



Advanced Placement (AP) Report, 2010–2011

San Diego Unified School District

Office of Accountability
Research and Reporting Department

Introduction

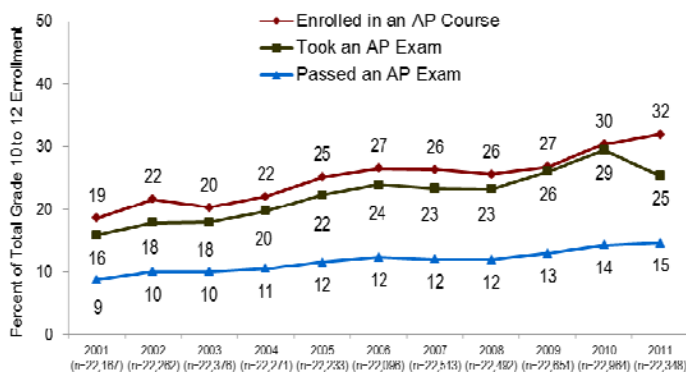
The College Board’s Advanced Placement (AP) program consists of college-level courses and corresponding end-of-course examinations. Each AP course is developed by a committee of college faculty and AP teachers and has a corresponding exam that is administered in May of each year. A majority of colleges and universities grant credit, placement, or both to students receiving a qualifying score on an AP exam (usually a score of 3 or higher on a 5-point scale).

To broaden program access, the College Board allows students to take an AP exam regardless of the courses taken to prepare for it. However, since the effectiveness of an AP program is best considered using both AP courses and exams, this report includes only AP exams taken with the appropriate district AP course. Data are limited to students from district-managed (non-charter) schools. For detailed AP reports that include charter school data, please visit www.sandi.net/research. Two of the district’s 13 charter high schools, Gompers Preparatory Academy and Preuss UCSD, offered an AP program in 2010–2011.

Overall Participation and Performance

Figure 1

Participation and Performance of Grade 10 to 12 Students



Prior to 2010–2011, the district had seen steadily increasing rates of students in Grades 10 to 12 who took at least one AP course, those who took at least one AP exam, and those who passed at least one AP exam (Figure 1). However, exam participation rates—students who took at least one AP exam—declined sharply in 2011, due largely to the discontinuation of district exam fee subsidies. A single AP exam cost \$87 in 2011, with a fee reduction provided for students with financial need. The district subsidized AP exam fees in 2009 and 2010, accounting for sizable exam participation gains in those years. To compensate for the subsidy loss, the district no longer requires students to take an AP exam in order to receive weighted course credit; all students now receive weighted credit for every AP course whether they take the corresponding AP exam or not. This new district policy may account for the

continued growth in AP course participation rates despite declining exam participation. While the drop in exam participation rates was expected, the 2011 rate of 25 percent is still higher than rates before the subsidy years.

The College Board’s 2011 AP program included 33 courses/exams in the following subject areas: Arts, English, History and Social Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science, Sciences, and World Language; district students took 30 of these courses/exams. Individual district schools offered up to 23 AP courses, with more than a third of non-alternative schools offering 11 or more courses each (Figure 2). The continued increase in student AP course participation displayed in Figure 1 led to increased counts in AP course enrollments. In 2011, 7,146 students enrolled in 12,299 AP courses up from 6,988 students enrolled in 11,971 courses in 2010. The percentage of AP course enrollees who took more than one course remained at 46 percent. The sharp decline in student exam participation resulted in an 18 percent drop in the number of AP exams taken from 11,548 AP exams in 2010 to 9,494 exams in 2011 (Figure 3). This decrease in exams taken, coupled with a relatively unchanged count of exams passed, yielded a record high exam pass rate of 54 percent, a 9-percentage point gain over 2010 (Figure 4).

