



# Profile Report - National

Graduating Class 2018

National



## New to your 2018 Profile Report

Though ACT will continue to report English, mathematics, reading, and science subject scores, beginning in September 2016, subscores such as rhetorical skills and arts/literature will be omitted. Instead, a comprehensive set of reporting categories aligned with ACT College and Career Readiness Standards and other standards that target college and career readiness will be included. This change will make it easier for students, parents, and educators to gain deeper insight into students' performance and better understand strengths and areas for improvement in each subject.

In this report, reporting category outcomes indicate the percentage of students with reporting category scores falling within associated ACT Readiness Ranges. These ranges reflect where a student who has met an associated ACT College Readiness Benchmark would typically perform in each reporting category.

This report includes percentage of students meeting/exceeding the ACT College Readiness Benchmark for English Language Arts (ELA). This benchmark reflects a score of 20.

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Average ACT Writing Scores by Race/Ethnicity  
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We are pleased to provide this 2018 Graduating Class ACT Profile Report. This report summarizes the preparation and performance of your 2018 graduates who took the ACT as sophomores, juniors, or seniors under standard- or extended-time conditions and achieved a college reportable composite score. The most recent set of test information is used in your report for students testing more than once.

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 who met or exceeded 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, STEM, and (optional) ELA and writing
- 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 and Career 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. College and Career Readiness Standards to the Classroom interpretive guides can be found at [www.act.org/content/act/en/education-and-career-planning/college-and-career-readiness-standards.html](http://www.act.org/content/act/en/education-and-career-planning/college-and-career-readiness-standards.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, Biology, STEM and ELA. These scores were empirically derived based on the actual performance of students in college.

College Course/Course Area	ACT Score	Benchmark Score
English Composition	English	18
Algebra	Mathematics	22
Social Sciences	Reading	22
Biology	Science	23
STEM	STEM	26
ELA	ELA	20

For more information, go to [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

## How to Improve Scores and Increase College Readiness

27% 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:** 1,914,817 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. 63% 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 3.8 reports 4% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 8% were college ready. 10% of the cohort reported taking a course sequence of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. 10% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 50% 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 3.8 reports 12% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 18% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 43% of students who took at least three years of science coursework were college ready.

**EVALUATING RIGOR OF COURSES:** Table 3.1 reports the percentage of students falling in each of the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards score ranges. For example, approximately 52% 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 and Career Readiness Standards at [www.act.org/content/act/en/education-and-career-planning/college-and-career-readiness-standards.html](http://www.act.org/content/act/en/education-and-career-planning/college-and-career-readiness-standards.html).

**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 ACT Customer Service at 319-337-1365 or [customerservices@act.org](mailto:customerservices@act.org).

# Section I

## Executive Summary

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

Figure 1.1. Average Composite Scores: 5 Years of Testing\*

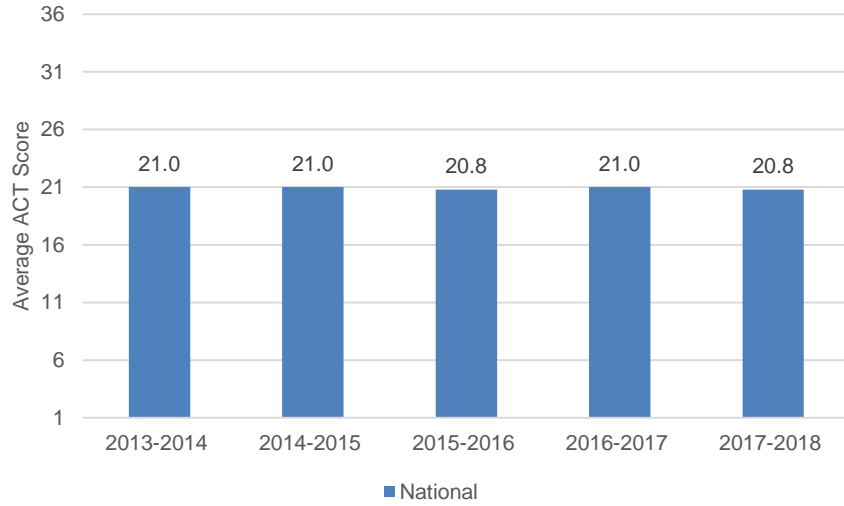


Figure 1.2. Percent Meeting 3 or 4 Benchmarks: 5 Years of Testing\*

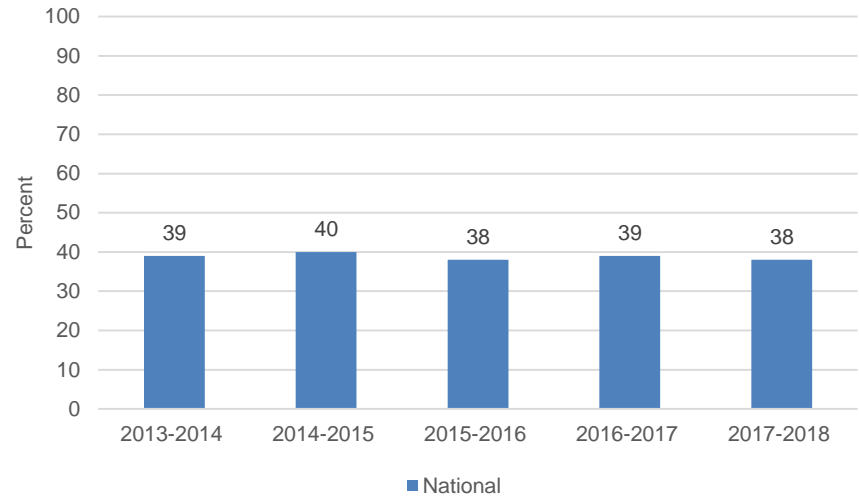


Figure 1.3. Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark: 5 Years of Testing\*

