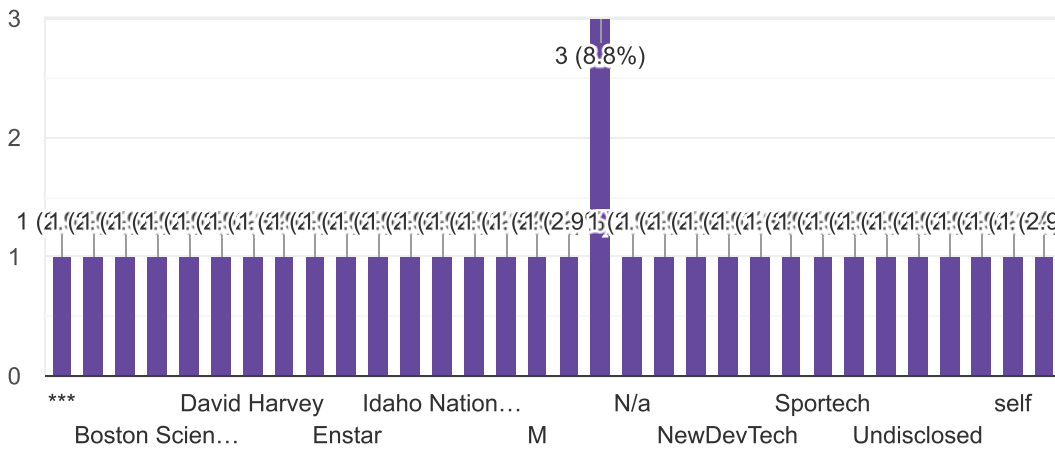


April 2019 - Machine Design & Materials PE Exam RESULTS Survey

34 responses

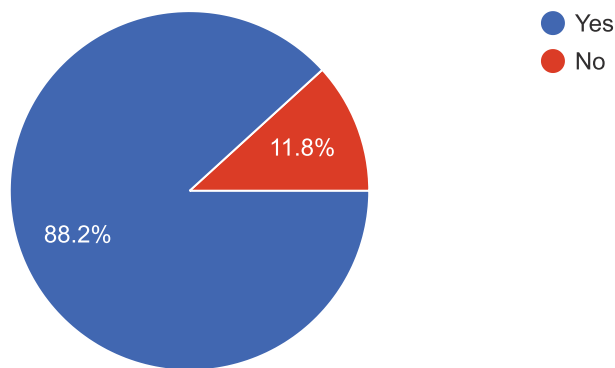
Company Name

34 responses



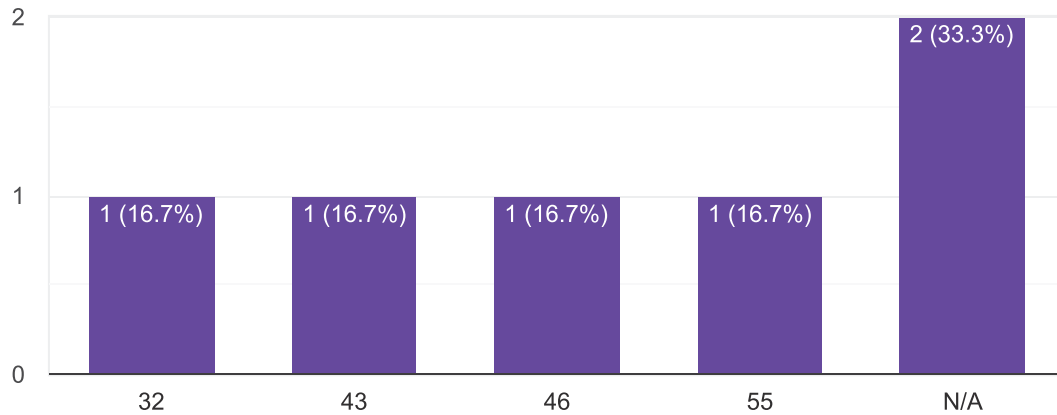
Did you pass the PE exam?

