

San Antonio Education Snapshot

City of San Antonio Community Conversation on the Education Continuum

September 2010

With college and career readiness as goals for all of our children, what is the status of education in our city?

Student Preparation: Elementary School to High School

TAKS Outcomes¹

About 75 percent of all fourth grade San Antonio students met 2009 standards for all tests on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS), a minimum, not commended, standard.

- This rate fell in eighth grade to 63 percent and in 11th grade to 70 percent.
- These same general trends are seen in TAKS outcomes statewide, but statewide rates are higher at each grade level.
- In Texas, 78 percent of all fourth graders, 67 percent of all eighth graders and 76 percent of all 11th graders met 2009 standards for all tests.

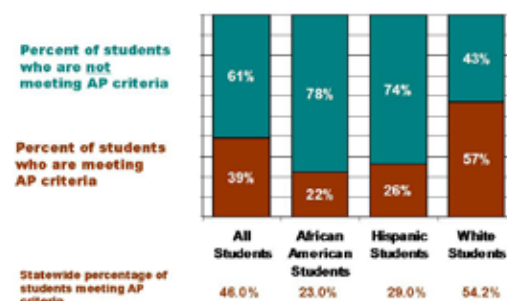
TAKS outcomes for San Antonio students vary significantly by subgroup. For eighth graders, 2009 standards were met on all tests by: 78 percent of White students; 60 percent of Hispanic students; 59 percent of African American students; 57 percent of economically disadvantaged students; 41 percent of special education students; and 20 percent of English language learners.

AP/Dual Credit Coursetaking & Outcomes

A greater percentage of high school students in San Antonio are taking advanced courses (AP, dual credit, IB) and AP tests than statewide.

- Still, only 19 percent of African American students, 20 percent of Hispanic students and 39 percent of White students are enrolled in such courses.
- The city lags behind the state in the percentage of students in almost every subgroup who take AP tests and meet criteria to earn college credit.

Advanced Placement Test Outcomes, San Antonio



Source: TEA, 2009-09

Teacher Preparation

Teaching in Field

- In San Antonio, 78 percent of teachers are teaching in field, compared to 85 percent, statewide.
- The percentage of teachers working in their field of study varies across local high schools, from a low of 70 percent to a high of 97 percent.

Teacher Certification

- About 12 percent of teachers in San Antonio are not certified, compared 7 percent statewide.



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Texas schools are losing a student every four minutes.

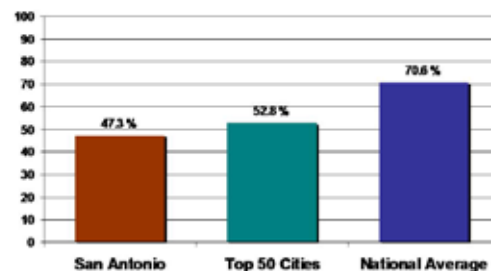
In the last decade, Bexar County has lost more than 93,800 high school students.

Graduation

Graduation Rates²

- Looking at a 10-year span (from 1995 to 2005), San Antonio saw a 6.4 percentage point increase in graduation rates.
- Far greater gains are possible.
- Philadelphia and Tucson both posted 23 percentage-point gains during the same period (Philadelphia 23.2; Tucson 22.7).
- Among the nation's 50 largest cities, San Antonio ranks 38th in graduation rates. How did other Texas cities stack up? Austin ranked 16th, Fort Worth 23rd, Houston 27th, and Dallas 31st.

Graduation Rate – San Antonio, Top 50 Cities, National



Attrition Rates³

- In general, overall attrition rates for Bexar County have improved only slightly in the last decade from 41 percent in 1999-00 to 39 percent in 2008-09.
- Almost four out of every 10 high school students (39 percent) in Bexar County were lost to attrition between 2005-06 and 2008-09.
- 24 percent of White students, 42 percent of African American high school students, and 45 percent of Hispanic students were lost to attrition.
- A total of 10,742 Bexar County high school students were lost to attrition.

Transitions⁴

- The majority of San Antonio students who drop out do so in ninth grade.

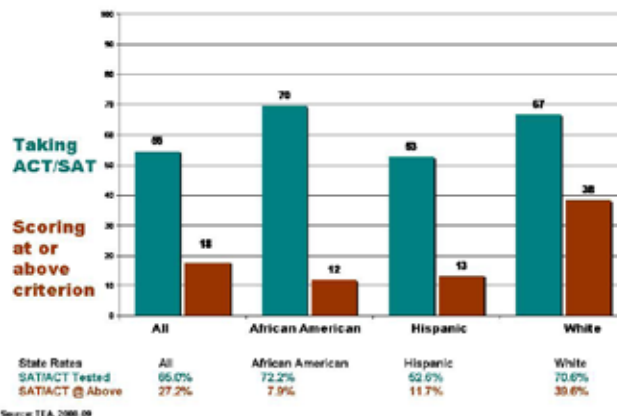
College Readiness

ACT/SAT Test Taking & Outcomes⁵

With a spotlight on college readiness, a growing number of San Antonio students are taking ACT/SAT tests – tests required by some colleges to grant admission.

- 55 percent of all San Antonio students took ACT/SAT tests in 2008-09.
- But only 18 percent scored at or above criteria.

ACT/SAT Test Taking & Outcomes, San Antonio



College Readiness in Math & Reading⁶

To be considered college-ready in Texas, a high school graduate must have met or exceeded the college-ready criteria on the TAKS exit-level test, the SAT or ACT tests.

- Fewer than half (40 percent) of San Antonio students are considered college-ready in mathematics and reading.

