



ATLANTA
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS

Research +
Evaluation

www.atlantapublicschools.us

APS Advanced Placement SY2020 Overview

Data as of September 16, 2020

Background Information

In response to COVID-19, in 2020, the multiple-choice sections of Advanced Placement (AP) exams were dropped and only free-response was used to test students. For example, for the 2020 AP English Literature and Composition exam, students' only question was to respond to a work of prose fiction. For the 2020 AP US History exam, students' only question was to address one modified document-based question. For the 2020 AP Calculus AB exam, students answered two free response questions. Due to the shortened duration of the exams, the 2020 AP Calculus BC exam and AP Music Theory exam did not contain subscores. It is also important to note that in 2020, all AP exams were delivered digitally. Thus, students were tested at home.

Several AP exams underwent name changes from 2019 to 2020. However, their exam codes remained the same. To streamline the ease of comparison across years, group names were generated that combined AP exam names via their exam code. This business practice was applied to six exams:

Exam Code 14: Drawing (2020) and Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio (2019) = Drawing

Exam Code 15: 2-D Art and Design (2020) and Studio Art: 2-D Design Portfolio (2019) = 2-D Art and Design

Exam Code 16: 3-D Art and Design (2020) and Studio Art: 3-D Design Portfolio (2019) = 3-D Art and Design

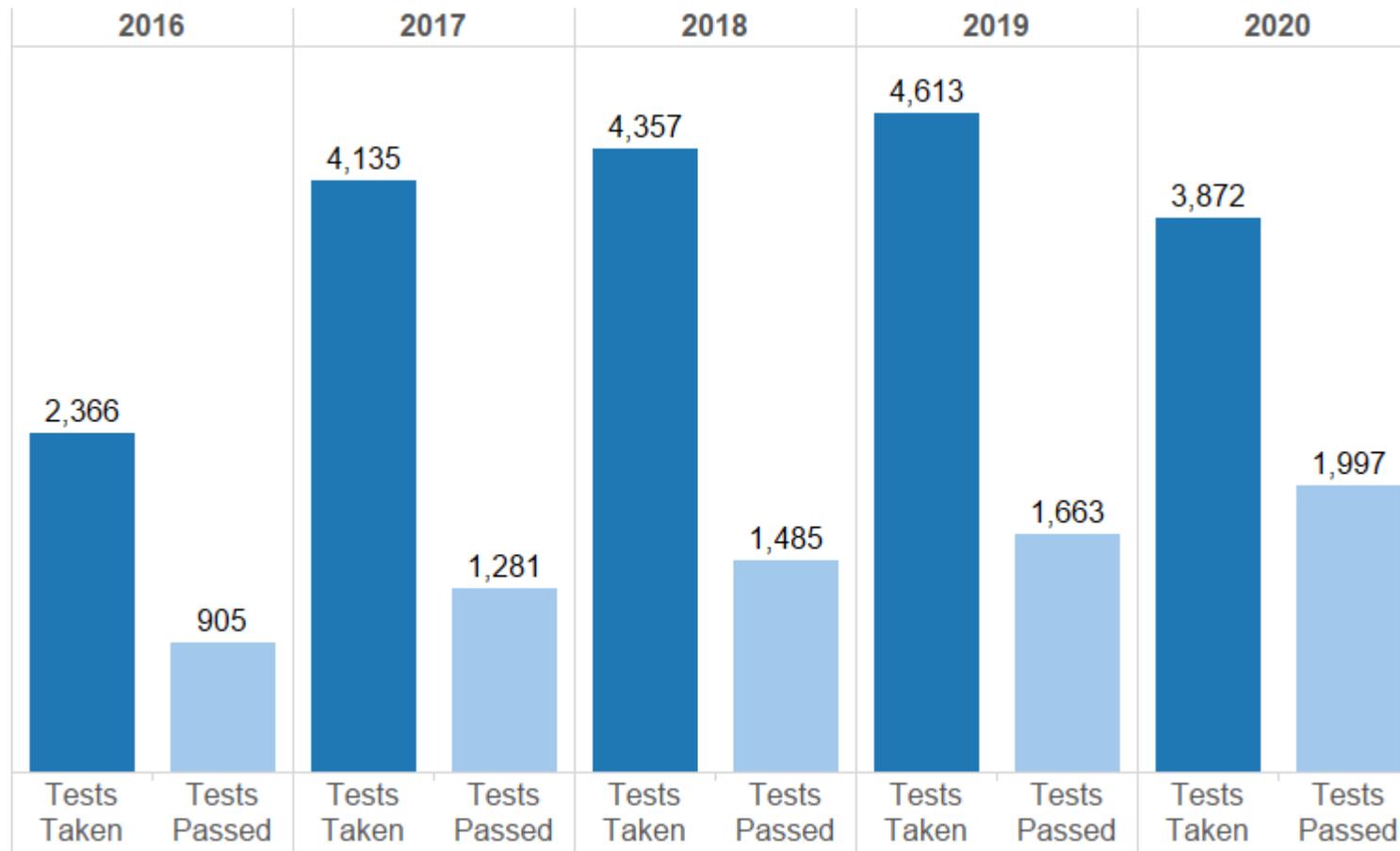
Exam Code 57: United States Government and Politics (2020) and Government and Politics: U.S. (2019) = United States Government and Politics

Exam Code 87: Spanish Language and Culture (2020) and Spanish Language (2019) = Spanish Language and Culture

Exam Code 93: World History: Modern (2020) and World History (2019) = World History: Modern

