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## Vermont AP Exam Results Released for Class of 2010

**MONTPELIER** – Vermont high school seniors posted a strong showing on the 2010 College Board Advanced Placement (AP) exams, the Department of Education announced today.

The AP program offers high school students college-level courses in a variety of subject areas. In all, 2,126 Vermont students who graduated in 2010 participated in the AP program and took the exams. More students succeeded on the exam (1,460) than participated in AP 10 years ago (1,176).

AP exams are scored on a scale of one (lowest score) to five (highest score). Sixty-four percent of Vermont exams taken by high school seniors were scored at three or higher, compared to 56% nationally. A score of three or above is considered demonstrating college level mastery of the content. Vermont is twelfth in the nation for the percentage of high school seniors scoring a three or higher on the AP exams.

“Vermont students and educators should be very proud of these results,” said Deputy Commissioner Rae Ann Knopf. “Vermont students had the highest average score in the nation on both the World History and Microeconomics exams. More students than ever are taking these college-level courses, and succeeding. This is crucial to their success beyond high school and to our success as a state and a nation.”

More Vermont highlights include:

- 31.8% of all high school graduates participate in AP courses (national average 28.3%)
- 21.8% of high school graduates took the exam and demonstrated proficiency (national average 16.9%)
- Vermont leads the nation in demonstrated success in Microeconomics (94.5%)
- Vermont has nearly doubled its successful completion rate (11.9% in 2001 vs. 21.8% in 2010)

English AP courses were the most popular in Vermont and Calculus AB was second most popular. The number of low-income students taking the AP exam has also risen. Nine percent of the students taking the exam were from low-income backgrounds, 93 percent of whom scored a three or higher.

To see how Vermont compares nationally, please visit the College Board’s AP Report to the Nation, go to <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/data-reports-research/ap/nation>. To see access to AP by district: [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/press\\_releases.html](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/press_releases.html).

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