

STUDENT SCORE DISTRIBUTIONS

Introduction

The May 2015 College Board AP Exams were taken by 2,483,452 students from 21,594 secondary schools. College and high school teachers, called Readers, who are familiar with college-level course demands, scored the free-response sections from the 4,478,936 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. Listed below are the Chief Readers who directed the scoring of the free-response sections of the May 2015 exams.

Summary Table of Students' Scores

The scores earned on the May 2015 AP Examinations 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® (apcentral.collegeboard.org). Entire released exams, with multiple-choice answer keys are available for purchase at store.collegeboard.org.

CHIEF READERS

Art History	Heather Madar	Humboldt State University
Biology	Domenic Castignetti	Loyola University of Chicago
Calculus	Stephen Kokoska	Bloomsburg University
Chemistry	Roger Kugel	University of Cincinnati
Chinese Language	Telee Richard Chi	University of Utah
Computer Science	Elizabeth Johnson	Xavier University
Economics – Micro	Pamela Schmitt	United States Naval Academy
Economics – Macro	Arthur Raymond	Muhlenberg College
English Lang. & Comp.	Mary Trachsel	University of Iowa
English Lit. & Comp.	Warren Carson	University of South Carolina - Upstate
Environmental Science	Alan McIntosh	University of Vermont
European History	Paul Deslandes	University of Vermont
French Language	Pascal Ifri	Washington University
German Language	Jennifer Redmann	Franklin and Marshall College
Government & Politics: Comparative	Glenn Hastedt	James Madison University
Government & Politics: United States	James Riddlesperger	Texas Christian University
Human Geography	Donald Zeigler	Old Dominion University
Italian Language	Giuseppe Cavatorta	University of Arizona
Japanese Language	Motoko Tabuse	Eastern Michigan University
Latin	Robert Cape	Austin College
Music	Rebecca Jemian	University of Louisville
Physics 1	Peter Sheldon	Randolph College
Physics 2	Jiang Yu	Fitchburg State University
Physics	Tom Masulis	Shasta College
Psychology	Elizabeth Hammer	Xavier University of Louisiana
Seminar	Teresa Shelton-Reed	The University of Tulsa
Spanish Language	Jeffrey Reeder	Sonoma State University
Spanish Literature	Eduardo Cabrera	Millikin University
Statistics	Jessica Utts	University of California
Studio Art	Herb Weaver	Georgia Gwinnett College
United States History	Jonathan Chu	University of Massachusetts
World History	Tim Keim	California State University – Long Beach

STUDENT SCORE DISTRIBUTIONS*

AP Exams - May 2015

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	2,339	10.0	14,230	6.4	66,045	21.8	53,836	45.4	66,560	56.1	14,052	9.2
4	4,744	20.3	49,341	22.1	51,518	17.0	19,431	16.4	19,347	16.3	24,581	16.1
3	6,346	27.2	80,200	35.9	56,148	18.6	21,338	18.0	15,157	12.8	42,978	28.1
2	4,752	20.4	61,459	27.5	31,229	10.3	6,487	5.5	6,532	5.5	37,976	24.9
1	5,133	22.0	18,249	8.2	97,592	32.3	17,615	14.8	11,111	9.4	33,158	21.7
Number of Students	23,314		223,479		302,532		118,707		118,707		152,745	
3 or Higher / %	13,429	57.6	143,771	64.3	173,711	57.4	94,605	79.7	101,064	85.1	81,611	53.4
Mean Score	2.76		2.91		2.86		3.72		4.04		2.66	
Standard Deviation	1.28		1.03		1.55		1.45		1.32		1.24	
Exam Score	Chinese Language (Total Group)		Chinese Language (Standard Group)**		Computer Science A		Economics - Macro		Economics - Micro		English Language	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	7,593	65.3	568	23.2	11,963	24.4	19,245	15.2	14,976	19.1	52,190	9.9
4	1,859	16.0	479	19.6	12,061	24.6	28,071	22.2	22,445	28.6	96,720	18.3
3	1,373	11.8	736	30.1	7,470	15.2	21,583	17.1	15,196	19.4	143,835	27.3
2	358	3.1	274	11.2	3,529	7.2	21,487	17.0	10,801	13.8	156,644	29.7
1	450	3.9	387	15.8	13,971	28.5	35,881	28.4	14,990	19.1	77,885	14.8
Number of Students	11,633		2,444		48,994		126,267		78,408		527,274	
3 or Higher / %	10,825	93.1	1,783	73.0	31,494	64.3	68,899	54.6	52,617	67.1	292,745	55.5
Mean Score	4.36		3.23		3.09		2.79		3.15		2.79	
Standard Deviation	1.06		1.35		1.56		1.45		1.39		1.19	
Exam Score	English Literature		Environmental Science		European History		French Language (Total Group)		French Language (Standard Group)**		German Language (Total Group)	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	30,347	7.6	10,728	7.7	11,068	10.3	3,814	16.7	2,038	11.6	1,261	24.7
4	72,852	18.2	33,568	24.2	18,581	17.3	5,831	25.6	4,258	24.3	1,226	24.0
3	122,169	30.5	20,898	15.1	38,135	35.6	7,676	33.7	6,497	37.0	1,441	28.2
2	131,045	32.7	35,214	25.4	11,425	10.7	4,291	18.8	3,737	21.3	848	16.6
1	44,663	11.1	38,295	27.6	28,058	26.2	1,192	5.2	1,017	5.8	327	6.4
Number of Students	401,076		138,703		107,267		22,804		17,547		5,103	
3 or Higher / %	225,368	56.2	65,194	47.0	67,784	63.2	17,321	76.0	12,793	72.9	3,928	77.0
Mean Score	2.78		2.59		2.75		3.30		3.15		3.44	
Standard Deviation	1.10		1.32		1.29		1.11		1.06		1.21	
Exam Score	German Language (Standard Group)**		Government & Politics Comparative		Government & Politics United States		Human Geography		Italian Language (Total Group)		Italian Language (Standard Group)**	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	326	9.8	3,231	15.1	27,492	9.7	19,474	12.2	534	20.8	139	7.5
4	815	24.4	4,247	19.9	38,267	13.5	32,695	20.5	517	20.1	391	21.0
3	1,180	35.4	4,643	21.7	69,844	24.7	33,659	21.1	704	27.4	619	33.2
2	721	21.6	4,870	22.8	70,684	25.0	26,666	16.7	584	22.7	522	28.0
1	294	8.8	4,376	20.5	76,284	27.0	47,115	29.5	234	9.1	192	10.3
Number of Students	3,336		21,367		282,571		159,609		2,573		1,863	
3 or Higher / %	2,321	69.6	12,121	56.7	135,603	48.0	85,828	53.8	1,755	68.2	1,149	61.7
Mean Score	3.05		2.86		2.54		2.69		3.21		2.87	
Standard Deviation	1.10		1.35		1.28		1.39		1.26		1.09	

