

# ACT Profile Report - State

Graduating Class 2009  
South Dakota





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This report provides information about the performance of your 2009 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 2009 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, test data for a school, district, and the state 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, or the state.

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.

Total Students in Report: 6,676

**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

28% of your students 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:** 6,676 of your students 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. 77% 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, 7% were college ready. 16% of the cohort reported taking the minimum math core (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). 19% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 59% of the students who advanced beyond minimum math 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 14% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 13% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 40% 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).

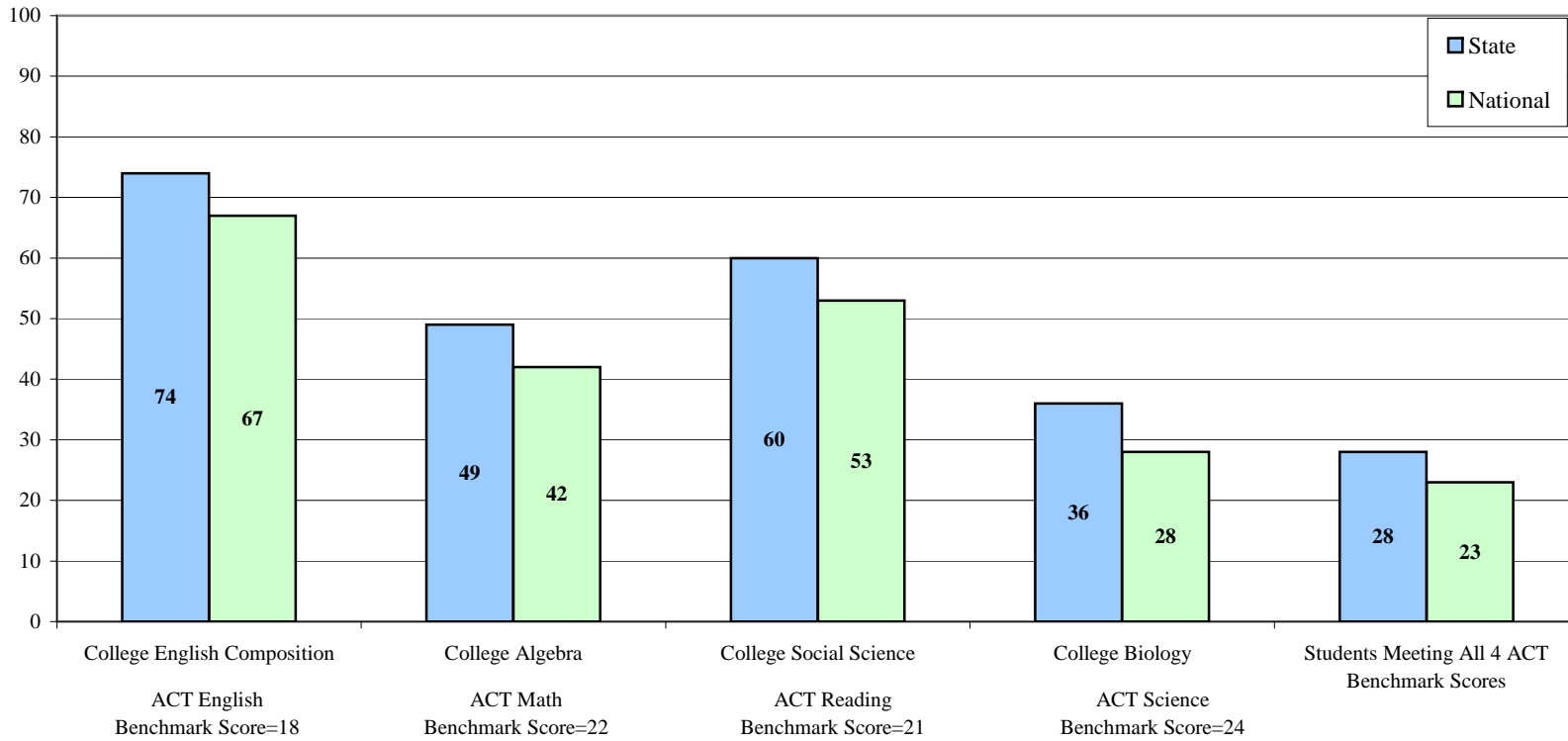
**PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS:** Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic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



Total Students in Report: 6,676

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

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
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
2007	6,975	1,300,599	75	69	50	43	58	53	34	28	27	23
2008	6,959	1,421,941	75	68	50	43	59	53	35	28	28	22
<b>2009</b>	<b>6,676</b>	<b>1,480,469</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores**

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
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
2007	6,975	1,300,599	21.3	20.7	21.7	21.0	22.1	21.5	21.9	21.0	21.9	21.2
2008	6,959	1,421,941	21.2	20.6	21.9	21.0	22.3	21.4	22.0	20.8	22.0	21.1
<b>2009</b>	<b>6,676</b>	<b>1,480,469</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>21.1</b>

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

Year	Number of Students Tested	Average ACT Scores				
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
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
<b>2009</b>	<b>1,480,469</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>21.1</b>

Total Students in Report: 6,676

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

Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent <sup>2</sup>		Average ACT Scores									
	Core or More <sup>1</sup>	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
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
2007	4,041	2,223	58	32	22.4	19.1	22.8	19.7	23.2	20.3	22.9	20.3	22.9	20.0
2008	4,742	1,891	68	27	22.1	18.8	22.8	19.6	23.0	20.4	22.7	20.1	22.8	19.8
<b>2009</b>	<b>5,144</b>	<b>1,448</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>19.4</b>

<sup>1</sup>"Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

<sup>2</sup>Percent of all students tested. Numbers will not add up to 100% due to student non-response.

