

National Tests

ACT and SAT

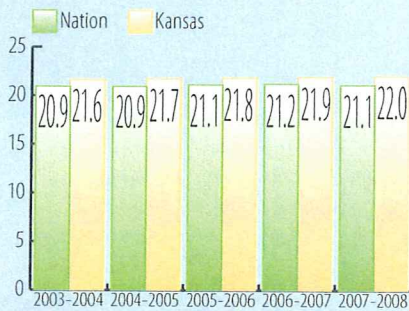
In 2008, Kansas students maintained their competitive edge and continued to perform well on the ACT and SAT college entrance exams. The ACT and SAT are two measures used to compare Kansas students'

performance with that of other students across the country.

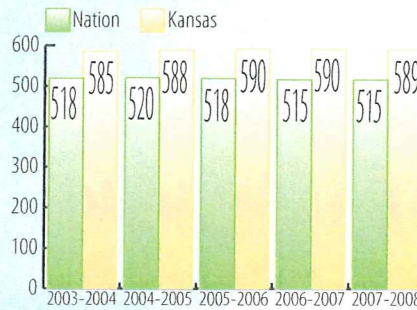
With 74% or 23,687 of the over 32,000 seniors taking the 2008 ACT exam, Kansas ranks in the top 20% in participation. The composite score of 22.0 ranks Kansas

students among the best in the nation when compared to states where at least seventy percent of graduating seniors participate in the ACT.

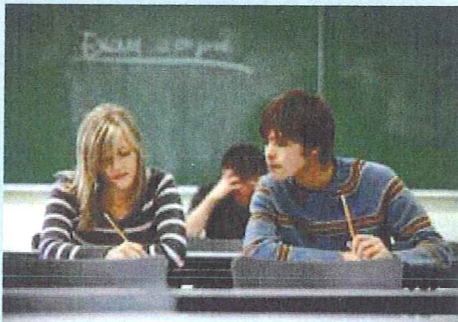
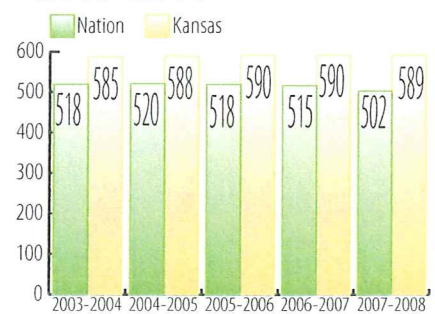
ACT Composite Scores 2003-2008



SAT Composite Scores Mathematics 2003-2008



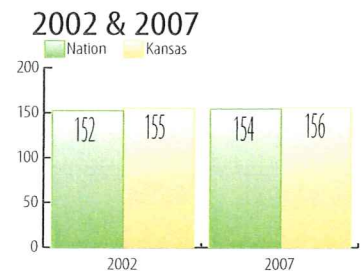
SAT Composite Scores Critical Reading 2003-2008



NAEP Writing Assessment

On the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) exam, students are provided a writing prompt (narrative, expository, or persuasive) and are allowed 25 minutes in which to complete an essay. That differs significantly from the way students are tested in writing on the Kansas state assessments, in which students are provided considerably more time to respond, draft, edit, and revise their response.

NAEP Composite Scores 8th Grade Writing 2002 & 2007



Standard of Excellence

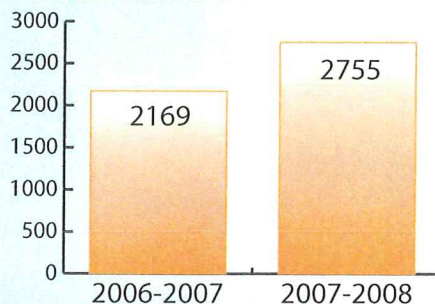
Kansas recognizes schools with the Standard of Excellence in reading and mathematics as well as history/government and science based on the 2007-2008 state assessments. This award acknowledges an increase in the number of students who perform at the highest level, along with a decrease in the number of students who perform in the lowest level. The Standard of Excellence can be earned at individual grade levels as well as building-wide.

The charts below reflect the increase in the number of certificates issued in reading and mathematics for the 2007-2008 assessments as compared to the 2006-2007 assessment data.

