Table 2: Mean SAT Scores of College-Bound Seniors, 1972–2009*

	Male			Female			All		
Year	Critical Reading	Mathematics	Writing**	Critical Reading	Mathematics	Writing**	Critical Reading	Mathematics	Writing**
1972	531	527	-	529	489	-	530	509	-
1973	523	525	-	521	489	-	523	506	-
1974	524	524	-	520	488	-	521	505	-
1975	515	518	-	509	479	-	512	498	-
1976	511	520	-	508	475	-	509	497	-
1977	509	520	-	505	474	-	507	496	-
1978	511	517	-	503	474	-	507	494	-
1979	509	516	-	501	473	-	505	493	-
1980	506	515	-	498	473	-	502	492	-
1981	508	516	-	496	473	-	502	492	-
1982	509	516	-	499	473	-	504	493	-
1983	508	516	-	498	474	-	503	494	-
1984	511	518	-	498	478	-	504	497	-
1985	514	522	-	503	480	-	509	500	-
1986	515	523	-	504	479	-	509	500	-
1987	512	523	-	502	481	-	507	501	-
1988	512	521	-	499	483	-	505	501	-
1989	510	523	-	498	482	-	504	502	-
1990	505	521	-	496	483	-	500	501	-
1991	503	520	-	495	482	-	499	500	-
1992	504	521	-	496	484	-	500	501	-
1993	504	524	-	497	484	-	500	503	-
1994	501	523	-	497	487	-	499	504	-
1995	505	525	-	502	490	-	504	506	-
1996	507	527	-	503	492	-	505	508	-
1997	507	530	-	503	494	-	505	511	-
1998	509	531	-	502	496	-	505	512	-
1999	509	531	-	502	495	-	505	511	-
2000	507	533	-	504	498	-	505	514	-
2001	509	533	-	502	498	-	506	514	-
2002	507	534	-	502	500	-	504	516	-
2003	512	537	-	503	503	-	507	519	-
2004	512	537	-	504	501	-	508	518	-
2005	513	538	-	505	504	-	508	520	-
2006	505	536	491	502	502	502	503	518	497
2007	504	533	489	502	499	500	502	515	494
2008	504	533	488	500	500	501	502	515	494
2009	503	534	486	498	499	499	501	515	493

*When the SAT was renormed in April 1995, mean scores were set at or near the midpoint of 500 of the 200 to 800 point score scale, a process called recentering. All scores in this table reflect that process. Means after 1996 are recentered, and those for 1996 are based on recentered scores plus scores converted from the original to the new scale. Means for 1987–1995 were recomputed after individual scores were converted from the original to the new scale; and means for 1972–1986 were converted to the new scale after a formula was applied to the original mean and standard deviation.

**Writing data are based on students who took the current version of the SAT, first administered in March 2005. All students in the 2009 cohort took the SAT writing section. Of the 1,518,859 students in the 2008 cohort, 1,518,176 students have scores on the SAT writing section. Of the 1,494,531 students in the 2007 cohort, 1,491,749 students had scores on the SAT writing section. Of the 1,465,744 students in the 2006 cohort, 1,376,745 students had scores on the SAT writing section.