

Solicitors  
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# **SQE2 April 2024 Statistical Report**

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28 August 2024

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The Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) is a single rigorous assessment for all aspiring solicitors. It consists of two parts: SQE1, which tests candidates' functioning legal knowledge and SQE2, which tests candidates' practical legal skills and knowledge. SQE2 can only be taken if a candidate has passed SQE1 or is exempt from it.

The seventh round of SQE2 assessments ran between 30 April and 17 May. SQE2 comprises 16 stations — 12 written stations and four oral stations — that assess both skills and application of legal knowledge.

All candidates sat the same written stations on the same dates 30 April - 02 May. Candidates then sat one of four oral sittings covering two consecutive days between 07 May and 17 May. To protect the integrity of the assessments, different oral stations took place on different dates with the sittings identified below.

Station Type	Sitting 1	Sitting 2	Sitting 3	Sitting 4
Written	30 April - 02 May			
Oral	07-08 May	09-10 May	14-15 May	16-17 May

This report includes statistics that provide feedback on the assessments and their performance.

SQE2 has a single pass mark for the overall 16 station assessment. There may be different pass marks between sittings due to the oral stations being different. There is no pass mark for an individual station or for all of the oral stations or written stations. Find out more about [how the SQE2 is marked](#).

The table below shows the number of candidates, the pass mark, and the pass rate for each sitting, as well as the overall pass rate.

Statistic	Sitting 1	Sitting 2	Sitting 3	Sitting 4	Overall
Pass Mark	61%	61%	62%	61%	-
Candidates (all graded)	564	612	513	492	2181
Pass Rate (all graded)	81%	78%	79%	78%	79%
Candidates (first attempt)	547	579	494	477	2097
Pass Rate (first Attempt)	82%	80%	81%	79%	81%

## Sitting 1 – Written (30 April – 02 May) and Oral (07 – 08 May)

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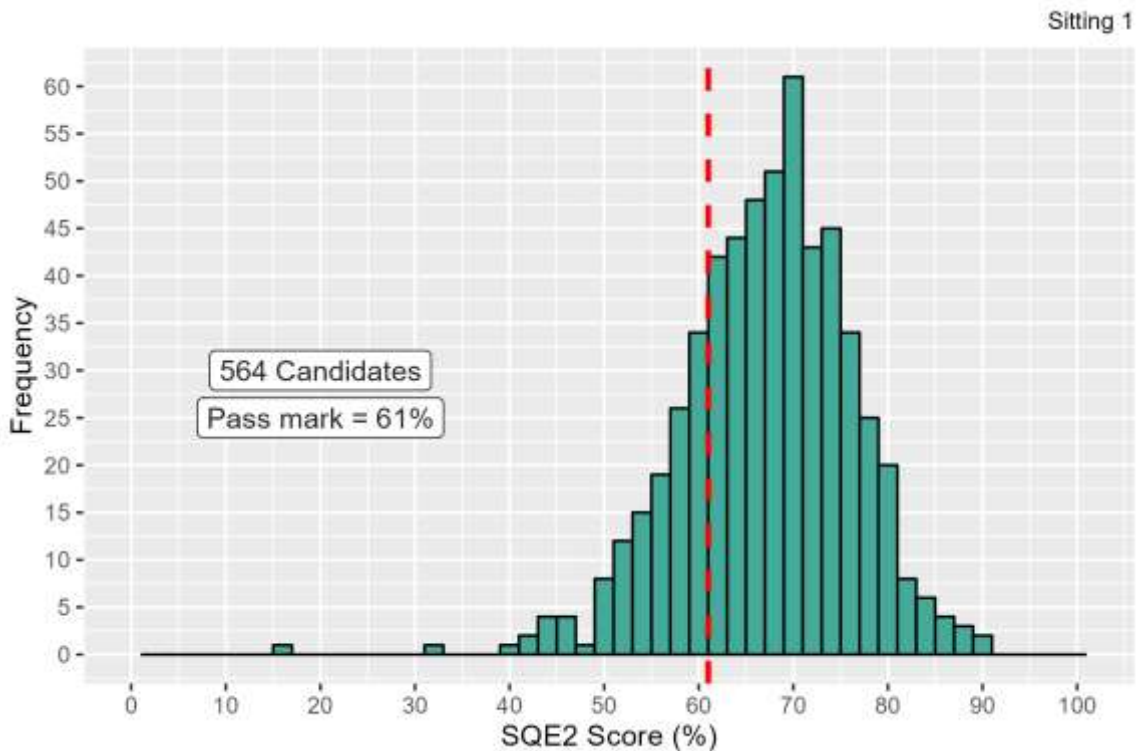
### Descriptive Statistics

The following table shows the average (mean) score, the standard deviation, median score, minimum score, maximum score and range of observed scores for SQE2 sitting 1.

