

Demographic data 2017

Frequency distributions by percentage

First language¹ (alphabetically)

The following tables show the distribution of grades (in percentages) per sub-test for the most common first languages² in 2017.

Listening

First language	A	B	C	D	E
Arabic	15.9%	62%	20.4%	1.6%	0%
Bengali	2.7%	68.5%	27.9%	0.9%	0%
Bisaya	0%	43.5%	56.5%	0%	0%
Burmese	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Cantonese	4.2%	56.7%	37.1%	2.1%	0%
Cebuano / Bisayan	2%	67.7%	29%	1.2%	0%
Chinese	1.6%	45.7%	48.7%	4%	0%
English	5.6%	58.6%	33.2%	2.6%	0%
Farsi / Persian	4.8%	55.6%	36.4%	3.2%	0%
Filipino	1.7%	69.8%	26.9%	1.6%	0%
Gujarati	2.3%	72.2%	25%	0.5%	0%
Hebrew	2.5%	60.7%	32.6%	4.2%	0%
Hindi	2.8%	56%	37.6%	3.7%	0%
Japanese	0.4%	40.3%	53.4%	5.9%	0%
Konkani	0.8%	49.8%	46.2%	3.2%	0%
Korean	1.3%	47%	48.3%	3.4%	0%
Malay	0.8%	61.4%	35.1%	2.7%	0%
Malayalam	0.6%	53.5%	43%	2.9%	0%
Maltese	0.8%	49.2%	45.1%	4.9%	0%
Mandarin	3.9%	41.5%	50.7%	3.9%	0%
Ndebele	1.2%	76.5%	22.1%	0.3%	0%
Nepali	1.4%	75.5%	22.6%	0.5%	0%
Portuguese	1.2%	57%	36.7%	5.1%	0%
Punjabi	0.9%	55.5%	41.3%	2.2%	0.1%
Sinhalese	3.9%	67.6%	27%	1.6%	0%
Swiss German	1.7%	73.7%	23.1%	1.6%	0%
Tagalog / Filipino	1.2%	67.9%	29.7%	1.1%	0%
Tamil	1.4%	62%	34.6%	1.9%	0%
Urdu	9.2%	74.5%	16.3%	0%	0%
Vietnamese	1.3%	55.2%	41.6%	1.9%	0%

¹ Note: First Language, in this document, is not an indicator of what a Candidate's proficiency in that self-reported first language might be, it also does not take into account other languages that Candidate may possess or where they might reside.

² These lists include data for the first language with 100 or more candidates.

Reading

First language	A	B	C	D	E
Arabic	13%	65.9%	20.1%	0.9%	0.1%
Bengali	2.7%	58.4%	37.1%	1.8%	0%
Bisaya	1.3%	46.7%	48.7%	3.3%	0%
Burmese	8.6%	67.4%	24%	0%	0%
Cantonese	10.3%	70.1%	18.8%	0.8%	0%
Cebuano / Bisayan	2.9%	61.9%	34.2%	1%	0%
Chinese	4.4%	70.6%	24.3%	0.6%	0%
English	3.6%	48%	45.6%	2.8%	0%
Farsi / Persian	2.7%	64.4%	31.5%	1.4%	0%
Filipino	1.2%	59.4%	37.8%	1.7%	0%
Gujarati	1.8%	39.5%	56.8%	1.8%	0%
Hebrew	1.8%	42.1%	53%	3.2%	0%
Hindi	1.4%	38.8%	52.4%	7.1%	0.3%
Japanese	1.3%	60.8%	36.3%	1.7%	0%
Konkani	1.7%	64.6%	32.9%	0.8%	0%
Korean	2.2%	66%	31.4%	0.4%	0%
Malay	0.5%	46%	48.4%	5%	0%
Malayalam	0.4%	40.5%	55.2%	3.8%	0.1%
Maltese	2.5%	67.8%	28.8%	0.8%	0%
Mandarin	3.6%	66.8%	29.4%	0.2%	0%
Ndebele	1.4%	48.5%	47.4%	2.6%	0%
Nepali	0.4%	45.9%	51.5%	2.2%	0%
Portuguese	0.7%	44.6%	48%	6.7%	0.1%
Punjabi	0.8%	36.9%	57.8%	4.3%	0.2%
Sinhalese	2.4%	67.1%	29.4%	1.2%	0%
Swiss German	1.4%	66.1%	30.5%	2%	0%
Tagalog / Filipino	1.3%	53.6%	43.9%	1.2%	0%
Tamil	1.4%	44.5%	51.2%	2.9%	0%
Urdu	7.1%	57.1%	33.2%	2.7%	0%
Vietnamese	0.7%	64.2%	32.5%	2.6%	0%

