

## Advanced Placement Examination Results in Texas and the United States, 2011-12

This report presents Advanced Placement (AP) examination participation and performance data for students in Texas and the United States in public and nonpublic schools combined. AP examination results are used by colleges and universities to make class placement decisions and to award college credit to incoming students who meet qualifying standards on the examinations.

Results presented in this report were obtained from summary reports released annually by the College Board. For additional information about AP examinations and

results reported by the TEA Division of Research and Analysis, including definitions of terms and explanations of calculations, please see *Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate General Information* (e.g., TEA, 2013b), and *Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Glossary of Terms* (e.g., TEA, 2013c). AP and International Baccalaureate results for Texas public schools are presented in the report *Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Examination Results in Texas Public Schools* (e.g., TEA, 2013a).

## Advanced Placement Results for Texas and the United States

- In 2011-12, a total of 207,321 students in Texas public and nonpublic schools took 374,091 Advanced Placement (AP) examinations (Table 1). Texas ranked second in the nation in both number of AP examinees and number of AP examinations taken (Table 3 on page 4).
- Both the number and the percentage of AP examinations with scores in the 3-5 range increased for Texas and for the nation from the prior year in 2011-12 (Table 1).
- In the 2011-12 school year, 56.7 percent of Texas AP examinees reported their race/ethnicity to the College Board as African American, American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander, or Hispanic, whereas the combined proportion of these non-White student groups across the United States was considerably smaller (36.2%) (Table 2). In large part, the difference reflects the higher percentage of Hispanic AP examinees in Texas (38.5%) compared to the United States (16.1%).
- In 2011-12, the three AP examinations with the largest numbers of test takers in Texas were English Language and Composition, United States History, and World History. The three AP examinations with the largest numbers of test takers in the United States were English Language and Composition, United States History, and English Literature and Composition (Table 4 on page 6).
- Compared to the United States, Texas had higher percentages of examinees with scores in the 3-5 range on 3 out of 34 examinations: European History, Studio Art-3D Design, and Italian Language and Culture (Table 4 on page 6).

**Table 1**  
**Advanced Placement (AP) Examination Trends, Texas and the United States, 2001-02**  
**Through 2011-12**

Year	Examinees		Examinations		Examinations with scores of 3-5		Scores in 3-5 range (%)	
	Texas	U.S.	Texas	U.S.	Texas	U.S.	Texas	U.S.
2001-02	80,240	913,251	144,060	1,548,999	76,802	977,760	53.3	63.1
2002-03	90,880	998,329	164,804	1,705,207	85,545	1,048,510	51.9	61.5
2003-04	101,115	1,081,102	183,130	1,852,700	93,321	1,138,455	51.0	61.4
2004-05	112,263	1,197,439	204,403	2,065,045	99,428	1,225,845	48.6	59.4
2005-06	122,969	1,312,523	224,168	2,266,038	108,824	1,345,521	48.5	59.4
2006-07	135,130	1,432,169	246,096	2,476,962	116,809	1,460,806	47.5	59.0
2007-08	147,241	1,546,020	270,466	2,674,296	125,779	1,534,686	46.5	57.4
2008-09	158,993	1,653,962	287,756	2,860,912	138,276	1,672,594	48.1	58.5
2009-10	179,320	1,802,144	325,571	3,134,686	153,539	1,802,472	47.2	57.5
2010-11	198,272	1,926,204	360,735	3,365,617	163,705	1,936,054	45.4	57.5
2011-12	207,321	2,046,377	374,091	3,594,696	179,021	2,114,995	47.9	58.8

Source: Primary data from College Board. See, for example, College Board (2012a, 2012b).

Note: Data are based on public and nonpublic school examinees.

**Table 2**  
**Advanced Placement (AP) Examinees, by Grade Level, Race/Ethnicity,**  
**and Gender, Texas and the United States, 2011-12**

Examinee group	Number		Percent		Change, 2010-11 to 2011-12 (percentage-point)	
	Texas	U.S.	Texas	U.S.	Texas	U.S.
9th/10th grade	58,762	447,684	28.3	21.9	1.5	1.4
11th grade	76,335	763,814	36.8	37.3	0.7	0.7
12th grade	64,714	796,937	31.2	38.9	-0.5	-0.4
11th/12th grade	141,049	1,560,751	68.0	76.3	0.2	0.4
African American	16,018	156,746	7.7	7.7	-0.3	-0.1
American Indian	1,053	10,082	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	20,703	243,558	10.0	11.9	0.2	0.1
Hispanic	79,805	329,826	38.5	16.1	0.4	0.3
White	78,540	1,158,172	37.9	56.6	-0.8	-0.8
Other ethnicity	4,021	63,861	1.9	3.1	-0.1	-0.1
Not stated	7,181	84,132	3.5	4.1	0.7	0.7
Female	115,495	1,145,185	55.7	56.0	0.0	0.0
Male	91,826	901,192	44.3	44.0	0.0	0.0
Total	207,321	2,046,377	100	100		

Source. Primary data from College Board. See, for example, College Board (2012a, 2012b).

