

STUDENT SCORE DISTRIBUTIONS

Introduction

The May 2018 College Board AP Exams were taken by 2,808,990 students from 22,612 secondary schools. College and high school instructors, called Readers, who are familiar with college-level course demands, scored the free-response sections from the 5,090,324 examinations taken. Computers at ETS® scored the multiple-choice sections.

The Chief Readers, relying on their subject-matter expertise, statistical equating data, data from comparability studies, and historical trends, determine the score-setting thresholds for the 5-point AP score scale: 5 = extremely well qualified, 4 = well qualified, 3 = qualified, 2 = possibly qualified, 1 = no recommendation.

Summary Table of Students' Scores

The scores earned on the May 2018 AP Exams are summarized in the form of score distributions shown in the table on the next two pages. For each exam, the table provides the number and percentages of students receiving each score, the total number of students, and the mean and standard deviation of scores.

Additional information

Released exam questions, scoring guidelines, and sample student responses for the free-response sections of AP Exams are available at AP Central® (collegeboard.org/ap). Entire released exams, with multiple-choice answer keys are available for purchase at collegeboard.org/store.

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AP Exams - May 2018

Exam Score	Art History		Biology		Calculus AB		Calculus BC		Calculus BC Calculus AB Subscore		Chemistry	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	3,172	12.7	18,594	7.2	59,733	19.4	56,324	40.4	67,859	48.7	21,624	13.4
4	6,109	24.5	55,964	21.6	53,255	17.3	25,982	18.6	28,129	20.2	28,489	17.6
3	6,854	27.5	85,175	32.8	64,768	21.0	28,891	20.7	22,184	15.9	40,285	24.9
2	6,232	25.0	73,544	28.3	68,980	22.4	20,349	14.6	13,757	9.9	38,078	23.5
1	2,597	10.4	26,386	10.2	61,802	20.0	7,830	5.6	7,447	5.3	33,376	20.6
Number of Students	24,964		259,663		308,538		139,376		139,376		161,852	
3 or Higher / %	16,135	64.6	159,733	61.5	177,756	57.6	111,197	79.8	118,172	84.8	90,398	55.9
Mean Score	3.04		2.87		2.94		3.74		3.97		2.80	
Standard Deviation	1.19		1.08		1.40		1.28		1.23		1.31	
Exam Score	Chinese Language (Total Group)		Chinese Language (Standard Group)**		Computer Science A		Computer Science Principles		Economics - Macro		Economics - Micro	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	9,141	66.1	690	20.4	16,105	24.7	10,136	14.0	28,910	19.7	18,827	20.9
4	1,688	12.2	519	15.4	13,802	21.2	15,215	21.1	33,109	22.6	25,070	27.8
3	1,799	13.0	1,106	32.8	14,222	21.8	26,032	36.1	23,790	16.2	17,238	19.1
2	511	3.7	432	12.8	7,738	11.9	14,186	19.7	24,640	16.8	13,823	15.4
1	686	5.0	628	18.6	13,266	20.4	6,618	9.2	36,224	24.7	15,074	16.7
Number of Students	13,825		3,375		65,133		72,187		146,673		90,032	
3 or Higher / %	12,628	91.3	2,315	68.6	44,129	67.8	51,383	71.2	85,809	58.5	61,135	67.9
Mean Score	4.31		3.06		3.18		3.11		2.96		3.21	
Standard Deviation	1.14		1.36		1.45		1.15		1.47		1.38	
Exam Score	English Language		English Literature		Environmental Science		European History		French Language (Total Group)		French Language (Standard Group)**	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	61,523	10.6	22,826	5.6	14,604	8.8	12,101	11.9	3,821	16.7	1,922	11.0
4	102,953	17.7	58,765	14.5	39,827	23.9	20,297	19.9	5,911	25.8	4,402	25.2
3	167,131	28.8	109,700	27.2	24,936	15.0	26,331	25.9	7,917	34.6	6,634	37.9
2	169,858	29.3	145,307	36.0	42,986	25.8	30,558	30.0	4,186	18.3	3,649	20.9
1	78,578	13.5	67,416	16.7	44,080	26.5	12,453	12.2	1,032	4.5	886	5.1
Number of Students	580,043		404,014		166,433		101,740		22,867		17,493	
3 or Higher / %	331,607	57.2	191,291	47.3	79,367	47.7	58,729	57.7	17,649	77.2	12,958	74.1
Mean Score	2.83		2.57		2.63		2.89		3.32		3.16	
Standard Deviation	1.19		1.10		1.33		1.21		1.09		1.04	
Exam Score	German Language (Total Group)		German Language (Standard Group)**		Government & Politics Comparative		Government & Politics United States		Human Geography		Italian Language (Total Group)	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	1,131	22.4	323	9.3	5,197	21.1	43,410	13.3	28,261	13.0	540	18.5
4	1,146	22.7	813	23.5	5,579	22.6	43,253	13.3	43,009	19.8	531	18.1
3	1,309	25.9	1,063	30.7	4,841	19.6	86,180	26.4	46,669	21.5	937	32.0
2	1,091	21.6	924	26.7	5,087	20.6	79,652	24.4	36,803	17.0	626	21.4
1	376	7.4	339	9.8	3,971	16.1	73,897	22.6	62,041	28.6	292	10.0
Number of Students	5,053		3,462		24,675		326,392		216,783		2,926	
3 or Higher / %	3,586	71.0	2,199	63.5	15,617	63.3	172,843	53.0	117,939	54.4	2,008	68.6
Mean Score	3.31		2.96		3.12		2.70		2.72		3.14	
Standard Deviation	1.24		1.12		1.38		1.31		1.40		1.23	

* This table reflects 5,090,324 AP Exams taken by 2,808,990 students from 22,612 secondary schools.

