



European Schools

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Report on European Baccalaureate 2012

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

At its meeting on 3, 4 and 5 December 2012

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Introduction

A total of 1495 candidates from 12 European Schools and one accredited school (*Scuola per l'Europa di Parma*) were entered for the 53d session of the European Baccalaureate. Prof. Norbert Pachler (U.K.) was appointed as Chairman of the Examining Board.

European Baccalaureate 2012 – participants

Number of candidates taking the Baccalaureate	1489
Passed	1450
Failed	39
Pass rate	97,4 %
Fail rate	2,6 %

The averages achieved at the European Baccalaureate 2012 are shown in the table below:

European Baccalaureate 2012 – average rates

Overall average for the Final Mark	77,2 %
Overall average for the Preliminary Mark	78,3 %
Overall average for written examinations	74,3 %
Overall average for oral examinations	79,8 %

In order to meet students' choices of examinations for the Baccalaureate 2012, 124 experts set 145 main examination papers and 133 reserve papers, and produced 157 translations. Each examination paper was accompanied by model answers, assessment criteria, and a marking scheme and scale. That made up a total of 450 « Copies ready to press » that were delivered by the secondary inspectors.

The present report will provide a general overview of the results of the European Baccalaureate 2012. The complete records can be found in the annexes.

1. Organisation

1.1. Quality control

The examinations were organised in 13 schools. Quality control of the 2012 European Baccalaureate 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 examinations centre.

1.2. Inspectors responsible for the various subjects

SUBJECT	LANGUAGE	INSPECTEUR RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUBJECT
ART		Mrs K. NILSSON (SE)
BIO		Mr M. RIES (LU)
CHEMISTRY		Mr M. RIES (LU)
ECO		Mrs Z.I. SOFRONIEVA (BG)
ANC GRK.		Mrs M. KALOGRIDOU (GR)
GEO		Mrs U. SOOMLAIS (ES)
HISTORY		Mrs H. COELHO (PT)
LI	BG	Mrs Z. I. SOFRONIEVA (BG)
	CS	Mrs D. MUSILOVA (CZ)
	DA	Mr L. DAMKJAER (DK)
	DE	Mr W. SEXAUER (DE) & Mrs K. M. ECKERSTORFER (AT)
	EL	Mrs M. KALOGRIDOU (GR)
	EN	Mrs S. WAREING (UK)
	ES	Mr J. REDOMERO (ES)
	ET	Mrs U. SOOMLAIS (ES)
	FI	Mrs T. HUISMAN (FI)
	FR	Mr D. WILLÉ (FR)
	HU	Mrs Z. NYÍRÓ (HU)
	IT	Mr F. RICCIARDELLI (IT)
	LT	Mrs V. VALIUŠKEVIČIENĖ (LT)
	LV	Mr N. VENŽEGA (LV)
	MT	Mr J. PRECA (MT)
	NL	Mrs I. WIJGH (NL)
	PL	Mr K. LESZCZYŃSKI (PL)
	PT	Mrs H. COELHO (PT)
	RO	Mrs L. PREOTEASA (RO)
	SK	Mrs J. HANDZELOVÁ (SK)
SL	Mrs M. POZNANOVIČ-JEZERSEK (SI)	
SV	Mrs K. NILSSON (SE)	
LII, LIII, LIV	DE	Mrs K. M. ECKERSTORFER (AT) & Mr W. SEXAUER (DE)
	EL	Mrs M. KALOGRIDOU (GR)
	EN	Mrs S. WAREING (UK) & Mrs J. SUTTON (IE)
	ES	Mr J. REDOMERO (ES)
	FR	Mr D. WILLÉ (FR)
	GA	Mrs J. SUTTON (IE)
	IT	Mr F. RICCIARDELLI (IT)
	MT	Mr J. PRECA (MT)
	NL	Mrs I. WIJGH (NL)
	PT	Mrs H. COELHO (PT)
SV	Mrs K. NILSSON (SE)	
LATIN		Mr D. WILLÉ (FR) & Mr W. SEXAUER (DE)
MATHS		Mr P. BRZAKALA (BE)
MUSIC		Mrs I. WIJGH (NL)
PHILO		Mr F. RICCIARDELLI (IT)
PHYSICS		Mr P. BRZAKALA (BE)

1.3. Structure of the examinations

Each candidate registered for five written tests and four oral tests. The examinations for 2012 were structured as follows:

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

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, last year students at the European Schools may enroll for a supplementary examination of the Baccalaureate for an optional subject, whether they took the class concerning the subject in question at the school or not.

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

In 2011, 21 student s registered for an additional written paper. The majority of these examinations were scientific in nature.

1.5. Number of candidates entered for the 2012 Bacallaureate session

The number of candidates who took the 2012 Bacallaureate examination, by school and by language section, is shown in the following table:

Language section	AL	BE	Br I	Br II	Br III	CU	FR	KA	LU	MO	MU	PA	VA	Total
DA			4						15					19
DE	12		19	27	25	18	22	30	29	5	50		8	245
EL					30				13					43
EN	22	14	36	45	46	33	21	34	57	22	24	6	20	380
ES	21		14		39				19					93
FI				26					6					32
FR	11	4	58	50	61	15	11	13	61	12	6	1	21	324
HU			8											8
IT			23	23			9		16		15	15	27	128
NL		23		19	29				20	22	10		9	132
PL			6											6
PT				32					17					49
SV				14					16					30
Total	66	41	168	236	230	66	63	77	269	61	105	22	85	1489

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

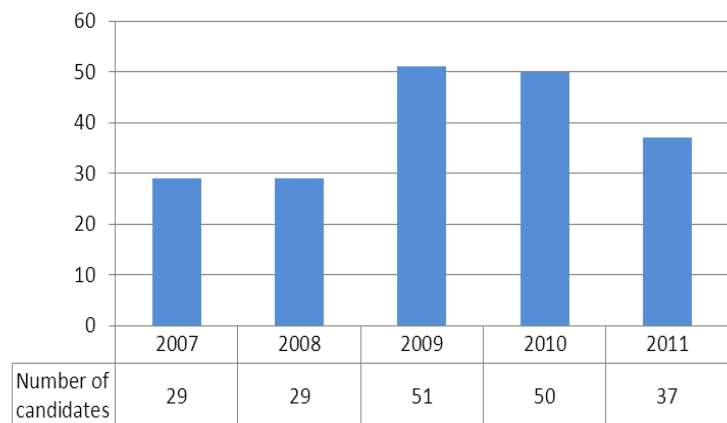
SV - Swedish

1.6. 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 41 students with special needs.

