

# ACT High School Profile Report

The Graduating Class of 2007  
South Dakota





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This report provides information about the performance of your 2007 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** - colleges 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:**

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

## How to Improve Scores and Increase College Readiness

27% of 2007 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.** 6,975 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. 58% 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 11% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 18% were college ready. 15% of the cohort reported taking the minimum core (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). 21% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 62% 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 18% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 15% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 39% of students who took at least three years of science coursework were college ready.

**EVALUATING RIGOR OF COURSES.** Table 2.6 reports the percentage of students falling in each of the ACT College Readiness Standards score ranges. For example, approximately 38% 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](http://www.act.org/standard).

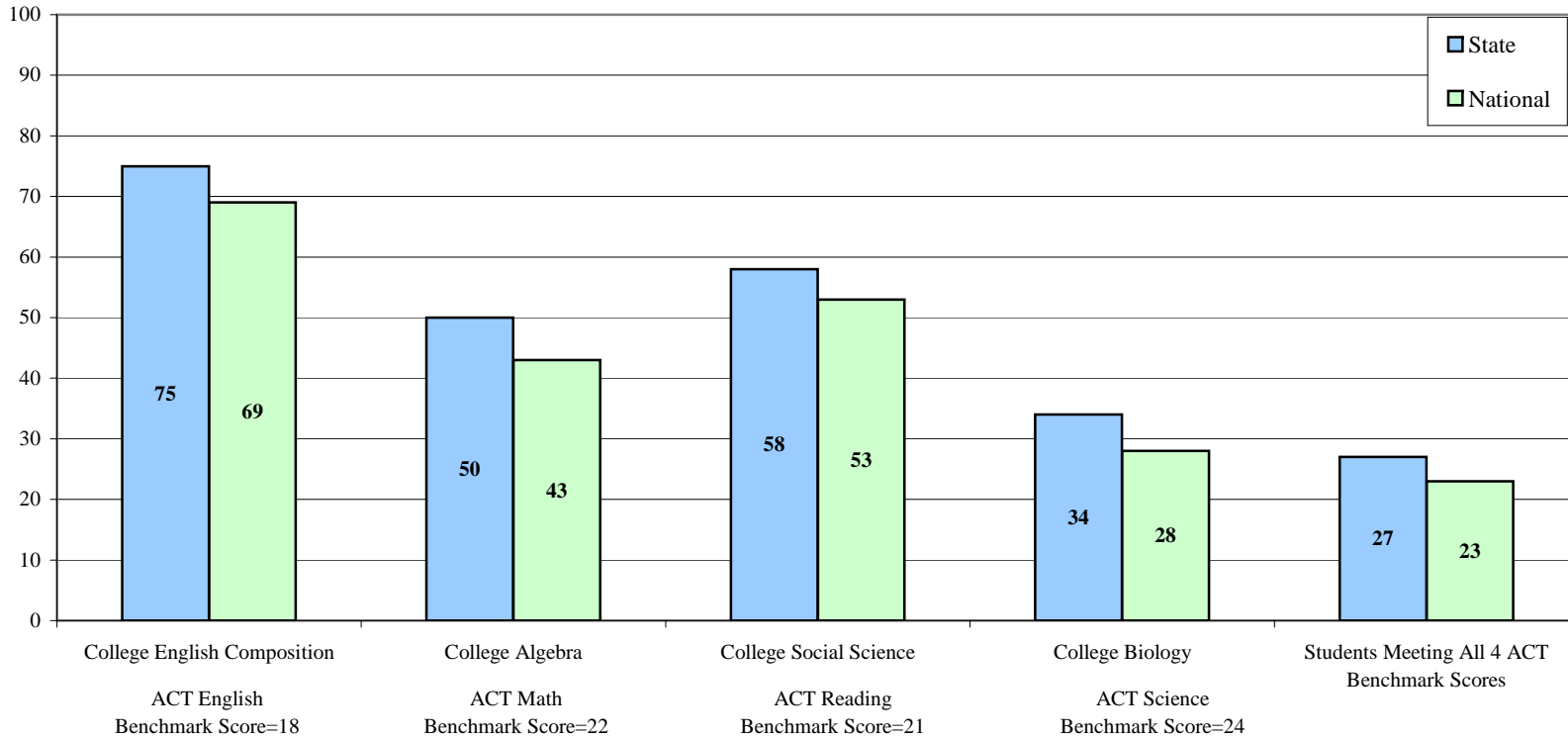
**PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS.** Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic 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 916-631-9200.

# 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 course.**



**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
2003	7,327	1,175,059	71	67	46	40	55	52	30	26	23	20
2004	7,408	1,171,460	71	68	47	40	56	52	31	26	25	21
2005	7,170	1,186,251	72	68	46	41	55	51	31	26	24	21
2006	6,807	1,206,455	74	69	49	42	58	53	33	27	26	21
<b>2007</b>	<b>6,975</b>	<b>1,300,599</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>23</b>

**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
2003	7,327	1,175,059	20.6	20.3	21.2	20.6	21.7	21.2	21.6	20.8	21.4	20.8
2004	7,408	1,171,460	20.7	20.4	21.4	20.7	21.8	21.3	21.6	20.9	21.5	20.9
2005	7,170	1,186,251	20.8	20.4	21.3	20.7	21.7	21.3	21.6	20.9	21.5	20.9
2006	6,807	1,206,455	21.0	20.6	21.6	20.8	22.0	21.4	21.8	20.9	21.8	21.1
<b>2007</b>	<b>6,975</b>	<b>1,300,599</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>21.2</b>

**Table 1.3. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores Nationwide**

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested	Average ACT Scores				
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
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
<b>2007</b>	<b>1,300,599</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>21.2</b>

