

ACT High School Profile Report

The Graduating Class of 2008
New Jersey



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New Jersey

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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

31% 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. 14,714 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. 40% 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 5% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 39% were college ready. 12% of the cohort reported taking the minimum core (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). 20% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 66% 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 8% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 22% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 36% 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 30% 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.

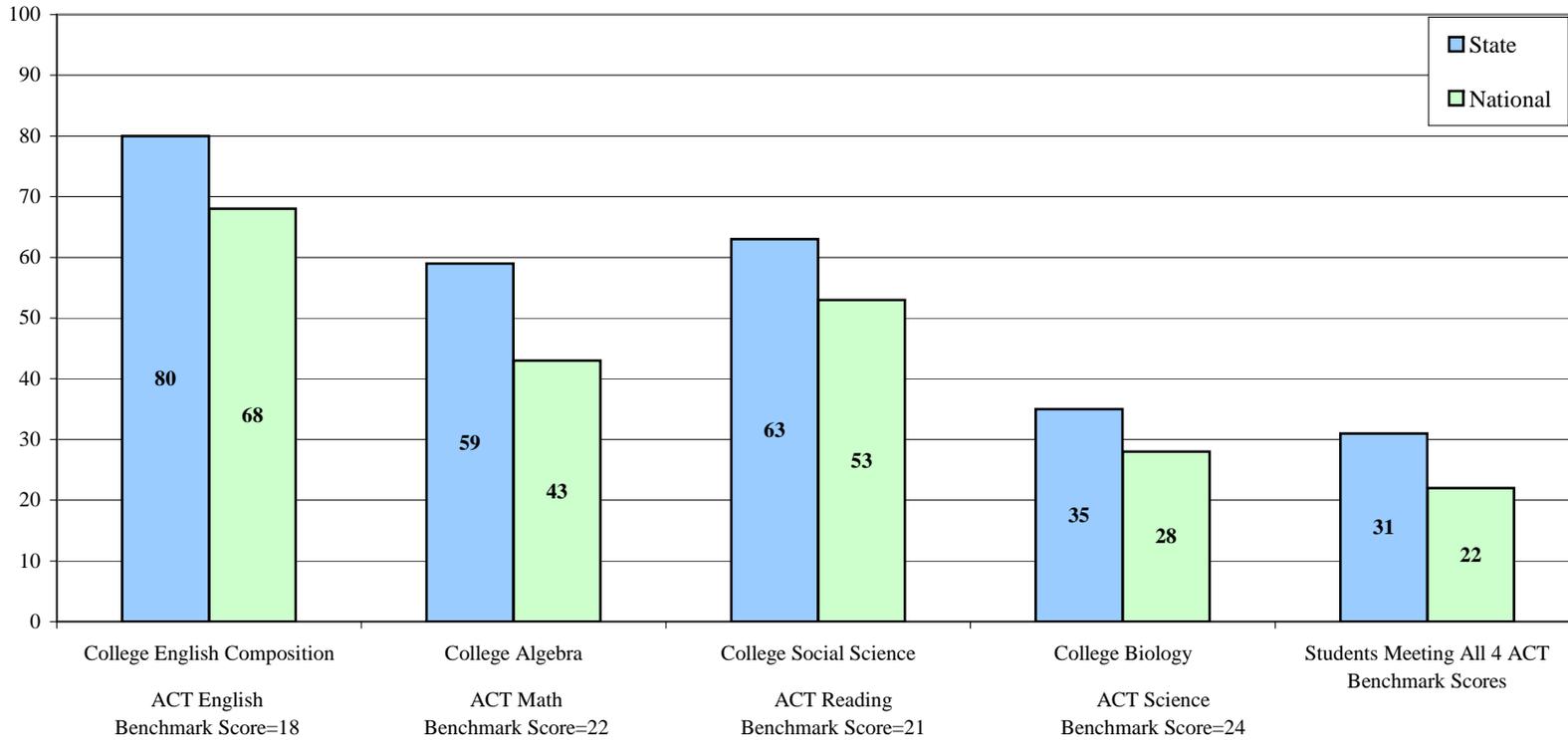
PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS. Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic groups.

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									
			English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Meeting All Four	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2004	5,218	1,171,460	71	68	45	40	54	52	25	26	21	21
2005	5,902	1,186,251	71	68	47	41	55	51	26	26	22	21
2006	7,823	1,206,455	75	69	52	42	58	53	27	27	24	21
2007	11,132	1,300,599	77	69	55	43	60	53	33	28	29	23
2008	14,714	1,421,941	80	68	59	43	63	53	35	28	31	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	5,218	1,171,460	20.7	20.4	21.4	20.7	21.5	21.3	20.8	20.9	21.2	20.9
2005	5,902	1,186,251	20.9	20.4	21.5	20.7	21.7	21.3	20.8	20.9	21.3	20.9
2006	7,823	1,206,455	21.5	20.6	22.2	20.8	22.0	21.4	21.0	20.9	21.8	21.1
2007	11,132	1,300,599	21.9	20.7	22.5	21.0	22.4	21.5	21.5	21.0	22.2	21.2
2008	14,714	1,421,941	22.6	20.6	23.2	21.0	22.9	21.4	21.7	20.8	22.7	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	1,521	2,856	29	55	21.4	20.2	21.9	21.0	22.3	21.1	21.3	20.5	21.8	20.8
2005	1,756	3,038	30	51	21.6	20.3	22.1	20.9	22.7	21.2	21.3	20.4	22.1	20.8
2006	2,117	3,915	27	50	22.2	21.0	22.7	21.7	22.9	21.5	21.5	20.7	22.5	21.3
2007	3,052	5,618	27	50	22.7	21.3	23.2	22.0	23.2	21.9	22.0	21.1	22.9	21.7
2008	5,818	7,128	40	48	23.1	22.0	23.5	22.8	23.5	22.4	22.0	21.4	23.1	22.2