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

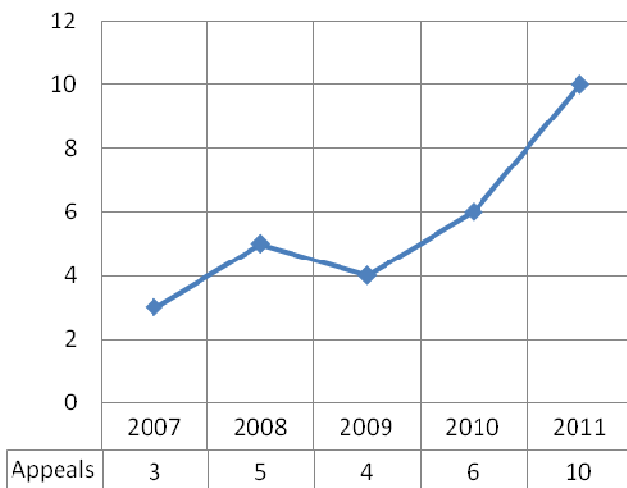


The special arrangements granted are generally the following: 10 minutes' extra time per examination hour, 10 minutes' extra time for preparation of the oral examinations, use of a computer without a spellchecker, presence of a reader and presence of a scribe.

Out of the 41 students who were granted special arrangements, two were not awarded the Baccalaureate (fail rate 4,9%).

1.7. Administrative and contentious appeals

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



The appeal may only concern a procedural irregularity.

Under Article 12.2 of the same Arrangements for the Regulation “*There is a procedural irregularity when the provisions taken by the BoG and the BoI as to the EB are not observed*”. In the absence of irregularity, the administrative appeals shall be rejected.

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

- **Administrative appeals**

Of the 1489 candidates who took part in the examination session 2012, 36 lodged an administrative appeal (by themselves or by a legal representative) against the results of the EB. A collective appeal, signed by the students or their parents had been added .

Among the students involved, only 3 had not passed the Bac. The large majority of the appeals was therefore only directed at an (upward) revision of the mark achieved for one subject (in 31 cases in Chemistry), and so the improvement of the final results of the Bac. That request was meant to obtain the minimally required level by certain Universities for enrolment by holders of the EB in the faculty of their choices.

Of the 36 appeals lodged in 2012, none was based on procedural irregularity and so all of them have been rejected by the Chairman of the Bac

- **Contentious appeals**

Explicit or implicit administrative decisions taken on the appeals referred to in Article 12 may be the subject of a contentious appeal by a student 's legal representatives, or by the student himself or herself, directly concerned by the disputed decision, before the Complaints Board.

Of the students who had lodged an appeal against the mark obtained at the written examination in Chemistry, 6 lodged a contentious appeal before the Complaints Board after their administrative appeal having been rejected.

2. Analysis of the 2012 Bacallaureate results

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

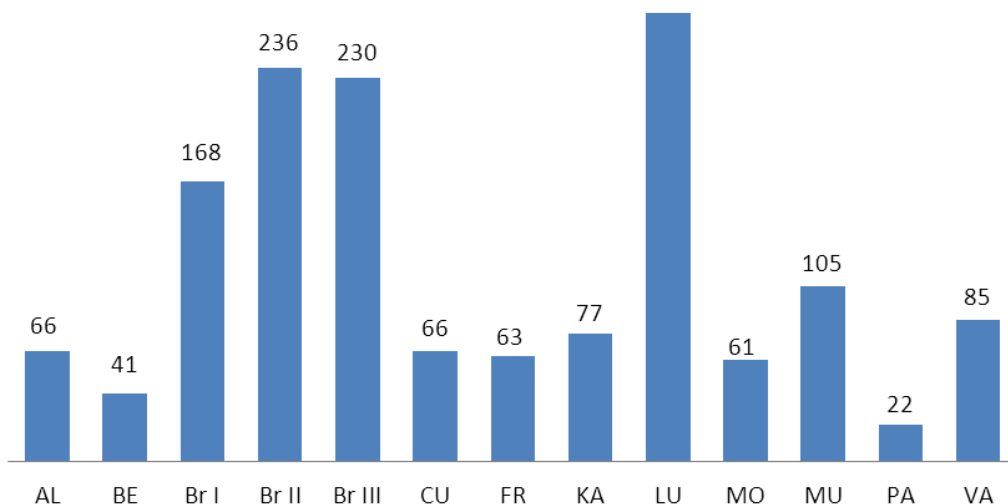
Of the 1495 students that entered the Bacallaureate at the start of the 2011-2012 school year, 1489 actually took the examinations, six students having given up their studies in mid-year.

Fifteen candidates were partially absent for illness during the written and/or oral examinations in June and had to take substitute examinations in June 2012.

Two candidates absent even during the substitute examinations were offered to take part in an extraordinary session in September 2012.

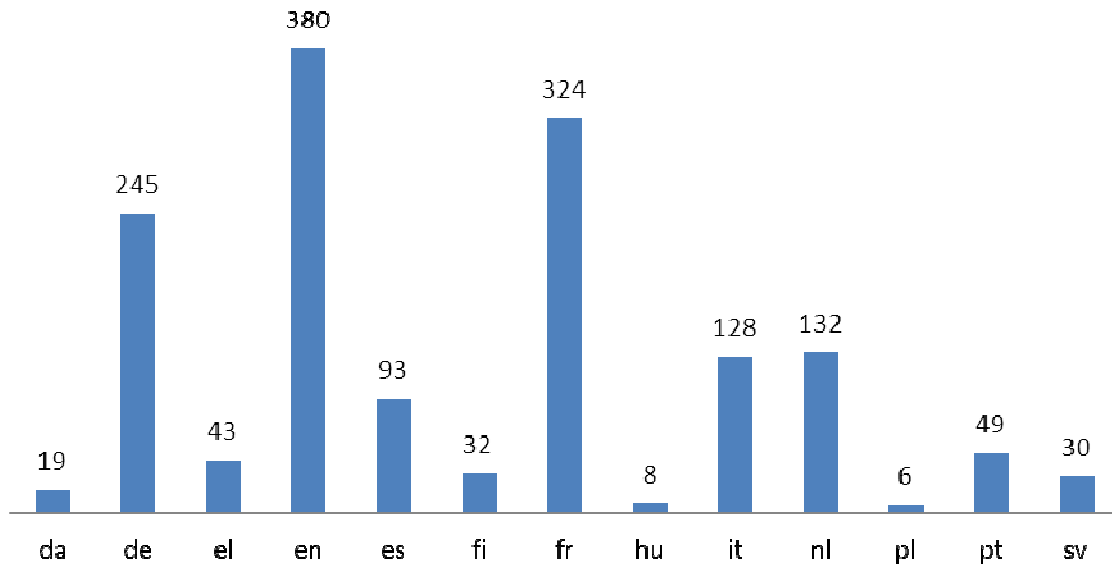
The largest number of candidates at the Bacallaureate came from the ES Luxembourg I (269).

