

# The State of STEM in Your State – 2017



## NORTH CAROLINA STATE REPORT

The average STEM score for North Carolina's graduating class of 2017 was **19.6**.

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

	Math	Science	STEM
<b>Met Benchmark</b>	30%	27%	13%
<b>Within 1-2 Points of Benchmark</b>	8%	13%	9%

### North Carolina College Readiness Benchmark Percentages by Race/Ethnicity

Race	Math	Science	STEM
2 or More Races	26%	24%	10%
White	41%	37%	19%
Pacific Islander	24%	27%	12%
Hispanic	19%	16%	6%
Asian	58%	48%	35%
Native American	13%	12%	4%
Black	10%	9%	2%

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

### Tomorrow's STEM Workforce in North Carolina

54,261 North Carolina students, or 51%, had an interest in STEM, but only 18,849 (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).

North Carolina's future STEM educator pipeline may be in danger—only 154 students planned to enter math education, and only 93 science education.

# NORTH CAROLINA STEM STUDENT PROFILE

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## **Anthony Caropolo**

North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics, *class of 2018*

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

Fourth Grade

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

My initial interest in STEM was sparked by my first participation in Science Olympiad. Exposure to just how fun STEM can be opened my eyes to a new world of possibilities.



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

Chemical or Environmental Engineering, preferably a mix of both.

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

The two major challenges faced by STEM students are stereotypes of being nerds as if that's a bad thing and the lack of access to specialized coursework before post-secondary education.



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



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