



Profile Report - State

Graduating Class 2017

South Dakota



New to your 2017 Profile Report

Though ACT will continue to report English, mathematics, reading, and science subject scores, beginning in September 2016, subscores such as rhetorical skills and arts/literature will be omitted. Instead, a comprehensive set of reporting categories aligned with ACT College and Career Readiness Standards and other standards that target college and career readiness will be included. This change will make it easier for students, parents, and educators to gain deeper insight into students' performance and better understand strengths and areas for improvement in each subject.

In this report, reporting category outcomes indicate the percentage of students with reporting category scores falling within associated ACT Readiness Ranges. These ranges reflect where a student who has met an associated ACT College Readiness Benchmark would typically perform in each reporting category.

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We are pleased to provide this 2017 Graduating Class ACT Profile Report. This report summarizes the preparation and performance of your 2017 graduates who took the ACT as sophomores, juniors, or seniors under standard- or extended-time conditions and achieved a college reportable composite score. The most recent set of test information is used in your report for students testing more than once.

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.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

The ACT is a curriculum-based measure of college readiness. ACT components include:

- Tests of academic achievement in English, math, reading, science, STEM, 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 and Career 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. College and Career 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.

College Course/Course Area	ACT Score	Benchmark Score
English Composition	English	18
Algebra	Mathematics	22
Social Sciences	Reading	22
Biology	Science	23
STEM	STEM	26

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: 6,698 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. 86% 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, 9% were college ready. 17% of the cohort reported taking a course sequence of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. 16% 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. 22% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 48% 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 and Career Readiness Standards score ranges. For example, approximately 40% 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 and Career Readiness Standards at www.act.org/content/act/en/education-and-career-planning/college-and-career-readiness-standards.html.

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 1.8 and 1.9 on page 10.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Figure 1.1. Average Composite Scores: 5 Years of Testing*



Figure 1.2. Percent Meeting 3 or 4 Benchmarks: 5 Years of Testing*

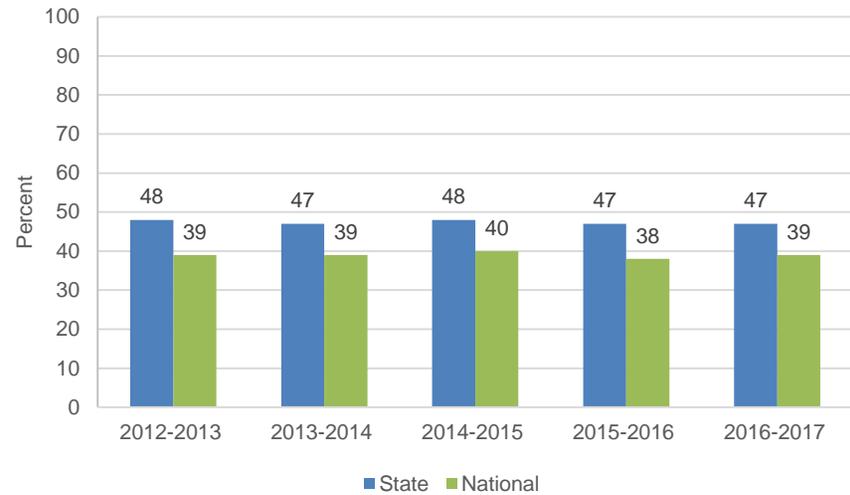


Figure 1.3. Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark: 5 Years of Testing*

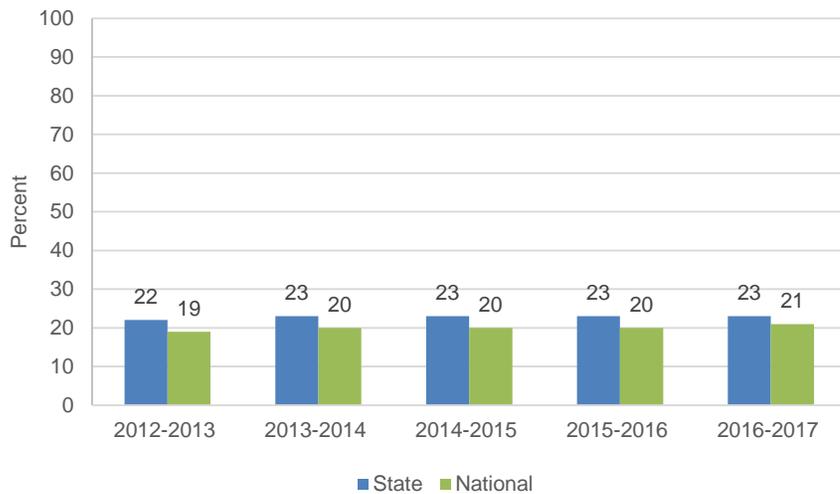
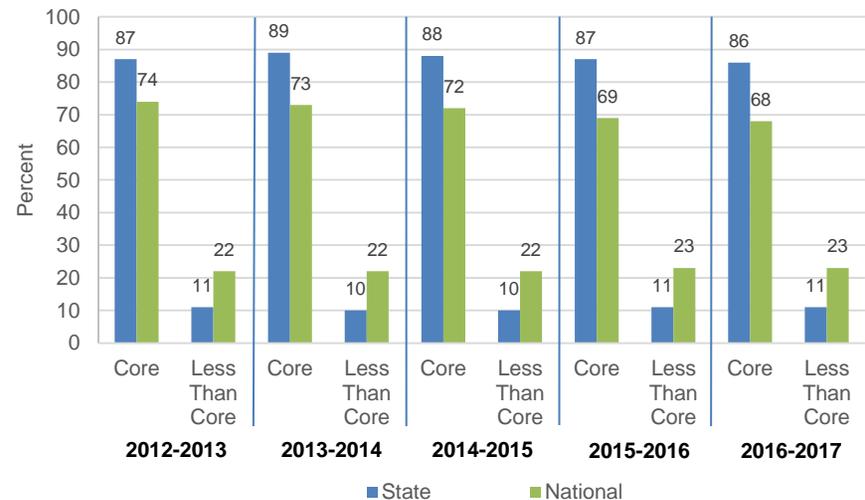


Figure 1.4. Percent Taking A Core Curriculum: 5 Years of Testing*



* Missing columns in above graphs reflect years in which no students were tested.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 1.1. Five Year Trends—Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmarks

Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent Who Met Benchmarks									
	State	National	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Met All Four	
			State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2013	6,723	1,799,243	72	64	53	44	52	44	46	36	32	26
2014	6,724	1,845,787	72	64	52	43	51	44	46	37	32	26
2015	6,615	1,924,436	70	64	51	42	54	46	46	38	33	28
2016	6,552	2,090,342	70	61	51	41	53	44	46	36	33	26
2017	6,698	2,030,038	68	61	49	41	54	47	46	37	33	27

Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores

Year	Number of Students Tested		Average ACT Scores									
	State	National	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
			State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2013	6,723	1,799,243	20.9	20.2	21.8	20.9	22.1	21.1	22.1	20.7	21.9	20.9
2014	6,724	1,845,787	21.0	20.3	21.8	20.9	22.3	21.3	22.1	20.8	21.9	21.0
2015	6,615	1,924,436	21.0	20.4	21.7	20.8	22.4	21.4	22.1	20.9	21.9	21.0
2016	6,552	2,090,342	20.9	20.1	21.7	20.6	22.4	21.3	22.2	20.8	21.9	20.8
2017	6,698	2,030,038	20.7	20.3	21.5	20.7	22.3	21.4	22.0	21.0	21.8	21.0