Advanced Placement Tests Taken and Tests Passed (score of 3, 4 or 5), 2016-2020

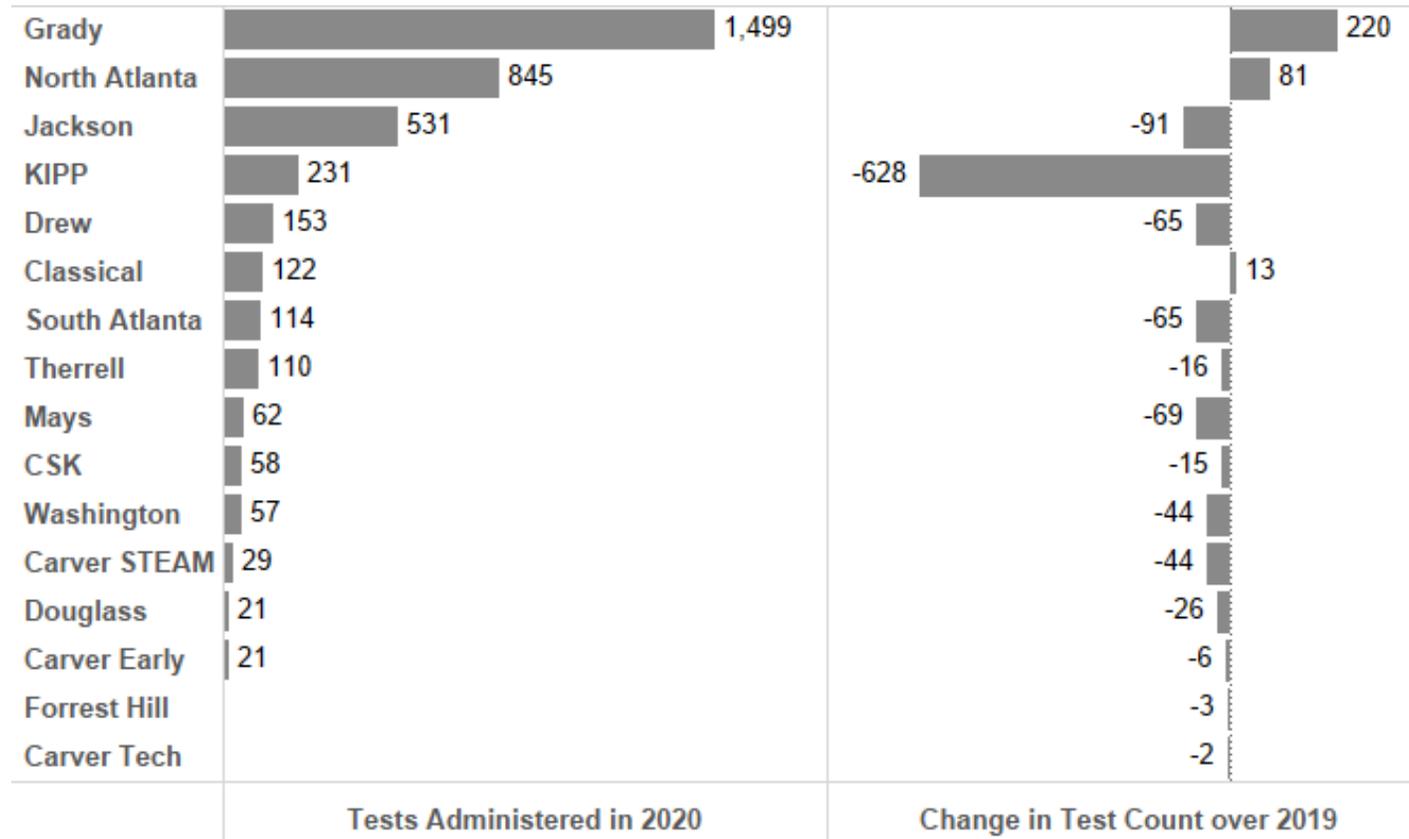
APS saw a decrease (-741) in the number of Advanced Placement (AP) exams administered in 2020. However, there was an increase (+334) in the number of AP exams passed.



Note: Beginning in 2019, prior-year data were refreshed to capture scores that were reported after College Board's initial data file was delivered. Consequently, there are slight changes in previously-reported numbers. Given the differences in AP exam administration in SY2020, comparison to previous years should be made with caution.