Note. Data are based on public and nonpublic school examinees. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

**Table 3**  
**Advanced Placement (AP) Examination Results, Grades 11 and 12, by State and for the United States, 2011-12**

State	Enrollment		Examinees		Examinations	
	Number	Taking at least 1 AP exam (%)	Number	Change, 2010-11 to 2011-12 (%)	Number	Scoring 3-5 (%)
Alabama	96,601	20.7	20,028	17.2	36,049	42.0
Alaska	19,368	13.8	2,682	1.7	4,648	63.7
Arizona	148,647	19.2	28,468	12.6	48,254	56.6
Arkansas	60,196	39.3	23,655	7.4	40,772	31.7
California	928,777	34.5	320,481	6.9	592,457	60.4
Colorado	112,776	33.2	37,438	6.6	61,489	60.6
Connecticut	79,291	37.1	29,397	7.8	54,129	72.9
Delaware	16,791	34.4	5,781	9.3	10,295	54.5
District of Columbia	6,247	83.6	5,221	13.6	8,930	51.4
Florida	340,530	54.7	186,195	2.3	333,023	47.6
Georgia	200,263	38.9	77,949	7.7	132,266	56.0
Hawaii	22,698	32.0	7,269	11.5	11,290	52.9
Idaho	37,921	14.5	5,498	10.0	9,395	67.5
Illinois	285,951	29.9	85,416	8.6	152,709	66.3
Indiana	146,958	28.1	41,302	7.5	65,970	46.8
Iowa	69,015	15.1	10,443	8.7	16,413	64.1
Kansas	62,733	15.1	9,462	2.8	14,988	60.9
Kentucky	83,885	35.0	29,380	12.0	48,506	49.4
Louisiana	76,069	12.8	9,748	15.0	14,685	50.4
Maine	24,416	33.8	8,249	3.6	13,541	60.0
Maryland	120,119	52.3	62,816	5.4	116,614	62.5
Massachusetts	133,033	36.3	48,227	7.4	85,753	72.0
Michigan	236,905	22.2	52,636	8.0	84,175	66.2
Minnesota	132,812	28.1	37,364	6.5	62,023	65.6
Mississippi	58,758	10.6	6,232	-1.9	9,119	36.0
Missouri	125,180	15.6	19,469	7.8	32,093	65.8
Montana	18,702	16.7	3,128	3.5	4,844	61.8
Nebraska	40,858	14.1	5,766	11.9	9,987	56.7
Nevada	48,135	27.1	13,035	8.7	22,377	48.8
New Hampshire	29,153	21.5	6,269	2.4	10,201	73.2
New Jersey	189,631	29.1	55,203	7.3	103,483	73.4
New Mexico	41,996	21.4	9,006	1.2	14,369	42.7

Source. Primary data from College Board. See, for example, College Board (2012a, 2012b).

Note. Data are based on public and nonpublic school examinees and enrollees.

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**Table 3 (continued)**

**Advanced Placement (AP) Examination Results, Grades 11 and 12, by State and for the United States, 2011-12**

State	Enrollment		Examinees		Examinations	
	Number	Taking at least 1 AP exam (%)	Number	Change, 2010-11 to 2011-12 (%)	Number	Scoring 3-5 (%)
New York	368,411	37.6	138,460	3.4	237,371	66.1
North Carolina	189,379	28.4	53,836	7.8	100,945	60.8
North Dakota	14,690	10.0	1,470	8.2	1,934	62.6
Ohio	248,171	21.7	53,811	4.4	91,010	67.1
Oklahoma	77,780	19.5	15,176	0.4	25,646	49.0
Oregon	81,835	19.4	15,842	3.3	24,898	61.4
Pennsylvania	257,728	22.1	56,929	4.5	97,140	67.7
Rhode Island	20,021	25.0	5,013	9.0	8,733	63.3
South Carolina	88,720	26.5	23,540	13.8	37,982	57.7
South Dakota	17,840	14.8	2,642	6.5	4,496	65.9
Tennessee	127,276	19.6	24,924	9.2	41,337	60.4
<b>Texas</b>	<b>589,364</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>207,321</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>374,091</b>	<b>47.9</b>
Utah	79,795	25.6	20,449	10.5	33,017	68.1
Vermont	11,515	32.7	3,763	1.5	6,216	65.0
Virginia	173,143	44.1	76,415	5.6	145,708	61.0
Washington	152,670	27.6	42,129	7.1	71,070	61.1
West Virginia	35,970	18.3	6,585	8.6	10,842	43.4
Wisconsin	130,997	25.5	33,455	6.5	55,300	68.4
Wyoming	11,617	12.1	1,404	2.1	2,113	56.6
<b>U.S.</b>	<b>6,671,337</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>2,046,377</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>3,594,696</b>	<b>58.8</b>

Source. Primary data from College Board. See, for example, College Board (2012a, 2012b).