Writing

First language	A	B	C	D	E
Arabic	1.6%	49.6%	45.1%	3.7%	0%
Bengali	2.4%	51.9%	44.5%	1.2%	0%
Bisaya	0.6%	40.9%	54.5%	3.9%	0%
Burmese	4.6%	62.3%	29.1%	4%	0%
Cantonese	1.7%	48.1%	47.9%	2.3%	0%
Cebuano / Bisayan	1.7%	47.9%	49.1%	1.3%	0%

Chinese	1.3%	41%	54.9%	2.7%	0%
English	3.7%	39.2%	54.5%	2.5%	0%
Farsi / Persian	2.5%	43.6%	49.8%	3.9%	0.2%
Filipino	1.1%	42.7%	53.8%	2.4%	0%
Gujarati	0.5%	38%	59.7%	1.8%	0%
Hebrew	1%	43.6%	50.3%	5.1%	0%
Hindi	1.2%	33.5%	61%	4.4%	0%
Japanese	1.3%	41.6%	53.8%	3.4%	0%
Konkani	0%	48.1%	51%	0.8%	0%
Korean	0.7%	37.2%	59.1%	3%	0%
Malay	0.4%	41.4%	55%	3.3%	0%
Malayalam	0.2%	34.8%	61.5%	3.6%	0%
Maltese	1.2%	43.8%	54.1%	0.8%	0%
Mandarin	2.6%	30.8%	64%	2.6%	0%
Ndebele	0.4%	39.5%	58.1%	2%	0%
Nepali	0.2%	36.8%	60.3%	2.6%	0%
Portuguese	0.8%	36.9%	57.6%	4.6%	0.1%
Punjabi	0.5%	31.7%	63.2%	4.4%	0.2%
Sinhalese	3.1%	41.3%	52.9%	2.7%	0%
Swiss German	1.7%	57.3%	38.8%	2.1%	0%
Tagalog / Filipino	1%	39.9%	57.2%	1.8%	0%
Tamil	0.5%	37.5%	59.7%	2.3%	0%
Urdu	3.8%	47%	47%	2.2%	0%
Vietnamese	2.6%	44.5%	50.3%	2.6%	0%

Speaking

First language	A	B	C	D	E
Arabic	5.4%	76.6%	17.5%	0.5%	0%
Bengali	3.6%	77.1%	19%	0.3%	0%
Bisaya	0.8%	83.3%	15.8%	0%	0%
Burmese	2.3%	69.8%	27.3%	0.6%	0%
Cantonese	4.2%	63%	31.7%	1.1%	0%
Cebuano / Bisayan	4.1%	83.3%	12.6%	0%	0%
Chinese	1.6%	55.5%	40.5%	2.4%	0.1%
English	13.3%	67.3%	18.4%	0.9%	0%
Farsi / Persian	5.5%	69.2%	23.4%	1.8%	0%
Filipino	4.2%	83.5%	11.9%	0.3%	0%
Gujarati	3.8%	68.5%	24.9%	2.8%	0%
Hebrew	3.9%	69.5%	24.6%	1.8%	0.4%
Hindi	4.4%	62.6%	30.7%	2.3%	0%
Japanese	0%	44.7%	48.5%	6.8%	0%
Konkani	3.4%	48.5%	44.7%	3.4%	0%
Korean	1.9%	51.7%	42.5%	3.9%	0%

