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# AP Access and Student Success in Texas

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## Topics for today

- Importance of AP access
- Overview of AP in Texas
  - Achievements
  - Opportunities for expansion
- Policy ideas

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## Why Access to AP Matters




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### “America’s Divided Recovery”

Georgetown University Center on  
Education and the Workforce  
published June 2016

- Over 99% of job growth (since 2008) in the recovery went to workers with more than a high school education
- Workers with a high school diploma or less saw virtually no jobs recovery
- 11.5 out of 11.6 million jobs created went to workers with at least some college education
- Workers with a bachelor’s degree added 8.4 million jobs, but workers with high school diplomas or less added only 80,000 jobs

## Better College Outcomes with AP®

The research shows AP students are better prepared for college. They are more likely to enroll in college, stay in college, do well in their classes, and graduate on time in four years.

When it comes to college, AP students are ready.



### Enrollment

- Students who take AP Exams are **more likely to enroll in a four-year college** than similar students who don't take AP Exams.

### Retention

- Students who take AP Exams are, once enrolled in college, **more likely to return for a second year** at that college than similar students who don't take AP Exams.

### Performance

- Students who earn a score of 3 or higher on AP Exams have **higher overall first-year college GPAs** than similar students who don't take AP Exams.
- Students who earn a score of 2 or higher on AP Exams in most subject areas are **more likely to have higher college grades** in those subject areas than similar students who don't take AP Exams.
- Students who take AP Exams and score well enough to place out of an intro course generally, in the next course, **do as well as or better than similar students** who don't take AP Exams and who take the intro course on the college campus.

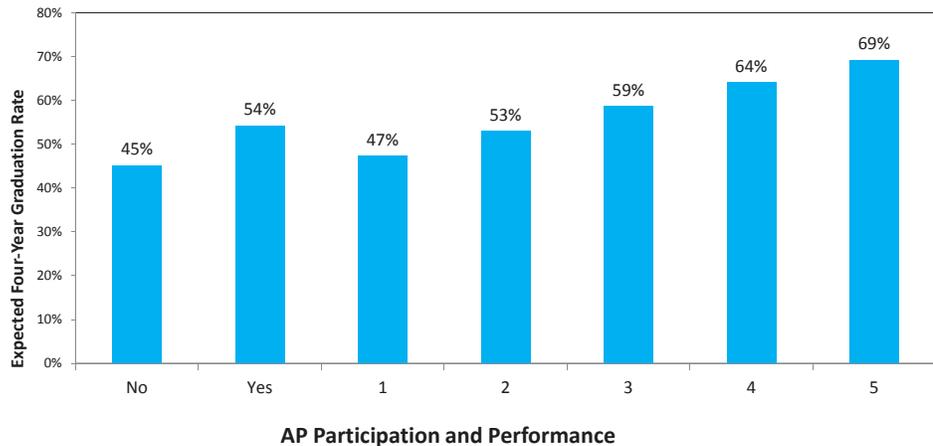
### Graduation

- Students who take AP Exams are **more likely to graduate college on time** in four years than similar students who don't take AP Exams.

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## Expected Four-Year Graduation Rate by AP Participation and Performance

Students who took one or more AP Exams, regardless of what score was earned, are more likely to graduate in four years than non-AP students - even after controlling for prior academic achievement, demographic variables and school-level variables.

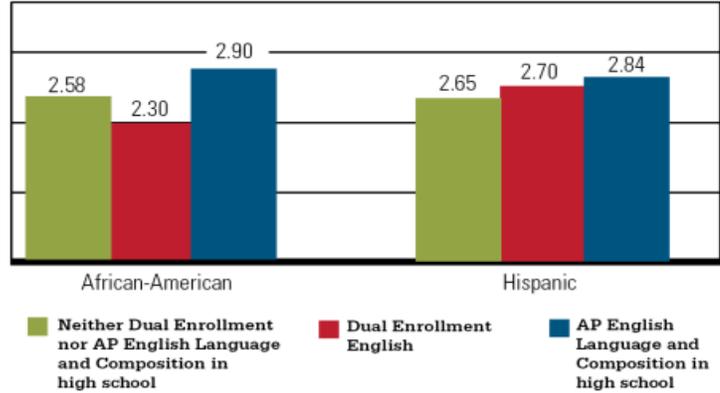


Mattern, K., Marini, J. P., & Shaw, E. J. (2013). Are AP Students More Likely To Graduate On Time? (College Board Research Report 2013-5). New York, NY: The College Board.

## AP and Traditionally Underserved Students

African American and Hispanic students who took AP courses and exams earned higher grades in college than other African American and Hispanic students from the same SAT® range and the same socioeconomic background who had taken regular high school courses or dual enrollment courses.

1st Year GPA of AP English Students Compared to Matched Dual Enrollment and Other Students in College



“College Outcomes Comparison by AP and Non-AP High School Experiences.”  
Barbara G. Dodd, Linda Hargrove, Donn Godin (2008).



Computing jobs are the #1 source of new wages in the United States.



