

# DAT Update and Trends

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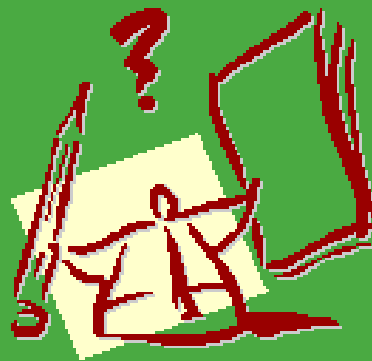
Orlando, Florida

# Agenda



1. Questions about the DAT
2. DAT Trends

# Questions about the DAT



Questions posted on the AFAFSA Listserve  
February 2012

# When was the last DAT Review?

- Review process is ongoing
- Test constructors review
  - Items
  - Content
    - science textbooks
    - science courses

# How are new questions developed for the DAT?

New questions are developed using

*Test Item Development Guide*

# How is the implementation of critical thinking content progressing ?

- Proposed changes accepted
- Critical thinking content included in Quantitative Reasoning Test (QRT) by
  - Elimination of numerical calculations, conversions, geometry, and trigonometry
  - Addition of data analysis, data interpretation, data sufficiency, quantitative comparison, more critical thinking items in probability and statistics.

# Time Table for Implementing Critical Thinking Content

- **2013** - Critical thinking items will be pretested.
- **2013-2014** - Pretesting data collected, item performance and quality evaluated.
  - Pretested items scores will not be part of QRT score.
- **2015** critical thinking included in QRT score.

Check the *DAT Newsletter* for project progress.

# What and Who is DAT Advisory Committee ?

- Committee on Educational Measurement and Testing (F) oversees policies and procedures of the DAT Program.
- Five members have knowledge and experience in
  - Dental school admission procedures
  - Testing
  - Dental education
- Members appointed for four years
- Liaisons to Committee
  - National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions
  - Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry
  - Canadian Dental Association



# How are Committee F members selected?

- **Committee F**
  - Solicits nominations
  - Reviews nominations
  - Makes recommendations
  - Sends recommendations to CDEL
- **CDEL**
  - Reviews Committee F recommendations
- **ADA Trustees and House of Delegates**
  - Approves Committee F appointments

# Does the DAT predict success in dental school?

Yes - significant DAT predictors include:

- DAT science scores
- Two DAT composite scores
- Reading comprehension score
- Perceptual ability score

*2011, Report 1 of the Dental Admission Testing Program, Validity Study, 2008-2009 –*  
posted ADA .org at: [http://www.ada.org/sections/educationandCareers/pdfs/dat\\_validity\\_study.pdf](http://www.ada.org/sections/educationandCareers/pdfs/dat_validity_study.pdf)

Can DAT demographic listings be made available earlier in the admissions cycle?