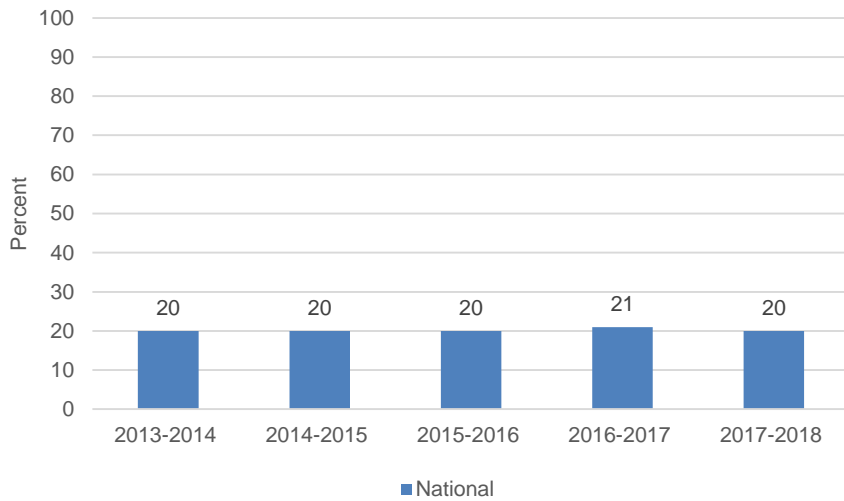
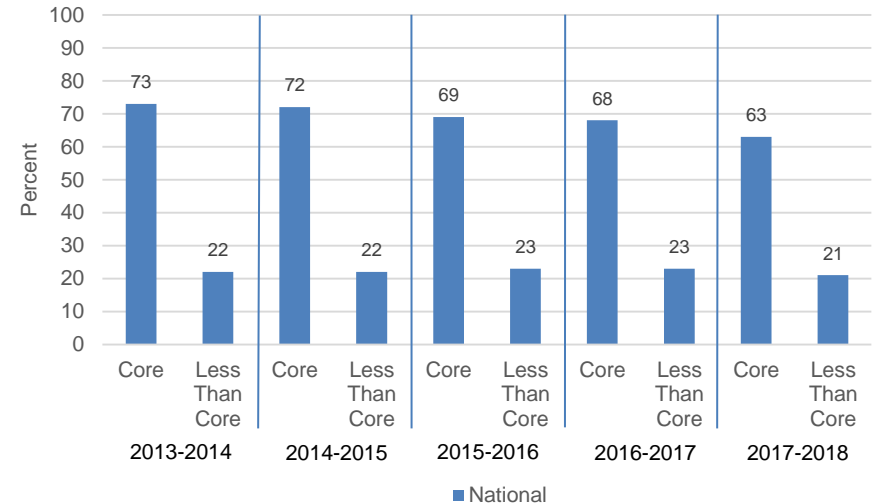


Figure 1.4. Percent Taking A Core Curriculum: 5 Years of Testing\*



\* Missing columns in above graphs reflect years in which no students were tested.



Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

**Table 1.1. Five Year Trends—Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmarks**

Year	Number of Students	Percent Who Met Benchmarks				
	Tested National	English National	Mathematics National	Reading National	Science National	Met All Four National
2014	1,845,787	64	43	44	37	26
2015	1,924,436	64	42	46	38	28
2016	2,090,342	61	41	44	36	26
2017	2,030,038	61	41	47	37	27
<b>2018</b>	<b>1,914,817</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>27</b>

**Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores (table omitted for this report)**

**Table 1.3. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores Nationwide**

Year	Number of Students	Average ACT Scores				
	Tested	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
2014	1,845,787	20.3	20.9	21.3	20.8	21.0
2015	1,924,436	20.4	20.8	21.4	20.9	21.0
2016	2,090,342	20.1	20.6	21.3	20.8	20.8
2017	2,030,038	20.3	20.7	21.4	21.0	21.0
<b>2018</b>	<b>1,914,817</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>20.8</b>

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

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

Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent <sup>2</sup>		Average ACT Scores									
	Core or More <sup>1</sup>	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
2014	1,347,997	405,073	73	22	21.4	17.9	21.7	18.9	22.2	19.2	21.6	18.9	21.8	18.9
2015	1,389,338	424,562	72	22	21.4	18.0	21.7	18.9	22.3	19.3	21.8	19.0	21.9	18.9
2016	1,441,538	483,335	69	23	21.3	17.8	21.5	18.7	22.3	19.2	21.7	18.8	21.9	18.7
2017	1,376,479	464,989	68	23	21.6	17.9	21.7	18.8	22.6	19.3	21.9	19.1	22.1	18.9
<b>2018</b>	<b>1,200,072</b>	<b>402,680</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>22.2</b>	<b>19.0</b>

<sup>1</sup>"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.

<sup>2</sup>Percent 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/Ethnicity**

Race/Ethnicity	2014			2015			2016			2017			2018		
	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
<b>All Students</b>	<b>1,845,787</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>1,924,436</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>2,090,342</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>2,030,038</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>1,914,817</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>20.8</b>
Black/African American	241,678	13	17.0	252,566	13	17.1	272,363	13	17.0	256,756	13	17.1	243,080	13	16.9
American Indian/Alaska Native	14,263	1	18.0	14,711	1	17.9	16,183	1	17.7	16,135	1	17.5	15,449	1	17.3
White	1,038,435	56	22.3	1,057,803	55	22.4	1,119,398	54	22.2	1,062,439	52	22.4	996,712	52	22.2
Hispanic/Latino	281,216	15	18.8	299,920	16	18.9	337,280	16	18.7	347,906	17	18.9	307,358	16	18.8
Asian	80,370	4	23.5	87,499	5	23.9	93,493	4	24.0	96,097	5	24.3	91,899	5	24.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	5,676	0	18.6	6,090	0	18.8	6,797	0	18.6	6,503	0	18.4	5,753	0	18.2
Two or more races	70,013	4	21.2	76,066	4	21.2	85,494	4	21.0	86,119	4	21.2	85,316	4	21.1
Prefer not to respond/No response	114,136	6	20.7	129,781	7	20.6	159,334	8	20.1	158,083	8	20.3	169,250	9	19.8

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

**Table 1.6. Five Year Trends—Achievement in STEM<sup>1</sup>**

Year	All Tested Students			Students Meeting STEM Benchmarks	
	Number of Students Tested National	Avg. STEM Score National	Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark National	Avg. Mathematics Score National	Avg. Science Score National
2014	1,845,787	21.1	20	28.7	28.3
2015	1,924,436	21.1	20	28.7	28.4
2016	2,090,342	20.9	20	28.7	28.6
2017	2,030,038	21.1	21	28.7	28.7
<b>2018</b>	<b>1,914,817</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>28.8</b>

<sup>1</sup>The STEM score describes students' overall proficiency in mathematics and science.

**Table 1.7. Proficiency In Understanding Complex Texts<sup>1</sup>**

Year	Below Proficient			Text Complexity Proficiency Level Proficient			Above Proficient		
	N National	Percent National	Avg. Reading National	N National	Percent National	Avg. Reading National	N National	Percent National	Avg. Reading National
2014	0	.	.	0	.	.	0	.	.
2015	0	.	.	0	.	.	0	.	.
2016	485,762	23	17.0	322,548	15	23.6	235,380	11	30.3
2017	999,708	49	16.2	596,096	29	23.4	427,075	21	30.8
<b>2018</b>	<b>1,010,339</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>492,937</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>411,541</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>31.0</b>

<sup>1</sup>The text complexity indicator, beginning in Fall 2015, represents students' progress toward understanding complex written material often encountered in college and careers.

