

Number of Graduates Who Took the ACT by Race/Ethnicity

About 244,000 more high school graduates completed the ACT in 2012 than in 2008, an increase of about 17%.

In 2012, about 59% of all ACT-tested graduates were White, 13% were African American, 14% were Hispanic, 4% were Asian, 3% were of Two or More Races, 1% were American Indian, less than 1% were Pacific Islander (about 5,000), and 5% were No Response. From 2008 to 2012, the number of ACT-tested high school graduates increased from 1.422 million to 1.666 million students. Substantial numerical increases occurred for Hispanic students (increase of about 120,000), White students (88,000), African American students (44,000), and students of Two or More Races (26,000). Proportionally, the largest increases were by Hispanic students (about 104%) and students of Two or More Races (86%).

Graph reads: In 2008, about 1,422,000 US high school graduates had taken the ACT test at least once during their sophomore, junior, or senior year; of which, about 178,000 were African American students and 14,000 were American Indian students.

Note: Counts by race/ethnicity might not sum to total counts due to rounding. Race/ethnicity categories changed in 2011 to reflect updated US Department of Education reporting requirements.

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Number of ACT-Tested High School Graduates by Race/Ethnicity, 2008–2012

