

ACT High School Profile Report

The Graduating Class of 2008
Illinois



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This report provides information about the performance of your 2008 graduating seniors who took the ACT as sophomores, juniors, or seniors; and self-reported at the time of testing that they were scheduled to graduate in 2008 and tested under standard time conditions.

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, the graduating class data for a school, district, state, and the nation 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, state, or the nation.

Further, 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 meeting or exceeding 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.

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

- Tests of academic achievement in English, math, reading, science, 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 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.

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 and Biology. These scores were empirically derived based on the actual performance of students in college. The College Readiness Benchmark Scores are:

College Course/Course Area	ACT Test	Benchmark Score
English Composition	English	18
Algebra	Mathematics	22
Social Sciences	Reading	21
Biology	Science	24

For more information, go to www.act.org

How to Improve Scores and Increase College Readiness

22% of 2008 graduates 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. 143,734 ACT-tested graduates 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. 45% 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 3.2 reports 14% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 10% were college ready. 18% of the cohort reported taking the minimum core (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). 16% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 55% of the students who advanced beyond minimum core 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 3.2 reports 23% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 12% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 32% of students who took at least three years of science coursework were college ready.

EVALUATING RIGOR OF COURSES. Table 2.6 reports the percentage of students falling in each of the ACT College Readiness Standards score ranges. For example, approximately 51% 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 Readiness Standards at www.act.org/standard.

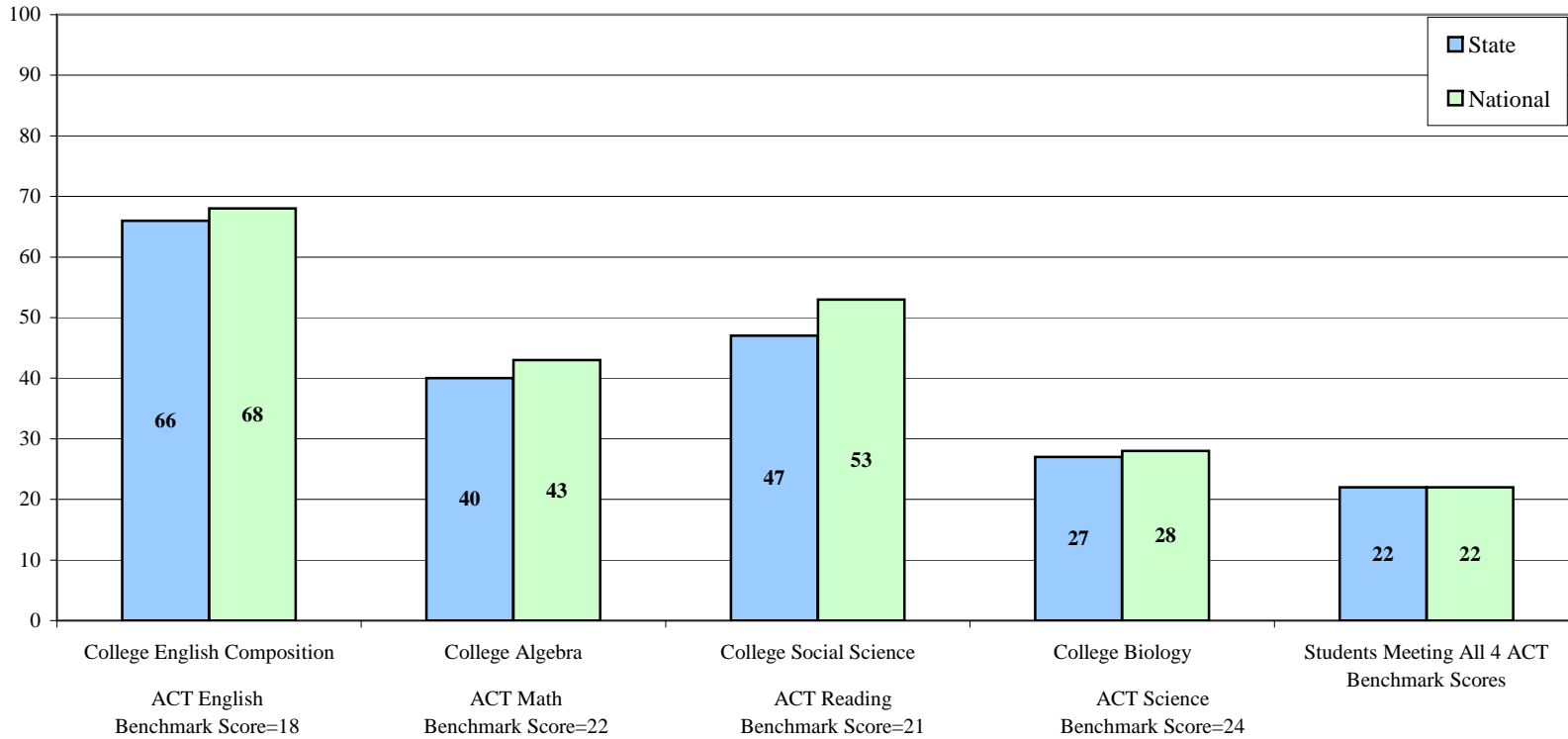
PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS. Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic groups.

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 your regional office at 847-634-2560.

Section I

Executive Summary

Figure 1.1. Percent of ACT-Tested Students Ready for College-Level Coursework



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 course.

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

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent Meeting Benchmarks									
			English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Meeting All Four	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2004	132,525	1,171,460	62	68	36	40	46	52	24	26	19	21
2005	135,967	1,186,251	63	68	38	41	45	51	25	26	20	21
2006	137,399	1,206,455	65	69	38	42	46	53	25	27	20	21
2007	140,483	1,300,599	65	69	38	43	47	53	25	28	21	23
2008	143,734	1,421,941	66	68	40	43	47	53	27	28	22	22

Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested		Average ACT Scores									
			English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2004	132,525	1,171,460	19.7	20.4	20.2	20.7	20.5	21.3	20.2	20.9	20.3	20.9
2005	135,967	1,186,251	19.9	20.4	20.2	20.7	20.3	21.3	20.4	20.9	20.3	20.9
2006	137,399	1,206,455	20.2	20.6	20.3	20.8	20.6	21.4	20.4	20.9	20.5	21.1
2007	140,483	1,300,599	20.2	20.7	20.4	21.0	20.5	21.5	20.4	21.0	20.5	21.2
2008	143,734	1,421,941	20.4	20.6	20.7	21.0	20.6	21.4	20.5	20.8	20.7	21.1

