SQE2 July 2026 Statistical Report

17 November 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 16th round of SQE2 assessments ran between 28 July and 7 August. 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 (28-30 July). Candidates were then assigned to one of two oral sittings each covering two consecutive days between 4 August and 7 August. To protect the integrity of the assessments, different oral stations took place on different dates with the oral sittings identified in the table below.

Station Type	Sitting 1	Sitting 2
Written	28-30 July	
Oral	4-5 August	6-7 August

This report includes statistics that provide some simple feedback on the July 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)	1,151
Pass Rate (all graded)	79%
Candidates (first attempt)	989
Pass Rate (first attempt)	80%

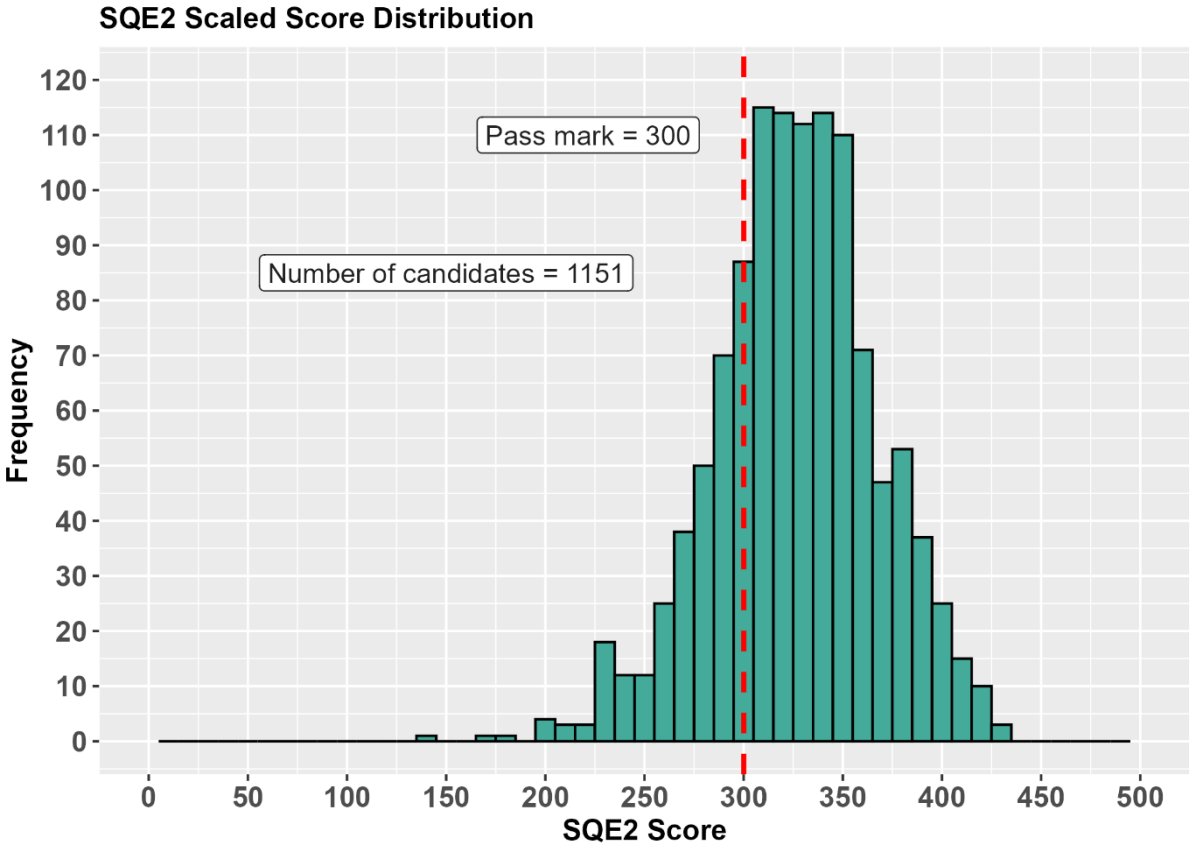
Descriptive Statistics

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	328.5
SD	41.6
Median	330
Min	145
Max	435
Range	290