Number of candidates by school

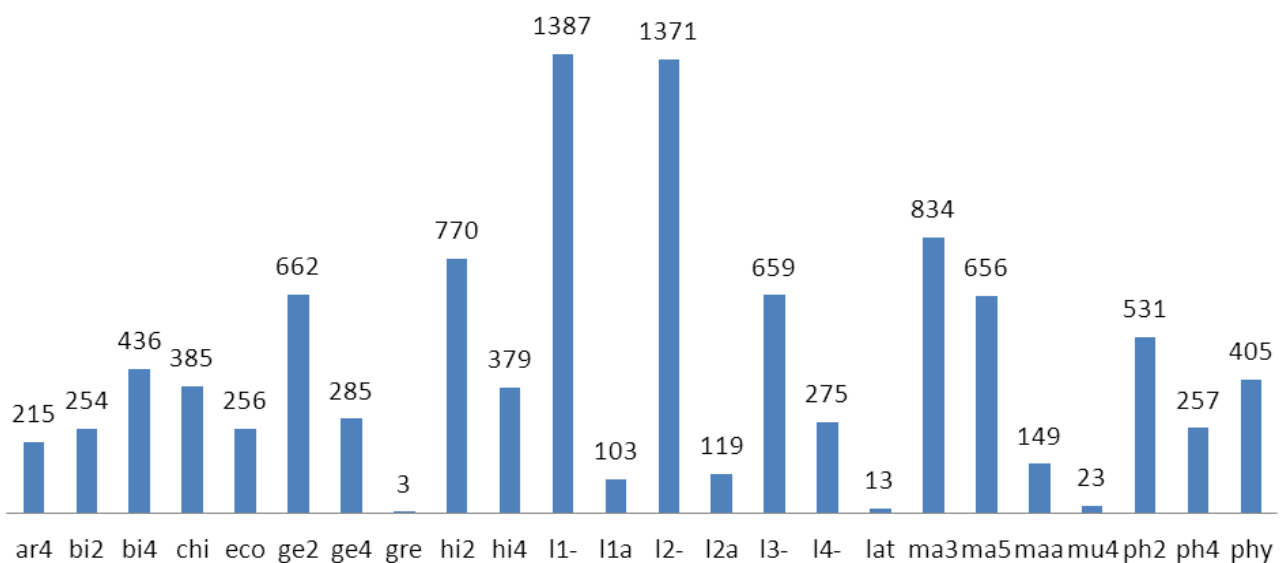


The largest group was made up of candidates from the English language section, with 380 students, followed by candidates from the French section (324) and the German section (245).

Number of candidates by language section



Number of candidates by examination (written and oral)

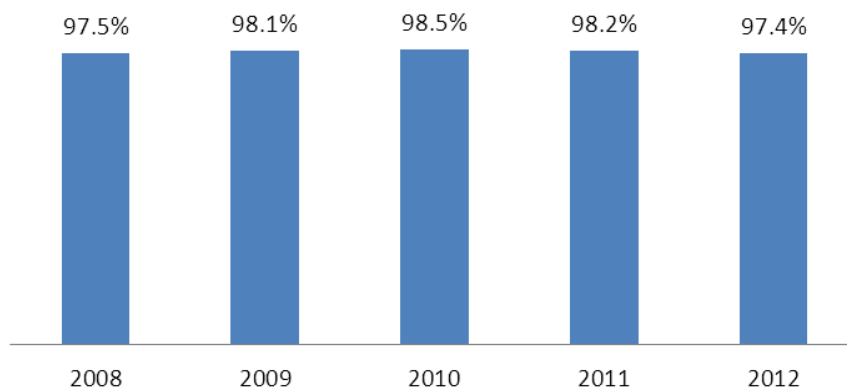


2.2. Pass rate

A comparison over five years of pass rates shows that the situation is relatively stable.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
AL	100,0 %	100,0 %	100,0 %	100,0 %	97,0 %
BE	95,6 %	97,9 %	97,9 %	89,4 %	92,7 %
Br I	96,8 %	97,1 %	99,0 %	99,1 %	98,8 %
Br II	98,6 %	97,8 %	99,6 %	98,1 %	94,9 %
Br III	95,2 %	95,9 %	99,5 %	96,9 %	97,8 %
CU	100,0 %	100,0 %	98,3 %	96,3 %	100,0 %
FR	100,0 %	100,0 %	100,0 %	100,0 %	100,0 %
KA	96,1 %	100,0 %	95,9 %	97,5 %	97,4 %
LU	96,6 %	98,2 %	97,3 %	99,2 %	97,8 %
MO	100,0 %	96,6 %	100,0 %	95,4 %	95,1 %
MU	98,9 %	99,1 %	96,7 %	100,0 %	98,1 %
PA		100,0 %	100,0 %	100,0 %	90,9 %
VA	100,0 %	98,9 %	99,0 %	100,0 %	100,0 %
TOTAL	97,5 %	98,1 %	98,5 %	98,2 %	97,4 %

Pass rate 2008-2012



The following table shows the pass rate in the different language sections. This year, the pass rates by language section ranged between 89,8 % and 100 %.

Pass rate by section, BAC 2012

	Candidates	Passed	Pass rate
DA	19	19	100,0 %
DE	245	240	98,0 %
EL	43	43	100,0 %
EN	380	375	98,7 %
ES	93	90	96,8 %
FI	32	32	100,0 %
FR	324	310	95,7 %
HU	8	8	100,0 %
IT	128	125	97,7 %
NL	132	128	97,0 %
PL	6	6	100,0 %
PT	49	44	89,8 %
SV	30	30	100,0 %
Total	1489	1450	97,4 %

The following table shows the pass rate in different schools.

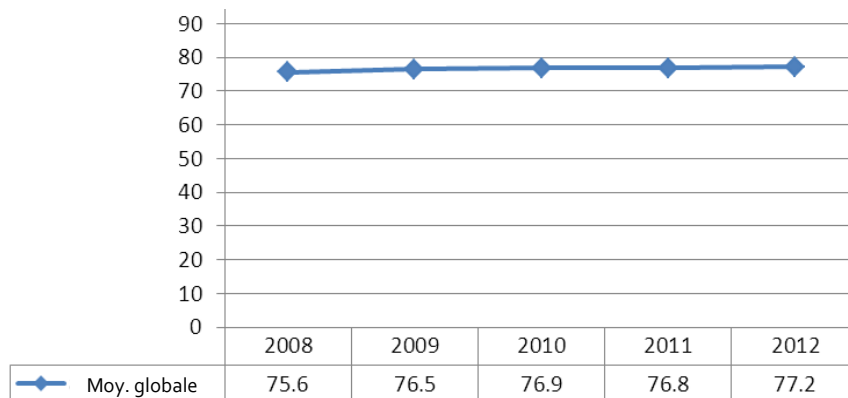
Pass rate by school, BAC 2012

	Candidates	Passed	Pass rate
AL	66	64	97,0 %
BE	41	38	92,7 %
Br I	168	166	98,8 %
Br II	236	224	94,9 %
Br III	230	225	97,8 %
CU	66	66	100,0 %
FR	63	63	100,0 %
KA	77	75	97,4 %
LU	269	263	97,8 %
MO	61	58	95,1 %
MU	105	103	98,1 %
PA	22	20	90,9 %
VA	85	85	100,0 %
Total	1489	1450	97,4 %