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

Grad Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent <sup>1</sup>		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
2003	4,427	2,626	60	36	21.7	18.8	22.2	19.5	22.6	20.2	22.4	20.4	22.4	19.8
2004	4,383	2,723	59	37	21.9	18.9	22.5	19.7	22.8	20.3	22.5	20.2	22.6	19.9
2005	4,149	2,659	58	37	22.0	19.1	22.4	19.7	22.7	20.2	22.5	20.3	22.5	19.9
2006	3,949	2,435	58	36	22.2	19.2	22.7	19.9	23.0	20.4	22.7	20.5	22.8	20.2
<b>2007</b>	<b>4,041</b>	<b>2,223</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>20.0</b>

<sup>1</sup>Percent 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**

	2003			2004			2005			2006			2007		
	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
<b>All Students</b>	<b>7,327</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>7,408</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>7,170</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>6,807</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>6,975</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.9</b>
African American/Black	29	0	16.9	38	1	16.7	49	1	17.7	57	1	19.0	62	1	18.8
American Indian/Alaska Native	364	5	17.0	380	5	17.1	410	6	16.9	416	6	17.5	414	6	17.6
Caucasian American/White	6,420	88	21.7	6,422	87	21.8	6,167	86	21.9	5,711	84	22.1	5,656	81	22.3
Hispanic	56	1	21.4	54	1	20.8	62	1	20.3	49	1	21.1	68	1	20.4
Asian American/Pacific Islander	61	1	22.9	83	1	20.9	59	1	22.5	68	1	22.1	70	1	22.0
Other/No Response	397	5	20.9	431	6	21.2	423	6	20.8	506	7	21.7	705	10	21.8

# Section II

# Academic Achievement

**Table 2.1. ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percentages (CP<sup>1</sup>), and Score Averages for All Students**

ACT Scale Score	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite		ACT Scale Score
	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	
36	7	100	8	100	16	100	12	100	0	100	36
35	57	100	19	100	60	100	43	100	6	100	35
34	92	99	40	100	96	99	25	99	29	100	34
33	73	98	36	99	119	98	55	99	47	99	33
32	77	97	77	99	144	96	46	98	65	99	32
31	118	96	118	97	209	94	78	97	99	98	31
30	125	94	115	96	209	91	117	96	148	96	30
29	170	92	207	94	199	88	108	95	190	94	29
28	265	90	216	91	328	85	174	93	244	92	28
27	218	86	394	88	296	80	244	91	333	88	27
26	295	83	375	82	317	76	379	87	337	83	26
25	432	79	533	77	329	71	525	82	472	79	25
24	399	72	520	69	426	67	541	74	605	72	24
23	386	67	396	62	496	61	603	66	458	63	23
22	520	61	413	56	404	53	747	58	537	57	22
21	541	54	438	50	400	48	729	47	592	49	21
20	568	46	411	44	544	42	697	37	549	40	20
19	524	38	509	38	430	34	462	27	566	32	19
18	340	30	520	31	291	28	459	20	515	24	18
17	310	25	501	23	391	24	272	13	383	17	17
16	365	21	582	16	349	18	199	9	269	11	16
15	318	16	303	8	263	13	139	7	215	8	15
14	261	11	183	3	254	9	97	5	148	5	14
13	129	7	38	1	163	6	75	3	97	2	13
12	125	6	18	1	141	3	51	2	47	1	12
11	90	4	4	1	63	1	42	1	20	1	11
10	59	2	1	1	18	1	32	1	4	1	10
9	50	2	0	1	12	1	14	1	0	1	9
8	41	1	0	1	7	1	4	1	0	1	8
7	13	1	0	1	1	1	6	1	0	1	7
6	6	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	6
5	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	5
4	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	4
3	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	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
Avg (SD)	21.3 (5.6)		21.7 (4.8)		22.1 (5.7)		21.9 (4.4)		21.9 (4.6)		Avg (SD)

<sup>1</sup>Note: 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 (CP<sup>1</sup>), 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 <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	N	CP <sup>1</sup>	
18	160	100	38	100	91	100	188	100	168	100	32	100	47	100	18
17	368	98	106	99	387	99	326	97	313	98	41	100	43	99	17
16	275	92	295	98	440	93	460	93	425	93	141	99	218	99	16
15	265	88	466	94	463	87	512	86	503	87	313	97	384	96	15
14	518	85	531	87	541	80	584	79	662	80	588	92	654	90	14
13	551	77	611	79	506	72	622	70	833	70	939	84	777	81	13
12	612	69	809	71	951	65	709	61	611	58	803	71	857	70	12
11	724	61	1,052	59	822	52	580	51	651	50	892	59	877	57	11
10	850	50	867	44	604	40	686	43	722	40	1,154	46	1,093	45	10
9	646	38	712	32	629	31	607	33	561	30	865	30	856	29	9
8	660	29	656	21	719	22	478	24	649	22	520	17	448	17	8
7	465	19	383	12	348	12	404	18	552	13	260	10	368	10	7
6	391	13	216	6	222	7	456	12	238	5	212	6	149	5	6
5	256	7	129	3	120	4	216	5	49	1	118	3	66	3	5
4	137	3	75	1	86	2	115	2	30	1	30	1	70	2	4
3	65	1	24	1	29	1	22	1	8	1	57	1	35	1	3
2	30	1	4	1	10	1	10	1	0	1	0	1	17	1	2
1	2	1	1	1	7	1	0	1	0	1	10	1	16	1	1
Avg (SD)	10.7 (3.6)		10.9 (2.9)		11.3 (3.3)		11.2 (3.6)		11.5 (3.2)		10.8 (2.7)		11.0 (2.8)		Avg (SD)

