

ATAR 2021

Preliminary report on the Scaling of the 2021 NSW Higher School Certificate



This preliminary report has been prepared to provide some information on the calculation of the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) in 2021 – a more detailed report will be released in May 2022. Please see the booklet *ATAR Essentials* (available on the UAC website) for more background on the ATAR.

There were no changes to the scaling procedures in 2021 for the various NSW HSC courses. The aggregate was calculated over the best 10 eligible units, in the same way as in recent years.

1. Overview

In 2021 a total of 54,841 students received an ATAR, 53 fewer than in 2020. The gender balance was similar to 2020, with 46% of the ATAR-eligible students being males and 54% being females.

17.1% of the students received an ATAR of 90.00 or above, 34.2% received an ATAR of at least 80.00, 50.7% at least 70.00, and 66.1% at least 60.00. The median ATAR was 70.40, slightly higher than in 2020. The median ATAR for females was 71.80 whereas the median ATAR for males was 68.70.

Of the 48 students who received the top ATAR of 99.95, there were 14 females and 34 males coming from a mix of government and non-government schools and studying a wide range of courses. The list of courses studied by candidates awarded an ATAR of 99.95 contained 38 different courses out of the 117 courses offered.

When reading the tables attached it must be remembered that the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) HSC mark in a course indicates a standard reached in that course whereas a scaled mark indicates a student's position in the course if all 70,416 HSC students had completed that course. This means that students with the same scaled mark in two courses would have been placed at the same position in those courses if all 70,416 students had taken both courses. Because HSC marks and scaled marks serve these two different purposes, comparing HSC and scaled marks can lead to misinterpretations that may affect student choices of courses to study.

Because of the different procedures used to calculate NESA HSC marks and the scaled marks, scaled marks are generally lower than NESA HSC marks, except near the top. Few students receive HSC marks less than 25 (on a one-unit basis) and the average HSC mark lies between 35 and 40 for most courses. In contrast, the average scaled mark for the total HSC candidature is close to 25, and relatively few courses have scaled means greater than 35.

2. Course candidatures – Table A1

Table A1 provides, for each course, the size of the candidature, the number of candidates who were awarded an HSC in 2021, the number of candidates who were awarded an ATAR in 2021, the percentage of female candidates and the maximum ATAR gained by a student enrolled in that course. In the majority of courses some students gained an ATAR in excess of 95.00.

3. Distributions of 2021 HSC marks by course – Table A2

Table A2 provides information on the distributions of NESA HSC marks in 2021. Three VET Framework courses – Automotive Exam, Information and Digital Technology Exam, and Hospitality Exam – have examination arrangements in which each course is separated into two or more streams. While the streams have different course numbers, in each case the raw marks for the

various streams in the framework are on a common scale, and so each framework is treated as a single course for scaling purposes, and they are reported on a consolidated basis in these tables.

4. Distributions of scaled marks – Table A3

In general, for the larger courses, the patterns of scaled marks from the HSC 2021 were similar to those from the HSC 2020. Table A3 contains a summary of the distributions of scaled marks in each course, providing information on the number of students; the mean, standard deviation and maximum mark; and the 99th, 90th, 75th, 50th and 25th percentiles of both NESA HSC marks and the scaled marks. Percentiles are not provided for courses with candidatures less than 40.

Marks are shown on a one-unit basis, so the range is 0 to 50. The percentiles in a course are based on all students completing that course irrespective of whether they were eligible for an ATAR or not.

Table A3 should not be used as a simple HSC to scaled mark conversion table.

NESA reports HSC marks rounded to the nearest integer whereas the scaled marks are calculated using the raw HSC marks based on the HSC examinations and moderated school assessments. The raw HSC marks are calculated to one decimal place. NESA aligns the raw marks to bands that best describe the standards that the students achieve. This can compress a range of raw marks to a smaller number of HSC marks. For example, all Band E4 performances in English Extension 1 are allocated one of the six integer grades 45.0 to 50.0. Thus, after aligning and rounding, for each HSC mark there can be a range of corresponding raw marks and hence a range of scaled marks. In general, there is no unique scaled mark for an HSC mark.

Table A3 gives the HSC mark at the specified percentile. Not all students with that HSC mark will be at that percentile when the raw marks are considered. For example, in German Beginners the maximum HSC mark and the 99th percentile of the HSC distribution are both 49, whereas the maximum scaled mark is 50 and the scaled mark at the 99th percentile is 49.2.

This issue has been discussed in full on pages 15–16 of the *Report on the Scaling of the 2020 NSW HSC*.

5. Variation in patterns of HSC and scaled marks – Tables A4, A5

A concern that is frequently raised is that the observed variation in the patterns of HSC marks across different courses (Table A2) affects scaling and the ranking calculation. Since it is the raw HSC marks that are scaled, not the HSC marks by which NESA reports student achievement, this observed variation does not affect the ranking calculation. A full discussion of this can be found in Section 3 of the *Report on Scaling of the 2020 NSW HSC*.

It is to be expected that the patterns of HSC marks will change from year to year, reflecting differences in student achievement against the published standards in individual courses. In contrast, one would expect to see differences in the patterns of scaled marks of large candidature courses only if the overall academic quality of a course candidature changed, usually as a result of a substantial change in the size of the candidature. Table A4 shows the variation in the distributions of HSC marks from 2020 to 2021, for each course, while Table A5 provides the same information for scaled marks. The data show that while some distributions of HSC marks change from 2020 to 2021 the distributions of scaled marks are generally stable. Most exceptions are small courses where the candidature can change noticeably from year to year.

6. Courses that contribute to the ATAR – Table A6

The ATAR information provided to students shows which units contributed to their ATAR. Some students are puzzled as to why one course is included and not another. The scaled mark a student receives for a course depends both on the scaled mean of the course and the student's position. A frequently asked question is whether there are systematic differences between groups of courses. The concern is that some courses contribute towards the ATAR less than other courses. For each course, Table A6 provides information on the percentage of students who counted all units of that course towards their ATAR. The data indicate that while there is some variability in the percentage of students who count the course towards their ATARs, there appears to be no evidence of systematic differences between different groups of courses. Table A6 also includes, for each course, the maximum ATAR for a candidate including all units of that course in their aggregate.

7. ATAR distribution – Tables A7 and A8

The data given in Table A7 show the number of students awarded a particular ATAR in 2021 for ATARs of 99.00 or more, and the frequencies associated with different ATAR ranges from 99.00 to 30.00.

Table A8 gives the ATAR corresponding to selected percentiles of the ATAR cohort for 2017 to 2021.

8. The ATAR and the aggregate – Table A9

Table A9 shows the lowest aggregate of scaled marks out of 500 corresponding to each of the selected ATARs for 2017 to 2021.

9. General comparisons

Note that ATARs are, in general, lower than the average of the HSC marks reported to students. This is a consequence of the different ways student achievement is reported.

NESA reports against standards, with students being placed in bands that indicate the standards they have reached in their individual courses. An HSC mark indicates where a student is situated in a performance band and, as there are few students in Performance Band 1, most HSC marks lie between 50 and 100. In contrast, a student's ATAR indicates their overall position in relation to the entire NSW Year 12-aged population.

As mentioned earlier, the median ATAR in 2021 was 70.40. A middle student will generally have HSC marks that lie between 70 and 80. Because of the large percentage of students placed in Performance Band 4, the ATARs of students with HSC marks around 80 will often be very different from the ATARs of students with HSC marks around 70. This is discussed in the *ATAR Essentials* booklet.

10. Impact of COVID-19 in 2021

The extraordinary events of this year have once again undoubtedly impacted the preparation of every HSC student. While some students will have achieved more relative to their peers than they would have in a more usual year because of these events, the achievement of a similar number of students will have declined relative to their peers. While it is not possible to quantify the impact of these events on an individual student, the Technical Committee on Scaling followed the methodology established in 2020 and examined the distribution of results grouped by geographical region, school type and gender to ascertain whether there were any systematic departures from the usual

distribution for the same geographical region/school type/gender observed in the period from 2016-2019. Additionally, we performed similar analyses on students grouped by whether or not they resided in or attended a school in an LGA of concern¹.

Our methodology was to determine where students at the 99th, 90th, 75th, 50th and 25th percentile of each geographical region/school type/gender/LGA were placed within the ATAR-eligible cohort for each of the years 2016 to 2019 and 2021. The placement of a particular percentile from a particular group within the approximately 55,000 strong ATAR-eligible cohort varies from year to year, but only within a small range. While the four years of data from 2016 to 2019 is unlikely to cover the full range of natural variability, we regarded the placement of students at these percentiles as being normal only if their relative placement in the entire ATAR-eligible cohort was within that range.

Almost all the data for 2021 were either normal or, if not, were sufficiently close to the range so that the ATAR of the student exceeded or fell short of the normal range by 0.50 or less. Consequently, the Technical Committee on Scaling is satisfied that, by and large, the disruption associated with COVID-19 did not differentially affect the 12 regions into which the state was divided for our analysis or the five school systems into which schools were classified for this purpose to an extent sufficient to raise concerns about the validity of using the 2021 ATAR for its intended purpose of merit-based selection of students for entry into university courses. No evidence was found of a differential impact based on gender.

The most significant differential impact was in relation to the LGAs of concern. Students with ATARs below 85.00 who attended schools located in these LGAs were awarded ATARs typically 0.75 – 1.80 higher than would be expected from the historical data, with the effect being greatest for ATARs around 50.00. The consequent depression of ATARs for students with ATARs below 85.00 whose schools were located outside the LGAs of concern was much smaller as the changes in rankings are spread over a much larger population. The most significant impact on the ATARs of students attending schools outside the LGAs of concern was for students with an ATAR around 55.00. These ATARs are up to 0.70 lower than would be expected from the historical data.

Students residing in an LGA of concern with an ATAR below 55.00 may have had their ATAR boosted by at most 1.35.

Students not residing in an LGA of concern with an ATAR below 55.00 may have had their ATAR depressed by at most 0.60.

These effects are not cumulative, so the impact on a student with an ATAR below 50.00 residing in an LGA of concern and whose school is also in an LGA of concern may have been an ATAR boost of at most 1.80 — the greater of the two potential impacts.

It should be emphasised that these shifts, and those discussed below, are small, and that their impact on university selection is insignificant when compared to the effect of the adjustment factors that are routinely applied in the selection of students for entry into courses.

For completeness, and in keeping with the details provided with the release of the 2020 Preliminary report, the other groups where the placement was sufficiently outside the 2016-19 range to affect the ATAR by more than 0.50, and the magnitudes of these effects, are detailed below.

¹ The LGAs of concern were Bayside, Blacktown, Burwood, Campbelltown, Canterbury-Bankstown, Cumberland, Fairfield, Georges River, Liverpool, Parramatta, Penrith, and Strathfield.

Students from the state's Hunter region² with ATARs below 65.00 may have had their ATAR depressed by between 0.60 and 0.90, with the greatest effect on students with ATARs around 50.00. Students from the North Coast region with ATARs below 50.00 may have had their ATAR depressed by at most 0.70, while students from the Western region with ATARs below 50.00 may have had their ATAR depressed by at most 0.90. Students from the Metro North region with ATARs below 85.00 may have had their ATAR depressed by at most 1.60, with the largest effect occurring for ATARs around 70.00. Students from the Metro Outer West region with ATARs below 50 may have had their ATAR depressed by at most 0.55.

Students from the Metro North West region with ATARs below 55.00 may have their ATAR boosted by at most 1.40 while students from the Metro West region with ATARs below 60 may have had their ATAR boosted by at most 0.55. Students from the Metro South West region with ATARs between 80 and 95 may have had their ATAR boosted by at most 1.10, with the greatest effect being at ATARs around 85.00, and students from this region with ATARs below 55.00 may also have had their ATARs boosted by at most 1.05.

Students from government selective schools with ATARs below 90.00 may have had their ATAR depressed by at most 0.65. Students from independent schools with ATARs below 65.00 may have had their ATAR depressed by at most 0.70.

Students from Catholic systemic schools with ATARs between 80.00 and 95.00 may have had their ATAR boosted by at most 0.55 while students with ATARs below 60 may have had their ATAR depressed by at most 0.75.