**Table 1.5. Five Year Trends—Percent and Average Composite Score by Race/Ethnicity**

	2005			2006			2007			2008			2009		
	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
<b>All Students</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>	<b>6,959</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>6,676</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22.0</b>
African American/Black	49	1	17.7	57	1	19.0	62	1	18.8	55	1	18.1	59	1	17.3
American Indian/Alaska Native	410	6	16.9	416	6	17.5	414	6	17.6	413	6	17.5	424	6	17.6
Caucasian American/White	6,167	86	21.9	5,711	84	22.1	5,656	81	22.3	5,894	85	22.3	5,726	86	22.4
Hispanic	62	1	20.3	49	1	21.1	68	1	20.4	65	1	20.6	73	1	20.9
Asian American/Pacific Islander	59	1	22.5	68	1	22.1	70	1	22.0	69	1	21.8	62	1	22.8
Other/No Response	423	6	20.8	506	7	21.7	705	10	21.8	463	7	21.7	332	5	21.4

# Section II

# Academic Achievement

Total Students in Report: 6,676

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

ACT Score	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite		ACT Score
	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	
36	29	100	11	100	41	100	18	100	0	100	36
35	56	100	24	100	27	99	29	100	10	100	35
34	72	99	49	99	107	99	32	99	30	100	34
33	66	98	75	99	143	97	47	99	48	99	33
32	106	97	67	98	120	95	44	98	72	99	32
31	86	95	93	97	202	93	97	97	98	98	31
30	125	94	98	95	274	90	114	96	170	96	30
29	166	92	190	94	222	86	162	94	189	94	29
28	200	89	243	91	245	83	173	92	216	91	28
27	197	86	306	87	259	79	246	89	275	88	27
26	284	83	435	83	264	75	354	86	376	83	26
25	408	79	426	76	261	71	647	80	428	78	25
24	379	73	471	70	369	68	419	71	566	71	24
23	454	67	410	63	484	62	577	64	431	63	23
22	485	61	380	57	431	55	540	56	498	56	22
21	542	53	432	51	563	48	629	48	545	49	21
20	493	45	408	44	480	40	736	38	570	41	20
19	445	38	453	38	404	33	519	27	553	32	19
18	314	31	456	32	300	27	382	19	482	24	18
17	320	26	597	25	380	22	198	14	372	17	17
16	376	22	577	16	327	16	245	11	272	11	16
15	344	16	311	7	222	12	135	7	189	7	15
14	182	11	107	2	228	8	116	5	129	4	14
13	161	8	38	1	156	5	82	3	99	2	13
12	126	6	18	1	91	3	57	2	46	1	12
11	89	4	1	1	53	1	44	1	11	1	11
10	86	3	0	1	13	1	15	1	1	1	10
9	55	1	0	1	5	1	14	1	0	1	9
8	16	1	0	1	3	1	1	1	0	1	8
7	12	1	0	1	2	1	2	1	0	1	7
6	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	6
5	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	5
4	0	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
<b>Avg (SD)</b>	21.2 (5.6)		21.8 (4.9)		22.3 (5.7)		22.0 (4.5)		22.0 (4.6)		<b>Avg (SD)</b>

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

Note: Shaded portions of columns identify the students who met/exceeded the ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores.

Total Students in Report: 6,676

**Table 2.2. ACT Subscore Distributions, Cumulative Percentages (CP<sup>1</sup>), and Subtest Score Averages**

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	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	
18	217	100	75	100	183	100	256	100	226	100	40	100	41	100	18
17	238	97	52	99	306	97	264	96	360	97	51	99	47	99	17
16	273	93	347	98	376	93	499	92	384	91	180	99	209	99	16
15	349	89	402	93	514	87	560	85	487	85	234	96	375	96	15
14	342	84	489	87	443	79	592	76	567	78	678	92	594	90	14
13	506	79	622	80	622	73	405	67	538	70	568	82	939	81	13
12	597	71	895	70	687	63	588	61	736	62	867	74	630	67	12
11	697	62	781	57	685	53	729	53	696	51	837	61	827	58	11
10	873	52	890	45	776	43	629	42	653	40	1,365	48	972	45	10
9	727	39	762	32	770	31	506	32	506	30	773	28	801	31	9
8	496	28	577	20	548	20	619	25	730	23	546	16	619	19	8
7	512	20	352	12	447	11	382	15	510	12	228	8	199	9	7
6	360	13	170	6	186	5	267	10	200	4	125	5	185	6	6
5	245	7	121	4	77	2	260	6	49	1	101	3	107	4	5
4	165	4	104	2	25	1	74	2	28	1	36	1	71	2	4
3	61	1	33	1	20	1	37	1	4	1	35	1	37	1	3
2	16	1	4	1	11	1	9	1	1	1	8	1	17	1	2
1	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	4	1	6	1	1
Avg (SD)	10.6 (3.5)		10.9 (3.0)		11.4 (3.2)		11.4 (3.6)		11.6 (3.3)		10.9 (2.6)		10.9 (2.8)		Avg (SD)

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

**Table 2.3. ACT Score Quartile Values**

Quartile	English	Mathematics	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

Total Students in Report: 6,676

**Table 2.4. Average ACT Composite Scores for Race/Ethnicity by Level of Preparation**

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More <sup>1</sup>	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
State	<b>All Students</b>	<b>6,676</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>19.4</b>
	African American/Black	59	54	19.1	15.4
	American Indian/Alaska Native	424	65	18.3	16.3
	Caucasian American/White	5,726	79	23.0	19.9
	Hispanic	73	74	21.2	20.0
	Asian American/Pacific Islander	62	81	23.2	20.9
	Other/No Response	332	69	22.5	18.6
National	<b>All Students</b>	<b>1,480,469</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>19.1</b>
	African American/Black	196,149	64	17.6	15.9
	American Indian/Alaska Native	15,773	59	20.1	17.4
	Caucasian American/White	941,206	73	23.0	20.1
	Hispanic	133,569	67	19.6	17.3
	Asian American/Pacific Islander	59,093	80	23.7	21.4
	Other/No Response	134,679	63	22.2	19.0