Figure 2
AP Course Offerings, 2011

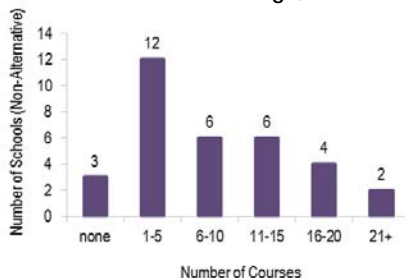


Figure 3
AP Course and Exam Counts

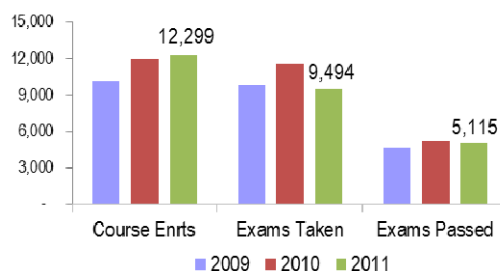
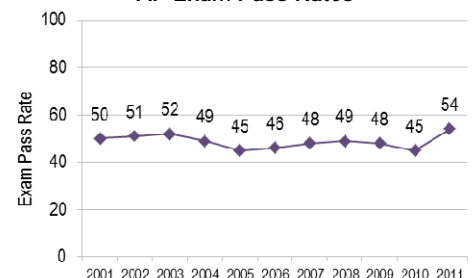


Figure 4
AP Exam Pass Rates



Grade 9 AP Data. Although the district AP program is primarily geared towards students in Grades 10 to 12, some high schools, including Mira Mesa, Point Loma, and University City, allow selected Grade 9 students limited participation in their AP course offerings. In 2011, Grade 9 students in district-managed schools passed 137 of 239 AP exams (57 percent). Human Geography and Environmental Science accounted for 211 (88 percent) of the exams taken by this group.

Subgroup Participation and Performance

AP course participation and exam pass rates increased for nearly all racial/ethnic and meal eligibility¹ student subgroups (Tables 1 and 2). “Exam-taking” rates (exams taken per 100 students), on the other hand, declined for most groups with the exception of Native American students (Table 2). Rates for Native American and Pacific Islander students should be interpreted with caution due to their relatively small group counts. Consistent with other assessments, wide gaps in AP participation and performance persist among selected groups, especially between White and African American students (Figures 5 and 6).

Table 1. Student Course Participation by Subgroup

Group	2007–2008			2008–2009			2009–2010			2010–2011			Rate Difference	
	Gr 10 to 12 Enrollment	Took AP Course	Rate	Gr 10 to 12 Enrollment	Took AP Course	Rate	Gr 10 to 12 Enrollment	Took AP Course	Rate	Gr 10 to 12 Enrollment	Took AP Course	Rate	1-Year	3-Year
Not Meal-Eligible	11,177	1,803	35	10,453	3,761	36	9,544	4,096	43	8,923	4,155	47	3.6	11.7
Meal-Eligible	11,315	3,948	16	12,201	2,300	19	13,420	2,892	22	13,425	2,991	22	0.7	6.1
African American	2,935	346	12	2,903	428	15	2,810	507	18	2,568	459	18	3.3	6.3
Asian	791	463	59	758	428	56	753	453	60	748	424	57	3.7	1.6
Filipino	2,029	644	32	2,007	661	33	1,946	740	38	1,857	770	41	5.1	6.3
Hispanic	9,001	1,407	16	9,404	1,660	18	9,710	1,951	20	9,281	1,914	21	2.4	4.5
Indochinese	1,433	487	34	1,467	561	38	1,458	661	45	1,447	669	46	7.1	11.4
Native American	115	35	30	99	26	26	104	34	33	94	39	41	6.4	2.3
Pacific Islander	203	32	16	199	26	13	190	52	27	174	41	24	14.3	11.6
White	5,985	2,337	39	5,817	2,271	39	5,632	2,481	44	5,624	2,633	47	5.0	5.0
Multiracial							361	109	30	555	197	35	30.2	
Total	22,492	5,751	26	22,654	6,061	27	22,964	6,988	30	22,348	7,146	32	3.7	4.9