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	5,218	100	21.2	5,902	100	21.3	7,823	100	21.8	11,132	100	22.2	14,714	100	22.7
African American/Black	764	15	17.5	801	14	17.4	832	11	17.6	1,112	10	17.5	1,261	9	17.8
American Indian/Alaska Native	12	0	21.6	9	0	22.2	10	0	20.2	11	0	20.6	23	0	20.0
Caucasian American/White	3,034	58	21.9	3,452	58	22.0	4,274	55	22.3	5,796	52	22.7	8,778	60	23.0
Hispanic	294	6	19.8	391	7	19.7	403	5	19.7	606	5	20.1	837	6	20.5
Asian American/Pacific Islander	260	5	22.9	275	5	23.5	364	5	24.2	487	4	25.0	812	6	25.3
Other/No Response	854	16	22.0	974	17	22.4	1,940	25	22.4	3,120	28	23.0	3,003	20	24.0

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	27	100	95	100	140	100	48	100	10	100	36
35	256	100	215	99	202	99	86	100	47	100	35
34	343	98	260	98	197	98	83	99	136	100	34
33	256	96	366	96	411	96	165	99	177	99	33
32	301	94	276	94	412	94	128	97	260	97	32
31	352	92	302	92	495	91	162	97	369	96	31
30	454	90	477	90	682	87	246	95	469	93	30
29	578	86	690	86	588	83	290	94	612	90	29
28	515	83	781	82	702	79	406	92	698	86	28
27	661	79	850	76	611	74	547	89	819	81	27
26	768	75	939	71	595	70	741	85	833	76	26
25	918	69	1,061	64	750	66	1,176	80	943	70	25
24	904	63	902	57	750	61	1,060	72	1,100	63	24
23	885	57	876	51	1,198	56	1,053	65	1,102	56	23
22	1,036	51	658	45	675	47	1,381	58	1,084	49	22
21	1,195	44	822	41	915	43	1,073	49	991	41	21
20	996	36	638	35	955	37	1,493	41	940	34	20
19	681	29	772	31	847	30	1,210	31	907	28	19
18	626	24	911	25	550	24	829	23	838	22	18
17	589	20	885	19	584	21	588	17	662	16	17
16	453	16	959	13	656	17	482	13	552	12	16
15	536	13	606	7	477	12	345	10	422	8	15
14	375	9	250	3	474	9	343	8	335	5	14
13	255	7	80	1	345	6	244	5	199	3	13
12	196	5	26	1	225	3	222	4	132	1	12
11	184	4	11	1	137	2	121	2	53	1	11
10	150	3	3	1	76	1	90	1	16	1	10
9	108	2	1	1	31	1	50	1	5	1	9
8	81	1	1	1	9	1	27	1	3	1	8
7	27	1	0	1	11	1	10	1	0	1	7
6	6	1	1	1	7	1	6	1	0	1	6
5	1	1	0	1	4	1	5	1	0	1	5
4	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	4
3	0	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	22.6 (6.0)		23.2 (5.5)		22.9 (6.1)		21.7 (4.9)		22.7 (5.1)		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	831	100	131	100	546	100	539	100	1,397	100	250	100	314	100	18
17	874	94	540	99	897	96	1,019	96	1,192	91	461	98	100	98	17
16	1,105	88	947	95	910	90	1,618	89	1,240	82	549	95	1,124	97	16
15	871	81	1,381	89	1,203	84	1,298	78	967	74	855	91	978	90	15
14	1,008	75	1,049	80	945	76	1,333	70	1,424	67	1,772	86	1,959	83	14
13	1,379	68	1,502	72	1,433	69	811	61	1,479	58	1,618	74	1,458	70	13
12	1,236	59	1,957	62	1,292	60	1,348	55	1,267	48	1,406	63	1,762	60	12
11	1,434	50	1,734	49	1,451	51	1,551	46	1,120	39	2,024	53	1,325	48	11
10	1,586	41	1,812	37	1,448	41	1,178	35	1,389	31	2,294	39	2,150	39	10
9	1,184	30	1,085	25	1,379	31	997	27	719	22	1,454	24	1,230	24	9
8	935	22	1,031	18	1,449	22	914	21	1,239	17	913	14	852	16	8
7	729	15	671	11	674	12	707	14	839	9	382	8	676	10	7
6	624	10	364	6	512	7	622	10	309	3	279	5	262	5	6
5	426	6	226	3	277	4	477	5	83	1	276	3	246	4	5
4	309	3	207	2	147	2	201	2	36	1	82	1	100	2	4
3	144	1	66	1	92	1	71	1	12	1	70	1	126	1	3
2	35	1	11	1	40	1	28	1	1	1	8	1	26	1	2
1	4	1	0	1	19	1	2	1	1	1	21	1	26	1	1
Avg (SD)	11.5 (3.8)		11.5 (3.1)		11.5 (3.5)		11.9 (3.7)		12.6 (3.5)		11.5 (2.9)		11.5 (3.1)		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	27	28	25	26
Q2 (50th Percentile)	22	23	23	22	23
Q1 (25th Percentile)	19	18	19	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	All Students	14,714	40	23.1	22.2
	African Am./Black	1,261	32	18.7	17.5
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	23	57	20.2	19.4
	Caucasian Am./White	8,778	42	23.2	22.8
	Hispanic	837	38	21.0	20.0
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	812	42	25.6	24.8
	Other/No Response	3,003	34	24.3	23.4
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	22.6	23.2	22.9	21.7	22.7
	African Am./Black	17.0	18.2	17.9	17.5	17.8
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	19.1	21.0	19.3	20.2	20.0
	Caucasian Am./White	23.0	23.4	23.2	22.0	23.0
	Hispanic	19.8	20.9	20.8	19.9	20.5
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	24.9	27.1	24.8	23.7	25.3
	Other/No Response	23.9	24.6	24.3	22.7	24.0
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	882	6	936	6	950	6	382	3
	28 to 32	2,200	15	2,526	17	2,879	20	1,232	8
	24 to 27	3,251	22	3,752	25	2,706	18	3,524	24
	20 to 23	4,112	28	2,994	20	3,743	25	5,000	34
	16 to 19	2,349	16	3,527	24	2,637	18	3,109	21
	13 to 15	1,166	8	936	6	1,296	9	932	6
	01 to 12	754	5	43	0	503	3	535	4
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	5,736	39	21.9	23.9	22.6	22.1	22.7
	Females	8,237	56	22.9	22.6	23.0	21.4	22.6
	Missing	741	5	24.1	25.1	24.5	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	76	64	62	38	33
	Females	82	55	64	32	28
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	5,818	84	23.1	62	23.5	67	23.5	36	22.0	32	23.1
	Non-Core	7,128	76	22.0	56	22.8	59	22.4	33	21.4	29	22.2
	Missing	1,768	82	23.3	67	24.2	66	23.6	39	22.3	36	23.5
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	N	English			Mathematics			Reading			Science		
			CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	
State	Core	12,137	80	22.5	12,474	60	23.2	6,436	66	23.3	11,933	36	21.8	
	Non-Core	1,092	79	22.5	635	39	20.9	6,609	60	22.5	1,122	22	19.6	
	Missing	1,485	83	23.3	1,605	67	24.2	1,669	67	23.6	1,659	39	22.3	
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