<sup>1</sup>"Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

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

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
State	<b>All Students</b>	21.2	21.8	22.3	22.0	22.0
	African American/Black	15.7	17.7	17.2	18.2	17.3
	American Indian/Alaska Native	16.1	17.5	18.1	18.0	17.6
	Caucasian American/White	21.7	22.1	22.7	22.4	22.4
	Hispanic	20.0	20.4	21.3	21.2	20.9
	Asian American/Pacific Islander	21.5	23.8	22.3	22.8	22.8
	Other/No Response	20.3	21.3	21.7	21.7	21.4
National	<b>All Students</b>	20.6	21.0	21.4	20.9	21.1
	African American/Black	16.0	17.1	16.9	17.2	16.9
	American Indian/Alaska Native	17.9	18.7	19.4	19.1	18.9
	Caucasian American/White	21.9	21.9	22.6	21.9	22.2
	Hispanic	17.7	19.1	18.9	18.8	18.7
	Asian American/Pacific Islander	22.6	24.5	22.7	22.7	23.2
	Other/No Response	20.4	21.0	21.3	20.7	20.9

Total Students in Report: 6,676

**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	223	3	159	2	318	5	126	2
	28 to 32	683	10	691	10	1,063	16	590	9
	24 to 27	1,268	19	1,638	25	1,153	17	1,666	25
	20 to 23	1,974	30	1,630	24	1,958	29	2,482	37
	16 to 19	1,455	22	2,083	31	1,411	21	1,344	20
	13 to 15	687	10	456	7	606	9	333	5
	01 to 12	386	6	19	0	167	3	135	2
National	33 to 36	60,269	4	45,198	3	74,801	5	26,524	2
	28 to 32	154,245	10	139,060	9	205,090	14	104,787	7
	24 to 27	251,396	17	293,477	20	226,630	15	287,693	19
	20 to 23	376,203	25	300,212	20	361,756	24	492,815	33
	16 to 19	303,385	20	495,592	33	334,831	23	367,167	25
	13 to 15	179,194	12	198,214	13	195,336	13	131,197	9
	01 to 12	155,777	11	8,716	1	82,025	6	70,286	5

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

Student Group	Gender	N	Percent	Average ACT Scores				
				English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
State	Males	3,075	46	20.8	22.4	22.4	22.6	22.2
	Females	3,594	54	21.6	21.2	22.2	21.6	21.8
	Missing	7	0	19.9	22.0	23.4	21.7	21.7
National	Males	668,165	45	20.2	21.6	21.3	21.4	21.3
	Females	808,097	55	20.9	20.4	21.4	20.4	20.9
	Missing	4,207	0	20.3	21.2	21.5	20.8	21.1

**Table 2.8. Percent of Students Meeting College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Gender**

Student Group	Gender	Percent of Students				Meet All Four
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	
State	Males	70	53	61	41	31
	Females	76	45	60	31	25
National	Males	65	47	52	33	27
	Females	69	38	53	24	20

**Table 2.9. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores by Overall High School Curriculum**

Student Group	Curriculum Taken <sup>1</sup>	N	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
			CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB %	Avg	CRB % <sup>3</sup>	Avg
State	Core or More <sup>2</sup>	5,144	80	22.1	56	22.6	66	23.0	41	22.7	33	22.7
	Less than Core	1,448	54	18.5	24	19.0	42	20.0	17	19.7	11	19.4
	Missing	84	42	16.8	26	18.6	29	18.7	18	18.7	14	18.3
National	Core or More	1,039,502	75	21.7	50	21.9	59	22.3	34	21.7	28	22.0
	Less than Core	391,458	52	18.3	25	18.9	38	19.4	16	19.2	12	19.1
	Missing	49,509	35	15.9	16	17.5	25	17.3	10	17.6	7	17.2

<sup>1</sup>"Curriculum Taken" reflects overall high school curriculum in this table.

<sup>2</sup>"Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

<sup>3</sup>Composite CRB% results reflect students who meet all four subject-area benchmarks.

**Table 2.10. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores by Content-Specific Curriculum**

Student Group	Curriculum Taken <sup>1</sup>	English			Mathematics			Reading			Science		
		N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg	N	CRB %	Avg
State	Core or More	6,374	74	21.3	6,184	52	22.1	6,303	61	22.4	5,667	40	22.5
	Less than Core	230	60	19.2	413	7	16.7	304	46	20.8	933	13	19.2
	Missing	72	43	17.0	79	27	18.5	69	29	18.9	76	20	18.9
National	Core or More	1,367,549	70	20.9	1,334,313	46	21.4	1,287,169	55	21.7	1,206,541	32	21.5
	Less than Core	73,276	42	16.8	101,413	7	16.5	151,264	41	19.7	230,683	12	18.4
	Missing	39,644	37	16.1	44,743	17	17.5	42,036	26	17.5	43,245	11	17.7

<sup>1</sup>"Curriculum Taken" reflects content-specific curriculum in this table.

