

ACT High School Profile Report

The Graduating Class of 2006
Massachusetts



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This report provides information about the performance of your 2006 graduating seniors who took the ACT as sophomores, juniors, or seniors.

This report focuses on :

Performance - student test performance in the context of college readiness

Access - number of your graduates exposed to college entrance testing and the percent of race/ethnicity participation

Course Selection - percent of students pursuing a core curriculum

Course Rigor - impact of rigorous coursework on achievement

College Readiness - percent of students meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores in each content area

Awareness - extent to which student aspirations match performance

Articulation - college and universities to which your students send test results

Each year, the graduating class data for a school, district, state, and the nation represents a different cohort of students. ACT encourages educators to focus on trends (3, 5, 10 years), not year-to-year changes. Such changes can represent normal – even expected – fluctuations. On the other hand, trend lines offer more insight into what is happening in a school, district, state, or the nation.

Further, ACT encourages educators to measure student performance in the context of college readiness measures. The focus should be on the number and percentage of students meeting or exceeding ACT's College Readiness Benchmark Scores, a measure that is much more meaningful and understandable than an average composite score for a group of students.

The ACT is a curriculum-based measure of college readiness. ACT components include:

- Tests of academic achievement in English, math, reading, science, and writing (optional)
- High school grade and course information
- Student Profile Section
- Career Interest Inventory

The ACT: A Test Like No Other

Every few years, ACT conducts the **ACT National Curriculum Survey** to ensure its curriculum-based assessment tools accurately measure the skills high school teachers teach and instructors of entry-level college courses expect. The ACT is the only college readiness test designed to reflect the results of such a survey.

ACT's **College Readiness Standards** are sets of statements intended to help students, parents and educators understand the meaning of test scores. The standards relate test scores to the types of skills needed for success in high school and beyond. They serve as a direct link between what students have learned and what they are ready to do next. The ACT is the only college readiness test for which scores can be tied directly to standards.

Only the ACT reports **College Readiness Benchmark Scores** – A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college courses, which include English Composition, Algebra, Social Science and Biology. These scores were empirically derived based on the actual performance of students in college. The College Readiness Benchmark Scores are:

College Course/Course Area	ACT Test	Benchmark Score
English Composition	English	18
Algebra	Mathematics	22
Social Sciences	Reading	21
Biology	Science	24

For more information, go to www.act.org

How to Improve Scores and Increase College Readiness

31% of 2006 graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores (Table 1.1). To improve students' scores and increase the percentage of students identified as college ready, ACT suggests:

PROVIDING ACCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS TO TAKE THE ACT. 8,865 ACT-tested graduates are included in this report (the 'cohort'). Increasing access insures that more students have the opportunity to consider college and allows the reader to use this report to evaluate how well courses and instructional programs are preparing students for college and work.

MAKING CORE CURRICULUM A PRIORITY. Emphasize the need for all students to develop college and work ready skills, regardless of postsecondary aspirations. 31% of the students in the cohort reported taking courses that would be considered 'Core or More' (Table 1.4).

MAKING SURE STUDENTS ARE TAKING THE RIGHT KINDS OF COURSES. Table 3.2 reports 7% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 53% were college ready. 6% of the cohort reported taking the minimum core (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). 26% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 67% of the students who advanced beyond minimum core were college ready. Getting more students ready for Algebra prior to 9th grade will increase the chances that students will be prepared for and take advanced-level math courses.

Similarly, Table 3.2 reports 10% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 25% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 38% of students who took at least three years of science coursework were college ready.

EVALUATING RIGOR OF COURSES. Table 2.4 reports the percentage of students falling in each of the ACT College Readiness Standards score ranges. For example, approximately 27% of the cohort fall into the lowest three Mathematics score ranges. To increase these students' achievement, identify the standards they should focus on next by accessing ACT's College Readiness Standards at www.act.org/standard.

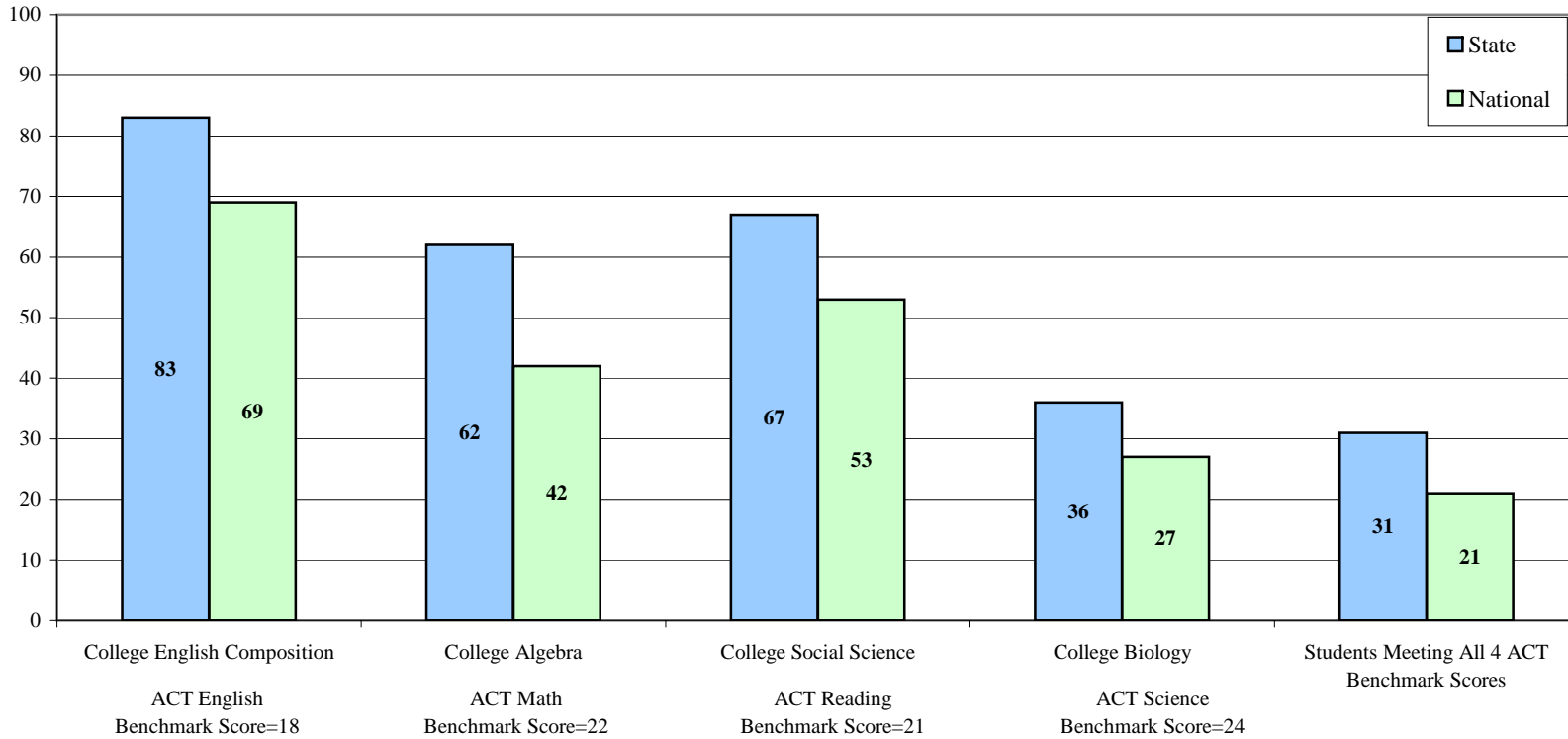
PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS. Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic groups.

