



# Profile Report - State

Arkansas State Testing 2016-2017  
Grade 11 Tested Students  
Arkansas



ARKANSAS  
DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION

ACT, INC. -- CONFIDENTIAL



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## New to your 2016-2017 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 Readiness Benchmark would typically perform in each reporting category.

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This report provides information about the performance of your students who took the ACT as part of the Arkansas State Testing (Grade 11 Tested Students).

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 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 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 and STEM. 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

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

## How to Improve Scores and Increase College Readiness

14% 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:** 31,110 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. 57% 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 5% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 6% were college ready. 14% of the cohort reported taking a course sequence of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. 6% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 33% 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 11% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 5% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 26% 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 68% 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

Beginning in August 2013, College Readiness Benchmarks for Reading and Science were updated to reflect the most recent college coursework research.

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

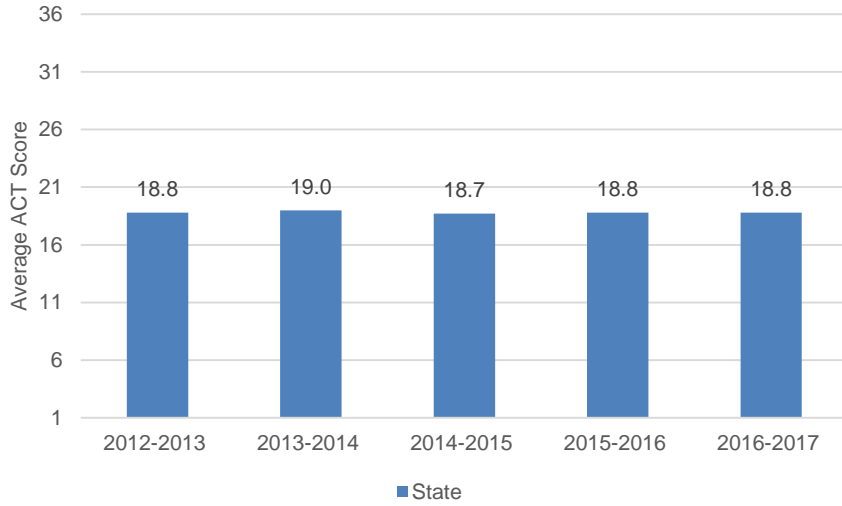


Figure 1.2. Percent Meeting 3 or 4 Benchmarks: 5 Years of Testing\*

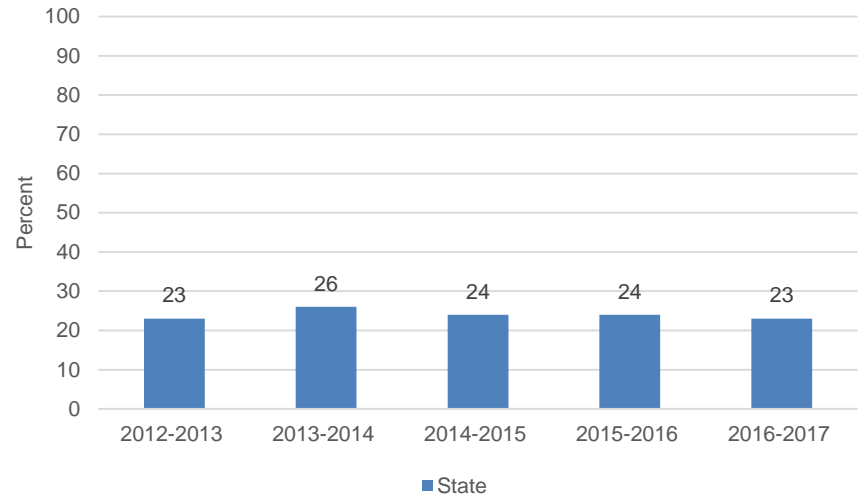


Figure 1.3. Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark: 5 Years of Testing\*

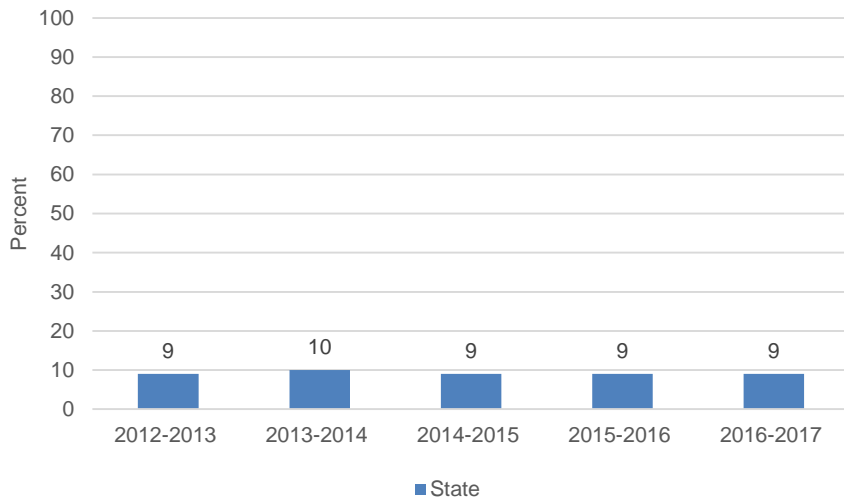
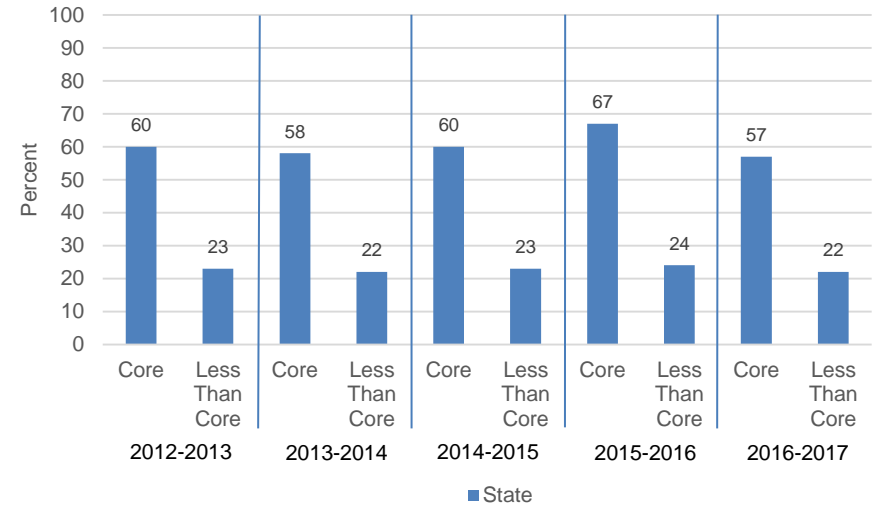


