



Advanced Placement (AP) Report, 2013–2014

Introduction

The district’s Advanced Placement (AP) program consists of college-level courses taught by its high schools and corresponding end-of-course examinations administered by the College Board in May of each year. District high school principals are responsible for ensuring that the AP courses taught at their schools are authorized at the teacher level through the College Board’s annual AP Course Audit process. Most colleges and universities grant credit, placement, or both to students receiving a qualifying score on an AP exam, usually 3 or higher on a 5-point scale.

Since the AP program is primarily designed for students in Grades 10 to 12,¹ this report focuses on these grade levels at district-managed schools and includes only results of exams taken in conjunction with the appropriate district AP coursework. Four district charter schools—Gompers Preparatory Academy, King-Chavez High, Preuss, and O’Farrell—offered AP programs in 2013–14. Reports that include charter data are at www.sandi.net/research.

Student Participation and Performance

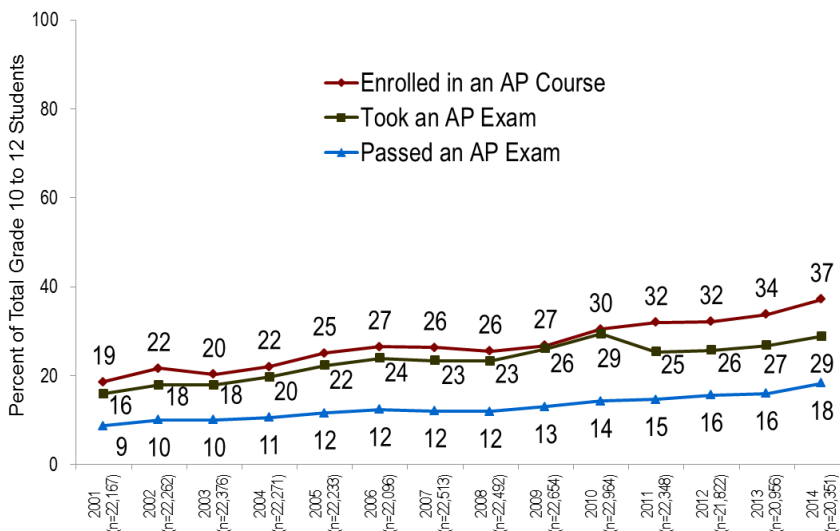


Figure 1. Student participation and performance in the AP program.

Figure 1 shows an increase in district student participation in the AP program for 2014. This is based on the proportion of all students in grades 10 to 12 who enrolled in at least one AP course (37 percent) and took at least one AP exam (29 percent). The proportion of all students passing at least one AP exam also increased (18 percent), although later it will be noted that the proportion of AP exams with passing scores declined slightly compared with 2013.

Sizable gains in exam participation in 2009 and 2010 followed by a sharp decline in 2011 were due largely to the introduction and subsequent discontinuation after two years of the district AP exam fee subsidy program. To compensate for the subsidy

loss, the district no longer requires students to take an AP exam to receive weighted course credit.² All students now receive weighted credit for every AP course whether or not the corresponding AP exam is taken. This may explain why course participation was not adversely affected by the subsidy loss. It is notable that exam participation rates after the subsidy ended remain higher than rates before the subsidy years .

Courses and Examinations

The College Board’s 2014 AP program included 34 exams with corresponding courses in these subject areas: Arts, English, History and Social Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science, Sciences, and World Language; district students took 30 of these courses/exams.³ Individual district schools offered up to 23 AP courses, with 13 of 28 of

¹ Source: <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/repository/Appropriate-Grade-Levels-for-AP-Courses.pdf>.

² “Weighted course credit” means grade points are awarded on a weighted, or five-point, scale (A=5, B=4, C=3, D=1, F=0) rather than the standard 4-point scale (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0).

³ District students did not take the following AP exams in conjunction with an appropriate district AP course: Chinese Language and Culture, German Language and Culture, Italian Language and Culture, and Japanese Language and Culture. A few district students took the Chinese and Japanese AP exams but without the corresponding AP district coursework.

non-alternative schools offering 11 or more AP courses (Figure 2). In 2014, there were modest increases in AP course enrollment and exam counts—12,814 course enrollments and 9,874 exams,⁴ up from 12,590 course enrollments and 9,642 exams in 2012 (Figure 3). The exam pass rate continues its upward trend—58 percent in 2013 compared with 57 percent for 2012, yet another record-high pass rate (Figure 4).

