# Shrewsbury High School Testing Report 

## Class of 2016



Presented to the School Committee December 7, 2016

Todd Bazydlo, Principal
Nga Huynh, Director of School Counseling

## Shrewsbury High School Testing Report Class of 2016

## Table of Contents

Summary Statements ..... 3-5
Shrewsbury, State, and National SAT Scores-1600 \& 2400 scales ..... 6-8
Critical Reading, Math, and Writing Scores by Gender ..... 9
Local/Regional School Districts Participation Rates ..... 10
Local/Regional Mean SAT Scores ..... 11
Local/Regional One-Year and Five-Year SAT Comparisons ..... 12
SAT Subject Tests ..... 13-16LiteratureU.S. HistoryMathematics I
Mathematics II
Biology-EcologicalBiology-MolecularChemistryPhysics
ACT Scores—Shrewsbury ..... 17-18
SAT - ACT Conversion Chart ..... 19
Appropriate Grade Levels for AP Courses ..... 20
Advanced Placement Program Participation Rates ..... 21
Advanced Placement Mean Scores-SHS, Massachusetts, and Nationally ..... 22
Local/Regional Advanced Placement Exam Comparison ..... 23
Advanced Placement Summary of All Scores ..... 24
Percent of students scoring 3, 4, or 5 and AP Scholars ..... 25
PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test ..... 26-27
Final Comments ..... 27-28

## Summary Statements

## SAT (formerly referred to as the SAT I or SAT Reasoning Test):

Page $6 \quad$ Average Scores- 1600 scale and 2400 scale (Figures 1 and 2)

- Based on the 1600 scale, Shrewsbury's SAT scores decreased seven points from 1131 to 1124 . Even with the decrease, these scores remain well above the state and national averages of 1047 and 1002, respectively.
- Based on the 2400 scale, Shrewsbury's SAT scores decreased eleven points from 1678 to 1667 . These scores remain well above the state and national averages of 1553 and 1484, respectively.

Page 7-8

Page 9 SAT: Critical Reading, Math, and Writing scores by Gender (Figure 6)

- In the Critical Reading and Math scores, Shrewsbury males scored higher than females like the state and national trends. However, Shrewsbury males scored higher on the Writing section ( $M-545$ ) of the SAT unlike the state $(M-475)$ and national ( $M-475$ ) trends. Overall, Shrewsbury males scored higher in all three subtests of the SAT.
- Critical Reading (M-553; F-536)
- Math (M - 602; F - 562)
- Writing (M-545; F-541)

Page 10 SAT: Participation Rates-Local School Districts (Figure 7)

- All students at Shrewsbury High School are encouraged to take the SAT in preparation for college admissions. For the Class of 2016, 94\% of seniors took the SAT, a particularly high percentage compared to most other high schools locally, statewide, and nationally.

Page 11 SAT: Comparison of Local School Districts (Figure 8)

- Shrewsbury students in the Class of 2016 are compared to high schools in the region.

Pages 12 SAT: Shrewsbury High School One-Year and Five-Year Comparisons
(Figure 9)

- Shrewsbury experienced a decrease in scores compared to last year. However, when scores are compared to 5 years ago, they continue to be higher by 6 points in Critical Reading, 14 points in Math, and 3 points in Writing. With an overall increase of 20 points over the past 5 years on the 1600 scale.


## Subject Test Scores:

## Page 13-16 Summary of SAT Subject Tests (Figures $\mathbf{1 0} \mathbf{- 1 7}$ )

- In six of the eight SAT Subjects Tests, Shrewsbury students score higher when compared to students in Massachusetts and the nation. Individual Subject Test scores are summarized over the next several pages.
- This year, there is a notable gain compared to last year in the US History Subject Test (p.14) of 59 points compared to the state average and 68 points when compared to the national average. Students taking the Biology Subject Test (p.15-16) have an option to take the test with an emphasis on Molecular Biology or Ecological Biology. The majority of students at Shrewsbury elected to take the Ecological Biology Subject test this year, and both scores outpaced state and national averages. The Literature and Physics subject tests show a decrease in scores when compared to the state and/or national standards.