Figure 1.4. Percent Taking A Core Curriculum: 5 Years of Testing\*



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



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

Year	Number of Students	Percent Who Met Benchmarks				
	Tested State	English State	Mathematics State	Reading State	Science State	Met All Four State
2012-2013	7,170	50	27	36	18	13
2013-2014	7,051	52	27	31	26	16
2014-2015	8,733	49	26	29	23	14
2015-2016	31,081	49	25	31	24	14
<b>2016-2017</b>	<b>31,110</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>

**Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores**

Year	Number of Students	Average ACT Scores				
	Tested State	English State	Mathematics State	Reading State	Science State	Composite State
2012-2013	7,170	18.1	19.0	18.8	18.9	18.8
2013-2014	7,051	18.2	19.0	19.2	19.2	19.0
2014-2015	8,733	18.1	18.5	19.0	18.7	18.7
2015-2016	31,081	18.1	18.6	19.0	19.1	18.8
<b>2016-2017</b>	<b>31,110</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>18.8</b>

**Table 1.3. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores Statewide (table omitted for this report)**

**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
2012-2013	4,297	1,657	60	23	19.6	15.3	19.8	17.2	20.1	16.6	20.0	16.8	20.0	16.6
2013-2014	4,110	1,585	58	22	20.0	15.3	20.1	17.2	20.6	16.8	20.4	17.2	20.4	16.7
2014-2015	5,217	2,034	60	23	19.7	15.5	19.6	16.8	20.4	16.9	20.0	16.6	20.1	16.6
2015-2016	20,702	7,393	67	24	19.4	15.5	19.6	16.9	20.2	16.9	20.1	17.4	20.0	16.8
<b>2016-2017</b>	<b>17,807</b>	<b>6,987</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>16.8</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	2012-2013			2013-2014			2014-2015			2015-2016			2016-2017		
	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
<b>All Students</b>	<b>7,170</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>7,051</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>8,733</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>31,081</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>31,110</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>18.8</b>
Black/African American	1,338	19	15.9	1,415	20	16.2	1,755	20	15.9	4,943	16	15.9	4,833	16	15.8
American Indian/Alaska Native	39	1	19.2	44	1	19.1	70	1	17.9	185	1	18.1	242	1	17.4
White	3,444	48	20.1	3,576	51	20.4	3,859	44	20.3	16,813	54	19.9	16,481	53	20.0
Hispanic/Latino	512	7	17.4	515	7	17.7	780	9	17.4	3,093	10	17.6	3,325	11	17.3
Asian	133	2	23.1	152	2	23.3	166	2	22.4	467	2	21.2	495	2	21.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	7	0	15.4	8	0	16.0	11	0	18.0	141	0	15.2	141	0	14.9
Two or more races	215	3	19.9	264	4	19.7	313	4	19.4	1,292	4	19.2	1,367	4	19.4
Prefer not to respond/No response	1,482	21	18.4	1,077	15	18.1	1,779	20	18.2	4,147	13	18.7	4,226	14	18.3

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

Year	All Tested Students			Students Meeting STEM Benchmarks	
	Number of Students Tested State	Avg. STEM Score State	Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark State	Avg. Mathematics Score State	Avg. Science Score State
2012-2013	7,170	19.2	9	27.7	28.5
2013-2014	7,051	19.3	10	27.6	27.8
2014-2015	8,733	18.9	9	27.6	28.0
2015-2016	31,081	19.1	9	27.6	28.0
<b>2016-2017</b>	<b>31,110</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>28.4</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 State	Percent State	Avg. Reading State	N State	Percent State	Avg. Reading State	N State	Percent State	Avg. Reading State
2012-2013	0	.	.	0	.	.	0	.	.
2013-2014	0	.	.	0	.	.	0	.	.
2014-2015	0	.	.	0	.	.	0	.	.
2015-2016	19,469	63	15.5	8,268	27	22.9	3,344	11	30.0
<b>2016-2017</b>	<b>21,363</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>5,975</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>3,772</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>29.7</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.

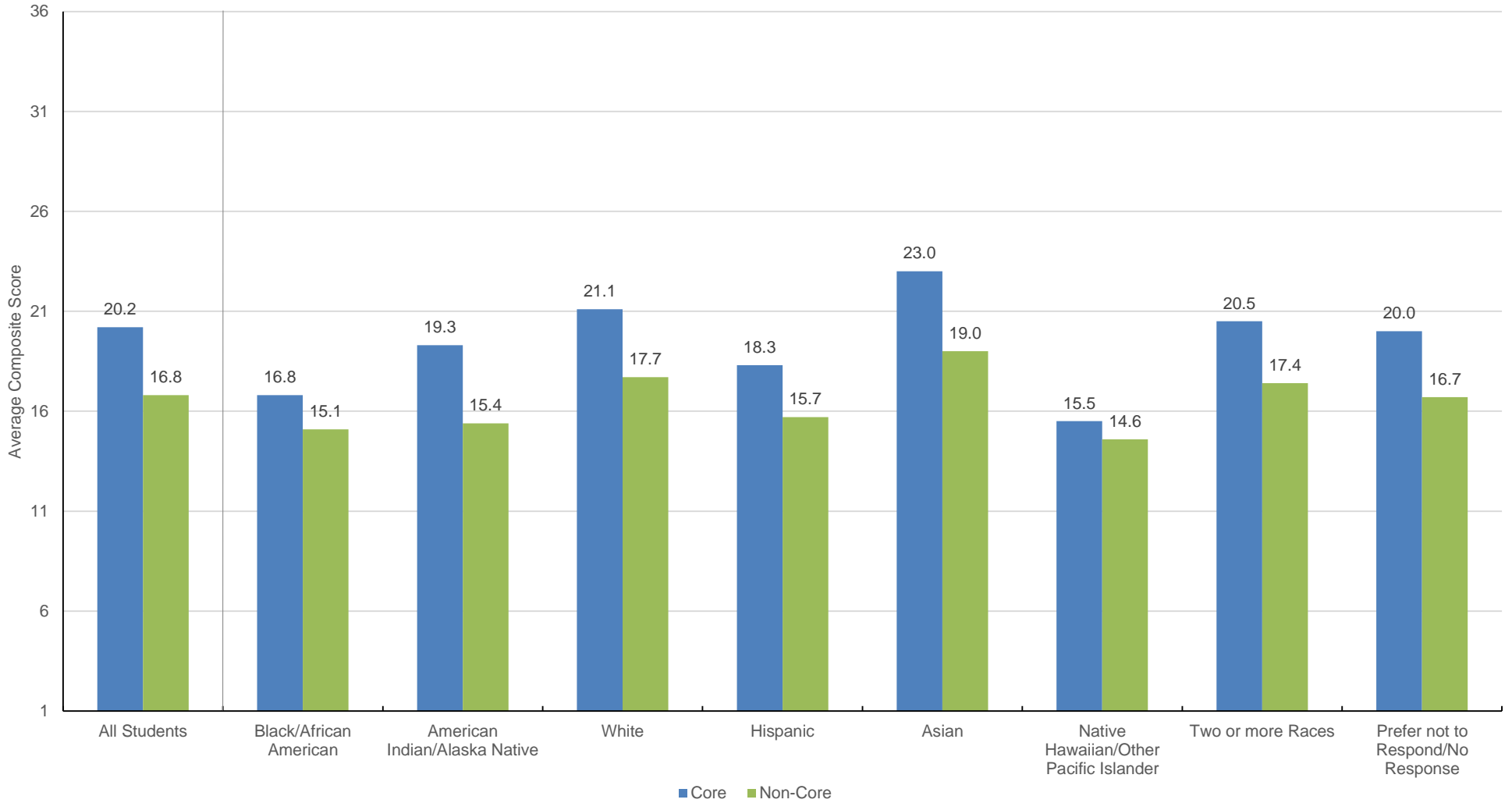
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# Section II