34 responses



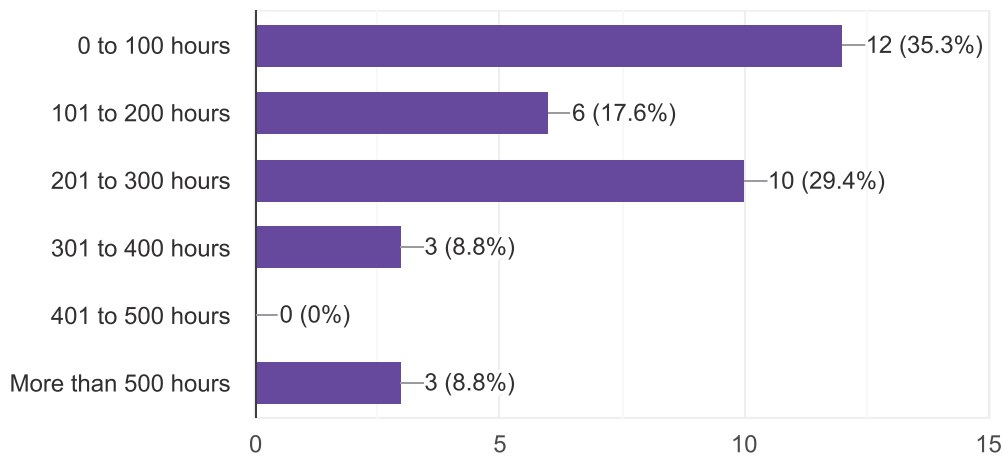
If you did not pass the exam, then what was your score out of 80? (____ / 80)

6 responses



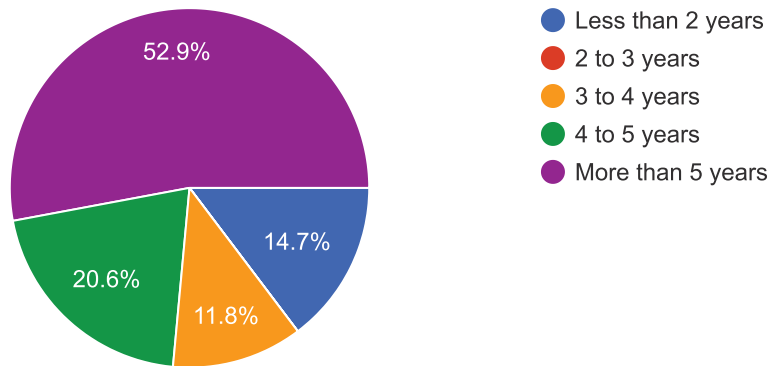
How many hours did you study for the exam?

