

ACT High School Profile Report

The Graduating Class of 2008
Mississippi



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This report provides information about the performance of your 2008 graduating seniors who took the ACT as sophomores, juniors, or seniors; and self-reported at the time of testing that they were scheduled to graduate in 2008 and tested under standard time conditions.

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

How to Improve Scores and Increase College Readiness

9% of 2008 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. 25,641 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. 55% 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 14% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 2% were college ready. 30% of the cohort reported taking the minimum core (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). 4% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 32% 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 37% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 6% 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 2.6 reports the percentage of students falling in each of the ACT College Readiness Standards score ranges. For example, approximately 72% 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.

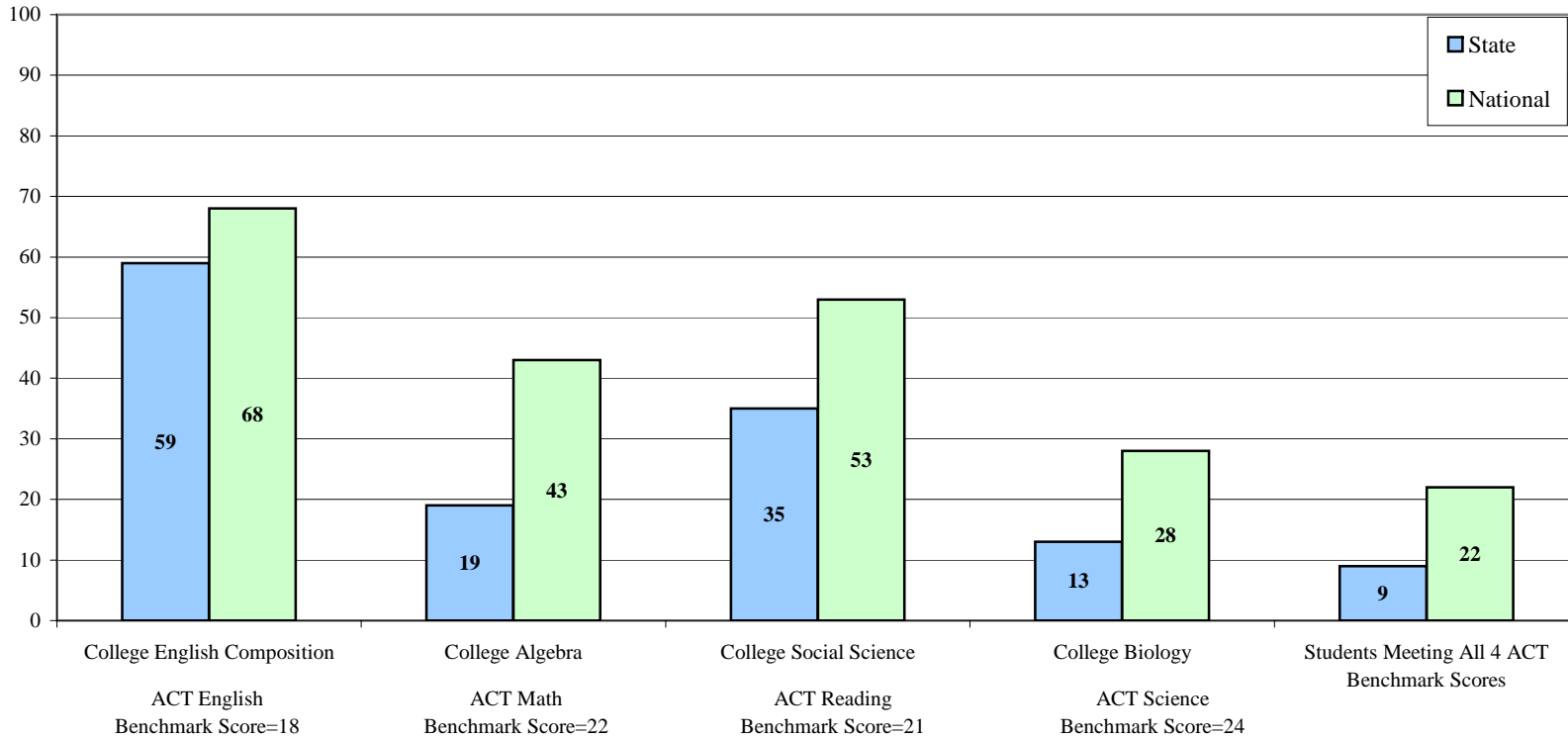
PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS. Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic groups.

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 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
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
2007	24,669	1,300,599	57	69	19	43	35	53	13	28	9	23
2008	25,641	1,421,941	59	68	19	43	35	53	13	28	9	22

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
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
2007	24,669	1,300,599	19.0	20.7	18.1	21.0	19.1	21.5	18.7	21.0	18.9	21.2
2008	25,641	1,421,941	19.3	20.6	18.2	21.0	19.1	21.4	18.7	20.8	18.9	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
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
2007	1,300,599	20.7	21.0	21.5	21.0	21.2
2008	1,421,941	20.6	21.0	21.4	20.8	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
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
2007	12,106	10,345	49	42	20.5	17.1	19.1	16.8	20.3	17.6	19.7	17.4	20.0	17.3
2008	14,159	10,540	55	41	20.7	17.5	19.2	16.9	20.3	17.6	19.7	17.5	20.1	17.5

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

	2004			2005			2006			2007			2008		
	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
All Students	23,815	100	18.8	23,819	100	18.7	23,765	100	18.8	24,669	100	18.9	25,641	100	18.9
African American/Black	8,286	35	16.3	8,432	35	16.2	8,558	36	16.5	8,952	36	16.4	9,518	37	16.5
American Indian/Alaska Native	121	1	17.2	113	0	17.8	107	0	17.3	121	0	17.4	130	1	17.3
Caucasian American/White	13,652	57	20.2	13,407	56	20.1	13,062	55	20.3	13,095	53	20.4	13,955	54	20.5
Hispanic	149	1	19.6	199	1	19.2	237	1	19.6	231	1	19.3	271	1	18.9
Asian American/Pacific Islander	259	1	21.1	262	1	21.2	237	1	21.0	262	1	22.0	327	1	21.7
Other/No Response	1,348	6	18.8	1,406	6	18.9	1,564	7	18.8	2,008	8	19.6	1,440	6	19.4