For more information on interpreting data in this report, or to learn how ACT can help your students improve their readiness for college and the workplace, contact your regional office at 518-869-7378.

Section I

Executive Summary

Figure 1.1. Percent of ACT-Tested Students Ready for College-Level Coursework



A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college courses.

Table 1.1. Five Year Trends—Percent of Students Meeting College Readiness Benchmarks

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent Meeting Benchmarks									
			English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Meeting All Four	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2002	5,501	1,116,082	75	67	52	39	62	53	28	26	24	20
2003	6,886	1,175,059	79	67	55	40	64	52	30	26	26	20
2004	7,748	1,171,460	78	68	55	40	64	52	33	26	28	21
2005	8,168	1,186,251	80	68	58	41	66	51	34	26	30	21
2006	8,865	1,206,455	83	69	62	42	67	53	36	27	31	21

Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested		Average ACT Scores									
			English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2002	5,501	1,116,082	21.6	20.2	22.0	20.6	22.5	21.1	21.2	20.8	21.9	20.8
2003	6,886	1,175,059	22.0	20.3	22.3	20.6	22.9	21.2	21.5	20.8	22.3	20.8
2004	7,748	1,171,460	22.1	20.4	22.3	20.7	22.9	21.3	21.7	20.9	22.4	20.9
2005	8,168	1,186,251	22.5	20.4	22.8	20.7	23.4	21.3	22.0	20.9	22.8	20.9
2006	8,865	1,206,455	22.9	20.6	23.3	20.8	23.4	21.4	22.0	20.9	23.0	21.1

Table 1.3. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores Nationwide

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested	Average ACT Scores				
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
2002	1,116,082	20.2	20.6	21.1	20.8	20.8
2003	1,175,059	20.3	20.6	21.2	20.8	20.8
2004	1,171,460	20.4	20.7	21.3	20.9	20.9
2005	1,186,251	20.4	20.7	21.3	20.9	20.9
2006	1,206,455	20.6	20.8	21.4	20.9	21.1

Table 1.4. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores by Level of Preparation

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent ¹		Average ACT Scores									
	Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
					Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core
2002	2,330	2,137	42	39	21.8	21.1	22.0	21.5	22.8	22.0	21.5	20.8	22.2	21.5
2003	2,507	2,730	36	40	22.1	21.6	22.5	22.0	23.1	22.7	21.7	21.3	22.5	22.0
2004	2,837	3,153	37	41	22.2	21.8	22.3	22.1	23.1	22.7	21.8	21.6	22.5	22.2
2005	2,891	3,229	35	40	22.7	22.2	22.9	22.5	23.7	23.2	22.1	21.9	23.0	22.6
2006	2,786	3,642	31	41	23.2	22.6	23.5	23.1	23.8	23.1	22.3	21.8	23.3	22.8

¹Percent of all students tested. Numbers will not add up to 100% due to student non-response.

Table 1.5. Five-Year Trends—Number, Percentage, and Average Composite Score for ACT-Tested Graduates by Race/Ethnicity

	2002			2003			2004			2005			2006		
	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
All Students	5,501	100	21.9	6,886	100	22.3	7,748	100	22.4	8,168	100	22.8	8,865	100	23.0
African American/Black	243	4	17.6	382	6	18.1	362	5	18.3	329	4	18.5	342	4	18.4
American Indian/Alaskan Native	17	0	20.7	21	0	20.2	15	0	23.1	16	0	20.6	17	0	22.4
Caucasian American/White	3,956	72	22.3	4,993	73	22.6	5,397	70	22.6	5,726	70	23.0	5,739	65	23.2
Hispanic	132	2	18.8	151	2	19.9	191	2	19.5	210	3	20.5	217	2	20.0
Asian American/Pacific Islander	239	4	21.3	255	4	21.7	318	4	22.7	297	4	23.0	306	3	23.4
Other/No Response	914	17	22.1	1,084	16	22.9	1,465	19	22.8	1,590	19	23.3	2,244	25	23.6

Section II

Academic Achievement

Table 2.1. ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percentages (CP¹), and Score Averages for All Students

ACT Scale Score	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite		ACT Scale Score
	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	
36	21	100	31	100	82	100	18	100	1	100	36
35	96	100	68	100	154	99	48	100	19	100	35
34	165	99	146	99	232	97	23	99	43	100	34
33	147	97	109	97	272	95	58	99	76	99	33
32	199	95	117	96	168	92	91	98	128	98	32
31	207	93	182	95	314	90	76	97	202	97	31
30	315	91	334	93	354	86	57	96	276	95	30
29	405	87	399	89	397	82	186	96	384	92	29
28	448	82	441	84	353	78	257	94	479	87	28
27	314	77	641	79	550	74	305	91	557	82	27
26	488	74	664	72	441	68	713	87	633	76	26
25	666	68	736	65	536	63	564	79	672	68	25
24	549	61	639	56	542	57	802	73	624	61	24
23	534	55	562	49	540	50	810	64	713	54	23
22	649	49	413	43	534	44	837	55	703	46	22
21	653	41	512	38	474	38	730	45	649	38	21
20	651	34	483	32	443	33	862	37	612	31	20
19	484	27	452	27	509	28	744	27	533	24	19
18	357	21	466	22	321	22	484	19	419	18	18
17	330	17	560	17	419	19	379	14	354	13	17
16	272	13	466	10	288	14	259	9	292	9	16
15	267	10	236	5	232	11	171	6	200	6	15
14	224	7	143	2	306	8	142	4	131	3	14
13	114	5	36	1	136	5	80	3	98	2	13
12	78	3	17	1	151	3	54	2	40	1	12
11	80	3	7	1	65	1	51	1	18	1	11
10	57	2	2	1	30	1	34	1	4	1	10
9	33	1	0	1	13	1	13	1	2	1	9
8	40	1	0	1	4	1	5	1	2	1	8
7	15	1	3	1	2	1	4	1	1	1	7
6	5	1	0	1	2	1	4	1	0	1	6
5	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	5
4	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	4
3	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Average	22.9		23.3		23.4		22.0		23.0		Average