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

**Table 2.3. ACT Score Quartile Values for All Students**

Quartile	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
Q3 (75th Percentile)	25	25	26	25	25
Q2 (50th Percentile)	21	21	22	22	22
Q1 (25th Percentile)	17	18	18	19	19

**Table 2.4. 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	<b>All Students</b>	<b>6,975</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>20.0</b>
	African Am./Black	62	52	20.3	18.2
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	414	44	19.4	16.2
	Caucasian Am./White	5,656	61	23.2	20.4
	Hispanic	68	50	21.5	19.2
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	70	63	22.9	20.2
	Other/No Response	705	41	22.5	20.3
National	<b>All Students</b>	<b>1,300,599</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>19.8</b>
	African Am./Black	152,412	51	17.7	16.1
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	14,044	46	20.3	17.6
	Caucasian Am./White	779,147	54	23.0	20.7
	Hispanic	93,137	50	19.5	17.7
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	42,257	57	23.1	21.4
	Other/No Response	219,602	38	22.5	20.4

**Table 2.5. Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity**

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
State	<b>All Students</b>	21.3	21.7	22.1	21.9	21.9
	African Am./Black	17.4	18.6	19.2	19.4	18.8
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	16.3	17.5	18.4	17.9	17.6
	Caucasian Am./White	21.7	22.1	22.5	22.3	22.3
	Hispanic	19.9	19.9	20.6	20.5	20.4
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	20.8	22.8	21.9	21.9	22.0
	Other/No Response	21.3	21.7	22.1	21.8	21.8
National	<b>All Students</b>	20.7	21.0	21.5	21.0	21.2
	African Am./Black	16.1	17.0	17.1	17.2	17.0
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	17.9	18.7	19.4	19.2	18.9
	Caucasian Am./White	21.8	21.7	22.5	21.9	22.1
	Hispanic	17.6	19.0	18.8	18.8	18.7
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	21.7	23.6	22.1	22.3	22.6
	Other/No Response	21.2	21.5	22.0	21.3	21.6

**Table 2.6. 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	229	3	103	1	291	4	135	2
	28 to 32	755	11	733	11	1,089	16	523	7
	24 to 27	1,344	19	1,822	26	1,368	20	1,689	24
	20 to 23	2,015	29	1,658	24	1,844	26	2,776	40
	16 to 19	1,539	22	2,112	30	1,461	21	1,392	20
	13 to 15	708	10	524	8	680	10	311	4
	01 to 12	385	6	23	0	242	3	149	2
National	33 to 36	44,569	3	29,067	2	58,782	5	26,450	2
	28 to 32	133,320	10	120,951	9	183,189	14	80,170	6
	24 to 27	228,570	18	268,298	21	224,580	17	258,834	20
	20 to 23	348,772	27	284,073	22	317,869	24	458,484	35
	16 to 19	278,059	21	427,859	33	281,941	22	319,915	25
	13 to 15	154,534	12	161,072	12	159,904	12	95,630	7
	01 to 12	112,775	9	9,279	1	74,334	6	61,116	5

**Table 2.7. Average ACT Scores by Gender**

Student Group	Gender	N	Percent	Average ACT Scores				
				English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
State	Males	3,086	44	20.6	22.2	21.8	22.4	21.9
	Females	3,560	51	21.8	21.3	22.4	21.5	21.9
	Missing	329	5	21.6	21.9	22.1	21.9	22.0
National	Males	544,522	42	20.2	21.6	21.2	21.4	21.2
	Females	674,636	52	21.0	20.4	21.6	20.5	21.0
	Missing	81,441	6	21.7	21.9	22.4	21.7	22.1

**Table 2.8. 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	71	53	56	37	29
	Females	78	47	60	31	25
National	Males	66	47	51	32	26
	Females	71	38	53	24	20