Table 1.3. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores Nationwide

Year	Number of Students Tested	Average ACT Scores				
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
2013	1,799,243	20.2	20.9	21.1	20.7	20.9
2014	1,845,787	20.3	20.9	21.3	20.8	21.0
2015	1,924,436	20.4	20.8	21.4	20.9	21.0
2016	2,090,342	20.1	20.6	21.3	20.8	20.8
2017	2,030,038	20.3	20.7	21.4	21.0	21.0

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 1.4. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores by Level of Preparation

Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent ²		Average ACT Scores									
	Core or More ¹	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
					Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core
2013	5,877	761	87	11	21.4	18.0	22.2	19.2	22.5	19.7	22.4	19.6	22.3	19.2
2014	5,952	688	89	10	21.3	18.4	22.2	19.3	22.6	20.2	22.4	19.9	22.3	19.6
2015	5,835	687	88	10	21.5	18.1	22.1	19.2	22.8	19.7	22.4	19.6	22.3	19.3
2016	5,714	729	87	11	21.4	18.0	22.1	19.0	22.8	19.9	22.5	19.8	22.3	19.3
2017	5,769	757	86	11	21.3	17.8	22.0	19.1	22.8	19.7	22.5	19.7	22.3	19.2

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

Race/Ethnicity	2013			2014			2015			2016			2017		
	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
All Students	6,723	100	21.9	6,724	100	21.9	6,615	100	21.9	6,552	100	21.9	6,698	100	21.8
Black/African American	84	1	17.6	81	1	17.0	88	1	18.1	96	1	18.4	120	2	18.0
American Indian/Alaska Native	414	6	17.0	439	7	16.9	423	6	16.7	458	7	16.5	509	8	16.4
White	5,502	82	22.4	5,468	81	22.5	5,376	81	22.5	5,179	79	22.6	5,249	78	22.6
Hispanic/Latino	195	3	20.4	200	3	19.8	224	3	20.2	230	4	20.1	232	3	20.0
Asian	103	2	20.3	80	1	22.2	68	1	21.5	109	2	21.2	97	1	21.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	9	0	18.7	5	0	17.6	5	0	15.6	8	0	19.3	3	0	14.0
Two or more races	260	4	21.1	278	4	20.7	272	4	21.1	293	4	20.6	294	4	20.6
Prefer not to respond/No response	156	2	22.1	173	3	22.9	159	2	22.3	179	3	22.1	194	3	21.3

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 1.6. Five Year Trends—Achievement in STEM¹

Year	All Tested Students						Students Meeting STEM Benchmarks			
	Number of Students Tested		Avg. STEM Score		Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark		Avg. Mathematics Score		Avg. Science Score	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2013	6,723	1,799,243	22.2	21.1	22	19	28.0	28.7	27.9	28.0
2014	6,724	1,845,787	22.2	21.1	23	20	28.1	28.7	28.0	28.3
2015	6,615	1,924,436	22.2	21.1	23	20	28.0	28.7	28.1	28.4
2016	6,552	2,090,342	22.2	20.9	23	20	27.9	28.7	28.3	28.6
2017	6,698	2,030,038	22.0	21.1	23	21	27.9	28.7	28.2	28.7

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

Table 1.7. Proficiency In Understanding Complex Texts¹

Year	Text Complexity Proficiency Level																	
	Below Proficient						Proficient						Above Proficient					
	N		Percent		Avg. Reading		N		Percent		Avg. Reading		N		Percent		Avg. Reading	
State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	
2013	0	0	.	.	.	.	0	0	.	.	.	.	0	0	.	.	.	.
2014	0	0	.	.	.	.	0	0	.	.	.	.	0	0	.	.	.	.
2015	0	0	.	.	.	.	0	0	.	.	.	.	0	0	.	.	.	.
2016	2,152	485,762	33	23	17.5	17.0	1,527	322,548	23	15	23.5	23.6	920	235,380	14	11	29.6	30.3
2017	2,879	999,708	43	49	17.3	16.2	2,351	596,096	35	29	23.5	23.4	1,442	427,075	22	21	30.3	30.8

¹The text complexity indicator, beginning in Fall 2015, represents students' progress toward understanding complex written material often encountered in college and careers.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 1.8. Average ACT College Reportable Scores by Test Session Duration

Student Group	Test Session Duration	N	Percent	Average ACT Scores				
				English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
State	Standard Time	6,583	98	20.8	21.6	22.3	22.1	21.8
	Extended Time	115	2	16.6	18.0	19.2	19.0	18.3
	Total	6,698	100	20.7	21.5	22.3	22.0	21.8
National	Standard Time	1,927,386	95	20.5	20.8	21.5	21.1	21.1
	Extended Time	102,652	5	17.5	18.5	19.5	18.9	18.7
	Total	2,030,038	100	20.3	20.7	21.4	21.0	21.0

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

Student Group	Test Session Duration	Percent of Students				Met All Four
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	
State	Standard Time	68	50	54	46	33
	Extended Time	40	22	33	29	17
	Total	68	49	54	46	33
National	Standard Time	63	41	48	38	28
	Extended Time	42	25	36	26	19
	Total	61	41	47	37	27