2.3. Final averages

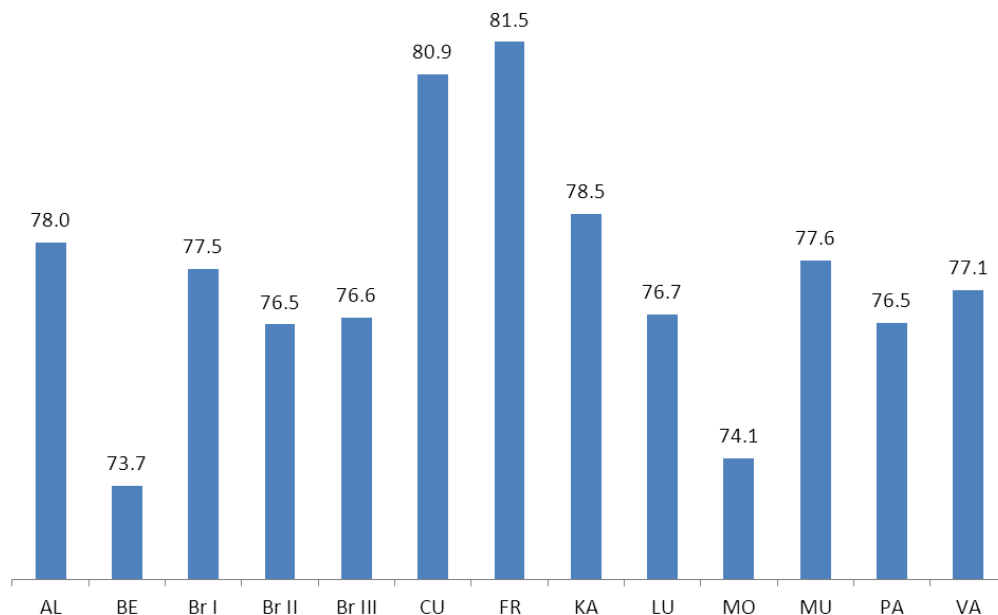
For all the candidates enrolled in the 2012 session of the Baccalaureate, the average final marks amounted to 77,2. A comparison of the final marks shows a slight rise throughout the past five years

Overall average of past five years



The average final marks ranged between 73,7 and 81,5 according to the schools.

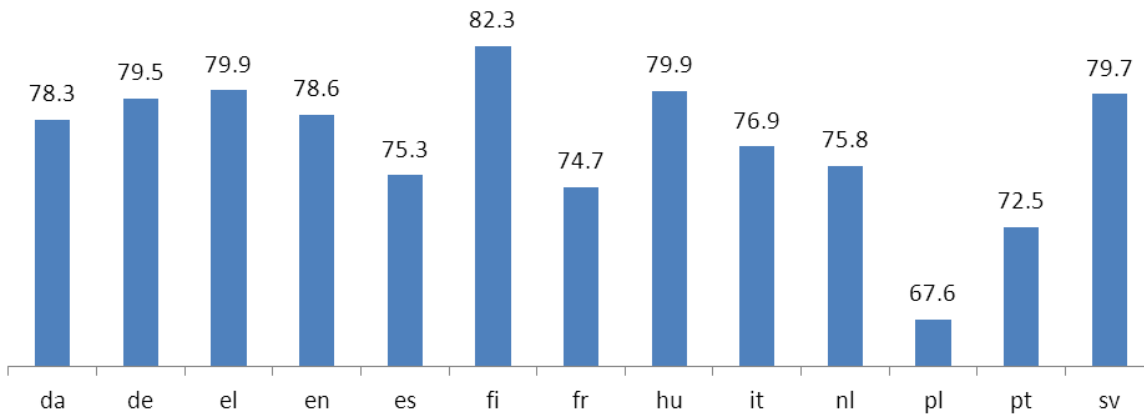
Average final marks by school



2011/2012	AL	BE	Br I	Br II	Br III	CU	FR	KA	LU	MO	MU	PA	VA	Total
Number of candidates	66	41	168	236	230	66	63	77	269	61	105	22	85	1489

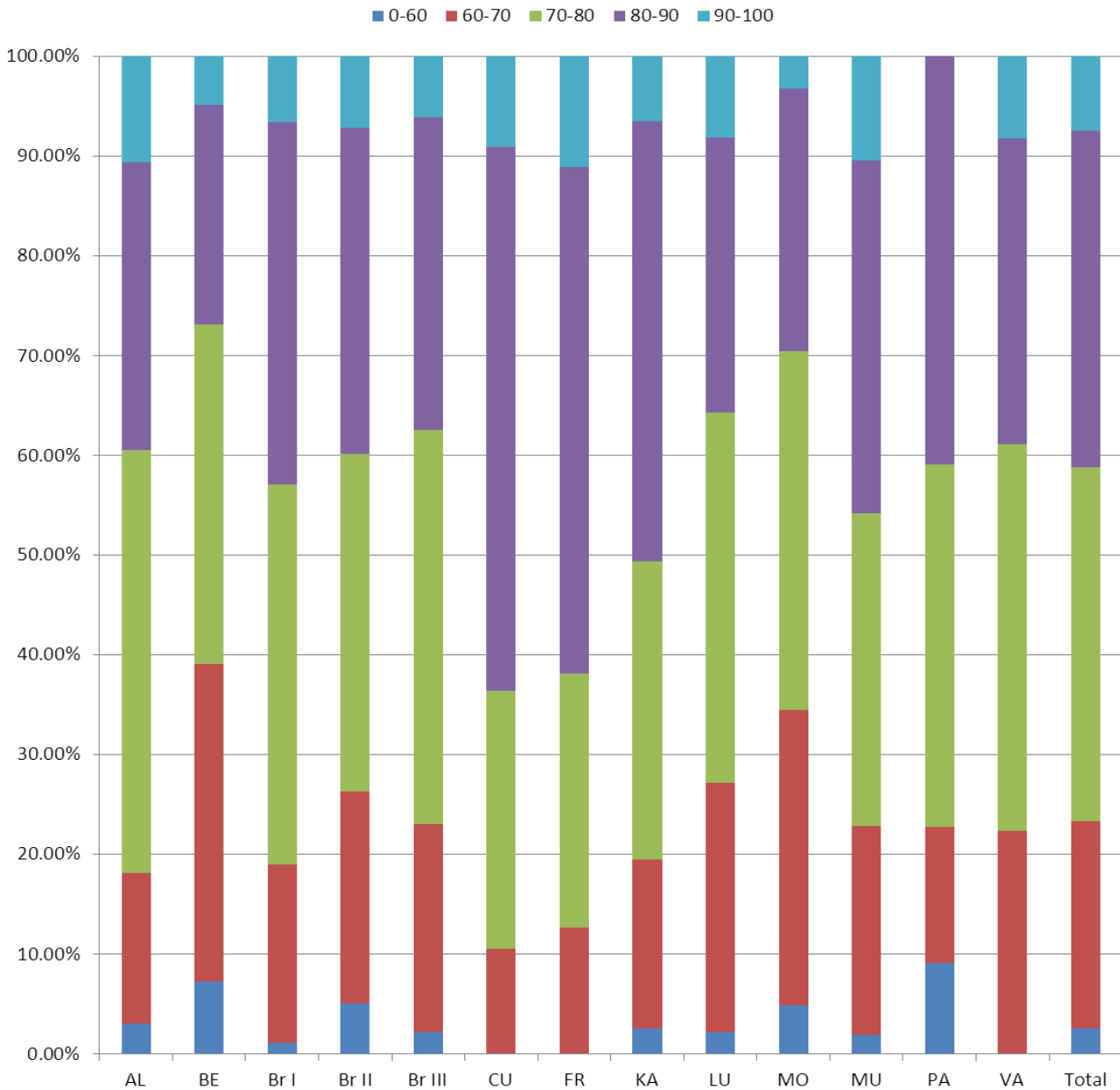
The average final mark ranged between 67,6 and 82,3 according to the language section, even if at certain sections the number of candidates could make the average little significant.

