



SUMMARY OF ITEM FOR ACTION,  
INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION

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**TOPIC:** Overview of undergraduate enrollment, persistence, and success at the University System of Maryland.

**COMMITTEE:** Education Policy and Student Life

**DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING:** March 13, 2013

**SUMMARY:** Three annual reports are included under this cover and will be discussed as part of this topic. The three reports are as follows:

- *SAT Percentile Distributions of First-Time Undergraduates;*
- *Retention and Graduation Rates of First-time Full-time Degree Seeking Undergraduates;* and
- *Transfer Students to the University System of Maryland: Patterns of Enrollment and Success.*

When looked at as a whole, the three reports provide a useful overview of undergraduate enrollment within the USM, including the various pipelines that feed undergraduate enrollment, the academic profile of incoming first-time students (as measured by SAT scores), student success and persistence after enrollment, and, in the end, bachelor degree attainment.

For new freshmen, a key admissions component correlated with student success is the entering students' SAT scores. The *SAT Percentile Distributions of First-Time Undergraduates* report presents central tendency data for the SAT scores at each USM institution. The report also provides a context for interpreting those scores by comparing institutional SAT data with those at peer institutions.

The second report, *Retention and Graduation Rates of First-time Full-time Degree Seeking Undergraduates*, examines the level of academic success—as measured by retention and graduation rates—achieved by first-time, full-time students at USM institutions. Key trends in student enrollment and success are broken out and analyzed at both the institutional and Systemwide level.

The third report, *Transfer Students to the University System of Maryland: Patterns of Enrollment and Success*, examines progress within this increasingly important pipeline for enrollment growth. Institutional enrollment and success trends among the transfer population are analyzed and displayed, including changes in the proportion of transfer students to first-time students on USM campuses. Key factors that contribute to transfer success, such as credit attainment prior to transfer and full-time attendance, are also analyzed. Finally, for the first time, data showing the level of success Maryland Community College transfer students are having at USM's regional centers at Shady Grove and Hagerstown are analyzed.

**ALTERNATIVE(S):** This report is for information only.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** This report is for information only.

**CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION:** This report is for information only.

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COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

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DATE:

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BOARD ACTION:

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DATE:

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SUBMITTED BY: Joseph F. Vivona (301) 445-1923

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**SAT PERCENTILE DISTRIBUTIONS OF  
FIRST-TIME UNDERGRADUATES  
FALL 2008 - 2012**

*Bowie State University (BSU)*  
*Coppin State University (CSU)*  
*Frostburg State University (FSU)*  
*Salisbury University (SU)*  
*Towson University (TU)*  
*University of Baltimore (UB)*  
*University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)*  
*University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP)*  
*University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES)*

**Office of the Chief Operating Officer and  
Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance  
University System of Maryland Office  
March 2013**



## **SAT Percentile Distributions of First-Time Undergraduates Fall 2008 - 2012**

### **Background**

The University System of Maryland institutions report SAT scores of first-time undergraduates to MHEC annually. The institutions report average SAT scores for the verbal and math sections, a verbal and math combined average score, and the 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles of the combined scores. The distributions include SAT scores for first-time, full-time, and part-time undergraduates at all USM institutions except UMB and UMUC. Included in this report are only the 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile combined math and critical reading scores to give decision-makers a sense of the score distributions for the middle 50 percent of first-time freshmen. For further information, contact Chad Muntz, [cmuntz@usmd.edu](mailto:cmuntz@usmd.edu) (301) 445-2737 or Rebecca Bell, [rbell@usmd.edu](mailto:rbell@usmd.edu) (301) 445-2779.

