

# Credit By Exam Trend Data 1997-2007: Exam Scores Evaluated and Percent Credit Eligible

The University of Texas at Austin  
Division of Instructional Innovation and Assessment

August 25, 2008

Each academic year the Instructional Assessment and Evaluation unit (formerly the Measurement & Evaluation Center) of the Division of Instructional Innovation and Assessment (DIIA) processes, evaluates, and analyzes Credit By Exam (CBE) and UT Austin placement exam scores. The following tables show results of these analyses by academic year from 1997-2007.

**Table 1** shows the number of exam scores evaluated by UT Austin and the percent of those scores that were credit eligible from 1997-2007. For an exam score to be credit eligible it must meet the criteria (standard) set by the department awarding credit for its particular course. The term *credit eligible* refers to students who have scores that would allow them to receive credit whether or not they actually put the courses onto their transcript. For hours to be reported, students must petition for their eligible credit. Students have ten years from the time they take an exam to petition for the credit. Un-petitioned credit is in a pending status until the student claims it or the ten-year limit is reached. Thus, not all eligible credit is awarded (transcripted) and credit eligible scores may not be transcripted in the same year they were processed.

Other exam types are ineligible for credit including placement exams that help academic advisors place students in an appropriate level course, supplemental exams used by some departments to augment standardized exams, and exams used as part of the admissions process. Incomplete exams and exams not accepted at UT Austin are also ineligible for credit but these scores are recorded and evaluated.

## Summary of Findings

- The total number of **exam scores evaluated** by UT Austin has increased from 34,114 in 1996-97 to 66,793 in 2006-07. This is a 96% increase for the period and includes exams not eligible for credit.
- The **percent of exam scores eligible for credit** has decreased from a relatively constant level of about 62% to 55% in the 2006-07 academic year due largely to the addition of the SAT and ACT writing tests.
- Of the nine for credit exam types currently in use, **College Board Advanced Placement (AP) exams** constituted 53% of all exam scores evaluated with the number of AP scores evaluated growing steadily since 1997-98.
- The number of **International Baccalaureate (IB)** exam scores increased dramatically in 2005-2006 due to the enactment of Senate Bill 111 which requires UT Austin to award credit for IB standard level courses, beginning in the 2006-2007 academic year, for applicants who have earned the IB Diploma. This new policy also affected the credit eligible percentage for IB exams.
- Beginning in 2005-2006 the **ACT Writing** and **SAT Writing** exams were used to award writing credit replacing the SAT II writing exam after September 1, 2006.

**Table 1. Number of Exam Scores Evaluated and Percent Credit Eligible by Exam Type 1997-2007**

Exam Type	Academic Year									
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Actuarial	4 75%									
ACT Writing									348 51%	2,613 46%
Ctr. for Applied Linguistics (CAL)		3 100%	4 100%	4 100%	4 100%	9 100%	8 100%	6 100%	4 100%	4 100%
College Board Advanced Placement <sup>a</sup>	12,168 64%	12,831 63%	15,195 61%	17,628 58%	19,750 60%	23,483 60%	22,008 60%	25,333 56%	27,389 57%	30,909 52%
College Board CLEP Subject <sup>a</sup>	2,787 86%	2,007 74%	1,317 74%	1,109 86%	837 74%	776 71%	590 75%	518 75%	442 76%	340 74%
College Board SAT II	15,597 50%	13,645 57%	13,956 57%	14,573 56%	13,584 58%	13,619 62%	10,716 63%	11,621 64%	10,802 69%	9,404 70%
College Board SAT Writing									1,493 48%	11,487 44%
International. Baccalaureate <sup>b</sup>	154 46%	210 51%	262 55%	249 53%	296 59%	440 53%	456 57%	527 54%	1,781 33%	997 14%
National League of Nursing MPII	65 95%	79 87%	89 91%	97 98%	69 96%	68 94%	37 95%	12 100%	12 92%	16 94%
Pennsylvania (Hindi)		72 97%	49 98%	82 96%	75 87%					
UT Credit By Exam	1,277 54%	1,241 54%	1,003 58%	969 65%	1,243 51%	1,201 53%	972 53%	898 56%	799 72%	720 66%
UT Dept. Administered Exams	331 100%	257 96%	222 96%	234 100%	172 100%	196 100%	173 99%	202 97%	186 95%	192 95%
Wisconsin (Spanish and French)	2,657 81%	2,994 80%	3,175 88%	3,332 92%	3,099 92%	3,240 92%	1,950 96%	1,926 97%	1,998 97%	1,715 97%
<b>Total for Credit Exams Evaluated<sup>a c</sup></b>	<b>35,040 61%</b>	<b>33,339 63%</b>	<b>35,272 62%</b>	<b>38,267 62%</b>	<b>39,129 62%</b>	<b>43,032 63%</b>	<b>36,910 63%</b>	<b>41,043 61%</b>	<b>45,254 61%</b>	<b>58,397 55%</b>
Incomplete Exams					416	642	771	893	1,522	1,705
Admissions								10	5	
UT Placement	1,494	1,794	1,649	1,201	1,347	745	651	2,374	1,997	2,493
Supplemental Exams <sup>d</sup>					895	956	870	845	919	1,140
Exams Not Used by UT <sup>e</sup>	2,288	2,388	2,622	2,751	3,081	3,709	3,334	3,775	3,715	4,763
<b>Total Exam Scores Evaluated</b>	<b>38,822</b>	<b>37,521</b>	<b>39,543</b>	<b>42,219</b>	<b>44,868</b>	<b>49,084</b>	<b>42,536</b>	<b>48,940</b>	<b>52,154</b>	<b>66,793</b>

<sup>a</sup> Incomplete exams included in total eligible calculation prior to 2001-02. <sup>b</sup> Includes Standard Level exams beginning in 2005-2006. <sup>c</sup> Includes only exams eligible for UT Austin credit. <sup>d</sup> Supplemental exams not included prior to 2001-02. <sup>e</sup> Exams processed but not eligible for UT Austin credit.