

ACT Profile Report - State

Graduating Class 2011
South Dakota



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This report provides information about the performance of your 2011 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 2011 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, test data for a school, district, and the state 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, or the state.

Furthermore, 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. *Connecting College Readiness Standards to the Classroom* interpretive guides can be found at www.act.org/standard/infoserv.html.

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

29% of your students 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: 6,983 of your students 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. 86% 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, 6% were college ready. 16% of the cohort reported taking a course sequence of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. 19% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 61% of the students who took 3 or more years of math beyond Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry 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. 12% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 39% 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 37% 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 303-337-3273.

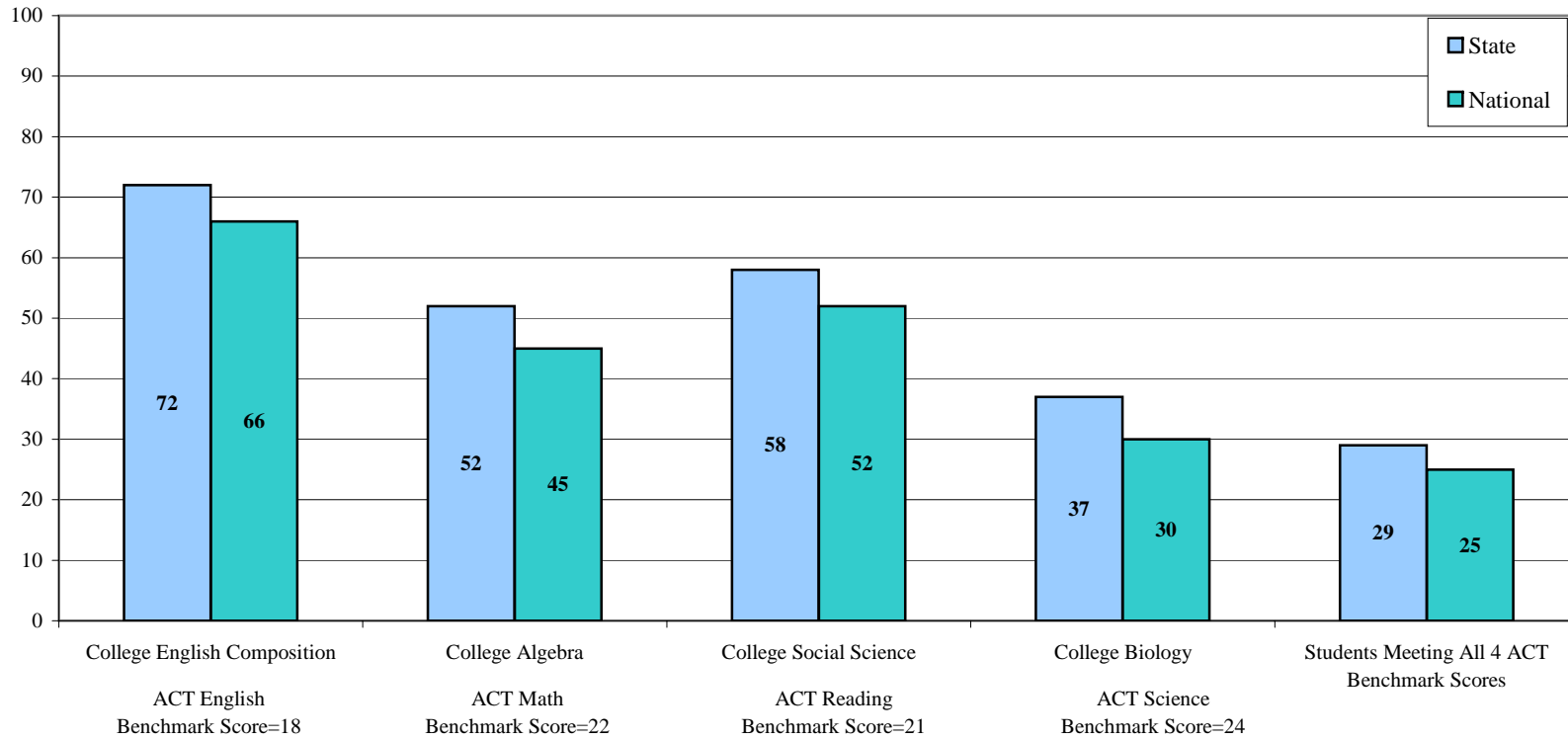
Section I

Executive Summary

Tables within this section have been changed to reflect the updated United States Department of Education race/ethnicity reporting requirements. The race/ethnicity categories shown are the derived Federal reporting categories. Not all values convert from old race/ethnicity categories into new race/ethnicity categories. Therefore, trend data may not be present where direct conversions are not available.

Total Students in Report: 6,983

Figure 1.1. Percent of Your 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.

Total Students in Report: 6,983

Table 1.1. Five Year Trends—Percent of Students Meeting College Readiness Benchmarks

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
2007	6,975	1,300,599	75	69	50	43	58	53	34	28	27	23
2008	6,959	1,421,941	75	68	50	43	59	53	35	28	28	22
2009	6,676	1,480,469	74	67	49	42	60	53	36	28	28	23
2010	6,871	1,568,835	74	66	50	43	58	52	35	29	28	24
2011	6,983	1,623,112	72	66	52	45	58	52	37	30	29	25

Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores

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
2007	6,975	1,300,599	21.3	20.7	21.7	21.0	22.1	21.5	21.9	21.0	21.9	21.2
2008	6,959	1,421,941	21.2	20.6	21.9	21.0	22.3	21.4	22.0	20.8	22.0	21.1
2009	6,676	1,480,469	21.2	20.6	21.8	21.0	22.3	21.4	22.0	20.9	22.0	21.1
2010	6,871	1,568,835	21.1	20.5	21.6	21.0	22.0	21.3	21.9	20.9	21.8	21.0
2011	6,983	1,623,112	21.0	20.6	21.8	21.1	22.0	21.3	22.1	20.9	21.8	21.1

Table 1.3. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores Nationwide

Year	Number of Students Tested	Average ACT Scores				
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
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
2009	1,480,469	20.6	21.0	21.4	20.9	21.1
2010	1,568,835	20.5	21.0	21.3	20.9	21.0
2011	1,623,112	20.6	21.1	21.3	20.9	21.1

Total Students in Report: 6,983

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

Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent ²		Average ACT Scores									
	Core or More ¹	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
2007	4,041	2,223	58	32	22.4	19.1	22.8	19.7	23.2	20.3	22.9	20.3	22.9	20.0
2008	4,742	1,891	68	27	22.1	18.8	22.8	19.6	23.0	20.4	22.7	20.1	22.8	19.8
2009	5,144	1,448	77	22	22.1	18.5	22.6	19.0	23.0	20.0	22.7	19.7	22.7	19.4
2010	5,890	895	86	13	21.7	17.7	22.1	18.4	22.5	19.1	22.4	19.1	22.3	18.7
2011	6,025	874	86	13	21.6	17.4	22.3	18.7	22.5	19.0	22.5	19.1	22.4	18.7

¹"Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

²Percent of all students tested. Numbers will not add up to 100% due to student non-response.

