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# Matura success rate in summer 2025 significantly higher than in the previous year

## Positive rate rose particularly at academic secondary schools (AHS); final thesis at AHS voluntary for the first time

Vienna, 2026-01-22 – According to Statistics Austria, around 92.1% of candidates passed the standardised school-leaving and diploma examination (sRDP) in the main examination period in 2025. This means that the pass rate was higher than in the previous year (2024: 89.9%) and also significantly higher than in the pre-pandemic year 2019 (85.1%).

“In the summer 2025 session, 92.1% of candidates passed their Matura exams. This is the highest pass rate since the summer 2021 session, when significantly easier exam conditions were in place due to the coronavirus pandemic. In 2024, the pass rate was 89.9%, and before the pandemic in 2019, it was 85.1%. Since summer 2020, performance in the final school year has been included in the Matura grading. With the main Matura exam session in 2025, the pre-scientific thesis at academic secondary schools (AHS) was also replaced. AHS Matura graduates now have the option of choosing between a final thesis or an additional written or oral exam subject. More than half opted for the additional examination subject in the summer of 2025”, says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics at Statistics Austria.

### Fewer unsubmitted papers, more passed school-leaving examinations

At the 2025 main exam date, 39 825 candidates took the standardised school-leaving and diploma examination (“standardisierte Reife- und Diplomprüfung” – sRDP), of which around 92.1% (36 670) passed successfully. This positive rate increased by 2.2 percentage points compared to the previous year (2024: 89.9%) and was once again significantly higher than before the COVID-19 pandemic (2018: 84.5%; 2019: 85.1%). In 2025, the share of failed final examinations at AHS and BHS combined was 6.2%, roughly half the pre-pandemic level of 2019 (12.7%).

For the first time, Matura candidates at academic secondary schools (AHS) could choose not to write the final paper and instead take another written or oral examination subject. This innovation was accompanied by a significantly lower rate of unsubmitted final papers. As a result, the number of incomplete school-leaving examinations at AHS dropped noticeably compared to previous years and was well below previous levels (2024: 4.2%; 2025: 1.2%). Together with a slight decrease in failed examinations, this led to significantly more successful school-leaving examinations at AHS (2024: 90.0%; 2025: 93.7%).

At colleges for higher vocational education (BHS), a diploma thesis remains mandatory. The share of failed examinations at BHS also decreased slightly: around 7.3% of BHS candidates failed at least one subject at the 2025 main exam date (2024: 8.0%). Consequently, the share of successful examinations at BHS increased (2024: 89.9%; 2025: 90.6%).

Around 20.1% of candidates achieved an “excellent success” at the 2025 main exam date, and about 19.6% a “good success”. Here, too, improvements compared to pre-pandemic results were evident. Academic secondary schools still show significantly more “excellent success” (23.8%) than colleges for higher vocational education (16.9%).

For detailed results and further information please refer to our [website](#).

**Information on methodology, definitions:**

The results of the standardised school-leaving diploma examination (sRDP) for the main date (in summer) and the secondary dates (in autumn and winter) are collected and processed throughout Austria by Statistics Austria on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Education (BMB). For the main exam date in 2025, the written exams took place in May 2025 and oral exams in June and July 2025.

**Positive rate:** Proportion of candidates who successfully passed the standardised school-leaving diploma examination as a percentage of all candidates who sat the standardised school-leaving diploma examination.

**Negative rate:** Share of candidates receiving a “fail” (“nicht genügend”) in the respective examination area among all candidates who took the exam in that area.

**Changes to the standardised school-leaving and diploma examination since the COVID-19 pandemic:**

Starting with the main exam date in 2020, the federal government introduced substantial changes to the standardised school-leaving and diploma examination (“standardisierte Reife- und Diplomprüfung” sRDP) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These easing measures were gradually rolled back in the following years. With the main examination session in 2023, the pandemic-related modifications to the sRDP were lifted. However, the inclusion of the academic performance from the final school year(s) remains a fixed component of the sRDP. With the main exam date in 2025, the pre-scientific paper at AHS was replaced by a final thesis. Candidates can now choose to take an additional written or oral examination instead of completing this final thesis.

**Statistics Austria** is the central organisation for official data and statistics on society, the economy, the state and the environment. As a national statistical institute, it is committed to the statutory principles of independence, impartiality and objectivity. Statistics Austria is headed by Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics, and Franz Haslauer, Director General Finance.

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