

ACT High School Profile Report

The Graduating Class of 2006
Mississippi



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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

9% 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. 23,765 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. 51% 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 15% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 3% were college ready. 27% of the cohort reported taking the minimum core (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). 4% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 31% 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 36% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 5% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 17% 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 74% 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.

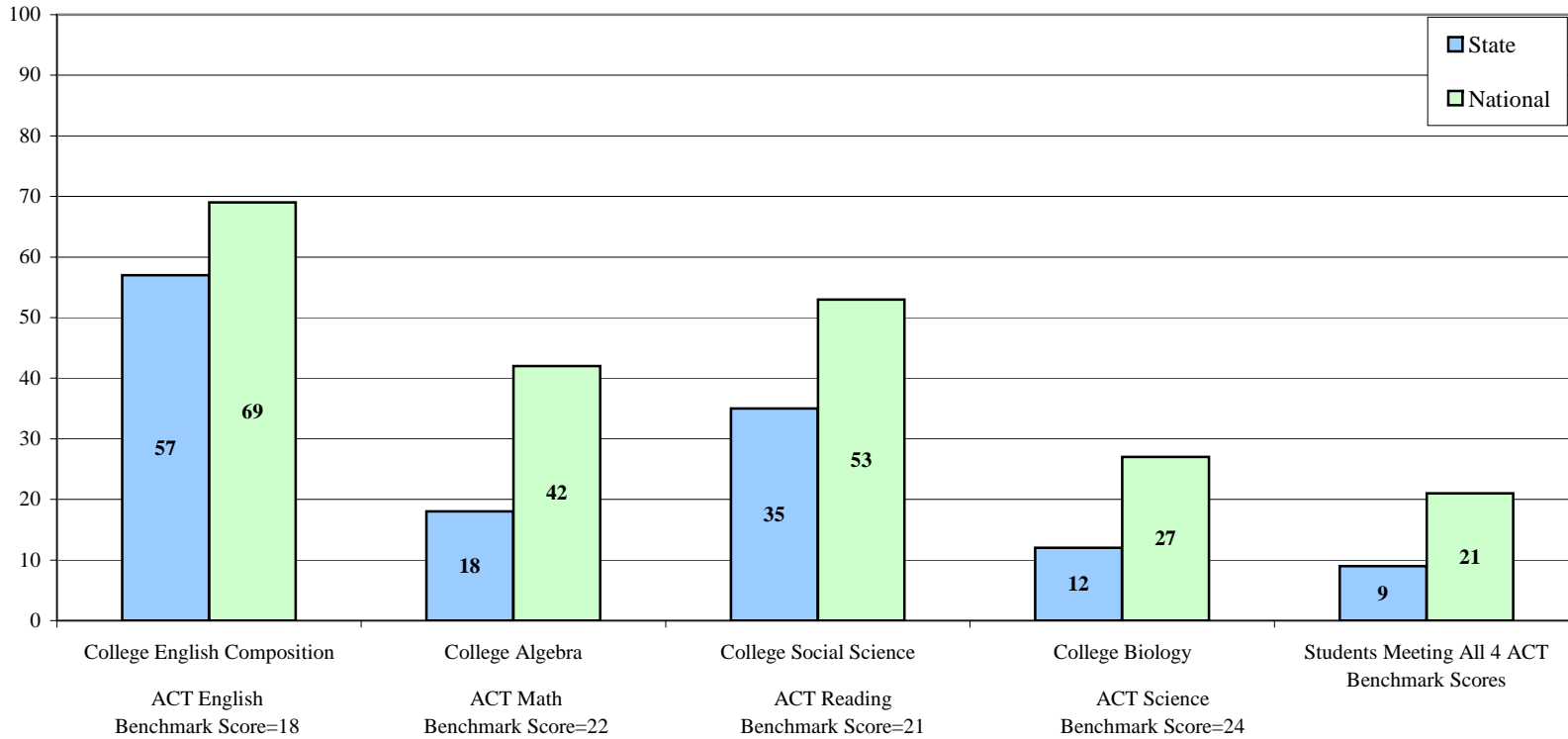
PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS. Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic groups.

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 404-231-1952.

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									
	State	National	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Meeting All Four	
			State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2002	23,395	1,116,082	55	67	17	39	36	53	13	26	9	20
2003	24,153	1,175,059	55	67	18	40	34	52	12	26	9	20
2004	23,815	1,171,460	55	68	17	40	35	52	13	26	9	21
2005	23,819	1,186,251	55	68	18	41	33	51	12	26	9	21
2006	23,765	1,206,455	57	69	18	42	35	53	12	27	9	21

Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested		Average ACT Scores									
	State	National	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
			State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2002	23,395	1,116,082	18.7	20.2	17.7	20.6	18.8	21.1	18.6	20.8	18.6	20.8
2003	24,153	1,175,059	18.8	20.3	17.7	20.6	18.9	21.2	18.7	20.8	18.7	20.8
2004	23,815	1,171,460	18.9	20.4	17.9	20.7	19.0	21.3	18.8	20.9	18.8	20.9
2005	23,819	1,186,251	18.8	20.4	17.8	20.7	18.9	21.3	18.6	20.9	18.7	20.9
2006	23,765	1,206,455	19.1	20.6	18.0	20.8	19.1	21.4	18.7	20.9	18.8	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	12,491	10,143	53	43	20.2	16.8	18.9	16.3	20.0	17.2	19.7	17.3	19.8	17.1
2003	12,812	10,536	53	44	20.4	16.9	18.9	16.3	20.1	17.4	19.8	17.5	19.9	17.1
2004	12,330	10,501	52	44	20.5	17.1	19.0	16.5	20.3	17.6	19.8	17.6	20.0	17.3
2005	12,149	10,516	51	44	20.4	17.0	19.0	16.4	20.2	17.4	19.7	17.4	20.0	17.2
2006	12,183	10,168	51	43	20.7	17.2	19.1	16.7	20.4	17.6	19.8	17.5	20.1	17.4