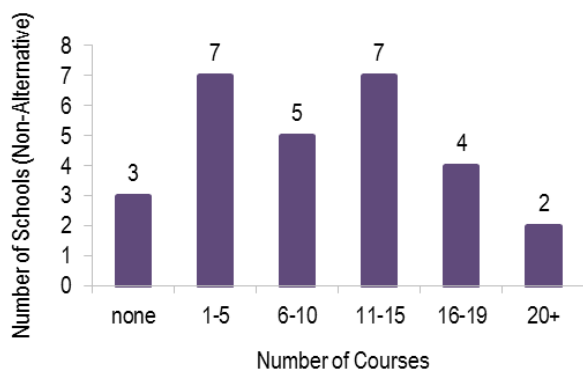


Figure 2. Number of AP courses offered at non-alternative district-managed schools, 2014.

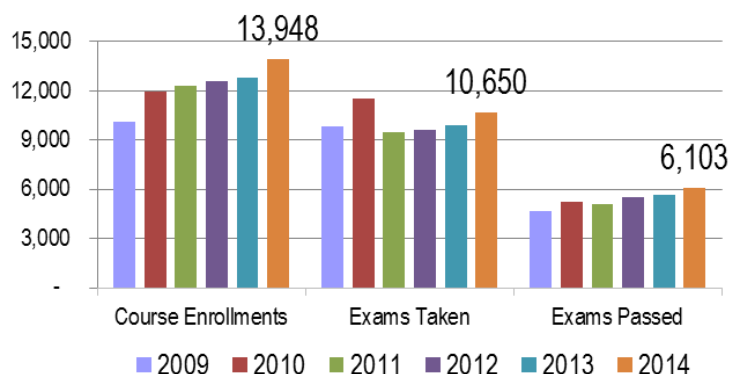


Figure 3. Number of AP course enrollments and exams taken and passed.

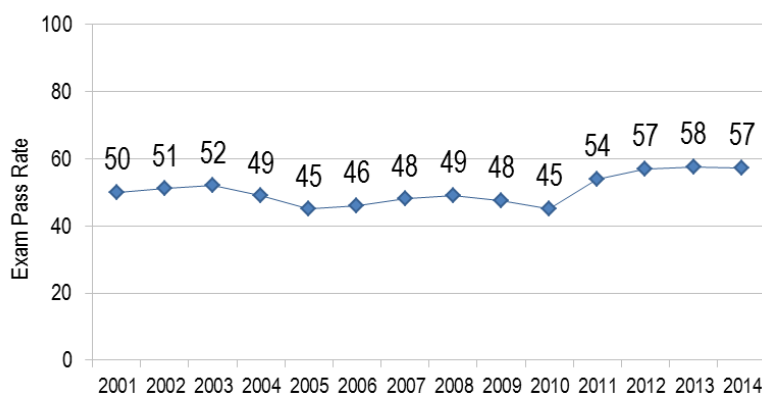


Figure 4. Exam pass rate (passing score is at least 3 on a 5-point scale).

AP Program for Students in Grades 8 and 9.

A few district high schools allow selected Grade 9 students limited participation in their AP programs. In 2014, 189 Grade 9 students at district-managed schools took 195 AP exams with appropriate AP coursework—81 percent of the students were from Mira Mesa and Point Loma high schools; 158 of the 195 exams taken were in Human Geography. Grade 9 students earned passing scores on 99 of the 195 AP exams taken.

Consistent with College Board policy on middle school students and AP world language exams, selected Grade 8 students at Language Academy and Longfellow passed 40 of 48 AP Spanish Language exams; selected Grade 8 students at Language Academy passed 16 of 19 AP French Language exams.

Participation and Performance by Student Group

Nearly all student groups experienced gains in AP course participation rates (Tables 1 and 3). The two exceptions were the Asian student group, which experienced a minimal decline, and student with disabilities, whose rate remained unchanged. For exam pass rates, results were mixed—non-meal eligible, African American, Asian, Filipino, Pacific Islander, Filipino, English Fluent, and GATE-identified students experienced rate gains, while most of the remaining groups experienced rate declines with the exception of White, meal-eligible, and non-GATE students whose exam pass rates stayed the same. Results for Native American and Pacific Islander groups should be interpreted with caution due to their relatively small group size, which often result in large rate fluctuations from year to year.

