

# Boston Public Schools

## Advanced Placement Enrollment and Test Performance

District AP Enrollment and Course Offerings: SY04-05 to SY11-12

### AP Enrollment and Courses Offered – Grades 11 & 12:

	District total Enrollment grades 11 & 12	District AP Enrollment grades 11 & 12 <sup>1</sup> (unique count)	Pct Enrolled in AP grades 11 & 12			Total AP courses offered		
			District	Non-exam	Exam	District	Non-exam	Exam
SY 11-12	8,521	2,474	<b>29%</b>	17%	76%	<b>147</b>	<b>94</b>	53
SY 10-11	8,756	2,363	<b>27%</b>	16%	70%	<b>152</b>	<b>104</b>	48
SY 09-10	8,685	2,304	<b>27%</b>	15%	71%	<b>136</b>	<b>92</b>	44
SY 08-09	8,768	2,140	<b>24%</b>	15%	63%	<b>138</b>	<b>87</b>	51
SY 07-08	8,813	1,902	<b>22%</b>	12%	61%	<b>119</b>	<b>71</b>	48
SY 06-07	8,775	1,736	<b>20%</b>	10%	62%	<b>115</b>	<b>67</b>	48
SY 05-06	8,651	1,718	<b>20%</b>	10%	61%	<b>108</b>	<b>61</b>	47
SY 04-05	8,186	1,582	<b>19%</b>	10%	56%	<b>99</b>	<b>55</b>	44

- The number of BPS 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders taking AP courses has never been higher. In 2012, just short of a third of juniors and seniors took at least one AP course. These gains are even more remarkable in the context of the overall dip in enrollment between 2011 and 2012. In fact over the last 8 years, the AP enrollment figure has increased by 56%.
- The gains in AP enrollment can be seen in both exam schools and non-exam schools. In the latter, only 10% of students took an AP course six years ago; by 2012, 17% had taken at least once course. In exam schools, three quarters of all juniors and seniors took an AP course last year.

### AP Enrollment by Race – Grades 11 and 12:

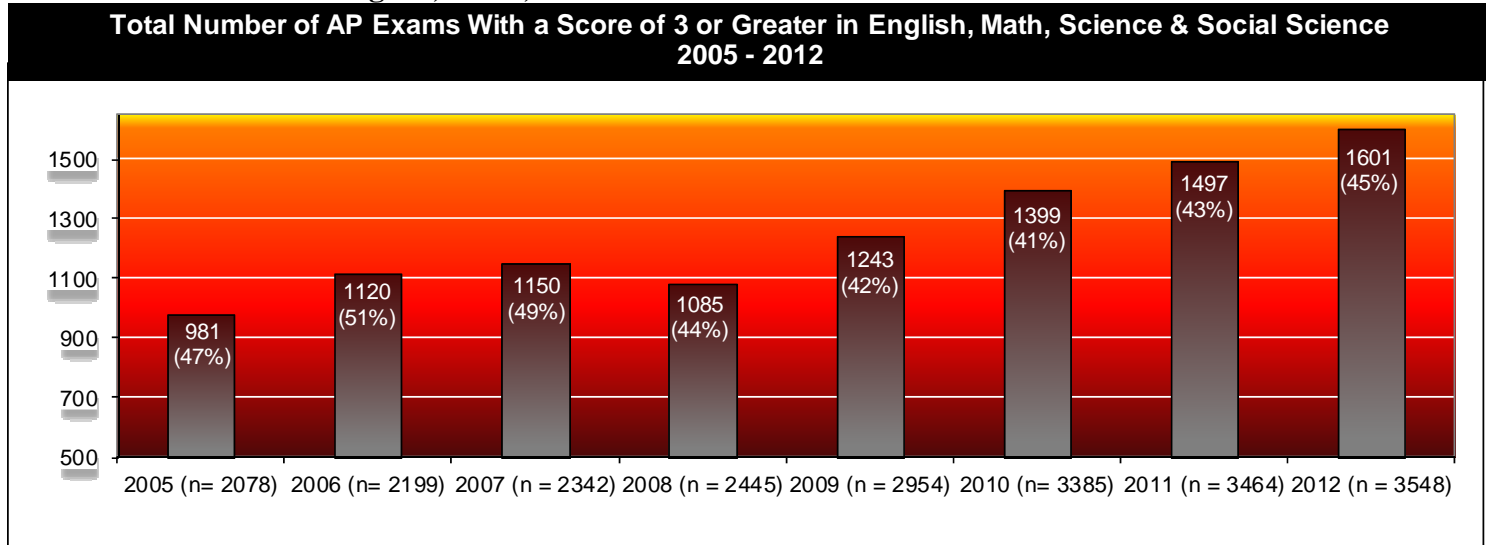
	Pct Enrolled in AP grades 11 & 12 by Race				District total Enrollment in grades 11 & 12 by Race			
	African American/Black	White	Asian	Hispanic	African American/Black	White	Asian	Hispanic
SY 11-12	<b>29%</b>	22%	20%	<b>27%</b>	40%	13%	11%	35%
SY 10-11	<b>30%</b>	24%	19%	<b>26%</b>	40%	14%	10%	35%
SY 09-10	<b>28%</b>	25%	21%	<b>25%</b>	41%	14%	10%	34%
SY 08-09	<b>30%</b>	24%	23%	<b>22%</b>	42%	14%	10%	32%
SY 07-08	<b>31%</b>	26%	23%	<b>19%</b>	44%	15%	10%	31%
SY 06-07	28%	29%	26%	17%	45%	15%	9%	30%
SY 05-06	27%	28%	25%	20%	48%	15%	10%	27%
SY 04-05	29%	28%	26%	17%	49%	16%	10%	25%

