Profile Report - State

Graduating Class 2016

South Dakota
New to your 2016 Profile Report

In Fall 2015, ACT introduced additional test scores and indicators to provide students and educators with more insight into critical aspects of college and career readiness. Tables for these new scores and indicators (Writing scores from enhanced design, ELA score, STEM score, Understanding Complex Texts Indicator, and Progress Toward Career Readiness Indicator) are included in this report to describe available data. To determine where the new scores are summarized in this report, please consult the Table of Contents.

- **Writing scores:** Writing scores describe core writing competencies valued by high school and college educators. These competencies are summarized by the writing scores. Writing scores from test events before September 2015 will be reported on the 2-12 scale. Writing scores from test events on or after September 2015 will be reported on the 1-36 scale.

- **ELA:** The English Language Arts (ELA) score is based upon student scores in ACT English, Reading, and Writing, and is intended to represent a measure of students' overall literacy skills. This score utilizes ACT’s customary 1-36 scale.

- **STEM:** In response to the national focus on student performance in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), a STEM score was developed to gauge students’ overall performance in mathematics and science. This score, driven by ACT Mathematics and Science scores, ranges from 1 to 36. Test scores from previous years have been calculated.

- **Understanding Complex Texts Indicator:** The Understanding Complex Texts indicator represents students' progress toward understanding the complex written material encountered in college and careers. The indicator is reported in three proficiency levels: Below Proficient, Proficient, and Above Proficient.

- **Progress Toward Career Readiness Indicator:** Progress toward career readiness indicator is based upon the ACT Composite score, representing the level at which students perform relative to the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC). Symbolizing attainment of workplace employability skills critical to job success, this indicator is reported in four levels: Progress Needs Improvement, Progress Toward Bronze NCRC, Progress Toward Silver NCRC, and Progress Toward Gold NCRC.
Table of Contents

Section I: Executive Summary
Percent of Your Students Ready for College-Level Coursework
Five Year Trends—Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmarks
Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores
Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores by Level of Preparation
Five Year Trends—Percent and Average Composite Score by Race/Ethnicity
Five Year Trends—Achievement in STEM
Proficiency Toward Understanding Complex Text
Average ACT College Reportable Scores by Test Session Duration
Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Test Session Duration

Section II: Academic Achievement
ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percentages, Averages, and Quartile Values
Average ACT Composite Scores for Race/Ethnicity by Level of Preparation
Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity
Average ACT Composite Scores for Gender by Level of Preparation
Average ACT Scores by Gender

Section III: College Readiness & Impact of Course Rigor
Percent of Students in College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) Score Ranges
Percent of Students Who Met ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Gender and Race/Ethnicity
Progress Toward National Career Readiness Certificates
College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Overall High School Curriculum
College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Content-Specific Curriculum
College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Common Course Patterns

Section IV: Career and Educational Aspirations
Distribution of Planned Educational Majors for All Students by College Plans
Average ACT Composite Scores for Racial/Ethnic Groups by Post-Secondary Educational Aspirations
Students' Score Report Preferences at Time of Testing

Section V: Optional Writing Test Results
Average ACT Total Writing and English/Language Arts Scores by Race/Ethnicity and Gender
This report provides information about the performance of your 2016 graduating seniors who took the ACT as sophomores, juniors, or seniors; and self-reported at the time of testing that they were scheduled to graduate in 2016. Beginning with the Graduating Class of 2013, all students whose scores are college reportable, both standard and extended time tests, are now included in the report.

This report focuses on:

- **Performance** - student test performance in the context of college readiness
- **Access** - number of your graduates exposed to college entrance testing and the percent of race/ethnicity participation
- **Course Selection** - percent of students pursuing a core curriculum
- **Course Rigor** - impact of rigorous coursework on achievement
- **College Readiness** - percent of students meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores in each content area
- **Awareness** - extent to which student aspirations match performance
- **Articulation** - colleges and universities to which your students send test results

Each year, test data for a school, district, and the state represents a different cohort of students. ACT encourages educators to focus on trends (3, 5, 10 years), not year-to-year changes. Such changes can represent normal – even expected – fluctuations. On the other hand, trend lines offer more insight into what is happening in a school, district, or the state.