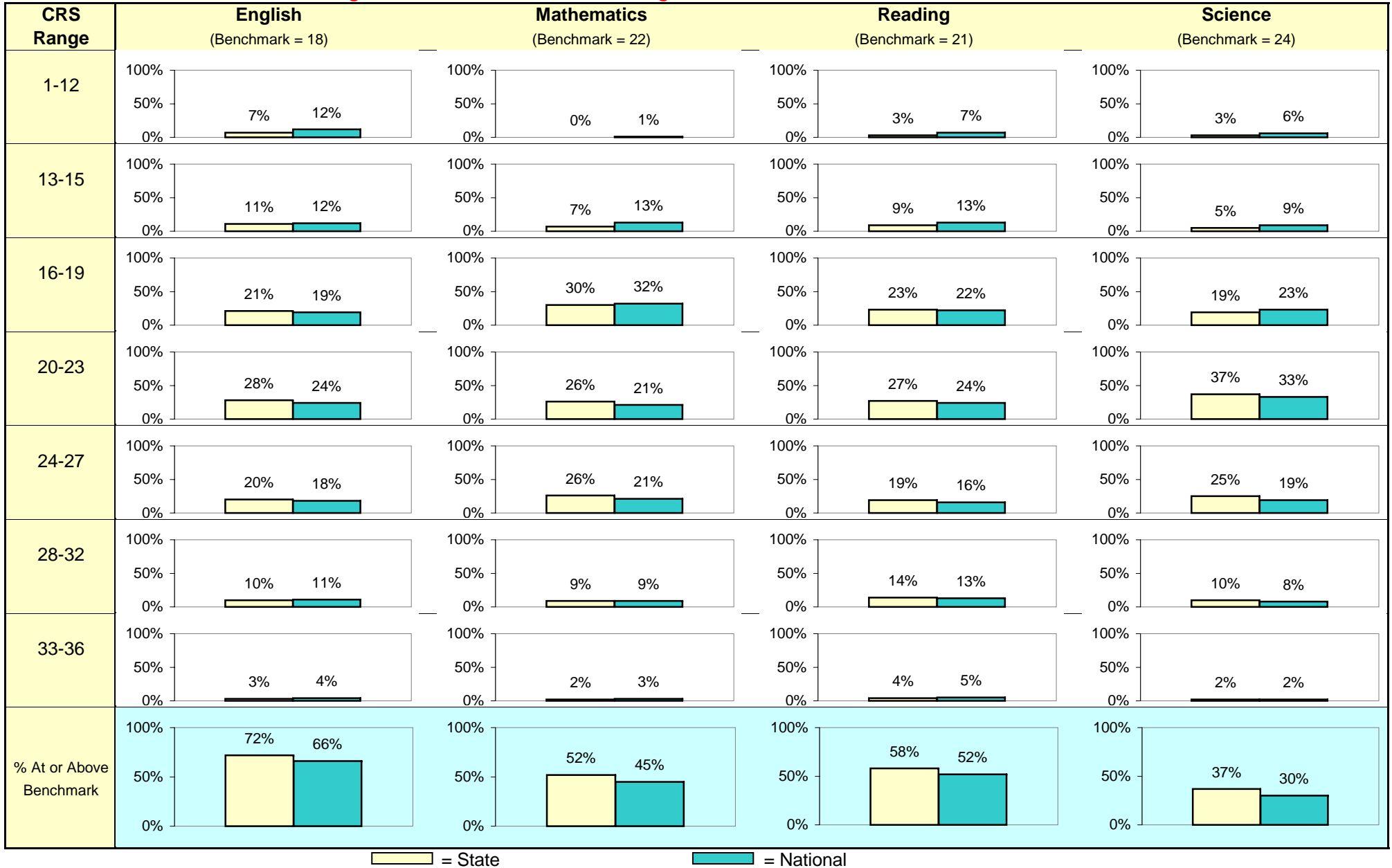
Table 1.5. Five Year Trends—Percent and Average Composite Score by Race/Ethnicity¹

	2007			2008			2009			2010			2011		
	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
All Students	6,975	100	21.9	6,959	100	22.0	6,676	100	22.0	6,871	100	21.8	6,983	100	21.8
Black/African American	62	1	18.8	55	1	18.1	59	1	17.3	85	1	18.4	85	1	17.7
American Indian/Alaska Native	414	6	17.6	413	6	17.5	424	6	17.6	495	7	17.1	483	7	16.7
White	5,656	81	22.3	5,894	85	22.3	5,726	86	22.4	5,850	85	22.3	5,836	84	22.4
Hispanic/Latino	68	1	20.4	65	1	20.6	73	1	20.9	87	1	19.5	169	2	19.6
Asian	70	1	22.0	69	1	21.8	62	1	22.8	70	1	22.8	71	1	23.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0	0	.	0	0	.	0	0	.	0	0	.	6	0	15.5
Two or more races	66	1	21.4	86	1	21.8	90	1	21.6	84	1	21.7	153	2	20.6
Prefer not to respond/No response	639	9	21.9	377	5	21.7	242	4	21.3	200	3	20.7	180	3	21.9

¹Refer to the section header on page 5 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

Total Students in Report: 6,983

Table 1.6. Percent of Students in College Readiness Standards Score Ranges



Section II

Academic Achievement

Tables within this section have been changed to reflect the updated United States Department of Education race/ethnicity reporting requirements. The race/ethnicity categories shown are the derived Federal reporting categories. Not all values convert from old race/ethnicity categories into new race/ethnicity categories. Therefore, trend data may not be present where direct conversions are not available.

Total Students in Report: 6,983

Table 2.1. ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percentages (CP¹), and Score Averages

ACT Score	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite		ACT Score
	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	
36	14	100	15	100	44	100	14	100	0	100	36
35	61	100	30	100	41	99	20	100	13	100	35
34	71	99	58	99	111	99	24	100	28	100	34
33	88	98	64	99	116	97	66	99	53	99	33
32	103	97	88	98	136	96	78	98	80	99	32
31	106	95	60	96	155	94	63	97	112	98	31
30	113	94	97	95	241	91	129	96	141	96	30
29	149	92	146	94	199	88	133	94	179	94	29
28	229	90	215	92	263	85	267	92	226	91	28
27	201	87	350	89	265	81	274	89	295	88	27
26	288	84	432	84	300	78	336	85	359	84	26
25	368	80	460	78	331	73	499	80	471	79	25
24	542	74	560	71	412	68	649	73	579	72	24
23	382	67	595	63	379	63	675	63	486	64	23
22	492	61	436	55	534	57	612	54	518	57	22
21	585	54	356	48	498	49	680	45	594	49	21
20	492	46	409	43	474	42	605	35	552	41	20
19	396	39	396	37	470	36	496	27	556	33	19
18	369	33	529	32	444	29	353	20	502	25	18
17	321	28	552	24	334	22	258	14	365	18	17
16	346	23	624	16	333	18	212	11	268	13	16
15	372	18	340	7	243	13	186	8	232	9	15
14	257	13	113	2	273	9	92	5	171	5	14
13	156	9	40	1	147	6	78	4	120	3	13
12	149	7	11	1	124	3	61	3	57	1	12
11	108	5	6	1	75	2	54	2	19	1	11
10	90	3	1	1	20	1	46	1	4	1	10
9	69	2	0	1	9	1	12	1	3	1	9
8	44	1	0	1	8	1	8	1	0	1	8
7	15	1	0	1	3	1	2	1	0	1	7
6	4	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	6
5	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	5
4	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	4
3	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	21.0 (5.8)		21.8 (4.8)		22.0 (5.7)		22.1 (4.6)		21.8 (4.7)		Avg (SD)

¹CP is the cumulative percent of students at or below a score point.