Statistic	Sitting 1
Mean %	67.7
Std. Dev. %	9.0
Median %	68.0
Min. %	17.0
Max. %	91.0
Range %	74.0

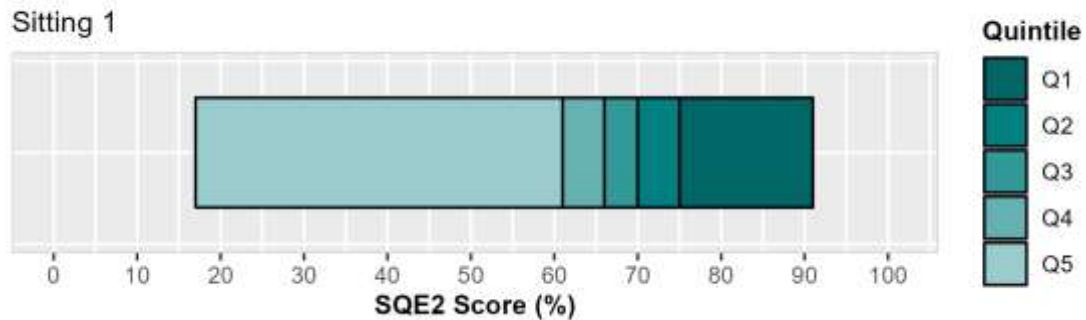
### Score Distribution Chart

The following chart shows the distribution of scores for sitting 1, with a red line showing the passing score required.



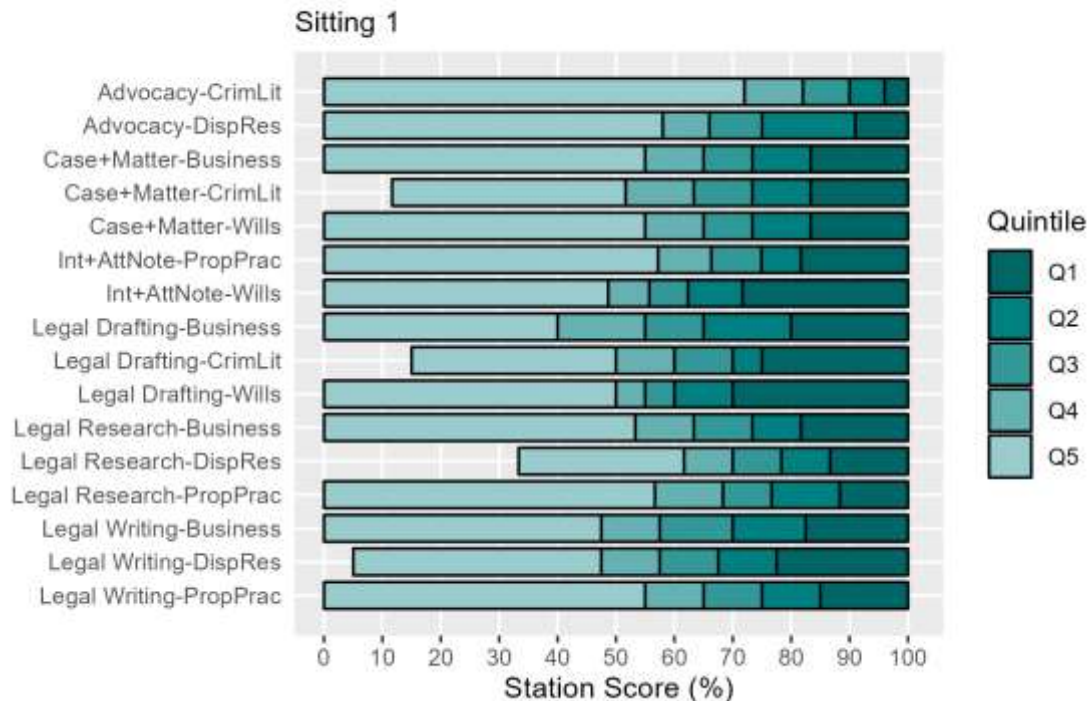
## Total Score Quintile Chart

This chart shows the total scores for sitting 1 divided into quintiles. Each quintile shows the range of scores achieved by a fifth of the candidates, with Q1 showing the top fifth and Q5 showing the bottom fifth of scores.



