

ACT High School Profile Report

The Graduating Class of 2008
Virginia



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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

26% 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. 16,896 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. 77% 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, 27% were college ready. 12% of the cohort reported taking the minimum core (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). 10% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 57% 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. 16% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 33% 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.

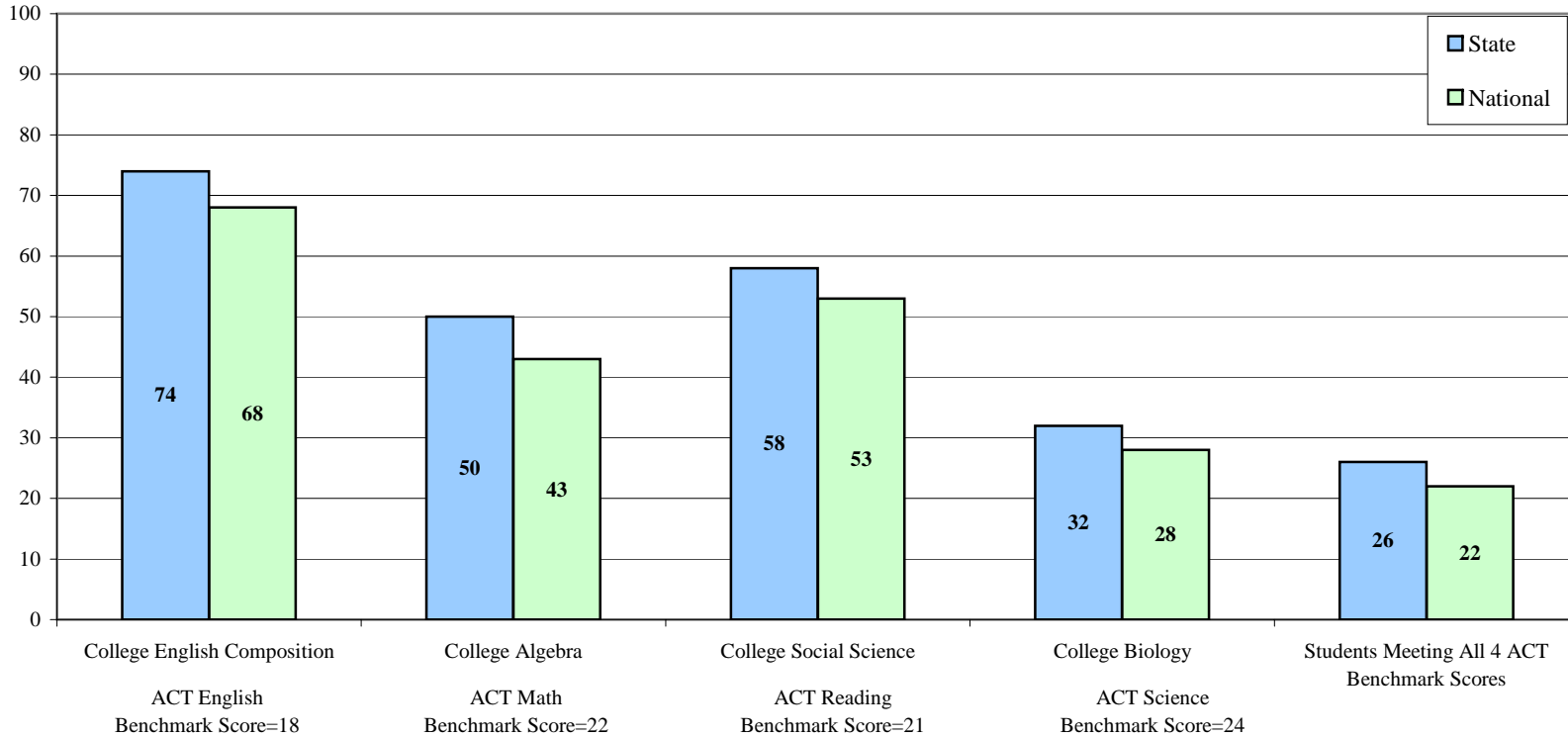
PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS. Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic groups.

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	10,172	1,171,460	69	68	41	40	51	52	25	26	20	21
2005	10,806	1,186,251	69	68	40	41	51	51	24	26	19	21
2006	11,519	1,206,455	70	69	44	42	53	53	26	27	21	21
2007	14,653	1,300,599	72	69	45	43	54	53	29	28	23	23
2008	16,896	1,421,941	74	68	50	43	58	53	32	28	26	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	10,172	1,171,460	20.4	20.4	20.7	20.7	21.2	21.3	20.7	20.9	20.9	20.9
2005	10,806	1,186,251	20.5	20.4	20.6	20.7	21.2	21.3	20.6	20.9	20.8	20.9
2006	11,519	1,206,455	20.6	20.6	21.0	20.8	21.4	21.4	20.7	20.9	21.1	21.1
2007	14,653	1,300,599	21.0	20.7	21.2	21.0	21.7	21.5	21.1	21.0	21.4	21.2
2008	16,896	1,421,941	21.5	20.6	21.8	21.0	22.2	21.4	21.3	20.8	21.8	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	6,565	1,985	65	20	21.1	18.6	21.3	19.0	21.7	19.6	21.3	19.3	21.5	19.3
2005	6,660	2,246	62	21	21.2	18.7	21.1	19.1	21.8	19.6	21.2	19.3	21.5	19.3
2006	6,636	2,553	58	22	21.4	19.0	21.6	19.7	22.1	20.1	21.3	19.6	21.7	19.7
2007	8,592	3,347	59	23	21.7	19.4	21.7	19.9	22.3	20.5	21.6	19.9	21.9	20.1
2008	13,020	2,472	77	15	22.0	19.0	22.2	19.9	22.6	20.2	21.7	19.5	22.2	19.8

