



Comment on the graph
What do you think it shows?

What The Graph 39: teacher notes

Notes/comments

- This comes from a blog and shows the marks obtained by students on the Polish 'Matura' exam.
- According to the blog "it is used as a standardized test for university admissions".
- It is roughly the shape of a normal distribution. There are slight up-turns at each end, which we might expect, given that it isn't possible to get more than full marks (70) or less than zero, so the people who would have been capable of getting more/less those marks have had to settle for 70 and for 0.
- There is a very bizarre effect whereby fewer students than we might expect gained 17 – 20 marks, with more getting 21 – 24 marks. Almost no-one got 20, while 21 received almost double the number expected.
- Can your Core Maths students guess the pass mark required to be allowed to go to university?
- According to the blog the pass mark is 30%. 30% of 70 is 21 marks!