Count of 2020 AP Tests Taken by School; Change in Test Count Compared to 2019

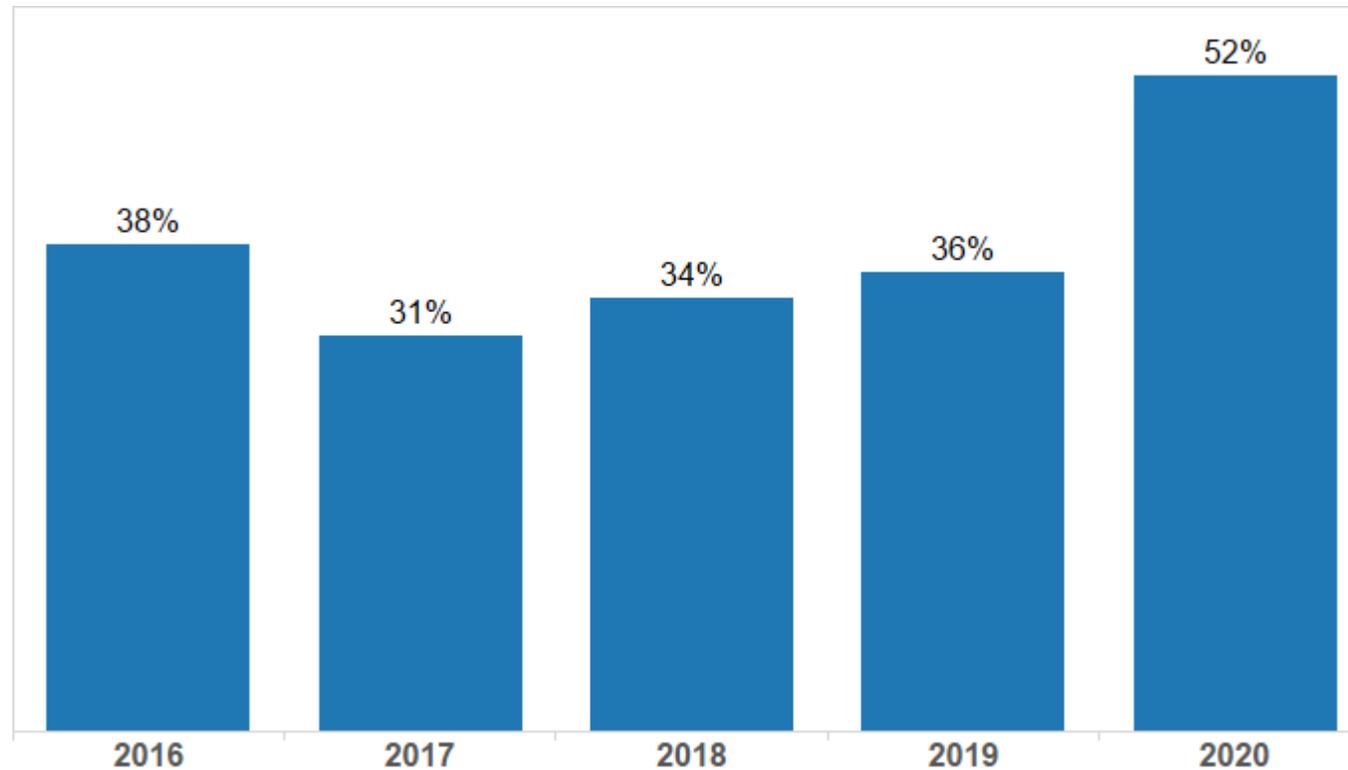
Grady administered the highest number of AP exams and displayed the largest increase (+220) in the number of AP exams administered in relation to 2019. KIPP displayed the largest decrease (-628) in the number of AP exams administered in relation to 2019. Despite the total number of AP tests administered district-wide decreasing, Grady and North Atlanta displayed substantial increases in the number of tests administered.



Note: This graph excludes 19 tests due to data entry errors indicating they were administered within middle schools. Given the differences in AP exam administration in SY2020, comparison to previous years should be made with caution.

AP Test Pass Rate, 2016-2020

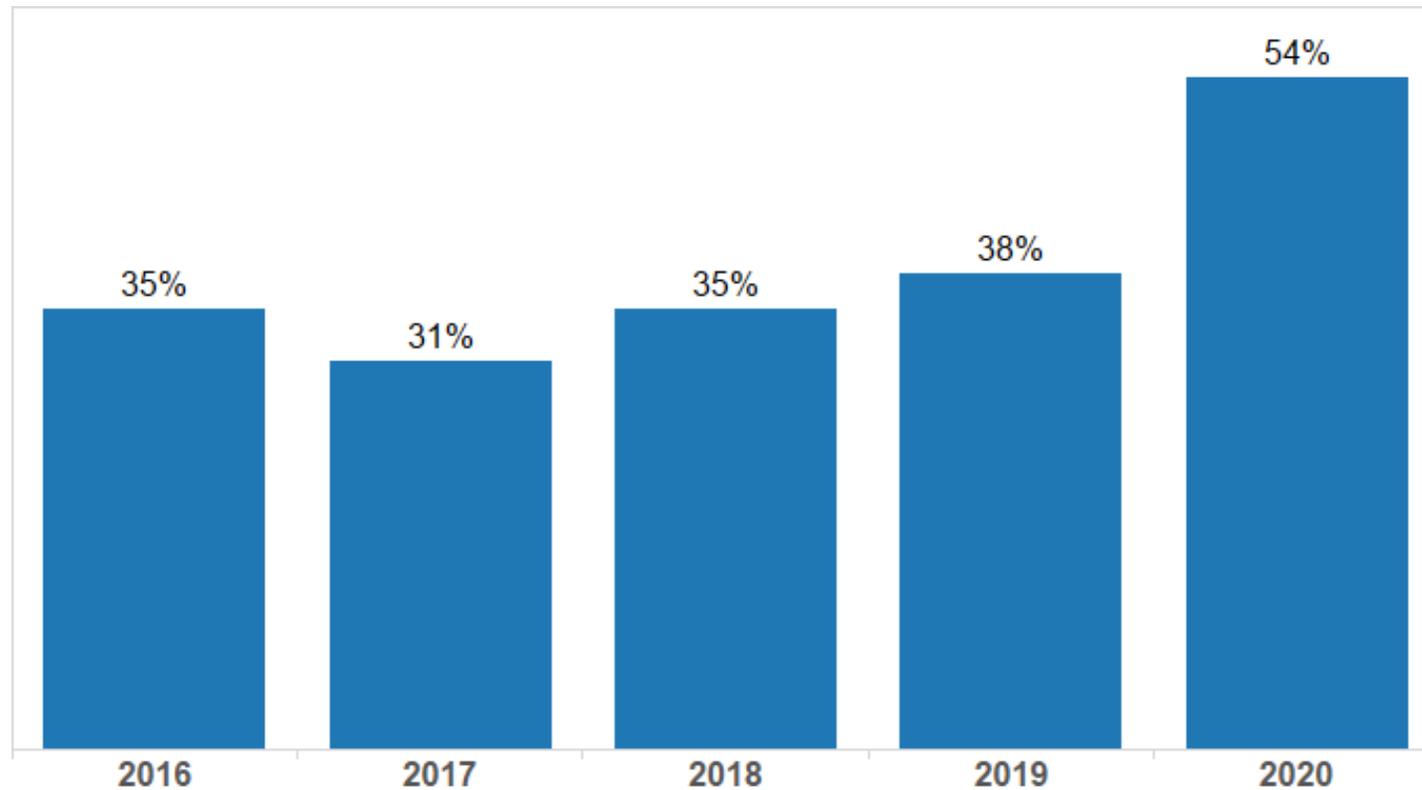
Fifty-two percent of AP tests taken in 2020 were passed (a score of 3, 4, or 5). This is up 16 percentage points from the previous year.