Furthermore, ACT encourages educators to measure student performance in the context of college readiness measures. The focus should be on the number and percentage of students who met or exceeded ACT’s College Readiness Benchmark Scores, a measure that is much more meaningful and understandable than an average composite score for a group of students.
The ACT is a curriculum-based measure of college readiness. ACT components include:

- Tests of academic achievement in English, math, reading, science, and writing (optional)
- High school grade and course information
- Student Profile Section
- Career Interest Inventory

The ACT:

Every few years, ACT conducts the ACT National Curriculum Survey to ensure its curriculum-based assessment tools accurately measure the skills high school teachers teach and instructors of entry-level college courses expect. The ACT is the only college readiness test designed to reflect the results of such a survey.

ACT’s College Readiness Standards are sets of statements intended to help students, parents and educators understand the meaning of test scores. The standards relate test scores to the types of skills needed for success in high school and beyond. They serve as a direct link between what students have learned and what they are ready to do next. The ACT is the only college readiness test for which scores can be tied directly to standards. Connecting College Readiness Standards to the Classroom interpretive guides can be found at www.act.org/content/act/en/education-and-career-planning/college-and-career-readiness-standards.html.

Only the ACT reports College Readiness Benchmark Scores – A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college courses, which include English Composition, Algebra, Social Science, Biology and STEM. These scores were empirically derived based on the actual performance of students in college.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Course/Course Area</th>
<th>ACT Score</th>
<th>Benchmark Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Composition</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEM</td>
<td>STEM</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, go to www.act.org
How to Improve Scores and Increase College Readiness

33% of your students met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores (Table 1.1). To improve students’ scores and increase the percentage of students identified as college ready, ACT suggests:

PROVIDING ACCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS TO TAKE THE ACT: 6,552 of your students are included in this report (the ’cohort’). Increasing access insures that more students have the opportunity to consider college and allows the reader to use this report to evaluate how well courses and instructional programs are preparing students for college and work.

MAKING CORE CURRICULUM A PRIORITY: Emphasize the need for all students to develop college and work ready skills, regardless of postsecondary aspirations. 87% of the students in the cohort reported taking courses that would be considered ‘Core or More’ (Table 1.4).

MAKING SURE STUDENTS ARE TAKING THE RIGHT KINDS OF COURSES: Table 3.8 reports 3% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 13% were college ready. 17% of the cohort reported taking a course sequence of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. 19% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 60% of the students who took 3 or more years of math beyond Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry were college ready. Getting more students ready for Algebra prior to 9th grade will increase the chances that students will be prepared for and take advanced-level math courses.

Similarly, Table 3.8 reports 5% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 21% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 47% of students who took at least three years of science coursework were college ready.

EVALUATING RIGOR OF COURSES: Table 3.1 reports the percentage of students falling in each of the ACT College Readiness Standards score ranges. For example, approximately 39% of the cohort fall into the lowest three Mathematics score ranges. To increase these students’ achievement, identify the standards they should focus on next by accessing ACT’s College Readiness Standards at www.act.org/standard.

PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS’ CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS: Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether, among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic groups.

For more information on interpreting data in this report, or to learn how ACT can help your students improve their readiness for college and the workplace, contact ACT Customer Service at 319-337-1365 or customerservices@act.org.
Section I
Executive Summary

Beginning in August of 2013, all students whose scores are college reportable, both standard and extended time tests, are now included. Also beginning in August 2013 Graduating Class data, College Readiness Benchmarks for Reading and Science were updated to reflect the most recent college coursework research.

To find the results of only standard time or extended time test takers, refer to Tables 1.7 and 1.8 on page 9.
Figure 1.1. Percent of Your Students Ready for College-Level Coursework

A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college course.
### Table 1.1. Five Year Trends—Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmarks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Students Tested</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Met All Four</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
<td></td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>6,878</td>
<td>1,666,017</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>6,723</td>
<td>1,799,243</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>6,724</td>
<td>1,845,787</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>6,615</td>
<td>1,924,436</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>6,552</td>
<td>2,090,342</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>41</td>
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</table>

### Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Students Tested</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Average ACT Scores</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Composite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>6,878</td>
<td>1,666,017</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>21.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>6,723</td>
<td>1,799,243</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>6,724</td>
<td>1,845,787</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>6,615</td>
<td>1,924,436</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>20.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>6,552</td>
<td>2,090,342</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>20.6</td>
</tr>
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### Table 1.3. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores Nationwide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Students Tested</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Average ACT Scores</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Composite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1,666,017</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>21.3</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>21.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1,799,243</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>20.7</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1,845,787</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>21.3</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1,924,436</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
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<td>20.1</td>
<td>20.6</td>
<td>21.3</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>20.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 1.4. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores by Level of Preparation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Students Tested</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Average ACT Scores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Core or More</td>
<td>Less than Core</td>
<td>Core or More</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>5,995</td>
<td>835</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>5,877</td>
<td>761</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>5,952</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>5,835</td>
<td>687</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>5,714</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1"Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

2Percent of all students tested. Numbers will not add up to 100% due to student non-response.

Table 1.5. Five Year Trends—Percent and Average Composite Score by Race/Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Avg</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Students</td>
<td>6,878</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>21.8</td>
<td>6,723</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>6,724</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>6,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian/Alaska Native</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>16.9</td>
<td>423</td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>5,675</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>5,502</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>5,468</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>5,376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>22.2</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or more races</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20.7</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to respond/No response</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>22.9</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Percent of all students tested. Numbers will not add up to 100% due to student non-response.
### Table 1.6. Five Year Trends—Achievement in STEM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Students Tested</th>
<th>All Tested Students</th>
<th>Students Meeting STEM Benchmarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>Avg. STEM Score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>6,878</td>
<td>1,666,017</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>6,723</td>
<td>1,799,243</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>6,724</td>
<td>1,845,787</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>6,615</td>
<td>1,924,436</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>6,552</td>
<td>2,090,342</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1The STEM score describes students' overall proficiency in mathematics and science.

### Table 1.7. Proficiency In Understanding Complex Texts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Below Proficient</th>
<th>Text Complexity Proficiency Level</th>
<th>Above Proficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Avg. Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2,152</td>
<td>485,762</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1The text complexity indicator, beginning in Fall 2015, represents students' progress toward understanding complex written material often encountered in college and careers.
Table 1.8. Average ACT College Reportable Scores by Test Session Duration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Group</th>
<th>Test Session Duration</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Composite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Standard Time</td>
<td>6,440</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>22.2</td>
<td>22.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Extended Time</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>18.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,552</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>22.2</td>
<td>21.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>Standard Time</td>
<td>1,985,389</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>20.7</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Extended Time</td>
<td>104,953</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>18.2</td>
<td>18.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,090,342</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>20.6</td>
<td>21.3</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>20.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1.9. Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Test Session Duration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Group</th>
<th>Test Session Duration</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Met All Four</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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Section II
Academic Achievement

Beginning with the Graduating Class of 2013, all students whose scores are college reportable, both standard and extended time tests, are now included. Also beginning with the 2013 Graduating Class data, College Readiness Benchmarks for Reading and Science were updated to reflect the most recent college coursework research.
### Table 2.1. ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percentages (CP¹), and Score Averages

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<tr>
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<th>English</th>
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<th>Reading</th>
<th>Science</th>
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<th>STEM</th>
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Avg (SD) 20.9 (5.8) 21.7 (4.8) 22.4 (5.8) 22.2 (4.8) 21.9 (4.8) 22.2 (4.5) Avg (SD)

¹CP is the cumulative percent of students at or below a score point.

Note: Shaded portions of columns identify the students who met/exceeded the ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores.
Table 2.2. ACT Subscore Distributions, Cumulative Percentages (CP¹), and Subscore Averages

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<th>Social Studies/ Sciences</th>
<th>Reading Arts/ Literature</th>
<th>Mathematics Pre/Elementary Algebra</th>
<th>Mathematics Algebra/ Coordinate Geometry</th>
<th>Mathematics Plane Geometry/ Trigonometry</th>
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<td>10.9 (2.8)</td>
<td>Avg (SD)</td>
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</table>

¹CP is the cumulative percent of students at or below a score point.

