■ ACT Research & Policy

TECHNICAL BRIEF

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ACT One-Year Average Score Changes

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From one year to the next, a school's average ACT Composite score often changes. Interpreting the magnitude of this change depends upon the number of students tested. The charts below are designed to assist in understanding changes in average ACT Composite score on the basis of school size. To use the charts:

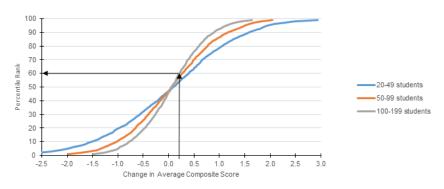
- Find the chart and associated line describing schools with the same number of 2015 ACT-tested graduates as your school.
- Locate the point on the horizontal axis that represents your school's change in average ACT Composite score.
- 3) Trace a vertical line from that point until it intersects the curved line corresponding to your number of 2015 examinees.
- 4) Trace a horizontal line from that intersection until it crosses the vertical axis and inspect the axis value at that point.

This value represents the percentage of schools that realized a change in ACT Composite score less than or equal to yours—your relative rank among schools of your size when looking at ACT Composite score change.

As an example, suppose your school had 135 ACT-tested 2015 graduates and achieved an average ACT Composite increase of 0.2 points. In the top chart, you'll see that that increase has a percentile rank of 60. This means that your school's score gain was greater than or equal to that seen by 60 percent of the 2,426 schools in your size grouping.

When evaluating score change, it is important to bear in mind that large changes in number (or percent) of students tested may result in pronounced changes in ACT Composite scores due to the change in test-taking population.

Average One-Year Change in ACT Composite Score: Schools Testing Between 20 and 199 Students

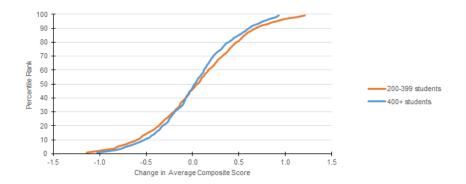


Note: Estimates are based on 2,501 schools for the 20-49 student range, 2,584 schools for the 50-99 student range, and 2,426 schools for the 100-199 student range.

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Average One-Year Change in ACT Composite Score: Schools Testing More Than 200 Students



Note: Estimates are based on 1,802 schools for the 200-399 student range and 506 schools for the 400+ student range.