

Advanced Placement Tests - Score Distributions

Taken from <https://apscore.collegeboard.org/scores/about-ap-scores/score-distributions/>

2017

AP Capstone

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Research	16.8%	18.1%	35.4%	27.3%	2.5%
Seminar	6.7%	15.1%	65%	11.6%	1.6%

Arts

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Art History	11.1%	22.9%	27.2%	26.3%	12.4%
Music Theory	19.2%	17.2%	24.6%	24.6%	14.5%
Studio Art: 2-D Design	19.3%	31.2%	34.6%	13.1%	1.8%
Studio Art: 3-D Design	12%	22%	37.6%	25.2%	3.2%
Studio Art: Drawing	21.9%	27.7%	35.8%	12.9%	1.6%

English

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
English Language and composition	9.1%	18.3%	27.7%	30.7%	14.2%
English Literature and Composition	6.8%	16.1%	29.7%	33.9%	13.5%

History & Social Science

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Comparative Government and Politics	23.2%	24.5%	20.4%	17.8%	14.1%
European History	9.3%	18.6%	28%	31.9%	12.1%
Human Geography	10.7%	17.3%	21%	17.1%	33.9%
Macroeconomics	17.4%	23.3%	16.9%	15.8%	26.6%
Microeconomics	23.5%	28.1%	18%	12%	18.5%
Psychology	19.1%	25.1%	20%	14.6%	21.2%
United States Government and Politics	11.1%	12.4%	25.7%	24.6%	26.1%
United States History	10.8%	17.7%	22.3%	23.5%	25.6%
World History	8.5%	19.9%	26.7%	29.6%	15.4%

Maths

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Calculus AB	18.7%	18%	20.8%	22%	20.4%
Calculus BC	42.6%	18.1%	19.9%	14.1%	5.3%
Computer Science A	24.2%	20.9%	21.9%	11.5%	21.5%
Computer Science Principles	13.8%	21.7%	39.1%	18.3%	7.2%
Statistics	13.6%	15.9%	24.8%	20.2%	25.5%

Sciences

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Biology	6.4%	21%	36.7%	27.5%	8.4%
Chemistry	10.1%	16.2%	26.1%	26.2%	21.4%
Environmental Science	9.5%	24.5%	15.4%	24.5%	26.2%
Physics 1	5.4%	16.2%	20.3%	29.1%	29%
Physics 2	12.9%	16.7%	34%	27.6%	8.9%
Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	31.9%	25.2%	14.3%	16.9%	11.7%
Physics C: Mechanics	36.4%	27.1%	15.8%	12.5%	8.1%

World Languages and Cultures

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Chinese Language and Culture	68.8%	11.7%	12.1%	3.1%	4.3%
French Language and Culture	17%	24.9%	33.4%	19.6%	5%
German Language and Culture	23%	24.1%	28.5%	17.5%	6.9%
Italian Language and Culture	18.4%	19.1%	34%	22.4%	6.1%
Japanese Language and Culture	45.1%	11%	20.8%	8.2%	14.8%
Latin	12.5%	19.4%	31.5%	23.0%	13.6%
Spanish Language and Culture	19.5%	34.8%	34.2%	10%	1.5%
Spanish Literature and Culture	9.6%	26.1%	37.6%	20.4%	6.4%

Note - due to changes in the exam format over the last 3 years, within language subjects in particular it is more difficult to provide an accurate average grade.

*Chinese Language and Culture, French Language and Culture, German Language and Culture and Italian Language and Culture are compared with the Total Group scores from previous years as these are more comparable than the Standard Group scores.

**Japanese Language and Culture - only standard scores available for 2016 whereas total and standard scores are available for 2015. Please see individual scores for this subject.

***Spanish Language and Culture is compared with the Standard Group scores as these are more comparable than the Total Group scores.

An average for Calculus BC Calculus AB Subscore has not been provided as there is only data for 2015 and 2016.