Note: 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

ACT Scale Score	English				Reading				Mathematics						ACT Scale Score
	Usage/ Mechanics		Rhetorical Skills		Social Studies/ Sciences		Arts/ Literature		Pre/Elementary Algebra		Algebra/ Coordinate Geometry		Plane Geometry/ Trigonometry		
	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	
18	176	100	96	100	175	100	155	100	295	100	57	100	76	100	18
17	262	97	13	99	241	97	394	98	222	96	52	99	13	99	17
16	306	94	397	98	510	94	379	92	325	93	150	98	182	99	16
15	374	89	430	93	454	87	511	87	486	88	250	96	447	96	15
14	417	84	492	87	468	80	432	79	624	81	658	93	629	90	14
13	487	78	616	80	625	74	598	73	753	72	974	83	686	81	13
12	534	71	906	71	892	65	627	65	546	61	733	69	902	71	12
11	797	63	892	58	719	52	790	56	942	53	1,173	59	1,001	58	11
10	865	52	794	45	715	42	645	44	635	40	894	42	940	44	10
9	732	40	822	34	771	31	710	35	597	31	961	29	896	30	9
8	569	29	552	22	538	20	481	25	686	22	513	15	564	17	8
7	498	21	380	14	476	13	399	18	557	12	252	8	285	9	7
6	383	14	241	8	219	6	430	12	189	5	158	5	159	5	6
5	280	8	161	5	101	3	271	6	79	2	81	2	88	3	5
4	168	4	126	3	53	1	116	2	28	1	42	1	80	2	4
3	83	2	58	1	14	1	29	1	15	1	20	1	14	1	3
2	47	1	7	1	11	1	15	1	4	1	6	1	16	1	2
1	5	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	9	1	5	1	1
Avg (SD)	10.5 (3.6)		10.8 (3.1)		11.4 (3.3)		11.1 (3.6)		11.4 (3.3)		11.0 (2.6)		11.0 (2.8)		Avg (SD)

¹CP is the cumulative percent of students at or below a score point.

Table 2.3. ACT Score Quartile Values

Quartile	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
Q3 (75th Percentile)	25	25	26	25	25
Q2 (50th Percentile)	21	22	22	22	22
Q1 (25th Percentile)	17	18	18	19	19

Total Students in Report: 6,983

Table 2.4. Average ACT Composite Scores for Race/Ethnicity¹ by Level of Preparation

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More ²	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
State	All Students	6,983	86	22.4	18.7
	Black/African American	85	72	18.7	15.9
	American Indian/Alaska Native	483	70	17.4	15.1
	White	5,836	89	22.8	19.7
	Hispanic/Latino	169	74	20.7	16.8
	Asian	71	96	23.8	20.7
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	6	100	15.5	.
	Two or more races	153	80	21.1	18.5
	Prefer not/No Response	180	77	23.2	17.3
National	All Students	1,623,112	74	21.9	19.0
	Black/African American	223,383	69	17.5	15.9
	American Indian/Alaska Native	14,970	63	19.7	17.1
	White	981,585	76	23.1	20.3
	Hispanic/Latino	200,661	72	19.4	17.2
	Asian	66,650	81	24.1	21.9
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	2,244	78	20.0	17.8
	Two or more races	46,378	72	21.8	19.3
	Prefer not/No Response	87,241	65	22.1	18.7

¹Refer to the section header on page 11 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

²"Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

Table 2.5. Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity¹

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
State	All Students	21.0	21.8	22.0	22.1	21.8
	Black/African American	16.1	17.9	17.7	18.7	17.7
	American Indian/Alaska Native	14.8	17.0	17.2	17.1	16.7
	White	21.7	22.3	22.5	22.6	22.4
	Hispanic/Latino	18.3	19.7	20.0	20.0	19.6
	Asian	22.9	25.1	22.8	23.6	23.7
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	14.2	17.0	13.8	15.8	15.5
	Two or more races	19.5	20.5	21.1	21.0	20.6
	Prefer not/No Response	21.0	21.7	22.5	21.9	21.9
National	All Students	20.6	21.1	21.3	20.9	21.1
	Black/African American	15.9	17.2	17.0	17.1	17.0
	American Indian/Alaska Native	17.5	18.6	19.1	18.9	18.6
	White	22.1	22.1	22.7	22.1	22.4
	Hispanic/Latino	17.6	19.2	18.9	18.8	18.7
	Asian	22.8	25.1	22.9	23.1	23.6
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	18.6	19.9	19.4	19.5	19.5
	Two or more races	20.7	20.7	21.6	20.9	21.1
	Prefer not/No Response	20.2	20.9	21.0	20.4	20.7

¹Refer to the section header on page 11 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

Total Students in Report: 6,983

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	234	3	167	2	312	4	124	2
	28 to 32	700	10	606	9	994	14	670	10
	24 to 27	1,399	20	1,802	26	1,308	19	1,758	25
	20 to 23	1,951	28	1,796	26	1,885	27	2,572	37
	16 to 19	1,432	21	2,101	30	1,581	23	1,319	19
	13 to 15	785	11	493	7	663	9	356	5
	01 to 12	482	7	18	0	240	3	184	3
National	33 to 36	68,159	4	49,703	3	81,236	5	32,031	2
	28 to 32	174,801	11	144,331	9	211,084	13	130,969	8
	24 to 27	286,161	18	344,894	21	265,974	16	316,182	19
	20 to 23	394,076	24	332,913	21	382,505	24	530,056	33
	16 to 19	309,855	19	525,628	32	360,259	22	366,855	23
	13 to 15	201,235	12	217,338	13	214,265	13	153,754	9
	01 to 12	188,825	12	8,305	1	107,789	7	93,265	6

Table 2.7. Average ACT Scores by Gender

Student Group	Gender	N	Percent	Average ACT Scores				
				English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
State	Males	3,247	46	20.7	22.4	21.9	22.7	22.1
	Females	3,734	53	21.3	21.2	22.1	21.5	21.6
	Missing	2	0	11.0	15.5	15.5	17.0	14.5
National	Males	739,070	46	20.2	21.6	21.1	21.4	21.2
	Females	879,957	54	20.9	20.6	21.4	20.5	21.0
	Missing	4,085	0	16.4	17.8	17.7	17.8	17.6

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

Student Group	Gender	Percent of Students				Meet All Four
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	
State	Males	70	57	57	43	34
	Females	75	47	59	31	25
National	Males	64	49	51	34	28
	Females	69	41	53	26	22

Total Students in Report: 6,983

Table 2.9. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores by Overall High School Curriculum

Student Group	Curriculum Taken ¹	N	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
			CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB % ⁴	Avg
State	Core or More ²	6,025	76	21.6	56	22.3	61	22.5	40	22.5	32	22.4
	Less than Core	874	47	17.4	24	18.7	34	19.0	14	19.1	11	18.7
	Missing ³	84	39	15.7	17	17.9	24	17.8	8	18.2	2	17.6
National	Core or More	1,202,164	72	21.5	51	21.8	57	22.0	34	21.6	29	21.9
	Less than Core	366,518	51	18.3	27	19.0	38	19.3	17	19.0	13	19.0
	Missing	54,430	38	16.3	21	18.0	27	17.7	12	17.7	9	17.5

¹ "Curriculum Taken" reflects overall high school curriculum in this table.

