



Statistical Data & Research

- 1 and 3 students in the state of Texas don't finish high school¹. In some areas of San Antonio, TX that number is higher. Studies show that schools with excellent music programs have higher attendance rates, higher math scores and higher graduation rates².
- Students in high-quality school music programs score higher on standardized tests compared to students in schools with deficient music education programs, regardless of the socioeconomic level of the school or school district. Students in top-quality music programs scored 22% better in English and 20% better in math than students in deficient music programs³.
- Secondary students who participated in band or orchestra reported the lowest lifetime and current use of all substances (alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs)⁴.
- When asked where funding will be in five years for music programs in Texas public schools, Dr. Middleton, Superintendent of San Antonio's Northeast Independent School District answered, "The state [Texas] is going to give the minimal level it can." He adds "I think it will depend upon the local effort, and the local ability, and the local commitment."
- Students of the arts continue to outperform their non-arts peers on the SAT, according to reports by the College Entrance Examination Board. In 2006, SAT takers with coursework/experience in music performance scored 57 points higher on the verbal portion of the test and 43 points higher on the math portion than students with no coursework or experience in the arts⁵.
- The Alliance for Excellent Education released a study showing that wages in the state [Texas] would increase by \$404 million annually if Texas cut the student drop-out rate in half⁶.

¹ Office of Mayor Hardberger, San Antonio, TX August 12, 2008; *San Antonio Business Journal*, March 31, 2005

² Harris Interactive poll of high school principals conducted Spring 2006

³ MENC Journal of Research in Music Education, Winter 2006, vol. 54, No. 4, pgs. 293-307; Examination of Relationship between Participation in School Music Programs of Differing Quality and Standardized Test Results

⁴ Texas Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse Report. Reported in Houston Chronicle, January 1998

⁵ *The Student Descriptive Questionnaire*, a self-reported component of the SAT that gathers information about students' academic preparation, gathered data for these reports. Source: The College Board, *Profile of College-Bound Seniors National Report for 2006*; <http://www.collegeboard.com>

⁶ *San Antonio Business Journal*, 'Lowering Texas' drop-out rate would boost wages, study says', March 21, 2005