



Solicitors
Regulation
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SQE2 January 2026 Statistical Report

21 May 2026

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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 fourteenth round of SQE2 assessments ran between 27 January and 06 February. 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 27-29 January. Candidates then sat one of two oral sittings each covering two consecutive days between 03 February and 06 February. 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
Written	27-29 January	
Oral	03-04 February	05-06 February

This report includes statistics that provide some simple feedback on the January 2026 SQE2 assessment and the performance.

SQE2 has a single pass mark for the overall 16 station assessment. 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 passing score and the pass rate for this SQE2.

Statistic	Overall
Pass Mark	300
Candidates (all graded)	1141
Pass Rate (all graded)	80%
Candidates (first attempt)	873
Pass Rate (first attempt)	79%

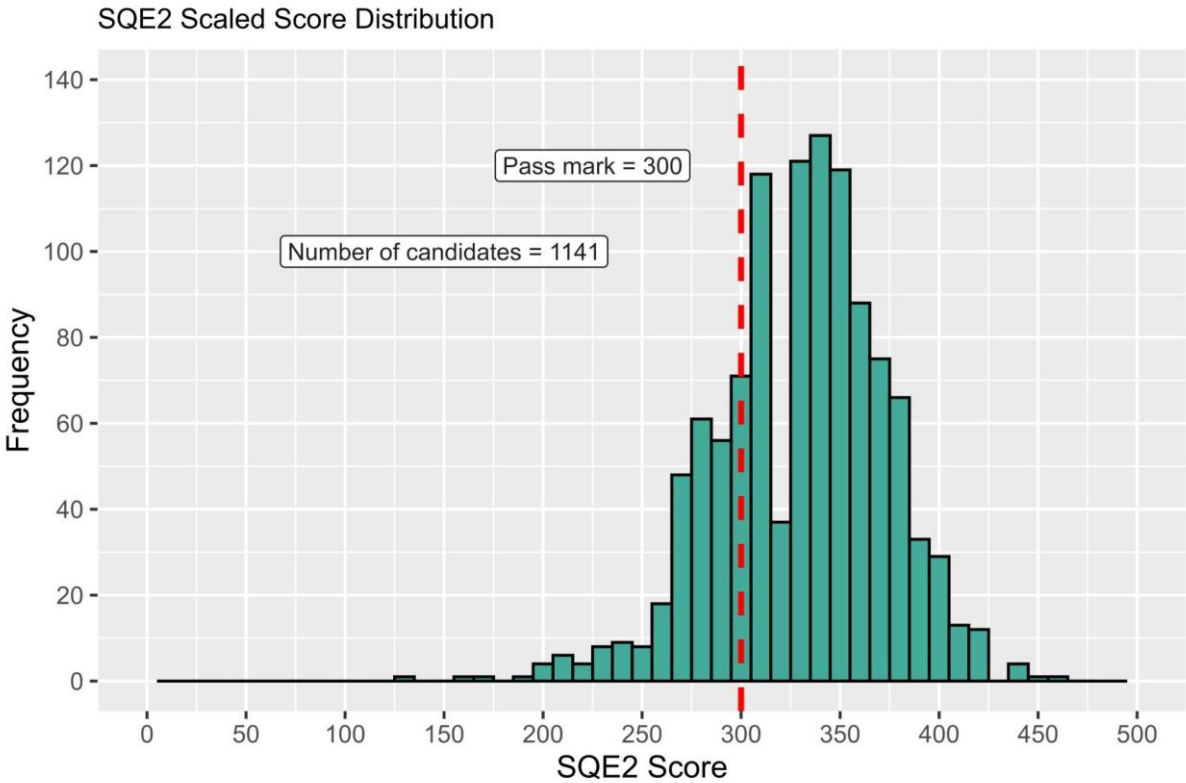
Descriptive Statistics

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

Statistic	Overall
Mean	330.4
SD	42.3
Median	331
Min	128
Max	459
Range	331

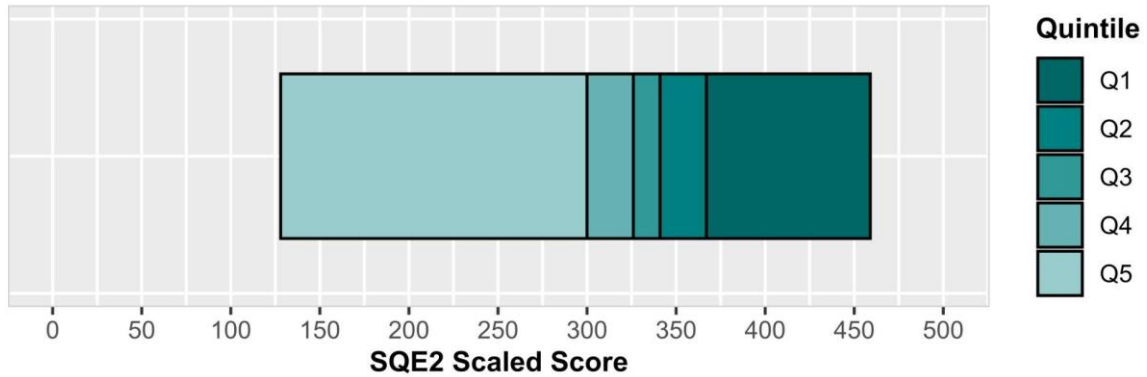
Score Distribution Chart

The following chart shows the distribution of scaled scores for this SQE2, with a red line showing the passing score required.



