

# ACT High School Profile Report

The Graduating Class of 2008  
Nebraska





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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](http://www.act.org)

## How to Improve Scores and Increase College Readiness

27% 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.** 16,573 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. 72% 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 6% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 13% were college ready. 14% of the cohort reported taking the minimum core (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). 15% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 58% 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 14% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 16% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 38% 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 39% 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](http://www.act.org/standard).

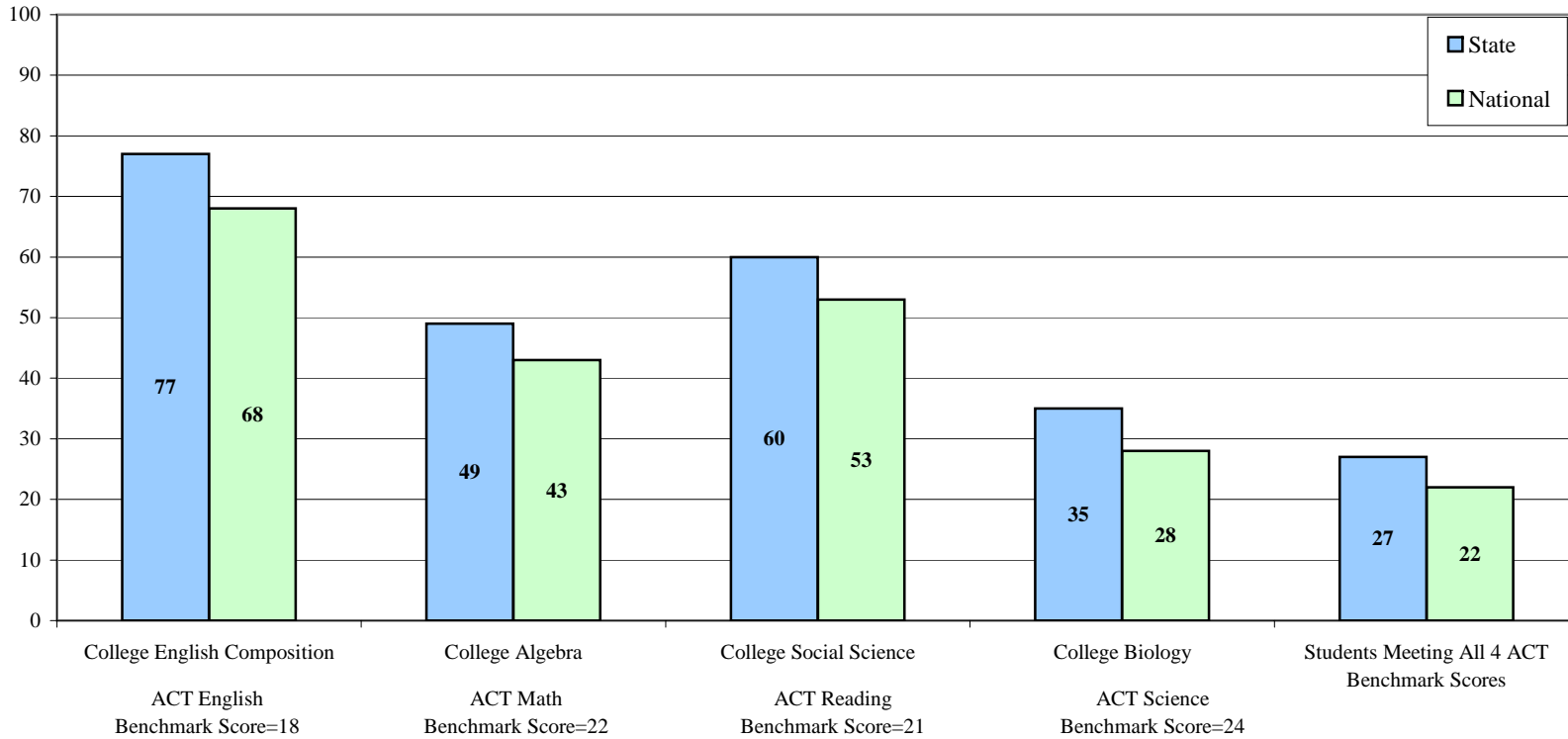
**PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS.** Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic 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 916-631-9200.

# 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	16,523	1,171,460	74	68	46	40	57	52	31	26	24	21
2005	16,220	1,186,251	75	68	48	41	56	51	32	26	26	21
2006	15,892	1,206,455	76	69	48	42	59	53	33	27	26	21
2007	16,137	1,300,599	77	69	49	43	58	53	34	28	27	23
<b>2008</b>	<b>16,573</b>	<b>1,421,941</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>22</b>

**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	16,523	1,171,460	21.2	20.4	21.5	20.7	22.0	21.3	21.6	20.9	21.7	20.9
2005	16,220	1,186,251	21.4	20.4	21.6	20.7	21.9	21.3	21.7	20.9	21.8	20.9
2006	15,892	1,206,455	21.5	20.6	21.6	20.8	22.2	21.4	21.8	20.9	21.9	21.1
2007	16,137	1,300,599	21.8	20.7	21.8	21.0	22.4	21.5	21.9	21.0	22.1	21.2
<b>2008</b>	<b>16,573</b>	<b>1,421,941</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>21.1</b>

**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
<b>2008</b>	<b>1,421,941</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>21.1</b>

