

ACT High School Profile Report

The Graduating Class of 2008
North Carolina



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North Carolina

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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

24% 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. 13,054 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. 70% 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, 26% were college ready. 5% of the cohort reported taking the minimum core (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). 15% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 52% 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 15% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 11% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 31% 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 40% 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.

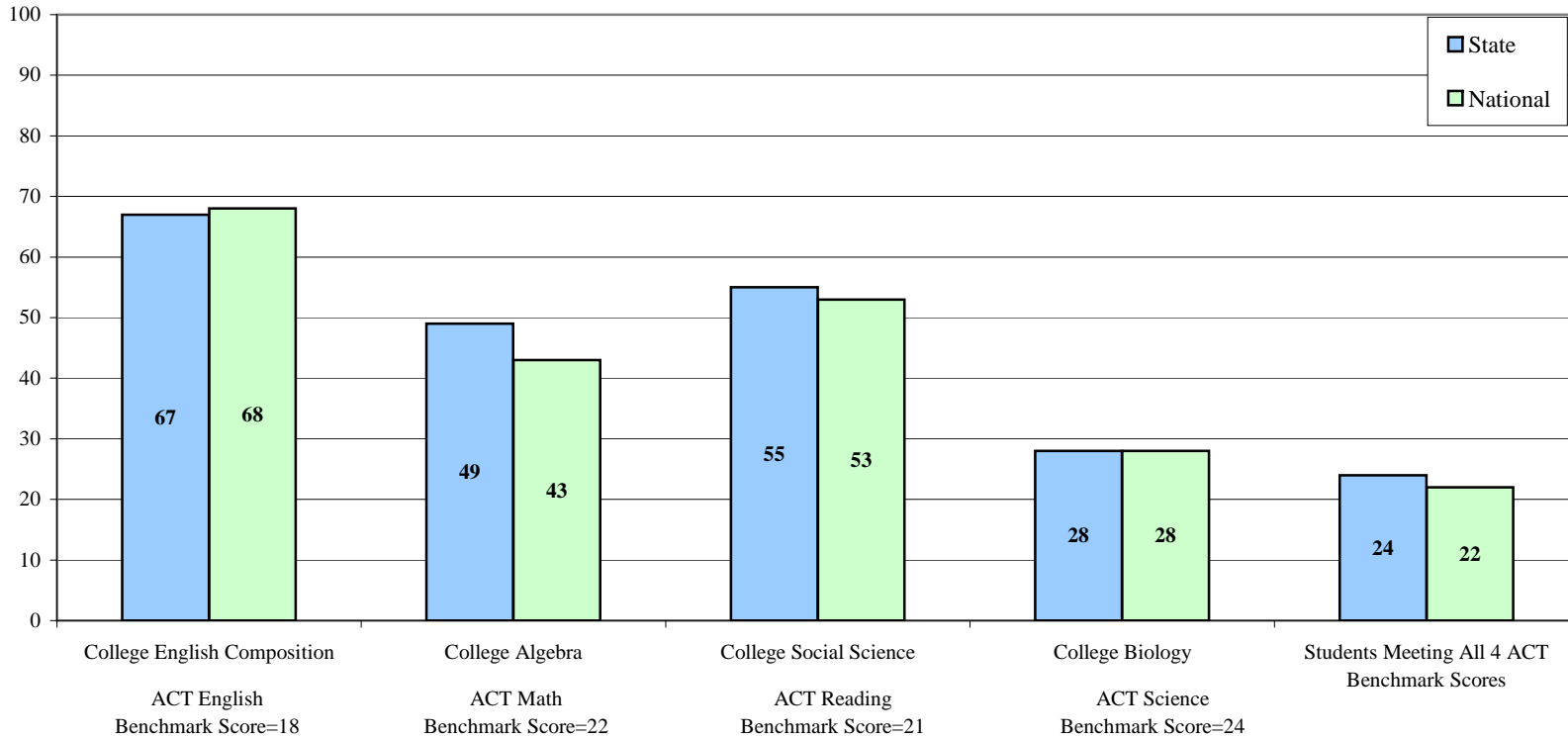
PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS. Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic groups.

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 404-231-1952.

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	10,449	1,171,460	60	68	38	40	46	52	21	26	17	21
2005	10,697	1,186,251	59	68	38	41	46	51	21	26	17	21
2006	10,359	1,206,455	61	69	42	42	49	53	23	27	19	21
2007	12,202	1,300,599	66	69	46	43	52	53	28	28	23	23
2008	13,054	1,421,941	67	68	49	43	55	53	28	28	24	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	10,449	1,171,460	19.4	20.4	20.4	20.7	20.6	21.3	20.1	20.9	20.3	20.9
2005	10,697	1,186,251	19.3	20.4	20.4	20.7	20.6	21.3	20.0	20.9	20.2	20.9
2006	10,359	1,206,455	19.6	20.6	20.9	20.8	20.9	21.4	20.2	20.9	20.5	21.1
2007	12,202	1,300,599	20.2	20.7	21.4	21.0	21.4	21.5	20.7	21.0	21.0	21.2
2008	13,054	1,421,941	20.5	20.6	21.8	21.0	21.7	21.4	20.8	20.8	21.3	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	5,461	3,892	52	37	20.8	17.2	21.5	18.7	22.0	18.6	21.1	18.6	21.5	18.4
2005	5,491	3,918	51	37	20.6	17.1	21.5	18.8	21.9	18.7	21.0	18.6	21.4	18.4
2006	5,408	3,464	52	33	20.7	17.5	21.8	19.2	22.0	19.1	21.1	18.8	21.5	18.8
2007	6,721	3,666	55	30	21.1	18.1	22.1	19.7	22.2	19.6	21.5	19.2	21.8	19.3
2008	9,169	2,905	70	22	21.3	17.7	22.4	19.6	22.4	19.2	21.4	18.7	22.0	18.9