Among the larger racial/ethnic groups, Asian students had the highest course participation and exam pass rates; African American students had the lowest. Similar to other assessments, gaps in AP participation and performance persist. Wide gaps persist between White students and African American students and between non-meal eligible and meal eligible students (Figures 5 and 6). Former English learner students who have already been reclassified to fluent status continue to have lower pass rates than their initially fluent counterparts. Not surprisingly, of all student groups, English learner students have the lowest AP exam pass rate; they also have the second lowest AP course participation rate next to students with disabilities.

⁴ Students in Grades 10 to 12 at district-managed schools took 385 AP exams without the corresponding district AP course.

Table 1. Student course participation by eligibility for free or reduced-price meals and race/ethnicity.

Group	2014			2013			2012			2011			2010		
	Total Student Count	Students with an AP Course	Rate %	Total Student Count	Students with an AP Course	Rate %	Total Student Count	Students with an AP Course	Rate %	Total Student Count	Students with an AP Course	Rate %	Total Student Count	Students with an AP Course	Rate %
Not Meal-Eligible	8,099	4,182	52 ↑	8,368	3,936	47	8,555	3,958	46	8,923	4,155	47	9,544	4,096	43
Meal-Eligible	12,252	3,389	28 ↑	12,588	3,149	25	13,267	3,066	23	13,425	2,991	22	13,420	2,892	22
African American	1,960	452	23 ↑	2,162	429	20	2,424	430	18	2,568	459	18	2,810	507	18
Asian	743	430	58 ↓	761	447	59	737	435	59	748	424	57	753	453	60
Filipino	1,644	803	49 ↑	1,692	765	45	1,755	758	43	1,857	770	41	1,946	740	38
Hispanic	8,366	2,055	25 ↑	8,581	1,857	22	9,024	1,852	21	9,281	1,914	21	9,710	1,951	20
Indochinese	1,400	739	53 ↑	1,486	704	47	1,485	687	46	1,447	669	46	1,458	661	45
Native American	56	20	36 ↑	62	13	21	73	31	42	94	39	41	104	34	33
Pacific Islander	132	39	30 ↑	152	36	24	169	43	25	174	41	24	190	52	27
White	5,034	2,613	52 ↑	5,229	2,508	48	5,445	2,522	46	5,624	2,633	47	5,632	2,481	44
Multiracial	1,016	420	41 ↑	831	326	39	710	266	37	555	197	35	361	109	30
Total	20,351	7,571	37 ↑	20,956	7,085	34	21,822	7,024	32	22,348	7,146	32	22,964	6,988	30

Table 2. Exam pass rate by eligibility for free or reduced-price meals and race/ethnicity.

Group	2014			2013			2012			2011			2010		
	Exams Taken	Exams Passed	Rate %	Exams Taken	Exams Passed	Rate %	Exams Taken	Exams Passed	Rate %	Exams Taken	Exams Passed	Rate %	Exams Taken	Exams Passed	Rate %
Not Meal-Eligible	6,125	4,223	69 ↑	5,750	3,935	68	5,634	3,787	67	5,637	3,620	64	7,232	3,899	54
Meal-Eligible	4,525	1,880	42	4,124	1,744	42	4,008	1,706	43	3,857	1,495	39	4,316	1,314	30
African American	499	169	34 ↑	446	138	31	450	123	27	520	129	25	723	123	17
Asian	891	669	75 ↑	892	634	71	827	594	72	788	556	71	978	619	63
Filipino	1,152	596	52 ↑	1,102	529	48	1,014	486	48	1,003	466	46	1,291	453	35
Hispanic	2,378	1,054	44 ↓	2,112	987	47	2,195	1,040	47	2,233	990	44	2,815	1,052	37
Indochinese	1,201	585	49 ↓	1,159	578	50	1,117	559	50	1,026	477	46	1,241	462	37
Native American	20	12	60 ↓	18	16	89	39	13	33	46	21	46	50	21	42
Pacific Islander	37	20	54 ↑	48	18	38	46	25	54	46	22	48	74	36	49
White	3,875	2,616	68	3,647	2,486	68	3,621	2,448	68	3,574	2,303	64	4,188	2,360	56
Multiracial	597	382	64 ↑	450	293	62	333	205	62	258	151	59	188	87	46
Total	10,650	6,103	57 ↓	9,874	5,679	58	9,642	5,493	57	9,494	5,115	54	11,548	5,213	45

Note: In Tables 1 and 2 above, the 2014 rate is highlighted in green if it represents an increase ↑ from the previous year; red, if it represents a decrease ↓.