34 responses



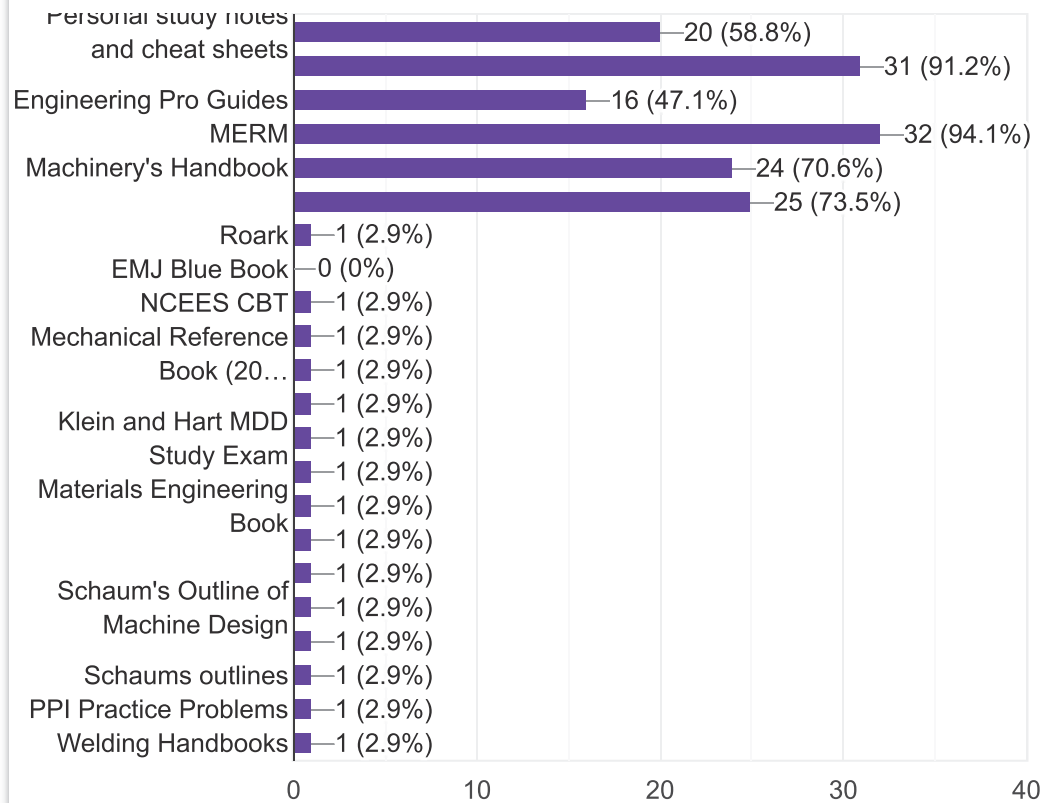
How many years of engineering experience did you have at the time of the exam in the fields tested by the exam?

34 responses



Which references do you recommend for the exam?

34 responses



What do you wish you knew before you started studying?

34 responses

Importance of doing different problems moreso than reviewing material in depth

Pe

Alot of exam is basic fe related questions on statics and dynamics

Plan more time in advance

Should have worked more on the stamina aspect of an 8 hour exam. By the 7th/8th hour I was very fatigued due to no practicing for that long of a time.

Organized better, studied more problems

Whatever a BCC is

That the NCEES CBT Mechanical Reference Book (2020) existed.

Keep you notes and organize a study sheet

Nothing in particular.

That the MERM was published in 2016 and had the old exam specs in it; NCEES had new exam specs published in 2017, which were simpler and shorter than before.

Everything is broad, study everything, no stones unturned. If your taking the exam again, the core stuff (for MDM machine and materials) will be similar, but all the other stuff can be totally different.

How much more important practice problems are than going through the entire merm first.

Most of the MERM chapters I did not need to study or review.

You should bring a cushion to the testing site

That NCEES would release the CBT exam reference with different material so close to the exam date

Nothing

That the practice exam was very similar to the actual exam

FEA

MERM practice problems weren't realistic

Don't read the whole merm. Work as many Practice problems/exams as possible

N/A

When they say they can test you on anything in the exam specifications, they mean it.

The test questions are not overly technical. You will do practice problems that take half a sheet of paper and use 5+ equations. The test did not leave me mentally exhausted, however it covered enough topics and scenarios to make me seriously question if I passed. If you find yourself using more than 2 equations on the test, you are likely doing something wrong.

How hard it was

Nothing

scope is wide - not just the example problems in MERM

Start with the EPG technical study guide

I should have started with the engineering pro guide review instead of shigley's

Which resources to buy and best study approach

Time management is a big deal, Test anxiety is real.

Just study efficiently, not more

More about manufacturing.

At some point you need to practice under timed conditions

What do you wish you practiced or studied more?

34 responses

Manufacturing process advantages/disadvantages, Specific gravity

PMP

Statics (complex multiple load systems) and dynamic basics rotating masses. Slope questions etc

Practiced

SI units

Fly wheels and time management

Rotational Motion

Vibrations, Supportive Knowledge

Vibration and Failure Theory

May be more example problems

I was done with the morning section in 2.5 hours, and went to take a nap in the hotel; I finished the afternoon session in 3 hours. I must have studied enough.