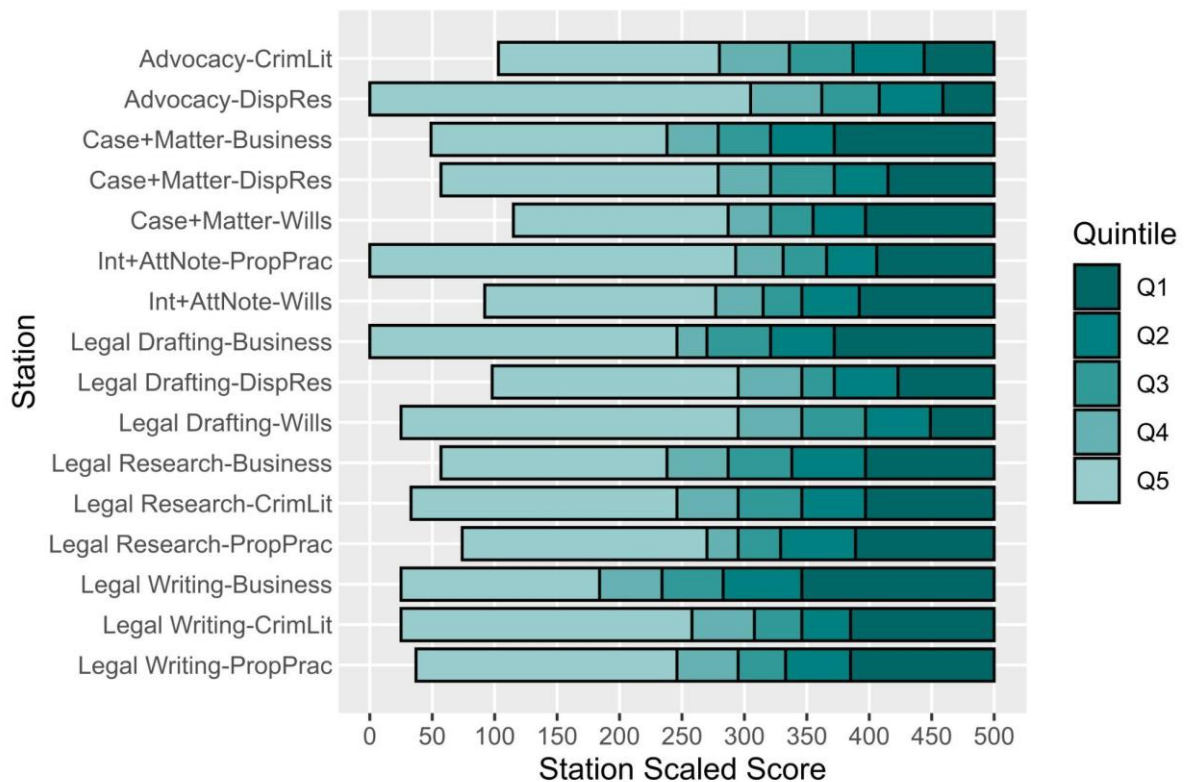
Total Score Quintile Chart

This chart shows the quintile scaled score ranges for the total SQE2 scores. 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 quintile scaled score ranges for the 16 SQE2 station scores. 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

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 are provided in each table:

- Proportion of candidates in each group (Candidates %)
- Average scaled 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. The 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	16	313	66
Black / Black British	5	299	53
Mixed / multiple ethnic groups	5	334	78
Other ethnic group	5	300	57
White	61	343	88
Prefer not to say	8	317	71

Do you consider yourself to have a disability according to the definition in the Equality Act 2010?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Yes	11	336	84
No	80	333	80
Prefer not to say	9	315	72

What is your sex?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Female	65	332	81
Male	33	330	77
Other	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	2	321	74

What is your religion or belief?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Buddhist	-	-	-
Christian	27	327	75
Hindu	3	322	65
Jewish	1	358	100
Muslim	9	305	61
Sikh	-	-	-
No religion or belief	44	343	88
Other	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	16	324	77

What age category are you in?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
16 - 24	26	338	88
25 - 34	61	336	81
35 - 44	9	306	61
45 - 54	3	280	38
55 - 64	-	-	-
65+	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	1	290	60

Did either of your parents attend university and gain a degree (e.g. BA/BSc or equivalent) by the time you were 18?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Yes, one or both of my parents attended university	53	335	82
No, neither of my parents attended university	33	331	80
Do not know / not sure	2	342	85
Prefer not to say	12	315	69

Have you undertaken any qualifying work experience?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Yes	73	335	81
No	27	323	75
Prefer not to say	-	-	-

What is your highest level of education?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
At least an undergraduate degree	97	332	80
Qualifications below degree level	-	-	-
No formal qualifications	-	-	-
Not applicable	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	3	320	68

What was your undergraduate degree classification?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
1st	28	350	92
2:1	56	332	81
2:2	6	293	53
3rd	-	-	-
Commendation	-	-	-
Distinction	-	-	-
Pass	1	292	55
Prefer not to say	2	292	40
Not applicable	7	313	64

Are you a qualified lawyer?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Yes	7	315	63
No	93	333	81
Prefer not to say	-	-	-

Which type of school did you attend for the most time between the ages of 11 and 16?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
State-run or state-funded school - non-selective	38	336	83
State-run or state-funded school - selective on academic, faith or other grounds	16	342	88
Independent or fee-paying school	15	339	87
Independent or fee-paying school, where I received a bursary covering 90% or more of my tuition	-	-	-
Attended school outside the UK	20	320	69
I don't know	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	11	312	66

What was the occupation of your main household earner when you were aged about 14?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Professional background	56	337	82
Intermediate background	13	329	81
Working class background	14	332	82
Other background	1	313	73
Prefer not to say	16	316	67

Please state what your first language is:	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
English	81	337	84
Other	19	309	61
Not applicable	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	-	-	-