² "Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

³ Zero years or no coursework information reported in one or more content areas.

⁴ Composite CRB% results reflect students who meet all four subject-area benchmarks.

Table 2.10. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores 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 or More ²	6,710	73	21.2	6,583	54	22.1	6,792	58	22.1	6,375	39	22.4
	Less than Core	197	62	18.8	321	6	16.5	117	40	19.5	529	12	18.6
	Missing ³	76	42	16.0	79	18	17.9	74	23	17.9	79	9	18.5
National	Core or More	1,510,179	68	20.9	1,494,425	47	21.4	1,424,252	54	21.6	1,367,777	33	21.4
	Less than Core	66,225	40	16.6	79,145	8	16.4	149,746	40	19.7	205,148	12	18.3
	Missing	46,708	39	16.5	49,542	21	18.1	49,114	28	17.9	50,187	13	17.8

¹ "Curriculum Taken" reflects content-specific curriculum in this table.

² "Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English or three or more years of math, social studies, or natural science, respectively.

For instance, Reading "Core or More" results correspond to students taking three or more years of social studies, regardless of courses taken in other content areas.

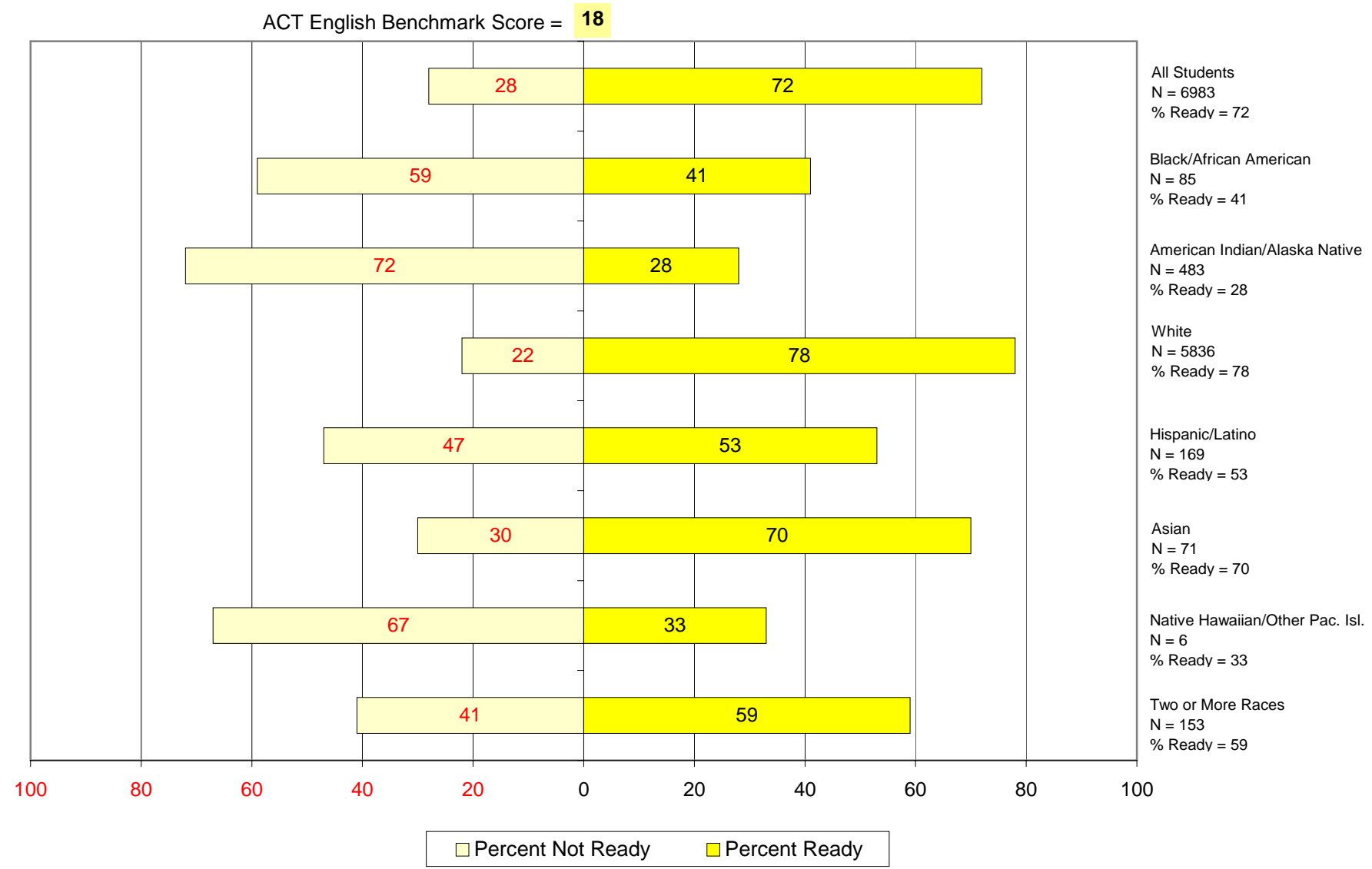
³ Zero years or no coursework information reported in the specified content area.

Section III

College Readiness and the Impact of Course Rigor

Tables within this section have been changed to reflect the updated United States Department of Education race/ethnicity reporting requirements. The race/ethnicity categories shown are the derived Federal reporting categories. Not all values convert from old race/ethnicity categories into new race/ethnicity categories. Therefore, trend data may not be present where direct conversions are not available.