Section II

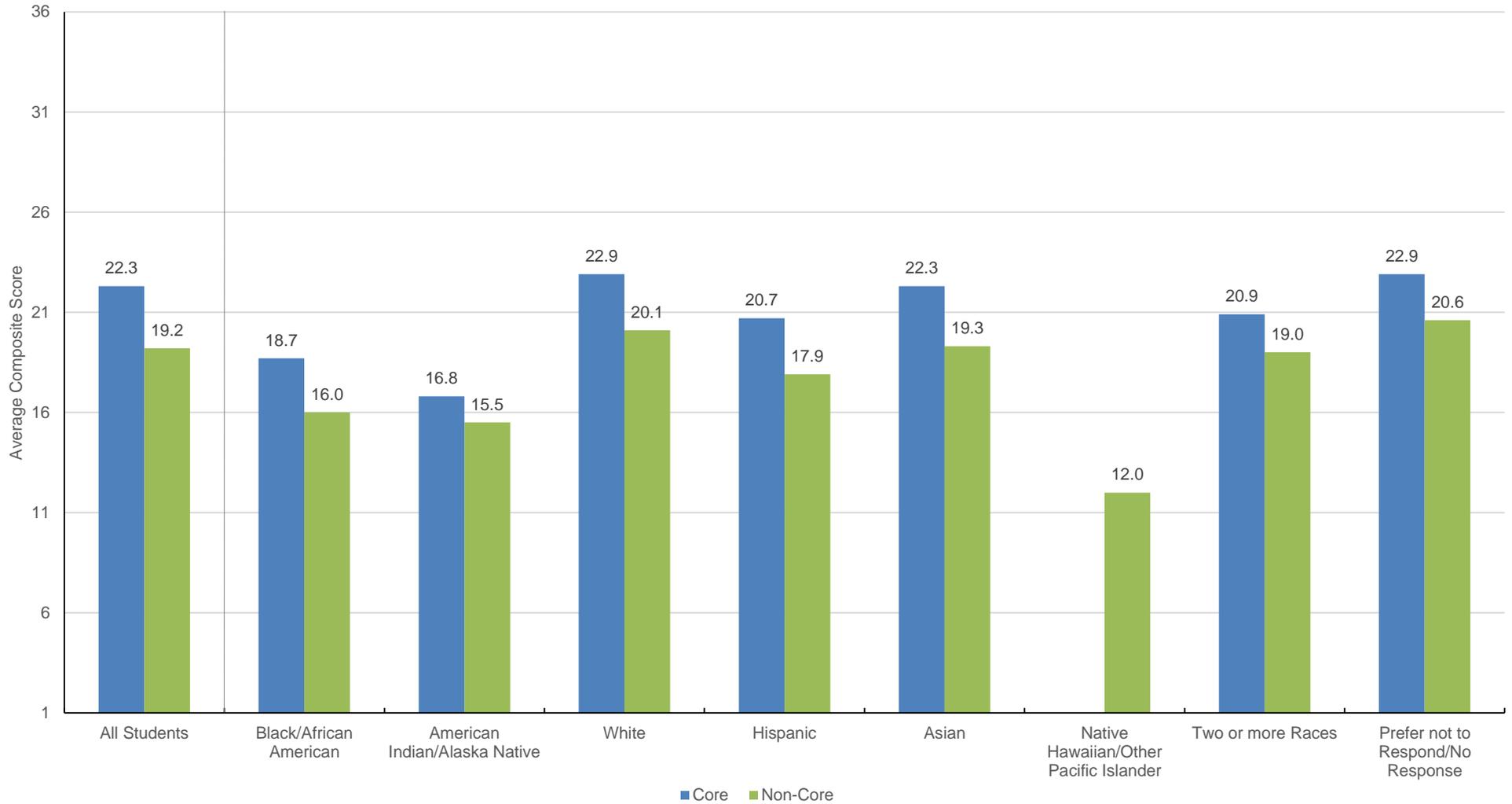
Academic Achievement

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.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Figure 2.1. Average ACT Composite Scores by Race and Core Curriculum Status*



*Missing columns reflect combinations of race/ethnicity and core course-taking status in which one or both indicators are missing.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 2.1. ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percents (CP¹), and Score Averages

ACT Score	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite		STEM		ACT Score
	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	
36	28	100	7	100	45	100	26	100	4	100	8	100	36
35	93	99	17	99	66	99	40	99	15	99	14	99	35
34	81	98	29	99	106	98	61	99	33	99	31	99	34
33	90	97	50	99	139	97	85	98	52	99	49	99	33
32	63	96	63	98	202	95	42	97	72	98	74	98	32
31	83	95	64	98	215	92	103	96	114	97	94	97	31
30	146	93	120	97	190	88	110	95	154	96	129	96	30
29	130	91	146	95	221	86	152	93	188	93	174	94	29
28	107	89	237	93	227	82	181	91	259	91	246	91	28
27	231	88	448	89	209	79	238	88	300	87	305	88	27
26	238	84	422	82	241	76	358	85	334	82	412	83	26
25	366	81	453	76	265	72	438	79	397	77	490	77	25
24	398	75	497	69	414	68	680	73	533	71	530	70	24
23	459	69	413	62	464	62	566	62	411	63	502	62	23
22	424	62	332	56	613	55	612	54	477	57	480	54	22
21	503	56	344	51	361	46	489	45	538	50	505	47	21
20	454	49	332	46	424	41	507	38	465	42	480	40	20
19	332	42	446	41	450	34	426	30	491	35	481	32	19
18	321	37	469	34	341	28	441	24	500	28	494	25	18
17	322	32	585	27	328	22	312	17	387	20	426	18	17
16	409	27	563	18	297	18	261	12	332	15	324	12	16
15	419	21	372	10	278	13	183	9	238	10	220	7	15
14	280	15	204	4	217	9	158	6	197	6	145	3	14
13	199	11	59	1	163	6	97	3	132	3	57	1	13
12	183	8	22	1	115	3	58	2	61	1	19	1	12
11	165	5	4	1	62	2	35	1	12	1	7	1	11
10	103	3	0	1	22	1	24	1	2	1	2	1	10
9	48	1	0	1	12	1	10	1	0	1	0	1	9
8	17	1	0	1	8	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	8
7	4	1	0	1	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	7
6	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	6
5	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	5
4	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	4
3	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	20.7 (5.9)		21.5 (4.9)		22.3 (5.9)		22.0 (4.8)		21.8 (4.8)		22.0 (4.6)		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.