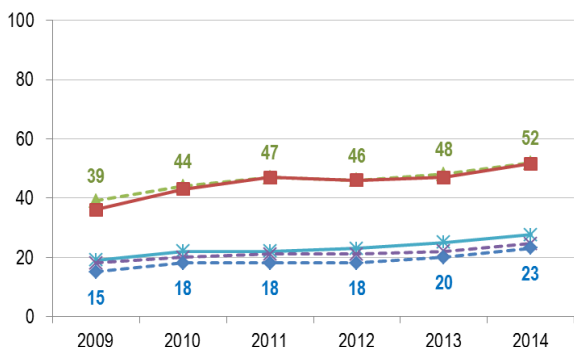


Figure 5. Course participation by selected student group.

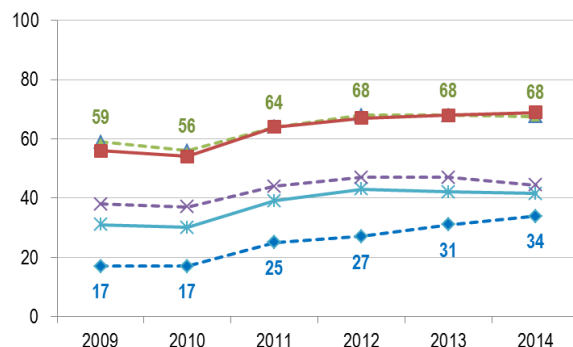


Figure 6. Exam pass rate by selected student group.

Other Student Groups.⁵ AP participation and performance data by language fluency, disability status, gifted-identified status, homeless or foster situation, and military affiliation are shown in Table 3.

Table 3. AP participation and performance data by selected student group, 2012 to 2014.

Category	Student Group	Total Gr 10 to 12 Student Count			Students With At Least One AP Course			Students w/ AP Course Participation Rate (%)			Exams Taken			Exams Passed			Pass Rate (%)		
		2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Language Fluency	English Fluent	12,305	12,878	13,575	5,287	5,119	5,180	43	40	38	7,595	7,269	7,260	4,793	4,513	4,407	63	62	61
	English Learner (EL)	1,784	1,926	2,352	119	114	130	7	6	6	107	95	129	31	39	46	29	41	36
	Reclassified EL	6,184	6,114	5,851	2,148	1,845	1,708	35	30	29	2,928	2,510	2,248	1,266	1,127	1,039	43	45	46
Students with Disabilities (SWD)	SWD	1,665	1,730	1,913	83	87	123	5	5	6	94	82	107	35	37	51	37	45	48
	Not SWD	18,686	19,226	19,909	7,488	6,998	6,901	40	36	35	10,556	9,792	9,535	6,068	5,642	5,442	57	58	57
Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)	GATE	6,179	6,351	6,432	3,634	3,572	3,519	59	56	55	6,021	5,907	5,562	4,057	3,920	3,697	67	66	66
	Not GATE	14,172	14,605	15,390	3,937	3,513	3,505	28	24	23	4,629	3,967	4,080	2,046	1,759	1,796	44	44	44
Homeless, Foster, Military	Homeless	867	776	669	212	127	86	25	16	13	278	168	103	107	73	37	38	43	36
	Foster	66	81	89	8	7	7	12	9	8	10	10	11	5	6	4	50	60	36
	Military Family	1,047	1,054	1,056	364	355	313	35	34	30	522	420	378	245	219	204	47	52	54

⁵ The Students with Disabilities (SWD) group includes students who receive special education services through an Individualized Education Program (IEP). The SWD group does not include students who receive services through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

District Graduates Compared with California and the Nation

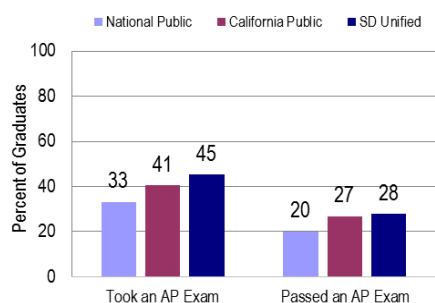


Figure 7. AP data for 2013 graduates.

The College Board reports AP participation and performance in terms of percentages of all graduates who have taken and passed an AP exam at any time during their high school years. The most recent data available is for 2013 and mirror those from previous years, with district graduates outperforming graduates from public schools across the nation and in California (Figure 7). However, if the percentages of graduates who passed at least one AP exam were computed using only those graduates who took an AP exam as denominator instead of all graduates, California graduates appear to have greater success on the AP exams than their counterparts in the district and nation—66 percent for California compared with 62 for the district and 61 for the nation.

