

The State of STEM in Your State – 2017



UTAH STATE REPORT

The average STEM score for Utah's graduating class of 2017 was **20.5**.

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

	Math	Science	STEM
Met Benchmark	35%	34%	17%
Within 1-2 Points of Benchmark	8%	14%	10%

Utah College Readiness Benchmark Percentages by Race/Ethnicity

Race	Math	Science	STEM
2 or More Races	37%	36%	18%
White	42%	41%	21%
Pacific Islander	12%	11%	2%
Hispanic	15%	16%	5%
Asian	50%	40%	27%
Native American	7%	8%	2%
Black	10%	11%	3%

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

Tomorrow's STEM Workforce in Utah

18,676 Utah students, or 44%, had an interest in STEM, but only 6,140 (14%) 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).

Utah's future STEM educator pipeline may be in danger—only 73 students planned to enter math education, and only 32 science education.

UTAH STEM STUDENT PROFILE

Abigayle Huber

Northern Utah Academy for Math, Engineering, and Science, *class of 2018*

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

Eighth Grade

What sparked your interest in STEM?

My eighth grade biology teacher. I realized that I really enjoyed the study of cells and microorganisms and genetics, and now I go to a STEM-based school.

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

I want to be a forensic scientist, because I love analyzing and interpreting cells and genetic material.

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

I think a big problem is that STEM students are constantly stressed out because of the difficulty of the classes that they're taking in schools. I know from experience at a STEM-based high school that just about everyone is stressed most of the time.



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