Figure 2.2. English Reporting Categories¹

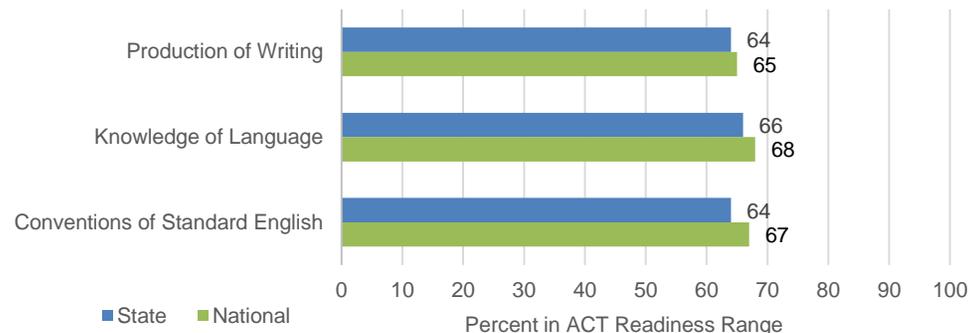


Figure 2.3. Math Reporting Categories¹

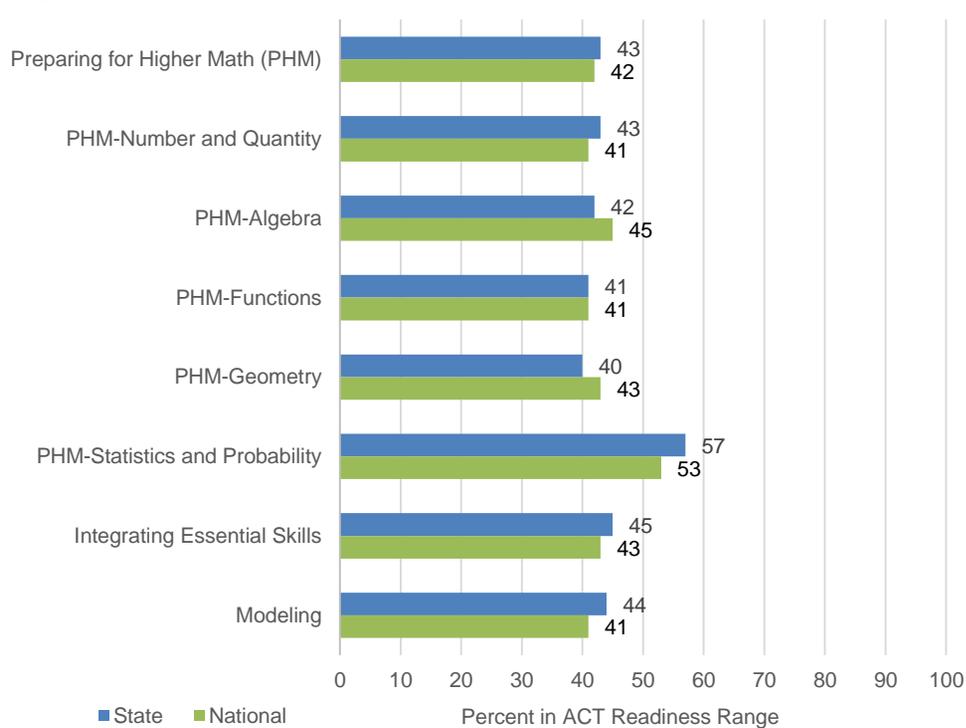


Figure 2.4. Reading Reporting Categories¹

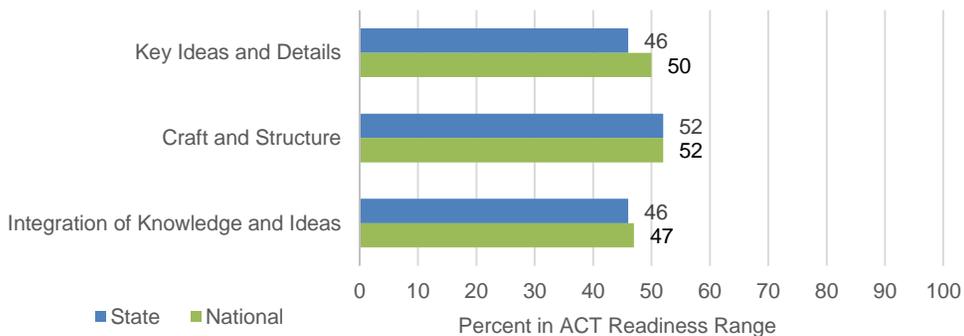
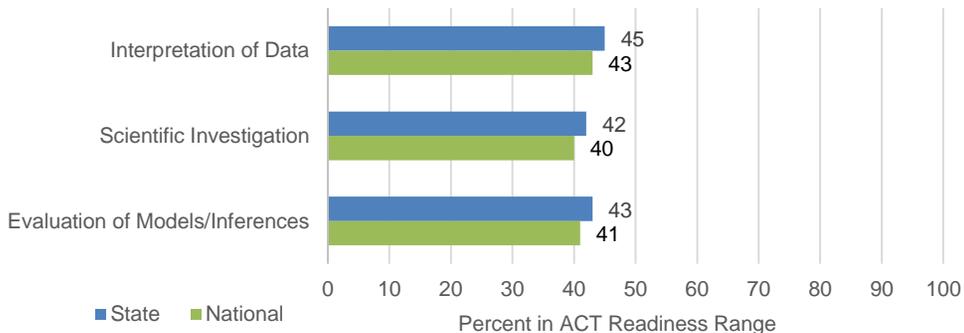


Figure 2.5. Science Reporting Categories¹



The charts on this page show the percent of students whose reporting category scores fall within associated ACT Readiness Ranges. ACT Readiness Ranges reflect where a student who has met a particular subject area's ACT College Readiness Benchmark would typically perform within the associated reporting category.

¹Reporting Categories are reported only for testing events beginning September 2016.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 2.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Race/Ethnicity by Level of Preparation

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More ¹	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
State	All Students	6,698	86	22.3	19.2
	Black/African American	120	76	18.7	16.0
	American Indian/Alaska Native	509	71	16.8	15.5
	White	5,249	89	22.9	20.1
	Hispanic/Latino	232	79	20.7	17.9
	Asian	97	81	22.3	19.3
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	3	0	.	12.0
	Two or More Races	294	85	20.9	19.0
	Prefer not/No Response	194	67	22.9	20.6
National	All Students	2,030,038	68	22.1	18.9
	Black/African American	256,756	63	17.9	16.0
	American Indian/Alaska Native	16,135	54	18.7	16.4
	White	1,062,439	72	23.4	20.2
	Hispanic/Latino	347,906	66	19.8	17.4
	Asian	96,097	78	25.0	22.5
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	6,503	58	20.0	16.5
	Two or More Races	86,119	68	22.2	19.3
	Prefer not/No Response	158,083	46	22.6	18.3

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 2.3. Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	N	Percent	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite	STEM
State	All Students	6,698	100	20.7	21.5	22.3	22.0	21.8	22.0
	Black/African American	120	2	16.3	18.1	18.2	18.8	18.0	18.7
	American Indian/Alaska Native	509	8	14.5	16.6	17.2	16.7	16.4	16.9
	White	5,249	78	21.6	22.3	23.0	22.8	22.6	22.8
	Hispanic/Latino	232	3	18.9	19.7	20.7	20.4	20.0	20.3
	Asian	97	1	19.9	23.4	21.0	21.9	21.7	22.9
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	3	0	12.0	14.7	15.7	13.3	14.0	14.3
	Two or More Races	294	4	19.5	20.3	21.4	20.8	20.6	20.8
	Prefer not/No Response	194	3	20.3	20.7	22.1	21.6	21.3	21.4
National	All Students	2,030,038	100	20.3	20.7	21.4	21.0	21.0	21.1
	Black/African American	256,756	13	16.0	17.1	17.4	17.4	17.1	17.5
	American Indian/Alaska Native	16,135	1	16.1	17.6	18.0	18.0	17.5	18.0
	White	1,062,439	52	22.1	21.9	23.0	22.3	22.4	22.3
	Hispanic/Latino	347,906	17	17.7	18.9	19.3	19.1	18.9	19.2
	Asian	96,097	5	23.7	25.2	23.9	24.0	24.3	24.9
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	6,503	0	17.2	18.6	18.6	18.7	18.4	18.9
	Two or More Races	86,119	4	20.6	20.7	21.9	21.2	21.2	21.2
	Prefer not/No Response	158,083	8	19.5	20.1	20.8	20.3	20.3	20.5

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 2.4. Average ACT Composite Scores for Gender by Level of Preparation

Student Group	Gender	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More ¹	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
State	Males	3,125	85	22.6	19.2
	Females	3,572	87	22.0	19.2
	No Response	1	100	12.0	.
National	Males	939,730	66	22.3	18.7
	Females	1,047,170	71	21.9	19.3
	No Response	43,138	27	19.0	16.5

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 Gender

Student Group	Gender	N	Percent	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite	STEM
State	Males	3,125	47	20.4	22.2	22.3	22.6	22.0	22.6
	Females	3,572	53	21.1	21.0	22.2	21.5	21.6	21.5
	No Response	1	0	10.0	13.0	15.0	10.0	12.0	12.0
National	Males	939,730	46	19.9	21.2	21.2	21.3	21.0	21.5
	Females	1,047,170	52	20.8	20.4	21.8	20.8	21.1	20.8
	No Response	43,138	2	16.4	17.8	17.9	18.1	17.7	18.2

Table 2.6. ACT Score Quartile Values

Quartile	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
Q3 (75th Percentile)	24	25	26	25	25
Q2 (50th Percentile)	21	21	22	22	21
Q1 (25th Percentile)	16	17	18	19	18

