

# ACT High School Profile Report

The Graduating Class of 2008  
Pennsylvania





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

## How to Improve Scores and Increase College Readiness

29% 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.** 19,439 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. 67% 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 6% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 32% were college ready. 9% of the cohort reported taking the minimum core (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). 14% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 60% 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 8% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 20% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 35% 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 36% 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).

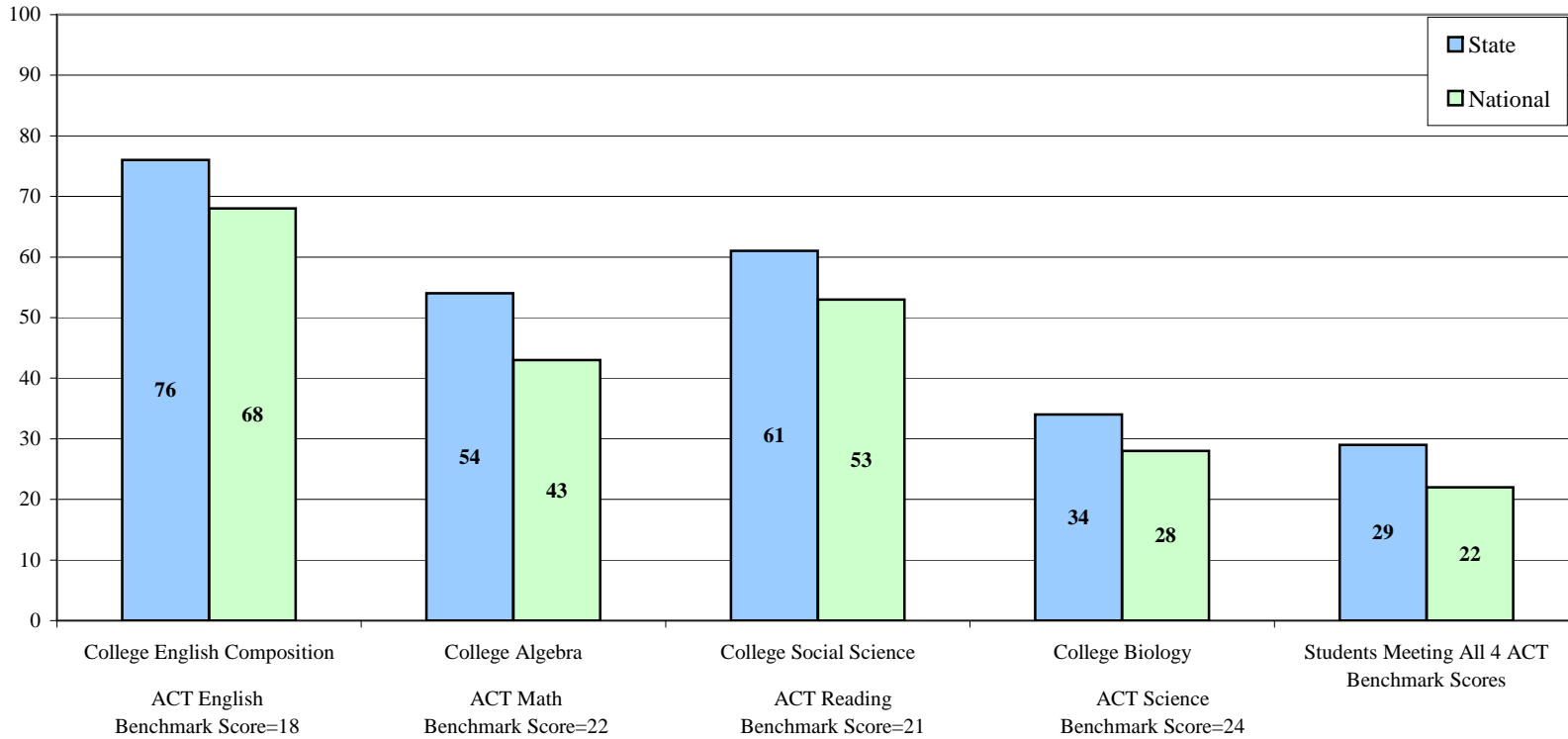
**PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS.** Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic 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 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 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	12,012	1,171,460	74	68	48	40	59	52	31	26	26	21
2005	11,848	1,186,251	73	68	47	41	59	51	30	26	25	21
2006	12,651	1,206,455	73	69	49	42	59	53	31	27	26	21
2007	15,905	1,300,599	75	69	51	43	59	53	32	28	27	23
<b>2008</b>	<b>19,439</b>	<b>1,421,941</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>22</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
2004	12,012	1,171,460	21.2	20.4	21.5	20.7	22.3	21.3	21.5	20.9	21.8	20.9
2005	11,848	1,186,251	21.2	20.4	21.5	20.7	22.3	21.3	21.4	20.9	21.7	20.9
2006	12,651	1,206,455	21.3	20.6	21.7	20.8	22.2	21.4	21.4	20.9	21.8	21.1
2007	15,905	1,300,599	21.5	20.7	21.9	21.0	22.4	21.5	21.5	21.0	22.0	21.2
<b>2008</b>	<b>19,439</b>	<b>1,421,941</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>22.2</b>	<b>21.1</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
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
<b>2008</b>	<b>1,421,941</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>21.1</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
2004	7,280	3,312	61	28	21.9	19.9	22.2	20.2	23.0	21.2	22.1	20.4	22.4	20.6
2005	6,932	3,337	59	28	22.0	20.1	22.1	20.4	23.0	21.3	22.0	20.6	22.4	20.7
2006	6,882	3,826	54	30	21.9	20.3	22.3	20.7	22.8	21.4	21.9	20.6	22.4	20.9
2007	8,365	4,882	53	31	22.1	20.6	22.4	21.2	22.9	21.6	22.0	20.9	22.5	21.2
<b>2008</b>	<b>12,948</b>	<b>4,807</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>22.2</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>21.2</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**

