



# Profile Report - National

Graduating Class 2020

National



## New to your 2020 Profile Report

Upon registration, students are now given the option to select gender values that include Male, Female, Another Gender, and Prefer Not to Respond. With this change, ACT Profile Reports will report outcomes for Males, Females, and those students providing Other Responses.

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We are pleased to provide this 2020 Graduating Class ACT Profile Report. This report summarizes the preparation and performance of your 2020 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

26% 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:** 1,670,497 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. 56% 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. 9% of the cohort reported taking a course sequence of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. 9% 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 10% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 20% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 44% 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 56% 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 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: 1,670,497

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

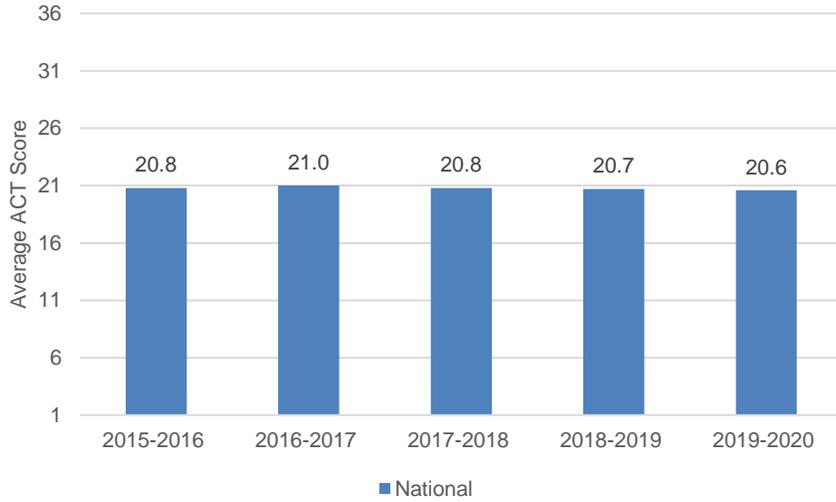


Figure 1.2. Percent Meeting 3 or 4 Benchmarks: 5 Years of Testing\*

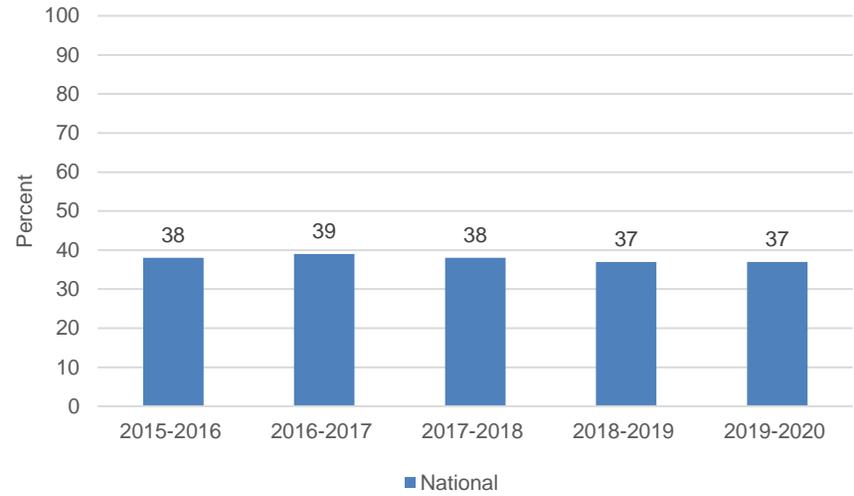


Figure 1.3. Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark: 5 Years of Testing\*

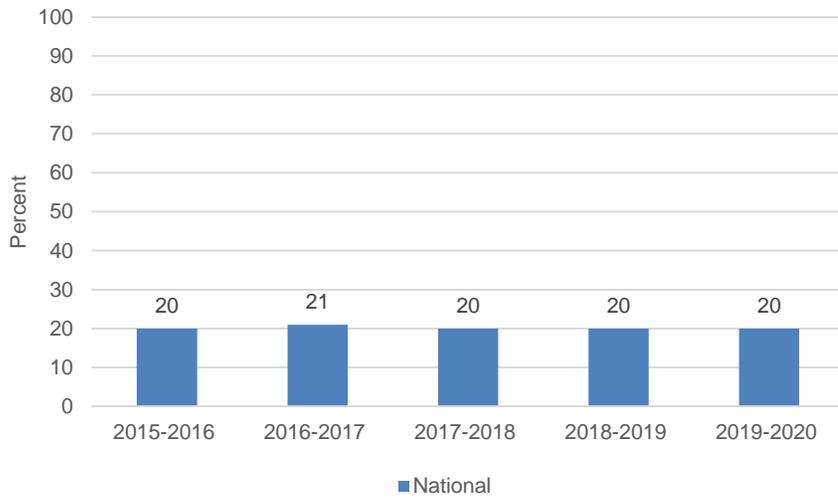
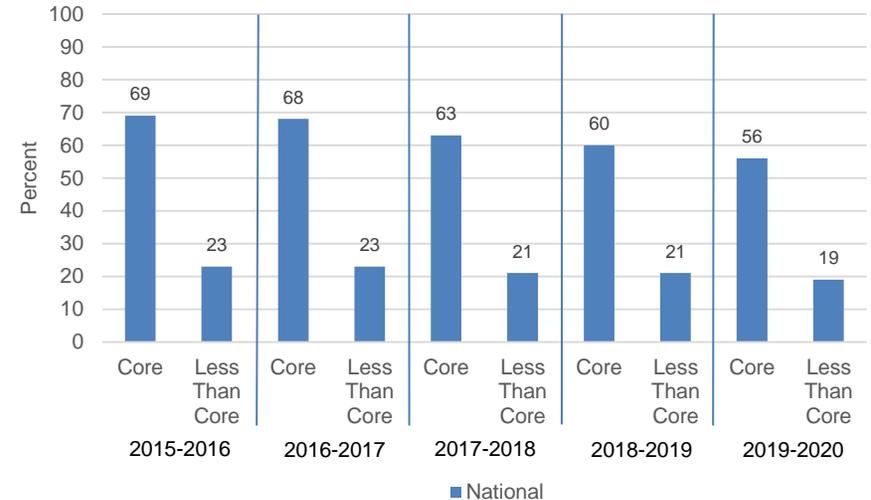