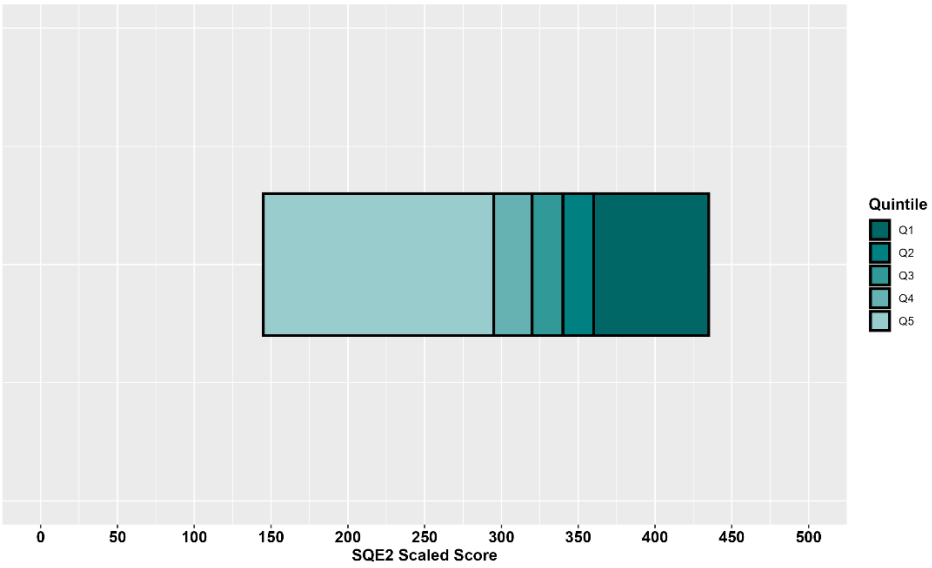
Score Distribution Chart

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



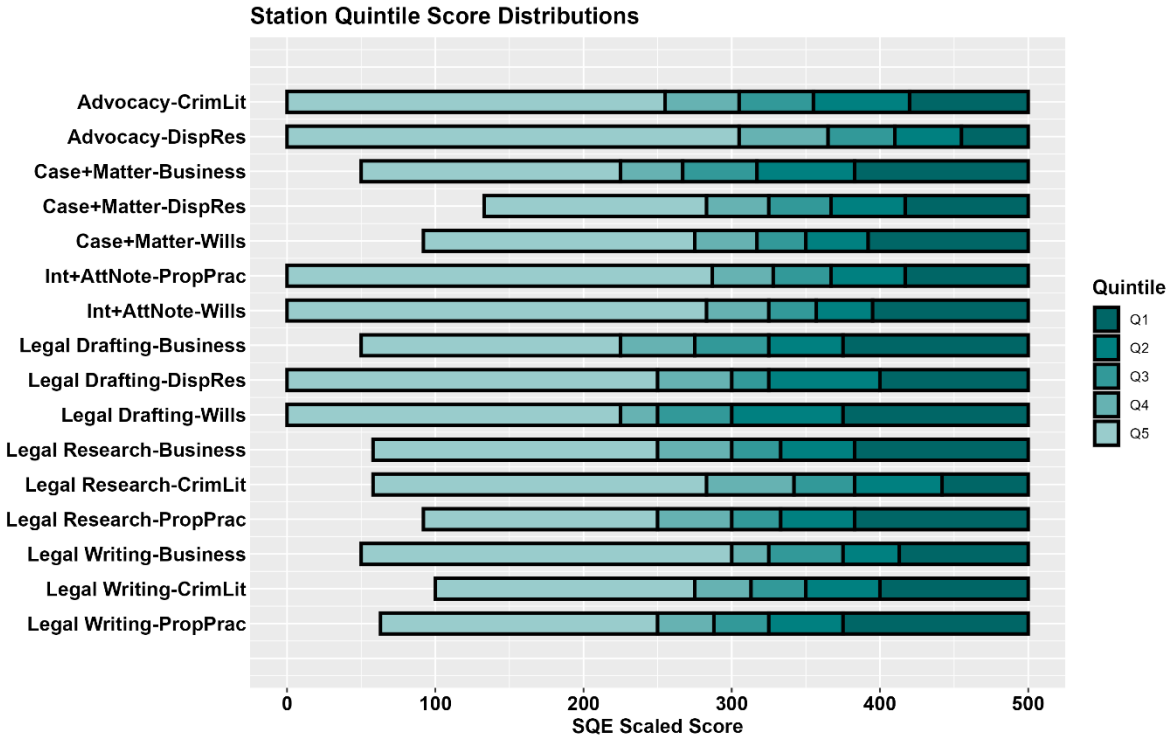
Total Score Quintile Chart

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 stations 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 resit candidates, will be presented in the SQE Annual Report.

What is your ethnic group?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Asian / Asian British	17	312	68
Black / Black British	5	298	51
Mixed / multiple ethnic groups	6	328	80
Other ethnic group	4	311	68
White	59	341	87
Prefer not to say	9	325	85

Do you consider yourself to have a disability according to the definition in the Equality Act 2010?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Yes	12	337	88
No	78	329	79
Prefer not to say	10	336	84

What is your sex?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Female	67	334	83
Male	30	323	74
Other	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	3	331	85

What is your religion or belief?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Buddhist	-	-	-
Christian	26	323	73
Hindu	3	297	60
Jewish	1	352	100
Muslim	9	309	70
Sikh	1	327	83
No religion or belief	45	341	87
Other	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	15	330	81

What age category are you in?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
16 - 24	27	334	84
25 - 34	61	334	84
35 - 44	8	308	55
45 - 54	3	299	48
55 - 64	-	-	-
65+	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	1	321	85

Did either of your parents attend university by the time you were 18?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Yes, one or both of my parents attended university	51	333	81
No, neither of my parents attended university	37	328	79
Do not know / not sure	2	326	78
Prefer not to say	10	328	82

Have you undertaken any qualifying work experience?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Yes	71	333	82
No	29	324	76
Prefer not to say	-	-	-

What is your highest level of education?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
At least an undergraduate degree	98	331	81
Qualifications below degree level	-	-	-
No formal qualifications	-	-	-
Not applicable	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	2	317	73

What was your undergraduate degree classification?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
1st	27	343	85
2:1	57	331	82
2:2	7	310	68
3rd	-	-	-
Commendation	-	-	-
Distinction	-	-	-
Pass	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	2	304	65
Not applicable	7	318	68

Are you a qualified lawyer?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Yes	6	317	77
No	94	331	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	42	334	82
State-run or state-funded school - selective on academic, faith or other grounds	14	335	87
Independent or fee-paying school	12	339	86
Independent or fee-paying school, where I received a bursary covering 90% or more of my tuition	-	-	-
Attended school outside the UK	22	316	70
I don’t know	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	10	330	83

What was the occupation of your main household earner when you were aged about 14?	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
Professional background	55	335	83
Intermediate background	14	326	75
Working class background	16	324	74
Other background	1	325	73
Prefer not to say	14	325	82

Please state what your first language is:	Candidates %	Mean Score	Pass Rate %
English	80	334	82
Other	20	315	71
Prefer not to say	-	-	-