



Solicitors  
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# **SQE2 October 2024 Statistical Report**

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20 February 2025

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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 ninth round of SQE2 assessments ran between 23 October and 07 November. SQE2 comprises 16 stations — 12 written stations and four oral stations — that assess both skills and application of legal knowledge.

Candidates sat one of three oral sittings each covering two consecutive days between 23 October and 01 November. All candidates then sat the same written stations on the same dates 05 - 07 November. 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
Oral	23-24 October	29-30 October	31 October - 01 November
Written	05 - 07 November		

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	Overall
Pass Mark	61%	61%	61%	-
Candidates (all graded)	456	347	223	1026
Pass Rate (all graded)	85%	79%	78%	81%
Candidates (first attempt)	354	283	203	840
Pass Rate (first attempt)	86%	80%	81%	83%

# Sitting 1 – Oral (23-24 October) and Written (05 - 07 November)

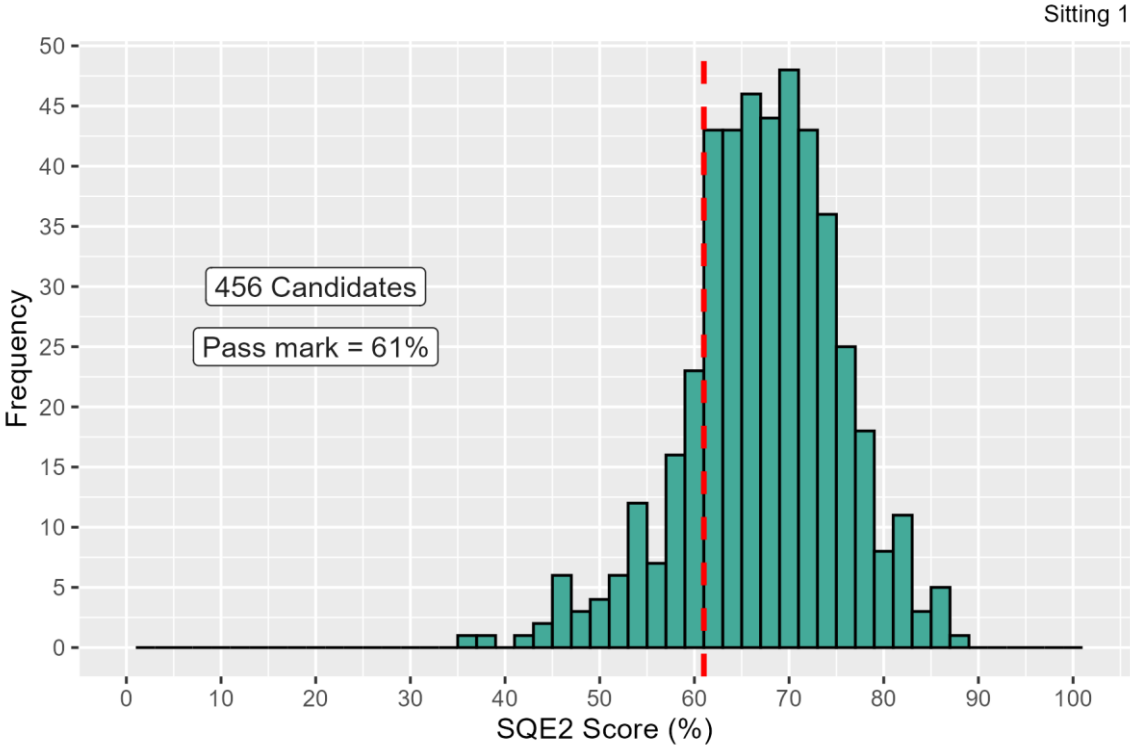
## Descriptive Statistics

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 %	67.8
Std. Dev. %	8.2
Median %	68.0
Min. %	37.0
Max. %	88.0
Range %	51.0

