## AP Cohort Data



## craduating Class of 2014

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AP COHORT DATA.

## Introduction

For the past 10 years, the College Board has reported on the participation and performance of students in each year's graduating class.* This report presents these students' entire experience with the Advanced Placement Program, tracking exams taken by graduates throughout their high school careers. It offers a complement to the College Board Program Results, released in October 2014, which included results from the 2014 AP ${ }^{\circ}$ Exam administration.

The longitudinal approach of the AP Cohort Data reveals the longer-term results of state- and district-level initiatives, providing information educators and policymakers can use to:
$\rightarrow$ Celebrate their successes.
$\rightarrow$ Understand their unique challenges.
$\rightarrow$ Most importantly, set meaningful goals to increase opportunity for all students.

## Equity: Opportunity for All Students

The College Board is dedicated to ensuring that every student has access to the academic opportunity he or she has earned. Despite progress, African American, Hispanic/Latino, and American Indian/Alaska Native students remain underrepresented not only in the AP classroom but also in the population of successful AP students. AP Cohort Data provides a national overview of progress made in connecting students of color to AP.
Detailed information on each state's progress is available in the state resources that accompany this national report. It is our hope that states and districts will use this information to renew their commitment to closing the equity gap.

[^0]
## Resources for States

This report shows a national view of AP results for the graduating class of 2014. In an effort to provide meaningful, actionable state-level data to guide policy, the College Board offers two other kinds of resources:

1. Reports customized for each state that include:
$\rightarrow$ A summary of in-state AP high school teacher and college faculty participation in the development and evaluation of AP courses and exams, and in leading AP teacher professional development.
$\rightarrow$ Districts recognized by the AP Honor Roll.
$\rightarrow$ Score distributions of AP Exams taken by the graduating class of 2014.
$\rightarrow$ A report on the potential cost savings to students and families represented by successful AP Exam scores.
$\rightarrow$ Charts showing the percentage of African American, Hispanic/Latino, and American Indian/Alaska Native students with the potential to succeed on an AP Exam who had the opportunity to realize that potential, as well as the percentage of students for whom that potential was not fulfilled.
$\rightarrow$ Detailed maps showing AP student participation and performance by district.
2. College Board student-level data. Available at no cost to states through a renewable data-sharing agreement, the College Board provides student-level AP, SAT ${ }^{*}$, and PSAT/NMSQT ${ }^{*}$ data for state accountability and longitudinal reporting purposes. These data are delivered in integrated, cross-program files. The first set of files are available each year in late July; updated versions are delivered through January. States can use the AP data included in the file to create and track their own cohorts using their specific enrollment figures.

Contact your regional College Board representative for more information on state-level resources.

# National AP Participation and Performance 

Nationally, the number of students who leave high school having taken at least one AP Exam has increased steadily over the past 10 years. The number of graduates earning at least one score of 3 or higher has grown correspondingly.

Within the graduating class of 2014:
1,047,480 U.S. public high school graduates took at least one AP Exam.

633,166 of those graduates earned a 3 or higher on an AP Exam.

## AP Participation and Performance Within the Class of 2014

> The national percentage of all U.S. public high school graduates scoring a 3 or higher on at least one AP Exam has grown steadily - from $12.7 \%$ in the class of $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ to $21.6 \%$ in the class of 2014 . That increase reflects a commitment to access and success on the part of states and districts, as well as the hard work of students and teachers.

Figure 1 shows the percentages of all U.S. public high school students in the class of 2014 who earned a score of 3 or higher on an AP Exam, by state. These data show the degree to which graduates as a whole are gaining access to a successful AP experience.

Figures $\mathbf{2 a}$ and $\mathbf{2 b}$ reveal the progress states have made over 1, 3, 5, and 10 years in ensuring that their students have the opportunity and preparation to succeed in AP.

Figure 3 shows the score distributions for exams taken by the class of 2014 throughout their high school careers.

Figure 1
Percentage of the Class of 2014 Scoring a 3 or Higher on an AP Exam During High School


[^1]Figure 2a
Percentage of the Classes of 2004, 2009, 2011, 2013, and 2014 Scoring a 3 or Higher on an AP Exam During High School, by State, Ranked by the 10-Year Percentage Point Change Appearing in Figure 2b

