

Advanced Placement® in Alabama



Advanced Placement® course work prepares students for postsecondary success and provides opportunities for them to earn college credit or secure placement in advanced courses. In May 2015, students in Alabama took 36 of the 36 Advanced Placement Courses and Exams.

Participation

- 26,383 students took an AP Exam in 2015, compared to 25,001 in 2014 and 17,084 in 2011. This reflects a year-over-year increase of 5.5%, which compares to 5.9% nationally. From 2011, there was a 54.4% increase, which compares to 24.5% nationally.
 - 5,907 or 22.4% were underrepresented minority students, compared to 23.7% in 2014 and 21.9% in 2011.
 - 4,761 or 18.0% were low-income students, compared to 18.2% in 2014 and 11.8% in 2011.
- Students took 47,931 AP Exams in 2015, compared to 45,434 in 2014 and 29,715 in 2011. This reflects a year-over-year increase of 5.5%, which compares to 7.1% nationally. From 2011, there was a 61.3% increase, which compares to 29.1% nationally.

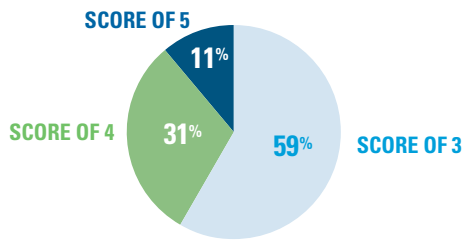
Performance

- 10,940 students scored 3 or higher on an AP® Exam in 2015, compared to 10,242 in 2014 and 8,007 in 2011.
- 41.5% of AP Exam takers scored 3 or higher on at least one AP Exam in May 2015.
 - 17.8% of African American AP Exam takers scored 3 or higher on at least one AP Exam.
 - 40.1% of Hispanic AP Exam takers scored 3 or higher on at least one AP Exam.
 - 35.3% of Native American AP Exam takers scored 3 or higher on at least one AP Exam.
 - 46.6% of white AP Exam takers scored 3 or higher on at least one AP Exam.

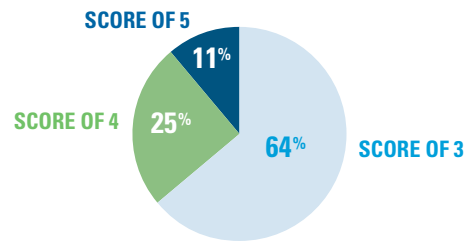
Score Sends

As a result of students' success in AP course work, students sent 22,719 AP scores of 3 or higher to two- and four-year Alabama colleges and universities in 2014.

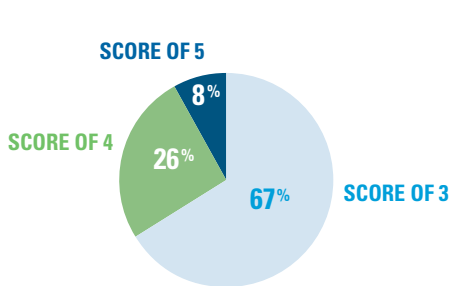
This is particularly significant given the large percentage of traditionally underrepresented students earning scores of 3 on AP exams.*



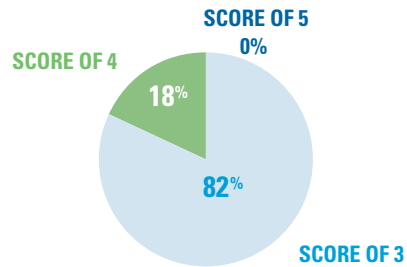
Low-income graduates sent 1,720 AP scores of 3 or higher to four-year colleges in Alabama.



Low-income graduates sent 103 AP scores of 3 or higher to two-year colleges in Alabama.



African American graduates sent 1,187 AP scores of 3 or higher to four-year colleges in Alabama.



African American graduates sent 22 AP scores of 3 or higher to two-year colleges in Alabama.

Potential Cost Savings for Alabama Students and Families

In May 2015, Alabama students took a total of **18,361 AP Exams** that resulted in scores of 3, 4, or 5. At an average rate of **\$325.03** per credit hour for tuition at Alabama four-year public institutions, the total potential college cost savings estimate for Alabama students and families is **\$17,903,627**.²

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total Alabama AP Exams	29,715	36,049	39,916	45,434	47,931
Total Alabama 3+ AP Exam Scores	13,282	15,154	16,128	17,324	18,361
Total Potential Cost Savings					\$17,903,627

¹The AP credit policy data cited in this report was retrieved from the College Board's AP Credit Policy Survey database. The information was updated as of 9/29/2015 based on data collected from each institution's website. It was also verified by an institutional credit policy contact, where possible. Institutional data is included in this report based on availability: Some institutions neither make their credit policy details publicly available, nor provide this data directly to the College Board as part of the annual survey.

²These estimates are based on Table 5 of the 2015 College Board report, Trends in College Pricing. The report indicates the average in-state tuition and fees at Alabama public four-year colleges is \$9,751 per year or \$325.03 per credit assuming 30 credits taken by a full-time student. These estimates also assume all of the 18,361 exams taken in Alabama were applied toward college credit and equivalent to three credits.

Score sending data reflect public and private high school students in the U.S. and abroad who indicated 2014 as their graduation year, took an AP Exam at any point during high school, and who sent AP Exam scores of 3, 4, or 5 to an institution between March 1, 2014 and October 31, 2014.

*Due to rounding, percentages do not always add up to 100.0.