

# ACT Profile Report - State

Graduating Class 2012  
South Dakota



ACT, INC. -- CONFIDENTIAL





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This report provides information about the performance of your 2012 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 2012 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.

Furthermore, 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. *Connecting College Readiness Standards to the Classroom* interpretive guides can be found at [www.act.org/standard/infoserv.html](http://www.act.org/standard/infoserv.html).

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

30% 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:** 6,878 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. 87% 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 4% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 6% were college ready. 16% of the cohort reported taking a course sequence of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. 18% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 64% of the students who took 3 or more years of math beyond Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry 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 7% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 14% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 39% of students who took at least three years of science coursework were college ready.

**EVALUATING RIGOR OF COURSES:** Table 2.6 reports the percentage of students falling in each of the ACT College Readiness Standards score ranges. For example, approximately 37% 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 303-337-3273.

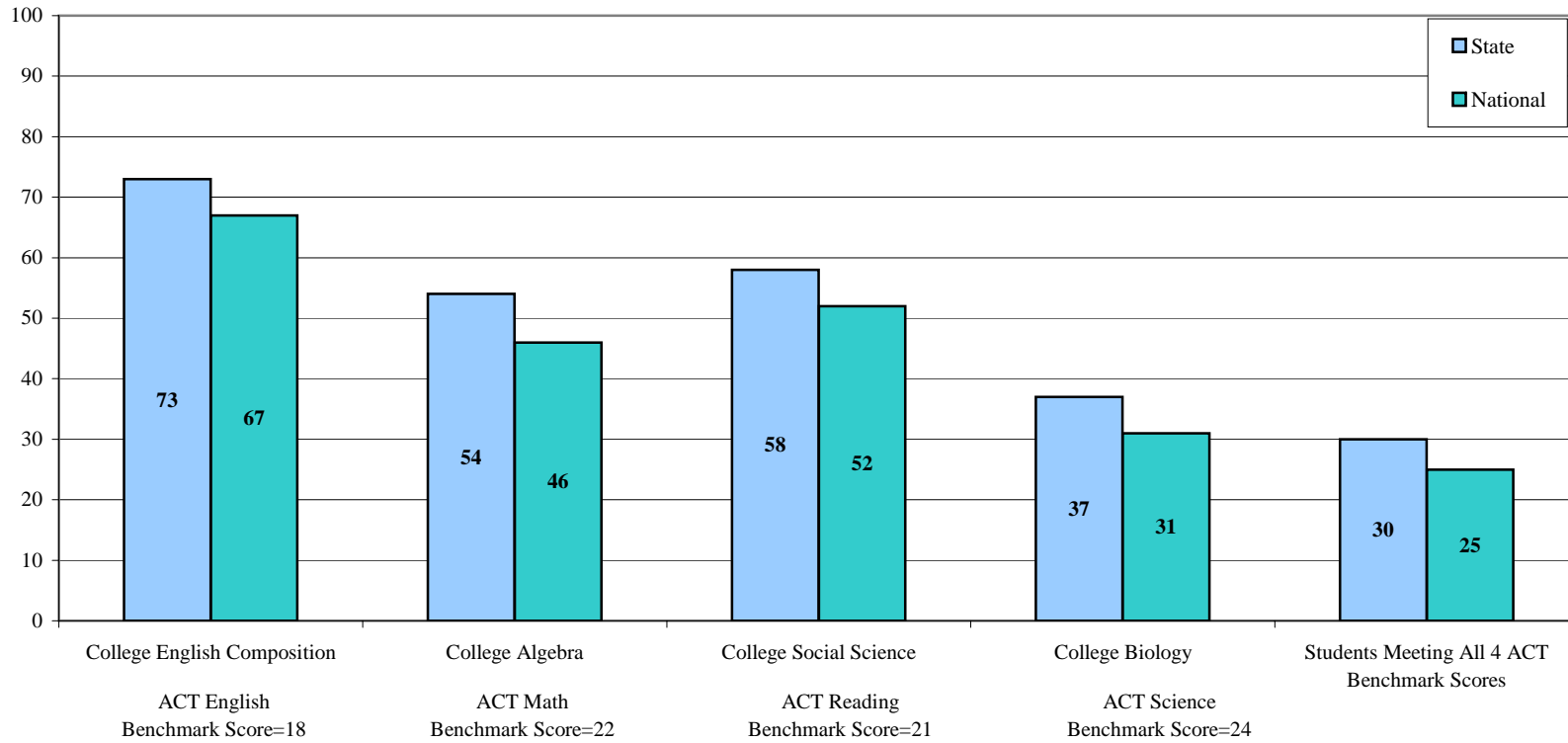