¹Note: CP is the cumulative percent of students at or below a score point. Also, shaded portions of columns identify the students who met/exceeded the ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores.

Table 2.2. ACT Subscore Distributions, Cumulative Percentages (CP¹), and Subtest Score Averages for All Students

ACT Scale Score	English				Reading				Mathematics						ACT Scale Score
	Usage/ Mechanics		Rhetorical Skills		Social Studies		Arts/ Literature		Pre/Elementary Algebra		Algebra/ Coordinate Geometry		Plane Geometry/ Trigonometry		
	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	N	CP ¹	
18	461	100	79	100	225	100	448	100	501	100	131	100	134	100	18
17	578	95	283	99	680	97	733	95	552	94	245	99	204	98	17
16	522	88	535	96	545	90	831	87	1,014	88	205	96	399	96	16
15	678	82	886	90	758	84	870	77	747	77	599	93	739	92	15
14	904	75	943	80	589	75	842	67	847	68	1,282	87	1,059	83	14
13	583	65	942	69	901	68	765	58	1,139	59	715	72	1,220	71	13
12	927	58	979	59	934	58	850	49	1,036	46	1,501	64	1,073	58	12
11	842	48	1,212	48	923	48	602	40	572	34	995	47	873	46	11
10	1,034	38	976	34	712	37	760	33	697	28	1,219	36	1,338	36	10
9	658	26	825	23	799	29	648	24	506	20	1,008	22	605	21	9
8	545	19	502	14	757	20	412	17	654	14	401	11	490	14	8
7	446	13	297	8	427	12	417	12	396	7	93	6	348	8	7
6	308	8	173	5	299	7	356	8	137	2	222	5	180	4	6
5	177	4	140	3	170	4	206	4	35	1	158	3	43	2	5
4	126	2	62	1	56	2	97	1	22	1	21	1	84	2	4
3	53	1	22	1	59	1	21	1	8	1	54	1	10	1	3
2	20	1	9	1	27	1	6	1	1	1	2	1	55	1	2
1	3	1	0	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	14	1	11	1	1
Average	11.8		11.7		11.7		12.3		12.6		11.6		11.7		Average

¹Note: CP is the cumulative percent of students at or below a score point.

Table 2.3. Average ACT Composite Scores by Level of Preparation by Race/Ethnicity

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
State	All Students	8,865	31	23.3	22.8
	African Am./Black	342	30	19.0	18.3
	Am. Indian/Alaskan Native	17	35	23.0	22.9
	Caucasian Am./White	5,739	33	23.4	23.1
	Hispanic	217	33	20.6	19.3
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	306	34	23.4	23.2
	Other/No Response	2,244	26	24.0	23.2
National	All Students	1,206,455	54	22.0	19.7
	African Am./Black	139,118	53	17.8	16.2
	Am. Indian/Alaskan Native	13,635	48	20.2	17.5
	Caucasian Am./White	760,084	56	22.9	20.6
	Hispanic	85,796	52	19.5	17.6
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	39,867	60	22.9	21.1
	Other/No Response	167,955	41	22.2	19.8

Table 2.4. Percent of Students in College Readiness Standards (CRS) Score Ranges

Student Group	CRS Range	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
State	33 to 36	429	5	354	4	740	8	147	2
	28 to 32	1,574	18	1,473	17	1,586	18	667	8
	24 to 27	2,017	23	2,680	30	2,069	23	2,384	27
	20 to 23	2,487	28	1,970	22	1,991	22	3,239	37
	16 to 19	1,443	16	1,944	22	1,537	17	1,866	21
	13 to 15	605	7	415	5	674	8	393	4
	01 to 12	310	3	29	0	268	3	169	2
National	33 to 36	35,933	3	24,395	2	56,816	5	18,798	2
	28 to 32	126,394	10	103,455	9	150,082	12	67,815	6
	24 to 27	205,310	17	250,510	21	224,470	19	238,007	20
	20 to 23	321,306	27	264,179	22	280,741	23	419,135	35
	16 to 19	267,738	22	399,519	33	269,040	22	326,445	27
	13 to 15	149,825	12	154,528	13	156,903	13	90,944	8
	01 to 12	99,949	8	9,869	1	68,403	6	45,311	4

Table 2.5. Average ACT Scores by Gender

Student Group	Gender	N	Percent	Average ACT Scores				
				English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
State	Males	3,426	39	22.3	24.0	22.9	22.6	23.1
	Females	4,805	54	23.3	22.8	23.9	21.6	23.0
	Missing	634	7	22.4	22.8	23.3	21.5	22.6
National	Males	517,563	43	20.1	21.5	21.1	21.4	21.2
	Females	646,688	54	21.0	20.3	21.6	20.5	21.0
	Missing	42,204	3	20.6	21.1	21.6	20.8	21.1

Table 2.6. Percent of Students Meeting College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Gender

Student Group	Gender	Percent of Students				Meet All Four
		English	Math	Reading	Science	
State	Males	80	66	63	42	36
	Females	85	59	70	33	29
National	Males	66	47	51	32	25
	Females	71	37	55	23	18

