

# The State of STEM in Your State – 2017



## ILLINOIS STATE REPORT

The average STEM score for Illinois's graduating class of 2017 was **21.5**.

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

	Math	Science	STEM
<b>Met Benchmark</b>	44%	39%	23%
<b>Within 1-2 Points of Benchmark</b>	8%	14%	11%

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

Race	Math	Science	STEM
2 or More Races	48%	44%	26%
White	58%	53%	32%
Pacific Islander	49%	40%	20%
Hispanic	27%	22%	9%
Asian	71%	61%	47%
Native American	29%	24%	12%
Black	15%	12%	4%

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

### Tomorrow's STEM Workforce in Illinois

57,045 Illinois students, or 42%, had an interest in STEM, but only 19,963 (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).

Illinois's future STEM educator pipeline may be in danger—only 342 students planned to enter math education, and only 133 science education.

# ILLINOIS STEM STUDENT PROFILE

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## Hadley Corbett

St. Charles East High School, *class of 2021*

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

Third Grade

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

I was originally drawn to a STEM career by my third grade teacher who always got excited for math.

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

I see myself doing research-based work, such as an economist or mathematician.

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

I think gender stereotypes can be obstacles for many students to overcome.



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



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