Average final marks by language section



2011/2012	DA	DE	EL	EN	ES	FI	FR	HU	IT	NL	PL	PT	SV	Total
Number of candidates	19	245	43	380	93	32	324	8	128	132	6	49	30	1489

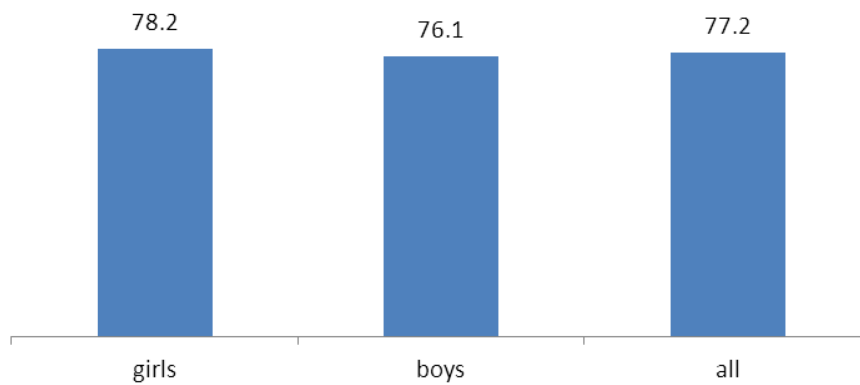
The following table shows the distribution of the final mark in the different European Schools, by slices of 10 % :



	AL	BE	Br I	Br II	Br III	CU	FR	KA	LU	MO	MU	PA	VA	Total
0-60	2	3	2	12	5			2	6	3	2	2		39
60-70	10	13	30	50	48	7	8	13	67	18	22	3	19	308
70-80	28	14	64	80	91	17	16	23	100	22	33	8	33	529
80-90	19	9	61	77	72	36	32	34	74	16	37	9	26	502
90-100	7	2	11	17	14	6	7	5	22	2	11	0	7	111

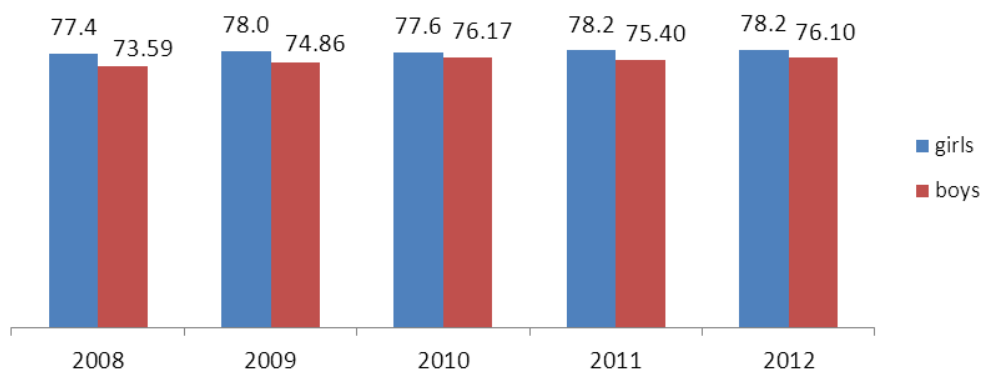
As usual we witness here a significant difference between the two genders.

Average final mark by gender



Here is a comparison of the difference between the two genders throughout the latest 5 years.

