College Readiness

College Readiness Benchmarks by Level of High School Preparation

Within a subject, graduates who took a core curriculum in high school were more likely to meet the corresponding College Readiness Benchmark in 2010 than those who took less than a core curriculum. For all four subject areas, the highest percentages of graduates who met the Benchmarks took more than a core curriculum.

The largest curriculum-based difference in Benchmark attainment rates was in Mathematics. Graduates who completed more than 3 years of mathematics were more likely to meet the Mathematics Benchmark than those who did not, by at least 42 percentage points.

Graph reads: In 2010, 75% of ACT-tested high school graduates who took more than a core high school curriculum in English met the College Readiness Benchmark in English, whereas 66% of graduates who took a core curriculum in English and 39% of those who took less than a core curriculum in English did so.

Note: Data reflects content-specific curriculum. For example, English "More Than Core" results pertain to students who took more than four years of English, regardless of courses taken in other content areas.

