



AVERAGE ACT® TEST SCORES BY STATE

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2026

AVERAGE SCORE BY SECTION



The table below classifies states by the percent of ACT-tested high school graduates, including the average Composite score and average ACT section scores. A best practice is to examine a cohort of states with percentages of tested students similar to your state, as modeled by the blue shading on the below table. The blue shading represents those states who tested nearly all of their 2026 graduates (90% and greater) with the ACT through statewide testing programs.

STATE	ESTIMATED % OF GRADUATES TESTED*	AVERAGE COMPOSITE SCORE	AVERAGE ENGLISH SCORE	AVERAGE MATH SCORE	AVERAGE READING SCORE	AVERAGE SCIENCE SCORE
Alabama	100	17.9	17.2	17.4	18.4	18.0
Arizona	100	17.7	16.8	17.7	17.9	17.8
Illinois	100	19.0	18.1	19.0	19.2	19.2
Kentucky	100	18.3	17.5	17.7	18.9	18.5
Louisiana	100	18.4	17.7	17.9	19.0	18.4
Mississippi	100	17.8	17.1	17.7	18.4	17.7
Nebraska	100	18.8	17.8	18.8	19.2	19.2
Nevada	100	17.3	16.2	17.0	17.8	17.6
Oklahoma	100	17.4	16.6	16.8	18.0	17.8
Tennessee	100	18.7	18.2	18.4	19.3	18.8
Wyoming	100	18.9	17.9	18.6	19.6	19.1
Wisconsin	96	19.4	18.4	19.2	19.6	19.8
Montana	95	19.4	18.3	19.2	20.0	19.7
North Carolina	94	18.4	16.8	18.5	19.1	18.7
Arkansas	93	18.4	17.8	17.8	19.0	18.7
Utah	91	20.1	19.3	19.5	20.8	20.2
Kansas	73	19.0	17.8	18.8	19.8	19.2
Missouri	70	19.7	18.6	19.3	20.6	20.1
Minnesota	68	20.6	19.1	20.4	21.3	21.1
Hawaii	66	17.7	16.4	17.6	18.3	18.0
Ohio	66	19.2	17.8	19.3	19.8	19.4
North Dakota	62	20.1	18.8	20.0	20.7	20.5
South Dakota	56	21.1	19.7	21.1	21.9	21.8
Iowa	39	21.0	19.8	20.5	22.2	21.7
Florida	36	19.9	18.9	19.4	20.9	19.9
South Carolina	31	18.8	17.5	18.4	19.7	19.1

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Georgia	22	20.9	19.9	20.5	21.8	21.2
Texas	21	19.1	18.1	19.1	19.9	19.4
West Virginia	16	20.2	19.6	19.5	21.5	20.8
Oregon	12	20.7	19.4	20.2	21.8	20.9
District of Columbia	9	27.0	27.0	25.7	28.2	27.4
Colorado	7	24.7	24.1	24.1	25.7	24.7
Idaho	7	23.4	22.2	22.9	24.7	23.5
New Jersey	7	25.4	25.0	25.2	25.8	25.3
Alaska	6	20.5	19.0	20.4	21.7	20.9
Connecticut	6	27.2	27.0	26.6	27.8	27.1
New Mexico	6	20.9	19.9	20.2	22.3	21.4
New York	6	25.9	25.1	25.9	26.5	26.0
Virginia	6	25.1	24.7	24.2	26.3	25.3
Indiana	5	24.0	22.9	24.0	24.9	24.3
Maryland	5	25.2	24.8	24.3	26.2	25.3
Massachusetts	5	26.7	26.1	26.3	27.5	26.5
Michigan	4	24.5	24.0	24.0	25.2	24.4
Pennsylvania	4	24.4	23.6	24.0	25.3	24.6
Vermont	4	23.8	22.8	22.8	25.6	23.4
Washington	4	24.2	23.5	23.8	25.3	24.0
California	3	26.1	25.7	25.8	26.8	25.9
New Hampshire	3	25.6	24.8	25.0	26.7	25.5
Delaware	2	25.8	25.6	25.0	26.6	26.3
Rhode Island	2	24.8	24.5	24.0	25.9	24.6
Maine	1	24.6	23.8	24.0	26.0	25.2
National	38	19.2	18.2	19.0	19.8	19.4

*Totals for graduating seniors were obtained from *Knocking at the College Door: Projections of High School Graduates*.
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