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	23,395	100	18.6	24,153	100	18.7	23,815	100	18.8	23,819	100	18.7	23,765	100	18.8
African American/Black	8,182	35	16.0	8,463	35	16.3	8,286	35	16.3	8,432	35	16.2	8,558	36	16.5
American Indian/Alaskan Native	135	1	16.5	140	1	17.1	121	1	17.2	113	0	17.8	107	0	17.3
Caucasian American/White	13,345	57	20.1	13,786	57	20.1	13,652	57	20.2	13,407	56	20.1	13,062	55	20.3
Hispanic	187	1	19.6	202	1	19.3	149	1	19.6	199	1	19.2	237	1	19.6
Asian American/Pacific Islander	247	1	20.5	265	1	20.7	259	1	21.1	262	1	21.2	237	1	21.0
Other/No Response	1,299	6	18.7	1,297	5	18.7	1,348	6	18.8	1,406	6	18.9	1,564	7	18.8

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	33	100	11	100	63	100	16	100	3	100	36
35	134	100	22	100	105	100	38	100	21	100	35
34	248	99	49	100	190	99	48	100	31	100	34
33	161	98	35	100	212	98	57	100	51	100	33
32	201	98	50	100	220	98	61	99	82	100	32
31	241	97	76	99	261	97	113	99	146	99	31
30	329	96	91	99	288	96	33	99	208	99	30
29	420	94	157	99	366	94	123	98	299	98	29
28	490	93	227	98	482	93	180	98	314	96	28
27	482	91	358	97	516	91	223	97	452	95	27
26	690	88	486	95	816	89	617	96	515	93	26
25	780	86	570	93	674	85	508	94	707	91	25
24	892	82	734	91	773	82	880	92	844	88	24
23	984	79	662	88	1,215	79	1,357	88	946	85	23
22	1,181	74	859	85	961	74	1,291	82	1,207	81	22
21	1,531	69	905	82	1,290	70	1,827	77	1,539	75	21
20	1,648	63	1,122	78	1,402	65	2,029	69	1,719	69	20
19	1,684	56	1,411	73	1,730	59	2,671	60	1,983	62	19
18	1,420	49	1,979	67	1,581	51	2,655	49	2,236	53	18
17	1,347	43	2,991	59	1,780	45	2,053	38	2,276	44	17
16	1,698	37	3,962	46	1,478	37	1,742	29	2,330	34	16
15	1,876	30	3,267	29	1,463	31	1,341	22	2,116	25	15
14	1,534	22	2,513	16	2,286	25	1,144	16	1,726	16	14
13	870	16	815	5	1,329	15	914	12	1,162	8	13
12	838	12	320	2	1,185	10	731	8	597	4	12
11	639	9	67	1	690	5	550	5	204	1	11
10	498	6	18	1	202	2	335	2	43	1	10
9	406	4	5	1	123	1	124	1	8	1	9
8	345	2	0	1	50	1	63	1	0	1	8
7	135	1	1	1	13	1	27	1	0	1	7
6	26	1	1	1	13	1	7	1	0	1	6
5	4	1	0	1	6	1	5	1	0	1	5
4	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	0	1	4
3	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Average	19.1		18.0		19.1		18.7		18.8		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	525	100	121	100	150	100	372	100	176	100	38	100	42	100	18
17	608	98	323	99	683	99	598	98	189	99	86	100	62	100	17
16	705	95	678	98	571	96	828	96	578	98	120	99	164	100	16
15	913	92	965	95	606	94	1,062	92	576	96	227	99	274	99	15
14	1,021	88	1,109	91	1,061	92	1,226	88	725	94	683	98	682	98	14
13	1,305	84	1,238	87	1,237	87	1,331	83	1,408	91	803	95	987	95	13
12	1,553	79	1,637	81	1,765	82	2,075	77	1,590	85	1,960	92	1,390	91	12
11	2,122	72	2,747	74	2,305	74	1,818	68	1,539	78	1,768	84	1,452	85	11
10	2,375	63	2,678	63	2,330	65	2,094	61	2,050	71	3,857	76	3,818	79	10
9	2,522	53	3,103	52	3,582	55	2,212	52	2,231	63	5,203	60	3,983	63	9
8	2,625	43	3,121	39	3,528	40	2,183	43	3,996	53	3,270	38	3,520	46	8
7	2,374	32	2,182	25	2,348	25	2,067	34	4,793	37	1,564	24	2,548	31	7
6	2,098	22	1,657	16	1,860	15	2,883	25	2,486	16	1,674	18	2,464	20	6
5	1,304	13	1,403	9	756	7	1,509	13	861	6	1,294	11	229	10	5
4	1,087	7	570	3	567	4	1,107	6	374	2	545	5	1,413	9	4
3	478	3	184	1	323	2	287	2	148	1	473	3	89	3	3
2	145	1	46	1	64	1	108	1	38	1	74	1	532	3	2
1	5	1	3	1	29	1	5	1	7	1	126	1	116	1	1
Average	9.6		9.6		9.6		9.6		9.1		9.0		8.7		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	23,765	51	20.1	17.4
	African Am./Black	8,558	50	17.4	15.7
	Am. Indian/Alaskan Native	107	48	18.3	16.4
	Caucasian Am./White	13,062	53	21.8	18.6
	Hispanic	237	48	21.3	17.9
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	237	67	21.8	18.7
	Other/No Response	1,564	47	20.0	17.3
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	576	2	117	0	570	2	159	1
	28 to 32	1,681	7	601	3	1,617	7	510	2
	24 to 27	2,844	12	2,148	9	2,779	12	2,228	9
	20 to 23	5,344	22	3,548	15	4,868	20	6,504	27
	16 to 19	6,149	26	10,343	44	6,569	28	9,121	38
	13 to 15	4,280	18	6,595	28	5,078	21	3,399	14
	01 to 12	2,891	12	413	2	2,284	10	1,844	8
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	10,214	43	18.5	18.6	18.9	19.1	18.9
	Females	13,196	56	19.5	17.6	19.3	18.4	18.8
	Missing	355	1	19.0	18.1	19.3	18.8	18.9
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	53	23	34	15	11
	Females	60	15	37	10	7
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

