

REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Office of Superintendent of Schools
Board of Education Meeting of October 13, 2011

SUBJECT: BOARD MONITORING SYSTEM—GOAL 1, SECTION G: INCREASE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS TAKING ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS AND SCORING THREE OR HIGHER

At the February 11, 2010 meeting, the Board of Education implemented a revised Board Monitoring System in order to efficiently maintain and measure achievement of Houston Independent School District (HISD) goals and adherence to its core values. The monitoring system was designed to give district administrators clear direction on how to meet the board's expectations in these crucial areas.

Board Policy AE(LOCAL) states “[T]he administration shall report to the Board of Education on each goal and core value using the specific method and timing set out below, . . .”

In reference to HISD's **Goal 1: Increase Student Achievement**, the attached report provides information regarding **Section G: Increase the Number of Students Taking Advanced Placement Exams and Scoring Three or Higher**. The policy states that “[T]he administration shall provide the Board of Education with a bar graph reflecting the number of students taking AP courses and AP examinations. A second graph will show the number of examinations taken and the number and percent of AP exams scored at three or higher. Also presented will be the percent of students taking AP courses, AP examinations, and examinations scored three or higher by campus for two years. Relevant data for IB enrollment and examinations will also be provided . . . Timing: The report will be available to the Board of Education in October of each year.”

The attached reports provide the information requested for the 2010–2011 school year.

Table 1: 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 Advanced Placement Campus Data, Grades 10-12								
Campus	2009-2010				2010-2011			
	Percent of Students Taking an AP Course	Number of AP Exams Taken	Number of Exams Scored at 3+	Percent of AP Exams Scored at 3+	Percent of Students Taking an AP Course	Number of AP Exams Taken	Number of Exams Scored at 3+	Percent of AP Exams Scored at 3+
Austin	21.0	678	139	20.5	17.7	428	69	16.1
Bellaire	35.6	2,557	2,145	83.9	34.9	2,561	2,022	79.0
Carnegie Vanguard	100.0	588	386	65.6	100.0	789	494	62.6
Challenge	22.4	150	85	56.7	49.8	239	65	27.2
Chavez	24.9	880	152	17.3	30.0	856	146	17.1
CLC HS					4.4	13	0	0.0
Davis	23.3	438	106	24.2	24.6	550	113	20.5
DeBakey**	66.1	961	804	83.7	66.5	971	834	85.9
East Early College	38.5	74	16	21.6	86.6	374	45	12.0
Eastwood	79.3	373	113	30.3	77.3	521	142	27.3
Empowerment	64.3	14	0	0.0	100.0	11	0	0.0
Energized E-STEM West					100.0			
Energized E-STEM**	100.0	60	*	1.7	100.0	263	18	6.8
Furr	27.4	344	52	15.1	68.8	596	25	4.2
Houston MST	18.3	551	53	9.6	19.6	478	41	8.6
HSLECJ	60.6	413	57	13.8	73.0	448	60	13.4
HSPVA**	69.0	531	211	39.7	76.8	626	286	45.7
International HS	12.1	21	7	33.3	63.6	275	15	5.5
Int'l HS Sharpstown	58.9	117	9	7.7	77.3	275	21	7.6
Jones**	11.9	45	0	0.0	21.4	142	7	4.9
Barbara Jordan	34.9	330	27	8.2	29.9	344	25	7.3
Kashmere	16.8	89	0	0.0	19.8	127	0	0.0