Note. Data are based on both public and nonpublic school examinees and enrollees.

**Table 4**  
**Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations and Scores, by Subject, Texas and the United States, 2011-12**

Examination	Examinations				Scores			
	Number		Percent		Scoring in		Mean score	
	Texas	U.S.	Texas	U.S.	3-5 range (%)		Texas	U.S.
English Language and Composition	57,827	437,118	15.5	12.2	47.6	60.0	2.6	2.9
United States History	46,171	424,542	12.3	11.8	38.4	54.5	2.3	2.8
World History	38,899	208,327	10.4	5.8	42.5	52.9	2.4	2.6
English Literature and Composition	36,237	373,092	9.7	10.4	47.2	56.4	2.5	2.8
Spanish Language	24,916	128,090	6.7	3.6	69.2	72.4	3.2	3.4
Government and Politics: U.S.	23,311	238,507	6.2	6.6	36.6	52.2	2.2	2.7
Calculus AB	19,088	256,163	5.1	7.1	47.2	59.2	2.5	3.0
Economics: Macroeconomics	17,583	92,666	4.7	2.6	37.8	54.8	2.2	2.8
Biology	13,066	186,233	3.5	5.2	38.1	50.5	2.3	2.7
Human Geography	12,262	97,451	3.3	2.7	51.1	52.1	2.6	2.7
Statistics	11,812	149,165	3.2	4.1	54.6	59.0	2.7	2.8
Psychology	11,728	214,759	3.1	6.0	56.0	66.0	2.8	3.1
Environmental Science	9,132	107,569	2.4	3.0	45.4	50.3	2.5	2.7
Chemistry	8,591	125,281	2.3	3.5	45.0	54.8	2.4	2.8
Physics B	7,885	75,510	2.1	2.1	44.8	60.6	2.4	2.9
Calculus BC	6,613	86,566	1.8	2.4	75.6	83.0	3.6	3.9
Computer Science A	3,614	24,782	1.0	0.7	58.2	63.3	2.9	3.1
Spanish Literature	3,412	17,170	0.9	0.5	53.0	60.5	2.6	2.8
Physics C: Mechanics	3,403	35,958	0.9	1.0	69.2	76.9	3.3	3.6
European History	3,180	106,870	0.9	3.0	71.0	65.6	3.0	2.8
Economics: Microeconomics	2,511	54,257	0.7	1.5	48.1	64.6	2.5	3.0
Studio Art: 2D Design	2,273	22,801	0.6	0.6	73.4	74.6	3.3	3.3
Music Theory	2,019	17,860	0.5	0.5	56.2	61.5	2.9	3.0
Art History	1,992	22,091	0.5	0.6	54.8	59.8	2.7	2.9
Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	1,959	15,676	0.5	0.4	60.4	72.1	3.1	3.5
Studio Art: Drawing	1,379	15,651	0.4	0.4	70.1	73.2	3.1	3.2
French Language	1,112	17,848	0.3	0.5	62.0	76.2	2.9	3.3
Latin-Vergil	494	6,391	0.1	0.2	59.5	62.8	2.8	3.0
Chinese Language and Culture	446	7,274	0.1	0.2	91.7	94.1	4.4	4.4
Studio Art: 3D Design	410	3,774	0.1	0.1	65.9	65.2	3.1	3.0
Government and Politics: Comparative	342	17,462	0.1	0.5	51.8	61.0	2.7	3.0
German Language	313	4,329	0.1	0.1	61.3	77.3	2.9	3.4
Japanese Language and Culture	77	1,799	<0.1	0.1	62.3	72.9	3.1	3.4
Italian Language and Culture	34	1,664	<0.1	<0.1	91.2	72.4	3.9	3.3

Source. Primary data from College Board. See, for example, College Board (2012a, 2012b).

Note. Data are based on public and nonpublic school examinees. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

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**Abstract.** This report presents Advanced Placement (AP) examination participation and performance results in Texas and the United States for the 2011-12 school year. The results are for public and nonpublic schools combined and are presented by race/ethnicity and gender.

**Keywords.** *Advanced placement, credit by examination, testing, high school, scores, gifted and talented.*

The report is available in PDF format on the agency website at [http://www.tea.state.tx.us/acctres/ap\\_ib\\_index.html](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/acctres/ap_ib_index.html). Additional information about this report may be obtained by contacting the Texas Education Agency Division of Research and Analysis by phone at (512) 475-3523 or by e-mail at [research@tea.state.tx.us](mailto:research@tea.state.tx.us).

For additional information about AP examinations, contact the College Board Southwestern Regional Office at (512) 721-1800 or <http://www.collegeboard.org/>.



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