

**Information on
Advanced Placement Program
Florida and the Nation
Public Schools Only
1987-2006
Preliminary**

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Florida Department of Education

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Summary – Trends in Advanced Placement Examinations*
Florida and the Nation – 1987-2006
Public Schools Only

- Increasing numbers of Florida’s high school students are taking and passing Advanced Placement (AP) examinations. This increase in participation is reflected in trends that show more AP test takers, more subject exams taken, more exams taken per student, and more exams with a grade of 3 or higher. (See page 1.)
- According to College Board, Florida had the greatest increase in the number of AP public school exam takers when compared to all other states from 2005 to 2006, as well as the greatest increase in the number of exams taken and the fourth greatest increase in the number of students receiving grade 3 or higher.
- From 2005 to 2006 the number of Florida AP test takers and AP exams taken increased by 16%, compared to 10% for the nation. (See page 2.) Florida AP test takers also take more exams per person than do students nationwide, average 1.8 exams per test taker, compared to 1.7 for the nation.
- Much of the growth of AP in Florida has taken place during the last five years. The total number of exams taken from 2001 to 2006 increased by 117%, compared to 58% from 1996 to 2001. The other measures show similar trends. (See page 3.)
- Florida AP participation is increasing at a faster rate than the nation. For example, between 2001 and 2006 the number of Florida AP test takers increased by 111%, compared to 65% for the nation, with nearly the same percentage increases in the number of exams taken. The number of exams receiving a score of 3-5 increased by 86% for Florida, compared to 64% for the nation. (See page 4.)
- Increases among minority exam takers were even higher. From 2005 to 2006 Florida had the greatest increase in the number of African-American public school AP test takers when compared to all other states and the second greatest increase in the number of Hispanic test takers. Overall, the number of minority students taking AP exams in Florida increased by 19% compared to 11% for white non-Hispanics. (See page 5.) The number of African-American AP test takers increased by 21%, the number of Hispanics by 19%.
- Compared to the nation, a smaller percentage of the AP test takers are white non-Hispanic or Asians and a larger percentage are African American or Hispanic. Ten percent of Florida’s AP test takers are African Americans and 24% are Hispanic, compared to 7% and 14%, respectively, for the nation. (See page 6.)
- Although AP courses are sometimes taken by 10th grade students and even a few 9th grade students, one measure of the increase in AP exams is the number of test takers and exams as a percentage of all 11th and 12th grade students. Both measures nearly doubled over the last ten years. The number of test takers as a percentage of 11th and 12th grade students grew from

* The Advanced Placement Program (AP) allows students to pursue college-level studies while they are still in high school. The program includes 35 courses and exams in 20 subject areas. Exams yield grades from 1 to 5. Many colleges and universities grant credit, advanced placement, or both to students for AP exam grades of 3 or higher.

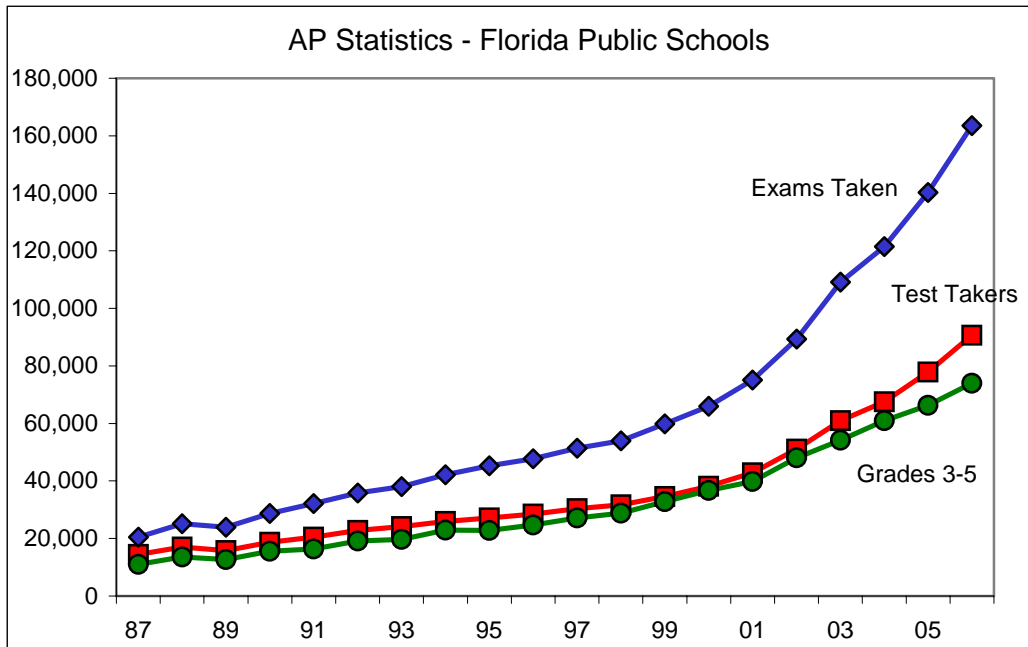
13% to 24% in the last ten years, and the number of exams taken grew from 22% to 43%. (See page 7.)