Table 1.3. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores Nationwide

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested	Average ACT Scores				
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
2004	1,171,460	20.4	20.7	21.3	20.9	20.9
2005	1,186,251	20.4	20.7	21.3	20.9	20.9
2006	1,206,455	20.6	20.8	21.4	20.9	21.1
2007	1,300,599	20.7	21.0	21.5	21.0	21.2
2008	1,421,941	20.6	21.0	21.4	20.8	21.1

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

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent ¹		Average ACT Scores									
	Core or More	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
2004	54,589	63,039	41	48	22.2	17.8	22.3	18.4	22.6	18.8	22.0	18.7	22.4	18.6
2005	55,892	62,027	41	46	22.4	17.9	22.5	18.5	22.4	18.6	22.2	18.9	22.5	18.6
2006	55,760	62,555	41	46	22.5	18.4	22.4	18.6	22.7	19.0	22.1	19.0	22.6	18.9
2007	53,135	64,588	38	46	22.5	18.6	22.4	18.9	22.6	19.0	22.2	19.1	22.5	19.0
2008	64,259	62,253	45	43	22.4	18.6	22.4	19.0	22.4	19.1	22.0	19.1	22.4	19.1

¹Percent of all students tested. Numbers will not add up to 100% due to student non-response.

Table 1.5. Five-Year Trends—Number, Percentage, and Average Composite Score for ACT-Tested Graduates by Race/Ethnicity

	2004			2005			2006			2007			2008		
	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
All Students	132,525	100	20.3	135,967	100	20.3	137,399	100	20.5	140,483	100	20.5	143,734	100	20.7
African American/Black	14,479	11	16.8	15,820	12	16.8	16,224	12	16.9	16,856	12	16.9	20,463	14	16.8
American Indian/Alaska Native	651	0	17.5	1,394	1	17.3	1,299	1	17.6	1,242	1	17.3	446	0	19.8
Caucasian American/White	77,371	58	21.6	74,708	55	21.8	73,029	53	22.0	72,863	52	22.0	82,002	57	22.0
Hispanic	12,243	9	17.6	13,362	10	17.7	13,852	10	17.9	14,025	10	17.9	16,832	12	18.0
Asian American/Pacific Islander	5,369	4	22.3	5,267	4	22.5	5,140	4	22.6	5,097	4	22.8	5,434	4	23.3
Other/No Response	22,412	17	18.8	25,416	19	19.3	27,855	20	19.8	30,400	22	20.1	18,557	13	20.8

Section II

Academic Achievement

Table 2.1. ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percentages (CP¹), and Score Averages for All Students

ACT Scale Score	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite		ACT Scale Score
	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	
36	225	100	678	100	740	100	304	100	62	100	36
35	1,627	100	967	100	1,228	99	747	100	407	100	35
34	2,465	99	1,531	99	1,570	99	678	99	829	100	34
33	1,734	97	1,866	98	2,125	98	1,028	99	1,190	99	33
32	1,869	96	1,338	96	2,459	96	1,120	98	1,707	98	32
31	2,478	94	1,465	96	2,782	94	1,389	97	2,242	97	31
30	3,409	93	3,042	95	3,591	92	1,166	96	2,888	96	30
29	3,059	90	3,519	92	3,880	90	1,994	96	3,296	94	29
28	4,244	88	4,192	90	4,337	87	3,035	94	4,156	91	28
27	3,345	85	4,915	87	4,055	84	3,629	92	4,958	88	27
26	5,392	83	6,423	84	4,486	81	6,522	90	5,726	85	26
25	7,092	79	7,759	79	7,532	78	7,051	85	6,699	81	25
24	6,389	74	6,548	74	5,969	73	9,800	80	7,364	76	24
23	6,204	70	6,536	69	7,372	69	7,017	73	8,141	71	23
22	8,915	66	6,362	65	8,602	64	12,763	68	8,916	65	22
21	9,526	59	7,105	60	7,325	58	8,758	59	9,475	59	21
20	11,145	53	6,747	55	7,255	53	14,185	53	9,998	53	20
19	6,837	45	7,735	51	10,638	48	13,568	44	10,174	46	19
18	8,258	40	8,830	45	6,085	40	8,326	34	10,203	39	18
17	6,840	34	14,902	39	10,239	36	11,101	28	10,014	32	17
16	7,889	30	14,553	29	7,212	29	6,880	21	9,777	25	16
15	8,201	24	15,198	19	9,380	24	5,762	16	8,929	18	15
14	7,140	19	7,691	8	6,582	17	5,013	12	7,614	12	14
13	4,642	14	2,600	3	7,743	13	4,140	8	5,215	6	13
12	4,048	10	927	1	5,941	7	3,226	5	2,680	3	12
11	3,581	7	185	1	2,273	3	2,155	3	883	1	11
10	2,975	5	69	1	1,247	2	1,277	2	138	1	10
9	2,444	3	30	1	590	1	663	1	34	1	9
8	1,102	1	16	1	283	1	277	1	9	1	8
7	503	1	1	1	111	1	115	1	5	1	7
6	112	1	3	1	19	1	30	1	3	1	6
5	29	1	0	1	48	1	8	1	1	1	5
4	15	1	0	1	22	1	1	1	1	1	4
3	0	1	0	1	1	1	4	1	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	1	10	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	0	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	20.4 (6.3)		20.7 (5.5)		20.6 (6.1)		20.5 (5.0)		20.7 (5.2)		Avg (SD)

¹Note: CP is the cumulative percent of students at or below a score point. Also, shaded portions of columns identify the students who met/exceeded the ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores.

Table 2.2. ACT Subscore Distributions, Cumulative Percentages (CP¹), and Subtest Score Averages for All Students

