	4737	4736	4802	89.4	90.2	90.9	92.3	94.8
Male	2589	2608	2626	2691	2578	2284	2350	2383	2473	2438	88.2	90.1	90.7	91.9	94.6
Female	2495	2422	2588	2440	2487	2259	2186	2354	2263	2364	90.5	90.3	91.0	92.7	95.1
FARMS	1133	1275	1353	1461	1827	836	954	1031	1192	1530	73.8	74.8	76.2	81.6	83.7
Special Ed.	979	1056	1160	1083	1199	698	741	832	803	968	71.3	70.2	71.7	74.1	80.7
ELL	446	461	485	575	524	281	312	337	423	455	63.0	67.7	69.5	73.6	86.8

Note: Results were calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on September 30, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, ESOL Levels 1 or 2, or a life-skills or community-based special education program. Data are not reported separately for American Indian students.

Table A2
2001–2002 to 2005–2006 MCPS Grade 10 PSAT Participation
by School

School	N Students					N Took PSAT					% Took PSAT				
	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006
MCPS	9879	10344	10786	10860	11184	8372	8869	9274	9603	10218	84.7	85.7	86.0	88.4	91.4
B-CC	359	379	408	428	428	324	346	374	402	406	90.3	91.3	91.7	93.9	94.9
Blair	718	821	803	756	753	647	711	695	680	681	90.1	86.6	86.6	89.9	90.4
Blake	375	455	513	482	516	323	396	474	452	470	86.1	87.0	92.4	93.8	91.1
Churchill	497	483	545	550	519	476	467	522	540	492	95.8	96.7	95.8	98.2	94.8
Damascus	475	466	489	464	501	395	419	413	395	461	83.2	89.9	84.5	85.1	92.0
Einstein	405	422	400	431	364	342	368	338	388	323	84.4	87.2	84.5	90.0	88.7
Gaithersburg	493	500	523	502	579	334	363	440	433	504	67.7	72.6	84.1	86.3	87.0
Kennedy	367	395	389	379	391	289	312	314	329	347	78.7	79.0	80.7	86.8	88.7
Magruder	513	526	582	542	581	394	438	458	447	522	76.8	83.3	78.7	82.5	89.8
Northwest	399	467	468	489	524	337	386	350	417	449	84.5	82.7	74.8	85.3	85.7
Northwood ^a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	334	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	318	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	95.2
Paint Branch	396	458	434	448	435	331	387	378	373	371	83.6	84.5	87.1	83.3	85.3
Poolesville	191	178	206	211	239	181	163	189	199	222	94.8	91.6	91.7	94.3	92.9
Quince Orchard	462	447	459	476	451	383	364	361	396	400	82.9	81.4	78.6	83.2	88.7
R. Montgomery	447	438	466	476	465	391	382	404	422	425	87.5	87.2	86.7	88.7	91.4
Rockville	254	269	290	335	326	214	220	243	276	296	84.3	81.8	83.8	82.4	90.8
Seneca Valley	381	398	401	401	395	306	326	338	353	374	80.3	81.9	84.3	88.0	94.7
Sherwood	485	456	535	555	520	413	409	477	500	489	85.2	89.7	89.2	90.1	94.0
Springbrook	535	462	474	537	463	472	407	431	470	403	88.2	88.1	90.9	87.5	87.0
W. Johnson	426	490	486	451	509	377	435	436	401	489	88.5	88.8	89.7	88.9	96.1
Watkins Mill	472	456	485	485	502	337	333	403	417	451	71.4	73.0	83.1	86.0	89.8
Wheaton	296	372	395	393	332	254	293	271	294	287	85.8	78.8	68.6	74.8	86.4
Whitman	454	461	471	467	483	406	417	425	440	472	89.4	90.5	90.2	94.2	97.7
Wootton	479	545	564	602	574	446	527	540	579	566	93.1	96.7	95.7	96.2	98.6

Note: Results were calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on September 30, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, ESOL Levels 1 or 2, or a life-skills or community-based special education program.

^a Northwood HS did not have a Grade 10 class until 2005–2006.