| Percentage of Graduating Class |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2004 | 2009 | 2011 | 2013 | $\begin{gathered} 2014 \\ 30.8 \end{gathered}$ | What do the data show? |
| Connecticut | 16.4 | 22.2 | 24.6 | 28.8 |  |  |
| Florida | 16.3 | 20.1 | 23.3 | 27.3 | 30.0 |  |
| Virginia | 17.1 | 23.3 | 25.5 | 28.3 | 30.0 |  |
| Maryland | 19.3 | 24.8 | 27.0 | 29.6 | 31.8 | In four of the five |
| Massachusetts | 17.1 | 20.9 | 23.6 | 27.9 | 29.4 | years shown - |
| Colorado | 15.1 | 20.0 | 20.7 | 24.4 | 26.8 |  |
| California | 17.8 | 21.7 | 22.9 | 27.0 | 29.1 | 2009, 2011, |
| Arkansas | 6.0 | 11.4 | 13.4 | 16.0 | 16.9 | 2013, and 2014, |
| Illinois | 12.6 | 16.3 | 18.2 | 21.5 | 23.5 | Maryland |
| Washington | 11.1 | 16.5 | 17.8 | 20.9 | 21.9 |  |
| Minnesota | 10.6 | 15.2 | 17.6 | 20.3 | 21.2 | ad the highest |
| Wisconsin | 13.2 | 16.9 | 19.0 | 22.2 | 23.6 | percentage of |
| Kentucky | 7.6 | 10.4 | 12.7 | 16.2 | 17.9 | high school |
| Indiana | 8.0 | 10.3 | 13.5 | 16.2 | 18.0 | raduates scoring |
| Georgia | 12.3 | 16.5 | 18.8 | 21.3 | 22.2 | a 3 or higher on |
| New Jersey | 15.1 | 18.4 | 20.5 | 23.6 | 24.9 |  |
| Vermont | 14.2 | 18.5 | 20.3 | 21.5 | 23.9 | an AP Exam |
| Rhode Island | 7.8 | 10.9 | 11.8 | 14.6 | 17.0 |  |
| Maine | 13.9 | 18.2 | 20.1 | 22.3 | 22.9 |  |
| UNITED STATES | 12.7 | 15.8 | 17.5 | 20.1 | 21.6 |  |
| Michigan | 10.8 | 13.2 | 14.9 | 17.2 | 19.4 |  |
| Nevada | 12.3 | 15.2 | 14.3 | 16.9 | 20.9 |  |
| District of Columbia | 7.1 | 7.4 | 10.3 | 14.0 | 15.0 |  |
| Texas | 12.6 | 15.1 | 16.6 | 18.6 | 20.3 |  |
| Delaware | 10.6 | 13.8 | 14.4 | 17.0 | 18.0 |  |
| South Carolina | 11.7 | 13.4 | 14.9 | 17.7 | 19.1 |  |
| Oregon | 8.3 | 12.2 | 13.1 | 15.3 | 15.5 |  |
| Ohio | 8.7 | 11.2 | 12.7 | 14.8 | 15.8 |  |
| Pennsylvania | 9.9 | 12.3 | 13.5 | 15.9 | 17.0 |  |
| New Hampshire | 11.5 | 15.3 | 17.4 | 18.2 | 18.4 |  |
| Nebraska | 3.9 | 7.4 | 8.0 | 9.9 | 10.6 |  |
| Utah | 18.6 | 20.2 | 22.8 | 25.4 | 25.2 |  |
| Alabama | 5.0 | 7.1 | 8.8 | 10.8 | 11.5 |  |
| Arizona | 8.8 | 10.4 | 12.1 | 14.4 | 15.1 |  |
| Hawaii | 7.4 | 8.4 | 9.6 | 11.9 | 13.5 |  |
| New York | 20.5 | 21.0 | 22.8 | 25.4 | 26.5 |  |
| lowa | 6.3 | 8.6 | 10.1 | 11.1 | 12.2 |  |
| North Carolina | 14.9 | 17.0 | 18.0 | 19.3 | 20.5 |  |
| Missouri | 5.0 | 7.0 | 8.0 | 9.5 | 10.5 |  |
| Idaho | 8.1 | 10.3 | 12.0 | 13.3 | 13.1 |  |
| Montana | 8.9 | 10.6 | 12.4 | 13.1 | 13.8 |  |
| Kansas | 6.2 | 8.9 | 9.6 | 10.5 | 11.0 |  |
| South Dakota | 8.1 | 10.5 | 11.4 | 12.4 | 12.8 |  |
| Wyoming | 6.5 | 7.8 | 9.0 | 10.0 | 10.7 |  |
| Alaska | 10.6 | 12.3 | 13.3 | 14.6 | 14.7 |  |
| West Virginia | 6.2 | 7.7 | 8.6 | 9.4 | 10.2 |  |
| Louisiana | 2.3 | 3.5 | 4.2 | 5.3 | 6.2 |  |
| New Mexico | 8.4 | 9.3 | 10.6 | 12.0 | 12.0 |  |
| North Dakota | 5.7 | 6.2 | 7.9 | 9.1 | 9.2 |  |
| Tennessee | 7.4 | 8.0 | 8.6 | 10.1 | 10.7 |  |
| Oklahoma | 8.2 | 9.4 | 10.2 | 11.0 | 11.4 | Data in this figure have been |
| Mississippi\| | 2.8 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.4 | 5.0 |  |

Figure 2b
1 -Year, 3 -Year, 5 -Year, and 10-Year Change in the Percentage of Graduates Earning a 3 or Higher on an AP Exam During High School, by State, Ranked by the 10-Year Percentage Point Change