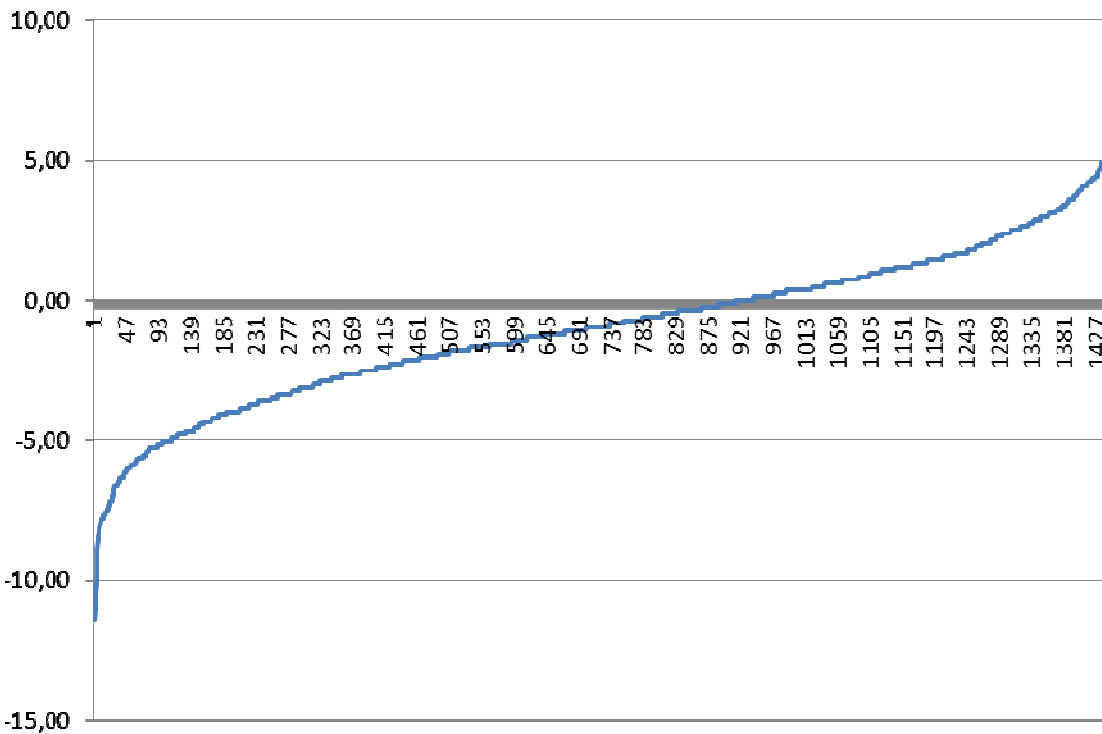
Average final mark by gender 2008-2012



2.4. The preliminary and final marks

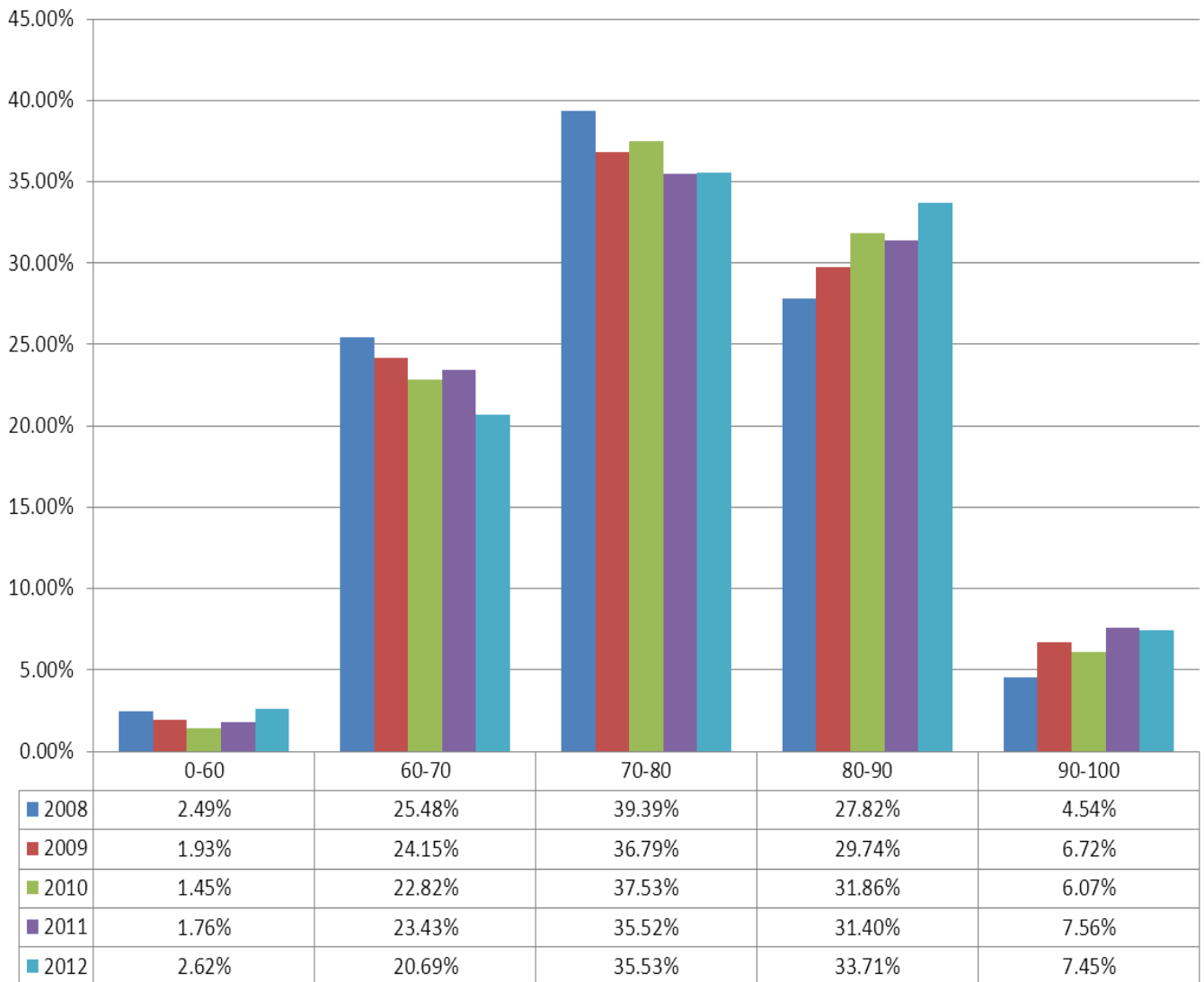
The graph below shows differences between the final mark and the preliminary mark for all students who passed the Bacallaureate. A negative difference means that the preliminary mark is higher than the final mark, and vice-versa.

Differences between final and preliminary marks– Bac 2012



2.5. Breakdown of final results throughout past five years

The overview of the results of the past 5 years shows a progressive trend, even though moderate, for the improvement of the overall results.



2.6. Most popular examination choices at written and oral examinations

The five most chosen options for the written examinations this year were: Language III (English LIII being the most popular choice, followed by the option Spanish and next the option French), Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and History.

Options of written examinations	Number of candidates BAC 2011	Percentage of candidates BAC 2011	Number of candidates BAC 2012	Percentage of candidates BAC 2012
LIII	544	37 %	494	33 %
PHYSICS	379	26 %	400	27 %
CHEMISTRY	356	24 %	372	25 %
BIOLOGY	327	22 %	360	24 %
HISTORY	289	20 %	296	20 %

