ELTS | Researchers - Test taker performance 2012

Band score information

IELTS is assessed on a 9-band scale and reports scores both overall and by individual skill. Overall band scores for Academic and General Training candidates in 2012 are shown here together with scores for individual skills according to a variety of classifications. These figures are broadly in line with statistics for previous years.

N.B. for place of origin and first language, the tables show the top 40 places and languages, listed alphabetically, not in order of the size of the candidature.

Academic and General Training candidates

The following table shows the split between the Academic and General Training candidature in 2012.

	2012
Academic	79.8%
General Training	20.2%

Gender

These figures show the mean overall and individual band scores achieved by 2012 Academic and General Training candidates according to their gender.

Mean band scores for female candidates					
	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Academic	6.1	6.1	5.6	5.9	6.0
General Training	6.2	5.8	5.9	6.3	6.1

Mean band scores for male candidates					
	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Academic	5.8	5.8	5.4	5.8	5.8
General Training	6.3	5.9	5.9	6.3	6.2

Place of Origin

These figures show the mean overall and individual band scores achieved by 2012 Academic and General Training candidates from the top 40 places of origin.

Mean band score for the most frequent countries or regions of origin (Academic)

Academic	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Bangladesh	5.9	5.6	5.7	6.0	5.8
Brazil	6.4	6.8	6.1	6.6	6.5
China (People's Republic)	5.7	5.9	5.3	5.4	5.6
Colombia	6.2	6.5	5.8	6.4	6.3
Cyprus	6.3	5.9	5.7	6.2	6.1
Egypt	6.4	6.2	5.9	6.4	6.3
France	6.9	7.1	6.0	6.5	6.7
Germany	7.5	7.3	6.6	7.3	7.2
Greece	7.2	7.0	6.1	6.6	6.8
Hong Kong	6.7	6.6	5.8	6.0	6.3
India	6.2	5.8	5.6	5.9	6.0
Indonesia	6.3	6.5	5.7	6.1	6.2
Iran	5.9	5.9	5.7	6.3	6.0
Iraq	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.8	5.5
Italy	6.4	7.0	5.9	6.3	6.5
Japan	5.9	6.0	5.3	5.6	5.8
Jordan	5.9	5.6	5.3	6.1	5.8
Kazakhstan	5.8	5.8	5.5	5.9	5.8
Korea, South	6.1	6.1	5.4	5.7	5.9
Kuwait	5.3	4.9	4.8	5.7	5.2
Malaysia	7.2	7.0	6.2	6.7	6.8
Mexico	6.6	6.8	6.0	6.5	6.5
Nepal	6.2	5.7	5.8	6.0	6.0
Nigeria	6.1	6.1	6.2	7.0	6.4
Oman	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.8	5.4
Pakistan	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.9	5.7
Philippines	7.1	6.7	6.3	6.9	6.8

Academic	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Qatar	5.0	4.7	4.6	5.5	5.0
Russia	6.6	6.6	5.9	6.5	6.4
Saudi Arabia	4.8	4.7	4.7	5.6	5.0
Spain	6.7	7.0	6.1	6.6	6.6
Sri Lanka	6.6	6.2	5.9	6.6	6.4
Sudan	5.8	5.8	5.7	6.3	6.0
Taiwan	5.9	6.0	5.5	6.0	5.9
Thailand	5.9	5.8	5.4	5.8	5.8
Turkey	5.9	5.9	5.5	6.0	5.9
Ukraine	6.6	6.6	6.0	6.6	6.5
United Arab Emirates	4.8	4.6	4.7	5.3	4.9
Uzbekistan (Republic of)	5.5	5.5	5.1	5.6	5.5
Vietnam	5.9	6.1	5.6	5.7	5.9

Mean band score for the most frequent countries or regions of origin (General Training)

General Training	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Australia	6.7	6.2	6.3	7.0	6.6
Bangladesh	6.2	5.6	5.9	6.3	6.1
Brazil	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.8	6.5
China (People's Republic)	6.2	6.1	5.7	5.9	6.0
Colombia	5.7	5.7	5.7	6.0	5.9
Egypt	6.2	5.9	5.9	6.4	6.2
France	6.7	6.8	6.2	6.7	6.7
Germany	7.1	6.8	6.5	7.3	7.0
Hong Kong SAR	6.7	6.5	6.0	6.3	6.4
India	6.4	5.8	5.9	6.3	6.1
Indonesia	6.7	6.4	6.0	6.4	6.4
Iran	6.0	5.8	5.8	6.4	6.1
Ireland	7.9	7.5	7.5	8.7	7.9
Italy	6.1	6.1	5.8	6.3	6.1
Japan	5.8	5.5	5.4	5.7	5.7
Jordan	6.0	5.6	5.6	6.3	5.9

General Training	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Kenya	6.7	6.3	6.6	7.3	6.8
Korea, South	5.8	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.6
Lebanon	6.4	6.0	6.0	6.7	6.3
Malaysia	7.4	7.1	6.6	7.0	7.1
Mauritius	6.7	6.3	6.4	6.9	6.6
Mexico	6.4	6.4	6.0	6.6	6.4
Nepal	6.3	5.7	5.9	6.2	6.1
Nigeria	5.7	5.6	6.3	7.0	6.2
Pakistan	6.2	5.7	6.1	6.5	6.2
Philippines	6.2	5.7	6.0	6.3	6.1
Romania	6.5	6.4	6.0	6.4	6.4
Russia	6.5	6.4	6.1	6.4	6.4
Saudi Arabia	4.5	3.7	4.5	5.2	4.5
Singapore	7.6	7.3	6.9	7.5	7.4
South Africa	7.4	7.1	7.3	8.3	7.6
Sri Lanka	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.6	6.3
Taiwan	6.1	5.9	5.8	6.2	6.1
Thailand	5.6	5.2	5.3	5.7	5.5
Turkey	5.9	5.6	5.7	6.1	5.9
Ukraine	5.8	5.7	5.6	6.0	5.8
United Arab Emirates	4.3	3.3	4.3	4.9	4.3
United Kingdom	8.0	7.6	7.6	8.7	8.0
United States of America	7.9	7.6	7.6	8.6	8.0
Vietnam	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.9

First Language

These figures show the mean overall and individual band scores achieved by 2012 Academic and General Training candidates from the top 40 first language backgrounds.