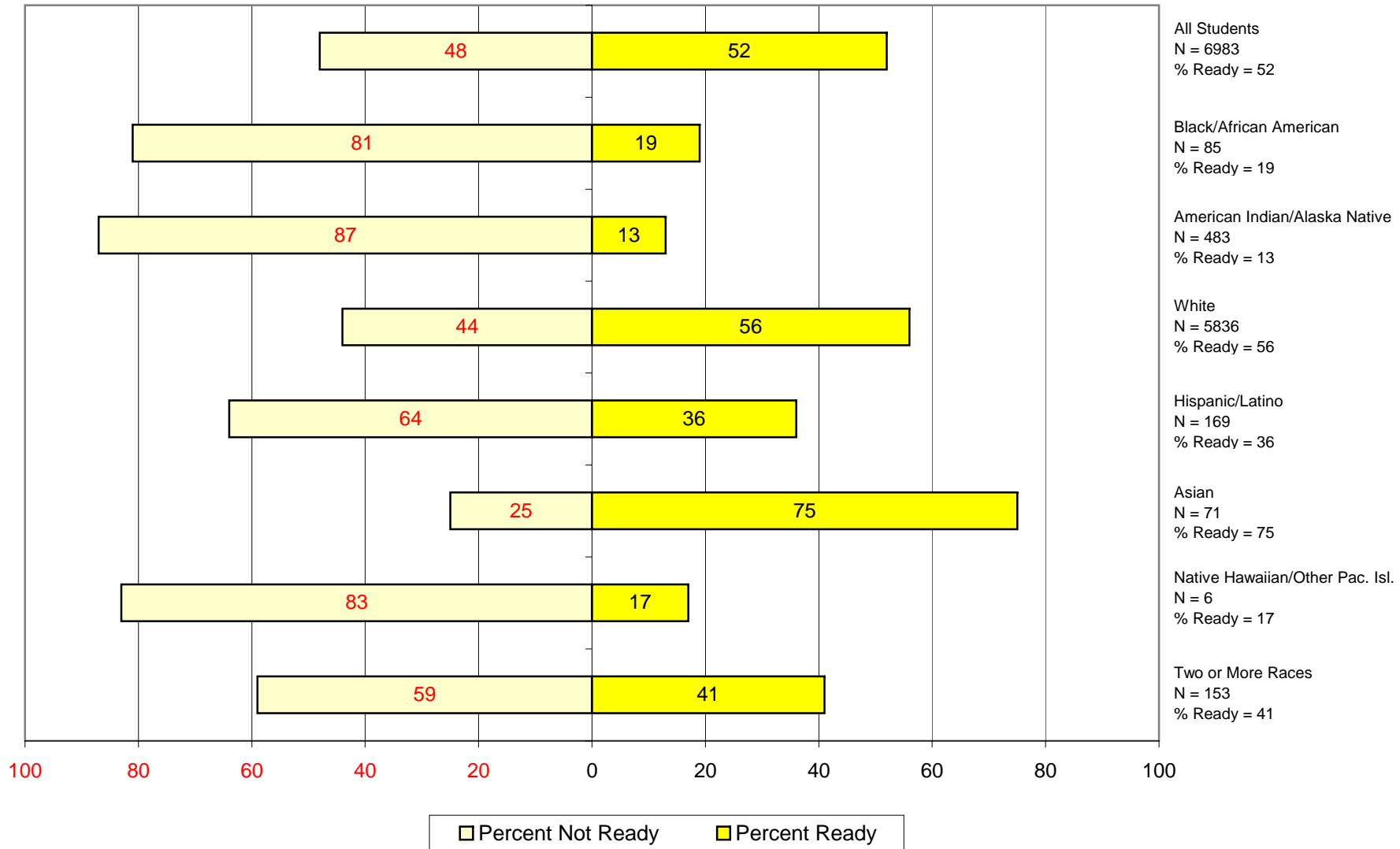
Figure 3.1. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity¹: ENGLISH



¹Refer to the section header on page 17 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

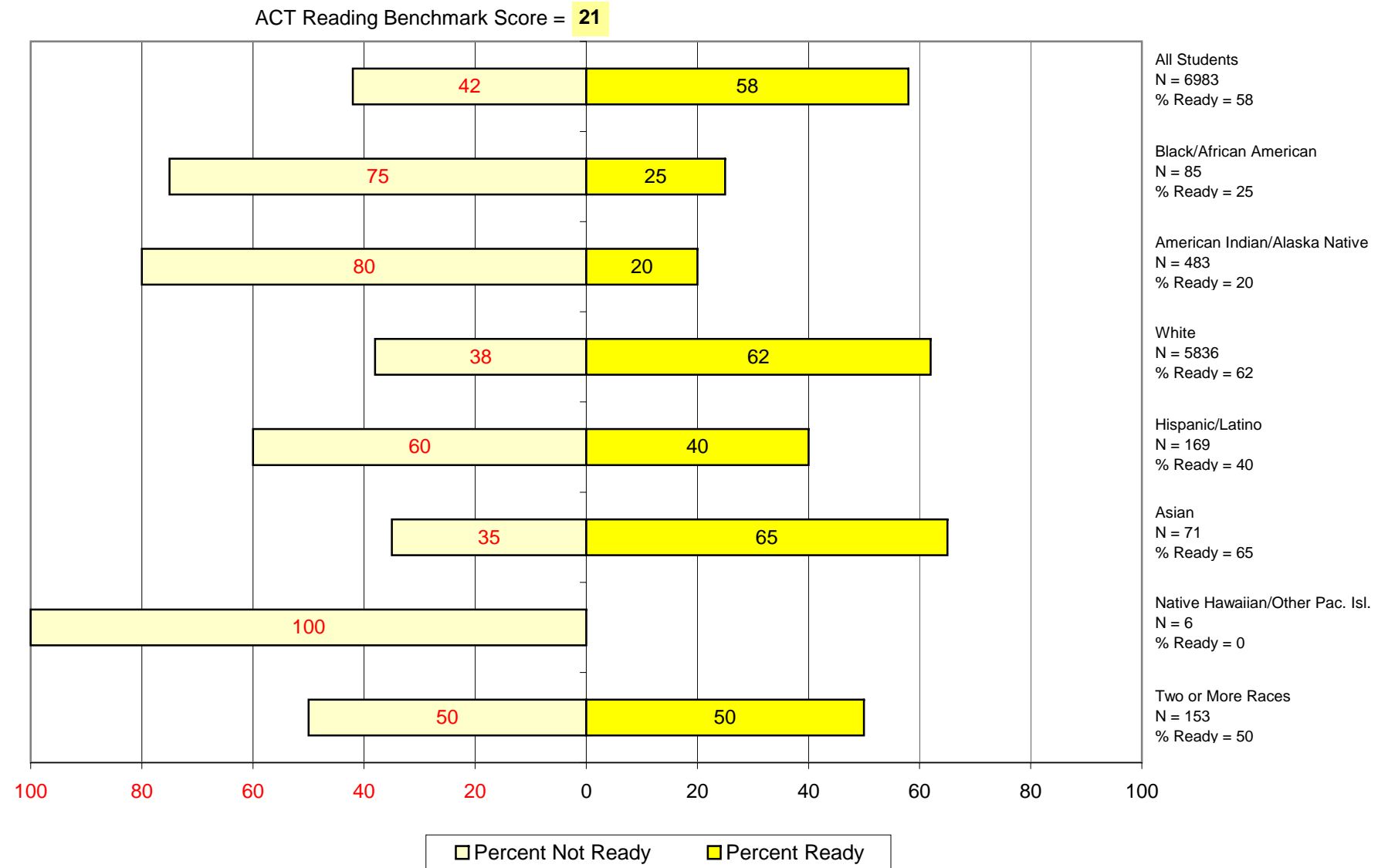
Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity¹: MATHEMATICS