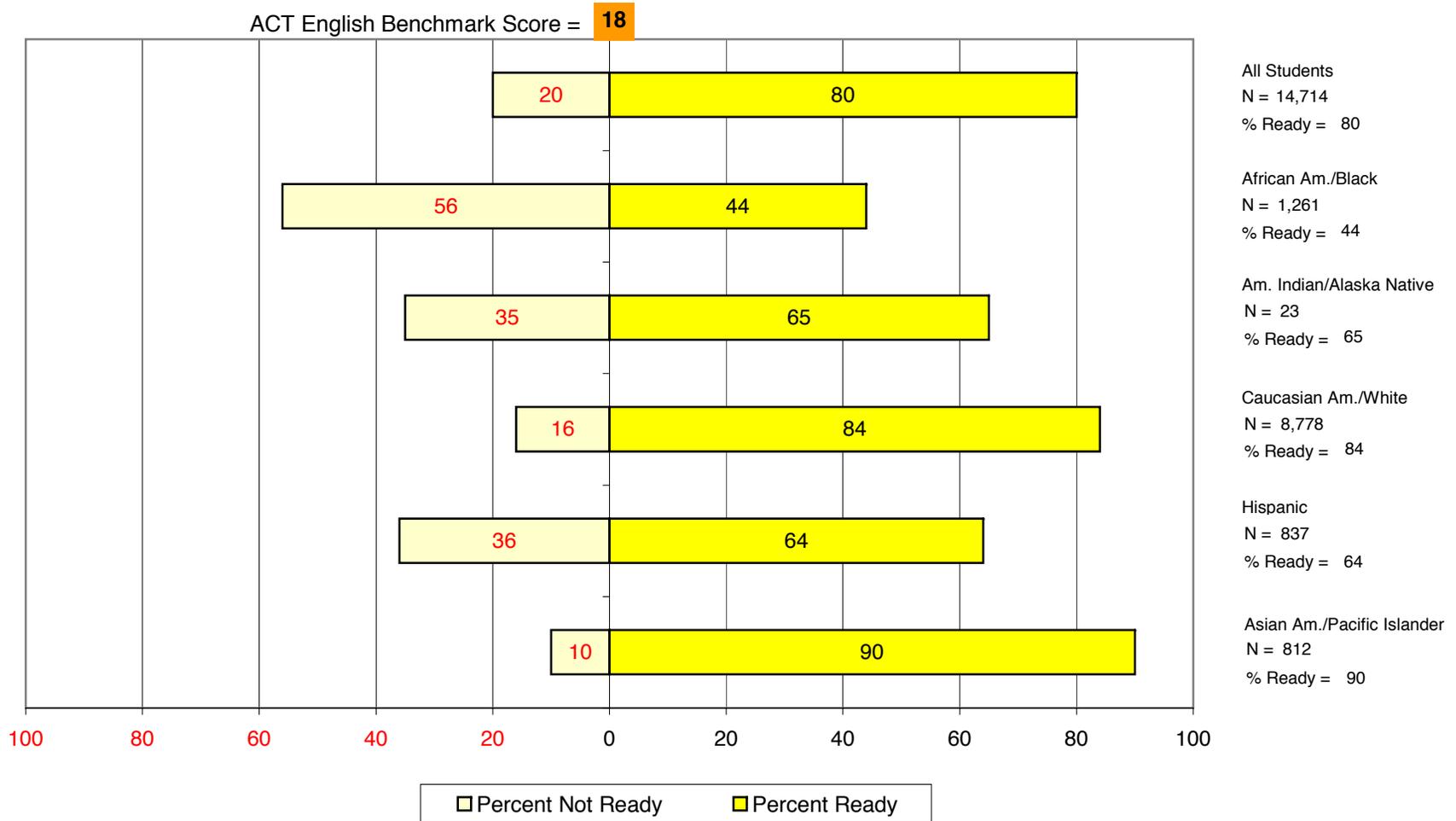


Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: MATHEMATICS

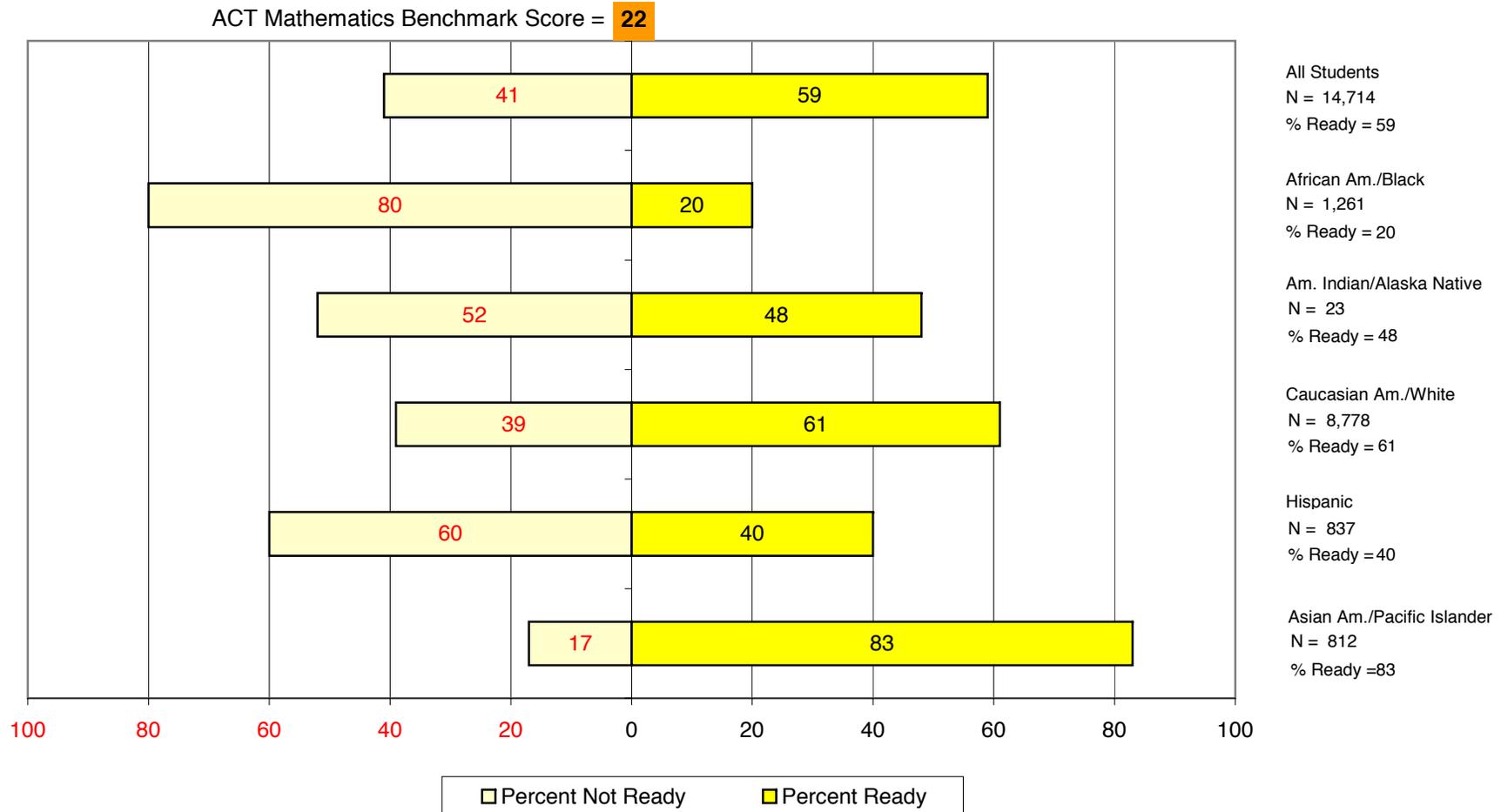


Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: **READING**

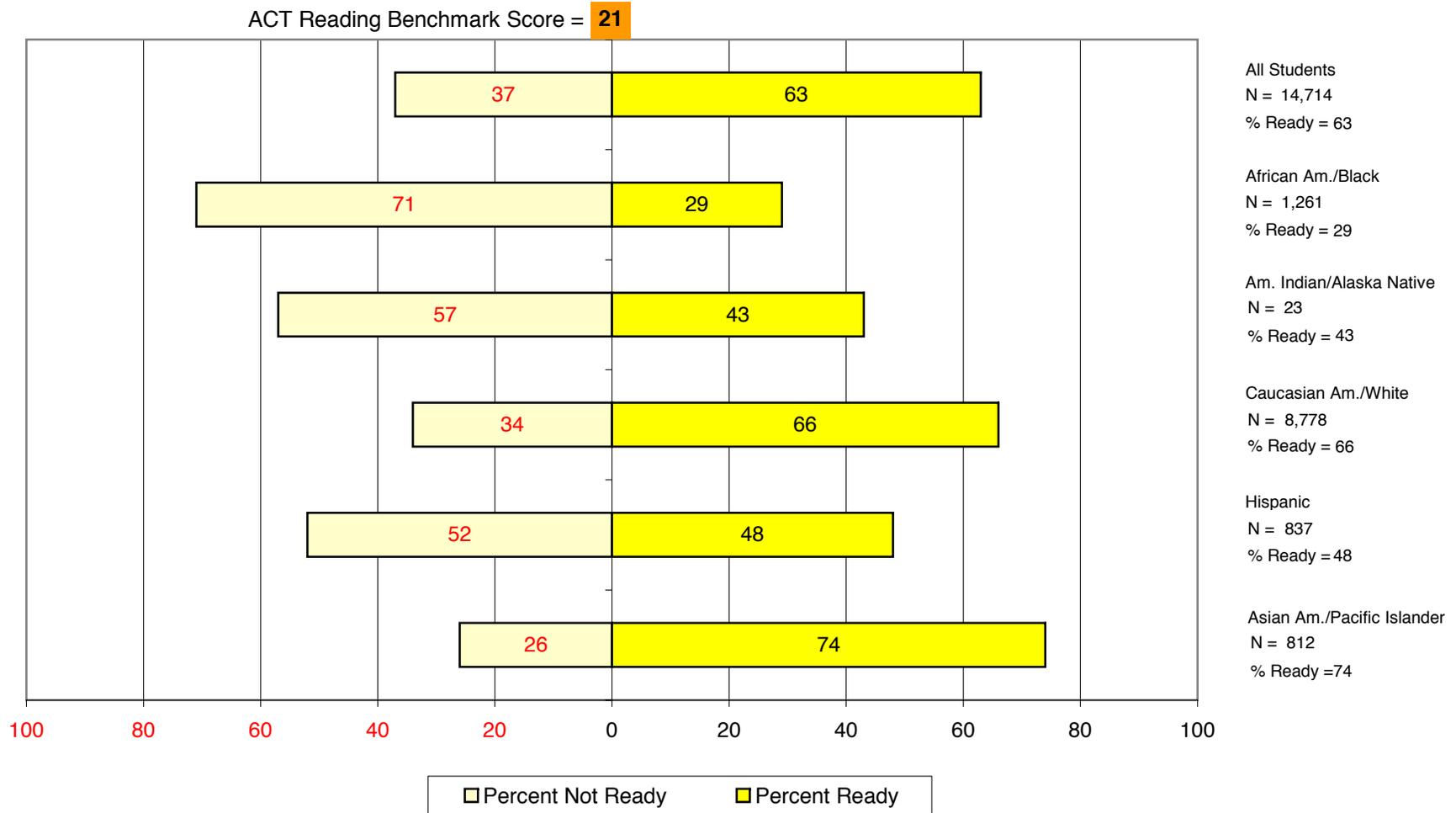


Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: SCIENCE

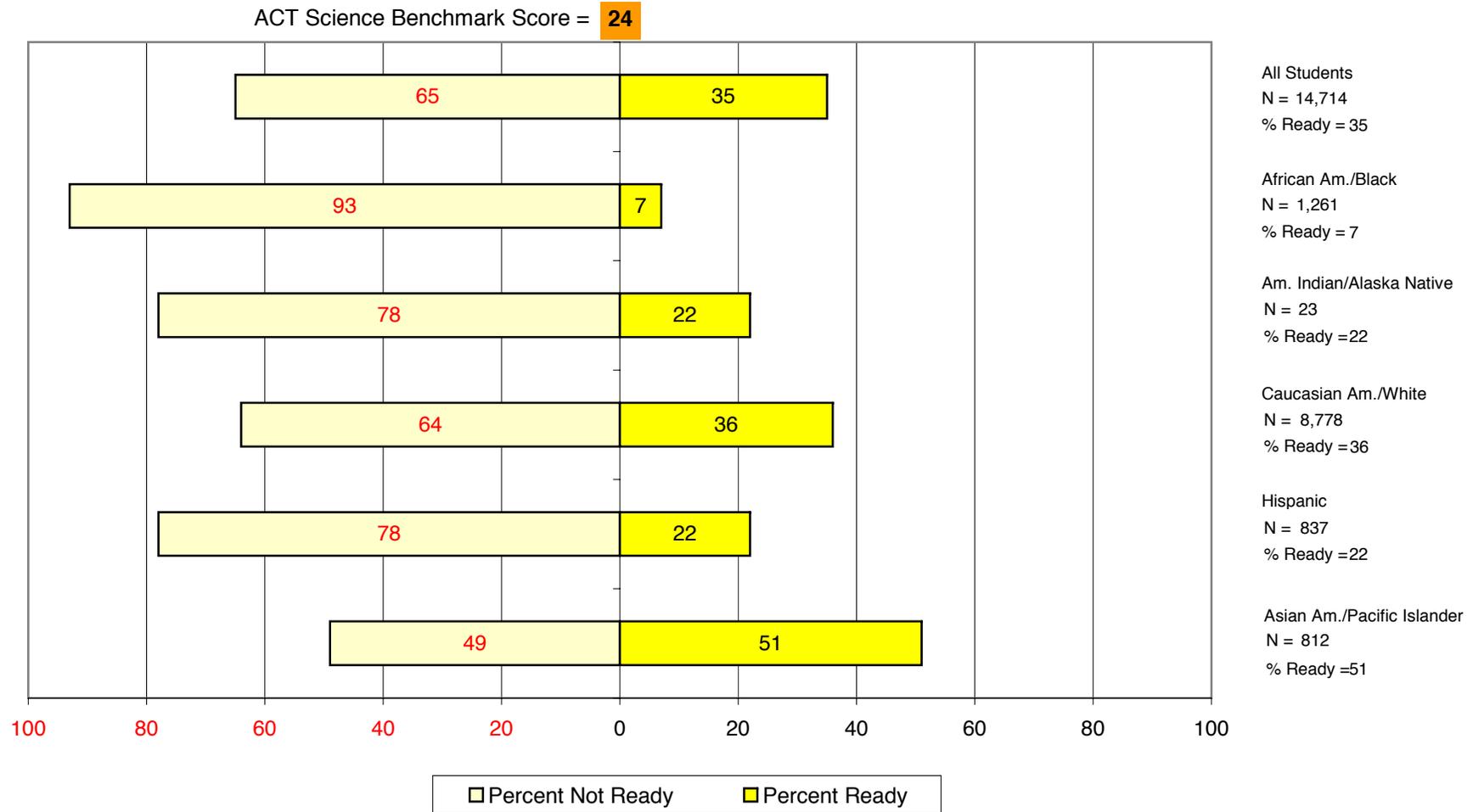


Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ALL FOUR