Section III

College Readiness and the Impact of Course Rigor

Figure 3.1. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ENGLISH

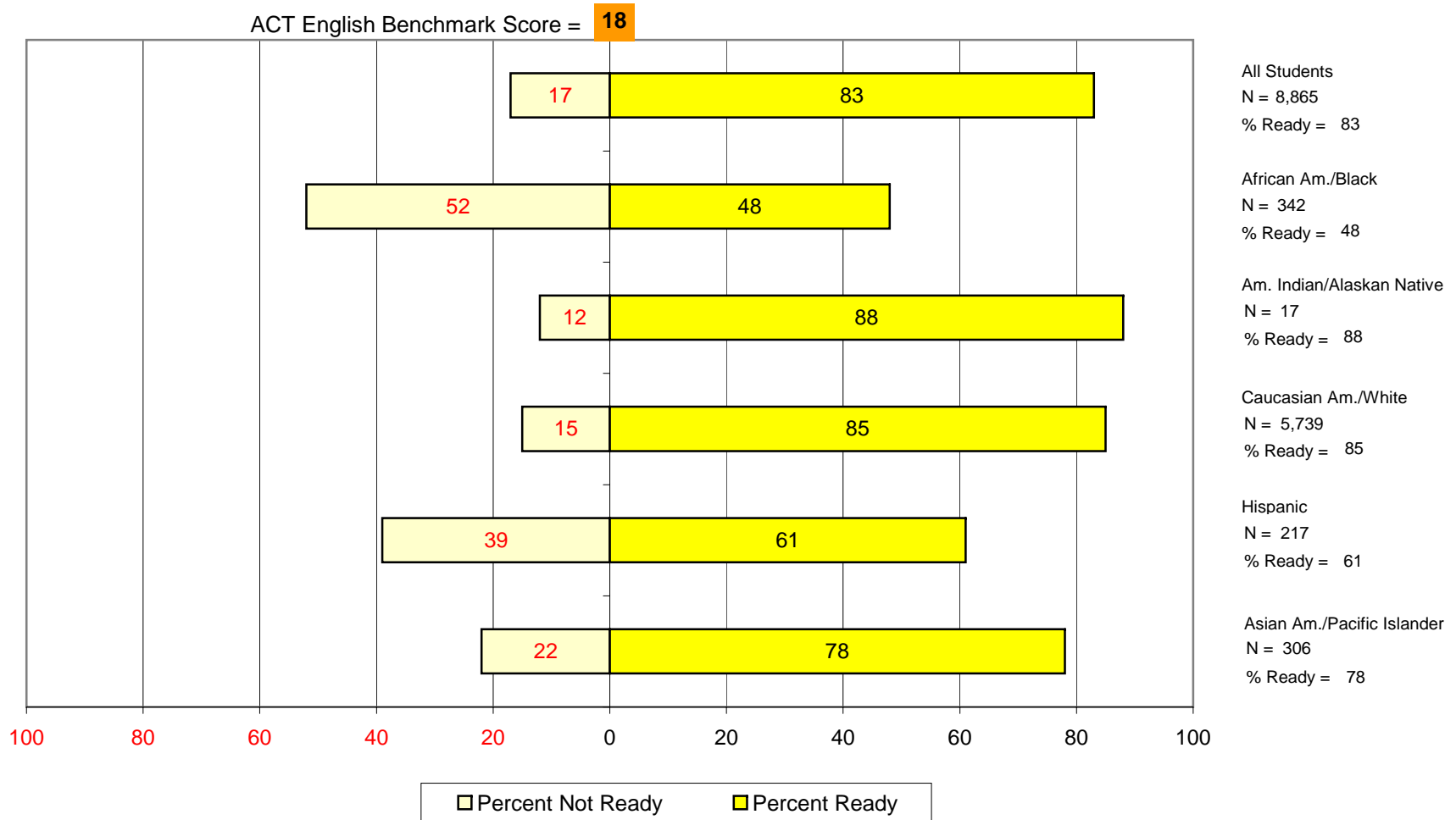


Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: MATHEMATICS