ACT Mathematics Benchmark Score = **22**



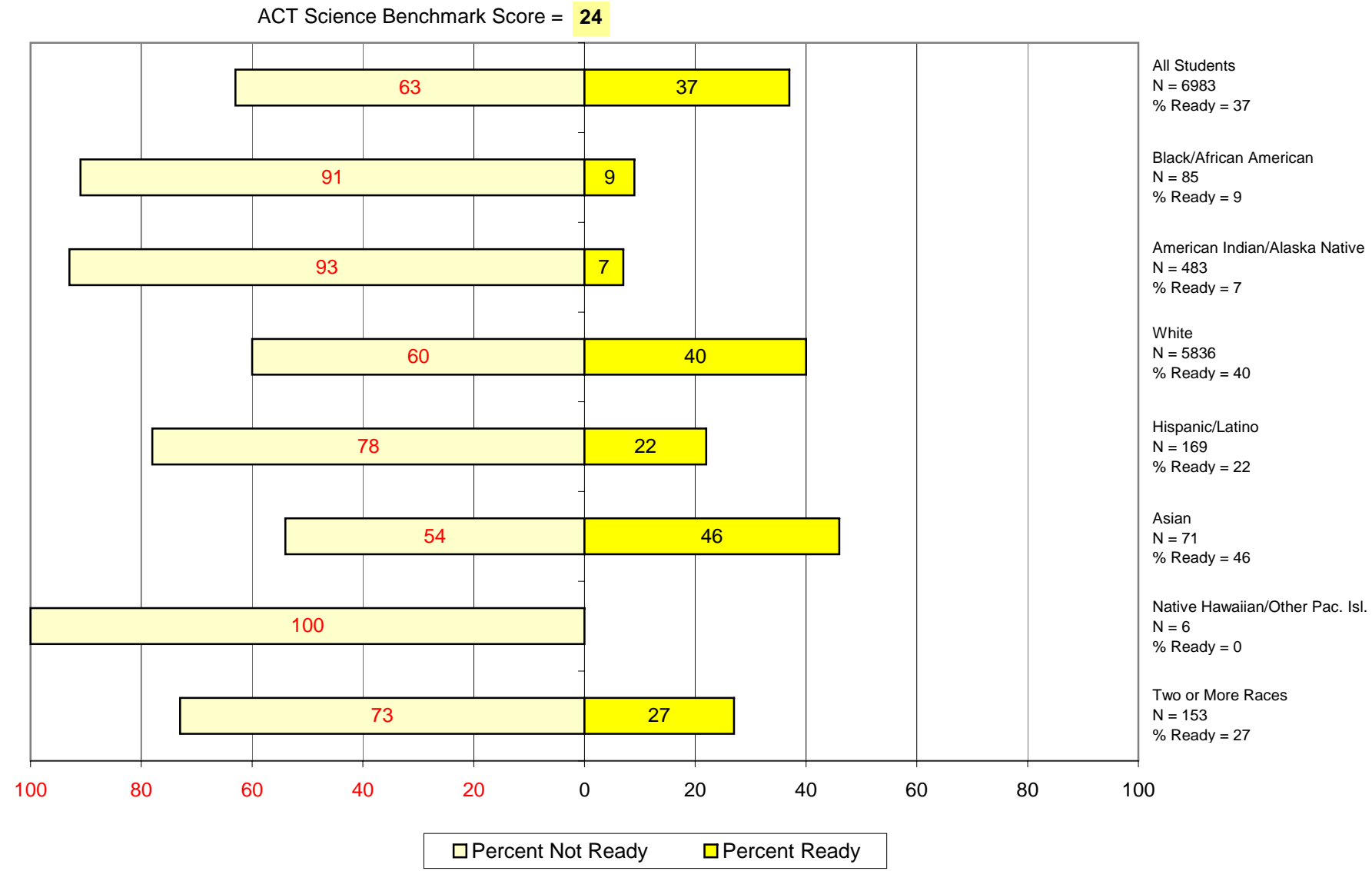
¹Refer to the section header on page 17 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity¹: READING



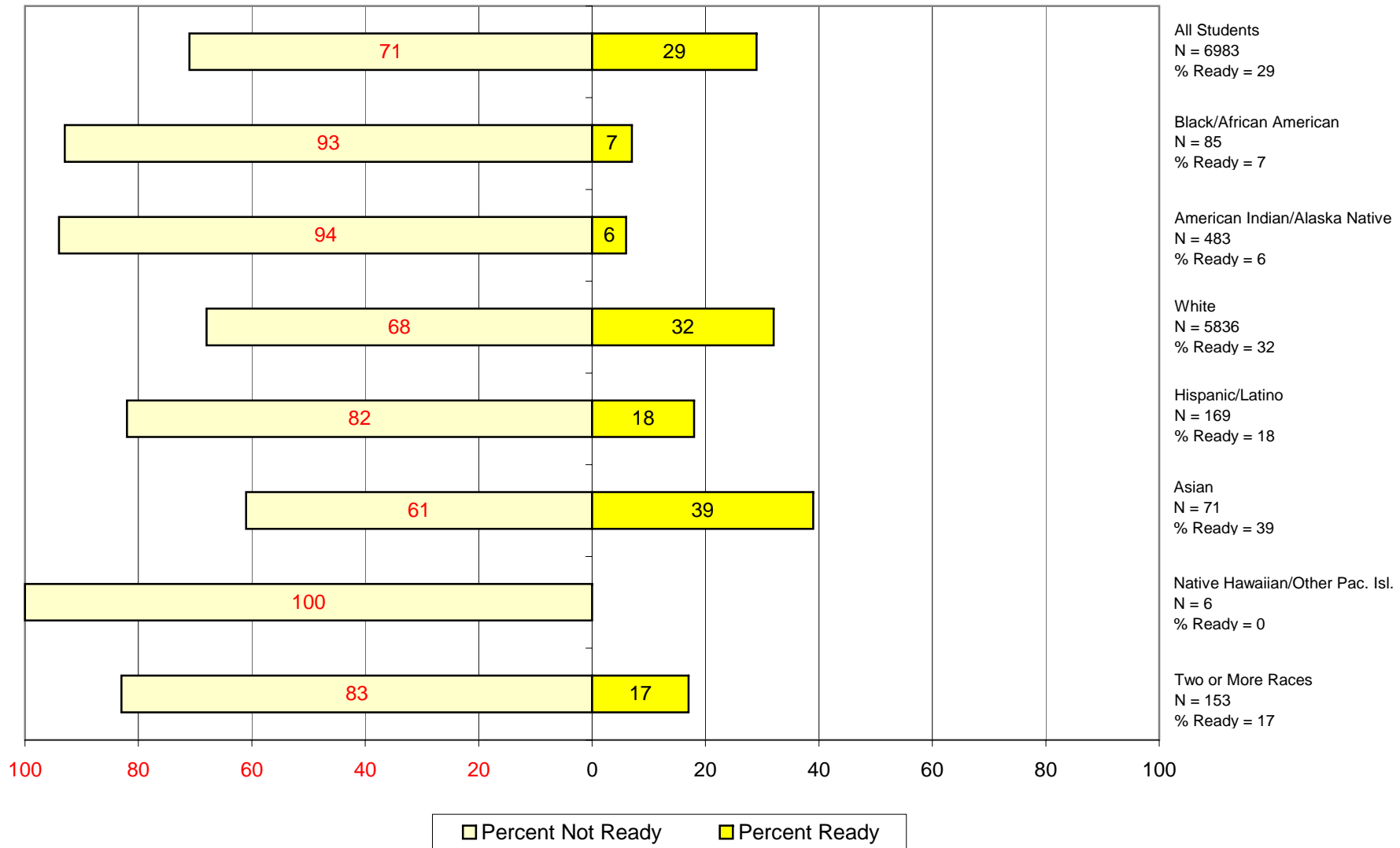
¹Refer to the section header on page 17 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity¹: SCIENCE