2016*

AP Capstone

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Research	11.6%	16.3%	39.3%	30.8%	2.0%
Seminar	6.6%	12.6%	54%	21.8%	5.2%

Arts

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Art History	11.0%	22.6%	27.8%	27.5%	11.1%
Music Theory	18.2%	17.3%	24.1%	26.0%	14.4%
Music Theory Aural Subscore	18.2%	16.9%	23.3%	27.9%	13.7%
Music Theory Nonaural Subscore	18.7%	17.5%	22.8%	26.3%	14.7%
Studio Art: 2-D Design	14.4%	33.0%	35.0%	15.5%	2.2%
Studio Art: 3-D Design	13.2%	25.7%	35.8%	22.3%	2.9%
Studio Art: Drawing	17.0%	27.2%	38.8%	14.6%	2.4%

English

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
English Language and composition	10.7%	17.6%	27.1%	32.1%	12.6%
English Literature and Composition	7.4%	17.8%	29.4%	33.4%	12.0%

History & Social Science

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Comparative Government and Politics	20.5%	21.2%	20.4%	21.5%	16.4%
European History	7.4%	16.0%	29.2%	35.1%	12.3%
Human Geography	11.9%	20.1%	19.8%	19.1%	29.0%
Macroeconomics	17.4%	23.4%	16.1%	17.0%	26.0%
Microeconomics	17.8%	27.5%	22.0%	13.7%	19.0%
Psychology	19.1%	26.1%	19.1%	14.2%	21.6%
United States Government and Politics	12.3%	13.5%	24.9%	24.0%	25.2%
United States History	11.9%	17.9%	22.5%	23.3%	24.3%
World History	6.6%	15.6%	29.4%	28.7%	19.7%

Maths

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Calculus AB	24.8%	17.3%	17.4%	9.7%	30.7%
Calculus BC	48.5%	15.4%	17.2%	5.8%	13.2%
Calculus BC Calculus AB Subscore	51.1%	20.9%	13.1%	4.6%	10.3%
Computer Science A	20.8%	20.5%	23.1%	12.5%	23.1%
Computer Science Principles					
Statistics	14.3%	21.7%	24.9%	15.5%	23.5%

Sciences

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Biology	6.6%	21.0%	33.6%	28.8%	10.1%
Chemistry	10.5%	15.6%	27.5%	24.8%	21.6%
Environmental Science	7.6%	23.2%	14.8%	25.8%	28.6%
Physics 1	4.6%	14.0%	21.2%	30.2%	30.0%
Physics 2	9.5%	17.0%	34.9%	30.6%	8.1%
Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	34.6%	22.7%	13.2%	17.9%	11.6%
Physics C: Mechanics	32.3%	27.0%	18.1%	13.1%	9.5%

World Languages and Cultures

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Chinese Language (Total Group)	62.8%	16.4%	14.4%	2.7%	3.7%
Chinese Language (Standard Group)**	20.7%	18.1%	36.0%	10.1%	15.0%
French Language (Total Group)	17.6%	26.5%	32.5%	18.5%	4.9%
French Language (Standard Group)**	11.7%	25.8%	36.0%	21.2%	5.3%
German Language (Total Group)	21.4%	22.5%	27.0%	20.6%	8.5%
German Language Standard Group)**	8.4%	21.6%	32.6%	26.0%	11.4%
Italian Language (Total Group)	22.4%	18.8%	30.9%	19.9%	8.1%
Italian Language Standard Group)**	9.4%	20.1%	37.3%	23.8%	9.4%
Japanese Language (Standard Group)*	25.1%	9.8%	28.7%	11.0%	25.5%
Latin	12.7%	20.8%	32.1%	22.9%	11.5%
Spanish Language (Total Group)	27.8%	34.7%	26.9%	9.2%	1.4%
Spanish Language (Standard Group)**	19.4%	32.2%	32.4%	13.7%	2.2%
Spanish Literature and Culture	8.8%	24.3%	36.9%	22.5%	7.6%
Language (Total Group)	51.8%	7.6%	19.8%	6.4%	14.4%

*This table reflects 4,704,980 AP Exams taken by 2,611,172 students from 21,953 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.