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	10,172	100	20.9	10,806	100	20.8	11,519	100	21.1	14,653	100	21.4	16,896	100	21.8
African American/Black	2,389	23	17.5	2,548	24	17.3	2,560	22	17.3	2,898	20	17.4	3,308	20	17.5
American Indian/Alaska Native	36	0	20.9	40	0	20.2	36	0	21.5	40	0	21.4	62	0	21.6
Caucasian American/White	5,837	57	22.0	6,117	57	22.1	6,240	54	22.3	7,700	53	22.5	9,687	57	22.9
Hispanic	268	3	20.0	331	3	20.4	329	3	20.3	421	3	20.4	617	4	21.0
Asian American/Pacific Islander	445	4	21.6	439	4	21.3	419	4	22.5	604	4	22.8	827	5	23.6
Other/No Response	1,197	12	22.0	1,331	12	21.7	1,935	17	21.7	2,990	20	22.1	2,395	14	23.0

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	26	100	49	100	157	100	43	100	8	100	36
35	212	100	107	100	163	99	57	100	25	100	35
34	243	99	130	99	223	98	84	99	83	100	34
33	255	97	242	98	363	97	152	99	148	99	33
32	261	96	213	97	424	95	120	98	203	98	32
31	340	94	184	96	523	92	141	97	285	97	31
30	465	92	371	95	716	89	250	96	430	96	30
29	525	89	540	92	594	85	277	95	540	93	29
28	579	86	751	89	730	81	423	93	644	90	28
27	592	83	797	85	656	77	593	91	807	86	27
26	782	79	979	80	628	73	698	87	959	81	26
25	900	75	1,130	74	721	69	1,342	83	1,054	76	25
24	976	69	1,026	67	864	65	1,172	75	1,133	69	24
23	979	64	999	61	1,199	60	1,252	68	1,162	63	23
22	1,216	58	849	56	846	53	1,574	61	1,208	56	22
21	1,328	51	992	50	1,063	48	1,280	52	1,275	49	21
20	1,145	43	818	45	1,118	42	1,711	44	1,178	41	20
19	858	36	1,026	40	1,018	35	1,434	34	1,177	34	19
18	799	31	1,199	34	662	29	1,056	25	1,077	27	18
17	824	26	1,340	27	750	25	704	19	886	21	17
16	656	21	1,492	19	830	21	672	15	737	15	16
15	730	17	959	10	662	16	480	11	687	11	15
14	529	13	464	4	593	12	382	8	474	7	14
13	382	10	133	1	567	8	311	6	339	4	13
12	329	8	64	1	336	5	255	4	213	2	12
11	304	6	19	1	222	3	182	3	90	1	11
10	252	4	10	1	160	2	110	1	46	1	10
9	163	2	5	1	50	1	77	1	16	1	9
8	143	1	3	1	13	1	26	1	8	1	8
7	67	1	0	1	20	1	15	1	3	1	7
6	15	1	3	1	10	1	14	1	0	1	6
5	13	1	0	1	10	1	4	1	1	1	5
4	4	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	4
3	1	1	0	1	1	1	3	1	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	3	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	21.5 (6.1)		21.8 (5.2)		22.2 (6.2)		21.3 (4.8)		21.8 (5.0)		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	749	100	100	100	588	100	545	100	909	100	136	100	141	100	18
17	765	96	428	99	852	97	983	97	922	95	299	99	80	99	17
16	1,074	91	934	97	1,000	91	1,705	91	1,169	89	407	97	749	99	16
15	881	85	1,304	91	1,154	86	1,403	81	975	82	674	95	768	94	15
14	1,050	79	1,030	84	1,003	79	1,468	73	1,460	76	1,730	91	1,791	90	14
13	1,426	73	1,556	78	1,446	73	863	64	1,586	68	1,745	81	1,334	79	13
12	1,308	65	2,168	68	1,300	64	1,575	59	1,589	58	1,656	70	2,014	71	12
11	1,658	57	1,882	55	1,505	57	1,810	49	1,411	49	2,530	61	1,658	59	11
10	1,768	47	2,284	44	1,716	48	1,443	39	1,767	41	2,854	46	2,730	49	10
9	1,561	37	1,455	31	1,780	37	1,198	30	1,096	30	1,993	29	1,778	33	9
8	1,297	28	1,413	22	1,703	27	1,099	23	1,932	24	1,295	17	1,358	23	8
7	1,019	20	944	14	1,017	17	852	17	1,333	12	411	9	1,047	15	7
6	848	14	527	8	838	11	782	12	515	4	501	7	484	9	6
5	591	9	347	5	440	6	721	7	143	1	347	4	394	6	5
4	551	5	360	3	271	3	304	3	60	1	139	2	151	3	4
3	244	2	120	1	151	2	96	1	17	1	131	1	279	2	3
2	91	1	33	1	90	1	46	1	9	1	11	1	80	1	2
1	15	1	11	1	42	1	3	1	3	1	37	1	60	1	1
Avg (SD)	10.9 (3.9)		11.0 (3.2)		11.0 (3.7)		11.6 (3.8)		11.7 (3.5)		10.9 (2.8)		10.7 (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)	26	26	27	24	25
Q2 (50th Percentile)	21	21	22	21	22
Q1 (25th Percentile)	17	17	17	18	18

