



Education Issues

"The best thing happening in the local schools today is the enthusiasm of the students and the parents."

—Telephone survey respondent

A Summary of Santa Cruz County's Education Issues

Our Goals

By the Year 2004,

more Santa Cruz County students will graduate from high school job-ready or prepared for higher education.

By the Year 2004,

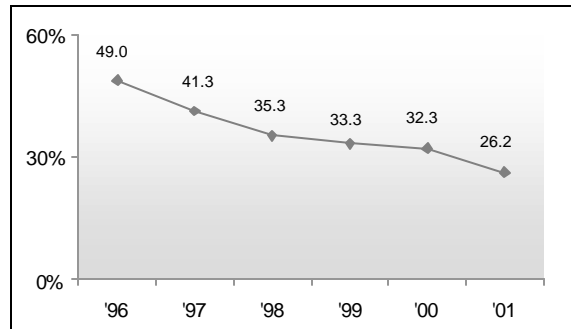
elementary and middle school students will meet or exceed the average statewide scores for academic success.

By the Year 2004,

Santa Cruz County children will enter kindergarten healthy and ready to learn.

School district enrollment is down at nine of thirteen jurisdictions in Santa Cruz County; after five years of relatively steady growth district-wide, the district totals for enrollment decreased by 0.6%. That drop effects a rise in expenditures per pupil in every elementary district.

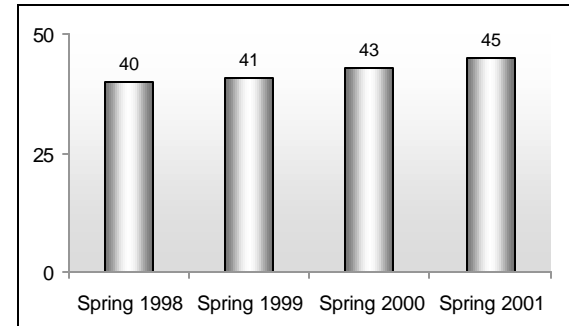
Satisfaction with Education



✓ Percent of parents reporting being very satisfied with their child(ren)'s high school education

Overall, satisfaction levels are high, with 22.3% saying they are very satisfied with the local system of education (the highest level since 1995). Compared to last year, the proportion reporting “very satisfied” was 8.0% higher for elementary school parents and 10.4% higher for middle school parents, but 6.1% lower for high school parents who are less satisfied than either other group.

STAR Scores – 3rd Grade Reading



✓ National percentile rank of third grader STAR reading scores for Santa Cruz County

Among high school parents, Caucasians were nearly twice as likely to say they were “very satisfied” with local education than they were two years ago (22.9% in 1999 compared with 41.1% in 2001), whereas satisfaction levels among Latino parents have plummeted over the same time span (64.3% in 1999 compared with 5.5% in 2001). But overall, Latinos were more than twice as likely to say they were “very satisfied” with local education in 2001 than were Caucasians (38.3% vs. 17.7%).

Higher proportions say their child(ren)'s school provides a safe environment for learning. The proportion is lower for high school parents, who are also least likely to participate in schools. Participation among middle school parents, by contrast, has more than doubled.



Good teachers continue to rank among the best things happening in the local schools. The percentage mentioning technology dropped by more than half, which may indicate that technology is now merely expected. (Indeed, 79.4% said at least one person uses a computer at home, continuing an annual rise and higher than in 1995 by 29.5%).

Funding remains the greatest concern, although for a smaller proportion than in the past (24.0% vs. 33.1%). And, despite the praise

for good teachers, the percentage saying that the quality of teachers is the most serious problem doubled (from 7.6% to 15.5%).

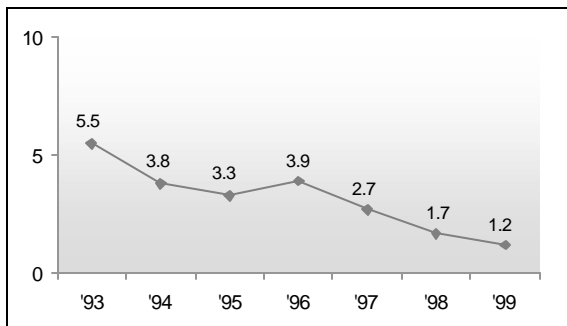


County’s student population remains more Latino than the state’s (46.0% vs. 43.2%) and the County’s faculty remains less Latino (9.9% vs. 12.9%). However, the districts with the most Latino student populations – PVUSD, Live Oak Elementary, and Santa Cruz City

Elementary – also have the highest proportions of Latino teachers.

A higher proportion of respondents than in any previous CAP year said bilingual education is very important. However, the percentage of English Learner students is down overall, with the biggest declines for Vietnamese and Portuguese speakers.

High School Dropout Rate



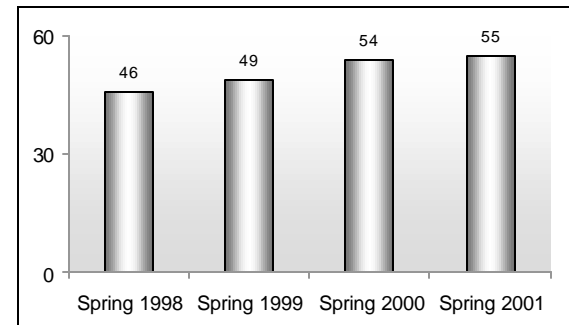
✓ Annual high school dropout rates

Expulsions were down 20.5% countywide, to only 4.2 per 1,000 students. The annual drop-out rate was down to 1.2 and the four-year drop-out rate was down to 5.0, both less than half the state’s rates. The drop-out rate remains highest for those in Grade 12.

