

Academic Performance

ACT Scores Over Time by Level of High School Preparation

For each year from 2005 to 2009, ACT composite and subject scores were higher for students who completed or planned to complete a core curriculum or more in high school than for students who did not.

On average, high school graduates who completed or planned to complete at least a core curriculum realized composite test scores 2.2 to 2.9 points higher than the scores of students who did not take a core curriculum. Similar ranges of higher scores for core or more than core curriculum completers are noted for each subject test: English (2.5 to 3.4 points), Mathematics (2.3 to 3.0), Reading (2.2 to 2.9), and Science (2.0 to 2.5).

Graph reads: Between 2005 and 2009, the average ACT Reading score for high school graduates who had completed or had planned to complete a core curriculum remained about the same, but was higher than that of graduates who had not completed or had not planned to complete a core curriculum.

Average ACT Scores by Core Curriculum Completion Status, 2005–2009