In summary, the Technical Committee on Scaling is satisfied that the impacts of COVID-19, while keenly felt by students, has not undermined the validity of the ATAR as a tool for university selection in 2022. The shifts in ATARs that have occurred are relatively small, and there are no identifiable groups for which it will have a significant impact on students' overall selection ranks for entry into specific courses.

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² Our region groups are based on Statistical Area 4 (SA4) classifications from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Hunter region includes Central Coast, Hunter Valley excluding Newcastle, and Newcastle and Lake Macquarie; North Coast region includes Coffs Harbour-Grafton, Mid North Coast and Richmond-Tweed; Metro North region includes the Northern Beaches, North Sydney and Hornsby; Metro Outer West region includes Sydney Outer South West, Outer West and Blue Mountains; Metro North West region includes Blacktown, Baulkham Hills and Hawkesbury; Metro West region includes Parramatta and Ryde; Metro South West includes Sydney South West and Sutherland.

Appendix

Comment

The following courses are not included in the tables as they have less than 10 students:

- Classical Greek Extension
- Croatian Continuers
- Dutch Continuers
- Filipino Continuers
- Hungarian Continuers
- Khmer Continuers
- Maltese Continuers

Some other courses do not appear in all tables if they have less than the minimum number of candidates required for a particular table.

Table descriptions

Table A1	Course enrolments, gender, ATAR eligibility and maximum ATAR by course Excludes courses with less than 10 students
Table A2	Distributions of 2021 HSC marks by course Excludes courses with less than 10 students
Table A3	Descriptive statistics and selected percentiles for HSC marks and scaled marks by course Excludes courses with less than 10 students completing the course in the current year, or if the students completing the course in the current year are undertaking less than 25 other ATAR courses in the same year. No percentile data are given for courses with less than 40 students.
Table A4	Distributions of HSC marks by course: 2020 and 2021 Excludes courses with less than 40 students in either year
Table A5	Distributions of scaled marks by course: 2020 and 2021 Excludes courses with less than 40 students in either year
Table A6	Courses that contribute to the ATAR (more than 10 units) Excludes courses with less than 10 students
Table A7	ATAR distribution
Table A8	ATAR percentiles: 2017–2021
Table A9	Relationship between the ATAR and aggregates: 2017–2021

Table A1 Course enrolments, gender, ATAR eligibility and maximum ATAR by course

- Notes: (i) The **Number all** column includes students who have completed the course in 2021 or in a previous year (and who have done at least one ATAR course in 2021).
- (ii) The **Number HSC** column shows the number of students who completed the course in 2021 or in a previous year and received an HSC award in 2021.
- (iii) The **Number ATAR** column shows the number of students who completed the course in 2021 or in a previous year and who were eligible for an ATAR in 2021.
- (iv) The **% Female** column shows the percentage of students in the course who were Female.
- (v) The **% HSC** column shows the percentage of students in the course who received an HSC award in 2021.
- (vi) The **% ATAR eligible** column shows the percentage of students in the course who were eligible for an ATAR in 2021.
- (vii) The **Maximum ATAR** column shows the maximum ATAR achieved by a student doing the course.
- (viii) The table excludes courses with less than 10 students.

Course	Number all	Number HSC	Number ATAR	% Female	% HSC	% ATAR eligible	Maximum ATAR
Aboriginal Studies	775	632	420	76.3	81.5	54.2	99.55
Agriculture	1,560	1,480	1,118	54.2	94.9	71.7	99.95
Ancient History	6,527	6,302	5,768	55.0	96.6	88.4	99.85
Biology	19,124	18,569	17,949	63.6	97.1	93.9	99.95
Business Studies	18,115	17,456	16,381	46.5	96.4	90.4	99.95
Chemistry	10,091	9,835	9,800	47.3	97.5	97.1	99.95
Community & Family Studies	9,015	8,682	7,237	90.3	96.3	80.3	99.50
Dance	946	882	802	95.6	93.2	84.8	99.90
Design & Technology	3,536	3,347	3,026	43.6	94.7	85.6	99.80
Drama	4,012	3,848	3,452	66.5	95.9	86.0	99.90
Earth & Environmental Science	2,361	2,321	2,101	52.1	98.3	89.0	99.40
Economics	5,088	5,021	5,009	36.1	98.7	98.4	99.95
Engineering Studies	2,445	2,357	2,288	9.5	96.4	93.6	99.95
English Studies Exam	1,416	1,228	559	39.4	86.7	39.5	84.20
English Standard	31,714	30,747	28,391	50.9	97.0	89.5	99.65
English Advanced	24,594	24,317	24,203	58.9	98.9	98.4	99.95
English EAL/D	1,893	1,768	1,688	52.7	93.4	89.2	99.90
English Extension 1	3,423	3,404	3,400	67.8	99.4	99.3	99.95
English Extension 2	1,313	1,308	1,309	70.9	99.6	99.7	99.95
Food Technology	3,694	3,523	2,918	71.3	95.4	79.0	99.30
Geography	4,511	4,361	4,087	48.7	96.7	90.6	99.95
Industrial Technology	5,739	5,384	3,799	16.7	93.8	66.2	97.85
Information Processes & Technology	2,073	1,901	1,738	19.7	91.7	83.8	99.95
Investigating Science	2,978	2,752	2,413	43.3	92.4	81.0	99.75
Legal Studies	10,884	10,584	10,158	63.7	97.2	93.3	99.95
Mathematics Standard 1 Exam	1,495	1,389	873	51.2	92.9	58.4	93.10
Mathematics Standard 2	30,410	29,607	27,544	52.4	97.4	90.6	99.95
Mathematics Advanced	17,552	15,956	15,920	47.4	90.9	90.7	99.95
Mathematics Extension 1	8,939	8,466	8,466	40.5	94.7	94.7	99.95
Mathematics Extension 2	3,252	3,158	3,160	34.6	97.1	97.2	99.95
Modern History	11,021	10,694	10,065	51.4	97.0	91.3	99.95
History Extension	1,746	1,734	1,733	60.7	99.3	99.3	99.95
Music 1	4,803	4,590	3,893	49.4	95.6	81.1	99.90
Music 2	767	723	722	51.4	94.3	94.1	99.95
Music Extension	384	380	380	53.9	99.0	99.0	99.95

Table A1 Course enrolments, gender, ATAR eligibility and maximum ATAR by course

Course	Number all	Number HSC	Number ATAR	% Female	% HSC	% ATAR eligible	Maximum ATAR
PDH&PE	16,716	16,272	14,883	55.6	97.3	89.0	99.90
Physics	8,003	7,874	7,835	21.9	98.4	97.9	99.95
Science Extension	718	712	712	55.2	99.2	99.2	99.95
Society & Culture	4,821	4,621	4,357	81.2	95.9	90.4	99.60
Software Design & Development	1,775	1,702	1,612	10.9	95.9	90.8	99.95
Studies of Religion I	8,926	8,214	8,008	54.4	92.0	89.7	99.95
Studies of Religion II	6,307	6,057	5,949	64.3	96.0	94.3	99.85
Textiles & Design	1,203	1,164	1,019	94.8	96.8	84.7	99.40
Visual Arts	8,582	8,197	7,134	73.9	95.5	83.1	99.90
Arabic Continuers	277	250	227	70.8	90.3	81.9	98.15
Arabic Extension	69	67	58	76.8	97.1	84.1	95.25
Armenian Continuers	35	19	23	57.1	54.3	65.7	97.70
Chinese Beginners	79	75	70	67.1	94.9	88.6	96.80
Chinese Continuers	214	207	206	55.1	96.7	96.3	99.95
Chinese Extension	49	48	48	67.3	98.0	98.0	99.95
Chinese & Literature	374	353	364	54.5	94.4	97.3	99.80
Chinese in Context	131	125	124	66.4	95.4	94.7	99.75
Classical Greek Continuers	14	12	12	28.6	85.7	85.7	99.95
Classical Hebrew Continuers	29	29	29	58.6	100.0	100.0	98.95
Classical Hebrew Extension	15	15	15	66.7	100.0	100.0	98.95
French Beginners	388	372	342	77.6	95.9	88.1	99.95
French Continuers	628	607	600	73.4	96.7	95.5	99.95
French Extension	135	134	134	71.1	99.3	99.3	99.95
German Beginners	106	98	96	66.0	92.5	90.6	99.25
German Continuers	177	168	168	55.9	94.9	94.9	99.95
German Extension	46	46	46	56.5	100.0	100.0	99.95
Hindi Continuers	26	15	15	42.3	57.7	57.7	99.20
Indonesian Beginners	19	19	19	63.2	100.0	100.0	82.95
Indonesian Continuers	62	61	58	64.5	98.4	93.5	99.45
Indonesian Extension	17	17	17	52.9	100.0	100.0	99.45
Indonesian & Literature	13	13	12	92.3	100.0	92.3	95.95
Italian Beginners	325	318	284	69.8	97.8	87.4	99.85
Italian Continuers	224	192	187	66.1	85.7	83.5	99.95
Italian Extension	37	33	33	59.5	89.2	89.2	99.95
Japanese Beginners	563	542	506	54.5	96.3	89.9	99.90
Japanese Continuers	678	660	654	62.1	97.3	96.5	99.80
Japanese Extension	170	169	169	61.2	99.4	99.4	99.55
Japanese & Literature	10	10	10	80.0	100.0	100.0	98.15
Japanese in Context	33	32	32	66.7	97.0	97.0	99.10
Korean Beginners	110	107	107	87.3	97.3	97.3	99.80
Korean Continuers	19	18	18	94.7	94.7	94.7	96.30
Korean & Literature	25	23	24	52.0	92.0	96.0	98.00
Korean in Context	42	41	42	71.4	97.6	100.0	97.65
Latin Continuers	155	151	151	45.2	97.4	97.4	99.95
Latin Extension	101	100	100	48.5	99.0	99.0	99.95
Macedonian Continuers	26	26	25	61.5	100.0	96.2	98.00

Table A1 Course enrolments, gender, ATAR eligibility and maximum ATAR by course

Course	Number all	Number HSC	Number ATAR	% Female	% HSC	% ATAR eligible	Maximum ATAR
Modern Greek Beginners	70	69	65	50.0	98.6	92.9	99.50
Modern Greek Continuers	67	56	53	67.2	83.6	79.1	99.35
Modern Greek Extension	22	16	16	68.2	72.7	72.7	98.00
Modern Hebrew Continuers	42	32	32	54.8	76.2	76.2	98.95
Persian Continuers	27	27	26	70.4	100.0	96.3	88.25
Polish Continuers	17	15	15	64.7	88.2	88.2	92.60
Portuguese Continuers	15	15	15	73.3	100.0	100.0	92.85
Punjabi Continuers	26	26	26	50.0	100.0	100.0	99.20
Russian Continuers	20	17	16	70.0	85.0	80.0	98.70
Serbian Continuers	13	12	12	53.8	92.3	92.3	99.20
Spanish Beginners	276	268	248	73.2	97.1	89.9	99.70
Spanish Continuers	158	158	151	67.7	100.0	95.6	99.85
Spanish Extension	52	52	51	75.0	100.0	98.1	99.50
Swedish Continuers	17	8	8	58.8	47.1	47.1	97.65
Tamil Continuers	73	35	36	63.0	47.9	49.3	98.70
Turkish Continuers	46	34	34	67.4	73.9	73.9	91.65
Vietnamese Continuers	218	198	205	62.8	90.8	94.0	99.85
Automotive Exam	260	214	117	7.7	82.3	45.0	86.00
Business Services Exam	1,362	1,204	1,000	68.7	88.4	73.4	98.25
Construction Exam	1,661	1,561	1,170	4.5	94.0	70.4	94.00
Electrotechnology Exam	240	228	161	7.1	95.0	67.1	94.35
Entertainment Industry Exam	847	787	708	50.8	92.9	83.6	98.30
Financial Services Exam	128	89	85	43.8	69.5	66.4	99.00
Hospitality Exam	4,704	4,335	3,895	72.3	92.2	82.8	99.55
Human Services Exam	682	658	605	91.9	96.5	88.7	96.90
Information & Digital Technology Exam	476	424	375	17.2	89.1	78.8	98.00
Primary Industries Exam	575	514	400	52.0	89.4	69.6	95.45
Retail Services Exam	888	758	613	67.2	85.4	69.0	99.40
Tourism, Travel & Events Exam	143	130	116	95.8	90.9	81.1	96.35
Total	70,416	63,043	54,841	52.8	89.5	77.9	99.95

Table A2 Distributions of 2021 HSC marks by course

- Notes: (i) The Number column shows the number of students who completed the course in 2021.
(ii) The Median HSC mark column shows the median HSC mark per course.
(iii) The Median Band column indicates the Performance Band in which the median HSC mark lies.
(iv) The Percentage of Students in Performance Band columns show the percentage of a course candidature in each of the Performance Bands 6 to 2. Extension courses show only Bands 4 to 2 as they have four Bands only: E1 to E4.
(v) This table excludes courses with less than 10 students.