Table 2.3. ACT Score Quartile Values

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Table 2.4. Average ACT Composite Scores for Race/Ethnicity by Level of Preparation

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<th>Percent Taking Core or More</th>
<th>Average ACT Composite Score</th>
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1“Core or More” results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

Table 2.5. Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity

<table>
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<th>Student Group</th>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
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<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Composite</th>
<th>STEM</th>
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Table 2.6. Average ACT Composite Scores for Gender by Level of Preparation

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<th>Gender</th>
<th>Number of Students Tested</th>
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<th>Average ACT Composite Score</th>
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<td>Less Than Core</td>
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<td>72</td>
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<td>Males</td>
<td>971,383</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>22.1</td>
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<td>Females</td>
<td>1,074,049</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>21.7</td>
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Table 2.7. Average ACT Scores by Gender

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<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Composite</th>
<th>STEM</th>
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<td>21.0</td>
<td>21.1</td>
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<td>20.7</td>
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<td>17.7</td>
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Section III
College and Career Readiness
and the Impact of Course Rigor

Beginning with the Graduating Class of 2013, all students whose scores are college reportable, both standard and extended time tests, are now included. Also beginning with the 2013 Graduating Class data, College Readiness Benchmarks for Reading and Science were updated to reflect the most recent college coursework research.
### Table 3.1. Percent of Students in College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) Score Ranges

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<th>Student Group</th>
<th>CRS Range</th>
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<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Science</th>
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<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
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<td>4</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>28 to 32</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>1,451</td>
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<td>31</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>526</td>
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<td>01 to 12</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
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<td>28 to 32</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>404,868</td>
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<td>701,208</td>
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### Table 3.2. Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Gender

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<th>Science</th>
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<td>44</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>39</td>
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<td>No Response</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>68</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>35</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Females</td>
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<td>No Response</td>
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<td>44</td>
<td>43</td>
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<td>28</td>
</tr>
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<td>Females</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>24</td>
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<th>Reading Benchmark=22</th>
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<th>All Four Benchmark=26</th>
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<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>337,280</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>70</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>46</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>19</td>
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### Table 3.4. Progress Toward Career Readiness