## Station Score Quintile Chart

This chart shows the 16 task scores for sitting 1 divided into quintiles. Each quintile shows the range of scores achieved by a fifth of the candidates, with Q1 showing the top fifth and Q5 showing the bottom fifth of scores.



## Sitting 2 – Written (30 April – 02 May) and Oral (09 – 10 May)

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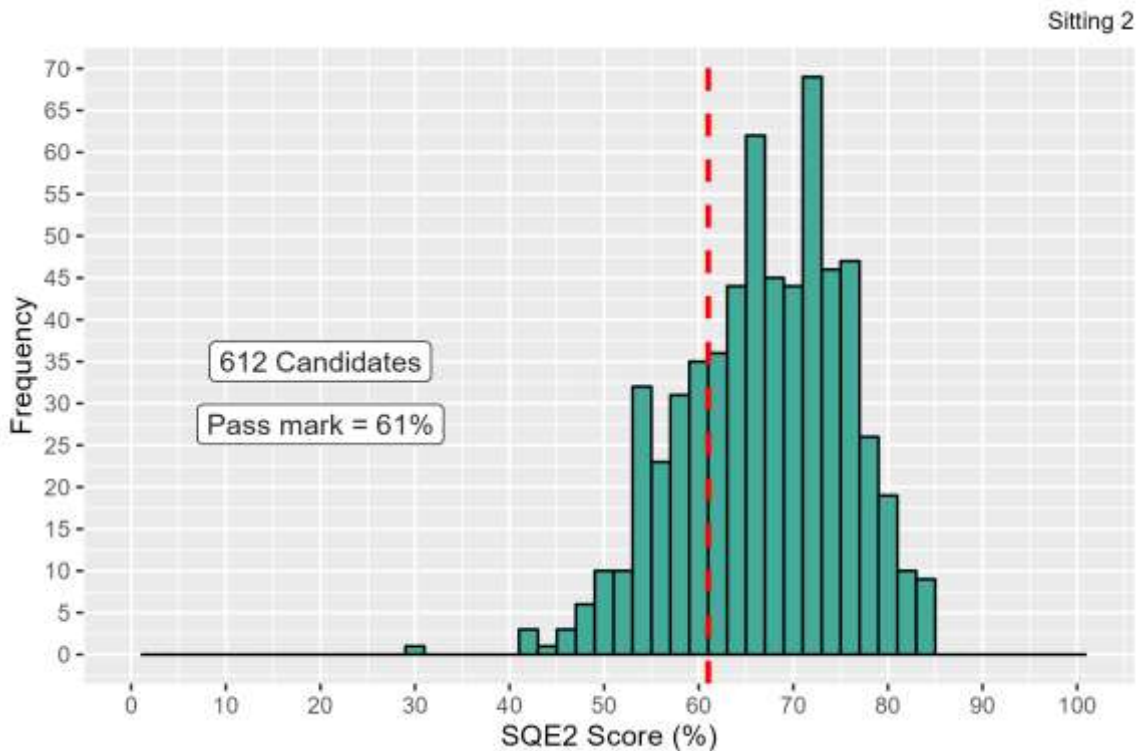
### Descriptive Statistics

The following table shows the average (mean) score, the standard deviation, median score, minimum score, maximum score and range of observed scores for SQE2 sitting 2.

Statistic	Sitting 2
Mean %	67.3
Std. Dev. %	8.6
Median %	68.0
Min. %	31.0
Max. %	85.0
Range %	54.0

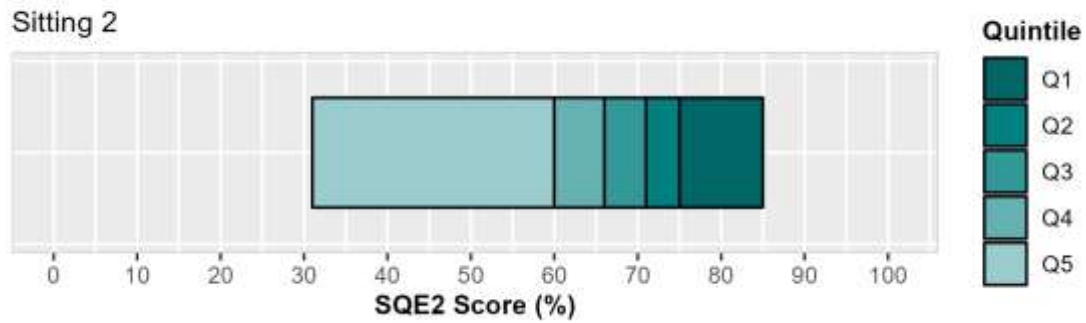
### Score Distribution Chart

The following chart shows the distribution of scores for sitting 2, with a red line showing the passing score required.