Course	Number	Median HSC mark	Median Band	Percentage students in Performance Band				
				6	5	4	3	2
Aboriginal Studies	704	69	3	12	17	20	27	16
Agriculture	1,496	72	4	11	24	21	24	15
Ancient History	6,375	74	4	10	25	28	17	13
Biology	18,708	74	4	7	24	35	25	7
Business Studies	17,662	75	4	9	27	30	21	9
Chemistry	9,884	76	4	11	29	26	22	9
Community & Family Studies	8,913	75	4	6	27	40	21	6
Dance	905	81	5	13	42	30	13	1
Design & Technology	3,429	81	5	17	38	28	14	2
Drama	3,938	78	4	18	27	37	16	1
Earth & Environmental Science	2,328	74	4	5	23	34	24	11
Economics	5,043	80	5	15	35	27	17	5
Engineering Studies	2,400	75	4	11	25	35	21	6
English Studies Exam	1,357	58	2		1	7	36	40
English Standard	31,341	71	4	1	16	41	33	8
English Advanced	24,409	83	5	16	52	25	5	1
English EAL/D	1,879	72	4	2	21	35	28	11
English Extension 1	3,415	44	E3			41	53	6
English Extension 2	1,308	41	E3			25	59	15
Food Technology	3,623	75	4	11	26	26	24	10
Geography	4,438	78	4	9	35	30	18	6
Industrial Technology	5,667	70	4	7	18	28	27	16
Information Processes & Technology	1,897	72	4	8	24	25	23	14
Investigating Science	2,852	77	4	8	32	34	18	5
Legal Studies	10,693	77	4	15	28	27	17	10
Mathematics Standard 1 Exam	1,461	70	4	4	15	32	32	13
Mathematics Standard 2	30,035	70	4	6	19	27	27	15
Mathematics Advanced	16,769	80	5	23	27	29	15	4
Mathematics Extension 1	8,547	42	E3			37	37	20
Mathematics Extension 2	3,193	88	E3			43	44	12
Modern History	10,890	75	4	11	27	27	19	10
History Extension	1,742	40	E3			23	54	21
Music 1	4,697	83	5	20	44	25	9	1
Music 2	710	89	5	45	43	11	<1	
Music Extension	381	46	E4			64	31	4
PDH&PE	16,482	73	4	7	24	29	26	11

Table A2 Distributions of 2021 HSC marks by course

Course	Number	Median HSC mark	Median Band	Percentage students in Performance Band				
				6	5	4	3	2
Physics	7,922	77	4	12	28	31	20	7
Science Extension	715	37	E3			10	62	27
Society & Culture	4,739	78	4	13	33	34	14	4
Software Design & Development	1,714	75	4	12	24	31	22	9
Studies of Religion I	8,389	38	4	13	29	27	23	7
Studies of Religion II	6,132	78	4	13	34	26	19	7
Textiles & Design	1,189	81	5	17	40	24	12	5
Visual Arts	8,417	83	5	17	46	28	8	1
Arabic Continuers	275	83	5	19	48	29	1	1
Arabic Extension	68	45	E4			50	46	4
Armenian Continuers	22	80	5	23	41	36		
Chinese Beginners	67	84	5	37	16	19	18	7
Chinese Continuers	209	86	5	43	28	18	9	2
Chinese Extension	49	46	E4			67	31	2
Chinese & Literature	373	84	5	21	48	23	5	2
Chinese in Context	130	92	6	62	22	11	4	1
Classical Greek Continuers	14	94	6	79	21			
Classical Hebrew Continuers	28	88	5	46	36	4	7	
Classical Hebrew Extension	15	46	E4			60	40	
French Beginners	380	80	5	25	26	24	12	9
French Continuers	598	84	5	33	30	25	10	2
French Extension	132	40	E3			24	55	19
German Beginners	104	84	5	33	24	20	13	9
German Continuers	152	84	5	37	31	17	11	4
German Extension	45	46	E4			73	24	2
Hindi Continuers	23	85	5	35	35	30		
Indonesian Beginners	19	80	5	11	42	21	21	5
Indonesian Continuers	62	80	5	29	21	21	21	6
Indonesian Extension	17	43	E3			41	41	18
Indonesian & Literature	13	83	5	15	46	15	23	
Italian Beginners	321	79	4	21	27	26	20	5
Italian Continuers	198	87	5	39	33	20	6	3
Italian Extension	36	46	E4			53	47	
Japanese Beginners	545	73	4	13	22	22	20	14
Japanese Continuers	632	82	5	27	31	20	14	7
Japanese Extension	166	46	E4			60	31	7
Japanese & Literature	10	81	5	10	40	40	10	
Japanese in Context	33	86	5	18	70	12		
Korean Beginners	110	83	5	25	36	28	7	4
Korean Continuers	19	92	6	68	16	11	5	
Korean & Literature	25	88	5	32	52	12	4	
Korean in Context	42	92	6	71	19	7	2	

Table A2 Distributions of 2021 HSC marks by course

Course	Number	Median HSC mark	Median Band	Percentage students in Performance Band				
				6	5	4	3	2
Latin Continuers	154	89	5	47	30	15	5	3
Latin Extension	101	48	E4			78	17	5
Macedonian Continuers	26	77	4	12	31	23	19	15
Modern Greek Beginners	69	92	6	61	23	6	6	4
Modern Greek Continuers	53	85	5	38	45	17		
Modern Greek Extension	16	42	E3			44	19	38
Modern Hebrew Continuers	31	93	6	71	26	3		
Persian Continuers	27	86	5	41	44	15		
Polish Continuers	16	86	5	31	44	25		
Portuguese Continuers	13	90	6	54	23	8	15	
Punjabi Continuers	26	91	6	58	35	4	4	
Russian Continuers	18	86	5	33	50	11	6	
Serbian Continuers	12	92	6	67	33			
Spanish Beginners	275	81	5	22	32	23	14	6
Spanish Continuers	155	79	4	9	39	32	19	1
Spanish Extension	51	44	E3			47	51	2
Tamil Continuers	36	93	6	83	17			
Turkish Continuers	38	86	5	24	50	26		
Vietnamese Continuers	217	83	5	15	54	26	4	1
Automotive Exam	219	68	3	2	11	32	32	22
Business Services Exam	1,276	74	4	5	29	31	23	11
Construction Exam	1,607	77	4	6	35	31	21	6
Electrotechnology Exam	231	66	3	3	8	24	48	15
Entertainment Industry Exam	827	80	5	13	41	32	11	2
Financial Services Exam	111	72	4	6	22	38	29	5
Hospitality Exam	4,467	74	4	4	26	35	24	9
Human Services Exam	673	71	4		11	47	34	7
Information & Digital Technology Exam	418	74	4	2	22	44	24	6
Primary Industries Exam	526	74	4	5	22	46	22	3
Retail Services Exam	776	69	3	1	8	40	32	15
Tourism, Travel & Events Exam	133	75	4	2	18	59	15	5

Table A3 Descriptive statistics and selected percentiles for HSC marks and scaled marks by course

- Notes: (i) The Number column shows the number of students who completed the course in 2021.
(ii) The P₉₉, P₉₀, P₇₅, P₅₀, P₂₅ columns refer to the 99th, 90th, 75th, 50th and 25th percentiles respectively.
(iii) The table excludes courses with less than 10 students completing the course in the current year, or if the students completing the course in the current year are undertaking less than 25 other ATAR courses in the same year. No percentile data are given for courses with less than 40 students.
(iv) This table should not be used as a simple HSC to scaled mark conversion table. For each HSC mark there can be a range of raw marks and therefore a range of scaled marks.

Course	Number	Type of mark	Mean	SD	Max. mark	P ₉₉	P ₉₀	P ₇₅	P ₅₀	P ₂₅
Aboriginal Studies	704	HSC	34.8	7.7	49.0	48.0	45.0	41.0	34.5	30.0
		scaled	15.2	12.8	46.4	44.7	36.5	24.2	10.6	4.9
Agriculture	1,496	HSC	35.7	7.3	49.0	48.0	45.0	41.5	36.0	30.5
		scaled	19.0	11.1	45.5	43.5	36.2	27.2	17.6	10.0
Ancient History	6,375	HSC	35.8	7.8	50.0	47.5	44.5	41.5	37.0	31.0
		scaled	23.2	10.9	49.4	44.7	38.1	31.9	23.3	14.8
Biology	18,708	HSC	36.9	5.5	49.0	47.0	44.0	41.0	37.0	33.5
		scaled	25.9	10.1	50.0	45.5	39.3	33.8	26.2	18.3
Business Studies	17,662	HSC	36.9	6.4	49.5	47.5	44.5	41.5	37.5	33.0
		scaled	23.9	10.7	49.4	45.0	38.4	32.3	23.9	15.5
Chemistry	9,884	HSC	37.4	6.2	50.0	48.0	45.0	42.5	38.0	33.0
		scaled	31.5	9.9	50.0	47.6	43.6	39.7	33.0	24.5
Community & Family Studies	8,913	HSC	37.3	4.9	50.0	47.0	43.5	40.5	37.5	34.0
		scaled	18.9	10.4	44.2	40.9	34.0	26.8	18.0	10.3
Dance	905	HSC	39.9	4.8	50.0	49.0	45.0	43.5	40.5	37.0
		scaled	23.7	11.3	48.4	46.8	39.5	32.6	23.3	15.0
Design & Technology	3,429	HSC	39.8	5.1	49.5	48.5	46.0	43.5	40.5	36.5
		scaled	22.6	10.6	48.2	45.1	37.5	30.8	22.1	14.2
Drama	3,938	HSC	39.5	5.0	50.0	49.5	46.5	43.5	39.0	36.0
		scaled	23.8	10.9	49.5	47.6	39.0	31.9	23.1	15.3
Earth & Environmental Science	2,328	HSC	36.3	5.7	47.5	46.0	43.5	40.5	37.0	32.5
		scaled	22.5	10.6	47.8	44.1	37.4	30.2	22.3	14.0
Economics	5,043	HSC	39.0	5.4	49.5	48.0	45.5	43.0	40.0	35.5
		scaled	31.9	9.4	50.0	46.8	43.0	39.2	33.3	25.7
Engineering Studies	2,400	HSC	37.7	5.4	50.0	48.0	45.0	41.5	37.5	34.0
		scaled	26.1	9.5	48.7	44.7	38.7	33.2	26.1	19.2
English Studies Exam	1,357	HSC	28.1	6.4	42.5	39.5	34.0	32.0	29.0	26.0
		scaled	9.3	6.1	35.3	28.9	17.3	12.9	8.2	4.7
English Standard	31,341	HSC	35.4	4.5	48.5	44.0	41.0	38.5	35.5	33.0
		scaled	20.2	8.3	47.9	39.4	31.4	26.0	19.9	14.2
English Advanced	24,409	HSC	41.2	3.8	49.5	48.0	45.5	44.0	41.5	39.0
		scaled	32.2	8.3	50.0	46.5	42.3	38.5	33.2	26.9
English EAL/D	1,879	HSC	35.4	5.7	50.0	46.0	42.0	39.5	36.0	32.0
		scaled	21.9	10.8	48.2	44.8	37.1	30.4	21.0	13.2
English Extension 1	3,415	HSC	42.6	4.6	50.0	49.0	47.0	46.0	44.0	40.0
		scaled	36.6	6.7	50.0	47.5	44.1	41.5	37.5	33.2
English Extension 2	1,308	HSC	40.2	5.7	50.0	49.0	47.0	45.0	41.0	37.0
		scaled	36.6	6.5	50.0	48.4	44.5	41.4	37.2	32.7
Food Technology	3,623	HSC	36.9	6.4	49.5	48.5	45.0	42.0	37.5	32.5
		scaled	19.0	11.4	45.4	43.3	35.4	28.3	18.0	9.0