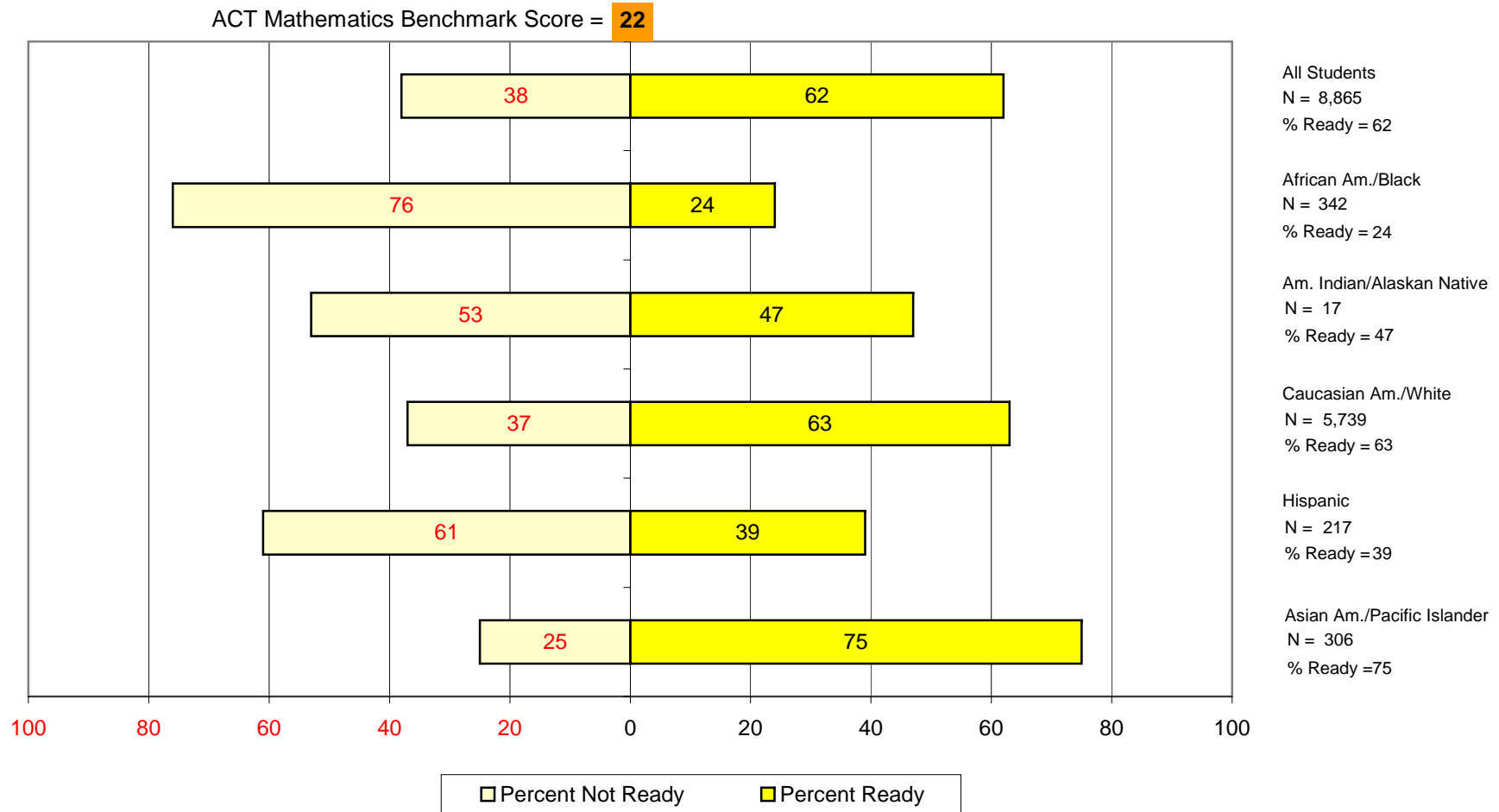


Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: READING

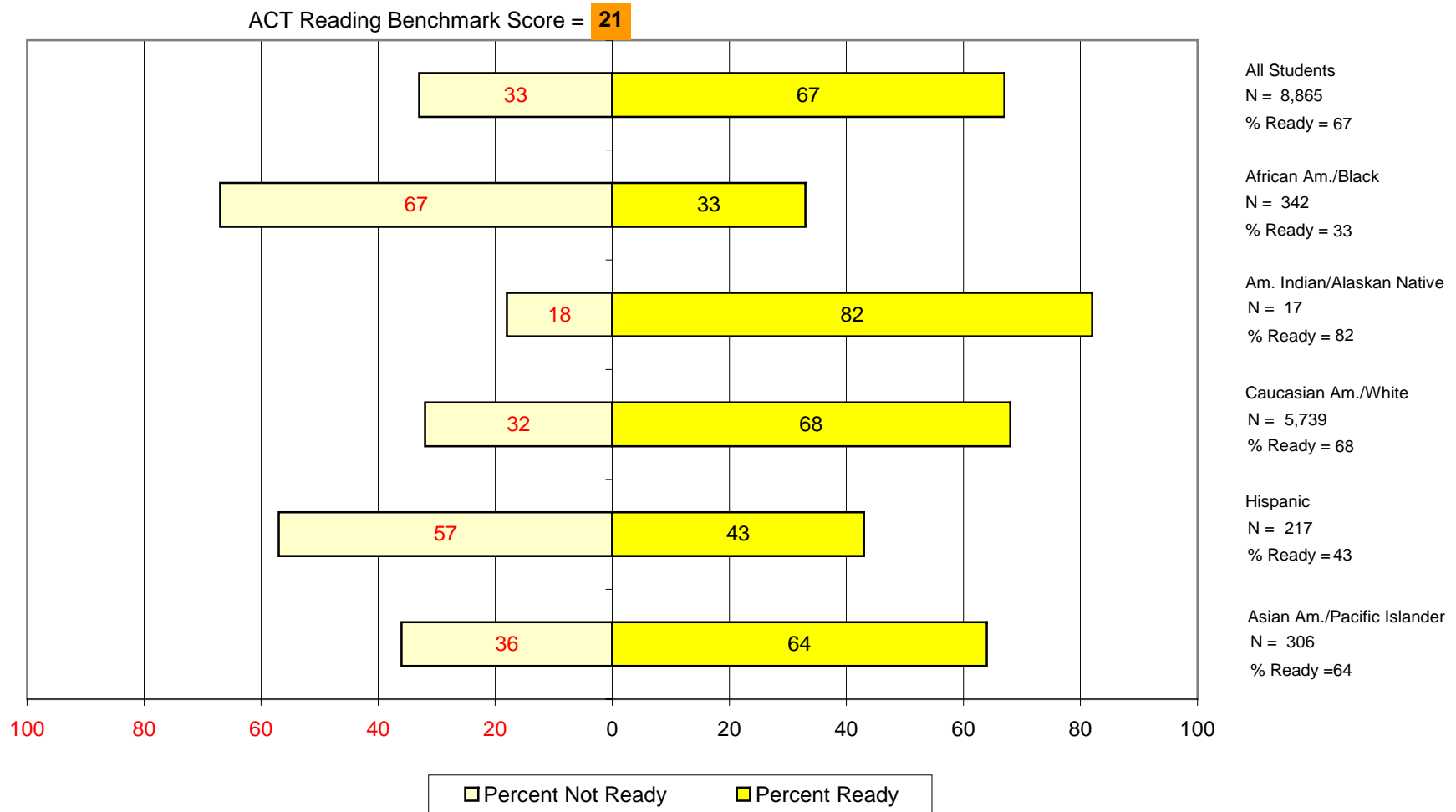


Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: SCIENCE