Table A3
2001–2002 to 2005–2006 MCPS Mean Grade 10 PSAT Verbal/Critical Reading, Math, and Writing Scores
by Demographic Group

Group	Mean Grade 10 PSAT Verbal/Critical Reading Score					Mean Grade 10 PSAT Math Score					Mean Grade 10 PSAT Writing Score				
	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006
All MCPS	44	44	44	44	43	46	46	45	46	45	46	46	47	48	46
Male	44	44	43	43	43	46	47	46	47	45	45	45	46	47	45
Female	45	45	44	44	44	45	46	45	45	45	47	47	48	49	47
African American	37	37	37	37	37	38	38	36	38	37	40	40	41	42	40
Male	36	37	36	36	36	37	38	36	38	36	39	39	40	41	39
Female	39	38	38	39	38	38	38	36	38	38	41	41	42	44	41
Asian American	46	47	45	44	46	51	52	51	51	52	47	47	49	49	48
Male	45	46	45	44	46	51	53	52	52	52	45	46	48	48	47
Female	46	47	46	45	46	50	51	50	50	51	48	48	49	51	49
Hispanic	37	36	37	37	37	38	38	37	39	38	39	40	41	42	40
Male	37	36	36	37	36	38	38	37	40	38	39	39	40	41	39
Female	36	37	37	37	38	37	37	37	39	38	39	41	42	42	41
White	48	49	48	48	48	49	50	49	50	49	50	49	51	51	50
Male	48	48	47	47	47	50	51	49	51	50	48	48	50	50	48
Female	49	49	49	49	49	48	50	48	49	49	51	50	52	53	51
FARMS	35	35	34	35	35	37	37	36	38	36	38	39	39	41	39
Special Ed.	34	33	35	34	34	36	35	35	36	34	38	38	39	39	38
ELL	31	30	29	30	32	39	36	34	38	36	36	36	36	38	36

Note: Results were calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on September 30, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, ESOL Levels 1 or 2, or a life-skills or community-based special education program.

Table A4
2001–2002 to 2005–2006 MCPS Mean Grade 10 PSAT Verbal/Critical Reading, Math, and Writing Scores
by School

School	Mean Grade 10 PSAT Verbal/Critical Reading Score					Mean Grade 10 PSAT Math Score					Mean Grade 10 PSAT Writing Score				
	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2001– 2002	2002– 2003	2003– 2004	2004– 2005	2005– 2006
MCPS	44	44	44	44	43	46	46	45	46	45	46	46	47	48	46
B-CC	48	50	49	48	48	48	51	49	49	49	49	51	53	51	51
Blair	45	44	44	45	46	46	46	45	48	47	47	46	48	50	48
Blake	44	44	43	42	42	44	45	42	43	43	46	46	45	46	44
Churchill	48	50	50	49	50	52	52	53	53	53	50	49	52	53	51
Damascus	44	44	43	44	43	46	46	45	46	44	46	45	46	47	45
Einstein	40	40	40	39	40	40	40	39	42	41	42	42	44	44	43
Gaithersburg	42	42	40	41	41	43	43	40	42	42	43	42	45	45	44
Kennedy	37	38	37	38	37	39	40	38	40	38	40	41	41	42	40
Magruder	45	44	44	43	43	46	46	45	45	45	46	45	47	46	45
Northwest	41	42	42	41	41	43	44	43	44	42	44	44	46	46	43
Northwood ^a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	38	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	38	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	40
Paint Branch	41	42	41	40	41	44	45	44	43	43	42	43	45	44	43
Poolesville	47	47	46	47	45	47	48	48	49	47	48	46	48	50	47
Quince Orchard	45	46	44	46	44	48	48	45	47	46	47	48	48	49	48
R. Montgomery	50	50	49	50	49	50	51	50	51	51	51	50	51	53	51
Rockville	43	43	41	42	41	44	45	41	43	42	44	44	45	47	44
Seneca Valley	41	40	39	39	39	43	43	41	41	41	42	41	45	44	42
Sherwood	44	43	43	43	43	45	45	45	45	46	46	45	46	47	45
Springbrook	42	40	40	40	40	43	42	41	42	42	44	43	44	46	43
W. Johnson	48	49	48	47	48	49	50	50	49	50	49	49	50	51	50
Watkins Mill	43	42	40	39	39	44	44	41	41	38	45	43	43	43	41
Wheaton	36	35	36	35	35	37	37	36	38	38	38	39	40	41	39
Whitman	52	53	52	52	51	52	55	53	54	53	52	53	54	55	53
Wootton	49	50	48	48	48	52	53	52	52	52	51	50	52	52	50

Note: Results were calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on September 30, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, ESOL Levels 1 or 2, or a life-skills or community-based special education program.