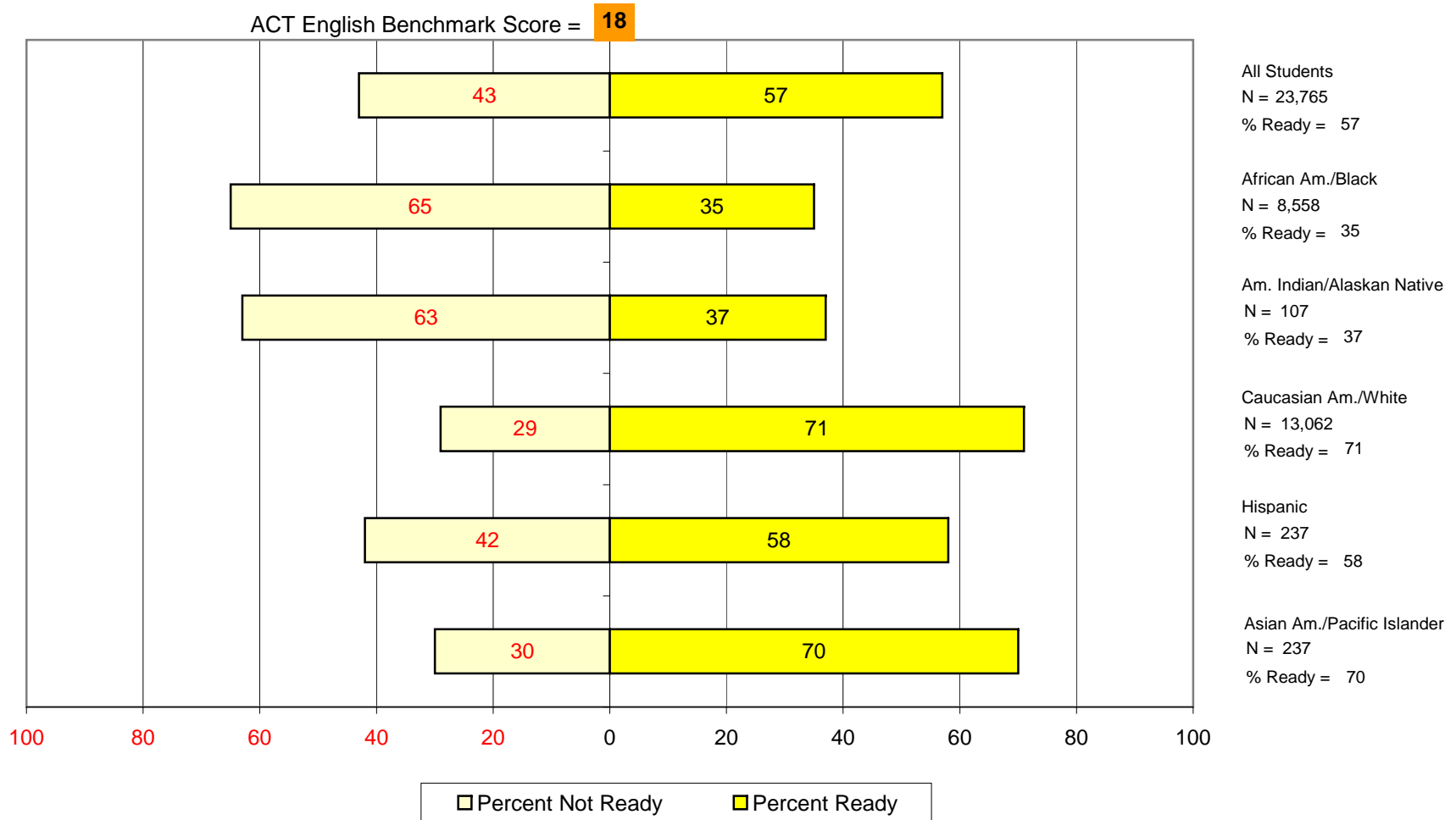


Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: MATHEMATICS

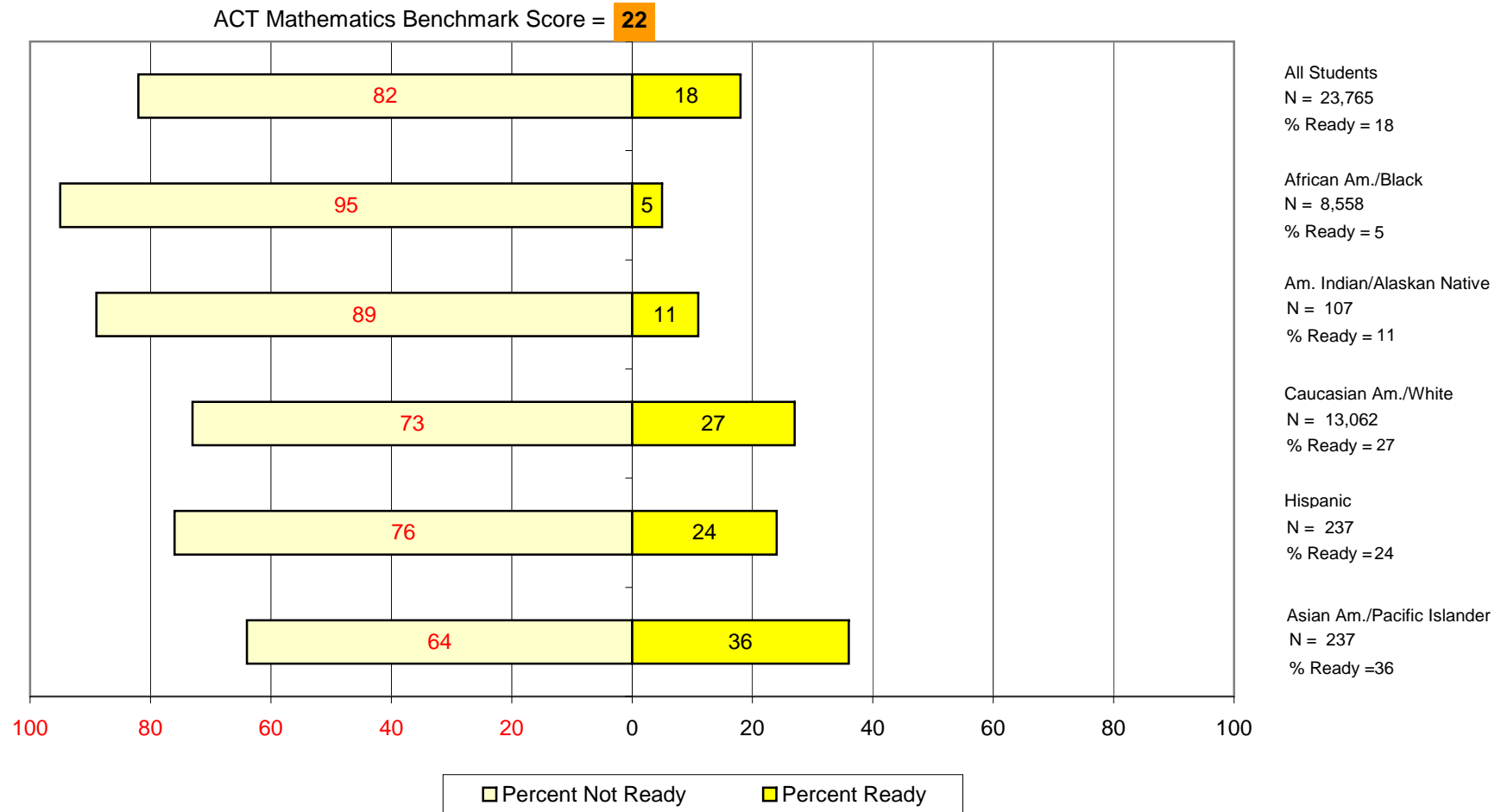


Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: READING

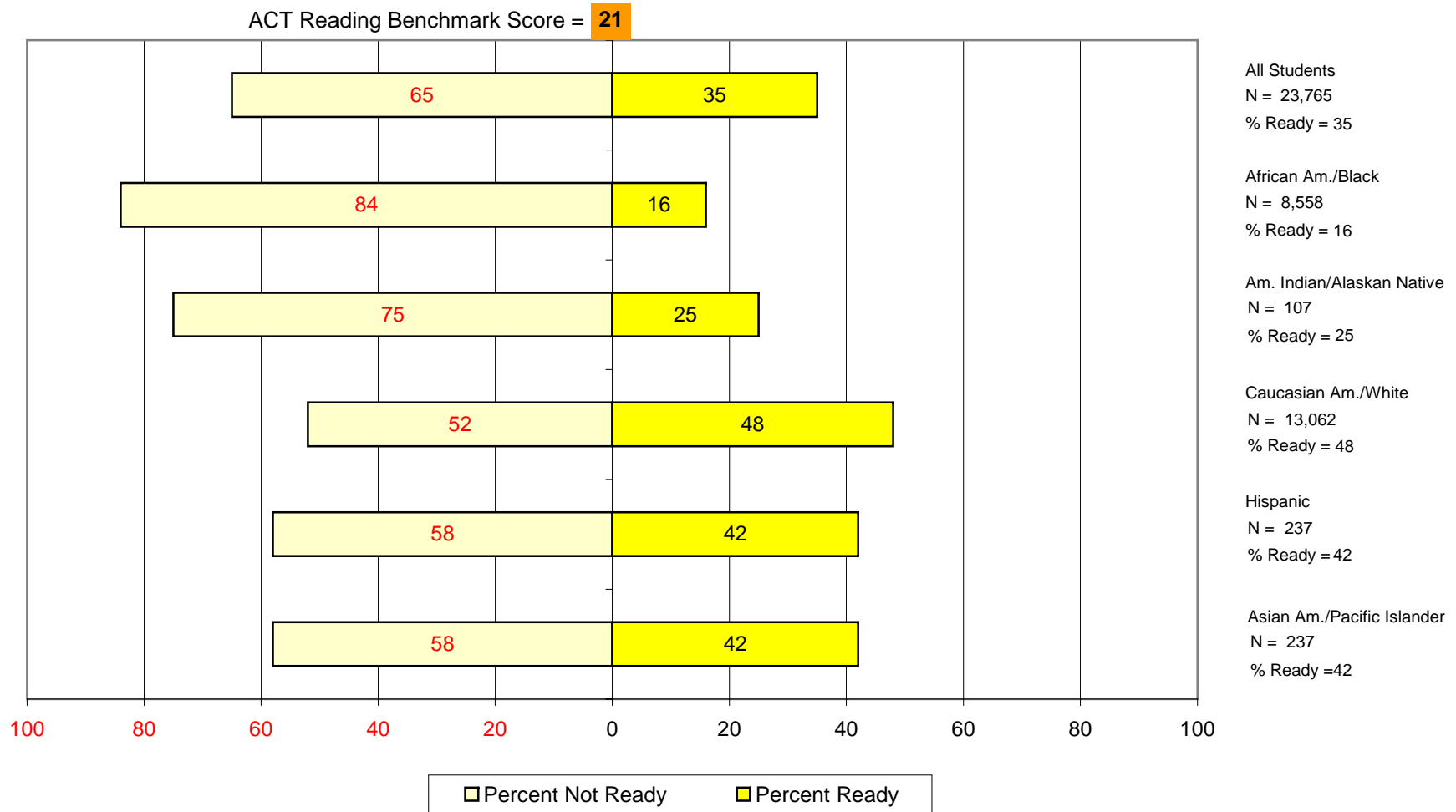


Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: SCIENCE

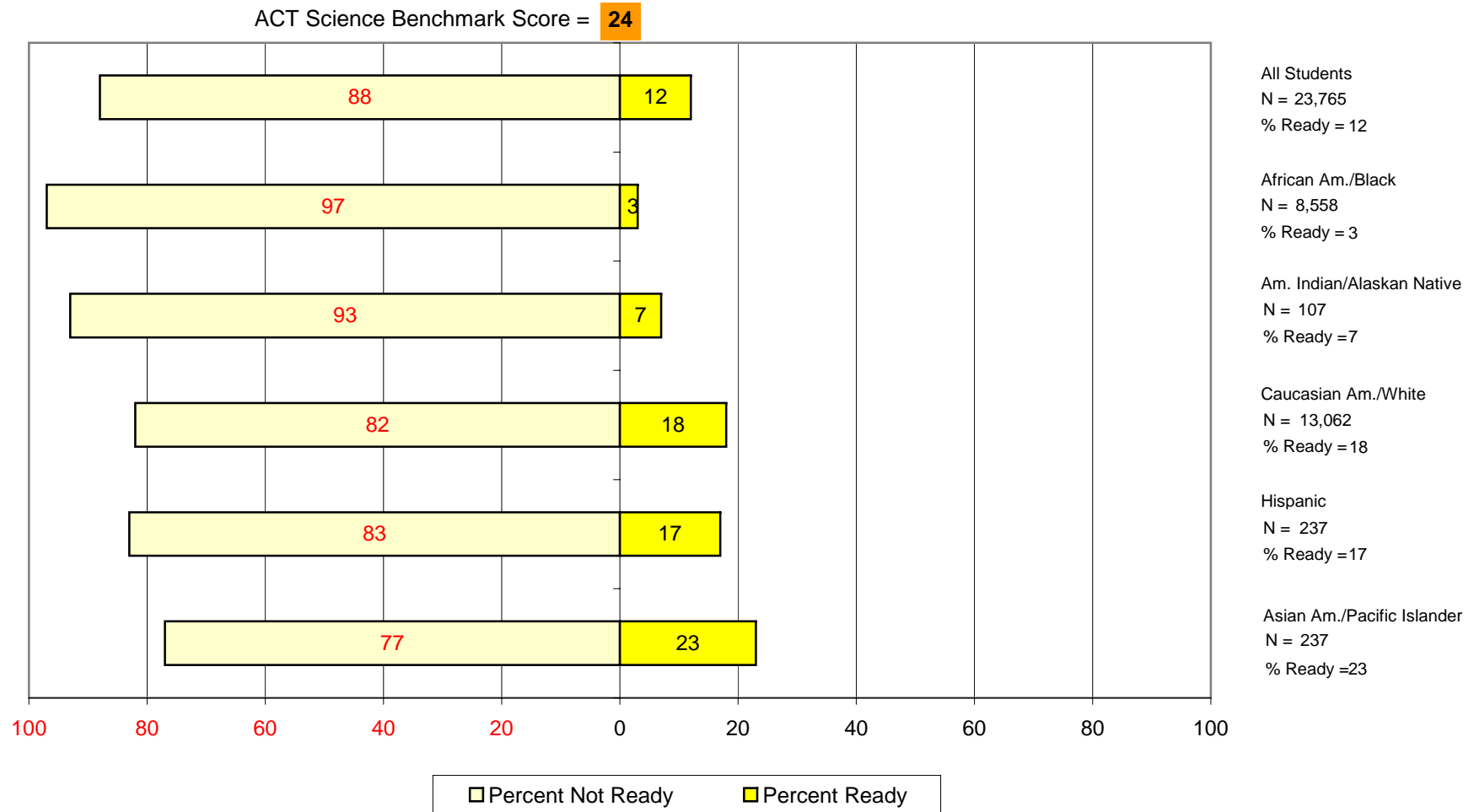


Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ALL FOUR