**500,000 current openings:** These jobs are in *every* industry and *every* state, and they’re projected to grow at twice the rate of all other jobs.

[www.code.org/promote](http://www.code.org/promote)

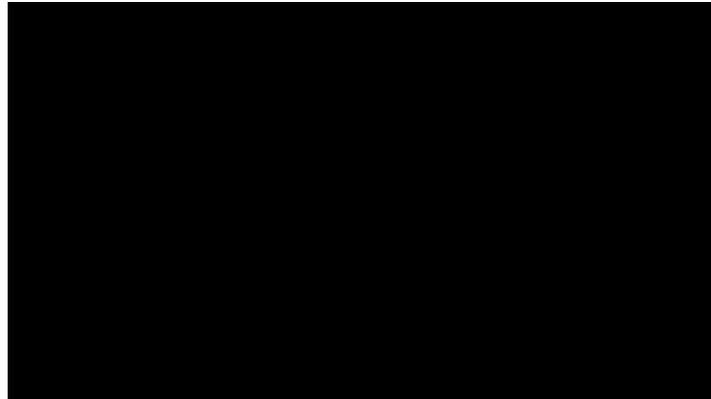
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## AP Computer Science Principles

Exam was taken by 2,159 students at 161 schools in 2016-17.

71% of Texas AP CSP exam takers **earned a score of 3 or higher** on the exam.

**90+ new schools** have already indicated they're adding the course this year.

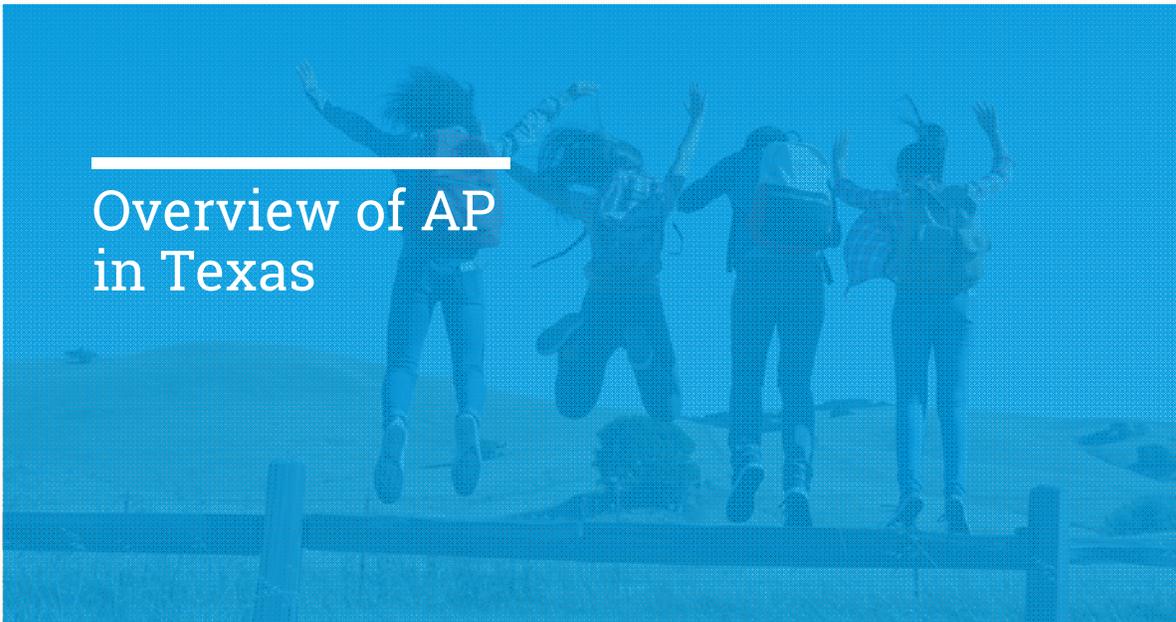


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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BgGqVM-8PhM>

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## Overview of AP in Texas



## Fast Facts

### Class of 2016

- **38.7%** of Texas graduates in the class of 2016 **took an AP exam** during high school.
- **20.2%** of Texas graduates in the class of 2016 **scored 3 or higher** on an AP exam.
- **5.8% more** graduates in the class of 2016 earned a 3 or higher than did graduates in **2006**.
- Texas is the state closest to achieving **equitable participation for low-income** students, with 45% of exam takers earning 3+ using an AP fee reduction.