### **Highlights**

- In fall 2012, a total of 10,568 freshmen who enrolled at a USM institution reported SAT scores. This represented a decrease of 102 from fall 2011 (10,670). The decline in the number of SAT scores reported is consistent with the current decreasing trend of new freshmen enrollments as well as reflects the decreasing number of enrolled freshmen that provided SAT scores.
- Most USM institutions experienced stable combined 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile SAT scores between fall 2011 and fall 2012. Only Bowie and UMBC had an increase greater than 10 points in either the 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> scores.
- For the fourth year, four institutions (Salisbury, Towson, UMBC, and UMCP) reported that at least three-quarters of their freshmen class had combined SAT scores greater than 1,000.

### *Maryland Public High School Test-Taker Trends (College Board)*

- For the past five years, the number of Maryland public school students taking the SATs has fluctuated minimally but it is consistently above 36,000. Last year, 38,386 Maryland public school students took the SATs in 2011-2012 – a slight (-0.1%) decrease from the year prior according to the College Board.
- Average SAT scores for 2011-12 college bound students from Maryland public high schools decreased by 3 points in critical reading (489) and increased by one point in mathematics (498) over the 2010-11 average scores according to The College Board. Maryland's public high school students' average scores are insignificantly different than national averages.

### *National Trends from the National Center for Education Statistics (IPEDS)*

- Nationally, USM institutions are competitive with respective peer institutions on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> math and reading scores. Table 2 displays the most recent IPEDS data for fall 2011 SAT critical reading and mathematics scores. Highlighted are the USM institutions within alphabetical lists of their peer institutions.

## SAT Percentile Distributions of First-Time Undergraduates Fall 2008 - 2012

Table 1  
Trends in SAT 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> Percentile Scores  
Fall 2008 – Fall 2012

Institution	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
	25th	75th	25th	75th	25th	75th	25th	75th	25th	75th
UMCP	1190	1360	1220	1370	1220	1380	1220	1380	1220	1390
UMBC	1090	1280	1080	1270	1110	1290	1120	1280	1130	1300
SU	1040	1210	1060	1190	1050	1210	1090	1200	1100	1205
TU	990	1150	1000	1150	1000	1150	1010	1160	1010	1150
UB	850	1030	830	1040	850	1025	840	1040	840	1040
FSU	870	1060	870	1040	880	1070	890	1060	890	1070
BSU	800	950	800	940	820	940	820	940	830	960
CSU	800	890	810	930	790	910	810	920	820	920
UMES	742	900	760	910	770	920	790	940	790	940

NOTE: All scores include all first-time, full-time and part-time, degree and non-degree seeking students.

Source: MHEC Form S-11

Table 1 (above) displays the combined SAT scores at the 25th and 75th percentiles for fall 2008 through fall 2012. Figure 1 (below) depicts ranges for the fall 2012 distributions for each institution. Fifty percent of incoming freshmen received SAT scores in the range between the markers on the graph.