## Academic Achievement

Beginning in August 2013, College Readiness Benchmarks for Reading and Science were updated to reflect the most recent college coursework research.

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.

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

ACT Score	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite		STEM		ACT Score
	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	
36	102	100	13	100	106	100	43	100	7	100	14	100	36
35	337	99	40	99	197	99	106	99	36	99	26	99	35
34	326	99	35	99	227	99	155	99	87	99	51	99	34
33	217	98	42	99	333	98	10	99	133	99	96	99	33
32	244	97	75	99	291	97	213	99	190	99	114	99	32
31	279	96	178	99	462	96	298	98	262	99	179	99	31
30	495	95	144	99	427	95	33	97	317	98	238	98	30
29	319	94	309	98	499	93	368	97	416	97	311	98	29
28	370	93	374	97	565	92	418	96	532	95	419	97	28
27	657	91	722	96	619	90	480	95	637	94	576	95	27
26	675	89	910	94	812	88	564	93	755	92	838	93	26
25	783	87	849	91	848	85	1,303	91	961	89	1,029	91	25
24	1,279	85	1,471	88	992	83	1,638	87	1,147	86	1,224	87	24
23	1,561	80	1,145	83	1,861	79	1,082	82	1,408	82	1,377	84	23
22	1,731	75	1,307	80	1,202	74	2,094	78	1,574	78	1,546	79	22
21	1,801	70	809	76	2,245	70	2,420	72	1,797	73	1,774	74	21
20	1,355	64	1,514	73	1,255	62	2,517	64	1,948	67	2,144	68	20
19	1,302	60	1,687	68	1,283	58	1,534	56	2,070	61	2,462	62	19
18	1,386	56	2,596	63	2,569	54	2,911	51	2,160	54	2,753	54	18
17	1,463	51	3,212	54	1,476	46	1,578	42	2,513	47	2,978	45	17
16	2,229	46	4,748	44	2,577	41	3,300	36	2,573	39	3,407	35	16
15	2,468	39	4,618	29	1,524	33	1,796	26	2,778	31	3,322	24	15
14	2,385	31	2,820	14	2,642	28	2,515	20	2,834	22	2,279	14	14
13	1,758	24	968	5	1,577	20	1,164	12	2,383	13	1,289	6	13
12	1,636	18	368	2	2,298	15	974	8	1,183	5	517	2	12
11	1,864	13	109	1	980	7	705	5	321	1	110	1	11
10	1,275	7	32	1	795	4	636	3	63	1	25	1	10
9	444	3	2	1	232	1	148	1	16	1	5	1	9
8	203	1	8	1	67	1	66	1	5	1	2	1	8
7	126	1	1	1	86	1	26	1	2	1	3	1	7
6	25	1	0	1	40	1	8	1	0	1	0	1	6
5	5	1	2	1	15	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	5
4	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	4
3	5	1	0	1	6	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	3
2	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	18.4 (6.2)		18.5 (4.4)		18.9 (6.0)		18.9 (5.0)		18.8 (4.9)		18.9 (4.4)		Avg (SD)

<sup>1</sup>CP 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.