Instrumentation. There were more problems than I was expecting on this
FEA, I studied this, but none of the questions were actually an FEA problem, just FEA theory. Machinery
Handbook, should have spent more time in this.

More kinetics, I did not expect the questions to be as hard

Practice problems.

Controls

Materials science, new NCEES reference pdf for CBT exam

Statics and Dynamics

Nothing

FEA

I wish there were a couple more decent practice exams available

Physics/dynamics problems

No

FEA & Mechanisms

Materials and Material Science

Basic trig and kinematics

Statistics

supporting materials, material science

References

Statics

Practice exams and sample problems

AM materials.

Economics

Dyanmics.

Dynamics and Kinematics

Additional comments or words of advice for future test takers?

34 responses

Do a basic review of fundamentals as needed. Do as many problems as possible and review in further detail as needed.

no

Practice questions and work on dynamics and statics

None

Study hard, but remember some subjects you study a lot won't show up on the exam, so make sure you have a basic understanding of everything.

Manage your time wisely

It is a miserable day, be prepared for the most

For the last 2019 Paper exam use the NCEES CBT Reference Book as your main source of equations (print it out, tab and bind it). It's based on largely Shigley's references. If it's not on the NCEES reference book then it's probably not going to be on the exam. MERM covers more than what the exam will have so use the NCEES reference book as a guide.

PM section was very difficult, more so than most practice exams (Eng Pro Guide and NCEES). So get close to 40/40 on the AM section as possible and hopefully you'll get enough right on the PM section to pass.

Time management is key for the PM test

To be honest, my experience with the exam is that it is far less sophisticated than what it seems. Using the most widely accepted references with focus on solving the sample exams should provide enough depth required for passing the exam. It is more about the breadth of your knowledge in the field and your efficiency in solving the given problem in the allotted time rather than thinking up a complex approach.

Solve a lot of problems. A LOT! I timed how long it took me to solve each problem and the percentage of correct answers. The best and most realistic problems came from NCEES practice exams and also from Justin Kauwale's exam problems. The problems from Lindenburg and the Cooke's 6-minute problems were much harder than the exam problems, but if you figure those out, the exam problems will be a piece of cake.

DO NOT just rely on the MERM. It seemed to be really good for most all the materials and machine design questions, as well as the economics questions.

Do practice problems from lindburg. They are harder than the exam but they prepare you well. The practice problems provided by you were very similar to the questions in the exam

Practice practice practice!

Do the sample exam first to get the feel for it

Get familiar with new content and material in NCEES reference book as opposed to formulas and examples in traditional reference books

Practice Test, Dont read MERM cover to cover

Don't over think it. The exam is actually pretty straight forward. Many of the available practice exams were much more difficult.

Machine Design can be a very open field of questions

Spend a few hours familiarizing yourself with reference material and then do a couple practice exams. You likely don't need to study for hundreds of hours.

I was surprised when some subjects on the test were covered multiple times by very similar questions while other MAJOR topics were not covered or only covered briefly in conceptual questions.

The exam topics given by NCEES was pretty accurate. I took the MDM, and am glad I did not study topics outside the list.

Expect to be tested on your worst/least favorite subjects. Take the test in several passes, from easy to medium to hard questions. Time is your biggest enemy on this test.

Focus study in MERM. Read the beginning of the book and figure out which chapters are applicable to your exam. For MD&M, go over chapters 51 - 54 at least twice.

Work problems

Practice many problems of all types

I took the exam two times. I see that questions are moving to different level. Don't just expect type of questions you see in any material, including NCESS practice exam. actual exams are more than that. You really have to know how to quickly address the expected questions. I wish MERM and Eng Pro guide and other materials should revise their content to match with the reality.

Use the EPG technical study guide and take all the EPG practice exams. They are the most realistic.

-

Focus most of your study time on working problems. Mark up your reference materials and make your own quick reference/index sheets to help you find things quickly. Make sure to work problems that relate to every topic on the exam spec.

