

Advanced Placement Exams

2021-22 School Year Final Results



Key Takeaways

- In 2021-22, **1,783 students** participated in AP courses and/or exams at Everett Public Schools (EPS) across **25 course and 27 exam areas**.
- By both raw totals and rate, **participation in AP courses and exams was down** at EPS in 2021-22 relative to recent years.
- Although intensity of AP participation declined in by both seats and exams per AP enrolled student, **about 70%** of AP enrolled students took at least one AP exam in each of the past five years.
- Students at JHS, grade 12, female, Asian, and non-FRM qualified students had the **highest AP participation rates** relative to their peers.
- While **intensity of AP participation** by subgroup followed participation rates in some cases, in others lower participating subgroups participated at higher intensities than their peers.
- **Qualifying score rates went up** at the district level and for nearly all subgroups between 2020-21 and 2021-22.

Background

Every spring, students have the opportunity to take Advanced Placement (AP) Exams through College Board in 38 courses, across 7 subject areas. Students who earn a qualifying score (3 or higher) on an AP exam can receive college course credit at thousands of colleges and universities. Everett Public Schools (EPS) administers AP exams to students in each high school. Although it is not required, students typically take an AP course offered by the district prior to taking the corresponding AP Exam.

AP Courses and Exams

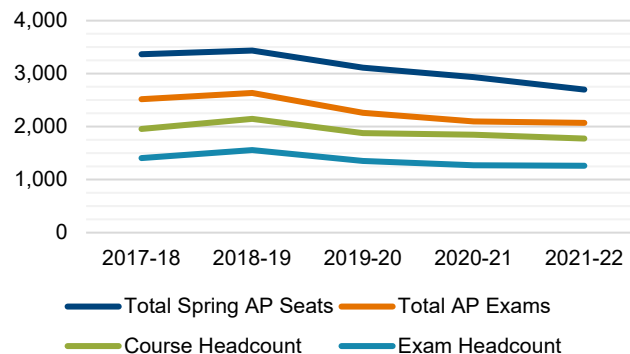
In 2021-22, 1,783 students participated in AP courses and/or exams at EPS across 25 courses and 27 exams. Students took courses and exams in all 7 course areas. The most commonly taken individual course was Environmental Science followed by World History, US History, US Government & Politics, and AP Seminar; exams followed a similar pattern (Environmental Science, World History, AP Seminar, US History, and Physics 1).

AP Participation

Totals and Rate

At the district level, raw participation totals by total spring seats, total AP exams, course headcount and exam headcount have declined since the pre-pandemic peak in 2018-19. Likewise, the AP participation rate also hit a five-year low in 2021-22 (28.4%).

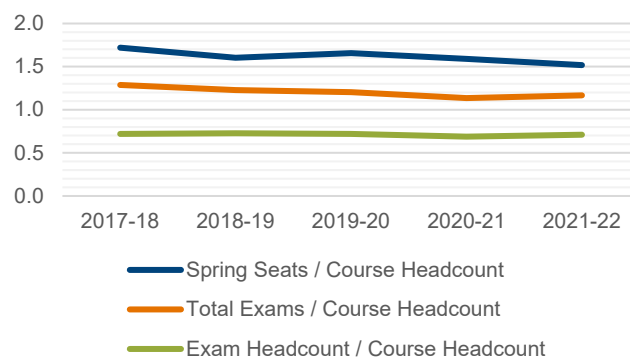
District Participation in AP Courses and Exams, 2017-18 to 2021-22



Intensity

In 2021-22, AP students took fewer AP courses (1.5 courses per AP student) and fewer AP exams (1.2 exams per AP student) compared to prior years. However, the rate of AP students taking at least one AP exam remained fairly constant (about 70%).

District Intensity of AP Participation, 2017-18 to 2021-22



Subgroups

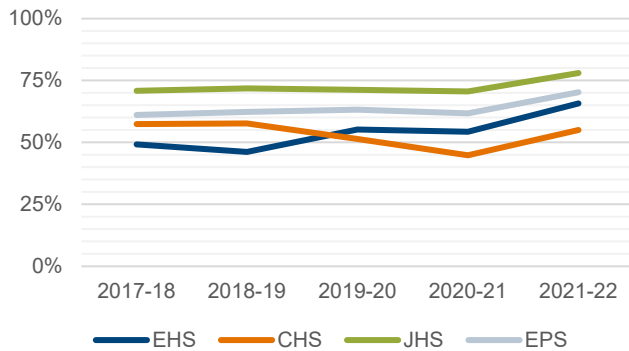
Students at JHS, grade 12, female, Asian, and non-FRM qualified students participated in AP courses and exams at the highest rates among their peer groups in 2021-22. However, intensity of participation did not always follow a similar pattern. For example, despite having a lower participation rate in 2021-22, grade 11 students had higher intensities of participation than grade 12 students by each metric. Likewise, in 2021-22, male AP students had a higher participation intensity across each metric while having a lower overall participation rate.