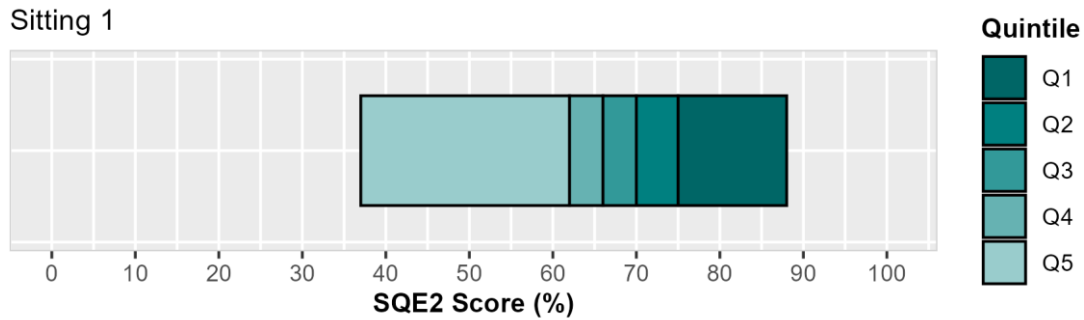
## Score Distribution Chart

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



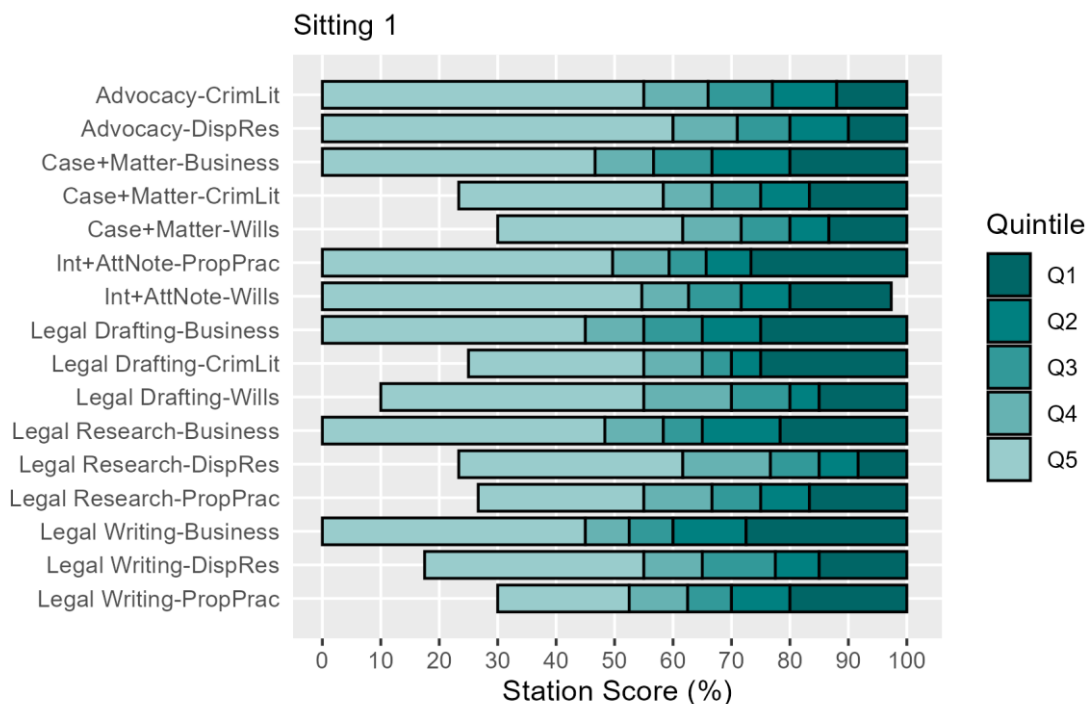
## Total Score Quintile Chart

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 – Oral (29-30 October) and Written (05 - 07 November)

