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ANALYSIS OF 2007-08 WCPSS SAT SCORES

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1. In 2007-08, students in Wake County Public Schools (WCPSS) posted average SAT scores of 541 in mathematics, 518 in critical reading, and 506 in writing. The combined score for verbal and mathematics was 1059, while the total score was 1565. The combined verbal and mathematics score was 2 points higher than the combined score for 2006-07. North Carolina, as a whole, enjoyed a similar increase over 2006-07, while the nation as a whole was unchanged.
2. Since 1990, the average SAT combined score (verbal and mathematics) for WCPSS students has moved from 999 to 1059. The average score for North Carolina has gone from 948 to 1007, while the average for the U.S. has gone from 1001 to 1017. Thus, students in Wake have added 60 points to their average score as compared with 59 and 16 points for the state and nation, respectively.
3. In 1990, WCPSS trailed the national average by 2 points. By 2008, WCPSS exceeded the national average by 42 points. Similarly, in 1990, WCPSS exceeded the state average by 51 points. In 2008, the difference was 52 points.
4. For all three groups, since 1990 the average mathematics score has improved faster than has the verbal score: WCPSS added 43 points in mathematics and 17 in verbal while NC has added 41 points in mathematics and 18 points in verbal. For the nation, the change has been 14 for mathematics and 2 for verbal.

5. The participation rate for WCPSS students has always exceeded rates for the state and the nation. However, the state has experienced a 8 percentage point improvement on this dimension since 1990, moving from 55% to 63%. The state rate is currently 10 percentage points lower than the WCPSS rate, which has hovered between 73-80% since 1990. Nationally, there have never been more than 49% of students participating in the SAT during the period under consideration. In 2007-08, 45% of students nationwide took the SAT.
6. All individual high schools in Wake County except five had combined score averages greater than the averages for the state. The range of averages within the district was 918 to 1174. Including the Writing component of the SAT, the range of averages was 1352 to 1748.
7. In March 2006, the Educational Testing Service re-introduced the writing test as part of the SAT. WCPSS students on average scored 12 points over the national average and 24 points over the state average on this test in 2007-2008.
8. In 2007-08, Wake County Public Schools students, on average, out-performed students in five other large North Carolina LEAs. Moreover, male students on average out-performed females on the SAT, continuing a long-term trend that is reflected at the state and national levels. When the SAT data are disaggregated by race/ethnicity, a continuing gap in the achievement of white students as compared to African American students and Hispanic students may be seen. However, WCPSS black, Hispanic and white students out-performed their counterparts in the state and the nation. WCPSS Hispanic students also posted a 10-point improvement in 2007-08.
9. In summary, it may be observed that students in WCPSS had a slight improvement in the mathematics and verbal combined score on the SAT in 2007-08 compared to the prior year. This was also true for North Carolina, while scores nationally were flat. However, year-to-year comparisons are less useful for gauging success when longer-term trend data are available. Over the long term, WCPSS students have made steady progress in improving SAT scores.

WCPSS SAT Results 2008

(Summaries from previous reports and data released by College Board on 8/26/2008)

Figure 1: SAT Scores for WCPSS, NC, and USA, 2008

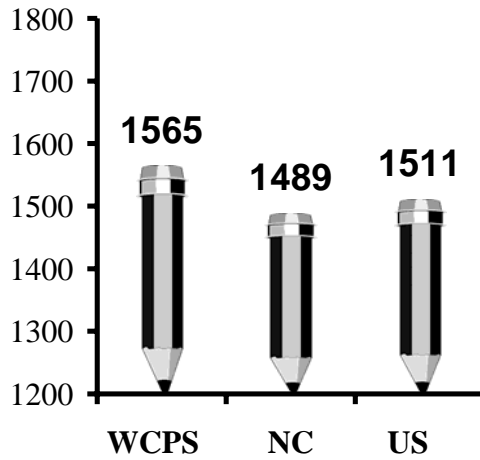


Table 1: SAT Participation Rates, Math, Critical Reading, and Writing Scores, 2008