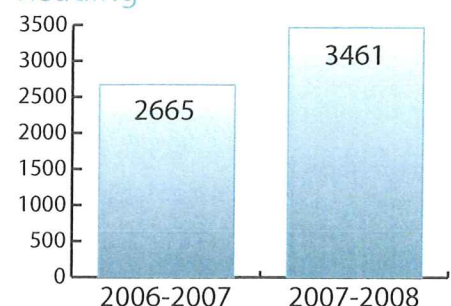
For a list of schools receiving Standard of Excellence certificates, go to <http://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=ZRt8JpsOOwk%3d&tabid=2379&mid=5463>.



Mathematics



Reading



Accolades

Challenge Award Recipients

One hundred eleven Certificates of Merit were presented to 51 Kansas public school districts as part of the Confidence in Kansas Public Education Task Force celebration held at Junction City Middle School. The Challenge Awards are designed to recognize Kansas schools making significant difference in student achievement despite facing significant challenges in school population. For a list of awardees, go to <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=95&ctl=Details&mid=444&ItemID=354>.

Governor's Achievement Awards

Forty-four Kansas elementary schools, twelve middle/junior high schools, and eighteen high schools were part of the third annual Governor's Achievement Awards, which honor top performing schools in the state. For a list of awardees, go to <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=95&ctl=Details&mid=444&ItemID=360>.

Kansas Horizon Award Program



Thirty-two beginning educators from around the state were named 2009 Kansas Horizon Award recipients. The Kansas Horizon Awards are sponsored by the Kansas State Department of Education. The award recognizes exemplary first-year educators.

The Horizon Award program, currently in its seventh year, allows all school districts in the state an opportunity to nominate one elementary and one secondary teacher for the award. To be eligible for a Horizon Award, teachers must have successfully completed their first year of teaching and have performed in such a way as to distinguish themselves as outstanding. The Horizon Award program is a regional competition with four regions corresponding to the state's U.S. Congressional districts. Four elementary and four secondary classroom teachers may be selected for the award from each region. For a list of awardees, go to <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=2233>.

Kansas Teacher of the Year

Cindy Couchman, a mathematics teacher at Buhler High School, Buhler USD 313, is the 2009 Kansas Teacher of the Year. Cindy has been a mathematics teacher at Buhler High School for the past 14 years and has a total of 19 years experience in the classroom. She was a state finalist for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching in 2007 and is also a National Board Certified Teacher in Adolescence and Young Adulthood, Mathematics.



Milken Family Foundation National Educator



Vanessa Martinez was named the 2008 Milken Family Foundation (MFF) National Educator in a surprise ceremony held at Horace Mann Dual Language Magnet School, Wichita USD 259. Ms. Martinez currently serves as the assistant principal at Horace Mann.

No Child Left Behind - Kansas Blue Ribbon Schools



Five nominations were sent to U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings for the 2008-2009 No Child Left Behind—Blue Ribbon Schools Awards Program. The five schools receiving the 2008 award are Beeson Elementary School, Dodge City USD 443; Lincoln Elementary School, Lincoln USD 298; Syracuse High School, Syracuse USD 494; Blue Valley North High School, Blue Valley USD 229; and Ellsworth Elementary School, Ellsworth USD 327.

Presidential Awards in Math and Science

Awardees are selected from mathematics and science teachers in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, with the competition alternating each year between kindergarten through sixth grade and seventh through twelfth grade teachers. After an initial selection process at the state level, a national panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians, and educators recommend teachers to receive the Presidential Awards. The awards are administered by the National Science Foundation. Carrie Newdigger, science teacher at Macksville High School, Macksville USD 351; and Steven Obenhaus, mathematics teacher at Olathe North High School, Olathe USD 233, were named National Finalists in May 2008.

Kansas Statistics

Average Student Attendance Rates 2003-2008

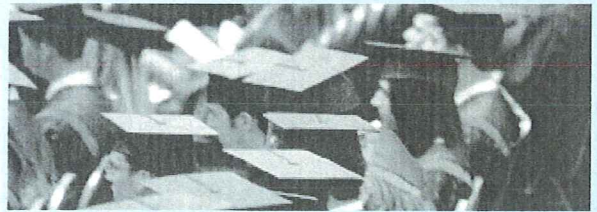
	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
Males	95.3	95.1	95.3	95.1	94.8
Females	95.0	95.0	95.1	94.2	94.6
Free/Reduced Lunch	93.2	93.6	94.2	93.7	93.7
Special Education	93.8	93.5	91.2	94.0	93.7
White	95.5	95.4	95.4	95.3	95.0
African American	93.4	93.1	93.7	93.8	93.6
Hispanic	94.3	94.4	94.6	94.4	93.9
Native American/Alaskan Native	93.4	93.1	93.2	93.4	93.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	96.2	96.3	96.4	96.1	96.2
Total	95.2	95.1	95.2	95.0	94.7



Attendance is compiled from the QPA Annual Report submitted yearly by each unified school district. The percentages are computed by dividing daily attendance by daily membership.