	2004			2005			2006			2007			2008		
	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
<b>All Students</b>	<b>12,012</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>11,848</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>12,651</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>15,905</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>19,439</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22.2</b>
African American/Black	985	8	16.8	986	8	16.6	1,018	8	16.6	1,302	8	16.8	1,617	8	16.8
American Indian/Alaska Native	22	0	20.4	25	0	21.2	27	0	19.0	31	0	20.4	30	0	19.7
Caucasian American/White	9,233	77	22.2	9,070	77	22.2	9,059	72	22.2	10,830	68	22.4	14,327	74	22.6
Hispanic	180	1	19.4	209	2	20.0	197	2	20.5	280	2	19.5	357	2	20.0
Asian American/Pacific Islander	252	2	22.6	263	2	23.7	266	2	23.4	327	2	23.3	500	3	24.1
Other/No Response	1,340	11	22.4	1,295	11	22.3	2,084	16	22.3	3,135	20	22.8	2,608	13	23.4

# 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	24	100	46	100	144	100	59	100	5	100	36
35	235	100	135	100	214	99	116	100	44	100	35
34	368	99	207	99	327	98	102	99	117	100	34
33	293	97	329	98	453	96	178	99	173	99	33
32	345	95	285	96	520	94	162	98	283	98	32
31	457	93	265	95	577	91	186	97	396	97	31
30	475	91	510	93	767	89	336	96	492	95	30
29	627	89	700	91	742	85	308	94	673	92	29
28	679	85	918	87	861	81	497	93	843	89	28
27	696	82	1,077	83	775	76	719	90	967	84	27
26	969	78	1,150	77	775	72	925	86	1,120	79	26
25	1,132	73	1,338	71	955	68	1,539	82	1,243	74	25
24	1,127	68	1,282	64	1,081	63	1,437	74	1,350	67	24
23	1,117	62	1,184	58	1,480	58	1,319	66	1,425	60	23
22	1,368	56	983	52	876	50	1,865	59	1,442	53	22
21	1,605	49	1,130	46	1,284	46	1,629	50	1,403	46	21
20	1,288	41	887	41	1,320	39	1,893	41	1,359	38	20
19	1,010	34	1,128	36	1,082	32	1,581	32	1,283	31	19
18	892	29	1,293	30	775	27	1,111	24	1,172	25	18
17	887	24	1,353	24	907	23	778	18	1,006	19	17
16	734	20	1,544	17	882	18	742	14	834	14	16
15	861	16	973	9	673	14	532	10	641	9	15
14	566	12	460	4	675	10	415	7	492	6	14
13	431	9	161	1	534	7	291	5	318	3	13
12	303	6	50	1	320	4	283	4	202	2	12
11	307	5	26	1	196	2	199	2	95	1	11
10	261	3	12	1	129	1	102	1	33	1	10
9	150	2	7	1	53	1	71	1	19	1	9
8	129	1	2	1	19	1	30	1	3	1	8
7	69	1	0	1	17	1	14	1	4	1	7
6	16	1	3	1	11	1	8	1	2	1	6
5	14	1	0	1	10	1	4	1	0	1	5
4	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	4
3	1	1	0	1	2	1	6	1	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	21.8 (6.0)		22.3 (5.3)		22.5 (6.1)		21.6 (4.9)		22.2 (5.0)		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	909	100	112	100	602	100	621	100	1,240	100	170	100	244	100	18
17	1,011	95	580	99	1,044	97	1,438	97	1,348	94	359	99	55	99	17
16	1,146	90	1,014	96	1,229	92	1,561	89	1,431	87	566	97	941	98	16
15	1,046	84	1,648	91	1,472	85	1,737	81	1,225	79	977	94	1,185	94	15
14	1,231	79	1,138	83	1,172	78	1,787	72	1,858	73	1,965	89	2,189	88	14
13	1,823	73	1,960	77	1,820	72	1,207	63	1,905	63	1,969	79	2,060	76	13
12	1,438	63	2,502	67	1,791	62	1,890	57	1,624	54	2,055	69	2,321	66	12
11	2,037	56	2,409	54	1,902	53	1,994	47	1,623	45	2,711	59	2,087	54	11
10	2,046	45	2,374	42	1,884	43	1,616	37	1,959	37	3,069	45	2,759	43	10
9	1,732	35	1,709	29	1,790	34	1,317	29	1,202	27	2,195	29	1,984	29	9
8	1,431	26	1,532	21	1,997	24	1,334	22	1,836	21	1,384	18	1,337	19	8
7	1,117	18	1,027	13	1,028	14	946	15	1,343	11	644	10	964	12	7
6	1,001	13	567	7	838	9	826	10	569	4	595	7	480	7	6
5	646	8	359	4	374	4	696	6	171	1	414	4	375	4	5
4	503	4	345	3	257	3	306	2	70	1	170	2	146	2	4
3	214	2	123	1	151	1	102	1	25	1	125	1	219	2	3
2	95	1	35	1	58	1	59	1	7	1	16	1	54	1	2
1	13	1	5	1	30	1	2	1	3	1	55	1	39	1	1
<b>Avg (SD)</b>	11.1 (3.8)		11.1 (3.2)		11.3 (3.6)		11.7 (3.7)		12.0 (3.5)		11.0 (2.9)		11.1 (3.0)		<b>Avg (SD)</b>