- White and Asian students continue to be overrepresented in the AP course-takers population compared to their overall distribution in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. However, there is a narrowing of the gap in terms of the racial distribution of students who take AP courses: while Black and Hispanic students together made up less than 50% of the AP population until 06-07, that trend changed in 07-08 and continues this year, with Blacks and Hispanics representing 56% of the district's total 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade AP enrollment; and African American students constitute a plurality (29%) of the AP population in 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

<sup>1</sup> In the SY2008-09 AP Report, these numbers were slightly different and represented February enrollment, not the October 1 enrollment reported here.

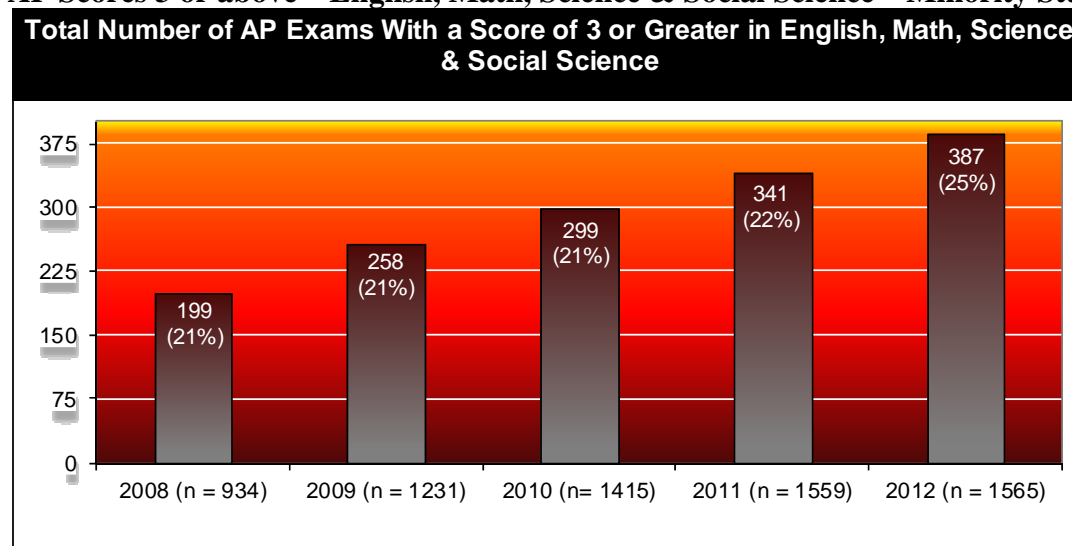
## AP Performance by Subject: Exams with Scores 3, 4, or 5 SY04-05 to SY11-12

### AP Scores 3 or above – English, Math, Science & Social Science:



- The total number of AP tests taken by BPS students has increased significantly since 2005. In 2005, students took 2,078 tests in English, Math, Science and Social Science; by 2012, the number of AP tests taken in those subject areas had risen to 3,548. More importantly, given the 71% increase in the number of tests taken, it is noteworthy that the percentage of qualifying exams (with a score of 3 or above) has remained relatively steady over the eight year period; and seen incremental gains over the last three.
- The number of qualifying exams continues to grow each year: compared to 2011, there were 7% more tests with a score of 3 or higher; and compared to 2005, there was a 63% gain in the number of qualifying exams.

### AP Scores 3 or above – English, Math, Science & Social Science – Minority Students\* :



\* African American / Black, Hispanic, and Native American.

- Over the past five years, the number of minority students enrolled in AP courses increased steadily, from 958 students in 2008 to 1,413 in 2012. Their performance on the exams has improved as well, with 387 qualifying exams in 2012. This represents a 14% increase compared to the previous year, and a 95% increase since 2008. Additionally, while the number of qualifying exams as a percentage of total exams taken remains relatively low at 25%, this statistic has not declined over the last three years as would be expected with the increase in number of tests taken; in fact, the percentage of qualifying exams has risen 3 percentage points since 2011.