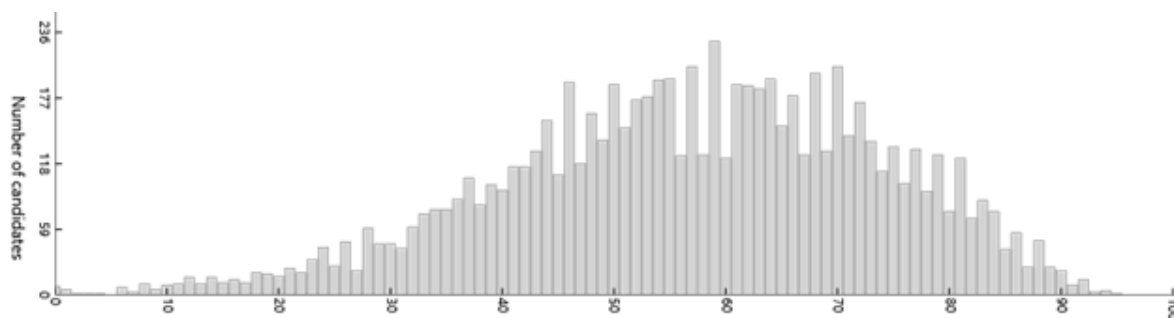




## Summary report of the 2019 ATAR course examination: Mathematics Applications

Year	Number who sat	Number of absentees
2019	8047	163
2018	8451	178
2017	8992	174
2016	8867	199

### Examination score distribution–Written



### Summary

The examination consisted of two sections: a Calculator-free section and a Calculator-assumed section.

Attempted by 8047 candidates                      Mean 56.78%              Max 94.81% Min 0.00%

Section means were:

Section One: Calculator-free	Mean 66.08%			
Attempted by 8040 candidates	Mean 23.13(/35)	Max 34.36	Min 0.00	
Section Two: Calculator-assumed	Mean 51.92%			
Attempted by 8029 candidates	Mean 33.75(/65)	Max 61.75	Min 0.00	

### General comments

The examination provided enough questions or part questions for candidates to score reasonably well, with some questions allowing for discrimination between candidate ability. The length of the paper seemed appropriate with 89% of the candidates attempting Question 16 and 85% attempting Question 17. Candidates appeared to be more efficient in the use of CAS calculators with the finance questions. Basic arithmetic skills was lacking amongst many candidates.

### Advice for candidates

- Pay attention to the scales on the axes of graphs.
- Show working even if the question is worth only two marks.
- Provide the correct units when required.
- Use brackets when squaring negative numbers on the calculator.

*Advice for teachers*

- Continue to emphasise the importance of correct terminology.
- Stress the importance of rounding to the nearest whole number when dealing with discrete objects.
- Stress the importance of reading the question carefully.

***Comments on specific sections and questions***

**Section One: Calculator-free (55 Marks)**

Candidates performed well in this section, with best performances being in Questions 3 and 4. Question 5 appeared to be the discriminating question.

**Section Two: Calculator-assumed (100 Marks)**

Most candidates attempted all questions in this section. The last three questions had means below 50% contributing to the low mean for this section. Candidates were comfortable with routine calculations, but had difficulty with questions that required written justification.