| Change |  |  |  |  | What do the data show? |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Connecticut | 1-year <br> 2.0 | 3-year 6.2 | 5-year 8.6 | 10-year <br> 14.4 |  |
| Florida | 2.7 | 6.7 | 9.9 | 13.7 |  |
| Virginia | 1.7 | 4.5 | 6.7 | 12.9 |  |
| Maryland | 2.2 | 4.8 | 7.0 | 12.5 | 8.9 |
| Massachusetts | 1.5 | 5.8 | 8.5 | 12.3 |  |
| Colorado | 2.4 | 6.1 | 6.8 | 11.7 | point increase since |
| California | 2.1 | 6.2 | 7.4 | 11.3 | 2004 in the percentage |
| Arkansas | 0.9 | 3.5 | 5.5 | 10.9 | of U.S. public high |
| Illinois | 2.0 | 5.3 | 7.2 | 10.9 | school graduates |
| Washington | 1.0 | 4.1 | 5.4 | 10.8 | scoring 3 or higher |
| Minnesota | 0.9 | 3.6 | 6.0 | 10.6 | scoring 3 or higher |
| Wisconsin | 1.4 | 4.6 | 6.7 | 10.4 |  |
| Kentucky | 1.7 | 5.2 | 7.5 | 10.3 | Connecticut |
| Indiana | 1.8 | 4.5 | 7.7 | 10.0 | had a 14.4 increase |
| Georgia | 0.9 | 3.4 | 5.7 | 9.9 |  |
| New Jersey | 1.3 | 4.4 | 6.5 | 9.8 | over 10 years in the |
| Vermont | 2.4 | 3.6 | 5.4 | 9.7 | percentage of graduates |
| Rhode Island | 2.4 | 5.2 | 6.1 | 9.2 | earning a 3 or higher, |
| Maine | 0.6 | 2.8 | 4.7 | 9.0 | leading the nation |
| UNITED STATES | 1.5 | 4.1 | 5.8 | 8.9 |  |
| Michigan | 2.2 | 4.5 | 6.2 | 8.6 |  |
| Nevada | 4.0 | 6.6 | 5.7 | 8.6 | H1Or1da had the |
| District of Columbia | 1.0 | 4.7 | 7.6 | 7.9 | largest three- and |
| Texas | 1.7 | 3.7 | 5.2 | 7.7 | five-year increases |
| Delaware | 1.0 | 3.6 | 4.2 | 7.4 |  |
| South Carolina | 1.4 | 4.2 | 5.7 | 7.4 | Novad |
| Oregon | 0.2 | 2.4 | 3.3 | 7.2 | Nevada had the |
| Ohio | 1.0 | 3.1 | 4.6 | 7.1 | largest one-year increase |
| Pennsylvania | 1.1 | 3.5 | 4.7 | 7.1 |  |
| New Hampshire | 0.2 | 1.0 | 3.1 | 6.9 |  |
| Nebraska | 0.7 | 2.6 | 3.2 | 6.7 |  |
| Utah | -0.2 | 2.4 | 5.0 | 6.6 |  |
| Alabama | 0.7 | 2.7 | 4.4 | 6.5 |  |
| Arizona | 0.7 | 3.0 | 4.7 | 6.3 |  |
| Hawaii | 1.6 | 3.9 | 5.1 | 6.1 |  |
| New York | 1.1 | 3.7 | 5.5 | 6.0 |  |
| Iowa | 1.1 | 2.1 | 3.6 | 5.9 |  |
| North Carolina | 1.2 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 5.6 |  |
| Missouri | 1.0 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 5.5 |  |
| Idaho | -0.2 | 1.1 | 2.8 | 5.0 |  |
| Montana | 0.7 | 1.4 | 3.2 | 4.9 |  |
| Kansas | 0.5 | 1.4 | 2.1 | 4.8 |  |
| South Dakota | 0.4 | 1.4 | 2.3 | 4.7 |  |
| Wyoming | 0.7 | 1.7 | 2.9 | 4.2 |  |
| Alaska | 0.1 | 1.4 | 2.4 | 4.1 |  |
| West Virginia | 0.8 | 1.6 | 2.5 | 4.0 |  |
| Louisiana | 0.9 | 2.0 | 2.7 | 3.9 |  |
| New Mexico | 0.0 | 1.4 | 2.7 | 3.6 |  |
| North Dakota | 0.1 | 1.3 | 3.0 | 3.5 |  |
| Tennessee | 0.6 | 2.1 | 2.7 | 3.3 | Data in this figure have been rounded, and raw numbers are available in Appendix A. States with a tie in the rankings are listed alphabetically. |
| Oklahoma | 0.4 | 1.2 | 2.0 | 3.2 |  |
| Mississippi | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 2.2 |  |

AP COHORT DATA • GRADUATING CLASS OF 2014
Figure 3
Score Distributions of AP Exams Taken by the Class of 2014
During High School, by State