## ACT:

Pages 17-18 ACT Participation Rates and Mean Scores (Figure 18,19, 20)

- As a whole, Massachusetts has one of the lowest participation rates in the country. However, Shrewsbury continues to see an increase in the number of students electing to take the ACT in addition to the SAT over the past few years. Of the 392 students in the Class of 2016, 155 students ( $40 \%$ ) took the ACT. This is an increase of $6 \%$ compared to last year.
- The average ACT score for the Shrewsbury's Class of 2016 is 25.4 (based on a scale of $1-36$ ). This score is equivalent to about 1170 on the SATs.


## Advanced Placement Exams:

## Page 20 Appropriate Grade Levels for AP Courses

- The College Board does not recommend students in the $9^{\text {th }}$ grade for AP courses. Instead, students should "develop the necessary skills and conceptual understandings in foundational courses prior to enrolling in AP."
- Nationally, 73\% of all AP Exams were taken by juniors and seniors.
- Of all students taking AP Exams nationally, $21 \%$ of students take three or more exams; in the class of 2016, 51.2\% of Shrewsbury students take three or more exams.

Page $21 \quad$ Participation Rates (Figure 21)

- The number of exams administered has decreased by 124 exams to a total of 546 exams. The number of students taking AP exams decreased by sixty-one students, 282 (juniors and seniors combined).
- Fifty percent (50\%) of the students in the Class of 2016 took at least one AP exam.

Page 22 Average Scores-Shrewsbury High School and Nationally (Figure 22)

- Scored on a scale of 1 - 5, the average AP Exam scores of Shrewsbury students are particularly impressive. All of the seventeen AP courses at Shrewsbury had an average score above 3.3-and ten out of seventeen had an average score of 4.0 and above. All scores were above the state and national averages.

Page 23 AP Exams: Comparison of Local School Districts (Figure 23)

- Most colleges award students scoring a 3 or higher with college credit. Shrewsbury students in the Class of 2016 ranked fourth out of ten comparable high schools in the region when comparing the percentage of students earning a score of 3 or higher.

Pages 24-25 Exam Results—Shrewsbury High School

- The percentage of students in the Class of 2016 scoring 3 or above is 93\%.
- Twelve out of 17 AP courses offered at Shrewsbury had at least $90 \%$ of their students scoring at a 3 or above.
- Forty-three percent (43\%) of the exams administered resulted in a score of 5-the highest possible score available. (Figure 24)

Page 25 Scholars

- The total number of AP scholars in 2016 is 107.
- Ninety of the 195 seniors ( $46 \%$ ), who took AP exams were named AP Scholars or above. Six students were named AP National Scholar, granted to students who receive an average grade of 4 on all AP exams taken and a grade of 4 or higher on eight or more exams. This is an increase of four students from last year.


## PSAT/NMSQT

Page 26-27 National Merit Scholarship Program

- Two students from the Class of 2016 were named National Merit Finalists and were Scholarship Recipients.


## Final Comments

Page 27-28 Final Overview of the 2015-2016 School Year


Figure 1


Figure 2

## Critical Reading \& Math Sections



Figure 3


Figure 4


Figure 5

Critical Reading, Math, and Writing Scores by Gender Shrewsbury High School, Massachusetts, and Nationally

| Critical Reading | SHS | Massachusetts | National |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Males | 553 | 495 | 495 |
| Females | 536 | 493 | 493 |
| Male-toFemale Difference | +17 | +2 | +2 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Math | SHS | Massachusetts | National |
| Males | 602 | 524 | 524 |
| Females | 562 | 494 | 494 |
| Male-toFemale Difference | +40 | +30 | +30 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Writing | SHS | Massachusetts | National |
| Males | 545 | 475 | 475 |
| Females | 541 | 487 | 487 |
| Male-toFemale Difference | +4 | -12 | -12 |

SAT-Scores by Gender 2016 Shrewsbury High School


Figure 6

SAT Participation Rates
Local School Districts

| School | \# of test takers | Class 2016 <br> Class Size | Participation Rate (\%) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |



Figure 7

SAT Mean Scores
Local School Districts 2016

| School | \# of test <br> takers | Critical <br> Reading | Math | Combined <br> CR and <br> Math | Writing | Total--all <br> three <br> sections |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Wachusett | 472 | 538 | 524 | 1062 | 554 | 1616 |
| Chelmsford | 360 | 545 | 519 | 1064 | 556 | 1620 |
| Franklin | 382 | 542 | 532 | 1074 | 556 | 1630 |
| Nashoba | 239 | 552 | 539 | 1091 | 563 | 1654 |
| Hopkinton | 278 | 552 | 544 | 1096 | 580 | 1676 |
| Algonquin | 333 | 551 | 552 | 1103 | 556 | 1659 |
| Shrewsbury | 369 | 544 | 580 | 1124 | 543 | 1667 |
| Westboro | 225 | 583 | 577 | 1160 | 608 | 1768 |
| Westford Academy | 382 | 594 | 580 | 1174 | 612 | 1786 |
| Acton-Boxborough | 423 | 616 | 607 | 1223 | 640 | 1863 |



Figure 8

Shrewsbury High School One-Year and Five-Year Comparisons

| SAT: | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6}$ <br> Scores | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ <br> Scores | One-Year <br> Differential | $\mathbf{2 0 1 2}$ | 5-Year <br> Trend |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Critical <br> Reading | 544 | 550 | -6 | 538 | +6 |
| Math | 580 | 581 | -1 | 566 | +14 |
| Writing | 543 | 547 | -4 | 540 | +3 |
| $\mathbf{1 6 0 0}$ <br> Total | 1124 | 1131 | -7 | 1104 | +20 |
| $\mathbf{2 4 0 0}$ <br> Total | 1667 | 1678 | -11 | 1644 | +23 |

SAT Scores-Shrewsbury High School One-Year Comparisons and Five-Year Trends


Figure 9

## SAT Subject Tests

Most colleges do not require the Subject Tests; in fact, only 40-50 colleges in the United States requires students to submit SAT Subject Tests as part of the application process. Subject Tests offer colleges a way to gauge a student's knowledge of particular subjects. Most colleges requiring students to submit their Subject Test scores require two or three Subject Test scores.

Each SAT Subject Test is one hour in length, and students may take one, two, or three Subject Tests on each test date.

Along with several different language tests, SAT Subject Tests are offered in the following areas:

- English:
- Literature
- Mathematics
- Math I
- Math II
- Science:
- Biology-Ecological
- Biology-Molecular
- Chemistry
- Physics
- History:
- World History
- U.S. History


## Shrewsbury High School



Figure 10


Figure 11


Figure 12


Figure 13


Figure 14


Figure 15


Figure 16


Figure 17

## ACT

The ACT measures critical skills in English, mathematics, reading, writing, and science. ACT was previously known as the American College Testing Program, but that name has been dropped and today it's officially just the ACT (pronounced A-C-T).

Students receive six different scores-a composite score along with an individual score in English, Math, Reading, Science Reasoning, and Writing.

| ACT STRUCTURE |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Section | Time | \# of Ques. | Scoring |
| English | 45 mins. | 75 | $1-36$ |
| Math | 60 mins. | 60 | $1-36$ |
| Reading | 35 mins. | 40 | $1-36$ |
| Science Reasoning | 35 mins. | 40 | $1-36$ |
| Writing (Optional) | 30 mins. | 1 essay | $2-12$ |

Students may take the ACT™ more than once, and similarly to the relatively new SAT-reporting policy, students may specify which test date's score you'd like colleges to see.

## Shrewsbury High School Score Results

Although growing in popularity, Massachusetts has one of the lowest ACT participation rates in the country. Historically, most schools in the mid-West and West encourage students to take the ACT. At the same time, most high schools in New England and the East Coast encourage students to take the SAT. On a national basis, 1.64 million students took the SAT last year and 2.00 million students took the ACT.