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

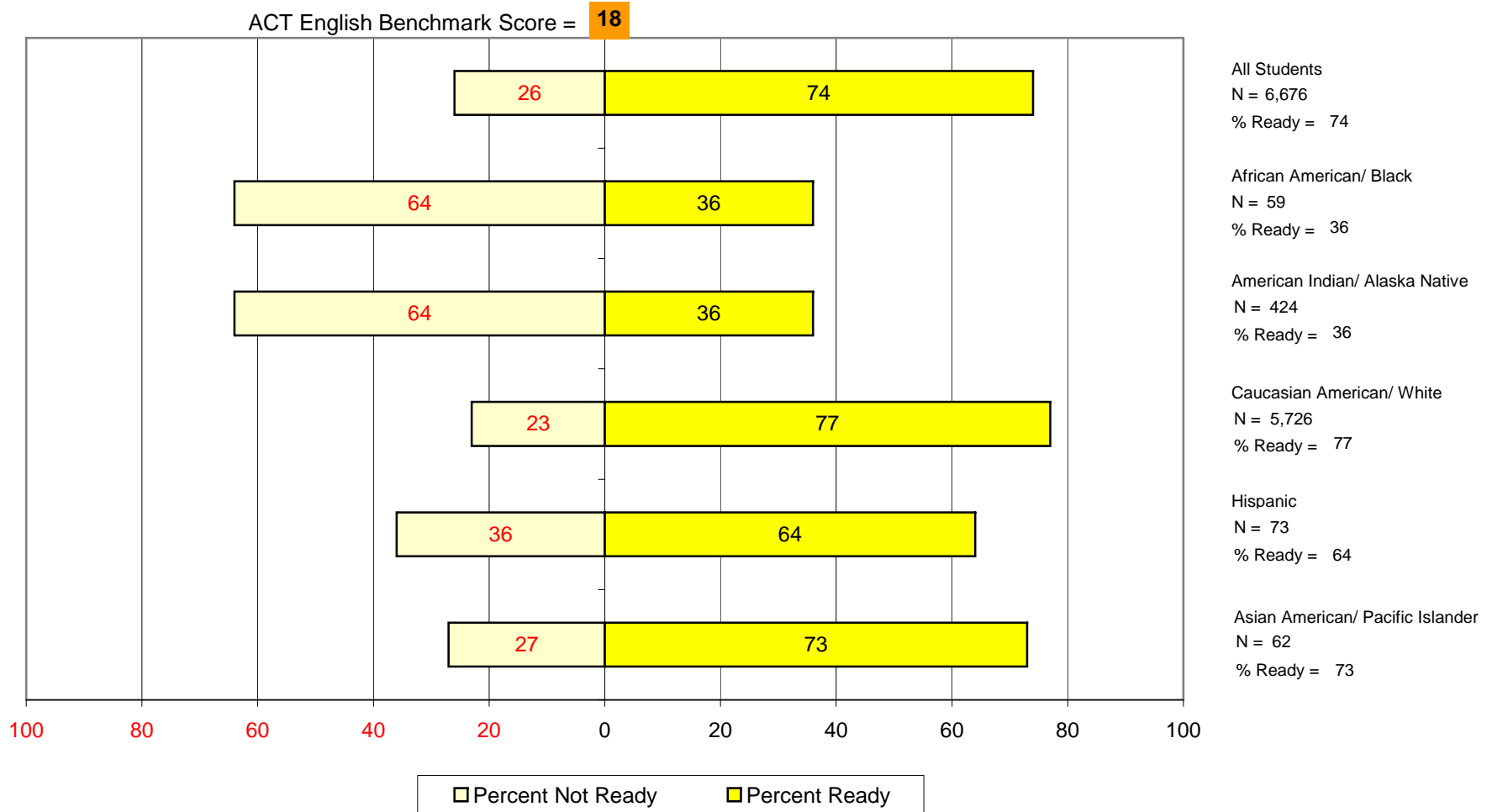


# Section III

## College Readiness and the Impact of Course Rigor

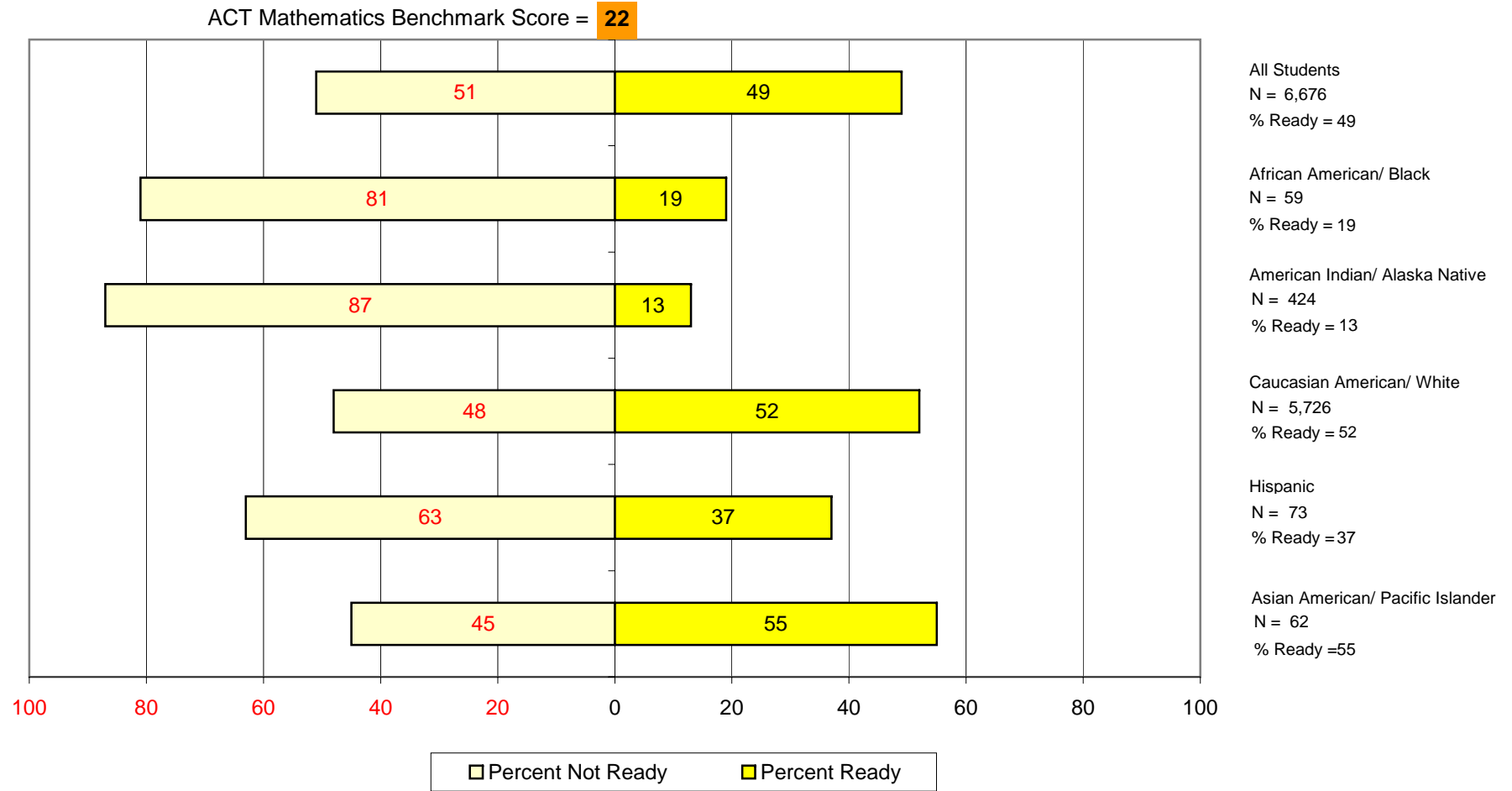
Total Students in Report: 6,676

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

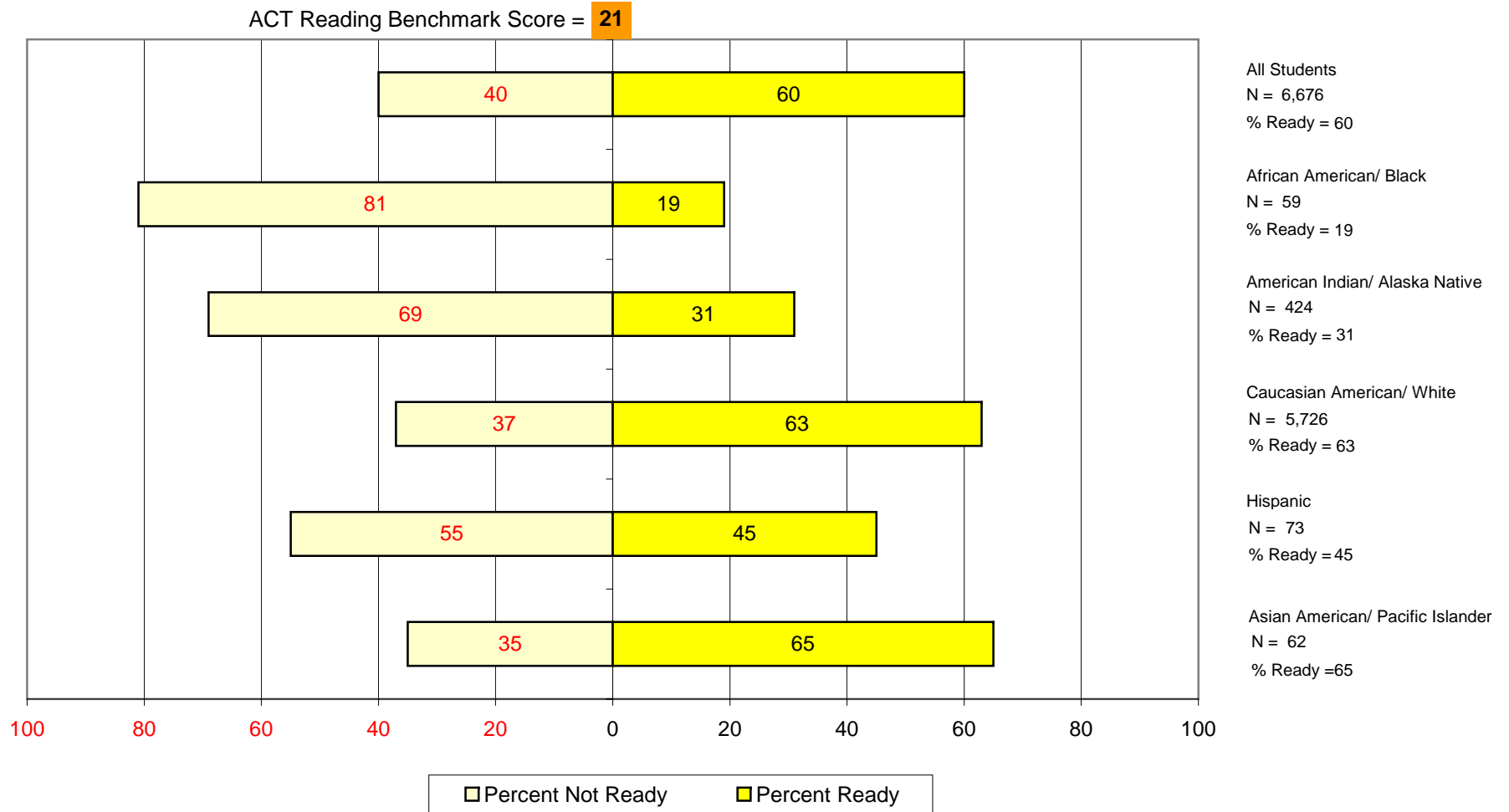


Total Students in Report: 6,676

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

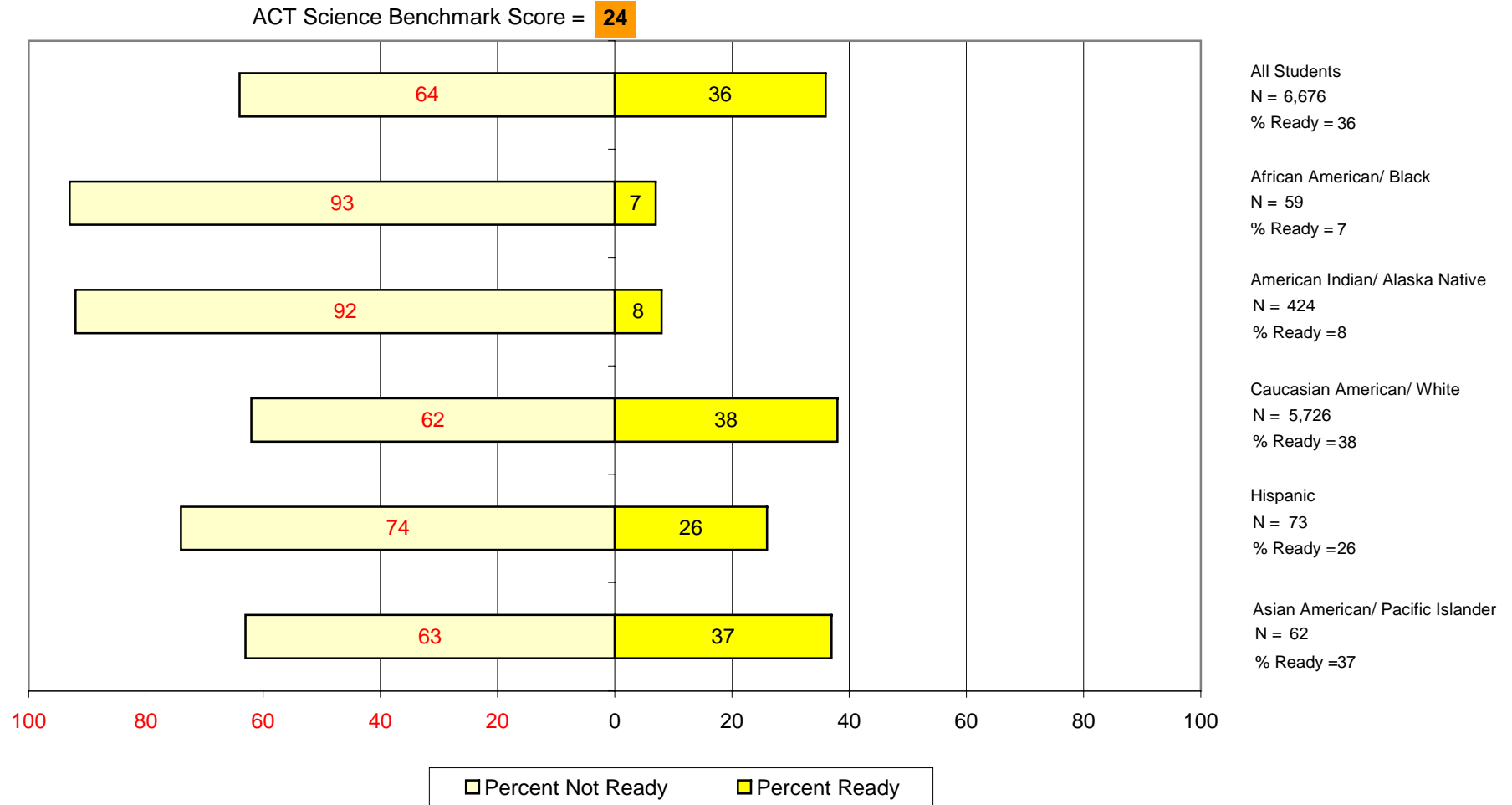


**Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity: READING**



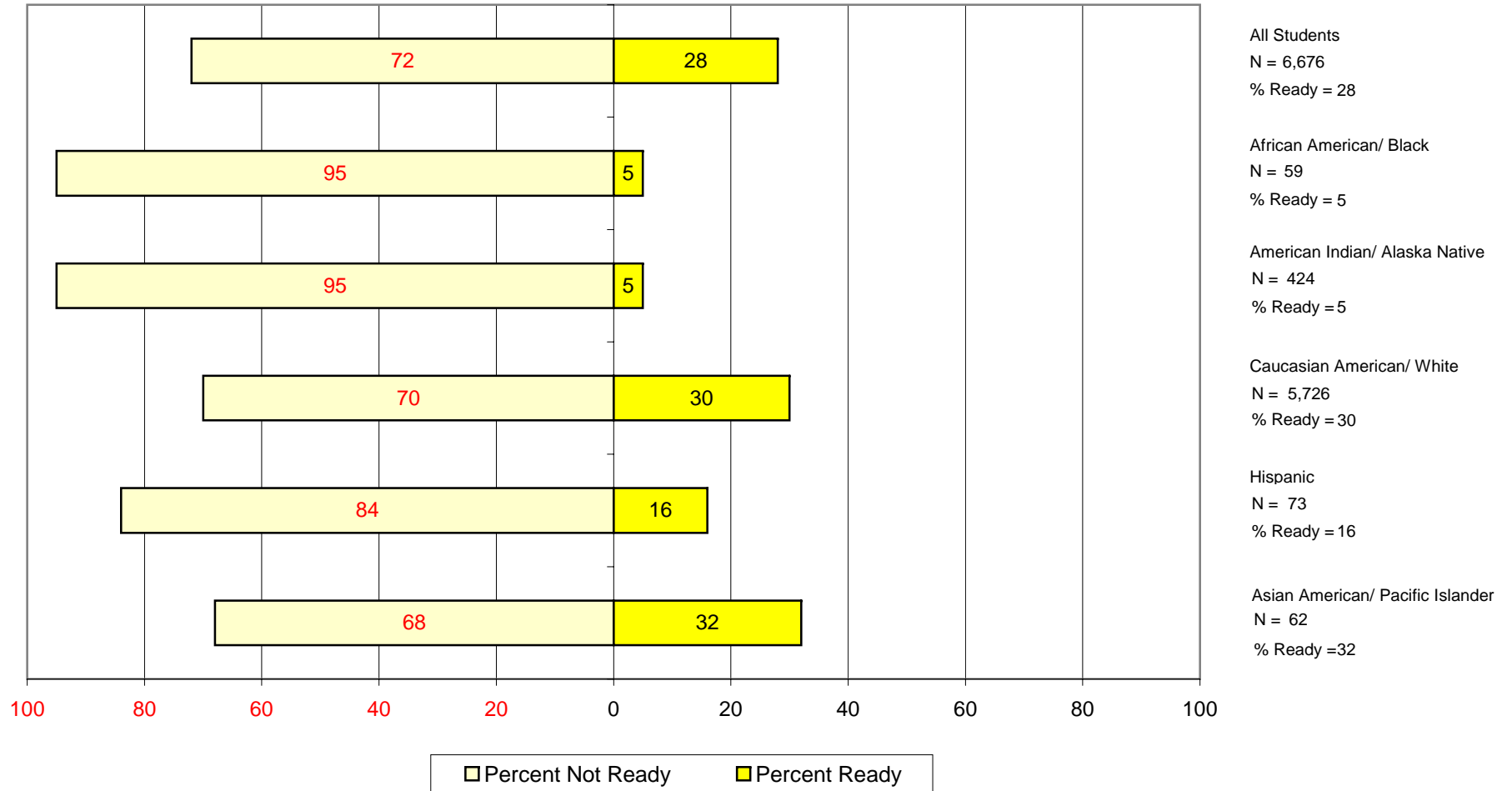
Total Students in Report: 6,676

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



Total Students in Report: 6,676

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



Total Students in Report: 6,676

**Table 3.1. Average ACT Scores and Average ACT 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	1,755	26	22.3	3.1	717	23	21.8	3.2	1,037	29	22.7	3.1
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	4,619	69	21.0	1.8	2,213	72	20.6	2.0	2,401	67	21.3	1.7
Less than 4 years of English	234	4	19.2	-	107	3	18.6	-	127	4	19.6	-
No English course/grade information reported	68	1	16.9	-	38	1	16.7	-	29	1	17.3	-
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	332	5	25.6	8.9	157	5	26.8	9.8	175	5	24.5	8.1
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	554	8	22.6	5.9	218	7	22.9	5.9	335	9	22.4	6.0