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	37	100	17	100	82	100	17	100	4	100	36
35	214	100	29	100	104	100	30	100	11	100	35
34	251	99	60	100	176	99	40	100	41	100	34
33	188	98	69	100	215	99	70	100	76	100	33
32	216	97	88	99	237	98	59	99	107	99	32
31	241	96	70	99	371	97	62	99	166	99	31
30	430	96	134	99	490	95	134	99	253	98	30
29	397	94	187	98	458	93	149	98	317	97	29
28	477	92	301	97	483	92	200	98	349	96	28
27	470	90	415	96	524	90	341	97	498	95	27
26	708	89	486	95	570	88	402	96	601	93	26
25	996	86	677	93	653	86	985	94	711	91	25
24	920	82	740	90	882	83	781	90	880	88	24
23	1,177	78	817	87	1,203	80	1,145	87	1,057	84	23
22	1,468	74	808	84	1,148	75	1,787	83	1,323	80	22
21	1,852	68	1,105	81	1,476	70	1,547	76	1,651	75	21
20	1,876	61	1,128	77	1,580	65	2,658	70	1,872	69	20
19	1,588	54	1,478	72	1,907	58	2,752	59	2,146	61	19
18	1,549	47	2,305	66	1,252	51	2,563	49	2,493	53	18
17	1,596	41	3,044	57	1,834	46	1,793	39	2,403	43	17
16	1,696	35	4,562	46	1,889	39	2,297	32	2,574	34	16
15	1,847	28	4,163	28	2,077	32	1,441	23	2,294	24	15
14	1,378	21	2,021	12	1,936	24	1,208	17	1,778	15	14
13	1,103	16	641	4	1,771	16	1,077	12	1,211	8	13
12	805	12	226	1	1,028	9	987	8	599	3	12
11	774	8	48	1	698	5	592	4	187	1	11
10	664	5	14	1	342	2	293	2	33	1	10
9	364	3	6	1	147	1	145	1	3	1	9
8	242	1	1	1	51	1	58	1	3	1	8
7	92	1	0	1	36	1	20	1	0	1	7
6	19	1	1	1	13	1	5	1	0	1	6
5	5	1	0	1	7	1	2	1	0	1	5
4	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	4
3	0	1	0	1	1	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)	19.3 (5.8)		18.2 (4.1)		19.1 (5.7)		18.7 (4.4)		18.9 (4.5)		Avg (SD)

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	558	100	141	100	363	100	418	100	349	100	39	100	47	100	18
17	754	98	372	99	468	99	662	98	323	99	96	100	35	100	17
16	739	95	802	98	719	97	1,135	96	515	97	149	99	287	100	16
15	775	92	1,157	95	857	94	1,198	91	649	95	264	99	401	99	15
14	1,257	89	935	90	913	91	1,401	87	882	93	867	98	806	97	14
13	1,365	84	1,409	87	1,258	87	843	81	1,226	89	884	94	895	94	13
12	1,508	79	2,477	81	1,543	82	1,756	78	1,512	85	1,630	91	1,494	90	12
11	2,274	73	2,563	72	2,401	76	2,165	71	2,024	79	2,492	85	2,274	85	11
10	2,823	64	3,734	62	2,412	67	2,530	63	2,365	71	4,591	75	3,666	76	10
9	3,073	53	2,692	47	3,686	57	2,285	53	2,358	62	4,310	57	4,966	61	9
8	2,629	41	3,550	37	3,595	43	2,930	44	4,667	52	4,365	40	3,752	42	8
7	2,343	31	2,297	23	3,204	29	2,261	32	4,939	34	1,457	23	2,499	27	7
6	2,142	22	1,476	14	1,969	16	2,043	24	2,604	15	2,204	18	1,426	18	6
5	1,599	13	955	8	1,144	9	2,476	16	783	5	1,248	9	1,663	12	5
4	1,222	7	774	4	655	4	1,014	6	289	2	470	4	442	6	4
3	441	2	262	1	300	2	332	2	111	1	440	2	728	4	3
2	131	1	42	1	130	1	187	1	37	1	56	1	151	1	2
1	8	1	3	1	24	1	5	1	8	1	79	1	109	1	1
Avg (SD)	9.6 (3.6)		9.8 (3.1)		9.5 (3.3)		9.6 (3.7)		9.2 (3.0)		9.0 (2.6)		8.9 (2.8)		Avg (SD)

¹Note: 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)	23	20	23	21	21
Q2 (50th Percentile)	19	17	18	19	18
Q1 (25th Percentile)	15	15	15	16	16

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	All Students	25,641	55	20.1	17.5
	African Am./Black	9,518	51	17.3	15.8
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	130	48	18.8	15.9
	Caucasian Am./White	13,955	58	21.7	18.8
	Hispanic	271	54	20.2	17.5
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	327	72	22.8	19.0
	Other/No Response	1,440	53	20.4	17.8
National	All Students	1,421,941	61	22.0	19.5
	African Am./Black	178,417	58	17.7	16.0
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	14,380	53	20.3	17.6
	Caucasian Am./White	895,588	64	22.9	20.4
	Hispanic	114,697	60	19.6	17.4
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	51,368	71	23.4	21.4
	Other/No Response	167,491	52	22.5	20.1