# 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

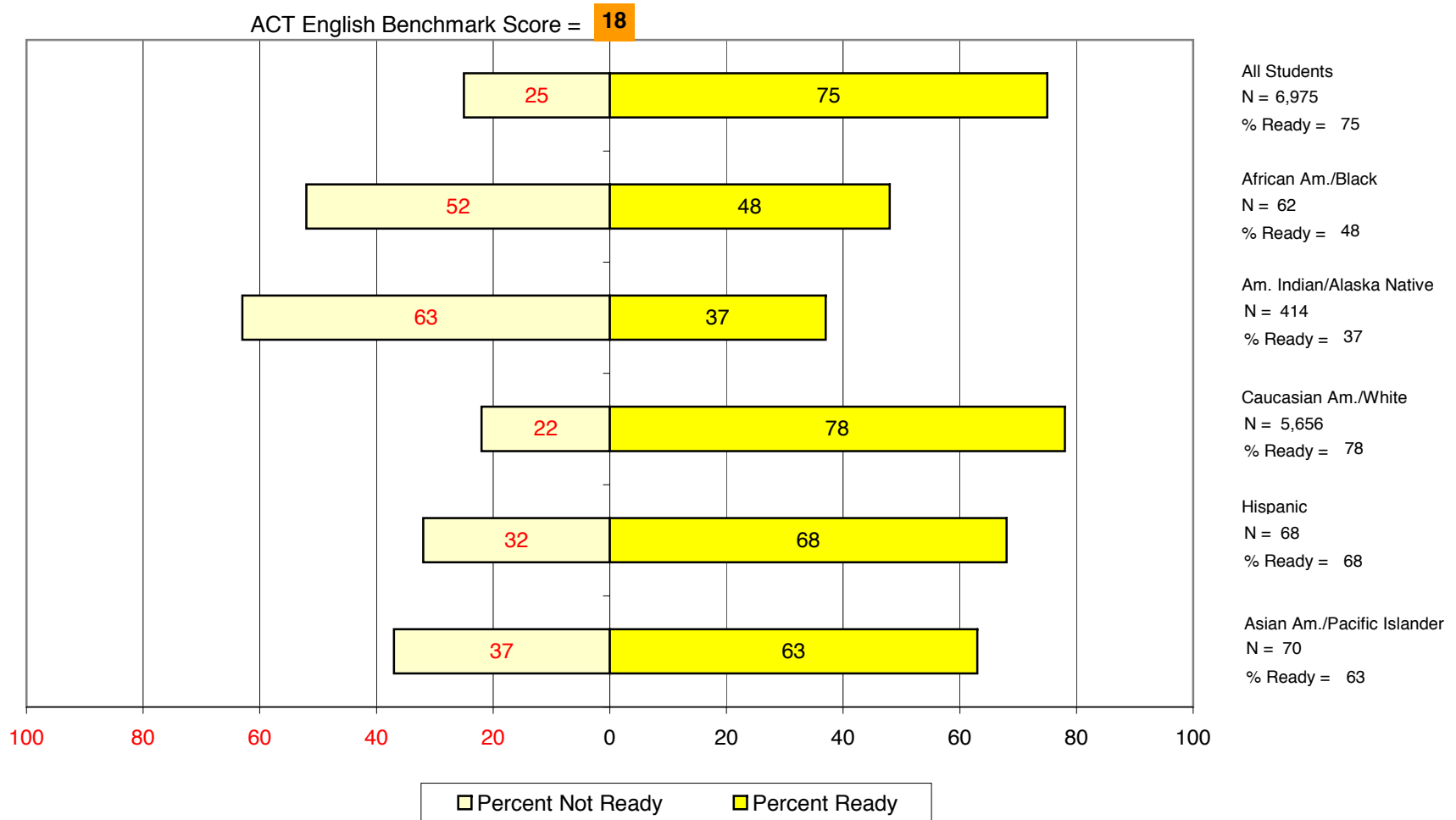


Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: MATHEMATICS

