

European Schools  
Office of the Secretary-General

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**Orig.**

## **Report on the 2011 European Baccalaureate**

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**APPROVED BY BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

At its meeting on 6, 7 and 8 December 2011

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## Introduction

A total of 1481 candidates from 12 European Schools and one Accredited School (*Scuola per l'Europa di Parma*) were entered for the 52nd session of the European Bacculaureate, the Chairman of the Examining Board for which was Prof. Anna Tirpáková (SK).

### 2011 European Bacculaureate – participants

<b>Number of candidates</b>	1476
<b>Passed</b>	1450
<b>Failed</b>	26
<b>Pass rate</b>	98.2%
<b>Fail rate</b>	1.8%

The averages achieved in the 2011 European Bacculaureate are shown in the table below:

### 2011 European Bacculaureate – averages

<b>Overall average for Final Mark:</b>	76.81
<b>Overall average for Preliminary Mark:</b>	77.86
<b>Overall average for written examinations:</b>	77.39
<b>Overall average for oral examinations:</b>	79.58

To meet students' choices of examinations for the 2011 Bacculaureate session, 116 experts set 69 main examination papers and 94 reserve papers, produced 83 translations, a total of 246 'Pass for print' orders having been issued by the Secondary Inspectors. Each examination paper was accompanied by model answers, assessment criteria and a marking scheme and scale.

This report will give a general overview of the results of the 2011 European Bacculaureate. The complete records can be found in the annexes.

## 1. Organisation

### 1.1 Quality control

The examinations were held in 13 schools. Quality control of the 2011 European Bacculaureate was ensured through the presence of 27 Vice-Chairmen, who observed the organisation of the written and oral examinations for a maximum of four days per examination centre.

## 1.2. Inspectors responsible for the different subjects

SUBJECT	LANG.	INSPECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR SUBJECT
ART		Mrs Z. NYÍRŐ (H)
BIO		Mr M. RIES (L)
CHEM		Mr M. RIES (L)
ECO		Mrs Z.I. SOFRONIEVA (BG)
ANC. GREEK		Mrs M. KALOGRIDOU (EL)
GEO		Mrs U. SOOMLAIS (EST)
HIST		Mrs H. COELHO (P)
L1	BG	Mrs Z.I. SOFRONIEVA (BG)
	CS	Mrs J. BILKOVSKÁ (CZ)
	DA	Mr L. DAMKJAER (DK)
	DE	Mr W. SEXAUER (D) & Mrs K.M. ECKERSTORFER (A)
	EL	Mrs M. KALOGRIDOU (EL)
	EN	Mrs S. WAREING (UK)
	ES	Mrs E. JIMENEZ GUERRERO (E)
	ET	Mrs U. SOOMLAIS (EST)
	FI	Mrs T. HUISMAN (FIN)
	FR	Mr P. SOLER (F)
	HU	Mrs Z. NYÍRŐ (H)
	IT	Mr F. RICCIARDELLI (I)
	LT	Mrs V. VALIUŠKEVIČIENĖ (LT)
	LV	Mr N. VENŽEGA (LV)
	MT	Mrs M.C. MIFSUD (M)
	NL	Mrs I. WIJGH (NL)
	PL	Mr K. LESZCZYŃSKI (PL)
	PT	Mrs H. COELHO (P)
	RO	Mrs L. PREOTEASA (RO)
	SK	Mrs J. HANDZELOVÁ (SK)
SL	Mrs M. POZNANOVIČ-JEZERSEK (SLO)	
SV	Mrs K. NILSSON (S)	
L2, L3, L4	DE	Mrs K.M. ECKERSTORFER (A) & Mr W. SEXAUER (D)
	EL	Mrs M. KALOGRIDOU (EL)
	EN	Mrs S. WAREING (UK) & Mrs J. SUTTON (IRL)
	ES	Mrs E. JIMENEZ GUERRERO (E)
	FR	Mr P. SOLER (F)
	GA	Mrs J. SUTTON (IRL)
	IT	Mr F. RICCIARDELLI (I)
	MT	Mrs M.C. MIFSUD (M)
	NL	Mrs I. WIJGH (NL)
	PT	Mrs H. COELHO (P)
SV	Mrs K. NILSSON (NL)	
LATIN		Mr P. SOLER (F) & Mr W. SEXAUER (D)
MATHS		Mr P. BRZAKALA (B)
MUS		Mrs I. WIJGH (NL)
PHILO		Mr F. RICCIARDELLI (I)
PHYS		Mr P. BRZAKALA (B)

### 1.3. Structure of the examinations

Each candidate registered for five written examinations and four oral examinations. The examinations for 2011 were structured as follows:

<b>5 written examinations</b>	L1 – basic <u>or</u> advanced course
	L2 – basic <u>or</u> advanced course
	Mathematics – 3-period or 5-period course
	Two 4-period options
<b>4 oral examinations</b>	L1 – basic <u>or</u> advanced course
	L2 – basic <u>or</u> advanced course
	2 subjects chosen by the student from amongst the 2-period compulsory subjects and the 4-period options or
	Advanced Mathematics (compulsory for students who took this course).

Breakdown of the structure of the marks into the different components of the final mark:

	% of the final mark	
<b>A mark</b>	15%	} <b>Preliminary mark = 40%</b>
<b>Written part examinations (B mark)</b>	25%	
<b>5 written examinations</b>	36%	} <b>Examination mark = 60%</b>
<b>4 oral examinations</b>	24%	

#### 1.4. Organisation of additional written papers

Article 13 of the Arrangements for implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate stipulates that in particular cases, European School students in the final school year may register for the European Baccalaureate in an additional option subject, whether or not they have attended a course in the subject in question in the school.

Admittance to this additional Baccalaureate examination may be authorised only if documentation is provided to show that an examination in the subject is part of the conditions for admission to the higher education course on which the student wishes to embark.

In 2011, ten students registered for an additional written paper. The majority of these examinations were scientific in nature.