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	416	6	21.6	4.9	166	5	22.0	5.0	250	7	21.3	4.9
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	950	14	21.4	4.7	367	12	22.0	5.0	582	16	21.0	4.6
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	2,337	35	24.2	7.5	1,133	37	25.0	8.0	1,202	33	23.4	7.0
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	1,085	16	18.6	1.9	526	17	19.1	2.1	558	16	18.1	1.7
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	510	8	19.6	2.9	252	8	20.3	3.3	257	7	18.9	2.5
Less than 3 years of Math	422	6	16.7	-	217	7	17.0	-	205	6	16.4	-
No Math course/grade information reported	70	1	18.7	-	39	1	18.8	-	30	1	18.7	-
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	23	0	21.4	0.6	17	1	20.9	0.0	6	0	22.7	2.0
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	3,984	60	22.5	1.7	1,762	57	22.7	1.8	2,219	62	22.4	1.7
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	75	1	19.9	-0.9	47	2	19.9	-1.0	28	1	20.0	-0.7
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	2,221	33	22.3	1.5	1,057	34	22.3	1.4	1,161	32	22.3	1.6
Less than 3 years of Social Science	306	5	20.8	-	155	5	20.9	-	151	4	20.7	-
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	67	1	18.9	-	37	1	19.5	-	29	1	18.1	-
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,450	37	23.5	4.3	1,234	40	24.2	4.6	1,213	34	22.9	4.1
