Calculation of SAT/ACT Data

If you’re interested in getting specific SAT/ACT data, or any other public education data, visit the [Texas Academic Excellence Indicator System](http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/aeis/) (which has been recently renamed).

When you run reports for the relevant school years, you’ll see numbers that look like this:

Class of 1992: State DISD

% At/Above Criterion 16.1% 7.6%

% Tested 63.6% 54.1%

Class of 2012:

% At/Above Criterion 24.9% 10.5%

% Tested 66.9% 77.0%

If the percent of kids tested varies, looking solely at the percentage of kids who score above the criterion (i.e., passing) can be tricky, because the population that isn’t tested can be assumed to be a bit less college motivated and college prepared, and so likely has lower scores, skewing the results. The Dallas ISD Board’s solution to this problem is to simply multiply the percent tested times the percent above criterion when they [evaluate the superintendent (see No. 11).](http://www.dallasisd.org/cms/lib/TX01001475/Centricity/Domain/5920/2013-2014_PartA.pdf) This cancels out any increase or decrease in percent tested.

That gives us these totals, and these comparisons:

 State DISD Difference

1992 10.2% 4.1% 6.1%

2012 16.7% 8.1% 8.6%

So, Dallas ISD is making progress, which is really good news. The rate of SAT/ACT passing has doubled in 20 years. But in the same period, the rate of passing for the state has also made major gains, and the state started quite a bit higher than Dallas ISD. So the difference between our kids and kids in the state has gotten worse, which is bad news.