Figure 1.4. Percent Taking A Core Curriculum: 5 Years of Testing\*



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

Total Students in Report: 1,670,497

**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
2016	2,090,342	61	41	44	36	26
2017	2,030,038	61	41	47	37	27
2018	1,914,817	60	40	46	36	27
2019	1,782,820	59	39	45	36	26
<b>2020</b>	<b>1,670,497</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>26</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
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
2018	1,914,817	20.2	20.5	21.3	20.7	20.8
2019	1,782,820	20.1	20.4	21.2	20.6	20.7
<b>2020</b>	<b>1,670,497</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>20.6</b>

Total Students in Report: 1,670,497

**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									
					English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
	Core or More <sup>1</sup>	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	Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core
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
2018	1,200,072	402,680	63	21	21.8	18.1	21.7	18.8	22.7	19.4	21.9	19.0	22.2	19.0
2019	1,070,445	369,318	60	21	21.8	18.1	21.6	18.7	22.7	19.4	21.9	19.0	22.2	18.9
<b>2020</b>	<b>928,969</b>	<b>316,044</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>19.2</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	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020		
	N	%	Avg												
<b>All Students</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>	<b>1,782,820</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>1,670,497</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>20.6</b>
Black/African American	272,363	13	17.0	256,756	13	17.1	243,080	13	16.9	220,627	12	16.8	203,517	12	16.7
American Indian/Alaska Native	16,183	1	17.7	16,135	1	17.5	15,449	1	17.3	15,496	1	17.0	14,597	1	16.7
White	1,119,398	54	22.2	1,062,439	52	22.4	996,712	52	22.2	918,937	52	22.1	860,496	52	22.0
Hispanic/Latino	337,280	16	18.7	347,906	17	18.9	307,358	16	18.8	293,100	16	18.7	277,796	17	18.5
Asian	93,493	4	24.0	96,097	5	24.3	91,899	5	24.5	83,507	5	24.6	78,707	5	24.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	6,797	0	18.6	6,503	0	18.4	5,753	0	18.2	4,965	0	17.9	4,726	0	17.5
Two or more races	85,494	4	21.0	86,119	4	21.2	85,316	4	21.1	80,629	5	21.0	76,782	5	20.9
Prefer not to respond/No response	159,334	8	20.1	158,083	8	20.3	169,250	9	19.8	165,559	9	19.7	153,876	9	19.7

Total Students in Report: 1,670,497

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

Year	All Tested Students			Students Meeting STEM Benchmarks	
	Number of Students Tested	Avg. STEM Score	Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark	Avg. Mathematics Score	Avg. Science Score
	National	National	National	National	National
2016	2,090,342	20.9	20	28.7	28.6
2017	2,030,038	21.1	21	28.7	28.7
2018	1,914,817	20.9	20	28.8	28.8
2019	1,782,820	20.7	20	28.9	29.0
<b>2020</b>	<b>1,670,497</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>29.1</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	Text Complexity Proficiency Level								
	Below Proficient			Proficient			Above Proficient		
	N	Percent	Avg. Reading	N	Percent	Avg. Reading	N	Percent	Avg. Reading
National	National	National	National	National	National	National	National	National	National
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
2018	1,010,339	53	16.3	492,937	26	23.6	411,541	21	31.0
2019	950,826	53	16.2	455,611	26	23.6	376,383	21	31.0
<b>2020</b>	<b>903,921</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>398,982</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>367,594</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>31.1</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.

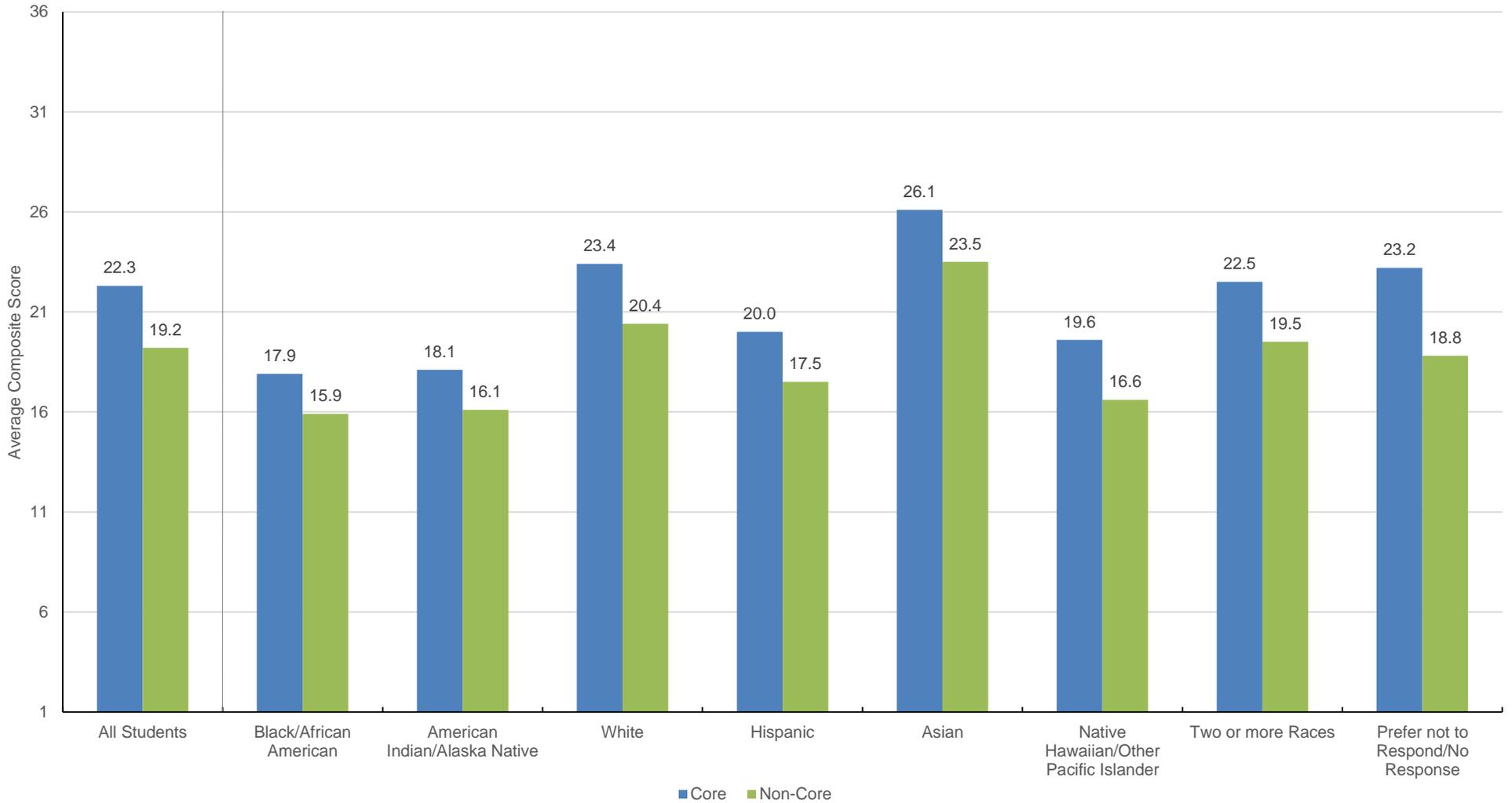
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# Section II

