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Smartphones and Laptops are the Most Accessible Technological Devices Students Have at Home

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ACT surveyed a random sample of students who took the ACT® test as part of a national administration in April 2017. We asked the students numerous questions about their access to and use of technology specifically for educational activities, both at home and in school. A total of 7,302 students responded to one survey question asking them to indicate all the technological devices, such as smartphones and laptops, they have access to at home. The overall survey response rate was 12%.

Most students have access to multiple technology devices at home. Approximately 80% of students who responded said they had access to two or more devices. Most students reported either two (30%) or three (31%) devices.

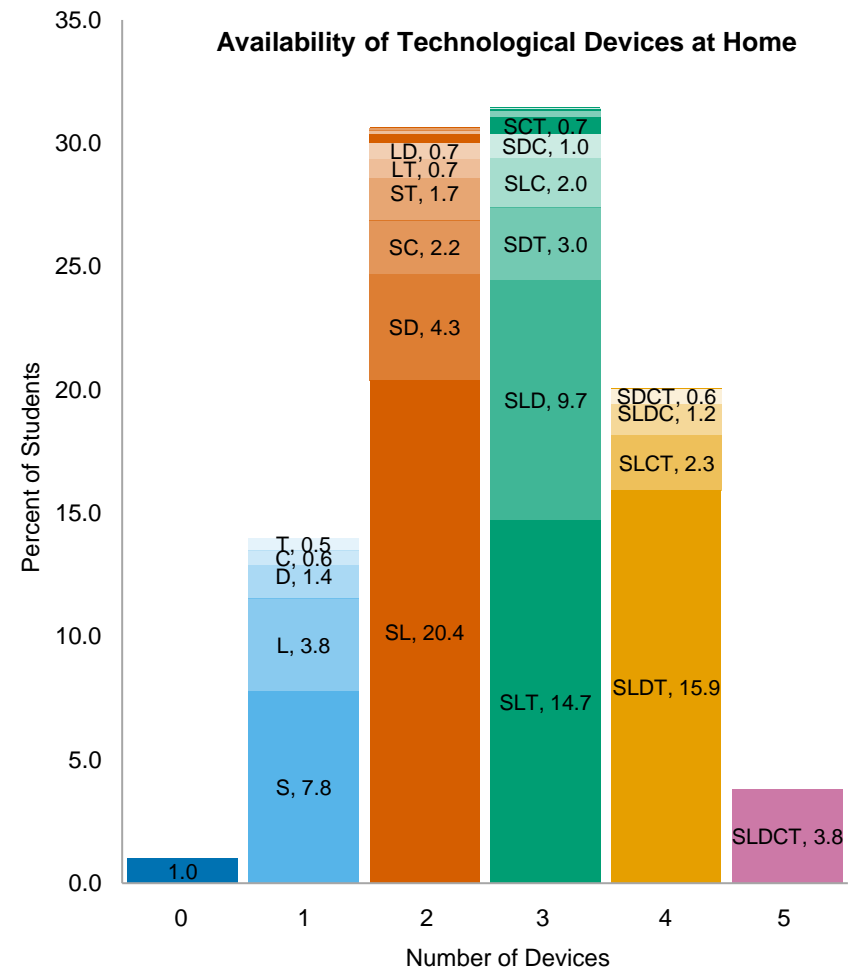
Very few students had access to no devices or all five devices. Only 1% of students reported having no technological devices at home; a little less than 4% of students reported having access to all five device types.

Accessibility to the types of devices is primarily additive.

If students have access to only one device, it's typically a smartphone. If they have access to two devices, a laptop is typically included with the smartphone. With three devices, students add a tablet to the mix, and with four, they add a desktop.

Other recent ACT research on students' access to and use of technology includes:

- Moore, R., & Vitale, D. (2018). *High school students' access to and use of technology at home and in school*. Iowa City, IA: ACT.
- Moore, R., Vitale, D., & Stawinoga, N. (2018). *The digital divide and educational equity: A look at students with the least access to electric devices at home*. Iowa City, IA: ACT.



Note: 14% of respondents reported access to one device, 30% to two, 31% to three, and 20% to four device types at home.
S= Smartphone; L = Laptop; D = Desktop; C = Chromebook; T = Tablet.