

## 17: Career Pathway Readiness

Career readiness is a hot topic these days. An updated report from ACT has a wealth of data on the subject that you won't find anywhere else.

For career navigation, or for counselors, students, or folks looking for a job change, *The Condition of Career Pathway Readiness in the United States 2019* report—and this podcast—will provide some great insight.

You can take a look at the report [here](#).

The updated report looks at the progress of the ACT<sup>®</sup>-tested 2019 U.S. high school graduating class relative to college and career readiness. Specifically, the report includes data tables broken out for all 16 Career Technical Education Career Clusters. More than numbers and figures, the report offers some method behind the madness of trying to figure out what different types of career readiness could mean for different individuals and use cases.

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**“We knew how important it was for all of our customers to be able to have aggregate information, broken out by different subgroups.”**  
– Mary LeFebvre,  
ACT Researcher

## Resources

[\*The Condition of Career Pathway Readiness in the United States 2019 research report\*](#)

[Presentation at 2019 ACT Workforce Summit \(PowerPoint\)](#)

[What's Important for Success in Future Jobs? \(Press Release\)](#)

[ACT Research](#)

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## About Our Guests

**Mary LeFebvre** is a Principal Research Scientist for ACT Policy. Her primary focus is researching national workforce policy issues, competency supply/demand analysis, program evaluation, and K-Career transitions. Prior to joining ACT in 2010, Mary was the Workforce Research Manager at the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center within the Missouri Department of Economic Development where she provided occupational research, analysis of talent development systems, policy evaluation, and coordination of public and private organizations for business retention research and planning. Mary has an MS in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from Christopher Newport University and a BS in Psychology from Missouri State University.

**Dr. Jeffrey Steedle** is a Senior Research Scientist in ACT's Validity and Efficacy Research department. His research focuses on examining the effectiveness of ACT WorkKeys and the ACT WorkKeys Curriculum in domestic and international contexts. This includes studying the associations between WorkKeys performance and outcomes in education and the labor market. Other research interests include college and career readiness, motivation and anxiety on assessments, and assessment item characteristics associated with their difficulty.