Table 1 cont'd: 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 Advanced Placement Campus Data, Grades 10-12								
Campus	2009-2010				2010-2011			
	Percent of Students Taking an AP Course	Number of AP Exams Taken	Number of Exams Scored at 3+	Percent of AP Exams Scored at 3+	Percent of Students Taking an AP Course	Number of AP Exams Taken	Number of Exams Scored at 3+	Percent of AP Exams Scored at 3+
Lamar	2.6	61	23	37.7	28.7	659	84	12.7
Lee	28.7	700	199	28.4	25.0	566	118	20.8
Madison**	21.4	441	25	5.7	24.7	516	30	5.8
Milby	20.3	539	125	23.2	20.4	735	160	21.8
Mt. Carmel Aca.	18.9	52	8	15.4	33.8	110	8	7.3
N. Houston Early College HS					56.3	174	97	55.7
Reagan	24.6	435	96	22.1	24.6	531	93	17.5
Scarborough	21.1	149	27	18.1	19.6	191	33	17.3
Sharpstown	34.6	479	48	10.0	34.7	430	13	3.0
South Early C. HS					100.0	48	0	0.0
Sterling**	4.4	27	0	0.0	24.5	252	9	3.6
Waltrip	32.6	493	124	25.2	29.9	531	92	17.3
Washington	29.2	348	16	4.6	26.5	253	49	19.4
Westbury**	21.6	660	84	12.7	23.5	756	100	13.2
Westside	45.1	1,669	854	51.2	47.4	1,973	858	43.5
Wheatley**	16.3	77	0	0.0	20.6	173	*	1.7
Worthing	14.8	141	5	3.5	31.0	339	5	1.5
Yates	20.7	302	*	0.3	19.2	241	5	2.1
HISD	25.8	15,788	5,998	38.0	31.7	19,367	6,185	31.9

*Less than 5 exams met the criteria.

**Met goal of increasing both the number of exams taken and percentage scored at 3+.

Note: Only results for students with "active" status as of the last day of the school year were included for analysis. Source for AP data: 2009-2010 from College Board electronic file, August 14, 2010; 2010-2011 from College Board electronic file, August 23, 2011.

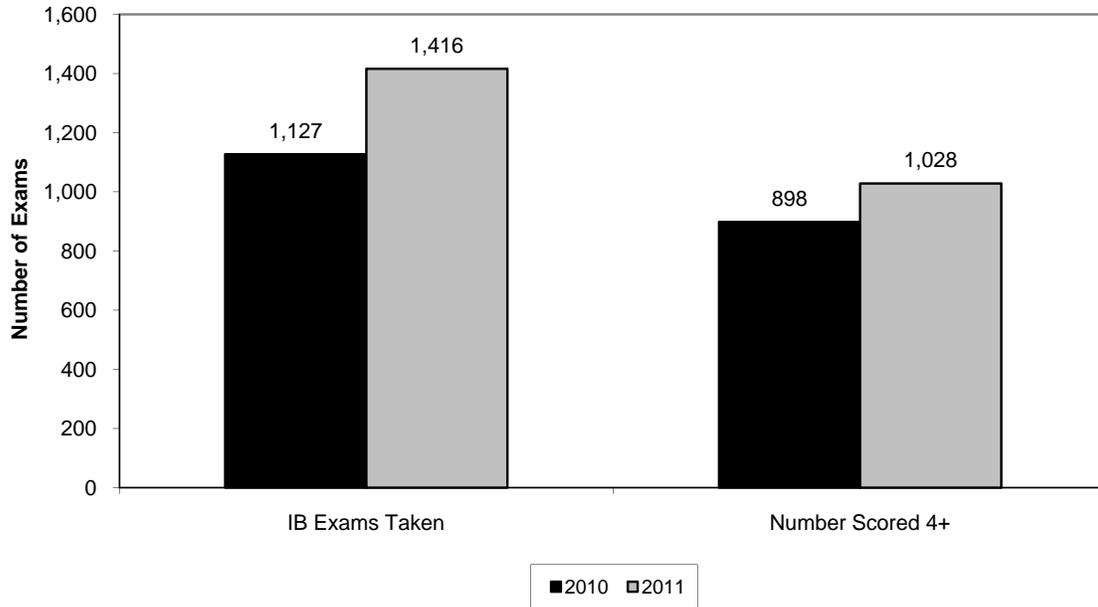
Table 2: 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 Advanced Placement Campus Data, Grades 8 and 9								
Campus	2009-2010				2010-2011			
	Number of Students Taking an AP Course	Number of AP Exams Taken	Number of Exams Scored at 3+	Percent of AP Exams Scored at 3+	Number of Students Taking an AP Course	Number of AP Exams Taken	Number of Exams Scored at 3+	Percent of AP Exams Scored at 3+
Austin	21	19	0	0.0	22	24	0	0.0
Bellaire	0	*	*	100.0	0	15	9	60.0
Carnegie Vanguard	151	127	73	57.5	149	151	85	56.3
Challenge	0	42	31	73.8	115	140	33	23.6
Chavez	*	139	45	32.4	7	157	41	26.1
Davis	0	*	*	100.0	0	*	*	100
East Early College	0	0	0	0.0	0	9	6	66.7
Eastwood	0	11	10	90.9	0	11	9	81.8
Empowerment	0	14	10	71.4	0	0	0	0.0
Energized E-STEM	0	0	0	0.0	0	43	0	0.0
Hope Acad.					0	1	*	0.0
Furr	*	10	*	30.0	68	84	7	8.3
Houston 9 th C.P.	0	0	0	0.0	0	2	*	50.0
HSLECJ	*	*	*	100.0	7	6	*	33.3
HSPVA	*	*	*	0.0	1	4	*	50.0
International Aca.	43	38	*	2.6	107	100	*	2.0
Int'l HS Sharpstown	38	33	*	0.0	72	91	17	18.7