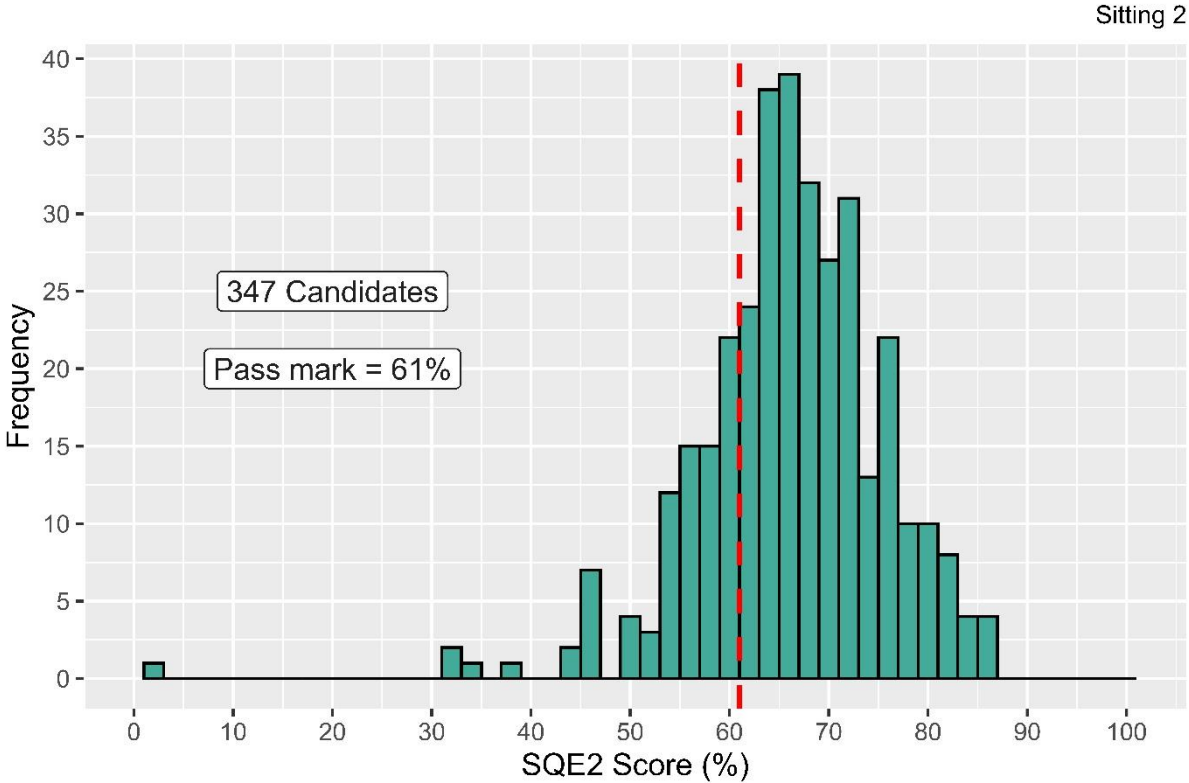
## Descriptive Statistics

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 %	66.5
Std. Dev. %	9.6
Median %	67.0
Min. %	3.0
Max. %	87.0
Range %	84.0