The percent of students taking the SAT grew countywide but remains behind the state and declined at every high school except Watsonville High, where it was the lowest, and Soquel High. Of those taking the SAT, average scores remain above the state level. A greater proportion completed college prep courses, though not yet at the state level.

The education level of respondents is polarizing, with an increase both in the proportion with less than a high school diploma (9.3% to 12.3%) and in the proportion with at least a bachelor’s degree (35.1% to 39.7%).

Star Scores – 7th Grade Math



✓ National percentile rank of seventh grader STAR math scores for Santa Cruz County

But secondary data suggest much happening in the middle. Balancing a 54.1% drop in Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Program enrollment was a 5.3% increase in adult education course enrollments at PVUSD.

Library use is down, but varied. Santa Cruz City and County report an increase in items circulated but a drop in registered borrowers, and Watsonville reports fewer items shared among more borrowers.

Cabrillo had slightly smaller and younger enrollment, but a higher number of graduates. Moreover, while fewer certificates of proficiency were conveyed, there was a rise in Associates of Arts degrees conferred.

The number of children enrolled in licensed care increased by 654, and a higher proportion reported that someone cares for their children in order for them to go to work, school, or training (from 52.0% to 54.1%). However, those saying they are “very satisfied” with these arrangements are 21.0% fewer (from 76.2% to 55.2%) and nearly three times as many (3.8% to 10.8%) said they are “not at all satisfied”.

Education Enrollment

Enrollment data indicate the number of students enrolled each year in public K-12 schools.

School District Enrollment

District	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	% Change
County Office of Education	416	578	647	550	524	688	639	-7.1
California Youth Authority	-	-	-	-	66	42	44	4.8
Bonny Doon Union Elementary	280	265	258	236	235	184	168	-8.7
Happy Valley Elementary	150	151	133	137	141	126	130	3.2
Live Oak Elementary	2,074	2,138	2,168	2,195	2,214	2,140	2,116	-1.1
Mountain Elementary	158	154	154	170	158	153	148	-3.3
Pacific Elementary	65	72	76	81	81	91	88	-3.3
Pajaro Valley Joint Unified	17,385	17,736	18,355	18,895	19,400	19,767	19,864	0.5
San Lorenzo Valley Unified	4,162	4,143	4,144	4,159	4,351	4,289	4,179	-2.6
Santa Cruz City Elementary	3,457	3,395	3,335	3,114	3,005	2,943	2,860	-2.8
Santa Cruz City High	5,309	5,490	5,682	5,805	5,930	5,760	5,555	-3.6
Soquel Elementary	1,780	2,438	2,403	2,449	2,458	2,384	2,287	-4.1
Scotts Valley Unified	2,404	1,856	1,893	1,916	1,949	2,139	2,384	11.5
Santa Cruz County	37,640	38,416	39,248	39,707	40,512	40,706	40,462	-0.6
California	5,341,025	5,467,224	5,612,965	5,727,303	5,844,111	5,951,612	6,050,895	1.7

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

Enrollment totals are active fall enrollments.

Starting in 1998-99, enrollment figures include California Youth Authority (CYA) schools.

Starting in 2000-01, enrollment figures include State Special Schools.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 21

Student Demographics

Ethnic diversity in the public school system reflects the changing demographics of the community.

Percent of Students by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5
Asian	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0
Pacific Islander	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Filipino	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9
Hispanic or Latino	40.4	41.2	42.5	43.3	44.0	44.7	46.0
African American	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4
White (not Hispanic)	54.0	53.0	51.8	51.1	49.8	49.2	48.1
Multiple or No response	-	-	-	-	0.8	0.9	0.8
Santa Cruz County Enrollment	37,640	38,416	39,248	39,707	40,512	40,706	40,462