2015*

AP Capstone

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Research					
Seminar	4.9%	11.7%	58%	21.6%	3.5%

Arts

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Art History	10.0%	20.3%	27.2%	20.4%	22.0%
Music Theory	19.1%	17.2%	24.8%	24.8%	14.1%
Music Theory Aural Subscore	19.1%	17.9%	23.9%	25.4%	13.7%
Music Theory Nonaural Subscore	18.8%	17.8%	24.6%	25.1%	13.8%
Studio Art: 2-D Design	17.2%	28.7%	32.3%	17.4%	4.3%
Studio Art: 3-D Design	12.3%	23.6%	36.0%	24.7%	3.3%
Studio Art: Drawing	15.6%	22.2%	40.4%	18.5%	3.3%

English

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
English Language and composition	9.9%	18.3%	27.3%	29.7%	14.8%
English Literature and Composition	7.6%	18.2%	30.5%	32.7%	11.1%

History & Social Science

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Comparative Government and Politics	15.1%	19.9%	21.7%	22.8%	20.5%
European History	10.3%	17.3%	35.6%	10.7%	26.2%
Human Geography	12.2%	20.5%	21.1%	16.7%	29.5%
Macroeconomics	15.2%	22.2%	17.1%	17.0%	28.4%
Microeconomics	19.1%	28.6%	19.4%	13.8%	19.1%
Psychology	20.2%	26.2%	19.8%	13.1%	20.7%
United States Government and Politics	9.7%	13.5%	24.7%	25.0%	27.0%
United States History	9.4%	18.0%	23.7%	24.8%	24.0%
World History	6.6%	14.2%	31.4%	29.9%	18.0%

Maths

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Calculus AB	21.8%	17.0%	18.6%	10.3%	32.3%
Calculus BC	45.4%	16.4%	18.0%	5.5%	14.8%
Calculus BC Calculus AB Subscore	56.1%	16.3%	12.8%	5.5%	9.4%
Computer Science A	24.4%	24.6%	15.2%	7.2%	28.5%
Computer Science Principles					
Statistics	13.4%	19.1%	25.2%	18.6%	23.6%

Sciences

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Biology	6.4%	22.1%	35.9%	27.5%	8.2%
Chemistry	9.2%	16.1%	28.1%	24.9%	21.7%
Environmental Science	7.7%	24.2%	15.1%	25.4%	27.6%
Physics 1	5.0%	13.6%	20.7%	29.8%	31.0%
Physics 2	8.5%	13.7%	33.5%	34.8%	9.6%
Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	31.4%	24.5%	12.5%	19.7%	11.9%
Physics C: Mechanics	30.1%	27.9%	20.0%	11.6%	10.5%

World Languages and Cultures

Exam	5	4	3	2	1
Chinese Language (Total Group)	65.3%	16.0%	11.8%	3.1%	3.9%
Chinese Language (Standard Group)**	23.2%	19.6%	30.1%	11.2%	15.8%
French Language (Total Group)	16.7%	25.6%	33.7%	18.8%	5.2%
French Language (Standard Group)**	11.6%	24.3%	37.0%	21.3%	5.8%
German Language (Total Group)	24.7%	24.0%	28.2%	16.6%	6.4%
German Language (Standard Group)**	9.8%	24.4%	35.4%	21.6%	8.8%
Italian Language (Total Group)	20.8%	20.1%	27.4%	22.7%	9.1%
Italian Language Standard Group**	7.5%	21.0%	33.2%	28.0%	10.3%
Japanese Language (Total Group)	48.5%	9.2%	19.7%	8.1%	14.5%
Japanese Language (Standard Group)*	21.5%	11.3%	28.9%	14.1%	24.3%
Latin	12.6%	21.6%	29.4%	24.4%	12.0%
Spanish Language (Total Group)	27.4%	35.1%	27.5%	8.7%	1.2%
Spanish Language (Standard Group)**	19.1%	32.9%	33.3%	12.5%	2.3%
Spanish Literature and Culture	10.0%	24.9%	38.1%	20.6%	6.4%
Language (Total Group)					

*This table reflects 4,478,936 AP Exams taken by 2,483,452 students from 21,953 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.