	2007-08					
	Participation Rate	Math	Critical Reading	M+CR	Writing	M+CR+W
USA	45%	515	502	1017	494	1511
NC	63%	511	496	1007	482	1489
Wake County	73%	541	518	1059	506	1565
Apex	81.6%	573	543	1116	531	1647
Athens Drive	77.4%	553	518	1071	505	1576
Broughton	91.2%	548	530	1078	524	1602
Cary	74.3%	558	529	1087	511	1598
East Wake*	45.6%	468	450	918	434	1352
Enloe	84.9%	594	580	1174	574	1748
Fuquay-Varina	59.2%	524	503	1027	481	1508
Garner	49.0%	471	461	932	440	1372
Green Hope	88.9%	588	546	1134	543	1677
Knightdale	62.8%	463	455	918	436	1354
Leesville	80.8%	555	525	1080	517	1597
Middle Creek	66.5%	529	520	1049	497	1546
Millbrook	78.0%	512	490	1002	480	1482
Sanderson	69.8%	535	513	1048	496	1544
SE Raleigh	75.0%	504	492	996	479	1475
Wakefield	76.4%	537	513	1050	500	1550
Wake Forest-Rolesville	65.8%	524	509	1033	489	1522

*Because of test cross-registration issues, these figures are the weighted averages for all four East Wake Schools.

Note: Schools with 10 or fewer participants are not included in this table. The participation rate is the percentage of graduating WCPSS seniors who took the SAT I. 3

Table 2: WCPSS, NC, and USA SAT Scores, 1990-2008

Year	WCPSS				NC				USA			
	Total	Math	Verbal	Rate	Total	Math	Verbal	Rate	Total	Math	Verbal	Rate
1990	999	498	501	73	948	470	478	55	1001	501	500	40
1991	1007	508	499	75	952	474	478	57	999	500	499	42
1992	1025	516	509	74	961	479	482	57	1001	501	500	42
1993	1031	521	510	76	964	481	483	60	1003	503	500	43
1994	1030	520	510	75	964	482	482	60	1003	504	499	42
1995	1039	524	515	76	970	482	488	60	1010	506	504	41
1996	1042	525	517	73	976	486	490	59	1013	508	505	41
1997	1047	529	518	74	978	488	490	59	1016	511	505	42
1998	1052	531	521	76	982	492	490	62	1017	512	505	43
1999	1059	537	522	76	986	493	493	61	1016	511	505	43
2000	1061	539	522	79	988	496	492	64	1019	514	505	44
2001	1054	534	520	79	992	499	493	65	1020	514	506	45
2002	1067	543	524	79	998	505	493	67	1020	516	504	46
2003	1067	543	524	80	1001	506	495	68	1026	519	507	48
2004	1063	539	524	77	1006	507	499	70	1026	518	508	48
2005	1075	548	527	75	1010	511	499	74	1028	520	508	49
2006	1066	544	522*	77	1008	513	495*	71	1021	518	503*	48
2007	1057	538	519*	79	1004	509	495*	71	1017	515	502*	48
2008	1059	541	518*	73	1007	511	496*	63	1017	515	502*	45

*The Verbal test became the Critical Reading (CR) test in March 2005, resulting in test content changes.

Note: The participation rate is the percentage of graduating seniors who took the SAT I. See also note on page 4.