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

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent <sup>1</sup>		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	11,022	4,766	67	29	22.2	19.0	22.4	19.5	22.8	20.2	22.4	20.1	22.6	19.8
2005	10,913	4,397	67	27	22.4	19.3	22.5	19.7	22.8	20.1	22.4	20.1	22.6	19.9
2006	10,133	4,517	64	28	22.5	19.7	22.4	20.0	23.0	20.6	22.5	20.5	22.7	20.3
2007	9,539	4,458	59	28	22.7	19.8	22.6	20.1	23.2	20.8	22.6	20.5	22.9	20.4
<b>2008</b>	<b>11,934</b>	<b>3,944</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>20.1</b>

<sup>1</sup>Percent 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
<b>All Students</b>	<b>16,523</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>16,220</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>15,892</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>16,137</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>16,573</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22.1</b>
African American/Black	477	3	17.7	492	3	17.6	528	3	17.7	508	3	17.9	575	3	17.5
American Indian/Alaska Native	96	1	18.7	97	1	19.1	102	1	18.8	96	1	19.1	124	1	19.1
Caucasian American/White	14,268	86	22.0	13,797	85	22.1	13,208	83	22.3	12,839	80	22.4	13,788	83	22.5
Hispanic	542	3	18.7	574	4	18.7	591	4	19.0	585	4	19.2	712	4	19.5
Asian American/Pacific Islander	278	2	21.5	300	2	21.5	305	2	21.9	292	2	22.7	323	2	22.9
Other/No Response	862	5	21.4	960	6	21.4	1,158	7	21.5	1,817	11	22.1	1,051	6	21.8

# Section II

# Academic Achievement

**Table 2.1. ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percentages (CP<sup>1</sup>), and Score Averages for All Students**

ACT Scale Score	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite		ACT Scale Score
	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	
36	36	100	51	100	119	100	56	100	10	100	36
35	248	100	94	100	148	99	71	100	38	100	35
34	254	98	162	99	221	98	99	99	93	100	34
33	234	97	195	98	310	97	168	99	151	99	33
32	240	95	183	97	386	95	176	98	216	98	32
31	302	94	196	96	535	93	170	97	281	97	31
30	432	92	322	95	709	90	248	96	425	95	30
29	478	89	472	93	554	85	328	94	507	93	29
28	484	87	738	90	624	82	466	92	593	90	28
27	577	84	742	85	596	78	624	89	722	86	27
26	692	80	930	81	678	75	686	85	853	82	26
25	1,026	76	1,050	75	743	71	1,364	81	1,044	77	25
24	932	70	1,099	69	982	66	1,343	73	1,121	70	24
23	1,063	64	1,039	62	1,285	60	1,226	65	1,255	63	23
22	1,250	58	810	56	838	52	1,787	58	1,346	56	22
21	1,374	50	1,090	51	1,243	47	1,119	47	1,378	48	21
20	1,234	42	847	45	1,188	40	1,717	40	1,418	39	20
19	962	34	1,064	40	1,177	33	1,449	30	1,184	31	19
18	862	29	1,266	33	714	26	988	21	1,127	24	18
17	878	23	1,375	25	776	21	635	15	934	17	17
16	655	18	1,467	17	825	17	547	11	695	11	16
15	775	14	906	8	610	12	391	8	517	7	15
14	461	10	329	3	530	8	249	6	341	4	14
13	339	7	108	1	355	5	235	4	176	2	13
12	246	5	33	1	220	3	183	3	112	1	12
11	204	3	4	1	125	1	118	1	30	1	11
10	152	2	1	1	49	1	73	1	5	1	10
9	86	1	0	1	15	1	42	1	1	1	9
8	73	1	0	1	8	1	13	1	0	1	8
7	18	1	0	1	7	1	1	1	0	1	7
6	3	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	6
5	3	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	5
4	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	4
3	0	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)	21.8 (5.7)		21.8 (5.1)		22.5 (5.8)		21.9 (4.7)		22.1 (4.7)		Avg (SD)

<sup>1</sup>Note: 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 (CP<sup>1</sup>), 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 <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	
18	630	100	153	100	543	100	521	100	777	100	122	100	139	100	18
17	662	96	483	99	739	97	811	97	794	95	258	99	102	99	17
16	881	92	1,037	96	984	92	1,521	92	970	91	351	98	827	99	16
15	708	87	1,384	90	1,142	86	1,202	83	1,079	85	584	96	793	94	15
14	958	83	1,166	82	1,115	79	1,359	76	1,325	78	1,726	92	1,855	89	14
13	1,397	77	1,529	75	1,740	73	702	67	1,430	70	1,480	82	1,399	78	13
12	1,291	68	2,269	65	1,570	62	1,592	63	1,626	62	1,694	73	2,046	69	12
11	1,821	61	1,875	52	1,720	53	2,168	53	1,458	52	2,576	62	1,726	57	11
10	2,060	50	2,330	40	1,960	42	1,527	40	1,923	43	2,958	47	2,853	46	10
9	1,654	37	1,415	26	1,704	31	1,368	31	1,109	31	2,073	29	1,690	29	9
8	1,369	27	1,306	18	1,632	20	1,196	23	2,002	25	1,334	17	1,201	19	8
7	1,130	19	742	10	775	10	910	16	1,354	13	505	9	902	12	7
6	942	12	388	5	542	6	749	10	523	4	385	6	398	6	6
5	563	6	269	3	218	2	626	6	130	1	328	3	269	4	5
4	331	3	174	1	104	1	239	2	48	1	107	1	146	2	4
3	126	1	46	1	62	1	60	1	16	1	63	1	170	1	3
2	45	1	7	1	20	1	22	1	9	1	12	1	33	1	2
1	5	1	0	1	3	1	0	1	0	1	17	1	24	1	1
Avg (SD)	10.8 (3.6)		11.4 (3.0)		11.4 (3.3)		11.4 (3.6)		11.5 (3.4)		10.9 (2.7)		11.0 (3.0)		Avg (SD)