**Figure 1**  
**University System of Maryland**  
**Fall 2012 SAT Percentiles**

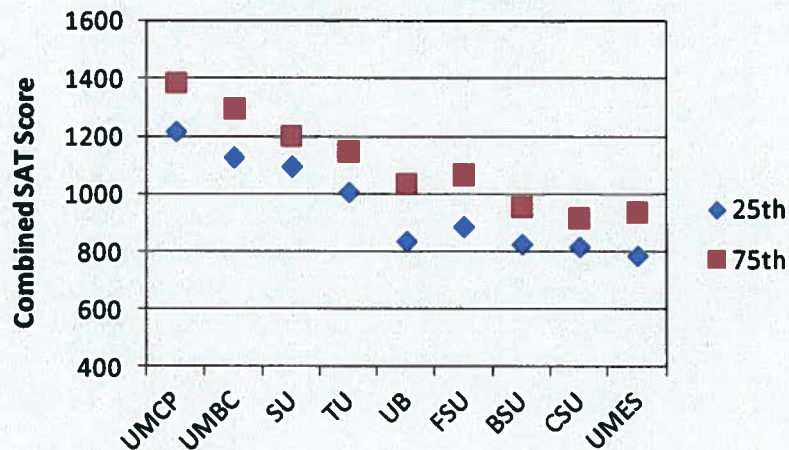


Table 2. Fall 2011 IPEDS SAT Quartiles of Peer Institutions by USM Institutions

<u>Bowie State and Institutional Peers</u>	Math		Reading	
	25th	75th	25th	75th
Alabama A & M University*	360	450	370	450
Alabama State University*	350	450	360	450
Auburn University at Montgomery**	-	-	-	-
<b>Bowie State University</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>480</b>
California State University-Bakersfield	410	530	400	510
Columbus State University	420	530	440	550
Indiana University-Southeast	420	520	420	530
New Jersey City University	415	490	390	480
Norfolk State University	390	470	400	480
Prairie View A & M University	390	480	370	450
Sul Ross State University***	-	-	-	-
<i>Mean of Peers (excluding USM institution)</i>	<i>394</i>	<i>490</i>	<i>394</i>	<i>488</i>

<u>Coppin State and Institutional Peers</u>	Math		Reading	
	25th	75th	25th	75th
Albany State University	390	450	390	460
Alcorn State University*	400	520	390	470
Augusta State University	440	540	440	540
Cheyney University of Pennsylvania***	-	-	-	-
<b>Coppin State University</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>460</b>
Henderson State University*	450	520	380	579
Louisiana State University-Shreveport*	460	550	430	510
Nicholls State University*	470	610	420	550
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	420	500	410	490
Virginia State University	390	470	390	460
Western New Mexico University***	-	-	-	-
<i>Mean of Peers (excluding USM institution)</i>	<i>428</i>	<i>520</i>	<i>406</i>	<i>507</i>

<u>Frostburg State and Institutional Peers</u>	Math		Reading	
	25th	75th	25th	75th
Bridgewater State University	470	558	460	550
Clarion University of Pennsylvania	420	530	420	520
East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania	460	540	440	530
<b>Frostburg State University</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>540</b>
Indiana University-South Bend	430	530	420	530
Rhode Island College	420	520	420	520
Sonoma State University	460	570	450	560
SUNY College at Plattsburgh	480	560	470	550
SUNY College at Potsdam***	-	-	-	-
University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth	480	590	460	560
Western Connecticut State University	450	540	450	540
<i>Mean of Peers (excluding USM institution)</i>	<i>452</i>	<i>549</i>	<i>443</i>	<i>540</i>

\* Institution reports both SAT and ACT scores in IPEDS, but the majority of students report ACT scores.

\*\* Institution only reports ACT scores in IPEDS.

\*\*\* Institution does not report SAT or ACT scores in IPEDS.

Note. The peer institutions displayed are based the MHEC's *Funding Guidelines Peer Performance Analysis* (March 2010).

Table 2 (cont.) Fall 2011 IPEDS SAT Quartiles of Peer Institutions by USM Institutions

