

2021 PhysicsBowl Results

Dear Physics Teachers,

Thank you for providing the opportunity for your students to participate in the AAPT PhysicsBowl contest! In spite of the challenging circumstances presented for the administration of this year's exam, there were nearly 5800 students participating from 243 schools from Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Macao, Singapore, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Vietnam, as well as 531 schools participating from China.

Including the large number of Chinese schools, the contest is in two parts, with Regions 00-14 competing for awards from AAPT, while ASDAN China is coordinating the contest in China. As a result, for simplicity in trying to read the long lists, there are three files: the list of winners in Regions 00-14, the list of winners in Regions 15-19, and a list of the top students/teams from all regions in both divisions.

Instructors from Regions 00-14 can obtain the scores of their students from the AAPT website. That link will be provided to you in an email from the national office. Please realize that we were able to retrieve some scores that were disqualified for improperly recording the required information and this was done after-the-fact. If the information was not encoded correctly, the student was automatically disqualified from winning awards even though we may be able to link that student to your code now. Some students provided no codes, the wrong regions, no name, just a last name, etc. There are a lot of records and we cannot go back and fill in missing information. While it is unfortunate to disqualify anyone, these are the rules of the contest. Sadly, some very high scores were disqualified. If you are still missing a student's score, please email jlane@aapt.org with student information (CEEB, teacher codes, etc.) and we can try to find the information.

Information is being provided to ASDAN China to find scores from Regions 15-19.

We will, as always, be trying to improve the contest and we look forward to your participation in 2022.

The statistics from this year's contest are shown below.

Division 1 had an average score of 16.1. Statistically, the easiest question was **#3** (78.6% correct) while the most difficult question was **#33** (10.1% correct). There were about 3600 exams scored and 591 teams.

Division 2 had an average score of 18.7. Statistically, the easiest question was **#16** (82.9% correct) while the most difficult question was **#49** (11.7% correct). There were about 2200 exams scored and 474 teams.

The development of a 40-question exam that works to balance a small percentage of very high scores with not being overly difficult for the majority of students is a very challenging task. As in previous years, and in an effort to continually improve this opportunity for students, adjustments will be made to future exams.

Statistics for exam

Average Score for Division 1 = **16.1** with a standard deviation of **7.2**

Average Score for Division 2 = **18.7** with a standard deviation of **7.0**

We look forward to having you participate in next year's contest! Please spread the word and encourage your colleagues to have their students participate in future contests.

Sincerely,



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