

The State of STEM in Your State – 2017



FLORIDA STATE REPORT

The average STEM score for Florida's graduating class of 2017 was **19.7**.

Percentage of all Florida ACT-tested HS Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks by Subject

	Math	Science	STEM
Met Benchmark	32%	29%	15%
Within 1-2 Points of Benchmark	7%	12%	9%

Florida College Readiness Benchmark Percentages by Race/Ethnicity

Race	Math	Science	STEM
2 or More Races	35%	33%	17%
White	46%	43%	23%
Pacific Islander	22%	17%	7%
Hispanic	27%	23%	11%
Asian	63%	51%	36%
Native American	23%	22%	7%
Black	10%	8%	3%

The data in this report represent all ACT-tested students in Florida's 2017 graduating class.

Tomorrow's STEM Workforce in Florida

60,232 Florida students, or 47%, had an interest in STEM, but only 19,868 (15%) had **both** an expressed interest (they plan to pursue a STEM major or career) and a measured interest (their ACT Interest Inventory score pointed to a STEM field).

Florida's future STEM educator pipeline may be in danger—only 160 students planned to enter math education, and only 80 science education.

FLORIDA STEM STUDENT PROFILE

Kiyannah Brooks

Lake Weir High School, *class of 2018*

In what grade did you first become interested in a STEM field?

Ninth Grade

What sparked your interest in STEM?

The complexity of STEM totally sparked my interest; STEM is not just engineering but medicine, architecture, farming, graphic design, and even business statistics. This means that STEM covers business areas that students like myself find interest in.



How do you picture your future, in higher education and career?

I picture myself pursuing a degree in Biomedical Engineering; losing close family members to cancer has sparked an initiative within myself to find a cure or less painful methods of treatment for patients suffering with the disease.

What challenges do STEM students face when following through with their interest in STEM fields?

High school students typically perceive math and sciences as the most rigorous courses in their curriculum. But with a pure interest in STEM, the material doesn't become a burden to learn, it becomes interesting.

ACT thanks STEMPremier for sharing student STEM profiles for this report.

