



# Profile Report - State

Arkansas State Testing 2015-2016  
Grade 11 Tested Students  
Arkansas



ARKANSAS  
DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION



## New to your 2015-2016 Profile Report

In Fall 2015, ACT introduced additional test scores and indicators to provide students and educators with more insight into critical aspects of college and career readiness. Tables for these new scores and indicators (Writing scores from enhanced design, ELA score, STEM score, Understanding Complex Texts Indicator, and Progress Toward Career Readiness Indicator) are included in this report to describe available data. To determine where the new scores are summarized in this report, please consult the Table of Contents.

- **Writing scores from enhanced design:** Writing scores from enhanced design describe core writing competencies valued by high school and college educators. These competencies are summarized by the writing scores. The subject-level writing score is reported on ACT's familiar 1-36 scale. Writing scores earned prior to September 2015 are reported in a separate table.
- **ELA:** The English Language Arts (ELA) score is based upon student scores in ACT English, Reading, and Writing, and is intended to represent a measure of students' overall literacy skills. This score utilizes ACT's customary 1-36 scale.
- **STEM:** In response to the national focus on student performance in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), a STEM score was developed to gauge students' overall performance in mathematics and science. This score, driven by ACT Mathematics and Science scores, ranges from 1 to 36. Test scores from previous years have been calculated.
- **Understanding Complex Texts Indicator:** The Understanding Complex Texts indicator represents students' progress toward understanding the complex written material encountered in college and careers. The indicator is reported in three proficiency levels: Below Proficient, Proficient, and Above Proficient.
- **Progress Toward Career Readiness Indicator:** Progress toward career readiness indicator is based upon the ACT Composite score, representing the level at which students perform relative to the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC). Symbolizing attainment of workplace employability skills critical to job success, this indicator is reported in four levels: Progress Needs Improvement, Progress Toward Bronze NCRC, Progress Toward Silver NCRC, and Progress Toward Gold NCRC.

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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, 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/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 and Biology. These scores were empirically derived based on the actual performance of students in college. The College Readiness Benchmark Scores, updated in August of 2013, are:

College Course/Course Area	ACT Test	Benchmark Score
English Composition	English	18
Algebra	Mathematics	22
Social Sciences	Reading	22
Biology	Science	23

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:** 31,081 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. 67% 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, 5% were college ready. 15% of the cohort reported taking a course sequence of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. 6% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 31% 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. 6% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 28% 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 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 Readiness Standards at [www.act.org/standard](http://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.