#### 1.4. Number of candidates entered for the 2011 Baccalaureate session

The number of candidates, who took the 2011 Baccalaureate examination, by school and by language section, is shown in the following table:

Lang. Section	AL	BE	Br I	Br II	Br III	CU	FR	KA	LU	MO	MU	PA	VA	Total
da			28						21					49
de	11	9	18	24	21	8	21	19	31	10	54		16	242
el					28				16					44
en	23	13	45	36	45	10	23	29	53	18	17	3	33	348
es	20		23		25				16					84
fi				14					7					21
fr	18	8	68	58	59	26	15	12	57	12	20	2	15	370
hu			9											9
it			18	22		5	5	14	14	3	10	7	22	120
nl		17		13	17	5		7	19	22	4		9	113
pl			7											7
pt				30					9					39
sv				13					17					30
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>1476</b>

BG - Bulgarian  
 CS - Czech  
 DA - Danish  
 DE - German  
 EL - Greek  
 EN - English

ES - Spanish  
 ET - Estonian  
 FI - Finnish  
 FR - French  
 GA - Irish  
 HU - Hungarian

IT - Italian  
 LT - Lithuanian  
 LV - Latvian  
 MT - Maltese  
 NL - Dutch  
 PL - Polish

PT - Portuguese  
 RO - Romanian  
 SK - Slovak  
 SL - Slovene  
 SV - Swedish

### 1.5. Candidates with special needs

Pursuant to Article 1, paragraph 1.3.2. of the Arrangements for implementing the Regulations for the European Bacallaureate, candidates with special educational needs may submit a request via the Director of the school.

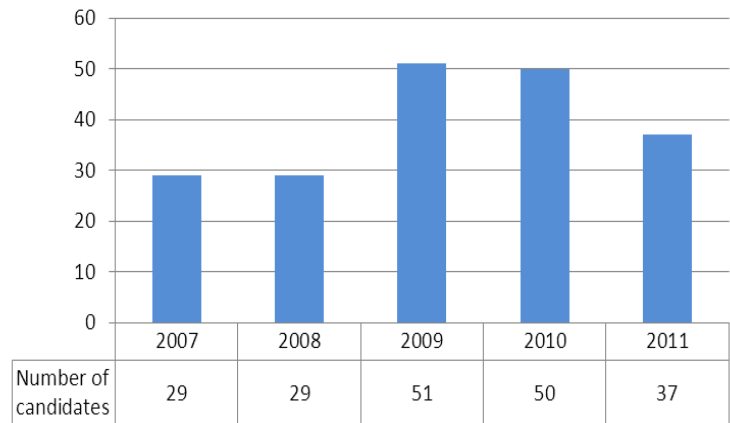
Schools, acting as examination centres, made appropriate arrangements, consisting mainly of granting extra examination time to 37 students with special needs.

The number of such requests over the past five years appears in the table on the right.

Of the 39 requests, two were rejected because they were deemed unnecessary for success in the examinations. The students in question were, incidentally, awarded the Bacallaureate.

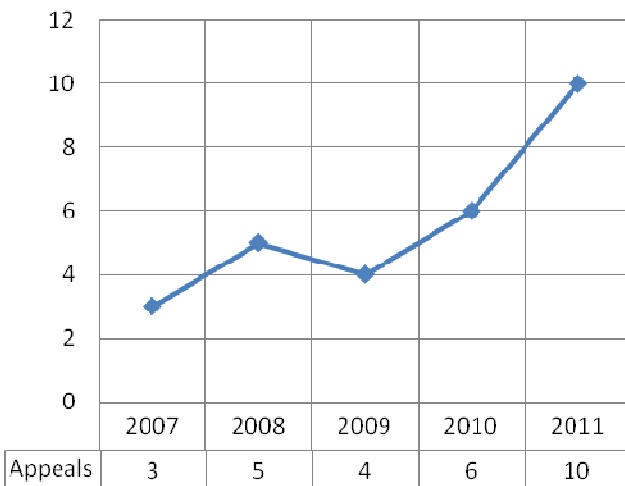
Out of the 37 students who were granted special arrangements, only three were not awarded the Bacallaureate.

The special arrangements granted are generally the following: 10 minutes' extra time per examination hour, 10 minutes' extra time for preparation of the oral examinations, use of a computer without a spellchecker, presence of a reader and presence of a scribe.



### 1.6. Administrative and contentious appeals

In accordance with Article 12 of the Arrangements for implementing the Regulations for the European Bacallaureate, an administrative appeal may be lodged with the Chairman of the Bacallaureate Examining Board.



The appeal may only concern a procedural irregularity.

The table on the left shows the number of appeals lodged over the past five years.

Appeals are most frequently lodged against the mark awarded in one or more subjects. In the absence of a procedural irregularity, they are dismissed.

Of the ten appeals lodged in 2011, none was upheld on procedural irregularity grounds and they were thus rejected by the Chairman of the Bacallaureate Examining Board.

Explicit or implicit administrative decisions taken on the appeals referred to in Article 12

may be the subject of a contentious appeal by students' legal representatives, or by the student himself or herself, directly concerned by the disputed decision, before the Complaints Board. This year, two appeals were lodged with the Complaints Board, although one was withdrawn shortly afterwards.

## 2. Analysis of the 2011 Bacallaureate results

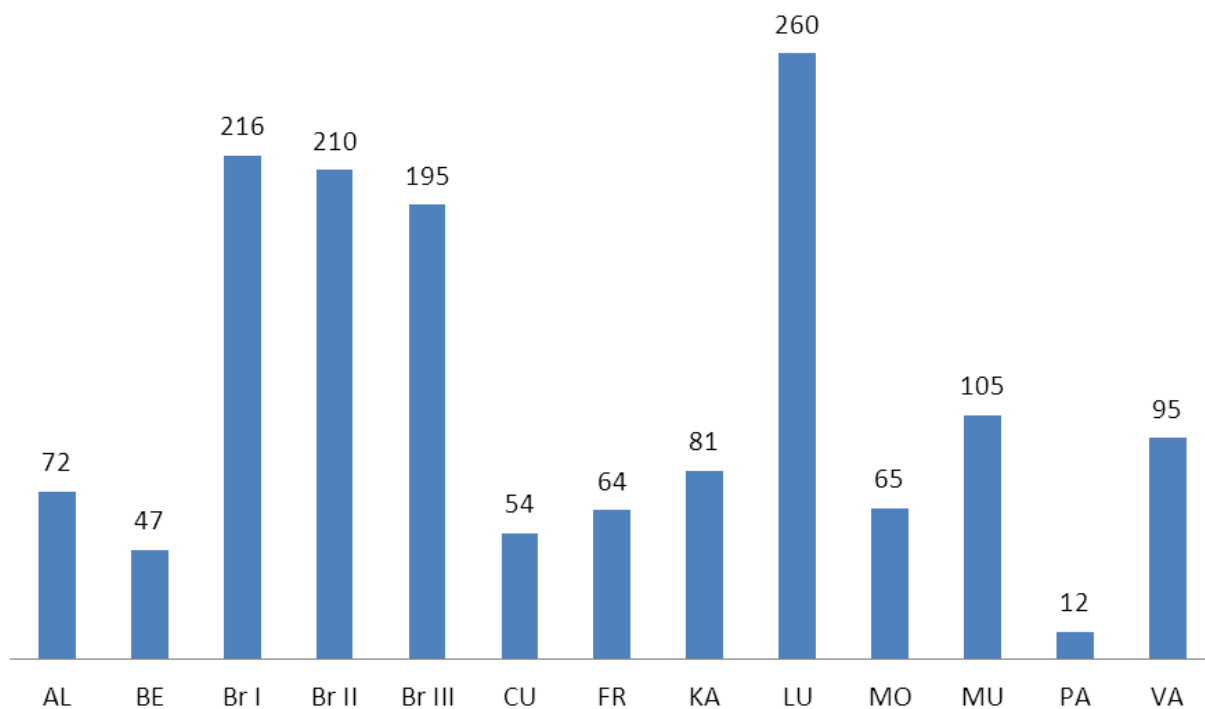
### 2.1. Participation in the examinations by school and by language section

