



General Certificate Examination Report March 2025 Session



Chair of Board of Examiners Summary

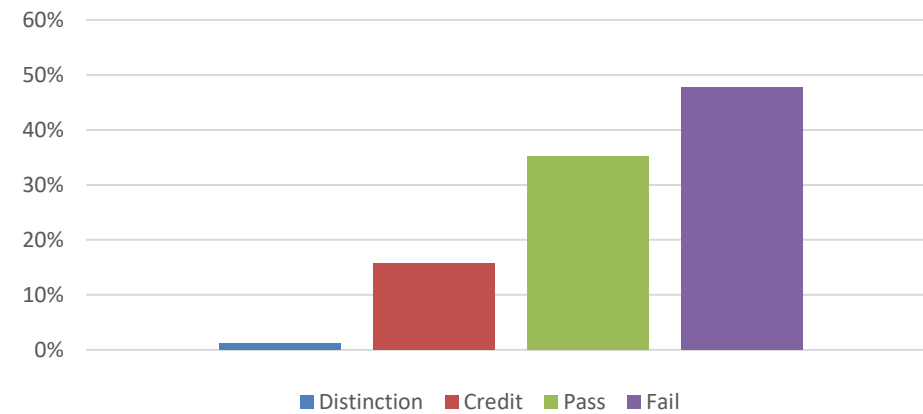
- All results have been marked and moderated using the CIBD Examination Board protocols and have been approved and signed off by the CIBD Chair of Board of Examiners
- Pass marks for the March 2025 examination sessions were in alignment with standards set for the General Certificate examinations (NB: the pass marks can be skewed by smaller cohorts)
- On average, candidates only used between 38% and 58% of the two hours allotted to the examination, with the mean, circa 50%
- Generally, topics were well covered across the syllabus units in all examinations however there were several topics in which the performance was lower than expected, details of these are on the following slides