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	16,896	77	22.2	19.8
	African Am./Black	3,308	71	18.2	15.6
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	62	79	21.4	22.6
	Caucasian Am./White	9,687	80	23.1	21.6
	Hispanic	617	82	21.3	20.2
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	827	84	23.7	22.9
	Other/No Response	2,395	71	23.3	21.2
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	21.5	21.8	22.2	21.3	21.8
	African Am./Black	16.6	17.7	17.6	17.7	17.5
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	21.5	21.1	22.1	21.2	21.6
	Caucasian Am./White	22.8	22.7	23.4	22.3	22.9
	Hispanic	20.3	21.1	21.7	20.5	21.0
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	22.9	24.8	23.4	22.8	23.6
	Other/No Response	22.7	23.0	23.4	22.2	23.0
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	736	4	528	3	906	5	336	2
	28 to 32	2,170	13	2,059	12	2,987	18	1,211	7
	24 to 27	3,250	19	3,932	23	2,869	17	3,805	23
	20 to 23	4,668	28	3,658	22	4,226	25	5,817	34
	16 to 19	3,137	19	5,057	30	3,260	19	3,866	23
	13 to 15	1,641	10	1,556	9	1,822	11	1,173	7
	01 to 12	1,294	8	106	1	826	5	688	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	6,968	41	20.6	22.3	21.7	21.5	21.6
	Females	9,504	56	22.1	21.4	22.6	21.1	21.9
	Missing	424	3	23.1	23.5	23.5	22.6	23.3
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	69	54	55	34	28
	Females	77	46	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 ²	N	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite ¹	
			CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg
State	Core	13,020	78	22.0	52	22.2	61	22.6	33	21.7	28	22.2
	Non-Core	2,472	57	19.0	35	19.9	43	20.2	22	19.5	19	19.8
	Missing	1,404	70	21.2	53	22.0	58	22.3	32	21.2	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	14,734	74	21.5	14,824	51	22.0	14,459	59	22.2	14,198	33	21.6
	Non-Core	935	75	21.5	790	26	18.5	1,131	56	21.8	1,341	16	18.3
	Missing	1,227	70	21.2	1,282	53	22.0	1,306	58	22.3	1,357	31	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