ACT Scale Score	English				Reading				Mathematics						ACT Scale Score
	Usage/ Mechanics		Rhetorical Skills		Social Studies		Arts/ Literature		Pre/Elementary Algebra		Algebra/ Coordinate Geometry		Plane Geometry/ Trigonometry		
	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	
18	5,249	100	1,097	100	2,396	100	2,920	100	6,370	100	1,621	100	1,765	100	18
17	6,107	96	4,106	99	6,386	98	6,361	98	5,535	96	2,647	99	1,266	99	17
16	5,428	92	6,809	96	5,843	94	7,213	94	7,758	92	3,410	97	5,549	98	16
15	5,181	88	10,010	92	7,891	90	8,716	89	5,947	86	5,103	95	6,523	94	15
14	8,010	85	8,436	85	7,079	84	9,576	82	8,984	82	10,922	91	13,078	89	14
13	8,127	79	11,475	79	14,310	79	8,749	76	9,708	76	9,411	84	10,326	80	13
12	10,239	73	13,179	71	10,810	69	11,309	70	14,446	69	14,035	77	16,091	73	12
11	12,393	66	16,400	62	11,644	62	12,717	62	10,444	59	13,043	67	11,206	62	11
10	16,856	58	17,710	50	13,207	54	11,251	53	11,994	52	23,382	58	22,502	54	10
9	12,786	46	15,700	38	19,378	45	16,548	45	9,365	44	24,273	42	14,876	39	9
8	12,186	37	11,904	27	14,550	31	11,216	34	17,913	37	13,901	25	13,611	28	8
7	11,049	29	9,787	19	10,842	21	9,394	26	20,267	25	2,944	15	11,549	19	7
6	13,036	21	7,444	12	13,234	13	8,844	19	9,414	10	8,912	13	8,046	11	6
5	7,397	12	5,601	7	3,657	4	11,583	13	3,058	4	6,309	7	1,019	5	5
4	5,319	7	3,047	3	541	2	4,388	5	1,566	2	742	3	4,114	4	4
3	3,452	3	714	1	1,428	1	2,518	2	720	1	2,355	2	823	2	3
2	840	1	299	1	445	1	398	1	209	1	122	1	1,075	1	2
1	79	1	16	1	93	1	33	1	36	1	602	1	315	1	1
Avg (SD)	10.1 (3.9)		10.6 (3.3)		10.5 (3.5)		10.3 (3.9)		10.7 (3.7)		10.2 (3.1)		10.4 (3.2)		Avg (SD)

¹Note: CP is the cumulative percent of students at or below a score point.

Table 2.3. ACT Score Quartile Values for All Students

Quartile	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
Q3 (75th Percentile)	25	25	25	24	24
Q2 (50th Percentile)	20	19	20	20	20
Q1 (25th Percentile)	16	16	16	17	17

Table 2.4. Average ACT Composite Scores by Level of Preparation by Race/Ethnicity

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
State	All Students	143,734	45	22.4	19.1
	African Am./Black	20,463	37	17.9	16.3
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	446	40	21.8	18.5
	Caucasian Am./White	82,002	49	23.6	20.3
	Hispanic	16,832	38	19.5	17.2
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	5,434	60	24.4	21.3
	Other/No Response	18,557	38	22.5	19.2
National	All Students	1,421,941	61	22.0	19.5
	African Am./Black	178,417	58	17.7	16.0
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	14,380	53	20.3	17.6
	Caucasian Am./White	895,588	64	22.9	20.4
	Hispanic	114,697	60	19.6	17.4
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	51,368	71	23.4	21.4
	Other/No Response	167,491	52	22.5	20.1

Table 2.5. Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
State	All Students	20.4	20.7	20.6	20.5	20.7
	African Am./Black	16.3	16.7	16.6	17.1	16.8
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	19.0	19.8	20.0	19.7	19.8
	Caucasian Am./White	21.9	21.9	22.1	21.6	22.0
	Hispanic	17.3	18.2	17.7	18.2	18.0
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	23.0	24.4	22.5	22.8	23.3
	Other/No Response	20.6	20.9	20.9	20.5	20.8
National	All Students	20.6	21.0	21.4	20.8	21.1
	African Am./Black	16.1	17.0	17.0	17.2	16.9
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	18.1	18.8	19.6	19.2	19.0
	Caucasian Am./White	21.7	21.8	22.5	21.7	22.1
	Hispanic	17.7	19.0	18.9	18.7	18.7
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	22.1	24.1	22.4	22.3	22.9
	Other/No Response	21.2	21.7	22.1	21.2	21.7

Table 2.6. Percent of Students in College Readiness Standards (CRS) Score Ranges

Student Group	CRS Range	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
State	33 to 36	6,051	4	5,042	4	5,663	4	2,757	2
	28 to 32	15,059	10	13,556	9	17,049	12	8,704	6
	24 to 27	22,218	15	25,645	18	22,042	15	27,002	19
	20 to 23	35,790	25	26,750	19	30,554	21	42,723	30
	16 to 19	29,824	21	46,020	32	34,174	24	39,875	28
	13 to 15	19,983	14	25,489	18	23,705	16	14,915	10
	01 to 12	14,809	10	1,232	1	10,547	7	7,758	5
National	33 to 36	52,735	4	40,359	3	63,798	4	26,499	2
	28 to 32	146,337	10	138,694	10	203,096	14	89,946	6
	24 to 27	237,950	17	283,854	20	231,039	16	281,932	20
	20 to 23	383,117	27	294,322	21	343,326	24	474,554	33
	16 to 19	293,110	21	466,291	33	312,300	22	359,785	25
	13 to 15	175,652	12	188,580	13	191,145	13	121,336	9
	01 to 12	133,040	9	9,841	1	77,237	5	67,889	5

Table 2.7. Average ACT Scores by Gender

Student Group	Gender	N	Percent	Average ACT Scores				
				English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
State	Males	67,848	47	19.9	21.2	20.4	20.7	20.7
	Females	73,435	51	20.8	20.1	20.7	20.1	20.6
	Missing	2,451	2	24.0	23.8	24.0	22.9	23.8
National	Males	625,887	44	20.1	21.6	21.2	21.3	21.2
	Females	764,282	54	21.0	20.4	21.5	20.4	21.0
	Missing	31,772	2	22.8	23.3	23.6	22.4	23.1

Table 2.8. Percent of Students Meeting College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Gender

Student Group	Gender	Percent of Students				Meet All Four
		English	Math	Reading	Science	
State	Males	62	43	46	30	24
	Females	68	36	48	23	19
National	Males	65	47	51	32	26
	Females	70	38	53	24	19

Table 2.9. Number, College Readiness Benchmark Percent, and Average ACT Scores for ACT-Tested Graduates by Overall High School Curriculum

Student Group	Curriculum Taken ²	N	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite ¹	
			CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg
State	Core	64,259	79	22.4	54	22.4	60	22.4	37	22.0	31	22.4
	Non-Core	62,253	54	18.6	26	19.0	36	19.1	17	19.1	12	19.1
	Missing	17,222	56	19.4	36	20.1	42	19.8	25	19.7	21	19.9
National	Core	873,743	75	21.6	50	21.9	59	22.3	33	21.6	27	22.0
	Non-Core	431,748	56	18.8	29	19.3	41	19.9	18	19.4	14	19.5
	Missing	116,450	62	19.9	42	20.8	48	20.8	27	20.3	23	20.6

¹% under Composite heading reflects the percent of students who meet all four benchmarks

²"Curriculum Taken" reflects overall high school curriculum.