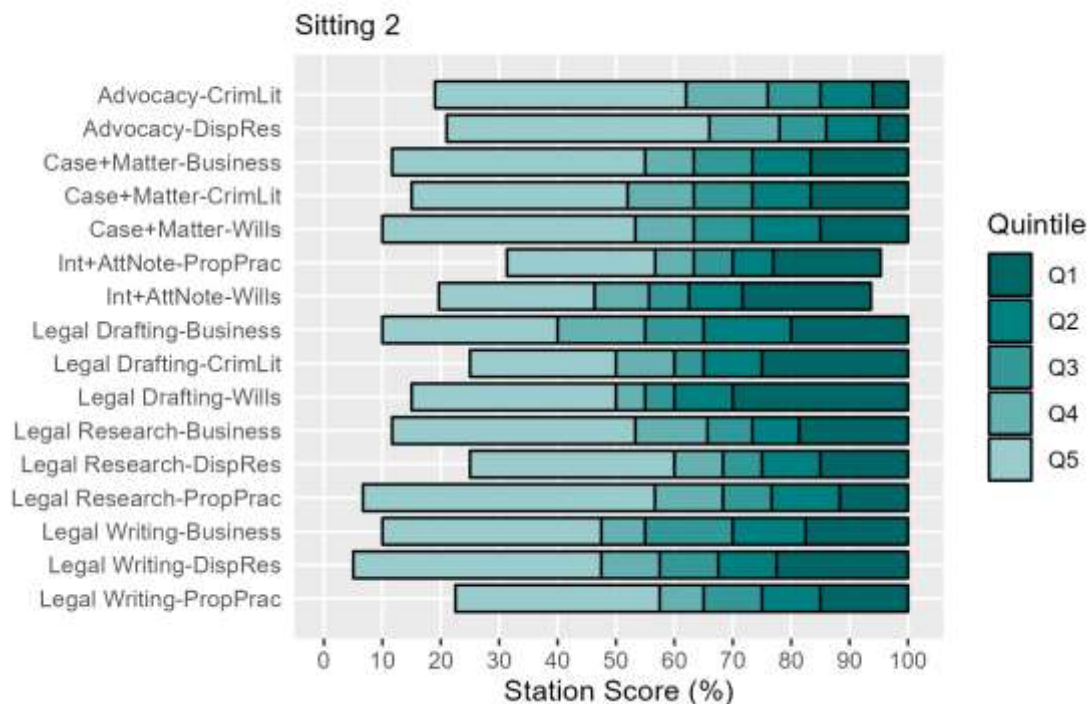
## Total Score Quintile Chart

This chart shows the total scores for sitting 2 divided into quintiles. Each quintile shows the range of scores achieved by a fifth of the candidates, with Q1 showing the top fifth and Q5 showing the bottom fifth of scores.



## Station Score Quintile Chart

This chart shows the 16 task scores for sitting 2 divided into quintiles. Each quintile shows the range of scores achieved by a fifth of the candidates, with Q1 showing the top fifth and Q5 showing the bottom fifth of scores.