Of the 1481 students registered for the Bacallaureate at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year, 1476 actually took the examinations, five students having given up their studies in mid-year.

Sixteen candidates were partially absent during the written and/or oral examinations in June 2011 on sickness grounds and had to take substitute examinations in June 2011.

Three of those 16 candidates were absent from certain substitute examinations and therefore had to be entered for an extraordinary session in September 2011.

**Candidates per school BAC 2011**

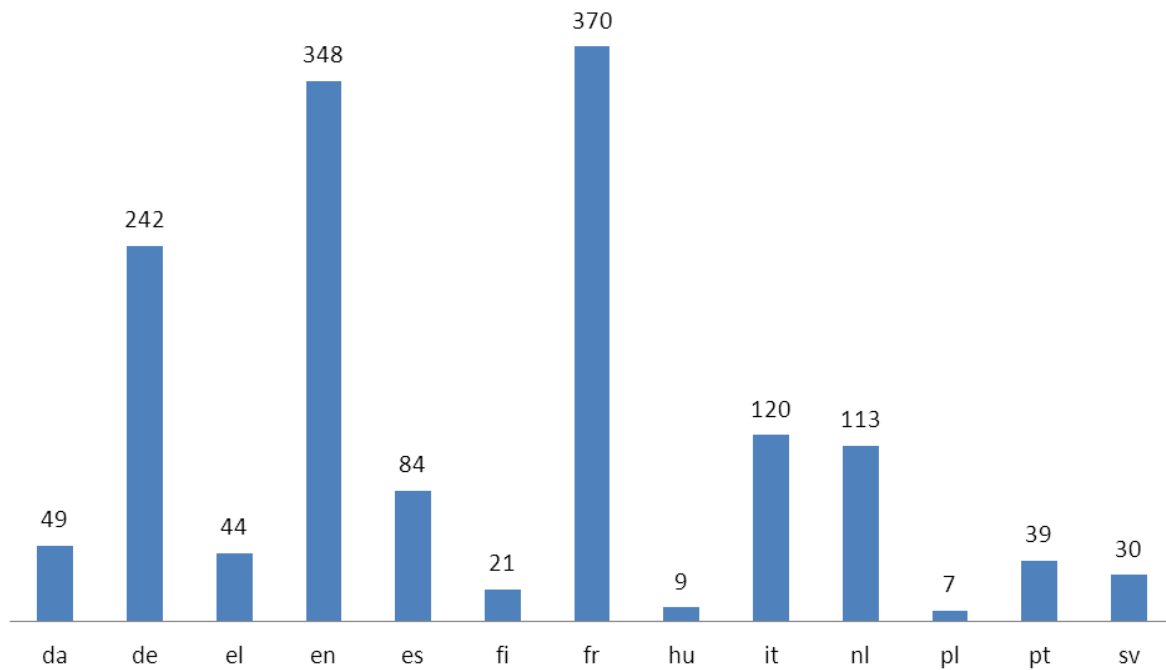


The largest number of Bacallaureate candidates came from the European School, Luxembourg (260), whilst only 12 candidates were entered by *Scuola per l'Europa di Parma*.

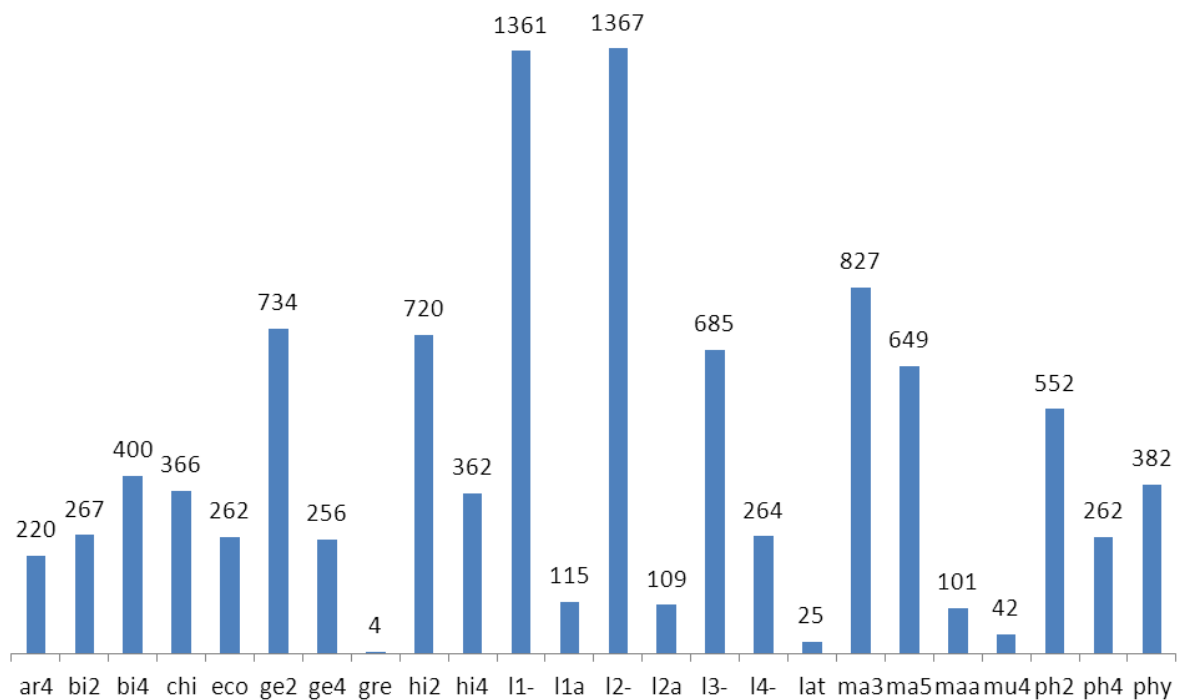


The French language section was the largest, with 370 students, followed by the English (348) and German (242) sections.

