



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **GCPS test-takers top state, national averages on 2011 SAT**

Gwinnett County Public Schools released SAT scores for the Class of 2011, the fifth class to take the new version of the SAT, which features a writing section. Once again, Gwinnett test-takers topped state and national averages on all sections (critical reading, math, and writing) of the test. However, SAT averages at local, state, and national levels decreased overall. Test participation in Gwinnett County Public Schools continues to be noteworthy as more and more students take the SAT and prepare for college. The district has experienced a 29.2 percent increase in SAT participation over the last two years.

### **Gwinnett SAT Highlights**

- **Gwinnett's average composite score on the SAT is 1511**, a combination of the average critical reading score of 501, the average mathematics score of 521, and the average writing score of 489. (Possible scores range from 200 to 800 on each section. The highest possible composite score is 2400.)
- **Gwinnett's total SAT average is 11 points above the national average of 1500**
- **Gwinnett's average is 66 points above the Georgia average of 1445.**
- **Over the last two years, GCPS has experienced a 29.2 percent increase in SAT participation.** In 2009, 5,796 students took the SAT in Gwinnett. This past year, Gwinnett had 7,490 SAT test takers. That is an increase of nearly 1,700 test takers over a two-year period.

Individual school results and system results are found on the following page. Individual school averages can be greatly affected by the unique characteristics of each year's test takers. Students can improve their SAT scores by doing well in rigorous courses, reading challenging books and articles, and writing concise essays that include compelling details to support a persuasive argument.

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world-class standards.*

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religion, national origin, age, or disability in any  
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any other program, activity, or service.

2010 Winner of



## Gwinnett SAT Scores by High School

	2010	2010	2010	2010	2011	2011	2011	2011
	Reading	Math	Writing	Total	Reading	Math	Writing	Total
<i>Archer</i>	459	440	441	1340	476	485	453	1414
<i>Berkmar</i>	473	490	460	1423	454	469	448	1371
<i>Brookwood</i>	547	568	536	1651	528	557	525	1610
<i>Central Gwinnett</i>	472	495	454	1421	470	489	453	1412
<i>Collins Hill</i>	522	550	508	1580	506	543	498	1547
<i>Dacula</i>	509	523	492	1524	510	522	493	1525
<i>Duluth</i>	514	543	499	1556	508	538	498	1544
<i>Grayson</i>	493	503	477	1473	497	503	483	1483
<i>GSMST</i>					634	659	621	1914
<i>Lanier</i>					474	474	457	1405
<i>Meadowcreek</i>	449	469	441	1359	447	457	429	1333
<i>Mill Creek</i>	526	548	512	1586	508	530	497	1535
<i>Mountain View</i>	462	485	449	1396	495	510	476	1481
<i>Norcross</i>	508	528	503	1539	506	519	494	1519
<i>North Gwinnett</i>	515	540	505	1560	516	542	499	1557
<i>Parkview</i>	527	544	517	1588	529	550	517	1596
<i>Peachtree Ridge</i>	507	541	501	1549	503	533	502	1538
<i>Phoenix</i>	485	473	478	1436	426	405	398	1229
<i>Shiloh</i>	458	466	449	1373	463	472	447	1382
<i>South Gwinnett</i>	485	486	466	1437	447	456	433	1336
<i>GCPS</i>	508	528	496	1532	501	521	489	1511
<i>GA</i>	488	490	475	1453	485	487	473	1445
<i>Nation</i>	501	516	492	1509	497	514	489	1500

### A Review of the New SAT—How is it different?

Several things differentiate the new version of the SAT from previous tests, including:

- The new SAT features a writing section. Students are asked to take a position on an issue and use reasoning and examples taken from their previous in and out of class experiences to support the position.
- The critical reading test actually is more than a name change from the previous verbal section of the SAT. Reading passages are longer and require a deeper understanding of both vocabulary and contextual understanding.
- The mathematics section includes questions testing students' knowledge of Algebra II, an area not assessed in the previous version of the SAT.

*Reporters with additional questions may contact Dale Robbins, associate superintendent for Teaching and Learning, at 678-301-7030.*