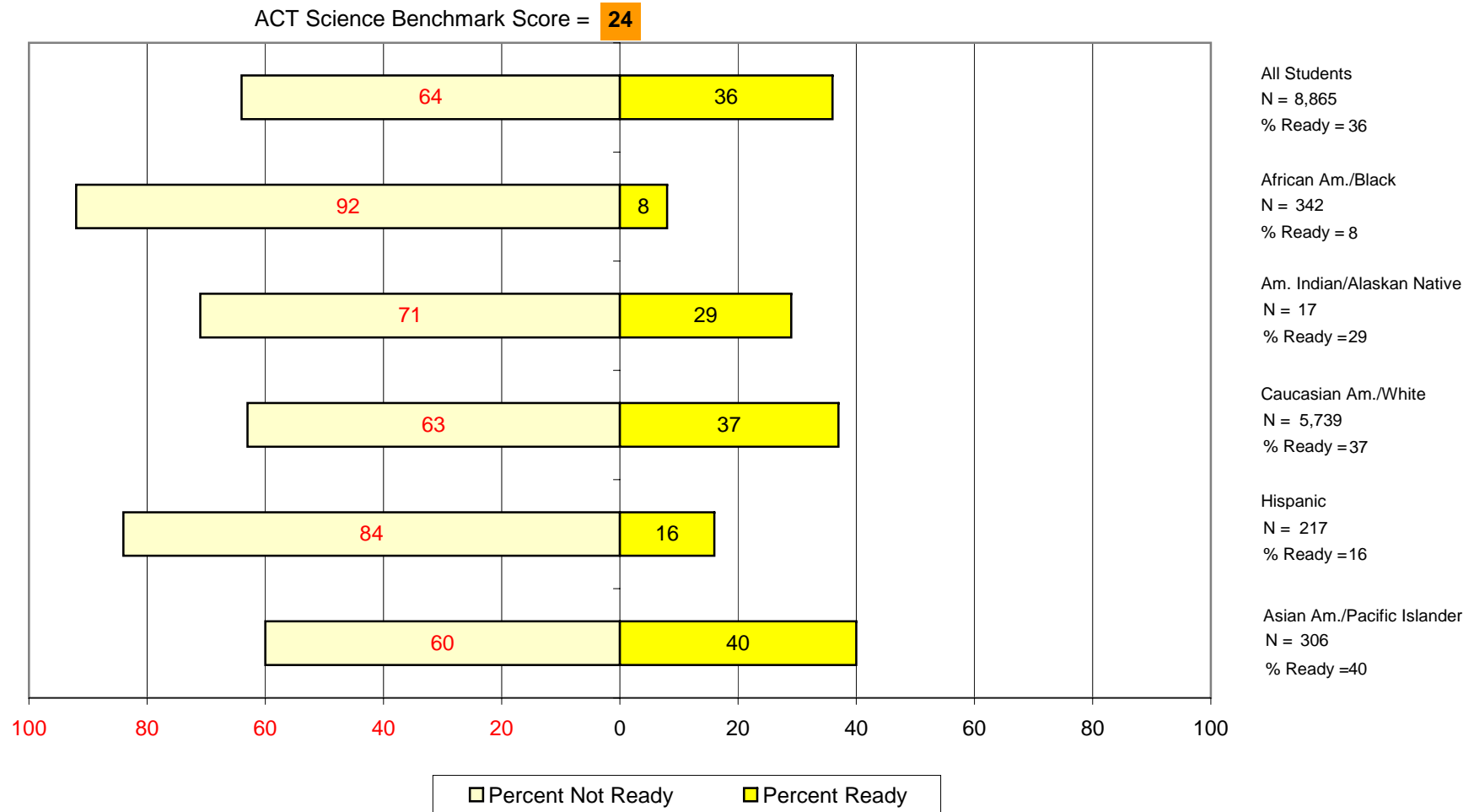


Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ALL FOUR

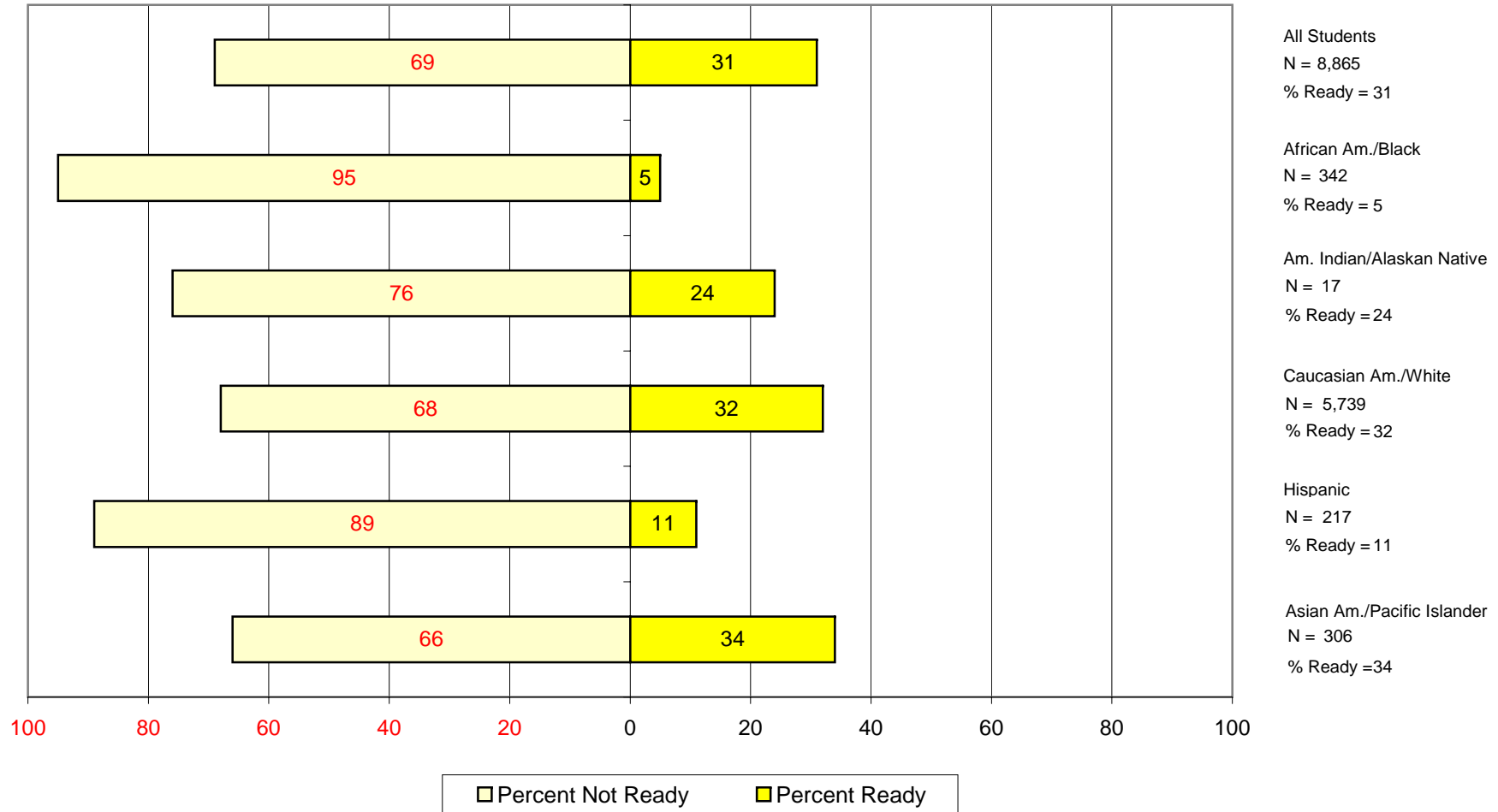


Table 3.1. Average ACT Scores and ACT Average Score Changes by Common Course Patterns