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	10,449	100	20.3	10,697	100	20.2	10,359	100	20.5	12,202	100	21.0	13,054	100	21.3
African American/Black	2,984	29	16.8	3,174	30	16.6	2,755	27	16.8	2,759	23	16.9	2,934	22	17.0
American Indian/Alaska Native	113	1	18.7	126	1	18.4	94	1	18.3	110	1	18.8	118	1	20.2
Caucasian American/White	6,101	58	21.8	6,019	56	21.9	5,671	55	22.0	6,864	56	22.4	8,013	61	22.6
Hispanic	211	2	19.4	262	2	19.5	260	3	20.5	313	3	20.2	369	3	20.7
Asian American/Pacific Islander	268	3	22.0	254	2	21.8	226	2	22.8	285	2	22.7	349	3	24.5
Other/No Response	772	7	20.9	862	8	21.2	1,353	13	21.5	1,871	15	22.2	1,271	10	22.5

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	18	100	42	100	86	100	37	100	4	100	36
35	131	100	70	100	116	99	54	100	25	100	35
34	168	99	96	99	211	98	65	99	58	100	34
33	125	98	178	98	246	97	78	99	94	99	33
32	168	97	148	97	249	95	97	98	136	99	32
31	208	95	177	96	354	93	106	97	192	98	31
30	282	94	297	95	503	90	164	97	281	96	30
29	324	92	425	92	457	86	169	95	349	94	29
28	393	89	530	89	489	83	272	94	465	91	28
27	419	86	639	85	426	79	371	92	522	88	27
26	541	83	774	80	486	76	469	89	762	84	26
25	648	79	806	74	525	72	880	86	717	78	25
24	658	74	817	68	698	68	887	79	786	72	24
23	628	69	732	62	885	63	763	72	851	66	23
22	886	64	673	56	590	56	1,230	66	925	60	22
21	957	57	753	51	818	52	987	57	917	53	21
20	897	50	648	45	803	45	1,340	49	939	46	20
19	705	43	774	40	768	39	1,158	39	844	39	19
18	610	38	980	34	587	33	870	30	886	32	18
17	676	33	1,081	27	670	29	630	23	787	25	17
16	573	28	1,150	18	715	24	625	19	718	19	16
15	724	23	814	10	589	18	449	14	631	14	15
14	524	18	309	3	574	14	369	10	521	9	14
13	412	14	94	1	490	9	283	8	329	5	13
12	329	11	28	1	315	6	302	5	189	2	12
11	324	8	9	1	210	3	183	3	93	1	11
10	311	6	3	1	107	1	103	2	14	1	10
9	175	3	1	1	40	1	60	1	13	1	9
8	118	2	2	1	13	1	36	1	3	1	8
7	83	1	0	1	18	1	4	1	1	1	7
6	25	1	2	1	8	1	6	1	2	1	6
5	13	1	0	1	1	1	5	1	0	1	5
4	0	1	1	1	3	1	0	1	0	1	4
3	1	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	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	20.5 (6.2)		21.8 (5.2)		21.7 (6.2)		20.8 (4.9)		21.3 (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	458	100	70	100	349	100	374	100	632	100	110	100	122	100	18
17	524	96	269	99	605	97	902	97	842	95	223	99	33	99	17
16	655	92	474	97	685	93	994	90	947	89	333	97	507	99	16
15	593	87	913	94	813	87	1,047	83	869	81	548	95	661	95	15
14	694	83	691	87	710	81	1,081	75	1,098	75	1,334	91	1,195	90	14
13	1,029	78	1,088	81	1,107	76	700	66	1,119	66	1,195	80	1,258	81	13
12	853	70	1,466	73	1,060	67	1,159	61	1,114	58	1,452	71	1,454	71	12
11	1,275	63	1,483	62	1,194	59	1,197	52	1,144	49	1,755	60	1,377	60	11
10	1,314	53	1,658	51	1,270	50	1,077	43	1,368	41	2,222	47	2,002	49	10
9	1,205	43	1,283	38	1,373	40	1,003	35	859	30	1,546	30	1,611	34	9
8	1,106	34	1,245	28	1,472	30	1,031	27	1,430	23	1,096	18	1,019	22	8
7	932	26	895	18	908	19	707	19	1,088	13	389	9	745	14	7
6	834	19	592	12	698	12	670	14	382	4	400	7	370	8	6
5	650	12	395	7	387	6	703	9	95	1	229	3	328	5	5
4	582	7	366	4	216	3	293	3	41	1	113	2	120	3	4
3	242	3	132	1	120	2	79	1	16	1	78	1	173	2	3
2	97	1	27	1	58	1	34	1	8	1	8	1	42	1	2
1	11	1	7	1	29	1	3	1	2	1	23	1	37	1	1
Avg (SD)	10.3 (3.9)		10.5 (3.3)		10.8 (3.6)		11.3 (3.9)		11.7 (3.5)		10.9 (2.8)		10.7 (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)	25	26	26	24	25
Q2 (50th Percentile)	21	21	21	21	21
Q1 (25th Percentile)	16	17	17	18	17

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

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
State	All Students	13,054	70	22.0	18.9
	African Am./Black	2,934	61	17.9	15.6
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	118	69	21.2	17.7
	Caucasian Am./White	8,013	74	23.0	20.8
	Hispanic	369	75	21.5	18.1
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	349	81	24.8	23.5
	Other/No Response	1,271	62	23.0	20.2
National	All Students	1,421,941	61	22.0	19.5
	African Am./Black	178,417	58	17.7	16.0
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	14,380	53	20.3	17.6
	Caucasian Am./White	895,588	64	22.9	20.4
	Hispanic	114,697	60	19.6	17.4
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	51,368	71	23.4	21.4
	Other/No Response	167,491	52	22.5	20.1