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

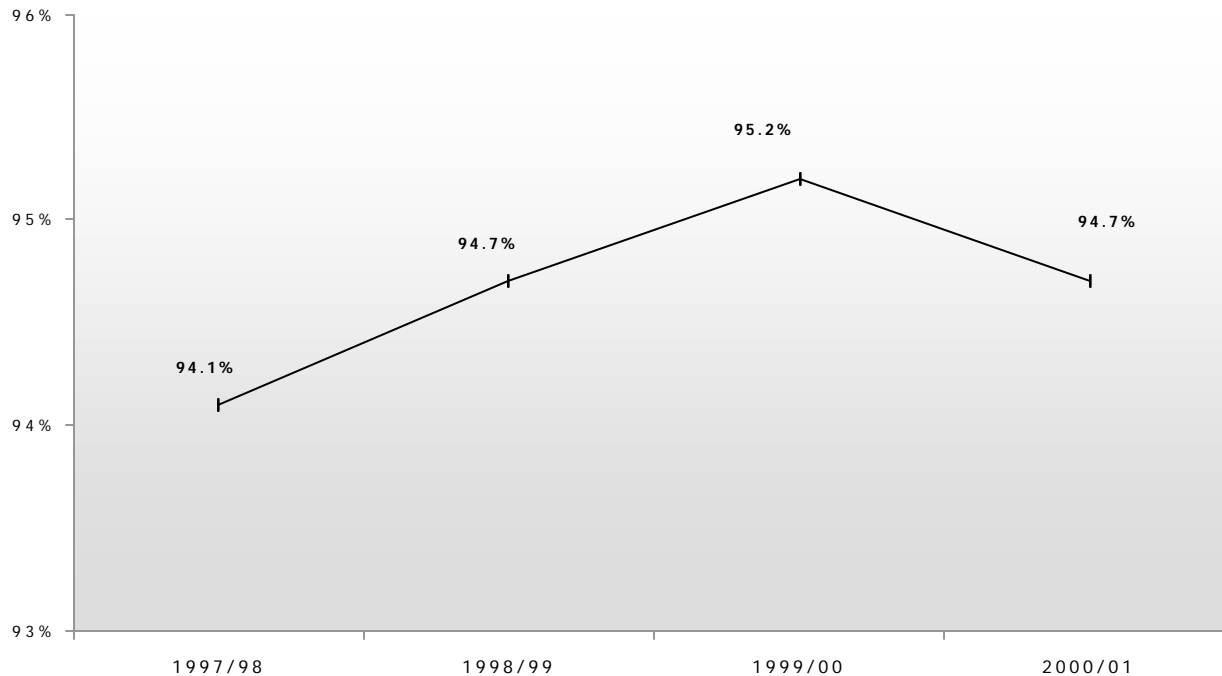
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Elementary School Absenteeism

In July 1998, a new state law changed the financial incentives for school attendance. Prior to 1998, ADA provided the same funding for students with “excused absence” (such as illness) as students present in the classroom. Beginning in 1998, ADA includes only actual attendance, so schools have a financial incentive to increase the number of students in school. This prompted PVUSD to focus on increasing attendance through site-level incentives and public campaigns.

Actual Elementary School Attendance, Pajaro Valley Unified School District



Source: Child Welfare and Attendance Office, Pajaro Valley Unified School District, 2000.

Note: Nine elementary schools are grades K – 5, six elementary schools are grades K – 6.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 23

Expenditures per Pupil

Funding for public schools determines the programs offered to students as well as teacher compensation, class size, facilities and extra curricular activities.

Expense of Education per ADA, by District

School District	94/95	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	% Change
Bonny Doon Union Elementary	\$3,827	\$3,998	\$4,641	\$4,860	\$5,320	\$6,079	14.3
Happy Valley Elementary	3,953	4,321	5,365	5,555	6,060	7,034	16.1
Live Oak Elementary	3,693	3,906	4,652	5,357	5,951	5,985	0.6
Mountain Elementary	3,315	3,617	3,761	4,284	5,399	5,613	4.0
Pacific Elementary	6,746	5,796	4,987	5,893	7,614	7,914	3.9
Pajaro Valley Joint Unified	4,258	4,511	4,833	5,061	5,484	5,923	8.0
San Lorenzo Valley Unified	3,939	3,983	4,332	4,614	4,873	5,559	14.1
Santa Cruz City Elementary/High	4,126	4,308	4,565	4,924	5,378	6,014	11.8
Scotts Valley Unified	3,586	3,672	4,137	4,454	4,938	5,131	3.9
Soquel Elementary	3,832	3,675	4,288	4,428	5,230	5,681	8.6
All Elementary Districts	3,743	3,830	4,479	4,880	5,600	5,898	5.3
All Unified Districts	4,195	4,349	4,691	4,938	5,338	5,798	8.6
Santa Cruz County	\$4,092	\$4,267	\$4,633	\$4,927	\$5,381	\$5,867	9.0
California	4,161	4,287	4,578	4,938	5,379	5,705	6.1

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

Note: The total dollars are divided by the total ADA (Average Daily Attendance) to arrive at the current expense of education per ADA or cost of education per ADA..

Test Scores – STAR

The STAR Test provides a measure of academic performance of students in grades 3 through 11 and allows for local, state and national comparisons.

Grade 3: National Percentile Rank, Santa Cruz

Subject	Spring 1998	Spring 1999	Spring 2000	Spring 2001
Reading	40	41	43	45
Math	48	52	57	57
Language	41	42	44	45
Spelling	33	36	38	41

Grade 5: National Percentile Rank, Santa Cruz

Subject	Spring 1998	Spring 1999	Spring 2000	Spring 2001
Reading	46	45	48	47
Math	47	49	54	54
Language	47	47	50	50
Spelling	36	37	41	42

Grade 3: National Percentile Rank, California

Subject	Spring 1998	Spring 1999	Spring 2000	Spring 2001
Reading	36	40	44	46
Math	42	49	57	61
Language	39	44	50	53
Spelling	38	43	49	53

Grade 5: National Percentile Rank, California

Subject	Spring 1998	Spring 1999	Spring 2000	Spring 2001
Reading	40	41	44	45
Math	41	45	51	55
Language	44	46	49	52
Spelling	38	40	44	47

Source: California Department of Education, STAR District/ School Summary Report, 2001.

The Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) program was authorized by Senate Bill (SB) 376 in October, 1997, and entails the administration of a multiple-choice test that allows comparisons to be made to a national sample of students.