# Section I

## Executive Summary

Tables within this section have been changed to reflect the updated United States Department of Education race/ethnicity reporting requirements. The race/ethnicity categories shown are the derived Federal reporting categories. Not all values convert from old race/ethnicity categories into new race/ethnicity categories. Therefore, trend data may not be present where direct conversions are not available.

Total Students in Report: 6,878

**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: 6,878

**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
2008	6,959	1,421,941	75	68	50	43	59	53	35	28	28	22
2009	6,676	1,480,469	74	67	49	42	60	53	36	28	28	23
2010	6,871	1,568,835	74	66	50	43	58	52	35	29	28	24
2011	6,983	1,623,112	72	66	52	45	58	52	37	30	29	25
<b>2012</b>	<b>6,878</b>	<b>1,666,017</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>25</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
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
2009	6,676	1,480,469	21.2	20.6	21.8	21.0	22.3	21.4	22.0	20.9	22.0	21.1
2010	6,871	1,568,835	21.1	20.5	21.6	21.0	22.0	21.3	21.9	20.9	21.8	21.0
2011	6,983	1,623,112	21.0	20.6	21.8	21.1	22.0	21.3	22.1	20.9	21.8	21.1
<b>2012</b>	<b>6,878</b>	<b>1,666,017</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>21.8</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
2008	1,421,941	20.6	21.0	21.4	20.8	21.1
2009	1,480,469	20.6	21.0	21.4	20.9	21.1
2010	1,568,835	20.5	21.0	21.3	20.9	21.0
2011	1,623,112	20.6	21.1	21.3	20.9	21.1
<b>2012</b>	<b>1,666,017</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>21.1</b>

Total Students in Report: 6,878

**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
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
2009	5,144	1,448	77	22	22.1	18.5	22.6	19.0	23.0	20.0	22.7	19.7	22.7	19.4
2010	5,890	895	86	13	21.7	17.7	22.1	18.4	22.5	19.1	22.4	19.1	22.3	18.7
2011	6,025	874	86	13	21.6	17.4	22.3	18.7	22.5	19.0	22.5	19.1	22.4	18.7
<b>2012</b>	<b>5,995</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>18.7</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.