Note: Given the differences in AP exam administration in SY2020, comparison to previous years should be made with caution.

Percent of Students Passing One or More Attempted AP Exams, 2016-2020

Some students take multiple AP exams. Fifty-four percent of individual students who took an AP exam passed at least one of them in 2020.

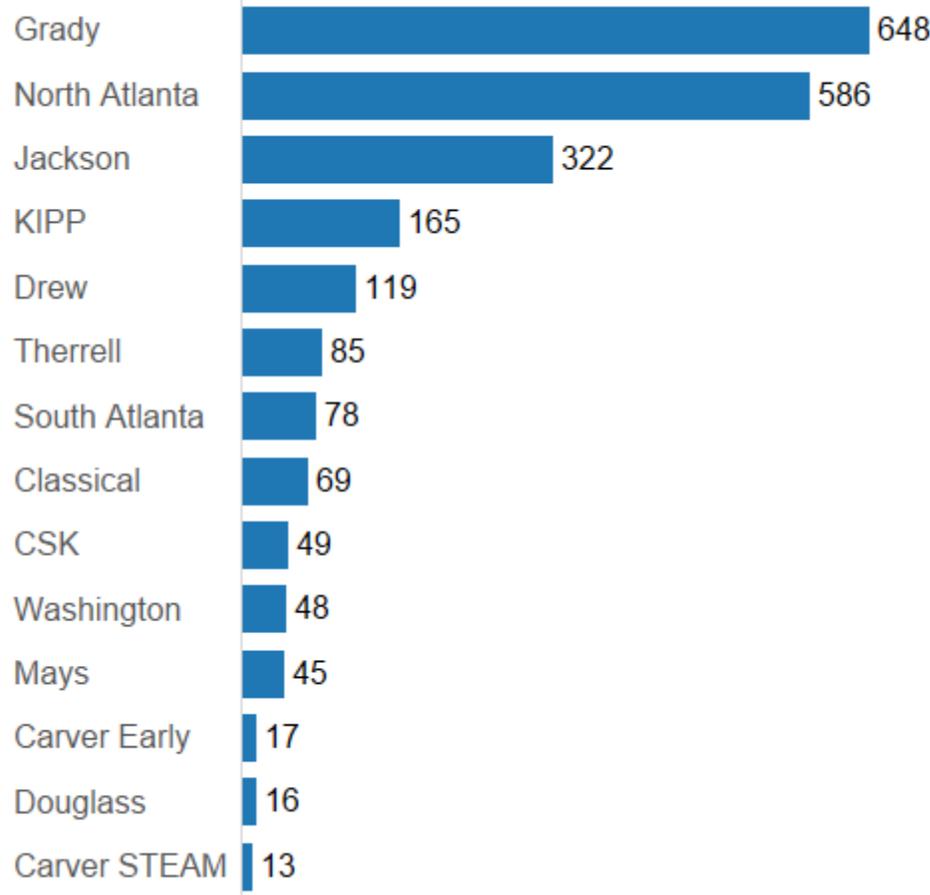


Note: Given the differences in AP exam administration in SY2020, comparison to previous years should be made with caution.

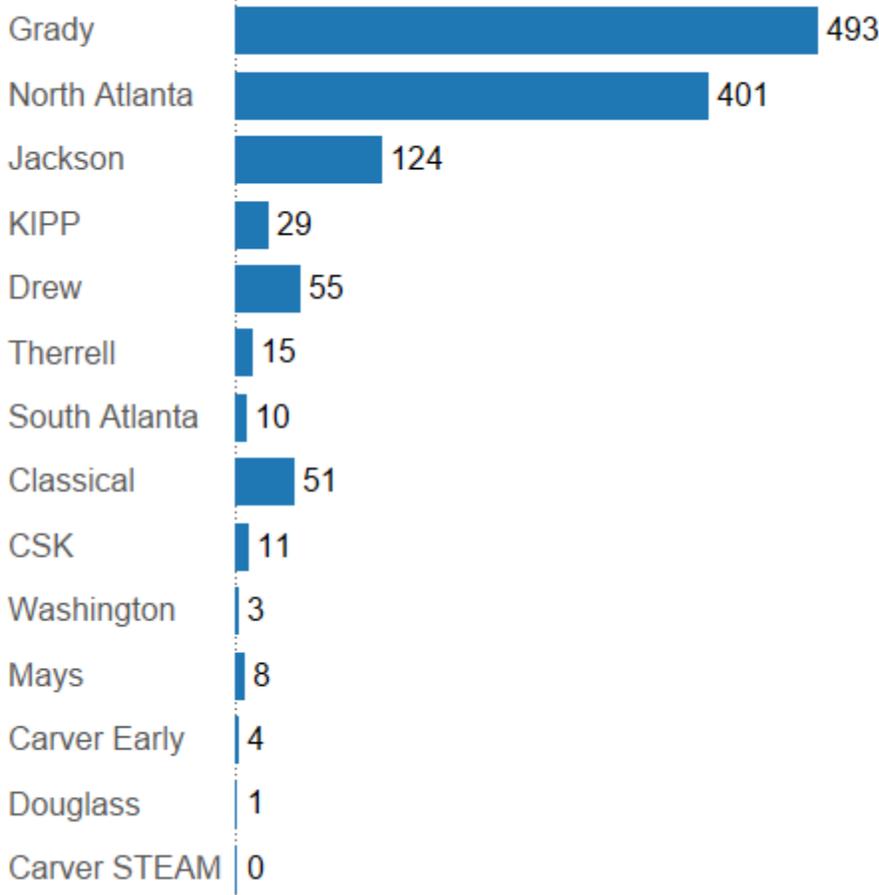
Counts of Students Taking 1+ AP Exam and Students Passing 1+ AP Exam, 2020