The average student's National Percentile Rank (NPR) is shown above. For example, a student who scored a 56 was at the 56th percentile, and did better than 55 percent of the national sample.

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Test Scores – STAR**Grade 7: National Percentile Rank, Santa Cruz**

Subject	Spring 1998	Spring 1999	Spring 2000	Spring 2001
Reading	47	48	50	49
Math	46	49	54	55
Language	51	52	57	56
Spelling	39	41	43	44

Grade 7: National Percentile Rank, California

Subject	Spring 1998	Spring 1999	Spring 2000	Spring 2001
Reading	41	43	45	46
Math	45	47	51	53
Language	49	51	54	56
Spelling	42	43	45	47

Source: California Department of Education, STAR District/ School Summary Report, 2001.

Grade 9: National Percentile Rank, Santa Cruz

Subject	Spring 1998	Spring 1999	Spring 2000	Spring 2001
Reading	38	40	42	39
Math	51	56	57	55
Language	47	52	54	52
Science	45	46	47	47
Social Science	45	49	50	49

Grade 9: National Percentile Rank, California

Subject	Spring 1998	Spring 1999	Spring 2000	Spring 2001
Reading	34	34	36	35
Math	50	51	54	54
Language	47	48	50	51
Science	43	44	45	45
Social Science	42	43	45	45

Test Scores – STAR

Grade 11: National Percentile Rank, Santa Cruz

Subject	Spring 1998	Spring 1999	Spring 2000	Spring 2001
Reading	41	36	37	36
Math	45	46	48	49
Language	43	42	43	45
Science	48	44	46	46
Social Science	57	54	56	58

Grade 11: National Percentile Rank, California

Subject	Spring 1998	Spring 1999	Spring 2000	Spring 2001
Reading	37	36	37	37
Math	46	48	50	50
Language	43	45	47	47
Science	44	45	46	45
Social Science	54	55	56	57

Source: California Department of Education, STAR District/ School Summary Report, 2001.

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Test Scores – Academic Performance Index (API)

The Academic Performance Index (API) is a measurement of school achievement for accountability purposes developed as a result of the 1999 Public Schools Accountability Act (PSAA).

Bonny Doon Union Elementary School District

Elementary Schools	1999	2000	% Change
Bonny Doon Elementary*	831	875	5.3

Happy Valley Elementary School District

Elementary Schools	1999	2000	% Change
Happy Valley Elementary*	892	903	1.2

Live Oak Elementary School District

Elementary Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Del Mar Elementary	621	633	1.9	4
Green Acres Elementary	630	704	11.7	6
Live Oak Elementary	608	693	14.0	6

Middle Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Shoreline Middle	677	698	3.1	7

Source: California Department of Education, API District Summary Report, 2001.

Mountain Elementary School District

Elementary Schools	1999	2000	% Change
Mountain Elementary**	747	-	-

API Scores: The API summarizes a school's performance on that year's STAR based on the performance of individual pupils on STAR content area tests as measured through national percentile rankings (NPRs) on a scale of 200 to 1000.

The Statewide Rank: All schools that receive APIs are ranked in deciles by grade level of instruction: elementary, middle and high. A rank of 10 is the highest and 1 is the lowest. Each decile in each school type contains 10% of all schools of that type. Small schools with asterisked APIs do not receive statewide ranks and are not used in the calculation of the statewide ranks.

* This API is calculated for a small school, defined as having between 11 and 99 valid Stanford 9 test scores. APIs based on small number of students are less reliable and therefore should be carefully interpreted. Ranks, targets, and subgroup APIs are not calculated for small schools.

** The school's proportion of students excused at parent request compared to its Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) program enrollment on the first day of testing is equal to or greater than 15%. Therefore, a 2000 API will not be reported for this school.

Test Scores – Academic Performance Index (API)

Pajaro Valley Joint Unified School District

Elementary Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Alianza Elementary	404	382	-5.4	1
Amesti Elementary	451	507	12.4	2
Bradley Elementary	759	828	9.1	9
Calabasas Elementary	421	476	13.1	1
Freedom Elementary	450	505	12.2	2
Hall District Elementary	393	440	12.0	1
Hyde (H.A.) Elementary	454	477	5.1	1
Linscott (J.W.) Elementary	758	812	7.1	9
Macquiddy (T.S.) Elementary	464	499	7.5	2
Mar Vista Elementary	705	744	5.5	7
Mintie White Elementary	462	460	-0.4	1
Ohlone Elementary	429	430	0.2	1
Rio Del Mar Elementary	816	847	3.8	10
Salsipuedes Elementary	399	455	14.0	1
Soldo (Ann) Elementary	-	349	-	1
Starlight Elementary	448	506	12.9	2
Valencia Elementary	758	778	2.6	8

Middle Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Aptos Junior High	774	788	1.8	9
Hall (E.A.) Middle	470	460	-2.1	1
Lakeview Middle	534	510	-4.5	2
Pajaro Middle	447	467	4.5	1
Rolling Hills Middle	439	449	2.3	1

High Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Aptos High	620	653	5.3	6
Watsonville High	475	484	1.9	1

Pacific Elementary School District

Elementary Schools	1999	2000	% Change
Pacific Elementary*	-	837	-

Source: California Department of Education, API District Summary Report, 2001.