## Sitting 3 – Written (30 April – 02 May) and Oral (14 – 15 May)

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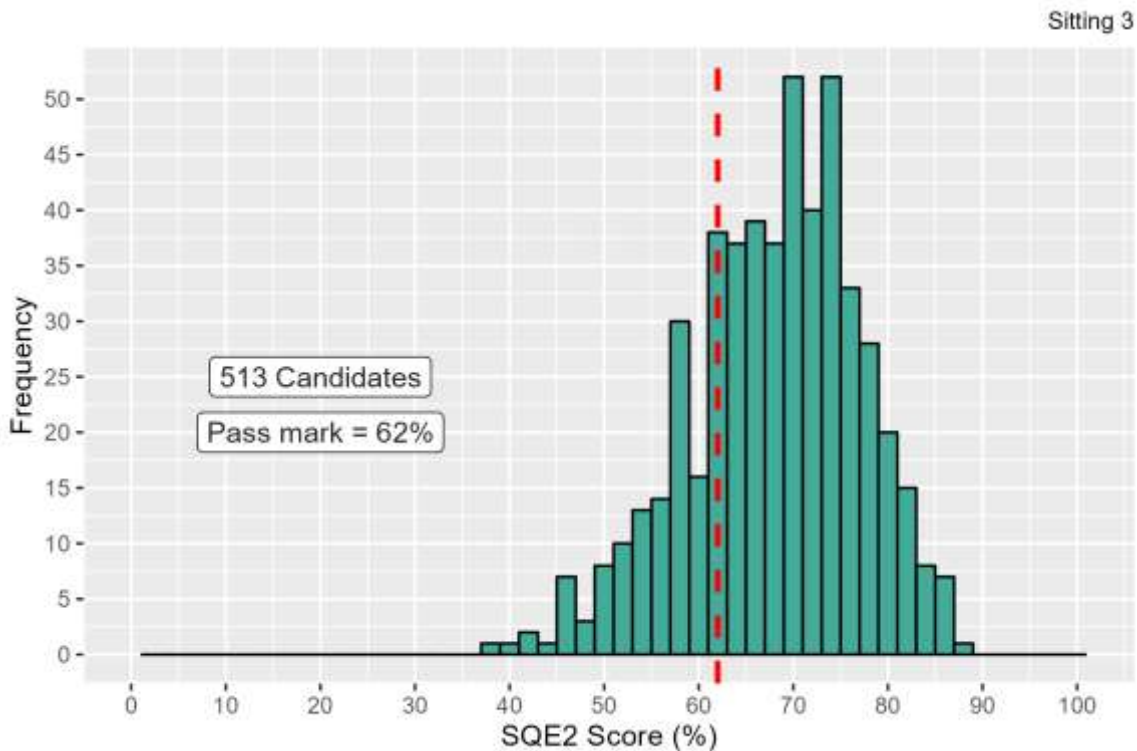
### Descriptive Statistics

The following table shows the average (mean) score, the standard deviation, median score, minimum score, maximum score and range of observed scores for SQE2 sitting 3.

Statistic	Sitting 3
Mean %	68.4
Std. Dev. %	9.1
Median %	69.0
Min. %	38.0
Max. %	88.0
Range %	50.0

### Score Distribution Chart

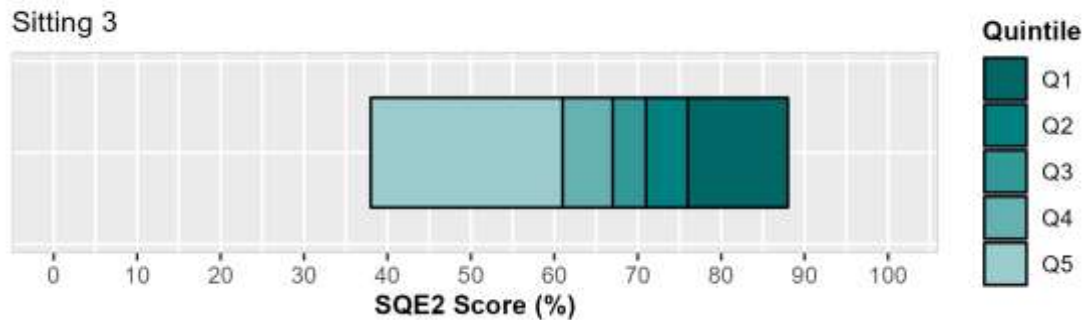
The following chart shows the distribution of scores for sitting 3, with a red line showing the passing score required.





