

High School Coursetaking

Table SA-13. Mean score on Advanced Placement (AP) exams, by selected subjects and race/ethnicity: 1997–2005

Subject and race/ethnicity	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
All exams	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9
White	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0
Black	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0
Hispanic	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.5
Asian/Asian American	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
American Indian/Alaska Native	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4
Biology	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0
White	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1
Black	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.1
Hispanic	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.2
Asian/Asian American	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.3
American Indian/Alaska Native	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.5
Calculus AB	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.9
White	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.0
Black	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.9
Hispanic	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.2
Asian/Asian American	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1
American Indian/Alaska Native	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.4
Chemistry	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8
White	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.8
Black	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.8
Hispanic	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Asian/Asian American	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.1
American Indian/Alaska Native	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.1
English literature and composition	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.0	2.9
White	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
Black	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0
Hispanic	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3
Asian/Asian American	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
American Indian/Alaska Native	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.4
Physics B	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.8
White	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.9
Black	2.0	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7
Hispanic	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.1	1.9	2.0
Asian/Asian American	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.9
American Indian/Alaska Native	2.4	2.8	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3
U.S. history	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.7
White	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8
Black	2.1	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9
Hispanic	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0
Asian/Asian American	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.8
American Indian/Alaska Native	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3

NOTE: Total averages for all examinations and by subject area include other race/ethnicity categories not separately shown. Biology, calculus AB, chemistry, English literature and composition, physics B, and U.S. history are some of the most frequently taken AP exams. The grades for all AP exams range from 1.0 to 5.0, with 5.0 being the highest score. Data reported are for all students who completed an AP exam. The College Board collects racial/ethnic information based on the categories American Indian/Alaska Native; Asian/Asian American; Black/Afro-American; Latino: Chicano/Mexican, Puerto Rican, Other Latino; White; and Other. Hispanic refers to the sum of all Latino subgroups. Race categories exclude persons of Hispanic ethnicity.

SOURCE: The College Board, Advanced Placement Program. (1997–2005). *National Summary Reports*.