## Academic Achievement

Total Students in Report: 1,670,497

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: 1,670,497

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	19,905	100	7,476	100	33,916	100	17,080	100	5,579	100	8,719	100	92	100	36
35	51,495	99	17,067	99	37,084	98	18,140	99	16,061	99	13,611	99	343	99	35
34	31,644	96	14,975	99	43,554	96	14,987	98	20,900	99	15,797	99	2,107	99	34
33	25,732	94	14,195	98	40,091	93	23,767	97	24,657	97	18,870	98	5,725	99	33
32	26,102	92	16,459	97	40,475	91	21,542	96	28,240	96	21,539	97	10,562	99	32
31	21,288	91	23,036	96	42,240	88	25,789	94	32,128	94	25,966	95	17,008	97	31
30	30,318	89	30,940	94	44,015	86	25,256	93	37,405	92	29,995	94	17,250	95	30
29	27,300	88	36,097	93	24,211	83	23,818	91	39,982	90	35,335	92	17,331	92	29
28	35,241	86	43,127	90	41,494	82	35,004	90	46,042	88	42,233	90	17,663	90	28
27	30,692	84	66,811	88	48,506	79	39,867	88	52,100	85	53,236	87	18,261	87	27
26	47,016	82	74,247	84	35,837	76	57,979	85	58,740	82	67,576	84	19,886	84	26
25	58,523	79	73,246	79	54,848	74	81,130	82	66,713	78	77,993	80	21,762	81	25
24	77,851	76	73,542	75	74,764	71	108,231	77	74,995	74	82,816	75	24,898	78	24
23	78,594	71	76,565	71	82,925	66	107,626	71	82,125	70	82,610	70	28,248	75	23
22	77,879	66	57,863	66	99,788	61	97,242	64	88,463	65	83,776	66	31,413	70	22
21	100,924	62	57,124	63	91,244	55	102,773	58	93,382	60	90,722	60	34,146	66	21
20	90,891	56	66,356	59	83,444	50	90,173	52	97,772	54	100,247	55	36,161	61	20
19	71,670	50	79,842	55	83,885	45	122,951	47	99,778	48	111,523	49	37,991	55	19
18	61,633	46	105,674	50	93,444	40	108,954	39	102,996	42	126,351	42	38,931	50	18
17	65,072	42	146,717	44	84,252	34	105,337	33	104,146	36	135,576	35	39,088	44	17
16	85,412	38	216,432	35	73,330	29	111,673	27	105,256	30	133,961	27	39,997	38	16
15	109,328	33	162,954	22	73,206	25	76,648	20	104,662	24	117,198	19	38,843	32	15
14	96,832	27	135,756	13	91,915	21	72,838	15	102,393	17	89,630	12	37,519	27	14
13	65,074	21	45,276	4	69,904	15	55,163	11	90,937	11	58,966	6	33,945	21	13
12	71,268	17	16,843	2	84,197	11	44,445	8	60,350	6	30,607	3	29,665	16	12
11	80,460	13	6,418	1	49,113	6	32,874	5	23,989	2	10,174	1	25,501	12	11
10	71,921	8	2,393	1	24,218	3	24,168	3	6,686	1	3,141	1	19,883	8	10
9	30,198	4	1,204	1	11,966	1	15,093	1	2,275	1	1,142	1	13,897	5	9
8	15,149	2	781	1	6,594	1	5,310	1	942	1	582	1	11,297	3	8
7	8,543	1	410	1	2,546	1	2,423	1	433	1	266	1	6,522	1	7
6	3,570	1	260	1	1,319	1	832	1	204	1	177	1	1,973	1	6
5	1,547	1	118	1	1,196	1	567	1	88	1	70	1	648	1	5
4	789	1	149	1	521	1	358	1	50	1	40	1	232	1	4
3	306	1	41	1	84	1	165	1	21	1	35	1	88	1	3
2	210	1	13	1	257	1	143	1	5	1	13	1	26	1	2
1	120	1	90	1	114	1	151	1	2	1	4	1	4	1	1
Avg (SD)	19.9 (7.2)		20.2 (5.7)		21.2 (7.1)		20.6 (5.9)		20.6 (6.0)		20.6 (5.6)		19.1 (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