<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)	26	26	27	25	26
Q2 (50th Percentile)	22	22	22	22	22
Q1 (25th Percentile)	18	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>19,439</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>21.2</b>
	African Am./Black	1,617	56	17.4	16.0
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	30	57	19.2	20.3
	Caucasian Am./White	14,327	70	22.8	21.8
	Hispanic	357	57	20.9	19.6
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	500	69	24.5	23.4
	Other/No Response	2,608	56	23.9	22.6
National	<b>All Students</b>	<b>1,421,941</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>19.5</b>
	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	<b>All Students</b>	21.8	22.3	22.5	21.6	22.2
	African Am./Black	15.7	17.2	16.9	16.7	16.8
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native	19.0	19.4	20.5	19.5	19.7
	Caucasian Am./White	22.2	22.6	22.9	22.0	22.6
	Hispanic	19.6	20.0	20.4	19.4	20.0
	Asian Am./Pacific Islander	23.4	25.9	23.6	23.0	24.1
	Other/No Response	23.2	23.5	24.0	22.4	23.4
National	<b>All Students</b>	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	920	5	717	4	1,138	6	455	2
	28 to 32	2,583	13	2,678	14	3,467	18	1,489	8
	24 to 27	3,924	20	4,847	25	3,586	18	4,620	24
	20 to 23	5,378	28	4,184	22	4,960	26	6,706	34
	16 to 19	3,523	18	5,318	27	3,646	19	4,212	22
	13 to 15	1,858	10	1,594	8	1,882	10	1,238	6
	01 to 12	1,253	6	101	1	760	4	719	4
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	7,753	40	21.1	23.0	22.4	22.1	22.3
	Females	10,983	56	22.2	21.7	22.6	21.2	22.0
	Missing	703	4	23.5	24.0	24.2	22.8	23.8
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	71	59	59	39	33
	Females	78	49	61	30	25
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 <sup>2</sup>	N	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite <sup>1</sup>	
			CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg
State	Core	12,948	79	22.2	56	22.6	64	22.9	36	22.0	30	22.6
	Non-Core	4,807	68	20.8	46	21.3	54	21.7	29	20.8	25	21.2
	Missing	1,684	73	21.4	53	22.2	57	22.1	31	21.1	27	21.8
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

<sup>1</sup>% under Composite heading reflects the percent of students who meet all four benchmarks

<sup>2</sup>"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 <sup>1</sup>	N	English			Mathematics			Reading			Science		
			CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	
State	Core	16,775	76	21.9	16,785	55	22.5	14,615	62	22.7	16,471	35	21.8	
	Non-Core	1,328	74	21.3	1,160	32	19.5	3,345	59	22.2	1,438	20	19.5	
	Missing	1,336	73	21.4	1,494	52	22.1	1,479	57	22.1	1,530	32	21.2	
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	