Course Pattern	All Students				Males				Females			
	N	Percent	ACT English	Course Value Added ¹	N	Percent	ACT English	Course Value Added ¹	N	Percent	ACT English	Course Value Added ¹
ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN												
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	774	9	23.6	1.1	228	7	22.7	0.8	485	10	24.1	1.2
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	4,703	53	22.8	0.3	1,753	51	22.3	0.4	2,693	56	23.2	0.3
Less than 4 years of English	902	10	22.5	-	342	10	21.9	-	486	10	22.9	-
No English course/grade information reported	2,486	28	22.9	-	1,103	32	22.3	-	1,141	24	23.5	-
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	666	8	26.3	4.1	247	7	26.7	3.8	384	8	25.9	4.3
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	592	7	23.3	1.1	199	6	23.9	1.0	358	7	23.0	1.4
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	523	6	21.7	-0.5	175	5	22.8	-0.1	315	7	21.0	-0.6
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	979	11	21.5	-0.7	280	8	21.9	-1.0	642	13	21.2	-0.4
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	1,894	21	25.1	2.9	787	23	26.1	3.2	1,018	21	24.5	2.9
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	570	6	19.1	-3.1	210	6	19.5	-3.4	319	7	18.9	-2.7
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	425	5	23.4	1.2	157	5	23.5	0.6	237	5	23.5	1.9
Less than 3 years of Math	609	7	22.2	-	216	6	22.9	-	334	7	21.6	-
No Math course/grade information reported	2,607	29	23.3	-	1,155	34	23.9	-	1,198	25	22.9	-
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	351	4	24.4	1.0	148	4	22.9	0.1	185	4	25.3	1.4
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	894	10	23.2	-0.2	348	10	22.6	-0.2	495	10	23.5	-0.4
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	362	4	23.0	-0.4	150	4	22.1	-0.7	198	4	23.6	-0.3
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	1,633	18	23.5	0.1	555	16	23.1	0.3	979	20	23.8	-0.1
Less than 3 years of Social Science	2,974	34	23.4	-	1,054	31	22.8	-	1,729	36	23.9	-
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	2,651	30	23.5	-	1,171	34	23.0	-	1,219	25	23.9	-
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,543	29	22.6	1.9	994	29	23.1	2.0	1,399	29	22.3	1.7
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,282	14	23.1	2.4	509	15	24.2	3.1	704	15	22.5	1.9
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	1,404	16	20.7	0.0	407	12	20.7	-0.4	919	19	20.7	0.1
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	92	1	22.3	1.6	43	1	22.5	1.4	45	1	22.1	1.5
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	848	10	20.7	-	287	8	21.1	-	498	10	20.6	-
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	2,696	30	22.0	-	1,186	35	22.6	-	1,240	26	21.6	-

¹Course value added is defined as the average ACT score change compared to a less than core course sequence.

²Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

Table 3.2. College Readiness Percents by Common Course Patterns

Course Pattern	State				National			
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Meeting Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Meeting Benchmark
ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN								
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	774	9	23.6	86	272,554	23	21.8	77
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	4,703	53	22.8	83	668,226	55	20.4	67
Less than 4 years of English	902	10	22.5	82	115,551	10	19.4	62
No English course/grade information reported	2,486	28	22.9	83	150,124	12	20.3	67
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	666	8	26.3	87	67,960	6	24.7	74
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	592	7	23.3	65	90,348	7	22.2	56
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	523	6	21.7	47	95,613	8	20.4	38
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	979	11	21.5	49	153,394	13	20.3	37
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	1,894	21	25.1	74	244,137	20	24.0	68
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	570	6	19.1	26	209,836	17	17.8	14
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	425	5	23.4	67	54,965	5	20.6	40
Less than 3 years of Math	609	7	22.2	53	131,567	11	17.9	18
No Math course/grade information reported	2,607	29	23.3	63	158,635	13	20.8	42
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	351	4	24.4	72	31,335	3	22.7	60
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	894	10	23.2	66	443,622	37	21.9	57
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	362	4	23.0	62	67,943	6	20.8	48
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	1,633	18	23.5	68	325,879	27	21.3	52
Less than 3 years of Social Science	2,974	34	23.4	67	179,270	15	20.5	46
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	2,651	30	23.5	67	158,406	13	21.2	52
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,543	29	22.6	41	320,821	27	22.3	38
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,282	14	23.1	46	115,519	10	23.2	45
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	1,404	16	20.7	25	339,689	28	20.2	19
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	92	1	22.3	37	32,330	3	20.5	24
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	848	10	20.7	25	234,307	19	19.1	14
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	2,696	30	22.0	36	163,789	14	20.7	26

¹Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

Section IV

Career and Educational Aspirations

Table 4.1. Distribution of Planned Educational Majors for All Students and by College Plans

Planned Educational Major	All Students			Plan on 2 Years or Less of College			Plan on 4 Years or More of College		
	N ¹	Percent ²	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent ²	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent ²	Avg ACT Comp
Agriculture Sciences & Technologies	18	0	20.6	0	0	.	18	0	20.6
Architecture & Environmental Design	58	1	22.3	0	0	.	54	1	22.5
Business & Management	588	7	22.0	6	12	18.0	556	9	22.1
Business & Office	21	0	20.7	2	4	18.0	17	0	20.9
Marketing & Distribution	49	1	22.3	0	0	.	49	1	22.3
Communications & Comm. Technologies	223	3	22.2	0	0	.	208	4	22.4
Community & Personal Services	93	1	19.5	3	6	19.7	86	1	19.5
Computer & Information Sciences	64	1	24.0	1	2	17.0	58	1	23.9
Cross-Disciplinary Studies	10	0	26.2	0	0	.	9	0	26.6
Education	165	2	21.5	2	4	15.0	155	3	21.6
Teacher Education	74	1	21.4	1	2	17.0	70	1	21.6
Engineering	205	2	24.6	1	2	24.0	197	3	24.6
Engineering-Related Technologies	130	1	23.1	2	4	19.0	125	2	23.2
Foreign Languages	41	0	26.3	0	0	.	40	1	26.3
Health Sciences & Allied Health Fields	647	7	21.8	11	22	18.4	611	10	21.9
Human, Family & Consumer Science	20	0	18.0	0	0	.	20	0	18.0
Letters	46	1	26.3	0	0	.	46	1	26.3
Mathematics	31	0	24.9	1	2	18.0	28	0	25.0
Philosophy, Religion & Theology	16	0	23.8	0	0	.	15	0	23.7
Sciences (Biological & Physical)	413	5	24.9	1	2	18.0	396	7	24.9
Social Sciences	446	5	23.4	1	2	17.0	436	7	23.4
Trade & Industrial	17	0	19.1	6	12	17.0	9	0	21.0
Visual & Performing Arts	254	3	22.7	1	2	24.0	227	4	22.5
Undecided	634	7	23.1	5	10	17.0	575	10	23.3
No Response	4,602	52	23.2	7	14	17.4	1,906	32	23.2

¹2-Year and 4-Year N's do not reflect "Missing" and "Other" institution types, therefore they may not add up to the N for *All Students*.

