

Scores of Students in the Arts

Students of the arts continue to outperform their non-arts peers on the SAT, according to reports by the College Entrance Examination Board.

In 2004, SAT takers with coursework/experience in studio art/design scored 49 points higher on the verbal portion of the test and 35 points higher on the math portion than students with no coursework or experience in the arts. Scores for those with coursework in art appreciation/art history were 43 points higher on the verbal portion and 24 points higher on the math portion.

In 2004, SAT takers with coursework/experience in music performance scored 57 points higher on the verbal portion of the test and 40 points higher on the math portion than students with no coursework or experience in the arts. Scores for those with coursework in music appreciation were 63 points higher on the verbal and 41 points higher on the math portion.

Data for these reports were gathered by the Student Descriptive Questionnaire, a self-reported component of the SAT that gathers information about students' academic preparation.

Course Title	Verbal Mean Scores			Math Mean Scores		
	2001	2002	2004	2001	2002	2004
Acting/Play Production	541	539	539	531	530	527
Art History/Appreciation	518	515	516	518	517	516
Dance	512	509	503	510	508	501
Drama: Study or Appreciation	534	531	528	523	522	517
Music: Study or Appreciation	539	537	536	538	537	533
Music Performance	533	530	530	535	535	532
Photography/Film	527	524	523	526	526	522
Studio Art/Design	525	522	524	528	528	527
No Arts Coursework	476	473	473	494	494	492
Honors Courses	565	563	565	564	564	563

Years of Study	Verbal Mean Scores			Math Mean Scores		
	2001	2002	2004	2001	2002	2004
More than 4 years	544	538	533	545	541	536
4 or more Years	535	536	539	530	534	535
3 Years	518	513	512	518	516	512
2 Years	506	504	505	513	514	512
1 Year	497	495	497	510	510	510
.5 Year or Less	485	484	483	500	502	498

Sources: The College Board, Profile of College-Bound Seniors National Report for 2001, 2002, and 2004.