

ACT High School Profile Report

The Graduating Class of 2008
Massachusetts



ACT High School Profile Report

The Graduating Class of 2008

Massachusetts

Section I: Executive Summary	P. 5
Section II: Academic Achievement	P. 9
Section III: College Readiness & the Impact of Course Rigor	P. 15
Section IV: Career and Educational Aspirations	P. 23
Section V: Optional Writing Test Results	P. 27



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

36% 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. 12,469 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. 47% 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 4% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 48% were college ready. 7% of the cohort reported taking the minimum core (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). 28% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 69% 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 7% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 27% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 41% 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 25% 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.

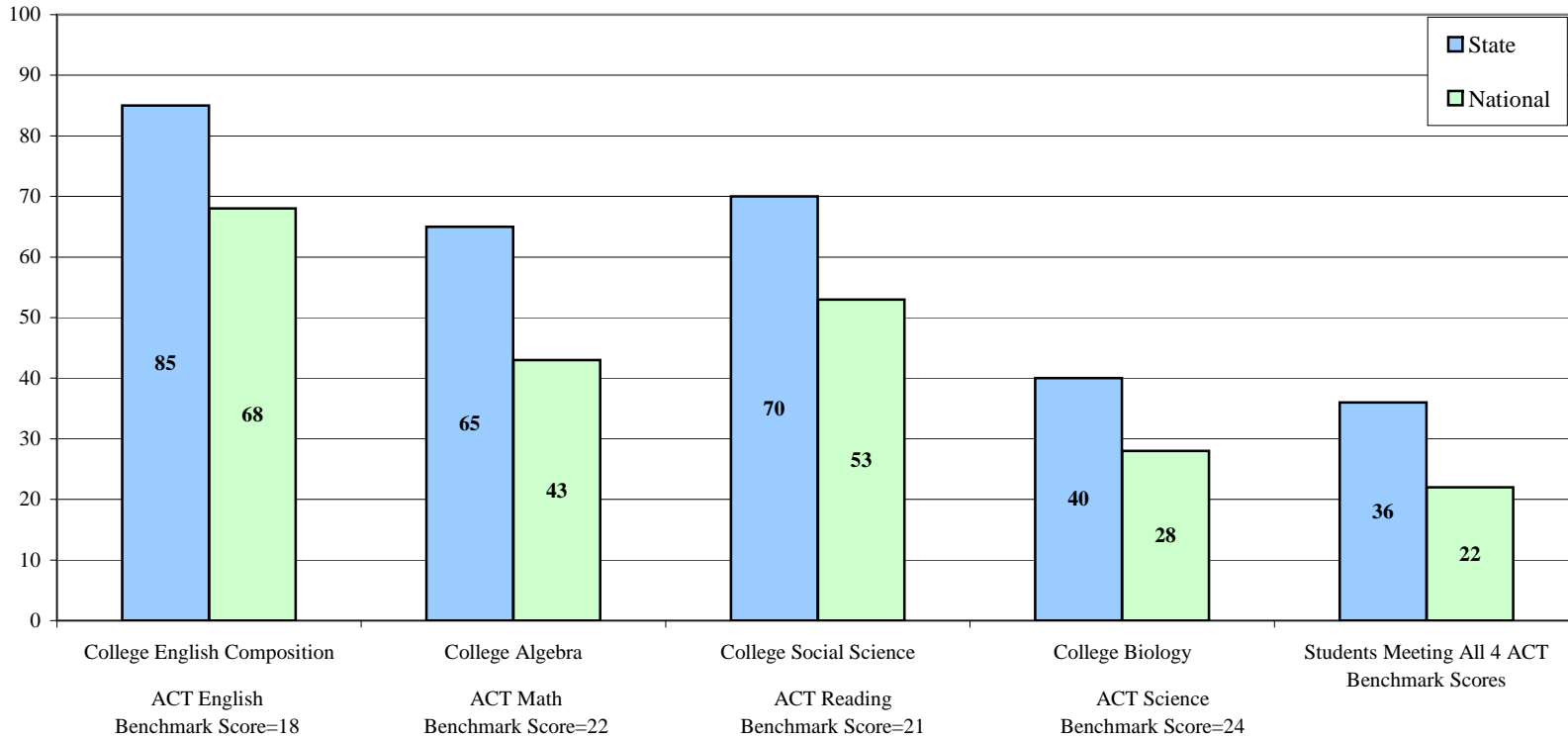
PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS. Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic groups.

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 518-869-7378.

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									
	State	National	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Meeting All Four	
			State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2004	7,748	1,171,460	78	68	55	40	64	52	33	26	28	21
2005	8,168	1,186,251	80	68	58	41	66	51	34	26	30	21
2006	8,865	1,206,455	83	69	62	42	67	53	36	27	31	21
2007	10,510	1,300,599	85	69	65	43	70	53	41	28	36	23
2008	12,469	1,421,941	85	68	65	43	70	53	40	28	36	22

Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested		Average ACT Scores									
	State	National	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
			State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2004	7,748	1,171,460	22.1	20.4	22.3	20.7	22.9	21.3	21.7	20.9	22.4	20.9
2005	8,168	1,186,251	22.5	20.4	22.8	20.7	23.4	21.3	22.0	20.9	22.8	20.9
2006	8,865	1,206,455	22.9	20.6	23.3	20.8	23.4	21.4	22.0	20.9	23.0	21.1
2007	10,510	1,300,599	23.5	20.7	23.6	21.0	23.9	21.5	22.6	21.0	23.5	21.2
2008	12,469	1,421,941	23.5	20.6	23.9	21.0	24.0	21.4	22.5	20.8	23.6	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	2,837	3,153	37	41	22.2	21.8	22.3	22.1	23.1	22.7	21.8	21.6	22.5	22.2
2005	2,891	3,229	35	40	22.7	22.2	22.9	22.5	23.7	23.2	22.1	21.9	23.0	22.6
2006	2,786	3,642	31	41	23.2	22.6	23.5	23.1	23.8	23.1	22.3	21.8	23.3	22.8
2007	3,402	4,279	32	41	23.6	23.2	23.7	23.4	24.1	23.8	22.7	22.4	23.6	23.3
2008	5,853	4,816	47	39	23.5	23.3	23.9	23.7	24.1	23.7	22.5	22.3	23.6	23.4

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	7,748	100	22.4	8,168	100	22.8	8,865	100	23.0	10,510	100	23.5	12,469	100	23.6
African American/Black	362	5	18.3	329	4	18.5	342	4	18.4	348	3	19.0	405	3	19.3
American Indian/Alaska Native	15	0	23.1	16	0	20.6	17	0	22.4	15	0	21.8	17	0	22.8
Caucasian American/White	5,397	70	22.6	5,726	70	23.0	5,739	65	23.2	6,305	60	23.5	8,678	70	23.6
Hispanic	191	2	19.5	210	3	20.5	217	2	20.0	241	2	20.9	328	3	21.3
Asian American/Pacific Islander	318	4	22.7	297	4	23.0	306	3	23.4	364	3	23.8	407	3	24.3
Other/No Response	1,465	19	22.8	1,590	19	23.3	2,244	25	23.6	3,237	31	24.2	2,634	21	24.3

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	28	100	72	100	178	100	39	100	1	100	36
35	270	100	188	99	217	99	80	100	49	100	35
34	329	98	219	98	234	97	104	99	122	100	34
33	270	95	336	96	397	95	155	98	185	99	33
32	307	93	283	93	431	92	112	97	279	97	32
31	375	90	269	91	477	88	154	96	355	95	31
30	439	87	461	89	699	84	252	95	434	92	30
29	557	84	609	85	617	79	289	93	577	89	29
28	480	79	790	80	727	74	415	90	704	84	28
27	616	75	858	74	561	68	490	87	829	78	27
26	729	71	865	67	555	64	725	83	904	72	26
25	853	65	1,001	60	607	59	1,187	77	950	64	25
24	865	58	866	52	674	54	1,043	68	994	57	24
23	806	51	792	45	1,041	49	1,007	60	921	49	23
22	874	44	531	39	609	41	1,214	51	937	41	22
21	999	37	701	35	727	36	935	42	828	34	21
20	793	29	496	29	801	30	1,213	34	788	27	20
19	511	23	632	25	635	23	917	25	668	21	19
18	468	19	694	20	398	18	574	17	595	16	18
17	445	15	656	14	399	15	433	13	431	11	17
16	351	12	664	9	450	12	298	9	358	7	16
15	363	9	323	4	298	8	219	7	223	4	15
14	222	6	110	1	268	6	172	5	166	3	14
13	158	4	35	1	203	4	147	4	92	1	13
12	101	3	15	1	119	2	147	2	50	1	12
11	88	2	2	1	70	1	58	1	18	1	11
10	73	1	1	1	43	1	49	1	7	1	10
9	43	1	0	1	17	1	25	1	4	1	9
8	34	1	0	1	7	1	9	1	0	1	8
7	15	1	0	1	5	1	0	1	0	1	7
6	1	1	0	1	3	1	6	1	0	1	6
5	4	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	5
4	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	4
3	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	23.5 (5.8)		23.9 (5.3)		24.0 (6.0)		22.5 (4.7)		23.6 (4.8)		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	909	100	130	100	654	100	601	100	1,319	100	177	100	247	100	18
17	826	93	472	99	867	95	1,067	95	1,120	89	399	99	90	98	17
16	1,073	86	995	95	839	88	1,722	87	1,221	80	486	95	1,106	97	16
15	877	77	1,325	87	1,175	81	1,263	73	848	71	754	91	847	88	15
14	923	70	997	77	852	72	1,235	63	1,327	64	1,743	85	1,940	82	14
13	1,274	63	1,446	69	1,310	65	692	53	1,380	53	1,593	71	1,283	66	13
12	1,150	53	1,722	57	1,041	54	1,138	47	1,052	42	1,321	59	1,655	56	12
11	1,167	44	1,482	43	1,215	46	1,312	38	906	34	1,840	48	1,095	43	11
10	1,248	34	1,499	31	1,307	36	867	28	1,141	26	1,788	33	1,759	34	10
9	912	24	852	19	985	26	733	21	576	17	1,126	19	811	20	9
8	691	17	681	12	1,145	18	586	15	898	13	590	10	658	13	8
7	546	11	389	7	446	9	453	10	527	5	241	5	458	8	7
6	390	7	225	4	305	5	377	6	111	1	168	3	216	4	6
5	245	4	123	2	148	3	268	3	28	1	160	2	120	2	5
4	147	2	90	1	85	1	113	1	9	1	44	1	73	1	4
3	66	1	30	1	61	1	28	1	5	1	22	1	76	1	3
2	20	1	11	1	22	1	12	1	1	1	6	1	16	1	2
1	5	1	0	1	12	1	2	1	0	1	11	1	19	1	1
Avg (SD)	12.1 (3.6)		12.0 (3.0)		12.0 (3.5)		12.6 (3.6)		13.0 (3.4)		11.8 (2.7)		11.9 (3.0)		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)	27	28	29	25	27
Q2 (50th Percentile)	23	24	24	22	24
Q1 (25th Percentile)	20	19	20	20	20