Table 2.5. Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
State	All Students	19.3	18.2	19.1	18.7	18.9
	African Am./Black	16.4	16.2	16.3	16.8	16.5
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	17.1	16.9	17.4	17.2	17.3
	Caucasian Am./White	21.2	19.4	20.9	19.9	20.5
	Hispanic	18.9	18.5	19.0	18.8	18.9
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	21.9	22.2	21.1	21.2	21.7
	Other/No Response	19.7	18.7	19.6	19.0	19.4
National	All Students	20.6	21.0	21.4	20.8	21.1
	African Am./Black	16.1	17.0	17.0	17.2	16.9
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	18.1	18.8	19.6	19.2	19.0
	Caucasian Am./White	21.7	21.8	22.5	21.7	22.1
	Hispanic	17.7	19.0	18.9	18.7	18.7
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	22.1	24.1	22.4	22.3	22.9
	Other/No Response	21.2	21.7	22.1	21.2	21.7

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	690	3	175	1	577	2	157	1
	28 to 32	1,761	7	780	3	2,039	8	604	2
	24 to 27	3,094	12	2,318	9	2,629	10	2,509	10
	20 to 23	6,373	25	3,858	15	5,407	21	7,137	28
	16 to 19	6,429	25	11,389	44	6,882	27	9,405	37
	13 to 15	4,328	17	6,825	27	5,784	23	3,726	15
	01 to 12	2,966	12	296	1	2,323	9	2,103	8
National	33 to 36	52,735	4	40,359	3	63,798	4	26,499	2
	28 to 32	146,337	10	138,694	10	203,096	14	89,946	6
	24 to 27	237,950	17	283,854	20	231,039	16	281,932	20
	20 to 23	383,117	27	294,322	21	343,326	24	474,554	33
	16 to 19	293,110	21	466,291	33	312,300	22	359,785	25
	13 to 15	175,652	12	188,580	13	191,145	13	121,336	9
	01 to 12	133,040	9	9,841	1	77,237	5	67,889	5

Table 2.7. Average ACT Scores by Gender

Student Group	Gender	N	Percent	Average ACT Scores				
				English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
State	Males	11,185	44	18.8	18.6	19.0	19.0	19.0
	Females	14,273	56	19.6	17.8	19.2	18.4	18.9
	Missing	183	1	19.9	18.6	20.1	19.3	19.6
National	Males	625,887	44	20.1	21.6	21.2	21.3	21.2
	Females	764,282	54	21.0	20.4	21.5	20.4	21.0
	Missing	31,772	2	22.8	23.3	23.6	22.4	23.1

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	55	23	35	16	11
	Females	62	16	36	10	7
National	Males	65	47	51	32	26
	Females	70	38	53	24	19

Table 2.9. Number, College Readiness Benchmark Percent, and Average ACT Scores for ACT-Tested Graduates by Overall High School Curriculum

Student Group	Curriculum Taken ²	N	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite ¹	
			CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg
State	Core	14,159	69	20.7	27	19.2	44	20.3	18	19.7	14	20.1
	Non-Core	10,540	46	17.5	9	16.9	25	17.6	6	17.5	3	17.5
	Missing	942	45	17.3	14	17.4	25	17.7	10	17.4	6	17.6
National	Core	873,743	75	21.6	50	21.9	59	22.3	33	21.6	27	22.0
	Non-Core	431,748	56	18.8	29	19.3	41	19.9	18	19.4	14	19.5
	Missing	116,450	62	19.9	42	20.8	48	20.8	27	20.3	23	20.6

¹% under Composite heading reflects the percent of students who meet all four benchmarks

²"Curriculum Taken" reflects overall high school curriculum.

For instance, "Core" results correspond to students taking four years of English AND three years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

Table 2.10. Number, College Readiness Benchmark Percent, and Average ACT Scores for ACT-Tested Graduates by Content-Specific Curriculum

Student Group	Curriculum Taken ¹	English			Mathematics			Reading			Science		
		N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg
State	Core	23,850	60	19.4	21,311	22	18.7	23,433	37	19.2	15,531	17	19.5
	Non-Core	1,075	40	16.7	3,527	2	15.6	1,430	22	16.9	9,271	6	17.5
	Missing	716	48	17.8	803	14	17.5	778	26	18.0	839	11	17.6
National	Core	1,216,115	70	20.8	1,192,135	46	21.4	1,137,832	54	21.6	1,063,049	32	21.4
	Non-Core	111,558	57	18.8	124,104	14	17.4	183,026	45	20.4	253,561	13	18.7
	Missing	94,268	64	20.2	105,702	42	20.8	101,083	50	21.1	105,331	28	20.5

¹"Curriculum Taken" reflects content-specific curriculum.

For instance, Reading "Core" results correspond to students taking three or more years each of social studies, regardless of courses taken in other content areas.