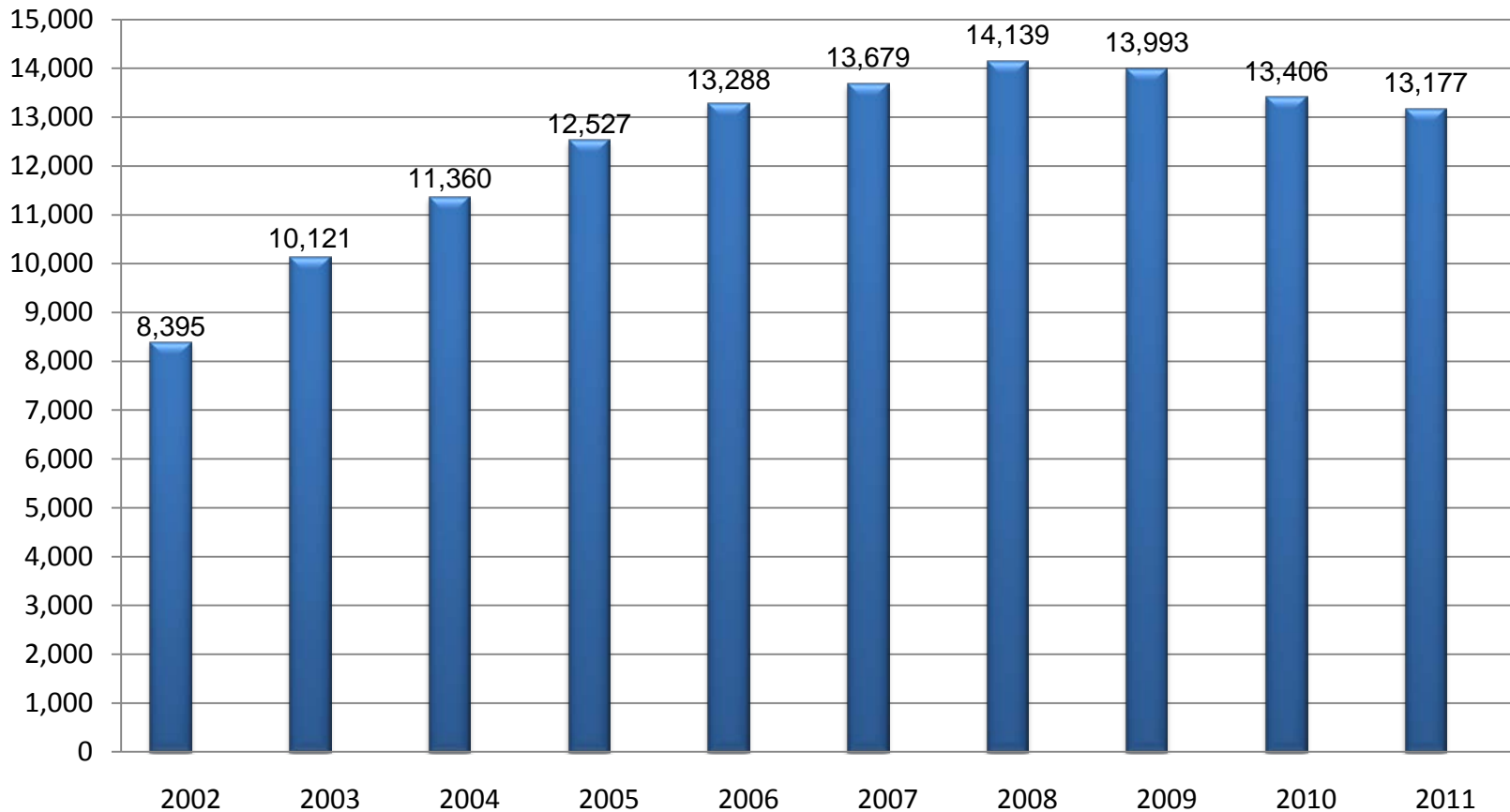
Currently available: December

Contact DAT for earlier date