<sup>1</sup>"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

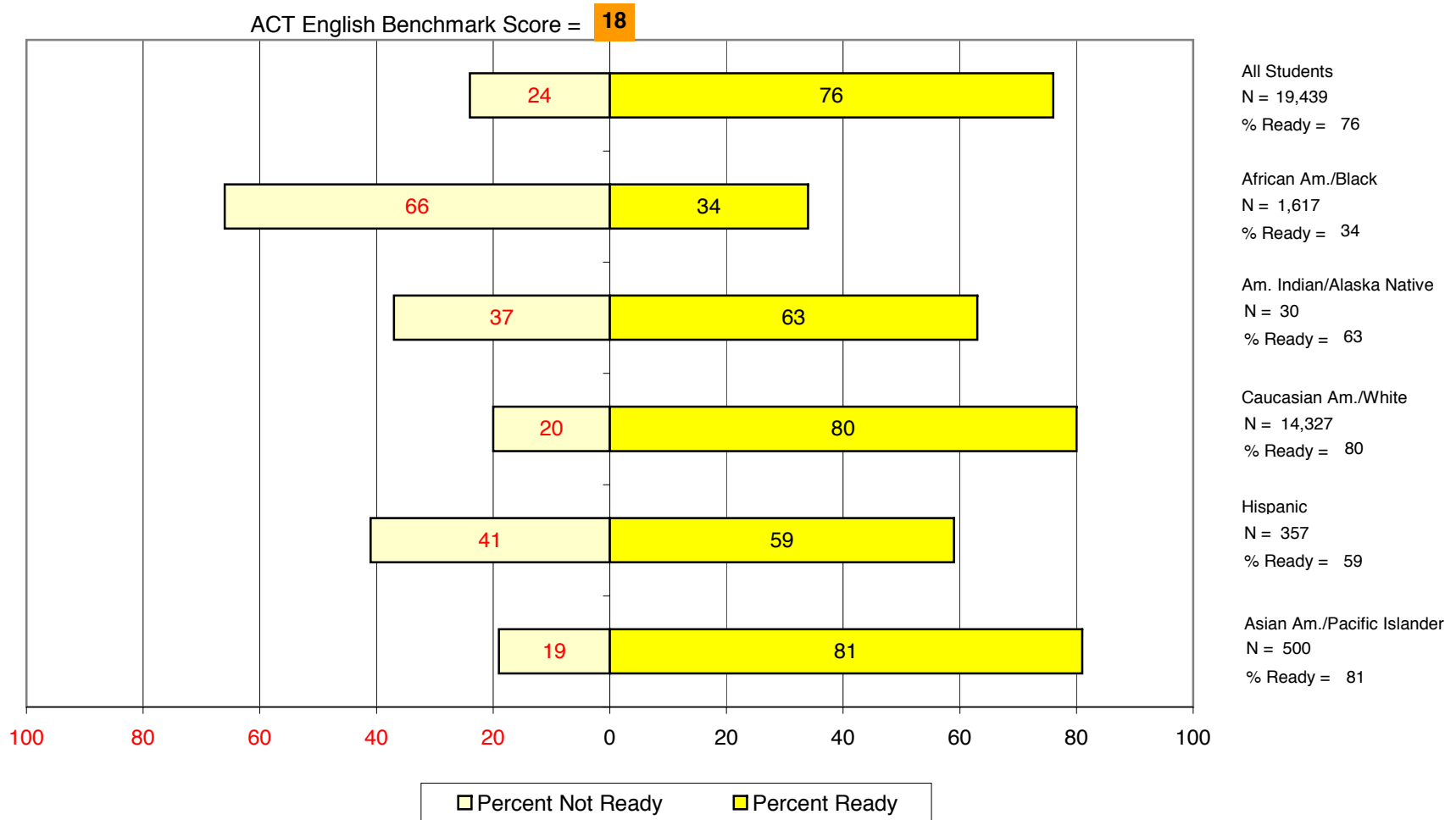


Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: MATHEMATICS