**Number of candidates per language section BAC 2011**



**Number of candidates per exam (written and oral) BAC 2011**



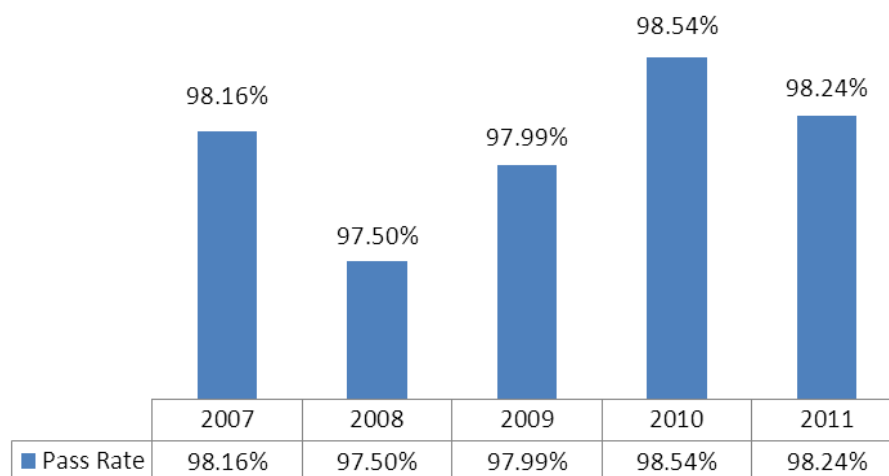
## 2.2. Pass rates

The overall pass rate in the 2011 Baccalaureate was 0.30 % lower than in 2010 but 0.74% higher than in 2008.

A five-year comparison of the pass rate percentages shows that the situation is relatively stable.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>AL</b>	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
<b>BE</b>	97.78%	95.56%	97.92%	97.87%	89.36%
<b>BR I</b>	99.40%	96.81%	97.14%	99.04%	99.07%
<b>BR II</b>	98.55%	98.63%	97.81%	99.55%	98.10%
<b>BR III</b>	96.95%	95.17%	95.89%	99.49%	96.92%
<b>CU</b>	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	98.25%	96.30%
<b>FR</b>	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
<b>KA</b>	96.30%	96.10%	100.00%	95.89%	97.53%
<b>LU</b>	98.27%	96.58%	98.15%	97.33%	99.23%
<b>MO</b>	96.43%	100.00%	96.55%	100.00%	95.38%
<b>MU</b>	97.85%	98.88%	99.08%	96.72%	100.00%
<b>PA</b>			100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
<b>VA</b>	97.89%	100.00%	98.90%	98.97%	100.00%

Pass Rate 2007-2011



The following table shows the pass rate percentage in the different language sections. This year the pass rate per language section ranged between 88.9% and 100%.

**Pass rate per section BAC 2011**

	<b>Candidates</b>	<b>Passed</b>	<b>Pass rate</b>
<b>da</b>	49	49	100.0%
<b>de</b>	242	238	98.3%
<b>el</b>	44	44	100.0%
<b>en</b>	348	342	98.3%
<b>es</b>	84	83	98.8%
<b>fi</b>	21	21	100.0%
<b>fr</b>	370	361	97.6%
<b>hu</b>	9	8	88.9%
<b>it</b>	120	119	99.2%
<b>nl</b>	113	110	97.3%
<b>pl</b>	7	7	100.0%
<b>pt</b>	39	38	97.4%
<b>sv</b>	30	30	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1476</b>	<b>1450</b>	<b>98.24%</b>

The following table shows the percentage pass rate in the different schools. Pass rates ranged between 89.4% and 100%.

**Pass rate per school BAC 2011**

	<b>Candidates</b>	<b>Passed</b>	<b>Pass rate</b>
<b>AL</b>	72	72	100.0%
<b>BE</b>	47	42	89.4%
<b>Br I</b>	216	214	99.1%
<b>Br II</b>	210	206	98.1%
<b>Br III</b>	195	189	96.9%
<b>CU</b>	54	52	96.3%
<b>FR</b>	64	64	100.0%
<b>KA</b>	81	79	97.5%
<b>LU</b>	260	258	99.2%
<b>MO</b>	65	62	95.4%
<b>MU</b>	105	105	100.0%
<b>PA</b>	12	12	100.0%
<b>VA</b>	95	95	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1476</b>	<b>1450</b>	<b>98.24%</b>

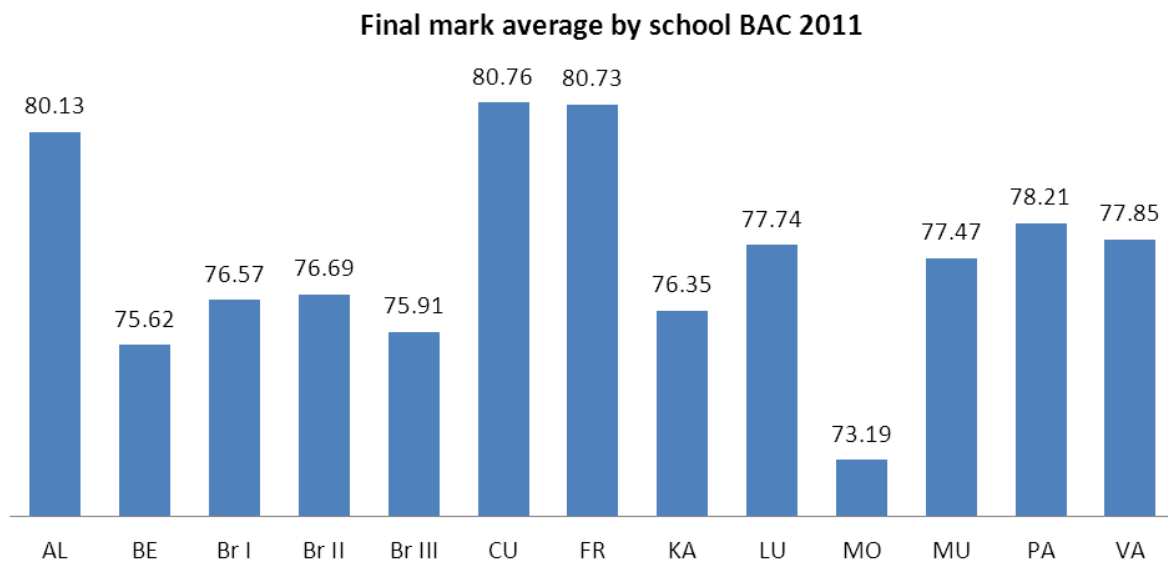
### 2.3. Final averages

For all the candidates who were entered for the 2011 Bacallaureate session, the average of the final marks was 76.81. Comparison of the final mark averages shows that they have been relatively stable over the last five years.