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Test Scores – Academic Performance Index (API)

Santa Cruz City Elementary School District

Elementary Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Bay View Elementary	671	708	5.5	6
Branciforte Elementary	602	670	11.3	5
De Laveaga Elementary	750	793	5.7	8
Gault Elementary	708	746	5.4	7
Natural Bridges Elementary	710	749	5.5	7
Westlake Elementary	770	771	0.1	8

Santa Cruz City High School District

Middle Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Branciforte Junior High	770	746	-3.1	8
Mission Hill Junior High	735	740	0.7	8

High Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Harbor High School	719	745	3.6	9
Santa Cruz High School	706	750	6.2	9
Soquel High School	687	714	3.9	8

Small Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Delta Charter*	-	508	-	-
Sojourn Middle*	-	572	-	-

Scotts Valley Unified School District

Elementary Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Brook Knoll Elementary	874	886	1.4	10
Vine Hill Elementary	825	841	1.9	9

Middle Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Scotts Valley Middle	853	864	1.3	10

High Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Scotts Valley High*	-	803	-	-

Source: California Department of Education, API District Summary Report, 2001.

API Scores: The API summarizes a school's performance on that year's STAR based on the performance of individual pupils on STAR content area tests as measured through national percentile rankings (NPRs) on a scale of 200 to 1000.

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Test Scores – Academic Performance Index (API)

San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District

Elementary Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Boulder Creek Elementary	751	773	2.9	8
Quail Hollow Elementary	746	772	3.5	8
Redwood Elementary	766	756	-1.3	8
San Lorenzo Valley Elementary	769	795	3.4	8

Middle Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
San Lorenzo Valley Junior High	707	745	5.4	8
SLVUSD Charter**	696	-	-	-

High Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
San Lorenzo Valley High	733	743	1.4	9

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Soquel Elementary School District

Elementary Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
Capitola Elementary	784	799	1.9	9
Main Street Elementary	790	825	4.4	9
Santa Cruz Gardens Elementary	660	662	0.3	5
Soquel Elementary	695	748	7.6	7

Middle Schools	1999	2000	% Change	2000 State Rank
New Brighton Middle	730	753	3.2	8

Source: California Department of Education, API District Summary Report, 2001.

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QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 26

Test Scores - SAT

Standardized tests, such as the SAT, are a measure of academic performance of college bound students. They allow for local, state and national comparisons.

Percent of Students Who Took the Test

High School	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
Aptos High	47.9	39.7	43.5	43.0	35.3	40.3	40.2
Harbor High	56.7	55.7	52.1	54.5	56.3	60.6	52.4
San Lorenzo Valley High	38.7	40.8	44.7	39.1	45.8	39.3	39.1
Santa Cruz High	38.1	40.5	42.0	39.7	41.9	44.1	42.7
Soquel High	48.3	41.1	46.0	38.7	33.7	33.0	41.2
Watsonville High	38.1	45.0	40.3	35.4	32.6	25.5	28.7
County	42.5	37.4	37.7	34.9	34.7	33.0	33.5
State	37.0	36.0	36.7	36.2	35.9	36.5	36.5

Average Total Score

High School	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	% Change
Aptos High	1,010	1,031	1,054	1,004	1,041	1,015	1,020	0.5
Harbor High	1,065	1,065	1,083	1,069	1,116	1,083	1,088	0.5
San Lorenzo Valley High	1,077	1,091	1,077	1,091	1,064	1,071	1,035	-3.4
Santa Cruz High	1,085	1,072	1,099	1,085	1,109	1,116	1,137	1.9
Soquel High	1,040	1,039	1,074	1,071	1,082	1,053	1,077	2.3
Watsonville High	903	914	895	859	845	847	861	1.7
County	1,023	1,030	1,042	1,021	1,039	1,032	1,031	-0.1
State	991	997	1,001	1,004	1,007	1,005	1,009	0.4

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

*Schools with 10 or fewer students taking the test are not included individually to protect privacy of the students. However, the scores from these schools are included in the county totals.

Total possible SAT score is 1600.

Test Scores – SAT

Average Math Score

High School	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	% Change
Aptos High	518	526	535	504	520	512	522	2.0
Harbor High	540	536	553	547	563	549	555	1.1
San Lorenzo Valley High	544	546	544	549	533	537	509	-5.2
Santa Cruz High	541	536	552	534	550	555	567	2.2
Soquel High	541	519	540	541	552	539	556	3.2
Watsonville High	464	467	463	443	433	427	441	3.3
County	522	520	529	516	523	520	523	0.6
State	507	509	511	514	516	513	517	0.8

Average Verbal Score

High School	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	% Change
Aptos High	492	505	519	500	521	503	498	-1.0
Harbor High	525	529	530	522	553	534	533	-0.2
San Lorenzo Valley High	533	545	533	542	531	534	526	-1.5
Santa Cruz High	544	536	547	551	559	561	570	1.6
Soquel High	499	520	534	530	530	514	521	1.4
Watsonville High	439	447	432	416	412	420	420	0.0
County	501	510	513	505	516	512	507	-1.0
State	484	488	490	490	491	492	492	0.0

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

*Schools with 10 or fewer students taking the test are not included individually to protect privacy of the students. However, the scores from these schools are included in the county totals.

