

Richland County School District One Summary Report



2003 Results of the Advanced Placement (AP) Exam

Office of Research and Evaluation

August 2003

Richland One students took 520 Advanced Placement (AP) Exams in 17 courses during the 2002-03 school year. The percentage of AP Exam scores for 2003 across all courses, which were scored 3 or higher, was 60.0%. This overall passing rate for 2003 was 2.5 percentage points higher than the passing rate for 2002 (57.5%). The passing rate for district AP students (60%) exceeded the state's AP passing rate by 3% and was below the national passing rate by 1.5%. The passing rate for Richland One's AP students in 2003 exceeded the passing rates for the district's previous four years (Table 1). The number of exams scoring "3" or higher increased from 298 to 312 and that is the highest for the past four years (Table 3).

The number of AP exams taken was 518 in 2002 and 520 in 2003. For the most part, the decrease from previous years was due to the implementation of the International Baccalaureate (IB) program at A.C. Flora High School. Some students opted to obtain IB credits rather than AP credits.

The number of students taking one or more AP exams in 2003 was 383 compared to 348 in 2002 (Table 2). The increase in the number of students taking one or more AP exams (9%) reflects the greatest single increase in the past six years.

The AP Exam results by gender and ethnicity are shown in Table 3. Although more exams were taken by females (313) than males (207), the passing rate was lower for females (55.0%; 172) than for males (67.6%; 140). This has remained consistent over the past five years except for 2000, where the passing rates for males (52.6%; 101) and females (52.8%; 162) were about the same. The passing rate for African-American students increased steadily over the years, and more than one-third (37.7%; 84) of the African American students passed the AP exams in 2003; that is an increase of 5.3 percentage points over that of 2002.

In 2003, the AP exams that were most frequently taken were US History (126), Calculus AB (111), English Literature and Composition (71), Government and Politics of the US (50), and Calculus BC (45). Of these five exams, Calculus BC had the highest passing rate (86.7%; 39), followed by Calculus AB (68.4%; 76), US History (60.3%; 76), English Literature and Composition (50.7%; 36). Government and Politics of the US had the lowest passing rate (36.0%;18) (Table 5).

Table 1
1999-2003 Passing Rates of Advanced Placement Exam
By District, State, and the Nation

	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003	
	% of 3 & Above Scores	# Exams Taken	% of 3 & Above Scores	# Exams Taken	% of 3 & Above Scores	# Exams Taken	% of 3 & Above Scores	# Exams Taken	% of 3 & Above Scores	# Exams Taken
District	49.2	610	52.7	499	57.0	558	57.5	518	60.0	520
State	55.0	14,984	55.2	14,560	56.8	16,888	60.4	18,750	57.0	19,765
National	61.9	571,499	62.0	923,039	61.6	1,414,387	63.4	1,585,516	61.5	1,737,231

Table 2
Number of Students Taking One or More AP Exams for 1999-2003

School	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Columbia	41	34	19	37	44
Dreher	99	109	132	128	133
Eau Claire	24	15	11	29	24
Flora	72	91	79	52	87
Johnson	25	23	21	20	22
Keenan	40	24	39	40	26
Lower Richland	40	38	41	42	47
District	341	334	342	348	383

Note: The above table reports an unduplicated count of students taking AP Exams (i.e., students were counted only once even though some may have taken more than one exam).

Table 3
1999-2003 Passing Rates of Advanced Placement Exams
By Gender and Ethnicity

Group	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003	
	% (N) Passing	# Exams Taken	% (N) Passing	# Exams Taken	% (N) Passing	# Exams Taken	% (N) Passing	# Exams Taken	% (N) Passing	# Exams Taken
Male	53.8	(121) (225)	52.6	(101) (192)	63.6	(140) (220)	58.2	(117) (201)	67.6	(140) (207)
Female	46.5	(179) (385)	52.8	(162) (307)	52.7	(178) (338)	57.1	(181) (317)	55.0	(172) (313)
African American	17.6	(42) (239)	22.2	(40) (180)	27.1	(58) (214)	32.4	(80) (247)	37.7	(84) (223)
White	71.1	(216) (304)	72.6	(207) (285)	76.4	(243) (318)	82.6	(204) (247)	79.4	(204) (257)
All Students	49.2	(300) (610)	52.7	(263) (499)	57.0	(318) (558)	57.5	(298) (518)	60.0	(312) (520)

Note: Some students take the AP exams in more than one area. The numbers of males and females may not add up to the All Students total if gender was not indicated.