- Although the number of test takers as a percentage of all 11th and 12th grade students has increased for all subgroups, the percentages vary significantly. The number of Florida Asian AP test takers represents 60% of the Asian 11th and 12th grade students; Hispanics, 28%; white non-Hispanics, 27%; and African Americans, 12%. (See page 8.)
- Although there was an 11% increase in the number of exams receiving a grade of 3-5, the percentage of exams 3 and above decreased from 47% in 2005 to 45% in 2006. (See page 9.) The percentages ranged from nearly 50% of the exams taken by Asians to 24% of the exams taken by African Americans. Although the percentages for African Americans are lower than other groups, 3,326 exams taken by African-Americans received a 3, 4, or 5--267 more than the prior year.
- Approximately 40% more females than males in Florida take AP exams. (See page 8.) One reason for this is that there are more females in 11th and 12th grade than there are males. Even given this difference, a larger percentage of female students take AP exams. Female test takers represent 30% of the 11th and 12th grade females, compared to 22% for males.
- However, female test takers take a slightly smaller average of exams than do males. In 2006 the exam rate for females was 1.76, compared to 1.86 for males. (See page 10.) Females also have significantly fewer grades of 3-5 than males. The percentage receiving grades of 3-5 in 2006 was 42% for females and 50% for males. (See page 9.)

Participation in the Advanced Placement Program
Florida Public Schools
1987-2006

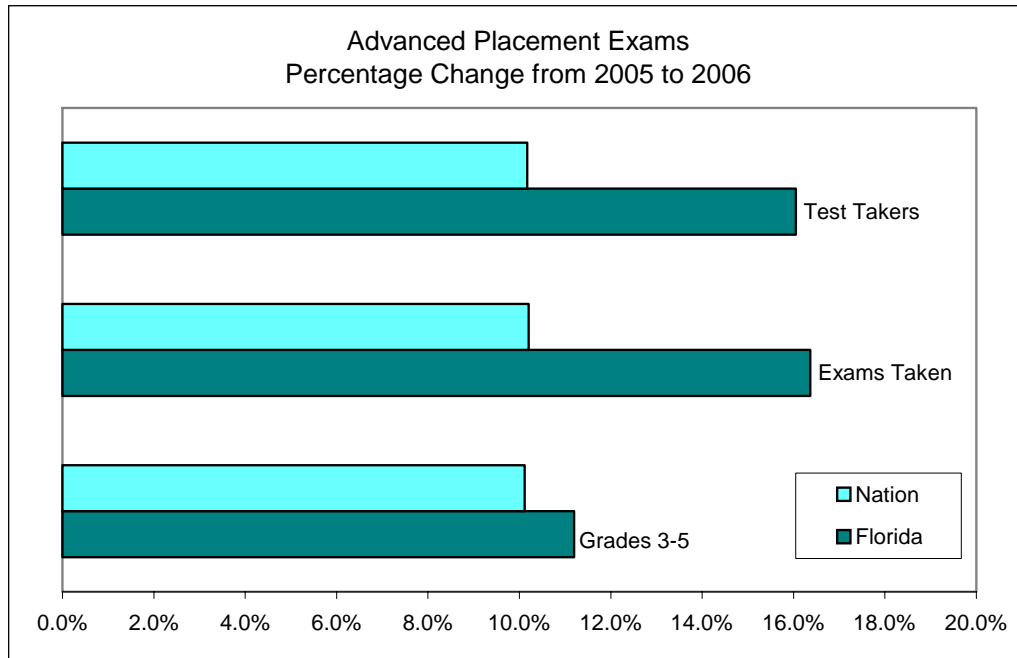
Year	Number Students Taking Exams	Total Number Exams Taken	Exams with Score of 3 to 5	Percentage with Score of 3 to 5 *
1987	14,510	20,430	10,976	53.7
1988	17,043	25,111	13,538	53.9
1989	15,807	23,963	12,653	52.8
1990	18,702	28,713	15,616	54.4
1991	20,521	32,137	16,402	51.0
1992	22,759	35,769	19,136	53.5
1993	24,099	38,030	19,700	51.8
1994	25,870	42,154	22,897	54.3
1995	27,186	45,306	22,782	50.3
1996	28,491	47,672	24,728	51.9
1997	30,356	51,400	27,199	52.9
1998	31,758	53,976	28,801	53.4
1999	34,607	59,811	32,775	54.8
2000	38,185	65,922	36,691	55.7
2001	42,878	75,096	39,794	53.0
2002	51,070	89,295	48,004	53.8
2003	60,978	109,175	54,193	49.6
2004	67,559	121,491	60,923	50.1
2005	78,121	140,535	66,511	47.3
2006	90,661	163,531	73,957	45.2

*Advanced Placement (AP) scores range from 1 to 5. Many universities grant college credit for examinations with a score of 3 or higher.