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

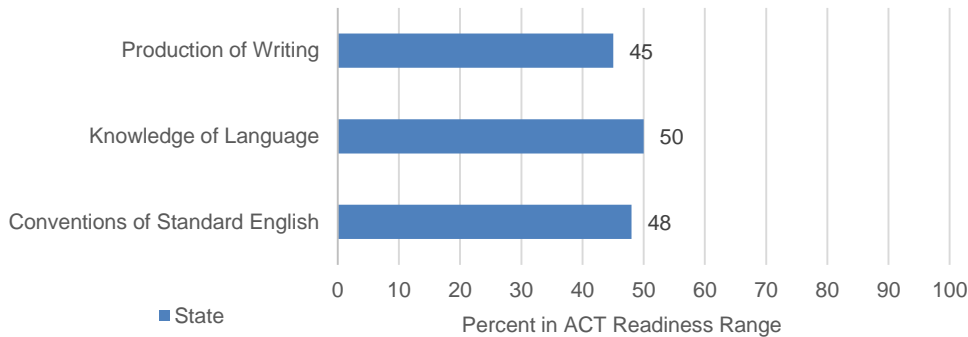


Figure 2.3. Math Reporting Categories<sup>1</sup>

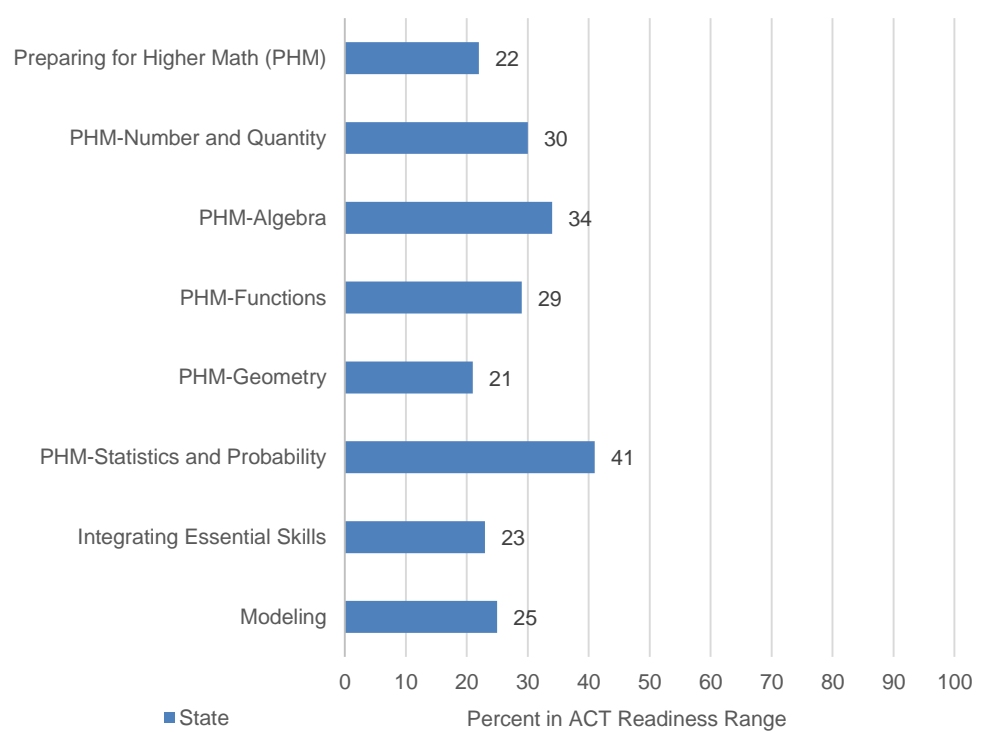


Figure 2.4. Reading Reporting Categories<sup>1</sup>

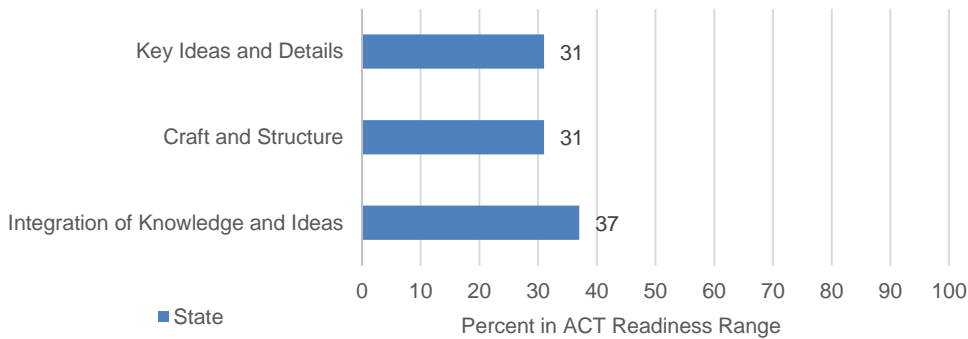
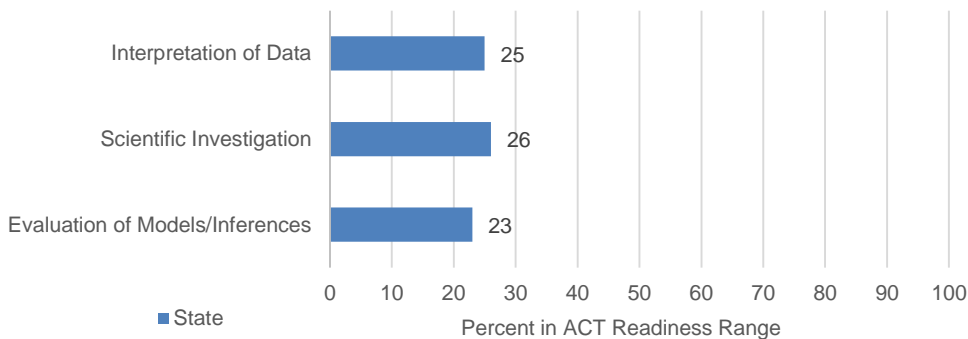


Figure 2.5. Science Reporting Categories<sup>1</sup>



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 .



**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
	<b>All Students</b>	<b>31,110</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>16.8</b>
<b>State</b>	Black/African American	4,833	45	16.8	15.1
	American Indian/Alaska Native	242	49	19.3	15.4
	White	16,481	64	21.1	17.7
	Hispanic/Latino	3,325	58	18.3	15.7
	Asian	495	65	23.0	19.0
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	141	43	15.5	14.6
	Two or More Races	1,367	62	20.5	17.4
	Prefer not/No Response	4,226	43	20.0	16.7

<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
	<b>All Students</b>	<b>31,110</b>	<b>100</b>	18.4	18.5	18.9	18.9	18.8	18.9
<b>State</b>	Black/African American	4,833	16	14.9	16.2	15.7	16.1	15.8	16.4
	American Indian/Alaska Native	242	1	16.5	17.3	17.5	17.7	17.4	17.8
	White	16,481	53	19.9	19.4	20.2	20.0	20.0	20.0
	Hispanic/Latino	3,325	11	16.4	17.5	17.3	17.7	17.3	17.8
	Asian	495	2	21.5	22.3	21.3	21.6	21.8	22.2
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	141	0	14.0	15.9	14.5	14.9	14.9	15.6
	Two or More Races	1,367	4	19.1	18.8	19.8	19.3	19.4	19.3
	Prefer not/No Response	4,226	14	17.8	18.0	18.4	18.4	18.3	18.5

**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
State	Males	13,827	55	20.2	16.7
	Females	14,075	63	20.1	17.0
	No Response	3,208	43	20.2	16.8

**Table 2.5. Average ACT Scores by Gender**

Student Group	Gender	N	Percent	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite	STEM
State	Males	13,827	44	17.9	18.6	18.6	18.9	18.6	19.0
	Females	14,075	45	18.9	18.4	19.3	19.0	19.0	19.0
	No Response	3,208	10	18.0	18.2	18.6	18.6	18.5	18.6

