

The General English Proficiency Test (GEPT), which assesses listening, reading, speaking, and writing abilities, is a level-based criterion-referenced EFL testing system tailored to learners of English in Taiwan. First administered in 2000, the GEPT was developed by the Language Training and Testing Center (LTTC). Each GEPT level corresponds to the English learning stages described in the curriculum guidelines for compulsory education in Taiwan.

Since its launch, the GEPT has received extensive recognition for its quality both domestically and internationally, and it is now the most widely taken English proficiency examination in Taiwan. GEPT test results are used for various purposes by hundreds of government agencies, private enterprises, and over 400 schools.

This report is based on data analysis of GEPT examinees' backgrounds and their performances in 2018.

I. Description of GEPT Examinees in 2018

Test level

Among those taking the GEPT in 2018, 59% took the Listening and Reading tests at the Elementary Level; 34% took the Intermediate Level; and 7% took the High-intermediate or Advanced Level (see Figure 1).

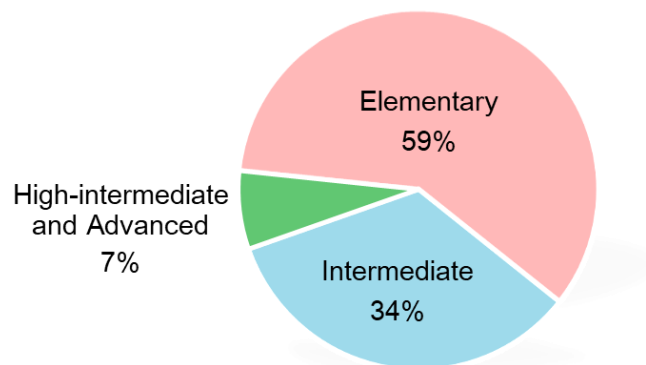


Figure 1. Listening and Reading tests examinee distribution by level

As for the Speaking and Writing tests, 63% took the Elementary Level; 31% took the Intermediate Level; and 6% took the High-intermediate or Advanced Level (see Figure 2).

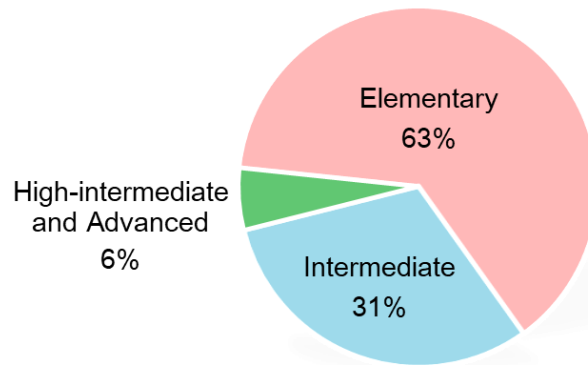


Figure 2. Speaking and Writing tests examinee distribution by level

Region

The majority of examinees came from the northern region of Taiwan. This was especially the case among those taking the High-intermediate and Advanced levels (see Figure 3).

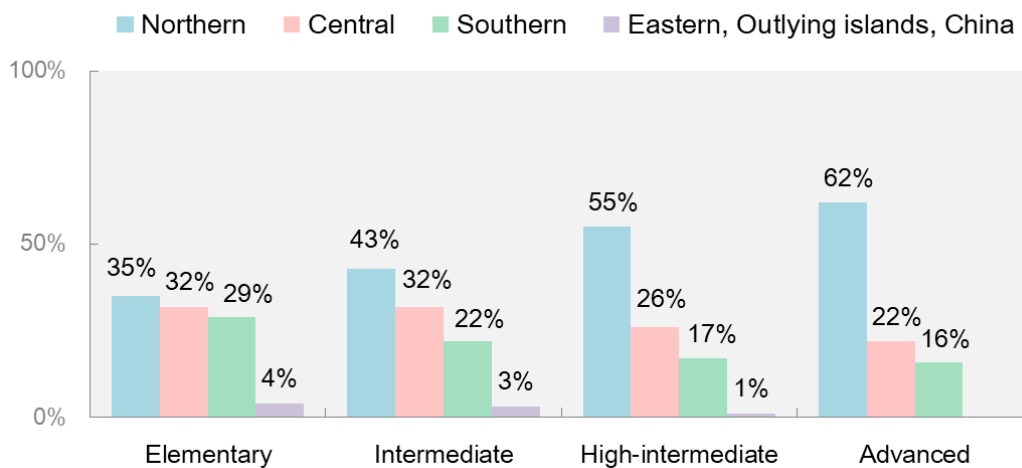


Figure 3. Examinee distribution by region

Age

At the Elementary Level, the average age of the examinees was 14.7, with the oldest being 75 years of age. More than 95% of these examinees were under 19 years of age. At the Intermediate Level, the average age of the examinees was 17.4, with the oldest being 74 years of age. Around 70% of these examinees were between 15 and 19 years old. At the High-intermediate Level, the average age of the examinees was 20.8, with the oldest being 72 years of age. Nearly 90% of these examinees were between 15 and 29 years old. At the Advanced Level, the average age of the examinees was 26.7, with the oldest being 70 years of age. Approximately 85% of these examinees were between 15 and 39 years old. See Table 1 and Figure 4.