Examination Board Results: General Certificate March 2025

General Certificate in Brewing

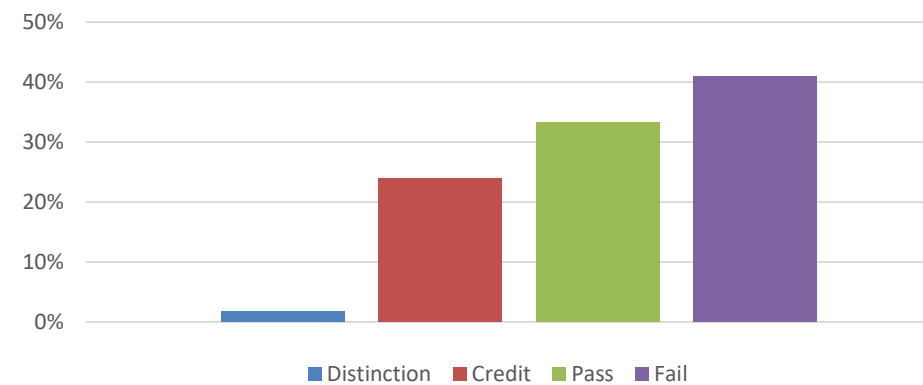
GCB Grade Distribution March 2025



52%

General Certificate in Distilling

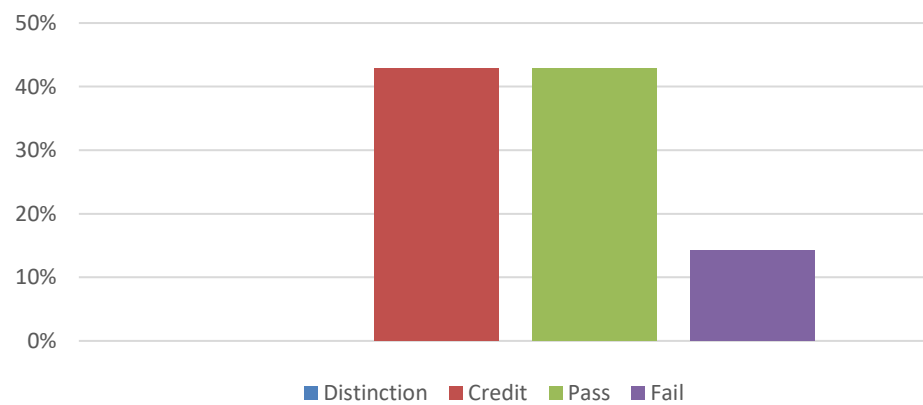
GCD Grade Distribution March 2025



59%

General Certificate in Malting

GCM Grade Distribution March 2025



86%

X% = Pass rate

General Certificate in Brewing

- N° questions in the Exam Paper = 60
- Average % of total time spent in exam = 50%

Units candidates performed particularly well in:

Unit 01 - Course Introduction

Units candidates did not perform so well in:

Unit 06 - Quality

General Certificate in Distilling

- N° questions in the Exam Paper = 60
- Average % of total time spent in exam = 50%

Units candidates performed particularly well in:

Unit 05 - Distillation

Units candidates did not perform so well in:

Unit 08 - Hygiene

General Certificate in Malting

- N° questions in the Exam Paper = 60
- Average % of total time spent in exam = 38%

Units candidates performed particularly well in:

Unit 01 - Introduction to Malting

Units candidates did not perform so well in:

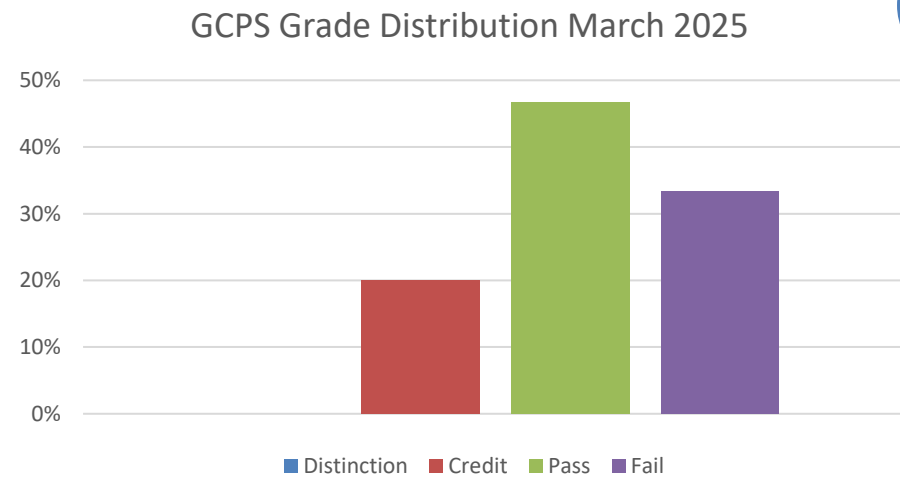
Unit 05 - Quality





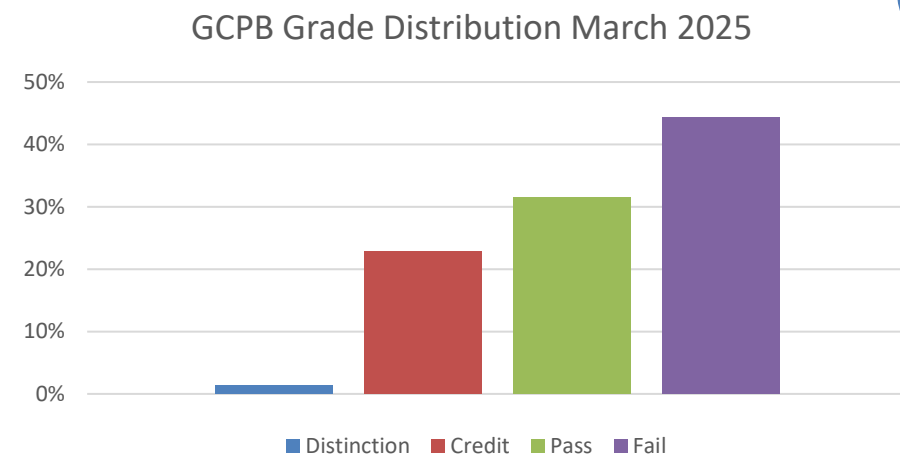
Examination Board Results: General Certificate March 2025