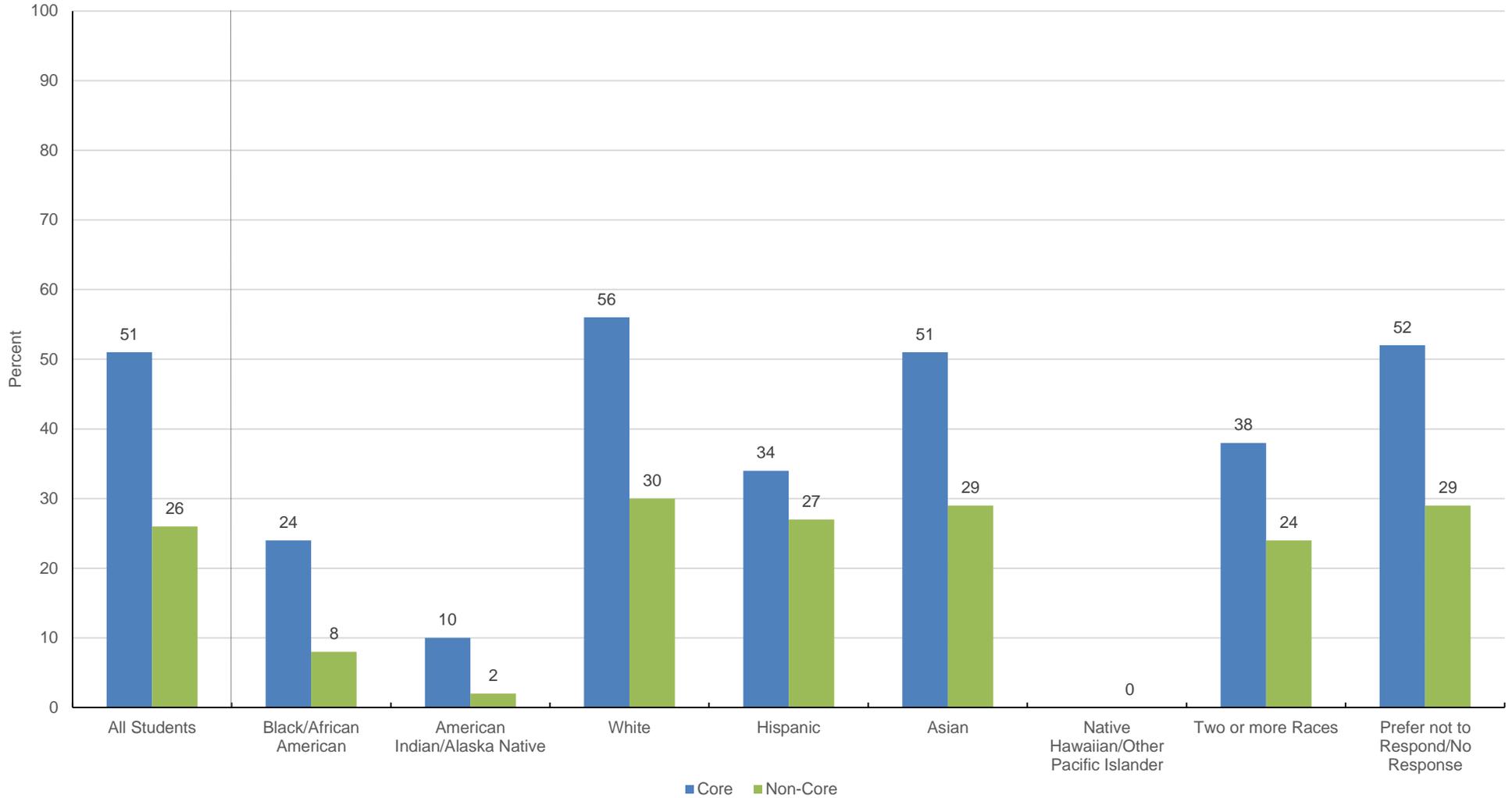
Section III

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.

Figure 3.1. Percent of Students Meeting 3 or 4 College Readiness Benchmarks by Core College Curriculum Status*



*Missing columns reflect combinations of race/ethnicity and core course-taking status in which one or both indicators are missing.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 3.1. Percent of Students in College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) Score Ranges

Student Group	CCRS Range	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
State	33 to 36	292	4	103	2	356	5	212	3
	28 to 32	529	8	630	9	1,055	16	588	9
	24 to 27	1,233	18	1,820	27	1,129	17	1,714	26
	20 to 23	1,840	27	1,421	21	1,862	28	2,174	32
	16 to 19	1,384	21	2,063	31	1,416	21	1,440	21
	13 to 15	898	13	635	9	658	10	438	7
	01 to 12	522	8	26	0	222	3	132	2
National	33 to 36	136,676	7	61,071	3	141,382	7	79,636	4
	28 to 32	180,218	9	192,088	9	276,868	14	159,638	8
	24 to 27	304,755	15	404,500	20	287,704	14	371,660	18
	20 to 23	454,612	22	329,804	16	472,133	23	580,793	29
	16 to 19	372,731	18	686,547	34	426,969	21	513,876	25
	13 to 15	307,497	15	332,337	16	274,775	14	227,206	11
	01 to 12	273,549	13	23,691	1	150,207	7	97,229	5

Table 3.2. Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Gender

Student Group	Gender	Percent of Students				Met All Four
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	
State	Males	66	54	55	51	36
	Females	70	45	53	42	30
	No Response	0	0	0	0	0
National	Males	59	44	46	40	29
	Females	65	39	49	35	26
	No Response	37	19	24	18	10

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 3.3. Percent of Students Who Met ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	N	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	All Four	STEM
			Benchmark=18 %	Benchmark=22 %	Benchmark=22 %	Benchmark=23 %		Benchmark=26 %
State	All Students	6,698	68	49	54	46	33	23
	Black/African American	120	38	21	25	17	8	5
	American Indian/Alaska Native	509	18	8	17	8	4	2
	White	5,249	75	55	59	52	37	26
	Hispanic/Latino	232	57	34	44	31	22	16
	Asian	97	60	57	44	48	33	31
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl	3	33	0	0	0	0	0
	Two or More Races	294	61	36	49	38	24	15
	Prefer Not to Respond	194	62	41	53	38	29	23
National	All Students	2,030,038	61	41	47	37	27	21
	Black/African American	256,756	33	13	20	11	6	4
	American Indian/Alaska Native	16,135	34	16	25	15	8	5
	White	1,062,439	74	51	58	47	35	26
	Hispanic/Latino	347,906	46	26	33	22	14	10
	Asian	96,097	76	70	62	58	48	46
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl	6,503	43	26	29	21	15	11
	Two or More Races	86,119	64	40	50	38	27	20
	Prefer Not to Respond	158,083	54	36	42	34	25	20

Table 3.4. Likely ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) Level Based Upon ACT Composite Score¹

Student Group	ACT NCRC Level ²	N		Average
			%	Composite
State	Gold or Higher	1,922	29	27.8
	Silver	3,802	57	20.6
	Bronze	899	13	14.9
	Needs Improvement	75	1	11.8
National	Gold or Higher	538,392	27	28.5
	Silver	984,772	49	20.3
	Bronze	440,158	22	14.7
	Needs Improvement	66,716	3	11.5

¹ The ACT Composite scores associated with a 50% chance of earning each ACT NCRC level or higher are: 13 for Bronze, 17 for Silver, 25 for Gold, and 35 for Platinum. Based on those cut scores, students who earned an ACT Composite score of less than 13 would be classified as 'Needs Improvement', 13 to 16 as 'Bronze', 17 to 24 as 'Silver', and 25 or above as 'Gold or Higher' in the table above. For comparison, individual student score reports classify those who scored 12-13, 14-17, and 18 and higher as making progress toward Bronze, Silver, and Gold certificates.