## ACT Participation over a Seven-Year Span



Figure 18

Of the 392 students in the Class of 2016, 155 students took the ACT with the following results in each section compared over a three year span. :


Figure 19

2016 SHS Mean ACT scores are compared with State and National Means:


Figure 20

SAT - ACT Conversion Chart

| SAT to ACT |  | ACT to SAT |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SAT score <br> Critical <br> Reading + <br> Math | ACT <br> Composite <br> Score | ACT <br> Composite <br> Score | SAT score <br> Critical <br> Reading + <br> Math |
| 1600 | 36 | 36 | 1600 |
| $1540-1590$ | 35 | 35 | 1560 |
| $1490-1530$ | 34 | 34 | 1510 |
| $1440-1480$ | 33 | 33 | 1460 |
| $1400-1430$ | 32 | 32 | 1420 |
| $1360-1390$ | 31 | 31 | 1380 |
| $1330-1350$ | 30 | 30 | 1340 |
| $1290-1320$ | 29 | 29 | 1300 |
| $1250-1280$ | 28 | 28 | 1260 |
| $1210-1240$ | 27 | 27 | 1220 |
| $\mathbf{1 1 7 0 - 1 2 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 6}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 9 0}$ |
| $\mathbf{1 1 3 0 - 1 1 6 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 5 0}$ |
| $1090-1120$ | 24 | 24 | 1110 |
| $1050-1080$ | 23 | 23 | 1070 |
| $1020-1040$ | 22 | 22 | 1030 |
| $980-1010$ | 21 | 21 | 990 |
| $940-970$ | 20 | 20 | 950 |
| $900-930$ | 19 | 19 | 910 |
| $860-890$ | 18 | 18 | 870 |
| $820-850$ | 17 | 17 | 830 |
| $770-810$ | 16 | 16 | 790 |
| $720-760$ | 15 | 15 | 740 |
| $670-710$ | 14 | 14 | 690 |
| $620-660$ | 13 | 13 | 640 |
| $560-610$ | 12 | 12 | 590 |
| $510-550$ | 11 | 11 | 530 |

Shrewsbury's composite ACT average score of 25.4 converts to approximately 1170 on the SATs.

## Advanced Placement Program

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program consists of a series of college-level courses and exams for secondary school students. Satisfactory completion of an AP Exam makes it possible for a student to earn college credit or advanced standing in college prior to arrival on the college campus. AP Exams are rigorous, multiple-component tests that are administered each May.

Of the 392 students in the Class of 2016, 195 students ( $50 \%$ of the class) took at least one AP Exam. Overall, 546 exams were administered to students in 2016.

The following AP courses were offered during the 2015 - 2016 school year:

| - | Biology |
| :--- | :--- |
| - | Calculus AB |
| - | Calculus BC |
| - | Chemistry |
| - | English Language |
| - | English Literature |
| - | Environmental Science |
| - | French Language |
| - | Human Geography |
| - | Latin |
| - | Music Theory |
| - | Psychology |
| - | Physics 1 |
| - | Spanish Language |
| - | Statistics |
| - | Studio Art Drawing |
| - | U.S. History |

## Appropriate Grade Levels for AP Courses

The College Board's policy related to the appropriate grade levels for AP courses reads as follows:
"The AP Program recognizes the autonomy of secondary schools and districts in setting the AP course participation policies that best meet their students' unique needs and learning goals. At the same time, AP courses are specifically designed to provide challenging, college-level coursework for willing and academically prepared high school students. Student performance on AP exams illustrate that in many cases, AP courses are best positioned as part of a student's $11^{\text {th }}$ and $12^{\text {th }}$ grade academic experience. Some subject areas, however, such as World History and European History, can be successfully offered to academically prepared $10^{\text {th }}$ grade students.

Educators should be mindful of the following when considering offering AP to younger students. AP courses are rarely offered in $9^{\text {th }}$ grade, and exam results show that, for the most part, $9^{\text {th }}$ grade students are not sufficiently prepared to participate in a collegelevel course. Therefore, the College Board believes these students would be better served by coursework focusing on the academic building blocks necessary for later, successful enrollment in college-level courses. Many college admissions officers support this position, feeling that students should not be rushed into AP coursework, but should instead develop the necessary skills and conceptual understandings in foundational courses prior to enrolling in AP. AP coursework completed in $9^{\text {th }}$ grade is not often deemed credible by the higher education community."