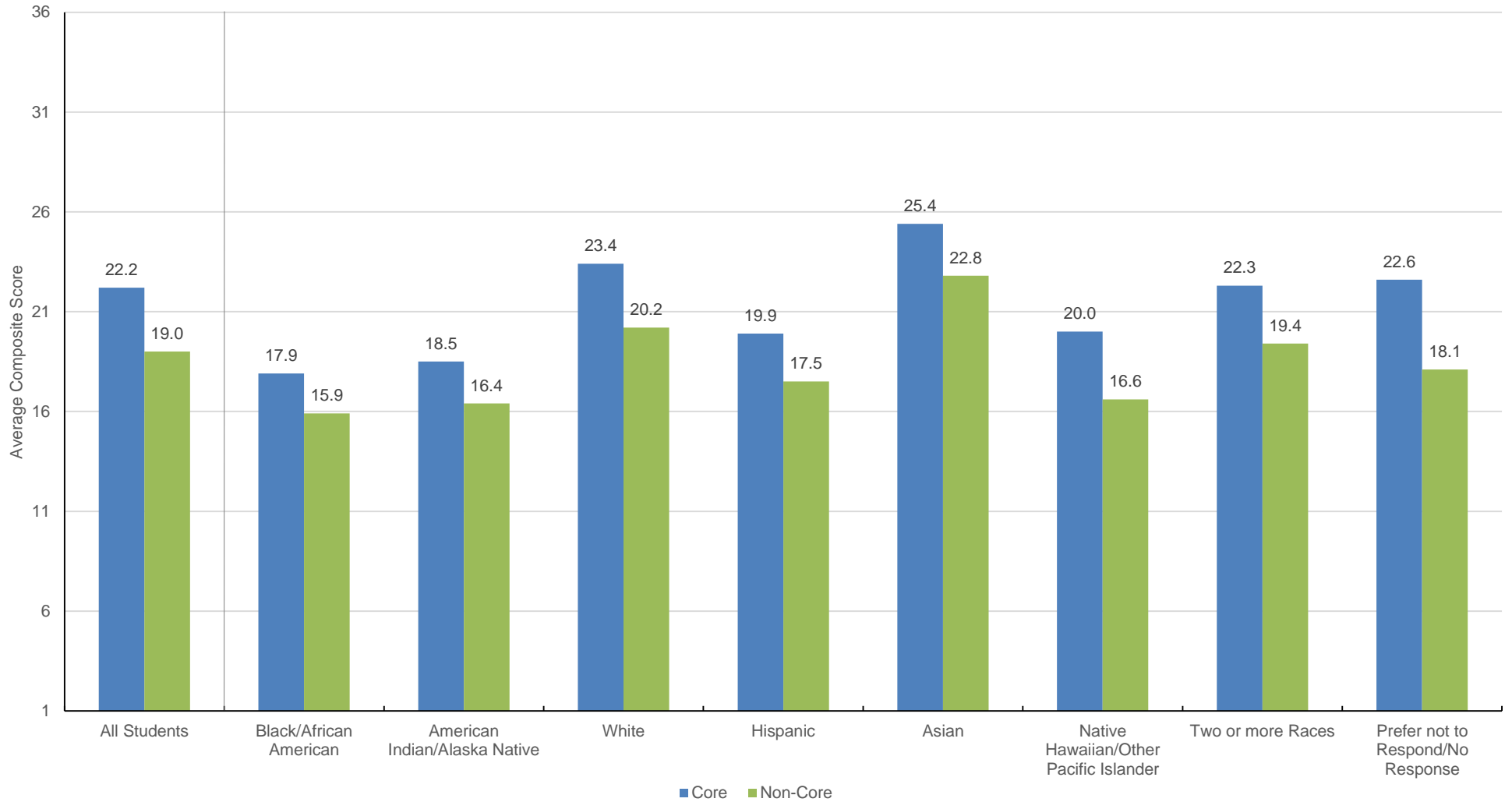
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# Section II

## Academic Achievement

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

Figure 2.1. Average ACT Composite Scores by Race and Core Curriculum Status\*



\*Missing columns reflect combinations of race/ethnicity and core course-taking status in which one or both indicators are missing.

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

Table 2.1. ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percents (CP<sup>1</sup>), and Score Averages

ACT Scale Score	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite		STEM		ELA <sup>2</sup>		ACT Scale Score
	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	
36	20,824	100	6,720	100	23,804	100	14,148	100	3,741	100	7,233	100	177	100	36
35	55,009	99	17,845	99	39,319	99	16,327	99	14,928	99	13,469	99	1,228	99	35
34	41,084	96	17,403	99	47,219	97	22,171	98	21,836	99	16,323	99	4,465	99	34
33	26,646	94	16,741	98	46,009	94	22,417	97	26,930	98	19,861	98	9,825	99	33
32	28,567	93	17,658	97	52,421	92	16,325	96	31,625	96	24,308	97	14,615	98	32
31	28,889	91	26,612	96	47,777	89	29,971	95	37,150	95	28,563	96	21,875	97	31
30	31,546	90	30,761	95	47,687	87	29,695	94	43,824	93	34,122	94	25,132	94	30
29	33,629	88	41,830	93	31,884	84	35,723	92	47,187	91	41,866	92	25,810	91	29
28	31,623	86	60,207	91	52,934	82	43,264	90	54,849	88	51,227	90	27,033	89	28
27	53,661	84	80,996	88	50,942	80	47,431	88	63,340	85	64,545	88	29,204	86	27
26	55,882	82	91,735	83	59,525	77	59,165	86	71,589	82	82,414	84	31,147	82	26
25	75,201	79	86,924	79	65,992	74	108,781	82	82,654	78	95,858	80	34,662	79	25
24	97,928	75	94,182	74	84,097	70	116,172	77	93,904	74	102,697	75	38,706	75	24
23	102,112	70	88,502	69	109,825	66	132,063	71	101,663	69	103,635	70	43,704	71	23
22	98,912	64	79,823	65	114,405	60	123,627	64	108,449	64	104,504	64	46,589	66	22
21	111,344	59	62,596	60	106,816	54	140,143	57	113,819	58	111,328	59	49,510	61	21
20	98,721	53	93,398	57	102,116	49	117,630	50	116,395	52	122,978	53	49,916	55	20
19	80,701	48	88,403	52	96,233	43	126,149	44	117,473	46	133,589	46	50,377	50	19
18	75,564	44	137,817	48	105,297	38	132,405	37	120,852	40	144,657	39	49,627	44	18
17	78,584	40	174,950	40	97,392	33	102,187	30	121,309	34	147,518	32	49,793	39	17
16	109,767	36	220,793	31	106,744	28	129,158	25	120,299	27	149,376	24	48,073	33	16
15	123,693	30	189,977	20	81,914	22	86,474	18	119,261	21	131,566	16	46,861	28	15
14	104,240	24	130,489	10	98,266	18	80,620	14	113,159	15	94,113	10	43,722	23	14
13	76,551	18	37,506	3	77,697	13	65,126	10	92,137	9	55,237	5	39,932	18	13
12	70,362	14	13,177	1	73,685	9	42,755	6	50,757	4	23,522	2	35,253	13	12
11	87,927	11	4,688	1	44,146	5	31,920	4	17,460	1	6,691	1	30,009	10	11
10	60,698	6	1,437	1	25,936	3	26,021	2	5,007	1	1,968	1	22,292	6	10
9	27,949	3	298	1	12,463	1	8,896	1	1,810	1	808	1	15,188	4	9
8	13,175	1	661	1	4,642	1	4,174	1	801	1	416	1	10,627	2	8
7	8,406	1	108	1	3,397	1	2,019	1	382	1	203	1	5,331	1	7
6	3,182	1	302	1	1,913	1	884	1	122	1	99	1	1,868	1	6
5	1,228	1	36	1	1,274	1	267	1	55	1	67	1	716	1	5
4	663	1	161	1	451	1	288	1	30	1	29	1	233	1	4
3	370	1	9	1	230	1	206	1	11	1	15	1	79	1	3
2	91	1	0	1	279	1	84	1	5	1	4	1	23	1	2
1	88	1	72	1	86	1	131	1	4	1	8	1	1	1	1
Avg (SD)	20.2 (7.0)		20.5 (5.5)		21.3 (6.8)		20.7 (5.7)		20.8 (5.8)		20.9 (5.4)		19.9 (6.4)		Avg (SD)

<sup>1</sup> CP is the cumulative percent of students at or below a score point.