² Additional information on the ACT NCRC can be found at www.act.org.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 3.5. College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Overall High School Curriculum

Student Group	Curriculum Taken ¹	N	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite ⁴		STEM	
			%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg
State	Core or More ²	5,769	72	21.3	53	22.0	57	22.8	49	22.5	36	22.3	25	22.5
	Less than Core	757	46	17.8	26	19.1	34	19.7	26	19.7	15	19.2	11	19.7
	Missing ³	172	28	15.3	14	17.1	25	17.8	18	17.5	10	17.1	6	17.6
National	Core or More	1,376,479	70	21.6	48	21.7	54	22.6	44	21.9	33	22.1	25	22.1
	Less than Core	464,989	46	17.9	26	18.8	33	19.3	24	19.1	16	18.9	11	19.2
	Missing	188,570	37	16.5	20	17.9	27	18.2	20	18.3	12	17.9	9	18.3

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 3.6. College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Content-Specific Curriculum

Student Group	Curriculum Taken ¹	English			Mathematics			Reading			Science		
		N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
State	Core or More ²	6,325	69	21.0	6,329	51	21.8	6,408	55	22.4	6,178	48	22.3
	Less than Core	213	55	18.6	203	9	16.9	128	44	20.7	357	22	19.2
	Missing ³	160	29	15.3	166	14	17.1	162	25	17.8	163	19	17.5
National	Core or More	1,749,083	65	20.9	1,754,759	44	21.2	1,634,115	51	22.0	1,601,572	42	21.7
	Less than Core	109,158	34	15.9	96,952	8	16.3	218,140	34	19.5	248,948	17	18.2
	Missing	171,797	39	16.7	178,327	21	18.0	177,783	28	18.3	179,518	20	18.4

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.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 3.7. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores by Common Course Patterns

Course Pattern	State				National			
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Who Met Benchmark
ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN								
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	1,868	28	21.9	74	372,397	18	22.0	72
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	4,457	67	20.6	67	1,376,686	68	20.6	64
Less than 4 years of English	213	3	18.6	55	109,158	5	15.9	34
Zero years / no English courses reported	160	2	15.3	29	171,797	8	16.7	39
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN								
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Math	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Math	Percent Who Met Benchmark
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	291	4	24.0	71	117,096	6	23.2	62
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	417	6	22.6	61	152,416	8	21.5	51
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	342	5	20.8	44	113,080	6	18.9	26
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,361	20	21.5	52	364,399	18	19.3	29
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	2,332	35	23.9	69	684,625	34	23.8	64
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	1,171	17	18.0	16	217,043	11	16.9	10
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	415	6	20.0	35	106,100	5	19.6	32
Less than 3 years of Math	203	3	16.9	9	96,952	5	16.3	8
Zero years / no Math courses reported	166	2	17.1	14	178,327	9	18.0	21
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Reading	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Reading	Percent Who Met Benchmark
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	28	0	20.0	39	52,959	3	22.1	51
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	4,908	73	22.7	58	934,153	46	22.6	55
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	90	1	19.2	33	120,831	6	19.7	35
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	1,382	21	21.6	47	526,172	26	21.6	48
Less than 3 years of Social Science	128	2	20.7	44	218,140	11	19.5	34
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	162	2	17.8	25	177,783	9	18.3	28
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Science	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Science	Percent Who Met Benchmark
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,727	41	23.1	55	809,286	40	22.4	48
Bio, Chem, Phys	286	4	25.7	74	225,060	11	23.2	53
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem	2,901	43	21.4	40	513,247	25	20.2	30
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	264	4	20.9	34	53,979	3	19.1	24
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	357	5	19.2	22	248,948	12	18.2	17
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	163	2	17.5	19	179,518	9	18.4	20

¹Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 3.8. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores for Gender by Common Course Patterns

Course Pattern	All Students				Males				Females			
	N	Percent	ACT English	% Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent	ACT English	% Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent	ACT English	% Who Met Benchmark
ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN												
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	1,868	28	21.9	74	791	25	21.6	74	1,077	30	22.0	75
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	4,457	67	20.6	67	2,134	68	20.2	65	2,322	65	20.9	69
Less than 4 years of English	213	3	18.6	55	114	4	18.2	54	99	3	19.0	56
Zero years / no English courses reported	160	2	15.3	29	86	3	14.9	27	74	2	15.7	31
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	291	4	24.0	71	134	4	24.7	74	157	4	23.5	68
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	417	6	22.6	61	165	5	23.2	67	252	7	22.2	57
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	342	5	20.8	44	161	5	21.0	47	180	5	20.7	43
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,361	20	21.5	52	522	17	22.3	60	839	23	21.1	46
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	2,332	35	23.9	69	1,190	38	24.6	74	1,142	32	23.2	64
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	1,171	17	18.0	16	539	17	18.6	20	632	18	17.6	13
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	415	6	20.0	35	228	7	20.3	37	187	5	19.6	32
Less than 3 years of Math	203	3	16.9	9	96	3	17.0	8	107	3	16.9	9
Zero years / no Math courses reported	166	2	17.1	14	90	3	17.7	18	76	2	16.3	9
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	28	0	20.0	39	19	1	20.3	47	9	0	19.4	22
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	4,908	73	22.7	58	2,251	72	22.8	59	2,657	74	22.7	57
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	90	1	19.2	33	40	1	18.9	33	50	1	19.5	34
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	1,382	21	21.6	47	664	21	21.7	48	717	20	21.6	45
Less than 3 years of Social Science	128	2	20.7	44	65	2	20.8	48	63	2	20.5	40
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	162	2	17.8	25	86	3	17.8	22	76	2	17.8	28
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,727	41	23.1	55	1,421	45	23.9	61	1,306	37	22.2	48
Bio, Chem, Phys	286	4	25.7	74	140	4	26.7	80	146	4	24.7	68
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem	2,901	43	21.4	40	1,135	36	21.7	43	1,765	49	21.2	39
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	264	4	20.9	34	162	5	21.2	36	102	3	20.5	29
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	357	5	19.2	22	180	6	19.4	22	177	5	19.0	22
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	163	2	17.5	19	87	3	18.1	23	76	2	16.8	14

¹Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

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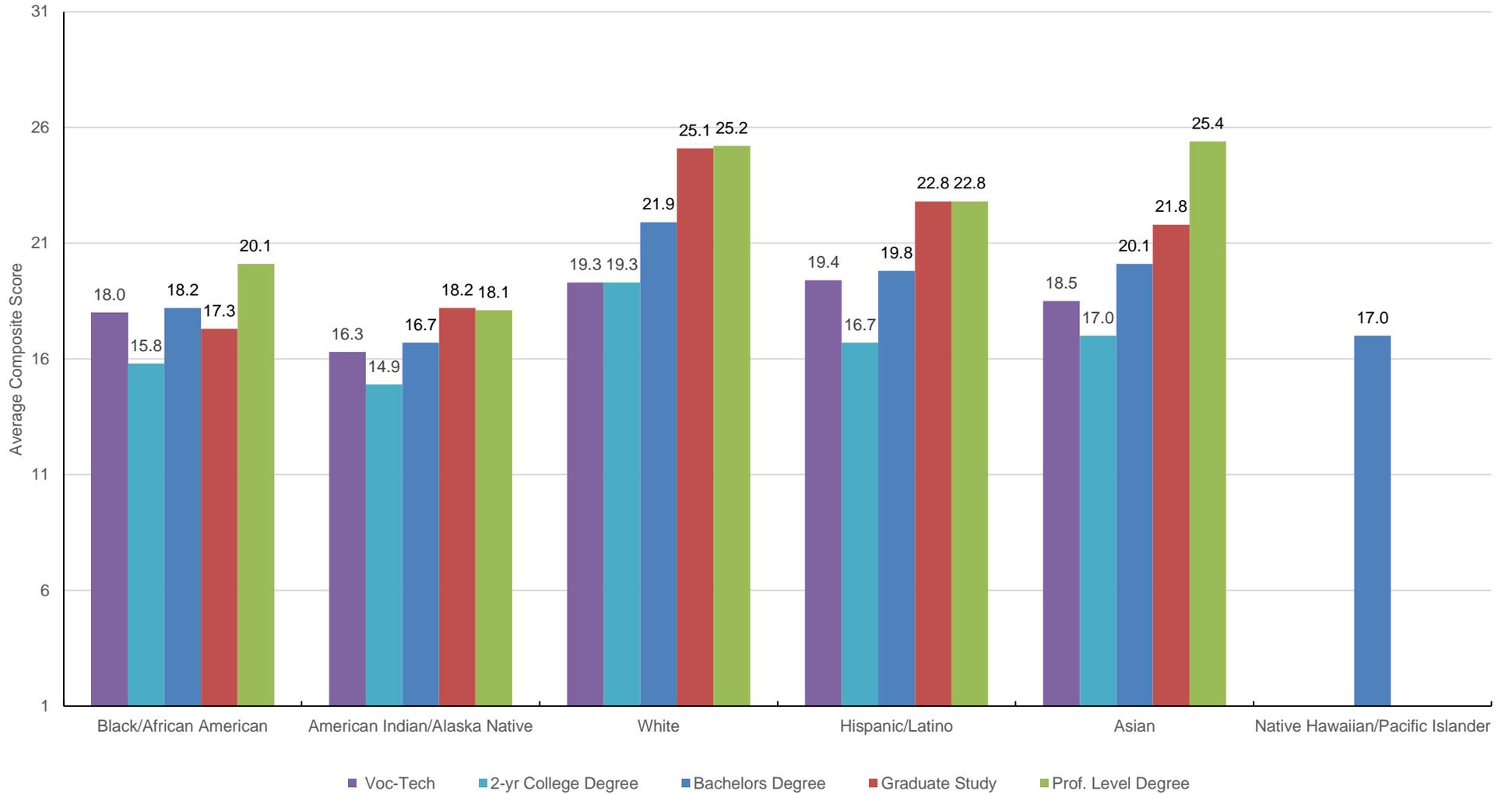
Section IV

