

## ACT Research and Policy

Research Reports  
Educator Reports  
Policy Reports  
Issue/Information Briefs

## Information Brief

For students with ACT Composite scores of 16 to 32, the chances of achieving a 3.75 or higher year 6 GPA are at least 30 percentage points lower than the chances of achieving a 3.00 or higher year 6 GPA.

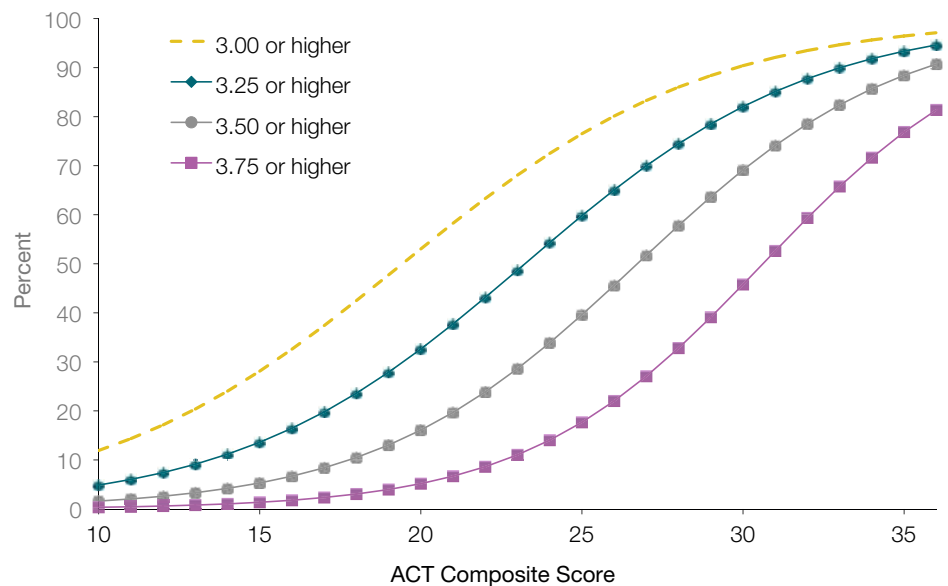
# Relationship Between ACT Composite Score and Year 6 College Cumulative GPA among students enrolled in a four-year postsecondary institution

February 2013

For students entering four-year postsecondary institutions, college success rates, as measured by long-term college grade point average (GPA), increase with higher ACT scores.

As shown in the figure below, students' chances of achieving levels of college cumulative GPA six years after initially enrolling in a four-year postsecondary institution increase as their ACT Composite score increases. For example, students with a Composite score above 25 have over a 60% chance of achieving a year 6 GPA of 3.25 or higher, while those with a score of 19 or below have less than a 30% chance of doing so.

### Students' Chances of Achieving Levels of Year 6 College Cumulative GPA by ACT Composite Score



**Note:** Based on data from nearly 69,000 ACT-tested students who enrolled in a four-year postsecondary institution as first-time entering students in fall, 2000 through 2003, and were still enrolled six years later or had completed a bachelor's degree prior to the end of year 6. Nearly 60 institutions were represented. Model-based estimates are shown. For a more detailed description of the study, including results for achieving levels of year 3 cumulative GPA at two-year institutions, see the full ACT Research Report numbered 2012-5 at [http://media.act.org/documents/ACT\\_RR2012-5.pdf](http://media.act.org/documents/ACT_RR2012-5.pdf).

[infobrief@act.org](mailto:infobrief@act.org) for more information or to suggest ideas for future ACT Information Briefs.



[www.act.org/research](http://www.act.org/research)