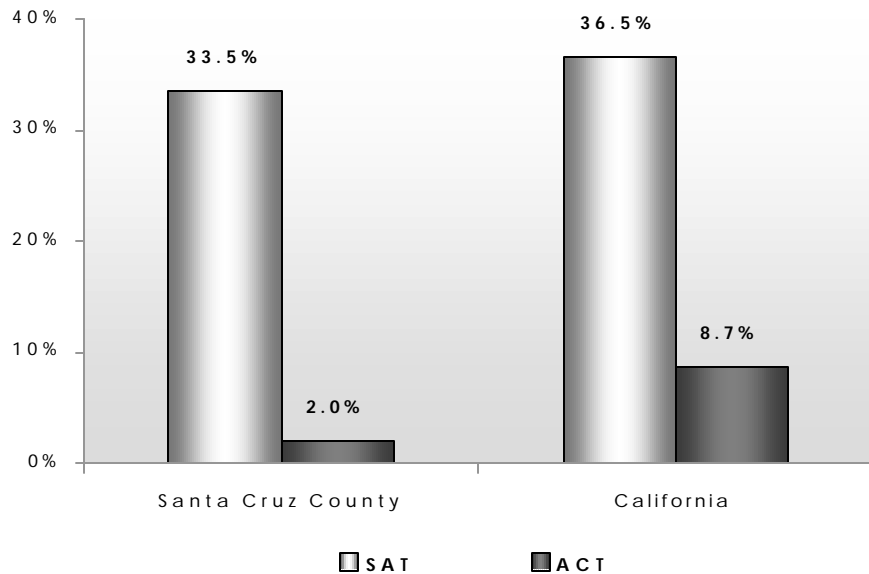
Total possible SAT score is 1600.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 27

Test Scores - ACT

Similar to the SAT, the ACT is a college admission test. When applying to college most U.S. colleges and universities will accept either test score. The ACT Assessment, or "A-C-T" as it is commonly called, is a national college admission examination that consists of tests in: English, Mathematics, Reading and Science Reasoning. The scale scores range from 1 (low) to 36 (high) for each of the four tests and for the Composite. The Composite is the average of the four test scores, rounded to the nearest whole number.

Percent of Students Who Took the Test, 12th Grade, 1999/00



Average Composite Score

	1999/00
Santa Cruz County*	23.0
State	21.2

**This is the first year that information on the County level is available.*

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

English Proficiency

Allocating additional resources for teaching English-learner students is increasingly important as schools adapt to changing demographics.

Percent of English Learner (EL) Students by District

District	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
County Office of Education	N/A	1.9	3.4	2.9	9.2	2.0
Bonny Doon Union Elementary	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.0
Happy Valley Elementary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Live Oak Elementary	9.5	10.1	15.8	18.1	17.0	19.0
Mountain Elementary	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3
Pacific Elementary	10.8	8.3	6.6	8.6	12.3	12.1
Pajaro Valley Joint Unified	48.1	47.8	47.1	46.3	45.4	44.9
San Lorenzo Valley Unified	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.7
Santa Cruz City Elementary	20.2	21.4	22.3	23.6	23.1	22.2
Santa Cruz City High	7.8	8.1	7.7	6.8	6.4	6.3
Scotts Valley Unified	N/A	0.9	1.8	1.0	1.7	1.8
Soquel Elementary	7.6	7.7	8.3	8.6	11.3	10.7
County	26.3	26.3	26.6	26.6	26.3	26.2

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 28

English Proficiency

Top 15 Languages Spoken by English Learner (EL) students

	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	% Change
Spanish	9,804	10,147	10,290	10,415	10,437	0.2
Filipino (Tagalog)	83	78	58	51	36	-29.4
Cantonese	20	23	23	29	26	-10.3
Korean	19	22	23	16	20	25.0
Punjabi	12	11	13	14	20	42.9
Russian	5	7	5	10	10	0.0
Vietnamese	12	23	22	20	10	-50.0
Arabic	12	11	5	6	9	50.0
Japanese	17	12	17	11	9	-18.2
Ilocano	8	6	12	9	8	-11.1
French	0	1	1	2	7	250.0
Portuguese	21	20	19	12	7	-41.7
German	1	5	11	7	6	-14.3
Khmer (Cambodian)	16	9	6	6	5	-16.7
Polish	2	5	2	3	5	66.7
Other non-English	62	65	41	49	36	-26.5
County Total EL Enrollment (all languages)	10,094	10,445	10,548	10,660	10,651	-0.1
State Total EL Enrollment (all languages)	1,323,767	1,381,393	1,406,166	1,442,692	1,480,527	2.6

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

Top 15 Languages as of 1999-00.

Ethnic Representation

Comparison of Latino Students and Latino Teachers, by District (Percent of students and teachers who are Latino)

Santa Cruz County Office of Education	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	38.1	41.7	46.0	48.3	31.0	26.6
Teachers	4.0	6.5	6.0	4.2	6.6	4.9

Bonny Doon Union Elementary	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	4.9	3.5	1.7	0.4	0.0	0.0
Teachers	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Happy Valley Elementary	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	11.3	15.0	14.6	0.0	0.0	6.9
Teachers	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Live Oak Elementary	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	26.7	28.9	29.7	30.3	29.9	33.9
Teachers	1.1	2.0	5.5	8.8	8.5	5.1

