

Initial Certification Pass Rates

Certification Exam Ultimate Pass Rates 2008 - 2021

Ultimate Pass Rate ⁽¹⁾
98%

⁽¹⁾ At least three subsequent exam years

Internal Medicine and Subspecialty Certification Examinations: 2017-2021 First-Time Taker Pass Rates⁽²⁾⁽³⁾

Key: # - Number of Physicians; % - Pass Rate

Exam Area ⁽⁴⁾	2017		2018		2019		2020 ⁽⁷⁾		2021 ⁽⁷⁾	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Internal Medicine	8262	90%	8697	91%	9033	91%	9019	93%	9506	88%
Adult Congenital Heart Disease	126	84%	--	--	163	87%	--	--	32	91%
Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant Cardiology	--	--	209	95%	--	--	210	95%	--	--
Cardiovascular Disease	929	93%	931	96%	976	92%	968	91%	1065	86%
Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology	112	95%	90	96%	127	92%	104	93%	127	93%
Critical Care Medicine ⁽⁵⁾	700	95%	787	94%	729	93%	767	95%	853	92%
Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism	299	91%	312	91%	348	84%	312	89%	365	74%
Gastroenterology	523	98%	556	99%	558	97%	554	97%	624	96%
Geriatric Medicine ⁽⁵⁾	284	90%	247	87%	319	89%	250	89%	270	92%
Hematology	492	92%	470	91%	519	91%	495	94%	531	90%
Hospice and Palliative Medicine ⁽⁵⁾	--	--	581	91%	--	--	644	85%	--	--
Infectious Disease	339	97%	338	98%	362	98%	364	94%	372	92%
Interventional Cardiology	326	88%	313	90%	333	87%	314	91%	349	88%
Medical Oncology	597	98%	589	91%	587	91%	593	93%	630	91%
Nephrology	420	83%	365	83%	375	74%	363	80%	385	75%
Pulmonary Disease	612	99%	591	98%	657	94%	670	93%	704	95%
Rheumatology	213	90%	242	91%	258	94%	241	95%	254	93%
Sleep Medicine ⁽⁵⁾	339	92%	--	--	344	95%	--	--	344	88%
Transplant Hepatology ⁽⁶⁾	--	--	90	98%	--	--	101	100%	--	--

⁽²⁾ Because the performance of small numbers of examinees can have a significant effect on results, pass rates for examinations with less than 200 takers should be interpreted cautiously. Pass rates for examinations with less than 10 takers are not reported (indicated with "--").

⁽³⁾ Examinations that are not administered in a specific year are indicated with "--".

⁽⁴⁾ For information on exam administration history, please visit our website at: <https://www.abim.org/about/exam-information/exam-administration-history.aspx>

⁽⁵⁾ Includes ABIM and co-sponsoring board(s) candidates.

⁽⁶⁾ Includes only ABIM candidates.

⁽⁷⁾ In light of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic had on physicians, in 2020, ABIM extended Board Eligibility to 2021 for physicians opting not to test in 2020. The number of examinees and pass rates for 2020 and 2021 may not be perfectly comparable to prior years as a result.