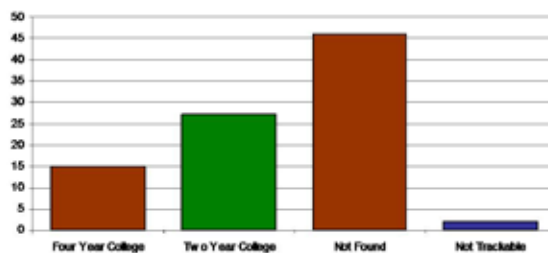
For every
dollar invested
in education,
nine dollars is
returned.

College Participation

Enrollment in Two- and Four-Year Institutions⁷

- Fewer than one in three San Antonio students (27 percent) enrolls in a Texas two-year college after graduation.
- Fewer than one in five students (15 percent) enrolls in a Texas four-year college or university after graduation.
- Almost half of graduating students (46 percent) were not found in any college or institution of higher education the following year; data for 2 percent of students cannot be tracked.

Students Enrolled in College (in State) after Graduation, San Antonio



Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, 2009

College Affordability⁸

- In Texas, net college costs for low- and middle-income students to attend community colleges represent more than a third of their annual family income.
- Attending public four-year colleges and universities represents about 45 percent of annual family income.
- The state investment in need-based financial aid is relatively low, even though Texas has increased this investment since 1992.

Adult Educational Attainment and Economic Benefits

Adult Educational Attainment⁹

- More adults in San Antonio have attained less than a high school education than the national average.
- Fewer have earned an advanced degree.

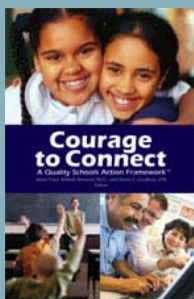
Income by Educational Attainment¹⁰

Nationally, for the past two decades, income levels have risen steadily – and poverty has fallen – with each successive level of schooling. This trend holds true in San Antonio.

- Here, the median annual income for a person with a bachelor's degree is more than three times greater than the income for a person with less than a high school education.

References

- ¹ Texas Education Agency (2008-09)
- ² Editorial Projects in Education (2009)
- ³ Intercultural Development Research Association (2009)
- ⁴ Editorial Projects in Education (2009)
- ⁵ Texas Education Agency (2009)
- ⁶ Texas Education Agency (2009)
- ⁷ Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (2008-09)
- ⁸ The National Center For Public Policy and Higher Education (2010)
- ⁹ U.S. Census (2006-08)
- ¹⁰ Editorial Projects in Education (2009)
- ¹¹ Texas Education Agency website
- ¹² Intercultural Development Research Association website



New resource
from IDRA
[www.idra.org/
courageconnect](http://www.idra.org/courageconnect)

Additional Research and Data for Planning and Action

Alamo Area Community Information System (CI:Now)

<http://datacenter.aacis.info/nowdata/default.aspx>

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's 2010 Kids Count Data Book

<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/databook/>

The State of Texas Children: Texas KIDS COUNT Annual Data Book 2009-2010

Center for Public Policy Priorities http://www.cppp.org/factbook09/tkc_2009_10.pdf

City of San Antonio Planning and Development Services Department

http://www.sanantonio.gov/planning/GIS/demo_map_catalog.asp

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/>

IDRA Graduation for All e-letter

http://www.idra.org/School_Holding_Power/Graduation_for_All_e-Letter/

IDRA's OurSchool data portal

English: <http://www.idra.org/portal/>

Spanish: <http://www.idra.org/portalsp/>

IDRA Texas Annual Attrition Study and Resources for Raising Graduation Rates

<http://www.idra.org/Research/Attrition/>

InterAction: Higher Education and Latinos in the New Millennium

http://www.idra.org/Equitable_Resources/Initiatives/InterAction/

Making Connections – San Antonio Research

<http://www.mc-sa.org/research/reports/default.asp>

Key Terms¹¹

AP/IB Results: These refer to the results of the College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) examinations and the International Baccalaureate Organization's International Baccalaureate (IB) examinations taken by Texas public school students. High school students may take these examinations, ideally upon completion of AP or IB courses, and may receive advanced placement or credit, or both, upon entering college.

College-Ready Graduates: To be considered college-ready as defined by this indicator, a graduate must have met or exceeded the college-ready criteria on the TAKS exit-level test, or the SAT test, or the ACT test.

Economically Disadvantaged: The percent of economically disadvantaged students is calculated as the sum of the students coded as eligible for free or reduced-price lunch or eligible for other public assistance, divided by the total number of students.

Limited English Proficient (LEP): These are students identified as limited English proficient by the Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) according to criteria established in the Texas Administrative Code.

SAT/ACT Results At/Above Criterion: This shows the percent of examinees who scored at or above the criterion score on either test (1110 on the SAT, or 24 on the ACT).

Special Education: This refers to the population served by programs for students with disabilities.

TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills):

The Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) is a comprehensive testing program for public school students in grades 3-11. The TAKS is designed to measure to what extent a student has learned, understood and is able to apply the concepts and skills expected at each tested grade level.

Other Notes on Methodology and Data Aggregation¹²

Attrition is calculated by: (1) dividing the high school enrollment in the end year by the high school enrollment in the base year; (2) multiplying the results from Calculation 1 by the ninth grade enrollment in the base year; (3) subtracting the results from Calculation 2 from 12th grade enrollment in the end year; and (4) dividing the results of Calculation 3 by the result of Calculation 2. The attrition rate results (percentages) are rounded to the nearest whole number.

San Antonio data are based on an aggregation of data reported to TEA by public and charter schools in the city, where reports are available, excluding disciplinary alternative education programs (DAEPs). Distribution of teaching in field rates across San Antonio, does not include charter school data.