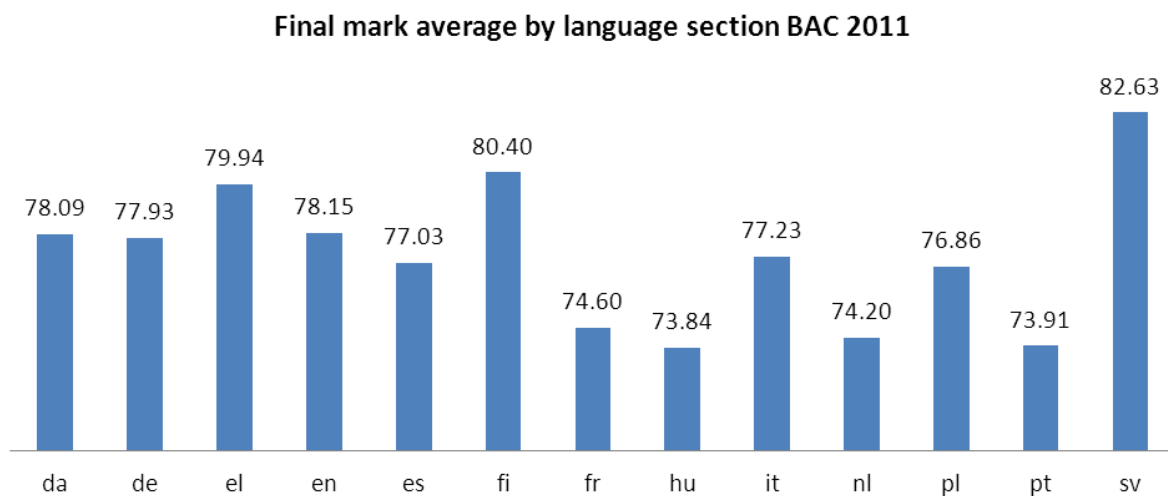
**Final mark averages - BAC 2007 - 2011**

2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
76.80	75.60	76.50	76.90	76.81

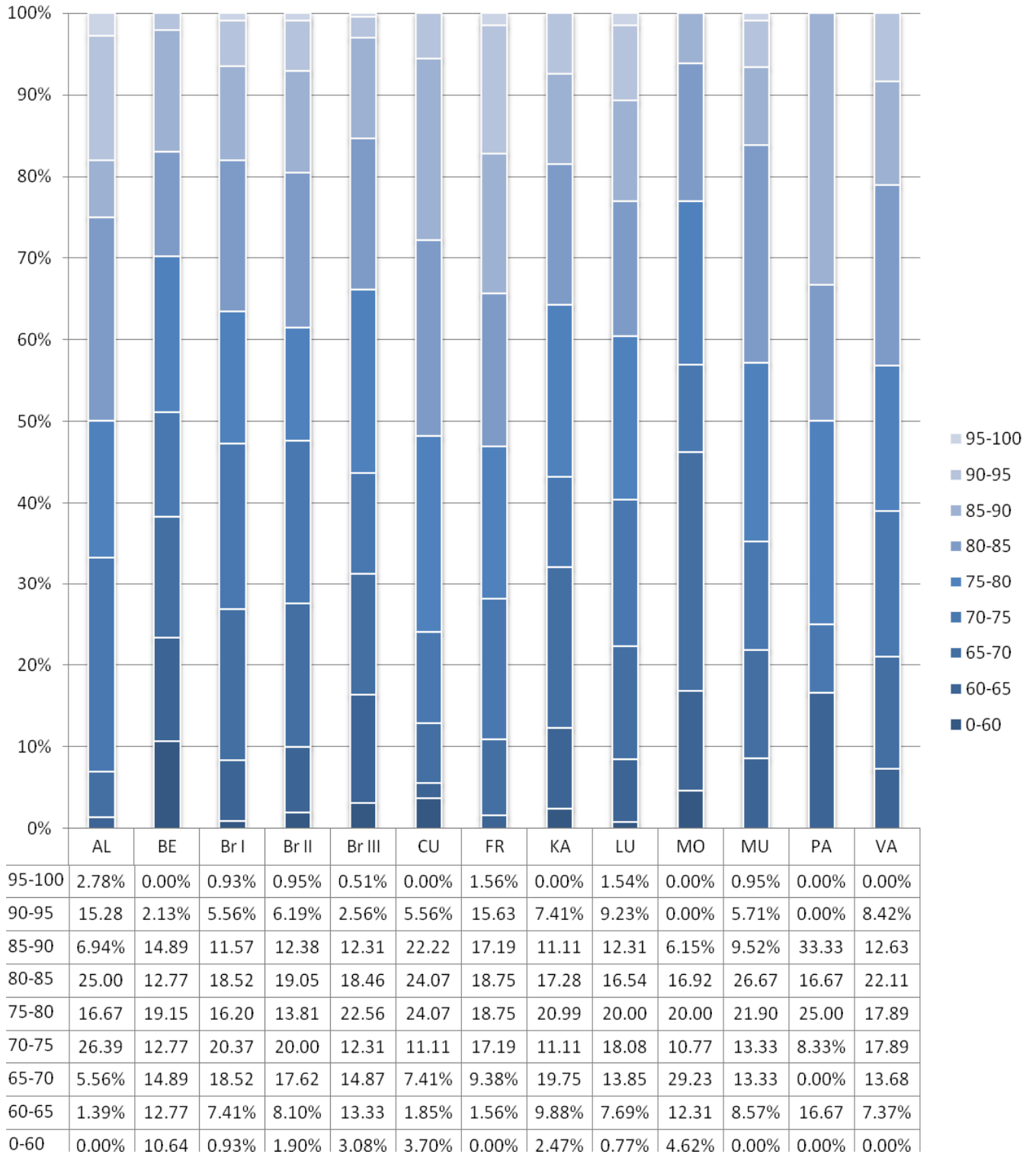
The difference in the final mark ranged between 73.19 and 80.76 across the schools.