## National Participation Rate in the AP Program

Of all students taking AP exams, the percentage of students at each grade level is indicated below. In other words, last year, $73 \%$ of all AP Exams were taken by juniors and seniors.

| $12^{\text {th }}$ grade | $36 \%$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $11^{\text {th }}$ grade | $37 \%$ |
| $10^{\text {th }}$ grade | $20 \%$ |
| $9^{\text {th }}$ grade | $7 \%$ |

## Number of AP Exams per Student-SHS and Nationally

The figures below show the cumulative number of exams individual students (from the Class of 2016 at Shrewsbury High School and nationally) took during their high school career from the years 2013 to 2016.

| \# of Exams <br> Taken by <br> Students | Class of <br> 2016 <br> National <br> $\%$ | Class of 2016 <br> Cumulative \% <br> National | SHS \# <br> of <br> Students <br> Taking <br> Exams | Class of <br> 2016 <br> SHS \% | Class of 2016 <br> Cumulative \% <br> SHS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $41.0 \%$ | $41.0 \%$ | 63 | $32.3 \%$ | $32.3 \%$ |
| 2 | $20.5 \%$ | $61.5 \%$ | 43 | $22.1 \%$ | $54.4 \%$ |
| 3 | $12.9 \%$ | $74.4 \%$ | 31 | $15.9 \%$ | $70.3 \%$ |
| 4 | $8.6 \%$ | $83.0 \%$ | 23 | $11.8 \%$ | $82.1 \%$ |
| 5 | $5.8 \%$ | $88.8 \%$ | 16 | $8.2 \%$ | $90.3 \%$ |
| 6 or more | $11.2 \%$ | $100 \%$ | 19 | $9.7 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

## Advanced Placement Participation Rates Shrewsbury High School



Figure 21

## Advanced Placement Exams 2016

## Average Scores Shrewsbury High School, Massachusetts, and Nationally

|  | \# of Tests Taken | SHS | Mass | National |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Biology | 43 | 3.9 | 3.1 | 2.8 |
| Calculus AB | 33 | 4.3 | 3.2 | 2.9 |
| Calculus BC | 43 | 4.4 | 4.1 | 3.8 |
| Chemistry | 15 | 4.3 | 3.0 | 2.6 |
| English Language | 40 | 4.4 | 3.2 | 2.8 |
| English Literature | 25 | 4.3 | 3.1 | 2.8 |
| Environmental Science | 18 | 3.3 | 2.7 | 2.6 |
| French Language | 15 | 4.0 | 3.7 | 3.2 |
| Human Geography | 23 | 3.7 | 3.3 | 2.7 |
| Latin | 14 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.0 |
| Music Theory | 8 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 3.0 |
| Psychology | 103 | 4.2 | 3.3 | 3.1 |
| Physics 1 | 9 | 3.6 | 2.5 | 2.3 |
| Spanish Language | 16 | 4.8 | 3.8 | 3.8 |
| Statistics | 62 | 3.9 | 3.0 | 2.9 |
| Studio Art Draw | 6 | 4.0 | 3.4 | 3.4 |
| US History | 43 | 4.4 | 3.1 | 2.7 |



Figure 22

## AP Exam Scores

Local School Districts

| School | \# of Test <br> Takers | Total Exams <br> Taken | \% of Exams with <br> Scores of3, 4, or 5 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Franklin | 421 | 783 | $74 \%$ |
| Chelmsford | 288 | 555 | $76 \%$ |
| Hopkinton | 468 | 988 | $85 \%$ |
| Nashoba | 291 | 520 | $85 \%$ |
| Wachusett | 381 | 673 | $88 \%$ |
| Algonquin | 387 | 759 | $91 \%$ |
| Shrewsbury | 289 | 546 | $93 \%$ |
| Westborough | 212 | 417 | $95 \%$ |
| Acton-Boxborough | 445 | 1025 | $95 \%$ |
| Westford Academy | 397 | 772 | $96 \%$ |