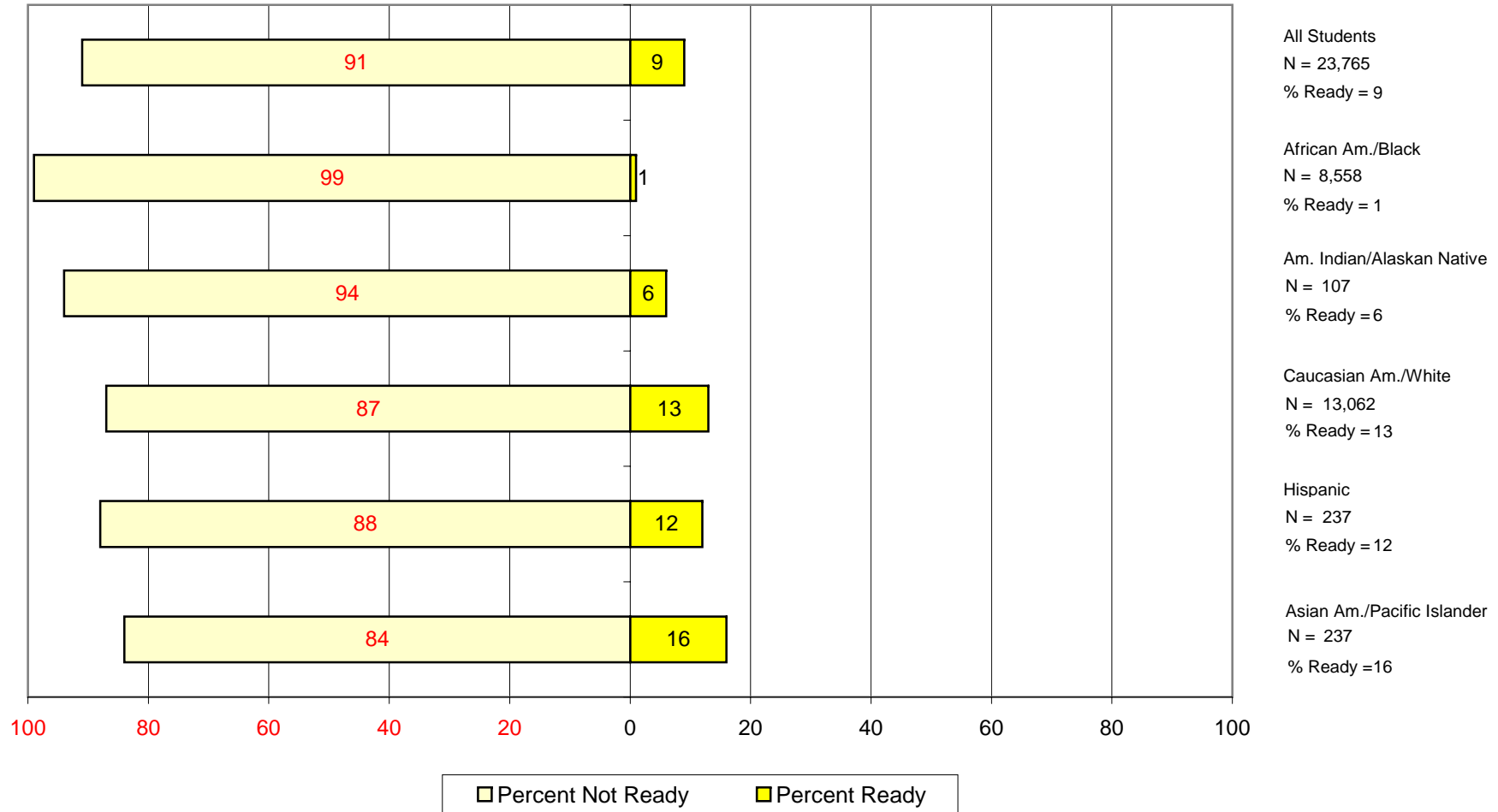


Table 3.1. Average ACT Scores and ACT Average Score Changes by Common Course Patterns