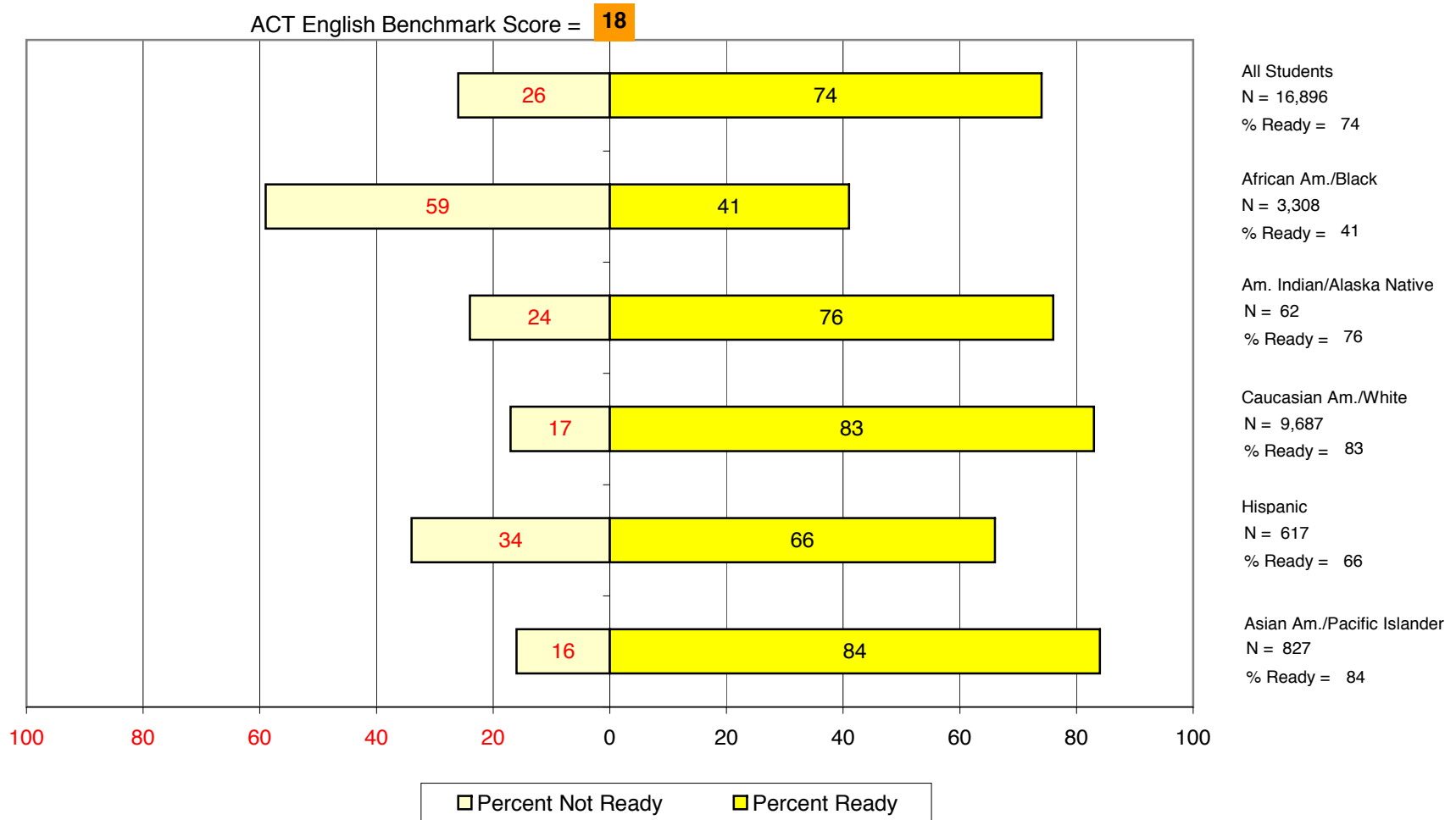


Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: MATHEMATICS

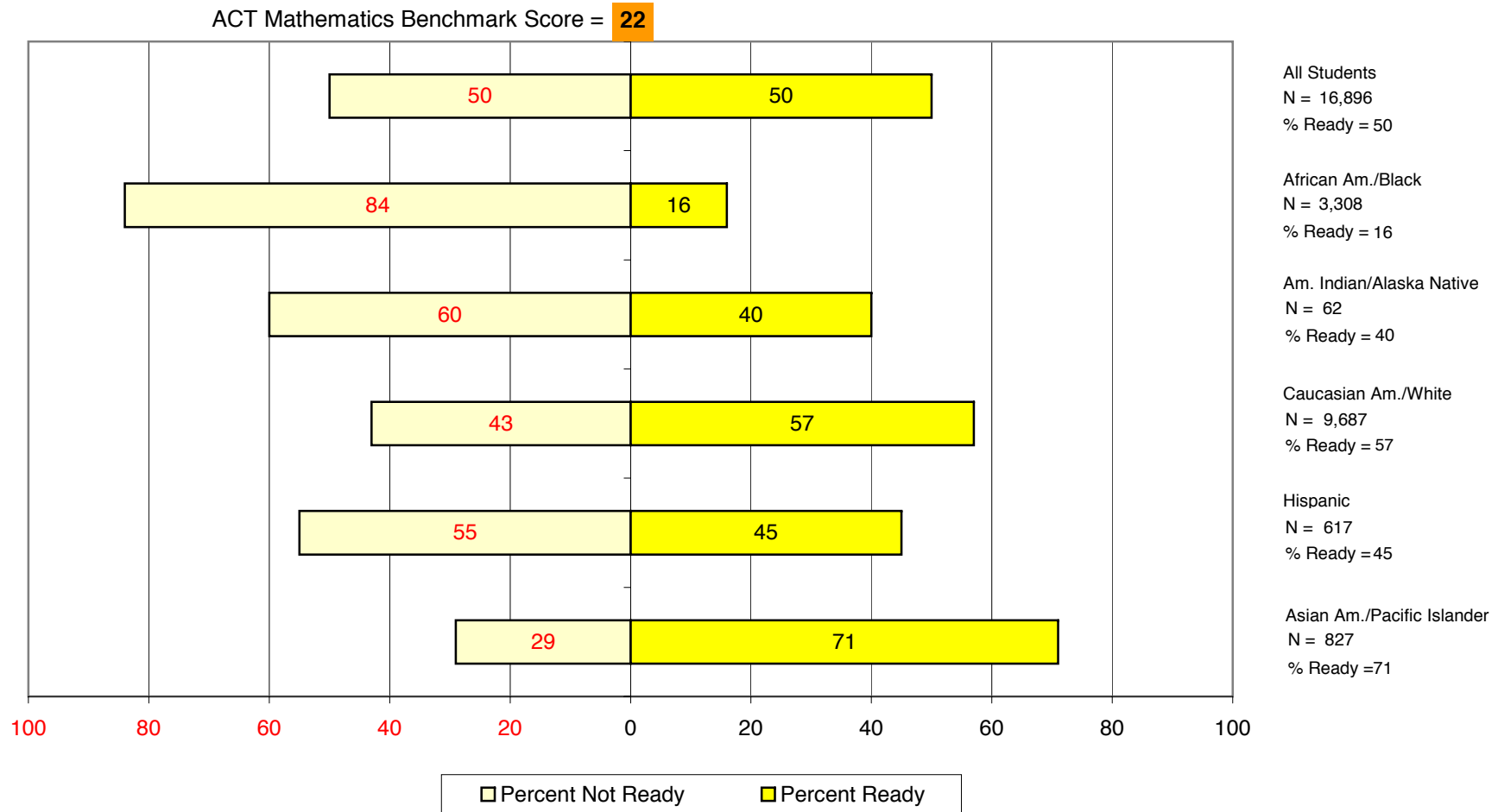


Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: READING

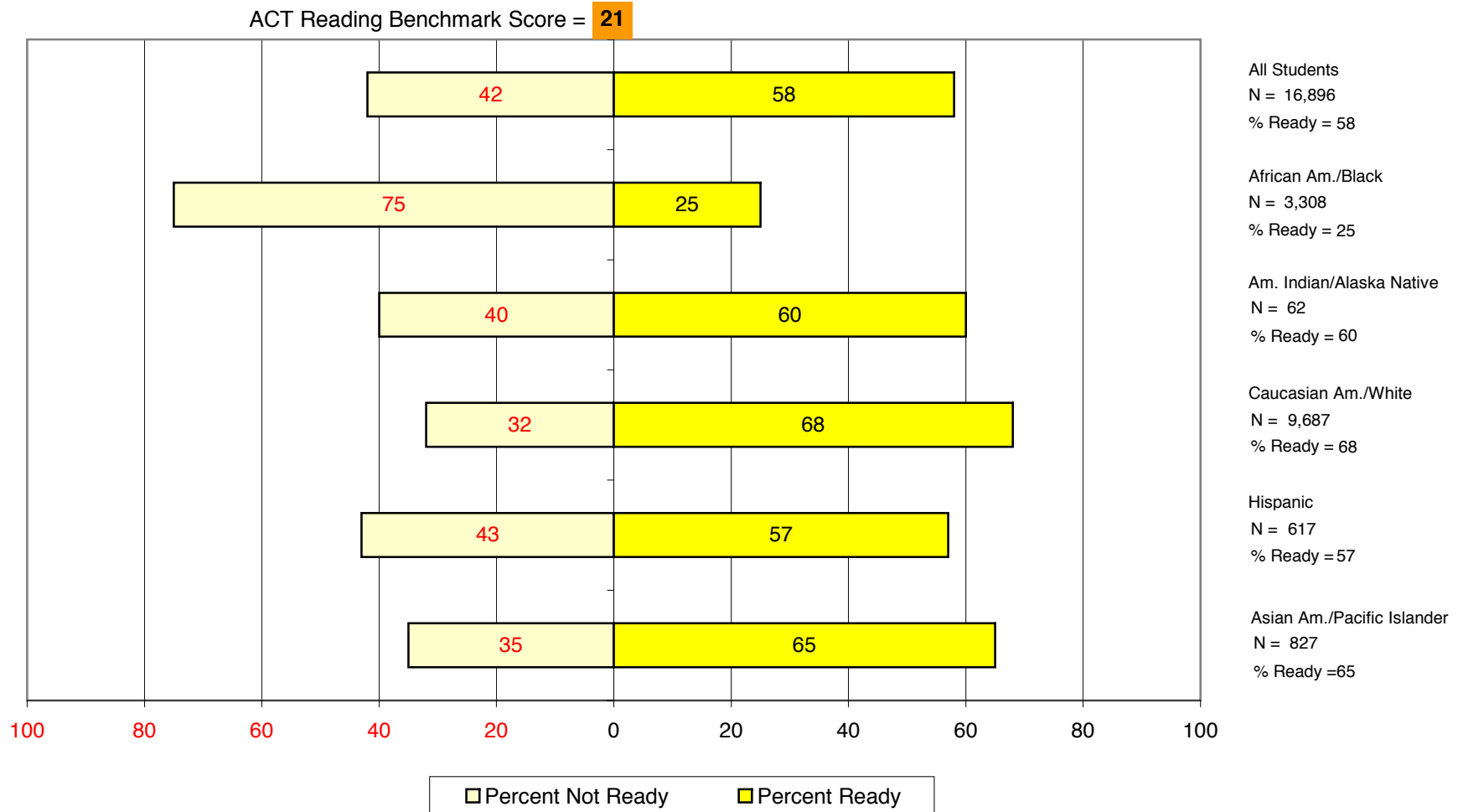


Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: SCIENCE

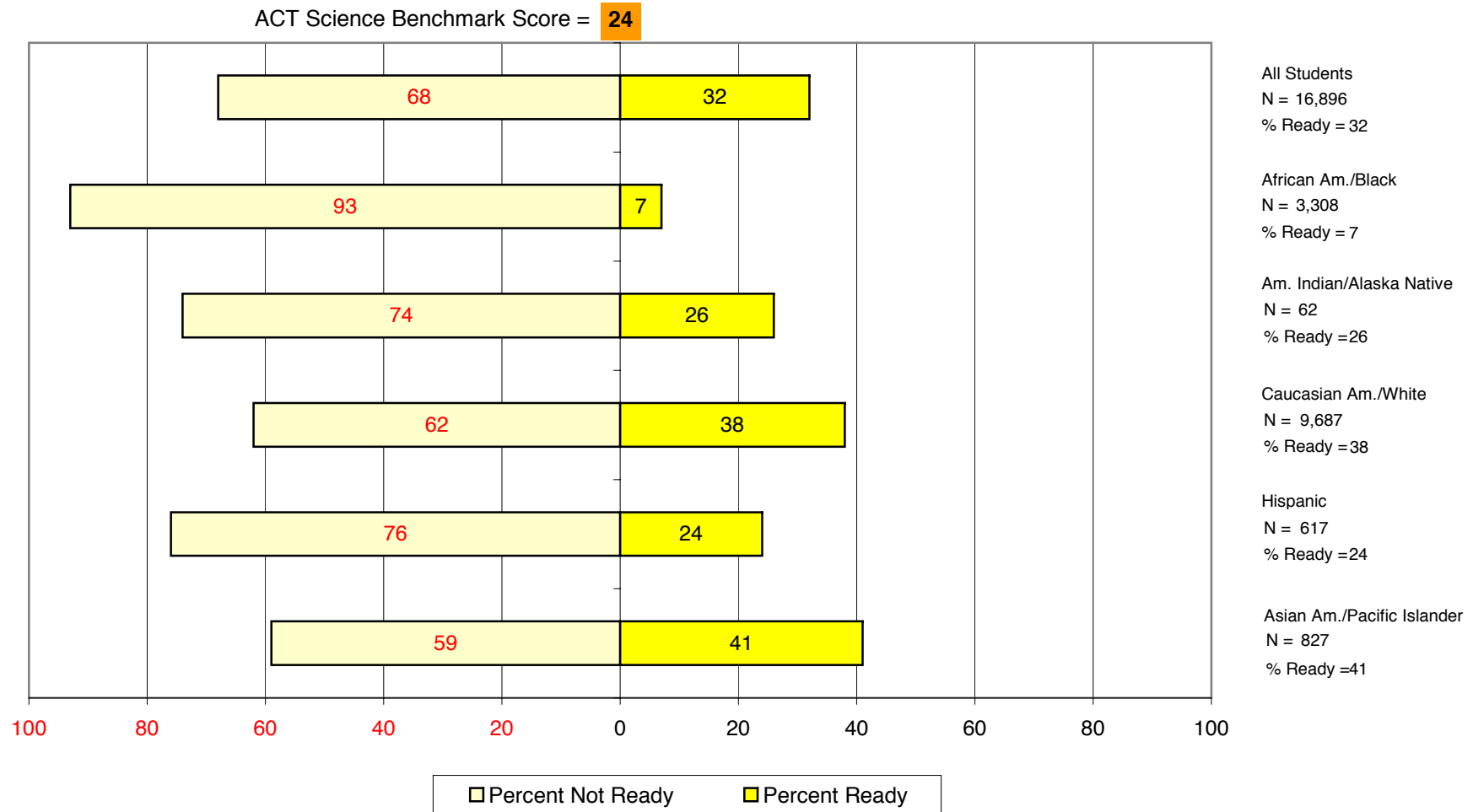


Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ALL FOUR

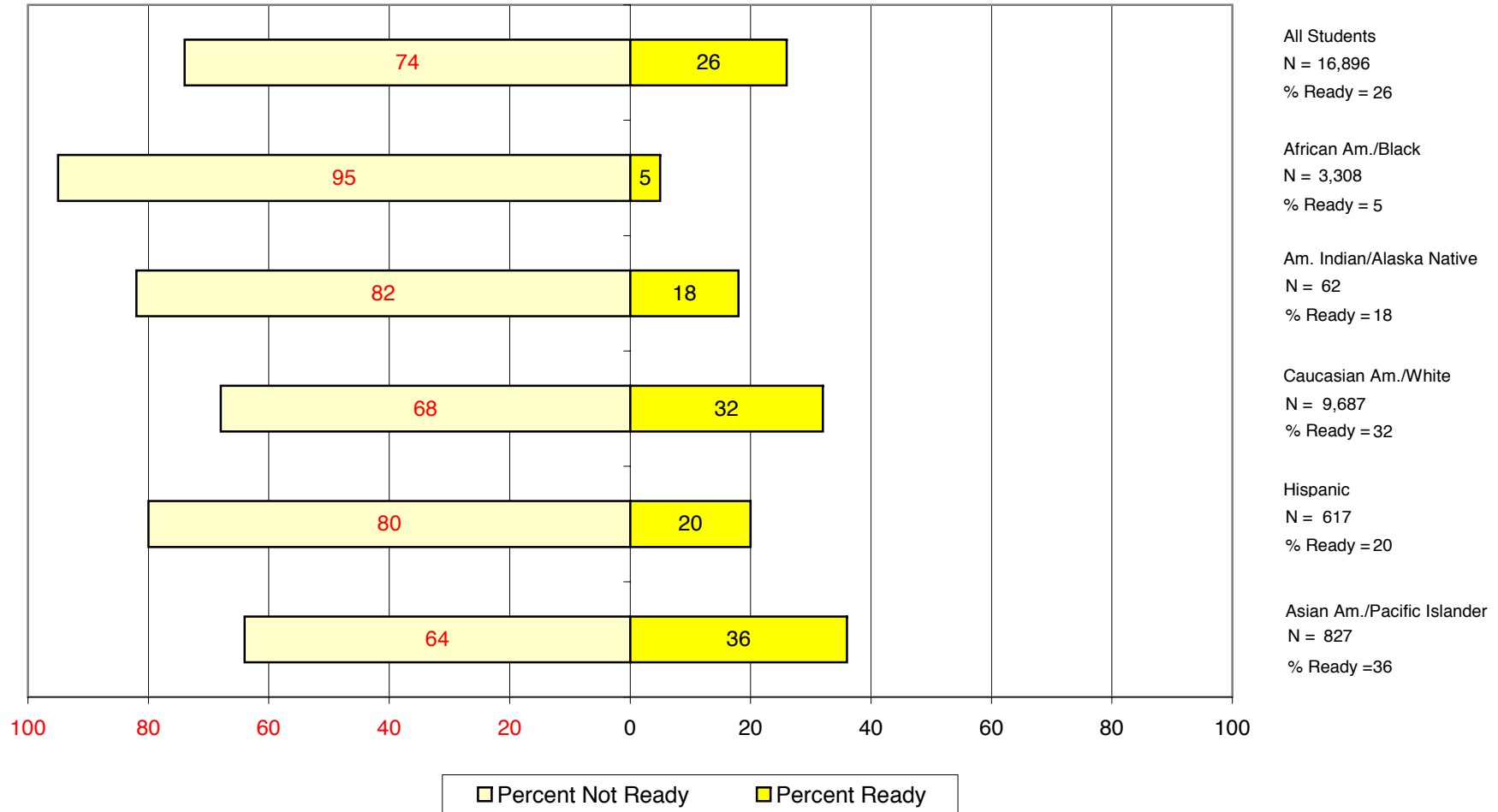


Table 3.1. Average ACT Scores and ACT Average Score Changes by Common Course Patterns