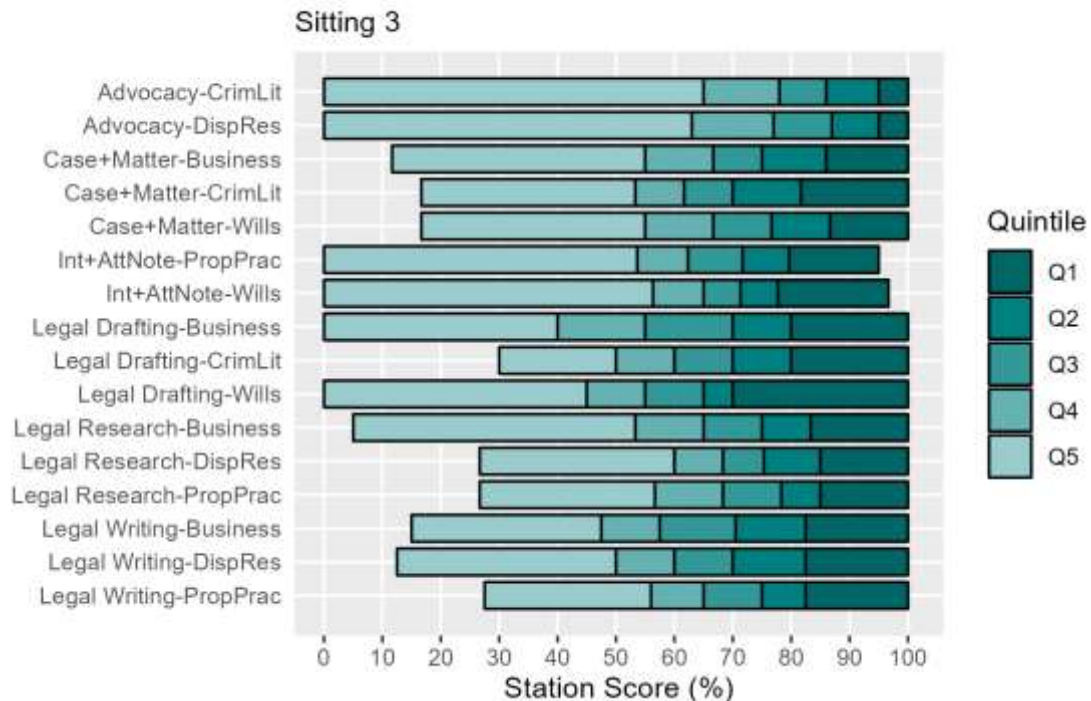
## Total Score Quintile Chart

This chart shows the total scores for sitting 3 divided into quintiles. Each quintile shows the range of scores achieved by a fifth of the candidates, with Q1 showing the top fifth and Q5 showing the bottom fifth of scores.



## Station Score Quintile Chart

This chart shows the 16 task scores for sitting 3 divided into quintiles. Each quintile shows the range of scores achieved by a fifth of the candidates, with Q1 showing the top fifth and Q5 showing the bottom fifth of scores.