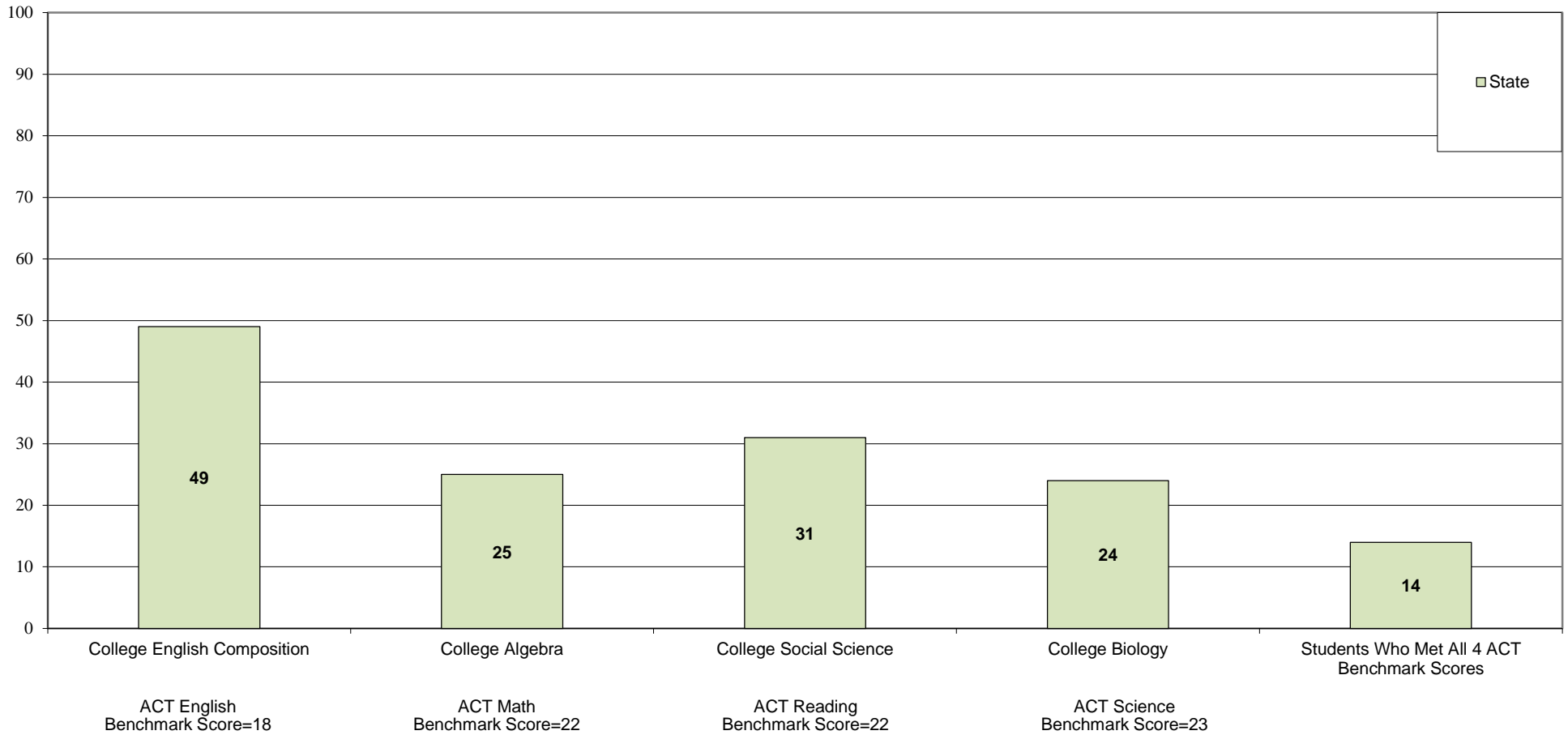
For more information on interpreting data in this report, or to learn how ACT can help your students improve their readiness for college and the workplace, contact ACT Customer Service at 319-337-1365 or [customerservices@act.org](mailto:customerservices@act.org).

# 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. 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.



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

Year	Number of Students Tested State	Percent Who Met Benchmarks				
		English State	Mathematics State	Reading State	Science State	Met All Four State
2011-2012	6,220	48	25	32	17	13
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
<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>31,081</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>14</b>

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

Year	Number of Students Tested State	Average ACT Scores				
		English State	Mathematics State	Reading State	Science State	Composite State
2011-2012	6,220	17.6	18.7	18.5	18.6	18.5
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
<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>31,081</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>19.1</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
2011-2012	3,589	1,653	58	27	19.0	15.2	19.6	17.1	19.8	16.4	19.6	16.8	19.6	16.5
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
<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>20,702</b>	<b>7,393</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>20.0</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**

	2011-2012			2012-2013			2013-2014			2014-2015			2015-2016		
	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
<b>All Students</b>	<b>6,220</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>18.5</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>
Black/African American	1,112	18	15.5	1,338	19	15.9	1,415	20	16.2	1,755	20	15.9	4,943	16	15.9
American Indian/Alaska Native	43	1	18.0	39	1	19.2	44	1	19.1	70	1	17.9	185	1	18.1
White	3,362	54	19.5	3,444	48	20.1	3,576	51	20.4	3,859	44	20.3	16,813	54	19.9
Hispanic/Latino	465	7	17.4	512	7	17.4	515	7	17.7	780	9	17.4	3,093	10	17.6
Asian	87	1	20.5	133	2	23.1	152	2	23.3	166	2	22.4	467	2	21.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	11	0	15.7	7	0	15.4	8	0	16.0	11	0	18.0	141	0	15.2
Two or more races	184	3	19.0	215	3	19.9	264	4	19.7	313	4	19.4	1,292	4	19.2
Prefer not to respond/No response	956	15	18.6	1,482	21	18.4	1,077	15	18.1	1,779	20	18.2	4,147	13	18.7