<sup>1</sup>Note: 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	27	25	25
Q2 (50th Percentile)	21	21	22	22	22
Q1 (25th Percentile)	18	17	18	19	19

**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	<b>All Students</b>	<b>16,573</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>20.1</b>
	African Am./Black	575	71	18.2	16.2
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	124	60	19.7	18.3
	Caucasian Am./White	13,788	73	23.2	20.4
	Hispanic	712	67	20.4	17.8
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	323	80	23.6	20.5
	Other/No Response	1,051	62	22.6	19.8
National	<b>All Students</b>	<b>1,421,941</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>19.5</b>
	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	<b>All Students</b>	21.8	21.8	22.5	21.9	22.1
	African Am./Black	17.1	17.2	17.9	17.5	17.5
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	17.8	18.9	19.7	19.3	19.1
	Caucasian Am./White	22.2	22.1	22.8	22.2	22.5
	Hispanic	18.8	19.3	19.7	19.4	19.5
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	22.5	23.4	22.7	22.6	22.9
	Other/No Response	21.5	21.4	22.4	21.4	21.8
National	<b>All Students</b>	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	772	5	502	3	798	5	394	2
	28 to 32	1,936	12	1,911	12	2,808	17	1,388	8
	24 to 27	3,227	19	3,821	23	2,999	18	4,017	24
	20 to 23	4,921	30	3,786	23	4,554	27	5,849	35
	16 to 19	3,357	20	5,172	31	3,492	21	3,619	22
	13 to 15	1,575	10	1,343	8	1,495	9	875	5
	01 to 12	785	5	38	0	427	3	431	3
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	7,773	47	21.3	22.6	22.4	22.5	22.3
	Females	8,618	52	22.1	21.1	22.5	21.3	21.9
	Missing	182	1	22.6	21.9	23.3	21.9	22.5
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	74	55	60	41	31
	Females	79	43	61	30	24
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 <sup>2</sup>	N	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite <sup>1</sup>	
			CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg
State	Core	11,934	82	22.6	55	22.6	65	23.2	40	22.5	32	22.8
	Non-Core	3,944	63	19.5	32	19.7	47	20.6	21	20.1	14	20.1
	Missing	695	65	20.1	38	20.5	47	20.9	28	20.6	22	20.6
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

<sup>1</sup>% under Composite heading reflects the percent of students who meet all four benchmarks

<sup>2</sup>"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 <sup>1</sup>	English			Mathematics			Reading			Science		
		N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg
State	Core	15,023	78	21.9	15,048	51	22.1	14,524	62	22.7	13,687	38	22.3
	Non-Core	996	64	19.6	888	13	17.4	1,451	49	20.8	2,265	16	19.4
	Missing	554	69	20.8	637	38	20.5	598	51	21.5	621	31	21.0
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