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	12,469	47	23.6	23.4
	African Am./Black	405	38	20.0	18.8
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	17	53	21.1	25.4
	Caucasian Am./White	8,678	50	23.6	23.5
	Hispanic	328	47	21.7	20.9
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	407	46	24.4	23.9
	Other/No Response	2,634	38	24.4	24.1
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	23.5	23.9	24.0	22.5	23.6
	African Am./Black	18.9	19.6	19.7	18.5	19.3
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	21.9	22.1	23.4	23.2	22.8
	Caucasian Am./White	23.5	23.9	24.1	22.5	23.6
	Hispanic	20.9	21.6	21.8	20.3	21.3
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	23.5	26.2	23.8	23.3	24.3
	Other/No Response	24.3	24.6	24.8	23.0	24.3
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	897	7	815	7	1,026	8	378	3
	28 to 32	2,158	17	2,412	19	2,951	24	1,222	10
	24 to 27	3,063	25	3,590	29	2,397	19	3,445	28
	20 to 23	3,472	28	2,520	20	3,178	25	4,369	35
	16 to 19	1,775	14	2,646	21	1,882	15	2,222	18
	13 to 15	743	6	468	4	769	6	538	4
	01 to 12	361	3	18	0	266	2	295	2
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	4,930	40	22.9	24.7	23.9	22.9	23.7
	Females	6,858	55	23.8	23.2	24.0	22.1	23.4
	Missing	681	5	24.1	25.0	24.6	23.1	24.3
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	83	71	69	45	40
	Females	86	61	70	37	32
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	5,853	86	23.5	66	23.9	72	24.1	41	22.5	35	23.6
	Non-Core	4,816	82	23.3	63	23.7	68	23.7	40	22.3	35	23.4
	Missing	1,800	86	23.8	70	24.6	71	24.5	42	22.8	39	24.0
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	10,009	85	23.5	10,314	65	23.9	6,403	71	24.0	9,883	41	22.5
	Non-Core	895	80	22.6	491	48	21.8	4,372	68	23.8	862	27	20.7
	Missing	1,565	86	23.9	1,664	70	24.7	1,694	72	24.5	1,724	43	22.9
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