Figure 23

2016 Advanced Placement Exam Results

|  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | \# of tests administered | \% scoring 5 | \% scoring <br> 4 or above | \% scoring <br> 3 or above | 2015 \% scoring 3 or above |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Biology | 7 | 24 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 43 | 16\% | 72\% | 98\% | 93\% |
| Calculus AB | 21 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 33 | 64\% | 85\% | 88\% | 95\% |
| Calculus BC | 27 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 43 | 63\% | 84\% | 93\% | 100\% |
| Chemistry | 7 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 47\% | 80\% | 100\% | 97\% |
| English Language | 21 | 15 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 40 | 53\% | 90\% | 100\% | 98\% |
| English Literature | 13 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 25 | 52\% | 84\% | 96\% | 100\% |
| Environmental Science | 2 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 18 | 11\% | 50\% | 72\% | 86\% |
| French <br> Language | 4 | 7 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 27\% | 73\% | 100\% | 100\% |
| Human Geography | 6 | 5 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 23 | 26\% | 48\% | 91\% | 100\% |
| Latin | 1 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 14 | 7\% | 50\% | 86\% | 90\% |
| Music Theory | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 38\% | 63\% | 75\% | - |
| Physics 1 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 0\% | 67\% | 89\% | 81\% |
| Psychology | 52 | 26 | 18 | 5 | 2 | 103 | 50\% | 76\% | 93\% | 97\% |
| Spanish Language | 13 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 81\% | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% |
| Statistics | 22 | 23 | 10 | 5 | 2 | 62 | 35\% | 73\% | 89\% | 89\% |
| Studio Art Draw | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 33\% | 67\% | 100\% | 100\% |
| US History | 23 | 14 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 43 | 53\% | 86\% | 98\% | 88\% |
| Totals | 224 | 169 | 87 | 27 | 9 | 516 | 43\% | 76\% | 93\% | 93\% |

Students took the following exams but the related class was not specifically offered at the high school (unless through VHS):

|  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | $\mathbf{1}$ | Total \# of <br> test <br> administered | \% scoring <br> 5 | \% scoring <br> 4 or <br> above | \% <br> scoring 3 <br> or above | 2013 \% <br> scoring <br> 3 or <br> above |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Chinese | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ | $100 \%$ | - |
| Computer <br> Science A | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Macroeconomics | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 13 | $23 \%$ | $54 \%$ | $69 \%$ | $80 \%$ |
| Microeconomics | 2 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 13 | $15 \%$ | $54 \%$ | $92 \%$ | $88 \%$ |
| US Government <br> \& Politics | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | $0 \%$ | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ | $71 \%$ |
| World History | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ | $100 \%$ | - |
| Totals | 6 | 10 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 30 | $20 \%$ | $53 \%$ | $83 \%$ | $83 \%$ |

## Quick Highlights:

- The number of students taking AP exams is 289 (61 less than last year).
- The number of AP exams administered is 546 (124 less than last year).
- There were 30 exams taken by students self studying or taking VHS courses.
- $50 \%$ of seniors took at least one AP exam, a particularly high percentage compared to most high schools.
- $43 \%$ of the exams administered resulted in a score of 5-the highest possible score available.


## Overall AP Exam Scores Shrewsbury High School



Figure 24

## Advanced Placement Scholars

The AP Program offers several AP Scholar Awards to recognize high school students who have demonstrated college-level achievement through AP courses and exams. Although there is no monetary award, in addition to receiving an award certificate, this achievement is acknowledged on any AP Score Report that is sent to colleges the following fall.

## Award Levels 2016

AP Scholar: Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.
AP Scholar with Honor: Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

AP Scholar with Distinction: Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

National AP Scholar: Granted to students in the United States who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams. (Students are included in the scholar category.)

| Year | AP Scholar | AP Scholar <br> w/Honors | AP Scholar <br> w/Distinction | AP National <br> Scholar | Total \# of <br> AP <br> Scholars |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 6}$ | 47 | 21 | 33 | 6 | 107 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ | 48 | 39 | 37 | 2 | 124 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 4}$ | 29 | 25 | 31 | 1 | 85 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 3}$ | 41 | 26 | 31 | 1 | 98 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 2}$ | 19 | 25 | 44 | 2 | 88 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 1}$ | 31 | 27 | 25 | 1 | 83 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 0}$ | 31 | 15 | 19 | 3 | 65 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 9}$ | 23 | 17 | 38 | 4 | 78 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 8}$ | 30 | 20 | 32 | 3 | 82 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ | 21 | 11 | 16 | 2 | 48 |

## PSAT/NMSQT

The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a program cosponsored by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). It's a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT. It also gives students a chance to enter the NMSC scholarship programs and gain access to college and career planning tools.