General Certificate in Packaging Spirits



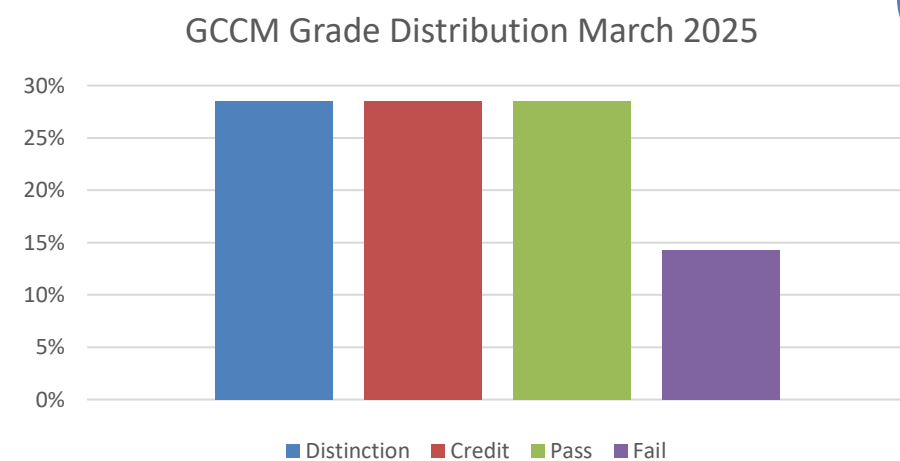
67%

General Certificate in Packaging Beer



56%

General Certificate in Cider Making



86%

X% = Pass rate

General Certificate in Packaging Spirits

- N° questions in the Exam Paper = 60
- Average % of total time spent in exam = 51%

Units candidates performed particularly well in:

Unit 13 - Spirits Quality - Contamination in Packaging

Units candidates did not perform so well in:

Unit 11 – Spirit Quality – Sensory; Unit 19 – Utilities – Process Gases

General Certificate in Packaging Beer

- N° questions in the Exam Paper = 60
- Average % of total time spent in exam = 58%

Units candidates performed particularly well in:

Unit 03 - Packaging Line Operation - Pre-filler

Units candidates did not perform so well in:

Unit 01 – Course Introduction; Unit 05 - Packaging Line Operation - Labelling and Final Package Consolidation

General Certificate in Cider Making

- N° questions in the Exam Paper = 60
- Average % of total time spent in exam = 47%

Units candidates performed particularly well in:

Unit 02 - Raw Materials; Unit 05 – Maturation and Clarification; Unit 08 – Hygiene

Units candidates did not perform so well in:

Unit 07 – Cider Quality





General Comments

Scope of Examination

The Foundation examinations test knowledge across the full breadth of the syllabus and whilst candidates are not guaranteed to be asked questions on absolutely everything, they still need to be prepared to answer questions on all topics.

Therefore, to ensure a positive result when taking the examination, candidates must ensure that they have fully engaged with the learning materials and any additional recommended study time or wider reading, as well as ensuring revision of the full breadth of the syllabus.

Reading and Understanding

Candidates should ensure they read the question wording carefully and be certain they answer the question being asked. If in doubt, candidates can use the 'flag' function in TestReach to select a question that they wish to come back to and check they have read what the question is asking or re-check the answer they have chosen.

Multiple responses

Candidates should always double-check how many answers are required for each question. In some instances, two (2) answers are needed to get the full mark. Candidates must ensure they select both answers.

Future Examination Preparation

For a list of Frequently Asked Questions that will help with getting you ready to take any future assessments with the IBD, candidates are strongly recommended to review the FAQs document here: [Foundation & General Certificate FAQ | Chartered Institute of Brewers and Distillers](#)

For any questions, please contact
examinationboard@cibd.org.uk