Mountain Elementary	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	9.7	7.8	10.6	2.5	4.6	4.7
Teachers	14.3	14.3	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Pacific Elementary	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	8.3	7.9	13.6	23.5	28.6	27.3
Teachers	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Pajaro Valley Unified School District	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	70.2	71.4	72.0	73.1	73.9	74.8
Teachers	15.2	15.9	16.1	16.5	15.2	15.6

San Lorenzo Valley Unified	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	4.9	4.7	4.1	4.8	4.4	5.3
Teachers	2.7	1.7	2.0	3.6	2.6	2.7

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 29

Ethnic Representation

Comparison of Latino Students and Latino Teachers, by District (continued)

Santa Cruz City Elementary	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	27.4	28.4	30.2	17.3	32.3	33.0
Teachers	9.5	9.1	8.2	7.9	10.2	10.2

Santa Cruz City High	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	17.9	18.2	17.2	17.3	17.2	18.7
Teachers	3.2	3.4	3.6	4.0	3.5	3.2

Scotts Valley Unified	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	3.2	4.4	5.0	4.5	5.1	5.9
Teachers	1.4	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.8	3.3

Soquel Elementary	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	14.7	15.1	16.7	16.5	18.7	19.4
Teachers	6.7	6.1	4.8	4.5	3.7	4.2

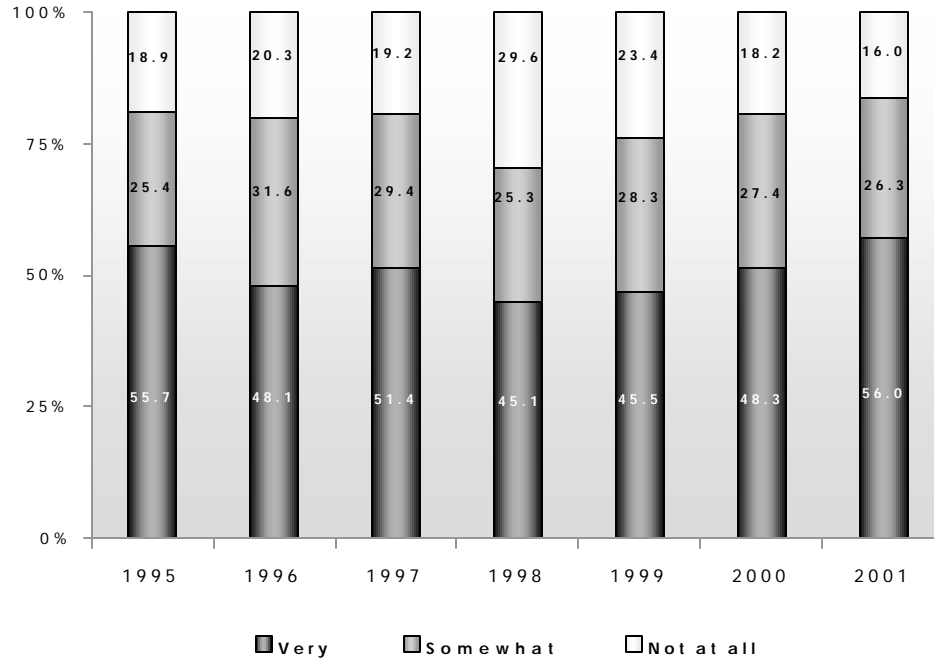
Santa Cruz County	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	41.2	42.5	43.3	44.0	44.7	46.0
Teachers	9.1	9.7	9.8	10.3	9.7	9.9

California	1995 1996	1996 1997	1997 1998	1998 1999	1999 2000	2000 2001
Students	38.7	39.7	40.5	41.3	42.2	43.2
Teachers	9.7	10.6	11.5	12.1	12.6	12.9

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

Bilingual Education

How important do you think bilingual education is?



Total respondents	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Overall	122	453	496	486	561	658	701

In 1995 only parents were asked this question; in subsequent years it was asked of all respondents.

See appendix for results of statistical testing for this question.

Due to their low numbers, respondents who said “don’t know” are not included in the graph.

Why do you feel this way?(Selected responses)

Respondents who said they think bilingual education is:	2000	2001
Very important		
Many Spanish-speaking people	34.3	25.1
Important to speak more than one language	28.9	21.3
Increases understanding / Communication	24.2	20.0
Total Respondents	318	393

Respondents who said they think bilingual education is:	2000	2001
Somewhat important		
Everyone should speak English	25.4	31.7
Many Spanish-speaking people	23.2	18.0
Increases understanding / Communication	18.1	13.1
Total Respondents	177	184

Respondents who said they think bilingual education is:	2000	2001
Not at all important		
Everyone should speak English	83.2	78.1
Not effective / Learning suffers for English speakers	N/A	10.5
Equal opportunity to learn	N/A	2.7
Total Respondents	119	111

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, Telephone Survey

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 31

Expulsions

The expulsion rate is calculated by: number of expulsions, divided by total district enrollment, then multiplied by 1,000.

Number of Students Expelled, by Selected District

School District	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	% Change
Pajaro Valley Joint Unified	106	94	113	89	141	110	-22.0
San Lorenzo Valley Unified	17	2	6	17	2	2	0.0
Santa Cruz City High	17	17	12	16	8	13	62.5
Total	140	113	131	122	151	125	-17.2

Rate of Expulsions per 1,000 Students, by Selected District

School District	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
Pajaro Valley Joint Unified	6.1	5.3	6.2	4.7	7.3	5.6
San Lorenzo Valley Unified	4.1	0.5	1.5	4.1	0.5	0.5
Santa Cruz City High	3.2	3.1	2.1	2.8	1.3	2.3
Total	5.2	4.1	4.6	4.2	5.1	3.1

Source: Respective districts' Child Welfare and Attendance Offices, 2001.