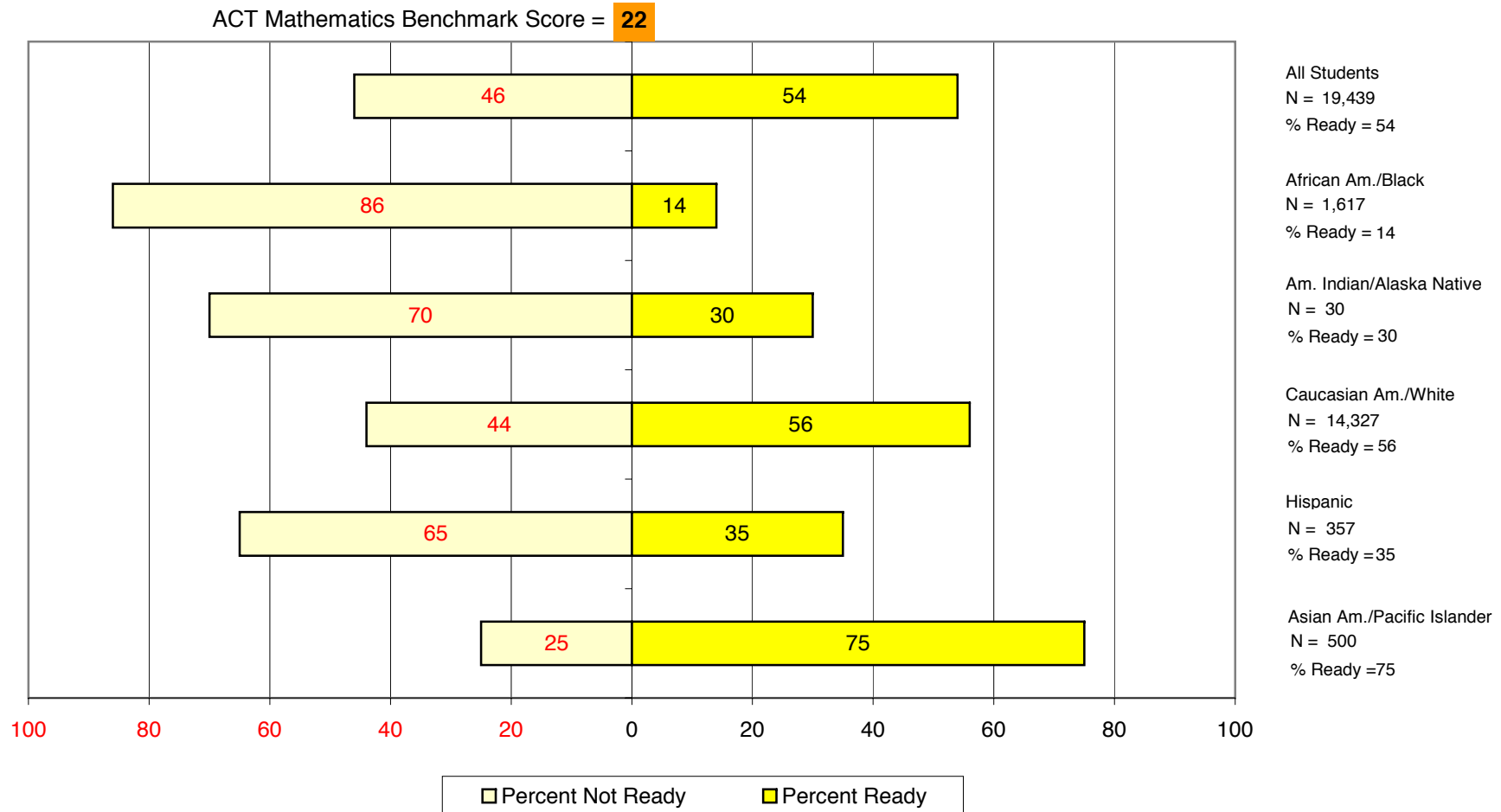


Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: READING

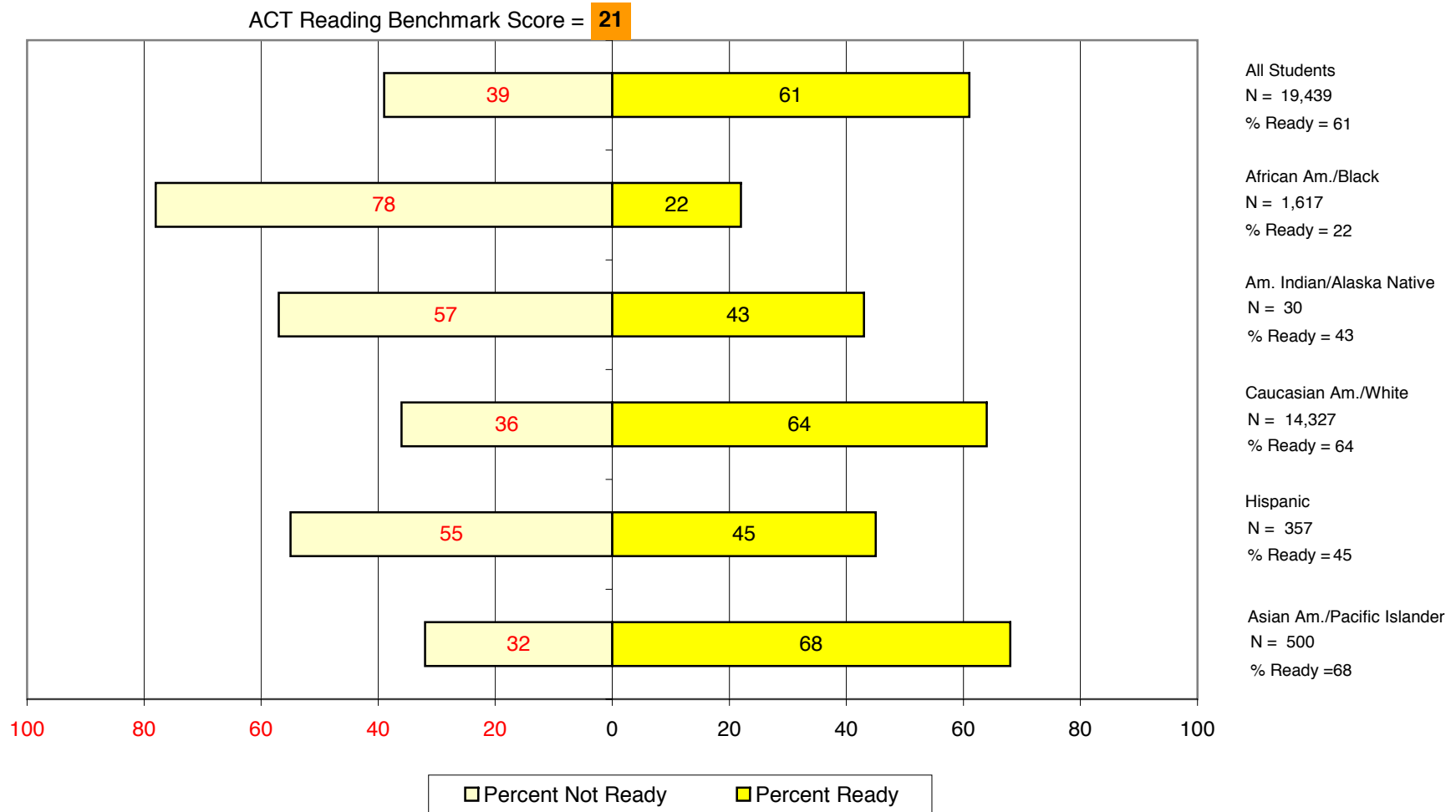


Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: SCIENCE

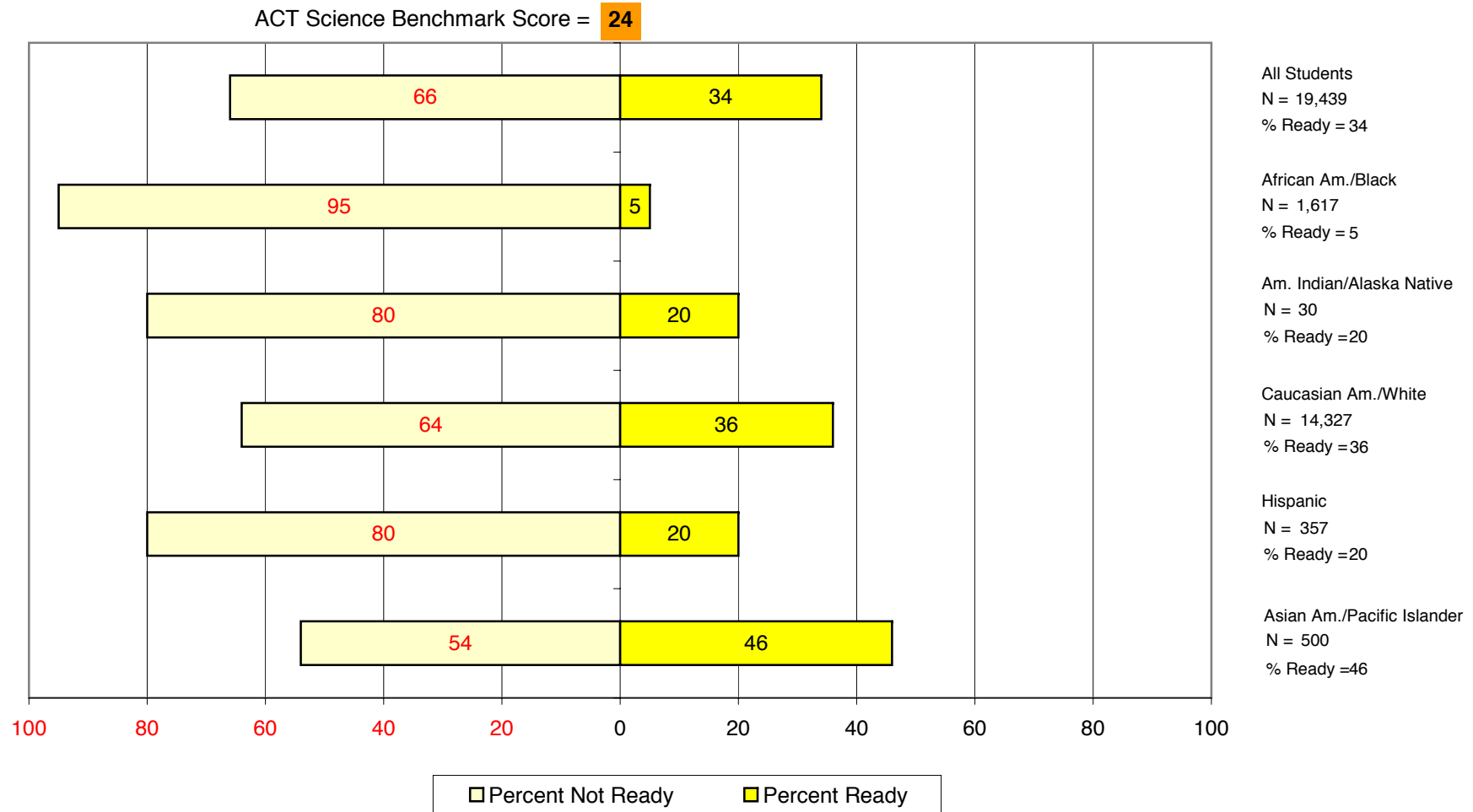
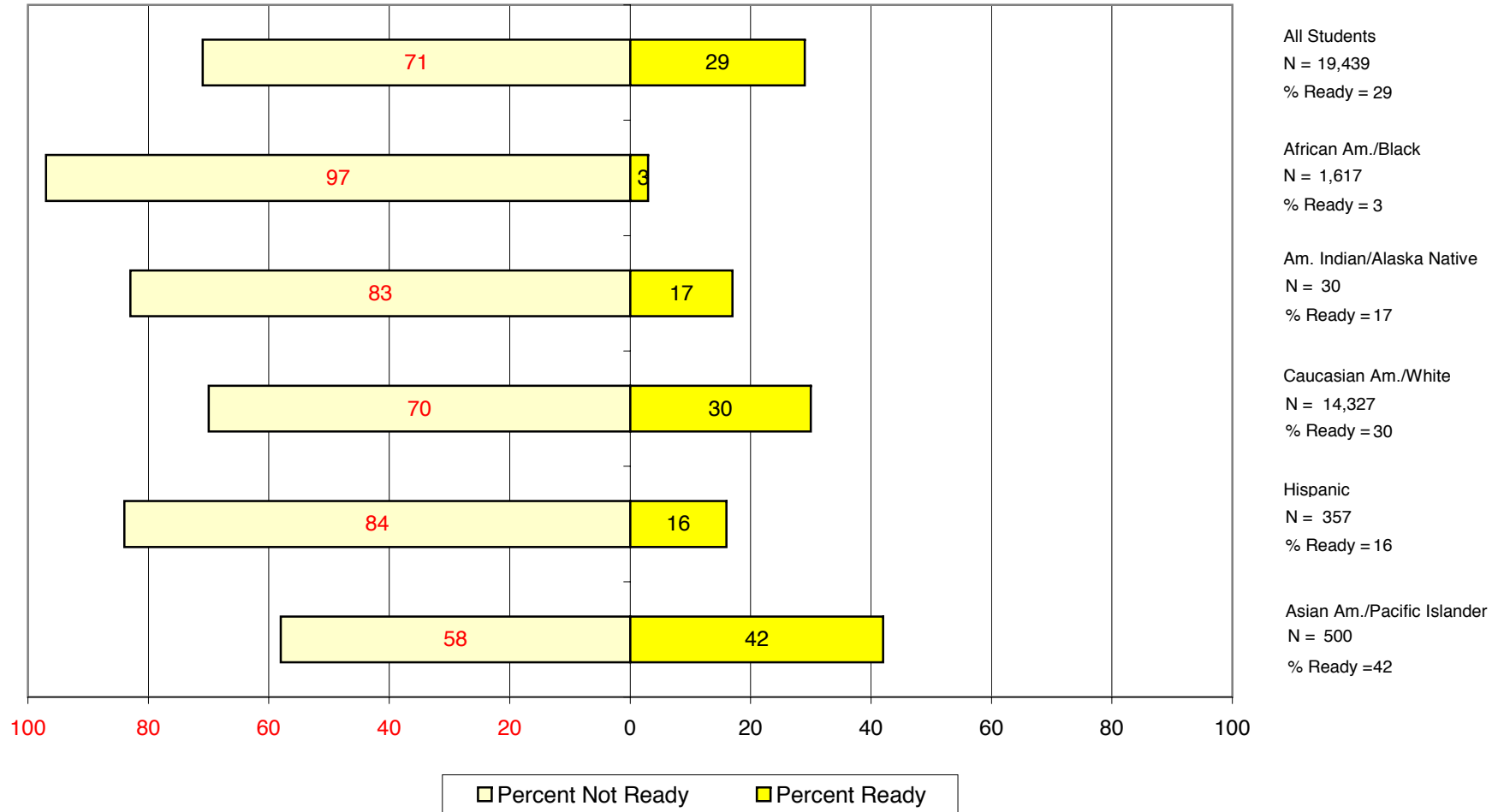


Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: ALL FOUR



**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 <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	3,378	17	22.8	1.5	1,215	16	22.1	1.6	2,089	19	23.1	1.5
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	13,397	69	21.6	0.3	5,376	69	21.1	0.6	7,678	70	21.9	0.3
Less than 4 years of English	1,342	7	21.3	-	563	7	20.5	-	679	6	21.6	-
No English course/grade information reported	1,322	7	21.4	-	599	8	20.0	-	537	5	22.0	-
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	2,477	13	25.1	5.6	1,017	13	25.9	6.2	1,388	13	24.4	5.4
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	1,742	9	21.9	2.4	560	7	22.5	2.8	1,132	10	21.5	2.5
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	2,142	11	20.3	0.8	759	10	20.7	1.0	1,330	12	20.0	1.0
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,745	9	20.1	0.6	560	7	20.6	0.9	1,137	10	19.7	0.7
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	6,105	31	24.5	5.0	2,719	35	25.3	5.6	3,222	29	23.9	4.9
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	1,695	9	17.8	-1.7	659	8	18.0	-1.7	997	9	17.6	-1.4
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	879	5	21.4	1.9	351	5	21.4	1.7	509	5	21.3	2.3
Less than 3 years of Math	1,246	6	19.5	-	492	6	19.7	-	692	6	19.0	-
No Math course/grade information reported	1,408	7	22.2	-	636	8	22.2	-	576	5	21.6	-
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	1,330	7	23.6	1.4	580	7	23.2	1.3	714	7	24.0	1.6
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	7,485	39	22.6	0.4	2,911	38	22.6	0.7	4,390	40	22.6	0.2
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	1,114	6	21.7	-0.5	442	6	21.2	-0.7	639	6	22.0	-0.4
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	4,686	24	22.7	0.5	1,808	23	22.8	0.9	2,772	25	22.5	0.1
Less than 3 years of Social Science	3,394	17	22.2	-	1,362	18	21.9	-	1,886	17	22.4	-
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	1,430	7	22.1	-	650	8	21.2	-	582	5	22.2	-
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	9,514	49	22.4	2.8	4,000	52	23.1	3.6	5,251	48	21.9	2.3
Bio, Chem, Phys	2,142	11	23.7	4.1	880	11	24.6	5.1	1,192	11	23.0	3.4
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	4,473	23	19.7	0.1	1,466	19	19.5	0.0	2,909	26	19.8	0.2
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	342	2	19.8	0.2	167	2	20.7	1.2	170	2	18.8	-0.8
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	1,503	8	19.6	-	577	7	19.5	-	867	8	19.6	-
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	1,465	8	21.2	-	663	9	20.9	-	594	5	20.8	-

<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	3,378	17	22.8	80	266,394	19	21.8	76
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	13,397	69	21.6	75	949,721	67	20.5	68
Less than 4 years of English	1,342	7	21.3	74	112,496	8	18.8	56
No English course/grade information reported	1,322	7	21.4	73	93,330	7	20.2	64
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	2,477	13	25.1	79	91,985	6	24.8	74
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	1,742	9	21.9	53	113,879	8	22.3	57
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	2,142	11	20.3	38	116,105	8	20.4	38
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,745	9	20.1	34	204,909	14	20.4	38
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	6,105	31	24.5	71	342,493	24	23.9	66
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	1,695	9	17.8	14	251,813	18	17.8	14
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	879	5	21.4	46	70,951	5	20.8	41
Less than 3 years of Math	1,246	6	19.5	32	131,252	9	17.4	14
No Math course/grade information reported	1,408	7	22.2	53	98,554	7	21.1	44
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	1,330	7	23.6	68	42,546	3	22.7	61
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	7,485	39	22.6	62	604,055	42	21.9	56
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	1,114	6	21.7	54	86,500	6	20.8	48
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	4,686	24	22.7	61	404,731	28	21.3	52
Less than 3 years of Social Science	3,394	17	22.2	59	185,561	13	20.4	45
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	1,430	7	22.1	57	98,548	7	21.1	50
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	9,514	49	22.4	40	453,654	32	22.2	38
Bio, Chem, Phys	2,142	11	23.7	53	134,033	9	23.2	47
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	4,473	23	19.7	18	435,183	31	20.1	20
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	342	2	19.8	20	40,179	3	20.1	22
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	1,503	8	19.6	20	259,142	18	18.7	13
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	1,465	8	21.2	33	99,750	7	20.6	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	137	1	20.5	6	2	15.0	122	1	20.8
Architecture & Environmental Design	264	1	22.0	6	2	14.7	239	1	22.1
Business & Management	2,039	10	21.3	33	10	17.0	1,853	11	21.3
Business & Office	73	0	19.5	9	3	17.0	55	0	20.5
Marketing & Distribution	178	1	20.3	1	0	15.0	164	1	20.1
Communications & Comm. Technologies	710	4	21.6	7	2	19.3	662	4	21.6
Community & Personal Services	247	1	18.8	12	4	17.8	220	1	18.9
Computer & Information Sciences	262	1	22.5	8	2	16.8	235	1	22.6
Cross-Disciplinary Studies	46	0	25.3	0	0	.	41	0	25.2
Education	1,033	5	20.5	7	2	16.4	964	6	20.5
Teacher Education	523	3	20.3	2	1	14.5	495	3	20.4
Engineering	757	4	25.1	1	0	13.0	725	4	25.1
Engineering-Related Technologies	353	2	23.2	5	2	17.2	330	2	23.2
Foreign Languages	126	1	25.0	0	0	.	117	1	24.9
Health Sciences & Allied Health Fields	3,141	16	21.6	109	33	17.2	2,878	18	21.8
Human, Family & Consumer Science	116	1	19.3	12	4	18.0	91	1	19.5
Letters	136	1	25.9	0	0	.	123	1	26.1
Mathematics	139	1	24.5	1	0	14.0	126	1	24.8
Philosophy, Religion & Theology	95	0	22.0	4	1	18.5	84	1	22.1
Sciences (Biological & Physical)	1,479	8	24.2	5	2	17.4	1,380	9	24.2
Social Sciences	1,200	6	23.0	2	1	15.0	1,125	7	23.1
Trade & Industrial	62	0	19.0	18	5	17.1	37	0	19.8
Visual & Performing Arts	747	4	21.7	15	5	17.1	669	4	21.8
Undecided	2,827	15	22.2	46	14	17.3	2,422	15	22.3
No Response	2,749	14	22.6	22	7	16.6	1,062	7	23.3