<sup>2</sup> ELA scores are derived only for students with a valid writing score.

Note: Shaded portions of columns identify the students who met/exceeded the ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores.

Figure 2.2. English Reporting Categories<sup>1</sup>

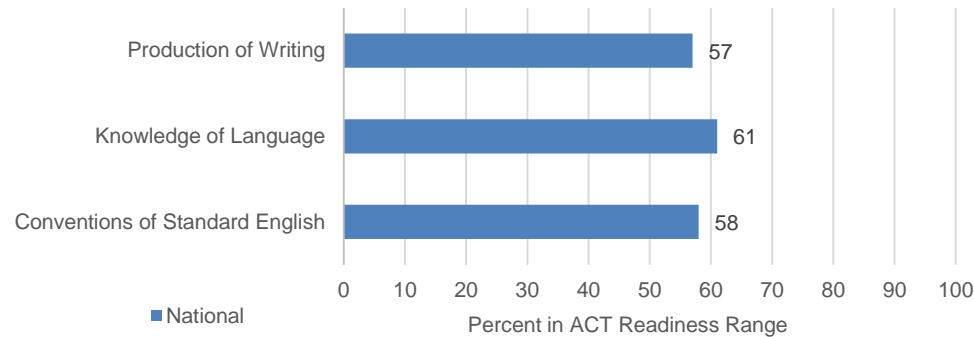


Figure 2.3. Math Reporting Categories<sup>1</sup>

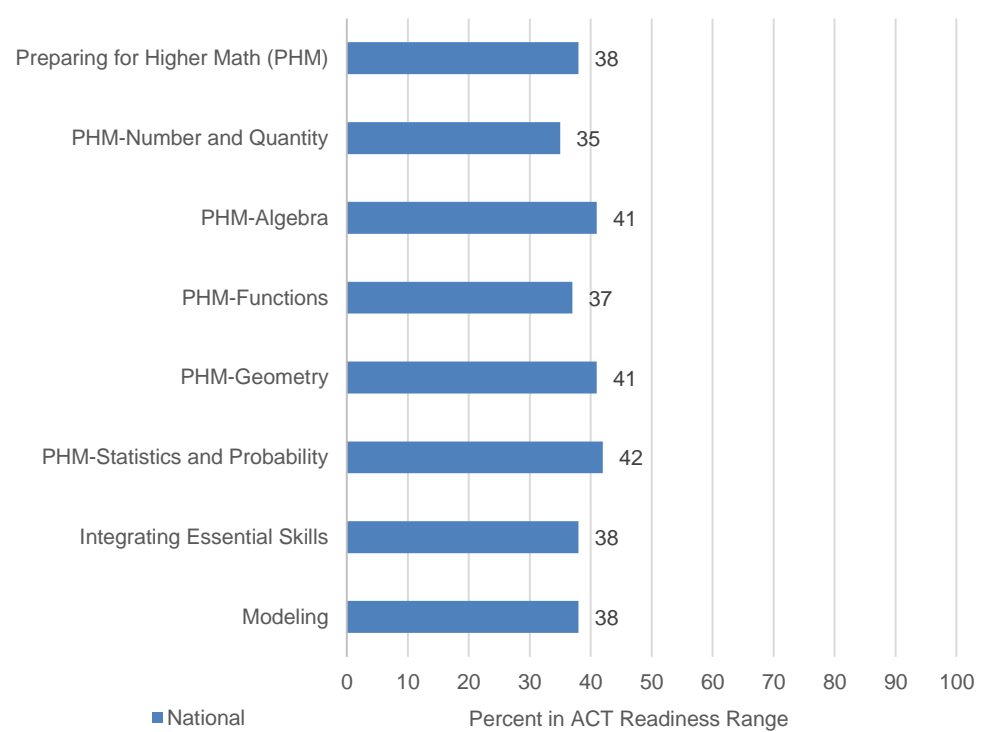


Figure 2.4. Reading Reporting Categories<sup>1</sup>

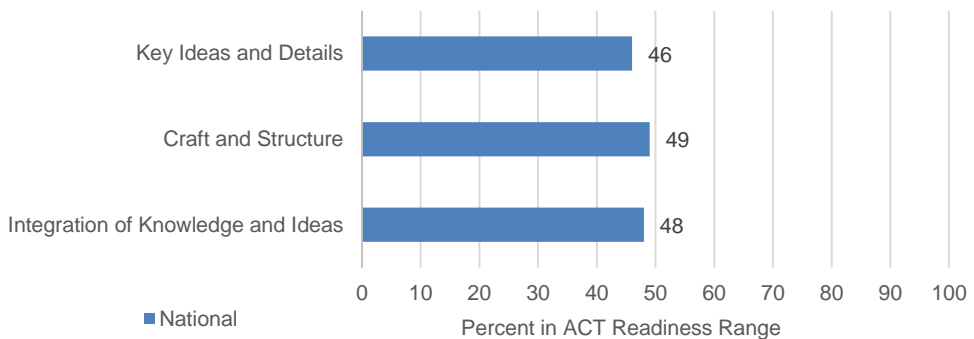
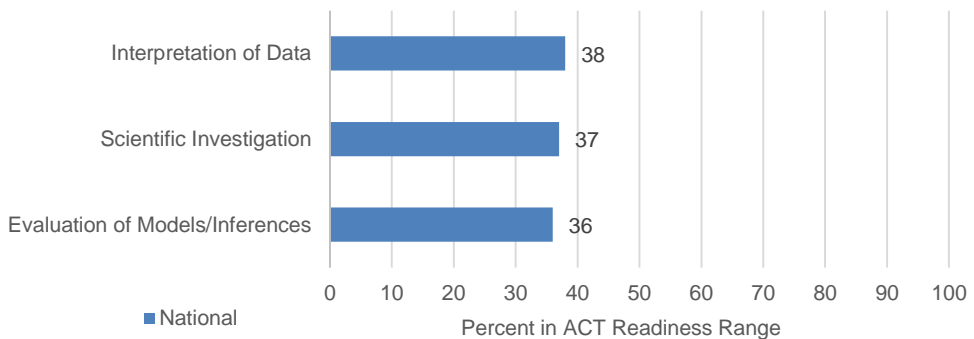


Figure 2.5. Science Reporting Categories<sup>1</sup>



The charts on this page show the percent of students whose reporting category scores fall within associated ACT Readiness Ranges. ACT Readiness Ranges reflect where a student who has met a particular subject area's ACT College Readiness Benchmark would typically perform within the associated reporting category.

<sup>1</sup> Reporting Categories are reported only for testing events beginning September 2016 .



Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

**Table 2.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Race/Ethnicity by Level of Preparation**

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More <sup>1</sup>	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
National	All Students	1,914,817	63	22.2	19.0
	Black/African American	243,080	58	17.9	15.9
	American Indian/Alaska Native	15,449	51	18.5	16.4
	White	996,712	67	23.4	20.2
	Hispanic/Latino	307,358	63	19.9	17.5
	Asian	91,899	75	25.4	22.8
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	5,753	53	20.0	16.6
	Two or More Races	85,316	64	22.3	19.4
	Prefer not/No Response	169,250	36	22.6	18.1

<sup>1</sup> "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 2.3. Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity**

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	N	Percent	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite	STEM
National	All Students	1,914,817	100	20.2	20.5	21.3	20.7	20.8	20.9
	Black/African American	243,080	13	15.8	16.9	17.3	17.1	16.9	17.3
	American Indian/Alaska Native	15,449	1	15.9	17.4	17.7	17.7	17.3	17.8
	White	996,712	52	21.9	21.7	22.8	22.0	22.2	22.1
	Hispanic/Latino	307,358	16	17.8	18.8	19.3	18.9	18.8	19.1
	Asian	91,899	5	24.1	25.1	24.2	24.1	24.5	24.9
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	5,753	0	17.2	18.4	18.3	18.3	18.2	18.6
	Two or More Races	85,316	4	20.6	20.6	21.8	20.9	21.1	21.0
	Prefer not/No Response	169,250	9	19.0	19.6	20.3	19.8	19.8	19.9

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

**Table 2.4. Average ACT Composite Scores for Gender by Level of Preparation**

Student Group	Gender	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More <sup>1</sup>	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
National	Males	893,610	61	22.4	18.6
	Females	991,975	66	22.0	19.3
	No Response	29,232	13	18.6	16.6

<sup>1</sup> "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 Gender**

Student Group	Gender	N	Percent	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite	STEM
National	Males	893,610	47	19.7	20.9	21.0	20.9	20.8	21.2
	Females	991,975	52	20.7	20.2	21.7	20.6	20.9	20.7
	No Response	29,232	2	16.6	17.6	17.9	17.8	17.6	18.0

**Table 2.6. ACT Score Quartile Values**

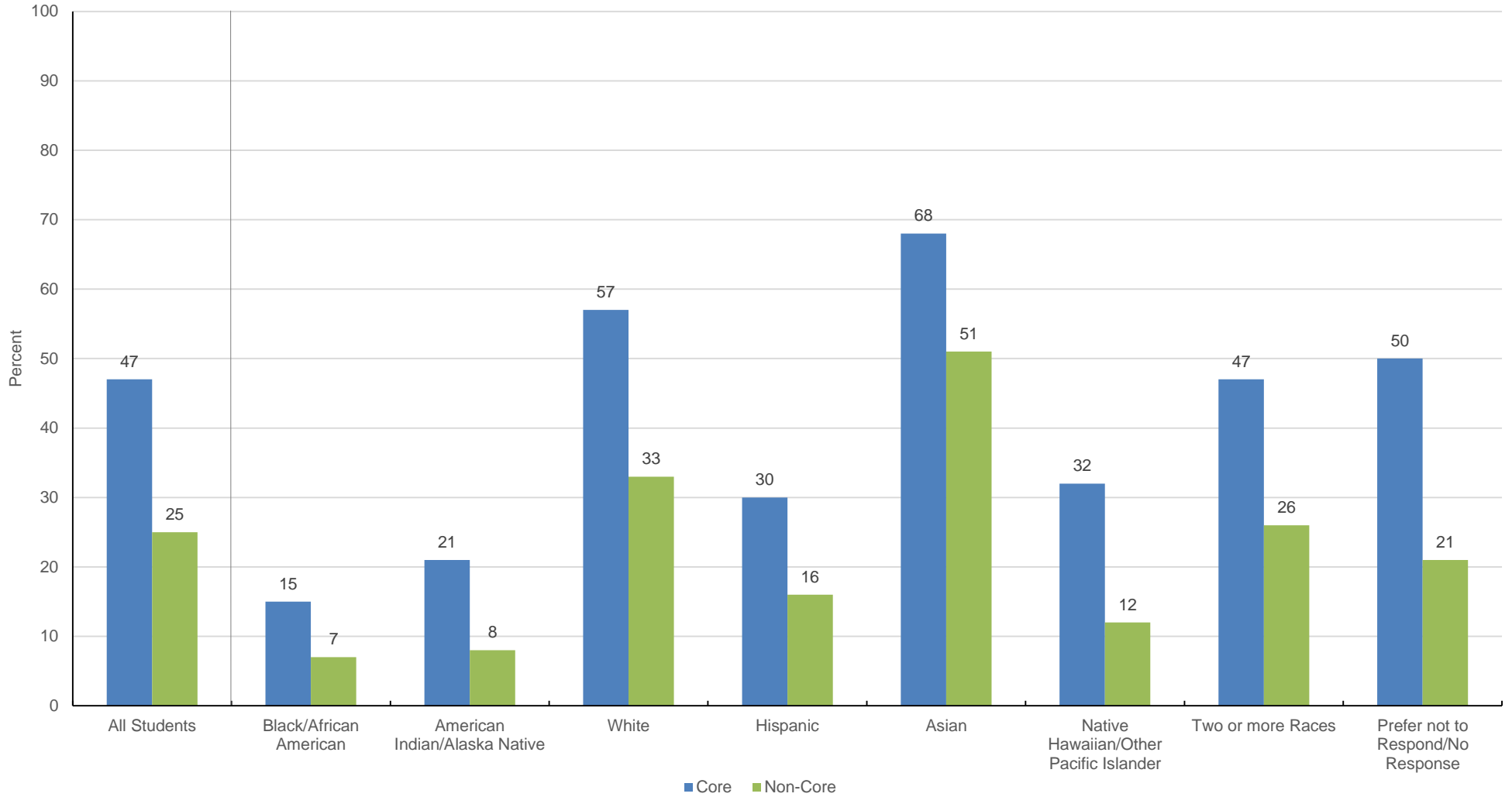
Quartile	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
Q3 (75th Percentile)	25	25	26	24	25
Q2 (50th Percentile)	20	19	21	21	20
Q1 (25th Percentile)	15	16	16	16	16

# Section III

## College and Career Readiness and the Impact of Course Rigor

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

Figure 3.1. Percent of Students Meeting 3 or 4 College Readiness Benchmarks by Core College Curriculum Status\*



\*Missing columns reflect combinations of race/ethnicity and core course-taking status in which one or both indicators are missing.