Malay	0.8%	61.4%	35.3%	2.5%	0%
Malayalam	0.4%	60.7%	36.9%	1.9%	0%
Maltese	1.7%	50.4%	42.8%	5.1%	0%
Mandarin	2.2%	55.9%	39.9%	2%	0%
Ndebele	2.3%	72.8%	23.6%	1.2%	0%
Nepali	1.5%	73.1%	24.5%	0.8%	0%
Portuguese	1.9%	59.7%	33.5%	4.9%	0%
Punjabi	1.6%	61.6%	34%	2.7%	0.1%
Sinhalese	6%	75%	19%	0%	0%
Swiss German	4.7%	85.5%	9.5%	0.2%	0%
Tagalog / Filipino	4.6%	85.6%	9.6%	0.3%	0%
Tamil	4.4%	75%	19.6%	1%	0%
Urdu	12.4%	79%	7.5%	1.1%	0%
Vietnamese	1.3%	47.5%	48.1%	3.1%	0%

Country of origin

The following tables show the distribution of grades (in percentages) per sub-test for the top 30 countries of origin in 2017.

Listening

Country of origin	A	B	C	D	E
Australia	1.8%	61.6%	34.3%	2.3%	0%
Bangladesh	3%	71.7%	23.5%	1.8%	0%
Brazil	1.4%	49.3%	40.8%	8.5%	0%
Britain	9.9%	63.2%	26.9%	0%	0%
China	0.8%	42.3%	53.1%	3.8%	0%
Colombia	2%	52.9%	35.3%	9.8%	0%
Egypt	24.3%	57%	17.4%	1.4%	0%
Fiji	7%	64.9%	26.3%	1.8%	0%
Hong Kong	4.1%	63.5%	30.4%	2%	0%
India	1.1%	55.9%	40%	3%	0%
Indonesia	7.5%	64.2%	28.4%	0%	0%
Iran	5.3%	56.7%	34.5%	3.5%	0%
Iraq	10.5%	74.3%	15.2%	0%	0%
Japan	0.3%	42.3%	51.8%	5.6%	0%
Kenya	1.5%	75.6%	22.3%	0.5%	0%
Malaysia	16.9%	62.4%	18%	2.6%	0%
Myanmar / Burma	3.8%	76.3%	20%	0%	0%
Nepal	1.4%	76.3%	21.7%	0.5%	0%
New Zealand	8.2%	61.2%	30.6%	0%	0%
Nigeria	1.2%	56.1%	39.2%	3.5%	0%
Pakistan	10.1%	74.1%	15.4%	0.4%	0%

Philippines	1.7%	69.7%	27.5%	1.1%	0%
Singapore	8%	67.3%	24.8%	0%	0%
South Korea	1.2%	47.5%	47.9%	3.5%	0%
Sri Lanka	3.4%	69.9%	25.3%	1.4%	0%
Sudan	19.5%	50%	25.6%	4.9%	0%
Taiwan	0%	53.5%	38.1%	8.4%	0%
Thailand	1.1%	40.9%	50.5%	7.5%	0%
Vietnam	1.6%	57.7%	39.6%	1.1%	0%
Zimbabwe	0.6%	59.2%	38.2%	1.9%	0%

Reading

Country of origin	A	B	C	D	E
Australia	1.4%	42.4%	52%	4.2%	0%
Bangladesh	4.2%	65.3%	29.3%	1.2%	0%
Brazil	0%	80%	18.6%	1.4%	0%
Britain	6.7%	47.8%	42%	3.6%	0%
China	3.4%	68.9%	27.3%	0.4%	0%
Colombia	2%	80.4%	17.6%	0%	0%
Egypt	19.9%	66.4%	13.3%	0.5%	0%
Fiji	1.6%	46.9%	43.8%	7.8%	0%
Hong Kong	13.2%	74%	12.5%	0.3%	0%
India	0.8%	40.9%	53.7%	4.5%	0.1%
Indonesia	9%	52.2%	34.3%	4.5%	0%
Iran	2.8%	67.8%	28.7%	0.8%	0%
Iraq	8.4%	72.3%	17.8%	1%	0.5%
Japan	1%	60.9%	37.1%	1%	0%
Kenya	0.5%	70.2%	27.8%	1.5%	0%
Malaysia	12.2%	66.9%	19.8%	1.1%	0%
Myanmar / Burma	9.3%	69.1%	21.6%	0%	0%
Nepal	0.7%	47.7%	49.2%	2.5%	0%
New Zealand	2.3%	52.3%	44.2%	1.2%	0%
Nigeria	1.2%	58.4%	39.3%	1.2%	0%
Pakistan	6.9%	67.1%	24.8%	1.2%	0%
Philippines	1.5%	60.8%	36.7%	1%	0%
Singapore	10.3%	63.8%	25.9%	0%	0%
South Korea	1.4%	68.5%	29.5%	0.6%	0%
Sri Lanka	2.3%	66.7%	30.1%	0.9%	0%
Sudan	14.6%	54.9%	25.6%	4.9%	0%
Taiwan	5.8%	63.6%	27.9%	2.6%	0%
Thailand	3.7%	30.9%	63%	2.5%	0%
Vietnam	2.3%	72.1%	24.4%	1.2%	0%
Zimbabwe	1.2%	46.6%	50.3%	1.9%	0%