Career and Educational Aspirations

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.

Figure 4.1. Average ACT Composite Scores by Race and Student Postsecondary Aspirations*



*Missing columns reflect combinations of race/ethnicity and postsecondary aspiration in which one or both indicators are missing.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 4.1. Distribution of Planned Educational Majors for All Students by College Plans

Planned Educational Major	All Students			Plan on 2 Years or Less of College			Plan on 4 Years or More of College		
	N ¹	Percent ²	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent	Avg ACT Comp
Agriculture & Natural Resources Conservation	321	5	20.5	77	12	19.2	228	4	21.2
Architecture	73	1	22.0	7	1	20.0	65	1	22.4
Area, Ethnic, & Multidisciplinary Studies	7	0	23.4	1	0	17.0	6	0	24.5
Arts: Visual & Performing	297	4	21.3	30	5	18.0	245	4	21.8
Business	438	7	20.8	51	8	17.9	375	7	21.3
Communications	46	1	21.5	5	1	20.8	40	1	21.6
Community, Family, & Personal Services	139	2	19.4	26	4	18.6	100	2	19.8
Computer Science & Mathematics	240	4	24.0	17	3	20.4	218	4	24.4
Education	419	6	21.0	17	3	16.4	387	7	21.3
Engineering	391	6	24.7	17	3	19.1	365	7	25.1
Engineering Technology & Drafting	75	1	21.2	12	2	17.9	62	1	22.0
English & Foreign Languages	63	1	23.5	0	0	.	62	1	23.3
Health Administration & Assisting	201	3	19.5	24	4	18.6	167	3	19.9
Health Sciences & Technologies	1,363	20	22.2	86	13	18.5	1,243	22	22.5
Philosophy, Religion, & Theology	42	1	21.6	3	0	22.0	35	1	21.3
Repair, Production, & Construction	156	2	19.0	116	18	19.0	31	1	19.3
Sciences: Biological & Physical	454	7	24.2	12	2	17.7	436	8	24.4
Social Sciences & Law	369	6	21.9	22	3	17.5	331	6	22.3
Undecided	1,459	22	21.6	132	20	18.6	1,133	20	22.3
No Response	145	2	16.9	1	0	19.0	13	0	18.8

¹2-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.

²Percent of students tested within College Plan groups (All Students, 2-Year, 4-Year).

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 4.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Racial/Ethnic Groups by Post-Secondary Educational Aspirations

Educational Degree Aspirations	All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined		Black/African American		American Indian/ Alaska Native		White		Hispanic/Latino	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	206	18.8	1	18.0	24	16.3	162	19.3	8	19.4
2-yr College Degree	450	18.6	4	15.8	49	14.9	350	19.3	16	16.7
Bachelors Degree	3,801	21.4	71	18.2	207	16.7	3,119	21.9	133	19.8
Graduate Study	618	24.6	8	17.3	20	18.2	517	25.1	22	22.8
Prof. Level Degree	1,123	24.7	19	20.1	49	18.1	902	25.2	34	22.8
Other	85	18.5	0	.	12	14.8	54	20.2	6	14.8
No Response	415	18.8	17	15.9	148	15.7	145	22.5	13	17.5

Educational Degree Aspirations	All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined		Asian		Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander		Two or more races		Prefer not to respond/ No Response	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	206	18.8	2	18.5	0	.	6	15.5	3	16.7
2-yr College Degree	450	18.6	4	17.0	0	.	22	16.7	5	18.6
Bachelors Degree	3,801	21.4	44	20.1	1	17.0	171	20.1	55	21.8
Graduate Study	618	24.6	9	21.8	0	.	23	23.5	19	24.8
Prof. Level Degree	1,123	24.7	30	25.4	0	.	52	23.8	37	26.1
Other	85	18.5	3	17.0	0	.	5	18.2	5	14.4
No Response	415	18.8	5	20.8	2	12.5	15	19.5	70	18.3

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 4.3. Students' Score Report Preferences at Time of Testing

Name	State	Number of Students			Percent of Students in College Readiness Standards Ranges						
		Total	1st Choice	2nd-6th Choice	01-12	13-15	16-19	20-23	24-27	28-32	33-36
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	2,102	990	1,112	1	5	22	32	28	11	1
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA	South Dakota	1,446	466	980	1	5	22	31	29	12	1
BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	630	268	362	2	13	29	30	20	6	0
AUGUSTANA UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	438	139	299	0	4	13	31	32	18	2
NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	426	153	273	0	8	27	33	22	10	0
SOUTH DAKOTA SCH OF MINES/TECH	South Dakota	399	199	200	0	2	10	22	32	30	5
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES	Minnesota	397	130	267	0	2	7	18	39	29	4
UNIVERSITY OF SIOUX FALLS	South Dakota	396	84	312	1	5	26	34	25	9	0
LAKE AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	369	192	177	1	11	45	30	12	1	0
DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	351	156	195	1	5	23	31	25	13	1
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT LINCOLN	Nebraska	300	68	232	0	2	9	26	37	23	3
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	North Dakota	257	60	197	0	5	18	28	33	15	1
SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	246	81	165	0	14	41	28	12	4	0
DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	244	81	163	0	9	29	34	23	5	0
MITCHELL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	235	87	148	2	14	39	31	13	1	0
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO	Minnesota	170	30	140	0	2	22	32	31	12	0
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	114	49	65	0	1	26	30	32	11	1
WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	112	33	79	4	30	39	16	7	3	0
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	Iowa	106	19	87	0	2	7	18	43	26	4
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-MORRIS	Minnesota	96	20	76	6	17	31	19	10	14	3
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA	North Dakota	89	23	66	0	4	13	24	34	25	0
CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY	Nebraska	86	26	60	0	1	12	16	35	31	5
MOUNT MARTY COLLEGE	South Dakota	84	21	63	0	6	19	35	26	14	0
CHADRON STATE COLLEGE	Nebraska	80	22	58	3	15	44	24	14	1	0
HASKELL INDIAN NATIONS UNIVERSITY	Kansas	80	47	33	11	49	35	4	0	1	0
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA	Iowa	74	12	62	0	3	14	23	39	19	3
NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE	Iowa	68	19	49	0	0	15	24	34	24	4
SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	Minnesota	68	13	55	0	4	25	32	28	10	0
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MOORHEAD	Minnesota	65	19	46	0	2	25	31	26	15	2
FORT LEWIS COLLEGE	Colorado	64	22	42	13	38	39	8	2	2	0
All Other Institutions		3,109	837	2,272	1	7	20	21	27	20	4
Total		12,701	4,366	8,335	1	7	22	27	26	14	2