Participation on Advanced Placement Examinations
2005 and 2006
Florida and the Nation

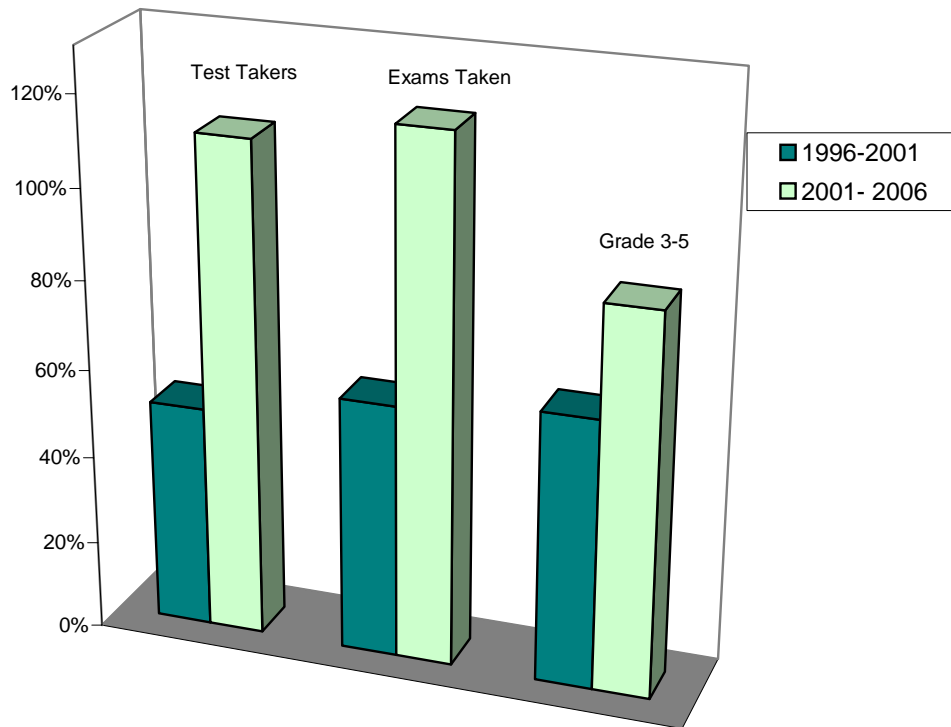
	Florida			Nation		
	2005	2006	% Increase	2005	2006	% Increase
Test Takers	78,121	90,661	16.1	1,027,300	1,131,835	10.2
Exams Taken	140,535	163,531	16.4	1,763,550	1,943,565	10.2
Average Number of Exams Per Candidate	1.80	1.80		1.72	1.72	
Grades 3-5	66,511	73,957	11.2	1,015,478	1,118,164	10.1



Participation in the Advanced Placement Program
Florida Public Schools
2001-2006, Compared to 1996-2001

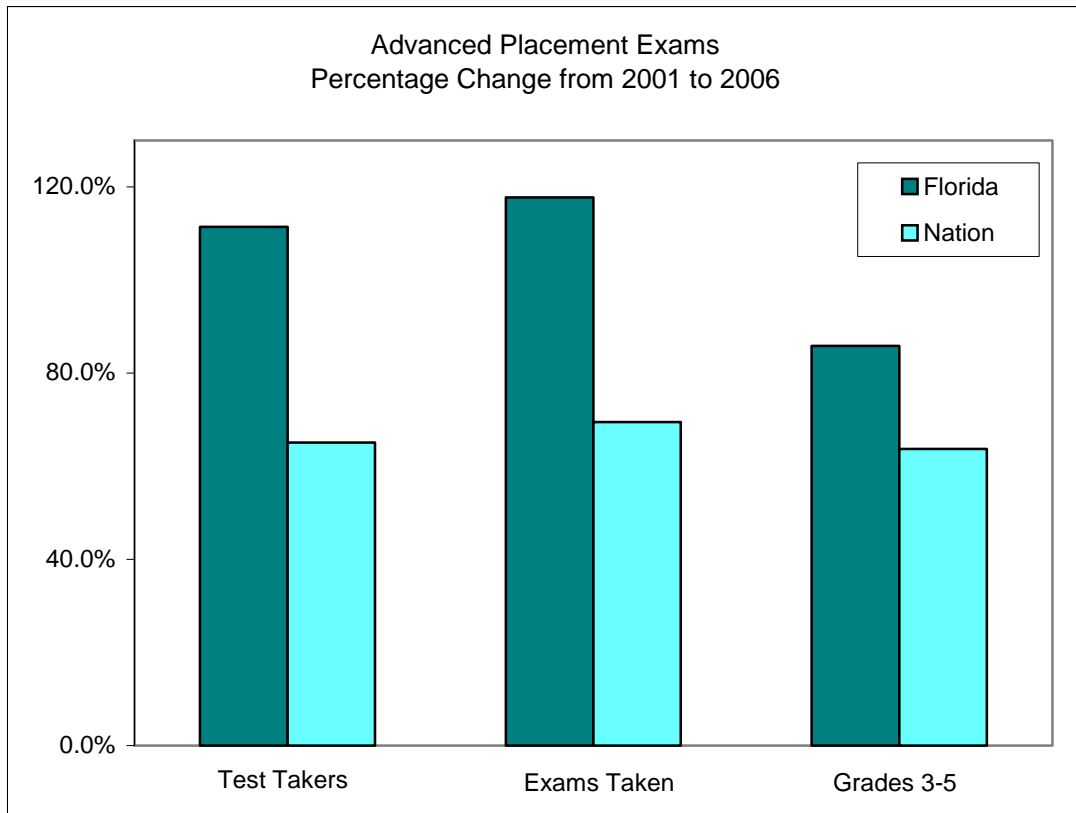
Year	Number Students Taking Exams	Total Number Exams Taken	Exams with Scores 3 or Higher
1996	28,491	47,672	24,728
2001	42,878	75,096	39,794
% Increase 1996 to 2001	50.5	57.5	60.9
2006	90,661	163,531	73,957
% Increase 2001 to 2006	111.4	117.8	85.8