* This table reflects 4,478,936 AP Exams taken by 2,483,452 students from 21,594 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 2015 (continued)

Exam Score	Japanese Language (Total Group)		Japanese Language (Standard Group)**		Latin		Music Theory		Music Theory Aural Subscore		Music Theory Nonaural Subscore	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	1,178	48.5	288	21.5	828	12.6	3,567	19.1	3,556	19.1	3,502	18.8
4	223	9.2	151	11.3	1,419	21.6	3,212	17.2	3,329	17.9	3,312	17.8
3	479	19.7	387	28.9	1,935	29.4	4,617	24.8	4,460	23.9	4,578	24.6
2	198	8.1	189	14.1	1,602	24.4	4,615	24.8	4,737	25.4	4,670	25.1
1	353	14.5	326	24.3	787	12.0	2,631	14.1	2,560	13.7	2,580	13.8
Number of Students	2,431		1,341		6,571		18,642		18,642		18,642	
3 or Higher / %	1,880	77.3	826	61.6	4,182	63.6	11,396	61.1	11,345	60.9	11,392	61.1
Mean Score	3.69		2.91		2.98		3.03		3.03		3.03	
Standard Deviation	1.49		1.44		1.20		1.32		1.32		1.32	

Exam Score	Physics 1		Physics 2		Physics C E&M		Physics C Mechanics		Psychology		Seminar	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	8,469	5.0	1,743	8.5	7,163	31.4	15,841	30.1	55,846	20.2	261	4.9
4	23,322	13.6	2,806	13.7	5,578	24.5	14,674	27.9	72,675	26.2	620	11.7
3	35,345	20.7	6,876	33.5	2,850	12.5	10,524	20.0	54,889	19.8	3,082	58.3
2	50,966	29.8	7,146	34.8	4,490	19.7	6,125	11.6	36,246	13.1	1,141	21.6
1	52,972	31.0	1,962	9.6	2,708	11.9	5,514	10.5	57,315	20.7	184	3.5
Number of Students	171,074		20,533		22,789		52,678		276,971		5,288	
3 or Higher / %	67,136	39.2	11,425	55.6	15,591	68.4	41,039	77.9	183,410	66.2	3,963	74.9
Mean Score	2.32		2.77		3.44		3.55		3.12		2.93	
Standard Deviation	1.19		1.07		1.41		1.31		1.42		0.82	

Exam Score	Spanish Language (Total Group)		Spanish Language (Standard Group)**		Spanish Literature		Statistics		Studio Art Drawing		Studio Art 2-D Design	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	39,608	27.4	8,994	19.1	2,181	10.0	26,298	13.4	2,818	15.6	4,807	17.2
4	50,753	35.1	15,508	32.9	5,420	24.9	37,347	19.1	4,018	22.2	8,048	28.7
3	39,821	27.5	15,709	33.3	8,282	38.1	49,317	25.2	7,309	40.4	9,049	32.3
2	12,585	8.7	5,914	12.5	4,486	20.6	36,443	18.6	3,356	18.5	4,881	17.4
1	1,794	1.2	1,063	2.3	1,386	6.4	46,121	23.6	604	3.3	1,214	4.3
Number of Students	144,561		47,188		21,755		195,526		18,105		27,999	
3 or Higher / %	130,182	90.1	40,211	85.2	15,883	73.0	112,962	57.8	14,145	78.1	21,904	78.2
Mean Score	3.79		3.54		3.12		2.80		3.28		3.37	
Standard Deviation	0.98		1.01		1.05		1.35		1.04		1.09	

Exam Score	Studio Art 3-D Design		United States History		World History	
	N	% At	N	% At	N	% At
5	565	12.3	44,282	9.4	17,413	6.6
4	1,085	23.6	84,753	18.0	37,624	14.2
3	1,654	36.0	111,373	23.7	83,279	31.4
2	1,135	24.7	116,551	24.8	79,293	29.9
1	151	3.3	112,730	24.0	47,699	18.0
Number of Students	4,590		469,689		265,308	
3 or Higher / %	3,304	72.0	240,408	51.2	138,316	52.1
Mean Score	3.17		2.64		2.61	
Standard Deviation	1.04		1.28		1.13	

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