Table A3 Descriptive statistics and selected percentiles for HSC marks and scaled marks by course

Course	Number	Type of mark	Mean	SD	Max. mark	P ₉₉	P ₉₀	P ₇₅	P ₅₀	P ₂₅
Geography	4,438	HSC	38.1	5.6	49.0	47.0	44.5	42.5	39.0	34.5
		scaled	25.3	10.9	50.0	46.2	39.7	33.8	25.8	17.1
Industrial Technology	5,667	HSC	35.0	6.9	49.5	47.5	43.5	40.0	35.0	30.5
		scaled	17.2	10.1	41.6	38.8	31.9	25.0	15.9	8.9
Information Processes & Technology	1,897	HSC	35.7	6.9	49.0	47.5	44.5	41.0	36.0	31.0
		scaled	22.7	11.0	48.8	45.0	37.8	31.2	22.5	14.5
Investigating Science	2,852	HSC	38.0	5.4	48.0	47.0	44.5	42.0	38.5	35.0
		scaled	20.3	10.6	45.8	42.5	34.8	28.4	19.9	11.8
Legal Studies	10,693	HSC	37.6	6.7	49.0	48.0	45.5	43.0	38.5	33.5
		scaled	25.0	11.0	50.0	45.9	39.8	33.9	25.3	16.3
Mathematics Standard 1 Exam	1,461	HSC	34.7	6.1	49.0	46.5	42.5	38.5	35.0	31.0
		scaled	13.0	8.8	34.7	32.9	26.2	19.1	11.7	5.1
Mathematics Standard 2	30,035	HSC	34.8	6.8	50.0	47.5	43.5	39.5	35.0	30.5
		scaled	22.1	10.0	45.9	42.6	36.2	29.9	21.6	14.1
Mathematics Advanced	16,769	HSC	39.4	6.2	50.0	49.0	47.0	44.5	40.0	35.5
		scaled	31.4	9.4	50.0	47.7	43.1	38.8	32.3	25.1
Mathematics Extension 1	8,547	HSC	39.4	8.3	50.0	49.5	48.0	46.0	42.0	34.0
		scaled	39.9	7.7	50.0	49.3	47.5	45.5	42.0	36.4
Mathematics Extension 2	3,193	HSC	41.8	6.0	49.5	49.0	47.5	46.5	44.0	38.5
		scaled	44.0	5.0	50.0	49.6	48.5	47.3	45.4	42.3
Modern History	10,890	HSC	36.6	7.2	49.5	47.5	45.0	42.0	37.5	32.5
		scaled	25.3	10.9	50.0	45.7	39.6	33.9	25.9	17.1
History Extension	1,742	HSC	39.1	6.4	50.0	49.0	47.0	44.0	40.0	35.0
		scaled	33.4	7.5	50.0	46.9	42.8	38.7	33.8	28.7
Music 1	4,697	HSC	40.9	4.6	50.0	49.0	46.5	44.0	41.5	38.0
		scaled	21.1	10.8	47.0	44.5	36.5	28.9	20.3	12.5
Music 2	710	HSC	43.9	3.3	49.5	49.5	48.0	46.5	44.5	42.0
		scaled	33.5	8.9	50.0	49.4	44.9	40.4	34.2	27.2
Music Extension	381	HSC	44.8	5.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	49.0	46.0	42.0
		scaled	35.2	9.6	50.0	50.0	47.9	42.9	35.9	27.5
PDH&PE	16,482	HSC	36.3	5.9	49.5	47.0	44.0	41.0	36.5	32.5
		scaled	23.1	10.5	48.5	44.3	37.9	31.3	22.6	14.9
Physics	7,922	HSC	37.9	5.9	49.5	48.0	45.0	42.5	38.5	34.0
		scaled	30.6	10.0	50.0	47.1	42.8	38.8	31.8	23.6
Science Extension	715	HSC	37.5	5.1	49.0	47.0	45.0	41.0	37.0	34.0
		scaled	33.5	7.4	50.0	47.7	43.8	38.9	33.6	28.8
Society & Culture	4,739	HSC	38.7	5.6	49.5	48.0	45.5	43.0	39.0	35.5
		scaled	23.4	10.6	48.5	44.9	37.9	31.6	23.1	15.1
Software Design & Development	1,714	HSC	37.3	6.1	49.5	48.5	45.5	42.0	37.5	33.0
		scaled	25.6	10.9	50.0	47.4	40.6	34.0	25.2	17.1
Studies of Religion I	8,389	HSC	37.8	5.7	50.0	48.0	45.0	42.0	38.0	33.0
		scaled	27.6	9.1	48.8	45.0	39.5	34.6	27.8	20.8
Studies of Religion II	6,132	HSC	38.2	5.9	49.5	47.5	45.0	43.0	39.0	34.0
		scaled	27.5	10.0	50.0	45.7	40.2	35.3	28.3	20.4

Table A3 Descriptive statistics and selected percentiles for HSC marks and scaled marks by course

Course	Number	Type of mark	Mean	SD	Max. mark	P ₉₉	P ₉₀	P ₇₅	P ₅₀	P ₂₅
Textiles & Design	1,189	HSC	39.5	5.9	49.0	48.0	46.0	44.0	40.5	36.5
		scaled	23.1	11.6	49.0	47.0	39.3	32.2	22.5	13.8
Visual Arts	8,417	HSC	40.7	4.3	50.0	48.0	45.5	44.0	41.5	38.0
		scaled	22.1	11.1	48.8	45.1	37.8	30.5	21.5	13.2
Arabic Continuers	275	HSC	41.0	4.5	49.0	48.0	46.0	44.0	41.5	39.0
		scaled	19.2	11.4	46.8	44.7	36.8	27.6	16.7	10.1
Arabic Extension	68	HSC	43.7	3.8	50.0	50.0	48.0	46.0	44.0	42.0
		scaled	27.8	6.6	43.6	43.6	37.2	31.8	26.9	23.4
Armenian Continuers	22	HSC	41.6	3.2	47.5					
		scaled	27.4	10.2	50.0					
Chinese Beginners	67	HSC	40.0	7.0	49.5	49.5	48.0	46.0	42.0	34.5
		scaled	26.3	10.6	47.6	47.6	40.4	34.1	27.7	18.0
Chinese Continuers	209	HSC	42.3	5.3	49.5	49.0	48.0	46.5	43.0	39.0
		scaled	31.3	10.1	50.0	47.3	44.5	38.5	31.4	24.7
Chinese Extension	49	HSC	44.2	4.4	49.0	49.0	48.0	47.0	46.0	42.0
		scaled	37.7	8.1	50.0	50.0	47.2	43.1	40.1	31.8
Chinese & Literature	373	HSC	41.3	4.3	48.0	47.5	46.0	44.5	42.0	39.0
		scaled	24.8	10.4	49.7	47.6	38.8	32.3	25.0	17.1
Chinese in Context	130	HSC	44.5	4.1	49.5	49.0	48.5	47.5	46.0	43.0
		scaled	30.7	10.3	50.0	48.4	43.5	38.3	31.9	24.0
Classical Greek Continuers	14	HSC	46.6	2.3	49.0					
		scaled	41.4	8.1	50.0					
Classical Hebrew Continuers	28	HSC	41.9	8.7	49.5					
		scaled	32.1	9.7	47.8					
Classical Hebrew Extension	15	HSC	44.5	3.1	49.0					
		scaled	36.3	5.9	50.0					
French Beginners	380	HSC	38.9	7.5	50.0	49.5	47.0	44.5	40.0	35.0
		scaled	24.2	11.4	50.0	48.0	39.0	32.5	24.3	16.1
French Continuers	598	HSC	41.2	5.4	49.5	49.0	47.5	46.0	41.5	37.5
		scaled	34.0	9.0	50.0	49.1	45.0	41.6	34.5	27.7
French Extension	132	HSC	39.2	6.1	49.0	49.0	46.0	44.0	40.0	35.0
		scaled	39.7	6.2	50.0	49.9	46.8	44.3	40.1	36.0
German Beginners	104	HSC	40.1	6.6	49.0	49.0	47.5	46.5	42.0	35.5
		scaled	28.0	11.3	50.0	49.2	42.0	39.3	28.1	20.1
German Continuers	152	HSC	41.3	5.6	49.5	49.5	47.0	46.0	42.0	37.5
		scaled	33.3	10.3	50.0	49.6	44.3	41.3	35.1	25.9
German Extension	45	HSC	45.6	3.3	49.0	49.0	49.0	48.0	46.0	44.0
		scaled	39.5	6.0	50.0	50.0	46.7	44.4	40.0	35.7
Hindi Continuers	23	HSC	42.0	3.8	47.5					
		scaled	30.2	11.0	50.0					
Indonesian Beginners	19	HSC	38.6	5.4	48.0					
		scaled	24.5	7.7	41.3					
Indonesian Continuers	62	HSC	39.2	6.8	49.0	49.0	47.5	45.5	39.5	33.0
		scaled	31.0	10.3	50.0	50.0	45.2	39.5	31.3	21.7
Indonesian Extension	17	HSC	41.3	5.2	48.0					
		scaled	33.5	5.9	48.3					

Table A3 Descriptive statistics and selected percentiles for HSC marks and scaled marks by course

Course	Number	Type of mark	Mean	SD	Max. mark	P ₉₉	P ₉₀	P ₇₅	P ₅₀	P ₂₅
Indonesian & Literature	13	HSC	39.7	4.6	45.5					
		scaled	25.0	11.4	44.6					
Italian Beginners	321	HSC	38.9	6.3	49.5	49.0	46.5	44.5	39.5	34.5
		scaled	25.3	10.9	50.0	47.2	40.3	34.0	25.0	17.3
Italian Continuers	198	HSC	42.2	4.9	50.0	49.5	47.0	46.0	43.5	39.0
		scaled	31.5	9.2	50.0	48.4	41.4	38.3	33.1	25.1
Italian Extension	36	HSC	43.9	4.1	50.0					
		scaled	38.0	5.4	50.0					
Japanese Beginners	545	HSC	35.3	9.0	50.0	49.0	46.0	42.0	36.5	30.5
		scaled	23.0	11.4	47.4	44.3	38.3	32.2	23.9	14.5
Japanese Continuers	632	HSC	39.9	6.4	50.0	49.0	47.5	45.0	41.0	35.5
		scaled	30.8	9.4	50.0	47.5	42.8	38.3	31.8	24.6
Japanese Extension	166	HSC	43.4	5.6	50.0	49.0	48.0	47.0	46.0	41.0
		scaled	36.3	6.3	50.0	48.0	43.6	41.3	36.9	32.3
Japanese & Literature	10	HSC	40.2	3.9	45.0					
		scaled	26.7	12.0	47.4					
Japanese in Context	33	HSC	42.9	2.7	49.5					
		scaled	29.0	8.5	48.8					
Korean Beginners	110	HSC	41.0	5.0	49.5	49.0	47.5	44.5	41.5	38.0
		scaled	25.7	10.2	48.4	46.7	40.2	32.6	25.5	18.0
Korean Continuers	19	HSC	44.3	4.2	49.0					
		scaled	29.6	9.9	50.0					
Korean & Literature	25	HSC	43.4	3.1	47.5					
		scaled	23.7	12.6	50.0					
Korean in Context	42	HSC	45.3	3.6	49.0	49.0	49.0	47.5	46.0	44.5
		scaled	27.2	10.5	47.4	47.4	43.2	34.6	25.6	20.8
Latin Continuers	154	HSC	42.9	4.7	49.0	49.0	47.5	46.5	44.5	40.0
		scaled	40.8	7.5	50.0	49.9	47.7	46.0	43.1	37.8
Latin Extension	101	HSC	45.8	4.8	50.0	50.0	50.0	49.0	48.0	45.0
		scaled	41.4	7.5	50.0	50.0	48.1	46.2	44.0	38.9
Macedonian Continuers	26	HSC	37.5	6.5	50.0					
		scaled	24.7	10.2	47.8					
Modern Greek Beginners	69	HSC	43.9	5.8	49.5	49.5	49.0	48.0	46.0	41.5
		scaled	28.4	12.2	50.0	50.0	43.3	37.3	29.5	19.1
Modern Greek Continuers	53	HSC	43.0	3.8	49.5	49.5	48.0	46.0	42.5	40.0
		scaled	28.5	11.1	50.0	50.0	44.2	37.7	26.5	20.0
Modern Greek Extension	16	HSC	40.2	7.0	49.0					
		scaled	34.8	8.5	50.0					
Modern Hebrew Continuers	31	HSC	46.0	2.5	50.0					
		scaled	34.3	8.3	50.0					
Persian Continuers	27	HSC	43.4	3.2	50.0					
		scaled	18.4	9.1	40.4					
Polish Continuers	16	HSC	43.0	3.8	49.0					
		scaled	27.5	10.7	49.2					
Portuguese Continuers	13	HSC	43.0	5.4	49.0					
		scaled	31.5	10.9	45.5					