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

**Table 3.1. Percent of Students in College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) Score Ranges**

Student Group	CCRS Range	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
National	33 to 36	143,563	7	58,709	3	156,351	8	75,063	4
	28 to 32	154,254	8	177,068	9	232,703	12	154,978	8
	24 to 27	282,672	15	353,837	18	260,556	14	331,549	17
	20 to 23	411,089	21	324,319	17	433,162	23	513,463	27
	16 to 19	344,616	18	621,963	32	405,666	21	489,899	26
	13 to 15	304,484	16	357,972	19	257,877	13	232,220	12
	01 to 12	274,139	14	20,949	1	168,502	9	117,645	6

**Table 3.2. Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Gender**

Student Group	Gender	Percent of Students				Met All Four
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	
National	Males	57	43	44	38	28
	Females	64	37	48	35	26
	No Response	38	18	25	17	10

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

**Table 3.3. Percent of Students Who Met ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity**

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	N	English %	Mathematics %	Reading %	Science %	All Four %	STEM %
National	All Students	1,914,817	60	40	46	36	27	20
	Black/African American	243,080	32	13	20	11	6	3
	American Indian/Alaska Native	15,449	32	15	23	15	8	5
	White	996,712	72	49	56	46	34	26
	Hispanic/Latino	307,358	46	26	33	22	15	10
	Asian	91,899	77	69	62	59	49	46
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	5,753	41	24	27	21	14	10
	Two or More Races	85,316	63	39	48	37	27	20
	Prefer Not to Respond	169,250	50	32	39	31	23	18

**Table 3.4. Likely ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) Level Based Upon ACT Composite Score<sup>1</sup>**

Student Group	ACT NCRC Level <sup>2</sup>	N	%	Average Composite
National	Gold or Higher	499,653	26	28.6
	Silver	893,864	47	20.3
	Bronze	444,856	23	14.6
	Needs Improvement	76,444	4	11.5

<sup>1</sup> The ACT Composite scores associated with a 50% chance of earning each ACT NCRC level or higher are: 13 for Bronze, 17 for Silver, 25 for Gold, and 35 for Platinum. Based on those cut scores, students who earned an ACT Composite score of less than 13 would be classified as 'Needs Improvement', 13 to 16 as 'Bronze', 17 to 24 as 'Silver', and 25 or above as 'Gold or Higher' in the table above. For comparison, individual student score reports classify those who scored 12-13, 14-17, and 18 and higher as making progress toward Bronze, Silver, and Gold certificates.

<sup>2</sup> Additional information on the ACT NCRC can be found at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

**Table 3.5. College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Overall High School Curriculum**

Student Group	Curriculum Taken <sup>1</sup>	N	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite <sup>4</sup>		STEM	
			%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg
National	Core or More <sup>2</sup>	1,200,072	70	21.8	49	21.7	54	22.7	45	21.9	34	22.2	26	22.1
	Less than Core	402,680	46	18.1	26	18.8	34	19.4	24	19.0	16	19.0	12	19.2
	Missing <sup>3</sup>	312,065	38	16.7	22	18.1	28	18.3	20	18.2	13	18.0	9	18.4

<sup>1</sup> "Curriculum Taken" reflects overall high school curriculum in this table.

<sup>2</sup> "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.

<sup>3</sup> Zero years or no coursework information reported in one or more content areas.

<sup>4</sup> Composite College Readiness Benchmark % results reflect students who met all four subject-area benchmarks.

**Table 3.6. College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Content-Specific Curriculum**

Student Group	Curriculum Taken <sup>1</sup>	English			Mathematics			Reading			Science		
		N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
National	Core or More <sup>2</sup>	1,527,131	66	21.1	1,528,137	45	21.2	1,430,773	51	22.1	1,389,989	43	21.7
	Less than Core	91,187	34	16.1	83,960	8	16.2	181,701	35	19.7	220,831	18	18.1
	Missing <sup>3</sup>	296,499	39	16.9	302,720	22	18.1	302,343	28	18.4	303,997	20	18.2

<sup>1</sup> "Curriculum Taken" reflects content-specific curriculum in this table.

<sup>2</sup> "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.

<sup>3</sup> Zero years or no coursework information reported in the specified content area.

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

**Table 3.7. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores by Common Course Patterns**

Course Pattern		National		
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Who Met Benchmark
<b>ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN</b>				
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	323,956	17	22.1	72
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	1,203,175	63	20.8	64
Less than 4 years of English	91,187	5	16.1	34
Zero years / no English courses reported	296,499	15	16.9	39
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>				
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Math	Percent Who Met Benchmark
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	99,215	5	23.2	62
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	125,955	7	21.5	51
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	89,147	5	19.0	27
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	321,541	17	19.2	29
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	609,514	32	23.8	65
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	187,368	10	16.9	10
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	95,397	5	19.6	33
Less than 3 years of Math	83,960	4	16.2	8
Zero years / no Math courses reported	302,720	16	18.1	22
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>				
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Reading	Percent Who Met Benchmark
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	46,135	2	22.2	50
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	813,270	42	22.7	54
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	111,031	6	19.7	35
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	460,337	24	21.7	48
Less than 3 years of Social Science	181,701	9	19.7	35
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	302,343	16	18.4	28
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>				
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Science	Percent Who Met Benchmark
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	705,397	37	22.4	48
Bio, Chem, Phys	193,793	10	23.3	54
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem	444,093	23	20.1	30
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	46,706	2	18.9	23
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	220,831	12	18.1	18
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	303,997	16	18.2	20

<sup>1</sup>Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.



Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

**Table 3.8. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores for Gender by Common Course Patterns**

Course Pattern	All Students				Males				Females			
	N	Percent	ACT English	% Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent	ACT English	% Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent	ACT English	% Who Met Benchmark
<b>ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	323,956	17	22.1	72	135,521	15	21.6	69	187,795	19	22.4	74
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	1,203,175	63	20.8	64	560,872	63	20.5	62	636,764	64	21.2	66
Less than 4 years of English	91,187	5	16.1	34	49,252	6	15.6	30	40,450	4	16.7	38
Zero years / no English courses reported	296,499	15	16.9	39	147,965	17	16.4	36	126,966	13	17.4	42
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	99,215	5	23.2	62	43,865	5	23.9	67	55,128	6	22.7	59
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	125,955	7	21.5	51	47,000	5	22.1	56	78,669	8	21.2	48
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	89,147	5	19.0	27	40,002	4	19.3	31	48,697	5	18.7	24
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	321,541	17	19.2	29	127,773	14	19.5	32	191,520	19	19.0	27
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	609,514	32	23.8	65	303,373	34	24.5	68	305,088	31	23.1	61
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	187,368	10	16.9	10	91,465	10	17.0	11	94,109	9	16.7	8
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	95,397	5	19.6	33	44,684	5	19.9	35	50,138	5	19.4	31
Less than 3 years of Math	83,960	4	16.2	8	43,954	5	16.3	8	39,044	4	16.2	8
Zero years / no Math courses reported	302,720	16	18.1	22	151,494	17	18.3	24	129,582	13	18.0	21
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	46,135	2	22.2	50	24,274	3	21.8	48	21,707	2	22.7	53
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	813,270	42	22.7	54	354,985	40	22.5	54	455,863	46	22.8	55
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	111,031	6	19.7	35	58,168	7	19.4	34	52,207	5	20.0	36
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	460,337	24	21.7	48	210,430	24	21.6	47	247,326	25	21.9	48
Less than 3 years of Social Science	181,701	9	19.7	35	94,324	11	19.2	33	85,652	9	20.2	38
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	302,343	16	18.4	28	151,429	17	18.1	27	129,220	13	18.9	30
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	705,397	37	22.4	48	344,461	39	22.8	52	359,317	36	21.9	45
Bio, Chem, Phys	193,793	10	23.3	54	91,513	10	24.0	60	101,858	10	22.7	50
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem	444,093	23	20.1	30	175,539	20	20.0	30	265,496	27	20.3	31
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	46,706	2	18.9	23	26,049	3	19.3	26	20,306	2	18.5	19
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	220,831	12	18.1	18	103,878	12	17.7	16	114,868	12	18.5	19
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	303,997	16	18.2	20	152,170	17	18.2	21	130,130	13	18.3	19