## Sitting 4 – Written (30 April – 02 May) and Oral (16 – 17 May)

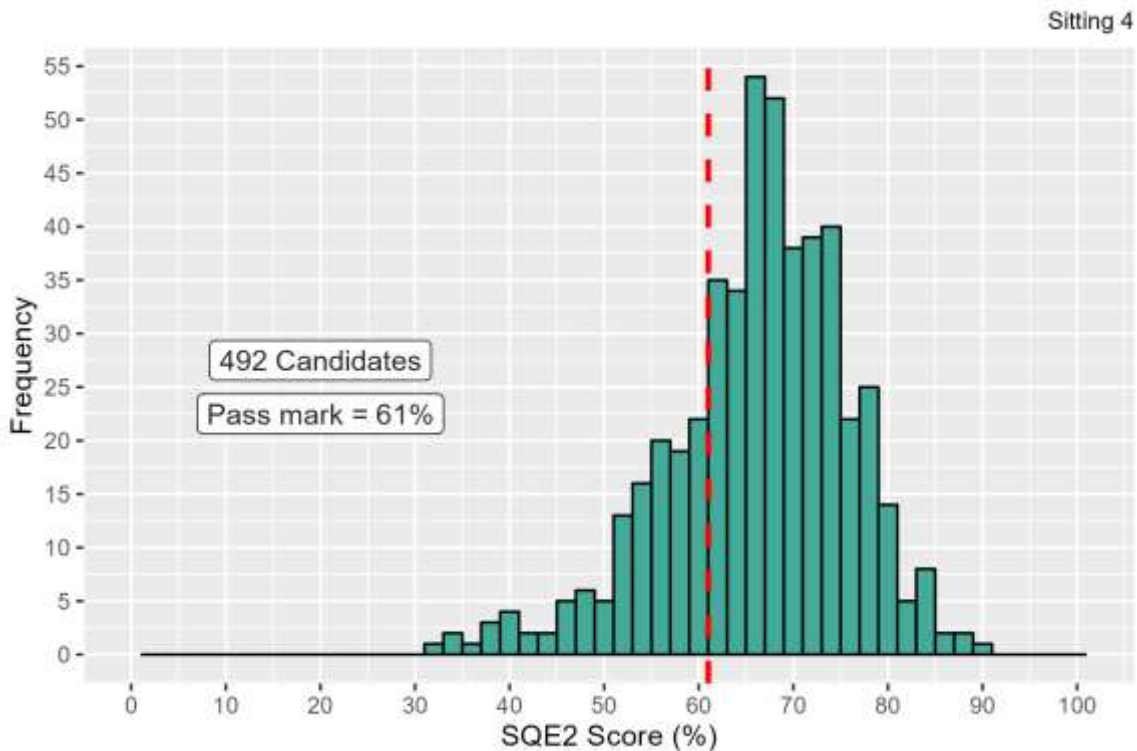
### Descriptive Statistics

The following table shows the average (mean) score, the standard deviation, median score, minimum score, maximum score and range of observed scores for SQE2 sitting 4.

Statistic	Sitting 4
Mean %	66.7
Std. Dev. %	9.6
Median %	68.0
Min. %	32.0
Max. %	91.0
Range %	59.0

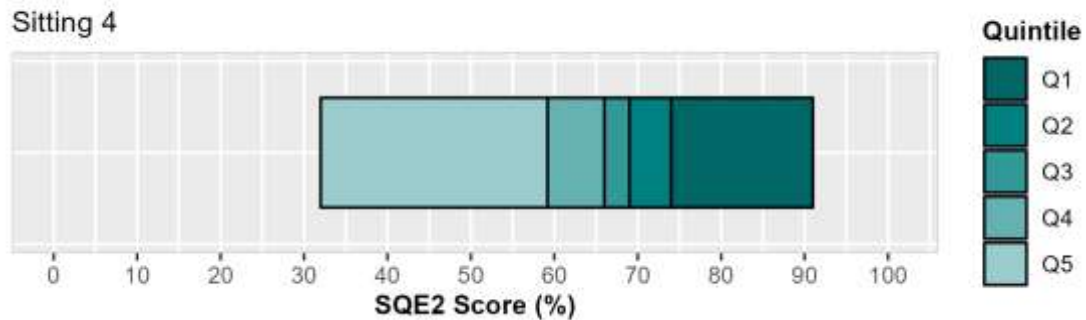
### Score Distribution Chart

The following chart shows the distribution of scores for sitting 4, with a red line showing the passing score required.