| $\square$ Score of 1 | - Score of 2 | Score of 3 |  | - Score of 4 |  | - Score of 5 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. of Exams | \% of Exam Scores* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 80\% | 60\% | 40\% 20\% | 0\% | 20\% | 40\% | 60\% | 80\% |
| Alabama | 36,771 |  | 35.4 | 28.0 | 19.0 11.4 | $4 \square 6.2$ |  |  |
| Alaska | 4,397 |  | 14.5 | 22.8 | 27.8 | 20.4 | 14.4 |  |
| Arizona | 45,810 |  | 19.8 | 24.6 | 25.1 | 17.812 | 2.7 |  |
| Arkansas | 42,986 |  | 39.2 | 29.4 | 18.58 .8 | 4.1 |  |  |
| California | 560,224 |  | 19.5 | 22.3 | 24.2 | 19.4 | 4.6 |  |
| Colorado | 63,038 |  | 16.9 | 23.6 | 26.9 | 19.8 | 12.8 |  |
| Connecticut | 44,729 |  | 11.6 | 17.2 | 25.5 | 25.4 | 20.3 |  |
| Delaware | 8,186 |  | 25.4 | 22.7 | 22.7 | 16.512 .8 |  |  |
| District of Columbia | 5,140 |  | 50.6 | 23.1 | 13.38 .3 | 4.8 |  |  |
| Florida | 305,143 |  | 29.0 | 24.9 | 22.4 | 15.28 .5 |  |  |
| Georgia | 122,692 |  | 22.9 | 23.8 | 24.3 | 18.210 .9 |  |  |
| Hawaii | 7,401 |  | 30.1 | 30.4 | 21.6 | $1.6 \square 6$ |  |  |
| Idaho | 9,164 |  | 9.9 | 22.7 | 29.6 | - 22.9 | -14.9 |  |
| Illinois | 149,417 |  | 16.2 | 18.6 | 24.3 | 23.1 | 17.7 |  |
| Indiana | 61,765 |  | 25.3 | 25.8 | 23.1 | 16.09 .8 |  |  |
| lowa | 16,687 |  | 14.5 | 23.0 | 26.9 | 21.5 | 14.1 |  |
| Kansas | 14,070 |  | 17.6 | 21.8 | 26.9 | 20.1 | 13.6 |  |
| Kentucky | 43,239 |  | 21.9 | 29.5 | 25.9 | 14.97 .8 |  |  |
| Louisiana | 15,242 |  | 40.1 | 26.7 | 17.610 .3 | 5.3 |  |  |
| Maine | 13,030 |  | 15.3 | 24.6 | 28.6 | 19.9 |  |  |
| Maryland | 106,459 |  | 17.8 | 21.2 | 24.4 | 20.6 | 16.0 |  |
| Massachusetts | 76,776 |  | 13.0 | 18.3 | 24.6 | 23.6 | 20.5 |  |
| Michigan | 79,297 |  | 12.5 | 21.7 | 28.0 | 22.3 | 15.5 |  |
| Minnesota | 55,714 |  | 13.7 | 21.1 | 28.0 | 22.8 | 14.4 |  |
| Mississippi | 8,139 |  | 37.8 | 30.8 | 18.88 .6 | 4.0 |  |  |
| Missouri | 26,520 |  | 15.4 | 20.7 | 26.2 | 21.8 | 15.9 |  |
| Montana | 4,592 |  | 11.6 | 26.5 | 30.6 | 6 19.8 | 11.5 |  |
| Nebraska | 9,493 |  | 20.8 | 25.4 | 26.4 | 17.69. |  |  |
| Nevada | 23,930 |  | 22.2 | 28.3 | 25.1 | 15.09 .4 |  |  |
| New Hampshire | 7,649 |  | 7.7 | 19.9 | 29.2 | 25 | 8 17.5 |  |
| New Jersey | 95,600 |  | 10.3 | 15.5 | 24.5 | 25.9 | 23.8 |  |
| New Mexico | 12,211 |  | 33.2 | 26.7 | 20.712 | - 7.0 |  |  |
| New York | 215,827 |  | 13.2 | 21.2 | 27.5 | 22.3 | 15.8 |  |
| North Carolina | 95,660 |  | 18.8 | 23.5 | 24.9 | 20.21 | 2.6 |  |
| North Dakota | 1,831 |  | 9.4 | 22.4 | 31. | 1.121 .7 | $7 \quad 15.3$ |  |
| Ohio | 81,767 |  | 13.5 | 20.6 | 26.8 | 22.2 | 16.9 |  |
| Oklahoma | 24,244 |  | 24.3 | 28.8 | 25.8 | 14.3 6 |  |  |
| Oregon | 22,863 |  | 16.7 | 23.0 | 26.5 | 20.0 | 13.9 |  |
| Pennsylvania | 86,877 |  | 13.5 | 18.1 | 26.0 | 23.7 | 18.6 |  |
| Rhode Island | 6,971 |  | 22.4 | 22.0 | 24.5 | 18.912 |  |  |
| South Carolina | 35,940 |  | 17.8 | 25.4 | 26.4 | 18.71 |  |  |
| South Dakota | 3,937 |  | 10.0 | 22.6 | 29.4 | 423 | 814.2 |  |
| Tennessee | 32,919 |  | 21.3 | 24.4 | 25.6 | 18.110 |  |  |
| Texas | 372,488 |  | 29.1 | 24.3 | 21.7 | 15.39 .7 |  |  |
| Utah | 31,161 |  | 10.7 | 20.9 | 30.2 | 23 | $3 \quad 14.9$ |  |
| Vermont | 5,553 |  | 10.9 | 20.7 | 28.8 | 24. | 1 15.5 |  |
| Virginia | 135,073 |  | 16.2 | 22.8 | 26.0 | 20.4 | 14.6 |  |
| Washington | 67,192 |  | 16.7 | 23.4 | 26.1 | 20.0 | 13.9 |  |
| West Virginia | 10,434 |  | 26.6 | 28.8 | 23.0 | 13.77 .9 |  |  |
| Wisconsin | 55,085 |  | 11.3 | 20.7 | 29.0 | - 23.8 | $8 \quad 15.3$ |  |
| Wyoming | 2,004 |  | 15.4 | 23.6 | 30.1 | 1 18.9 | 12.0 |  |
| UNITED STATES | 3,363,337 |  | 20.1 | 22.7 | 24.6 | 19.213 | 3.4 |  |

## Why do AP Exam scores of 3 or higher matter?

When compared to their matched non-AP peers, research* consistently shows that students who score a 3 or higher on an AP Exam typically:
$\rightarrow$ Earn higher GPAs in college.
$\rightarrow$ Perform as well as or better in subsequent college courses in the exam discipline than non-AP students who took the corresponding introductory college course.
$\rightarrow$ Take more - not less - college course work in the discipline.
$\rightarrow$ Are more likely to graduate college on time in four years.
$\rightarrow$ Have higher graduation rates.