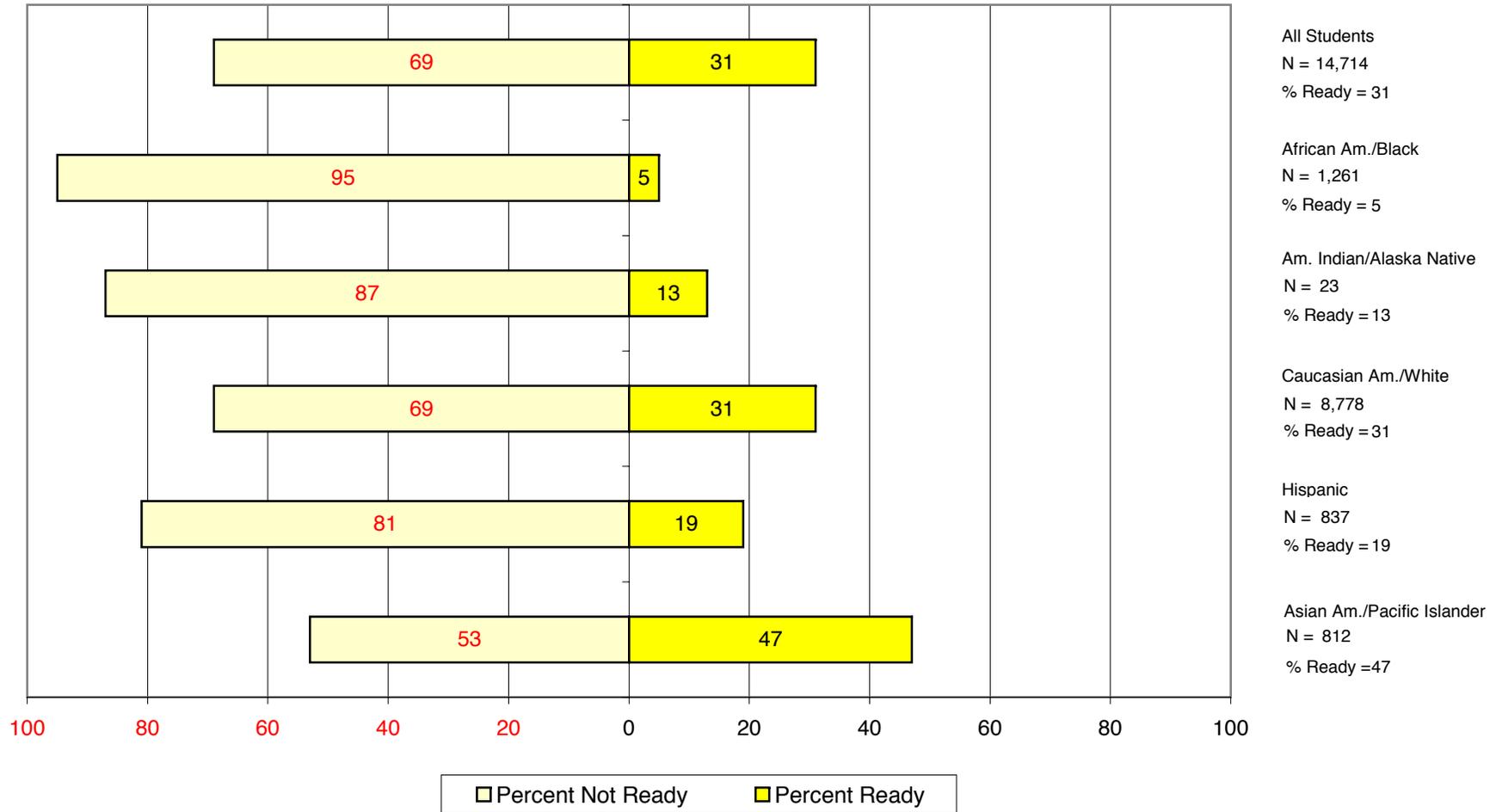


Table 3.1. Average ACT Scores and ACT Average Score Changes by Common Course Patterns