Percentage Growth in Participation in AP in Florida, 2001-2006
Compared to 1996-2001



**Participation in Advanced Placement Examinations
Florida and the Nation - 2001 to 2006**

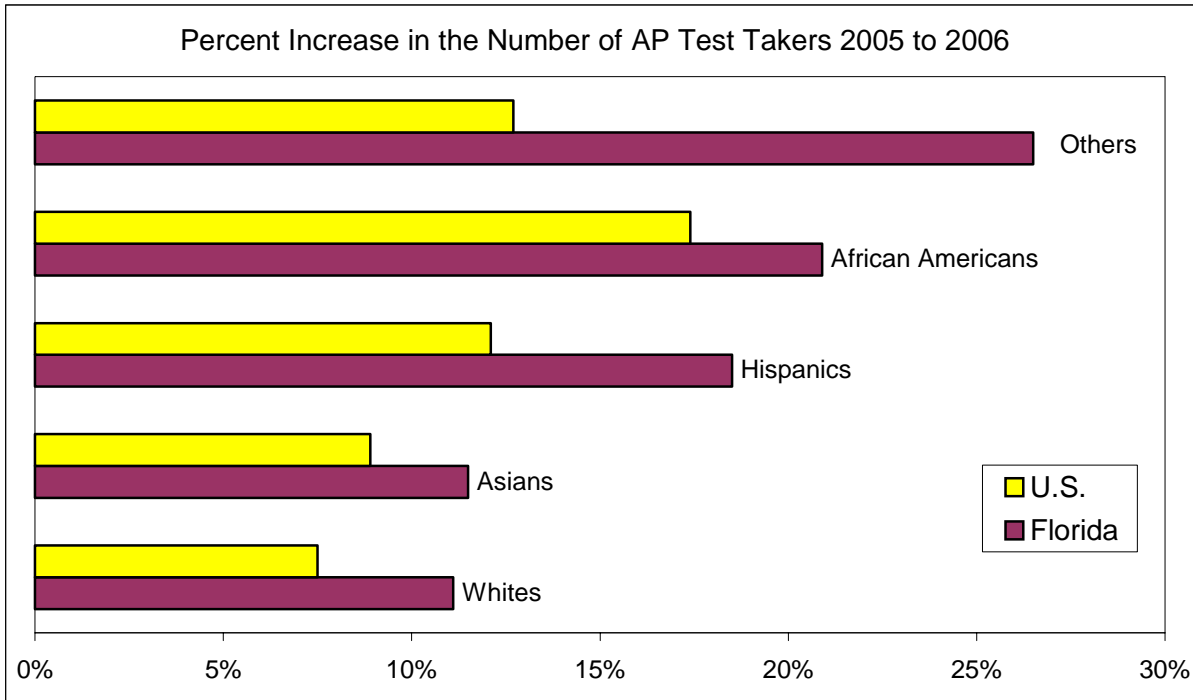
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% Increase 01 to 06
FLORIDA							
Test Takers	42,878	51,070	60,978	67,559	78,121	90,661	111.4
Exams Taken	75,096	89,295	109,175	121,491	140,535	163,531	117.8
Grades 3-5	39,794	48,004	54,193	60,923	66,511	73,957	85.8
NATION							
Test Takers	685,633	766,537	841,848	912,733	1,027,300	1,131,835	65.1
Exams Taken	1,146,697	1,294,137	1,432,478	1,557,951	1,763,550	1,943,565	69.5
Grades 3-5	682,849	794,743	855,760	929,814	1,015,478	1,118,164	63.7