## Opportunity for All Students

AP participation and performance data illustrate the degree to which African American, Hispanic/Latino, and American Indian/Alaska Native students have access to the challenging course work exemplified by AP.

Ideally, the demographics of AP classes should match the demographics within each school, district, and state, and the percentage of students earning a 3 or higher on an AP Exam should match the proportion of the population for each demographic group.

Figure 4 provides a picture of how well we are succeeding in this goal at a national level by presenting 2014 AP participation and performance by demographic group.

The state resources that accompany this national report provide more detail for each demographic group.

Figure 4
Demographics of the Graduating Class and AP Exam Takers in 2014

*Students who selected "Other" for Ethnicity/Race on the 2014 AP Answer Sheet, and those who did not select any response, are not included in this chart.

What do the data show for African American, Hispanic, and American Indian/Alaska Native students?

Across all three groups, there is room for improvement.
$\rightarrow$ Black/African American students in the graduating class of 2014 were the most underrepresented group both among all AP Exam takers and in the population of successful AP Exam takers.
$\rightarrow$ Hispanic/Latino students were well represented among all exam takers, but underrepresented among students earning a 3+.
$\rightarrow$ American Indian/Alaska Native students were underrepresented both in participation and in performance.

## Focus on Low-Income Students

Parental income is strongly correlated to students' educational attainment. However, successful schools and districts have been able to weaken or even break this link and thereby act as engines of mobility and equity. An examination of AP participation and performance among low-income students provides another measure of how well states and the nation as a whole are using education resources to promote greater equity.

Figure 5 is sorted by the percentage of $\mathrm{K}-12$ public school students who are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.* This allows states to compare themselves to other states with a similar composition of students. The columns showing the percentage of low-income AP Exam takers and the percentages of successful, low-income AP Exam takers provide a picture of how equitably low-income students are represented in AP classrooms within each state.

## What do the data show?

$\rightarrow$ Nearly half (49.6\%) of U.S. public school students were low income, compared to $29.0 \%$ of AP Exam takers and 23.3\% of successful AP Exam takers.
$\rightarrow$ Despite the fact that low-income students have constituted an increasing share of both AP Exam takers and successful AP Exam takers over the past decade, these students remain underrepresented in AP.

[^2]AP COHORT DATA • GRADUATING CLASS OF 2014

Figure 5
Equity Gaps Among Low-Income Students in the Class of 2014

*Unable to estimate the portion of Minnesota's AP population from low-income households.