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	2,555	17	23.3	0.8	856	15	22.4	0.6	1,629	20	23.7	0.9
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	9,582	65	22.2	-0.3	3,833	67	21.6	-0.2	5,438	66	22.6	-0.2
Less than 4 years of English	1,100	7	22.5	-	463	8	21.8	-	534	6	22.8	-
No English course/grade information reported	1,477	10	23.3	-	584	10	22.8	-	636	8	23.4	-
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,326	9	26.3	5.5	498	9	27.2	6.1	767	9	25.6	5.3
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	1,012	7	23.1	2.3	322	6	23.8	2.7	658	8	22.7	2.4
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	1,077	7	21.1	0.3	404	7	21.9	0.8	645	8	20.5	0.2
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	2,089	14	21.1	0.3	707	12	21.3	0.2	1,324	16	21.0	0.7
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	4,381	30	25.8	5.0	1,871	33	26.3	5.2	2,344	28	25.2	4.9
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	1,733	12	18.5	-2.3	668	12	19.0	-2.1	1,010	12	18.2	-2.1
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	856	6	23.1	2.3	359	6	23.4	2.3	469	6	22.8	2.5
Less than 3 years of Math	669	5	20.8	-	280	5	21.1	-	349	4	20.3	-
No Math course/grade information reported	1,571	11	24.3	-	627	11	24.8	-	671	8	23.4	-
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	606	4	23.5	1.0	308	5	22.5	0.3	280	3	24.3	1.8
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	2,131	14	23.2	0.7	848	15	22.9	0.7	1,222	15	23.3	0.8
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	664	5	22.9	0.4	317	6	22.3	0.1	319	4	23.5	1.0
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	3,035	21	23.3	0.8	1,055	18	23.0	0.8	1,871	23	23.4	0.9
Less than 3 years of Social Science	6,665	45	22.5	-	2,568	45	22.2	-	3,849	47	22.5	-
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	1,613	11	23.7	-	640	11	23.5	-	696	8	23.6	-
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem, & Phys	6,031	41	22.6	3.0	2,495	43	23.1	3.7	3,310	40	22.1	2.4
Bio, Chem, Phys	2,258	15	23.6	4.0	926	16	24.1	4.7	1,242	15	23.2	3.5
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	3,530	24	19.5	-0.1	1,157	20	19.1	-0.3	2,282	28	19.6	-0.1
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	114	1	19.9	0.3	51	1	21.4	2.0	62	1	18.7	-1.0
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	1,171	8	19.6	-	472	8	19.4	-	645	8	19.7	-
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	1,610	11	22.4	-	635	11	22.6	-	696	8	21.9	-

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	2,555	17	23.3	83	266,394	19	21.8	76
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	9,582	65	22.2	78	949,721	67	20.5	68
Less than 4 years of English	1,100	7	22.5	79	112,496	8	18.8	56
No English course/grade information reported	1,477	10	23.3	83	93,330	7	20.2	64
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,326	9	26.3	83	91,985	6	24.8	74
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	1,012	7	23.1	64	113,879	8	22.3	57
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	1,077	7	21.1	43	116,105	8	20.4	38
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	2,089	14	21.1	45	204,909	14	20.4	38
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	4,381	30	25.8	78	342,493	24	23.9	66
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	1,733	12	18.5	20	251,813	18	17.8	14
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	856	6	23.1	60	70,951	5	20.8	41
Less than 3 years of Math	669	5	20.8	39	131,252	9	17.4	14
No Math course/grade information reported	1,571	11	24.3	68	98,554	7	21.1	44
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	606	4	23.5	65	42,546	3	22.7	61
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	2,131	14	23.2	66	604,055	42	21.9	56
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	664	5	22.9	63	86,500	6	20.8	48
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	3,035	21	23.3	66	404,731	28	21.3	52
Less than 3 years of Social Science	6,665	45	22.5	60	185,561	13	20.4	45
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	1,613	11	23.7	67	98,548	7	21.1	50
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	6,031	41	22.6	41	453,654	32	22.2	38
Bio, Chem, Phys	2,258	15	23.6	51	134,033	9	23.2	47
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	3,530	24	19.5	17	435,183	31	20.1	20
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	114	1	19.9	18	40,179	3	20.1	22
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	1,171	8	19.6	22	259,142	18	18.7	13
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	1,610	11	22.4	40	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	21.3	0	0	.	39	0	21.7
Architecture & Environmental Design	200	1	22.7	2	3	16.0	175	2	22.9
Business & Management	1,773	12	22.0	5	8	16.4	1,590	14	21.9
Business & Office	55	0	19.7	0	0	.	44	0	19.8
Marketing & Distribution	184	1	20.8	0	0	.	159	1	20.7
Communications & Comm. Technologies	605	4	21.8	1	2	25.0	537	5	21.7
Community & Personal Services	189	1	18.3	3	5	19.0	173	2	18.4
Computer & Information Sciences	143	1	22.4	1	2	15.0	123	1	22.6
Cross-Disciplinary Studies	39	0	25.1	0	0	.	29	0	24.5
Education	671	5	20.2	4	7	14.5	590	5	20.3
Teacher Education	371	3	19.6	2	3	14.0	346	3	19.7
Engineering	425	3	25.0	2	3	19.0	383	3	25.0
Engineering-Related Technologies	247	2	23.5	1	2	25.0	221	2	23.3
Foreign Languages	89	1	24.8	0	0	.	75	1	24.5
Health Sciences & Allied Health Fields	1,552	11	22.2	14	23	15.6	1,433	12	22.2
Human, Family & Consumer Science	73	0	19.9	3	5	17.7	64	1	20.2
Letters	90	1	26.2	0	0	.	75	1	26.0
Mathematics	83	1	25.7	0	0	.	73	1	25.7
Philosophy, Religion & Theology	37	0	24.2	0	0	.	34	0	24.3
Sciences (Biological & Physical)	953	6	24.6	1	2	23.0	880	8	24.6
Social Sciences	1,027	7	23.0	2	3	16.0	945	8	23.0
Trade & Industrial	18	0	19.2	3	5	18.3	14	0	19.5
Visual & Performing Arts	575	4	22.0	4	7	15.5	496	4	22.1
Undecided	2,400	16	23.0	8	13	15.9	1,989	17	22.9
No Response	2,872	20	23.8	4	7	18.3	985	9	23.6