For instance, "Core" results correspond to students taking four years of English AND three years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

Table 2.10. Number, College Readiness Benchmark Percent, and Average ACT Scores for ACT-Tested Graduates by Content-Specific Curriculum

Student Group	Curriculum Taken ¹	English			Mathematics			Reading			Science		
		N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg
State	Core	111,732	69	20.9	108,551	46	21.4	92,060	53	21.4	96,486	32	21.2
	Non-Core	17,702	46	17.6	19,397	10	17.0	36,514	35	18.9	31,641	12	18.3
	Missing	14,300	60	19.9	15,786	36	20.1	15,160	44	20.2	15,607	27	20.0
National	Core	1,216,115	70	20.8	1,192,135	46	21.4	1,137,832	54	21.6	1,063,049	32	21.4
	Non-Core	111,558	57	18.8	124,104	14	17.4	183,026	45	20.4	253,561	13	18.7
	Missing	94,268	64	20.2	105,702	42	20.8	101,083	50	21.1	105,331	28	20.5

¹"Curriculum Taken" reflects content-specific curriculum.

For instance, Reading "Core" results correspond to students taking three or more years each of social studies, regardless of courses taken in other content areas.

Section III

College Readiness and the Impact of Course Rigor

Figure 3.1. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ENGLISH

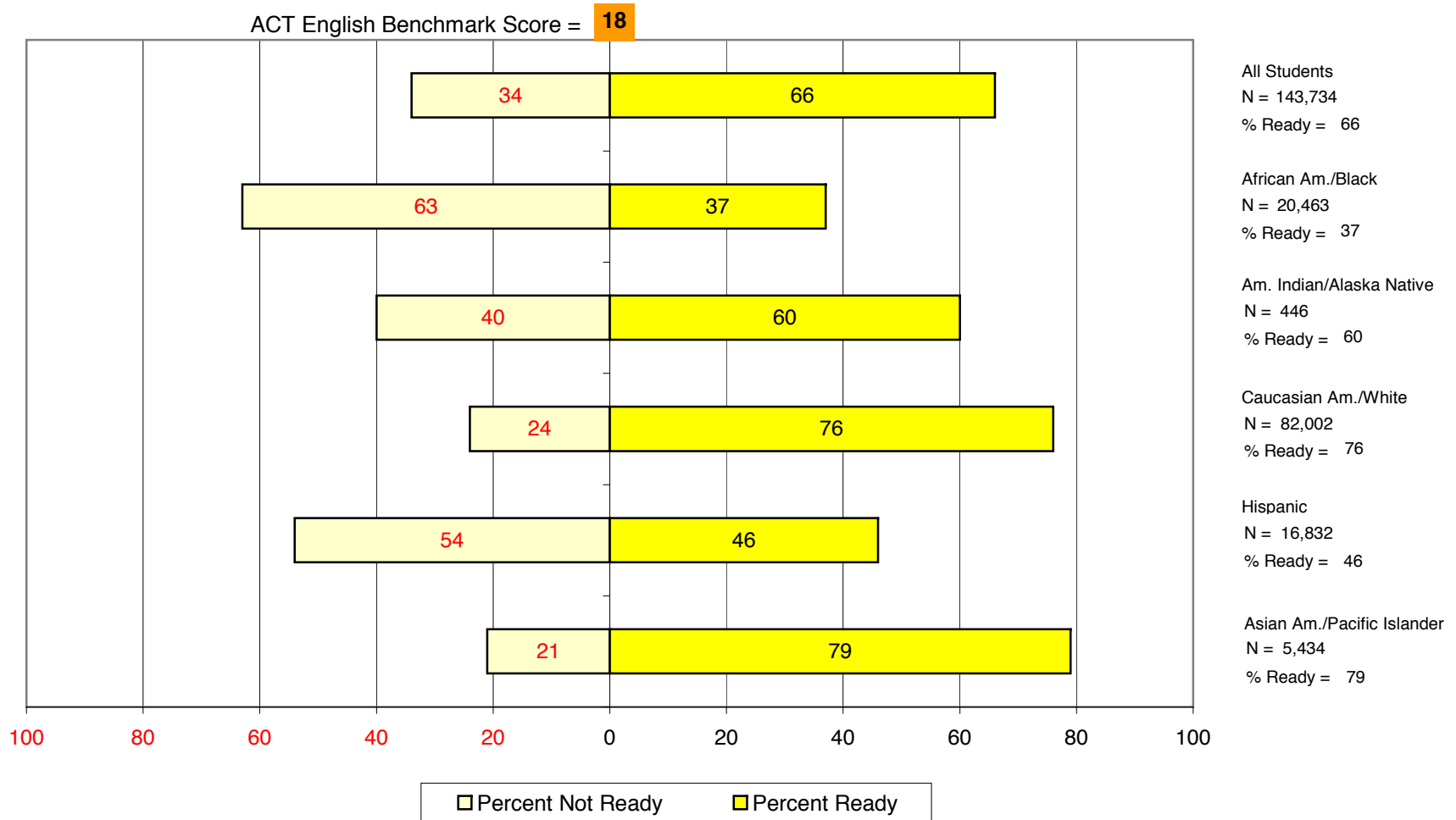


Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: MATHEMATICS

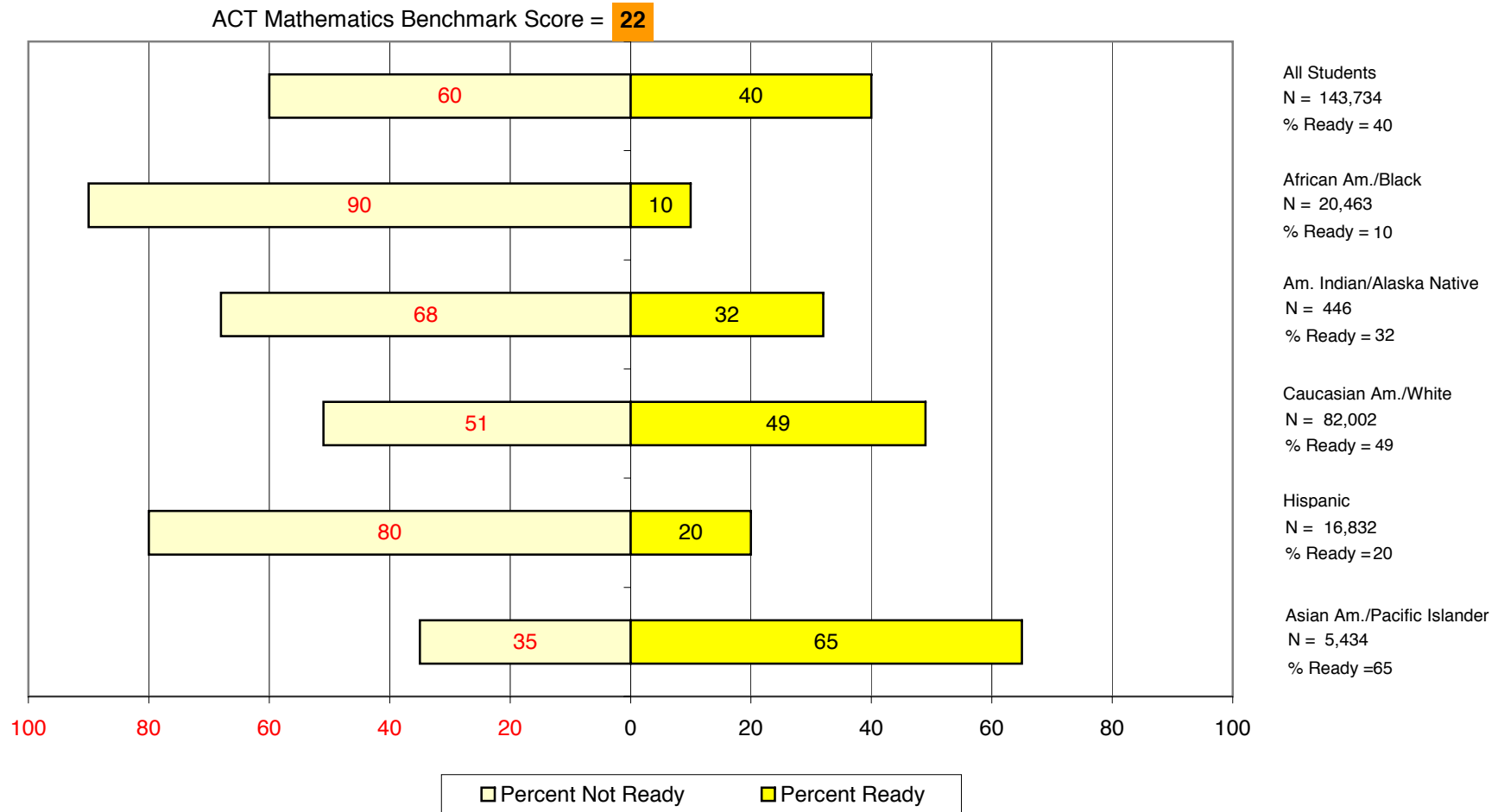


Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: **READING**

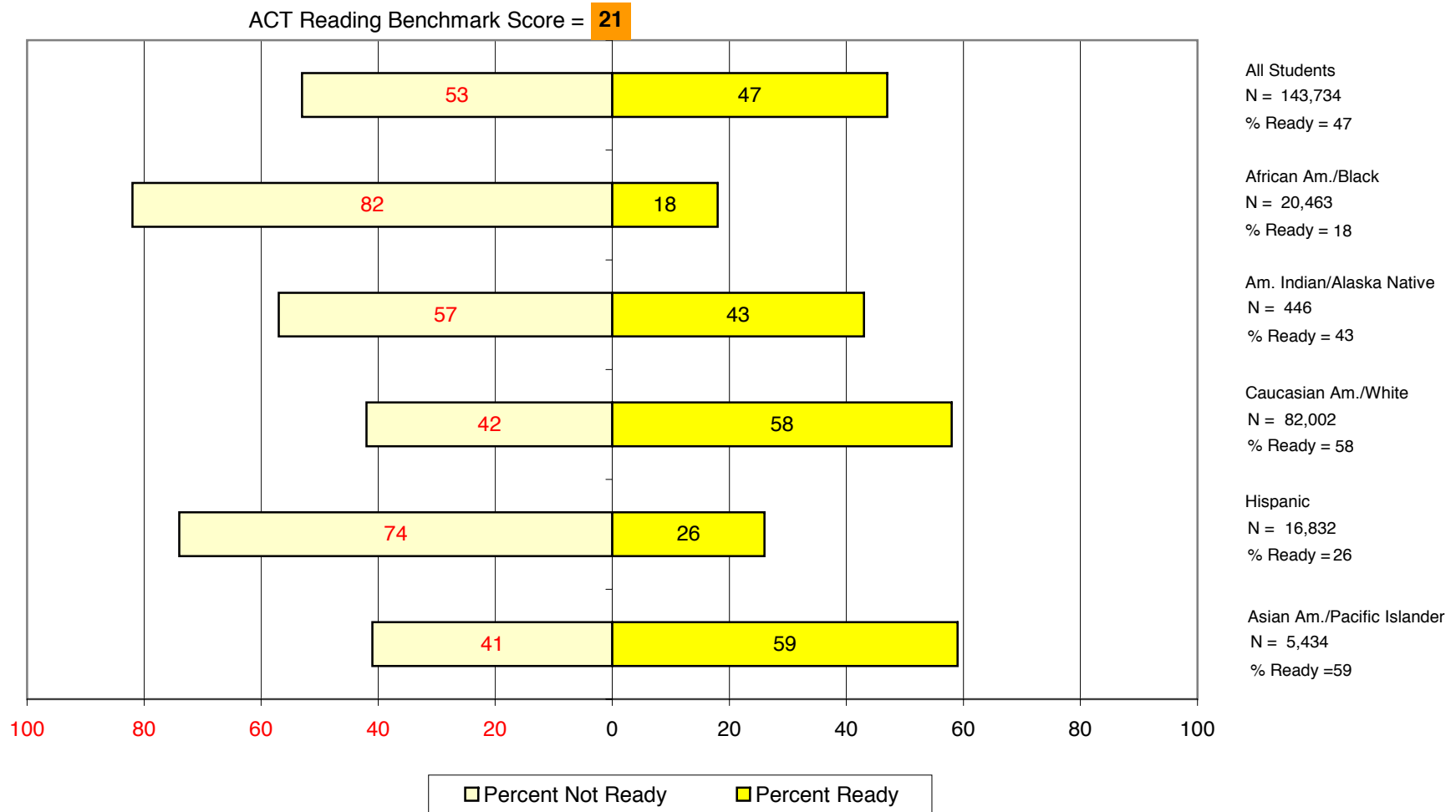


Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: SCIENCE

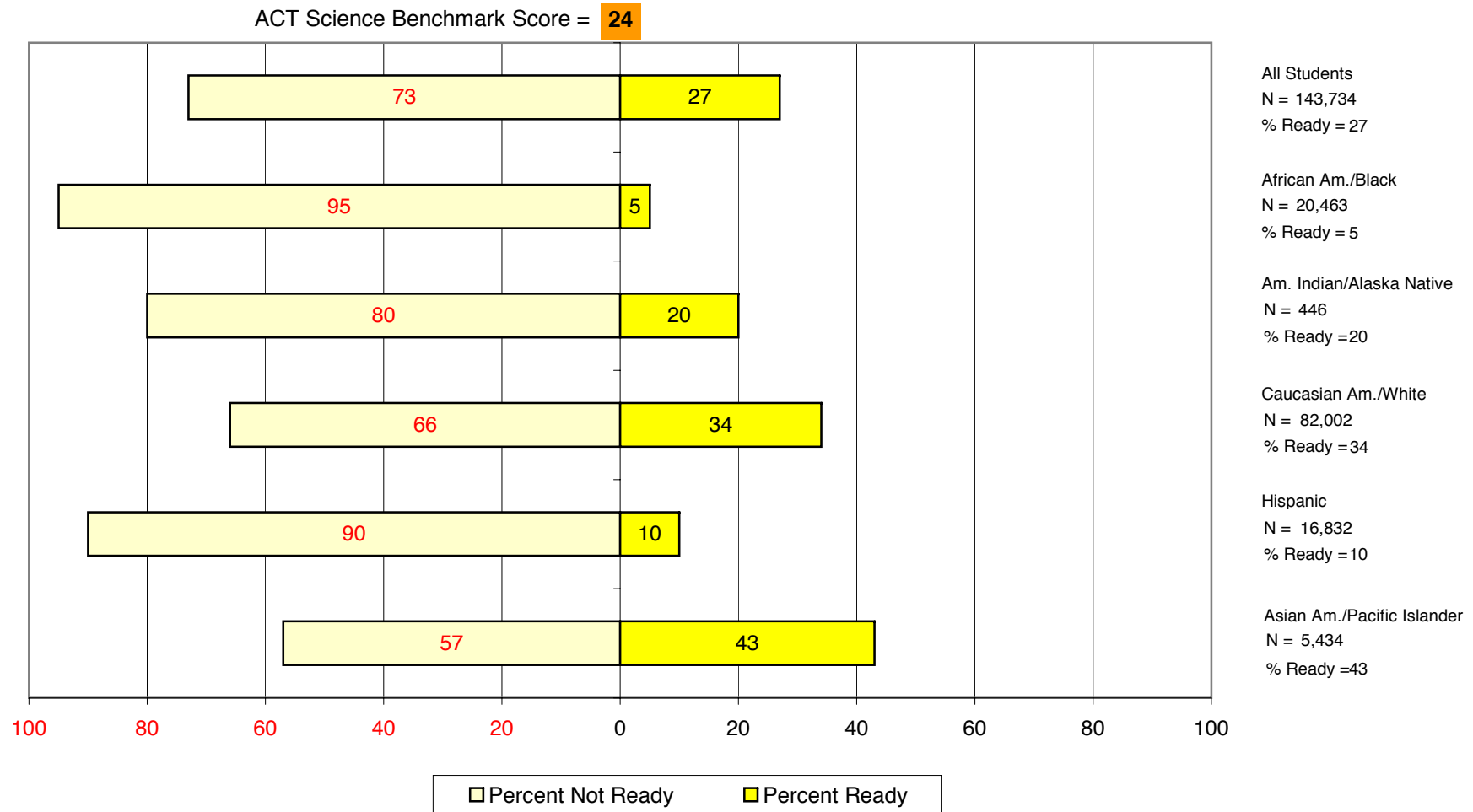


Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ALL FOUR

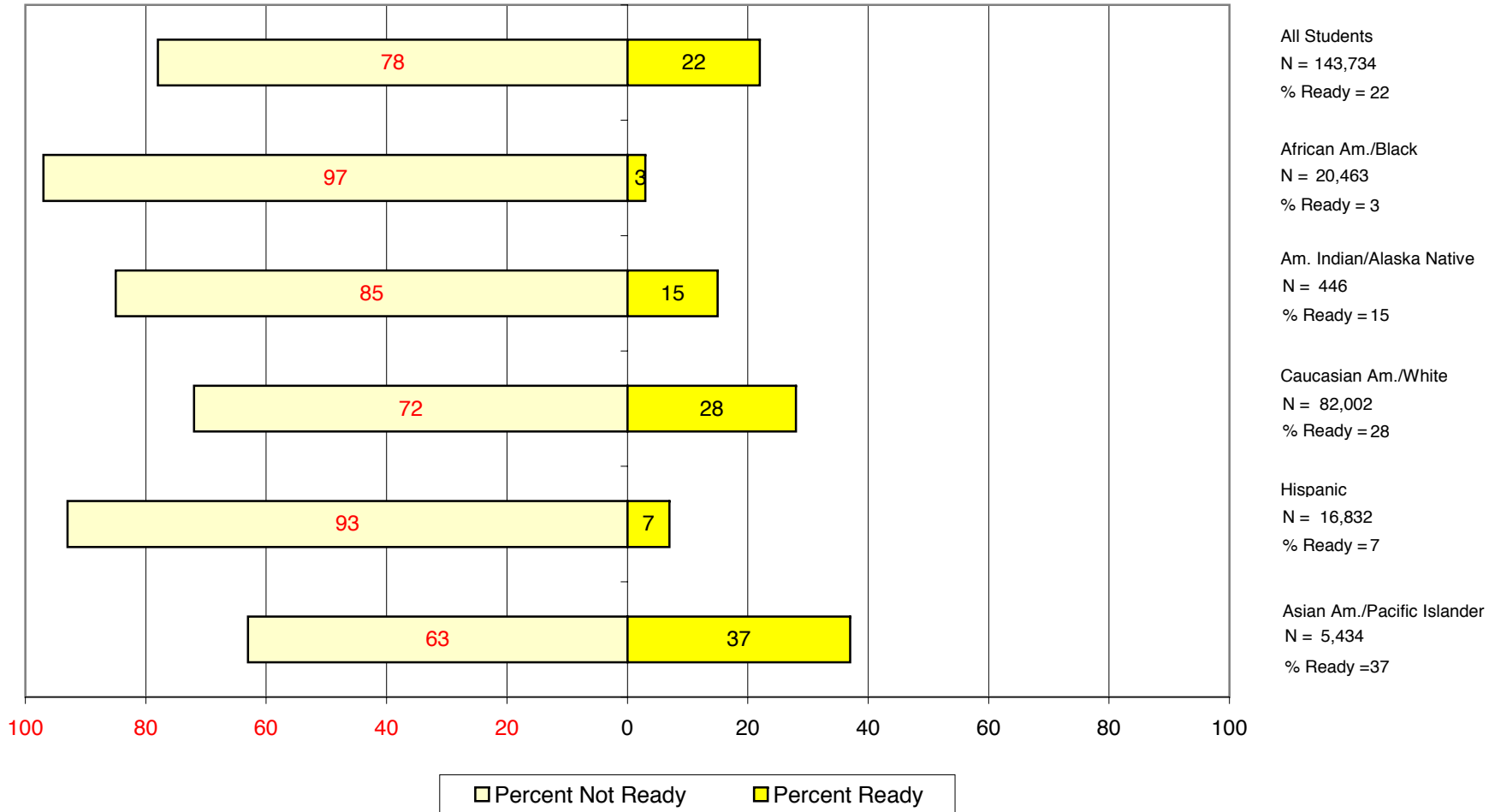


Table 3.1. Average ACT Scores and ACT Average Score Changes by Common Course Patterns