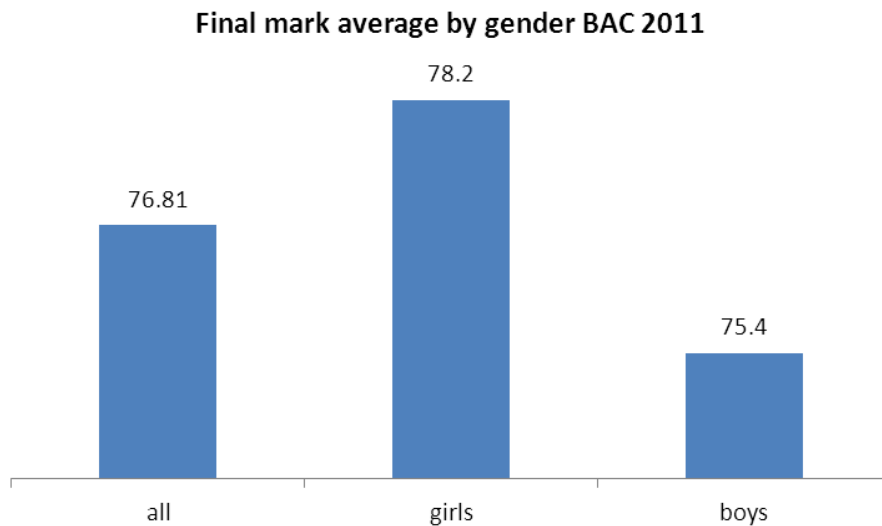
The difference in the final mark average across the language sections ranged between 73.84 and 82.63.



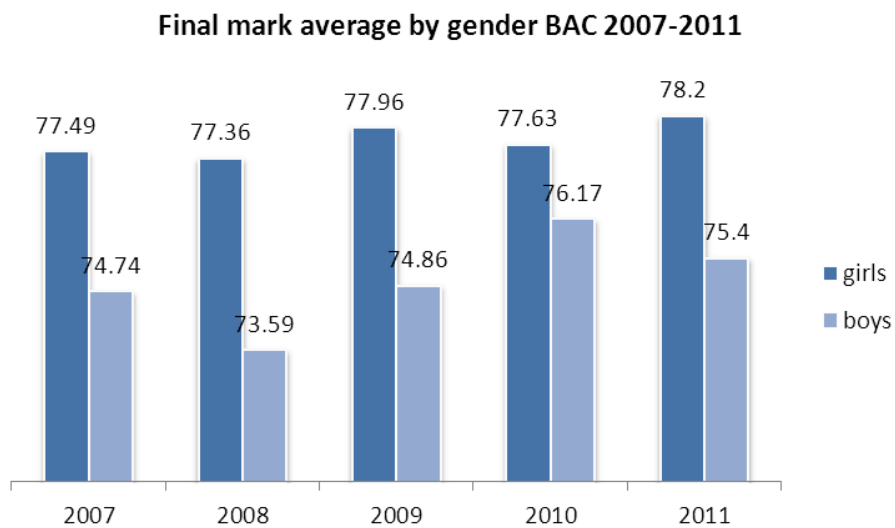
The following table shows the final mark distribution in different European Schools by 5% bands:



As usual, there were clear gender differences. The difference in the averages of the final mark as between boys and girls is 2.80.



The gender difference in 2011 is higher than it was in 2010 (1.46) but lower than in 2009 (3.07).

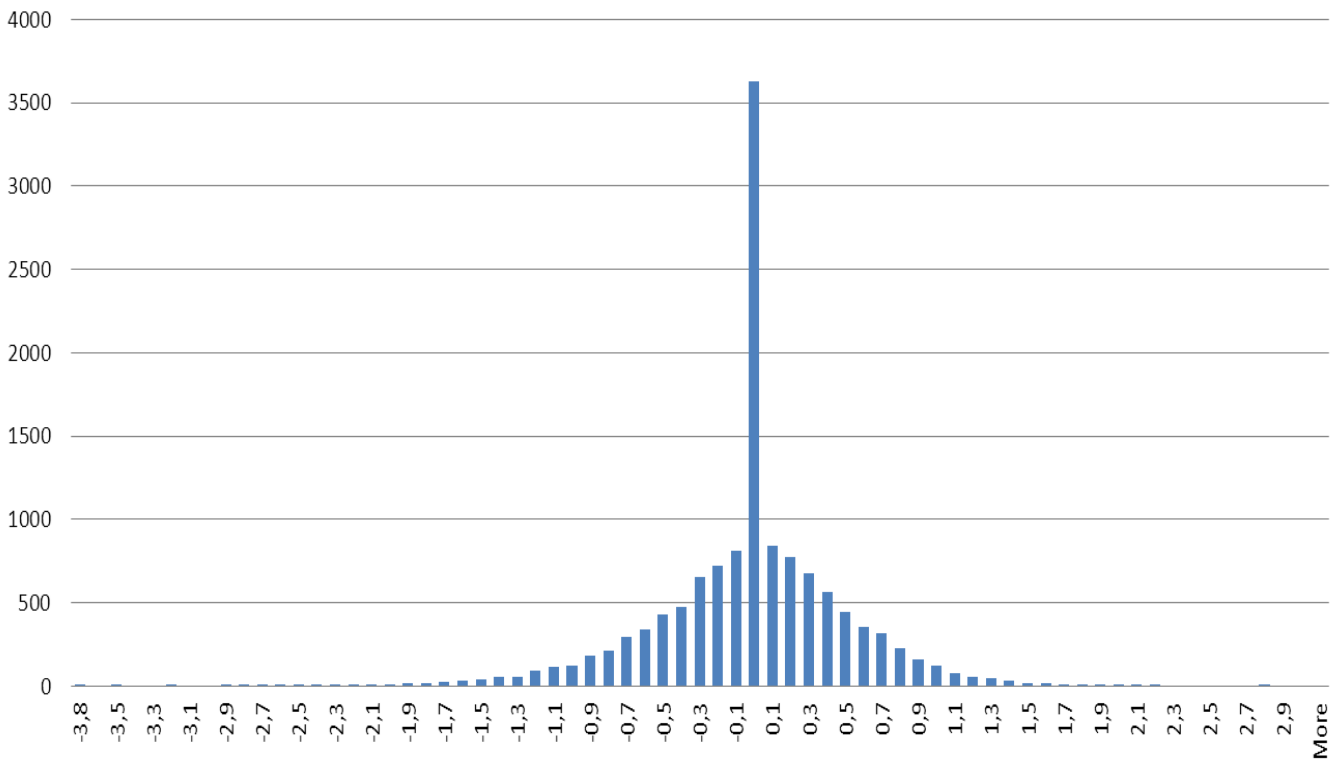


### 2.5. Preliminary mark and final mark

In her report (2011-09-D-44-en-1), the Chairman of the European Baccalaureate Examining Board, Prof. Anna Tirpáková, examined whether the preliminary mark reliably predicts the final mark in every subject. Her conclusion was that *“it cannot be explicitly stated about any of the subjects that results achieved by students in the pre-test predict the results in the Baccalaureate in the given subject. Thus, following the statistical analysis, it can be said that the pre-test results are only partial prediction of the achievement that can be expected from students in the Baccalaureate.”*