<sup>1</sup>"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

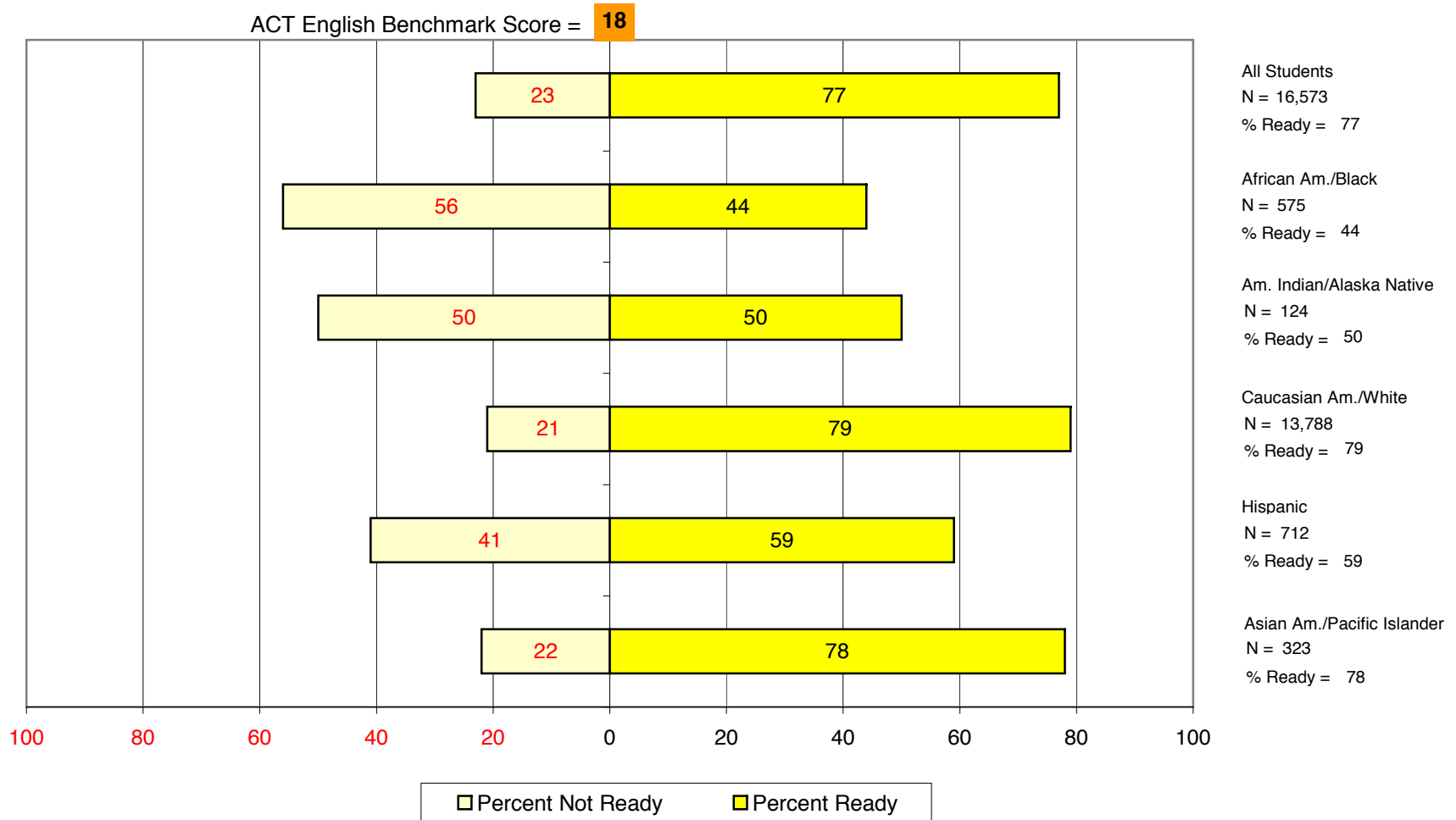


Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: MATHEMATICS