Course Pattern	All Students				Males				Females			
	N	Percent	ACT English	Course Value Added ¹	N	Percent	ACT English	Course Value Added ¹	N	Percent	ACT English	Course Value Added ¹
ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN												
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	25,250	18	22.0	4.4	10,260	15	21.4	4.2	14,771	20	22.3	4.3
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	86,482	60	20.6	3.0	41,143	61	20.2	3.0	44,453	61	20.9	2.9
Less than 4 years of English	17,833	12	17.6	-	9,614	14	17.2	-	7,957	11	18.0	-
No English course/grade information reported	14,169	10	20.0	-	6,831	10	19.1	-	6,254	9	20.1	-
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	9,721	7	24.8	7.9	4,587	7	25.6	8.4	4,974	7	24.1	7.6
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	12,866	9	22.6	5.7	5,094	8	23.4	6.2	7,632	10	22.1	5.6
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	17,623	12	20.1	3.2	7,854	12	20.8	3.6	9,589	13	19.5	3.0
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	12,288	9	20.9	4.0	5,134	8	21.4	4.2	7,034	10	20.4	3.9
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	23,493	16	24.6	7.7	12,112	18	25.2	8.0	11,066	15	23.8	7.3
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	26,114	18	18.0	1.1	12,193	18	18.4	1.2	13,733	19	17.6	1.1
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	6,446	4	20.9	4.0	3,210	5	21.5	4.3	3,163	4	20.3	3.8
Less than 3 years of Math	20,570	14	16.9	-	10,604	16	17.2	-	9,793	13	16.5	-
No Math course/grade information reported	14,613	10	20.5	-	7,060	10	20.5	-	6,451	9	19.7	-
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	2,519	2	22.1	3.2	1,289	2	21.7	2.9	1,201	2	22.4	3.4
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	38,642	27	21.9	3.0	17,348	26	21.8	3.0	20,904	28	22.0	3.0
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	5,846	4	19.4	0.5	3,029	4	19.2	0.4	2,764	4	19.5	0.5
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	45,053	31	21.2	2.3	20,651	30	21.1	2.3	23,949	33	21.2	2.2
Less than 3 years of Social Science	36,870	26	18.9	-	18,376	27	18.8	-	18,083	25	19.0	-
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	14,804	10	20.3	-	7,155	11	19.7	-	6,534	9	20.2	-
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem, & Phys	33,167	23	21.6	3.3	16,362	24	22.1	3.9	16,365	22	21.0	2.6
Bio, Chem, Phys	25,573	18	23.6	5.3	12,165	18	24.3	6.1	13,045	18	22.9	4.5
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	33,702	23	19.5	1.2	13,978	21	19.6	1.4	19,459	26	19.4	1.0
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	4,044	3	18.7	0.4	2,240	3	19.4	1.2	1,787	2	17.9	-0.5
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	32,403	23	18.3	-	15,928	23	18.2	-	16,231	22	18.4	-
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	14,845	10	20.1	-	7,175	11	20.0	-	6,548	9	19.7	-

¹Course value added is defined as the average ACT score change compared to a less than core course sequence.

²Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

Table 3.2. College Readiness Percents by Common Course Patterns

Course Pattern	State				National			
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Meeting Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Meeting Benchmark
ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN								
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	25,250	18	22.0	76	266,394	19	21.8	76
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	86,482	60	20.6	67	949,721	67	20.5	68
Less than 4 years of English	17,833	12	17.6	46	112,496	8	18.8	56
No English course/grade information reported	14,169	10	20.0	60	93,330	7	20.2	64
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	9,721	7	24.8	71	91,985	6	24.8	74
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	12,866	9	22.6	60	113,879	8	22.3	57
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	17,623	12	20.1	37	116,105	8	20.4	38
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	12,288	9	20.9	43	204,909	14	20.4	38
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	23,493	16	24.6	68	342,493	24	23.9	66
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	26,114	18	18.0	16	251,813	18	17.8	14
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	6,446	4	20.9	42	70,951	5	20.8	41
Less than 3 years of Math	20,570	14	16.9	10	131,252	9	17.4	14
No Math course/grade information reported	14,613	10	20.5	39	98,554	7	21.1	44
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	2,519	2	22.1	56	42,546	3	22.7	61
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	38,642	27	21.9	57	604,055	42	21.9	56
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	5,846	4	19.4	38	86,500	6	20.8	48
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	45,053	31	21.2	51	404,731	28	21.3	52
Less than 3 years of Social Science	36,870	26	18.9	35	185,561	13	20.4	45
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	14,804	10	20.3	45	98,548	7	21.1	50
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	33,167	23	21.6	35	453,654	32	22.2	38
Bio, Chem, Phys	25,573	18	23.6	51	134,033	9	23.2	47
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	33,702	23	19.5	16	435,183	31	20.1	20
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	4,044	3	18.7	14	40,179	3	20.1	22
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	32,403	23	18.3	12	259,142	18	18.7	13
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	14,845	10	20.1	27	99,750	7	20.6	29

¹Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

Section IV

Career and Educational Aspirations

Table 4.1. Distribution of Planned Educational Majors for All Students and 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 ²	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent ²	Avg ACT Comp
Agriculture Sciences & Technologies	1,746	1	18.5	434	3	16.5	1,175	1	19.3
Architecture & Environmental Design	3,042	2	20.2	316	2	16.7	2,527	3	20.8
Business & Management	12,753	9	20.8	837	6	16.4	11,133	11	21.2
Business & Office	860	1	18.8	171	1	17.0	629	1	19.4
Marketing & Distribution	1,052	1	19.8	108	1	16.1	868	1	20.3
Communications & Comm. Technologies	3,823	3	21.3	262	2	16.2	3,356	3	21.7
Community & Personal Services	5,955	4	18.1	1,330	10	16.6	4,130	4	18.7
Computer & Information Sciences	3,062	2	20.7	373	3	17.2	2,489	3	21.4
Cross-Disciplinary Studies	144	0	23.9	4	0	18.8	124	0	24.2
Education	5,133	4	20.8	259	2	16.3	4,583	5	21.2
Teacher Education	4,270	3	20.6	201	2	16.3	3,841	4	20.9
Engineering	5,448	4	22.3	712	6	16.0	4,441	4	23.5
Engineering-Related Technologies	2,978	2	20.8	519	4	16.3	2,259	2	21.9
Foreign Languages	561	0	23.3	32	0	17.3	477	0	24.0
Health Sciences & Allied Health Fields	19,756	14	20.7	1,481	11	16.7	17,225	17	21.1
Human, Family & Consumer Science	2,409	2	18.3	513	4	16.6	1,693	2	18.8
Letters	876	1	24.1	45	0	18.6	775	1	24.5
Mathematics	659	0	24.5	21	0	16.1	599	1	24.8
Philosophy, Religion & Theology	578	0	22.5	26	0	19.6	500	1	22.8
Sciences (Biological & Physical)	4,947	3	23.8	93	1	17.4	4,577	5	24.0
Social Sciences	7,881	5	22.1	165	1	17.1	7,328	7	22.3
Trade & Industrial	2,983	2	17.9	1,575	12	17.1	1,145	1	19.0
Visual & Performing Arts	9,094	6	20.2	1,141	9	16.9	7,141	7	20.9
Undecided	15,183	11	21.5	1,467	11	16.5	11,968	12	22.2
No Response	28,541	20	20.0	840	6	15.1	4,376	4	22.1