Practice problems, know your references, Test efficiently -- Time management is important

The worst part about the exam is just sitting for 8 hours! Take your time.

Start earlier than later and make sure you study dynamics.

Give yourself plenty of time. Be methodical and don't get frustrated if you struggle remembering things you used to know.

If you purchased an Engineering Pro Guides product, please leave a review for the Engineering Pro Guides material. Any suggestions on how to improve or comments on what you liked and what you didn't like will be very helpful.

18 responses

Too simple. Need to increase question difficulty.

The Pro Guide exam needs more SI unit problems.

More application problems.

It was fine

AM section difficulty level is similar. PM section of the actual exam is much harder than the Eng Pro Guide and the NCEES practice exam. Close to Lindeberg practice exam level difficulty.

I think the pro guides offers a realistic difficulty level for the AM test, but does not provide sufficient difficulty level for the PM test. For this reason, the engineering Pro Guidelines is not a standalone guide - other guides also need to be purchase to supplement the full range of difficulty of the actual PE test.

Engineering Pro Guide was very representative of the actual exam, in terms of the level of difficulty of the problems. Very useful in that sense.

I sent Justin a ton of feedback as I was preparing for the exam. If more people send him feedback, Kauwale may be the next Lindeburg.

Your exam was too easy in my opinion. I took 3 exams. Pro Guides, Lindenbunrg, and NCEES.

Pro Guides- I would give it about a 55% similarity to the actual exam and it is way too easy. I would recommend putting more questions in that can't be answered from the MERM. I got a 85% on this exam early in my studies

Lindenbunrg- maybe 65% similarity to the exam, but way way harder than the actual exam. I got just above a 50% on this 2 weeks before the actual exam.

NCEES- about 75% similiarity to the actual exam, the difficulty being exactly that of the real exam

Hope this helps others.

It was comprehensive and useful for the most part but there were some errors and discrepancies between the main guide book and sample problem book.

Less straightfoward problems, make more application problems

Good content but still not polished enough. Errors in study material are incredibly frustrating and time consuming. Would still recommend as a good way to "test" yourself. Just a tad on the easy side but still very representative.

Please fix the welding problems!! I saw your response on a message board and get that you're trying to make a point with the 6" wide x 1/4" long weld problem but this is a trick question because it makes zero sense to have a weld with those dimensions. The PE is not tricky - frustrating/wasted problem. Would be better suited as an oddball weld symbol problem. Also in the other weld problems, your practice exam doesn't use the throat dimension (multiply weld dimension by $\sqrt{2}/2$) - I did your practice test got the questions "wrong", changed how I did the problems to not use the throat dimension, then took the ncees practice exam and got those questions "wrong" because I didn't use the throat dimension - again very frustrating to have topics down and then second guess yourself due to errors. One or two spelling/grammar errors here and there. Don't want to beat this product up too bad because the majority of it is very good content.

EngProGuides review book and practice exam were very great! Practice exam close on difficulty to real exam. Review book has a few errors in it, but overall great material and helps to round out everything you need to know on the exam and then some.

Engineering Pro Guides practice test was different enough from the NCEES practice tests to be useful. Since the owner is making money, I really wish he would fix all of the errors before putting the test up for sale. MAKE SURE TO DOWNLOAD THE ERRATA AND MAKE THE CORRECTIONS ON YOUR TEST, PRIOR TO TAKING IT. If

you don't, you will get problems wrong due to typos that the owner/reviewer honestly should have caught before making the test available to the public.

You may have to revise the content. Add more problem areas.

EPG was the best resource I used in preparing. The reference exam was very useful in familiarizing myself with the machinery handbook. The technical problems were the right format, but slightly less difficult than the real exam questions. Still, they were the most realistic practice problems I used.

I thought, in general, the material was good. But I found a lot of errors in your formulas. I essentially had to cross reference everything in the cheatsheet with the Merm and shigleys to feel comfortable.

Eng Pro Guide MDM practice exam was helpful in gauging my test ability. It was a good start, however I found the practice test easier than the actual exam.

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