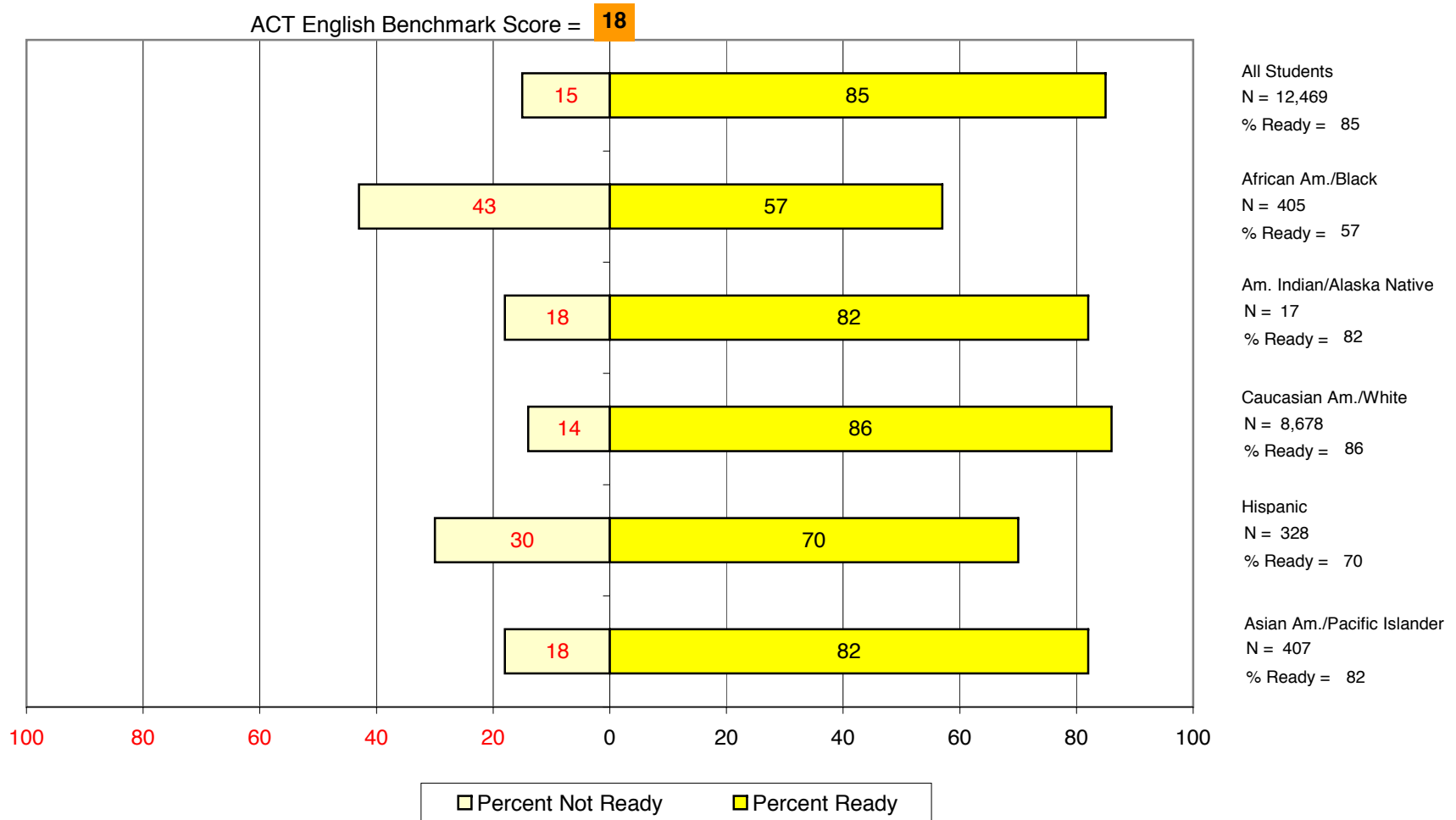


Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: MATHEMATICS

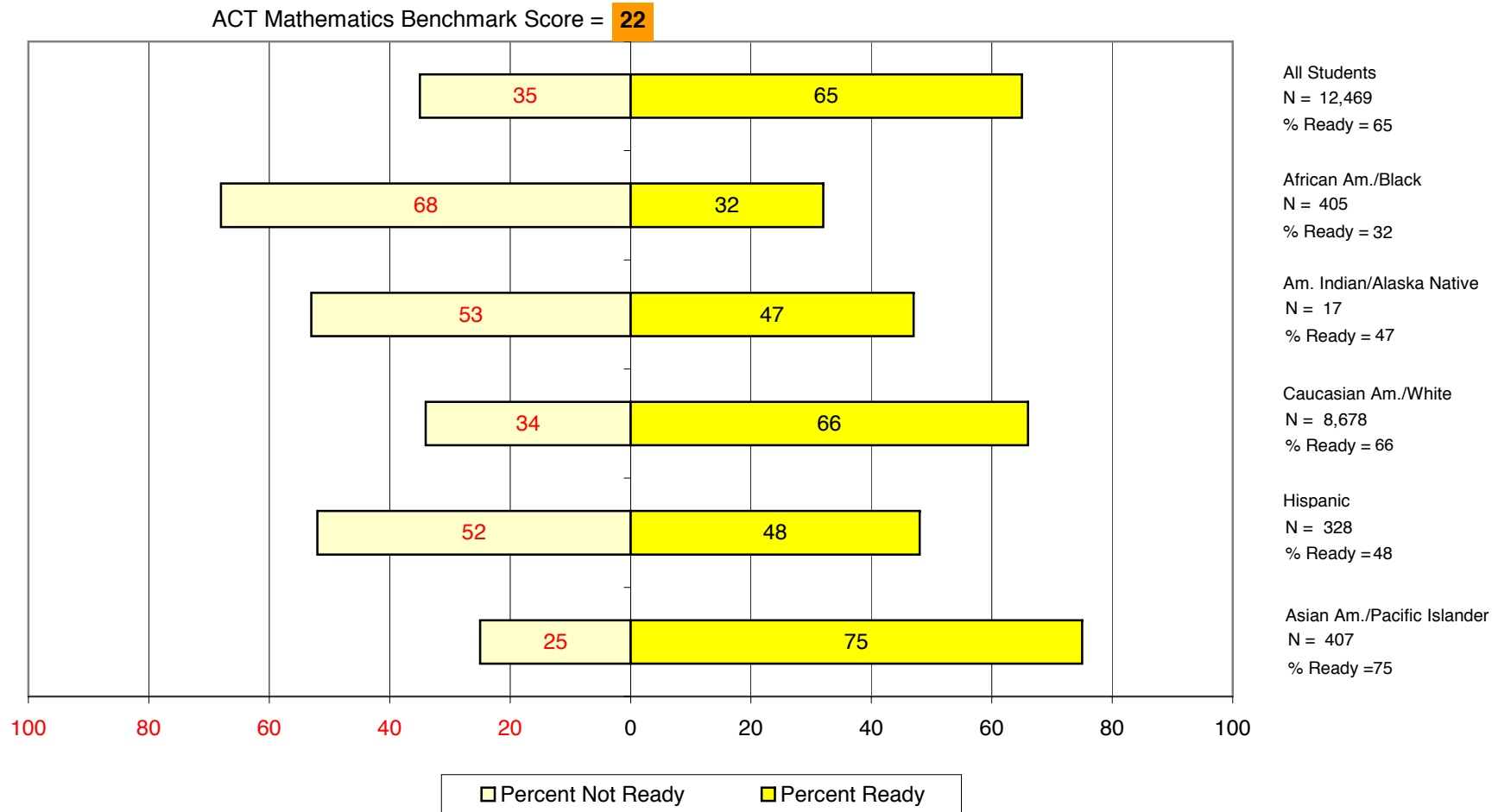


Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: **READING**