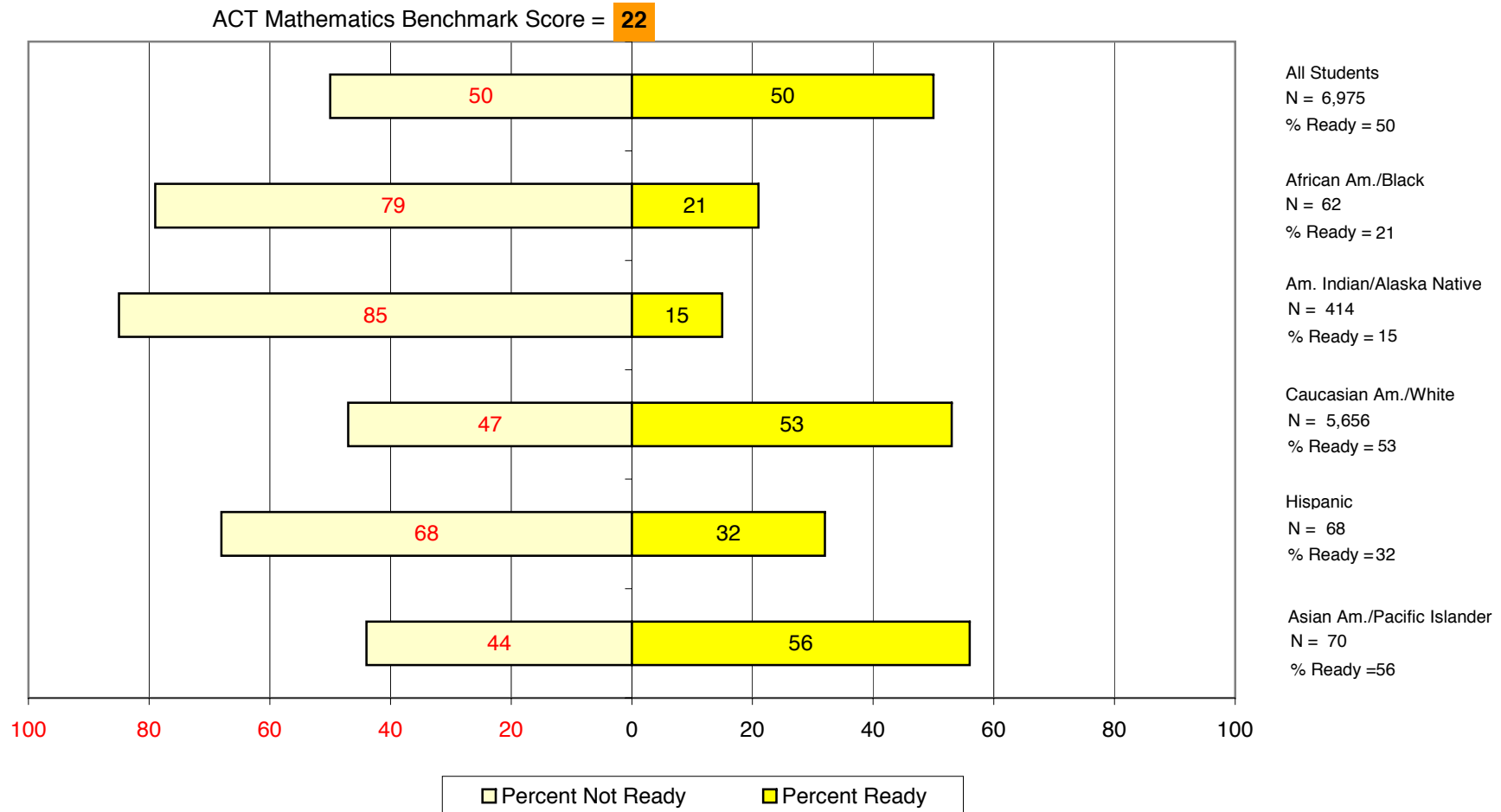


Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: **READING**

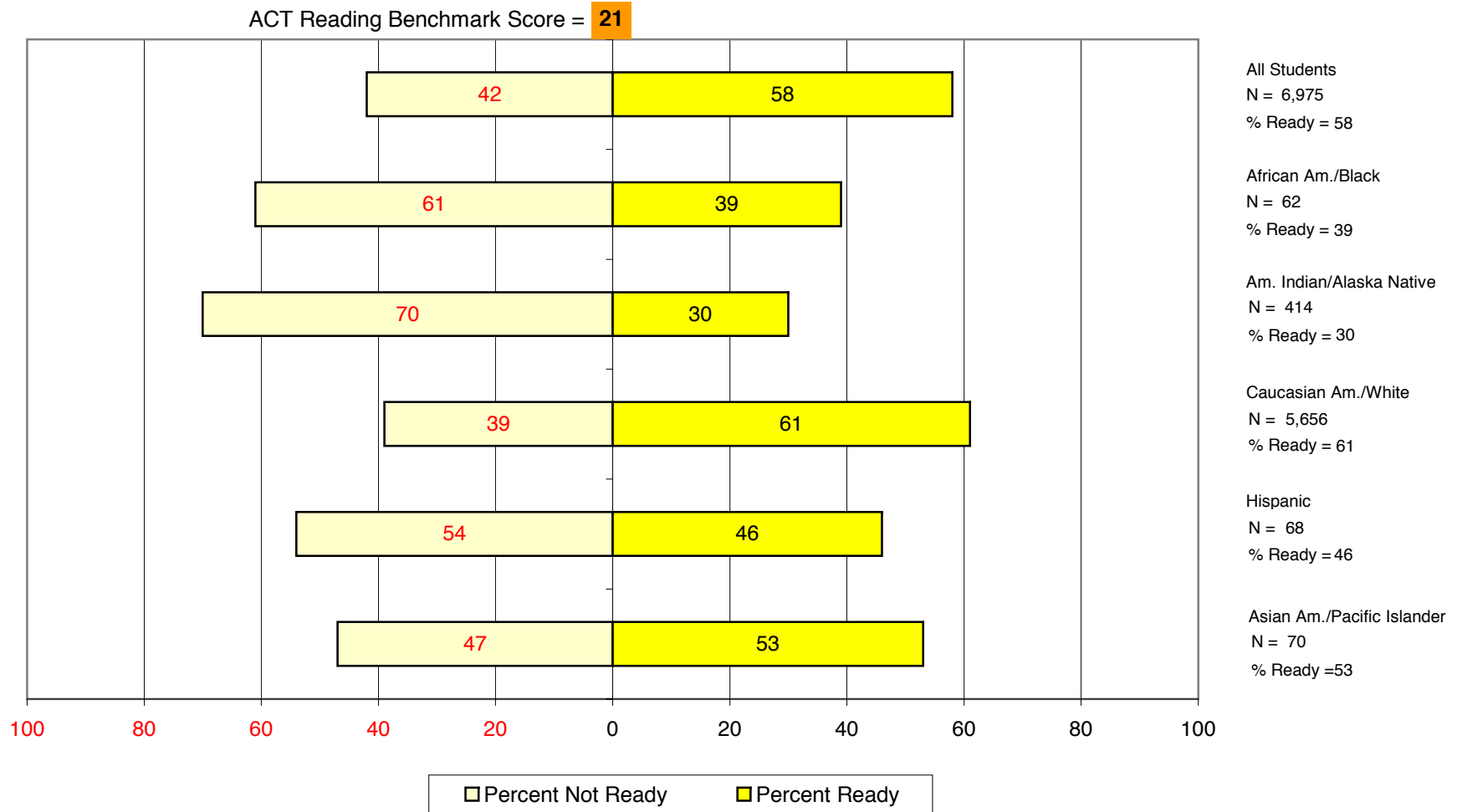


Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: SCIENCE

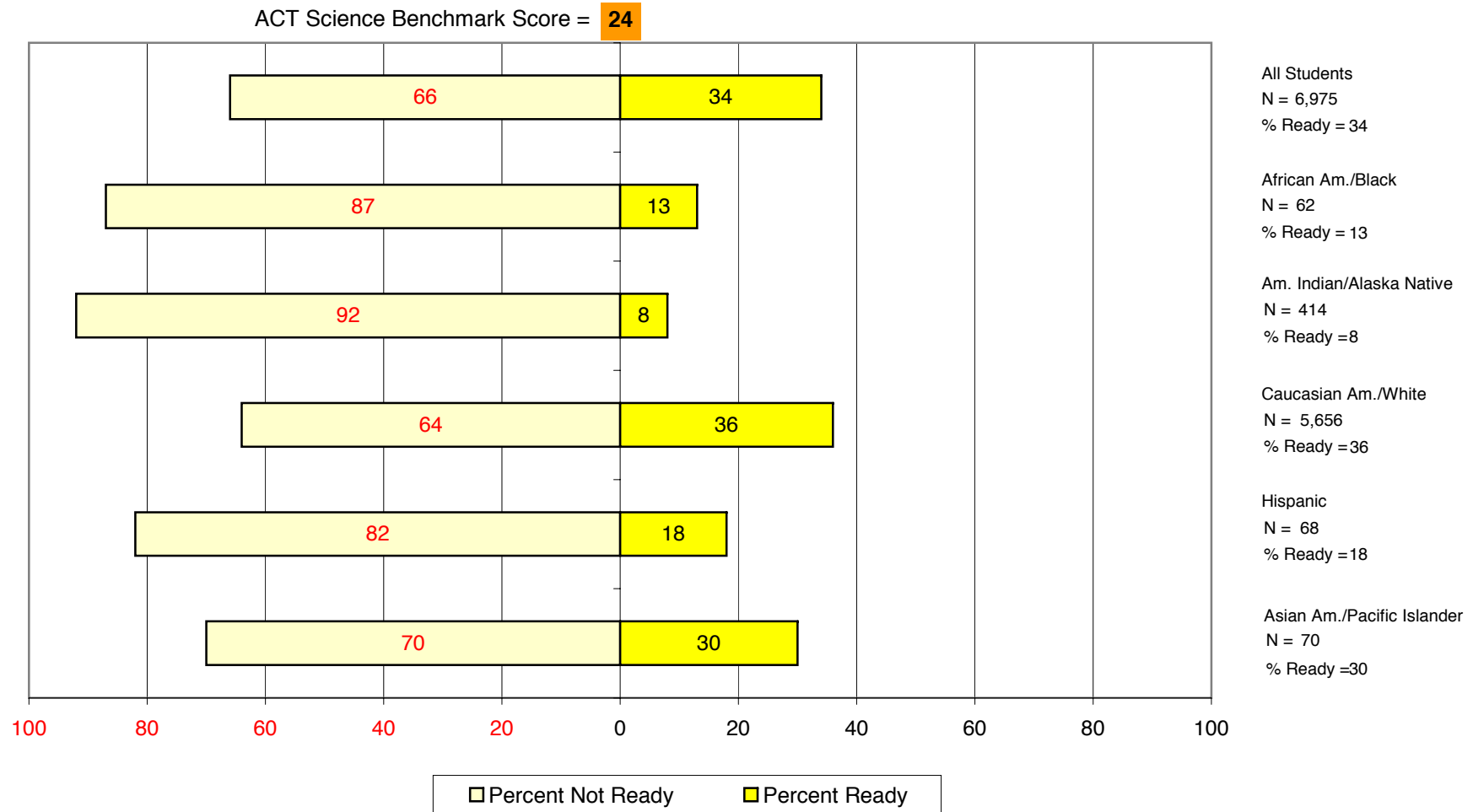
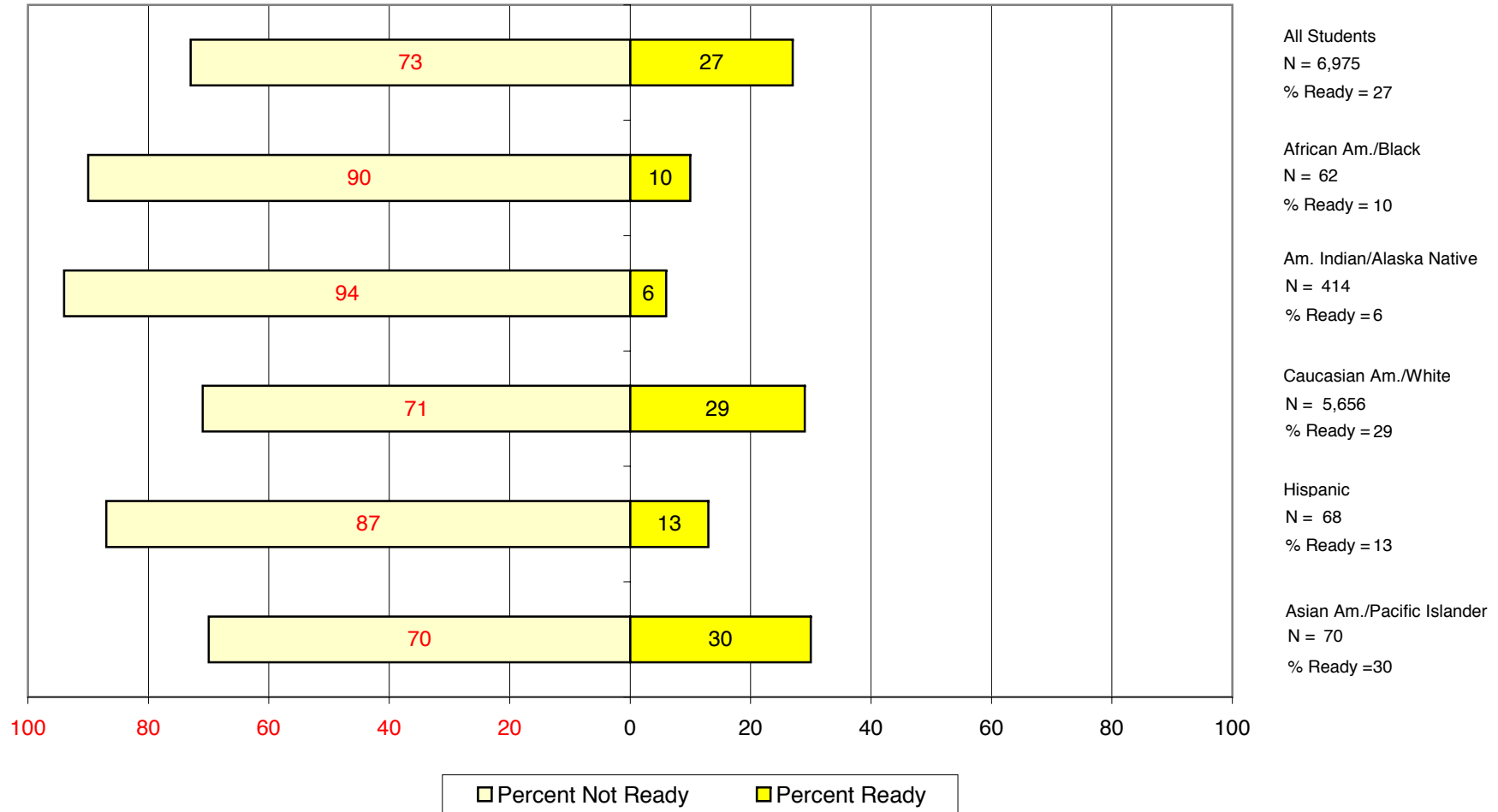


Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ALL FOUR



**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 <sup>1</sup>	N	Percent	ACT English	Course Value Added <sup>1</sup>	N	Percent	ACT English	Course Value Added <sup>1</sup>
<b>ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	1,530	22	22.6	1.9	609	20	22.3	2.2	887	25	22.8	1.6
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	4,038	58	20.8	0.1	1,882	61	20.1	0.0	2,037	57	21.5	0.3
Less than 4 years of English	665	10	20.7	-	285	9	20.1	-	346	10	21.2	-
No English course/grade information reported	742	11	21.4	-	310	10	20.4	-	290	8	21.9	-
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	363	5	25.4	7.4	155	5	26.2	7.9	193	5	24.9	7.4
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	422	6	23.0	5.0	167	5	23.5	5.2	241	7	22.6	5.1
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	470	7	22.1	4.1	211	7	22.6	4.3	244	7	21.8	4.3
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	866	12	21.8	3.8	349	11	22.3	4.0	486	14	21.5	4.0
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	1,790	26	24.5	6.5	810	26	25.3	7.0	940	26	23.8	6.3
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	1,072	15	18.8	0.8	498	16	19.4	1.1	537	15	18.3	0.8
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	460	7	19.8	1.8	210	7	20.3	2.0	238	7	19.3	1.8
Less than 3 years of Math	780	11	18.0	-	371	12	18.3	-	388	11	17.5	-
No Math course/grade information reported	752	11	21.7	-	315	10	21.7	-	293	8	21.3	-
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	17	0	24.2	3.3	9	0	24.0	3.6	4	0	21.5	0.1
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	2,838	41	22.5	1.6	1,220	40	22.4	2.0	1,550	44	22.6	1.2
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	100	1	19.6	-1.3	55	2	19.4	-1.0	35	1	19.6	-1.8
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	2,427	35	22.3	1.4	1,083	35	21.9	1.5	1,271	36	22.7	1.3
Less than 3 years of Social Science	837	12	20.9	-	402	13	20.4	-	405	11	21.4	-
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	756	11	22.0	-	317	10	21.5	-	295	8	22.5	-
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,203	32	23.7	4.1	1,068	35	24.3	4.4	1,082	30	23.2	3.9
Bio, Chem, Phys	147	2	26.0	6.4	74	2	26.4	6.5	69	2	25.4	6.1
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	2,328	33	21.4	1.8	884	29	21.8	1.9	1,372	39	21.2	1.9
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	248	4	21.2	1.6	138	4	21.4	1.5	98	3	20.9	1.6
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	1,280	18	19.6	-	599	19	19.9	-	638	18	19.3	-
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	769	11	21.7	-	323	10	21.8	-	301	8	21.4	-

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes 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
<b>ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	1,530	22	22.6	82	191,202	15	22.2	79
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	4,038	58	20.8	72	766,001	59	20.5	68
Less than 4 years of English	665	10	20.7	73	141,777	11	19.7	64
No English course/grade information reported	742	11	21.4	76	201,619	16	20.7	69
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	363	5	25.4	81	75,970	6	24.8	75
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	422	6	23.0	66	87,647	7	22.4	58
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	470	7	22.1	57	100,139	8	20.5	40
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	866	12	21.8	51	163,562	13	20.4	38
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	1,790	26	24.5	74	239,187	18	24.3	69
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	1,072	15	18.8	21	218,745	17	17.9	15
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	460	7	19.8	28	57,945	4	20.9	43
Less than 3 years of Math	780	11	18.0	18	145,617	11	18.3	21
No Math course/grade information reported	752	11	21.7	49	211,787	16	21.1	44
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	17	0	24.2	82	31,985	2	22.7	61
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	2,838	41	22.5	60	448,356	34	22.0	56
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	100	1	19.6	37	72,952	6	20.8	48
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	2,427	35	22.3	59	333,689	26	21.4	52
Less than 3 years of Social Science	837	12	20.9	50	201,605	16	20.6	47
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	756	11	22.0	59	212,012	16	21.5	53
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,203	32	23.7	50	333,648	26	22.4	40
Bio, Chem, Phys	147	2	26.0	69	115,297	9	23.4	48
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	2,328	33	21.4	27	353,348	27	20.2	20
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	248	4	21.2	24	32,593	3	20.4	24
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	1,280	18	19.6	15	247,312	19	19.1	15
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	769	11	21.7	33	218,401	17	20.9	29