**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
2011-2012	6,220	18.9	8	27.3	27.6
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
<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>31,081</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>28.0</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
2011-2012	0	0	.	0	0	.	0	0	.
2012-2013	0	0	.	0	0	.	0	0	.
2013-2014	0	0	.	0	0	.	0	0	.
2014-2015	0	0	.	0	0	.	0	0	.
<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>19,469</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>8,268</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>3,344</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>30.0</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

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

Table 2.1. ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percentages (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	31	100	15	100	52	100	47	100	4	100	13	100	36
35	179	100	19	100	138	100	55	100	31	100	31	100	35
34	250	99	66	100	180	99	82	100	51	100	51	100	34
33	203	99	49	100	255	99	120	99	88	100	72	100	33
32	386	98	113	100	564	98	163	99	158	99	81	99	32
31	227	97	80	99	383	96	184	98	223	99	165	99	31
30	234	96	112	99	400	95	201	98	292	98	203	99	30
29	565	95	392	99	480	94	23	97	379	97	245	98	29
28	317	93	432	97	536	92	254	97	525	96	409	97	28
27	645	92	615	96	557	90	773	96	648	94	574	96	27
26	689	90	1,033	94	693	89	516	94	770	92	859	94	26
25	826	88	924	91	1,415	86	1,270	92	1,005	90	1,151	91	25
24	1,337	85	1,652	88	917	82	1,659	88	1,189	87	1,371	88	24
23	1,416	81	1,301	82	1,084	79	2,099	83	1,438	83	1,426	83	23
22	1,590	76	837	78	2,126	75	1,488	76	1,647	78	1,592	79	22
21	1,714	71	1,495	75	2,271	69	2,696	71	1,923	73	1,791	73	21
20	1,929	66	923	71	1,498	61	1,841	63	2,035	67	2,245	68	20
19	1,295	60	1,795	68	1,366	56	3,326	57	2,260	60	2,730	60	19
18	1,357	55	2,852	62	2,918	52	2,048	46	2,304	53	3,212	52	18
17	1,418	51	3,262	53	1,651	43	2,181	39	2,636	45	3,172	41	17
16	2,083	47	5,471	42	1,475	37	3,532	32	2,593	37	3,687	31	16
15	2,330	40	4,179	25	1,829	33	1,776	21	2,605	29	2,640	19	15
14	2,268	32	1,847	11	2,663	27	1,437	15	2,600	20	1,767	11	14
13	1,042	25	1,043	5	1,707	18	1,431	11	2,138	12	1,087	5	13
12	1,631	22	384	2	1,494	13	424	6	1,130	5	384	2	12
11	2,090	16	143	1	1,417	8	976	5	330	1	89	1	11
10	1,657	10	31	1	478	3	283	2	65	1	21	1	10
9	705	4	2	1	284	2	116	1	7	1	5	1	9
8	446	2	6	1	146	1	50	1	7	1	3	1	8
7	159	1	2	1	69	1	8	1	0	1	1	1	7
6	38	1	1	1	12	1	18	1	0	1	3	1	6
5	18	1	0	1	16	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	5
4	3	1	2	1	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	4
3	2	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	3
2	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	18.1 (6.2)		18.6 (4.4)		19.0 (5.9)		19.1 (4.7)		18.8 (4.8)		19.1 (4.2)		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.

