



# General Certificate Examination Report May 2025 Session



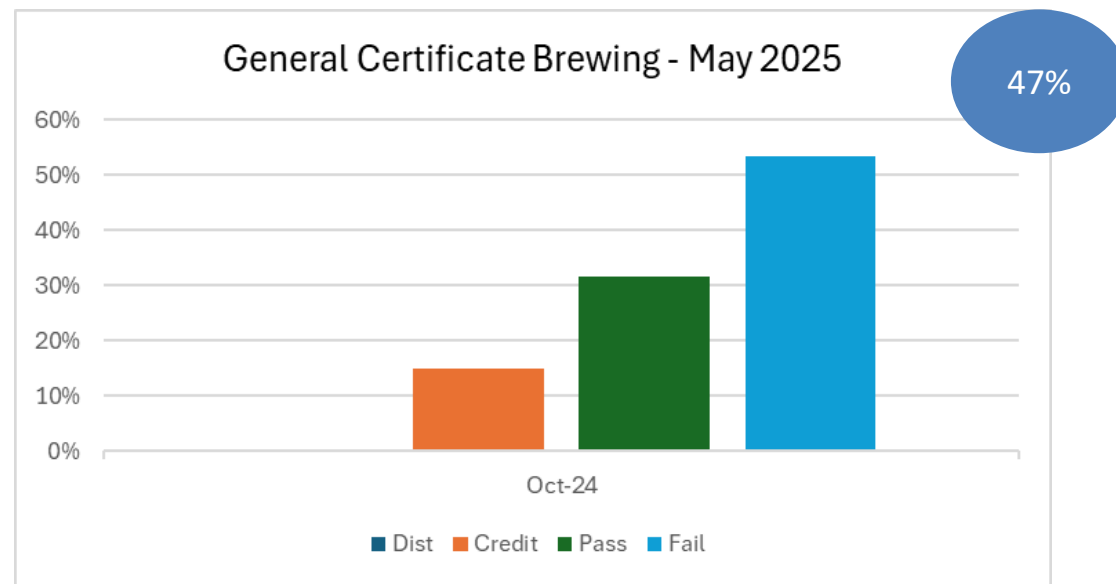
# Chair of Board of Examiners Summary

- 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 May 2025 examination sessions are generally in alignment with standards set for the General Certificate examinations
- The exception to this was General Certificate of Brewing (GCB) where the pass mark is lower than expected
  - Analysis shows that overall, the May 2025 GCB candidates only spent an average of 56% of the two hours allocated time in their examination
  - Just over two thirds of the candidates who failed the GCB, spent less than one hour in their examination
  - There is concrete evidence that candidates who took the GCB Set for Success course prior to their examination had a higher pass rate
- 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 May 2025

## General Certificate in Brewing



### General Certificate in Brewing

- N° questions in the Exam Paper = 60
- Average % of total time spent in exam = 56%

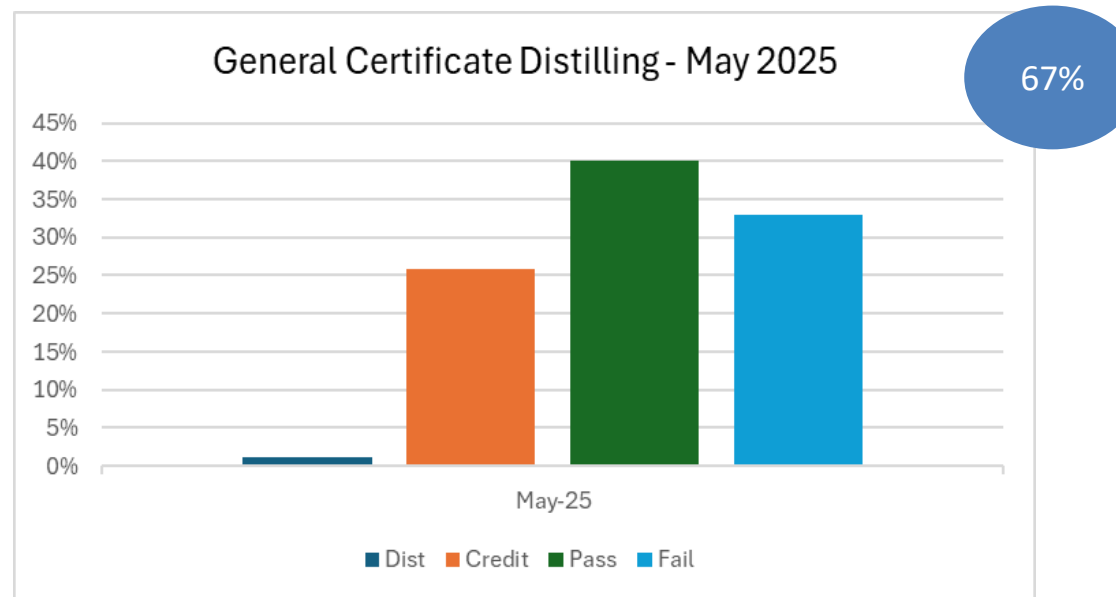
#### Units candidates performed particularly well in:

Unit 01 - Course Introduction; Unit 8 - Engineering and the Environment

#### Units candidates did not perform so well in:

Unit 06 - Quality

## General Certificate in Distilling



### General Certificate in Distilling

- N° questions in the Exam Paper = 60
- Average % of total time spent in exam = 48%

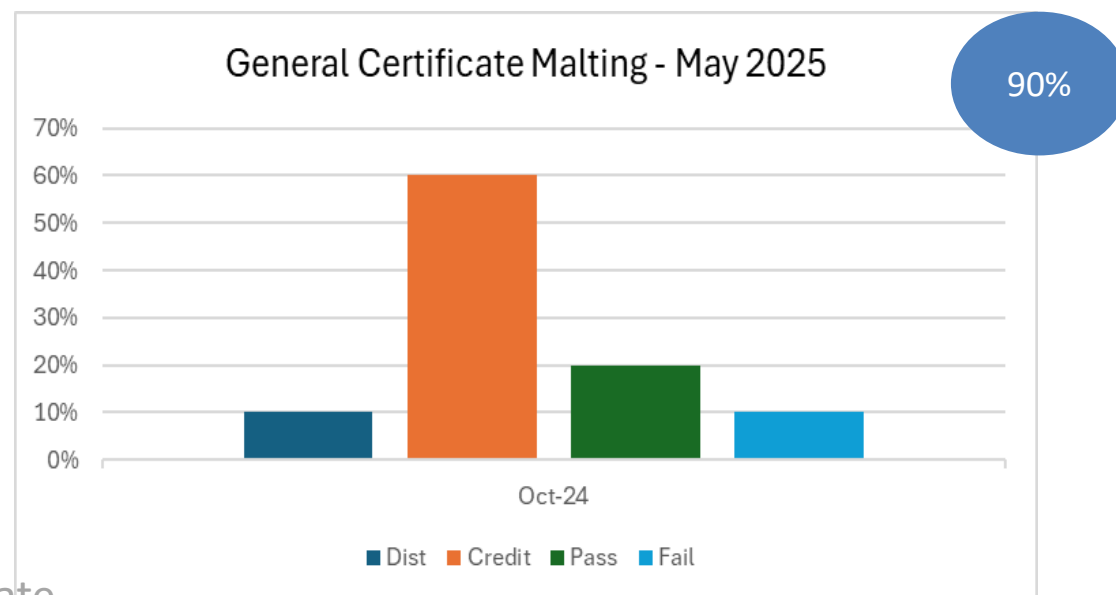
#### Units candidates performed particularly well in:

Unit 3 - Raw Material Processing; Unit 9 - Engineering and the Environment GCD

#### Units candidates did not perform so well in:

Unit 05 - Distillation

## General Certificate in Malting



### General Certificate in Malting

- N° questions in the Exam Paper = 60
- Average % of total time spent in exam = 85%