Exam Results by Subject Area

Table 4. Exam pass rates by subject area, 2013–2014⁶

AP Course/Exam	National Public Exam Pass Rate (%) ⁷	California Public Exam Pass Rate (%)	SD Unified, Grades 10 to 12 with AP Coursework		
			Exams Taken	Exams Passed	Exam Pass Rate (%)
Art: Studio Art 2-D Design Portfolio	78.1	80.1	73	66	90.4
Art: Studio Art 3-D Design Portfolio	65.7	59.3	4	3	--
Art: Studio Art-Drawing Portfolio	77.2	75.7	56	41	73.2
Art History	57.4	62.5	240	188	78.3
Music Theory	62.2	68.8	32	16	50.0
Art Total			405	314	77.5
English Language & Composition	53.6	50.8	1,352	793	58.7
English Literature & Composition	52.2	51.2	1,243	522	42.0
English Language Arts Total			2,595	1,315	50.7
Economics: Macroeconomics	55.5	58.8	126	71	56.3
Economics: Microeconomics	63.3	63.0	79	20	25.3
European History	57.2	51.3	505	290	57.4
Government & Politics: Comparative	31.1	68.1	1	0	--
Government & Politics: United States	49.7	45.9	652	319	48.9
Human Geography	51.2	52.0	38	10	26.3
Psychology	64.7	63.5	940	696	74.0
United States History	50.3	51.8	1,041	585	56.2
World History	52.8	51.5	661	345	52.2
History/Social Science Total			4,043	2,336	57.8
Calculus AB	57.2	58.6	653	344	52.7
Calculus BC	80.7	82.4	109	72	66.1
Computer Science A	60.1	66.8	127	95	74.8
Statistics	58.3	57.0	574	282	49.1
Mathematics/Computer Science Total			1,463	793	54.2
Biology	62.6	60.7	617	426	69.0
Chemistry	50.5	50.9	250	105	42.0
Environmental Science	46.4	47.3	515	241	46.8
Physics B	58.3	59.6	148	51	34.5
Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism	68.9	69.2	3	2	--
Physics C: Mechanics	75.5	76.8	139	107	77.0
Science Total			1,672	932	55.7
Chinese Language & Culture	95.1	98.3	0	0	--
French Language & Culture	73.6	71.0	45	24	53.3
German Language & Culture	70.5	65.6	0	0	--
Italian Language & Culture	68.9	78.5	0	0	--
Japanese Language & Culture	71.9	80.7	0	0	--
Latin	61.3	63.1	14	8	57.1
Spanish Language & Culture	89.0	92.6	395	372	94.2
Spanish Literature	72.6	74.6	18	9	50.0
World Language Total			472	413	87.5
Grand Total	57.2	58.2	10,650	6,103	57.3

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

⁶ District data only include results for AP exams taken after completion of the appropriate district AP course by students in Grades 10 to 12 at district-managed schools. For reports that include results AP exams taken without a corresponding district AP course, please go to www.sandi.net/research. National public and California public data include AP results for test takers at all grade levels.

⁷ Source: <http://research.collegeboard.org/programs/ap/data/participation/ap-2014>

Participation and Performance by School

Table 5. AP student data by school, 2013–2014

School		Total Gr 10 to 12 Enrollment	Took an AP Course		Took an Examination		Passed an AP Examination	
			N	%	N	%	N	%
332	Clairemont	783	235	30.0	200	25.5	140	17.9
334	Crawford	753	198	26.3	191	25.4	57	7.6
336	Henry	1,706	757	44.4	598	35.1	413	24.2
338	Hoover	1,182	200	16.9	171	14.5	96	8.1
504	iHigh Virtual Academy	61	13	21.3	7	11.5	5	8.2
736	Kearny Construction Tech	187	37	19.8	20	10.7	0	0.0
733	Kearny Digital Media & Design	290	65	22.4	35	12.1	16	5.5
735	Kearny International Business	237	30	12.7	10	4.2	10	4.2
734	Kearny SCT	224	131	58.5	75	33.5	29	12.9
342	La Jolla High	1,058	657	62.1	508	48.0	400	37.8
637	Lincoln	916	227	24.8	189	20.6	56	6.1
346	Madison	756	265	35.1	204	27.0	105	13.9
349	Mira Mesa	1,841	812	44.1	569	30.9	378	20.5
350	Mission Bay	783	61	7.8	37	4.7	25	3.2
352	Morse	1,195	396	33.1	353	29.5	208	17.4
395	Mt. Everest	98	35	35.7	20	20.4	15	15.3
369	Muir	39	3	7.7	3	7.7	1	2.6
354	Point Loma	1,324	760	57.4	609	46.0	366	27.6
749	San Diego Business/Leadership	431	110	25.5	65	15.1	18	4.2
744	San Diego Int'l Studies	517	166	32.1	80	15.5	54	10.4
500	San Diego Metro Career & Tech	110	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
750	San Diego MVP Arts	240	26	10.8	6	2.5	3	1.3
753	San Diego Sci Tech	307	99	32.2	75	24.4	19	6.2
368	SCPA	537	210	39.1	112	20.9	70	13.0
359	Scripps Ranch	1,584	772	48.7	697	44.0	597	37.7
503	SD Early/Middle College High	84	82	97.6	46	54.8	9	10.7
357	Serra	1,206	610	50.6	497	41.2	268	22.2
355	University City	1,269	610	48.1	503	39.6	367	28.9
Regular Schools Total		19,718	7,567	38.4	5,880	29.8	3,725	18.9
331	ALBA	20	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
361	Garfield High	256	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
382	Home & Hosp/Transition Support	19	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
364	Riley/New Dawn	54	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
362	Twain	284	4	1.4	0	0.0	0	0.0
Alternative Schools Total		633	4	0.6	0	0.0	0	0.0
District-Managed Schools Total		20,351	7,571	37.2	5,880	28.9	3,725	18.3

