ACT Research & Policy

DATA BYTE 2015-13

ACT College Readiness Benchmarks attainment is associated with family income.

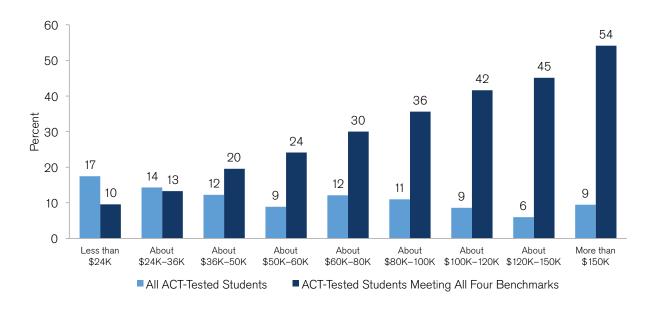
- About 24% of students with family incomes between \$50,000 and \$60,000 met all four Benchmarks. Fewer than 10% of students with family incomes less than \$24,000 did so.
- The Benchmark attainment level for students in the \$120,000-\$150,000 range is almost twice that of students in the \$50,000-\$60,000 range.

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ACT College Readiness Benchmark Attainment by Annual Family Income 2015

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ACT College Readiness Benchmark Attainment by Annual Family Income



Note: Based on data from 1,385,541 ACT®-tested 2015 high school graduates who reported family income. This count reflects a non-response rate of 28% and may not be representative of the underlying population of ACT-tested high school graduates.

Academic success and socioeconomic status are known to be strongly related. Consistent with prior findings,¹ this chart shows the distribution of students' self-reported family income as well as their attainment of the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks in all four subject areas (English, mathematics, reading, and science) by annual

family income level. About 44% of ACT®-tested 2015 high school graduates have annual family incomes less than \$50,000.

¹ See ACT Information Briefs 2012-1, 2012-32, 2013-23, and 2014-22.