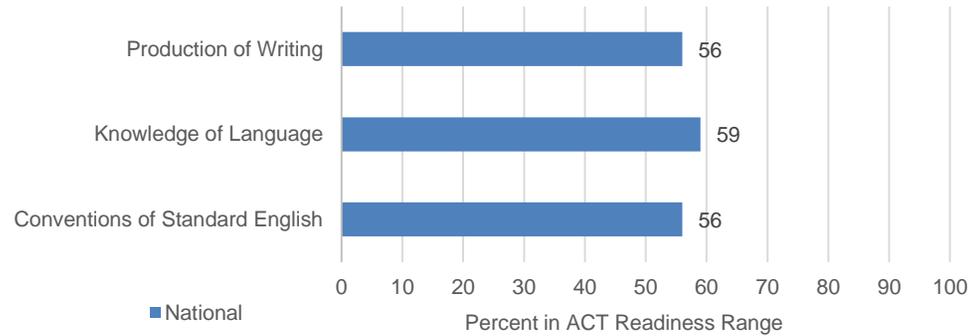


Figure 2.3. Math Reporting Categories

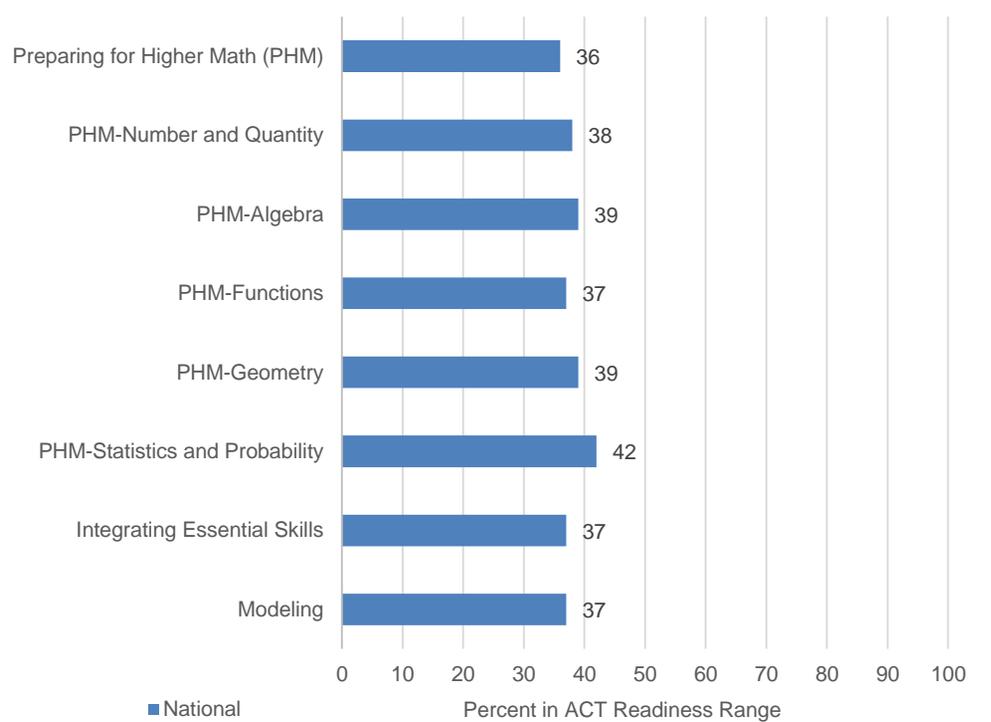


Figure 2.4. Reading Reporting Categories

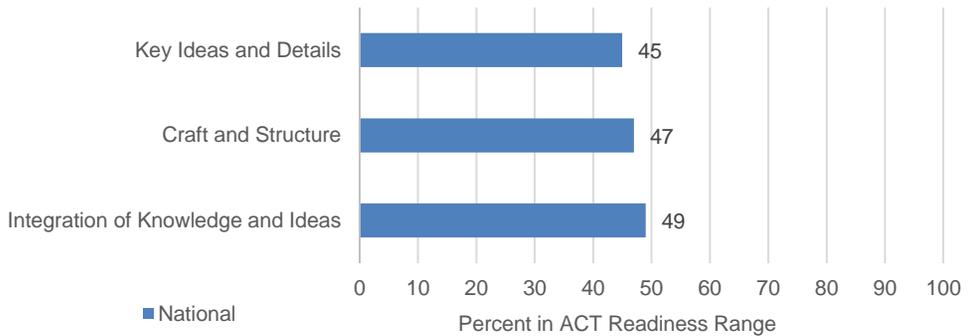
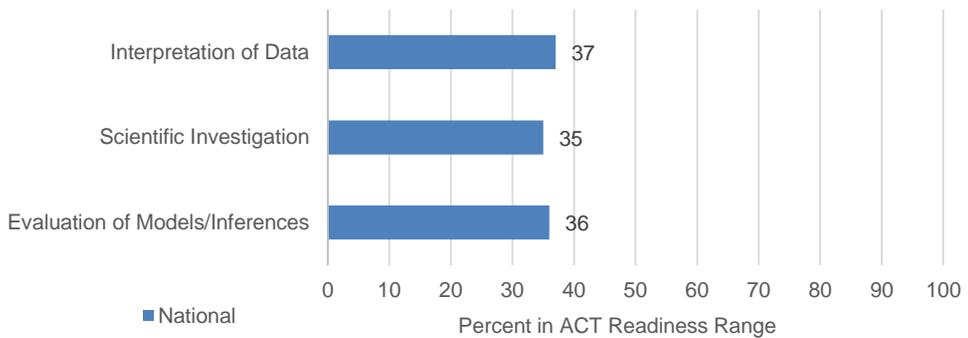


Figure 2.5. Science Reporting Categories



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.

Total Students in Report: 1,670,497

**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	1,670,497	56	22.3	19.2
	Black/African American	203,517	51	17.9	15.9
	American Indian/Alaska Native	14,597	45	18.1	16.1
	White	860,496	61	23.4	20.4
	Hispanic/Latino	277,796	54	20.0	17.5
	Asian	78,707	71	26.1	23.5
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4,726	45	19.6	16.6
	Two or More Races	76,782	57	22.5	19.5
	Prefer not/No Response	153,876	28	23.2	18.8

<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	1,670,497	100	19.9	20.2	21.2	20.6	20.6	20.6
	Black/African American	203,517	12	15.6	16.7	17.0	16.9	16.7	17.0
	American Indian/Alaska Native	14,597	1	15.2	16.9	17.2	17.1	16.7	17.2
	White	860,496	52	21.5	21.4	22.7	21.9	22.0	21.9
	Hispanic/Latino	277,796	17	17.4	18.5	19.0	18.7	18.5	18.8
	Asian	78,707	5	24.5	25.2	24.8	24.5	24.9	25.1
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4,726	0	16.3	17.8	17.8	17.7	17.5	18.0
	Two or More Races	76,782	5	20.2	20.3	21.7	20.8	20.9	20.8
	Prefer not/No Response	153,876	9	18.8	19.5	20.3	19.7	19.7	19.9