Similarly to the SAT, the PSAT/NMSQT measures:

- Critical reading skills
- Math problem-solving skills
- Writing skills


## Shrewsbury High School

| Year | Commended | Finalist | Scholarship <br> Recipient | Hispanic <br> Recognition <br> Program |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2016 | 19 | 2 | 2 | - |
| 2015 | 19 | 1 | 1 | - |
| 2014 | 14 | 1 | 1 | - |
| 2013 | 17 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| 2012 | 19 | 4 | 1 | - |
| 2011 | 12 | 1 | 1 | - |
| 2010 | 16 | 4 | 1 | - |
| 2009 | 17 | 3 | 1 | - |
| 2008 | 18 | 2 | 1 | - |
| 2007 | 14 | 3 | 1 | - |
| 2006 | 10 | 3 | - | 1 |
| 2005 | 15 | 2 | - | - |
| 2004 | 8 | 2 | 1 | - |
| 2003 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 2002 | 5 | 3 | - | - |
| 2001 | 4 | 1 | - | - |

National Merit Scholarship Program
Program Recognition: Of the 1.5 million juniors who take the PSAT, the top $2 \%-3 \%$ with the highest combined scores (Critical Reading + Mathematics + Writing Skills) qualify for recognition in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Commended Students: students who score in the top 2\%-3\% of all test takers.
Semifinalists: students who score in the top 1\%-1.5\% of all test takers. To ensure that academically able young people from all parts of the United States are included in this talent pool, Semifinalists are designated on a state-by-state basis. That is, semifinalists are the highest scoring entrants in each state. To be considered for a National Merit Scholarship, Semifinalists must advance to Finalist standing in the competition by meeting high academic standards.

Finalists: Most students (approximately 90\%) who complete the Semifinalist application process will be named National Merit Finalists.

Scholarship Recipients: All winners of Merit Scholarship awards (Merit Scholar® designees) are chosen from the Finalist group, based on their abilities, skills, and accomplishmentswithout regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference. A variety of information is available for NMSC selectors to evaluate-the Finalist's academic record, information about the school's curricula and grading system, two sets of test scores, school official's written recommendation, information about the student's activities and leadership, and the Finalist's own essay.

## 2015-2016 School Year

- PSAT:
- The School Counseling Department offers all juniors and sophomores the opportunity to take the PSAT, which has resulted in a continuous increase in the number of students who took the test. In addition, few freshman students opt to take the PSAT with available tests.
- ACT:
- The ACT and SAT are two different standardized tests that measure completely different skills. While the SAT is an aptitude test (a problem-solving test), the ACT is curriculum-based. That is, students either know the answers or they don't-they can't sit there and try to solve the problem. As a result, there are certain students who will naturally score higher on the ACT than on the SAT. The School Counseling Department encourages students to take both the ACT and SAT.
- SAT:
- The SAT is offered at the high school in October, November, March, May, and June resulting in a greater opportunity for students because of the convenience for students to take the SAT more than once resulting in more familiarity with the test and improved scores.
- Shrewsbury High School offers an SAT Prep Class throughout the year. For the past few years, Shrewsbury has offered two classes in the spring and one class in the fall. For the 2015-2016 school year, the fall session did not run due to low enrollment because the course focused on the old SAT and students were in anticipation of the prep class for the New SAT exam which debut in March 2016. The enrollment of Spring sessions totaled 89 students. The enrollment fee for the course is $\$ 275$ for Shrewsbury residents and $\$ 350$ for non-residents. This cost is an affordable option to test preparation compared to most local, regional, and national test preparation companies.
- The College Board redesigned the SAT, which launched in March 2016. The New SAT reflect skills that are more similar to classroom skills based on the Common Core. School counselors have attended conferences to learn about details the New SAT. The core academic directors, school counseling director, and administrators have met to discuss the implications of the redesigned SAT and its implications to the curriculum and test preparation.
- Advanced Placement Courses:
- The number of students taking AP Exams has decreased for 2015-2016. While students are not recommended to take more than three AP classes per year to help balance a student's schedule and extra-curricular commitments, each student's schedule is considered individually.
- Due to cost and available space, all AP exams are administered on site at Shrewsbury High School utilizing the field house and dance studio for larger exams and smaller classroom and language lab for smaller and language exams.