Table 2.5. Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
State	All Students	20.5	21.8	21.7	20.8	21.3
	African Am./Black	15.4	17.9	17.0	17.2	17.0
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	19.0	20.3	21.1	19.9	20.2
	Caucasian Am./White	22.1	22.9	23.1	21.9	22.6
	Hispanic	19.5	21.5	21.2	20.3	20.7
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	23.7	26.2	24.2	23.5	24.5
	Other/No Response	22.0	22.7	23.1	21.6	22.5
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	442	3	386	3	659	5	234	2
	28 to 32	1,375	11	1,577	12	2,052	16	808	6
	24 to 27	2,266	17	3,036	23	2,135	16	2,607	20
	20 to 23	3,368	26	2,806	21	3,096	24	4,320	33
	16 to 19	2,564	20	3,985	31	2,740	21	3,283	25
	13 to 15	1,660	13	1,217	9	1,653	13	1,101	8
	01 to 12	1,379	11	47	0	719	6	701	5
National	33 to 36	52,735	4	40,359	3	63,798	4	26,499	2
	28 to 32	146,337	10	138,694	10	203,096	14	89,946	6
	24 to 27	237,950	17	283,854	20	231,039	16	281,932	20
	20 to 23	383,117	27	294,322	21	343,326	24	474,554	33
	16 to 19	293,110	21	466,291	33	312,300	22	359,785	25
	13 to 15	175,652	12	188,580	13	191,145	13	121,336	9
	01 to 12	133,040	9	9,841	1	77,237	5	67,889	5

Table 2.7. Average ACT Scores by Gender

Student Group	Gender	N	Percent	Average ACT Scores				
				English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
State	Males	5,390	41	19.7	22.2	21.3	21.0	21.2
	Females	7,342	56	21.0	21.5	21.9	20.5	21.3
	Missing	322	2	22.3	22.9	23.2	21.6	22.6
National	Males	625,887	44	20.1	21.6	21.2	21.3	21.2
	Females	764,282	54	21.0	20.4	21.5	20.4	21.0
	Missing	31,772	2	22.8	23.3	23.6	22.4	23.1

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

Student Group	Gender	Percent of Students				Meet All Four
		English	Math	Reading	Science	
State	Males	62	51	52	31	26
	Females	70	47	56	26	22
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	9,169	73	21.3	55	22.4	60	22.4	32	21.4	27	22.0
	Non-Core	2,905	48	17.7	29	19.6	37	19.2	15	18.7	12	18.9
	Missing	980	71	21.0	56	22.4	57	22.2	32	21.1	28	21.8
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	11,551	67	20.5	11,549	50	21.9	10,926	56	21.8	10,331	31	21.3
	Non-Core	711	64	20.4	663	25	18.6	1,270	46	20.6	1,830	10	17.8
	Missing	792	72	21.1	842	56	22.5	858	56	22.0	893	33	21.2
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