Total Students in Report: 1,670,497

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

Student Group	Gender <sup>1</sup>	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More <sup>2</sup>	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
National	Males	773,062	53	22.5	18.8
	Females	863,356	59	22.2	19.5
	Other Responses	34,079	11	20.2	17.4

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

Student Group	Gender <sup>1</sup>	N	Percent	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite	STEM
National	Males	773,062	46	19.3	20.6	20.8	20.7	20.5	20.9
	Females	863,356	52	20.5	20.0	21.6	20.5	20.8	20.5
	Other Responses	34,079	2	16.8	17.8	18.2	18.0	17.8	18.1

**Table 2.6. ACT Score Quartile Values**

Quartile	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
Q3 (75th Percentile)	24	25	26	24	25
Q2 (50th Percentile)	19	18	20	20	20
Q1 (25th Percentile)	14	16	16	16	16

<sup>1</sup> 'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

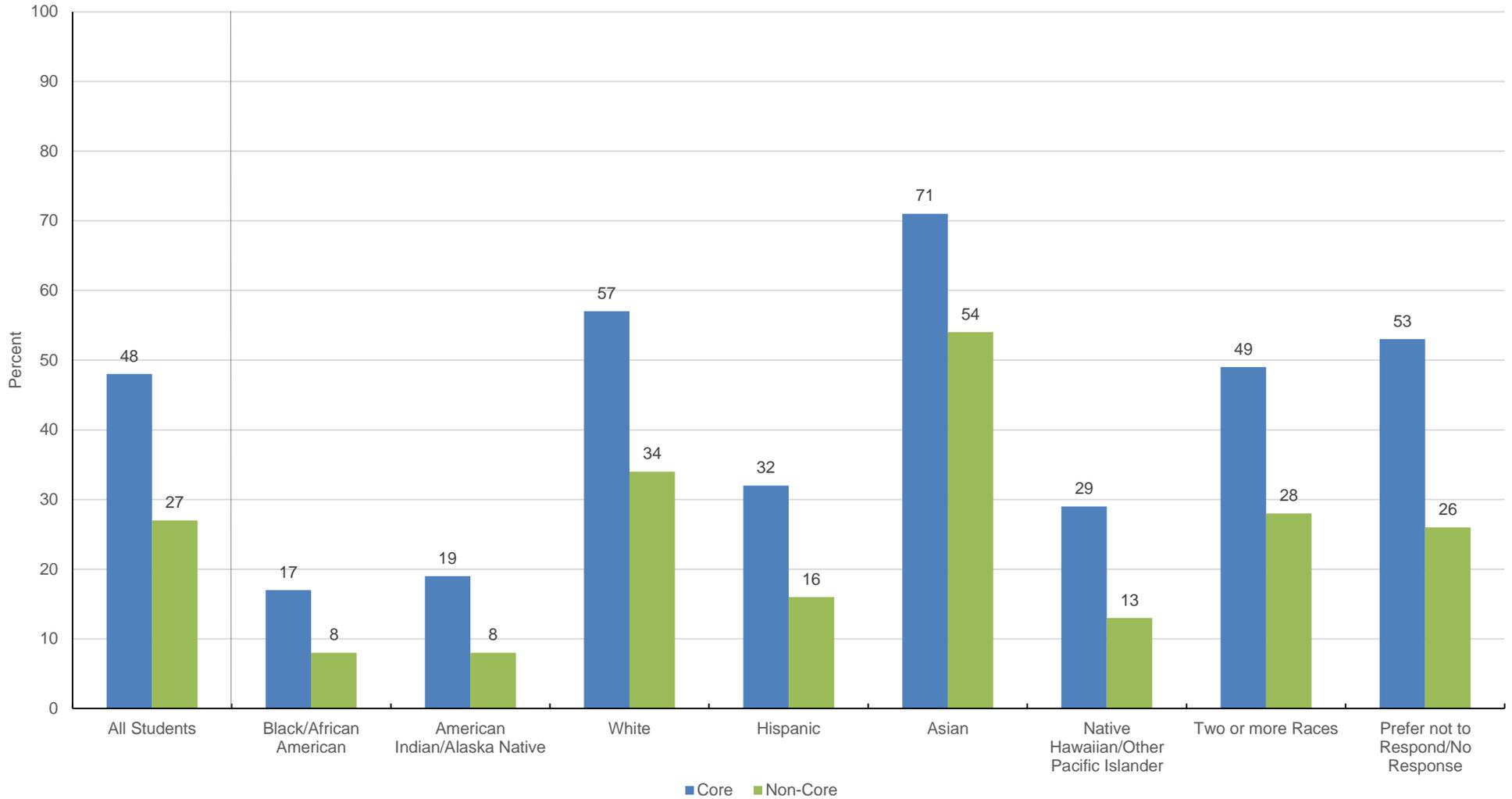
<sup>2</sup> "Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

# Section III

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

Total Students in Report: 1,670,497

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: 1,670,497

**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	128,776	8	53,713	3	154,645	9	73,974	4
	28 to 32	140,249	8	149,659	9	192,435	12	131,409	8
	24 to 27	214,082	13	287,846	17	213,955	13	287,207	17
	20 to 23	348,288	21	257,908	15	357,401	21	397,814	24
	16 to 19	283,787	17	548,665	33	334,911	20	448,915	27
	13 to 15	271,234	16	343,986	21	235,025	14	204,649	12
	01 to 12	284,081	17	28,720	2	182,125	11	126,529	8

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

Student Group	Gender <sup>1</sup>	Percent of Students				Met All Four
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	
National	Males	54	40	42	38	27
	Females	62	36	47	35	25
	Other Responses	39	19	27	20	12

<sup>1</sup> 'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

Total Students in Report: 1,670,497

**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 %
<b>National</b>	<b>All Students</b>	<b>1,670,497</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>20</b>
	Black/African American	203,517	30	12	19	12	6	4
	American Indian/Alaska Native	14,597	28	13	20	13	7	4
	White	860,496	69	46	54	45	33	25
	Hispanic/Latino	277,796	43	24	31	22	14	10
	Asian	78,707	77	69	64	61	52	48
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4,726	35	20	25	18	12	9
	Two or More Races	76,782	60	37	47	37	26	20
	Prefer Not to Respond	153,876	49	32	39	31	23	19