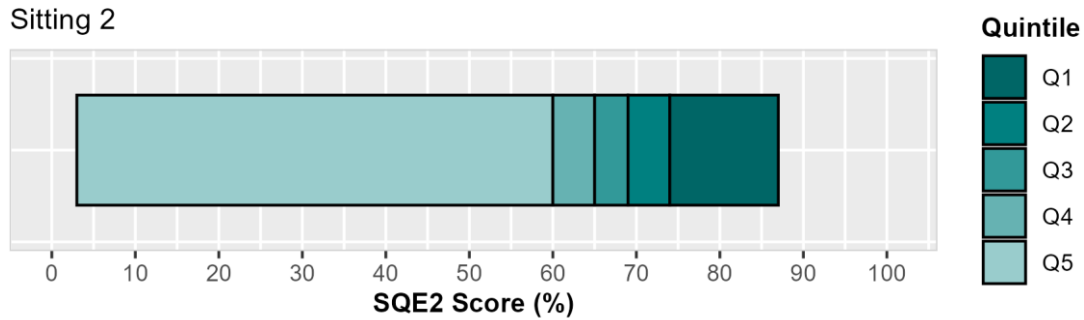
## Score Distribution Chart

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



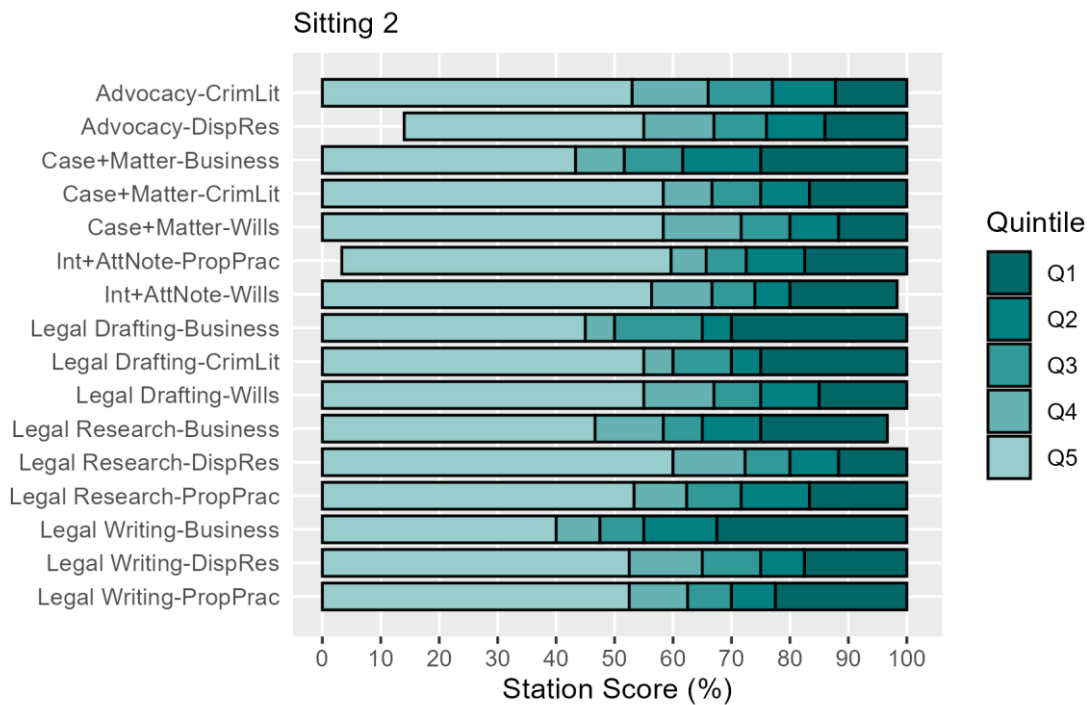
## Total Score Quintile Chart

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 – Oral (31 October – 01 November) and Written (05 - 07 November)