Table 2. Exam Participation and Performance by Subgroup

Group	2007–2008				2008–2009				2009–2010				2010–2011			
	Exams Taken	Per 100 Students	Exams Passed	Pass Rate	Exams Taken	Per 100 Students	Exams Passed	Pass Rate	Exams Taken	Per 100 Students	Exams Passed	Pass Rate	Exams Taken	Per 100 Students	Exams Passed	Pass Rate
Not Meal-Eligible	6,553	59	3,619	55	6,490	62	3,647	56	7,232	76	3,899	54	5,637	63	3,620	64
Meal-Eligible	2,458	22	798	32	3,353	27	1,040	31	4,316	32	1,314	30	3,857	29	1,495	39
African American	427	15	96	22	573	20	95	17	723	26	123	17	520	20	129	25
Asian	1,026	130	655	64	897	118	595	66	978	130	619	63	788	105	556	71
Filipino	1,017	50	365	36	1,093	54	435	40	1,291	66	453	35	1,003	54	466	46
Hispanic	1,731	19	698	40	2,387	25	910	38	2,815	29	1,052	37	2,233	24	990	44
Indochinese	819	57	282	34	1,024	70	390	38	1,241	85	462	37	1,026	71	477	46
Native American	60	52	30	50	43	43	21	49	50	48	21	42	46	49	21	46
Pacific Islander	39	19	11	28	43	22	16	37	74	39	36	49	46	26	22	48
White	3,892	65	2,280	59	3,783	65	2,225	59	4,188	74	2,360	56	3,574	64	2,303	64
Multiracial									188	52	87	46	258	46	151	59
Total	9,011	40	4,417	49	9,843	43	4,687	48	11,548	50	5,213	45	9,494	42	5,115	54

Figure 5. Course Participation by Selected Subgroup

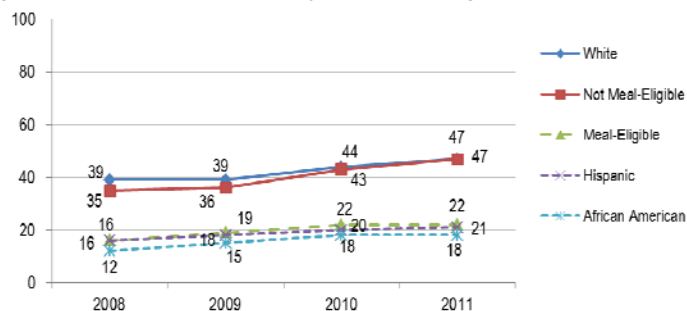
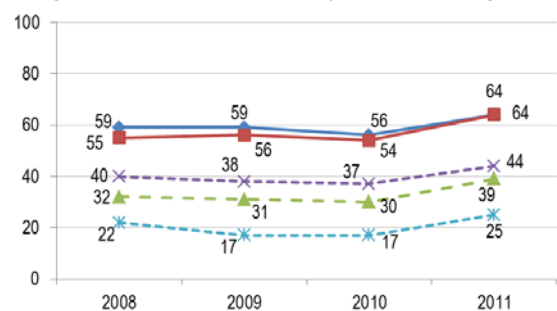
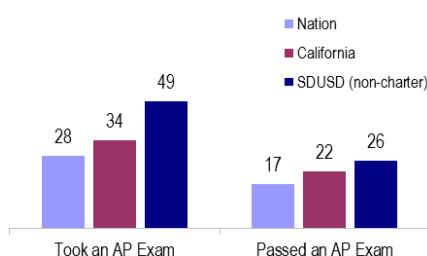


Figure 6. Exam Pass Rates by Selected Subgroup



Comparison with California and the Nation

Figure 7. Participation and Performance of the Class of 2010



The College Board reports AP participation as percentages of graduates who have taken and passed an AP exam at any time during their high school years. The district has historically performed well on these measures compared with both the state and the nation, with higher proportions of district graduates taking and passing one or more AP exams during high school than their counterparts in the state and across the nation.

