



IDAHO
EDUCATION

2014
SAT DATA

**Idaho Business
For Education
and
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Albertson Foundation**

IDAHO SAT SCORES

PERFORMANCE ON THE SAT

// Idaho students must take a college entrance exam in order to graduate from high school; they are not required to take the SAT, but only the SAT is offered for free in Idaho. **In April of 2014, the state sponsored more than 19,000 Idaho high school juniors to take the SAT. About 88 percent of those juniors took the SAT.**

// **The Idaho State Board of Education has set a goal for the state that 60 percent of high school students score 500 or higher on all sections of the SAT.**

This K12 goal is critical, and aligns with the state's goal of 60 percent of 25- to 34-year-olds having completed some form of post-secondary education (1, 2, 4, or more years).

// **Scoring 500 or higher on a section of the SAT indicates that the student is not only prepared for their future career or college journey, but also has a high probability of success at that level.** This is critical as Idaho has historically had very low post-secondary go on rates, very high remediation rates for those that do go on and very high post-secondary dropout rates after the first year, relative to other states.

**4 OUT
OF 5**
ONLY %17.8

OF THE STATE'S 11TH GRADERS DID NOT MEET THE IDAHO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION'S GOAL OF SCORING AT OR ABOVE 500 ON ALL THREE SECTIONS OF THE SAT (READING, WRITING, AND MATH).

// If students leave high school unprepared for post-secondary they often choose not to go on, or when they do, they require costly remediation to close the gap of learning that should have taken place in high school. **This leaves a very large uphill battle to succeed in school and the workplace.**

// If these students do not change course post high school, typically at significant remediation costs and against the odds, it triggers two things:

- > **Idaho will have an under-supply of educated workers.** This is a problem because studies show that at least 60 percent of Idaho's jobs will require a post-secondary credential in the years ahead. If only 17.8 percent of the students are ready for success in post-secondary education, Idaho's businesses will not have the highly educated and skilled workers they need to grow. The lack of qualified workers may cause many businesses to stagnate or leave the state in search of a better educated workforce.
- > **Idaho will have an over-supply of uneducated workers which will keep downward pressure on wages.** This over-supply will fuel increases in unemployment and the number of discouraged workers and exert downward pressure on wages for these types of jobs.

183

The number of high schools in Idaho for which the State Board of Education has SAT scores. Here is how the schools performed against the State Board's goal for students to score 500 or higher on all sections of the test.

- 26** **High schools had fewer than 10 students take the test** (score summaries were withheld for student privacy reasons)
- 57** **High schools had fewer than 5 students in the class that meet the benchmark**
- 55** **High schools had between 5 percent and 19 percent of their students achieve the benchmark**
- 38** **High schools had between 20 percent and 39 percent of their students achieve the benchmark**
- 6** **High schools had between 40 percent and 59 percent of their students achieve the benchmark**
- 1** **High school in the state** (of the total 157 with reported data) **exceeded the 60 percent goal the State Board of Education has set**

TAKEAWAY: Less than 1 percent of the high schools in the state currently meet the Idaho State Board of Education's Benchmark of 500 on all sections of the SAT, and less than 5 percent of the high schools are even within 20 points of the goal.



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