Bio, Chem, Phys	186	3	25.8	6.6	95	3	27.0	7.4	91	3	24.5	5.7
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	2,729	41	21.6	2.4	1,056	34	21.9	2.3	1,670	46	21.4	2.6
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	302	5	21.2	2.0	190	6	21.6	2.0	112	3	20.6	1.8
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	938	14	19.2	-	463	15	19.6	-	475	13	18.8	-
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	71	1	19.0	-	37	1	19.4	-	33	1	18.5	-

<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.

Total Students in Report: 6,676

**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	1,755	26	22.3	81	338,118	23	22.0	76
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 (Min. Core)	4,619	69	21.0	72	1,029,431	70	20.6	68
Less than 4 years of English	234	4	19.2	59	74,090	5	16.7	42
No English course/grade information reported	68	1	16.9	43	38,830	3	16.1	37
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	332	5	25.6	78	92,630	6	24.5	71
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	554	8	22.6	59	135,244	9	22.1	56
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	416	6	21.6	47	110,962	7	20.0	35
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	950	14	21.4	47	220,868	15	20.1	36
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	2,337	35	24.2	71	455,130	31	23.9	66
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom (Min. Core)	1,085	16	18.6	19	248,747	17	17.5	12
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	510	8	19.6	28	70,732	5	20.1	35
Less than 3 years of Math	422	6	16.7	7	105,591	7	16.5	7
No Math course/grade information reported	70	1	18.7	27	40,565	3	17.7	18
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	23	0	21.4	61	46,754	3	22.8	61
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	3,984	60	22.5	62	735,636	50	22.0	57
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov (Min. Core)	75	1	19.9	44	84,543	6	20.6	47
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	2,221	33	22.3	60	420,236	28	21.3	52
Less than 3 years of Social Science	306	5	20.8	46	152,775	10	19.7	40
No Soc Sci course/grade information reported	67	1	18.9	30	40,525	3	17.5	26
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,450	37	23.5	49	563,824	38	22.2	39
Bio, Chem, Phys	186	3	25.8	70	141,531	10	23.3	47
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem (Min. Core)	2,729	41	21.6	30	459,833	31	20.1	21
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	302	5	21.2	27	41,353	3	19.8	21
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	938	14	19.2	13	233,215	16	18.4	11
No Nat Sci course/grade information reported	71	1	19.0	21	40,713	3	17.7	11

<sup>1</sup>Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.