²Percent of students tested.

Table 4.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Racial/Ethnic Groups by Post-Secondary Educational Aspirations

Educational Degree Aspirations	All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined		African-Am./ Black		Am. Indian/ Alaskan Native		Caucasian-Am./ White		Hispanic		Asian-Am./ Pacific Islander		Other/No Response	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	14	17.7	2	22.0	0	.	8	16.8	0	.	3	18.0	1	16.0
2-yr College Degree	37	18.1	3	16.7	0	.	26	17.7	2	20.5	1	19.0	5	19.6
Bachelors Degree	1,889	21.0	55	17.2	3	20.0	1,378	21.3	45	17.8	42	20.3	366	21.3
Graduate Study	2,140	23.7	50	18.9	6	23.7	1,570	23.8	47	20.7	60	23.3	407	24.0
Prof. Level Degree	1,882	24.2	105	19.8	2	21.0	1,142	24.6	66	21.7	109	24.6	458	24.5
Other	96	20.0	5	15.4	1	13.0	60	20.8	5	15.8	3	18.0	22	20.2
No Response	2,807	23.3	122	17.5	5	24.8	1,555	23.5	52	19.4	88	23.9	985	23.8

Table 4.3. Students' Score Report Preferences at Time of Testing

Name	State	Number of Students			Percent of Students in College Readiness Standards Ranges						
		Total	1st Choice	2nd-6th Choice	01-12	13-15	16-19	20-23	24-27	28-32	33-36
UNIV OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST	Massachusetts	780	238	542	1	6	22	35	27	10	1
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY	Massachusetts	604	164	440	1	4	19	33	31	11	1
BOSTON UNIVERSITY	Massachusetts	541	227	314	1	3	13	30	35	16	2
BOSTON COLLEGE	Massachusetts	483	206	277	1	2	11	26	36	22	1
UNIV OF MASSACHUSETTS-DARTMOUTH	Massachusetts	258	54	204	2	9	33	38	13	5	0
TUFTS UNIVERSITY	Massachusetts	223	66	157	0	1	8	18	34	35	4
UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE	New Hampshire	223	38	185	1	1	18	39	34	7	0
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT	Connecticut	221	46	175	0	2	17	35	36	10	0
WORCESTER STATE COLLEGE	Massachusetts	211	54	157	1	17	39	34	7	1	0
BRIDGEWATER STATE COLLEGE	Massachusetts	209	60	149	1	15	35	38	10	1	0
UNIV OF MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL	Massachusetts	188	34	154	2	10	32	35	19	3	0
WESTFIELD STATE COLLEGE	Massachusetts	188	44	144	2	12	36	37	11	3	0
PROVIDENCE COLLEGE	Rhode Island	183	30	153	0	1	9	34	35	20	1
SALEM STATE COLLEGE	Massachusetts	181	37	144	3	17	41	27	11	1	0
ASSUMPTION COLLEGE	Massachusetts	173	61	112	1	8	32	35	20	5	0
STONEHILL COLLEGE	Massachusetts	169	29	140	0	3	16	37	34	10	1
BENTLEY COLLEGE	Massachusetts	159	52	107	0	4	19	37	31	9	0
WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INST	Massachusetts	151	45	106	0	1	7	31	28	28	4
SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY	Massachusetts	148	24	124	1	9	33	36	18	3	0
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY	Connecticut	146	31	115	0	1	16	47	33	4	0
BROWN UNIVERSITY	Rhode Island	141	44	97	0	0	4	17	34	38	6
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND	Rhode Island	140	23	117	0	4	28	39	25	4	0
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT	Vermont	138	24	114	0	2	19	31	39	8	1
FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE	Massachusetts	127	28	99	2	17	43	35	2	2	0
UNIV OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON	Massachusetts	126	20	106	3	16	40	24	14	2	0
SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY	Rhode Island	123	29	94	1	6	26	41	23	4	0
COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS	Massachusetts	121	26	95	1	2	12	31	31	23	1
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY	New York	120	37	83	0	3	7	20	42	28	1
FRAMINGHAM STATE COLLEGE	Massachusetts	119	21	98	2	14	47	26	11	0	0
MERRIMACK COLLEGE	Massachusetts	115	19	96	0	7	22	44	22	5	0
All Other Institutions		7,418	1,877	5,541	1	6	20	28	25	16	2
Total		14,127	3,688	10,439	1	6	21	30	26	14	1

Section V

Optional Writing Test Results

Table 5.1. Average ACT English and Writing Scores by Race/Ethnicity and Gender for students who took ACT Writing

	N		Average ACT Scores					
			English		Essay		English/Writing Combined	
			State	National	State	National	State	National
All Students	6,173	430,404	23.8	22.4	8.5	7.7	23.8	22.0
African Am./Black	226	38,583	18.2	17.5	7.7	6.8	18.9	17.6
Am. Indian/Alaskan Native	9	2,803	23.6	19.8	8.7	7.1	23.8	19.6
Caucasian Am./White	3,954	269,428	24.0	23.4	8.6	7.8	24.0	22.8
Hispanic	130	33,207	20.5	18.9	8.2	7.4	21.0	19.1
Asian Am./Pacific Islander	229	21,275	23.8	23.0	8.3	8.0	23.6	22.8
Other/No Response	1,625	65,108	24.4	22.8	8.6	7.9	24.3	22.5
Males	2,219	170,904	23.4	22.1	8.3	7.4	23.4	21.5
Females	3,493	240,056	24.2	22.6	8.6	7.9	24.2	22.3
Missing	461	19,444	23.1	22.1	8.5	7.8	23.3	21.9