¹Refer to the section header on page 17 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity¹: ALL FOUR



¹Refer to the section header on page 17 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

Total Students in Report: 6,983

Table 3.1. Average ACT Scores and Average ACT 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	1,823	26	22.1	3.3	800	25	21.8	3.2	1,023	27	22.2	3.2
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	4,887	70	20.8	2.0	2,300	71	20.5	1.9	2,585	69	21.1	2.1
Less than 4 years of English	197	3	18.8	-	95	3	18.6	-	102	3	19.0	-
Zero years / no English courses reported	76	1	16.0	-	52	2	16.0	-	24	1	16.0	-
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	345	5	25.0	8.5	160	5	25.9	9.1	185	5	24.3	8.1
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	533	8	22.3	5.8	197	6	23.1	6.3	336	9	21.7	5.5
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	411	6	21.3	4.8	194	6	22.2	5.4	217	6	20.6	4.4
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,069	15	21.4	4.9	442	14	22.1	5.3	626	17	21.0	4.8
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	2,661	38	24.0	7.5	1,277	39	24.8	8.0	1,384	37	23.2	7.0
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	1,108	16	18.3	1.8	550	17	18.8	2.0	558	15	17.8	1.6
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	456	7	19.5	3.0	211	6	20.1	3.3	245	7	19.0	2.8
Less than 3 years of Math	321	5	16.5	-	161	5	16.8	-	159	4	16.2	-
Zero years / no Math courses reported	79	1	17.9	-	55	2	18.5	-	24	1	16.3	-
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	27	0	19.5	0.0	15	0	20.9	1.5	12	0	17.8	-1.9
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	5,115	73	22.4	2.9	2,321	71	22.5	3.1	2,793	75	22.4	2.7
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	80	1	18.4	-1.1	40	1	18.0	-1.4	40	1	18.9	-0.8
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	1,570	22	21.2	1.7	753	23	20.9	1.5	816	22	21.4	1.7
Less than 3 years of Social Science	117	2	19.5	-	67	2	19.4	-	50	1	19.7	-
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	74	1	17.9	-	51	2	17.9	-	23	1	17.9	-
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,774	40	23.4	4.8	1,452	45	24.3	5.7	1,322	35	22.4	3.7
Bio, Chem, Phys	216	3	26.4	7.8	113	3	27.6	9.0	103	3	25.0	6.3
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem	3,058	44	21.3	2.7	1,168	36	21.6	3.0	1,889	51	21.1	2.4
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	327	5	21.1	2.5	195	6	21.5	2.9	132	4	20.6	1.9
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	529	8	18.6	-	266	8	18.6	-	262	7	18.7	-
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	79	1	18.5	-	53	2	19.0	-	26	1	17.4	-

¹Course value added is defined as the average ACT score change compared to course sequences in which students took less than four years of English or less than three years of Mathematics, Social Science or Natural Science.

²Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

Total Students in Report: 6,983

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	1,823	26	22.1	78	366,770	23	21.8	74
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	4,887	70	20.8	71	1,143,409	70	20.6	66
Less than 4 years of English	197	3	18.8	62	66,225	4	16.6	40
Zero years / no English courses reported	76	1	16.0	42	46,708	3	16.5	39
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	345	5	25.0	79	102,806	6	24.2	71
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	533	8	22.3	61	147,655	9	22.1	58
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	411	6	21.3	52	115,939	7	19.7	34
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,069	15	21.4	51	271,304	17	19.9	36
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	2,661	38	24.0	70	539,241	33	23.8	66
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	1,108	16	18.3	19	238,527	15	17.3	12
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	456	7	19.5	31	78,953	5	19.9	35
Less than 3 years of Math	321	5	16.5	6	79,145	5	16.4	8
Zero years / no Math courses reported	79	1	17.9	18	49,542	3	18.1	21
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	27	0	19.5	44	47,284	3	22.5	59
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	5,115	73	22.4	61	845,170	52	21.9	56
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	80	1	18.4	33	86,167	5	20.2	44
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	1,570	22	21.2	51	445,631	27	21.1	51
Less than 3 years of Social Science	117	2	19.5	40	149,746	9	19.7	40
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	74	1	17.9	23	49,114	3	17.9	28
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,774	40	23.4	50	686,167	42	22.1	39
Bio, Chem, Phys	216	3	26.4	75	160,020	10	23.1	46
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem	3,058	44	21.3	28	476,294	29	20.1	21
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	327	5	21.1	25	45,296	3	19.6	20
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	529	8	18.6	12	205,148	13	18.3	12
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	79	1	18.5	9	50,187	3	17.8	13

¹Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

Section IV

Career and Educational Aspirations

Tables within this section have been changed to reflect the updated United States Department of Education race/ethnicity reporting requirements. The race/ethnicity categories shown are the derived Federal reporting categories. Not all values convert from old race/ethnicity categories into new race/ethnicity categories. Therefore, trend data may not be present where direct conversions are not available.

Tables within this section have been changed to reflect the updated Educational Major categories implemented by ACT in the fall of 2010.

Table 4.1. Distribution of Planned Educational Majors for All Students by College Plans

Planned Educational Major ¹	All Students			Plan on 2 Years or Less of College			Plan on 4 Years or More of College		
	N ²	Percent ³	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent ³	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent ³	Avg ACT Comp
Agriculture & Natural Resources Conservation	274	4	20.1	73	10	18.3	190	3	20.7
Architecture	85	1	22.0	5	1	17.4	77	1	22.4
Area, Ethnic, & Multidisciplinary Studies	8	0	24.8	0	0	.	7	0	24.9
Arts: Visual & Performing	392	6	21.6	29	4	18.6	337	6	22.1
Business	490	7	21.3	46	6	18.4	426	7	21.7
Communications	82	1	22.7	9	1	18.8	72	1	23.3
Community, Family, & Personal Services	219	3	19.7	51	7	16.9	159	3	20.7
Computer Science & Mathematics	181	3	23.2	23	3	18.5	157	3	23.8
Education	525	8	21.3	15	2	15.8	483	8	21.5
Engineering	329	5	23.4	18	2	16.7	301	5	23.8
Engineering Technology & Drafting	210	3	23.1	33	5	18.4	171	3	24.0
English & Foreign Languages	71	1	23.8	2	0	19.5	67	1	23.9
Health Administration & Assisting	137	2	20.0	23	3	18.5	104	2	20.3
Health Sciences & Technologies	1,579	23	22.1	124	17	18.7	1,409	24	22.5
Philosophy, Religion, & Theology	36	1	22.8	2	0	18.5	34	1	23.1
Repair, Production, & Construction	173	2	18.7	123	17	18.1	42	1	20.7
Sciences: Biological & Physical	432	6	24.4	6	1	17.5	419	7	24.5
Social Sciences & Law	406	6	22.1	13	2	19.2	380	6	22.3
Undecided	1,246	18	21.7	124	17	18.1	1,006	17	22.2
No Response	108	2	17.9	11	2	16.4	16	0	18.4

¹Refer to the section header on page 25 for a description of educational major changes.

