

Data Specification for Senior Secondary Subject Information

The Education Bureau (EDB) conducted the “*Survey on Senior Secondary Subject Information: 2020/21 School Year*” from November to December 2020 and invited all government and aided secondary schools, caput schools, and secondary schools under the Direct Subsidy Scheme offering the local senior secondary curriculum to submit the information on the senior secondary subjects offered at Secondary 4 (S4), Secondary 5 (S5) and Secondary 6 (S6), as well as subjects taken by S4 and S5 students in the 2020/21 school year

Data is provided by the EDB. This web service returns up-to-date data in CSV, XLSX format.

Number and percentage of (A) schools’ offering; and (B) students’ taking of senior secondary subjects in 2020/21

Item	Description
Senior secondary subject	Senior secondary subject name
S4 - Schools offered (No.)	Number of schools offering the subject at S4
S4 - Schools offered (%)	Percentage of schools offering the subject at S4
S4 - Student enrolled (No.)	Number of S4 students enrolling in the subject
S4 - Student enrolled (%)	Percentage of S4 students enrolling in the subject
S5 - Schools offered (No.)	Number of schools offering the subject at S5
S5 - Schools offered (%)	Percentage of schools offering the subject at S5
S5 - Student enrolled (No.)	Number of S5 students enrolling in the subject
S5 - Student enrolled (%)	Percentage of S5 students enrolling in the subject
S6 - Schools offered (No.)	Number of schools offering the subject at S6
S6 - Schools offered (%)	Percentage of schools offering the subject at S6
S6 - Students registered HKDSE (No.)	Number of S6 students enrolling in the subject
S6 - Students registered HKDSE (%)	Percentage of S6 students enrolling in the subject

Notes

- 1: S6 student data was not collected from schools direct in this Survey but extracted from the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination registration data provided by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (data extracted only for schools included in this Survey).
- 2: Information on other Chinese language curricula (e.g. adapted Chinese Language curriculum for non-Chinese speaking students) is not included. In the 2020/21 school year, two schools participating in the Survey did not offer the local Chinese Language curriculum (leading to the HKDSE Examination) for S4 students, one participating school did not offer the local Chinese Language curriculum (leading to the HKDSE Examination) for S5 students, and two participating schools did not offer the local Chinese Language curriculum (leading to the HKDSE Examination) for S6 students.
- 3: Information as at 17 November 2020. Starting from the 2020/21 school year, “commencement of Applied Learning courses at S4” had been changed from pilot to regular basis and all schools could opt to commence Applied Learning courses at S4 and/or S5. There were 20, 38 and 36 Applied Learning courses offered respectively to S4 (2021-23 cohort), S5 (2020-22 cohort) and S6 (2019-21 cohort) students in the 2020/21 school year; Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students) was not included. The number of schools that offered and students enrolled in Applied Learning courses at S4 in the 2020/21 school year did not include the Applied Learning courses offered in the 2nd term of the school year. As the S4 commencement option was new, most schools still opted to offer Applied Learning at S5 and S4 enrolment was relatively low.

Number of elective subjects taken by senior secondary students in 2020/21

Item	Description
No. of elective subjects taken	Number of elective subjects taken by students
S4 - % of students	Percentage of S4 students taking this number of elective subjects
S5 - % of students	Percentage of S5 students taking this number of elective subjects
S6 (HKDSE registration data) - % of students	Percentage of S6 students taking this number of elective subjects

Note

- 1: S6 student data was not collected from schools direct in this Survey but extracted from the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination registration data provided by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (data extracted only for schools included in this Survey).

Cross-Key Learning Area (KLA) elective subject-taking by senior secondary students in 2020/21

Item	Description
No. of KLA(s)	Number of KLAs
S4 - % of students	Percentage of S4 students taking cross-KLA elective subjects
S5 - % of students	Percentage of S5 students taking cross-KLA elective subjects
S6 (HKDSE registration data) - % of students	Percentage of S6 students taking cross-KLA elective subjects

Note

- 1: S6 student data was not collected from schools direct in this Survey but extracted from the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination registration data provided by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (data extracted only for schools included in this Survey).

Number of elective subject combinations in 2020/21

Item	Description
No. of elective subjects taken	Number of elective subjects taken by students
S4 - Subject combination (No.)	Number of elective subject combinations at S4
S4 - Subject combination (%)	Percentage of elective subject combinations at S4
S5 - Subject combination (No.)	Number of elective subject combinations at S5
S5 - Subject combination (%)	Percentage of elective subject combinations at S5
S6 (HKDSE registration data) - Subject combination (No.)	Number of elective subject combinations at S6
S6 (HKDSE registration data) - Subject combination (%)	Percentage of elective subject combinations at S6
S4 - Average no. of elective subject combinations per school	Average number of elective subject combinations per school at S4
S5 - Average no. of elective subject combinations per school	Average number of elective subject combinations per school at S5
S6 (HKDSE registration data) - Average no. of elective subject combinations per school	Average number of elective subject combinations per school at S6

Notes

- 1: S6 student data was not collected from schools direct in this Survey but extracted from the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination registration data provided by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (data extracted only for schools included in this Survey).
- 2: All Applied Learning courses are grouped as a single subject in calculating the subject combination. Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students) is not included.

Top 30 most popular elective subject combinations taken by senior secondary students in 2020/21

Item	Description
Order	Ranking
S4 - Subject combination	Elective subject combination at S4
S4 - Students enrolled (No.)	Number of S4 students enrolling in this elective subject combination
S4 - Students enrolled (%)	Percentage of S4 students enrolling in this elective subject combination
S5 - Subject combination	Elective subject combinations at S5
S5 - Students enrolled (No.)	Number of S5 students enrolling in this elective subject combination
S5 - Students enrolled (%)	Percentage of S5 students enrolling in this elective subject combination
S6 (HKDSE registration data) - Subject combination	Elective subject combinations at S6
S6 (HKDSE registration data) - Students enrolled (No.)	Number of S6 students enrolling in this elective subject combination
S6 (HKDSE registration data) - Students enrolled (%)	Percentage of S6 students enrolling in this elective subject combination

Notes

- 1: S6 student data was not collected from schools direct in this Survey but extracted from the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination registration data provided by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (data extracted only for schools included in this Survey).
- 2: All Applied Learning courses are grouped as a single subject in calculating the subject combination. Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students) is not included.

Remarks:

BAFS – Business, Accounting and Financial Studies

BIO – Biology

CHEM – Chemistry

CHI_HIST – Chinese History

CHI_LIT – Chinese Literature

ECON – Economics

GEOG – Geography

HIST – History

ICT – Information and Communication Technology

PHY – Physics

THS – Tourism and Hospitality Studies

VA – Visual Arts