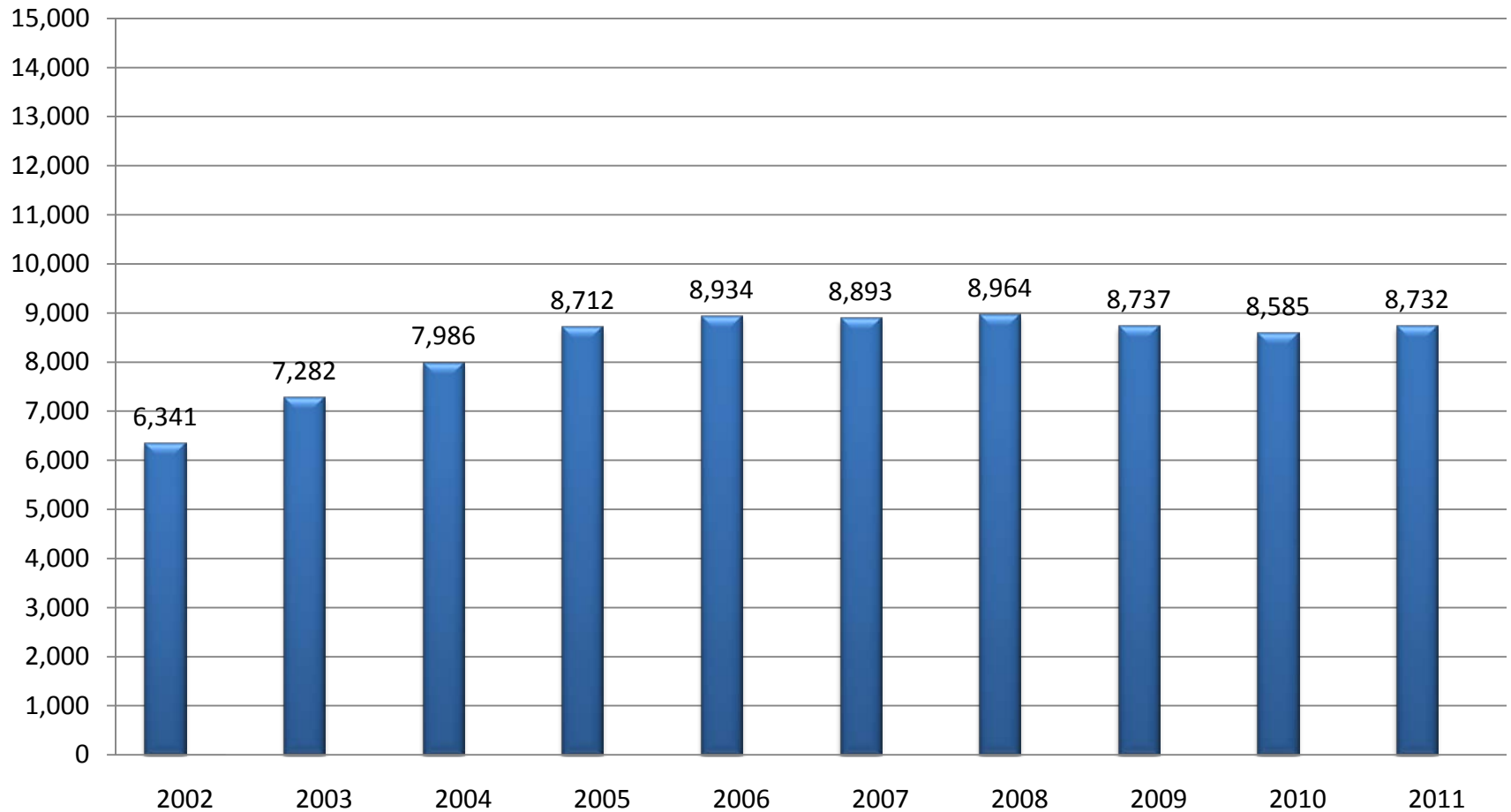
# DAT TRENDS



# Trends: Number of Test Administrations, 