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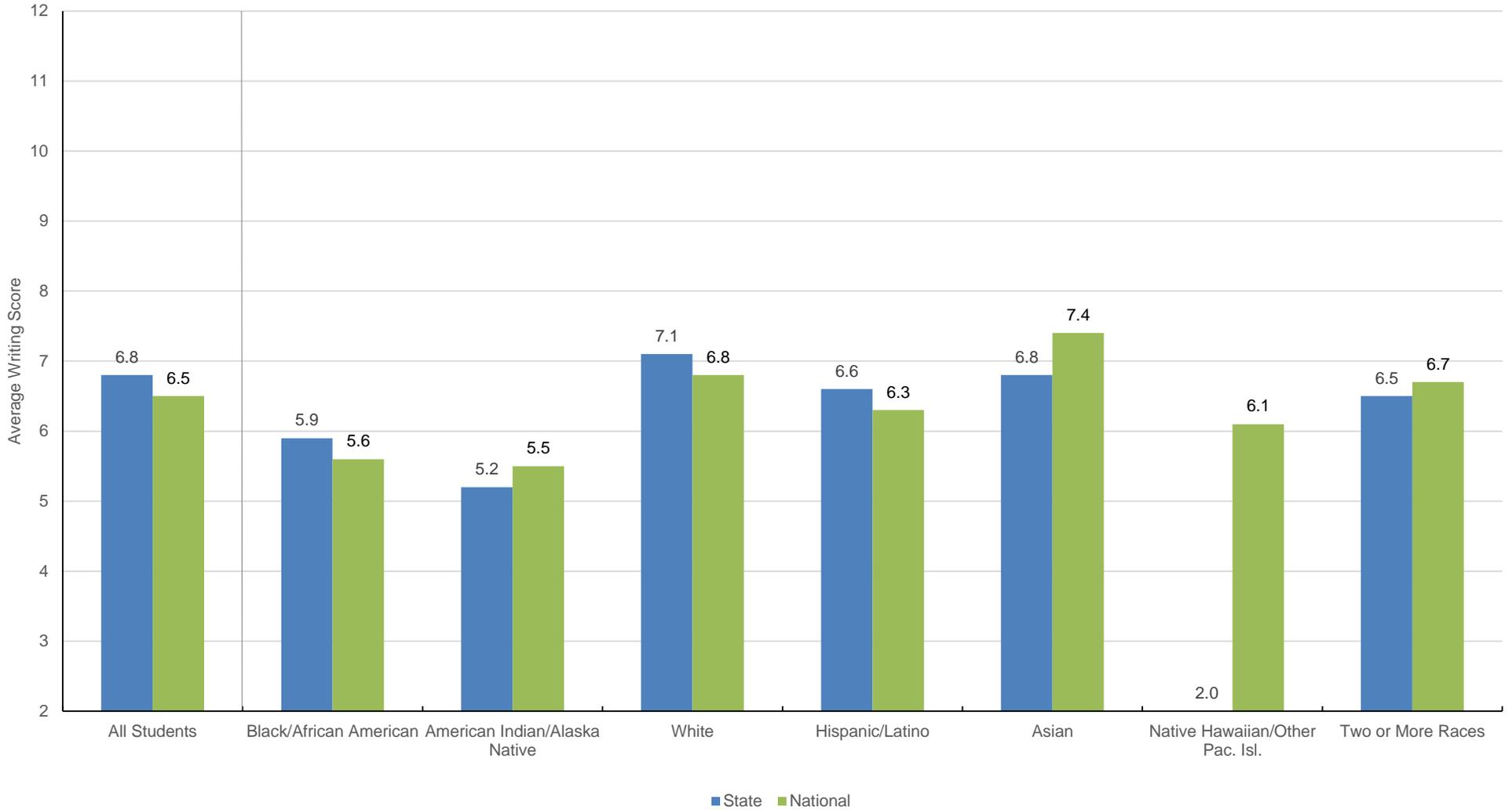
Section V

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.

Figure 5.1. Average ACT Writing Scores by Race/Ethnicity*



*Missing columns reflect race/ethnicity groupings that are missing. Results based on students with ACT Writing scores from test events beginning September 2015. Score scale is 2-12.

Total Students in Report: 6,698

Table 5.1. Average ACT English Language Arts and Constituent Scores by Race/Ethnicity and Gender for Students Who Took ACT Writing¹

	N		Average ACT Scores							
			Writing		English		Reading		English Language Arts	
			State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
All Students	1,198	1,090,621	6.8	6.5	22.5	20.9	23.8	22.0	21.5	20.2
Black/African American	35	125,357	5.9	5.6	17.9	16.2	18.6	17.7	17.1	16.0
American Indian/Alaska Native	166	7,357	5.2	5.5	14.9	15.9	16.9	17.9	14.8	16.0
White	791	525,822	7.1	6.8	24.5	22.8	25.6	23.8	23.2	21.8
Hispanic/Latino	59	218,012	6.6	6.3	19.6	18.1	22.1	19.7	19.8	18.1
Asian	33	72,490	6.8	7.4	23.4	24.5	23.0	24.7	21.8	23.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	1	4,270	2.0	6.1	11.0	17.5	14.0	18.8	9.0	17.5
Two or More Races	62	48,148	6.5	6.7	21.0	21.2	23.1	22.5	20.6	20.6
Prefer not/No Response	51	89,165	7.1	6.4	23.8	20.6	26.1	21.7	23.1	19.8
Males	514	496,038	6.6	6.3	22.0	20.6	23.9	21.8	21.1	19.8
Females	683	568,720	6.9	6.8	22.8	21.4	23.8	22.4	21.8	20.8
No Response	1	25,863	2.0	5.5	10.0	16.4	15.0	18.0	9.0	16.3

¹Results based on students with ACT writing scores with test events beginning September 2015. The writing score range is 2-12 (i.e., the rounded average of the four domain scores).

Table 5.2. Average ACT English and Writing Scores by Race/Ethnicity and Gender for Students Who Took ACT Writing¹

	N		Average ACT Scores					
			English		Writing		English / Writing Combined	
			State	National	State	National	State	National
All Students	8	3,655	22.8	23.5	6.8	6.8	21.5	22.0
Black/African American	0	200	.	18.5	.	6.1	.	17.6
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	14	15.5	19.9	4.0	5.9	13.5	18.6
White	3	2,049	26.3	24.1	7.0	6.9	24.3	22.5
Hispanic/Latino	1	588	12.0	18.4	8.0	5.8	15.0	17.2
Asian	1	367	36.0	29.5	11.0	8.1	35.0	27.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	0	2	.	21.5	.	6.0	.	20.0
Two or More Races	1	123	24.0	24.6	6.0	6.9	22.0	22.8
Prefer not/No Response	0	312	.	25.5	.	6.9	.	23.5
Males	2	1,700	22.0	23.6	6.5	6.6	21.0	21.9
Females	6	1,955	23.0	23.5	6.8	6.9	21.7	22.0
No Response	0	0	.	.	.	.	.	.

¹Results based on students with ACT writing scores with test events prior to September 2015. The writing score range is 2-12.