**Table 2.6. ACT Score Quartile Values**

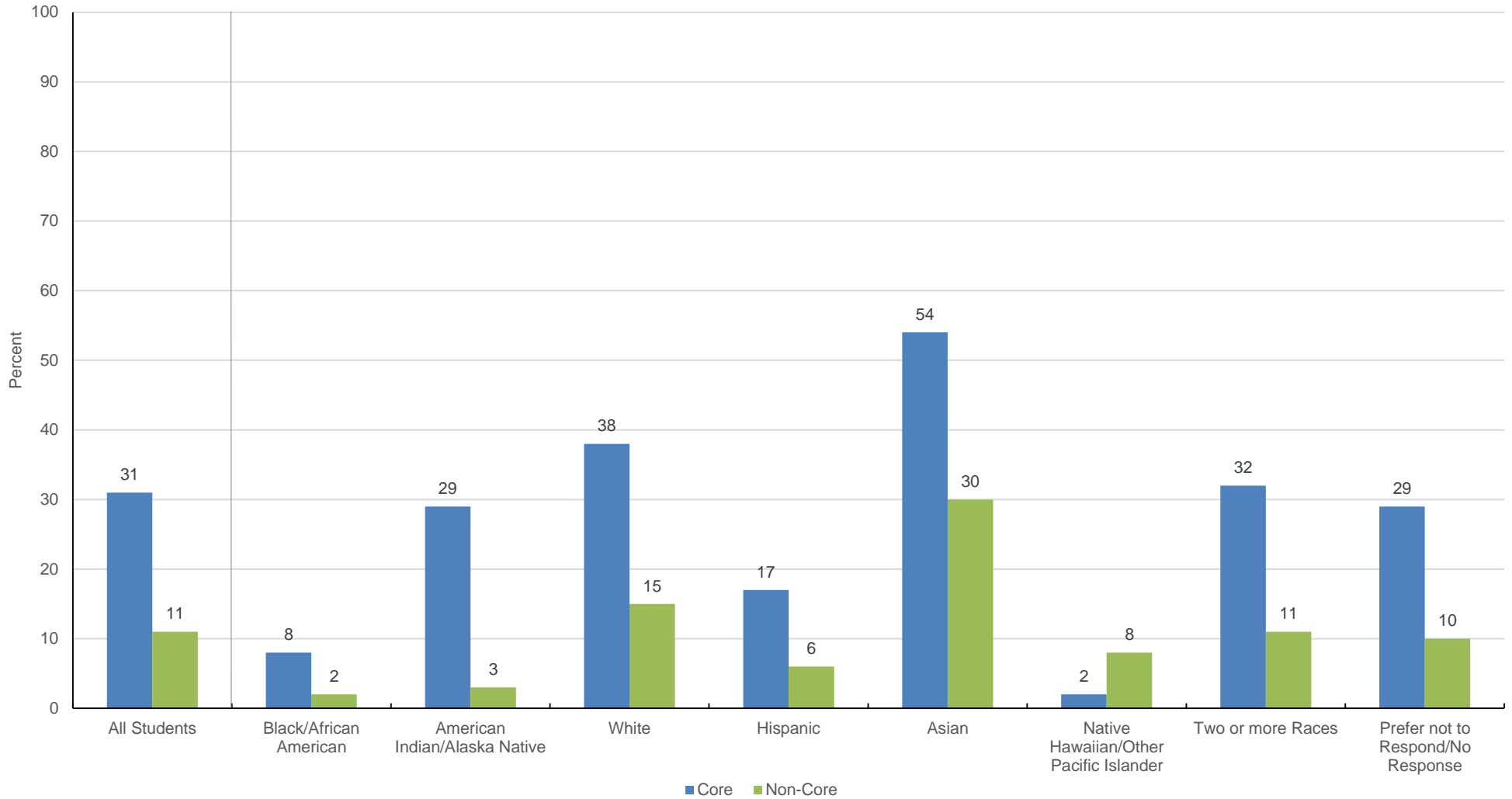
Quartile	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
Q3 (75th Percentile)	22	21	23	22	22
Q2 (50th Percentile)	17	17	18	18	18
Q1 (25th Percentile)	14	15	14	15	15

# Section III

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

Beginning in August 2013, College Readiness Benchmarks for Reading and Science were updated to reflect the most recent college coursework research.

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.

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

Student Group	CRS Range	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
State	33 to 36	982	3	130	0	863	3	314	1
	28 to 32	1,707	5	1,080	3	2,244	7	1,330	4
	24 to 27	3,394	11	3,952	13	3,271	11	3,985	13
	20 to 23	6,448	21	4,775	15	6,563	21	8,113	26
	16 to 19	6,380	21	12,243	39	7,905	25	9,323	30
	13 to 15	6,611	21	8,406	27	5,743	18	5,475	18
	01 to 12	5,588	18	524	2	4,521	15	2,570	8

**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	
State	Males	45	26	30	23	15
	Females	53	24	32	21	13
	No Response	46	23	29	20	13

**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
			Benchmark=18 %	Benchmark=22 %	Benchmark=22 %	Benchmark=23 %	%	Benchmark=26 %
State	All Students	31,110	49	24	30	22	14	9
	Black/African American	4,833	23	7	10	4	2	1
	American Indian/Alaska Native	242	37	18	22	15	11	5
	White	16,481	60	31	39	29	19	13
	Hispanic/Latino	3,325	36	16	20	12	7	5
	Asian	495	63	54	47	43	34	28
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl	141	18	8	7	3	1	0
	Two or More Races	1,367	54	26	35	23	16	10
Prefer Not to Respond	4,226	45	21	27	19	12	7	

**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
State	Gold or Higher	4,333	14	27.8
	Silver	14,617	47	20.0
	Bronze	10,568	34	14.5
	Needs Improvement	1,592	5	11.7

<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).

**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
State	Core or More <sup>2</sup>	17,807	61	20.0	32	19.5	39	20.3	29	20.2	19	20.2	13	20.1
	Less than Core	6,987	31	16.0	12	16.9	17	16.8	11	17.1	5	16.8	4	17.3
	Missing <sup>3</sup>	6,316	35	16.4	16	17.2	21	17.1	13	17.3	8	17.1	5	17.5

<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
State	Core or More <sup>2</sup>	22,198	54	19.2	23,567	28	19.0	21,924	35	19.7	21,797	26	19.8
	Less than Core	3,167	34	16.4	1,580	6	15.7	3,177	14	16.2	3,273	5	16.0
	Missing <sup>3</sup>	5,745	36	16.5	5,963	16	17.3	6,009	21	17.2	6,040	14	17.4

<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.

