

The State of STEM in Your State – 2017



LOUISIANA STATE REPORT

The average STEM score for Louisiana's graduating class of 2017 was **19.4**.

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

	Math	Science	STEM
Met Benchmark	26%	27%	10%
Within 1-2 Points of Benchmark	8%	15%	8%

Louisiana College Readiness Benchmark Percentages by Race/Ethnicity

Race	Math	Science	STEM
2 or More Races	25%	29%	10%
White	36%	38%	16%
Pacific Islander	25%	24%	12%
Hispanic	24%	24%	9%
Asian	55%	46%	25%
Native American	15%	17%	4%
Black	9%	10%	2%

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

Tomorrow's STEM Workforce in Louisiana

26,104 Louisiana students, or 51%, had an interest in STEM, but only 8,492 (16%) 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).

Louisiana's future STEM educator pipeline may be in danger—only 74 students planned to enter math education, and only 39 science education.

LOUISIANA STEM STUDENT PROFILE

Marcus Shallow

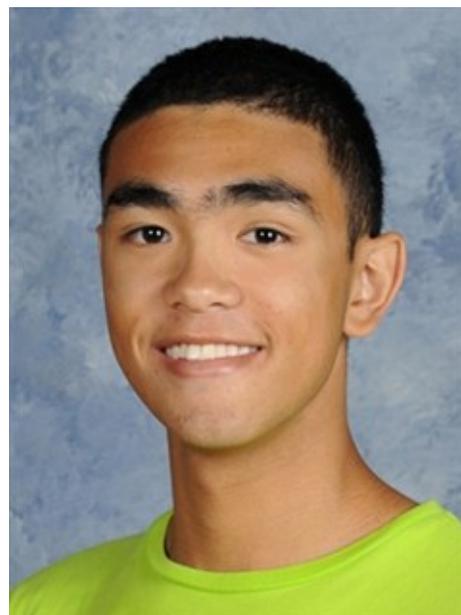
Louisiana School for Math Science and The Arts,
class of 2018

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

Tenth Grade

What sparked your interest in STEM?

After transferring to public boarding school, I enrolled in collegiate-level STEM classes that have lab components. Taking college courses such as Modern Genetics and Zoology from professors who are passionate about their fields helped me develop my inter



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

Currently my STEM interests are centered on genomics and internal medicine. As I look toward the future, I can picture myself pursuing a career in immunology, biological engineering, or cardiology. I hope to continue to study biological systems.

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

As a multiracial student, I believe one of the great challenges is the stereotype of ethnic groups being predisposed for success or failure in STEM fields. Along with this, a lack of early course preparation and rising expenses are other challenges.

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

