

# The State of STEM in Your State – 2017



## FLORIDA STATE REPORT

The average STEM score for Florida's graduating class of 2017 was **19.7**.

### Percentage of all Florida ACT-tested HS Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks by Subject

	Math	Science	STEM
<b>Met Benchmark</b>	32%	29%	15%
<b>Within 1-2 Points of Benchmark</b>	7%	12%	9%

### Florida College Readiness Benchmark Percentages by Race/Ethnicity

Race	Math	Science	STEM
2 or More Races	35%	33%	17%
White	46%	43%	23%
Pacific Islander	22%	17%	7%
Hispanic	27%	23%	11%
Asian	63%	51%	36%
Native American	23%	22%	7%
Black	10%	8%	3%

The data in this report represent all ACT-tested students in Florida's 2017 graduating class.

### Tomorrow's STEM Workforce in Florida

60,232 Florida students, or 47%, had an interest in STEM, but only 19,868 (15%) had **both** an expressed interest (they plan to pursue a STEM major or career) and a measured interest (their ACT Interest Inventory score pointed to a STEM field).

Florida's future STEM educator pipeline may be in danger—only 160 students planned to enter math education, and only 80 science education.

# FLORIDA STEM STUDENT PROFILE

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## Kiyannah Brooks

Lake Weir High School, *class of 2018*

### ***In what grade did you first become interested in a STEM field?***

Ninth Grade

### ***What sparked your interest in STEM?***

The complexity of STEM totally sparked my interest; STEM is not just engineering but medicine, architecture, farming, graphic design, and even business statistics. This means that STEM covers business areas that students like myself find interest in.



### ***How do you picture your future, in higher education and career?***

I picture myself pursuing a degree in Biomedical Engineering; losing close family members to cancer has sparked an initiative within myself to find a cure or less painful methods of treatment for patients suffering with the disease.

### ***What challenges do STEM students face when following through with their interest in STEM fields?***

High school students typically perceive math and sciences as the most rigorous courses in their curriculum. But with a pure interest in STEM, the material doesn't become a burden to learn, it becomes interesting.

ACT thanks STEMPremier for sharing student STEM profiles for this report.