For the class of 2010, the most recent data available, 49 percent of district graduates took an AP exam compared with 28 percent for the nation and 34 percent for California; 26 percent of district graduates passed at least one AP exam compared with 17 percent for the nation and 22 percent for California (Figure 7).

¹ Increased counts of meal-eligible Grade 10 to 12 students in 2009 and 2010 are partially attributable to the designation of several district high schools as Provision 2 schools, including Lincoln High and the San Diego and Crawford complex schools. All students at a Provision 2 school are considered meal-eligible.

Participation and Performance by School

Table 3. AP Student Data by School, 2010–2011

School		Total Gr 10 to 12 Enrollment	Enrolled in At Least One AP Course		Took At Least One AP Examination		Passed At Least One AP Examination	
			N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct
332	Clairemont High	895	274	30.6	220	24.6	116	13.0
704	Crawford CHAMPS	221	68	30.8	66	29.9	26	11.8
702	Crawford IDEA	173	49	28.3	46	26.6	12	6.9
705	Crawford Law and Business	190	41	21.6	38	20.0	18	9.5
703	Crawford Multimedia & Vis Arts	209	74	35.4	51	24.4	13	6.2
503	Early/Middle College	78	38	48.7	12	15.4	4	5.1
336	Henry High	1,672	658	39.4	515	30.8	325	19.4
338	Hoover High	1,241	251	20.2	201	16.2	76	6.1
504	iHigh Virtual Academy	61	4	6.6	4	6.6	2	3.3
736	Kearny Construction Tech	274	22	8.0	3	1.1	0	0.0
733	Kearny Digital Media & Design	265	75	28.3	59	22.3	23	8.7
735	Kearny International Business	246	76	30.9	30	12.2	14	5.7
734	Kearny SCT	299	72	24.1	71	23.7	33	11.0
342	La Jolla High	1,136	632	55.6	518	45.6	415	36.5
637	Lincoln	1,252	262	20.9	254	20.3	47	3.8
346	Madison High	800	231	28.9	186	23.3	69	8.6
349	Mira Mesa High	1,776	744	41.9	585	32.9	374	21.1
350	Mission Bay High ²	993	111	11.2	97	9.8	54	5.4
352	Morse High	1,370	328	23.9	252	18.4	138	10.1
395	Point Loma High	1,398	741	53.0	629	45.0	330	23.6
369	San Diego Business	290	60	20.7	47	16.2	14	4.8
354	San Diego Communication	189	2	1.1	2	1.1	2	1.1
368	San Diego Int'l Studies ²	393	86	21.9	71	18.1	46	11.7
359	San Diego LEADS	296	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
749	San Diego Metro Career & Tech	153	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
746	San Diego MVP Arts	278	23	8.3	20	7.2	8	2.9
744	San Diego Science & Technology	289	7	2.4	6	2.1	1	0.3
745	Scripps Ranch High	1,753	765	43.6	680	38.8	528	30.1
750	Serra High	1,298	536	41.3	348	26.8	216	16.6
500	University City High	1,318	636	48.3	482	36.6	286	21.7
753	Mt. Everest Academy	57	22	38.6	12	21.1	9	15.8
357	Muir	71	11	15.5	8	11.3	5	7.0
355	San Diego SCPA	569	245	43.1	158	27.8	75	13.2
Regular Schools Total		21,503	7,144	32.5	5,671	25.8	3,279	14.9
331	ALBA	18	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
361	Garfield High	361	2	0.6	1	0.3	0	0.0
382	Home and Hospital Instruction	6	0	-	0	-	0	-
791	LCI	24	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
438	New Dawn	34	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
362	Twain High	402	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Alternative Schools Total		845	2	0.2	1	0.1	-	-
District-Managed Schools Total		22,348	7,146	31.1	5,672	24.7	3,279	14.3

*Results are suppressed when the size of the group under consideration (or denominator) is less than 10.