# Appendix 

|  | Total Number of Graduates |  |  |  | Participation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Number of Graduates Who Took an AP Exam During High School |  |  |  | Percentage of Graduates Who Took an AP Exam During High School |  |  |  |
|  | 2004 | 2009 | 2013 | 2014 | 2004 | 2009 | 2013 | 2014 | 2004 | 2009 | 2013 | 2014 |
| Alabama | 36,464 | 42,082 | 44,044 | 42,440 | 3,216 | 6,462 | 11,086 | 12,409 | 8.8 | 15.4 | 25.2 | 29.2 |
| Alaska | 7,236 | 8,008 | 7,289 | 7,160 | 1,183 | 1,557 | 1,647 | 1,682 | 16.3 | 19.4 | 22.6 | 23.5 |
| Arizona | 45,508 | 62,374 | 60,799 | 59,745 | 6,352 | 11,367 | 14,980 | 15,723 | 14.0 | 18.2 | 24.6 | 26.3 |
| Arkansas | 27,181 | 28,057 | 27,492 | 27,805 | 3,469 | 9,905 | 12,667 | 13,510 | 12.8 | 35.3 | 46.1 | 48.6 |
| California | 343,480 | 372,310 | 376,369 | 362,716 | 90,371 | 123,914 | 152,745 | 159,109 | 26.3 | 33.3 | 40.6 | 43.9 |
| Colorado | 44,777 | 47,459 | 49,641 | 48,384 | 10,482 | 15,499 | 19,475 | 20,785 | 23.4 | 32.7 | 39.2 | 43.0 |
| Connecticut | 34,573 | 34,968 | 36,267 | 35,253 | 7,914 | 10,933 | 14,019 | 14,736 | 22.9 | 31.3 | 38.7 | 41.8 |
| Delaware | 6,951 | 7,839 | 8,192 | 7,941 | 1,315 | 2,050 | 2,516 | 2,625 | 18.9 | 26.2 | 30.7 | 33.1 |
| District of Columbia | 3,031 | 3,517 | 3,185 | 2,974 | 616 | 1,381 | 1,774 | 1,791 | 20.3 | 39.3 | 55.7 | 60.2 |
| Florida | 131,418 | 153,461 | 150,854 | 143,753 | 36,539 | 58,403 | 80,291 | 82,249 | 27.8 | 38.1 | 53.2 | 57.2 |
| Georgia | 68,550 | 88,003 | 87,151 | 86,706 | 14,972 | 27,442 | 34,505 | 36,019 | 21.8 | 31.2 | 39.6 | 41.5 |
| Hawaii | 10,324 | 11,508 | 10,647 | 10,347 | 1,474 | 2,130 | 3,095 | 3,269 | 14.3 | 18.5 | 29.1 | 31.6 |
| Idaho | 15,547 | 16,807 | 16,774 | 17,214 | 1,913 | 2,623 | 3,378 | 3,382 | 12.3 | 15.6 | 20.1 | 19.6 |
| Illinois | 124,763 | 131,670 | 135,204 | 128,162 | 21,710 | 32,902 | 43,835 | 45,415 | 17.4 | 25.0 | 32.4 | 35.4 |
| Indiana | 56,008 | 63,663 | 63,524 | 62,753 | 8,926 | 13,003 | 22,256 | 23,028 | 15.9 | 20.4 | 35.0 | 36.7 |
| lowa | 34,339 | 33,926 | 31,882 | 31,564 | 3,275 | 4,669 | 5,706 | 6,313 | 9.5 | 13.8 | 17.9 | 20.0 |
| Kansas | 30,155 | 30,368 | 30,231 | 29,897 | 2,679 | 4,638 | 5,231 | 5,388 | 8.9 | 15.3 | 17.3 | 18.0 |
| Kentucky | 37,787 | 41,851 | 40,528 | 38,729 | 5,555 | 8,783 | 12,766 | 13,709 | 14.7 | 21.0 | 31.5 | 35.4 |
| Louisiana | 37,019 | 35,622 | 36,391 | 37,034 | 1,635 | 2,821 | 5,516 | 7,497 | 4.4 | 7.9 | 15.2 | 20.2 |
| Maine | 13,278 | 14,093 | 13,115 | 12,743 | 2,893 | 4,372 | 4,657 | 4,692 | 21.8 | 31.0 | 35.5 | 36.8 |
| Maryland | 52,870 | 58,304 | 57,742 | 55,109 | 15,294 | 23,261 | 27,372 | 28,040 | 28.9 | 39.9 | 47.4 | 50.9 |
| Massachusetts | 58,326 | 65,258 | 63,166 | 62,018 | 13,869 | 19,027 | 24,596 | 25,851 | 23.8 | 29.2 | 38.9 | 41.7 |
| Michigan | 98,823 | 112,742 | 105,971 | 98,811 | 16,272 | 23,346 | 27,846 | 29,116 | 16.5 | 20.7 | 26.3 | 29.5 |
| Minnesota | 59,096 | 59,729 | 56,534 | 55,752 | 9,505 | 14,313 | 17,842 | 18,127 | 16.1 | 24.0 | 31.6 | 32.5 |
| Mississippi | 23,735 | 24,505 | 25,741 | 24,267 | 1,622 | 3,282 | 3,268 | 3,701 | 6.8 | 13.4 | 12.7 | 15.3 |