Table 2 contd: 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 Advanced Placement Campus Data, Grades 8 and 9								
Campus	2009-2010				2010-2011			
	Number of Students Taking an AP Course	Number of AP Exams Taken	Number of Exams Scored at 3+	Percent of AP Exams Scored at 3+	Number of Students Taking an AP Course	Number of AP Exams Taken	Number of Exams Scored at 3+	Percent of AP Exams Scored at 3+
Houston MST	0	0	0	0.0	0	*	*	50.0
Jones	0	0	0	0.0	2	1	*	0.0
Barbara Jordan	0	*	*	25.0	0	9	*	44.4
Kashmere	0	0	0	0.0	12	13	0	0.0
Lamar	0	0	0	0.0	506	488	92	18.9
Lee	15	7	*	28.6	5	9	2	22.2
Madison	*	0	0	0.0	1	13	0	0.0
Milby	0	0	0	0.0	0	43	12	27.9
N. Houston HS ECC	0	0	0	0.0	4	50	26	52.0
Reagan	27	25	*	16.0	26	24	2	8.3
Scarborough	0	*	*	0.0	13	16	0	0.0
Sharpstown HS	0	0	0	0.0	20	21	0	0.0
South Early C. HS	0	0	0	0.0	13	14	*	7.1
Sterling	0	0	0	0.0	6	2	*	0.0
Waltrip	*	10	7	70.0	1	10	5	50.0
Washington	*	0	0	0.0	2	2	*	50.0
Westbury	7	9	*	33.3	15	104	21	20.2
Westside	201	269	70	26.0	216	283	91	32.1
Wheatley	*	0	0	0.0	28	27	0	0.0
Worthing	0	0	0	0.0	2	3	*	0.0
Yates	0	*	*	0.0	1	2	*	50.0

Table 2 cont'd: 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 Advanced Placement Campus Data, Grades 8 and 9								
Campus	2009-2010				2010-2011			
	Number of Students Taking an AP Course	Number of AP Exams Taken	Number of Exams Scored at 3+	Percent of AP Exams Scored at 3+	Number of Students Taking an AP Course	Number of AP Exams Taken	Number of Exams Scored at 3+	Percent of AP Exams Scored at 3+
Attucks MS	0	*	*	0.0				
Burbank MS	38	89	65	73.0	98	96	56	58.3
Clifton MS	0	*	*	0.0				
Cullen MS	0	*	*	100.0				
Fondren MS	0	0	0	0.0				
Jackson MS	7	8	*	25.0	10	8	*	50.0
Johnston MS	26	30	23	76.7	26	26	23	88.5
Lanier MS	21	21	18	85.7	12	12	10	83.3
Long MS	53	51	30	58.8	36	34	18	52.9
Pershing MS	0	*	*	100.0	17	20	17	85.0
Pin Oak MS	0	0	0	0.0	24	24	15	62.5
Project Chrysalis	0	0	0	0.0	24	24	22	91.7
Sharpstown MS	18	17	15	88.2	18	18	12	66.7
Westbriar MS	17	18	17	94.4	15	15	13	86.7
Wharton	0	0	0	0.0	19	19	*	21.1
HISD	694	1,006	437	43.4	1,720	2,270	668	29.4

Note: Only results for students with "active" status as of the last day of the school year were included for analysis. Source for AP data: 2009-2010 from College Board electronic file, August 14, 2010; 2010-2011 from College Board electronic file, August 23, 2011.