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

Course Pattern	N	State		
		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	3,029	10	20.4	62
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	19,169	62	19.0	53
Less than 4 years of English	3,167	10	16.4	34
Zero years / no English courses reported	5,745	18	16.5	36
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>				
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,111	4	20.8	45
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	1,337	4	21.1	50
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	1,312	4	18.1	21
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	8,205	26	18.6	23
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	5,778	19	21.1	46
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	4,221	14	16.4	6
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	1,603	5	17.9	18
Less than 3 years of Math	1,580	5	15.7	6
Zero years / no Math courses reported	5,963	19	17.3	16
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>				
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	160	1	18.3	26
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	11,183	36	20.5	41
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	860	3	17.3	21
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	9,721	31	19.1	30
Less than 3 years of Social Science	3,177	10	16.2	14
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	6,009	19	17.2	21
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>				
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	7,420	24	19.8	28
Bio, Chem, Phys	889	3	23.1	53
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem	11,728	38	19.6	24
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	1,760	6	18.7	20
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	3,273	11	16.0	5
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	6,040	19	17.4	14

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



**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	3,029	10	20.4	62	1,269	9	19.7	57	1,602	11	20.8	66
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	19,169	62	19.0	53	8,479	61	18.5	50	9,012	64	19.4	56
Less than 4 years of English	3,167	10	16.4	34	1,508	11	16.0	32	1,352	10	16.8	37
Zero years / no English courses reported	5,745	18	16.5	36	2,571	19	16.1	33	2,109	15	16.9	39
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,111	4	20.8	45	491	4	21.2	47	526	4	20.4	44
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	1,337	4	21.1	50	431	3	21.7	54	787	6	20.9	48
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	1,312	4	18.1	21	586	4	18.2	22	612	4	18.0	21
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	8,205	26	18.6	23	3,215	23	18.8	26	4,312	31	18.4	21
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	5,778	19	21.1	46	2,753	20	21.6	50	2,660	19	20.5	43
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	4,221	14	16.4	6	2,085	15	16.5	7	1,725	12	16.1	5
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	1,603	5	17.9	18	729	5	18.2	22	710	5	17.6	16
Less than 3 years of Math	1,580	5	15.7	6	842	6	15.7	6	568	4	15.7	6
Zero years / no Math courses reported	5,963	19	17.3	16	2,695	19	17.3	16	2,175	15	17.2	15
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	160	1	18.3	26	91	1	17.8	24	51	0	19.1	31
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	11,183	36	20.5	41	4,531	33	20.3	40	5,802	41	20.7	41
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	860	3	17.3	21	464	3	17.1	21	311	2	17.4	20
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	9,721	31	19.1	30	4,519	33	18.9	30	4,384	31	19.2	30
Less than 3 years of Social Science	3,177	10	16.2	14	1,519	11	16.0	15	1,321	9	16.5	14
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	6,009	19	17.2	21	2,703	20	16.8	20	2,206	16	17.5	21
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	7,420	24	19.8	28	3,535	26	20.2	31	3,291	23	19.5	24
Bio, Chem, Phys	889	3	23.1	53	403	3	23.1	52	447	3	23.0	53
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem	11,728	38	19.6	24	4,464	32	19.5	25	6,267	45	19.7	23
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	1,760	6	18.7	20	978	7	19.0	23	654	5	18.3	15
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	3,273	11	16.0	5	1,732	13	16.0	6	1,190	8	16.2	5
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	6,040	19	17.4	14	2,715	20	17.2	14	2,226	16	17.5	12

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

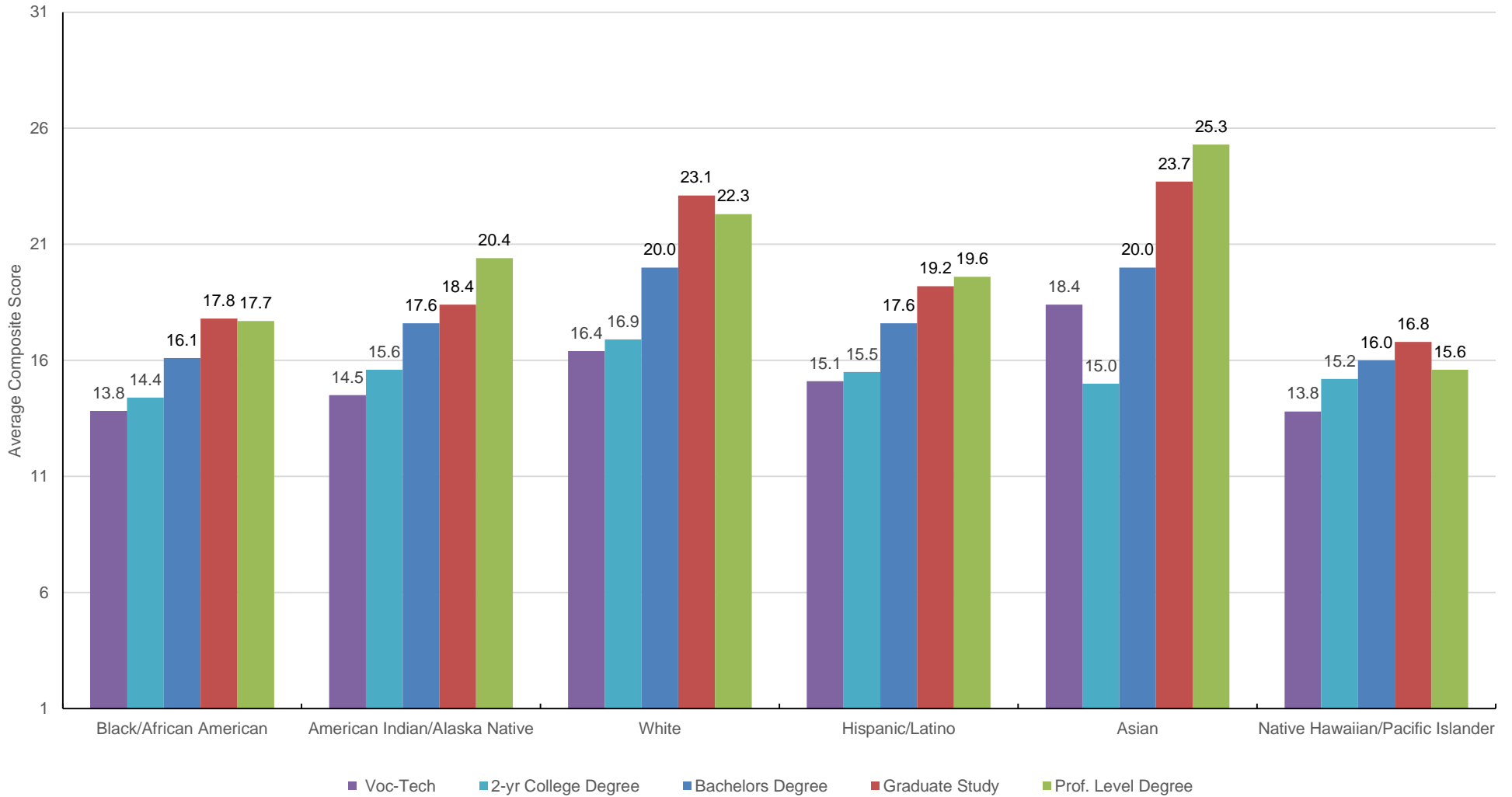
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# Section IV