Table A3 Descriptive statistics and selected percentiles for HSC marks and scaled marks by course

Course	Number	Type of mark	Mean	SD	Max. mark	P ₉₉	P ₉₀	P ₇₅	P ₅₀	P ₂₅
Punjabi Continuers	26	HSC	44.9	3.3	49.5					
		scaled	28.8	10.3	49.3					
Russian Continuers	18	HSC	43.0	3.5	48.5					
		scaled	27.8	10.4	50.0					
Serbian Continuers	12	HSC	45.6	2.2	49.5					
		scaled	27.8	11.8	50.0					
Spanish Beginners	275	HSC	39.1	6.7	49.5	48.5	46.5	44.5	40.5	35.5
		scaled	24.3	11.4	49.7	46.3	39.7	33.8	24.7	15.5
Spanish Continuers	155	HSC	39.1	4.3	47.5	46.5	44.5	42.5	39.5	36.5
		scaled	25.7	10.8	50.0	47.1	40.4	33.8	25.9	19.8
Spanish Extension	51	HSC	44.1	3.5	50.0	50.0	48.0	47.0	44.0	41.0
		scaled	31.0	6.2	45.8	45.8	38.4	35.1	29.3	25.6
Turkish Continuers	38	HSC	42.5	3.3	50.0					
		scaled	25.4	10.4	50.0					
Vietnamese Continuers	217	HSC	40.9	3.7	48.5	48.0	45.0	44.0	41.5	38.5
		scaled	22.7	9.9	46.9	45.6	36.0	30.6	22.2	14.8
Automotive Exam	219	HSC	34.0	5.2	47.5	46.0	40.5	38.0	34.0	30.5
		scaled	14.0	8.8	35.7	34.8	27.2	21.3	11.9	6.8
Business Services Exam	1,276	HSC	36.6	5.8	48.0	46.5	43.5	40.5	37.0	33.0
		scaled	19.3	10.6	44.7	42.5	34.6	26.3	18.2	11.1
Construction Exam	1,607	HSC	37.8	5.2	48.5	47.0	44.0	41.5	38.5	34.5
		scaled	15.8	9.4	38.8	37.1	30.0	22.4	14.6	7.6
Electrotechnology Exam	231	HSC	34.0	4.6	47.0	46.5	40.0	36.5	33.0	31.0
		scaled	18.3	7.9	37.6	37.2	29.3	23.1	17.2	12.8
Entertainment Industry Exam	827	HSC	39.6	4.8	49.0	47.0	45.0	43.0	40.0	37.0
		scaled	20.8	9.5	44.1	40.7	33.1	27.3	20.2	13.1
Financial Services Exam	111	HSC	36.7	4.9	48.0	47.5	44.5	40.5	36.0	33.0
		scaled	26.8	9.7	50.0	49.4	42.8	34.1	25.3	19.0
Hospitality Exam	4,467	HSC	36.5	5.6	48.5	46.5	43.0	40.5	37.0	32.5
		scaled	19.1	10.0	43.7	40.6	33.0	26.1	18.2	10.6
Human Services Exam	673	HSC	35.4	3.8	44.5	43.5	40.0	38.0	35.5	33.0
		scaled	20.4	9.7	43.8	42.5	34.0	27.3	19.7	12.6
Information & Digital Technology Exam	418	HSC	36.7	4.7	48.5	45.5	42.5	39.5	37.0	34.0
		scaled	21.5	9.5	44.7	41.7	35.1	27.9	20.8	14.0
Primary Industries Exam	526	HSC	37.1	4.7	47.0	46.5	42.5	40.0	37.0	34.5
		scaled	18.0	9.8	41.8	40.4	31.5	25.3	16.5	10.1
Retail Services Exam	776	HSC	33.8	5.4	46.0	44.5	39.5	37.5	34.5	31.0
		scaled	16.4	10.8	43.0	41.9	33.1	24.6	14.4	7.8
Tourism, Travel & Events Exam	133	HSC	37.2	3.7	45.5	45.0	41.0	39.5	37.5	35.5
		scaled	21.5	9.9	44.7	43.6	33.6	27.9	20.7	14.0

Table A4 Distributions of HSC marks by course: 2020 and 2021

- Notes: (i) The Number column shows the number of students who completed the course in the given year.
(ii) Columns 45, 40, 35, 30 and 25 show the percentage of the course candidature with an HSC mark less than the specified mark.
(iii) The table excludes courses with less than 40 students in either year.

Course	Year	Number	Percentage of students with HSC mark less than:				
			45	40	35	30	25
Aboriginal Studies	2021	704	88.5	71.2	50.9	24.3	8.1
	2020	653	86.8	71.2	43.2	21.9	9.3
Agriculture	2021	1,496	89.3	65.6	44.9	20.7	5.7
	2020	1,470	89.7	61.4	38.3	16.5	4.1
Ancient History	2021	6,375	90.4	65.6	37.7	20.9	8.4
	2020	7,164	91.1	66.6	37.1	15.6	5.3
Biology	2021	18,708	92.8	68.7	33.9	8.8	2.1
	2020	18,633	93.5	69.3	37.3	13.1	2.4
Business Studies	2021	17,662	90.5	63.9	33.5	13.0	3.9
	2020	17,877	90.6	64.7	37.6	17.0	6.2
Chemistry	2021	9,884	89.0	59.6	33.7	11.3	2.1
	2020	10,137	86.6	56.9	30.5	9.4	1.4
Community & Family Studies	2021	8,913	94.5	67.9	27.9	6.9	1.0
	2020	8,774	95.0	66.0	30.3	8.9	0.6
Dance	2021	905	87.3	45.3	14.8	2.0	0.6
	2020	914	90.8	42.5	12.7	1.4	0.4
Design & Technology	2021	3,429	82.9	45.4	17.3	3.0	0.7
	2020	3,484	84.3	52.7	16.8	2.1	0.2
Drama	2021	3,938	81.7	54.4	17.2	1.5	0.2
	2020	3,902	80.8	52.6	9.7	2.0	0.6
Earth & Environmental Science	2021	2,328	94.8	71.9	37.6	13.1	2.4
	2020	2,117	93.5	70.4	38.7	14.5	4.1
Economics	2021	5,043	85.1	49.8	22.3	5.7	0.6
	2020	5,010	86.5	48.5	22.4	8.7	2.5
Engineering Studies	2021	2,400	89.1	63.8	28.8	7.5	1.1
	2020	2,313	88.2	66.3	31.6	8.3	2.0
English Studies Exam	2021	1,357	100.0	99.0	91.7	55.8	16.1
	2020	1,274		100.0	97.9	68.8	22.8
English Standard	2021	31,341	99.4	83.4	42.2	9.5	1.6
	2020	30,914	99.5	88.4	42.4	10.8	0.5
English Advanced	2021	24,409	83.7	31.2	6.1	0.7	0.1
	2020	24,773	85.8	36.6	5.2	0.6	
English EAL/D	2021	1,879	97.6	76.6	41.6	13.8	3.3
	2020	2,022	96.6	73.9	42.8	15.5	4.5
English Extension 1	2021	3,415	58.9	20.8	6.1	1.7	0.4
	2020	3,551	61.2	24.0	7.3	2.2	0.7
English Extension 2	2021	1,308	74.8	40.7	15.8	4.0	0.9
	2020	1,380	74.1	41.4	17.5	5.1	0.7
Food Technology	2021	3,623	89.1	63.5	37.3	13.3	2.9
	2020	3,376	91.1	69.8	40.2	15.7	2.3

Table A4 Distributions of HSC marks by course: 2020 and 2021

Course	Year	Number	Percentage of students with HSC mark less than:				
			45	40	35	30	25
Geography	2021	4,438	90.7	55.6	25.8	8.1	1.8
	2020	4,396	87.5	58.2	29.1	12.8	4.3
Industrial Technology	2021	5,667	93.0	74.7	47.2	20.6	4.7
	2020	5,856	91.9	76.2	47.5	19.2	5.9
Information Processes & Technology	2021	1,897	91.7	67.9	42.8	19.5	5.2
	2020	2,024	92.3	67.5	41.3	17.9	5.8
Investigating Science	2021	2,852	91.5	59.2	25.0	7.0	1.7
	2020	2,589	95.3	71.7	41.8	16.1	4.8
Legal Studies	2021	10,693	85.2	57.6	30.8	13.6	3.9
	2020	10,651	84.8	60.1	31.8	10.8	2.5
Mathematics Standard 1 Exam	2021	1,461	95.8	80.7	49.1	16.6	3.8
	2020	1,340	97.4	83.7	45.1	18.0	4.9
Mathematics Standard 2	2021	30,035	94.4	75.2	48.7	21.4	6.2
	2020	30,026	94.6	75.3	49.6	24.5	7.1
Mathematics Advanced	2021	16,769	76.8	49.8	21.2	6.2	1.9
	2020	16,771	76.9	47.4	19.0	4.2	1.5
Mathematics Extension 1	2021	8,547	62.7	42.0	25.7	13.0	5.8
	2020	8,804	62.1	42.0	25.5	12.4	5.5
Mathematics Extension 2	2021	3,193	57.2	30.0	13.4	4.7	1.4
	2020	3,372	63.6	34.0	16.0	7.0	2.8
Modern History	2021	10,890	89.3	62.0	34.9	15.8	5.5
	2020	10,860	89.8	62.6	33.8	15.5	6.5
History Extension	2021	1,742	76.6	48.9	22.6	7.3	2.1
	2020	1,746	79.4	50.2	23.9	6.6	1.8
Music 1	2021	4,697	80.0	35.7	10.6	1.7	0.3
	2020	4,500	78.1	35.5	9.3	1.8	0.4
Music 2	2021	710	54.8	11.5	0.4		
	2020	688	61.6	12.2	0.3		
Music Extension	2021	381	36.0	17.1	4.7	1.0	0.3
	2020	400	31.5	11.3	2.8	0.8	0.8
PDH&PE	2021	16,482	93.1	69.1	39.6	13.5	2.7
	2020	16,183	90.8	65.5	38.6	14.4	4.1
Physics	2021	7,922	87.6	59.4	28.7	9.2	1.8
	2020	7,991	87.4	59.4	32.8	13.9	4.1
Science Extension	2021	715	89.5	64.8	27.8	5.9	0.7
	2020	608	93.1	65.6	26.2	3.3	1.3
Society & Culture	2021	4,739	87.0	54.5	20.1	6.2	2.2
	2020	4,566	89.0	56.1	19.8	5.8	1.2
Software Design & Development	2021	1,714	87.5	63.8	32.8	11.0	1.9
	2020	1,737	87.1	62.2	34.3	11.7	3.8
Studies of Religion I	2021	8,389	87.0	58.0	30.6	8.1	0.9
	2020	8,129	92.3	56.1	22.9	5.9	1.3
Studies of Religion II	2021	6,132	87.3	53.7	28.1	9.3	1.8
	2020	6,133	93.4	56.2	25.7	7.8	2.1