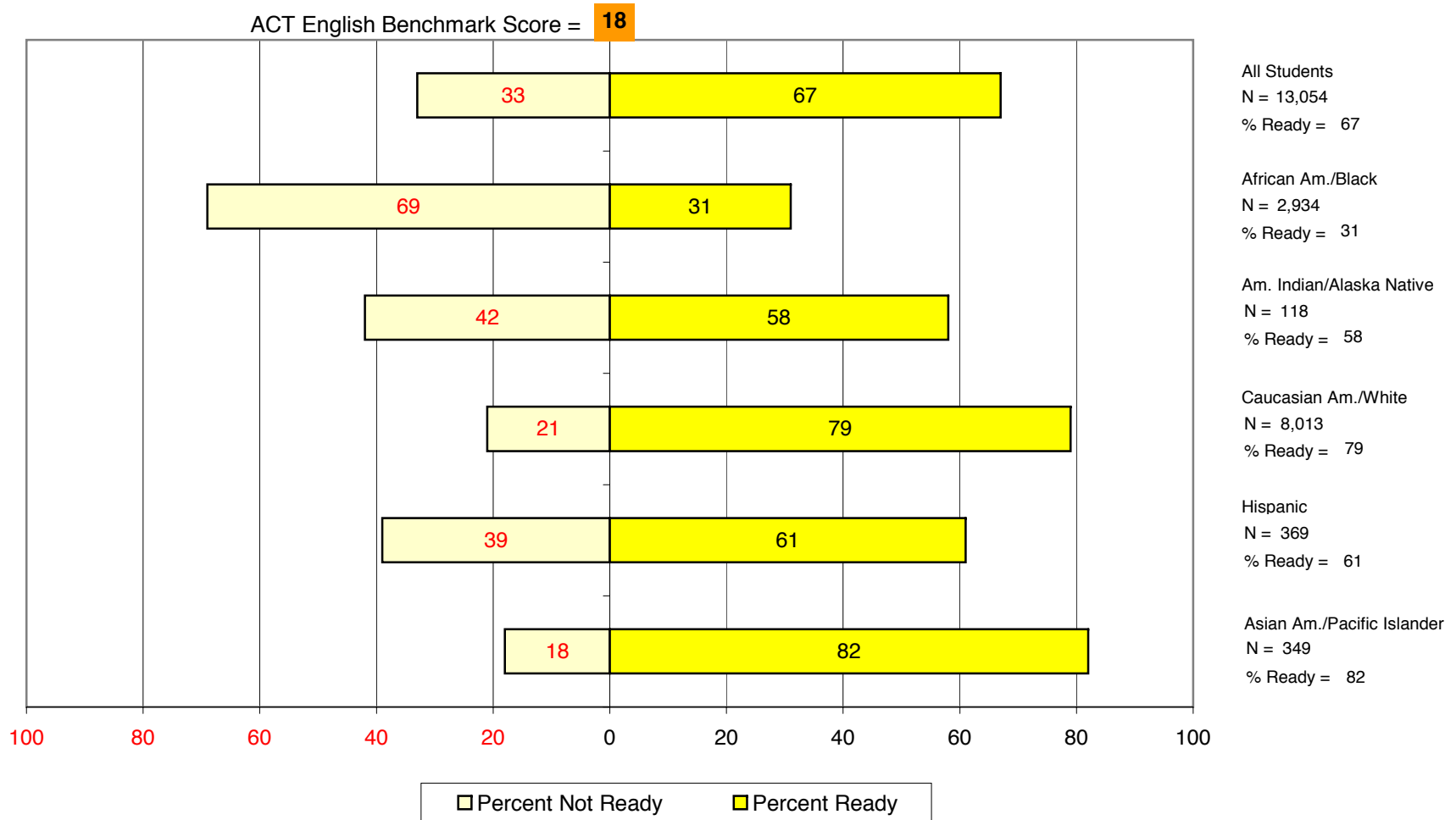


Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: MATHEMATICS

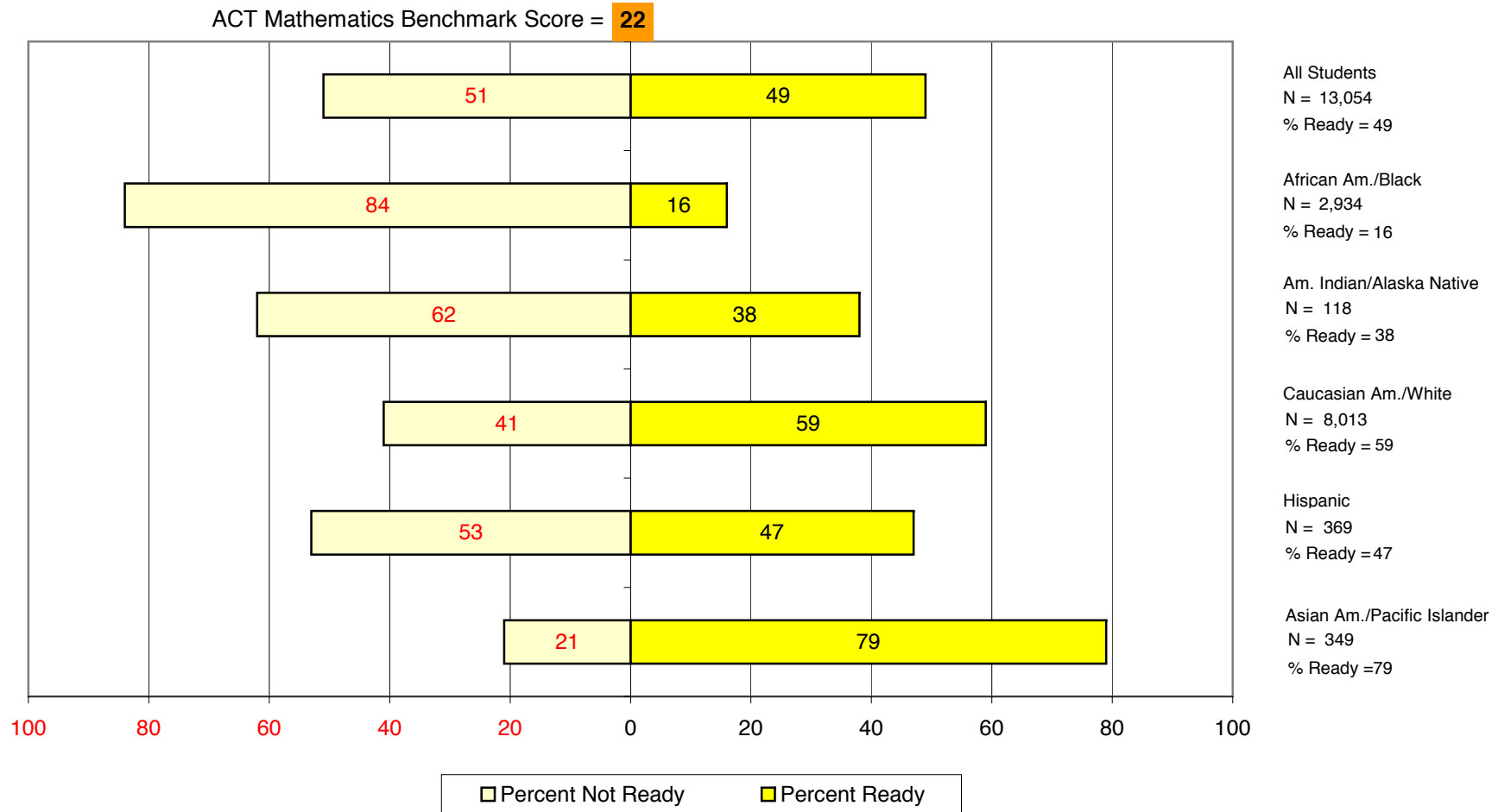


Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: **READING**

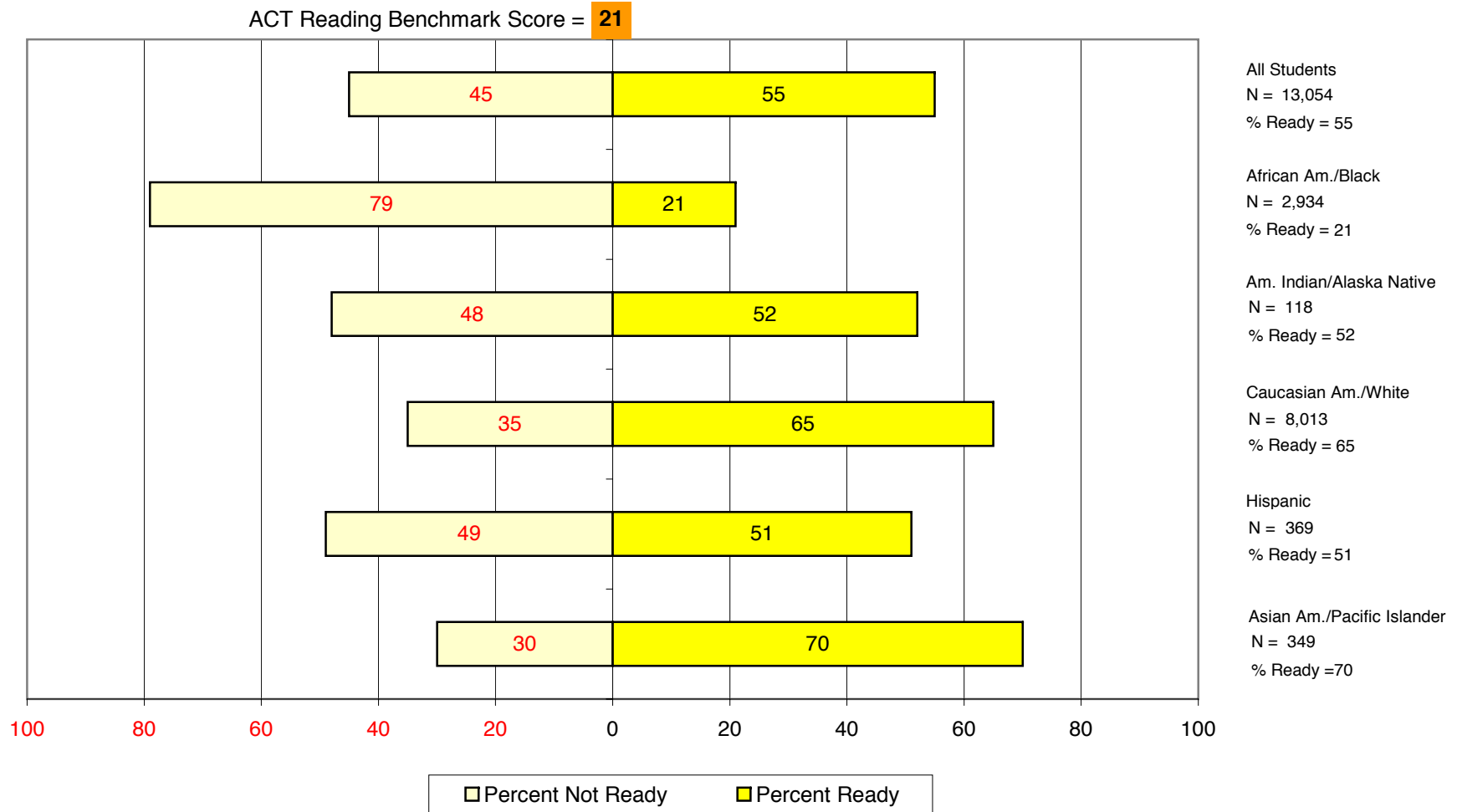


Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: SCIENCE

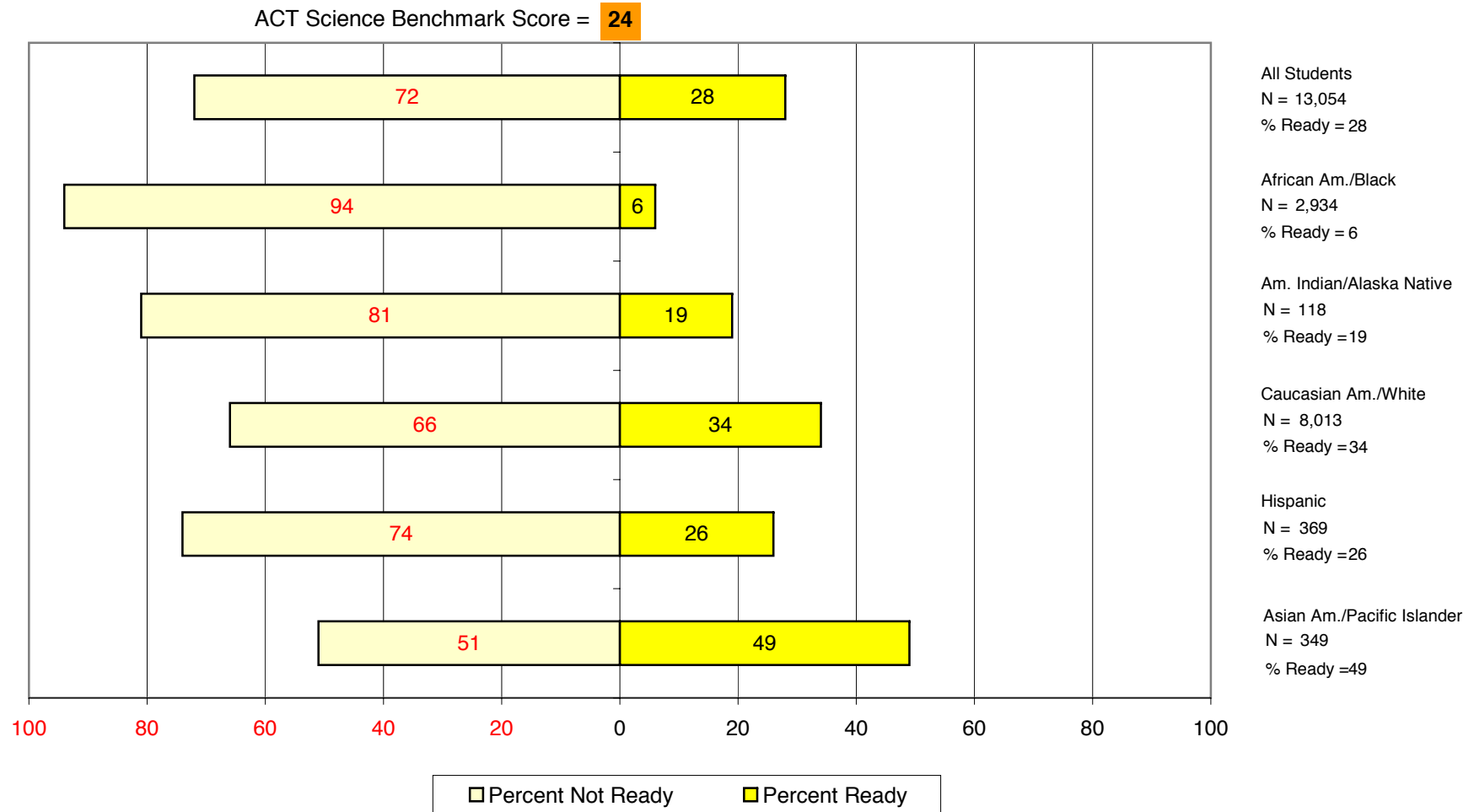


Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ALL FOUR

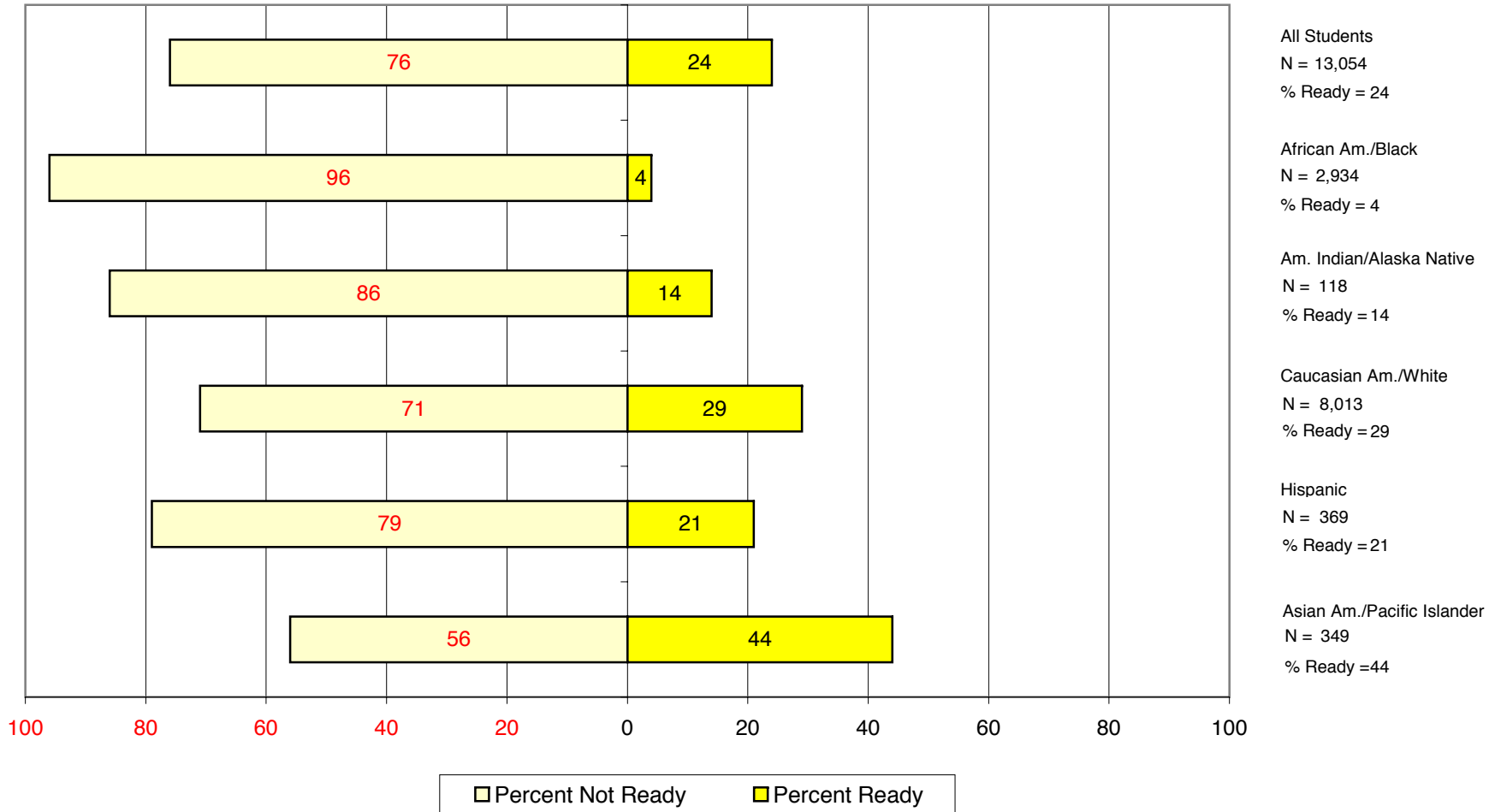


Table 3.1. Average ACT Scores and ACT Average Score Changes by Common Course Patterns