^a Northwood HS did not have a Grade 10 class until 2005–2006.

Table B1
2004–2005 MCPS Grade 10 PSAT Participation
by School and Racial/Ethnic Group

School	N Students					N Took PSAT					% Took PSAT				
	All	African Am.	Asian Am.	Hispanic	White	All	African Am.	Asian Am.	Hispanic	White	All	African Am.	Asian Am.	Hispanic	White
MCPS	10,860	2,368	1,561	1,770	5,131	9,603	1,989	1,477	1,374	4,736	88.4	84.0	94.6	77.6	92.3
B-CC	428	68	24	61	274	402	60	22	56	263	93.9	88.2	91.7	91.8	96.0
Blair	756	217	105	164	266	680	188	95	146	248	89.9	86.6	90.5	89.0	93.2
Blake	482	162	48	50	219	452	152	46	44	207	93.8	93.8	95.8	88.0	94.5
Churchill	550	41	118	31	359	540	38	117	31	353	98.2	92.7	99.2	100.0	98.3
Damascus	464	28	27	34	372	395	21	27	24	321	85.1	75.0	100.0	70.6	86.3
Einstein	431	98	55	164	114	388	86	54	140	108	90.0	87.8	98.2	85.4	94.7
Gaithersburg	502	128	46	129	198	433	115	43	97	177	86.3	89.8	93.5	75.2	89.4
Kennedy	379	171	46	92	69	329	152	44	67	65	86.8	88.9	95.7	72.8	94.2
Magruder	542	115	91	74	261	447	79	84	50	233	82.5	68.7	92.3	67.6	89.3
Northwest	489	144	72	57	216	417	118	67	41	191	85.3	81.9	93.1	71.9	88.4
Northwood	<i>Northwood did not have a Grade 10 class in 2004–2005.</i>														
Paint Branch	448	186	82	47	131	373	150	78	32	111	83.3	80.6	95.1	68.1	84.7
Poolesville	211	10	8	5	188	199	8	7	5	179	94.3	80.0	87.5	100.0	95.2
Quince Orchard	476	81	74	63	256	396	60	69	35	230	83.2	74.1	93.2	55.6	89.8
R. Montgomery	476	71	100	63	242	422	54	96	48	224	88.7	76.1	96.0	76.2	92.6
Rockville	335	50	49	90	143	276	35	45	66	127	82.4	70.0	91.8	73.3	88.8
Seneca Valley	401	119	54	63	165	353	97	53	51	152	88.0	81.5	98.1	81.0	92.1
Sherwood	555	72	66	53	363	500	57	59	47	336	90.1	79.2	89.4	88.7	92.6
Springbrook	537	235	94	105	102	470	213	87	75	94	87.5	90.6	92.6	71.4	92.2
W. Johnson	451	48	55	53	295	401	34	51	40	276	88.9	70.8	92.7	75.5	93.6
Watkins Mill	485	155	50	123	153	417	129	48	96	140	86.0	83.2	96.0	78.0	91.5
Wheaton	393	111	39	188	54	294	91	36	129	38	74.8	82.0	92.3	68.6	70.4
Whitman	467	25	60	30	352	440	20	55	28	337	94.2	80.0	91.7	93.3	95.7
Wootton	602	33	198	31	339	579	32	194	26	326	96.2	97.0	98.0	83.9	96.2

Note: Results were calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on September 30, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, ESOL Levels 1 or 2, or a life-skills or community-based special education program. Data are not reported separately for American Indian students.

Table B2
2005–2006 MCPS Grade 10 PSAT Participation
by School and Racial/Ethnic Group