<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	42	16.9	6	14.7	0	.	30	17.5	1	12.0	0	.	5	17.0
2-yr College Degree	289	17.1	38	13.6	1	19.0	219	17.9	6	17.8	5	13.0	20	16.0
Bachelors Degree	6,703	20.4	485	15.7	11	18.6	5,444	20.8	95	18.5	97	21.0	571	20.6
Graduate Study	4,301	23.3	281	17.8	6	18.7	3,378	23.6	64	22.0	91	24.4	481	24.3
Prof. Level Degree	5,215	23.8	527	18.1	8	21.3	3,613	24.4	113	22.1	244	25.4	710	24.8
Other	274	18.6	47	14.0	1	17.0	176	19.3	10	20.6	3	23.7	37	19.8
No Response	2,615	22.6	233	15.8	3	23.0	1,467	23.0	68	16.9	60	24.3	784	24.1

**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
PENN STATE-UNIVERSITY PARK CAMPUS	Pennsylvania	3,554	1,368	2,186	2	6	19	32	28	13	1
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH	Pennsylvania	2,069	691	1,378	1	3	13	32	33	16	1
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	1,105	312	793	4	12	26	31	22	5	0
DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	900	284	616	1	3	15	40	30	11	0
INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania	779	177	602	3	14	37	29	13	4	0
SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY OF PENN	Pennsylvania	743	236	507	2	12	38	32	13	4	0
WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania	740	162	578	4	13	33	33	14	2	0
DREXEL UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	665	165	500	3	7	18	28	31	12	1
BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania	578	161	417	3	11	39	34	12	1	0
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania	574	210	364	1	4	10	20	28	34	4
MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania	512	137	375	2	10	35	32	17	4	0
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	512	269	243	4	12	26	29	20	8	1
EDINBORO UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania	488	157	331	5	19	40	25	9	2	0
CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania	481	182	299	2	15	43	28	11	2	0
GANNON UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	473	130	343	2	8	28	37	17	7	1
KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania	453	140	313	5	16	38	30	9	1	0
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY	West Virginia	447	129	318	1	6	27	40	20	6	0
CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania	420	113	307	3	17	38	27	12	3	0
VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	417	93	324	1	6	11	24	31	25	1
SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania	416	92	324	2	14	38	28	16	2	0
UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE	Delaware	394	75	319	0	3	12	34	35	16	1
MERCYHURST COLLEGE	Pennsylvania	362	95	267	4	12	33	31	14	5	0
CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	354	95	259	1	2	3	17	32	37	8
ROBERT MORRIS UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	332	83	249	1	14	35	34	14	3	1
LOCK HAVEN U OF PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania	294	69	225	6	13	42	24	12	2	0
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	274	62	212	0	3	7	16	38	29	6
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY THE	Ohio	266	61	205	1	3	14	32	30	16	3
EAST STROUDSBURG UNIVERSITY OF PENN	Pennsylvania	256	52	204	3	13	45	27	11	2	0
BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY	Pennsylvania	254	52	202	0	2	5	24	37	27	5
GROVE CITY COLLEGE	Pennsylvania	243	78	165	0	2	13	24	37	22	2
All Other Institutions		21,470	5,760	15,710	2	7	20	28	25	16	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>40,825</b>	<b>11,690</b>	<b>29,135</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</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>11,674</b>	<b>770,529</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>20.9</b>
African Am./Black	814	86,049	16.8	16.6	6.8	6.5	17.0	16.6
Am. Indian/Alaska Native	15	5,148	22.4	18.9	8.2	6.7	22.5	18.5
Caucasian Am./White	8,466	464,177	23.4	22.5	7.8	7.4	22.8	21.8
Hispanic	214	71,060	20.7	18.3	7.5	7.1	20.5	18.5
Asian Am./Pacific Islander	384	37,359	24.3	23.1	8.0	7.9	23.7	22.6
Other/No Response	1,781	106,736	24.5	22.2	7.9	7.5	23.7	21.7
Males	4,349	327,613	22.6	20.9	7.5	7.0	22.0	20.2
Females	6,825	421,968	23.2	21.7	7.9	7.6	22.8	21.3
Missing	500	20,948	24.7	23.9	8.0	7.9	24.0	23.2