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

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

Table 6. AP course enrollment and exam data by school, 2013–2014

School		AP Courses Offered	Total Gr 10 to 12 Enrollment	AP Course Enrollments		AP Examinations Taken		AP Examinations Passed	
				N	Per 100 students	N	Per 100 students	N	%
332	Clairemont	15	783	411	52.5	351	44.8	213	60.7
334	Crawford	12	753	383	50.9	321	42.6	64	19.9
336	Henry	17	1,706	1,424	83.5	1,094	64.1	728	66.5
338	Hoover	7	1,182	306	25.9	268	22.7	111	41.4
504	iHigh Virtual Academy	14	61	23	37.7	8	13.1	6	75.0
736	Kearny Construction Tech	1	187	37	19.8	20	10.7	0	0.0
733	Kearny Digital Media & Design	3	290	88	30.3	52	17.9	22	42.3
735	Kearny International Business	0	237	33	13.9	9	3.8	9	100.0
734	Kearny SCT	4	224	164	73.2	94	42.0	32	34.0
342	La Jolla High	23	1,058	1,498	141.6	1,020	96.4	798	78.2
637	Lincoln	11	916	349	38.1	283	30.9	69	24.4
346	Madison	10	756	475	62.8	372	49.2	150	40.3
349	Mira Mesa	20	1,841	1,455	79.0	991	53.8	634	64.0
350	Mission Bay	2	783	61	7.8	37	4.7	24	64.9
352	Morse	16	1,195	808	67.6	736	61.6	338	45.9
395	Mt. Everest	7	98	56	57.1	27	27.6	20	74.1
369	Muir	0	39	3	7.7	3	7.7	1	33.3
354	Point Loma	18	1,324	1,399	105.7	1,100	83.1	557	50.6
749	San Diego Business/Leadership	9	431	219	50.8	124	28.8	18	14.5
744	San Diego Int'l Studies	3	517	170	32.9	78	15.1	44	56.4
500	San Diego Metro Career & Tech	0	110	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
750	San Diego MVP Arts	2	240	45	18.8	11	4.6	3	27.3
753	San Diego Sci Tech	7	307	193	62.9	136	44.3	12	8.8
368	SCPA	12	537	307	57.2	162	30.2	95	58.6
359	Scripps Ranch	16	1,584	1,415	89.3	1,255	79.2	1017	81.0
503	SD Early/Middle College High	3	84	85	101.2	47	56.0	7	14.9
357	Serra	15	1,206	1,371	113.7	1,122	93.0	479	42.7
355	University City	15	1,269	1,164	91.7	929	73.2	652	70.2
Regular Schools Total		30	19,718	13,942	70.7	10,650	54.0	6,103	57.3
331	ALBA	0	20	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	--
361	Garfield High	0	256	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	--
382	Home & Hosp/Transition Support	0	19	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	--
364	Riley/New Dawn	0	54	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	--
362	Twain	0	284	6	2.1	0	0.0	0	--
Alternative Schools Total		0	633	6	0.9	0	0.0	0	--
District-Managed Schools Total		30	20,351	13,948	68.5	10,650	52.3	6,103	57.3

Notes (1) 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.

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

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