

Completing ACT Academy Assessments Boosts ACT Scores

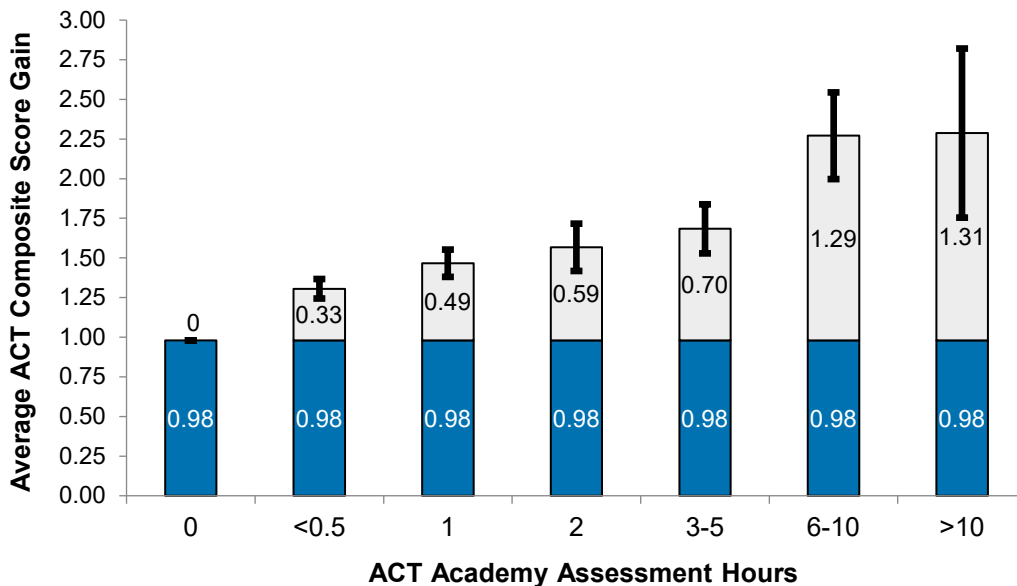
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ACT® Academy™ launched on March 22, 2018 as a free, online platform designed to strengthen the academic skills that are needed for college and career readiness. It provides individualized learning plans to help students improve their skills in four subject areas (English, reading, math, and science) as they prepare for the ACT® test. ACT Academy’s quizzes and practice tests are based on retired ACT test questions and are used to diagnose students’ needs and monitor progress. A recent study examined usage of ACT Academy’s assessments and whether greater assessment usage resulted in higher ACT scores. ACT test score gains were compared for students who used ACT Academy and a comparison group of students from the same high schools who did not use ACT Academy.

Key Findings

- As shown in the figure, ACT Composite score gains increased with more time spent on ACT Academy assessments. As compared to the typical score gain of roughly one point for students who did not use test prep prior to retesting (as represented by the blue bars):
 - ACT Composite score gains increased by over 50% for students who spent two hours on ACT Academy assessments.
 - ACT Composite score gains more than doubled for students who spent at least six hours on ACT Academy assessments.
- The initial results suggest that ACT Academy is an effective and efficient learning resource for students who dedicate time to completing assessments. Unfortunately, relatively few students are spending the time in ACT Academy needed to boost their scores. In particular, only 21% of students spent two or more hours on assessments.

Effects of ACT Academy Assessment Participation on ACT Composite Score



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