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

Student Group	ACT NCRC Level	N	%	Average Composite
<b>National</b>	Platinum	303,094	18	30.2
	Gold	371,036	22	23.8
	Silver	498,074	30	18.9
	Bronze	403,248	24	14.6
	Needs Improvement	95,045	6	11.4

<sup>1</sup>The ACT Composite scores associated with at least a 50% chance of earning each ACT NCRC level or higher are: 13 for Bronze, 17 for Silver, 22 for Gold, and 27 for Platinum. Based on those cut scores, students who earned an ACT Composite score of less than 13 are classified as 'Needs improvement' as they are unlikely to obtain an ACT NCRC. Students with an ACT Composite score of 13 to 16 are classified as 'Bronze' as they are likely to obtain a Bronze NCRC, 17 to 21 as 'Silver', 22 to 26 as 'Gold', and 27 or above as 'Platinum'.

Visit [www.act.org/NCRC-indicator](http://www.act.org/NCRC-indicator) to learn more.

Total Students in Report: 1,670,497

**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>	928,969	71	21.9	49	21.7	55	23.0	46	22.1	35	22.3	27	22.2
	Less than Core	316,044	47	18.3	27	18.9	35	19.7	26	19.2	18	19.2	13	19.3
	Missing <sup>3</sup>	425,484	37	16.5	20	17.9	28	18.4	21	18.1	13	17.9	9	18.3

<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>	1,187,829	66	21.2	1,190,473	45	21.2	1,110,515	52	22.4	1,078,635	44	21.9
	Less than Core	72,962	34	16.0	63,026	8	16.1	143,537	36	19.8	174,503	20	18.3
	Missing <sup>3</sup>	409,706	38	16.6	416,998	20	17.9	416,445	28	18.4	417,359	21	18.1

<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: 1,670,497

**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	257,237	15	22.2	72
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	930,592	56	21.0	65
Less than 4 years of English	72,962	4	16.0	34
Zero years / no English courses reported	409,706	25	16.6	38
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>				
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	70,252	4	23.2	62
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	94,371	6	21.5	51
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	62,504	4	18.8	26
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	248,009	15	19.1	28
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	500,040	30	23.9	64
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	142,387	9	16.7	9
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	72,910	4	19.5	32
Less than 3 years of Math	63,026	4	16.1	8
Zero years / no Math courses reported	416,998	25	17.9	20
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>				
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	36,866	2	22.5	52
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	630,097	38	22.9	55
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	87,562	5	20.0	37
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	355,990	21	22.0	49
Less than 3 years of Social Science	143,537	9	19.8	36
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	416,445	25	18.4	28
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>				
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	535,756	32	22.6	50
Bio, Chem, Phys	159,423	10	23.6	56
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem	347,034	21	20.3	32
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	36,422	2	19.0	24
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	174,503	10	18.3	20
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	417,359	25	18.1	21

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

Total Students in Report: 1,670,497

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

Course Pattern	Males				Females				Other Responses <sup>1</sup>			
	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	105,561	14	21.7	69	150,829	17	22.5	74	847	2	21.2	65
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	423,815	55	20.6	62	502,358	58	21.3	67	4,419	13	18.5	49
Less than 4 years of English	38,813	5	15.5	30	33,382	4	16.6	38	767	2	14.2	22
Zero years / no English courses reported	204,873	27	16.2	35	176,787	20	17.1	41	28,046	82	16.4	37
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	30,440	4	23.9	66	39,582	5	22.6	58	230	1	20.8	47
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	33,771	4	21.9	55	60,296	7	21.2	48	304	1	21.7	53
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	27,326	4	19.1	29	34,899	4	18.6	24	279	1	18.5	24
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	94,177	12	19.3	31	152,131	18	19.0	27	1,701	5	18.3	21
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	245,044	32	24.6	68	253,653	29	23.2	61	1,343	4	21.7	47
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	67,338	9	16.8	10	73,957	9	16.5	8	1,092	3	16.3	8
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	33,858	4	19.7	34	38,652	4	19.3	31	400	1	17.7	18
Less than 3 years of Math	32,308	4	16.1	8	30,139	3	16.1	8	579	2	15.6	6
Zero years / no Math courses reported	208,800	27	18.1	22	180,047	21	17.8	19	28,151	83	17.6	18
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	19,388	3	22.2	50	17,354	2	22.9	54	124	0	21.4	48
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	269,065	35	22.7	54	358,452	42	23.1	57	2,580	8	21.1	44
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	44,621	6	19.7	35	42,533	5	20.3	38	408	1	18.4	27
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	157,738	20	21.8	48	196,451	23	22.2	50	1,801	5	20.0	36
Less than 3 years of Social Science	73,373	9	19.4	34	69,168	8	20.4	39	996	3	17.0	19
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	208,877	27	18.1	27	179,398	21	18.8	30	28,170	83	17.9	25
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	258,486	33	23.0	53	275,397	32	22.1	47	1,873	5	20.0	34
Bio, Chem, Phys	73,954	10	24.4	62	84,800	10	22.9	52	669	2	20.4	34
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem	133,215	17	20.1	32	211,793	25	20.4	33	2,026	6	19.1	25
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	19,925	3	19.3	28	16,272	2	18.5	20	225	1	18.5	23
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	78,236	10	17.9	18	95,177	11	18.7	22	1,090	3	17.3	16
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	209,246	27	18.1	22	179,917	21	18.2	20	28,196	83	17.7	19