Figure 2: SAT Scores, 1990-2008

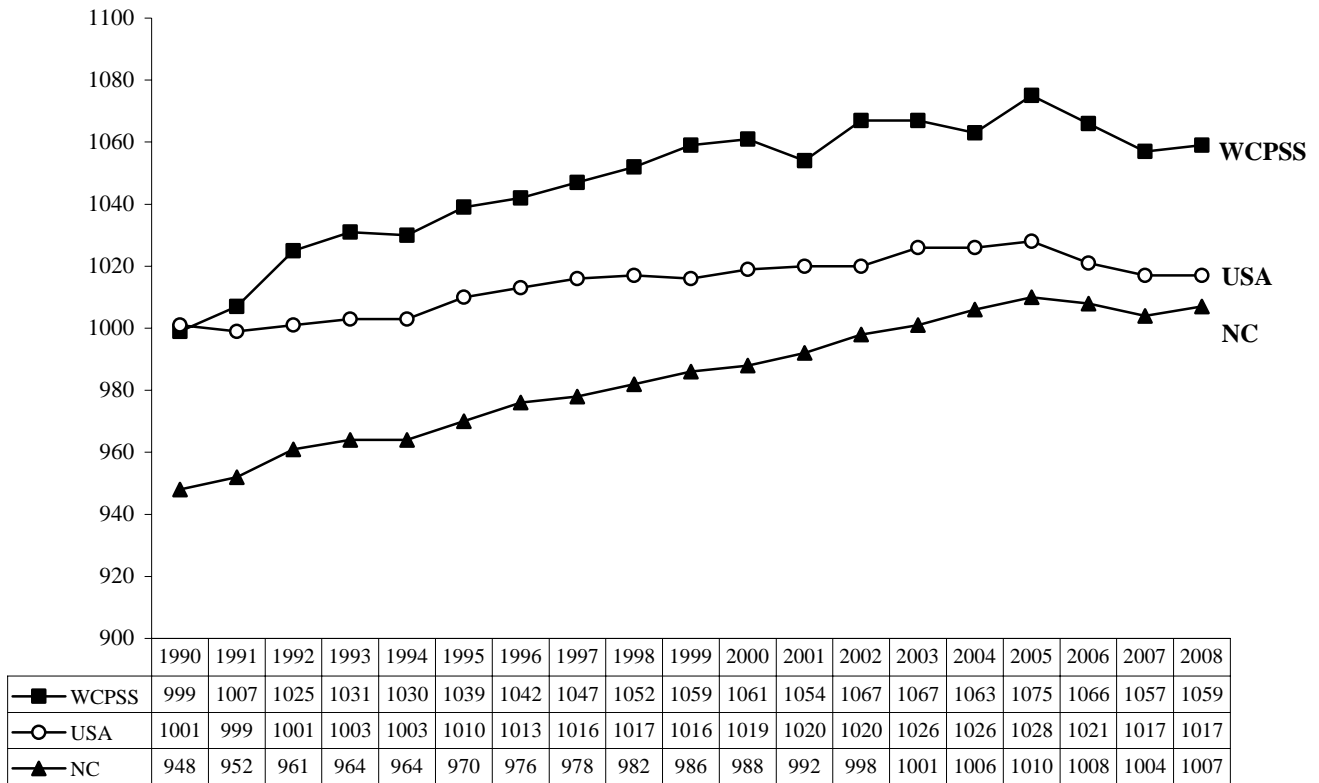


Figure 3: SAT Participation Rates, 1990-2008

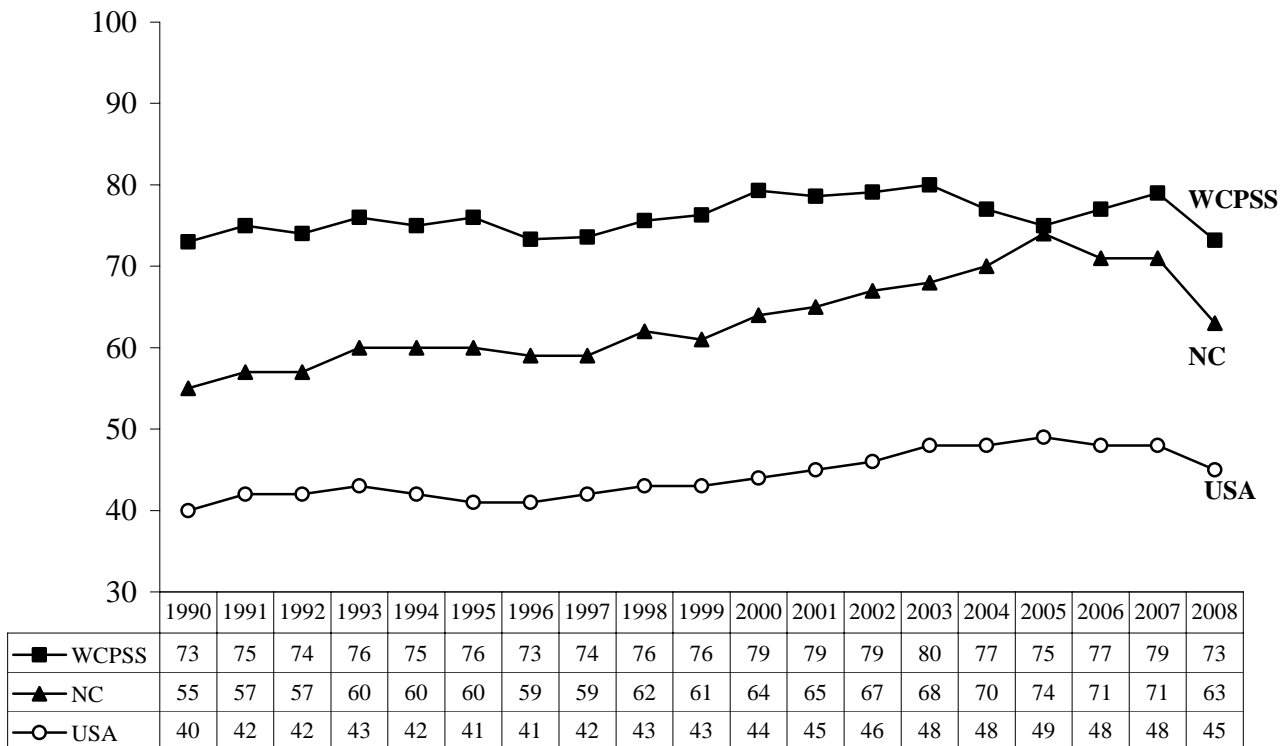


Table 3: Selected NC District SAT Scores, 2008

LEA	2008 M+CR+W	Number of Test-Takers in 2008
Chapel Hill-Carrboro City	1753	737
Watauga	1629	215
Asheville City	1571	195
Buncombe	1569	804
Wake	1565	5,611
Orange	1539	347
Transylvania	1539	114
Winston-Salem/Forsyth	1497	1,997
Charlotte-Mecklenburg	1489	4,656
Guilford	1471	2,984
Durham	1436	1,314
Cumberland	1399	1,708

Table 4: Comparison of Wake SAT Scores to Similar Large North Carolina Districts

LEA	2007				2008			
	Total	Math	Critical Reading	Part. Rate	Total	Math	Critical Reading	Part. Rate
Wake	1057	538	519	78.6	1059	541	518	73.2
Charlotte-Mecklenburg	1000	505	495	68.6	1006	510	496	68.4
Cumberland	942	476	466	54.0	946	477	469	53.2
Durham	983	493	490	72.8	967	484	483	68.4
Guilford	985	498	487	70.7	991	503	488	65.0
Winston-Salem/Forsyth	1012	511	501	66.4	1009	510	499	64.5

Notes: When the actual number of graduates was not known, participation rates reported by NCDPI are used. SAT participation rates reported by the College Board are based upon estimates of counts of graduating seniors compiled through national surveys. While the College Board rates are probably accurate at the state and national level, they are not accurate at the district and individual school level. The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) uses 8th month twelfth grade membership rather than actual numbers of graduates. Whenever the actual number of graduates is known, WCPSS uses that count to calculate participation rates, dividing the number of senior students who took the SAT by the size of the graduating class for the district and for each high school.