Table 4
1999-2003 Passing Rates of Advanced Placement Exams
By School

School	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003	
	% (N) Passing	# Exams Taken	% (N) Passing	# Exams Taken	% (N) Passing	# Exams Taken	% (N) Passing	# Exams Taken	% (N) Passing	# Exams Taken
Columbia	26.2	(16) (61)	48.8	(20) (41)	36.4	(12) (33)	33.3	(18) (54)	24.1	(14) (58)
Dreher	85.2	(156) (183)	74.0	(128) (173)	78.7	(155) (197)	85.3	(151) (177)	89.9	(169) (188)
Eau Claire	2.8	(1) (36)	10.0	(2) (20)	0	(0) (11)	0	(0) (34)	13.9	(5) (36)
Flora, A.C.	61.6	(90) (146)	62.3	(81) (130)	76.2	(109) (143)	76.4	(68) (89)	62.1	(59) (95)
Johnson, C.A.	0	(0) (47)	2.0	(1) (50)	10.0	(5) (50)	16.7	(8) (48)	0.0	(0) (34)
Keenan	10.6	(7) (66)	41.7	(15) (36)	22.5	(16) (71)	46.9	(30) (64)	64.2	(34) (53)
Lower Richland	42.3	(30) (71)	32.7	(16) (49)	39.6	(21) (53)	44.2	(23) (52)	55.4	(31) (56)
District	49.2	(300) (610)	52.7	(263) (499)	57.0	(318) (558)	57.5	(298) (518)	60.0	(312) (520)

Table 5
1999-2003 Passing Rates of Advanced Placement Exams
By Course

Subject	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		
	% Passing	# Exams Taken	% Passing	# Exams Taken	% Passing	# Exams Taken	% Passing	# Exams Taken	% Passing	# Scoring 3 or More	# Exams Taken
Studio Art: Drawing	100	(4)	100	(2)	83.3	(6)		(0)	66.6	2	(3)
Studio Art: 2-D Design	77.8	(9)	100	(10)	100	(8)	100	(11)	92.8	13	(14)
Studio Art: 3-D Design	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	(1)	-		-
Biology	32.8	(64)	40.0	(40)	43.2	(44)	22.9	(48)	13.0	3	(23)
Calculus AB	41.1	(112)	67.1	(70)	78.3	(115)	84.2	(95)	68.4	76	(111)
Calculus BC	88.5	(26)	71.4	(42)	76.5	(17)	83.3	(24)	86.7	39	(45)
Chemistry	57.5	(33)	71.4	(28)	29.4	(17)	35.7	(42)	0.0		(11)
Economics (Micro)		(0)		(0)	100	(1)		(0)	0.0		(1)
Economics (Macro)		(0)		(3)	(9)	(11)	44.4	(9)	70.0	7	(10)
English Lang-Composition	100	(17)	66.7	(30)	70	(50)	75.7	(37)	84.2	16	(19)
English Lit-Composition	60.0	(80)	60.3	(73)	52.4	(84)	70.3	(64)	50.7	36	(71)
European History	90.3	(31)	51.9	(27)	94.1	(17)	82.6	(23)	-		-
French: Language		(1)		(2)	27.3	(11)	100	(1)	66.6	2	(3)
French: Literature		(1)	100	(1)		(0)		(0)	-		-
Government/Politics - US	40.3	(77)	31.3	(32)	45.3	(64)	33.3	(51)	36.0	18	(50)
Latin: Vergil		(0)	4.2	(24)		(0)	100	(1)			(0)
Latin: Literature	46.4	(28)		(0)		(0)		(0)			(0)
Music Theory	100	(5)	30.0	(10)		(0)	71.4	(7)			(0)
Physics B		(0)		(0)	33.3	(18)	45.0	(20)	76.9	10	(13)
Physics C: Mechanics	66.7	(9)		(0)		(0)		(0)	100	6	(6)
Physics C: Elec. & Magn.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	6	(6)
Spanish: Language	73.3	(15)	33.3	(6)		(2)		(0)	25.0	2	(8)
Statistics	10.0	(10)	38.1	(21)	20.0	(15)	0	(7)	-	-	-
US History	25.0	(88)	44.9	(78)	51.3	(78)	40.3	(77)	60.3	76	(126)
Total Tested	49.2	(610)	52.7	(499)	57.0	(558)	57.5	(518)	60.0	312	(520)