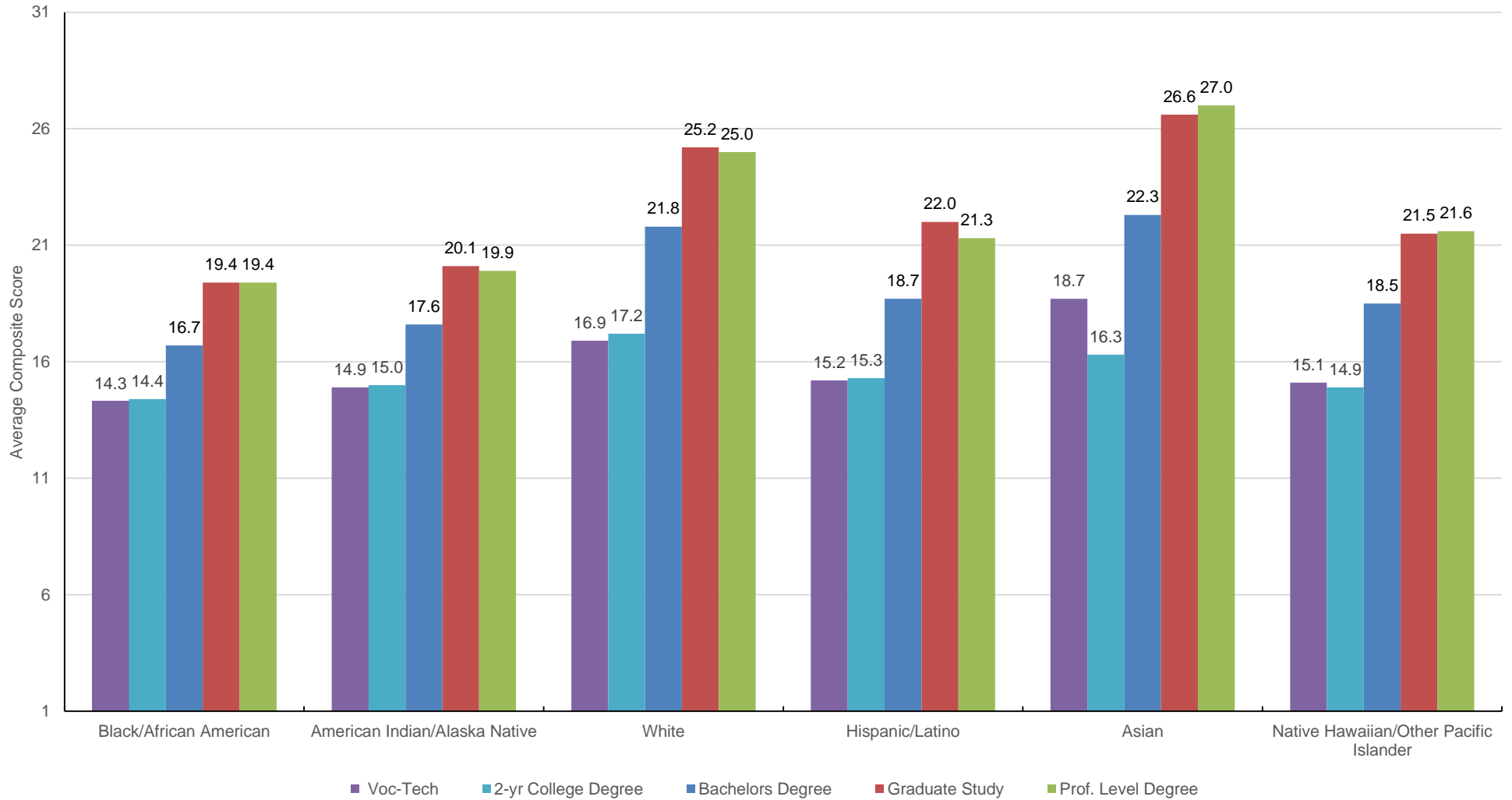
<sup>1</sup>Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

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# Section IV

## Career and Educational Aspirations

Figure 4.1. Average ACT Composite Scores by Race and Student Postsecondary Aspirations\*



\*Missing columns reflect combinations of race/ethnicity and postsecondary aspiration in which one or both indicators are missing.

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

**Table 4.1. Distribution of Planned Educational Majors for All Students 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 <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent	Avg ACT Comp
Agriculture & Natural Resources Conservation	28,270	1	19.7	4,543	4	16.4	21,823	2	20.5
Architecture	18,339	1	20.9	1,145	1	16.2	15,745	1	21.4
Area, Ethnic, & Multidisciplinary Studies	2,214	0	21.3	167	0	15.4	1,844	0	22.3
Arts: Visual & Performing	94,667	5	20.4	9,620	8	16.4	77,412	6	21.1
Business	162,525	8	21.4	10,711	9	16.4	141,123	11	21.9
Communications	26,015	1	21.7	1,015	1	16.5	23,588	2	22.0
Community, Family, & Personal Services	40,800	2	17.7	8,390	7	16.0	29,100	2	18.4
Computer Science & Mathematics	57,954	3	23.9	3,095	3	18.0	50,973	4	24.3
Education	69,475	4	20.3	2,770	2	15.7	63,012	5	20.6
Engineering	136,763	7	23.8	6,681	6	16.1	121,472	9	24.3
Engineering Technology & Drafting	23,208	1	19.7	4,130	4	16.0	17,145	1	20.8
English & Foreign Languages	15,953	1	23.8	631	1	17.3	14,224	1	24.3
Health Administration & Assisting	51,782	3	18.2	4,872	4	15.8	42,659	3	18.6
Health Sciences & Technologies	297,688	16	21.2	12,602	11	16.6	270,757	20	21.5
Philosophy, Religion, & Theology	5,768	0	21.5	261	0	17.5	5,048	0	21.9
Repair, Production, & Construction	25,155	1	16.8	13,621	12	16.4	8,867	1	17.9
Sciences: Biological & Physical	120,589	6	24.1	1,474	1	16.9	112,453	8	24.2
Social Sciences & Law	121,764	6	21.9	3,347	3	16.4	110,784	8	22.2
Undecided	247,060	13	21.9	14,838	13	16.4	189,847	14	22.6
No Response	364,616	19	17.7	8,330	7	14.7	13,215	1	16.7

<sup>1</sup>2-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.

<sup>2</sup>Percent of students tested within College Plan groups (All Students, 2-Year, 4-Year).