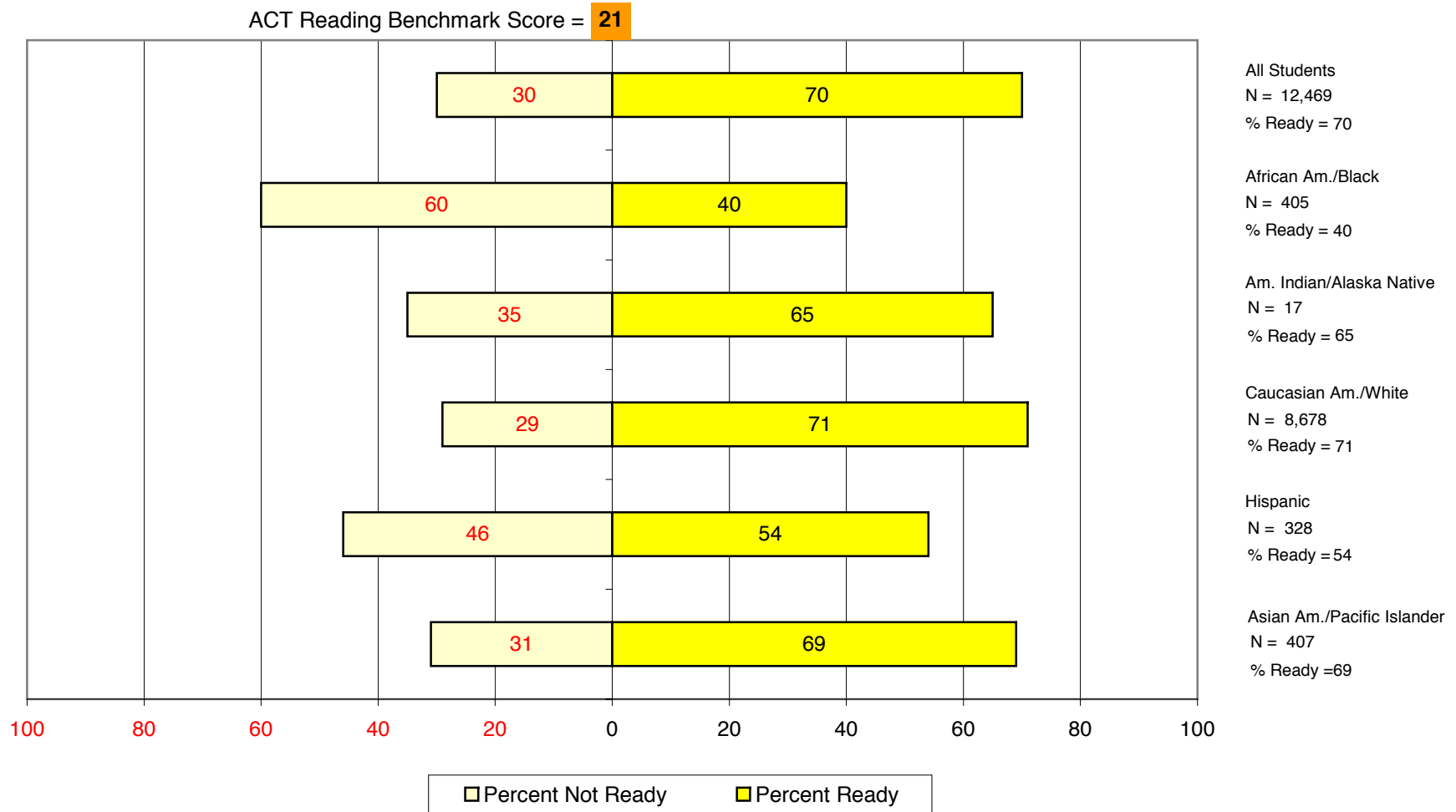


Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: SCIENCE

ACT Science Benchmark Score = 24

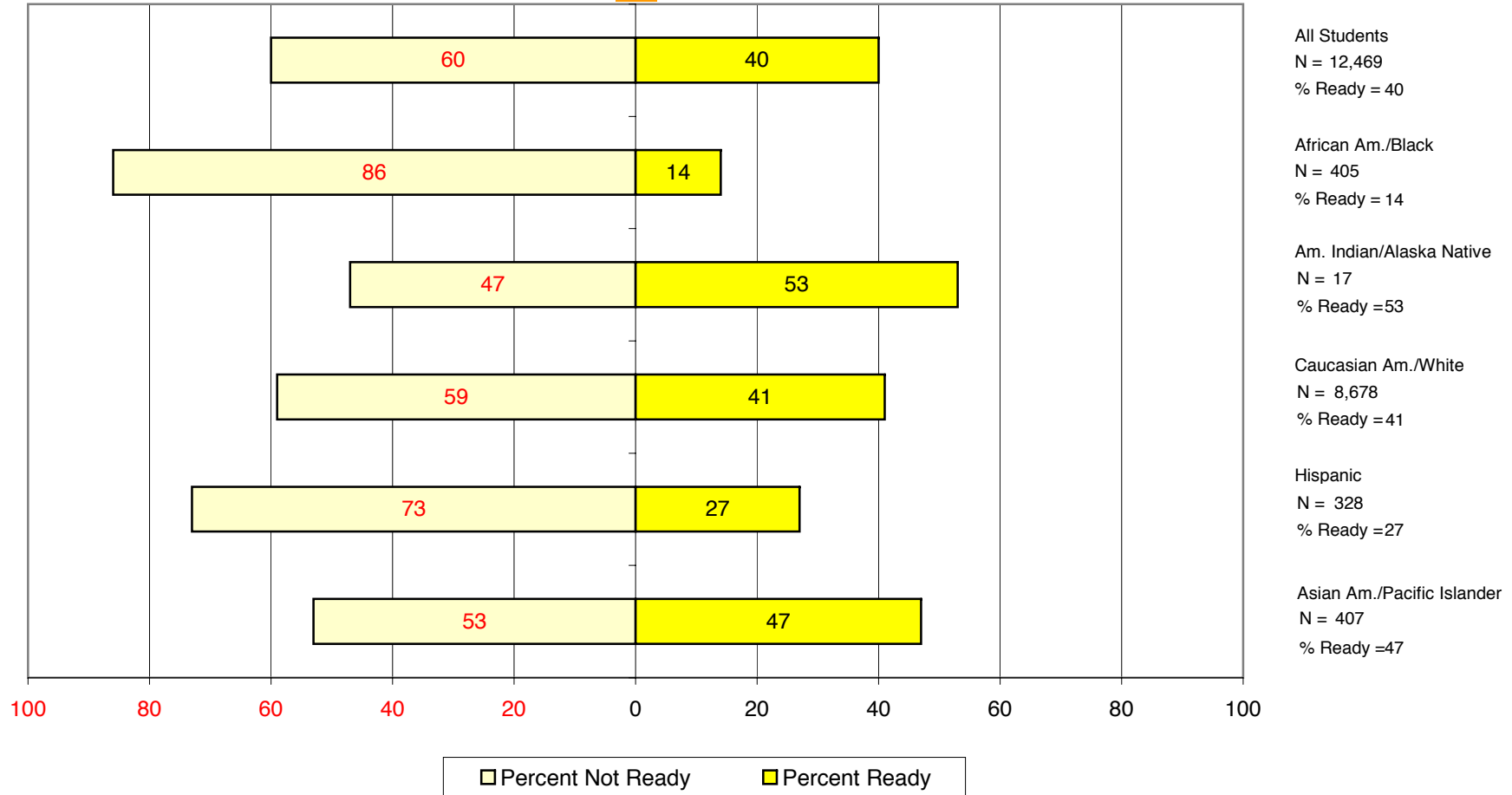


Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ALL FOUR

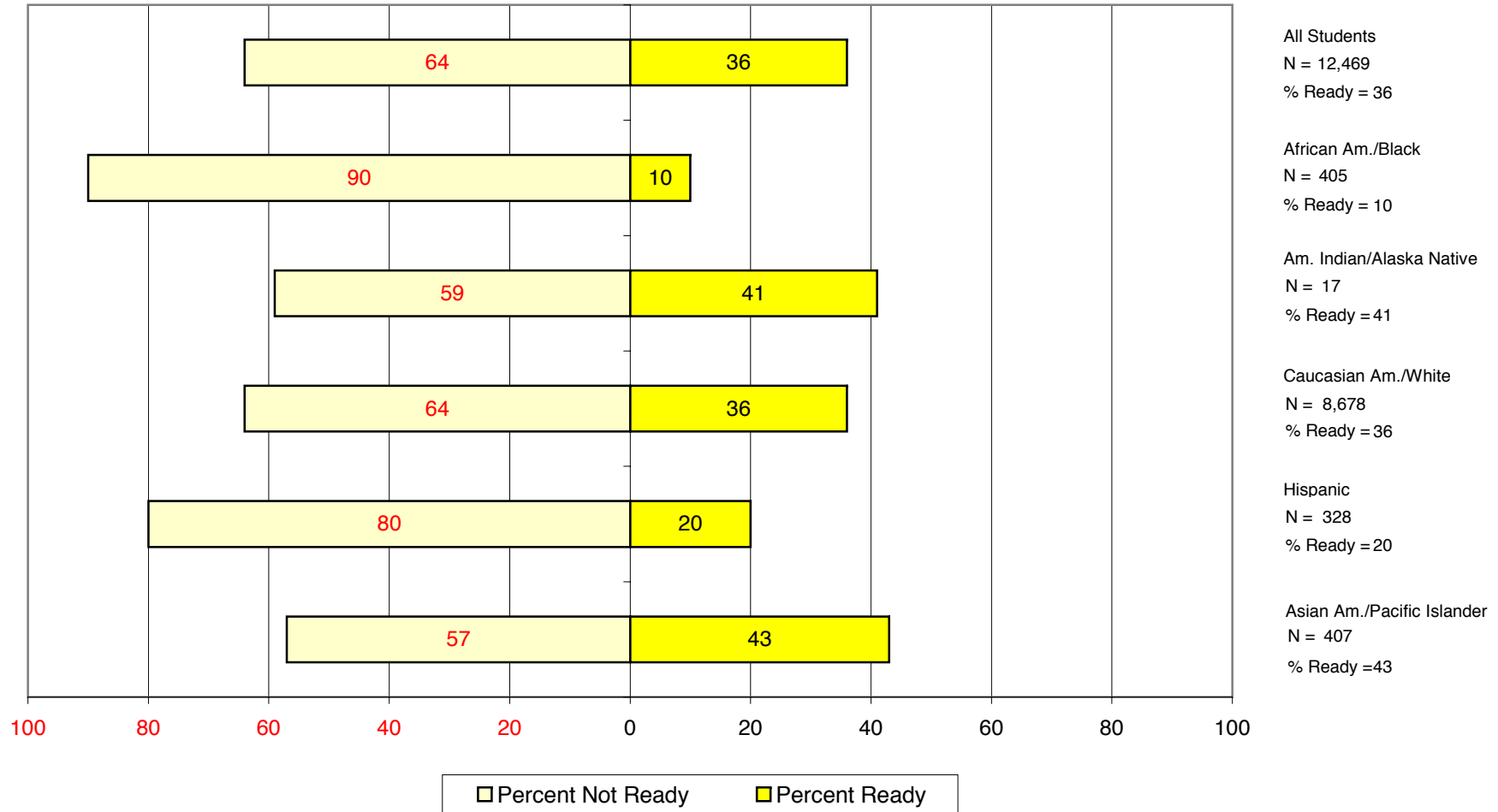


Table 3.1. Average ACT Scores and ACT Average Score Changes by Common Course Patterns