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	2,380	14	22.1	0.6	883	13	21.0	0.1	1,460	15	22.7	0.9
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	12,354	73	21.4	-0.1	5,056	73	20.6	-0.3	7,094	75	21.9	0.1
Less than 4 years of English	942	6	21.5	-	425	6	20.9	-	463	5	21.8	-
No English course/grade information reported	1,220	7	21.2	-	604	9	19.9	-	487	5	22.2	-
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,510	9	25.2	6.5	575	8	25.9	7.3	899	9	24.8	6.3
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	2,095	12	22.3	3.6	721	10	23.0	4.4	1,338	14	21.8	3.3
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	1,802	11	20.5	1.8	681	10	21.0	2.4	1,083	11	20.0	1.5
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	2,080	12	20.3	1.6	764	11	20.6	2.0	1,281	13	20.0	1.5
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	4,576	27	24.5	5.8	2,046	29	25.2	6.6	2,441	26	24.0	5.5
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	2,075	12	17.3	-1.4	875	13	17.6	-1.0	1,175	12	17.1	-1.4
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	686	4	20.0	1.3	313	4	20.1	1.5	362	4	19.7	1.2
Less than 3 years of Math	818	5	18.7	-	371	5	18.6	-	423	4	18.5	-
No Math course/grade information reported	1,254	7	22.0	-	622	9	21.8	-	502	5	21.7	-
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	2,151	13	22.4	0.5	919	13	21.9	0.5	1,194	13	22.8	0.6
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	5,387	32	22.7	0.8	2,122	30	22.3	0.9	3,175	33	22.9	0.7
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	2,511	15	21.6	-0.3	1,045	15	21.0	-0.4	1,423	15	21.9	-0.3
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	4,410	26	22.0	0.1	1,740	25	21.3	-0.1	2,604	27	22.3	0.1
Less than 3 years of Social Science	1,147	7	21.9	-	500	7	21.4	-	589	6	22.2	-
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	1,290	8	22.3	-	642	9	21.5	-	519	5	22.9	-
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem, & Phys	7,403	44	22.3	3.9	3,167	45	22.7	4.6	4,081	43	22.1	3.6
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,422	8	24.1	5.7	597	9	24.9	6.8	783	8	23.5	5.0
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	5,039	30	20.0	1.6	1,760	25	19.8	1.7	3,218	34	20.1	1.6
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	334	2	19.0	0.6	176	3	19.0	0.9	154	2	19.0	0.5
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	1,388	8	18.4	-	618	9	18.1	-	741	8	18.5	-
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	1,310	8	21.2	-	650	9	20.9	-	527	6	21.3	-

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

²Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

Table 3.2. College Readiness Percents by Common Course Patterns

Course Pattern	State				National			
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Meeting Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Meeting Benchmark
ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN								
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	2,380	14	22.1	78	266,394	19	21.8	76
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	12,354	73	21.4	73	949,721	67	20.5	68
Less than 4 years of English	942	6	21.5	75	112,496	8	18.8	56
No English course/grade information reported	1,220	7	21.2	70	93,330	7	20.2	64
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,510	9	25.2	79	91,985	6	24.8	74
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	2,095	12	22.3	58	113,879	8	22.3	57
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	1,802	11	20.5	38	116,105	8	20.4	38
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	2,080	12	20.3	36	204,909	14	20.4	38
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	4,576	27	24.5	70	342,493	24	23.9	66
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	2,075	12	17.3	10	251,813	18	17.8	14
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	686	4	20.0	33	70,951	5	20.8	41
Less than 3 years of Math	818	5	18.7	27	131,252	9	17.4	14
No Math course/grade information reported	1,254	7	22.0	53	98,554	7	21.1	44
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	2,151	13	22.4	60	42,546	3	22.7	61
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	5,387	32	22.7	62	604,055	42	21.9	56
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	2,511	15	21.6	53	86,500	6	20.8	48
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	4,410	26	22.0	56	404,731	28	21.3	52
Less than 3 years of Social Science	1,147	7	21.9	56	185,561	13	20.4	45
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	1,290	8	22.3	58	98,548	7	21.1	50
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	7,403	44	22.3	39	453,654	32	22.2	38
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,422	8	24.1	54	134,033	9	23.2	47
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	5,039	30	20.0	19	435,183	31	20.1	20
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	334	2	19.0	16	40,179	3	20.1	22
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	1,388	8	18.4	16	259,142	18	18.7	13
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	1,310	8	21.2	32	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	124	1	20.0	4	3	15.8	113	1	20.3
Architecture & Environmental Design	300	2	22.1	4	3	16.3	276	2	22.3
Business & Management	1,781	11	20.8	20	13	16.8	1,608	11	20.9
Business & Office	86	1	18.3	4	3	18.3	64	0	18.3
Marketing & Distribution	255	2	20.3	3	2	19.3	229	2	20.5
Communications & Comm. Technologies	570	3	21.6	3	2	16.3	531	4	21.6
Community & Personal Services	230	1	19.3	1	1	15.0	213	2	19.4
Computer & Information Sciences	370	2	20.8	11	7	16.4	337	2	21.0
Cross-Disciplinary Studies	57	0	23.6	0	0	.	42	0	23.5
Education	590	3	20.7	2	1	15.5	550	4	20.7
Teacher Education	405	2	20.0	5	3	15.2	377	3	20.0
Engineering	722	4	23.9	5	3	16.6	683	5	24.0
Engineering-Related Technologies	407	2	22.2	2	1	20.5	365	3	22.4
Foreign Languages	120	1	24.1	1	1	12.0	109	1	24.2
Health Sciences & Allied Health Fields	2,165	13	21.1	29	18	15.8	2,018	14	21.2
Human, Family & Consumer Science	96	1	18.2	3	2	14.3	79	1	18.4
Letters	108	1	25.1	2	1	22.5	96	1	24.9
Mathematics	97	1	23.8	1	1	15.0	90	1	23.7
Philosophy, Religion & Theology	112	1	22.5	2	1	19.0	99	1	22.7
Sciences (Biological & Physical)	1,213	7	23.6	3	2	17.3	1,141	8	23.7
Social Sciences	1,358	8	22.5	4	3	16.3	1,274	9	22.5
Trade & Industrial	37	0	19.1	12	8	17.8	22	0	20.1
Visual & Performing Arts	809	5	21.5	4	3	15.3	728	5	21.7
Undecided	2,603	15	22.2	26	17	16.1	2,184	16	22.3
No Response	2,281	14	22.3	6	4	17.3	807	6	23.3

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

²Percent of students tested.