**Table 5: WCPSS High Schools
Participation Rates and Average SAT Scores for Three Years**

	2005-06				2006-07				2007-08			
	Participation	Math	CR	Total	Participation	Math	CR	Total	Participation	Math	CR	Total
USA	48%	518	503	1021	48%	515	502	1017	45%	515	502	1017
NC	71%	513	495	1008	71%	509	495	1004	63%	511	496	1007
Wake County	77.0%	544	522	1066	78.6%	538	519	1057	73.2%	541	518	1059
Apex	89.5%	564	543	1107	86.8%	565	534	1099	81.6%	573	543	1116
Athens Drive	79.0%	562	520	1082	85.3%	557	523	1080	77.4%	553	518	1071
Broughton	88.8%	552	539	1091	97.9%	545	531	1076	91.2%	548	530	1078
Cary	77.9%	554	538	1092	78.9%	568	542	1110	74.3%	558	529	1087
East Wake*	47.7%	489	472	961	71.1%	477	456	933	45.6%	468	450	918
Enloe	89.3%	594	579	1173	89.5%	577	580	1157	84.9%	594	580	1174
Fuquay-Varina	63.0%	539	509	1048	58.3%	512	497	1009	59.2%	524	503	1027
Garner	55.8%	485	470	955	61.5%	479	469	948	49%	471	461	932
Green Hope	89.4%	575	538	1113	92.5%	570	536	1106	88.9%	588	546	1134
Knightdale					65.3%	459	452	911	62.8%	463	455	918
Leesville	82.7%	564	534	1098	86.2%	551	529	1080	80.8%	555	525	1080
Middle Creek	72.3%	518	502	1020	68.5%	521	506	1027	66.5%	529	520	1049
Millbrook	85.9%	533	512	1045	85.7%	521	501	1022	78%	512	490	1002
Sanderson	69.8%	526	507	1033	72.5%	538	523	1061	69.8%	535	513	1048
SE Raleigh	77.8%	512	492	1004	80.0%	512	494	1006	75%	504	492	996
Wakefield	81.2%	535	510	1045	79.7%	525	521	1046	76.4%	537	513	1050
Wake Forest-Rolesville	67.8%	516	496	1012	71.9%	518	504	1022	65.8%	524	509	1033

*These figures are the weighted averages for all four East Wake Schools for 2007-08.

Note: Schools with 10 or fewer participants are not included in this table. The participation rate is the percentage of graduating seniors who took the SAT I.

Table 6: Total Average SAT Scores by WCPSS High School, 2003-2008

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Wake County	1067	1063	1075	1066	1057	1059
Apex	1107	1090	1093	1107	1099	1116
Athens Drive	1091	1089	1098	1082	1080	1071
Broughton	1080	1081	1110	1091	1076	1078
Cary	1062	1071	1073	1092	1110	1087
East Wake*	962	960	965	961	933	918*
Enloe	1146	1153	1178	1173	1157	1174
Fuquay-Varina	1016	1022	1041	1048	1009	1027
Garner	986	972	972	955	948	932
Green Hope	1111	1114	1110	1113	1106	1134
Knightdale					911	918
Leesville	1092	1109	1102	1098	1080	1080
Middle Creek			1037	1020	1027	1049
Millbrook	1040	1011	1045	1045	1022	1002
Sanderson	1041	1063	1059	1033	1061	1048
SE Raleigh	1027	1017	1035	1004	1006	996
Wakefield	1057	1047	1057	1045	1046	1050
Wake Forest-Rolesville	1029	1023	1018	1012	1022	1033

*This number is the weighted average for all four East Wake Schools for 2007-08.