Qualifying Exam Scores

Across the District and at High Schools

At the district level and at JHS and EHS, qualifying score rates were all at five-year highs in 2021-22. While qualifying score rates were lower at CHS than in some prior years, the rate rebounded from 2020-21 to 2021-22.

**AP Exam Qualifying Score Rate
by High School, 2017-18 to 2021-22**



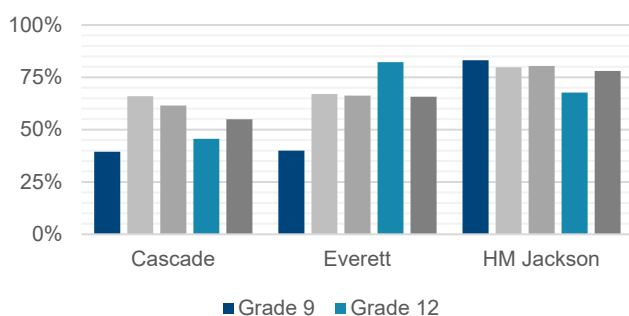
By Subgroup

Nearly every subgroup analyzed reached a five-year high in qualifying score rate, although not without gaps in success between groups and nuance between schools.

By gender, although their five-year trends followed similar trajectories, in 2021-22 exams taken by female students received qualifying scores at a higher rate than their male peers. A similar story was observed **by FRM status**; both groups followed largely similar trajectories over five years, but exams taken by non-FRM qualified students consistently outperformed those taken by FRM qualified students.

By grade level, between 2020-21 and 2021-22 qualifying score rates for exams taken by students at all grade levels improved, and exams taken by grade 9 students saw a particularly large increase in qualifying score rate over the past five years (about 25 percentage points). The next largest five-year change was an increase of about 12 percentage points for exams taken by grade 11 students.

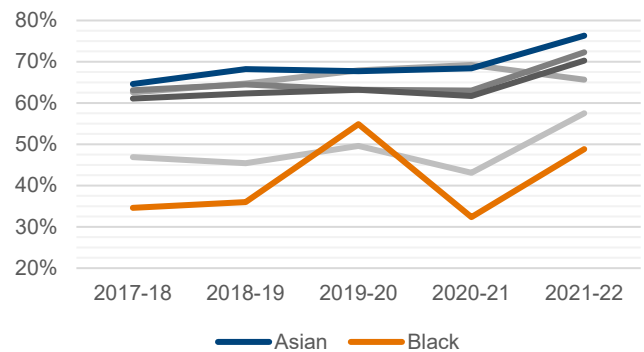
**AP Exam Qualifying Score Rate
by Grade Level and High School, 2021-22**



Between high schools, exam success by grade level varied, particularly for exams taken by grade 9 and 12 students. While grade 9 was the most successful grade level-school subgroup at JHS, they were the least successful grade-level subgroups at CHS and EHS. At EHS, grade 12 students were particularly successful and were the second-best performing of all grade level-school subgroups in 2021-22, but exams taken by grade 12 students at CHS were one of the least successful subgroups.

By student ethnicity, exams taken by every subgroup except those taken by students identifying with two or more races reached a five-year high in qualifying score rate. Exams taken by Asian students had the highest rate of success (over 75%) in 2021-22, while Black students' exams had the lowest rate of success (49%).

**AP Exam Qualifying Score Rate
by Ethnicity, 2017-18 to 2021-22**



Between high schools, there were stark differences in qualifying score rates for exams taken by both Asian and Black students. While exams taken by Asian students at JHS had the highest qualifying score rate of all ethnicity-school subgroups in 2021-22 (84%), exams taken by their peers at CHS were much less successful (48%). Exams taken by Black students at EHS had a similar level of success to those taken by their intraschool Asian and White peers (each between 65% and 70%), yet exams taken by Black students at CHS and JHS were among the least successful ethnicity-school subgroups in 2021-22.

**AP Exam Qualifying Score Rate
by Ethnicity and High School, 2021-22**

