

Examination Statistics for Past AHA Certification Examinations

Examination statistics for past editions of AHA Certification Examinations are presented in the following table. Statistics are based on performance of first-time test-takers. Discussions of statistics follow the table.

Dates Administered	CAVS 4/1/08 – 9/3/08	CHESP 1/2/07 – 12/31/08	CHFM 1/2/06 – 7/22/08	CMRP 1/3/05 - 1/1/07	CPHRM 11/1/06 – 5/31/08
Number of Scored Items	100	100	100	100	100
Minimum Passing Score	70	72	67	72	74
Percent Passing	66.67%	82.76%	72.23%	83.99%	48.94%
Maximum Score	88	96	95	95	93
Mean Score	73.25	79.98	72.47	80.02	72.46
Minimum Score	63	45	39	47	42
Standard Deviation	7.21	10.08	11.12	8.54	8.39
KR20 Reliability	0.73	0.88	0.87	0.82	0.77
Decision Consistency Reliability	0.78	0.93	0.90	0.90	0.78

Number of Scored Items – 100 test items impact a candidate’s score. The 10 pretest items included on each edition of an Examination are “trial” items and do not affect a candidate’s score.

Minimum Passing Score – The minimum number of test items a candidate needs to answer correctly to pass the Examination.

Percent Passing – The percent of first-time test-takers who passed the Examination.

Maximum Score – The highest score attained by a first-time test-taker.

Mean Score – The average score of all first-time test-takers who took this edition of the Examination. The mean score is an indicator of difficulty of the Examination.

Minimum Score – The lowest score attained by a first-time test-taker.

Standard Deviation – A measure of variability or spread in scores.

KR20 Reliability Coefficient – An index of the degree of measurement precision. The Kuder-Richardson 20 reliability coefficient provides an estimate of internal consistency. Values can range from 0.00 to 1.00, with high values indicating that the Examination is likely to correlate with alternate forms, a desirable characteristic. The KR20 is impacted by difficulty, spread in scores and length of the Examination.

Decision Consistency Index – An estimate of the expected repeatability of pass/fail results. Values can range from 0.00 to 1.00, with high values being desirable. Some psychometricians believe that, for criterion-referenced examinations, such as AHA Certification Examinations, this is a better estimate of reliability than the KR20 coefficient. The index is impacted by difficulty, cut score, variance, reliability and length of the Examination.