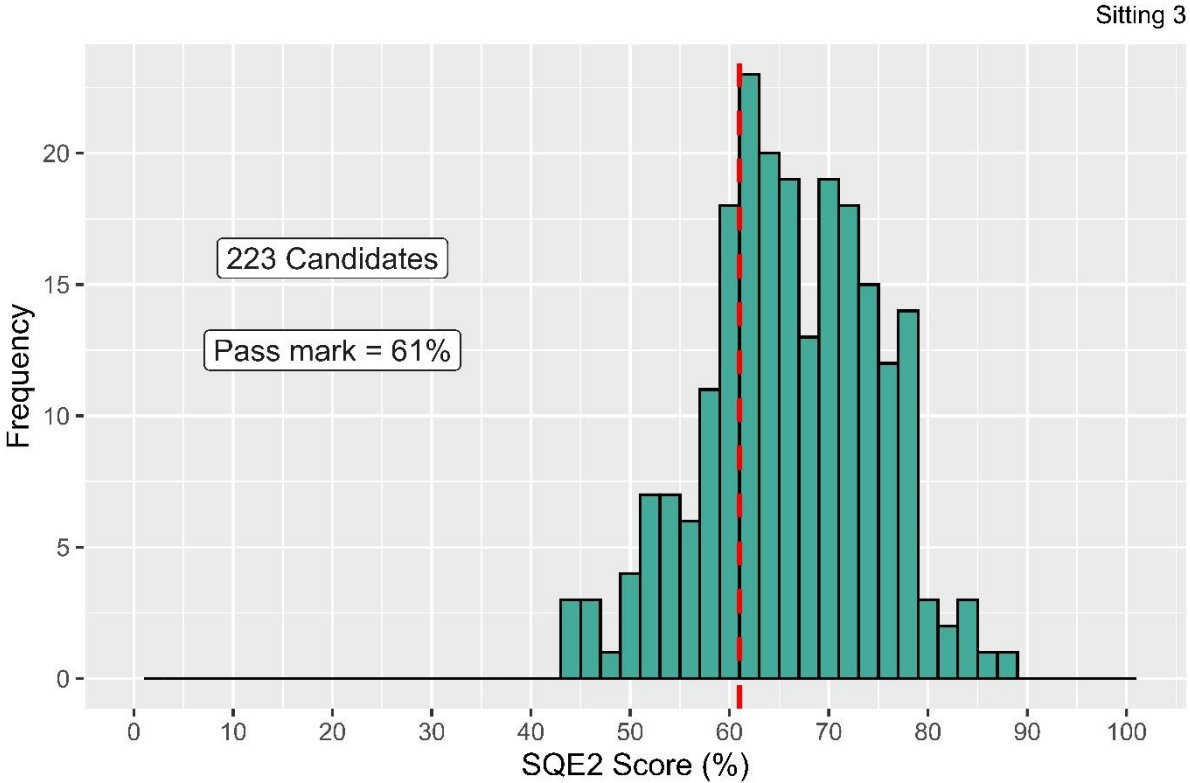
## Descriptive Statistics

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 %	66.5
Std. Dev. %	8.7
Median %	66.0
Min. %	44.0
Max. %	88.0
Range %	44.0