2002-2011



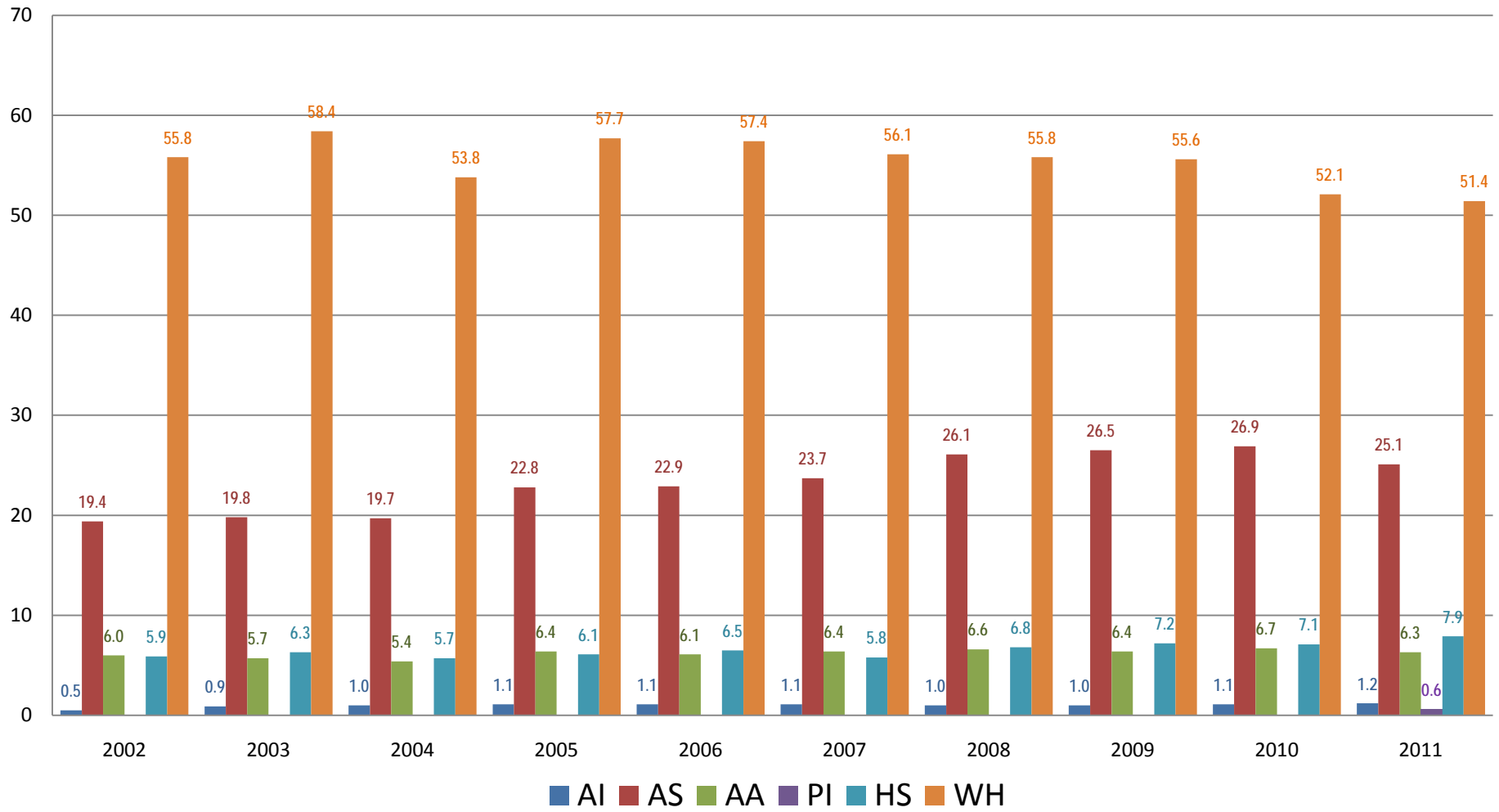
# Trends: Number of Examinees, 2002-2011