| Missouri | 57,983 | 62,969 | 60,432 | 58,259 | 4,412 | 7,649 | 9,541 | 10,073 | 7.6 | 12.1 | 15.8 | 17.3 |
| Montana | 10,500 | 10,077 | 9,083 | 9,102 | 1,382 | 1,661 | 1,873 | 1,972 | 13.2 | 16.5 | 20.6 | 21.7 |
| Nebraska | 20,309 | 19,501 | 19,210 | 18,761 | 1,230 | 2,571 | 3,269 | 3,444 | 6.1 | 13.2 | 17.0 | 18.4 |
| Nevada | 15,201 | 19,904 | 23,097 | 20,597 | 2,978 | 5,582 | 7,299 | 7,789 | 19.6 | 28.0 | 31.6 | 37.8 |
| New Hampshire | 13,309 | 14,757 | 13,789 | 13,569 | 2,211 | 3,082 | 3,309 | 3,356 | 16.6 | 20.9 | 24.0 | 24.7 |
| New Jersey | 83,826 | 95,085 | 92,978 | 92,103 | 17,284 | 24,485 | 29,497 | 30,769 | 20.6 | 25.8 | 31.7 | 33.4 |
| New Mexico | 17,892 | 17,931 | 18,040 | 17,678 | 3,080 | 3,771 | 5,092 | 5,149 | 17.2 | 21.0 | 28.2 | 29.1 |
| New York | 148,511 | 180,917 | 176,819 | 173,501 | 45,523 | 58,709 | 67,034 | 68,529 | 30.7 | 32.5 | 37.9 | 39.5 |
| North Carolina | 72,126 | 86,712 | 88,338 | 85,372 | 17,936 | 24,581 | 27,587 | 29,353 | 24.9 | 28.3 | 31.2 | 34.4 |
| North Dakota | 7,888 | 7,232 | 6,769 | 6,653 | 666 | 735 | 1007 | 920 | 8.4 | 10.2 | 14.9 | 13.8 |
| Ohio | 119,029 | 122,203 | 117,354 | 113,220 | 16,581 | 22,122 | 26,670 | 28,095 | 13.9 | 18.1 | 22.7 | 24.8 |
| Oklahoma | 36,799 | 37,219 | 37,260 | 36,657 | 6,071 | 7,274 | 8,177 | 8,489 | 16.5 | 19.5 | 21.9 | 23.2 |
| Oregon | 32,958 | 35,138 | 34,659 | 34,545 | 4,180 | 6,904 | 8,439 | 8,538 | 12.7 | 19.6 | 24.3 | 24.7 |
| Pennsylvania | 123,474 | 130,658 | 125,264 | 122,720 | 18,059 | 24,459 | 30,033 | 31,164 | 14.6 | 18.7 | 24.0 | 25.4 |
| Rhode Island | 9,258 | 10,028 | 9,445 | 9,270 | 1,112 | 1,764 | 2,494 | 2,690 | 12.0 | 17.6 | 26.4 | 29.0 |
| South Carolina | 33,235 | 39,114 | 38,712 | 37,439 | 6,615 | 9,175 | 11,332 | 12,062 | 19.9 | 23.5 | 29.3 | 32.2 |
| South Dakota | 9,001 | 8,123 | 8,226 | 8,220 | 1,188 | 1,317 | 1,666 | 1,619 | 13.2 | 16.2 | 20.3 | 19.7 |
| Tennessee | 46,096 | 60,368 | 59,479 | 57,773 | 5,824 | 9,140 | 11,308 | 11,806 | 12.6 | 15.1 | 19.0 | 20.4 |
| Texas | 244,165 | 264,275 | 282,244 | 275,057 | 53,542 | 77,063 | 101,707 | 107,586 | 21.9 | 29.2 | 36.0 | 39.1 |
| Utah | 30,252 | 30,463 | 31,049 | 31,732 | 7,984 | 9,192 | 11,269 | 11,501 | 26.4 | 30.2 | 36.3 | 36.2 |
| Vermont | 7,100 | 7,209 | 6,604 | 6,278 | 1,485 | 1,938 | 2,041 | 2,125 | 20.9 | 26.9 | 30.9 | 33.8 |
| Virginia | 72,042 | 79,651 | 79,206 | 76,426 | 19,457 | 29,537 | 34,901 | 35,371 | 27.0 | 37.1 | 44.1 | 46.3 |
| Washington | 61,274 | 62,764 | 63,354 | 61,898 | 10,729 | 17,235 | 21,593 | 22,273 | 17.5 | 27.5 | 34.1 | 36.0 |
| West Virginia | 17,339 | 17,690 | 17,280 | 16,463 | 2,170 | 3,090 | 3,804 | 3,817 | 12.5 | 17.5 | 22.0 | 23.2 |
| Wisconsin | 63,251 | 65,410 | 60,254 | 59,026 | 12,048 | 16,050 | 19,136 | 19,858 | 19.0 | 24.5 | 31.8 | 33.6 |
| Wyoming | 5,833 | 5,493 | 5,201 | 5,238 | 638 | 803 | 884 | 966 | 10.9 | 14.6 | 17.0 | 18.4 |
| UNITED STATES | 2,759,890 | 3,039,015 | 3,022,879 | 2,936,834 | 547,436 | 797,972 | 1,004,031 | 1,047,480 | 19.8 | 26.3 | 33.2 | 35.7 |