**Table 2.2. ACT Subscore Distributions, Cumulative Percentages (CP<sup>1</sup>), and Subscore 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	414	100	113	100	460	100	528	100	286	100	31	100	56	100	18
17	1,049	99	247	100	602	99	651	98	437	99	70	100	0	100	17
16	500	95	819	99	1,340	97	901	96	719	98	156	100	356	100	16
15	975	94	1,345	96	878	92	1,089	93	958	95	607	99	897	99	15
14	672	91	1,629	92	1,183	89	1,310	90	1,275	92	1,401	97	957	96	14
13	1,320	88	1,843	87	2,713	86	1,691	86	1,543	88	1,555	93	2,237	93	13
12	1,743	84	2,143	81	1,760	77	2,000	80	1,757	83	3,715	88	1,656	86	12
11	2,749	79	2,473	74	3,864	71	2,420	74	3,402	78	3,020	76	4,528	80	11
10	2,378	70	3,819	66	2,804	59	2,560	66	1,919	67	4,029	66	3,511	66	10
9	3,274	62	3,014	54	3,181	50	2,756	58	3,565	60	4,185	53	6,875	54	9
8	2,802	52	3,310	44	3,405	40	2,721	49	4,097	49	6,646	40	3,854	32	8
7	2,873	42	3,099	33	4,483	29	4,638	40	4,484	36	2,571	18	1,094	20	7
6	2,835	33	2,862	23	1,897	14	2,978	25	3,576	21	1,017	10	2,499	16	6
5	3,785	24	2,280	14	1,249	8	2,270	16	2,018	10	937	7	1,408	8	5
4	2,141	12	1,460	7	766	4	1,504	8	681	3	509	4	398	4	4
3	1,080	5	508	2	183	2	969	3	279	1	382	2	520	2	3
2	449	2	112	1	227	1	83	1	67	1	132	1	89	1	2
1	42	1	5	1	86	1	12	1	18	1	118	1	146	1	1
Avg (SD)	8.7 (3.8)		9.3 (3.4)		9.8 (3.4)		9.2 (3.7)		9.2 (3.2)		9.5 (2.7)		9.4 (2.8)		Avg (SD)

<sup>1</sup>CP 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)	22	21	22	22	22
Q2 (50th Percentile)	17	17	18	19	18
Q1 (25th Percentile)	13	16	14	16	15

**Table 2.4. 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
State	All Students	31,081	67	20.0	16.8
	Black/African American	4,943	55	16.8	15.1
	American Indian/Alaska Native	185	61	19.5	16.1
	White	16,813	72	20.9	17.6
	Hispanic/Latino	3,093	63	18.5	16.3
	Asian	467	72	22.2	18.5
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	141	50	15.9	14.3
	Two or More Races	1,292	70	20.1	17.2
	Prefer not/No Response	4,147	61	19.9	16.9

<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 Race/Ethnicity**

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	N	Percent	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite	STEM
State	All Students	31,081	100	18.1	18.6	19.0	19.1	18.8	19.1
	Black/African American	4,943	16	14.5	16.2	15.9	16.6	15.9	16.7
	American Indian/Alaska Native	185	1	17.0	17.9	18.6	18.5	18.1	18.4
	White	16,813	54	19.4	19.5	20.2	20.0	19.9	20.0
	Hispanic/Latino	3,093	10	16.3	17.7	17.6	18.2	17.6	18.2
	Asian	467	2	20.2	22.0	20.4	21.7	21.2	22.1
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	141	0	13.2	16.4	14.6	16.1	15.2	16.5
	Two or More Races	1,292	4	18.5	18.8	19.7	19.4	19.2	19.3
	Prefer not/No Response	4,147	13	17.9	18.5	18.9	19.0	18.7	19.0



**Table 2.6. 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	15369	63	19.8	16.5
	Females	15615	70	20.1	17.1
	Missing	97	56	16.8	16.4

**Table 2.7. Average ACT Scores by Gender**

Student Group	Gender	N	Percent	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite	STEM
State	Males	15,369	49	17.3	18.7	18.5	19.0	18.5	19.1
	Females	15,615	50	18.8	18.6	19.6	19.3	19.2	19.2
	Missing	97	0	15.0	16.4	16.1	17.2	16.3	17.0

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# 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.