## Side by Side Highlights of State and Nation

### Class of 2016, AP Cohort Report

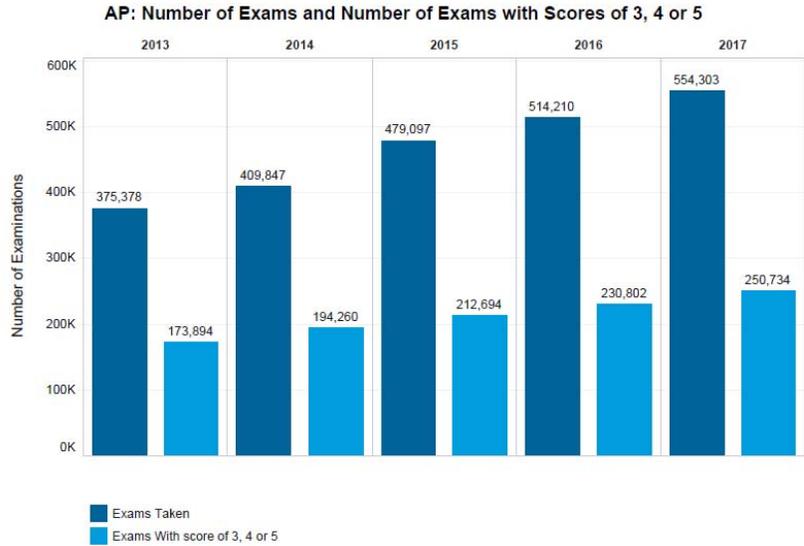
	Texas	National
AP students	122,606	1.1 million
AP exams	459,552	3.8 million
Percent of graduates taking an AP exam	38.7%	36.2%
Percent of graduates earning 3+ on an AP exam	20.2%	21.9%
Exam takers using fee reduction	50.3%	30.1%
Exam takers earning 3 of higher, using fee reduction	45.1%	24.9%
10 year percentage change in graduates earning a 3 or higher	5.8%	7.6%

## 2013-2017 AP Exam Administration

### 5 Year Trends

47% increase in number of exams taken

44% increase in the number of exams earning a score of 3 or higher

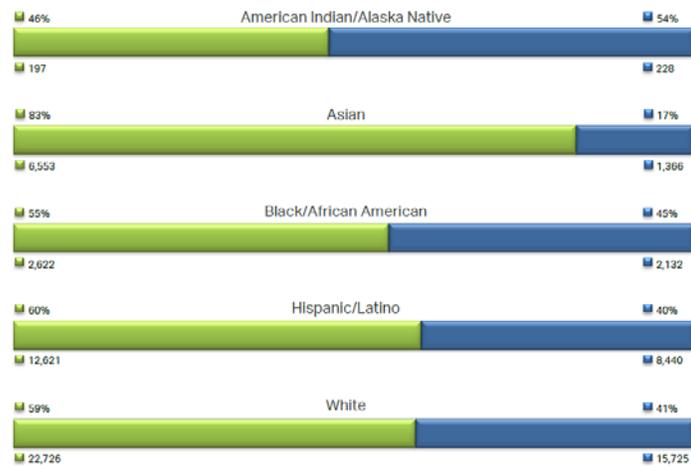


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## Untapped AP Potential

39% of students with demonstrated AP Potential did not participate in AP.

29,406 Texas public school students in the class of 2016 were identified as being likely to succeed in AP based on their PSAT/NMSQT performance but did not take any AP exams.



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## AP Access is not Evenly Distributed in Texas

36% of schools statewide offer no AP courses

49% of schools statewide offer 5+ AP courses

Only 23% of rural schools offer 5+

AP Program Size	Rural	Town	Suburb	Urban	Grand Total
0 AP Courses	399	54	51	76	580
1 AP Course	53	18	3	3	77
2 AP Courses	39	21	3	2	65
3 AP Courses	25	13	6	11	55
4 AP Courses	15	8	4	13	40
5 AP Courses	16	12	6	7	41
6-10 AP Courses	58	47	22	62	189
>10 AP Courses	81	28	187	258	554
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>1601</b>

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## AP Participation, class of 2016

by State Legislative House District

Map average= 39%

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## Policy Ideas

### AP Start-Up Grants

In May, the TEA issued an **Expanding Access to Advanced Academics** grant which provided funding to ESCs and rural school districts for planning, recruiting, implementation and support of AP courses.

13 grants were awarded

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- **Colorado** AP Incentives Pilot Program
  - 10<sup>th</sup> graders given PSAT/NMSQT to identify AP Potential
  - Teachers and administrators provided with PD
  - Exam fees covered for students
  - Incentives provided for teachers
- **Georgia** Rural AP STEM Initiative, designed to create a vertical pathway to student success in AP STEM courses in high-need, rural areas
  - \$30,000 per grantee
  - Funds support the implementation of STEM courses and can also be utilized to recruit students into these courses and to support ongoing professional learning for Pre-AP and AP teachers.
- **Illinois**, College and Career Success for All Students Act
  - competitive grant program to encourage districts with a high percentage of low-income students to establish or expand AP programs

## Other Ideas

### *Provide Opportunity*

- Identify ways to maintain funding for low-income student' AP exams
- Raise awareness of the free AP Potential tool
  - ~70% of sophomores are already taking PSAT/NMSQT
  - ~40% of eighth graders took PSAT 8/9 last year

### *Expand Access*

- Expand or replicate grants like Expanding Access to Advanced Academics
- Incentivize AP STEM participation

### *Send Clear Message*

- Prominently include AP Participation and Performance on school/district Academic Performance Reports
- Promote partnerships with organizations such as Technology Education and Literacy in Schools (TEALS) and Code.org
- Explore options with online AP course providers

# Thank You.

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