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1. Progress reflects degree to which students are on track for attaining workplace employability skills critical to job success.
2. Additional information on the ACT NCRC (National Career Readiness Certificate) can be found at www.act.org.
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<th>Reading</th>
<th>Science</th>
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<td>Avg</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Avg</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Avg</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>19</td>
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<td>19.2</td>
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<td>Core or More</td>
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<td>17.7</td>
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<td>18.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 "Curriculum Taken" reflects overall high school curriculum in this table.
2 "Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.
3 Zero years or no coursework information reported in one or more content areas.
4 Composite College Readiness Benchmark % results reflect students who met all four subject-area benchmarks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Group</th>
<th>Curriculum Taken $^1$</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>STEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Avg</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Avg</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Avg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Core or More $^3$</td>
<td>6,231</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>6,250</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>21.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Less than Core</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Missing $^3$</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>Core or More</td>
<td>1,821,855</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>20.7</td>
<td>1,834,921</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Less than Core</td>
<td>121,175</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>101,097</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Missing $^3$</td>
<td>147,312</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>154,324</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 "Curriculum Taken" reflects content-specific curriculum in this table.
2 "Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English or three or more years of math, social studies, or natural science, respectively. For instance, Reading "Core or More" results correspond to students taking three or more years of social studies, regardless of courses taken in other content areas.
3 Zero years or no coursework information reported in the specified content area.
Table 3.7. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores by Common Course Patterns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Pattern</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, &amp; Other English</td>
<td>1,815</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12</td>
<td>4,416</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 4 years of English</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zero years / no English courses reported</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, &amp; Calc</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, &amp; Other Adv Math</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, &amp; Trig</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, &amp; Other Adv Math</td>
<td>1,364</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comb of 4 or more years of Math</td>
<td>2,264</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alg 1, Alg 2, &amp; Geom</td>
<td>1,094</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 3 years of Math</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zero years / no Math courses reported</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, &amp; Other Hist</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science</td>
<td>4,744</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Hist, World Hist, &amp; Am Gov</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science</td>
<td>1,459</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 3 years of Social Science</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zero years / no Social Science courses reported</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen Sci(^1), Bio, Chem, &amp; Phys</td>
<td>2,586</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bio, Chem, Phys</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen Sci(^1), Bio, Chem</td>
<td>3,005</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 3 years of Natural Science</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
\(^1\)Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.
### Table 3.8. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores for Gender by Common Course Patterns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Pattern</th>
<th>All Students</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, &amp; Other English</td>
<td>1,815</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>21.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12</td>
<td>4,416</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 4 years of English</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>19.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zero years / no English courses reported</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>16.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MATHMATICS COURSE PATTERN</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, &amp; Calc</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>24.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, &amp; Other Adv Math</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, &amp; Trig</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, &amp; Other Adv Math</td>
<td>1,364</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comb of 4 or more years of Math</td>
<td>2,264</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>23.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alg 1, Alg 2, &amp; Geom</td>
<td>1,094</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>20.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 3 years of Math</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zero years / no Math courses reported</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, &amp; Other Hist</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science</td>
<td>4,744</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>22.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Hist, World Hist, &amp; Am Gov</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science</td>
<td>1,459</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 3 years of Social Science</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zero years / no Social Science courses reported</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen Sci(^1), Bio, Chem, &amp; Phys</td>
<td>2,586</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>23.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bio, Chem, Phys</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen Sci(^2), Bio, Chem</td>
<td>3,005</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>21.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 3 years of Natural Science</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>19.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\)Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.
Beginning with the Graduating Class of 2013, all students whose scores are college reportable, both standard and extended time tests, are now included. Also beginning with the 2013 Graduating Class data, College Readiness Benchmarks for Reading and Science were updated to reflect the most recent college coursework research.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planned Educational Major</th>
<th>All Students</th>
<th>Plan on 2 Years or Less of College</th>
<th>Plan on 4 Years or More of College</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N (^1)</td>
<td>Percent (^2)</td>
<td>Avg ACT Comp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture &amp; Natural Resources Conservation</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>21.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area, Ethnic, &amp; Multidisciplinary Studies</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>22.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts: Visual &amp; Performing</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>21.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>22.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community, Family, &amp; Personal Services</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science &amp; Mathematics</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>23.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>21.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>24.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering Technology &amp; Drafting</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>21.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English &amp; Foreign Languages</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Administration &amp; Assisting</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Sciences &amp; Technologies</td>
<td>1,458</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy, Religion, &amp; Theology</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair, Production, &amp; Construction</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sciences: Biological &amp; Physical</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>24.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences &amp; Law</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>21.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undecided</td>
<td>1,372</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Response</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Year and 4-Year "N" counts do not reflect "Missing" and "Other" college plans, therefore they may not add up to the N count for All Students.

\(^2\) Percent of students tested within College Plan groups (All Students, 2-Year, 4-Year).
### Table 4.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Racial/Ethnic Groups by Post-Secondary Educational Aspirations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Degree Aspirations</th>
<th>All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined</th>
<th>Black/African American</th>
<th>American Indian/Alaska Native</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Hispanic/Latino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voc-Tech</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-yr College Degree</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>18.6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16.8</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
<td>3,796</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Study</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Level Degree</td>
<td>1,070</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Response</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Degree Aspirations</th>
<th>All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</th>
<th>Two or more races</th>
<th>Prefer not to respond/No Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voc-Tech</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-yr College Degree</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>18.6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
<td>3,796</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Study</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25.4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Level Degree</td>
<td>1,070</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Response</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 4.3. Students' Score Report Preferences at Time of Testing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>1st Choice</th>
<th>2nd-6th Choice</th>
<th>01-12</th>
<th>13-15</th>
<th>16-19</th>
<th>20-23</th>
<th>24-27</th>
<th>28-32</th>
<th>33-36</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY</td>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>2,042</td>
<td>968</td>
<td>1,074</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA</td>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>1,478</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY</td>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY</td>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH DAKOTA SCH OF MINES/TECH</td>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY</td>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUSTANA UNIVERSITY</td>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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Section V
Optional Writing Test Results

Beginning with the Graduating Class of 2013, all students whose scores are college reportable, both standard and extended time tests, are now included. Also beginning with the 2013 Graduating Class data, College Readiness Benchmarks for Reading and Science were updated to reflect the most recent college coursework research.
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<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Language Arts</th>
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1 Results based on students with ACT Writing scores from test events beginning September 2015. Score scale is 1-36.

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1 Results based on students with ACT Writing scores from test events before September 2015. Score scale is 2-12.