## Career and Educational Aspirations

Beginning in August 2013, College Readiness Benchmarks for Reading and Science were updated to reflect the most recent college coursework research.

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.

**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	747	2	18.0	152	5	15.9	536	3	18.9
Architecture	321	1	19.3	38	1	16.2	268	1	19.9
Area, Ethnic, & Multidisciplinary Studies	35	0	18.5	8	0	15.3	25	0	19.6
Arts: Visual & Performing	1,783	6	19.1	272	9	16.2	1,403	8	19.8
Business	1,731	6	19.5	249	8	15.8	1,416	8	20.3
Communications	265	1	20.0	38	1	16.1	222	1	20.8
Community, Family, & Personal Services	1,049	3	17.0	293	9	16.1	649	4	17.7
Computer Science & Mathematics	659	2	22.3	56	2	17.8	582	3	22.9
Education	1,295	4	19.4	85	3	15.4	1,167	6	19.7
Engineering	1,441	5	20.8	198	6	15.8	1,170	6	21.9
Engineering Technology & Drafting	394	1	18.5	93	3	16.3	282	2	19.4
English & Foreign Languages	233	1	21.4	16	1	17.6	204	1	22.0
Health Administration & Assisting	813	3	17.2	95	3	15.7	684	4	17.5
Health Sciences & Technologies	5,223	17	19.7	317	10	16.7	4,734	26	19.9
Philosophy, Religion, & Theology	133	0	20.3	12	0	16.5	112	1	20.8
Repair, Production, & Construction	783	3	16.7	420	13	16.3	276	1	17.5
Sciences: Biological & Physical	963	3	22.1	31	1	17.3	906	5	22.3
Social Sciences & Law	1,594	5	20.6	68	2	16.1	1,459	8	21.0
Undecided	2,391	8	18.7	400	13	16.0	1,661	9	19.9
No Response	9,038	29	17.3	291	9	14.6	615	3	16.3

<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).

**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	988	15.7	145	13.8	8	14.5	495	16.4	114	15.1
2-yr College Degree	2,207	16.1	369	14.4	24	15.6	1,089	16.9	304	15.5
Bachelors Degree	10,902	19.0	1,517	16.1	79	17.6	6,134	20.0	1,295	17.6
Graduate Study	2,591	21.9	258	17.8	18	18.4	1,639	23.1	232	19.2
Prof. Level Degree	5,012	21.3	693	17.7	30	20.4	2,850	22.3	454	19.6
Other	867	16.1	84	15.1	11	16.7	475	16.7	110	15.2
No Response	8,543	17.5	1,767	15.1	72	16.7	3,799	18.7	816	16.4

Educational Degree Aspirations	All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined		Asian		Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander		Two or more races		Prefer not to respond/ No Response	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	988	15.7	11	18.4	13	13.8	46	16.7	156	15.8
2-yr College Degree	2,207	16.1	20	15.0	10	15.2	90	16.4	301	15.9
Bachelors Degree	10,902	19.0	143	20.0	34	16.0	500	19.6	1,200	18.5
Graduate Study	2,591	21.9	60	23.7	5	16.8	109	21.8	270	20.9
Prof. Level Degree	5,012	21.3	135	25.3	11	15.6	255	21.6	584	20.8
Other	867	16.1	10	14.7	7	13.6	38	16.2	132	15.6
No Response	8,543	17.5	116	21.1	61	14.4	329	18.1	1,583	17.7

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
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS	Arkansas	8,557	3,789	4,768	2	16	29	27	17	8	1
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS	Arkansas	6,922	2,132	4,790	2	18	32	28	14	5	1
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	4,724	1,994	2,730	3	19	33	26	13	5	0
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	4,384	1,589	2,795	3	21	34	27	12	4	0
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK	Arkansas	2,226	486	1,740	4	25	34	22	11	4	1
UNIV OF ARKANSAS-FORT SMITH	Arkansas	1,794	696	1,098	4	21	33	26	12	3	0
STATE-NO COLLEGE PLANS	Iowa	1,649	1,649	0	12	43	28	13	4	1	0
HENDERSON STATE UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	1,648	459	1,189	4	23	35	24	10	4	0
SOUTHERN ARKANSAS UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	1,257	435	822	3	25	34	24	11	2	0
HENDRIX COLLEGE	Arkansas	1,057	199	858	3	14	22	27	18	14	2
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY-BEEBE	Arkansas	978	409	569	6	28	36	22	7	1	0
HARDING UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	944	207	737	2	12	26	33	17	9	1
OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	854	173	681	2	13	26	30	18	9	1
UNIV OF ARKANSAS AT MONTICELLO	Arkansas	776	235	541	4	26	38	24	7	2	0
UNIV OF ARKANSAS AT PINE BLUFF	Arkansas	750	160	590	9	45	36	8	1	0	0
NORTHWEST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Arkansas	736	320	416	6	31	35	19	7	2	0
PULASKI TECHNICAL COLLEGE	Arkansas	632	231	401	8	34	37	14	5	1	0
UNIV OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES	Arkansas	529	70	459	1	16	33	27	16	6	1
UNIVERSITY OF THE OZARKS	Arkansas	481	77	404	4	22	37	26	9	2	1
LYON COLLEGE	Arkansas	451	84	367	1	16	30	26	18	9	0
TALENT SEARCH PROGRAM-UALR	Arkansas	433	123	310	6	32	34	18	8	1	0
UNIV OF ARKANSAS COMM COLL-MORRILTON	Arkansas	420	91	329	5	29	35	24	6	1	0
ARKANSAS NORTHEASTERN COLLEGE	Arkansas	376	176	200	6	32	41	15	5	1	0
JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	372	112	260	2	17	35	24	14	8	1
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY	Texas	365	76	289	1	14	23	25	22	13	2
UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI	Mississippi	363	46	317	1	10	20	33	24	11	1
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	352	181	171	4	29	32	21	11	3	0
ARKANSAS BAPTIST COLLEGE	Arkansas	338	102	236	12	44	30	9	4	0	0
UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS	Tennessee	315	66	249	2	18	37	26	12	4	0
LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY	Louisiana	283	66	217	1	19	31	32	11	6	0
All Other Institutions		24,740	5,743	18,997	4	23	29	21	13	8	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>69,706</b>	<b>22,176</b>	<b>47,530</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>