<sup>1</sup> 'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

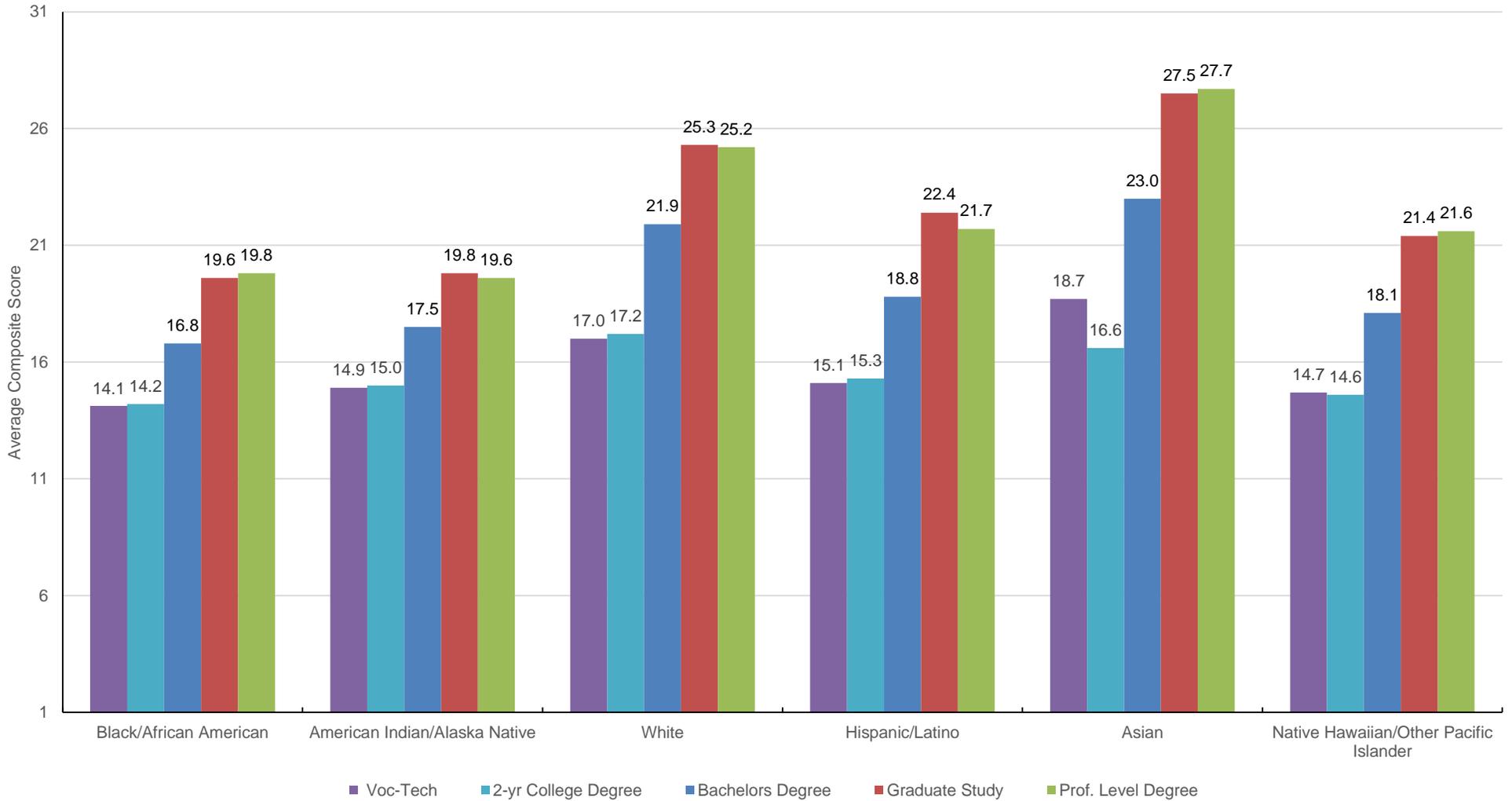
<sup>2</sup> Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

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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: 1,670,497

**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	21,781	1	19.9	3,265	4	16.2	16,736	2	20.9
Architecture	15,422	1	21.1	858	1	16.0	13,177	1	21.7
Area, Ethnic, & Multidisciplinary Studies	1,761	0	21.6	141	0	15.2	1,443	0	22.6
Arts: Visual & Performing	67,693	4	20.7	6,596	8	16.4	54,687	5	21.5
Business	125,457	8	21.5	8,338	10	16.3	107,674	11	22.0
Communications	18,532	1	21.9	696	1	16.4	16,677	2	22.2
Community, Family, & Personal Services	26,618	2	17.9	4,983	6	15.9	19,042	2	18.6
Computer Science & Mathematics	46,344	3	24.6	2,056	2	18.1	40,536	4	25.0
Education	49,559	3	20.4	1,773	2	15.5	44,711	4	20.7
Engineering	104,204	6	24.0	4,883	6	16.1	91,713	9	24.6
Engineering Technology & Drafting	16,846	1	19.9	2,817	3	16.1	12,362	1	21.1
English & Foreign Languages	10,895	1	23.9	442	1	17.0	9,569	1	24.4
Health Administration & Assisting	38,842	2	18.2	3,511	4	15.9	31,618	3	18.6
Health Sciences & Technologies	218,316	13	21.4	8,266	10	16.6	198,216	20	21.7
Philosophy, Religion, & Theology	3,852	0	21.7	187	0	17.2	3,308	0	22.1
Repair, Production, & Construction	16,860	1	17.1	8,817	11	16.6	5,946	1	18.4
Sciences: Biological & Physical	97,984	6	24.4	1,053	1	17.2	91,178	9	24.5
Social Sciences & Law	92,008	6	22.3	2,120	3	16.4	83,592	8	22.6
Undecided	198,909	12	21.9	11,667	14	16.4	149,994	15	22.8
No Response	496,122	30	17.7	9,159	11	14.9	20,469	2	17.5

<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: 1,670,497

**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	24,803	16.1	4,074	14.1	457	14.9	12,987	17.0	4,145	15.1
2-yr College Degree	57,750	16.2	9,152	14.2	1,024	15.0	30,235	17.2	10,596	15.3
Bachelors Degree	557,350	20.7	66,949	16.8	4,681	17.5	325,727	21.9	89,342	18.8
Graduate Study	198,900	24.6	15,516	19.6	893	19.8	122,666	25.3	26,419	22.4
Prof. Level Degree	257,597	24.1	32,294	19.8	1,696	19.6	130,003	25.2	42,842	21.7
Other	23,846	16.9	3,334	14.7	420	14.7	11,657	17.8	4,577	15.7
No Response	550,251	18.2	72,198	15.1	5,426	15.2	227,221	19.7	99,875	16.5