**Increase in the Number of Advanced Placement Test Takers
Florida and the Nation**

	Florida			Nation		
	2005	2006	% Increase	2005	2006	% Increase
Total	78,121	90,661	16.1	1,027,300	1,131,835	10.2
Males	32,276	37,728	16.9	441,107	486,970	10.4
Females	45,845	52,933	15.5	586,193	644,865	10.0
Whites	43,894	48,772	11.1	641,034	689,227	7.5
African Americans	7,270	8,788	20.9	61,780	72,522	17.4
Hispanics	17,233	20,421	18.5	135,056	151,436	12.1
Asians	5,054	5,634	11.5	120,630	131,413	8.9
Others	2,649	3,352	26.5	37,998	42,809	12.7
Total Responded	76,100	86,967	14.3	996,498	1,087,407	9.1
Minorities	32,206	38,195	18.6	355,464	398,180	12.0
No Response*	2,021	3,694	82.8	30,802	44,428	44.2
Total	110,327	128,856	16.8	1,382,764	1,530,015	10.6

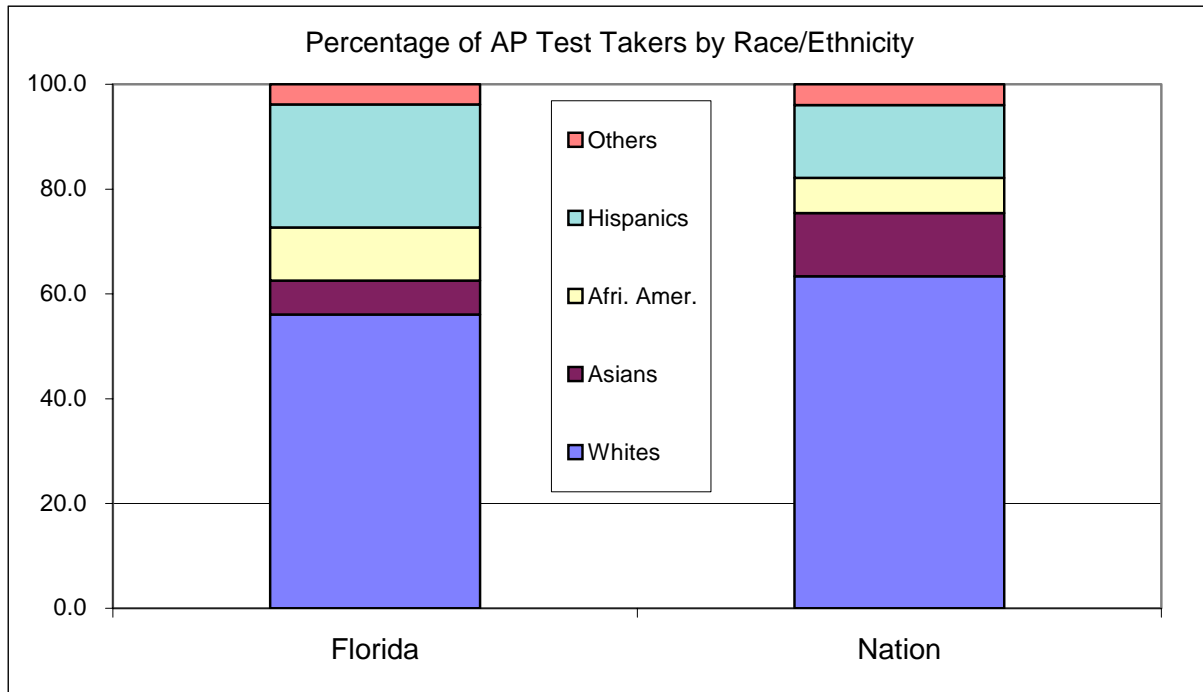
*Students who did not indicate their race/ethnicity