While students taking AP exams were spread out across the district, the majority of students passing AP exams were concentrated at a few schools.

Number of Students Taking One or More AP Exams



Number of Students Passing One or More AP Exams



Note: This graph excludes 19 students due to data entry errors indicating they were in middle school.

AP Test Taker Rates by Race, 2016-2020

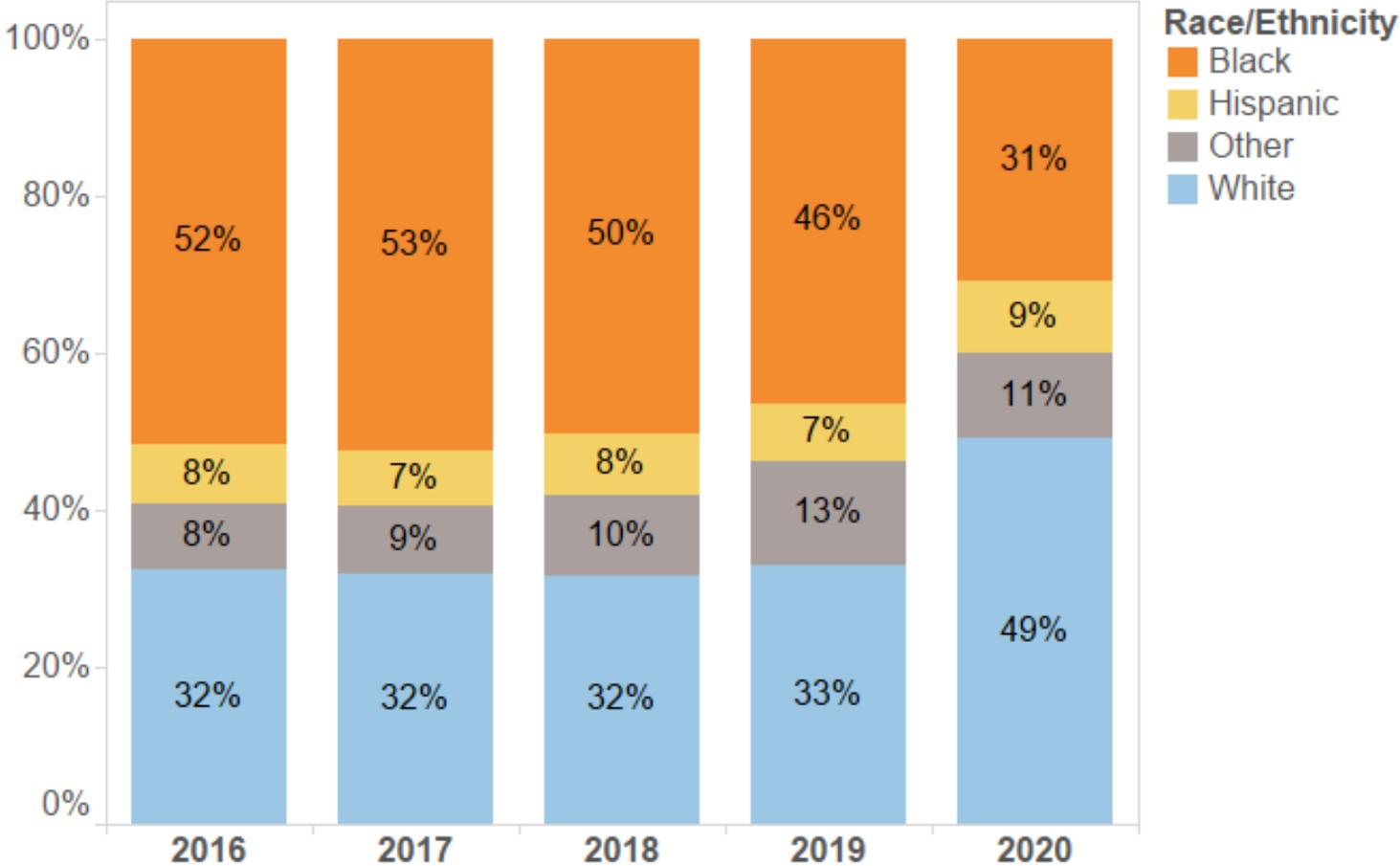
The population of AP test takers was not representative of the student population within APS, except for Hispanic students.

In 2020, White students made up 16% of the APS student body^a and 49% of AP test takers.

Black students made up 72% of the APS student body^a and 31% of AP test takers in 2020.

Hispanic students represented 8% of the APS student body^a and 9% of the AP test takers in 2020.

Students belonging to another race/ethnicity or multiple races/ethnicities represented 4% of the APS student body^a and 11% of the AP test takers in 2020.