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

Educational Degree Aspirations	All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined		African-Am./ Black		Am. Indian/ Alaska Native		Caucasian-Am./ White		Hispanic		Asian-Am./ Pacific Islander		Other/No Response	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	25	16.7	11	13.5	1	17.0	9	18.3	0	.	3	20.3	1	26.0
2-yr College Degree	132	16.5	50	14.7	1	19.0	61	17.8	7	15.9	2	13.0	11	18.2
Bachelors Degree	5,472	20.2	1,100	16.3	21	20.0	3,435	21.4	185	19.9	174	21.3	557	20.8
Graduate Study	4,161	23.1	626	18.5	10	22.7	2,725	23.9	144	22.1	172	24.1	484	24.1
Prof. Level Degree	4,402	23.0	1,029	19.0	23	22.7	2,201	24.4	208	22.1	358	24.7	583	24.2
Other	257	18.6	83	15.7	0	.	104	19.8	11	17.1	16	21.2	43	20.7
No Response	2,447	21.8	409	16.2	6	22.7	1,152	23.1	62	19.8	102	23.6	716	23.0

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
JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY	Virginia	2,942	790	2,152	0	3	16	36	31	12	1
VIRGINIA TECH	Virginia	2,872	965	1,907	0	3	13	31	33	17	2
VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY	Virginia	2,180	615	1,565	2	11	30	32	18	6	0
UNIV OF VIRGINIA-MAIN CAMPUS	Virginia	2,042	661	1,381	0	2	9	20	35	29	4
OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY	Virginia	2,003	517	1,486	3	14	35	29	15	3	0
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY	Virginia	1,657	443	1,214	1	6	24	37	25	8	1
CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY	Virginia	1,508	415	1,093	1	6	23	39	25	6	0
RADFORD UNIVERSITY	Virginia	1,236	235	1,001	2	9	31	39	16	3	1
COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY	Virginia	1,094	326	768	0	1	5	17	37	36	4
LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY	Virginia	895	212	683	1	8	31	39	18	3	0
NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY	Virginia	695	254	441	10	36	41	11	2	0	0
VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY	Virginia	691	168	523	12	34	39	13	2	0	0
UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON	Virginia	681	106	575	1	2	12	32	37	15	0
HAMPTON UNIVERSITY	Virginia	556	164	392	6	24	41	22	6	1	0
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	499	262	237	4	21	29	24	16	4	1
LIBERTY UNIVERSITY	Virginia	405	170	235	4	18	32	27	15	3	0
UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND	Virginia	298	53	245	1	7	19	24	29	19	1
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY	West Virginia	290	81	209	1	7	31	38	19	3	1
LYNCHBURG COLLEGE	Virginia	288	62	226	2	10	33	39	14	2	0
UNIV OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL	North Carolina	265	60	205	1	3	12	23	31	28	3
BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE	Virginia	224	51	173	2	11	36	33	15	3	0
EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY	North Carolina	224	41	183	1	5	28	42	21	3	0
FERRUM COLLEGE	Virginia	222	58	164	6	25	41	23	4	0	0
HOWARD UNIVERSITY	District of Columbia	214	76	138	2	16	38	33	9	1	0
ROANOKE COLLEGE	Virginia	211	49	162	2	3	23	47	20	4	0
UNIV OF SOUTH CAROLINA-COLUMBIA	South Carolina	208	58	150	0	2	13	35	35	15	0
PENN STATE-UNIVERSITY PARK CAMPUS	Pennsylvania	197	38	159	1	5	10	23	38	21	3
VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE	Virginia	194	46	148	6	20	37	27	8	2	1
VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE	Virginia	190	78	112	2	7	22	39	19	11	1
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIV AT RALEIGH	North Carolina	188	28	160	0	4	15	30	32	18	1
All Other Institutions		13,611	3,676	9,935	2	9	21	27	23	15	2
Total		38,780	10,758	28,022	2	9	22	29	24	12	2

Section V

Optional Writing Test Results

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

	N		Average ACT Scores					
			English		Essay		English/Writing Combined	
			State	National	State	National	State	National
All Students	10,077	770,529	22.6	21.4	7.5	7.3	22.0	20.9
African Am./Black	1,605	86,049	17.4	16.6	6.7	6.5	17.4	16.6
Am. Indian/Alaska Native	36	5,148	23.2	18.9	7.4	6.7	22.3	18.5
Caucasian Am./White	5,896	464,177	23.7	22.5	7.6	7.4	22.9	21.8
Hispanic	388	71,060	21.2	18.3	7.6	7.1	21.0	18.5
Asian Am./Pacific Islander	599	37,359	23.8	23.1	8.0	7.9	23.3	22.6
Other/No Response	1,553	106,736	23.7	22.2	7.7	7.5	22.9	21.7
Males	3,880	327,613	22.0	20.9	7.2	7.0	21.2	20.2
Females	5,920	421,968	23.0	21.7	7.7	7.6	22.5	21.3
Missing	277	20,948	23.5	23.9	7.6	7.9	22.8	23.2