Table 1. Examinee average age & the oldest examinee

	Elementary	Intermediate	High-intermediate	Advanced
Average age	14.7	17.4	20.8	26.7
The oldest	75	74	72	70

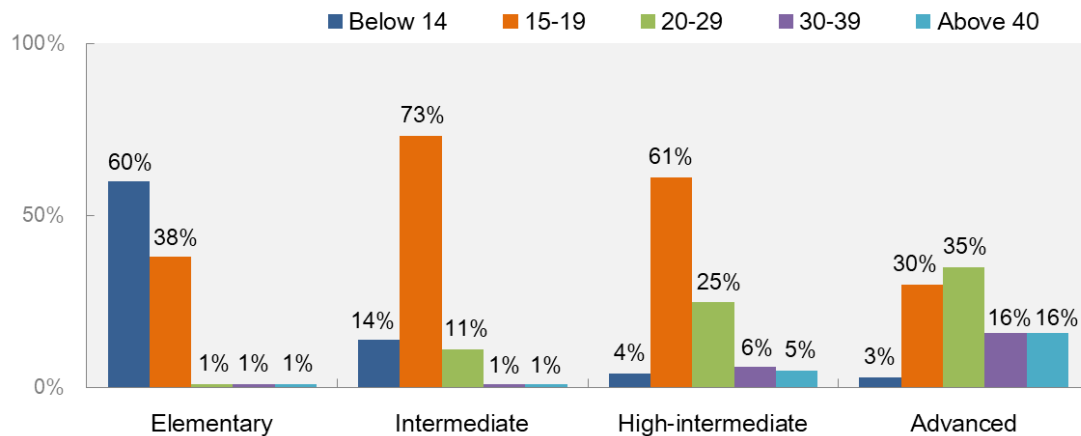


Figure 4. Examinee distribution by age

Education level

At the Elementary Level, junior high school students and graduates made up the largest group of examinees (82%), and senior high and vocational high school students and graduates were the second largest group (15%). At the Intermediate Level, senior high school students and graduates made up the largest group of examinees (45%), and junior high school students and graduates were the second largest group (27%). At the High-intermediate Level, senior high school students and graduates made up the majority of examinees (45%), and university students and graduates were the second largest group (40%). At the Advanced Level, the largest group of examinees was made up of university students and graduates (66%). See Figure 5.

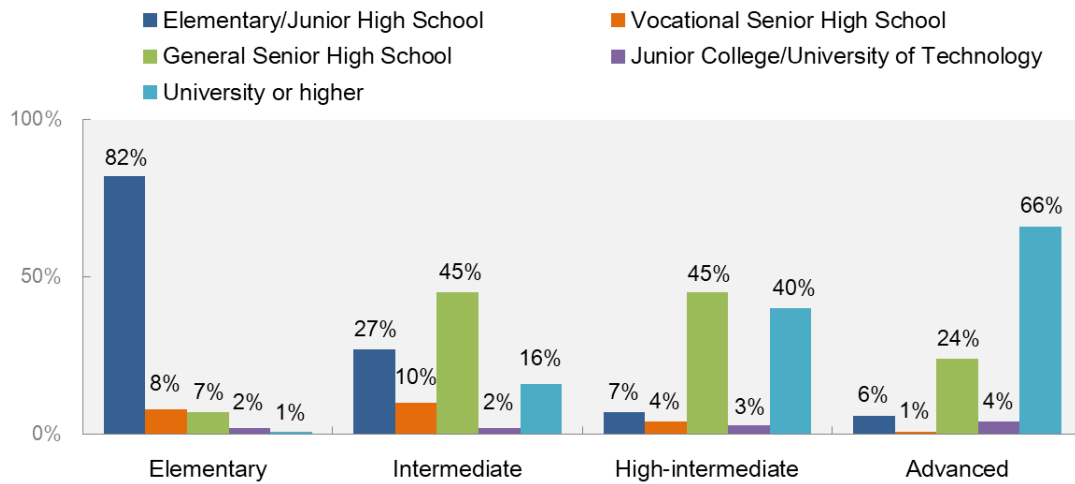


Figure 5. Examinee distribution by education level

II. Score summary by level

At the **Elementary** Level, the average scores for the Listening and Reading tests were 86.36 for the Listening Test and 78.29 for the Reading Test, with a passing rate of 54%. The average band scores for the Speaking and Writing tests were 3.75 for the Speaking Test and 3.70 for the Writing Test, with a passing rate of 52%.

At the **Intermediate** Level, the average scores for the Listening and Reading tests were 84.20 for the Listening Test and 77.78 for the Reading Test, with a passing rate of 51%. The average band scores for the Speaking and Writing tests were 3.60 for the Speaking Test and 3.55 for the Writing Test, with a passing rate of 33%.

At the **High-intermediate** Level, the average scores for the Listening and Reading tests were 81.83 for the Listening Test and 80.83 for the Reading Test, with a passing rate of 54%. The average band scores for the Speaking and Writing tests were 3.57 for the Speaking Test and 3.53 for the Writing Test, with a passing rate of 31%.

At the **Advanced** Level, the average scores for the Listening and Reading tests were 73.75 for the Listening Test and 66.20 for the Reading Test, with a passing rate of 39%. The average band scores for the Speaking and Writing tests were 2.76 for the Speaking Test and 2.39 for the Writing Test, with a passing rate of 31%. See Table 2.

Table 2. Examinee performance by test level

Test Level	Listening and Reading			Speaking and Writing		
	Listening	Reading	Passing rate	Speaking	Writing	Passing rate
Elementary	86.36	78.29	54%	3.75	3.70	52%
Intermediate	84.20	77.78	51%	3.60	3.55	33%
High-intermediate	81.83	80.83	54%	3.57	3.53	31%
Advanced	73.75	66.20	39%	2.76	2.39	31%