**Number of AP Test Takers by Race/Ethnicity
Florida and the Nation**

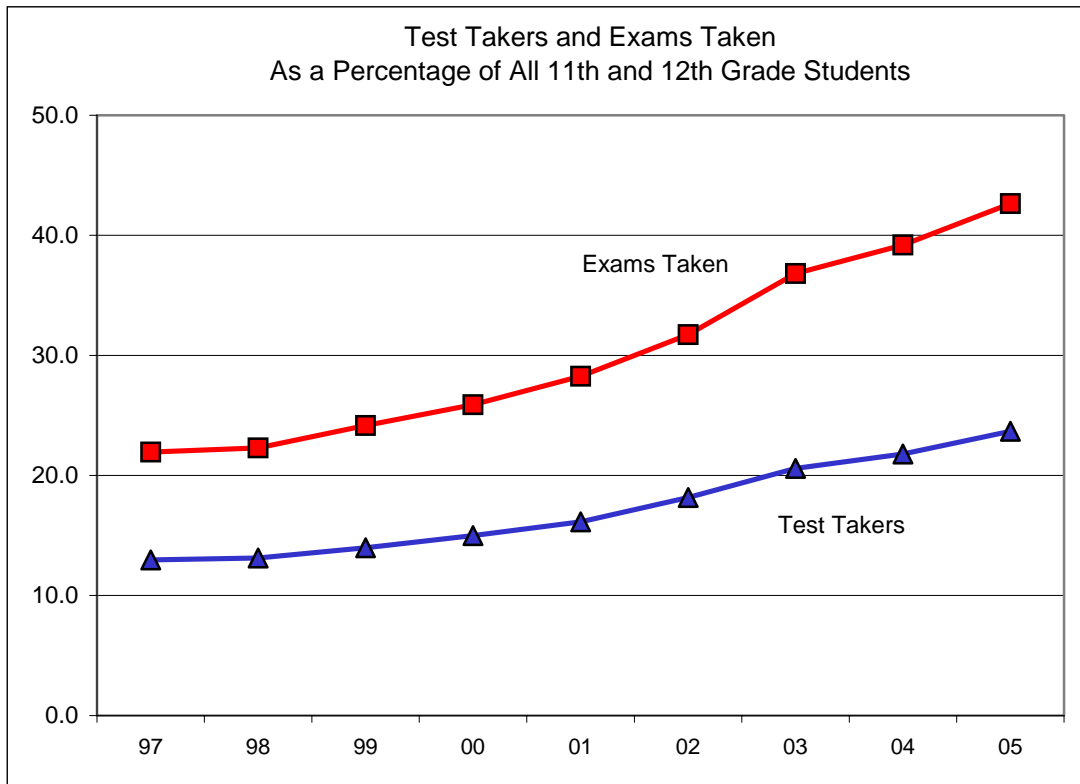
	Florida		Nation		Difference
	2006	% Increase	2006	% Increase	
Whites	48,772	56.1	689,227	63.4	7.3
African Americans	8,788	10.1	72,522	6.7	-3.4
Hispanics	20,421	23.5	151,436	13.9	-9.6
Asians	5,634	6.5	131,413	12.1	5.6
Others	3,352	3.9	42,809	3.9	0.0
Total Responded	86,967	100.0	1,087,407	100.0	
Minorities	38,195	43.9	398,180	36.6	-7.3
No Response*	3,694	2.9	44,428	2.9	0.0
Total	128,856	100.0	1,530,015	100.0	

*Students who did not indicate their race/ethnicity



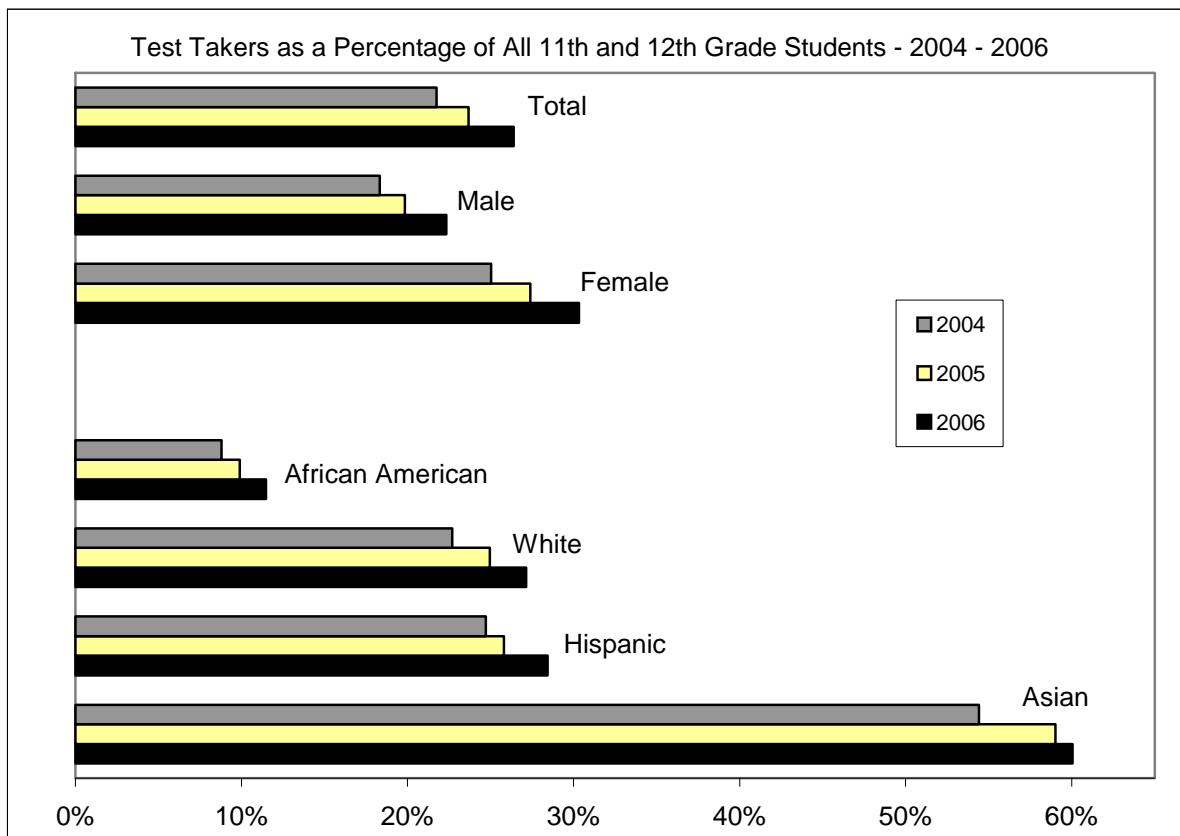
Participation in the Advanced Placement Program
Florida Public Schools
1997-2006