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	1,887	14	21.9	1.5	723	13	20.9	1.3	1,139	16	22.5	1.7
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	9,664	74	20.2	-0.2	3,991	74	19.5	-0.1	5,517	75	20.7	-0.1
Less than 4 years of English	723	6	20.4	-	312	6	19.6	-	369	5	20.8	-
No English course/grade information reported	780	6	21.1	-	364	7	20.1	-	317	4	22.0	-
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	460	4	26.0	7.3	207	4	26.3	7.8	241	3	25.7	7.1
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	952	7	22.5	3.8	340	6	23.1	4.6	592	8	22.1	3.5
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	394	3	19.7	1.0	163	3	19.9	1.4	218	3	19.5	0.9
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	4,460	34	20.0	1.3	1,635	30	20.2	1.7	2,773	38	19.9	1.3
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	3,961	30	24.2	5.5	1,757	33	24.8	6.3	2,134	29	23.7	5.1
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	672	5	18.2	-0.5	309	6	18.0	-0.5	341	5	18.2	-0.4
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	650	5	22.5	3.8	288	5	22.4	3.9	356	5	22.6	4.0
Less than 3 years of Math	706	5	18.7	-	318	6	18.5	-	361	5	18.6	-
No Math course/grade information reported	799	6	22.6	-	373	7	22.8	-	326	4	22.1	-
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	735	6	22.9	2.3	341	6	22.5	2.4	380	5	23.1	2.3
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	4,399	34	23.0	2.4	1,692	31	22.7	2.6	2,627	36	23.1	2.3
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	2,162	17	19.8	-0.8	999	19	19.4	-0.7	1,133	15	20.0	-0.8
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	3,630	28	21.4	0.8	1,397	26	21.2	1.1	2,178	30	21.5	0.7
Less than 3 years of Social Science	1,325	10	20.6	-	589	11	20.1	-	693	9	20.8	-
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	803	6	22.0	-	372	7	21.4	-	331	5	22.5	-
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem, & Phys	3,672	28	22.6	4.7	1,753	33	23.2	5.6	1,857	25	22.0	3.9
Bio, Chem, Phys	287	2	24.2	6.3	118	2	25.2	7.6	158	2	23.6	5.5
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	5,949	46	20.5	2.6	2,065	38	20.6	3.0	3,780	51	20.4	2.3
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	423	3	18.1	0.2	209	4	17.9	0.3	211	3	18.3	0.2
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	1,905	15	17.9	-	866	16	17.6	-	1,000	14	18.1	-
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	818	6	21.2	-	379	7	21.3	-	336	5	20.9	-

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	1,887	14	21.9	76	266,394	19	21.8	76
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	9,664	74	20.2	65	949,721	67	20.5	68
Less than 4 years of English	723	6	20.4	64	112,496	8	18.8	56
No English course/grade information reported	780	6	21.1	72	93,330	7	20.2	64
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	460	4	26.0	82	91,985	6	24.8	74
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	952	7	22.5	58	113,879	8	22.3	57
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	394	3	19.7	30	116,105	8	20.4	38
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	4,460	34	20.0	34	204,909	14	20.4	38
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	3,961	30	24.2	68	342,493	24	23.9	66
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	672	5	18.2	15	251,813	18	17.8	14
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	650	5	22.5	57	70,951	5	20.8	41
Less than 3 years of Math	706	5	18.7	26	131,252	9	17.4	14
No Math course/grade information reported	799	6	22.6	57	98,554	7	21.1	44
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	735	6	22.9	62	42,546	3	22.7	61
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	4,399	34	23.0	64	604,055	42	21.9	56
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	2,162	17	19.8	41	86,500	6	20.8	48
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	3,630	28	21.4	52	404,731	28	21.3	52
Less than 3 years of Social Science	1,325	10	20.6	47	185,561	13	20.4	45
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	803	6	22.0	57	98,548	7	21.1	50
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	3,672	28	22.6	43	453,654	32	22.2	38
Bio, Chem, Phys	287	2	24.2	56	134,033	9	23.2	47
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	5,949	46	20.5	24	435,183	31	20.1	20
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	423	3	18.1	9	40,179	3	20.1	22
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	1,905	15	17.9	11	259,142	18	18.7	13
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	818	6	21.2	33	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	132	1	18.4	7	3	16.3	110	1	18.7
Architecture & Environmental Design	207	2	20.8	5	2	12.6	195	2	21.1
Business & Management	1,401	11	20.3	21	8	15.5	1,288	12	20.4
Business & Office	64	0	18.3	7	3	17.0	50	0	18.7
Marketing & Distribution	125	1	19.7	1	0	16.0	117	1	19.7
Communications & Comm. Technologies	375	3	21.7	5	2	18.4	339	3	21.7
Community & Personal Services	250	2	17.9	24	9	16.4	216	2	18.1
Computer & Information Sciences	239	2	20.4	9	3	18.1	214	2	20.5
Cross-Disciplinary Studies	27	0	22.7	0	0	.	24	0	22.9
Education	593	5	20.2	9	3	14.3	548	5	20.3
Teacher Education	371	3	18.7	4	2	15.5	349	3	18.7
Engineering	476	4	23.0	6	2	17.0	445	4	23.1
Engineering-Related Technologies	306	2	21.4	7	3	17.4	278	3	21.4
Foreign Languages	91	1	24.6	2	1	24.0	85	1	24.5
Health Sciences & Allied Health Fields	2,301	18	20.6	88	33	18.0	2,101	19	20.8
Human, Family & Consumer Science	115	1	18.7	6	2	15.3	101	1	19.1
Letters	67	1	25.1	0	0	.	60	1	25.1
Mathematics	89	1	24.0	2	1	16.5	80	1	24.3
Philosophy, Religion & Theology	109	1	22.0	1	0	25.0	99	1	22.1
Sciences (Biological & Physical)	946	7	23.8	3	1	16.0	896	8	23.8
Social Sciences	897	7	22.2	3	1	19.3	841	8	22.2
Trade & Industrial	35	0	17.1	12	5	16.0	21	0	17.6
Visual & Performing Arts	583	4	21.1	9	3	16.9	524	5	21.2
Undecided	1,714	13	21.8	26	10	15.1	1,487	13	21.9
No Response	1,541	12	22.1	8	3	15.3	547	5	22.2