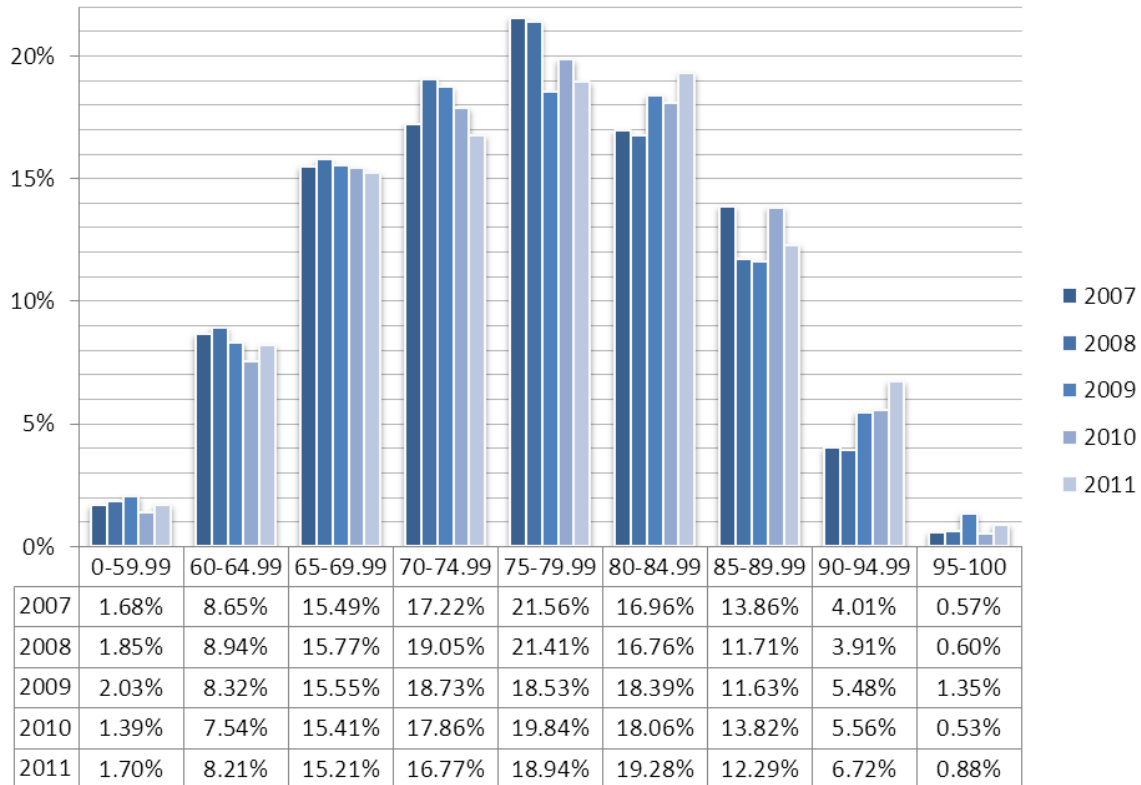
In the table below, the distribution of the differences between the preliminary and the final mark is shown. It can clearly be seen that in most cases, the preliminary mark gives a fairly good indication of the final result achieved, within a range of -1 to +1.

The differences between the final mark and the preliminary mark BAC 2011



## 2.6. Breakdown of the final results of the last five years

Overall results for the last five years:



The overview of the results of the last five years shows that marks between 90 and 94.99 have increased from 4.01% to 6.71%. Otherwise the situation seems to be fairly stable.

## 2.7. Most popular examination choices in written and oral examinations

The five most frequently chosen options for the written examinations this year were: Language 3 (English L3 being the most popular choice, closely followed by Spanish and then French), Physics, Chemistry, Biology and History.

Written examination options	No of candidates	Percentage of candidates
L3	544	37%
PHYSICS	379	26%
CHEMISTRY	356	24%
BIOLOGY	327	22%
HISTORY	289	20%

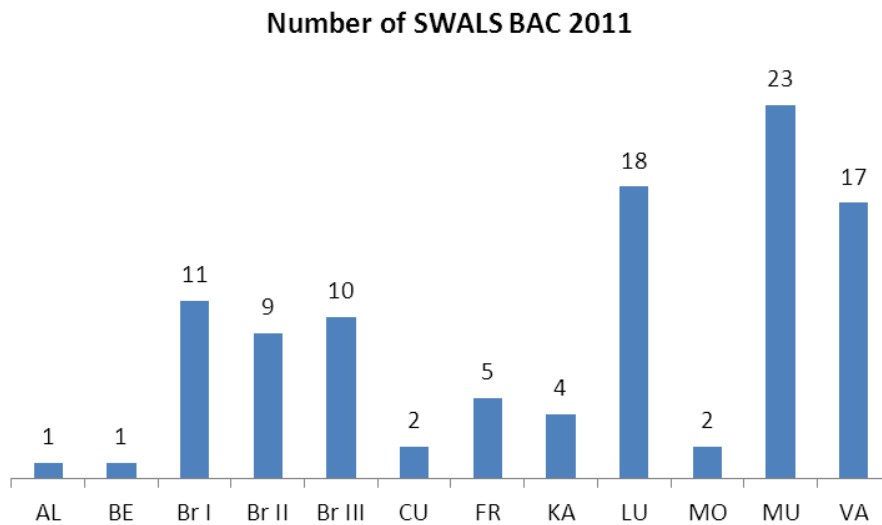


The five most frequently chosen options for the oral examinations were: 2-p. Geography, 2-p. History, 2-p. Philosophy, 2-p. Biology and Language 3.

Oral examination options	No of candidates	Percentage of candidates
2-P. GEOGRAPHY	734	50%
2-P. HISTORY	717	48%
2-P. PHILOSOPHY	550	37%
2-P. BIOLOGY	267	18%
L3	142	10%

### 2.8. Students Without a Language Section

This year 103 ‘Students Without a Language Section’ were entered for the Baccalaureate examinations:



The average final mark achieved by SWALS this year was 78.40, whilst two of the candidates failed.