Table A4 Distributions of HSC marks by course: 2020 and 2021

Course	Year	Number	Percentage of students with HSC mark less than:				
			45	40	35	30	25
Textiles & Design	2021	1,189	83.1	43.3	19.0	6.7	2.1
	2020	1,323	82.5	43.2	15.0	3.8	0.5
Visual Arts	2021	8,417	83.0	36.8	9.3	1.6	0.2
	2020	8,580	83.1	35.0	9.9	1.8	0.3
Arabic Continuers	2021	275	81.1	33.5	4.0	2.9	1.5
	2020	299	91.0	50.2	19.1	4.3	1.3
Arabic Extension	2021	68	50.0	11.8	4.4		
	2020	101	68.3	47.5	23.8		
Chinese Beginners	2021	67	62.7	46.3	26.9	9.0	1.5
	2020	80	76.3	52.5	40.0	25.0	15.0
Chinese Continuers	2021	209	56.9	28.7	10.5	1.9	
	2020	187	56.7	24.1	11.2	4.3	2.1
Chinese Extension	2021	49	32.7	16.3	2.0	2.0	
	2020	40	30.0	10.0	2.5		
Chinese & Literature	2021	373	78.6	30.3	7.2	2.1	0.3
	2020	461	83.1	31.5	7.4	3.5	1.5
Chinese in Context	2021	130	37.7	15.4	4.6	0.8	
	2020	137	44.5	10.9	0.7		
French Beginners	2021	380	75.0	48.9	24.5	12.9	3.9
	2020	507	75.0	48.3	29.2	14.4	5.3
French Continuers	2021	598	67.1	37.0	12.4	2.5	0.5
	2020	593	69.5	36.4	14.7	3.2	0.3
French Extension	2021	132	75.8	49.2	20.5	7.6	1.5
	2020	133	72.9	41.4	18.8	2.3	
German Beginners	2021	104	67.3	43.3	23.1	9.6	1.0
	2020	89	69.7	48.3	28.1	6.7	2.2
German Continuers	2021	152	63.2	32.2	15.1	3.9	
	2020	212	75.0	35.4	13.7	5.2	0.5
German Extension	2021	45	26.7	6.7	2.2		
	2020	55	47.3	9.1			
Indonesian Continuers	2021	62	71.0	50.0	29.0	8.1	1.6
	2020	78	74.4	37.2	17.9	2.6	
Italian Beginners	2021	321	79.1	52.0	25.9	6.2	1.6
	2020	306	84.0	53.9	26.1	10.5	3.6
Italian Continuers	2021	198	61.1	27.8	8.1	2.5	
	2020	210	72.9	41.9	12.9	3.3	1.4
Japanese Beginners	2021	545	87.2	65.1	43.3	23.1	9.4
	2020	635	82.8	64.7	40.8	19.7	6.3
Japanese Continuers	2021	632	73.4	42.1	21.7	8.1	1.4
	2020	671	71.1	43.7	21.0	5.2	1.3
Japanese Extension	2021	166	39.8	21.7	8.4	3.0	1.2
	2020	163	55.8	28.2	11.0	0.6	0.6
Korean Beginners	2021	110	75.5	39.1	10.9	3.6	
	2020	127	81.9	46.5	11.8	5.5	1.6

Table A4 Distributions of HSC marks by course: 2020 and 2021

Course	Year	Number	Percentage of students with HSC mark less than:				
			45	40	35	30	25
Latin Continuers	2021	154	52.6	22.7	7.8	2.6	
	2020	142	50.0	11.3	4.2		
Latin Extension	2021	101	21.8	9.9	5.0	3.0	
	2020	104	13.5	2.9			
Modern Greek Beginners	2021	69	39.1	15.9	10.1	4.3	
	2020	70	60.0	20.0	10.0	1.4	
Modern Greek Continuers	2021	53	62.3	17.0			
	2020	72	55.6	19.4	4.2		
Spanish Beginners	2021	275	78.2	46.2	22.9	9.1	3.3
	2020	328	86.0	58.8	32.0	12.8	2.4
Spanish Continuers	2021	155	91.0	51.6	20.0	1.3	
	2020	164	90.2	48.8	19.5	1.8	0.6
Spanish Extension	2021	51	52.9	5.9	2.0		
	2020	53	71.7	24.5	1.9	1.9	1.9
Vietnamese Continuers	2021	217	85.3	31.3	5.1	1.4	
	2020	190	89.5	36.3	5.8	1.1	0.5
Automotive Exam	2021	219	98.2	87.7	56.2	23.7	1.8
	2020	237	97.5	86.1	54.9	21.1	4.6
Business Services Exam	2021	1,276	95.2	66.7	35.9	12.9	1.5
	2020	1,155	95.6	69.5	38.0	13.0	2.9
Construction Exam	2021	1,607	94.0	58.6	27.4	6.3	0.7
	2020	1,741	94.5	57.9	22.2	7.0	1.0
Electrotechnology Exam	2021	231	97.0	89.2	64.9	16.5	1.3
	2020	223	97.3	81.6	41.3	4.5	0.4
Entertainment Industry Exam	2021	827	87.1	45.9	13.9	3.0	1.0
	2020	713	87.0	51.3	15.3	3.2	0.4
Financial Services Exam	2021	111	93.7	72.1	34.2	5.4	0.9
	2020	80	96.3	71.3	32.5	1.3	
Hospitality Exam	2021	4,467	95.7	70.0	34.7	11.1	1.8
	2020	4,337	96.4	69.2	32.5	7.0	1.0
Human Services Exam	2021	673	100.0	88.6	41.5	7.6	0.4
	2020	705	99.3	86.8	53.3	8.8	0.4
Information & Digital Technology Exam	2021	418	97.6	75.4	30.9	6.9	1.2
	2020	466	96.1	70.0	19.5	3.9	1.3
Primary Industries Exam	2021	526	94.9	72.6	26.6	4.6	1.7
	2020	520	97.5	78.8	29.2	5.4	1.3
Retail Services Exam	2021	776	99.2	91.6	51.4	19.3	4.0
	2020	825	99.5	91.6	47.2	16.5	1.5
Tourism, Travel & Events Exam	2021	133	97.7	79.7	20.3	5.3	
	2020	161	97.5	80.1	23.6	0.6	

Table A5 Distributions of scaled marks by course: 2020 and 2021

- Notes: (i) The Number column shows the number of students who completed the course in the given year.
(ii) Columns 45, 40, 35, 30, 25, 20 and 15 show the percentage of the course candidature with a scaled mark less than the specified mark.
(iii) The table excludes courses with less than 40 students in either year.

Course	Year	Number	Percentage of students with scaled mark less than:						
			45	40	35	30	25	20	15
Aboriginal Studies	2021	704	99.4	94.6	88.5	81.8	76.3	70.0	60.1
	2020	653	100.0	96.8	89.6	84.4	79.0	72.7	60.0
Agriculture	2021	1,496	99.8	96.3	88.2	81.1	70.3	57.6	40.8
	2020	1,470	99.7	95.9	90.1	81.6	68.6	55.8	42.1
Ancient History	2021	6,375	99.3	93.4	83.0	70.1	55.3	39.8	25.8
	2020	7,164	98.7	93.0	83.4	70.7	55.5	40.4	26.2
Biology	2021	18,708	98.7	91.3	78.5	62.8	46.2	30.3	16.5
	2020	18,633	98.7	91.9	79.6	62.8	45.4	29.0	15.5
Business Studies	2021	17,662	99.0	93.1	82.2	68.6	53.4	37.8	23.6
	2020	17,877	99.1	93.0	81.0	67.2	53.2	38.6	24.8
Chemistry	2021	9,884	94.2	76.5	57.4	40.4	26.4	14.9	6.9
	2020	10,137	95.1	77.8	58.5	41.0	25.4	13.9	5.8
Community & Family Studies	2021	8,913	100.0	98.4	91.8	82.6	70.2	56.4	40.9
	2020	8,774	100.0	98.6	92.4	81.9	69.5	55.1	39.7
Dance	2021	905	97.8	90.8	80.8	68.4	54.4	40.3	25.5
	2020	914	98.7	94.6	83.6	71.0	57.5	42.0	28.4
Design & Technology	2021	3,429	99.0	94.4	85.0	73.3	59.2	43.6	28.1
	2020	3,484	98.8	93.9	86.0	74.1	61.0	45.2	29.4
Drama	2021	3,938	97.0	91.7	82.0	70.3	56.0	40.3	24.3
	2020	3,902	97.3	90.6	81.0	69.8	55.9	40.1	24.3
Earth & Environmental Science	2021	2,328	99.4	94.8	84.7	74.1	59.0	43.0	27.7
	2020	2,117	99.2	94.7	84.6	71.8	55.8	40.2	26.2
Economics	2021	5,043	96.0	78.3	56.6	38.2	23.3	12.3	6.0
	2020	5,010	96.0	78.0	55.3	35.0	21.7	13.1	6.7
Engineering Studies	2021	2,400	99.2	92.8	80.1	63.3	45.8	27.9	14.3
	2020	2,313	99.5	93.4	80.6	64.2	46.5	28.1	14.9
English Studies Exam	2021	1,357		100.0	99.9	99.4	98.0	94.0	83.3
	2020	1,274				100.0	99.8	98.7	89.6
English Standard	2021	31,341	99.9	99.3	95.7	87.0	71.4	50.5	28.4
	2020	30,914	99.9	99.3	96.3	87.6	71.9	49.8	28.7
English Advanced	2021	24,409	96.8	81.4	58.1	36.2	19.3	8.8	3.2
	2020	24,773	97.4	82.1	58.7	34.9	17.4	7.2	2.5
English EAL/D	2021	1,879	99.0	95.1	85.6	74.2	62.7	47.2	30.6
	2020	2,022	98.7	94.9	86.1	74.9	64.5	49.9	33.4
English Extension 1	2021	3,415	93.3	66.0	34.8	14.1	5.9	2.5	0.8
	2020	3,551	94.3	68.0	35.9	14.6	5.4	2.1	0.7
English Extension 2	2021	1,308	92.0	66.5	36.3	15.4	5.2	1.3	0.5
	2020	1,380	91.4	68.3	37.2	16.3	5.5	1.2	
Food Technology	2021	3,623	99.8	96.5	89.4	78.6	67.9	55.9	41.5
	2020	3,376	99.9	96.6	89.1	80.3	68.5	54.9	42.1