School	N Students					N Took PSAT					% Took PSAT				
	All	African Am.	Asian Am.	Hispanic	White	All	African Am.	Asian Am.	Hispanic	White	All	African Am.	Asian Am.	Hispanic	White
MCPS	11,184	2,609	1,542	1,935	5,065	10,218	2,235	1,497	1,654	4,802	91.4	85.7	97.1	85.5	94.8
B-CC	428	64	26	63	273	406	61	26	60	257	94.9	95.3	100.0	95.2	94.1
Blair	753	244	123	193	190	681	214	121	158	186	90.4	87.7	98.4	81.9	97.9
Blake	516	182	48	60	224	470	155	44	53	216	91.1	85.2	91.7	88.3	96.4
Churchill	519	45	94	25	354	492	39	92	24	336	94.8	86.7	97.9	96.0	94.9
Damascus	501	51	37	43	369	461	46	34	36	345	92.0	90.2	91.9	83.7	93.5
Einstein	364	86	52	126	97	323	75	50	105	90	88.7	87.2	96.2	83.3	92.8
Gaithersburg	579	163	56	129	229	504	127	55	106	214	87.0	77.9	98.2	82.2	93.4
Kennedy	391	164	38	129	60	347	142	36	110	59	88.7	86.6	94.7	85.3	98.3
Magruder	581	125	79	110	266	522	106	78	92	245	89.8	84.8	98.7	83.6	92.1
Northwest	524	150	89	78	206	449	116	82	64	186	85.7	77.3	92.1	82.1	90.3
Northwood	334	126	18	90	99	318	121	17	85	94	95.2	96.0	94.4	94.4	94.9
Paint Branch	435	198	78	40	118	371	153	73	34	110	85.3	77.3	93.6	85.0	93.2
Poolesville	239	15	8	7	208	222	15	8	7	191	92.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	91.8
Quince Orchard	451	86	67	62	235	400	66	65	47	221	88.7	76.7	97.0	75.8	94.0
R. Montgomery	465	71	113	64	216	425	60	109	53	202	91.4	84.5	96.5	82.8	93.5
Rockville	326	59	34	80	153	296	54	34	70	138	90.8	91.5	100.0	87.5	90.2
Seneca Valley	395	120	44	79	150	374	113	44	74	141	94.7	94.2	100.0	93.7	94.0
Sherwood	520	76	54	45	343	489	61	54	42	330	94.0	80.3	100.0	93.3	96.2
Springbrook	463	207	78	100	76	403	176	74	79	72	87.0	85.0	94.9	79.0	94.7
W. Johnson	509	52	65	55	335	489	44	63	52	328	96.1	84.6	96.9	94.5	97.9
Watkins Mill	502	188	44	134	136	451	166	44	113	128	89.8	88.3	100.0	84.3	94.1
Wheaton	332	87	37	167	39	287	80	36	136	34	86.4	92.0	97.3	81.4	87.2
Whitman	483	13	66	26	378	472	13	64	24	371	97.7	100.0	97.0	92.3	98.1
Wootton	574	37	194	30	311	566	32	194	30	308	98.6	86.5	100.0	100.0	99.0

Note: Results were calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on September 30, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, ESOL Levels 1 or 2, or a life-skills or community-based special education program. Data are not reported separately for American Indian students.

Table B3
2004–2005 MCPS Grade 10 PSAT Participation
by School and Service Group

School	N Students				N Took PSAT				% Took PSAT			
	All	FARMS	Special Ed.	ELL	All	FARMS	Special Ed.	ELL	All	FARMS	Special Ed.	ELL
MCPS	10,860	1,461	1,083	575	9,603	1,192	803	423	88.4	81.6	74.1	73.6
B-CC	428	29	42	15	402	26	37	15	93.9	89.7	88.1	100.0
Blair	756	138	55	48	680	118	47	23	89.9	85.5	85.5	47.9
Blake	482	53	38	6	452	50	33	5	93.8	94.3	86.8	83.3
Churchill	550	17	56	2	540	17	50		98.2	100.0	89.3	
Damascus	464	27	54	1	395	22	37		85.1	81.5	68.5	
Einstein	431	136	39	55	388	122	28	52	90.0	89.7	71.8	94.5
Gaithersburg	502	82	63	33	433	73	46	26	86.3	89.0	73.0	78.8
Kennedy	379	104	59	31	329	90	40	22	86.8	86.5	67.8	71.0
Magruder	542	75	62	10	447	52	39	8	82.5	69.3	62.9	80.0
Northwest	489	54	59	1	417	41	43		85.3	75.9	72.9	
Northwood	<i>Northwood did not have a Grade 10 class in 2004–2005.</i>											
Paint Branch	448	50	35	8	373	38	16	8	83.3	76.0	45.7	100.0
Poolesville	211	5	25	0	199	3	20		94.3	60.0	80.0	
Quince Orchard	476	41	47	29	396	26	28	22	83.2	63.4	59.6	75.9
R. Montgomery	476	58	40	31	422	48	32	21	88.7	82.8	80.0	67.7
Rockville	335	63	42	25	276	48	21	21	82.4	76.2	50.0	84.0
Seneca Valley	401	52	39	37	353	46	30	35	88.0	88.5	76.9	94.6
Sherwood	555	46	56	31	500	34	42	13	90.1	73.9	75.0	41.9
Springbrook	537	119	35	33	470	93	28	20	87.5	78.2	80.0	60.6
W. Johnson	451	25	55	31	401	20	46	21	88.9	80.0	83.6	67.7
Watkins Mill	485	114	51	46	417	89	38	37	86.0	78.1	74.5	80.4
Wheaton	393	138	43	58	294	106	24	41	74.8	76.8	55.8	70.7
Whitman	467	9	47	27	440	7	41	12	94.2	77.8	87.2	44.4
Wootton	602	26	41	17	579	23	37	17	96.2	88.5	90.2	100.0