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

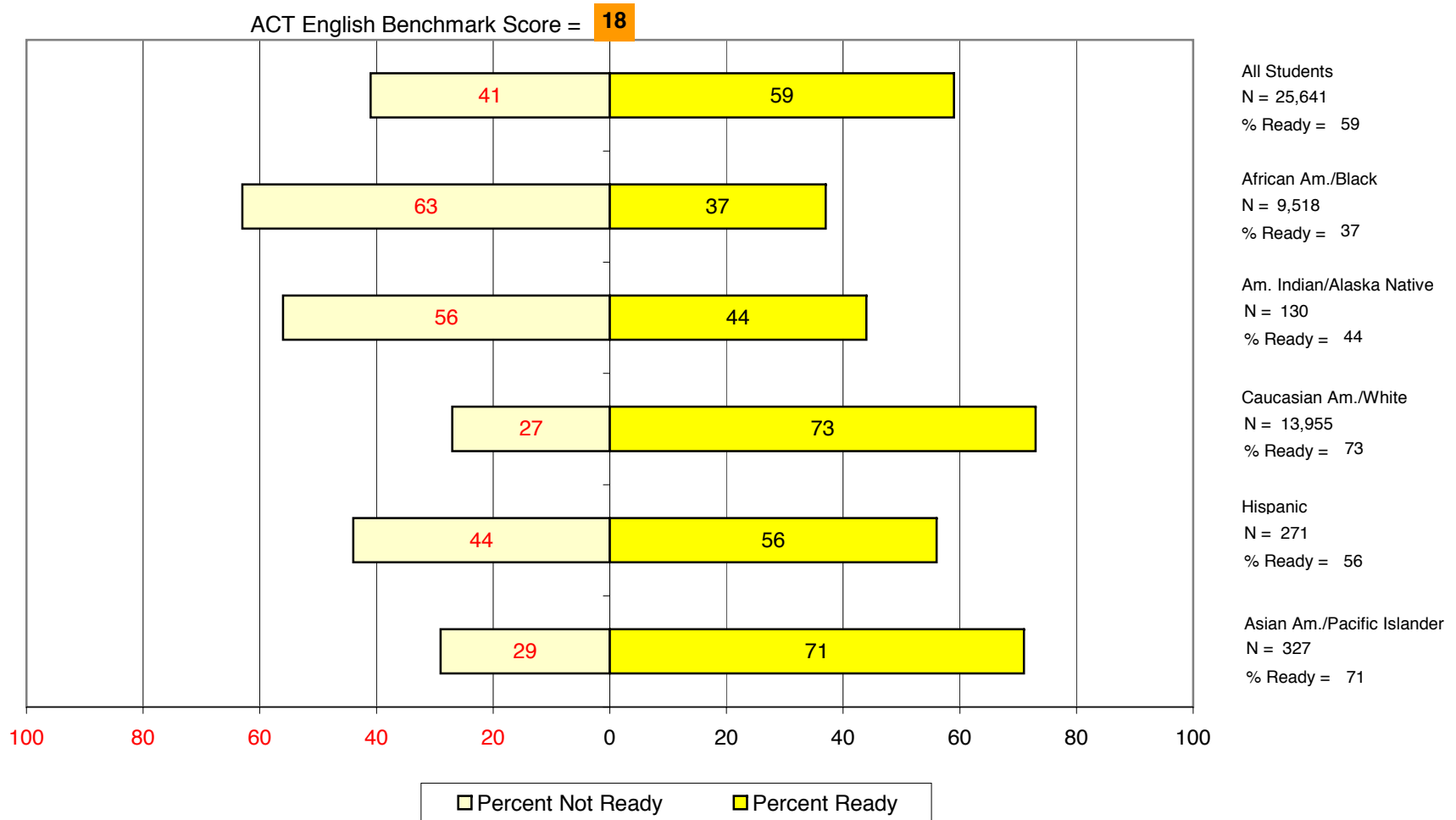


Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: MATHEMATICS

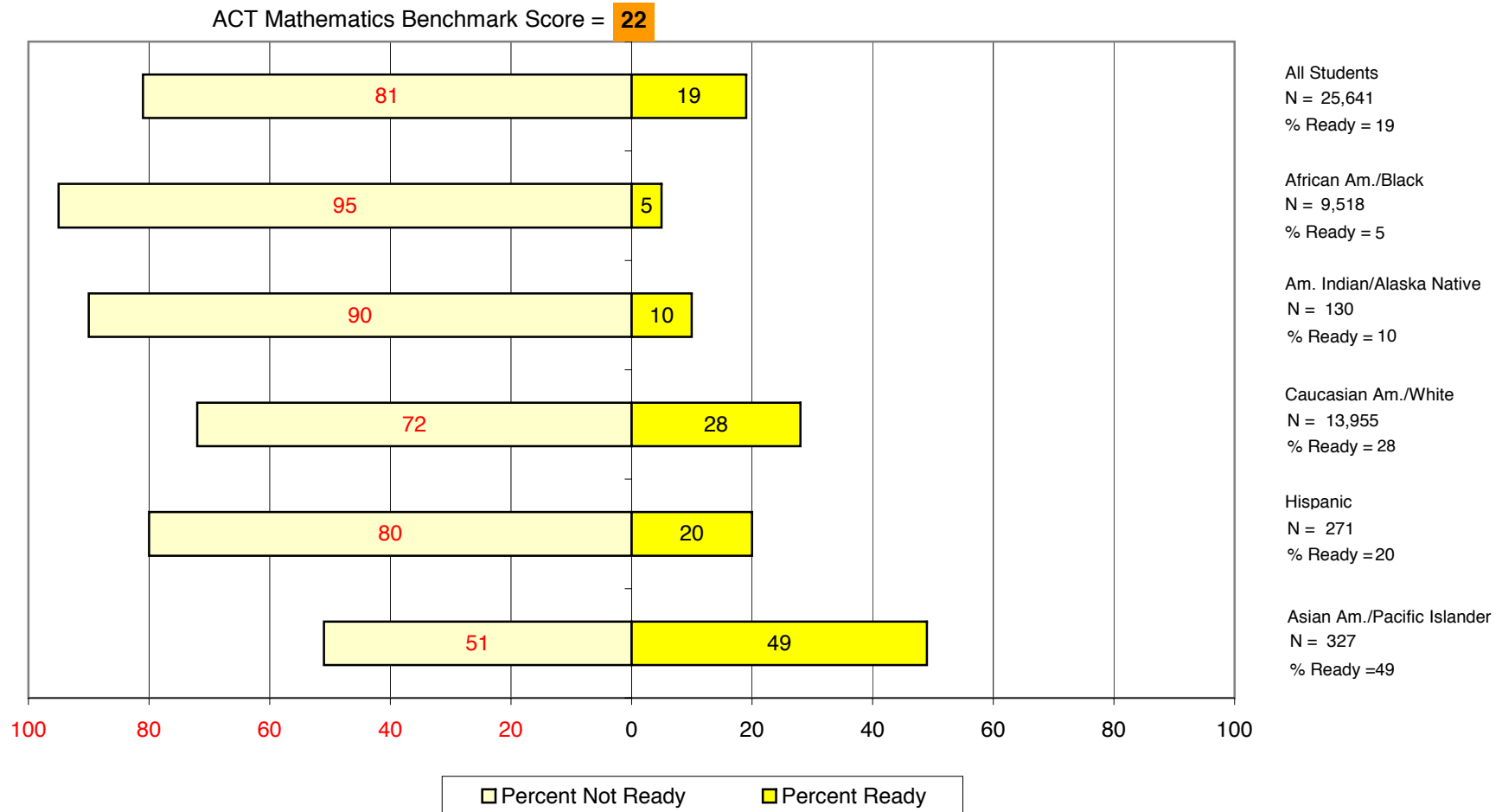


Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: **READING**

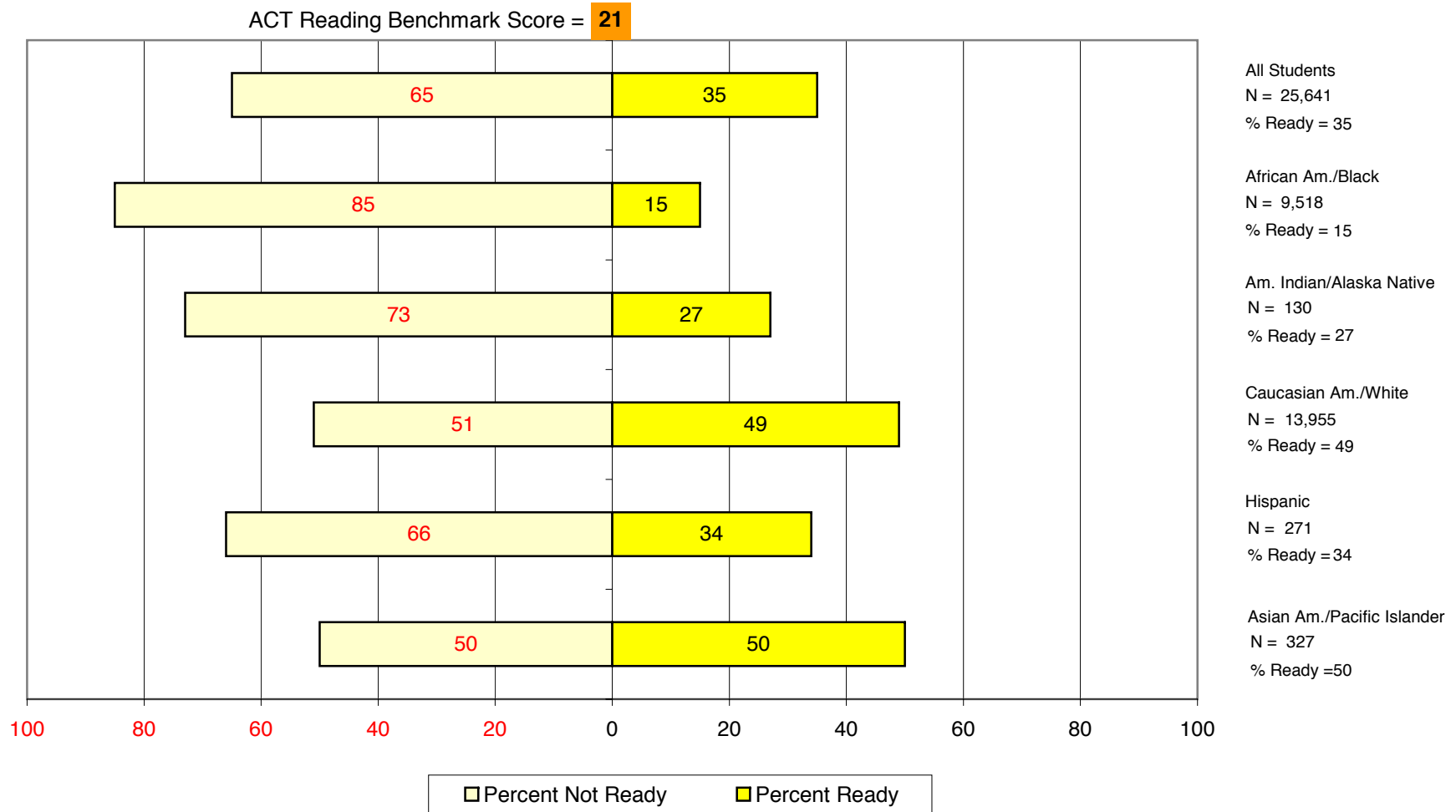


Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: SCIENCE

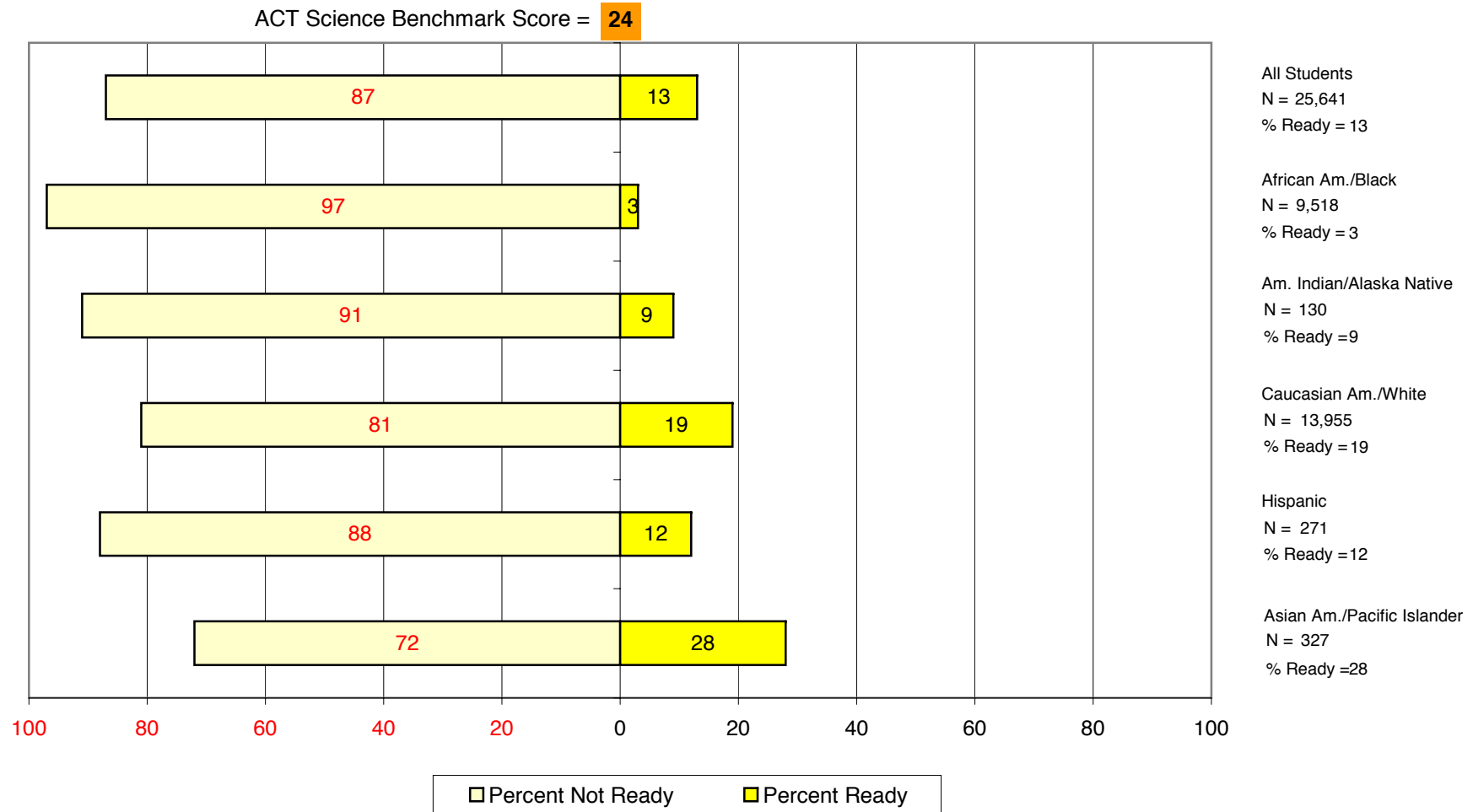


Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ALL FOUR

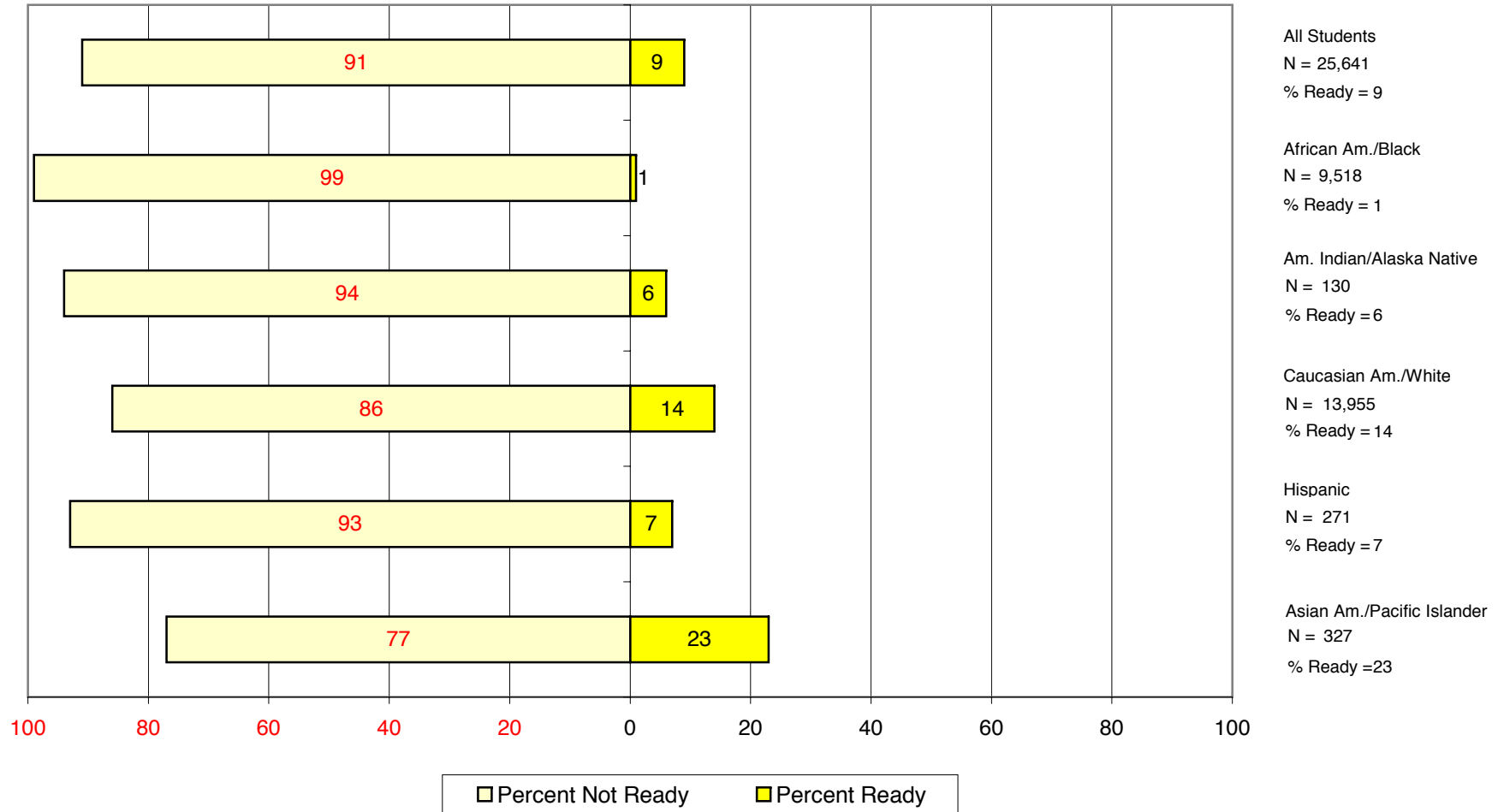


Table 3.1. Average ACT Scores and ACT Average Score Changes by Common Course Patterns