Table A5 Distributions of scaled marks by course: 2020 and 2021

Course	Year	Number	Percentage of students with scaled mark less than:						
			45	40	35	30	25	20	15
Geography	2021	4,438	98.1	90.7	78.5	63.8	47.2	32.3	20.0
	2020	4,396	98.2	90.1	77.4	61.6	46.4	32.8	21.1
Industrial Technology	2021	5,667	100.0	99.7	94.8	86.1	75.1	62.5	46.6
	2020	5,856	100.0	99.6	94.9	86.0	74.9	62.3	46.5
Information Processes & Technology	2021	1,897	98.9	94.4	83.9	71.1	58.2	42.6	26.7
	2020	2,024	99.0	93.9	84.8	72.6	57.9	41.9	27.7
Investigating Science	2021	2,852	99.8	96.9	90.4	79.1	65.1	50.0	35.0
	2020	2,589	100.0	98.7	93.8	84.1	69.8	54.8	40.0
Legal Studies	2021	10,693	98.3	90.3	78.0	64.4	49.1	35.0	21.9
	2020	10,651	98.4	90.7	78.6	65.4	50.2	35.2	21.6
Mathematics Standard 1 Exam	2021	1,461			100.0	95.8	88.2	77.7	62.1
	2020	1,340			100.0	96.1	88.6	76.0	62.3
Mathematics Standard 2	2021	30,035	99.9	96.4	87.5	75.2	61.0	44.5	27.9
	2020	30,026	100.0	97.5	88.5	74.5	58.6	42.5	27.2
Mathematics Advanced	2021	16,769	95.1	79.6	60.0	40.9	24.8	13.2	6.0
	2020	16,771	94.6	78.5	59.4	42.0	26.4	14.2	6.3
Mathematics Extension 1	2021	8,547	71.3	39.5	21.2	11.4	6.2	2.5	1.1
	2020	8,804	74.9	43.3	21.9	11.4	5.6	2.3	0.9
Mathematics Extension 2	2021	3,193	45.0	15.2	6.0	2.5	0.8	0.4	0.2
	2020	3,372	48.1	15.5	5.8	2.5	1.1	0.7	0.3
Modern History	2021	10,890	98.6	90.9	78.3	63.2	47.2	32.5	20.1
	2020	10,860	98.5	91.2	78.1	62.1	45.3	31.3	20.1
History Extension	2021	1,742	96.5	79.6	55.3	30.6	12.9	4.9	1.6
	2020	1,746	96.2	80.3	53.7	28.9	12.0	3.9	1.6
Music 1	2021	4,697	99.2	95.4	86.8	76.9	64.2	49.1	33.0
	2020	4,500	99.2	95.1	87.4	75.9	61.9	47.9	32.1
Music 2	2021	710	90.0	74.4	53.5	34.4	18.9	8.2	2.3
	2020	688	90.3	74.4	53.3	29.8	16.9	5.8	0.9
Music Extension	2021	381	82.9	62.5	46.2	32.3	18.9	5.8	1.0
	2020	400	74.5	60.0	43.8	28.3	16.3	8.5	2.8
PDH&PE	2021	16,482	99.3	93.9	84.1	72.0	57.2	41.1	25.2
	2020	16,183	99.5	94.4	84.3	71.4	56.9	41.3	26.1
Physics	2021	7,922	95.8	79.6	60.9	43.9	29.0	16.9	8.3
	2020	7,991	97.0	80.8	59.5	41.1	26.9	16.2	7.9
Science Extension	2021	715	93.3	78.6	58.3	31.0	13.6	3.1	1.0
	2020	608	96.1	82.1	57.7	30.1	10.5	3.5	1.5
Society & Culture	2021	4,739	99.2	93.7	83.8	71.5	56.4	40.5	24.5
	2020	4,566	99.1	94.2	84.2	71.9	57.4	41.4	25.3
Software Design & Development	2021	1,714	96.7	88.5	77.1	64.4	49.2	33.3	19.3
	2020	1,737	97.5	88.7	76.6	62.7	47.3	33.5	20.4
Studies of Religion I	2021	8,389	98.9	91.3	76.4	58.5	39.4	22.6	9.5
	2020	8,129	99.4	91.9	75.3	55.2	36.1	20.0	9.0
Studies of Religion II	2021	6,132	98.5	89.4	74.0	56.5	38.7	24.2	12.9
	2020	6,133	98.0	90.1	73.9	55.4	38.3	24.6	13.7

Table A5 Distributions of scaled marks by course: 2020 and 2021

Course	Year	Number	Percentage of students with scaled mark less than:						
			45	40	35	30	25	20	15
Textiles & Design	2021	1,189	97.7	91.0	81.8	70.0	56.4	42.4	28.2
	2020	1,323	98.4	92.4	82.4	71.0	56.4	42.3	28.3
Visual Arts	2021	8,417	98.9	93.5	84.5	73.9	60.5	45.6	30.1
	2020	8,580	98.9	93.3	84.6	73.9	60.9	46.4	30.5
Arabic Continuers	2021	275	99.3	94.5	86.2	78.9	70.2	58.5	45.8
	2020	299	100.0	98.7	92.6	87.0	76.6	66.2	55.2
Arabic Extension	2021	68	100.0	95.6	83.8	60.3	39.7	8.8	1.5
	2020	101		100.0	94.1	85.1	66.3	42.6	17.8
Chinese Beginners	2021	67	95.5	89.6	80.6	59.7	46.3	32.8	13.4
	2020	80	98.8	97.5	85.0	67.5	52.5	45.0	38.8
Chinese Continuers	2021	209	93.3	77.5	58.9	44.0	25.4	12.4	8.6
	2020	187	96.8	72.7	54.5	31.6	20.3	13.4	5.3
Chinese Extension	2021	49	85.7	49.0	30.6	22.4	6.1	2.0	2.0
	2020	40	85.0	55.0	32.5	15.0	5.0	2.5	
Chinese & Literature	2021	373	97.1	92.2	83.4	68.9	49.6	33.5	19.8
	2020	461	97.2	92.4	82.4	65.1	51.8	37.7	22.3
Chinese in Context	2021	130	94.6	79.2	61.5	42.3	27.7	16.9	10.0
	2020	137	90.5	77.4	64.2	47.4	29.9	18.2	8.8
French Beginners	2021	380	95.3	91.6	82.1	66.8	52.9	37.6	21.8
	2020	507	97.6	90.9	81.5	64.3	49.3	33.9	23.5
French Continuers	2021	598	90.1	69.2	52.5	32.3	16.2	8.0	2.8
	2020	593	89.5	70.3	48.4	30.0	17.4	8.8	2.9
French Extension	2021	132	79.5	49.2	20.5	7.6	2.3	1.5	
	2020	133	85.0	45.1	25.6	6.8	2.3	0.8	
German Beginners	2021	104	97.1	77.9	67.3	56.7	44.2	24.0	15.4
	2020	89	97.8	86.5	70.8	59.6	48.3	31.5	13.5
German Continuers	2021	152	92.1	68.4	49.3	30.3	21.1	13.2	7.2
	2020	212	91.5	73.1	44.8	22.6	14.6	9.0	5.7
German Extension	2021	45	75.6	51.1	22.2	6.7	2.2		
	2020	55	89.1	49.1	10.9				
Indonesian Continuers	2021	62	88.7	80.6	54.8	43.5	30.6	21.0	6.5
	2020	78	92.3	82.1	71.8	50.0	34.6	21.8	7.7
Italian Beginners	2021	321	97.2	89.1	77.9	65.7	49.8	34.9	18.4
	2020	306	95.8	87.9	75.5	58.2	46.1	32.4	19.0
Italian Continuers	2021	198	96.0	83.3	57.6	40.4	24.7	11.1	7.6
	2020	210	91.9	74.8	63.3	43.3	26.7	11.4	6.7
Japanese Beginners	2021	545	99.3	93.9	83.1	68.6	54.3	39.1	26.2
	2020	635	98.9	92.9	78.9	67.1	54.2	38.9	26.3
Japanese Continuers	2021	632	95.9	82.1	64.2	43.2	25.8	14.2	6.2
	2020	671	93.3	79.6	63.3	46.3	30.3	16.4	7.2
Japanese Extension	2021	166	93.4	68.1	39.8	18.1	3.0	1.2	0.6
	2020	163	84.7	62.0	32.5	12.3	1.2	0.6	
Korean Beginners	2021	110	96.4	89.1	84.5	65.5	47.3	29.1	15.5
	2020	127	96.9	89.8	77.2	63.8	49.6	34.6	17.3

Table A5 Distributions of scaled marks by course: 2020 and 2021

Course	Year	Number	Percentage of students with scaled mark less than:						
			45	40	35	30	25	20	15
Latin Continuers	2021	154	65.6	30.5	19.5	8.4	4.5	3.9	1.3
	2020	142	64.8	31.7	19.0	6.3	4.2	2.1	
Latin Extension	2021	101	58.4	30.7	16.8	6.9	5.0	3.0	
	2020	104	59.6	28.8	12.5	7.7	2.9	1.0	
Modern Greek Beginners	2021	69	94.2	79.7	69.6	52.2	37.7	26.1	14.5
	2020	70	95.7	82.9	65.7	54.3	40.0	22.9	15.7
Modern Greek Continuers	2021	53	92.5	81.1	64.2	58.5	45.3	26.4	11.3
	2020	72	97.2	90.3	69.4	55.6	38.9	25.0	12.5
Spanish Beginners	2021	275	97.8	90.9	78.5	66.5	50.5	37.5	23.6
	2020	328	96.3	89.3	79.9	67.4	53.4	37.8	24.4
Spanish Continuers	2021	155	98.1	88.4	80.0	66.5	43.9	26.5	17.4
	2020	164	98.8	90.9	80.5	62.2	43.3	27.4	15.2
Spanish Extension	2021	51	98.0	92.2	74.5	52.9	15.7	2.0	2.0
	2020	53	96.2	90.6	71.7	43.4	18.9	1.9	1.9
Vietnamese Continuers	2021	217	98.6	94.5	87.6	74.2	59.4	43.3	25.3
	2020	190	98.9	93.7	88.9	80.0	71.6	57.4	37.4
Automotive Exam	2021	219		100.0	99.1	96.3	85.4	72.1	59.4
	2020	237		100.0	98.7	92.4	84.8	75.5	62.0
Business Services Exam	2021	1,276	100.0	96.7	91.5	81.7	70.1	55.2	38.5
	2020	1,155	100.0	98.4	92.8	82.6	72.1	57.0	41.7
Construction Exam	2021	1,607		100.0	97.4	89.7	80.5	67.5	50.5
	2020	1,741		100.0	96.9	90.4	81.2	67.2	52.0
Electrotechnology Exam	2021	231		100.0	97.0	90.0	81.0	61.9	37.2
	2020	223		100.0	96.4	87.9	77.1	62.8	41.3
Entertainment Industry Exam	2021	827	100.0	98.5	92.0	81.7	67.2	45.9	27.8
	2020	713	100.0	98.2	92.0	81.1	65.2	47.7	28.5
Financial Services Exam	2021	111	97.3	88.3	80.2	66.7	49.5	26.1	10.8
	2020	80	96.3	87.5	73.8	62.5	42.5	26.3	6.3
Hospitality Exam	2021	4,467	100.0	98.9	93.2	83.3	70.0	53.7	37.5
	2020	4,337	100.0	98.9	92.5	82.4	69.2	53.5	36.2
Human Services Exam	2021	673	100.0	97.2	90.2	82.9	68.1	50.4	34.2
	2020	705	100.0	98.4	92.9	82.3	68.8	50.2	33.3
Information & Digital Technology Exam	2021	418	100.0	97.4	90.0	80.6	66.0	46.7	27.8
	2020	466	100.0	98.1	92.3	82.0	70.0	52.1	36.3
Primary Industries Exam	2021	526	100.0	98.5	93.9	85.2	72.6	62.4	42.4
	2020	520	100.0	99.8	97.5	87.7	75.8	57.3	44.4
Retail Services Exam	2021	776	100.0	98.5	93.0	85.6	76.8	65.6	51.4
	2020	825	100.0	97.6	92.6	86.4	76.6	65.7	47.2
Tourism, Travel & Events Exam	2021	133	100.0	95.5	91.0	79.7	63.2	46.6	28.6
	2020	161	99.4	93.2	85.1	74.5	60.2	46.0	28.0

Table A6 Courses that contribute to the ATAR (more than 10 units)

- Notes: (i) This table shows the percentage of the course candidature who completed more than 10 units of ATAR courses and for whom *all* units of that course contributed to their ATAR.
- (ii) The **Number receiving ATAR** column shows the number of students who did the course in 2021 or a previous year, and received an ATAR in 2021.
- (iii) The **ATAR students with > 10 units** columns show the number and percentage of ATAR students who completed more than 10 units of ATAR courses.
- (iv) The **Percentage who counted course** column shows the percentage of the ATAR students who completed more than 10 units of ATAR courses for whom all units of that course contributed towards their ATAR.
- (v) The **Maximum ATAR including the course** column shows the maximum ATAR of any student doing the course in any year and including all units from that course in their ATAR calculation.
- (vi) The table excludes courses with less than 10 students.