Average Student Graduation Rates 2002-2007

	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
Males	86.2	87.3	88.6	89.4	88.0
Females	89.0	90.9	91.9	82.1	91.0
Free/Reduced Lunch	78.2	81.6	83.9	85.2	80.9
Special Education	86.5	86.8	87.1	95.7	93.9
White	90.1	90.9	92.8	92.8	91.7
African American	76.3	81.2	83.1	83.6	81.7
Hispanic	72.1	77.9	79.0	79.1	79.9
Native American/Alaskan Native	80.7	79.9	81.5	82.5	78.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	90.9	92.0	91.2	92.0	88.1
Total	87.6	89.1	90.2	90.7	89.4



The graduation rate is determined by adding the total number of seniors with the two year dropouts (when seniors were juniors), the three year dropouts (when seniors were sophomores), and the year one dropouts (when seniors were freshmen). The number of non-traditional graduates (those who earn a GED or graduate in more than four years) is then subtracted from the total. The number is divided into the number of traditional graduates and the resulting number is then multiplied by 100 to arrive at the graduation rate.

Note: Reported data represents percentages and each year represents the prior year's graduation class.

Average Student Dropout Rates 2002-2007

	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
Males	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.8	2.1
Females	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.6
Free/Reduced Lunch	1.6	1.4	1.4	2.2	2.5
Special Education	1.9	1.4	1.4	1.7	2.0
White	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.5
African American	3.1	2.5	2.5	3.1	2.6
Hispanic	2.8	2.4	2.5	2.9	3.0
Native American/Alaskan Native	2.6	2.3	2.4	3.0	3.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.7	0.9	1.0	1.7	1.7
Total	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.8



Dropout rates are calculated using dropouts reported for the year for Grades 7 through 12 and dividing the total enrollment for the year for the same grades. Dropout rates are a single year indicator of students who left school and not the inverse of graduation rates.

Note: Reported data represents percentages and each year represents the prior year's graduation class.

Executive Summary



Results released in October from the 2008 Kansas Statewide Assessments show continued strong performance results in reading, mathematics, science, and history/government for all students. With over 99% participation by all students in each of these content areas, student performance is continuing an upward trend.

Across all of Kansas, the percent of students reading at the proficient level or above has risen from 59% in 2000 to 84% in 2008. This is a 25% gain. Math

has risen from 50% to 81%, a 31% gain. The gains have been just as strong in history/government and science. Additionally, the achievement gaps among various groups of Kansas students in reading, mathematics, history/ government, and science are closing. Participation rates on all assessments in Kansas are above 99% for all students. This indicates that educators take the assessments seriously, make sure that all students are counted, and have been working tirelessly to ensure that all children achieve to high levels.

The charts and subsequent statistics on the right highlight the incredible gains Kansas students have achieved.

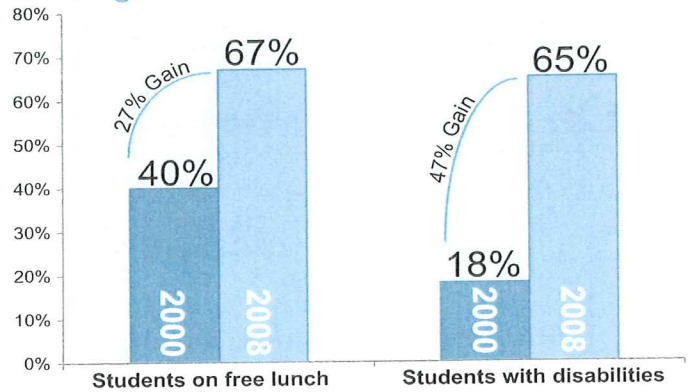
When compared with the results over the past nine years, reading, mathematics, history/ government, and science scores all reflect a continuing upward trend. I have used the word phenomenal when describing the achievement of our students across all grade levels in Kansas.