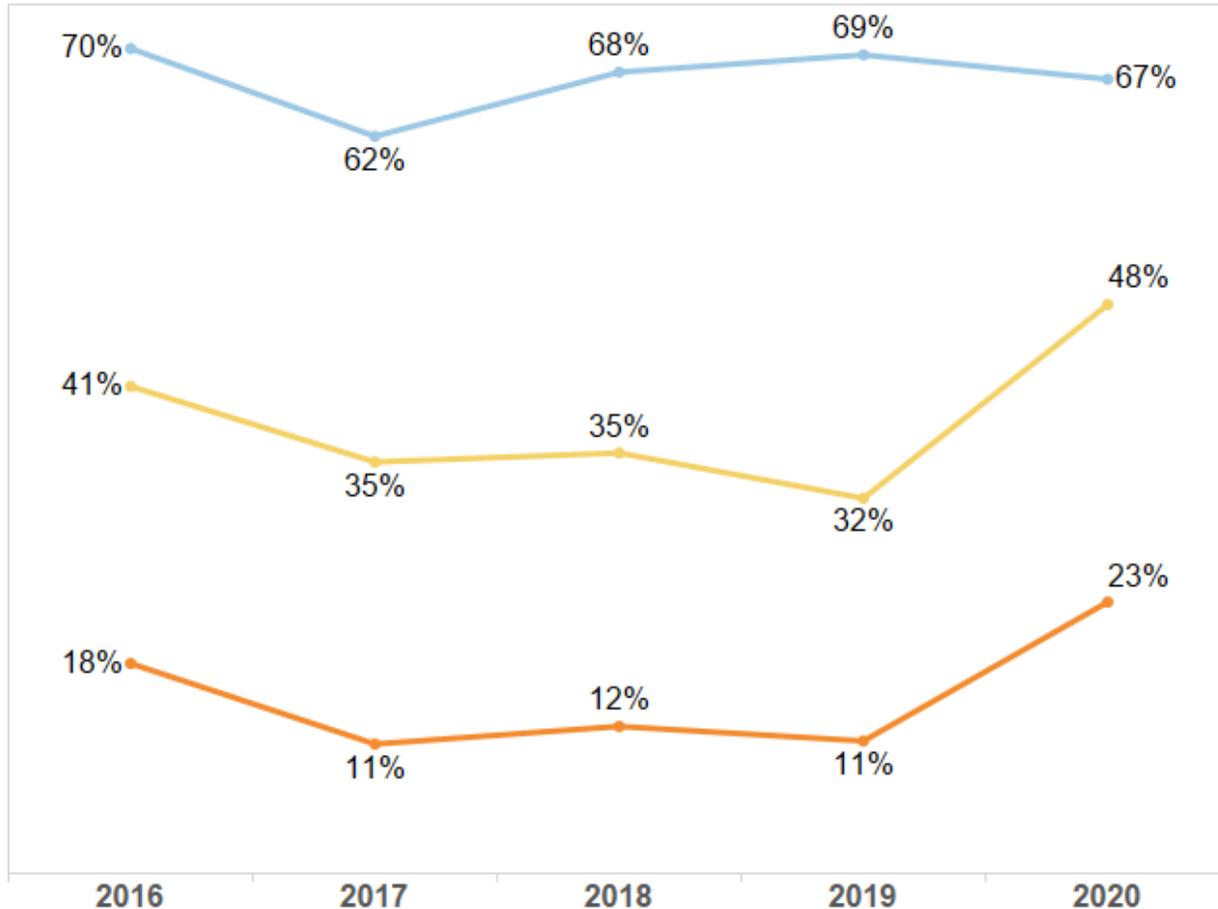


Note: ^aThese values were derived from the FTE Enrollment by Grade Fiscal Year 2020-3 Data Report. Given the differences in AP exam administration in SY2020, comparison to previous years should be made with caution.

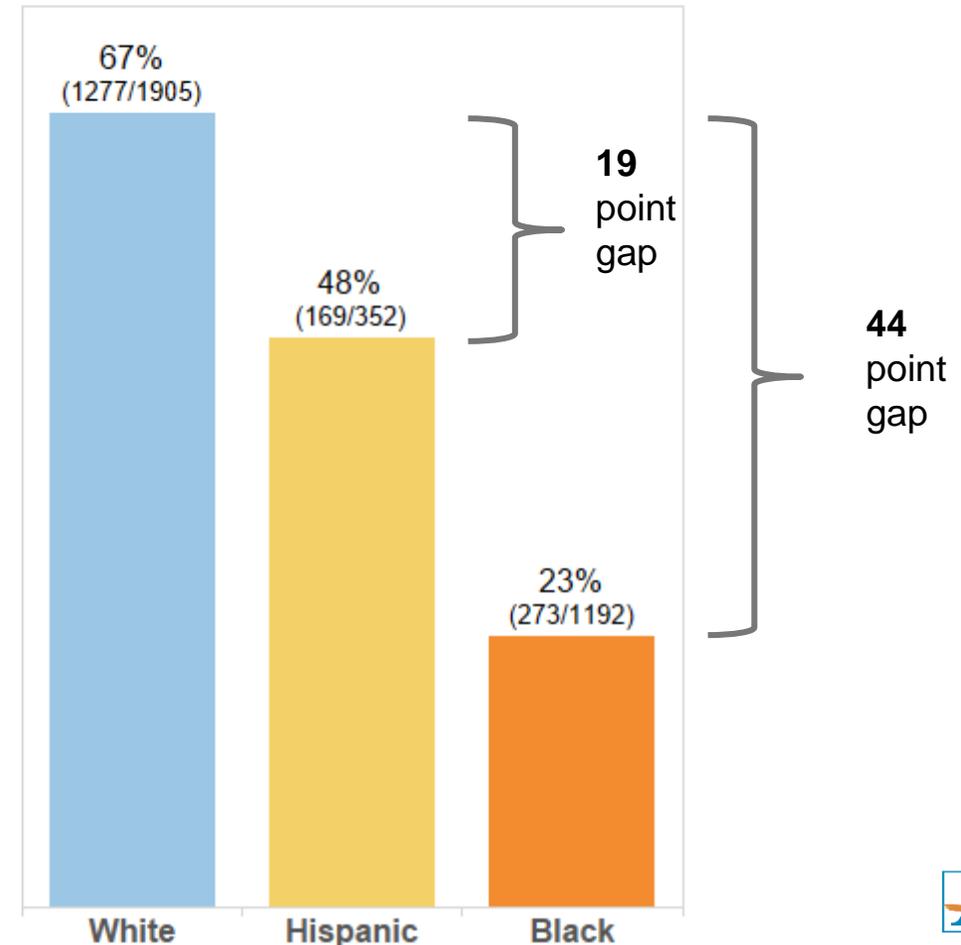
AP Test Pass Rates by Race/Ethnicity, 2016-2020