**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	663	2	149	0	625	2	304	1
	28 to 32	1,729	6	1,129	4	2,363	8	825	3
	24 to 27	3,497	11	4,224	14	3,582	12	4,218	14
	20 to 23	6,649	21	4,556	15	6,979	22	8,124	26
	16 to 19	6,153	20	13,380	43	7,410	24	11,087	36
	13 to 15	5,640	18	7,069	23	6,199	20	4,644	15
	01 to 12	6,750	22	574	2	3,923	13	1,879	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	
State	Males	44	25	29	24	14
	Females	54	24	34	24	15
	Missing	30	6	14	10	2

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

Student Group	N	English Benchmark=18 %	Mathematics Benchmark=22 %	Reading Benchmark=22 %	Science Benchmark=23 %	All Four %	STEM %
<b>All Students</b>	<b>31,081</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>
Black/African American	4,943	23	7	11	7	3	1
American Indian/Alaska Native	185	43	18	28	19	8	4
White	16,813	59	31	39	30	19	12
Hispanic/Latino	3,093	37	16	22	15	8	4
Asian	467	61	52	40	42	29	26
Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl	141	15	6	6	4	3	1
Two or More Races	1,292	52	26	35	25	16	9
Prefer Not to Respond	4,147	48	23	31	23	14	8

**Table 3.4. Progress Toward Career Readiness<sup>1</sup>**

Student Group	Progress Toward NCRC <sup>2</sup> Level	N	%	Average Composite
<b>State</b>	Gold	16,970	55	22.3
	Silver	10,434	34	15.5
	Bronze	3,268	11	12.7
	Needs Improvement	409	1	10.8

<sup>1</sup> Progress reflects degree to which students are on track for attaining workplace employability skills critical to job success.

<sup>2</sup> Additional information on the ACT NCRC (National Career Readiness Certificate) 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>	20,702	59	19.4	31	19.6	39	20.2	30	20.1	19	20.0	11	20.1
	Less than Core	7,393	30	15.5	11	16.9	17	16.9	11	17.4	5	16.8	3	17.4
	Missing <sup>3</sup>	2,986	28	15.0	11	16.5	16	16.2	10	16.8	5	16.2	3	16.9

<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>	25,169	52	18.6	26,856	27	19.0	25,079	35	19.7	25,134	28	19.7
	Less than Core	3,487	37	16.2	1,518	5	15.8	3,393	13	16.1	3,316	6	16.3
	Missing <sup>3</sup>	2,425	30	15.3	2,707	11	16.5	2,609	17	16.5	2,631	11	16.9

<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	State			
	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	3,518	11	19.6	59
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	21,651	70	18.4	51
Less than 4 years of English	3,487	11	16.2	37
Zero years / no English courses reported	2,425	8	15.3	30
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>				
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,218	4	20.5	41
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	1,688	5	21.2	48
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	1,621	5	18.1	19
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	9,500	31	18.7	23
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	6,538	21	21.1	46
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	4,568	15	16.3	6
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	1,723	6	17.6	14
Less than 3 years of Math	1,518	5	15.8	5
Zero years / no Math courses reported	2,707	9	16.5	11
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>				
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	157	1	18.0	24
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	12,922	42	20.5	41
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	1,001	3	17.3	20
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	10,999	35	19.0	30
Less than 3 years of Social Science	3,393	11	16.1	13
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	2,609	8	16.5	17
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>				
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	8,881	29	19.8	29
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,028	3	22.8	55
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem	13,196	42	19.5	25
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	2,029	7	19.1	23
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	3,316	11	16.3	6
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	2,631	8	16.9	11