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	4,163	18	21.0	3.5	1,707	17	20.4	3.1	2,429	18	21.4	3.8
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	16,677	70	18.8	1.3	6,989	68	18.3	1.0	9,521	72	19.1	1.5
Less than 4 years of English	1,462	6	17.5	-	756	7	17.3	-	672	5	17.6	-
No English course/grade information reported	1,463	6	18.5	-	762	7	17.8	-	574	4	19.3	-
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,110	5	20.3	4.7	501	5	21.1	5.2	604	5	19.7	4.5
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	2,524	11	19.4	3.8	872	9	20.2	4.3	1,635	12	19.0	3.8
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	1,963	8	18.2	2.6	790	8	18.7	2.8	1,156	9	17.8	2.6
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,069	4	18.2	2.6	401	4	18.8	2.9	657	5	17.7	2.5
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	4,585	19	21.0	5.4	2,101	21	21.9	6.0	2,457	19	20.3	5.1
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	6,514	27	16.3	0.7	2,673	26	16.7	0.8	3,773	29	15.9	0.7
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	860	4	17.3	1.7	415	4	17.8	1.9	439	3	16.7	1.5
Less than 3 years of Math	3,622	15	15.6	-	1,665	16	15.9	-	1,878	14	15.2	-
No Math course/grade information reported	1,518	6	18.0	-	796	8	18.1	-	597	5	17.7	-
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	443	2	20.4	3.1	226	2	20.1	2.9	216	2	20.7	3.3
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	16,042	68	19.7	2.4	6,492	64	19.5	2.3	9,408	71	19.8	2.4
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	450	2	17.1	-0.2	240	2	16.8	-0.4	206	2	17.4	0.0
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	3,725	16	17.6	0.3	1,642	16	17.4	0.2	2,034	15	17.7	0.3
Less than 3 years of Social Science	1,560	7	17.3	-	799	8	17.2	-	725	5	17.4	-
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	1,545	7	18.8	-	815	8	18.4	-	607	5	19.3	-
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem, & Phys	4,695	20	20.6	3.2	2,196	21	21.3	3.8	2,465	19	20.0	2.7
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,576	7	21.4	4.0	725	7	22.2	4.7	833	6	20.6	3.3
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	7,056	30	18.5	1.1	2,715	27	18.8	1.3	4,275	32	18.3	1.0
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	344	1	17.6	0.2	182	2	18.2	0.7	160	1	17.0	-0.3
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	8,520	36	17.4	-	3,575	35	17.5	-	4,839	37	17.3	-
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	1,574	7	18.4	-	821	8	18.6	-	624	5	18.0	-

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	4,163	18	21.0	70	272,554	23	21.8	77
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	16,677	70	18.8	55	668,226	55	20.4	67
Less than 4 years of English	1,462	6	17.5	48	115,551	10	19.4	62
No English course/grade information reported	1,463	6	18.5	53	150,124	12	20.3	67
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,110	5	20.3	37	67,960	6	24.7	74
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	2,524	11	19.4	27	90,348	7	22.2	56
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	1,963	8	18.2	18	95,613	8	20.4	38
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,069	4	18.2	18	153,394	13	20.3	37
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	4,585	19	21.0	44	244,137	20	24.0	68
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	6,514	27	16.3	4	209,836	17	17.8	14
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	860	4	17.3	12	54,965	5	20.6	40
Less than 3 years of Math	3,622	15	15.6	3	131,567	11	17.9	18
No Math course/grade information reported	1,518	6	18.0	18	158,635	13	20.8	42
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	443	2	20.4	44	31,335	3	22.7	60
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	16,042	68	19.7	40	443,622	37	21.9	57
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	450	2	17.1	21	67,943	6	20.8	48
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	3,725	16	17.6	24	325,879	27	21.3	52
Less than 3 years of Social Science	1,560	7	17.3	22	179,270	15	20.5	46
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	1,545	7	18.8	34	158,406	13	21.2	52
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	4,695	20	20.6	25	320,821	27	22.3	38
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,576	7	21.4	29	115,519	10	23.2	45
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	7,056	30	18.5	9	339,689	28	20.2	19
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	344	1	17.6	10	32,330	3	20.5	24
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	8,520	36	17.4	5	234,307	19	19.1	14
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	1,574	7	18.4	11	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	474	2	16.8	119	4	15.2	328	2	17.4
Architecture & Environmental Design	425	2	19.2	43	2	15.7	369	2	19.8
Business & Management	1,626	7	18.4	160	6	15.9	1,397	8	18.7
Business & Office	168	1	17.4	43	2	15.7	115	1	18.2
Marketing & Distribution	128	1	18.4	16	1	15.2	106	1	18.8
Communications & Comm. Technologies	343	1	20.3	17	1	16.3	311	2	20.6
Community & Personal Services	693	3	16.6	156	6	15.4	488	3	17.1
Computer & Information Sciences	599	3	18.8	75	3	16.6	494	3	19.1
Cross-Disciplinary Studies	9	0	23.2	0	0	.	8	0	23.8
Education	673	3	18.4	50	2	15.6	598	3	18.7
Teacher Education	521	2	17.8	39	1	15.4	453	3	18.1
Engineering	969	4	19.7	90	3	16.2	832	5	20.2
Engineering-Related Technologies	539	2	19.2	76	3	14.5	440	2	20.1
Foreign Languages	59	0	22.6	2	0	22.5	55	0	22.5
Health Sciences & Allied Health Fields	6,252	26	18.7	726	27	16.2	5,287	30	19.2
Human, Family & Consumer Science	258	1	16.8	59	2	15.6	179	1	17.3
Letters	60	0	22.2	3	0	17.0	53	0	22.4
Mathematics	70	0	21.9	5	0	15.2	62	0	22.5
Philosophy, Religion & Theology	105	0	21.8	0	0	.	96	1	21.8
Sciences (Biological & Physical)	692	3	21.6	9	0	16.7	656	4	21.7
Social Sciences	1,288	5	20.0	32	1	16.5	1,216	7	20.1
Trade & Industrial	460	2	16.3	282	11	15.7	155	1	17.4
Visual & Performing Arts	998	4	19.1	131	5	15.8	797	4	19.7
Undecided	2,322	10	19.0	313	12	15.9	1,819	10	19.7
No Response	4,034	17	18.9	235	9	15.7	1,546	9	19.8