The percentage of AP tests passed varies by race/ethnicity. In 2020, the percentage of tests passed by White students was 44 percentage points higher than the pass rate for Black students. It is important to note that this gap is 14 percentage points smaller than the gap observed in 2019.

Test Pass Rate by Race, 2016-2020



Pass Rate Gap, 2020



Note: Given the differences in AP exam administration in SY2020, comparison to previous years should be made with caution.

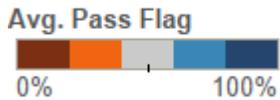
Test Counts and Pass Rates by Subject, 2018-2020

Social Studies and English were the most tested subjects.

Pass rates vary significantly in 2020, although, not to the same extent as in 2019 and 2018. Among subjects in which more than 100 APS students were tested in 2020, Seminar had the highest pass rate (83%) and Physics 1 had the lowest pass rate (32%).

Compared to 2019, U.S. History had the largest decrease in test takers (down to 415 from 593). Human Geography had the largest increase in test takers (up to 510 from 451).

AP Exam Subject	2018		2019		2020	
World History: Modern	706	30%	619	33%	599	45%
English Language and Composition	603	35%	610	32%	543	48%
Human Geography	392	53%	451	60%	510	65%
U.S. History	625	21%	593	23%	415	41%
English Literature and Composition	352	19%	372	23%	236	39%
Physics 1	79	30%	155	26%	165	32%
Calculus AB	132	58%	186	48%	163	66%
Biology	160	40%	228	33%	157	45%
Psychology	195	43%	163	47%	138	64%
Statistics	234	10%	257	19%	121	36%
Seminar	153	55%	121	75%	113	83%
Computer Science Principles	38	55%	68	22%	100	64%
Macroeconomics	105	15%	147	18%	81	33%
Calculus BC	62	82%	72	74%	77	75%
Environmental Science	83	8%	76	16%	72	32%
United States Government and Politics	43	53%	81	49%	60	52%
Spanish Language and Culture	89	47%	77	70%	51	78%
Microeconomics	33	45%	41	44%	45	53%
French Language	19	68%	27	59%	30	70%
Physics C: Mechanics					25	84%
Latin			30	67%	23	78%
Computer Science A					23	39%
2-D Art and Design	32	94%	19	89%	20	80%
Research	50	28%	36	28%	19	63%
European History	30	57%	24	79%	19	74%
Art History					19	47%
Chemistry	71	15%	80	11%	16	38%
Physics 2	18	44%	28	21%	12	50%
Music Theory	13	8%	24	38%		
Latin - Vergil	11	73%				
Government and Politics: Comparative	12	17%				
	Tests Taken	Percent Passed	Tests Taken	Percent Passed	Tests Taken	Percent Passed



Note: Table excludes subjects with fewer than 10 students testing. Given the differences in AP exam administration in SY2020, comparison to previous years should be made with caution.

Pass Rates and Test Counts by School, 2016-2020

At the school level, the percentage of tests passed ranges from 70 percent (Classical) to zero. Excluding Grady, Carver STEAM, and South Atlanta, each school saw an increase in their pass rates in 2020 compared to 2019.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Avg. Pass Flag
BEST	17% (N=12)	0% (N=17)				
CSK	4% (N=55)	14% (N=72)	8% (N=74)	5% (N=73)	22% (N=58)	
Carver Early	7% (N=60)	24% (N=38)	6% (N=36)	4% (N=27)	24% (N=21)	
Carver STEAM		0% (N=67)	0% (N=31)	0% (N=73)	0% (N=29)	
Classical		75% (N=12)	92% (N=63)	40% (N=109)	70% (N=122)	
Douglass	1% (N=85)	3% (N=123)	4% (N=51)	2% (N=47)	5% (N=21)	
Drew	40% (N=88)	35% (N=159)	32% (N=178)	36% (N=218)	44% (N=153)	
Grady	73% (N=677)	55% (N=1,349)	58% (N=1,371)	67% (N=1,279)	67% (N=1,499)	
Jackson	14% (N=166)	12% (N=459)	20% (N=469)	23% (N=622)	35% (N=531)	
KIPP	28% (N=198)	6% (N=577)	3% (N=940)	3% (N=859)	14% (N=231)	
Mays	15% (N=143)	14% (N=160)	16% (N=129)	12% (N=131)	18% (N=62)	
North Atlanta	52% (N=408)	53% (N=602)	63% (N=623)	60% (N=764)	64% (N=845)	
South Atlanta		6% (N=236)	9% (N=188)	15% (N=179)	11% (N=114)	
Therrell	17% (N=64)	7% (N=68)	5% (N=37)	6% (N=126)	16% (N=110)	
Washington	15% (N=81)	4% (N=190)	6% (N=156)	4% (N=101)	5% (N=57)	
	Percent Passed					

Notes: The N sizes represent the number of AP tests administered. The table excludes schools with fewer than 10 AP tests administered. Beginning in 2019, prior-year data were refreshed to capture scores that were reported after College Board's initial data file was delivered. Consequently, there are slight changes in previously-reported numbers. The 2020 column does not account for 19 students who were indicated to be middle school students on the AP exam despite being in high school. Given the differences in AP exam administration in SY2020, comparison to previous years should be made with caution.