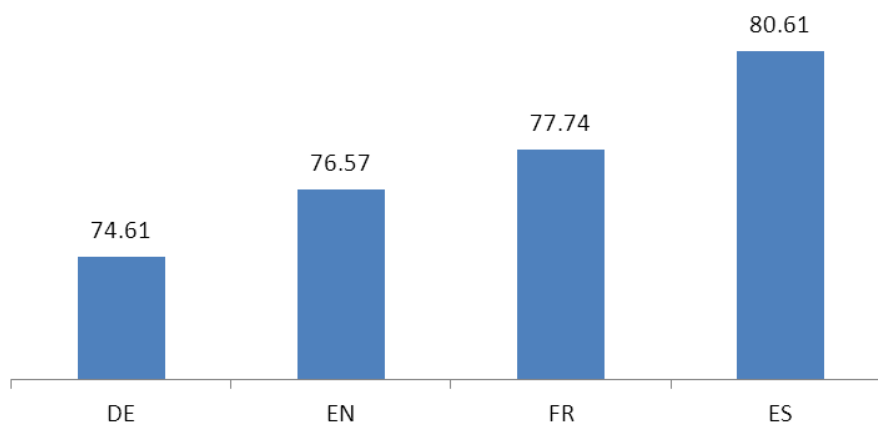
## 2.9. Analysis of results in various subjects

In the European Schools system, certain subjects such as Geography, History and, in some cases, Economics are taught in a second language. There are no major differences between the results of the different second languages. In the case of SWALS, these subjects are studied in each student's vehicular language.

	All	DE	EN	FR	SWALS
<b>GE2</b>	7.67	7.64	7.70	7.63	7.79
<b>GE4</b>	7.21	7.11	7.23	7.20	7.13
<b>HI2</b>	7.71	7.57	7.75	7.73	8.00
<b>HI4</b>	7.49	7.40	7.51	7.44	7.33
<b>ECO</b>	7.41	7.24	7.45	7.15	7.42

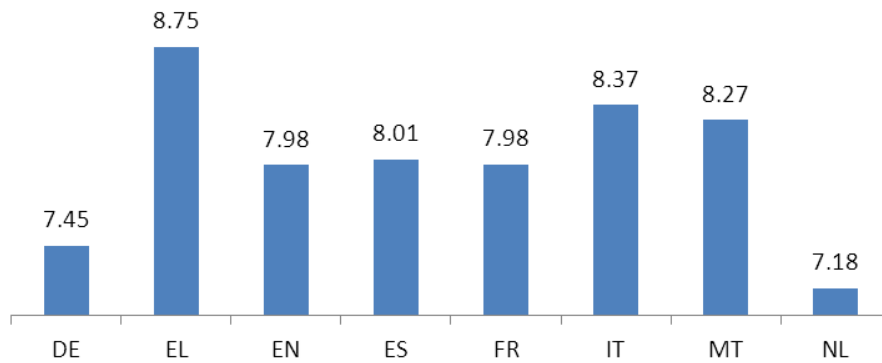
The average final mark for Language 2 was 76.81. The German and English averages were below the overall average, whereas the French results were slightly higher. Under the rules applicable, students are allowed to change Language 2 in year 6. This year there were 25 students taking Spanish as Language 2. Their results were markedly above the overall average.

Final mark average by LII BAC 2011

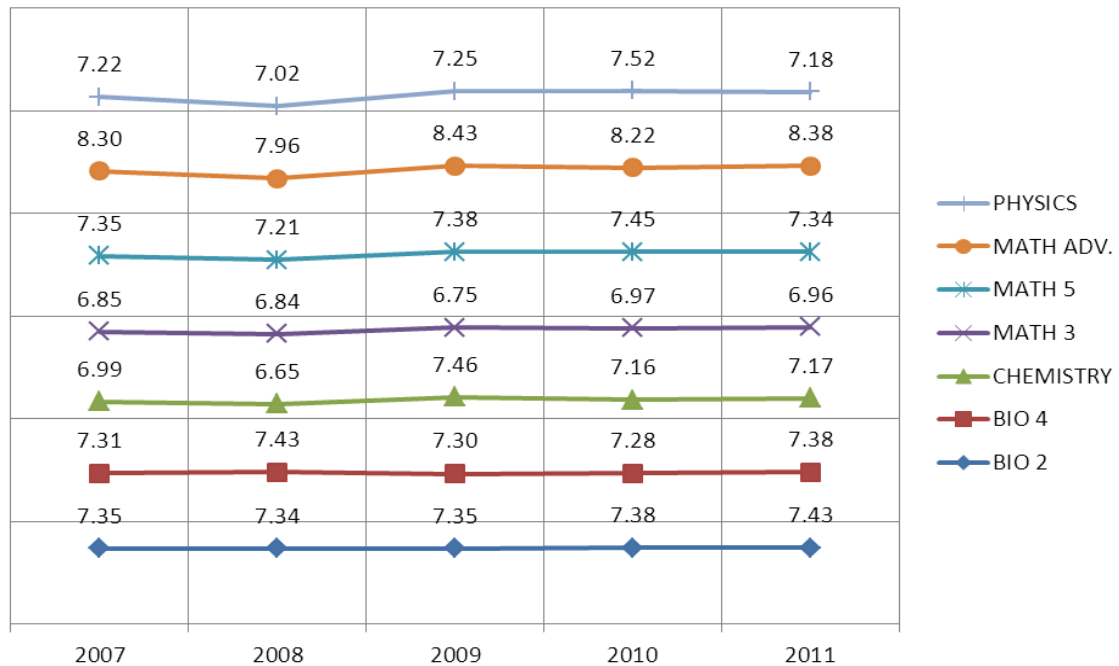


Within the framework of continuation of the Working Group which has studied the particular characteristics of Language 3, it is important to see the results in the subject achieved by candidates this year. Bearing in mind that Language 3 is one of the examinations most in demand, for both the written and oral examinations, these results demonstrate the importance of language learning in a system as complex as that of the European Schools and justify support for and implementation of these values.

**Final mark average by LIII BAC 2011**



The average final mark for Advanced Mathematics and 2-period and 4-period Biology was up slightly this year, whereas that for 5-period Mathematics and Physics fell marginally, although it has remained at a constant level for the last five years:



It should be noted that overall results in the last ten European Baccalaureate sessions can be found in Annexes I and II.