# Section IV

## Career and Educational Aspirations

Total Students in Report: 6,676

**Table 4.1. Distribution of Planned Educational Majors for All Students 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	248	4	20.0	72	10	18.5	166	3	20.8
Architecture & Environmental Design	142	2	21.7	15	2	18.9	119	2	22.2
Business & Management	564	8	21.4	45	6	18.6	498	9	21.7
Business & Office	74	1	20.3	18	3	17.8	55	1	21.1
Marketing & Distribution	28	0	20.8	2	0	19.5	25	0	21.1
Communications & Comm. Technologies	110	2	22.5	7	1	17.3	100	2	23.0
Community & Personal Services	149	2	19.6	30	4	18.0	104	2	20.3
Computer & Information Sciences	174	3	22.2	23	3	19.5	142	3	22.5
Cross-Disciplinary Studies	5	0	20.2	0	0	.	5	0	20.2
Education	275	4	21.8	7	1	18.9	251	5	21.9
Teacher Education	204	3	20.9	9	1	17.6	190	3	21.1
Engineering	248	4	24.6	16	2	17.3	229	4	25.1
Engineering-Related Technologies	201	3	23.1	26	4	18.7	172	3	23.9
Foreign Languages	21	0	25.0	0	0	.	20	0	25.4
Health Sciences & Allied Health Fields	1,557	23	22.1	122	17	18.3	1,386	25	22.5
Human, Family & Consumer Science	63	1	19.5	10	1	18.7	51	1	19.8
Letters	39	1	26.3	0	0	.	36	1	26.2
Mathematics	47	1	23.6	1	0	13.0	41	1	24.1
Philosophy, Religion & Theology	38	1	24.6	1	0	18.0	35	1	24.5
Sciences (Biological & Physical)	387	6	24.5	4	1	18.0	370	7	24.5
Social Sciences	394	6	22.6	6	1	18.3	364	7	22.7
Trade & Industrial	174	3	18.8	129	18	18.2	39	1	21.1
Visual & Performing Arts	387	6	21.9	37	5	18.1	325	6	22.3
Undecided	1,026	15	21.9	119	17	18.3	813	15	22.5
No Response	121	2	18.6	9	1	17.9	19	0	20.2

<sup>1</sup>2-Year and 4-Year "N" counts do not reflect "Missing" and "Other" institution types, therefore they may not add up to the N count for All Students.

<sup>2</sup>Percent of students tested within College Plan groups (All Students, 2-Year, 4-Year).

**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 American/Black		American Indian/Alaska Native		Caucasian American/White		Hispanic		Asian American/Pacific Islander		Other/No Response	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	303	18.4	0	.	17	16.5	266	18.5	3	16.0	0	.	17	18.4
2-yr College Degree	405	18.2	2	18.5	54	15.6	329	18.8	1	21.0	2	17.0	17	15.9
Bachelors Degree	3,309	21.5	30	17.5	152	17.6	2,938	21.8	30	20.0	26	19.6	133	20.5
Graduate Study	760	24.1	4	17.0	42	19.4	661	24.5	6	22.8	8	24.6	39	23.7
Prof. Level Degree	1,486	24.0	17	18.0	104	19.0	1,236	24.5	24	22.5	22	26.1	83	23.4
Other	172	19.2	2	14.0	18	16.1	135	19.7	4	18.8	2	17.5	11	20.0
No Response	241	21.2	4	13.8	37	15.2	161	22.4	5	20.2	2	31.0	32	22.3

Total Students in Report: 6,676

**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	2,396	1,092	1,304	0	4	22	32	30	11	1
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA	South Dakota	1,652	501	1,151	0	4	22	32	30	10	1
BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	824	308	516	1	7	30	34	21	7	0
NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	587	191	396	1	7	28	32	24	9	0
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES	Minnesota	517	160	357	0	1	8	26	38	23	4
AUGUSTANA COLLEGE	South Dakota	489	135	354	0	2	17	29	34	17	1
UNIVERSITY OF SIOUX FALLS	South Dakota	482	120	362	1	5	21	38	29	7	0
DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	472	136	336	0	7	28	33	24	8	0
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT LINCOLN	Nebraska	433	117	316	0	1	10	26	36	22	4
SOUTH DAKOTA SCH OF MINES/TECH	South Dakota	419	157	262	1	3	12	20	37	23	4
SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	366	105	261	2	11	42	30	14	1	0
LAKE AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	311	131	180	0	14	43	27	13	2	0
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO	Minnesota	263	55	208	1	1	24	35	30	10	0
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	North Dakota	249	59	190	1	2	20	27	35	13	1
DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	201	56	145	1	6	28	37	19	7	0
MITCHELL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	192	68	124	2	13	48	26	10	2	0
WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	149	41	108	4	15	44	20	14	2	0
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING	Wyoming	144	34	110	1	5	22	33	28	10	1
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA	North Dakota	133	33	100	0	4	20	29	33	14	0
MOUNT MARTY COLLEGE	South Dakota	128	27	101	0	8	28	34	23	6	0
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	Iowa	126	22	104	0	0	10	24	40	25	1
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MOORHEAD	Minnesota	108	32	76	1	2	22	41	27	7	0
SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	Minnesota	104	27	77	0	1	18	35	33	11	3
CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY	Nebraska	99	29	70	0	3	10	19	34	28	5
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY	Colorado	94	20	74	0	1	12	29	37	19	2
CHADRON STATE COLLEGE	Nebraska	83	20	63	1	12	34	24	22	7	0
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	80	28	52	0	3	25	36	24	11	1
COLORADO TECHNICAL UNIV-SIOUX FALLS	South Dakota	76	12	64	1	14	37	28	18	1	0
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA	Iowa	75	16	59	0	1	16	28	29	23	3
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN	Montana	72	25	47	0	1	18	19	35	24	3
All Other Institutions		3,579	929	2,650	1	6	20	26	25	18	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>14,903</b>	<b>4,686</b>	<b>10,217</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>27</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>1,568</b>	<b>814,713</b>	<b>23.8</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>20.8</b>
African American/Black	15	96,225	16.9	16.5	6.7	6.4	17.1	16.5
American Indian/Alaska Native	98	5,489	18.2	18.9	6.6	6.7	17.9	18.5
Caucasian American/White	1,308	497,164	24.2	22.8	7.2	7.3	22.9	21.9
Hispanic	24	85,681	23.3	18.4	7.3	7.0	22.3	18.4
Asian American/Pacific Islander	27	44,716	25.3	23.5	7.7	7.6	24.1	22.8
Other/No Response	96	85,438	23.8	21.4	7.2	7.2	22.4	20.8
Males	675	357,025	23.7	21.1	7.1	6.9	22.4	20.3
Females	891	455,190	23.8	21.7	7.3	7.4	22.6	21.2
Missing	2	2,498	20.5	22.1	7.5	7.2	20.5	21.3