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	13	15.8	5	13.4	0	.	5	18.6	1	12.0	0	.	2	16.5
2-yr College Degree	47	17.0	11	13.8	0	.	27	17.9	2	15.0	2	18.5	5	19.4
Bachelors Degree	3,850	20.3	340	16.1	8	21.1	2,671	20.8	218	18.3	118	21.8	495	21.4
Graduate Study	3,770	23.3	236	18.9	4	19.8	2,548	23.6	204	21.5	200	25.4	578	24.0
Prof. Level Degree	3,852	24.0	448	19.3	4	19.8	1,999	24.9	295	21.4	345	26.1	761	24.8
Other	209	19.6	31	15.9	2	19.0	111	20.5	13	17.2	8	20.6	44	20.2
No Response	2,973	23.8	190	16.3	5	19.2	1,417	23.9	104	21.0	139	26.4	1,118	24.8

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
RUTGERS THE ST UNIV OF NEW JERSEY	New Jersey	1,634	524	1,110	2	9	23	30	23	11	1
ROWAN UNIVERSITY	New Jersey	585	127	458	1	9	33	34	19	4	0
MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY	New Jersey	575	134	441	5	17	37	32	7	2	0
COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY THE	New Jersey	563	163	400	1	4	18	26	32	18	1
UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE	Delaware	473	114	359	1	1	15	38	33	10	1
PENN STATE-UNIVERSITY PARK CAMPUS	Pennsylvania	447	105	342	1	3	19	32	34	12	1
RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY	New Jersey	360	135	225	2	11	41	32	12	2	0
MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY	New Jersey	351	113	238	2	9	38	36	13	2	0
WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY	New Jersey	342	88	254	6	19	43	25	6	1	0
SETON HALL UNIVERSITY	New Jersey	331	62	269	2	12	32	32	18	3	0
KEAN UNIVERSITY	New Jersey	320	70	250	8	26	44	18	4	0	0
RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY	New Jersey	320	65	255	3	11	32	36	16	3	0
RIDER UNIVERSITY	New Jersey	305	62	243	3	11	39	35	11	1	0
BOSTON UNIVERSITY	Massachusetts	300	102	198	0	2	3	26	43	25	1
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	265	153	112	6	14	30	26	16	7	2
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY	New York	264	90	174	1	2	13	23	29	31	2
DREXEL UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	257	58	199	0	4	14	36	32	12	1
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK	Maryland	253	61	192	0	2	12	35	36	15	0
VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	239	54	185	0	0	5	28	40	24	3
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	215	55	160	2	10	27	38	15	8	0
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY	Massachusetts	206	47	159	0	1	7	28	46	17	1
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania	206	80	126	0	1	8	20	31	34	5
BOSTON COLLEGE	Massachusetts	184	60	124	0	2	8	17	31	39	3
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY	New Jersey	184	62	122	1	4	11	17	25	32	11
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY	Connecticut	180	42	138	0	1	14	44	36	4	1
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	155	33	122	0	1	4	19	38	34	5
CORNELL UNIVERSITY	New York	145	43	102	0	2	8	12	29	37	11
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT	Connecticut	141	25	116	1	2	13	31	44	7	1
TOWSON UNIVERSITY	Maryland	138	27	111	0	4	33	45	19	0	0
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY	New York	137	35	102	1	6	9	28	41	15	1
All Other Institutions		11,803	3,086	8,717	2	9	24	28	22	14	2
Total		21,878	5,875	16,003	2	8	24	29	23	13	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	11,284	770,529	23.5	21.4	8.2	7.3	23.3	20.9
African Am./Black	796	86,049	18.2	16.6	7.5	6.5	18.8	16.6
Am. Indian/Alaska Native	13	5,148	21.2	18.9	7.3	6.7	20.8	18.5
Caucasian Am./White	6,697	464,177	23.7	22.5	8.3	7.4	23.5	21.8
Hispanic	637	71,060	20.8	18.3	7.9	7.1	21.1	18.5
Asian Am./Pacific Islander	720	37,359	25.4	23.1	8.5	7.9	24.9	22.6
Other/No Response	2,421	106,736	24.6	22.2	8.3	7.5	24.2	21.7
Males	4,159	327,613	23.0	20.9	8.0	7.0	22.7	20.2
Females	6,537	421,968	23.6	21.7	8.4	7.6	23.5	21.3
Missing	588	20,948	24.8	23.9	8.5	7.9	24.4	23.2