# Trends: Percentage of Test Administrations by Gender 2002-2011

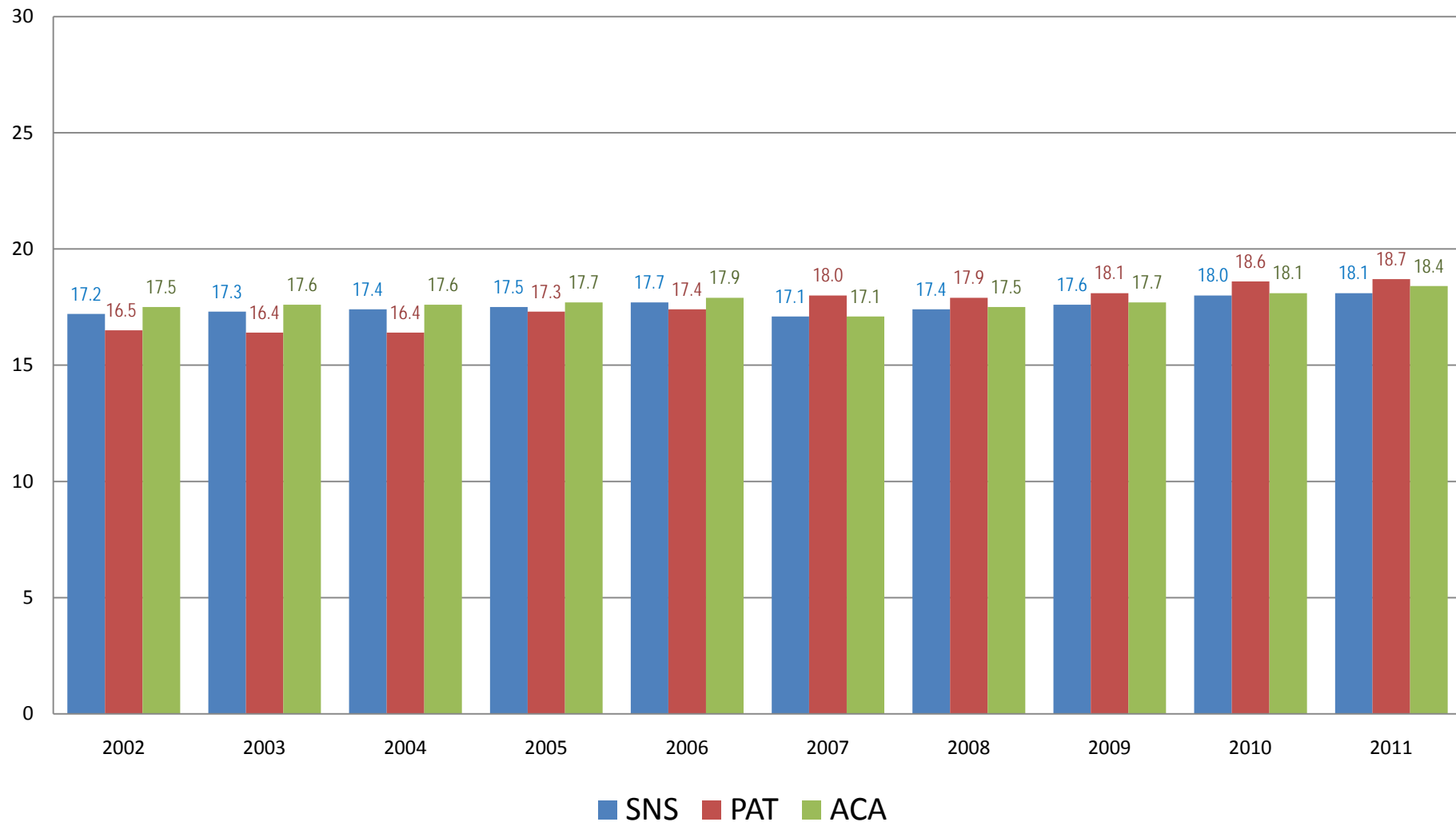


# Trends: Percentage of Examinees by Race, 2002-2011

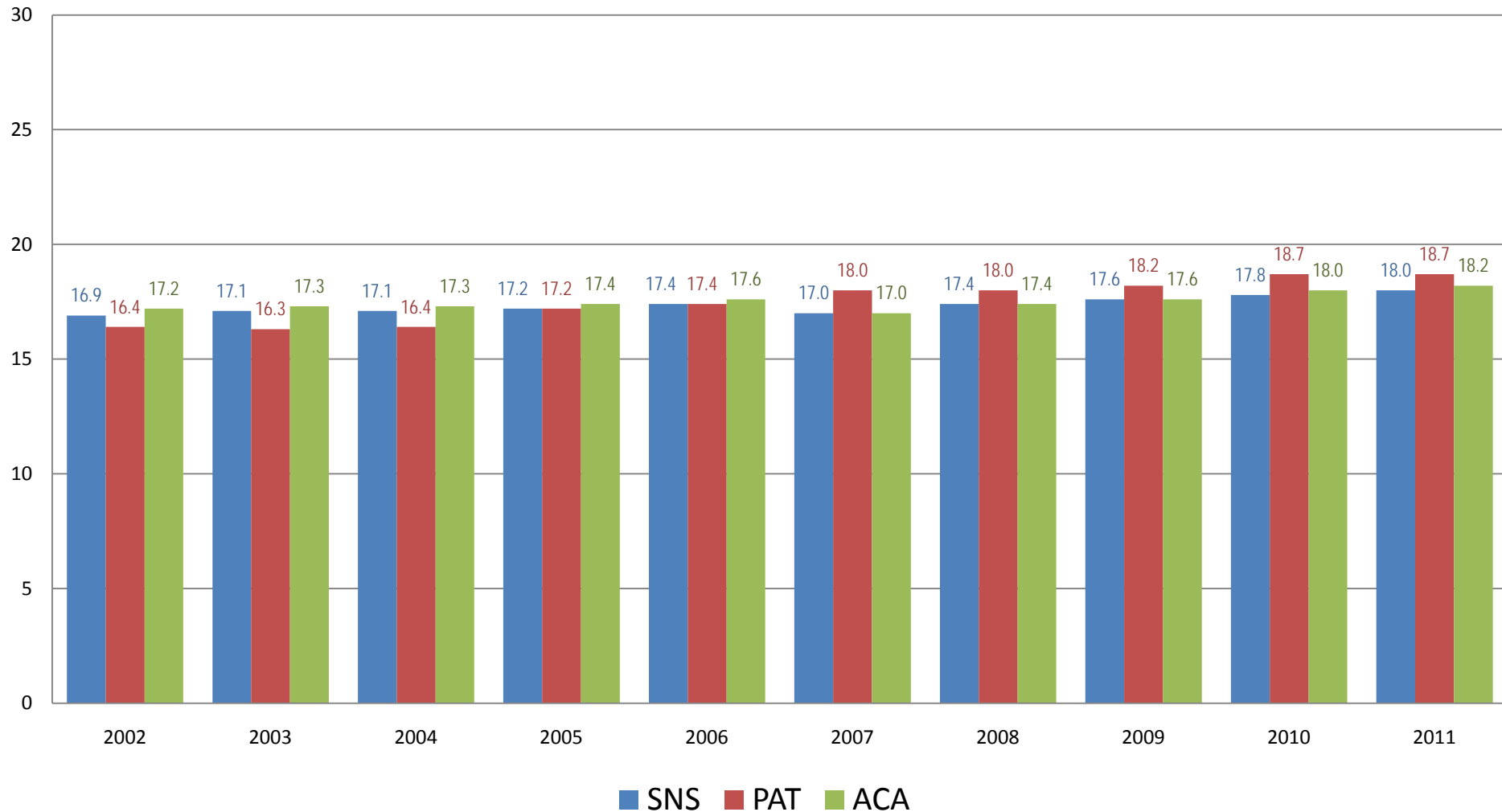




# Trends: First-time Examinee Performance, 2002-2011



# Trends: All Examinee Performance, 2002-2011



# DAT Resources

Dental Admission Test:

<http://www.ada.org/dat.aspx>.

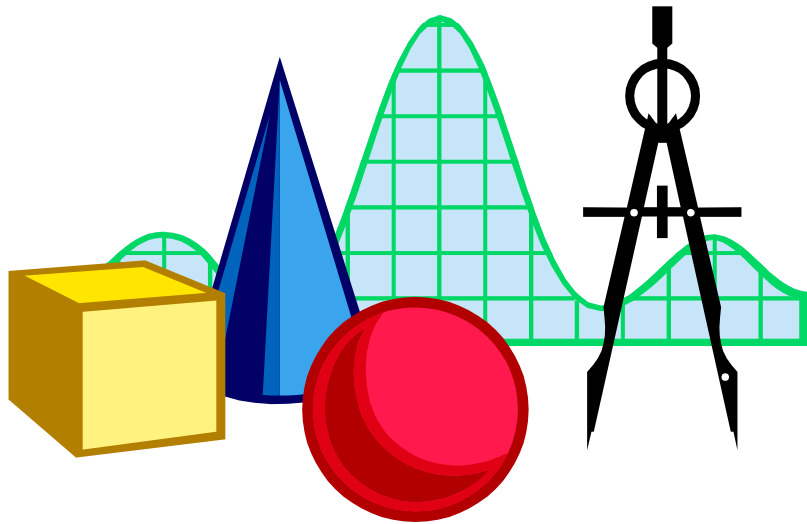
Newsletters and Additional Resources:

<http://www.ada.org/3746.aspx>.

# Acknowledgments

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# Questions?



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