Figure 5: 2010 and 2011 IB Exams Participation and Performance



Note: Exam totals as of September 2011, including only exams that were scored. Total does not include no-shows and pending results.



Board Monitoring System: Indicator G

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose

The Houston Independent School District (HISD) exists to strengthen the social and economic foundation of Houston by assuring its youth the highest-quality elementary and secondary education available anywhere. In fulfilling this goal, HISD's Board of Education has designed a program to systematically monitor the district's goals and core values. The Board Monitoring System will report on each goal and core value on a routine basis. The goal currently under review is to increase the number of students taking advanced placement courses, examinations and the number and percentage of students scoring three or higher (Goal 1, Section G).

Findings

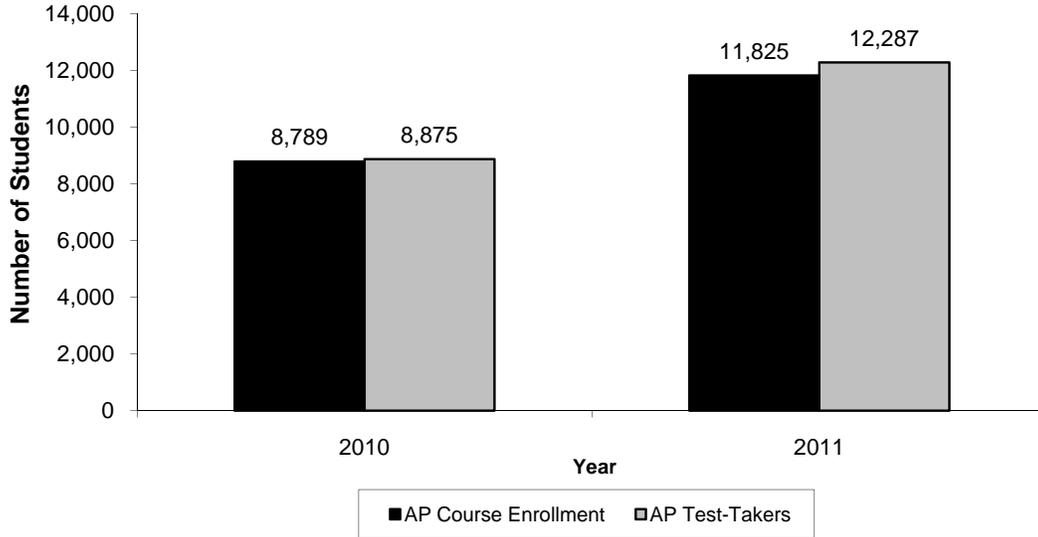
Number of Students Taking Advanced Placement (AP) Courses, Examinations and the Number and Percentage of Students Scoring Three or Higher

- In 2010–2011, 11,825 high-school students enrolled in AP courses, and 12,287 high school students took at least one AP exam; once again the largest total of AP test takers in HISD over the last six years. In 2009–2010, 8,789 students enrolled in an AP course and 8,875 took an AP subject test (Figure 1). In both years, there were more students taking an AP exam than there were students taking an AP course. The district's goal was met.
- The number of AP exams taken by high-school students increased by 29 percent, from 16,556 in 2010 to 21,336 in 2011 (Figure 2). The district exceeded the target for a 10-percent annual increase in the number of AP exams taken annually by 19 percentage points. This is the largest increase over the last six years.
- Over the past six years, the number of Advanced Placement (AP) examinations taken by HISD high-school students has increased from 8,098 in 2006 to 21,336 in 2011 (Figure 2) representing the largest total number of examinations taken in HISD history.
- While the number of examinations scored at a 3 or higher has increased from 6,262 in 2010 to 6,656 in 2011 at the high-school level, the percentage has decreased to 31 percent in 2011 from 38 percent in 2010 (Figure 2). It is not unusual, when increasing the number of AP tests taken and providing more students than ever before the opportunity to take AP examinations, to see a dip in the percentage scoring a 3 or higher. Based on this decline in the percentage of AP examinations that scored at 3 or higher, the district did not meet its target for an increase of two percentage points annually.
- At the middle-school level, 299 students were enrolled in AP courses in 2011, and 301 middle-school students from 11 campuses took AP examinations (Figure 3). From 2006 to 2011, the number of AP examinations taken has increased from 22 to 301. While the number of examinations scored at 3 or higher has increased from 173 in 2010 to 197 in 2011, the percentage scoring 3 or higher decreased from 73 percent in 2010 to 65 percent in 2011 (Figure 4).
- The percentages of students in grades 10–12 taking at least one AP examination, the total number of examinations taken, and the number and percentages of examinations scored at 3 or higher for 2009–2010 and 2010–2011 is presented by campus in Table 1, and corresponding data for students in grades 8 and 9 are presented in Table 2. Eight high schools of the campuses who offered AP exams in both school years met the district target of increasing the number of AP