Writing

County of origin	A	B	C	D	E
Australia	1.3%	37.3%	57.4%	4%	0.1%
Bangladesh	3%	58.3%	37.5%	1.2%	0%
Brazil	5.6%	42.3%	47.9%	4.2%	0%
Britain	8.4%	44.4%	46.3%	0.9%	0%
China	1%	37.3%	59%	2.7%	0%
Colombia	0%	45.5%	52.7%	1.8%	0%
Egypt	1.6%	53.8%	42.6%	2.1%	0%
Fiji	7.1%	38.6%	48.6%	5.7%	0%
Hong Kong	2%	56.1%	39.6%	2.3%	0%
India	0.4%	35.3%	60.5%	3.7%	0%
Indonesia	0%	40.6%	55.1%	4.3%	0%
Iran	2.8%	45.1%	48.1%	3.8%	0.3%
Iraq	2.1%	50.3%	42.9%	4.7%	0%
Japan	1.3%	43.1%	52.9%	2.6%	0%
Kenya	1.5%	41.3%	54.7%	2.5%	0%
Malaysia	8.2%	54.7%	35.2%	1.9%	0%
Myanmar / Burma	4.3%	64.8%	27.8%	3.1%	0%
Nepal	0.3%	38.2%	59%	2.4%	0%
New Zealand	3.3%	51.1%	44.4%	1.1%	0%
Nigeria	1.2%	39.5%	57.6%	1.7%	0%
Pakistan	2.4%	53.4%	42.6%	1.6%	0%
Philippines	1.3%	46.6%	50.4%	1.7%	0%
Singapore	2.6%	53.4%	41.4%	2.6%	0%
South Korea	0.3%	41%	56.1%	2.6%	0%
Sri Lanka	1.8%	47.4%	48.3%	2.5%	0%
Sudan	2.4%	39%	52.4%	6.1%	0%
Taiwan	0%	37.3%	59.5%	3.2%	0%
Thailand	3.4%	24.7%	66.3%	5.6%	0%
Vietnam	2.8%	50.3%	45.3%	1.7%	0%
Zimbabwe	0.6%	53.8%	44.9%	0.6%	0%

Speaking

Nationality	A	B	C	D	E
Australia	7.0%	76.2%	16.1%	0.7%	0%
Bangladesh	4.2%	77.1%	18.7%	0%	0%
Brazil	4.3%	76.8%	17.4%	1.4%	0%
Britain	25.0%	67.6%	7.4%	0%	0%
China	1.1%	53.7%	42.7%	2.5%	0%
Colombia	3.9%	80.4%	15.7%	0%	0%
Egypt	2.1%	73.6%	23.6%	0.7%	0%

Fiji	16.1%	71.4%	10.7%	1.8%	0%
Hong Kong	5.7%	64.6%	28.1%	1.6%	0%
India	1.3%	60.4%	35.7%	2.6%	0%
Indonesia	10.6%	62.1%	27.3%	0%	0%
Iran	5.1%	67.3%	25.6%	2.0%	0%
Iraq	7.9%	82.6%	8.9%	0.5%	0%
Japan	7.9%	82.6%	8.9%	0.5%	0%
Kenya	11.7%	84.2%	4.1%	0%	0%
Malaysia	10.7%	71.8%	16.8%	0.8%	0%
Myanmar / Burma	2.5%	71.1%	25.8%	0.6%	0%
Nepal	1.5%	72.4%	25.2%	0.9%	0%
New Zealand	16.9%	78.3%	4.8%	0%	0%
Nigeria	7.0%	83.0%	9.9%	0%	0%
Pakistan	10.2%	82.5%	6.9%	0.4%	0%
Philippines	4.2%	84.4%	11.1%	0.3%	0%
Singapore	14.5%	74.5%	10.9%	0%	0%
South Korea	2.3%	47.3%	46.4%	4.0%	0%
Sri Lanka	6.0%	75.3%	18.4%	0.2%	0%
Sudan	7.3%	70.7%	22.0%	0%	0%
Taiwan	3.2%	52.2%	39.5%	5.1%	0%
Thailand	1.2%	51.8%	42.2%	4.8%	0%
Vietnam	2.7%	55.9%	38.7%	2.7%	0%
Zimbabwe	12.3%	83.1%	4.5%	0%	0%