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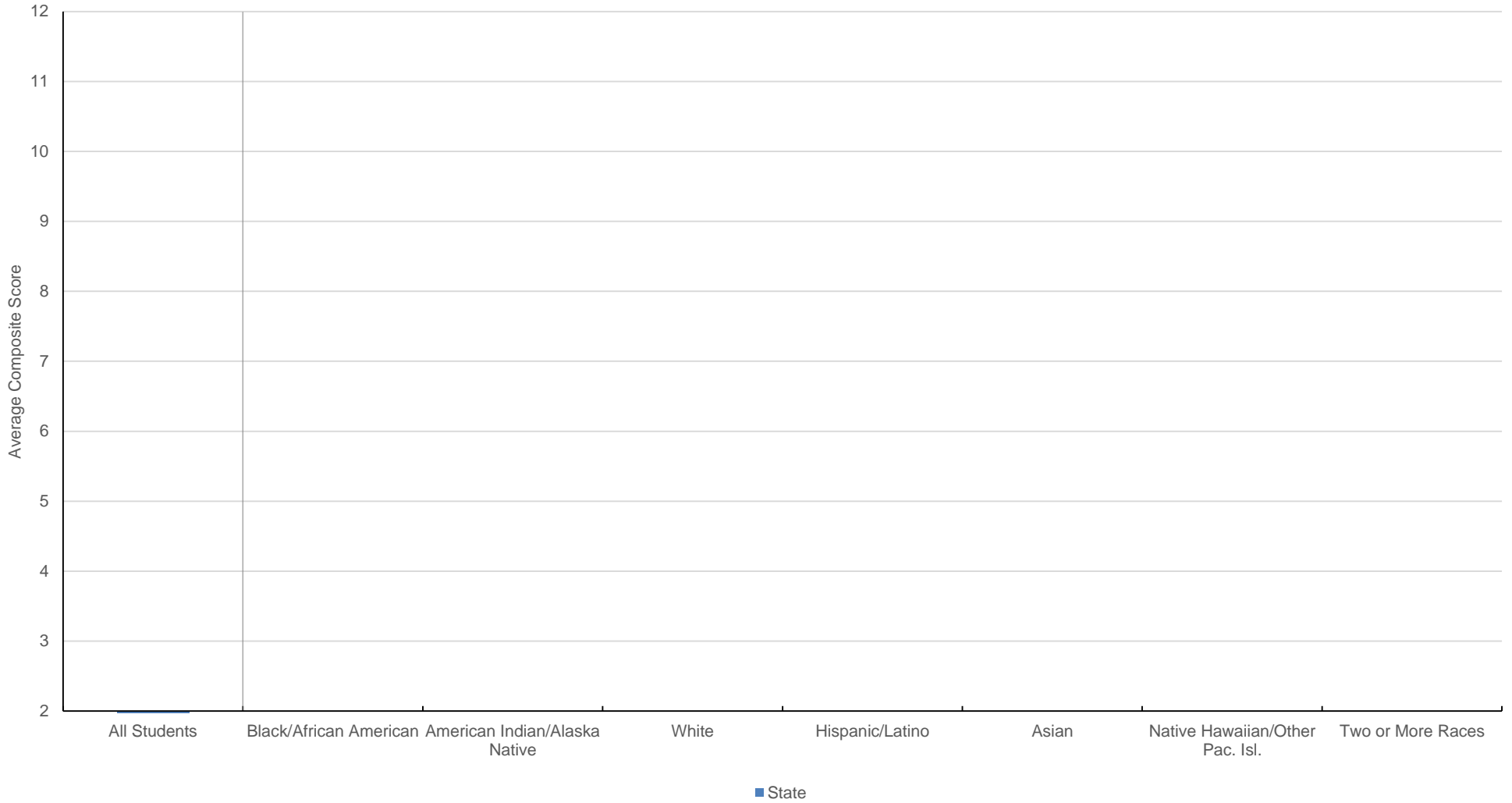


# Section V

## Optional Writing Test Results

Beginning in August 2013, College Readiness Benchmarks for Reading and Science were updated to reflect the most recent college coursework research.

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



\*Missing columns reflect race/ethnicity groupings that are missing. Results based on students with ACT Writing scores from test events beginning September 2016. Score scale is 2-12.

**Table 5.1. Average ACT English Language Arts and Constituent Scores by Race/Ethnicity and Gender for Students Who Took ACT Writing<sup>1</sup>**

	Average ACT Scores				
	N State	Writing State	English State	Reading State	English Language Arts State
<b>All Students</b>	<b>0</b>	.	.	.	.
Black/African American	.	.	.	.	.
American Indian/Alaska Native	.	.	.	.	.
White	.	.	.	.	.
Hispanic/Latino	.	.	.	.	.
Asian	.	.	.	.	.
Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	.	.	.	.	.
Two or More Races	.	.	.	.	.
Prefer not/No Response	.	.	.	.	.
Males	.	.	.	.	.
Females	.	.	.	.	.
No Response	.	.	.	.	.

<sup>1</sup>Results based on students with ACT writing scores with test events beginning September 2016. The writing score range is 2-12.