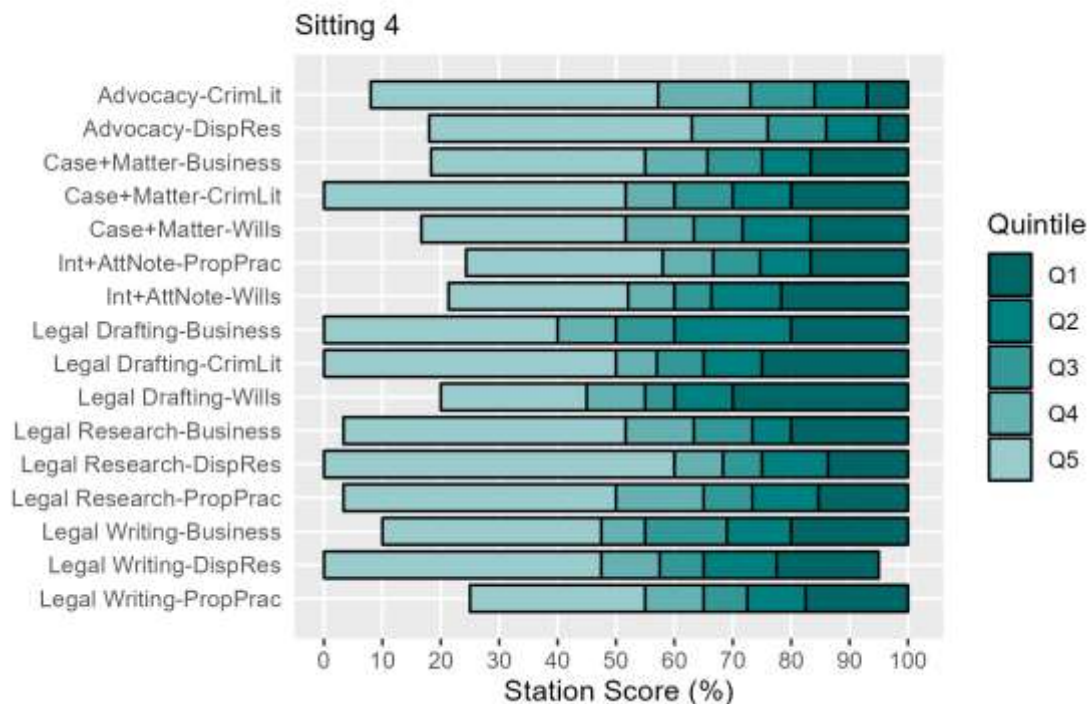
## Total Score Quintile Chart

This chart shows the total scores for sitting 4 divided into quintiles. Each quintile shows the range of scores achieved by a fifth of the candidates, with Q1 showing the top fifth and Q5 showing the bottom fifth of scores.



## Station Score Quintile Chart

This chart shows the 16 task scores for sitting 4 divided into quintiles. Each quintile shows the range of scores achieved by a fifth of the candidates, with Q1 showing the top fifth and Q5 showing the bottom fifth of scores.



## Pass Rates

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The SRA collects diversity and socio-economic data to help understand how candidates with different characteristics and backgrounds perform in the assessments. The data categories are consistent with data collected by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the Social Mobility Commission.

Based on responses to the online diversity survey, completed ahead of assessment registration, the following is provided in each table:

- Proportion of candidates in each group (Candidates %)
- Average score within each group (Mean Score %)
- Pass rate for each group (Pass Rate %)

These tables provide data for candidates taking SQE2 as a first attempt. Data is not reported for groups with fewer than 10 candidates. Performance of all candidates, including resitting candidates, will be presented in the SQE Annual Report.

What is your ethnic group?	Candidates %	Mean Score %	Pass Rate %
Asian / Asian British	18	66	74
Black / Black British	5	63	61
Mixed / multiple ethnic groups	5	67	81
Other ethnic group	4	65	71
White	63	69	85
Prefer not to say	5	65	73

Do you consider yourself to have a disability according to the definition in the Equality Act 2010?	Candidates %	Mean Score %	Pass Rate %
Yes	8	69	86
No	84	68	81
Prefer not to say	8	66	77

What is your sex?	Candidates %	Mean Score %	Pass Rate %
Female	62	68	81
Male	36	68	82
Other	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	2	66	73

<b>What is your religion or belief?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
Buddhist	1	67	76
Christian	28	67	78
Hindu	3	67	76
Jewish	2	71	86
Muslim	7	64	67
Sikh	1	65	64
No religion or belief	45	70	86
Other	1	68	88
Prefer not to say	12	67	77

<b>What age category are you in?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
16 - 24	55	70	87
25 - 34	39	67	76
35 - 44	4	63	57
45 - 54	1	56	36
55 - 64	-	-	-
65+	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	1	61	63

<b>Did either of your parents attend university by the time you were 18?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
Yes, one or both of my parents attended university	60	69	82
No, neither of my parents attended university	30	67	79
Do not know / not sure	2	66	76
Prefer not to say	8	66	76

<b>Have you undertaken any qualified work experience?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
Yes	31	64	65
No	69	70	88
Prefer not to say	-	-	-

<b>What is your highest level of education?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
At least an undergraduate degree	97	68	81
Qualifications below degree level	-	-	-
No formal qualifications	-	-	-
Not applicable	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	3	63	69

<b>What was your undergraduate degree classification?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
1st	39	71	91
2:1	50	67	78
2:2	3	58	39
3rd	-	-	-
Commendation	-	-	-
Distinction	1	69	92
Pass	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	1	63	61
Not applicable	6	63	62

<b>Are you a qualified lawyer?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
Yes	5	63	60
No	95	68	82
Prefer not to say	-	-	-

<b>Which type of school did you attend for the most time between the ages of 11 and 16?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
State-run or state-funded school - non-selective	34	68	80
State-run or state-funded school - selective on academic, faith or other grounds	17	68	81
Independent or fee-paying school	20	71	90
Independent or fee-paying school, where I received a bursary covering 90% or more of my tuition	1	71	100
Attended school outside the UK	21	66	74
I don't know	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	7	66	76

<b>What was the occupation of your main household earner when you were aged about 14?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
Professional background	59	69	84
Intermediate background	10	67	79
Working class background	13	66	74
Other background	2	65	72
Prefer not to say	16	67	77

<b>Please state what your first language is:</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
English	83	69	84
Other	17	65	68
Not applicable	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	-	-	-