

The State of STEM in Your State – 2017



NEW JERSEY STATE REPORT

The average STEM score for New Jersey's graduating class of 2017 was **23.8**.

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

	Math	Science	STEM
Met Benchmark	64%	54%	38%
Within 1-2 Points of Benchmark	7%	14%	14%

New Jersey College Readiness Benchmark Percentages by Race/Ethnicity

Race	Math	Science	STEM
2 or More Races	63%	56%	40%
White	70%	60%	41%
Pacific Islander	63%	54%	42%
Hispanic	45%	35%	20%
Asian	87%	73%	64%
Native American	52%	38%	21%
Black	25%	17%	9%

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

Tomorrow's STEM Workforce in New Jersey

16,442 New Jersey students, or 47%, had an interest in STEM, but only 6,262 (18%) 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).

New Jersey's future STEM educator pipeline may be in danger—only 63 students planned to enter math education, and only 34 science education.

NEW JERSEY STEM STUDENT PROFILE

MaryAnne Anderson

Bergen County Technical High School, *class of 2018*

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

Sixth Grade

What sparked your interest in STEM?

Mr. Grogan was my science teacher, and he was the first teacher to talk about what interested me: the history of the dinosaurs.

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

I want to be a veterinary technician and then go on to become a veterinarian.

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

The animal science field is dominated by men and I am afraid I won't be offered the same opportunities that I will need to receive in order to become a successful veterinarian.



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