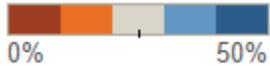
Student Body Taking an AP Course, an AP Exam, and Passing an AP Exam, 2020

KIPP had the highest percentage of the student body taking an AP course, however, 23% of the student body took an AP exam and four percent passed an AP exam.

Classical, Grady, Drew, and North Atlanta had more than 10% of their student body pass an AP exam.

Carver Early	7%	4%	1%
Carver STEAM	13%	3%	0%
Classical	35%	36%	27%
CSK	39%	30%	7%
Douglass	11%	2%	0%
Drew	30%	26%	12%
Grady	55%	45%	34%
Jackson	31%	24%	9%
KIPP	74%	23%	4%
Mays	12%	4%	1%
North Atlanta	33%	28%	19%
South Atlanta	19%	10%	1%
Therrell	15%	10%	2%
Washington	11%	6%	0%
	Student Body That Took an AP Course	Student Body That Took an AP Exam	Student Body That Passed an AP Exam

Color Legend for each Column



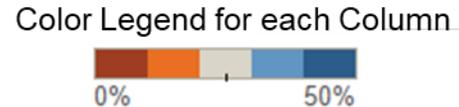
Note: Table excludes schools with fewer than 10 tests administered. The second and third columns (left to right) do not account for 19 students who were indicated to be middle school students on the AP exam despite being in high school. In all three columns, the denominator is the total enrollment within the school.

AP Course Taking and Exam Performance by Gender, 2020

A slightly higher percentage of female students took AP courses in comparison to male students, with a nine-percentage point difference at South Atlanta.

The difference in AP exam pass rates by gender varied from school to school.

		Student Body that Took an AP Course	Student Body that Took an AP Exam	Student Body that Passed an AP Exam
Carver Early	Female	8%	6%	1%
	Male	5%	1%	1%
Carver STEAM	Female	19%	4%	0%
	Male	7%	2%	0%
Classical	Female	11%	13%	10%
	Male	8%	7%	4%
CSK	Female	20%	16%	3%
Douglass	Female	13%	2%	0%
	Male	9%	1%	0%
Drew	Female	17%	15%	8%
	Male	15%	12%	4%
Grady	Female	58%	48%	38%
	Male	52%	41%	30%
Jackson	Female	33%	25%	9%
	Male	30%	22%	8%
KIPP	Female	78%	27%	5%
	Male	71%	17%	2%
Mays	Female	17%	6%	1%
	Male	7%	2%	1%
North Atlanta	Female	36%	30%	21%
	Male	30%	25%	16%
South Atlanta	Female	24%	13%	1%
	Male	13%	6%	1%
Therrell	Female	19%	14%	2%
	Male	12%	6%	2%
Washington	Female	16%	10%	1%
	Male	6%	3%	0%



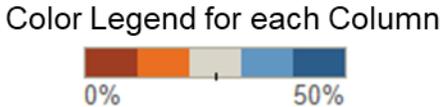
Note. Table excludes cells with less than 15 students. For the percentage that took an AP exam and the percentage that passed an AP exam, the numerator represents the gender identified on the AP exam and the denominator represents the gender identified on Infinite Campus. The second and third columns (left to right) do not account for 19 students who were indicated to be middle school students on the AP exam despite being in high school. In all three columns, the denominator is the total enrollment by gender within the school.

AP Course Taking and Exam Performance by Race/Ethnicity, 2020

Black and Hispanic students had lower enrollment rates in AP courses in relation to White students at Grady, Jackson High, and North Atlanta.

Black students had lower enrollment rates in AP courses in relation to White students at Drew.

School	Race/Ethnicity	Student Body That Took an AP Course	Student Body that Took an AP Exam	Student Body that Passed an AP Exam
Carver Early	Black	7%	4%	1%
Classical	White	12%	11%	8%
CSK	Black	21%	15%	3%
Douglass	Black	11%	2%	0%
Drew	Black	14%	10%	4%
	White	29%	25%	12%
Grady	Black	26%	12%	5%
	Hispanic	47%	43%	29%
	White	79%	68%	55%
Jackson	Black	24%	14%	4%
	Hispanic	31%	37%	11%
	White	67%	60%	35%
KIPP	Black	74%	21%	4%
Mays	Black	12%	3%	0%
North Atlanta	Black	23%	14%	7%
	Hispanic	17%	18%	11%
	White	50%	42%	31%
South Atlanta	Black	17%	8%	1%
Therrell	Black	15%	9%	2%
Washington	Black	11%	6%	0%



Note: Table excludes cells with less than 15 students and excludes students who were not White, Black, or Hispanic. For the percentage that took an AP exam and the percentage that passed an AP exam, the numerator represents the race/ethnicity identified on the AP exam and the denominator represents the race/ethnicity identified on Infinite Campus. The second and third columns (left to right) do not account for 19 students who were indicated to be middle school students on the AP exam despite being in high school. In all three columns, the denominator is the total enrollment by race/ethnicity within the school.