Course	Number receiving ATAR	ATAR students with > 10 units			Maximum ATAR including the course
		Number	Percentage	Percentage who counted course	
Aboriginal Studies	420	122	29	76	98.35
Agriculture	1,118	407	36	72	99.70
Ancient History	5,768	2,156	37	84	99.85
Biology	17,949	7,315	41	81	99.95
Business Studies	16,381	5,506	34	85	99.95
Chemistry	9,800	5,632	57	74	99.95
Community & Family Studies	7,237	2,075	29	87	99.10
Dance	802	223	28	64	99.90
Design & Technology	3,026	1,068	35	73	99.80
Drama	3,452	1,191	35	75	99.90
Earth & Environmental Science	2,101	668	32	83	99.40
Economics	5,009	2,527	50	77	99.95
Engineering Studies	2,288	1,126	49	72	99.70
English Studies Exam	559	107	19	100	84.20
English Standard	28,391	7,682	27	100	99.65
English Advanced	24,203	11,577	48	99	99.95
English EAL/D	1,688	510	30	100	99.90
English Extension 1	3,400	2,310	68	89	99.95
English Extension 2	1,309	794	61	84	99.95
Food Technology	2,918	859	29	85	99.30
Geography	4,087	1,634	40	81	99.95
Industrial Technology	3,799	1,111	29	78	96.55
Information Processes & Technology	1,738	706	41	75	99.90
Investigating Science	2,413	803	33	84	99.75
Legal Studies	10,158	3,649	36	85	99.95
Mathematics Standard 1 Exam	873	191	22	52	91.65
Mathematics Standard 2	27,544	7,775	28	71	99.80
Mathematics Advanced	15,920	8,595	54	73	99.95
Mathematics Extension 1	8,466	6,026	71	90	99.95
Mathematics Extension 2	3,160	1,691	54	98	99.95
Modern History	10,065	4,085	41	84	99.95
History Extension	1,733	1,366	79	83	99.95

Table A6 Courses that contribute to the ATAR (more than 10 units)

Course	Number receiving ATAR	ATAR students with > 10 units			Maximum ATAR including the course
		Number	Percentage	Percentage who counted course	
Music 1	3,893	1,374	35	67	99.65
Music 2	722	506	70	71	99.95
Music Extension	380	312	82	67	99.95
PDH&PE	14,883	4,698	32	82	99.85
Physics	7,835	4,359	56	75	99.95
Science Extension	712	582	82	79	99.90
Society & Culture	4,357	1,249	29	86	99.60
Software Design & Development	1,612	762	47	72	99.95
Studies of Religion I	8,008	6,922	86	81	99.95
Studies of Religion II	5,949	1,616	27	83	99.85
Textiles & Design	1,019	277	27	82	99.40
Visual Arts	7,134	2,241	31	76	99.90
Arabic Continuers	227	83	37	75	98.15
Arabic Extension	58	48	83	83	95.25
Armenian Continuers	23	13	57	85	95.65
Chinese Beginners	70	31	44	61	96.80
Chinese Continuers	206	120	58	66	99.95
Chinese Extension	48	40	83	78	99.95
Chinese & Literature	364	133	37	63	99.60
Chinese in Context	124	66	53	56	99.75
Classical Greek Continuers	12	10	83	80	99.95
Classical Hebrew Continuers	29	17	59	88	98.95
Classical Hebrew Extension	15	15	100	73	98.95
French Beginners	342	123	36	72	99.95
French Continuers	600	389	65	67	99.95
French Extension	134	115	86	82	99.95
German Beginners	96	42	44	71	99.25
German Continuers	168	105	63	68	99.95
German Extension	46	41	89	85	99.95
Hindi Continuers	15	12	80	50	99.20
Indonesian Beginners	19	3	16	67	82.95
Indonesian Continuers	58	38	66	71	99.45
Indonesian Extension	17	15	88	60	99.45
Indonesian & Literature	12	3	25	33	95.95
Italian Beginners	284	127	45	66	99.85
Italian Continuers	187	112	60	56	99.95
Italian Extension	33	27	82	89	99.95
Japanese Beginners	506	161	32	65	99.80
Japanese Continuers	654	361	55	64	99.75
Japanese Extension	169	110	65	88	99.55
Japanese & Literature	10	3	30	33	98.15
Japanese in Context	32	13	41	62	99.10
Korean Beginners	107	39	36	72	99.80

Table A6 Courses that contribute to the ATAR (more than 10 units)

Course	Number receiving ATAR	ATAR students with > 10 units			Maximum ATAR including the course
		Number	Percentage	Percentage who counted course	
Korean Continuers	18	9	50	67	96.30
Korean & Literature	24	7	29	43	98.00
Korean in Context	42	14	33	57	94.20
Latin Continuers	151	133	88	62	99.95
Latin Extension	100	88	88	65	99.95
Macedonian Continuers	25	18	72	50	98.00
Modern Greek Beginners	65	35	54	63	99.50
Modern Greek Continuers	53	38	72	53	99.35
Modern Greek Extension	16	14	88	71	97.70
Modern Hebrew Continuers	32	19	59	58	97.45
Persian Continuers	26	10	38	60	88.25
Polish Continuers	15	9	60	56	86.70
Portuguese Continuers	15	4	27	50	92.85
Punjabi Continuers	26	20	77	60	99.20
Russian Continuers	16	5	31	80	98.70
Serbian Continuers	12	7	58	57	97.85
Spanish Beginners	248	78	31	71	99.70
Spanish Continuers	151	74	49	74	99.50
Spanish Extension	51	43	84	86	96.55
Tamil Continuers	36	22	61	45	98.70
Turkish Continuers	34	11	32	45	91.65
Vietnamese Continuers	205	77	38	70	99.85
Automotive Exam	117	41	35	61	86.00
Business Services Exam	1,000	376	38	76	98.25
Construction Exam	1,170	357	31	79	94.00
Electrotechnology Exam	161	47	29	72	93.00
Entertainment Industry Exam	708	233	33	73	98.30
Financial Services Exam	85	24	28	67	99.00
Hospitality Exam	3,895	1,186	30	76	99.00
Human Services Exam	605	239	40	72	96.35
Information & Digital Technology Exam	375	150	40	69	97.35
Primary Industries Exam	400	140	35	69	95.45
Retail Services Exam	613	219	36	62	97.25
Tourism, Travel & Events Exam	116	34	29	68	96.35

Table A7 ATAR distribution

- Note: (i) This table shows the number of students receiving each ATAR from 99.95 to 99.00 and the number corresponding to the stated ATAR ranges down to 30.00–30.95.
- (ii) The median ATAR in 2021 was 70.40.

ATAR	Number	Number on or above	Percentage on or above
99.95	48	48	0.1
99.90	44	92	0.2
99.85	48	140	0.3
99.80	46	186	0.3
99.75	45	231	0.4
99.70	47	278	0.5
99.65	49	327	0.6
99.60	46	373	0.7
99.55	47	420	0.8
99.50	48	468	0.9
99.45	43	511	0.9
99.40	48	559	1.0
99.35	50	609	1.1
99.30	42	651	1.2
99.25	48	699	1.3
99.20	49	748	1.4
99.15	45	793	1.4
99.10	45	838	1.5
99.05	51	889	1.6
99.00	52	941	1.7
99.00 - 99.95	941	941	1.7
98.00 - 98.95	937	1,878	3.4
97.00 - 97.95	938	2,816	5.1
96.00 - 96.95	944	3,760	6.9
95.00 - 95.95	939	4,699	8.6
94.00 - 94.95	945	5,644	10.3
93.00 - 93.95	937	6,581	12.0
92.00 - 92.95	937	7,518	13.7
91.00 - 91.95	938	8,456	15.4
90.00 - 90.95	931	9,387	17.1
89.00 - 89.95	943	10,330	18.8
88.00 - 88.95	948	11,278	20.6
87.00 - 87.95	929	12,207	22.3
86.00 - 86.95	944	13,151	24.0
85.00 - 85.95	931	14,082	25.7
84.00 - 84.95	927	15,009	27.4
83.00 - 83.95	939	15,948	29.1
82.00 - 82.95	925	16,873	30.8
81.00 - 81.95	934	17,807	32.5
80.00 - 80.95	951	18,758	34.2
79.00 - 79.95	908	19,666	35.9
78.00 - 78.95	913	20,579	37.5

Table A7 ATAR distribution

ATAR	Number	Number on or above	Percentage on or above
77.00 - 77.95	916	21,495	39.2
76.00 - 76.95	925	22,420	40.9
75.00 - 75.95	904	23,324	42.5
74.00 - 74.95	906	24,230	44.2
73.00 - 73.95	906	25,136	45.8
72.00 - 72.95	889	26,025	47.5
71.00 - 71.95	892	26,917	49.1
70.00 - 70.95	891	27,808	50.7
69.00 - 69.95	880	28,688	52.3
68.00 - 68.95	881	29,569	53.9
67.00 - 67.95	858	30,427	55.5
66.00 - 66.95	859	31,286	57.0
65.00 - 65.95	850	32,136	58.6
64.00 - 64.95	844	32,980	60.1
63.00 - 63.95	827	33,807	61.6
62.00 - 62.95	828	34,635	63.2
61.00 - 61.95	820	35,455	64.7
60.00 - 60.95	784	36,239	66.1
59.00 - 59.95	811	37,050	67.6
58.00 - 58.95	789	37,839	69.0
57.00 - 57.95	769	38,608	70.4
56.00 - 56.95	764	39,372	71.8
55.00 - 55.95	753	40,125	73.2
54.00 - 54.95	749	40,874	74.5
53.00 - 53.95	728	41,602	75.9
52.00 - 52.95	729	42,331	77.2
51.00 - 51.95	716	43,047	78.5
50.00 - 50.95	714	43,761	79.8
49.00 - 49.95	701	44,462	81.1
48.00 - 48.95	677	45,139	82.3
47.00 - 47.95	656	45,795	83.5
46.00 - 46.95	636	46,431	84.7
45.00 - 45.95	615	47,046	85.8
44.00 - 44.95	594	47,640	86.9
43.00 - 43.95	558	48,198	87.9
42.00 - 42.95	559	48,757	88.9
41.00 - 41.95	516	49,273	89.8
40.00 - 40.95	502	49,775	90.8
39.00 - 39.95	465	50,240	91.6
38.00 - 38.95	446	50,686	92.4
37.00 - 37.95	413	51,099	93.2
36.00 - 36.95	390	51,489	93.9
35.00 - 35.95	352	51,841	94.5
34.00 - 34.95	331	52,172	95.1
33.00 - 33.95	301	52,473	95.7
32.00 - 32.95	270	52,743	96.2
31.00 - 31.95	254	52,997	96.6
30.00 - 30.95	225	53,222	97.0

Table A8 ATAR percentiles: 2017–2021

Note: This table shows the ATAR at selected percentiles of the ATAR cohort.

Percentile	ATAR 2017	ATAR 2018	ATAR 2019	ATAR 2020	ATAR 2021
100	99.95	99.95	99.95	99.95	99.95
99	99.35	99.40	99.40	99.40	99.40
98	98.75	98.80	98.80	98.80	98.80
95	96.90	97.00	97.00	97.05	97.05
90	93.85	94.00	94.00	94.10	94.15
85	90.80	91.00	91.05	91.15	91.20
80	87.75	88.00	88.05	88.25	88.30
75	84.70	85.00	85.05	85.30	85.35
70	81.60	82.00	82.05	82.30	82.40
60	75.40	75.85	75.95	76.30	76.50
50	69.00	69.65	69.75	70.15	70.40
40	62.40	63.15	63.25	63.75	64.05
30	55.35	56.20	56.35	56.90	57.25

Table A9 Relationship between the ATAR and aggregates: 2017–2021

Note: This table shows the lowest aggregate of scaled marks corresponding to each of the selected ATARs.

ATAR	Lowest aggregate				
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
99.95	477.1	476.3	476.7	478.1	478.8
99.50	457.1	455.5	454.5	458.8	458.7
99.00	446.6	444.5	443.8	447.8	448.0
98.00	432.2	429.9	429.6	433.8	433.7
95.00	404.1	402.8	402.0	404.2	404.8
90.00	372.4	371.1	370.0	370.1	369.8
85.00	344.8	343.1	342.2	341.8	340.2
80.00	319.9	318.2	316.3	315.8	313.5
75.00	296.2	294.5	291.7	290.8	288.0
70.00	273.3	271.1	268.6	267.2	263.8
65.00	249.4	248.1	245.9	244.1	239.8
60.00	226.6	224.1	223.5	221.1	217.2
55.00	204.2	201.0	200.2	198.3	195.4
50.00	182.0	178.0	176.8	175.5	172.8