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	3,499	14	20.8	4.1	1,445	13	20.2	3.9	2,042	14	21.2	4.2
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	20,351	79	19.2	2.5	8,833	79	18.8	2.5	11,428	80	19.5	2.5
Less than 4 years of English	1,096	4	16.7	-	549	5	16.3	-	524	4	17.0	-
No English course/grade information reported	695	3	17.9	-	358	3	17.1	-	279	2	18.3	-
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,425	6	20.8	5.2	599	5	21.8	6.0	823	6	20.1	4.7
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	2,584	10	19.9	4.3	923	8	20.6	4.8	1,652	12	19.6	4.2
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	2,242	9	18.3	2.7	908	8	19.0	3.2	1,327	9	17.9	2.5
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,245	5	18.2	2.6	470	4	18.5	2.7	769	5	18.0	2.6
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	5,107	20	21.1	5.5	2,471	22	21.6	5.8	2,616	18	20.6	5.2
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	7,650	30	16.5	0.9	3,157	28	16.8	1.0	4,454	31	16.2	0.8
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	1,058	4	17.5	1.9	539	5	17.9	2.1	512	4	17.2	1.8
Less than 3 years of Math	3,609	14	15.6	-	1,750	16	15.8	-	1,827	13	15.4	-
No Math course/grade information reported	721	3	17.7	-	368	3	17.9	-	293	2	17.1	-
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	423	2	20.2	3.3	230	2	19.7	3.0	188	1	20.9	3.9
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	18,226	71	19.6	2.7	7,659	68	19.6	2.9	10,500	74	19.6	2.6
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	554	2	17.6	0.7	277	2	17.4	0.7	274	2	17.7	0.7
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	4,230	16	17.8	0.9	1,887	17	17.9	1.2	2,317	16	17.7	0.7
Less than 3 years of Social Science	1,469	6	16.9	-	751	7	16.7	-	695	5	17.0	-
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	739	3	18.1	-	381	3	17.9	-	299	2	18.0	-
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem, & Phys	5,317	21	20.3	2.8	2,591	23	20.9	3.3	2,704	19	19.8	2.4
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,684	7	21.6	4.1	757	7	22.7	5.1	921	6	20.8	3.4
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	8,132	32	18.5	1.0	3,242	29	18.7	1.1	4,850	34	18.4	1.0
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	398	2	17.6	0.1	201	2	17.9	0.3	193	1	17.3	-0.1
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	9,363	37	17.5	-	4,006	36	17.6	-	5,306	37	17.4	-
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	747	3	17.7	-	388	3	17.6	-	299	2	17.4	-

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	3,499	14	20.8	68	266,394	19	21.8	76
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	20,351	79	19.2	58	949,721	67	20.5	68
Less than 4 years of English	1,096	4	16.7	40	112,496	8	18.8	56
No English course/grade information reported	695	3	17.9	49	93,330	7	20.2	64
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	1,425	6	20.8	41	91,985	6	24.8	74
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	2,584	10	19.9	32	113,879	8	22.3	57
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	2,242	9	18.3	18	116,105	8	20.4	38
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,245	5	18.2	17	204,909	14	20.4	38
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	5,107	20	21.1	44	342,493	24	23.9	66
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	7,650	30	16.5	4	251,813	18	17.8	14
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	1,058	4	17.5	12	70,951	5	20.8	41
Less than 3 years of Math	3,609	14	15.6	2	131,252	9	17.4	14
No Math course/grade information reported	721	3	17.7	16	98,554	7	21.1	44
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	423	2	20.2	44	42,546	3	22.7	61
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	18,226	71	19.6	39	604,055	42	21.9	56
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	554	2	17.6	23	86,500	6	20.8	48
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	4,230	16	17.8	26	404,731	28	21.3	52
Less than 3 years of Social Science	1,469	6	16.9	21	185,561	13	20.4	45
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	739	3	18.1	27	98,548	7	21.1	50
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	5,317	21	20.3	24	453,654	32	22.2	38
Bio, Chem, Phys	1,684	7	21.6	33	134,033	9	23.2	47
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	8,132	32	18.5	10	435,183	31	20.1	20
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	398	2	17.6	9	40,179	3	20.1	22
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	9,363	37	17.5	6	259,142	18	18.7	13
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	747	3	17.7	11	99,750	7	20.6	29