Year	Number as a Percentage of 11th & 12th Grade Students	
	Test Takers	Exams
1997	13.0	21.9
1998	13.1	22.3
1999	14.0	24.2
2000	15.0	25.9
2001	16.1	28.3
2002	18.2	31.7
2003	20.6	36.8
2004	21.8	39.2
2005	21.8	39.2
2006	23.7	42.7



Number of Florida AP Test Takers as a Percentage of 11th and 12th Grade Students

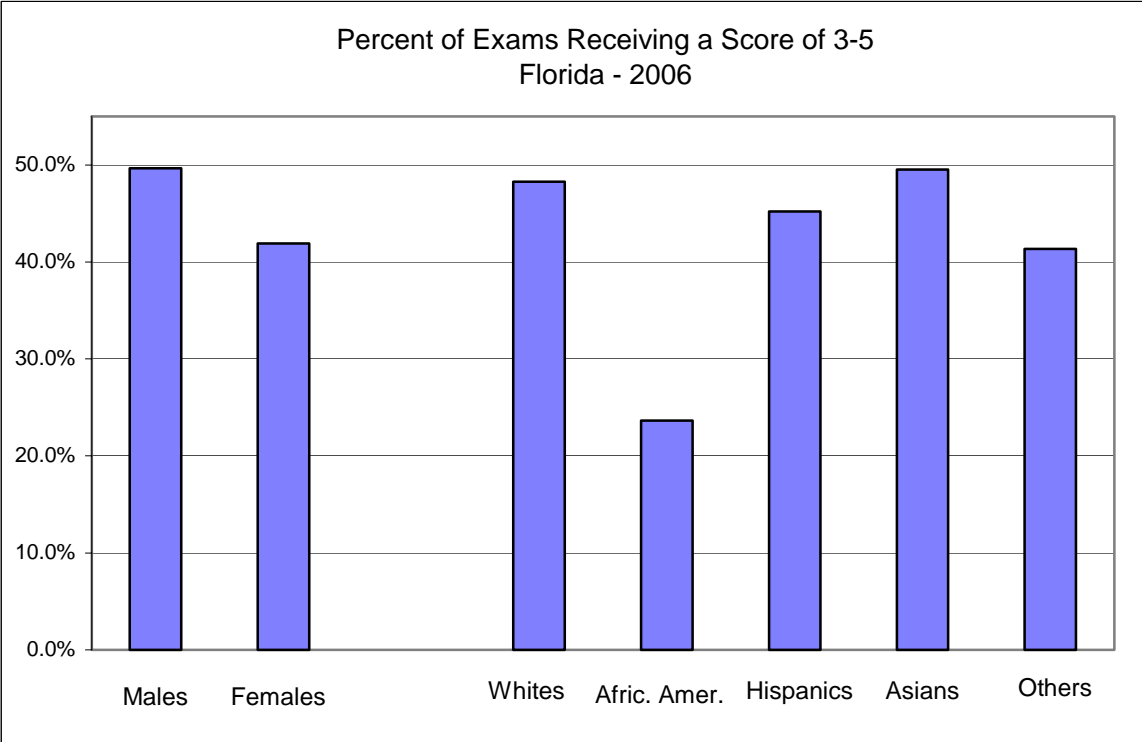
	2004			2005			2006		
	Test Takers	Enrollment 11th & 12th	%	Test Takers	Enrollment 11th & 12th	%	Test Takers	Enrollment 11th & 12th	%
Total	67,559	310,674	21.7	77,910	329,007	23.7	90,661	343,475	26.4
Male	27,963	152,467	18.3	32,177	162,113	19.8	37,728	168,867	22.3
Female	39,596	158,207	25.0	45,733	166,894	27.4	52,933	174,608	30.3
White	38,703	170,497	22.7	43,845	175,626	25.0	48,772	179,666	27.1
African American	6,038	68,625	8.8	7,260	73,442	9.9	8,788	76,623	11.5
Hispanic	14,710	59,522	24.7	17,101	66,285	25.8	20,421	71,809	28.4
Asian	4,342	7,979	54.4	5,053	8,562	59.0	5,634	9,383	60.0