** Standard students generally receive most of their foreign language training in U.S. schools. They did not indicate on their answer sheet that they regularly speak or hear the foreign language of the exam, or that they have lived for one month or more in a country where the language is spoken.

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AP Exams - May 2018 (continued)

Exam Score	Italian Language (Standard Group)**		Japanese Language (Total Group)		Japanese Language (Standard Group)**		Latin		Music Theory		Music Theory Aural Subscore	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	180	8.1	1,181	48.0	273	21.5	921	14.4	4,303	22.6	4,319	22.7
4	412	18.6	242	9.8	131	10.3	1,290	20.1	3,557	18.7	3,684	19.4
3	833	37.6	490	19.9	366	28.8	2,047	31.9	4,658	24.5	4,383	23.0
2	544	24.5	205	8.3	186	14.6	1,464	22.8	4,259	22.4	4,435	23.3
1	249	11.2	341	13.9	314	24.7	687	10.7	2,241	11.8	2,197	11.6
Number of Students	2,218		2,459		1,270		6,409		19,018		19,018	
3 or Higher / %	1,425	64.2	1,913	77.8	770	60.6	4,258	66.4	12,518	65.8	12,386	65.1
Mean Score	2.88		3.70		2.89		3.05		3.18		3.18	
Standard Deviation	1.09		1.47		1.44		1.20		1.32		1.33	
Exam Score	Music Theory Nonaural Subscore		Physics 1		Physics 2		Physics C E&M		Physics C Mechanics		Psychology	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	4,415	23.2	9,727	5.7	3,368	13.1	9,382	37.4	17,335	30.2	66,121	21.2
4	3,543	18.6	26,049	15.3	4,026	15.6	5,648	22.5	15,662	27.3	82,006	26.3
3	4,609	24.2	33,478	19.6	8,846	34.4	3,381	13.5	11,331	19.7	56,476	18.1
2	4,169	21.9	48,804	28.6	7,522	29.2	4,080	16.3	7,307	12.7	45,156	14.5
1	2,282	12.0	52,595	30.8	1,979	7.7	2,583	10.3	5,764	10.0	62,000	19.9
Number of Students	19,018		170,653		25,741		25,074		57,399		311,759	
3 or Higher / %	12,567	66.1	69,254	40.6	16,240	63.1	18,411	73.4	44,328	77.2	204,603	65.6
Mean Score	3.19		2.36		2.97		3.60		3.55		3.14	
Standard Deviation	1.33		1.22		1.13		1.39		1.31		1.43	
Exam Score	Research		Seminar		Spanish Language (Total Group)		Spanish Language (Standard Group)**		Spanish Literature		Statistics	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	1,103	11.4	2,605	8.4	42,708	23.7	9,735	16.5	2,664	9.7	32,417	14.6
4	2,287	23.7	5,324	17.2	62,658	34.7	18,708	31.8	6,722	24.5	47,108	21.2
3	3,864	40.1	17,709	57.2	53,985	29.9	20,383	34.6	9,910	36.1	55,483	24.9
2	1,911	19.8	4,620	14.9	18,597	10.3	8,628	14.6	5,963	21.7	35,407	15.9
1	475	4.9	706	2.3	2,487	1.4	1,455	2.5	2,192	8.0	52,086	23.4
Number of Students	9,640		30,964		180,435		58,909		27,451		222,501	
3 or Higher / %	7,254	75.2	25,638	82.8	159,351	88.3	48,826	82.9	19,296	70.3	135,008	60.7
Mean Score	3.17		3.15		3.69		3.45		3.06		2.88	
Standard Deviation	1.03		0.85		0.99		1.01		1.08		1.37	
Exam Score	Studio Art Drawing		Studio Art 2-D Design		Studio Art 3-D Design		United States History		World History			
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At		
5	4,667	22.4	6,492	17.9	660	11.4	53,424	10.7	26,904	8.9		
4	6,604	31.7	11,214	30.9	1,358	23.5	92,518	18.4	60,272	19.9		
3	7,398	35.5	12,965	35.8	1,967	34.0	114,067	22.7	83,107	27.4		
2	1,882	9.0	4,429	12.2	1,535	26.6	113,597	22.7	86,322	28.5		
1	302	1.4	1,149	3.2	257	4.4	127,924	25.5	46,638	15.4		
Number of Students	20,853		36,249		5,777		501,530		303,243			
3 or Higher / %	18,669	89.5	30,671	84.6	3,985	69.0	260,009	51.8	170,283	56.2		
Mean Score	3.65		3.48		3.11		2.66		2.78			
Standard Deviation	0.97		1.02		1.06		1.32		1.19			

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