Note: Results were calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on September 30, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, ESOL Levels 1 or 2, or a life-skills or community-based special education program. The numbers and percentages of test takers are not reported for subgroups with fewer than 5 students.

Table B4
2005–2006 MCPS Grade 10 PSAT Participation
by School and Service Group

School	N Students				N Took PSAT				% Took PSAT			
	All	FARMS	Special Ed.	ELL	All	FARMS	Special Ed.	ELL	All	FARMS	Special Ed.	ELL
MCPS	11,184	1,827	1,199	524	10,218	1,530	968	455	91.4	83.7	80.7	86.8
B-CC	428	33	23	24	406	30	22	22	94.9	90.9	95.7	91.7
Blair	753	192	67	42	681	161	50	39	90.4	83.9	74.6	92.9
Blake	516	71	37	5	470	55	31	4	91.1	77.5	83.8	80.0
Churchill	519	19	49	0	492	17	44		94.8	89.5	89.8	
Damascus	501	37	67	3	461	30	55		92.0	81.1	82.1	
Einstein	364	110	36	34	323	92	27	27	88.7	83.6	75.0	79.4
Gaithersburg	579	123	103	27	504	96	76	24	87.0	78.0	73.8	88.9
Kennedy	391	129	51	39	347	111	43	37	88.7	86.0	84.3	94.9
Magruder	581	95	70	20	522	79	52	18	89.8	83.2	74.3	90.0
Northwest	524	81	67	0	449	66	46		85.7	81.5	68.7	
Northwood	334	78	49	15	318	76	47	13	95.2	97.4	95.9	86.7
Paint Branch	435	88	33	6	371	53	17	6	85.3	60.2	51.5	100.0
Poolesville	239	10	20	0	222	10	15		92.9	100.0	75.0	
Quince Orchard	451	72	44	25	400	47	29	17	88.7	65.3	65.9	68.0
R. Montgomery	465	72	59	29	425	61	46	21	91.4	84.7	78.0	72.4
Rockville	326	61	41	8	296	54	32	7	90.8	88.5	78.0	87.5
Seneca Valley	395	73	46	41	374	67	42	39	94.7	91.8	91.3	95.1
Sherwood	520	47	36	32	489	41	32	29	94.0	87.2	88.9	90.6
Springbrook	463	116	38	37	403	99	25	32	87.0	85.3	65.8	86.5
W. Johnson	509	31	57	22	489	26	53	19	96.1	83.9	93.0	86.4
Watkins Mill	502	122	66	45	451	108	59	38	89.8	88.5	89.4	84.4
Wheaton	332	131	44	39	287	116	34	33	86.4	88.5	77.3	84.6
Whitman	483	7	48	23	472	7	45	19	97.7	100.0	93.8	82.6
Wootton	574	29	48	8	566	28	46	8	98.6	96.6	95.8	100.0

Note: Results were calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on September 30, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, ESOL Levels 1 or 2, or a life-skills or community-based special education program. The numbers and percentages of test takers are not reported for subgroups with fewer than 5 students.

Table B5
2004–2005 and 2005–2006 MCPS Grade 10 PSAT Mean Verbal/Critical Reading Scores
by School and Demographic Group