#### Units candidates performed particularly well in:

Unit 01 - Introduction to Malting; Unit 7 - Engineering Environment and Safety

#### Units candidates did not perform so well in:

Unit 05 - Quality

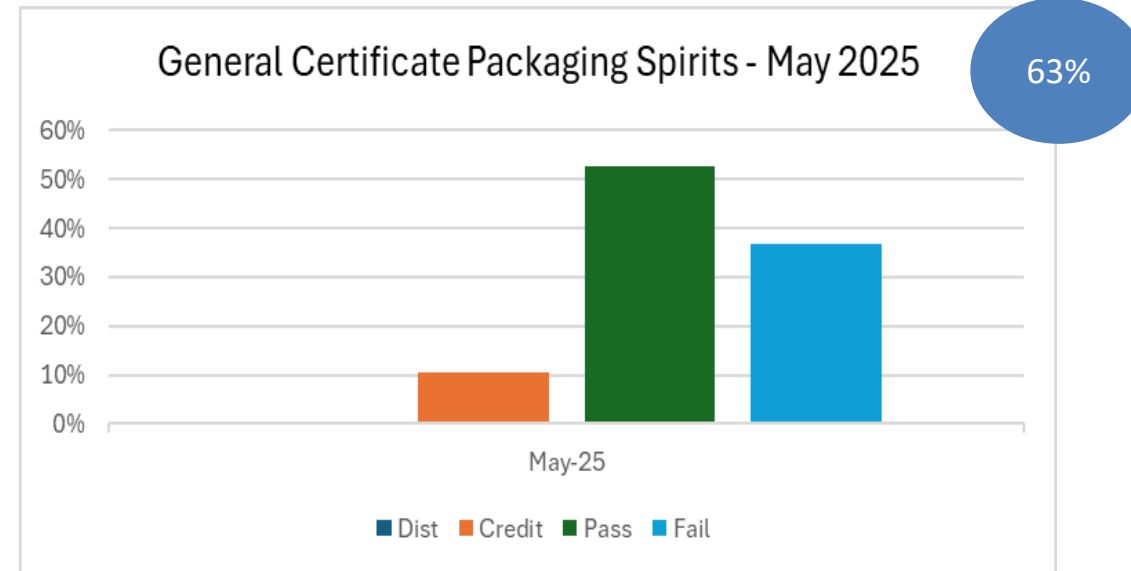
X% = Pass rate



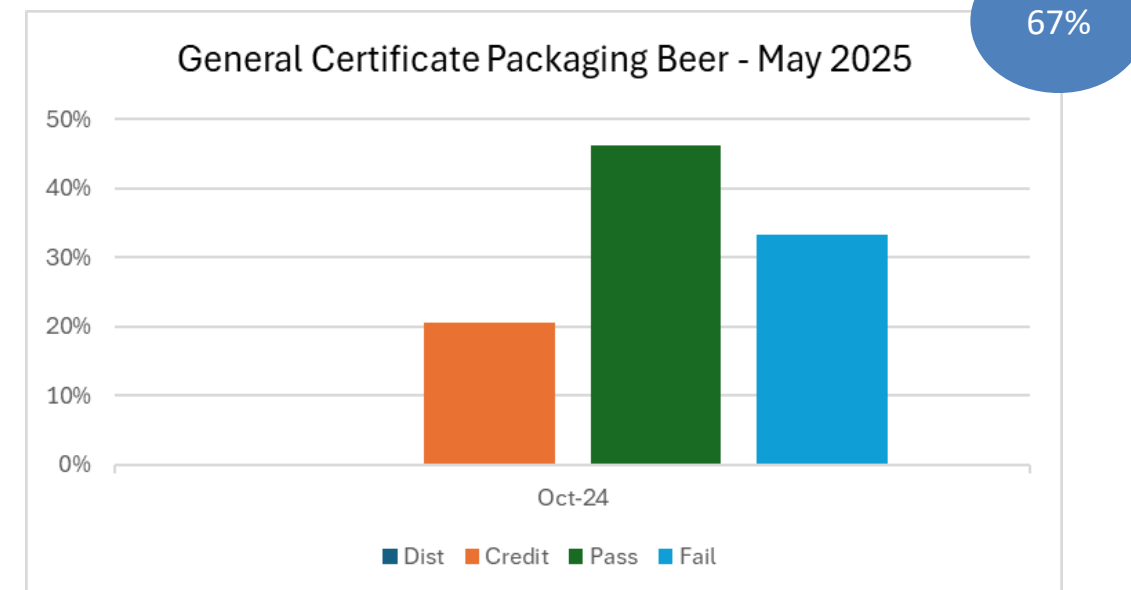


# Examination Board Results: General Certificate May 2025

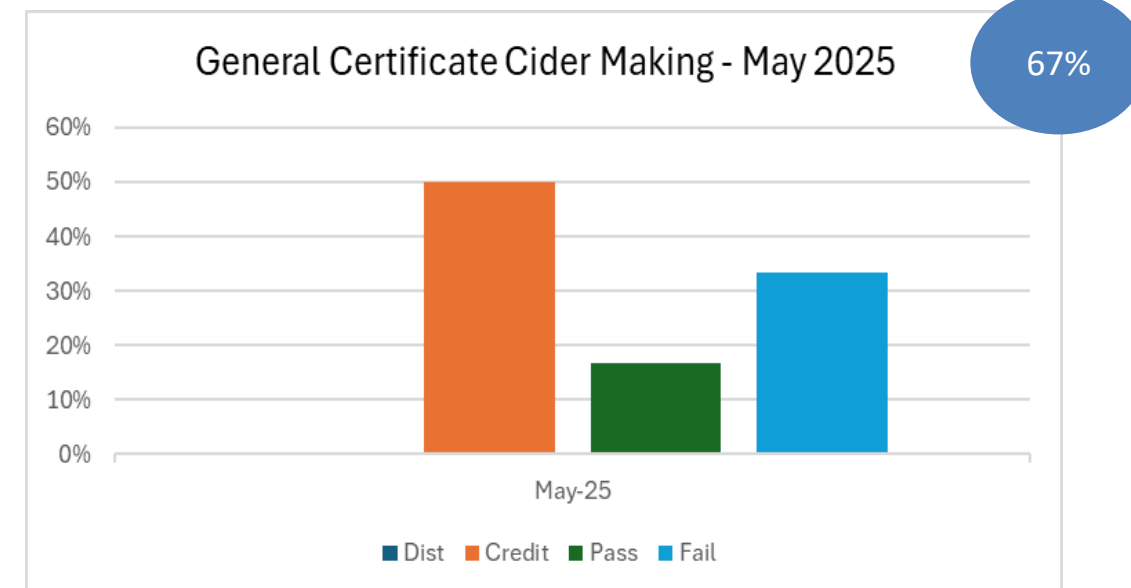
## General Certificate in Packaging Spirits



## General Certificate in Packaging Beer



## General Certificate in Cider Making



X% = Pass rate

### General Certificate in Packaging Spirits

- N° questions in the Exam Paper = 60
- Average % of total time spent in exam = 86%

#### **Units candidates performed particularly well in:**

04 - Glass Bottles and Associated Packaging Materials; Unit 09 – Warehousing; Unit

#### **Units candidates did not perform so well in:**

Unit 19 – Utilities – Process Gases

### General Certificate in Packaging Beer

- N° questions in the Exam Paper = 60
- Average % of total time spent in exam = 97%

#### **Units candidates performed particularly well in:**

Unit 03 - Packaging Line Operation - Pre-filler; Unit 7 - Hygiene GCPB; Unit 8 - Engineering Environment and Safety

#### **Units candidates did not perform so well in:**

Unit 01 – Course Introduction

### General Certificate in Cider Making

- N° questions in the Exam Paper = 60
- Average % of total time spent in exam = 89%

#### **Units candidates performed particularly well in:**

Unit 02 - Raw Materials

#### **Units candidates did not perform so well in:**

Unit 07 – Cider Quality





# General Comments

## Scope of Examination

The General Certificate 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 a small number of 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 CIBD, 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](mailto:examinationboard@cibd.org.uk)

