ACT Research & Policy

DATA BYTE 2015-11

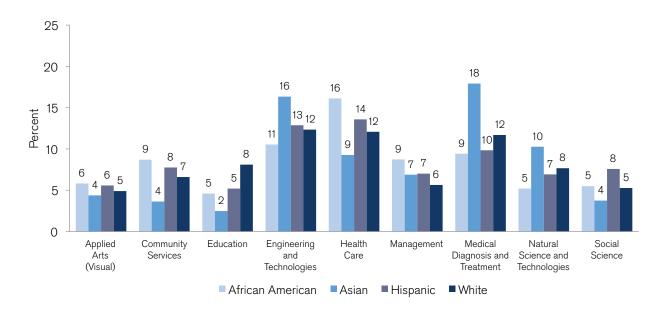
- Most students in the class of 2015 want to pursue careers in the fields of engineering and technologies, health care, and medical diagnosis and treatment.
- Asian students were more likely than students in other racial/ethnic groups to select medical diagnosis and treatment as their future occupational field.

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Career Interests by Occupational Field and Race/Ethnicity 2015

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Career Interests by Race/Ethnicity



Note: This graph is based on data from 1,077,950 ACT-tested 2015 high school graduates who reported an occupational choice and were very sure or fairly sure about their choice. Approximately 10% of 2015 high school graduates did not specify a category of career interest.

The career plans of ACT®-tested 2015 high school graduates tend to be similar across racial/ethnic groups.¹ ACT groups occupations into 26 occupational fields. The above chart includes nine occupational fields that were chosen by at least 5% of graduates who were very sure or fairly sure about their occupational choice.

Similar percentages of students from each racial/ethnic group are choosing many of the same occupational fields. Approximately 9%

or more of students in each race/ethnicity group are interested in engineering and technologies, health care, and medical diagnosis and treatment, though there are noticeable differences between groups.



Similar patterns were observed for 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 ACT-tested graduates. See ACT Information Briefs 2012-9, 2012-35, 2013-25, and 2014-24.