**Number of Exams with a Score of 3 to 5
Florida - 2006**

	Exams	Exams 3-5	% 3-5
Total	163,531	73,957	45.2
Males	70,272	34,886	49.6
Females	93,259	39,071	41.9
Whites	88,110	42,547	48.3
African Americans	14,077	3,326	23.6
Hispanics	35,003	15,822	45.2
Asians	12,235	6,058	49.5
Others	5,869	2,426	41.3
Total Responded	155,294	70,179	45.2
No Response*	8,237	3,778	45.9
Total	163,531	73,957	45.2

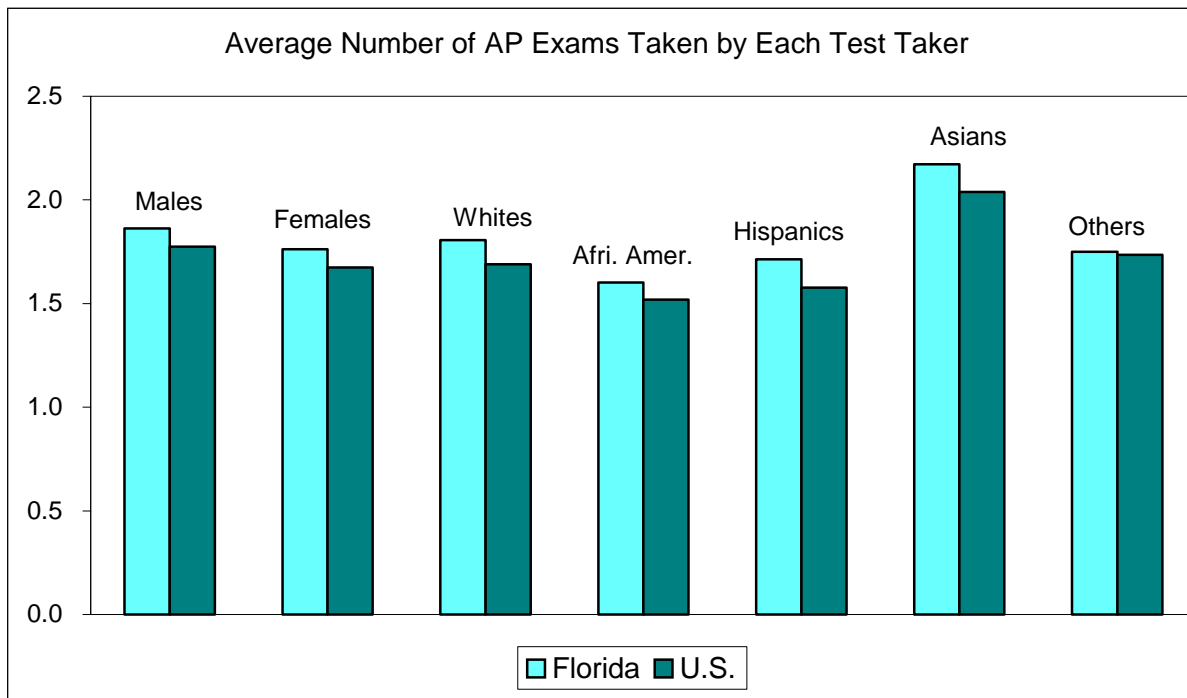
*Students who did not indicate their race/ethnicity



Average Number of Exams Taken
Florida and the Nation - 2006

	Florida			Nation		
	Test Takers	Exams	Average Number	Test Takers	Exams	Average Number
Total	90,661	163,531	1.80	1,131,835	1,943,565	1.72
Males	37,728	70,272	1.86	486,970	863,736	1.77
Females	52,933	93,259	1.76	644,865	1,079,829	1.67
Whites	48,772	88,110	1.81	689,227	1,164,867	1.69
African Americans	8,788	14,077	1.60	72,522	110,139	1.52
Hispanics	20,421	35,003	1.71	151,436	238,856	1.58
Asians	5,634	12,235	2.17	131,413	267,812	2.04
Others	3,352	5,869	1.75	42,809	74,257	1.73
Total Responded	86,967	155,294	1.79	1,087,407	1,855,931	1.71
No Response*	3,694	8,237	2.23	44,428	87,634	1.97
Total	90,661	163,531	1.80	1,131,835	1,943,565	1.72

*Students who did not indicate their race/ethnicity



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