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	2,461	20	23.8	1.2	866	18	23.2	1.0	1,520	22	24.1	1.0
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	7,548	61	23.4	0.8	3,027	61	22.8	0.6	4,256	62	23.7	0.6
Less than 4 years of English	902	7	22.6	-	379	8	22.2	-	425	6	23.1	-
No English course/grade information reported	1,558	12	23.9	-	658	13	23.4	-	657	10	24.2	-
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,246	10	26.6	4.8	485	10	27.3	4.9	710	10	26.0	4.9
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	983	8	23.2	1.4	327	7	24.0	1.6	630	9	22.8	1.7
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	861	7	21.4	-0.4	305	6	22.0	-0.4	513	7	20.9	-0.2
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,608	13	21.6	-0.2	532	11	22.0	-0.4	1,009	15	21.3	0.2
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	3,939	32	25.6	3.8	1,766	36	26.4	4.0	2,054	30	24.9	3.8
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	889	7	19.5	-2.3	311	6	19.8	-2.6	531	8	19.2	-1.9
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	788	6	23.9	2.1	292	6	24.6	2.2	469	7	23.3	2.2
Less than 3 years of Math	520	4	21.8	-	230	5	22.4	-	245	4	21.1	-
No Math course/grade information reported	1,635	13	24.7	-	682	14	25.5	-	697	10	23.7	-
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	634	5	24.7	0.9	291	6	24.0	0.3	327	5	25.4	1.6
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	2,249	18	23.7	-0.1	937	19	23.7	0.0	1,246	18	23.6	-0.2
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	525	4	23.8	0.0	242	5	23.3	-0.4	261	4	24.3	0.5
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	2,995	24	24.1	0.3	1,132	23	23.9	0.2	1,749	26	24.2	0.4
Less than 3 years of Social Science	4,409	35	23.8	-	1,632	33	23.7	-	2,570	37	23.8	-
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	1,657	13	24.6	-	696	14	24.6	-	705	10	24.4	-
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem, & Phys	5,477	44	23.0	2.2	2,298	47	23.5	2.6	2,970	43	22.6	2.1
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,894	15	23.6	2.8	834	17	24.2	3.3	982	14	23.0	2.5
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	2,373	19	20.7	-0.1	697	14	20.5	-0.4	1,604	23	20.8	0.3
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	139	1	21.2	0.4	57	1	21.1	0.2	78	1	21.3	0.8
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	911	7	20.8	-	339	7	20.9	-	513	7	20.5	-
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	1,675	13	22.9	-	705	14	23.3	-	711	10	22.3	-

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	2,461	20	23.8	87	266,394	19	21.8	76
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	7,548	61	23.4	84	949,721	67	20.5	68
Less than 4 years of English	902	7	22.6	80	112,496	8	18.8	56
No English course/grade information reported	1,558	12	23.9	86	93,330	7	20.2	64
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,246	10	26.6	87	91,985	6	24.8	74
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	983	8	23.2	62	113,879	8	22.3	57
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	861	7	21.4	48	116,105	8	20.4	38
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,608	13	21.6	49	204,909	14	20.4	38
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	3,939	32	25.6	78	342,493	24	23.9	66
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	889	7	19.5	28	251,813	18	17.8	14
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	788	6	23.9	67	70,951	5	20.8	41
Less than 3 years of Math	520	4	21.8	48	131,252	9	17.4	14
No Math course/grade information reported	1,635	13	24.7	70	98,554	7	21.1	44
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	634	5	24.7	75	42,546	3	22.7	61
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	2,249	18	23.7	69	604,055	42	21.9	56
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	525	4	23.8	69	86,500	6	20.8	48
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	2,995	24	24.1	72	404,731	28	21.3	52
Less than 3 years of Social Science	4,409	35	23.8	68	185,561	13	20.4	45
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	1,657	13	24.6	72	98,548	7	21.1	50
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	5,477	44	23.0	45	453,654	32	22.2	38
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,894	15	23.6	50	134,033	9	23.2	47
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	2,373	19	20.7	26	435,183	31	20.1	20
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	139	1	21.2	29	40,179	3	20.1	22
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	911	7	20.8	27	259,142	18	18.7	13
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	1,675	13	22.9	43	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	43	0	20.2	2	6	18.5	40	0	20.4
Architecture & Environmental Design	147	1	22.0	0	0	.	128	1	22.0
Business & Management	1,371	11	22.5	4	12	16.5	1,213	13	22.5
Business & Office	43	0	21.7	0	0	.	33	0	21.5
Marketing & Distribution	93	1	21.9	1	3	17.0	77	1	21.7
Communications & Comm. Technologies	405	3	23.1	2	6	15.0	351	4	23.2
Community & Personal Services	133	1	20.3	1	3	19.0	124	1	20.1
Computer & Information Sciences	122	1	24.1	0	0	.	105	1	24.4
Cross-Disciplinary Studies	56	0	25.9	0	0	.	52	1	25.7
Education	365	3	20.9	2	6	12.5	323	3	20.9
Teacher Education	110	1	21.2	0	0	.	97	1	21.3
Engineering	372	3	25.4	0	0	.	338	4	25.3
Engineering-Related Technologies	235	2	24.0	0	0	.	200	2	24.0
Foreign Languages	94	1	26.0	0	0	.	71	1	26.0
Health Sciences & Allied Health Fields	1,353	11	22.4	3	9	17.3	1,243	13	22.4
Human, Family & Consumer Science	49	0	21.3	0	0	.	44	0	21.1
Letters	80	1	26.5	0	0	.	73	1	26.4
Mathematics	73	1	26.1	0	0	.	62	1	26.0
Philosophy, Religion & Theology	33	0	24.8	0	0	.	30	0	24.8
Sciences (Biological & Physical)	747	6	25.4	0	0	.	666	7	25.5
Social Sciences	863	7	24.1	0	0	.	782	8	24.0
Trade & Industrial	24	0	20.2	4	12	16.3	17	0	21.5
Visual & Performing Arts	462	4	23.0	3	9	15.3	402	4	23.0
Undecided	2,406	19	23.7	9	26	17.8	1,989	21	23.6
No Response	2,790	22	24.4	3	9	18.3	914	10	24.3