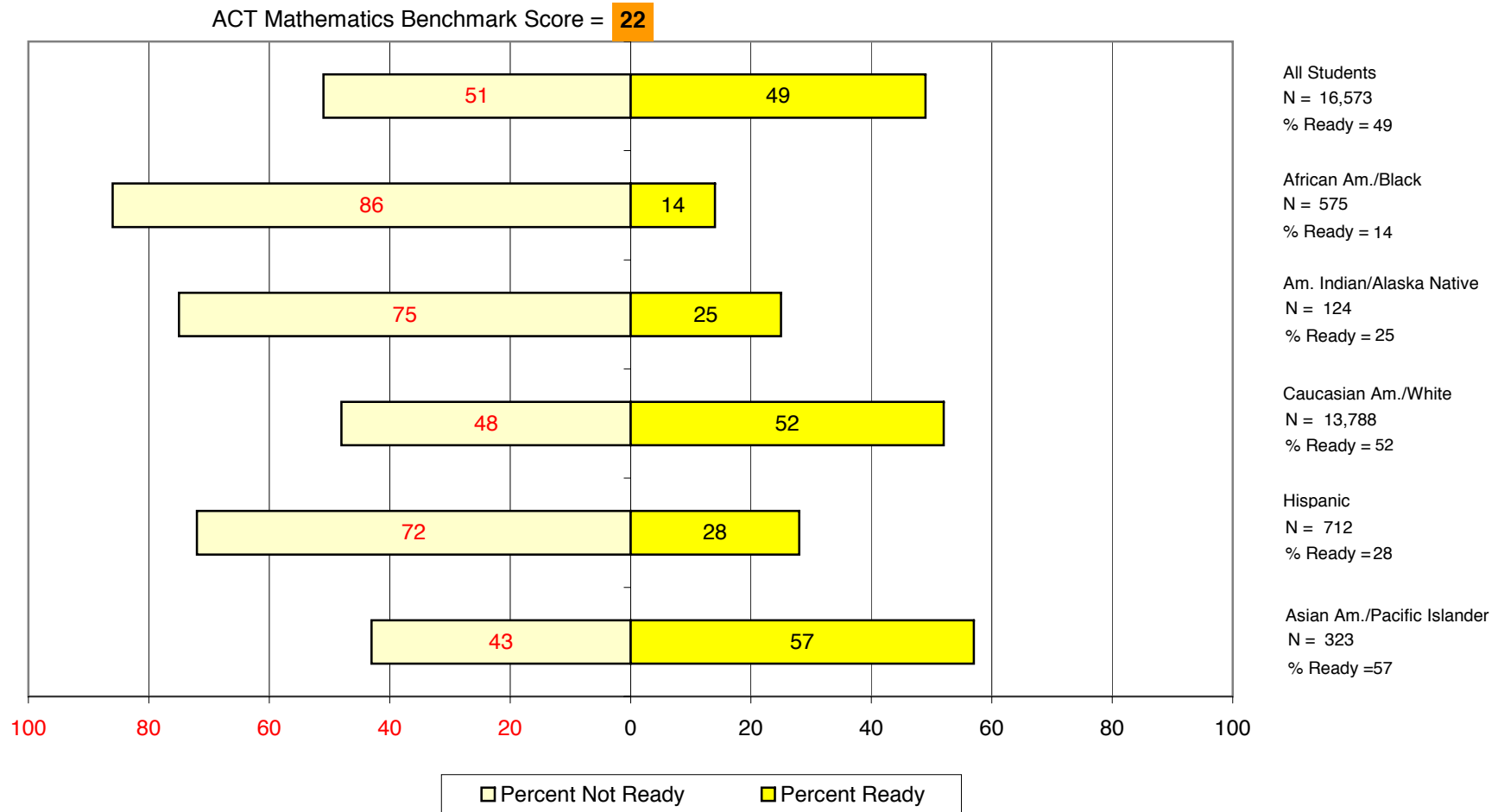


Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: READING

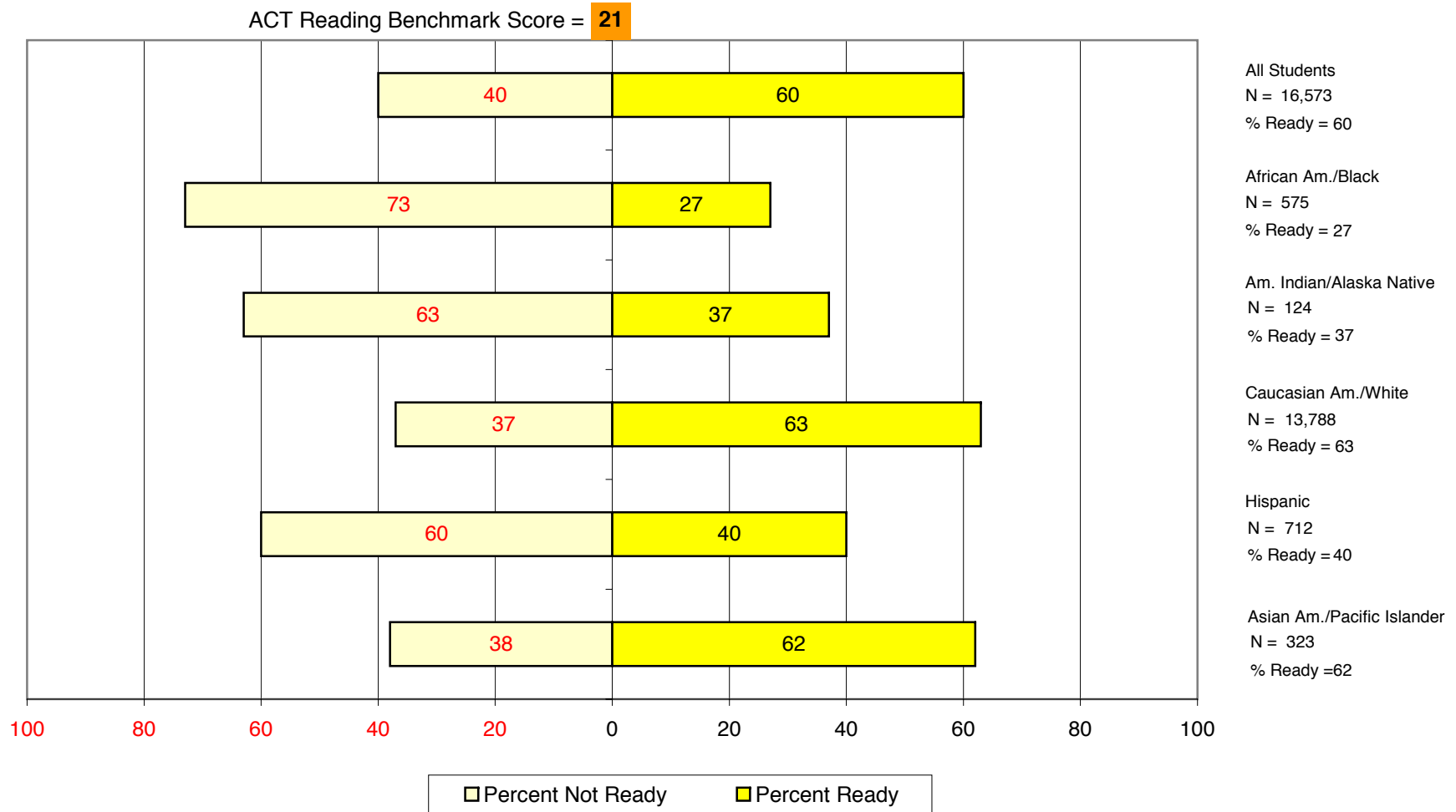


Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: SCIENCE

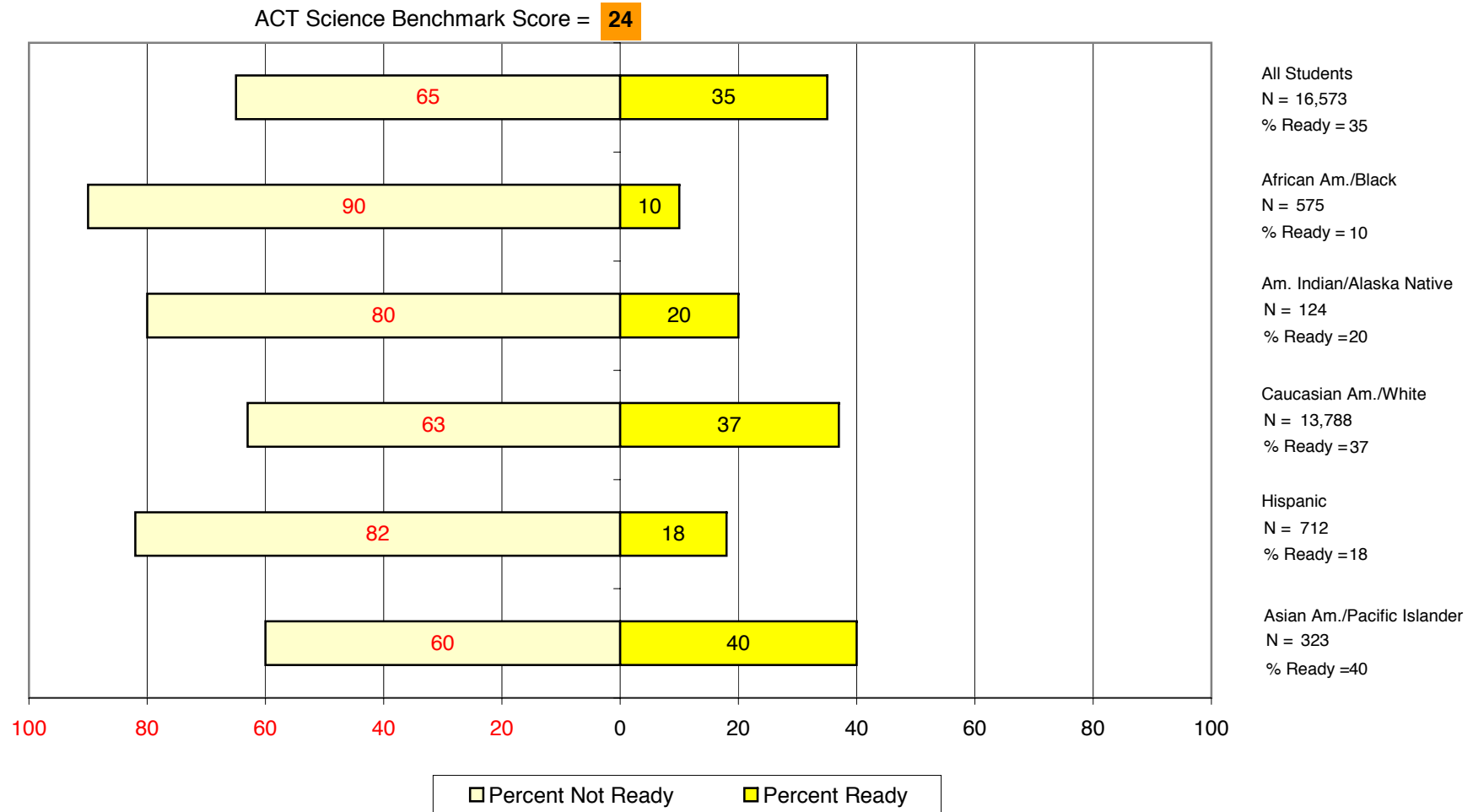
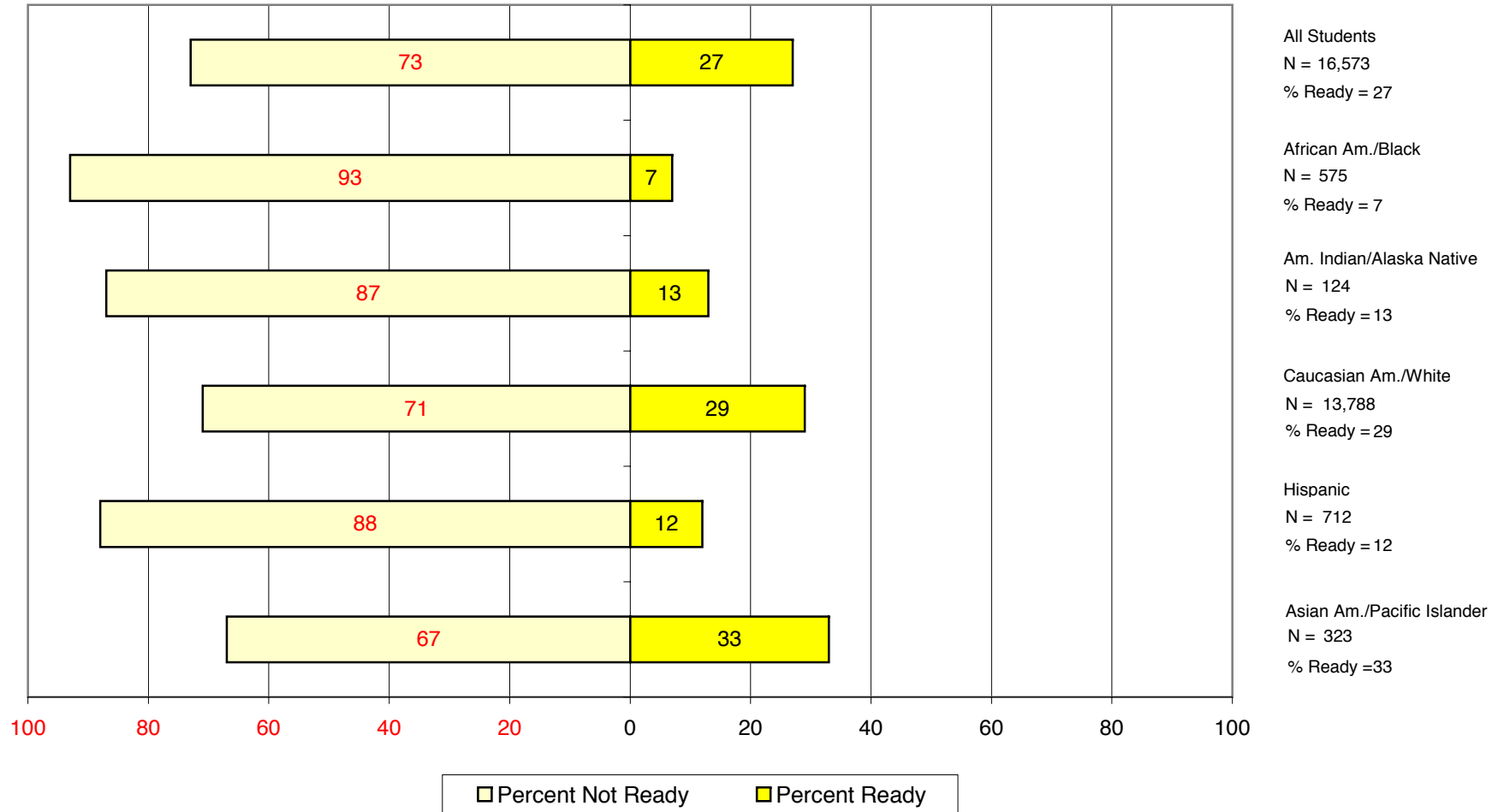


Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ALL FOUR



**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 <sup>1</sup>	N	Percent	ACT English	Course Value Added <sup>1</sup>	N	Percent	ACT English	Course Value Added <sup>1</sup>
<b>ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	4,385	26	23.0	3.4	1,851	24	22.6	3.3	2,506	29	23.2	3.2
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	10,638	64	21.5	1.9	5,159	66	21.1	1.8	5,405	63	21.9	1.9
Less than 4 years of English	1,001	6	19.6	-	501	6	19.3	-	482	6	20.0	-
No English course/grade information reported	549	3	20.8	-	262	3	20.3	-	225	3	20.6	-
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,249	8	25.3	7.9	593	8	26.0	8.2	650	8	24.7	7.7
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	1,569	9	22.3	4.9	659	8	23.1	5.3	895	10	21.7	4.7
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	1,586	10	21.0	3.6	734	9	21.7	3.9	843	10	20.5	3.5
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	3,154	19	20.7	3.3	1,305	17	21.4	3.6	1,832	21	20.2	3.2
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	4,499	27	24.6	7.2	2,364	30	25.3	7.5	2,107	24	23.9	6.9
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	2,264	14	18.1	0.7	997	13	18.6	0.8	1,238	14	17.7	0.7
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	727	4	21.9	4.5	377	5	22.3	4.5	343	4	21.4	4.4
Less than 3 years of Math	946	6	17.4	-	467	6	17.8	-	469	5	17.0	-
No Math course/grade information reported	579	3	20.9	-	277	4	21.5	-	241	3	19.7	-
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	425	3	24.2	3.4	207	3	23.1	2.8	215	2	25.2	3.9
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	7,780	47	22.9	2.1	3,556	46	23.0	2.7	4,176	48	22.8	1.5
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	1,119	7	22.3	1.5	587	8	22.1	1.8	514	6	22.6	1.3
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	5,200	31	22.3	1.5	2,397	31	22.3	2.0	2,774	32	22.3	1.0
Less than 3 years of Social Science	1,468	9	20.8	-	746	10	20.3	-	699	8	21.3	-
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	581	4	21.5	-	280	4	21.4	-	240	3	21.0	-
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	6,367	38	23.2	3.8	3,268	42	24.0	4.4	3,060	36	22.5	3.2
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,693	10	22.6	3.2	744	10	23.6	4.0	938	11	21.9	2.6
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	5,094	31	21.2	1.8	2,038	26	21.6	2.0	3,020	35	21.0	1.7
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	533	3	21.3	1.9	338	4	22.0	2.4	189	2	20.1	0.8
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	2,293	14	19.4	-	1,096	14	19.6	-	1,168	14	19.3	-
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	593	4	21.0	-	289	4	21.7	-	243	3	19.9	-

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes 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
<b>ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	4,385	26	23.0	82	266,394	19	21.8	76
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	10,638	64	21.5	76	949,721	67	20.5	68
Less than 4 years of English	1,001	6	19.6	64	112,496	8	18.8	56
No English course/grade information reported	549	3	20.8	69	93,330	7	20.2	64
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,249	8	25.3	78	91,985	6	24.8	74
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	1,569	9	22.3	56	113,879	8	22.3	57
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	1,586	10	21.0	43	116,105	8	20.4	38
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	3,154	19	20.7	40	204,909	14	20.4	38
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	4,499	27	24.6	71	342,493	24	23.9	66
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	2,264	14	18.1	15	251,813	18	17.8	14
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	727	4	21.9	50	70,951	5	20.8	41
Less than 3 years of Math	946	6	17.4	13	131,252	9	17.4	14
No Math course/grade information reported	579	3	20.9	41	98,554	7	21.1	44
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	425	3	24.2	71	42,546	3	22.7	61
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	7,780	47	22.9	63	604,055	42	21.9	56
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	1,119	7	22.3	59	86,500	6	20.8	48
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	5,200	31	22.3	59	404,731	28	21.3	52
Less than 3 years of Social Science	1,468	9	20.8	48	185,561	13	20.4	45
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	581	4	21.5	52	98,548	7	21.1	50
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	6,367	38	23.2	47	453,654	32	22.2	38
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,693	10	22.6	44	134,033	9	23.2	47
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	5,094	31	21.2	27	435,183	31	20.1	20
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	533	3	21.3	29	40,179	3	20.1	22
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	2,293	14	19.4	16	259,142	18	18.7	13
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	593	4	21.0	30	99,750	7	20.6	29

<sup>1</sup>Includes 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 <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Avg ACT Comp
Agriculture Sciences & Technologies	480	3	20.5	110	10	18.7	349	3	21.1
Architecture & Environmental Design	381	2	22.3	33	3	18.2	329	2	22.8
Business & Management	1,535	9	21.7	68	6	17.7	1,384	10	22.0
Business & Office	111	1	20.3	15	1	19.2	90	1	20.5
Marketing & Distribution	145	1	21.1	8	1	19.0	131	1	21.2
Communications & Comm. Technologies	355	2	22.9	14	1	18.2	323	2	23.2
Community & Personal Services	433	3	19.6	65	6	17.9	339	2	19.9
Computer & Information Sciences	394	2	22.9	35	3	20.5	341	2	23.2
Cross-Disciplinary Studies	15	0	25.1	0	0	.	15	0	25.1
Education	787	5	21.5	18	2	18.3	720	5	21.6
Teacher Education	540	3	20.9	10	1	18.0	504	4	21.0
Engineering	613	4	24.9	27	2	17.8	567	4	25.4
Engineering-Related Technologies	390	2	22.9	46	4	18.7	324	2	23.7
Foreign Languages	71	0	25.1	3	0	21.7	63	0	25.3
Health Sciences & Allied Health Fields	3,066	18	22.1	153	14	17.8	2,762	20	22.4
Human, Family & Consumer Science	196	1	19.6	33	3	16.5	144	1	20.4
Letters	96	1	25.6	1	0	19.0	93	1	25.8
Mathematics	110	1	26.1	1	0	20.0	105	1	26.2
Philosophy, Religion & Theology	88	1	23.2	3	0	18.0	71	1	22.9
Sciences (Biological & Physical)	717	4	24.3	11	1	18.2	673	5	24.5
Social Sciences	891	5	23.2	12	1	18.1	852	6	23.3
Trade & Industrial	273	2	19.0	148	13	18.5	111	1	19.8
Visual & Performing Arts	837	5	22.3	56	5	18.7	723	5	22.6
Undecided	2,804	17	22.1	181	16	18.0	2,424	17	22.5
No Response	1,245	8	21.1	48	4	17.8	427	3	22.1

<sup>1</sup>2-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*.

