

Key EBSS Findings: AP Human Geography

Breadth and depth of college data included in AP Human Geography standard settings over time:

		2025 Evidence-Based Standard Setting
Number of college professors	22	122
Number of unique colleges and universities	22	108
Number of college students represented	939	21,589

The 122 professors who participated in this process evaluated the difficulty of the AP Exam, and what grades their own college students would receive on it, in comparison to the grades their college students received this year:

	College Students' Actual Grades in Human Geography* 2024-25:	How Professors Would Grade Their Students on the AP Human Geography Exam:
A+/A	38%	5%
A-/B+/B	35%	15%
B-/C+/C	15%	24%
C-/D+/D	6%	23%

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D-/F	5%	33%
C or Higher	88%	44%

^{*}Common alternate course names: Cultural Geography, Introduction to Human Geography, World Geography, Cultural Anthropology, World Regional Geography, Introduction to Geography

The EBSS process found that the AP student population demonstrated strong academic abilities in comparison to students overall who take the comparable course in college, confirming that the AP standards remain significantly higher than those experienced by students who wait to take the intro course on campus:

EBSS Finding	AP Standards	College Standards
AP % of 3 or higher scores vs college % of Cs or higher in 2025	64%	88%
Average hours of instruction students received in this course	137	52
AP 3s vs College B-/C+/B: Average subsequent college course grade	3.50	2.98
AP 4s vs College A-/B+/B: Average subsequent college course grade	3.65	3.34
AP 5s vs College A+/A: Average subsequent college course grade	3.71	3.71

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Average SAT score: AP 5s vs College A+/A	1326	1229
Average SAT score: AP 3s vs College B-/C+/C	1128	1132

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