<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	3,518	11	19.6	59	1,566	10	18.5	51	1,940	12	20.4	65
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	21,651	70	18.4	51	10,626	69	17.8	47	10,965	70	19.1	56
Less than 4 years of English	3,487	11	16.2	37	1,870	12	15.5	32	1,602	10	17.1	43
Zero years / no English courses reported	2,425	8	15.3	30	1,307	9	14.7	27	1,108	7	16.0	34
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,218	4	20.5	41	567	4	21.4	49	643	4	19.8	34
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	1,688	5	21.2	48	639	4	21.4	50	1,046	7	21.1	47
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	1,621	5	18.1	19	831	5	18.3	21	786	5	17.9	17
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	9,500	31	18.7	23	4,171	27	18.8	24	5,307	34	18.6	21
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	6,538	21	21.1	46	3,326	22	21.5	48	3,200	20	20.8	44
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	4,568	15	16.3	6	2,567	17	16.4	6	1,977	13	16.2	6
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	1,723	6	17.6	14	890	6	17.8	16	827	5	17.3	12
Less than 3 years of Math	1,518	5	15.8	5	889	6	15.9	4	622	4	15.7	4
Zero years / no Math courses reported	2,707	9	16.5	11	1,489	10	16.5	11	1,207	8	16.6	11
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	157	1	18.0	24	98	1	17.8	27	58	0	18.4	21
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	12,922	42	20.5	41	5,715	37	20.1	39	7,178	46	20.9	43
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	1,001	3	17.3	20	615	4	17.1	18	384	2	17.7	22
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	10,999	35	19.0	30	5,637	37	18.7	29	5,329	34	19.3	31
Less than 3 years of Social Science	3,393	11	16.1	13	1,894	12	15.8	13	1,477	9	16.5	14
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	2,609	8	16.5	17	1,410	9	15.9	14	1,189	8	17.1	20
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	8,881	29	19.8	29	4,565	30	20.1	32	4,288	27	19.5	26
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,028	3	22.8	55	486	3	23.0	56	539	3	22.7	53
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem	13,196	42	19.5	25	5,710	37	19.3	24	7,451	48	19.7	26
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	2,029	7	19.1	23	1,201	8	19.3	25	823	5	18.8	20
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	3,316	11	16.3	6	1,985	13	16.2	6	1,315	8	16.5	5
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	2,631	8	16.9	11	1,422	9	16.8	11	1,199	8	17.1	11

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



# 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.

**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	936	3	17.7	191	5	15.8	669	3	18.5
Architecture	321	1	18.7	46	1	15.1	252	1	19.6
Area, Ethnic, & Multidisciplinary Studies	34	0	17.9	9	0	14.6	21	0	20.0
Arts: Visual & Performing	2,085	7	19.1	317	9	16.4	1,615	8	19.8
Business	1,962	6	19.2	303	8	15.9	1,580	7	20.0
Communications	324	1	20.3	36	1	16.9	282	1	20.9
Community, Family, & Personal Services	1,216	4	17.3	298	8	16.1	801	4	17.9
Computer Science & Mathematics	823	3	21.7	80	2	17.7	714	3	22.3
Education	1,572	5	19.3	89	2	15.8	1,433	7	19.6
Engineering	1,728	6	20.5	226	6	16.1	1,413	7	21.4
Engineering Technology & Drafting	504	2	18.0	135	4	15.5	333	2	19.2
English & Foreign Languages	251	1	22.1	12	0	17.3	232	1	22.5
Health Administration & Assisting	918	3	17.2	135	4	15.9	722	3	17.6
Health Sciences & Technologies	5,966	19	19.8	334	9	16.1	5,438	26	20.1
Philosophy, Religion, & Theology	138	0	20.0	15	0	17.1	113	1	20.7
Repair, Production, & Construction	926	3	16.5	526	14	16.0	292	1	17.7
Sciences: Biological & Physical	1,065	3	22.0	36	1	16.7	1,000	5	22.4
Social Sciences & Law	1,832	6	20.4	82	2	16.2	1,679	8	20.7
Undecided	2,629	8	18.6	423	11	15.8	1,853	9	19.7
No Response	5,654	18	16.8	364	10	14.6	658	3	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).

**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	1,312	15.6	225	14.3	14	13.5	675	16.2	142	15.1
2-yr College Degree	2,407	16.0	427	14.3	17	17.5	1,205	16.7	316	15.5
Bachelors Degree	12,340	18.9	1,818	16.0	68	19.2	7,040	19.9	1,210	18.0
Graduate Study	2,847	21.6	320	17.6	11	18.6	1,690	22.8	226	19.4
Prof. Level Degree	6,024	21.3	869	17.9	32	20.4	3,386	22.3	527	19.8
Other	1,050	16.0	127	14.4	8	14.8	585	16.4	96	15.5
No Response	5,101	17.0	1,157	14.9	35	16.9	2,232	18.2	576	16.0