School	Male		Female		African Am.		Asian Am.		Hispanic		White		FARMS		Special Ed.		ELL	
	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006
MCPS	43	43	44	44	37	37	44	46	37	37	48	48	35	35	34	34	30	32
B-CC	47	48	48	48	39	39	42	48	37	39	52	52	34	35	38	38	32	37
Blair	45	45	45	46	38	39	49	54	36	37	55	56	36	36	38	32	32	31
Blake	40	41	43	42	36	37	42	41	36	38	47	46	33	35	31	33	31	
Churchill	48	49	49	50	39	42	50	50	45	48	50	50	38	43	40	42		
Damascus	44	42	44	44	38	37	45	46	38	41	45	43	36	38	35	35		
Einstein	39	40	39	41	38	35	37	39	35	37	47	49	34	35	30	32	30	30
Gaithersburg	40	40	41	41	39	36	42	42	36	37	44	45	36	35	31	33	30	33
Kennedy	38	35	39	38	37	35	38	37	35	35	46	45	35	34	30	30	30	32
Magruder	42	42	43	44	38	39	42	45	38	37	46	46	36	35	35	32	31	28
Northwest	40	40	42	42	38	37	42	42	37	37	44	44	35	35	33	33		
Northwood ^a	n/a	37	n/a	39	n/a	36	n/a	39	n/a	33	n/a	46	n/a	34	n/a	33	n/a	29
Paint Branch	40	41	41	41	38	38	41	42	37	37	44	46		35	34	30	30	34
Poolesville	45	45	49	45	34	37	52	43	41	45	48	46	41	38	34	36		
Quince Orchard	45	43	46	45	39	38	43	46	41	38	49	47	37	37	37	34	30	31
R. Montgomery	48	48	51	49	41	39	53	52	38	40	53	52	39	37	36	36	34	36
Rockville	41	40	43	42	33	36	43	43	36	35	48	46	34	35	35	32	29	31
Seneca Valley	37	38	40	40	36	36	37	40	35	36	42	43	33	35	29	32	29	32
Sherwood	42	42	44	45	37	39	43	41	39	37	45	45	35	34	33	35	29	34
Springbrook	39	40	42	41	37	38	40	44	37	36	51	47	34	36	32	33	26	32
W. Johnson	46	47	49	49	42	37	46	47	41	42	49	50	39	36	37	36	33	37
Watkins Mill	38	38	40	39	36	36	37	41	35	36	44	44	36	34	30	32	29	33
Wheaton	36	35	35	36	35	37	34	38	35	33	39	41	33	34	27	30	26	30
Whitman	51	50	53	53	43	37	50	49	49	45	52	52	38	41	38	39	36	39
Wootton	47	48	48	48	38	41	48	50	39	42	49	48	35	38	35	38	29	33

Note: Results were calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on September 30, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, ESOL Levels 1 or 2, or a life-skills or community-based special education program. PSAT scores are not reported for cells with fewer than 5 test takers.

^a Northwood HS did not have a Grade 10 class until 2005–2006.

Table B6
2004–2005 and 2005–2006 MCPS Grade 10 PSAT Mean Math Scores
by School and Demographic Group

School	Male		Female		African Am.		Asian Am.		Hispanic		White		FARMS		Special Ed.		ELL	
	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006
MCPS	47	45	45	45	38	37	51	52	39	38	50	49	38	36	36	34	38	36
B-CC	50	50	48	47	39	37	51	51	40	41	53	53	38	35	36	36	43	41
Blair	50	49	46	46	38	39	58	62	38	38	57	56	38	37	41	35	38	31
Blake	43	42	43	43	35	37	45	47	38	37	49	47	35	36	34	34	38	
Churchill	53	54	52	52	43	40	56	58	48	48	53	54	41	42	43	40		
Damascus	47	44	45	45	37	36	48	50	43	41	47	45	37	37	36	34		
Einstein	42	41	42	42	37	35	47	44	38	38	49	49	38	36	32	31	36	35
Gaithersburg	43	43	41	41	38	36	46	46	38	38	46	47	38	35	33	32	36	34
Kennedy	41	37	40	39	38	36	43	41	37	35	48	44	37	35	33	30	33	32
Magruder	47	45	44	44	38	38	49	49	40	38	48	49	38	36	36	33	44	30
Northwest	46	43	42	42	39	37	48	47	37	39	47	45	40	38	36	33		
Northwood ^a	n/a	38	n/a	38	n/a	36	n/a	42	n/a	33	n/a	44	n/a	34	n/a	34	n/a	30
Paint Branch	44	44	41	42	38	38	46	46	38	40	47	48		36	34	33	34	31
Poolesville	50	47	48	47	35	39	58	50	43	48	49	48	48	42	40	36		
Quince Orchard	49	46	46	46	38	36	50	50	41	40	50	49	38	37	35	35	40	38
R. Montgomery	51	52	51	50	41	39	58	58	42	41	53	54	43	39	38	38	45	43
Rockville	43	42	43	42	35	35	46	50	36	36	48	46	39	36	36	30	35	32
Seneca Valley	41	41	41	41	37	36	45	49	37	38	44	45	36	35	30	31	36	37
Sherwood	46	46	45	46	37	39	48	49	40	38	47	48	39	37	35	38	36	36
Springbrook	42	42	42	42	38	38	45	49	38	37	52	49	37	38	34	31	35	35
W. Johnson	50	50	48	49	40	37	55	54	43	44	50	51	42	40	36	35	47	46
Watkins Mill	41	39	41	38	36	34	43	45	39	35	46	45	37	34	33	29	33	33
Wheaton	40	37	37	38	36	38	42	43	38	35	39	42	37	37	33	31	34	33
Whitman	55	52	52	53	41	40	59	56	51	44	54	53	35	44	41	37	48	54
Wootton	54	52	51	51	39	39	57	57	44	44	52	51	38	41	38	40	44	45

