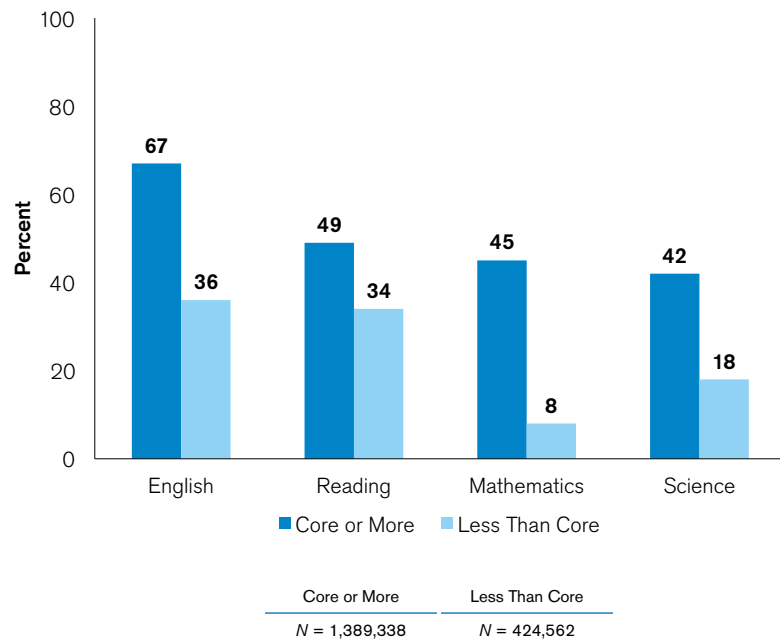


National

Course-Taking Patterns and Benchmark Performance

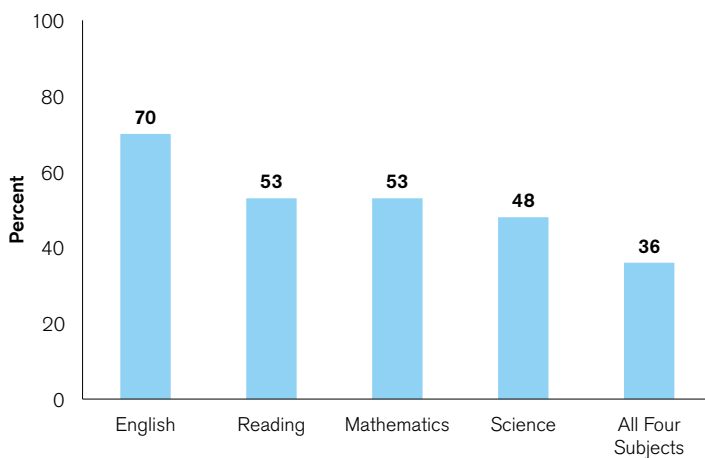
Within subjects, ACT has consistently found that students who take the recommended core curriculum are more likely to be ready for college or career than those who do not. A core curriculum is defined as four years of English and three years each of mathematics, social studies, and science.³

Percent of 2015 ACT-Tested High School Graduates in Core or More vs. Less Than Core Courses Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks by Subject



A Look at STEM

Percent of 2015 ACT-Tested High School Graduates with an Interest in STEM Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks by Subject ($N = 704,770$)



This chart describes ACT College Readiness Benchmark attainment for 2015 high school graduates nationwide who have an interest in STEM majors or occupations. Characteristics of students with an interest in STEM were addressed in greater depth in the *Condition of STEM 2014* report.