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	25	16.0	9	15.9	0	.	14	16.0	0	.	0	.	2	16.5
2-yr College Degree	240	16.8	72	14.2	3	16.3	141	18.2	7	16.3	1	18.0	16	17.5
Bachelors Degree	4,627	19.7	1,108	15.9	43	18.0	3,036	21.0	107	19.4	53	20.8	280	20.2
Graduate Study	2,733	22.6	445	17.9	20	22.2	1,896	23.5	58	21.8	60	24.4	254	23.2
Prof. Level Degree	3,655	22.6	970	18.5	36	22.3	1,962	24.3	151	21.9	185	25.8	351	23.6
Other	243	17.8	93	15.2	2	18.0	111	19.4	7	17.3	6	23.3	24	19.4
No Response	1,531	22.2	237	15.9	14	20.0	853	23.6	39	20.0	44	24.0	344	23.1

Table 4.3. Students' Score Report Preferences at Time of Testing

Name	State	Number of Students			Percent of Students in College Readiness Standards Ranges						
		Total	1st Choice	2nd-6th Choice	01-12	13-15	16-19	20-23	24-27	28-32	33-36
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIV AT RALEIGH	North Carolina	2,687	832	1,855	1	5	20	32	28	12	1
UNIV OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL	North Carolina	2,551	1,030	1,521	0	4	12	26	34	21	2
EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	2,132	587	1,545	2	11	35	33	15	3	0
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	1,934	653	1,281	1	7	27	36	23	6	0
UNIV OF NORTH CAROLINA AT WILMINGTON	North Carolina	1,847	498	1,349	1	5	23	40	25	6	0
UNIV OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE	North Carolina	1,329	240	1,089	2	8	31	35	19	4	0
UNIV OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO	North Carolina	1,285	217	1,068	2	12	34	32	16	4	0
WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	675	150	525	1	10	38	34	13	3	1
WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	666	214	452	9	39	40	11	3	0	0
DUKE UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	619	196	423	0	3	9	16	32	34	6
NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	611	167	444	9	37	39	12	2	1	0
WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	605	101	504	0	6	15	20	30	26	2
NORTH CAROLINA AGRIC & TECH STATE UNIV	North Carolina	581	177	404	8	36	39	14	4	0	0
ELON UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	517	121	396	1	6	14	29	35	15	1
CAMPBELL UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	484	142	342	2	11	27	33	22	5	0
FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	457	139	318	11	35	41	10	3	0	0
UNIV OF NORTH CAROLINA AT PEMBROKE	North Carolina	453	101	352	5	26	42	21	6	0	0
UNIV OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE	North Carolina	386	75	311	0	5	25	34	24	11	1
CLEMSON UNIVERSITY	South Carolina	377	68	309	2	3	12	28	36	16	2
UNIV OF SOUTH CAROLINA-COLUMBIA	South Carolina	367	84	283	2	1	13	32	38	14	1
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	348	144	204	6	18	32	26	14	4	1
MEREDITH COLLEGE	North Carolina	225	76	149	0	8	31	36	18	8	0
VIRGINIA TECH	Virginia	223	37	186	1	4	10	22	35	24	4
ELIZABETH CITY ST UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	221	52	169	12	33	40	10	3	1	0
COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON	South Carolina	216	49	167	0	1	8	36	40	14	1
DAVIDSON COLLEGE	North Carolina	211	50	161	0	1	7	15	30	40	6
WINGATE UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	210	42	168	3	9	28	35	20	4	0
LIBERTY UNIVERSITY	Virginia	193	88	105	0	10	26	31	23	9	1
GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	191	45	146	3	15	30	32	16	3	1
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA	Georgia	191	50	141	1	2	7	24	43	24	1
All Other Institutions		10,530	2,886	7,644	3	13	25	25	19	13	2
Total		33,322	9,311	24,011	3	11	25	28	21	11	1

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	9,768	770,529	21.1	21.4	7.3	7.3	20.7	20.9
African Am./Black	2,078	86,049	15.8	16.6	6.6	6.5	16.2	16.6
Am. Indian/Alaska Native	86	5,148	19.3	18.9	7.0	6.7	19.1	18.5
Caucasian Am./White	6,036	464,177	22.6	22.5	7.5	7.4	22.0	21.8
Hispanic	293	71,060	19.9	18.3	7.3	7.1	19.8	18.5
Asian Am./Pacific Islander	308	37,359	23.9	23.1	8.0	7.9	23.4	22.6
Other/No Response	967	106,736	22.6	22.2	7.6	7.5	22.0	21.7
Males	3,894	327,613	20.4	20.9	7.0	7.0	19.8	20.2
Females	5,637	421,968	21.5	21.7	7.6	7.6	21.2	21.3
Missing	237	20,948	22.6	23.9	7.6	7.9	22.1	23.2