Note: Results were calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on September 30, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, ESOL Levels 1 or 2, or a life-skills or community-based special education program. PSAT scores are not reported for cells with fewer than 5 test takers.

^a Northwood HS did not have a Grade 10 class until 2005–2006.

Table B7
2004–2005 and 2005–2006 MCPS Grade 10 PSAT Mean Writing Scores
by School and Demographic Group

School	Male		Female		African Am.		Asian Am.		Hispanic		White		FARMS		Special Ed.		ELL	
	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006	2004– 2005	2005– 2006
MCPS	47	45	49	47	42	40	49	48	42	40	51	50	41	39	39	38	38	36
B-CC	50	50	52	52	43	42	45	52	43	43	55	55	40	40	41	40	40	41
Blair	50	48	50	49	43	41	55	56	41	40	58	58	41	39	42	38	39	34
Blake	44	43	48	45	42	40	48	44	42	40	51	48	39	39	38	38	40	
Churchill	51	51	54	52	43	44	54	51	50	49	53	52	41	45	43	43		
Damascus	46	43	48	47	42	40	48	48	43	42	47	45	41	40	38	38		
Einstein	43	42	45	44	42	38	44	41	40	41	50	52	40	38	36	35	38	35
Gaithersburg	44	43	46	45	45	40	46	44	40	40	48	48	41	39	37	36	37	36
Kennedy	42	38	43	41	41	39	42	39	39	38	48	46	39	37	38	35	37	34
Magruder	45	44	48	47	42	41	47	47	43	40	49	48	40	38	39	36	38	34
Northwest	45	42	46	45	42	40	47	45	41	41	48	46	41	40	38	38		
Northwood ^a	n/a	40	n/a	41	n/a	39	n/a	40	n/a	36	n/a	46	n/a	37	n/a	36	n/a	34
Paint Branch	44	43	45	44	42	41	46	44	42	40	47	48	40	39	40	36	39	38
Poolesville	47	46	52	49	37	43	55	46	45	44	50	48		44	42	38		
Quince Orchard	48	47	49	50	44	42	48	48	45	42	51	52	42	41	39	40	39	37
R. Montgomery	51	50	55	52	46	41	57	54	43	44	56	54	44	39	40	38	42	37
Rockville	45	43	48	45	39	39	47	46	40	39	52	48	40	39	40	37	35	35
Seneca Valley	43	41	46	43	42	39	44	42	42	40	47	45	40	39	36	37	38	35
Sherwood	46	43	48	47	41	40	47	44	43	41	49	47	42	37	38	38	36	37
Springbrook	44	42	48	44	43	41	47	46	42	40	55	49	41	39	39	36	37	37
W. Johnson	50	49	53	52	44	41	52	50	44	45	53	53	41	41	41	40	42	39
Watkins Mill	42	40	44	42	40	39	42	43	41	38	47	45	40	38	36	35	36	34
Wheaton	41	38	41	40	40	39	42	40	40	37	43	44	40	38	36	34	36	34
Whitman	54	51	56	54	47	43	55	51	52	47	56	54	39	41	42	40	42	42
Wootton	50	50	53	51	42	42	53	52	45	46	53	51	42	41	40	41	41	37

Note: Results were calculated for students who were enrolled in Grade 10 on September 30, excluding students who were enrolled in special schools, ESOL Levels 1 or 2, or a life-skills or community-based special education program. PSAT scores are not reported for cells with fewer than 5 test takers.

^a Northwood HS did not have a Grade 10 class until 2005–2006.