²2-Year and 4-Year "N" counts do not reflect "Missing" and "Other" college plans, therefore they may not add up to the N count for All Students.

³Percent of students tested within College Plan groups (All Students, 2-Year, 4-Year).

Total Students in Report: 6,983

Table 4.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Racial/Ethnic¹ Groups by Post-Secondary Educational Aspirations

Educational Degree Aspirations	All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined		Black/African American		American Indian/ Alaska Native		White		Hispanic/Latino	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	269	18.2	2	18.5	19	15.3	230	18.5	4	15.0
2-yr College Degree	461	18.1	3	14.7	61	14.8	360	18.7	17	16.2
Bachelors Degree	3,735	21.2	40	17.4	246	16.8	3,177	21.8	78	18.7
Graduate Study	685	24.3	10	18.5	25	18.0	594	24.7	20	23.5
Prof. Level Degree	1,437	24.6	18	19.5	80	18.3	1,203	25.1	37	22.5
Other	127	19.2	6	18.5	17	15.5	89	20.0	3	19.3
No Response	269	20.6	6	14.2	35	15.9	183	21.8	10	16.1

Educational Degree Aspirations	All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined		Asian		Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander		Two or more races		Prefer not to respond/ No Response	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	269	18.2	0	.	0	.	5	19.4	9	18.3
2-yr College Degree	461	18.1	0	.	0	.	11	19.5	9	18.1
Bachelors Degree	3,735	21.2	31	20.3	4	16.3	84	19.5	75	20.6
Graduate Study	685	24.3	7	28.7	1	17.0	9	23.4	19	25.1
Prof. Level Degree	1,437	24.6	31	26.2	1	11.0	32	23.0	35	26.5
Other	127	19.2	1	17.0	0	.	5	21.2	6	17.5
No Response	269	20.6	1	22.0	0	.	7	21.9	27	20.9

¹Refer to the section header on page 25 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

Total Students in Report: 6,983

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
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	2,354	1,102	1,252	1	5	21	34	29	10	1
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA	South Dakota	1,643	481	1,162	1	5	21	33	29	10	1
BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	798	324	474	1	9	31	32	22	5	0
NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	581	207	374	1	6	25	37	24	7	0
AUGUSTANA COLLEGE	South Dakota	465	125	340	1	2	13	30	36	16	2
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES	Minnesota	453	137	316	0	2	8	24	38	24	3
DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	446	135	311	0	5	28	33	25	8	1
SOUTH DAKOTA SCH OF MINES/TECH	South Dakota	407	178	229	1	3	9	27	32	23	4
UNIVERSITY OF SIOUX FALLS	South Dakota	383	82	301	0	5	25	32	31	7	0
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT LINCOLN	Nebraska	351	90	261	0	2	7	29	40	18	3
SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	314	104	210	1	13	46	26	12	1	0
LAKE AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	272	129	143	1	16	44	31	8	1	0
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	North Dakota	238	69	169	1	3	13	41	29	12	1
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO	Minnesota	236	56	180	2	4	16	37	35	7	0
DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	230	58	172	0	5	30	37	22	5	0
MITCHELL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	208	79	129	2	16	40	29	10	2	0
WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	144	33	111	9	21	42	22	6	0	0
MOUNT MARTY COLLEGE	South Dakota	131	28	103	0	3	27	34	28	7	0
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA	North Dakota	121	32	89	1	6	18	34	26	13	2
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	118	49	69	0	1	20	31	30	16	2
SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	Minnesota	99	25	74	1	4	26	37	24	6	1
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MOORHEAD	Minnesota	92	24	68	0	1	25	42	26	4	1
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING	Wyoming	87	19	68	1	8	16	30	33	10	1
CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY	Nebraska	85	24	61	0	5	7	19	36	31	2
CHADRON STATE COLLEGE	Nebraska	83	30	53	2	13	34	35	13	2	0
NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE	Iowa	83	21	62	0	0	16	28	41	14	1
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	Iowa	82	15	67	0	0	5	28	37	27	4
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY	Colorado	73	15	58	0	4	16	23	44	12	0
PRESENTATION COLLEGE	South Dakota	73	22	51	3	4	22	47	19	5	0
HASKELL INDIAN NATIONS UNIVERSITY	Kansas	70	36	34	13	60	21	6	0	0	0
All Other Institutions		3,442	954	2,488	2	9	19	23	26	18	4
Total		14,162	4,683	9,479	1	7	22	30	27	12	2

Section V

Optional Writing Test Results

Tables within this section have been changed to reflect the updated United States Department of Education race/ethnicity reporting requirements. The race/ethnicity categories shown are the derived Federal reporting categories. Not all values convert from old race/ethnicity categories into new race/ethnicity categories. Therefore, trend data may not be present where direct conversions are not available.

Total Students in Report: 6,983

Table 5.1. Average ACT English and Writing Scores by Race/Ethnicity¹ and Gender for students who took ACT Writing

	N		Average ACT Scores					
			English		Essay		English/Writing Combined	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
All Students	1,597	905,035	23.9	21.5	7.2	7.1	22.6	20.8
Black/African American	26	112,251	17.2	16.7	6.9	6.3	17.5	16.5
American Indian/Alaska Native	85	5,519	18.3	18.4	6.5	6.5	17.8	18.0
White	1,305	522,234	24.4	23.2	7.2	7.3	23.0	22.2
Hispanic/Latino	49	128,599	20.8	18.4	7.1	6.8	20.3	18.2
Asian	39	51,829	25.1	23.8	7.7	7.6	24.0	22.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	0	1,332	.	19.7	.	7.2	.	19.5
Two or more races	41	27,722	21.3	21.6	7.0	7.0	20.6	20.8
Prefer not/No Response	52	55,549	26.3	21.3	7.3	7.0	24.5	20.5
Males	683	399,206	24.2	21.3	7.2	6.8	22.8	20.3
Females	914	503,699	23.6	21.8	7.2	7.3	22.5	21.1
Missing	0	2,130	.	17.6	.	6.2	.	17.1

¹Refer to the section header on page 29 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