Congratulations, Kansas educators, on a job well done! The future of the world is in your classrooms, a future with the potential to improve tomorrow. What a responsibility you fulfill each and every day and how well you do it!

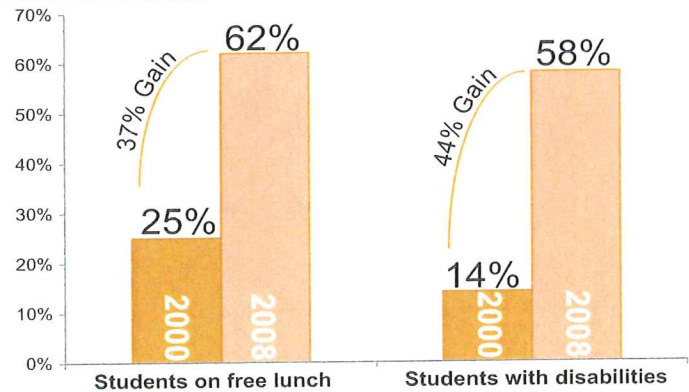
There has never been a more important time to focus on the students of tomorrow than today.

Alexa Posny, Ph.D.
Kansas Commissioner of Education

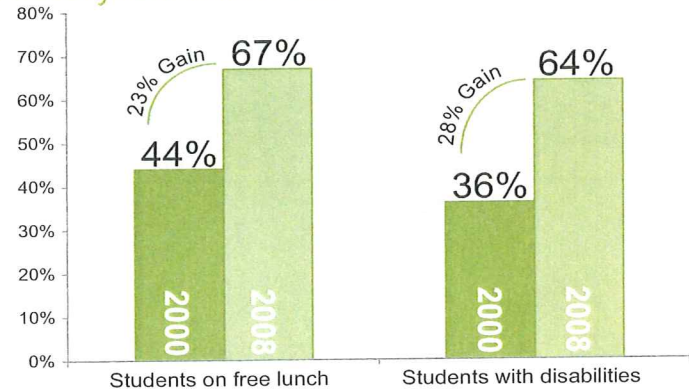
Reading



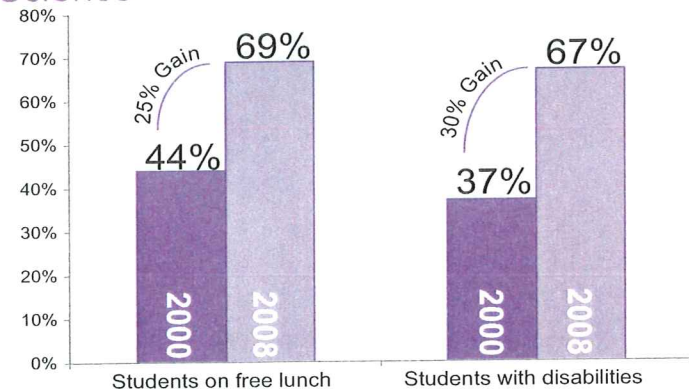
Mathematics



History/Government



Science





Kansas State Board of Education

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Education Priorities of the Kansas State Board of Education

- Ensure that all students meet or exceed high academic standards and are prepared for their next steps (e.g., the world of work and/or post secondary education) by:
 - redesigning the delivery system to meet our students' changing needs;
 - providing an effective educator in every classroom;
 - ensuring a visionary and effective leader in every school; and
 - improving communication with all constituent groups and policy partners.

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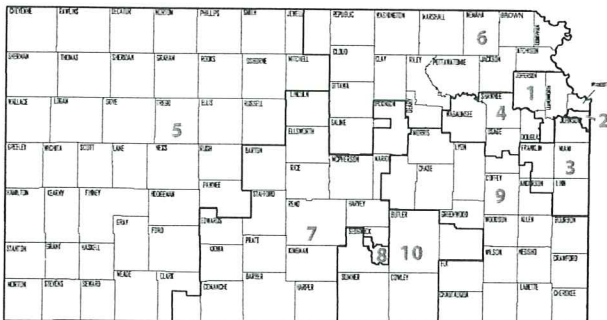


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Kansas State Board of Education
Adopted 9/2007



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An Equal Employment/Educational Opportunity Agency

The Kansas State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: KSDE General Counsel, 120 SE 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66612 (785) 296-3201