	Math		Reading	
	25th	75th	25th	75th
<b><u>Salisbury Univ. and Institutional Peers</u></b>				
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania	460	560	450	540
Millersville University of Pennsylvania	480	580	470	570
<b>Salisbury University</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>600</b>
Sonoma State University	460	570	450	560
Southeast Missouri State University*	450	600	440	590
SUNY at Fredonia	490	590	480	580
SUNY College at Oswego	530	600	530	600
SUNY College at Plattsburgh	480	560	470	550
University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth	480	590	460	560
University of North Carolina-Wilmington	550	620	540	620
University of Northern Iowa**	-	-	-	-
<i>Mean of Peers (excluding USM institution)</i>	<i>492</i>	<i>589</i>	<i>482</i>	<i>577</i>
	Math		Reading	
	25th	75th	25th	75th
<b><u>Towson Univ. and Institutional Peers</u></b>				
Ball State University	480	580	480	580
California State University-Sacramento	430	540	410	530
East Carolina University	490	570	460	550
Eastern Michigan University*	450	580	430	580
James Madison University	550	650	540	640
Portland State University	460	580	460	590
<b>Towson University</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>580</b>
University of Massachusetts-Boston	460	570	420	540
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	500	590	480	570
University of Northern Iowa**	-	-	-	-
Western Kentucky University*	430	580	430	550
<i>Mean of Peers (excluding USM institution)</i>	<i>472</i>	<i>582</i>	<i>457</i>	<i>570</i>
	Math		Reading	
	25th	75th	25th	75th
<b><u>Univ. of Baltimore and Institutional Peers</u></b>				
Auburn University at Montgomery**	-	-	-	-
Citadel Military College of South Carolina	490	590	470	580
Governors State University***	-	-	-	-
New Jersey City University	415	490	390	480
Texas A & M University-Corpus Christi	430	540	420	530
<b>University of Baltimore</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>540</b>
University of Houston-Clear Lake***	-	-	-	-
University of Illinois at Springfield**	-	-	-	-
University of Michigan-Dearborn**	-	-	-	-
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater*	450	560	420	540
Western Connecticut State University	450	540	450	540
<i>Mean of Peers (excluding USM institution)</i>	<i>447</i>	<i>544</i>	<i>430</i>	<i>534</i>

\* Institution reports both SAT and ACT scores in IPEDS, but the majority of students report ACT scores.

\*\* Institution only reports ACT scores in IPEDS.

\*\*\* Institution does not report SAT or ACT scores in IPEDS.

Note. The peer institutions displayed are based the MHEC's *Funding Guidelines Peer Performance Analysis* (March 2010).

Table 2 (cont.) Fall 2011 IPEDS SAT Quartiles of Peer Institutions by USM Institutions

<u>UM Baltimore County and Institutional Peers</u>	Math		Reading	
	25th	75th	25th	75th
Clemson University	590	680	550	650
Mississippi State University*	490	630	480	605
New Jersey Institute of Technology	540	650	470	580
Oklahoma State University-Main Campus*	510	620	490	600
University of Arkansas*	520	630	500	610
University of California-Riverside	480	610	450	560
University of California-Santa Cruz	510	640	490	630
<b>University of Maryland-Baltimore County</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>640</b>
University of Massachusetts Amherst	560	650	530	630
University of Rhode Island	490	590	470	570
University of Wyoming*	490	610	490	600
<i>Mean of Peers (excluding USM institution)</i>	<i>518</i>	<i>631</i>	<i>492</i>	<i>604</i>

<u>UM College Park and Institutional Peers</u>	Math		Reading	
	25th	75th	25th	75th
University of California-Berkeley	630	760	600	730
University of California-Los Angeles	610	740	570	680
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*	690	780	540	660
<b>University of Maryland-College Park</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>680</b>
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor*	670	770	630	730
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	610	710	590	700
<i>Mean of Peers (excluding USM institution)</i>	<i>642</i>	<i>752</i>	<i>586</i>	<i>700</i>

<u>UM Eastern Shore and Institutional Peers</u>	Math		Reading	
	25th	75th	25th	75th
Alabama A & M University*	360	450	370	450
Albany State University	390	450	390	460
Alcorn State University*	400	520	390	470
California State University-Bakersfield	410	530	400	510
Fort Valley State University	370	450	370	450
North Carolina A & T State University	410	500	390	480
Prairie View A & M University	390	480	370	450
South Carolina State University	380	470	380	460
<b>University of Maryland Eastern Shore</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>470</b>
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	420	500	410	490
Virginia State University	390	470	390	460
<i>Mean of Peers (excluding USM institution)</i>	<i>392</i>	<i>482</i>	<i>386</i>	<i>468</i>

\* Institution reports both SAT and ACT scores in IPEDS, but the majority of students report ACT scores.

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Note. The peer institutions displayed are based the MHEC's *Funding Guidelines Peer Performance Analysis* (March 2010).