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	580	2	16.8	125	4	15.2	425	2	17.3
Architecture & Environmental Design	439	2	19.4	33	1	16.3	392	2	19.7
Business & Management	2,139	8	18.6	200	6	16.3	1,826	9	18.9
Business & Office	216	1	17.3	53	2	15.7	151	1	17.8
Marketing & Distribution	169	1	18.6	15	0	15.3	146	1	19.0
Communications & Comm. Technologies	371	1	19.8	36	1	16.2	323	2	20.3
Community & Personal Services	721	3	17.0	187	6	15.8	495	2	17.5
Computer & Information Sciences	599	2	18.8	86	3	16.5	468	2	19.4
Cross-Disciplinary Studies	20	0	21.3	2	0	18.5	18	0	21.6
Education	928	4	18.7	71	2	15.6	816	4	19.0
Teacher Education	734	3	18.1	38	1	16.0	662	3	18.3
Engineering	1,245	5	20.3	144	5	15.2	1,045	5	21.1
Engineering-Related Technologies	609	2	19.3	97	3	15.8	467	2	20.1
Foreign Languages	65	0	22.3	3	0	16.3	54	0	22.6
Health Sciences & Allied Health Fields	6,908	27	19.0	822	27	16.5	5,834	29	19.3
Human, Family & Consumer Science	295	1	17.2	70	2	15.4	204	1	17.7
Letters	76	0	22.9	4	0	17.3	66	0	23.3
Mathematics	108	0	20.4	5	0	15.2	91	0	21.0
Philosophy, Religion & Theology	127	0	21.8	1	0	20.0	116	1	21.8
Sciences (Biological & Physical)	976	4	21.4	22	1	16.5	911	5	21.5
Social Sciences	1,251	5	20.3	34	1	17.3	1,167	6	20.5
Trade & Industrial	466	2	16.3	295	10	15.8	153	1	17.4
Visual & Performing Arts	1,248	5	19.3	148	5	16.6	1,022	5	19.7
Undecided	3,485	14	18.9	483	16	15.7	2,746	14	19.5
No Response	1,866	7	17.9	119	4	14.8	512	3	18.8

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/ 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	544	15.5	242	14.4	2	12.0	276	16.5	6	15.8	3	14.3	15	15.0
2-yr College Degree	2,549	16.1	1,032	14.7	18	14.6	1,358	17.1	22	16.7	17	17.8	102	15.8
Bachelors Degree	9,402	18.3	3,314	16.2	46	17.1	5,447	19.6	81	18.5	97	19.7	417	18.4
Graduate Study	3,326	20.6	996	17.4	23	17.6	2,036	22.2	31	19.5	43	23.4	197	20.3
Prof. Level Degree	7,382	20.5	2,971	17.8	29	19.0	3,685	22.5	100	20.0	138	23.4	459	20.6
Other	664	17.0	295	15.5	2	20.0	290	18.4	13	16.8	13	17.9	51	16.9
No Response	1,774	18.5	668	15.5	10	17.8	863	20.1	18	19.0	16	23.8	199	20.5

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	8,599	2,828	5,771	2	14	36	28	15	6	1
UNIVERSITY SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI	Mississippi	6,915	1,913	5,002	2	16	39	27	12	4	0
UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI	Mississippi	5,583	1,517	4,066	1	10	32	31	17	8	1
JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY	Mississippi	3,021	784	2,237	6	34	46	12	2	0	0
DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY	Mississippi	2,167	553	1,614	3	21	42	23	9	2	0
JONES COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE	Mississippi	2,000	926	1,074	4	26	40	21	8	1	0
ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY	Mississippi	1,895	556	1,339	6	36	45	10	2	0	0
ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,845	922	923	3	23	40	22	9	2	0
NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,811	817	994	4	27	41	20	7	1	0
NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI COMM COLL	Mississippi	1,559	646	913	3	23	40	22	10	1	0
HINDS COMM COLLEGE-RAYMOND CAMPUS	Mississippi	1,398	510	888	7	31	39	16	5	2	0
GEAR UP MISSISSIPPI	Mississippi	1,397	79	1,318	3	21	46	22	6	1	0
HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,396	468	928	5	28	40	20	7	1	0
PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,384	555	829	4	25	40	22	8	2	0
MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,351	272	1,079	2	9	28	31	19	11	1
MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	1,216	472	744	4	29	41	18	6	1	0
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIV	Mississippi	1,115	248	867	7	41	42	9	1	0	0
MISSISSIPPI UNIV FOR WOMEN	Mississippi	999	179	820	2	19	42	25	10	3	0
EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	912	450	462	4	27	41	19	7	1	0
COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Mississippi	901	436	465	5	27	39	22	6	1	0
WILLIAM CAREY UNIVERSITY	Mississippi	897	113	784	2	18	39	26	12	3	0
MISSISSIPPI DELTA COMM COLL	Mississippi	808	282	526	9	37	42	8	2	0	0
MS GULF COAST CC-PERKINSTON CAMPUS	Mississippi	785	297	488	3	21	41	26	8	2	0
UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS	Tennessee	744	161	583	1	19	38	28	11	3	0
TOUGALOO COLLEGE	Mississippi	730	131	599	6	28	45	16	4	1	0
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA	Alabama	729	209	520	1	8	30	36	19	5	0
HINDS COMM COLLEGE-JACKSON CAMPUS	Mississippi	713	185	528	6	38	42	11	2	0	0
UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CTR	Mississippi	667	65	602	2	15	45	25	11	3	0
SOUTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLL	Mississippi	660	247	413	5	29	40	19	6	1	0
MS GULF COAST CC-JEFFERSON DAVIS CAMPUS	Mississippi	627	270	357	2	16	43	26	9	3	0
All Other Institutions		19,430	4,544	14,886	3	18	33	23	13	8	1
Total		74,254	21,635	52,619	3	20	37	23	11	5	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	1,922	770,529	22.7	21.4	6.8	7.3	21.4	20.9
African Am./Black	589	86,049	18.5	16.6	6.4	6.5	17.9	16.6
Am. Indian/Alaska Native	9	5,148	20.8	18.9	5.8	6.7	19.1	18.5
Caucasian Am./White	1,058	464,177	24.6	22.5	7.0	7.4	23.0	21.8
Hispanic	24	71,060	25.3	18.3	6.9	7.1	23.4	18.5
Asian Am./Pacific Islander	64	37,359	27.3	23.1	7.7	7.9	25.6	22.6
Other/No Response	178	106,736	23.0	22.2	6.9	7.5	21.7	21.7
Males	781	327,613	22.6	20.9	6.5	7.0	21.0	20.2
Females	1,112	421,968	22.7	21.7	7.1	7.6	21.6	21.3
Missing	29	20,948	23.2	23.9	6.7	7.9	21.5	23.2