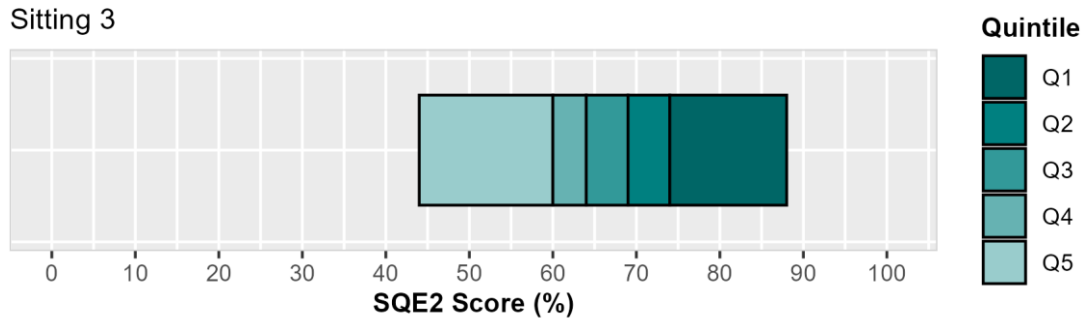
## Score Distribution Chart

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



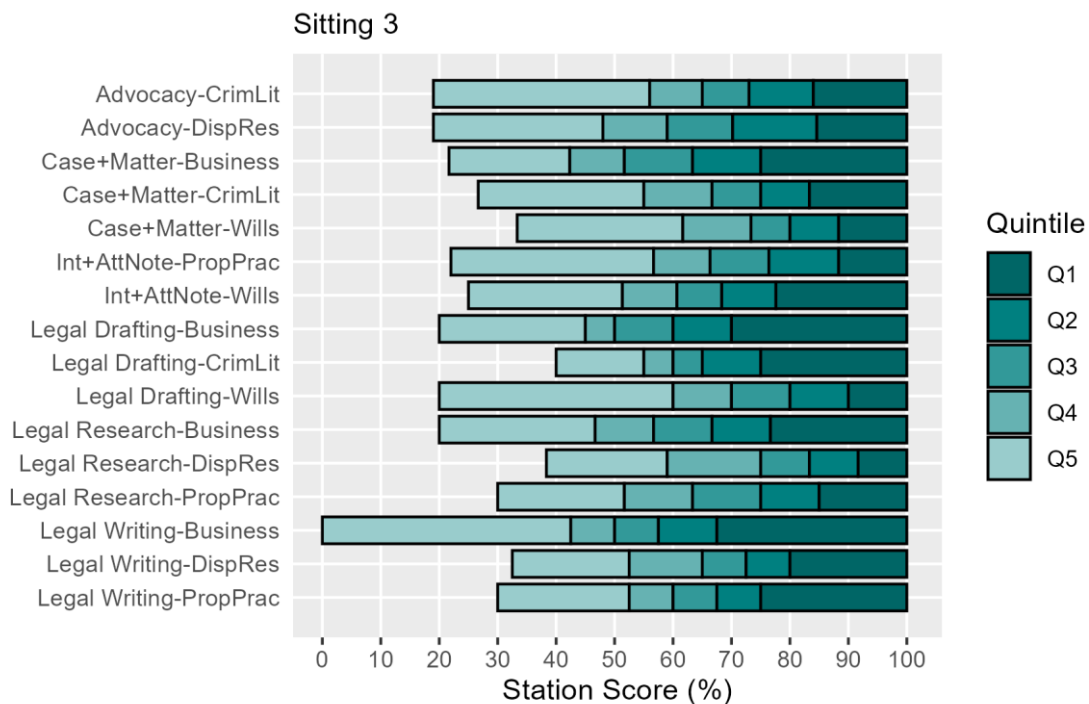
## Total Score Quintile Chart

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.





## 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. 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	23	66	74
Black / Black British	5	64	75
Mixed / multiple ethnic groups	6	70	82
Other ethnic group	5	64	74
White	56	69	89
Prefer not to say	5	65	67

Do you consider yourself to have a disability according to the definition in the Equality Act 2010?	Candidates %	Mean Score %	Pass Rate %
Yes	10	70	90
No	82	67	82
Prefer not to say	8	68	80

What is your sex?	Candidates %	Mean Score %	Pass Rate %
Female	66	68	84
Male	32	67	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	69	90
Christian	28	68	86
Hindu	5	67	73
Jewish	-	-	-
Muslim	9	63	67
Sikh	-	-	-
No religion or belief	42	69	87
Other	2	65	79
Prefer not to say	13	67	76

<b>What age category are you in?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
16 - 24	37	70	89
25 - 34	53	67	82
35 - 44	7	64	66
45 - 54	2	62	50
55 - 64	-	-	-
65+	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	1	62	67

<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	56	68	85
No, neither of my parents attended university	34	68	80
Do not know / not sure	2	66	82
Prefer not to say	8	65	75

<b>Have you undertaken any qualified work experience?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
Yes	55	67	79
No	45	69	87
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	98	68	83
Qualifications below degree level	-	-	-
No formal qualifications	-	-	-
Not applicable	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	2	61	65

<b>What was your undergraduate degree classification?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
1st	31	71	91
2:1	54	68	85
2:2	7	60	52
3rd	-	-	-
Commendation	-	-	-
Distinction	1	64	82
Pass	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	-	-	-
Not applicable	7	63	62

<b>Are you a qualified lawyer?</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
Yes	8	64	70
No	92	68	84
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	69	87
State-run or state-funded school - selective on academic, faith or other grounds	16	69	89
Independent or fee-paying school	14	69	85
Independent or fee-paying school, where I received a bursary covering 90% or more of my tuition	2	72	100
Attended school outside the UK	26	66	74
I don't know	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	8	65	74

<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	58	68	85
Intermediate background	9	66	79
Working class background	15	67	80
Other background	2	69	90
Prefer not to say	16	67	80

<b>Please state what your first language is:</b>	<b>Candidates %</b>	<b>Mean Score %</b>	<b>Pass Rate %</b>
English	76	69	86
Other	24	65	73
Not applicable	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	-	-	-