Profession

The following tables show the distribution of grades (in percentages) per sub-test for the 12 OET professions in 2017.

Listening

Profession	A	B	C	D	E
Dentistry	11.1%	65.6%	20.8%	2.5%	0%
Dietetics	0%	40%	53.3%	6.7%	0%
Medicine	11.3%	65.7%	20.8%	2.2%	0%
Nursing	0.9%	58.9%	37.7%	2.5%	0%
Occupational Therapy	4%	74%	22%	0%	0%
Optometry	8.3%	75%	16.7%	0%	0%
Pharmacy	11.9%	71.2%	16.5%	0.4%	0%
Physiotherapy	6.5%	69.2%	23%	1.3%	0%
Podiatry	19.2%	57.7%	23.1%	0%	0%
Radiography	3%	58.5%	31.9%	6.7%	0%
Speech Pathology	26.9%	69.2%	3.8%	0%	0%

Veterinary Science	23.7%	59.3%	16.9%	0%	0%
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Reading

Profession	A	B	C	D	E
Dentistry	8.7%	69.8%	20.7%	0.7%	0%
Dietetics	0%	50%	35.7%	14.3%	0%
Medicine	10.1%	72.6%	16.7%	0.7%	0%
Nursing	1%	49.1%	46.7%	3.1%	0%
Occupational Therapy	10.8%	63.7%	24.5%	1%	0%
Optometry	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%	0%	0%
Pharmacy	9.2%	75.2%	15.6%	0%	0%
Physiotherapy	9.7%	60.9%	28.3%	1.1%	0%
Podiatry	23.1%	57.7%	19.2%	0%	0%
Radiography	8.1%	63.7%	28.1%	0%	0%
Speech Pathology	34.6%	65.4%	0%	0%	0%
Veterinary Science	27.1%	59.3%	13.6%	0%	0%

Writing

Profession	A	B	C	D	E
Dentistry	5.8%	64.4%	28.8%	1.1%	0%
Dietetics	0%	46.7%	53.3%	0%	0%
Medicine	3.9%	58%	36.4%	1.8%	0%
Nursing	0.6%	37.4%	58.6%	3.3%	0%
Occupational Therapy	3.8%	50%	45.2%	1%	0%
Optometry	25%	75%	0%	0%	0%
Pharmacy	7.6%	57.2%	34.2%	1%	0%
Physiotherapy	3.5%	53.9%	40.6%	2%	0%
Podiatry	7.7%	65.4%	23.1%	3.8%	0%
Radiography	1.5%	51.5%	46.3%	0.7%	0%
Speech Pathology	30.8%	53.8%	15.4%	0%	0%
Veterinary Science	11.5%	67.2%	19.7%	1.6%	0%

Speaking

Profession	A	B	C	D	E
Dentistry	15.7%	70.1%	13.5%	0.7%	0%
Dietetics	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Medicine	8.6%	73.4%	17.2%	0.8%	0%
Nursing	2.7%	67.2%	28.3%	1.8%	0%
Occupational Therapy	18%	70%	12%	0%	0%

Optometry	25%	75%	0%	0%	0%
Pharmacy	9%	74.1%	16.9%	0%	0%
Physiotherapy	11.2%	72.4%	15.5%	0.9%	0%
Podiatry	11.5%	73.1%	15.4%	0%	0%
Radiography	11.3%	70.7%	18%	0%	0%
Speech Pathology	46.2%	50%	3.8%	0%	0%
Veterinary Science	23%	67.2%	9.8%	0%	0%