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

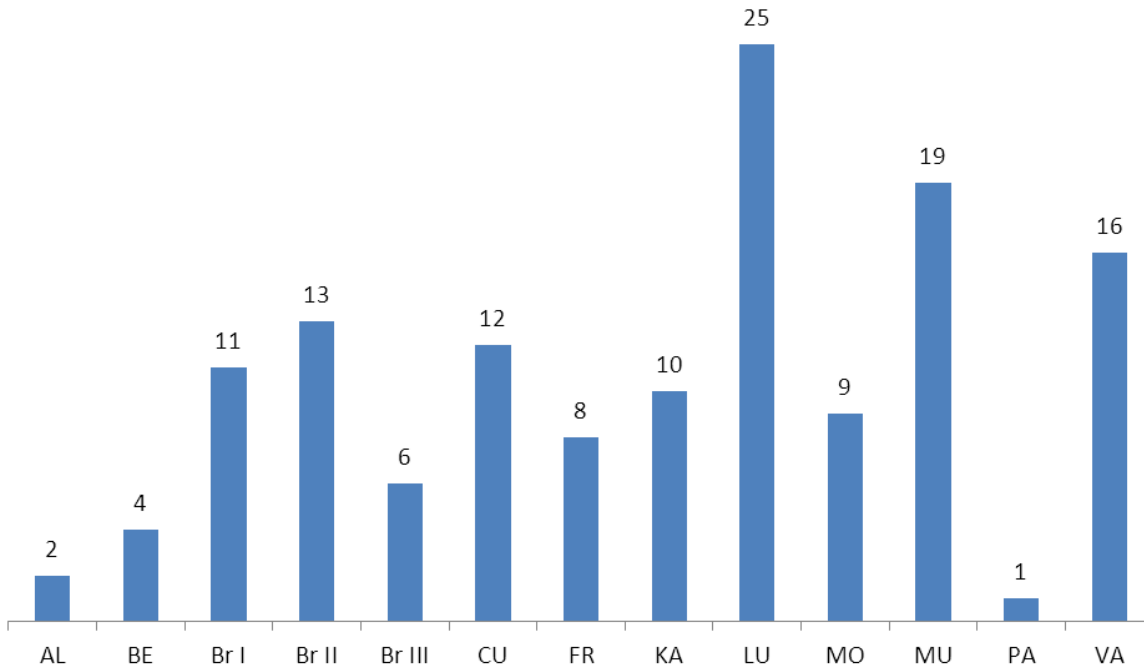
Options of oral examinations	Number of candidates BAC 2011	Percentage of candidates BAC 2011	Number of candidates BAC 2012	Percentage of candidates BAC 2012
HISTIRY 2 P.	717	48 %	770	52 %
GEOGRAPHIE 2 P.	734	50 %	662	44 %
PHILOSOPHIE 2 P.	550	36 %	531	36 %
BIOLOGIE 2 P.	267	18 %	254	17 %
LIII	142	10 %	165	11 %

2.7. Students Without A Language Section (SWALS)

This year, 136 « students without a language section» were entered for the Baccalaureate session.

The average final mark achieved by SWALS student s this year amounted to 78,6. Two of these candidates failed (i.e. a fail rate of 1,4 %).

Number of students without language section



2.8. Analysis of the results in different subjects

In the European Schooling system, some subjects such as Geography, History and Economics are taught in a second language. It seems to us there are no important systematic differences between the results of the subjects taught in the second languages.

	DE	EN	FR	SWALS	All
GE2	7,1	7,6	7,5	7,5	7,5
GE4	7,2	6,9	7,1	6,6	7,0
HI2	7,8	7,8	7,7	8,0	7,8
HI4	7,3	7,7	7,5	7,5	7,6
ECO	6,4	7,2	6,8	6,8	7,1

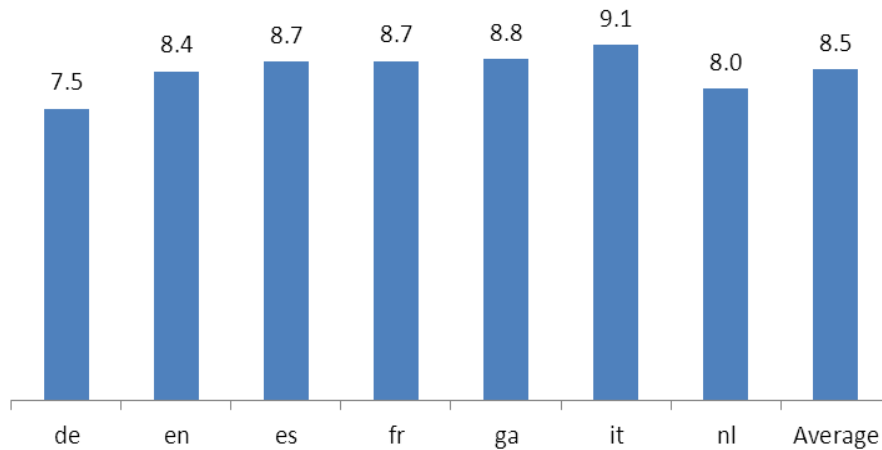
The average final mark for Language II was 8,1. By virtue of the relevant regulations, students may change Language II in the 6th year. In this way, this year students could choose Spanish, Dutch or Irish as their Language II. It is a fact that their results are substantially above the overall average, even if the number of pupils is probably too limited to jump to conclusions that are statistically sound.

Final Mark by LII

	DE	EN	ES	FR	GA	NL
Number of pupils	204	870	13	397	1	5

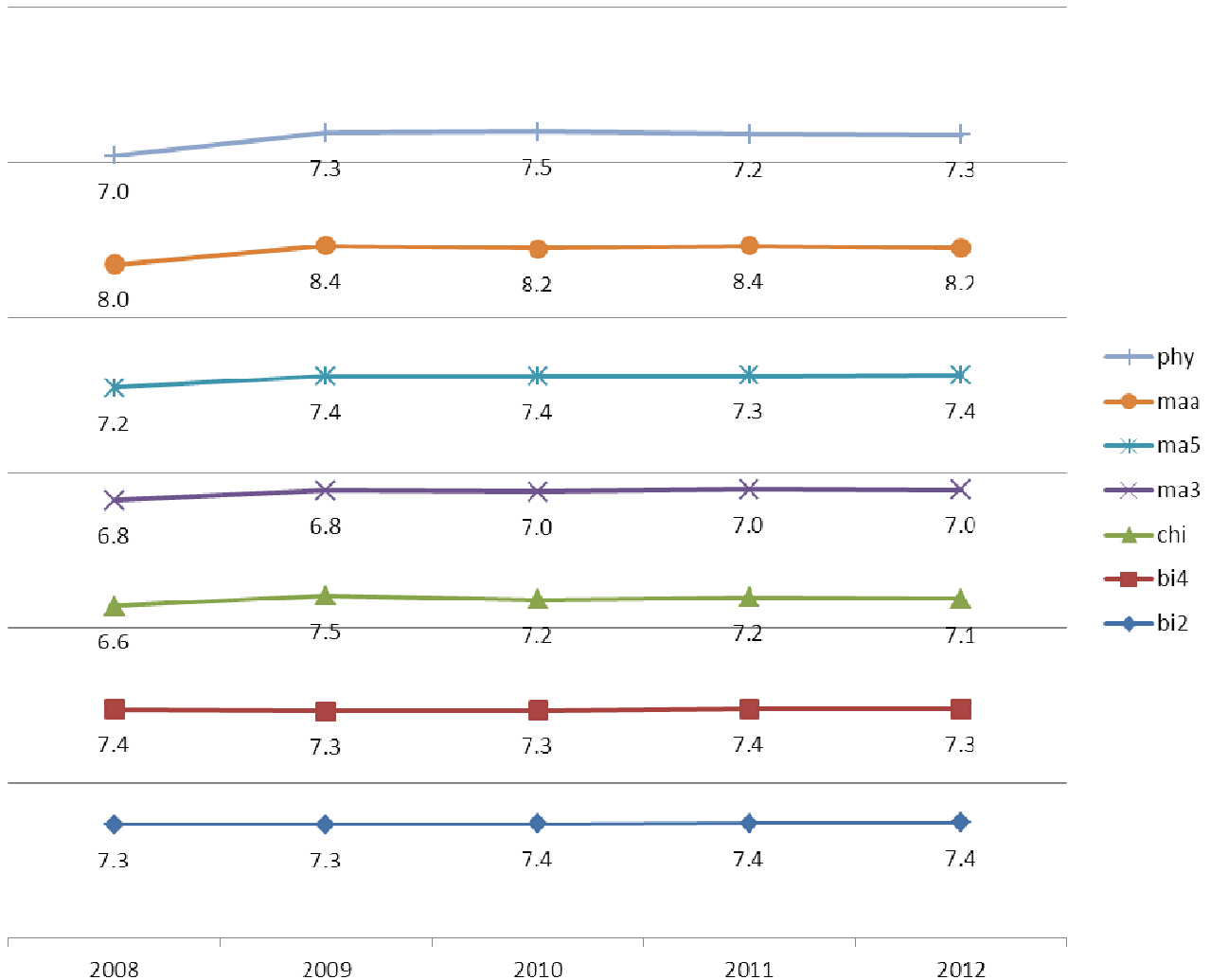
Language III remains one of the most catered for examinations, as well in written as in oral form. This result shows the importance of languages learning in such a complex system as the European Schools and justifies the support and the application of these values.