<sup>1</sup>Includes 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 <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Avg ACT Comp
Agriculture Sciences & Technologies	173	2	19.9	49	7	18.3	116	2	20.7
Architecture & Environmental Design	110	2	21.5	22	3	19.4	80	2	22.3
Business & Management	414	6	21.5	37	5	19.2	363	7	21.9
Business & Office	27	0	19.9	5	1	16.0	22	0	20.8
Marketing & Distribution	30	0	22.0	1	0	21.0	26	1	22.5
Communications & Comm. Technologies	124	2	21.9	14	2	20.2	105	2	22.3
Community & Personal Services	178	3	19.0	46	6	17.8	121	2	19.5
Computer & Information Sciences	158	2	22.6	19	3	17.8	135	3	23.3
Cross-Disciplinary Studies	7	0	21.1	1	0	15.0	6	0	22.2
Education	217	3	21.5	6	1	16.0	201	4	21.7
Teacher Education	158	2	20.8	3	0	20.3	144	3	20.8
Engineering	221	3	23.1	18	2	16.2	201	4	23.7
Engineering-Related Technologies	153	2	22.8	21	3	19.5	124	2	23.6
Foreign Languages	15	0	23.2	0	0	.	14	0	23.4
Health Sciences & Allied Health Fields	1,241	18	22.1	109	15	18.3	1,085	21	22.6
Human, Family & Consumer Science	55	1	19.5	14	2	17.5	41	1	20.1
Letters	35	1	24.4	2	0	20.0	29	1	25.5
Mathematics	22	0	26.9	1	0	15.0	21	0	27.5
Philosophy, Religion & Theology	31	0	23.3	1	0	20.0	28	1	23.3
Sciences (Biological & Physical)	288	4	24.4	8	1	20.1	270	5	24.5
Social Sciences	366	5	23.1	9	1	18.1	344	7	23.4
Trade & Industrial	156	2	18.4	113	15	18.1	37	1	19.3
Visual & Performing Arts	284	4	21.8	31	4	18.4	238	5	22.4
Undecided	1,000	14	21.6	114	16	18.5	802	16	22.2
No Response	1,512	22	22.0	90	12	18.3	522	10	22.7

<sup>1</sup>2-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*.

<sup>2</sup>Percent 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/ Alaska 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	347	18.1	1	14.0	23	15.3	296	18.3	0	.	1	15.0	26	18.2
2-yr College Degree	387	18.6	3	15.3	39	15.7	304	19.1	4	18.0	3	15.7	34	18.2
Bachelors Degree	2,745	21.4	23	18.7	136	17.7	2,342	21.7	28	19.4	22	19.3	194	20.8
Graduate Study	807	23.9	5	19.4	34	19.4	704	24.2	9	22.1	6	24.0	49	22.7
Prof. Level Degree	1,523	23.7	14	21.6	102	19.2	1,235	24.2	16	22.8	25	25.6	131	23.4
Other	188	19.7	5	17.6	21	16.7	144	20.3	2	17.5	4	19.3	12	19.5
No Response	978	21.9	11	17.4	59	16.3	631	22.3	9	19.3	9	21.3	259	22.6

**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
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	3,034	1,281	1,753	1	4	24	32	28	10	1
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA	South Dakota	2,231	689	1,542	1	5	24	31	30	10	1
BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	1,123	409	714	1	7	33	31	22	5	0
AUGUSTANA COLLEGE	South Dakota	689	178	511	0	2	17	30	34	14	1
NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	676	187	489	1	7	29	32	25	6	0
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES	Minnesota	638	185	453	0	2	11	25	37	23	2
DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	633	178	455	0	6	33	33	22	6	0
UNIVERSITY OF SIOUX FALLS	South Dakota	633	116	517	1	5	24	37	24	9	0
SOUTH DAKOTA SCH OF MINES/TECH	South Dakota	564	182	382	1	4	15	25	35	17	2
SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	557	177	380	1	14	38	33	13	2	0
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT LINCOLN	Nebraska	535	143	392	0	2	10	26	36	21	4
LAKE AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	395	169	226	3	15	41	30	9	3	0
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO	Minnesota	297	57	240	0	2	18	35	33	11	0
MITCHELL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	282	74	208	2	15	49	23	9	2	0
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	North Dakota	282	72	210	1	3	21	30	31	13	2
DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	269	57	212	1	9	36	32	18	5	0
WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	244	75	169	3	22	41	23	11	0	0
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA	North Dakota	179	54	125	1	6	21	28	31	11	2
CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY	Nebraska	171	39	132	0	1	12	19	33	29	6
MOUNT MARTY COLLEGE	South Dakota	156	32	124	2	10	23	35	27	3	1
COLORADO TECHNICAL UNIV-SIOUX FALLS	South Dakota	151	22	129	1	13	44	28	10	3	0
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MOORHEAD	Minnesota	148	40	108	1	2	24	33	32	8	0
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING	Wyoming	142	41	101	0	6	17	37	32	6	1
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	Iowa	115	24	91	0	2	15	30	29	20	4
SAINT CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY	Minnesota	111	22	89	0	2	17	33	37	11	0
CHADRON STATE COLLEGE	Nebraska	107	36	71	3	10	37	28	19	3	0
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY	Colorado	107	26	81	1	3	12	34	32	19	0
SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	Minnesota	101	24	77	0	3	25	34	28	10	1
NATIONAL AMERICAN UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	98	20	78	2	16	39	30	12	1	0
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA	Iowa	96	13	83	2	1	14	27	38	16	3
All Other Institutions		4,891	1,177	3,714	2	7	21	27	25	17	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>19,655</b>	<b>5,799</b>	<b>13,856</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>

# 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
<b>All Students</b>	<b>1,465</b>	<b>532,943</b>	<b>23.9</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>21.8</b>
African Am./Black	16	50,340	19.9	17.2	6.6	6.7	19.1	17.3
Am. Indian/Alaska Native	90	3,462	18.6	19.8	6.7	7.0	18.3	19.4
Caucasian Am./White	1,138	308,578	24.4	23.4	7.7	7.6	23.5	22.6
Hispanic	19	42,588	21.5	18.8	7.3	7.3	20.9	19.0
Asian Am./Pacific Islander	22	25,616	23.4	23.2	7.6	8.0	22.7	22.8
Other/No Response	180	102,359	23.6	23.2	7.4	7.8	22.6	22.7
Males	564	204,427	23.9	22.0	7.4	7.3	22.8	21.3
Females	822	285,556	24.0	22.5	7.7	7.7	23.1	22.1
Missing	79	42,960	23.2	23.0	7.5	7.8	22.3	22.6