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	532	15.5	235	14.3	0	.	260	16.6	3	19.7	2	18.0	32	15.6
2-yr College Degree	2,149	15.9	876	14.7	17	15.6	1,115	17.0	19	16.7	17	16.6	105	15.5
Bachelors Degree	7,785	18.3	2,693	16.0	21	18.1	4,538	19.6	65	18.2	71	19.7	397	18.2
Graduate Study	3,307	20.4	1,017	17.4	12	16.9	2,008	22.0	30	21.5	35	21.7	205	19.9
Prof. Level Degree	6,768	20.2	2,641	17.8	39	18.5	3,479	22.1	75	21.4	83	22.7	451	19.9
Other	766	17.0	355	15.5	5	16.4	335	18.4	7	19.4	10	19.0	54	17.2
No Response	2,458	18.6	741	15.9	13	15.0	1,327	20.0	38	18.6	19	22.2	320	19.0

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
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY	Mississippi	8,081	2,284	5,797	2	15	36	27	14	6	0
UNIVERSITY SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI	Mississippi	6,353	1,531	4,822	2	16	40	28	11	3	0
UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI	Mississippi	6,260	1,753	4,507	1	10	34	30	17	8	1
JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY	Mississippi	3,023	726	2,297	7	37	42	12	2	0	0
DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY	Mississippi	2,241	516	1,725	3	22	38	25	9	2	0
ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY	Mississippi	2,110	665	1,445	7	37	42	12	2	0	0
JONES COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,793	800	993	4	24	41	23	6	1	0
NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,773	753	1,020	5	28	40	20	5	1	0
NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI COMM COLL	Mississippi	1,651	695	956	4	23	41	23	8	2	0
ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,590	810	780	4	23	40	23	8	2	0
HINDS COMM COLLEGE-RAYMOND CAMPUS	Mississippi	1,563	600	963	5	31	39	17	7	2	0
MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,477	302	1,175	1	10	28	31	19	9	0
PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,334	552	782	5	27	41	21	6	1	0
HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,310	485	825	7	29	37	20	6	1	0
MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,165	389	776	6	27	41	19	6	1	0
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIV	Mississippi	1,165	257	908	8	45	38	8	1	0	0
MISSISSIPPI UNIV FOR WOMEN	Mississippi	1,155	239	916	2	17	39	27	12	3	0
WILLIAM CAREY COLLEGE	Mississippi	992	140	852	3	19	41	23	11	4	0
COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	908	465	443	4	24	40	23	8	2	0
TOUGALOO COLLEGE	Mississippi	879	152	727	5	32	42	16	5	1	0
EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	865	419	446	5	28	41	18	7	1	0
MISSISSIPPI DELTA COMM COLL	Mississippi	839	277	562	9	37	39	11	2	1	0
UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CTR	Mississippi	796	61	735	2	17	39	29	10	3	0
HINDS COMM COLLEGE-JACKSON CAMPUS	Mississippi	732	191	541	7	37	40	13	2	1	0
UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS	Tennessee	716	167	549	3	22	39	27	8	2	0
MS GULF COAST CC-PERKINSTON CAMPUS	Mississippi	669	238	431	3	20	42	24	8	1	0
MS GULF COAST CC-JEFFERSON DAVIS CAMPUS	Mississippi	656	245	411	3	18	41	26	9	2	0
MILLSAPS COLLEGE	Mississippi	654	97	557	2	10	25	26	21	15	2
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA	Alabama	651	205	446	2	8	35	33	16	6	0
LOUISIANA ST UNIV/A&M-BATON ROUGE	Louisiana	644	167	477	1	11	27	31	20	9	1
All Other Institutions		20,208	4,773	15,435	3	19	34	23	13	7	1
Total		74,253	20,954	53,299	3	21	37	23	11	4	0

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	1,779	430,404	22.7	22.4	6.8	7.7	21.4	22.0
African Am./Black	493	38,583	18.1	17.5	6.1	6.8	17.4	17.6
Am. Indian/Alaskan Native	7	2,803	18.3	19.8	6.1	7.1	17.4	19.6
Caucasian Am./White	1,043	269,428	24.6	23.4	7.0	7.8	23.0	22.8
Hispanic	32	33,207	23.9	18.9	7.1	7.4	22.5	19.1
Asian Am./Pacific Islander	46	21,275	25.1	23.0	7.5	8.0	23.7	22.8
Other/No Response	158	65,108	23.6	22.8	7.2	7.9	22.4	22.5
Males	672	170,904	22.8	22.1	6.5	7.4	21.2	21.5
Females	1,069	240,056	22.7	22.6	7.0	7.9	21.5	22.3
Missing	38	19,444	22.0	22.1	7.1	7.8	21.2	21.9