examinations taken and both the number and percent of examinations scored at 3 or higher from 2009–2010 to 2010–2011, for students in grades 10–12.

- Relevant international baccalaureate (IB) data are provided (see Figure 5) for 2010 and 2011.

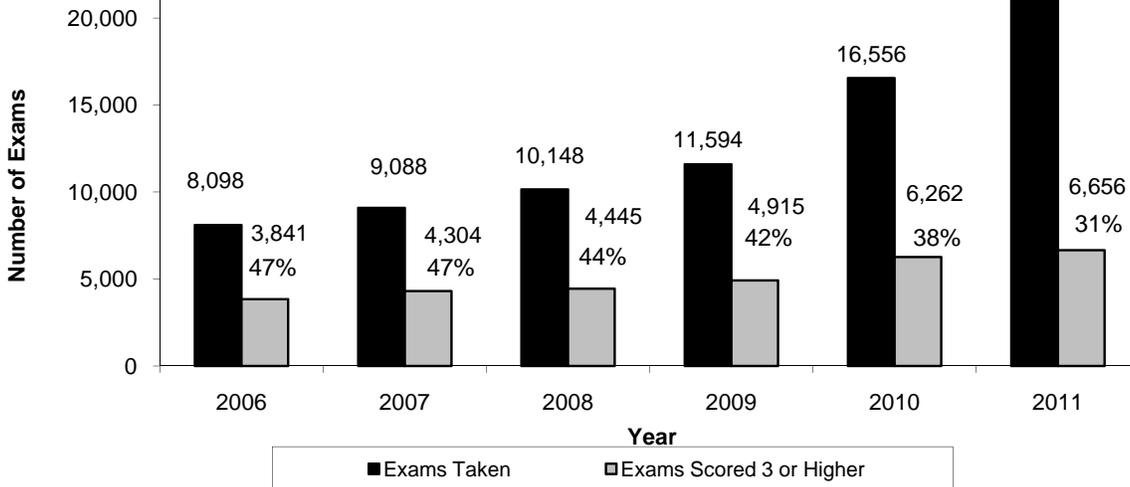
Figure 1: The Number of High School Students Taking AP Courses and AP Exams



Target:
All students taking AP courses will take AP exams.

Source: The College Board Reports, 2010 online score report, August 14, 2010; 2011 data disk August 23, 2011. Chancery 2009–2011, End of Year data include only students with “active” status. Data reflect the most current information available.

Figure 2: The Number of AP Exams Taken and Scoring at a 3 or Higher at the High School Level, 2006–2011

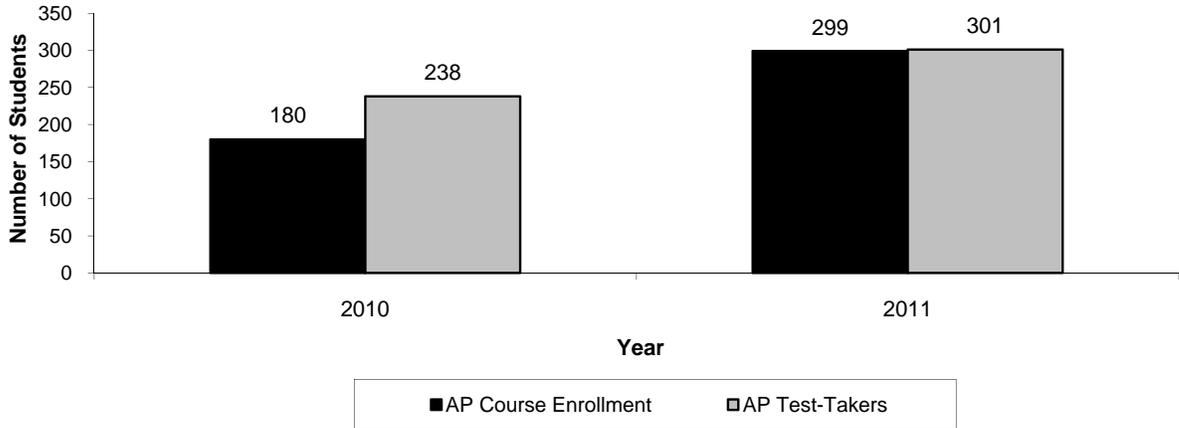


Target:
The number of AP exams taken will increase by 10% annually.