Figure 4: WCPSS SAT Totals by Gender, 1998-2008

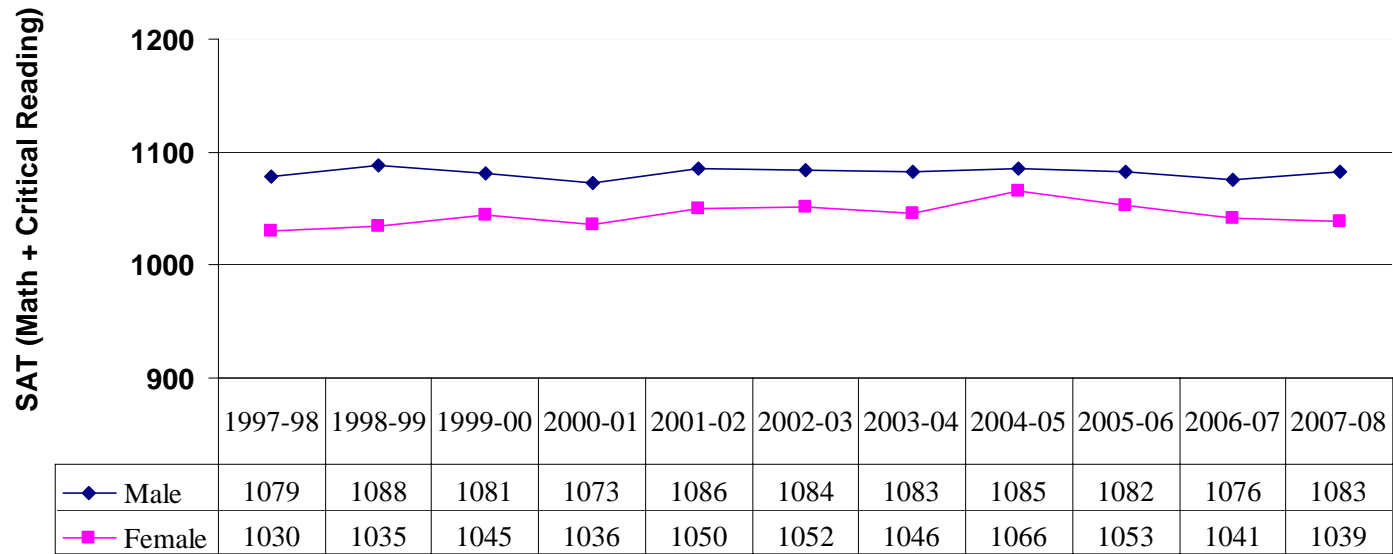
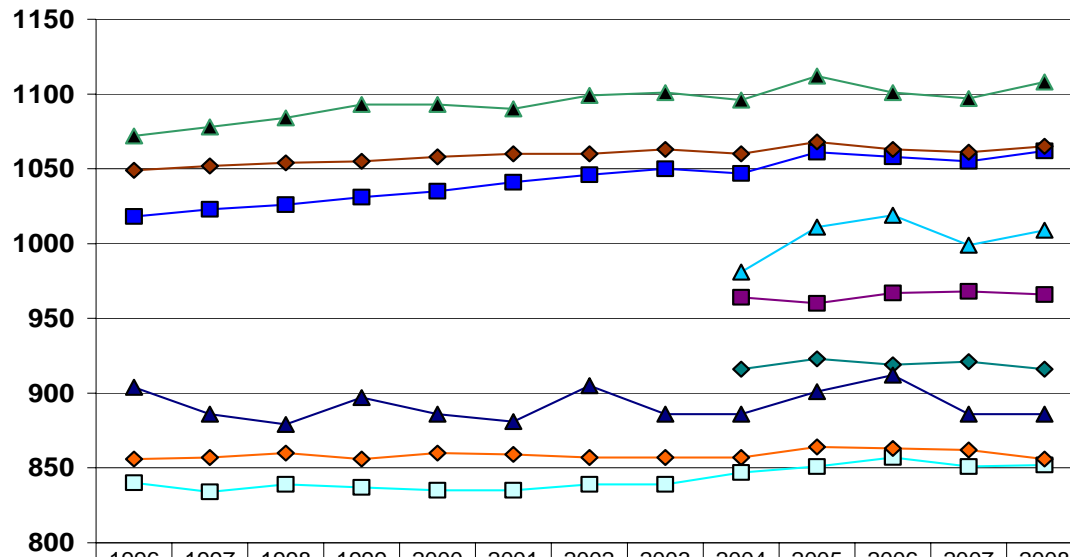


Figure 5: WCPSS SAT by Ethnicity, 1996-2008



	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
▲ WCPSS White	1072	1078	1084	1093	1093	1090	1099	1101	1096	1112	1101	1097	1108
■ NC White	1018	1023	1026	1031	1035	1041	1046	1050	1047	1061	1058	1055	1062
◆ USA White	1049	1052	1054	1055	1058	1060	1060	1063	1060	1068	1063	1061	1065
▲ WCPSS Hispanic									981	1011	1019	999	1009
■ NC Hispanic									964	960	967	968	966
◆ USA Hispanic									916	923	919	921	916
▲ WCPSS Black	904	886	879	897	886	881	905	886	886	901	912	886	886
□ NC Black	840	834	839	837	835	835	839	839	847	851	857	851	852
◆ USA Black	856	857	860	856	860	859	857	857	857	864	863	862	856