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	1,312	15.6	12	16.3	13	13.8	44	16.4	187	15.3
2-yr College Degree	2,407	16.0	24	15.4	24	14.3	85	16.4	309	16.2
Bachelors Degree	12,340	18.9	159	19.8	51	16.1	487	18.9	1,507	18.8
Graduate Study	2,847	21.6	66	22.6	11	15.4	128	21.8	395	21.2
Prof. Level Degree	6,024	21.3	148	24.6	10	18.3	296	21.5	756	21.4
Other	1,050	16.0	8	13.5	11	12.9	45	15.8	170	16.4
No Response	5,101	17.0	50	18.8	21	14.4	207	17.6	823	17.1

**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	8,830	3,863	4,967	2	14	30	29	17	8	1
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS	Arkansas	6,582	1,872	4,710	2	16	33	29	15	5	0
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	5,174	2,183	2,991	2	18	33	27	14	5	0
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	4,472	1,605	2,867	3	20	34	27	13	4	0
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK	Arkansas	2,121	458	1,663	3	22	32	26	13	4	0
HENDERSON STATE UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	1,812	523	1,289	3	20	37	26	11	3	0
UNIV OF ARKANSAS-FORT SMITH	Arkansas	1,671	627	1,044	3	19	35	26	13	3	0
STATE-NO COLLEGE PLANS	Iowa	1,445	1,445	0	13	43	29	11	4	1	0
HENDRIX COLLEGE	Arkansas	1,156	241	915	1	11	24	28	23	12	1
SOUTHERN ARKANSAS UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	1,121	404	717	3	22	37	26	9	3	0
HARDING UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	1,022	243	779	1	9	29	31	21	9	1
NORTHWEST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Arkansas	983	361	622	3	27	34	25	9	2	0
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY-BEEBE	Arkansas	925	415	510	4	25	37	27	7	0	0
OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	849	190	659	2	11	30	30	18	9	0
UNIV OF ARKANSAS AT MONTICELLO	Arkansas	849	251	598	4	26	32	27	9	2	0
UNIV OF ARKANSAS AT PINE BLUFF	Arkansas	722	157	565	8	42	38	10	2	0	0
PULASKI TECHNICAL COLLEGE	Arkansas	714	264	450	5	33	38	18	4	1	0
UNIV OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES	Arkansas	596	84	512	2	14	33	31	17	4	0
JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY	Arkansas	527	130	397	2	14	29	31	17	7	0
UNIVERSITY OF THE OZARKS	Arkansas	487	70	417	3	24	36	26	9	2	0
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	483	242	241	4	27	32	21	11	4	1
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY	Texas	478	97	381	1	9	20	27	22	19	2
LYON COLLEGE	Arkansas	467	101	366	2	12	27	26	24	10	0
UNIV OF ARKANSAS COMM COLL-MORRILTON	Arkansas	414	140	274	4	27	39	24	6	1	0
UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI	Mississippi	359	73	286	1	9	26	29	23	10	1
ARKANSAS BAPTIST COLLEGE	Arkansas	347	99	248	10	42	32	11	4	0	0
NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	Arkansas	323	108	215	7	42	29	19	3	0	0
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	Oklahoma	321	88	233	0	6	26	27	25	16	0
UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS	Tennessee	313	75	238	2	24	35	23	12	4	0
BLACK RIVER TECHNICAL COLLEGE	Arkansas	312	115	197	6	28	41	19	5	0	0
All Other Institutions		25,589	5,929	19,660	4	20	30	23	14	8	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>71,464</b>	<b>22,453</b>	<b>49,011</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>

# 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.

**Table 5.1. Average ACT Enhanced Writing and English/Language Arts Scores by Race/Ethnicity and Gender for students who took ACT Writing<sup>1</sup>**

	N State	Average ACT Scores			English / Language Arts State
		Enhanced Writing State	English State	Reading 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	.	.	.	.	.
Missing Gender	.	.	.	.	.

<sup>1</sup>Results apply only to students who took the ACT Enhanced Writing Assessment.