² Data do not include International Baccalaureate courses or exams offered at Mission Bay and San Diego International Studies.

Table 4. AP Course Enrollment and Exam Data by School, 2010–2011

School		Total Gr 10 to 12 Enrollment	Courses Offered	Course Enrollments		Examinations Taken ³		Examinations Passed	
				N	Per 100 students	N	Per 100 students	N	Pct
332	Clairemont High	895	13	414	46.3	330	36.9	149	45.2
704	Crawford CHAMPS	221	8	99	44.8	94	42.5	34	36.2
702	Crawford IDEA	173	7	77	44.5	66	38.2	11	16.7
705	Crawford Law and Business	190	9	75	39.5	57	30.0	19	33.3
703	Crawford Multimedia & Vis Arts	209	7	107	51.2	67	32.1	13	19.4
503	Early/Middle College	78	1	40	51.3	11	14.1	3	27.3
336	Henry High	1,672	16	1,172	70.1	915	54.7	535	58.5
338	Hoover High	1,241	11	344	27.7	278	22.4	85	30.6
504	iHigh Virtual Academy	61	8	7	11.5	7	11.5	2	4.3
736	Kearny Construction Tech	274	1	22	8.0	3	1.1	0	-
733	Kearny Digital Media & Design	265	3	81	30.6	62	23.4	24	38.7
735	Kearny International Business	246	2	89	36.2	30	12.2	14	46.7
734	Kearny SCT	299	4	103	34.4	101	33.8	35	34.7
342	La Jolla High	1,136	21	1,196	105.3	925	81.4	732	79.1
637	Lincoln	1,252	13	389	31.1	370	29.6	57	15.4
346	Madison High	800	9	430	53.8	340	42.5	80	23.5
349	Mira Mesa High	1,776	23	1,358	76.5	1,030	58.0	631	61.3
350	Mission Bay High	993	3	111	11.2	97	9.8	54	55.7
352	Morse High	1,370	15	706	51.5	501	36.6	199	39.7
395	Mt. Everest Academy	57	3	35	61.4	17	29.8	14	82.4
369	Muir	71	1	14	19.7	9	12.7	5	7.2
354	Point Loma High	1,398	18	1,212	86.7	1,046	74.8	528	50.5
749	San Diego Business	290	5	122	42.1	98	33.8	20	20.4
746	San Diego Communication	189	2	4	2.1	4	2.1	4	-
744	San Diego Int'l Studies	393	2	86	21.9	71	18.1	46	64.8
745	San Diego LEADS	296	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
500	San Diego Metro Career & Tech	153	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
750	San Diego MVP Arts	278	2	24	8.6	21	7.6	7	33.3
753	San Diego Science & Technology	289	0	8	2.8	6	2.1	1	-
368	San Diego SCPA	569	18	502	88.2	300	52.7	108	36.0
359	Scripps Ranch High	1,753	17	1,333	76.0	1,139	65.0	855	75.1
357	Serra High	1,298	15	1,046	80.6	714	55.0	393	55.0
355	University City High	1,318	15	1,091	82.8	784	59.5	457	58.3
Regular Schools Total		21,503	30	12,297	55.9	9,493	44.1	5,115	23.2
331	ALBA	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
361	Garfield High	361	0	2	0.6	1	0.3	0	-
382	Home and Hospital Instruction	6	0	0	-	0	-	0	-
791	LCI	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
438	New Dawn	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
362	Twain High	402	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Alternative Schools Total		845	0	2	0.2	1	0.1	-	-
District-Managed Schools Total		22,348	30	12,299	53.6	9,494	42.5	5,115	22.3

*Results are suppressed when the size of the group under consideration (or denominator) is less than 10.

Please visit the district website for detailed AP reports and information (<http://www.sandi.net/research>).

³Counts exclude AP subscores for Calculus BC (Calculus AB subscore) and Music Theory (Aural and Non-Aural subscores).