Target:
The percent of AP exams scored at 3 or higher will increase by 2 percentage points annually.

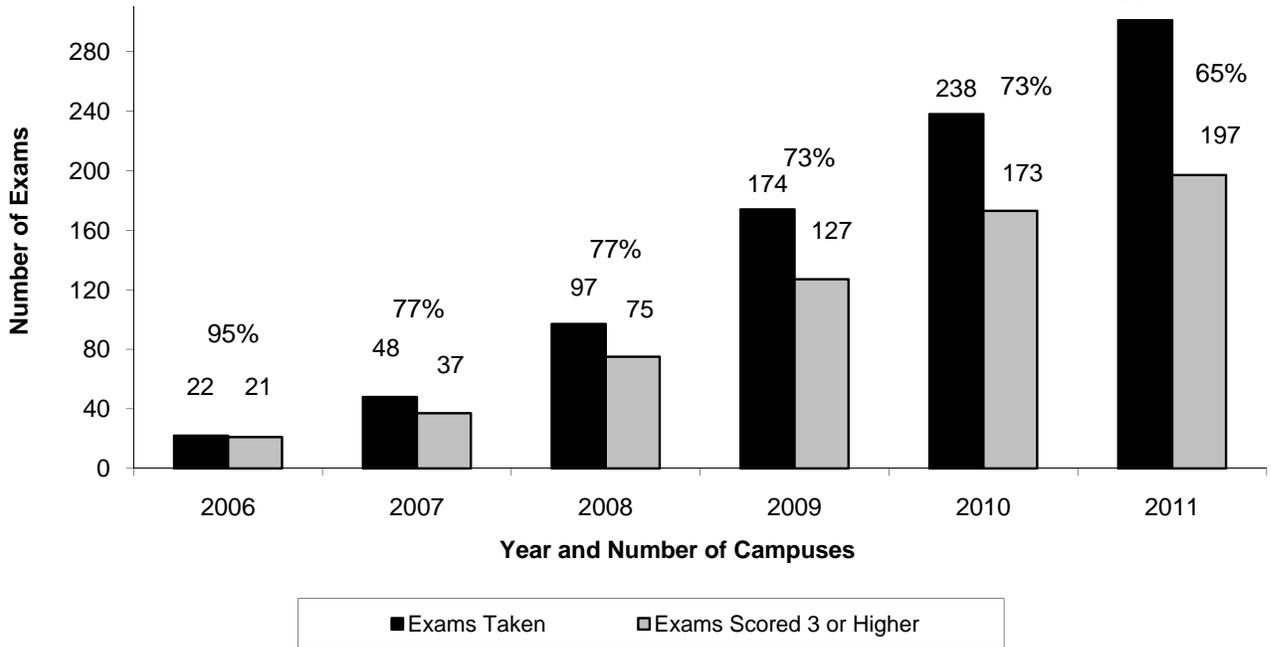
Note: Pending university or college requirements, students scoring 3 or higher qualify to get college credit, advanced placement, or both. Source: The College Board Reports, 2006–2011. Data reflect the most current information available.

Figure 3. The Number of Middle School Students Taking AP Courses and AP Exams



Source: The College Board Reports, 2010 online score reports, August 14, 2010; 2011 data disk August 23, 2011. Chancery 2009–2011, End of Year data include only students with “active” status. Data reflect the most current information available.

Figure 4: The Number of AP Exams Taken and Scoring at a 3 or Higher at the Middle School Level, 2006–2011



Note: Pending university or college requirements, students scoring 3 or higher qualify to get college credit, advanced placement, or both.

Source: The College Board Reports, 2006–2011. Data reflect the most current information available.