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	24,803	16.1	516	18.7	90	14.7	946	16.7	1,588	15.6
2-yr College Degree	57,750	16.2	1,004	16.6	245	14.6	2,458	16.5	3,036	15.7
Bachelors Degree	557,350	20.7	22,249	23.0	1,450	18.1	26,086	20.7	20,866	20.7
Graduate Study	198,900	24.6	13,786	27.5	397	21.4	9,422	24.5	9,801	25.1
Prof. Level Degree	257,597	24.1	23,430	27.7	580	21.6	14,011	24.1	12,741	25.4
Other	23,846	16.9	774	20.4	94	14.5	1,078	17.5	1,912	17.1
No Response	550,251	18.2	16,948	22.3	1,870	15.7	22,781	18.5	103,932	18.5

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

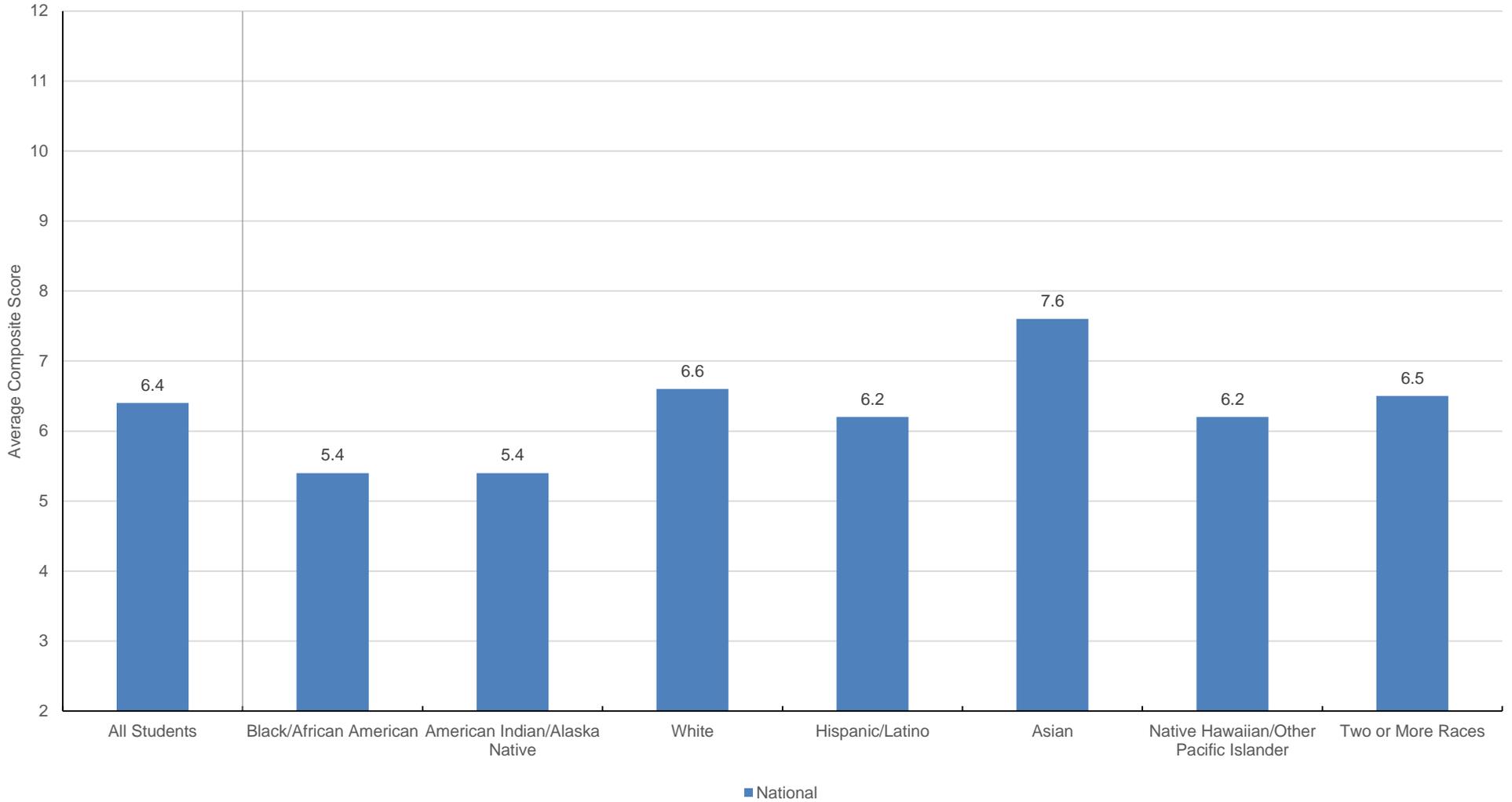
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# Section V

## Optional Writing Test Results

Total Students in Report: 1,670,497

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



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

Total Students in Report: 1,670,497

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

	N National	Average ACT Scores		
		English National	Reading National	Writing National
<b>All Students</b>	<b>678,906</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>6.4</b>
Black/African American	74,291	15.1	16.8	5.4
American Indian/Alaska Native	7,366	14.7	16.8	5.4
White	307,363	21.4	22.9	6.6
Hispanic/Latino	141,739	17.2	18.9	6.2
Asian	45,859	25.2	25.5	7.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	3,097	15.6	17.2	6.2
Two or More Races	36,155	20.1	21.7	6.5
Prefer not/No Response	63,036	19.2	20.7	6.2
Males	317,885	19.2	20.8	6.1
Females	349,314	20.3	21.6	6.7
Other Responses	11,707	16.1	18.0	5.5

**Table 5.2. Average ACT English Language Arts Outcomes by Race/Ethnicity and Gender<sup>1</sup> 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>678,906</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>45</b>
Black/African American	74,291	14.9	18
American Indian/Alaska Native	7,366	14.9	15
White	307,363	20.5	55
Hispanic/Latino	141,739	17.3	32
Asian	45,859	23.7	72
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	3,097	16.2	24
Two or More Races	36,155	19.6	47
Prefer not/No Response	63,036	18.5	41
Males	317,885	18.4	41
Females	349,314	19.8	49
Other Responses	11,707	15.8	24

<sup>1</sup> 'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