Mean band scores for the most common first languages (Academic)

Academic	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Arabic	5.1	4.9	4.9	5.7	5.2
Azeri	6.0	5.8	5.4	6.0	5.9

Academic	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Bengali	6.0	5.7	5.7	6.0	5.9
Burmese	6.4	6.3	5.7	6.1	6.2
Chinese	5.8	6.0	5.3	5.5	5.7
English*	7.2	6.9	6.6	7.4	7.1
Farsi	6.0	5.9	5.7	6.3	6.0
French	6.6	6.8	6.0	6.5	6.6
German	7.5	7.3	6.6	7.3	7.2
Greek	7.0	6.7	6.0	6.5	6.6
Gujurati	6.1	5.6	5.5	5.8	5.8
Hindi	6.5	6.0	5.8	6.2	6.2
Indonesian	6.3	6.5	5.7	6.0	6.2
Italian	6.4	7.0	5.9	6.3	6.5
Japanese	5.9	6.0	5.3	5.6	5.8
Kazakh	5.7	5.7	5.4	5.8	5.7
Korean	6.1	6.1	5.4	5.7	5.9
Kurdish	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.6	5.3
Lithuanian	7.1	6.7	5.8	6.4	6.6
Malay	6.9	6.8	6.0	6.5	6.6
Malayalam	6.7	6.4	6.1	6.4	6.4
Marathi	7.0	6.4	6.3	6.7	6.6
Nepali	6.2	5.7	5.8	6.0	6.0
Other	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.9	6.5
Pashto	5.3	5.2	5.4	5.8	5.5
Portuguese	6.5	6.8	6.1	6.6	6.5
Punjabi	5.7	5.3	5.2	5.4	5.5
Romanian	7.1	7.1	6.3	6.8	6.9
Russian	6.5	6.5	5.8	6.5	6.4
Singhalese	6.7	6.3	6.0	6.7	6.5
Spanish	6.4	6.7	6.0	6.5	6.5
Tagalog	7.1	6.7	6.3	6.9	6.8
Tamil	6.6	6.2	5.9	6.4	6.4
Telugu	6.2	5.7	5.7	6.0	6.0
Thai	5.9	5.8	5.4	5.8	5.8

Academic	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Turkish	5.9	5.9	5.5	6.0	5.9
Ukrainian	6.6	6.5	5.9	6.6	6.5
Urdu	5.7	5.5	5.6	5.9	5.7
Uzbek	5.4	5.4	5.0	5.5	5.4
Vietnamese	5.9	6.1	5.6	5.7	5.9

* first language as self-chosen by candidates drawn from a wide range nationalities

Mean band scores for the most common first languages (General Training)

General Training	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Afrikaans	7.1	6.8	7.0	8.0	7.3
Arabic	5.2	4.6	5.1	5.7	5.2
Bengali	6.2	5.7	5.9	6.4	6.1
Chinese	6.3	6.2	5.8	6.0	6.1
Creole	6.5	6.1	6.3	6.8	6.5
English*	7.3	6.9	7.0	7.8	7.3
Farsi	6.0	5.8	5.8	6.4	6.1
French	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.2	5.9
German	7.0	6.7	6.4	7.2	6.9
Gujurati	6.2	5.6	5.7	6.1	6.0
Hindi	6.6	6.0	6.0	6.5	6.4
Hungarian	6.5	6.2	6.1	6.5	6.4
Ibo/Igbo	5.6	5.5	6.3	7.0	6.2
Indonesian	6.7	6.4	6.0	6.4	6.4
Italian	6.1	6.1	5.8	6.3	6.1
Japanese	5.8	5.5	5.4	5.7	5.7
Kannada	6.9	6.4	6.4	6.8	6.7
Korean	5.8	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.6
Malay	7.2	6.8	6.4	7.0	6.9
Malayalam	6.4	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.2
Marathi	6.9	6.4	6.4	6.8	6.7

General Training	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Nepali	6.3	5.7	5.9	6.2	6.1
Other	6.1	5.7	6.2	6.8	6.3
Pashto	6.0	5.4	6.0	6.5	6.0
Polish	6.6	6.3	6.1	6.7	6.5
Portuguese	6.4	6.3	6.1	6.7	6.4
Punjabi	6.0	5.2	5.5	5.9	5.7
Romanian	6.4	6.3	6.0	6.4	6.3
Russian	6.3	6.2	5.9	6.3	6.3
Singhalese	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.6	6.4
Spanish	6.0	6.1	5.9	6.3	6.2
Tagalog	6.2	5.7	6.0	6.3	6.1
Tamil	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.4	6.3
Telugu	6.7	6.1	6.1	6.5	6.4
Thai	5.6	5.2	5.3	5.7	5.5
Turkish	5.9	5.6	5.7	6.1	5.9
Ukrainian	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.9	5.6
Urdu	6.3	5.8	6.1	6.5	6.2
Vietnamese	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.9
Yoruba	5.7	5.7	6.3	6.9	6.2

* first language as self-chosen by candidates drawn from a wide range nationalities