¹2-Year and 4-Year N's do not reflect "Missing" and "Other" institution types, therefore they may not add up to the N for *All Students*.

²Percent of students tested.

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

Educational Degree Aspirations	All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined		African-Am./ Black		Am. Indian/ Alaska Native		Caucasian-Am./ White		Hispanic		Asian-Am./ Pacific Islander		Other/No Response	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	3,502	16.6	404	14.5	13	15.8	2,172	17.3	497	15.5	27	16.8	389	16.5
2-yr College Degree	9,423	16.6	1,434	14.5	41	16.9	5,012	17.6	1,775	15.5	124	16.8	1,037	16.4
Bachelors Degree	44,788	20.2	5,381	16.4	137	19.5	29,158	21.3	4,579	18.0	1,140	20.9	4,393	19.9
Graduate Study	22,354	23.1	2,520	18.1	63	22.2	14,520	24.2	1,857	20.1	940	24.2	2,454	23.1
Prof. Level Degree	32,217	22.2	5,843	18.2	98	21.2	16,139	23.8	3,833	19.8	2,232	24.9	4,072	22.3
Other	4,719	17.8	818	15.8	16	18.2	2,420	18.8	639	16.5	122	19.8	704	17.9
No Response	26,731	20.0	4,063	15.7	78	18.9	12,581	21.7	3,652	16.9	849	23.0	5,508	21.1

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
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA CHAMPAIGN	Illinois	19,666	7,719	11,947	0	4	15	26	30	21	4
STATE-COLLEGE/NO REPORTS NOW	Iowa	18,194	18,191	3	4	20	31	23	13	7	2
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY	Illinois	16,168	4,858	11,310	1	12	31	33	17	5	0
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO	Illinois	13,840	4,153	9,687	1	11	29	30	19	8	1
ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY	Illinois	13,228	3,942	9,286	1	6	25	37	24	8	0
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIV-CARBONDALE	Illinois	12,253	3,091	9,162	1	13	33	32	16	5	0
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY	Illinois	8,199	1,968	6,231	1	9	32	36	17	5	0
DE PAUL UNIVERSITY	Illinois	7,314	2,029	5,285	2	12	28	29	20	8	0
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO	Illinois	7,118	1,724	5,394	1	10	25	30	22	10	1
WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY	Illinois	6,813	1,678	5,135	1	10	35	35	15	3	0
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIV-EDWARDSVILLE	Illinois	5,907	1,662	4,245	1	10	30	34	18	6	0
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO	Illinois	5,082	1,192	3,890	2	12	26	23	18	16	4
COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO	Illinois	4,114	1,743	2,371	2	16	32	29	16	5	0
BRADLEY UNIVERSITY	Illinois	3,947	1,005	2,942	1	5	19	31	28	15	1
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA	Iowa	3,275	751	2,524	0	3	11	30	34	19	2
NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY	Illinois	3,067	677	2,390	4	24	40	23	7	2	0
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY	Illinois	3,007	741	2,266	0	2	8	17	25	37	10
UNIV OF WISCONSIN-MADISON	Wisconsin	2,586	504	2,082	0	2	9	20	35	30	4
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY	Wisconsin	2,537	560	1,977	1	4	15	26	32	20	2
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF ART THE	Illinois	2,499	715	1,784	2	20	36	27	13	3	0
PURDUE UNIVERSITY	Indiana	2,381	410	1,971	0	2	9	23	33	27	5
DEVRY UNIVERSITY-CHICAGO IL	Illinois	2,354	668	1,686	5	30	38	18	7	1	0
CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY	Illinois	2,317	749	1,568	6	33	41	15	4	1	0
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	Illinois	2,105	449	1,656	2	18	30	22	17	10	1
COLLEGE OF DU PAGE	Illinois	2,069	954	1,115	2	16	37	29	13	3	0
AUGUSTANA COLLEGE	Illinois	2,065	547	1,518	1	6	17	31	29	15	1
ILLINOIS CENTRAL COLLEGE	Illinois	2,054	1,131	923	2	16	35	28	14	4	0
ROBERT MORRIS COLLEGE-CHICAGO	Illinois	2,044	462	1,582	5	33	41	16	5	1	0
JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE	Illinois	1,994	893	1,101	3	23	40	23	9	2	0
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	1,985	910	1,075	1	8	25	32	24	10	2
All Other Institutions		167,372	46,677	120,695	3	16	29	25	16	10	2
Total		347,554	112,753	234,801	2	14	28	27	18	10	2

Section V

Optional Writing Test Results

Table 5.1. Average ACT English and Writing Scores by Race/Ethnicity and Gender for students who took ACT Writing

	N		Average ACT Scores					
			English		Essay		English/Writing Combined	
			State	National	State	National	State	National
All Students	123,938	770,529	20.4	21.4	7.2	7.3	20.1	20.9
African Am./Black	17,290	86,049	16.4	16.6	6.5	6.5	16.5	16.6
Am. Indian/Alaska Native	393	5,148	19.0	18.9	6.9	6.7	18.8	18.5
Caucasian Am./White	70,257	464,177	21.9	22.5	7.4	7.4	21.4	21.8
Hispanic	14,962	71,060	17.3	18.3	6.9	7.1	17.6	18.5
Asian Am./Pacific Islander	4,714	37,359	23.4	23.1	7.9	7.9	23.0	22.6
Other/No Response	16,322	106,736	20.6	22.2	7.2	7.5	20.3	21.7
Males	58,290	327,613	19.9	20.9	6.9	7.0	19.4	20.2
Females	63,745	421,968	20.8	21.7	7.5	7.6	20.7	21.3
Missing	1,903	20,948	24.5	23.9	8.1	7.9	23.9	23.2

