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Information Brief

Career Interests by Occupational Field and Race/Ethnicity 2013

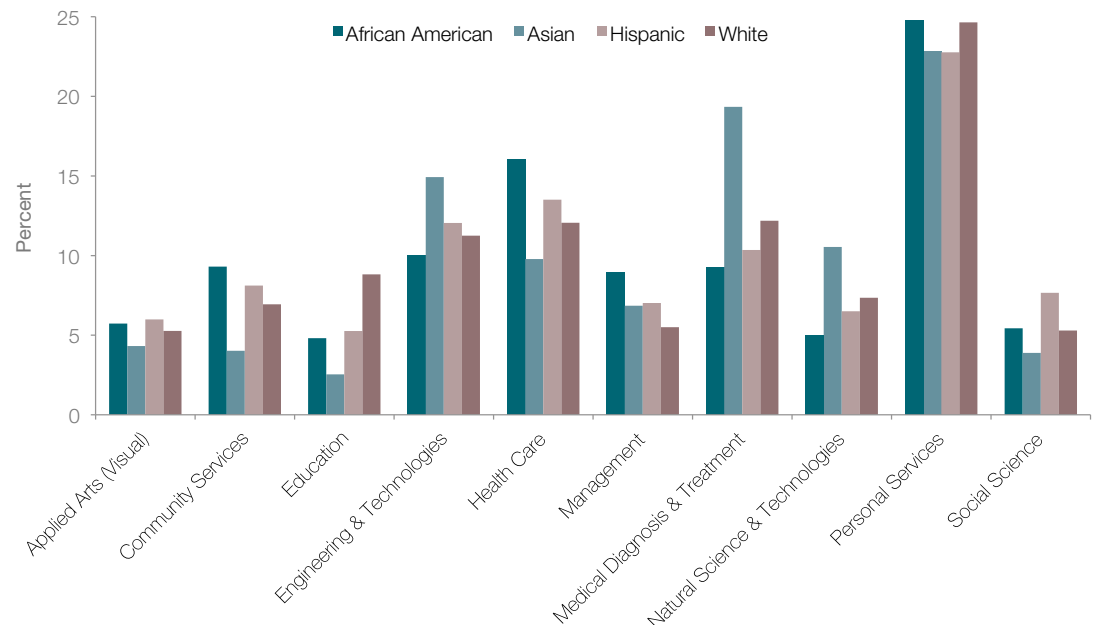
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- Most students in the Class of 2013 want to pursue careers in the field of personal services.
- Asian students were more likely than students in the other racial/ethnic groups to select medical diagnosis and treatment as their future occupational field.

The career plans of ACT-tested 2013 high school graduates tend to be similar across racial/ethnic groups.¹ ACT groups occupations into 26 occupational fields. The chart below includes 10 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 10% or more of students in each race/ethnicity group are interested in engineering and technologies, health care, medical diagnosis and treatment, and personal services, though there are noticeable differences between groups.

Career Interests by Race/Ethnicity



¹ Similar patterns were observed in 2011 and 2012, see ACT Information Briefs 2012-9 and 2012-35.

Note: Data are based on 1,028,768 ACT-tested 2013 high school graduates who reported an occupational choice and were very sure or fairly sure about their choice. About 9% of 2013 high school graduates did not specify a category of career interest.

This ACT Information Brief was written by Tracy Wilkinson. Please contact infobrief@act.org for more information or to suggest ideas for future ACT Information Briefs.