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

**Table 4.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Racial/Ethnic 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	32,966	16.1	5,390	14.3	520	14.9	17,516	16.9	4,841	15.2
2-yr College Degree	80,873	16.3	12,941	14.4	1,243	15.0	42,974	17.2	12,968	15.3
Bachelors Degree	724,129	20.5	92,254	16.7	5,894	17.6	417,118	21.8	114,357	18.7
Graduate Study	258,414	24.3	21,102	19.4	1,137	20.1	159,398	25.2	34,413	22.0
Prof. Level Degree	350,668	23.7	45,721	19.4	2,305	19.9	174,670	25.0	60,464	21.3
Other	31,746	17.2	4,660	14.9	432	15.0	15,329	18.0	5,636	16.2
No Response	436,021	18.5	61,012	15.4	3,918	15.7	169,707	20.0	74,679	16.7

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	32,966	16.1	728	18.7	116	15.1	1,139	16.7	2,716	15.7
2-yr College Degree	80,873	16.3	1,258	16.3	312	14.9	3,237	16.6	5,940	15.8
Bachelors Degree	724,129	20.5	27,502	22.3	2,084	18.5	32,551	20.5	32,369	20.0
Graduate Study	258,414	24.3	16,504	26.6	602	21.5	11,736	24.3	13,522	24.3
Prof. Level Degree	350,668	23.7	29,550	27.0	884	21.6	18,443	23.7	18,631	24.2
Other	31,746	17.2	1,126	20.3	140	15.2	1,413	17.8	3,010	17.0
No Response	436,021	18.5	15,231	22.8	1,615	15.7	16,797	18.7	93,062	18.6

Table 4.3. Students' Score Report Preferences at Time of Testing (table omitted for this report)

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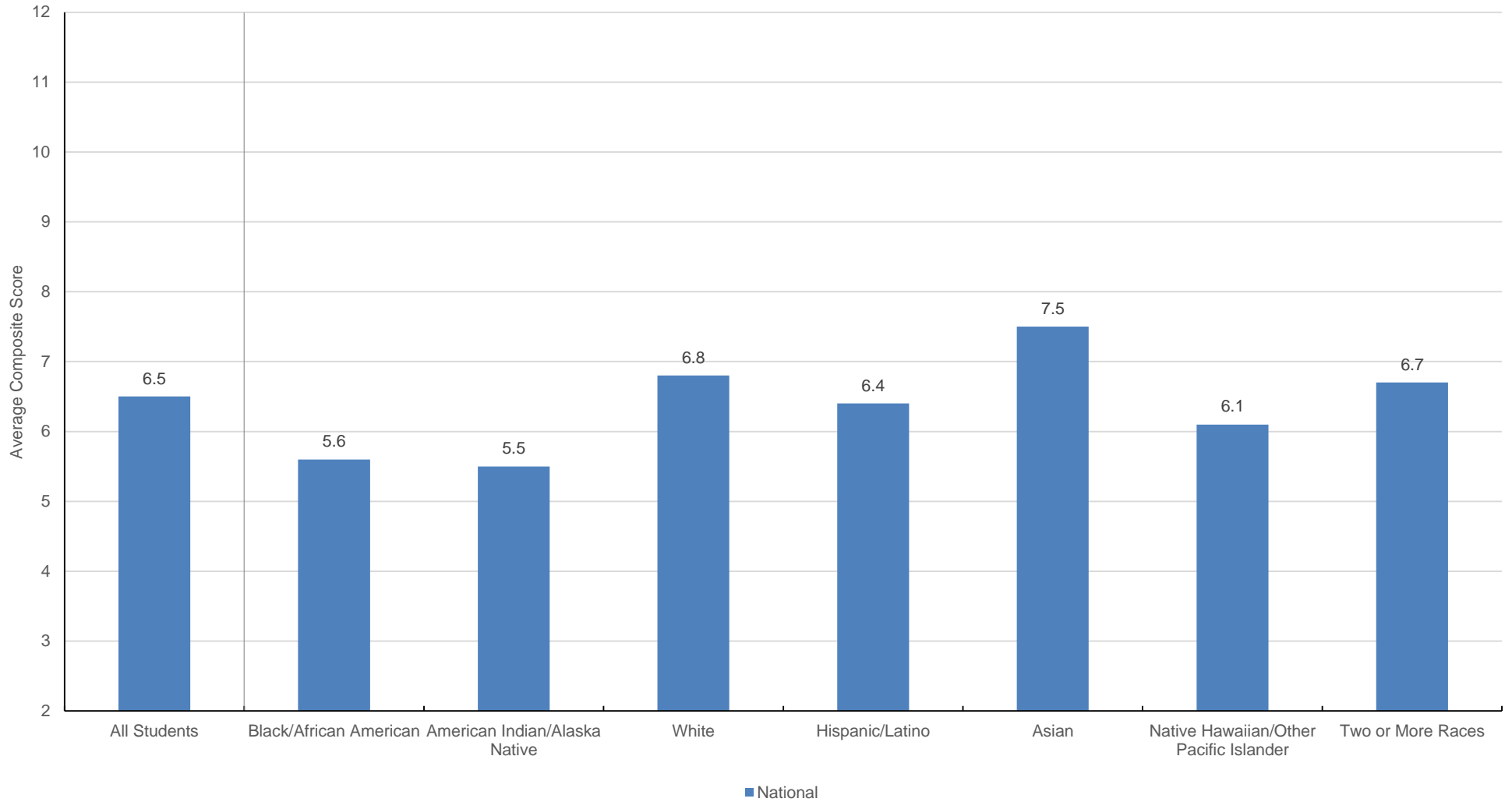


# Section V

## Optional Writing Test Results

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

Figure 5.1. Average ACT Writing Scores by Race/Ethnicity\*



\*Missing columns reflect race/ethnicity groupings that are missing.

Total Students in Report: 1,914,817

**Table 5.1. Average ACT English Language Arts Constituent Scores by Race/Ethnicity and Gender for Students Who Took ACT Writing**

	N National	Average ACT Scores		
		English National	Reading National	Writing National
<b>All Students</b>	<b>903,603</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>6.5</b>
Black/African American	103,370	15.9	17.3	5.6
American Indian/Alaska Native	6,413	15.6	17.5	5.5
White	426,803	22.5	23.4	6.8
Hispanic/Latino	177,117	18.2	19.6	6.4
Asian	63,636	25.2	25.1	7.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	3,602	17.3	18.2	6.1
Two or More Races	43,115	21.2	22.3	6.7
Prefer not/No Response	79,547	19.9	21.1	6.3
Males	421,102	20.3	21.5	6.3
Females	472,773	21.2	22.1	6.8
No Response	9,728	15.8	17.5	5.3

**Table 5.2. Average ACT English Language Arts Outcomes by Race/Ethnicity and Gender for Students Who Took ACT Writing**

	N National	Average ACT Scores	
		Average ELA Score National	Percent Who Met ELA Benchmark National
<b>All Students</b>	<b>903,603</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>50</b>
Black/African American	103,370	15.6	21
American Indian/Alaska Native	6,413	15.5	20
White	426,803	21.3	61
Hispanic/Latino	177,117	18.0	37
Asian	63,636	23.6	73
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	3,602	17.0	31
Two or More Races	43,115	20.3	53
Prefer not/No Response	79,547	19.1	45
Males	421,102	19.3	47
Females	472,773	20.5	54
No Response	9,728	15.2	21