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	5	17.6	0	.	0	.	4	17.8	1	17.0	0	.	0	.
2-yr College Degree	29	16.7	0	.	0	.	25	16.6	0	.	0	.	4	17.5
Bachelors Degree	3,156	21.4	81	17.1	4	22.5	2,503	21.6	79	19.0	72	20.6	417	21.5
Graduate Study	3,210	24.1	77	19.7	3	17.3	2,467	24.2	76	22.0	76	25.1	511	24.8
Prof. Level Degree	3,008	24.8	153	20.3	7	23.9	2,004	25.0	111	22.4	164	25.2	569	25.3
Other	181	20.4	7	16.0	1	26.0	121	20.9	4	19.5	13	18.5	35	20.3
No Response	2,880	24.4	87	19.5	2	26.0	1,554	24.5	57	21.4	82	26.0	1,098	24.7

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
UNIV OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST	Massachusetts	926	242	684	1	4	19	30	33	13	1
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY	Massachusetts	718	210	508	1	2	12	28	40	15	2
BOSTON UNIVERSITY	Massachusetts	557	203	354	0	2	10	27	37	21	3
BOSTON COLLEGE	Massachusetts	500	223	277	1	1	8	27	31	28	3
UNIV OF MASSACHUSETTS-DARTMOUTH	Massachusetts	346	69	277	1	9	33	35	17	5	0
UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE	New Hampshire	333	61	272	0	1	17	41	31	8	1
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY	Connecticut	265	62	203	0	2	9	44	37	8	0
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT	Connecticut	244	54	190	0	1	14	35	37	12	1
BRIDGEWATER STATE COLLEGE	Massachusetts	232	68	164	2	11	43	30	12	2	0
TUFTS UNIVERSITY	Massachusetts	216	64	152	0	3	6	19	25	40	7
UNIV OF MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL	Massachusetts	216	60	156	1	9	28	31	23	7	1
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND	Rhode Island	214	34	180	0	5	24	34	29	7	0
WESTFIELD STATE COLLEGE	Massachusetts	212	44	168	2	9	44	34	9	1	0
SALEM STATE COLLEGE	Massachusetts	195	37	158	3	11	42	29	15	1	0
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT	Vermont	187	38	149	0	0	5	30	48	16	1
WORCESTER STATE COLLEGE	Massachusetts	184	33	151	2	11	39	34	11	4	0
ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY	Rhode Island	172	37	135	0	3	30	42	22	3	0
SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY	Massachusetts	172	39	133	1	4	30	34	28	3	0
WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INST	Massachusetts	170	34	136	0	1	6	25	37	27	3
BENTLEY COLLEGE	Massachusetts	154	59	95	1	5	9	35	34	15	1
ASSUMPTION COLLEGE	Massachusetts	149	41	108	0	6	23	46	20	5	0
FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE	Massachusetts	147	43	104	3	10	43	25	18	2	0
ENDICOTT COLLEGE	Massachusetts	146	27	119	1	5	31	46	15	3	0
STONEHILL COLLEGE	Massachusetts	137	28	109	0	4	15	34	34	11	1
PROVIDENCE COLLEGE	Rhode Island	136	25	111	0	1	10	34	38	14	3
UNIV OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON	Massachusetts	132	22	110	2	16	31	33	16	2	1
FRAMINGHAM STATE COLLEGE	Massachusetts	129	37	92	2	16	35	31	17	0	0
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	128	80	48	1	5	23	33	27	10	2
SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY	Rhode Island	127	33	94	0	5	21	44	25	5	0
BRYANT UNIVERSITY	Rhode Island	125	40	85	0	3	20	41	34	2	0
All Other Institutions		8,593	2,234	6,359	1	5	16	25	31	20	3
Total		16,162	4,281	11,881	1	5	18	28	30	16	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	10,285	770,529	24.1	21.4	8.3	7.3	23.8	20.9
African Am./Black	308	86,049	19.7	16.6	7.6	6.5	20.0	16.6
Am. Indian/Alaska Native	12	5,148	22.3	18.9	7.8	6.7	22.1	18.5
Caucasian Am./White	7,092	464,177	24.2	22.5	8.3	7.4	23.9	21.8
Hispanic	277	71,060	21.7	18.3	8.2	7.1	21.9	18.5
Asian Am./Pacific Islander	364	37,359	24.0	23.1	8.4	7.9	23.8	22.6
Other/No Response	2,232	106,736	24.9	22.2	8.4	7.5	24.5	21.7
Males	3,936	327,613	23.7	20.9	8.1	7.0	23.3	20.2
Females	5,787	421,968	24.3	21.7	8.5	7.6	24.1	21.3
Missing	562	20,948	24.6	23.9	8.5	7.9	24.3	23.2