<sup>2</sup>Percent 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	203	18.4	5	12.6	1	18.0	176	18.8	8	15.3	0	.	13	16.5
2-yr College Degree	896	18.2	35	14.9	10	16.3	753	18.5	35	17.3	3	15.7	60	17.4
Bachelors Degree	7,403	21.3	216	17.3	52	18.4	6,422	21.6	259	18.9	102	21.1	352	20.5
Graduate Study	2,401	24.1	75	19.5	21	22.5	2,042	24.4	79	22.1	45	24.2	139	23.3
Prof. Level Degree	4,060	23.9	170	18.5	26	20.8	3,261	24.4	205	21.1	144	24.8	254	23.6
Other	448	19.5	24	16.1	4	15.8	339	19.9	27	17.4	10	17.5	44	20.4
No Response	1,162	21.4	50	15.4	10	14.9	795	22.2	99	17.1	19	19.6	189	22.6

**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 NEBRASKA AT LINCOLN	Nebraska	7,690	3,550	4,140	0	3	18	34	27	15	2
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA	Nebraska	4,794	1,499	3,295	1	5	23	34	25	11	1
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT KEARNEY	Nebraska	3,017	856	2,161	0	4	25	37	24	8	0
CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY	Nebraska	1,797	481	1,316	1	5	13	26	31	22	3
WAYNE STATE COLLEGE	Nebraska	1,728	423	1,305	1	7	30	35	19	7	0
NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY	Nebraska	1,477	347	1,130	0	2	14	33	33	17	1
SOUTHEAST COMM COLL-LINCOLN CAMPUS	Nebraska	1,307	407	900	1	8	37	38	14	2	0
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE-NE	Nebraska	953	258	695	4	16	37	31	10	2	0
DOANE COLLEGE	Nebraska	886	177	709	0	4	23	37	24	11	0
HASTINGS COLLEGE	Nebraska	831	162	669	0	8	24	33	24	10	1
CHADRON STATE COLLEGE	Nebraska	758	249	509	1	7	26	36	22	8	0
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	Iowa	671	114	557	0	2	8	25	32	27	5
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Nebraska	593	245	348	1	11	40	32	13	4	0
NORTHWEST MISSOURI ST UNIV	Missouri	538	125	413	1	2	25	33	28	11	0
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS	Kansas	505	86	419	0	1	8	28	36	23	3
PERU STATE COLLEGE	Nebraska	499	149	350	2	12	35	32	15	4	0
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY	Kansas	438	67	371	0	2	11	30	32	23	2
SOUTHEAST COMM COLL-MILFORD CAMPUS	Nebraska	406	132	274	2	11	38	34	14	2	0
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	391	143	248	0	4	23	36	26	10	1
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY-NE	Nebraska	386	102	284	1	4	23	34	27	12	1
MIDLAND LUTHERAN COLLEGE	Nebraska	356	58	298	1	8	27	34	23	7	0
DANA COLLEGE	Nebraska	349	74	275	1	9	26	35	21	8	0
CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE-HASTINGS	Nebraska	347	119	228	2	11	40	35	10	1	0
BELLEVUE UNIVERSITY	Nebraska	323	62	261	4	15	36	29	12	4	0
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA	South Dakota	317	72	245	1	5	20	38	26	10	0
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING	Wyoming	288	73	215	1	3	17	32	31	14	1
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY	Colorado	267	50	217	0	3	12	28	30	26	2
CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE-COLUMBUS	Nebraska	262	89	173	3	15	29	36	14	3	0
IOWA WESTERN COMM C-COUNCIL BLFS	Iowa	261	60	201	3	13	39	31	12	1	0
WESTERN NEBRASKA COMM COLL	Nebraska	232	104	128	1	9	31	40	16	4	0
All Other Institutions		12,794	2,984	9,810	1	6	19	28	24	18	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>45,461</b>	<b>13,317</b>	<b>32,144</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>

# 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
<b>All Students</b>	<b>2,308</b>	<b>770,529</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>20.9</b>
African Am./Black	115	86,049	19.7	16.6	7.1	6.5	19.5	16.6
Am. Indian/Alaska Native	21	5,148	21.7	18.9	7.3	6.7	21.1	18.5
Caucasian Am./White	1,752	464,177	25.2	22.5	7.7	7.4	24.1	21.8
Hispanic	113	71,060	21.7	18.3	7.3	7.1	21.1	18.5
Asian Am./Pacific Islander	96	37,359	25.9	23.1	8.1	7.9	24.9	22.6
Other/No Response	211	106,736	25.5	22.2	7.8	7.5	24.4	21.7
Males	996	327,613	24.6	20.9	7.5	7.0	23.4	20.2
Females	1,267	421,968	24.9	21.7	7.9	7.6	24.0	21.3
Missing	45	20,948	25.7	23.9	7.7	7.9	24.4	23.2