Final mark by LIII



	DE	EN	ES	FR	GA	IT	NL
Number of pupils	63	278	129	192	1	46	48

The evolution of the average final mark for the science classes as set out in the graph shows substantial stability as to the results in these subjects.



- **The examination of the Bacculaureate in Education in arts**

In keeping with the provisions set out in the new program, that took effect in September 2012 in the 6th year, for the first time this year the examination of Education in arts has followed a new organisation.

The examination consisted of two parts: one preparatory and one final examination.

This task clearly made reference to the theme chosen for this school year and could consist of a given text (fiction or non-fiction) and/or visual images and/or objects to be used as starting point for the candidate's personal and creative work of art.

The candidate has at his/her disposal a monitored preparatory period of a week (four normal classes) before the final date of the examination.

The candidate was given the theme during the first of these four normal periods. The preparatory time at the school was supervised by the teacher of Education in Arts. All the sheets of paper used had previously got the official stamp of the school and were preserved in the class-room of Education in Arts.

During that preparatory period, the candidate could develop his or her ideas in response to the theme of the examination. The candidate could do additional research in his spare time, e.g. look for drawings, photographs, visit libraries, musea, surf on the Internet, but the results of this research could not be brought into the classroom.

During these four periods of normal classes, the student had to present a selection of studies resulting from research he had done. There could be visual references, sketches or other medias that he had used.

The final examination consisted of a period of five hours (300 minutes) during which the student started and ended a final work of art either in 2D, or in 3D, or multimedia. The final work was performed at the day of the examination. Every sheet of paper or any other material that was used at the examination was provided the same day.

The student could have access to his preparatory work during the final examination, and this research work was handed in at the end of the examination with the completed work of art and the written comment.

The schools had received the instructions pertaining to the proceeding of the new practical examination in Education of arts in due course.

215 candidates from 13 different schools took a practical examination in Education in arts.

No problem was observed in the implementation of the new provisions, even though certain schools reported that, for the sake of simplification, the new procedure could be slightly modified.

- **The examination of the Bacallaureate in Mathematics**

A new teaching method of Mathematics was introduced as from the 2011-2012 school year, running on new programmes.

A certain number of other significant modifications coincided with the utilisation of new programmes :

- 1) for the first time, pupils used a technological tool
- 2) for the very first time, the examination was split up into two parts: one with the use of the technological tool and the other without
- 3) for the very first time, the subject did not offer a optional question: pupils had to answer all questions

The assessment of the written examinations, performed with full respect of the Arrangements for implementing the Regulations of the European Bacallaureate, revealed a general fall in marks obtained in Mathematics in comparison with the average results obtained in this subject during the previous five school years.

Averages

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Maths 3	6,85	6,84	6,75	6,97	6,96
Maths 5	7,35	7,21	7,38	7,45	7,34

Many parents and students admitted to extremely great difficulties during the assessment examinations.

This matter had been debated at the meeting of the BoI in June 2012, where Mr Kivinen, Secretary-General, Professor Pachler, Chairman of the Examining Board of the 2012 European Baccalaureate, and Mrs Wareing, Chairwoman of the BoI, were given a mandate to supervise closely the correction of the written examinations in Mathematics 3 and 5 periods and to take appropriate measures to guaranty to each candidate without exception, an equitable mark for his or her examination in Mathematics.

In this context, Professor Norbert Pachler, Chairman of th Examining Board of the European Baccalaureate 2012, entrusted Dr Cathy Smith of the Institute of Education at London University the mission to bring an advise on the reliability of the written examinations developed according to the new teaching method in Mathematics.

According to the report produced by Dr Smith on 29 June 2012, and although the written examinations were adapted to their target and are in line with the new programmes in Mathematics, there was a significant difference between the number of subjects to be tackled this year and previous years. As the quantitative analysis had shown an overall decrease of performances, it is recommendable that the results are standardised by systematic application of weighting as to the marks obtained, in order to allow for the recent nature of the modification of the teaching method used in this discipline.

On the basis of the powers given to the Chairman of the Examining Board to monitor the quality control of the organisation of the Baccalaureate and to express their views on contentious matters (as referred to in Article 5.1 of the Arrangements for implementing the Regulations of the European Baccalaureate), it has therefore been decided that all marks obtained for the course of Mathematics 3 periods were to be raised by 1,3 points and that all marks obtained for the course of Mathematics 5 periods were to be raised by 1,4 points (it being understood that if the final mark obtained were over 10, it would be rounded off to this mark).

So the results that were imparted according to Article 7 of the Arrangements for implementing the Regulations of the European Baccalaureate contained the marks of Mathematics as obtained after application of the rise mentioned in the previous paragraph.

Among other things it was decided to entitle any candidates who made the request to take the reserve examination in Maths in September.

For convenience's sake, the overall results of the past ten European Baccalaureate sessions are shown in Annexes I and II.