| Success |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number of Graduates Who Scored 3 or higher on an AP Exam During High School |  |  |  | Percentage of Graduates Who Scored 3 or higher on an AP Exam During High School |  |  |  |  |
| 2004 | 2009 | 2013 | 2014 | 2004 | 2009 | 2013 | 2014 |  |
| 1,833 | 2,972 | 4,773 | 4,887 | 5.0 | 7.1 | 10.8 | 11.5 | Alabama |
| 765 | 983 | 1,064 | 1,052 | 10.6 | 12.3 | 14.6 | 14.7 | Alaska |
| 3,998 | 6,484 | 8,769 | 9,026 | 8.8 | 10.4 | 14.4 | 15.1 | Arizona |
| 1,643 | 3,201 | 4,390 | 4,690 | 6.0 | 11.4 | 16.0 | 16.9 | Arkansas |
| 61,272 | 80,728 | 101,500 | 105,572 | 17.8 | 21.7 | 27.0 | 29.1 | California |
| 6,761 | 9,476 | 12,116 | 12,943 | 15.1 | 20.0 | 24.4 | 26.8 | Colorado |
| 5,684 | 7,774 | 10,432 | 10,841 | 16.4 | 22.2 | 28.8 | 30.8 | Connecticut |
| 736 | 1083 | 1,389 | 1,431 | 10.6 | 13.8 | 17.0 | 18.0 | Delaware |
| 215 | 260 | 445 | 446 | 7.1 | 7.4 | 14.0 | 15.0 | District of Columbia |
| 21,383 | 30,912 | 41,256 | 43,154 | 16.3 | 20.1 | 27.3 | 30.0 | Florida |
| 8,461 | 14,524 | 18,534 | 19,214 | 12.3 | 16.5 | 21.3 | 22.2 | Georgia |
| 767 | 964 | 1,270 | 1,394 | 7.4 | 8.4 | 11.9 | 13.5 | Hawaii |
| 1,257 | 1,732 | 2,238 | 2,256 | 8.1 | 10.3 | 13.3 | 13.1 | Idaho |
| 15,720 | 21,425 | 29,016 | 30,098 | 12.6 | 16.3 | 21.5 | 23.5 | Illinois |
| 4,475 | 6,556 | 10,298 | 11,320 | 8.0 | 10.3 | 16.2 | 18.0 | Indiana |
| 2,175 | 2,924 | 3,550 | 3,859 | 6.3 | 8.6 | 11.1 | 12.2 | lowa |
| 1,856 | 2,706 | 3,177 | 3,280 | 6.2 | 8.9 | 10.5 | 11.0 | Kansas |
| 2,853 | 4,348 | 6,561 | 6,943 | 7.6 | 10.4 | 16.2 | 17.9 | Kentucky |
| 857 | 1245 | 1,911 | 2,298 | 2.3 | 3.5 | 5.3 | 6.2 | Louisiana |
| 1,850 | 2,571 | 2,929 | 2,921 | 13.9 | 18.2 | 22.3 | 22.9 | Maine |
| 10,215 | 14,441 | 17,111 | 17,498 | 19.3 | 24.8 | 29.6 | 31.8 | Maryland |
| 10,000 | 13,631 | 17,615 | 18,263 | 17.1 | 20.9 | 27.9 | 29.4 | Massachusetts |
| 10,637 | 14,872 | 18,234 | 19,141 | 10.8 | 13.2 | 17.2 | 19.4 | Michigan |
| 6,246 | 9,102 | 11,497 | 11,839 | 10.6 | 15.2 | 20.3 | 21.2 | Minnesota |
| 673 | 1019 | 1,132 | 1,225 | 2.8 | 4.2 | 4.4 | 5.0 | Mississippi |
| 2,905 | 4,388 | 5,767 | 6,102 | 5.0 | 7.0 | 9.5 | 10.5 | Missouri |
| 933 | 1066 | 1,186 | 1,254 | 8.9 | 10.6 | 13.1 | 13.8 | Montana |
| 788 | 1443 | 1,905 | 1,991 | 3.9 | 7.4 | 9.9 | 10.6 | Nebraska |
| 1,873 | 3,023 | 3,901 | 4,302 | 12.3 | 15.2 | 16.9 | 20.9 | Nevada |
| 1,534 | 2,260 | 2,503 | 2,490 | 11.5 | 15.3 | 18.2 | 18.4 | New Hampshire |
| 12,650 | 17,522 | 21,947 | 22,895 | 15.1 | 18.4 | 23.6 | 24.9 | New Jersey |
| 1,501 | 1,661 | 2,173 | 2,128 | 8.4 | 9.3 | 12.0 | 12.0 | New Mexico |
| 30,439 | 38,015 | 44,909 | 46,053 | 20.5 | 21.0 | 25.4 | 26.5 | New York |
| 10,781 | 14,745 | 17,067 | 17,497 | 14.9 | 17.0 | 19.3 | 20.5 | North Carolina |
| 449 | 448 | 616 | 611 | 5.7 | 6.2 | 9.1 | 9.2 | North Dakota |
| 10,406 | 13,663 | 17,343 | 17,944 | 8.7 | 11.2 | 14.8 | 15.8 | Ohio |
| 3,000 | 3,509 | 4,092 | 4,174 | 8.2 | 9.4 | 11.0 | 11.4 | Oklahoma |
| 2,720 | 4,299 | 5,303 | 5,341 | 8.3 | 12.2 | 15.3 | 15.5 | Oregon |
| 12,265 | 16,078 | 19,934 | 20,898 | 9.9 | 12.3 | 15.9 | 17.0 | Pennsylvania |
| 726 | 1092 | 1,383 | 1,576 | 7.8 | 10.9 | 14.6 | 17.0 | Rhode Island |
| 3,899 | 5,233 | 6,838 | 7,159 | 11.7 | 13.4 | 17.7 | 19.1 | South Carolina |
| 733 | 854 | 1016 | 1,053 | 8.1 | 10.5 | 12.4 | 12.8 | South Dakota |
| 3,400 | 4,835 | 5,994 | 6,203 | 7.4 | 8.0 | 10.1 | 10.7 | Tennessee |
| 30,759 | 39,958 | 52,434 | 55,771 | 12.6 | 15.1 | 18.6 | 20.3 | Texas |
| 5,632 | 6,141 | 7,872 | 7,995 | 18.6 | 20.2 | 25.4 | 25.2 | Utah |
| 1,006 | 1,337 | 1,417 | 1,500 | 14.2 | 18.5 | 21.5 | 23.9 | Vermont |
| 12,346 | 18,566 | 22,426 | 22,900 | 17.1 | 23.3 | 28.3 | 30.0 | Virginia |
| 6,816 | 10,336 | 13,214 | 13,546 | 11.1 | 16.5 | 20.9 | 21.9 | Washington |
| 1,079 | 1,360 | 1,616 | 1,677 | 6.2 | 7.7 | 9.4 | 10.2 | West Virginia |
| 8,340 | 11,032 | 13,392 | 13,952 | 13.2 | 16.9 | 22.2 | 23.6 | Wisconsin |
| 381 | 426 | 519 | 563 | 6.5 | 7.8 | 10.0 | 10.7 | Wyoming |
| 349,693 | 479,223 | 607,974 | 633,166 | 12.7 | 15.8 | 20.1 | 21.6 | UNITED STATES |

## About the Data

Because a central source of demographic data for nonpublic schools is not available for all states, this report represents public school students only. References to the total number of high school graduates represent projections supplied in Knocking at the College Door (Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, 2012). Additionally, this report looks at students' entire experience with AP- tracking exams taken by graduates throughout their high school careers - rather than reporting exam results from a particular calendar year.

[^3]
[^0]:    *Because reliable demographic data for nonpublic schools are not available for all states, this national report represents U.S. public school students only.

[^1]:    Raw numbers for this figure are available in the Appendix. States with a tie in the rankings are listed alphabetically.

[^2]:    *As there is no national data source on high school graduates' low-income status, we used K-12 estimates from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), based upon free or reduced-price lunch eligibility. AP fee reductions are based on this eligibility threshold as well. NCES estimates reflect all K-12 public school students from the 2011-12 school year. Therefore, a degree of caution is warranted as they may not accurately reflect the graduating class.

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