High School Dropout Rates

Dropout rates are indicators of those who interrupt and may not continue their education, thereby increasing the likelihood they will not meet the minimum work skills required by the workforce and community.



Annual Drop-out Rates

Districts	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
Pajaro Valley Joint Unified	8.0	3.7	3.3	3.4	3.1	1.4	1.9
San Lorenzo Valley Unified	3.2	5.2	2.3	2.8	3.3	2.3	0.9
Santa Cruz City High	4.0	3.7	3.8	5.1	2.4	1.9	0.8
County	5.5	3.8	3.3	3.9	2.7	1.7	1.2
State	4.8	4.4	3.9	3.3	2.9	2.8	2.8

The 1-year dropout rate is the percent of dropouts during a single year, calculated from the actual data submitted. It is also called “annual” or “event” rate and it is the dropout rate used by the National Center for Education Statistics to compare states and school districts.

Four Year Drop-out Rates

Districts	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
Pajaro Valley Joint Unified	26.6	13.3	10.9	14.0	12.6	5.3	7.4
San Lorenzo Valley Unified	13.0	20.3	8.8	11.3	13.5	9.6	3.7
Santa Cruz City High	18.0	14.5	14.7	19.6	9.9	7.6	3.1
County	21.3	14.6	12.6	15.5	11.2	6.7	5.0
State	18.5	17.1	15.3	13.0	11.7	11.1	11.1

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

The 4-year derived dropout rate is an estimate of the percent of students who would drop out during a four-year period, based on data collected for a single year.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 32

High School Dropout Rates – by Ethnicity

Annual Dropout Rates by Ethnicity, Santa Cruz County

Ethnicity	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Caucasian	3.5	2.7	3.2	1.9	1.5	0.7
Latino / Hispanic	4.4	4.2	4.8	4.0	1.7	2.0
Asian	2.4	0.4	0.8	1.5	0.4	0.0
African American	2.7	4.2	7.9	2.2	2.0	0.5
Filipino	0.8	3.5	5.3	3.7	6.9	0.7
American Indian	6.3	9.0	7.8	2.9	3.2	2.9
Pacific Islander	4.0	5.6	0.0	2.4	2.7	0.0
Multiple or No response	-	-	-	-	14.3	6.1

Four Year Dropout Rates by Ethnicity, Santa Cruz County

Ethnicity	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Caucasian	13.7	10.6	12.7	7.9	6.2	3.1
Latino / Hispanic	15.9	15.0	19.4	16.6	6.9	7.8
Asian	9.5	1.5	3.8	6.0	1.3	0.0
African American	9.7	17.9	30.4	9.9	8.3	1.7
Filipino	2.9	14.1	19.4	15.5	25.0	2.2
American Indian	21.9	37.4	28.9	11.8	15.4	13.3
Pacific Islander	14.3	21.3	0.0	25.0	20.0	0.0
Multiple or No response	-	-	-	-	100.0	50.0

Annual Dropout Rates by Ethnicity, California

Ethnicity	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Caucasian	2.7	2.4	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.7
Latino / Hispanic	6.4	5.7	4.8	4.1	3.9	3.9
Asian	2.2	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4
African American	7.7	6.7	5.2	4.4	4.7	4.6
Filipino	2.6	2.3	1.7	1.9	2.2	1.6
American Indian	4.7	4.6	4.2	4.2	4.0	3.5
Pacific Islander	5.1	4.7	3.7	3.3	3.6	3.3
Multiple or No response	-	-	-	-	7.0	6.3

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

The 1-year dropout rate is the percent of dropouts during a single year, calculated from the actual data submitted. It is also called “annual” or “event” rate and it is the dropout rate used by the National Center for Education Statistics to compare states and school districts.

The 4-year derived dropout rate is an estimate of the percent of students who would drop out during a four-year period, based on data collected for a single year.

High School Dropout Rates – by Grade

Annual Dropout Rates by Grade, Santa Cruz County

Grade	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
Grade 8	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.2	0.3	0.0
Grade 9	4.4	4.0	2.3	1.9	0.8	0.9
Grade 10	3.4	3.1	3.3	1.8	1.4	1.2
Grade 11	4.0	3.2	4.3	2.6	2.0	1.2
Grade 12	3.6	2.9	6.6	5.4	2.8	1.9
County	3.8	3.3	3.9	2.7	1.7	1.2

Annual Dropout Rates by Grade, California

Grade	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1999/00	1999/00
Grade 8	1.2	1.4	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9
Grade 9	4.0	3.5	3.3	2.6	2.6	2.4
Grade 10	4.8	4.0	3.2	2.7	2.6	2.5
Grade 11	4.6	4.1	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.9
Grade 12	4.9	4.7	4.0	3.9	3.6	3.8
State	4.4	3.9	3.3	2.9	2.8	2.8

Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), 2001.

The 1-year dropout rate is the percent of dropouts during a single year, calculated from the actual data submitted. It is also called “annual” or “event” rate and it is the dropout rate used by the National Center for Education Statistics to compare states and school districts.