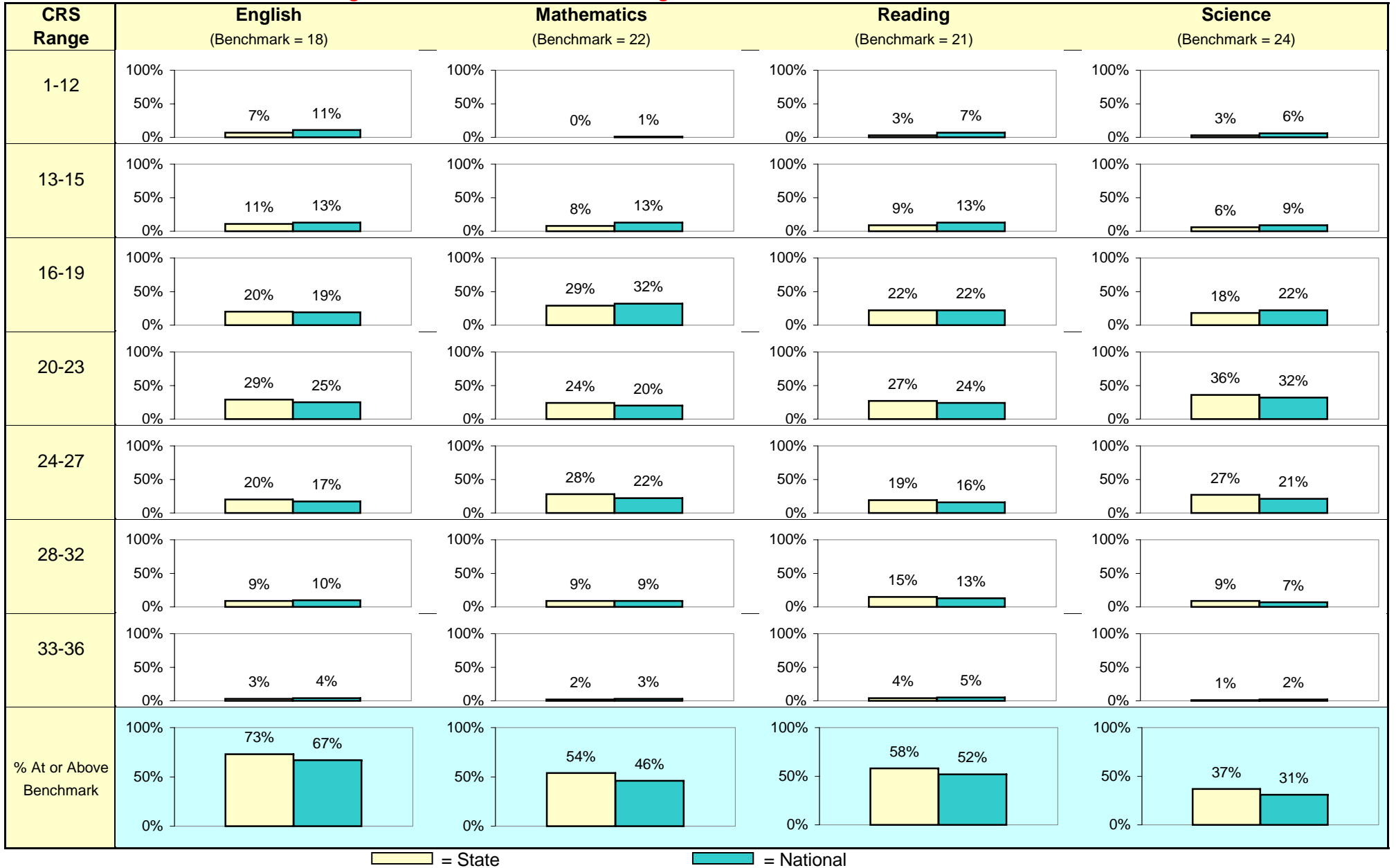
**Table 1.5. Five Year Trends—Percent and Average Composite Score by Race/Ethnicity<sup>1</sup>**

	2008			2009			2010			2011			2012		
	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg
<b>All Students</b>	<b>6,959</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>6,676</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>6,871</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>6,983</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>6,878</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.8</b>
Black/African American	55	1	18.1	59	1	17.3	85	1	18.4	85	1	17.7	100	1	17.7
American Indian/Alaska Native	413	6	17.5	424	6	17.6	495	7	17.1	483	7	16.7	416	6	16.2
White	5,894	85	22.3	5,726	86	22.4	5,850	85	22.3	5,836	84	22.4	5,675	83	22.4
Hispanic/Latino	65	1	20.6	73	1	20.9	87	1	19.5	169	2	19.6	208	3	20.0
Asian	69	1	21.8	62	1	22.8	70	1	22.8	71	1	23.7	101	1	21.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0	0	.	0	0	.	0	0	.	6	0	15.5	9	0	18.1
Two or more races	86	1	21.8	90	1	21.6	84	1	21.7	153	2	20.6	230	3	20.3
Prefer not to respond/No response	377	5	21.7	242	4	21.3	200	3	20.7	180	3	21.9	139	2	23.0

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the section header on page 5 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

Total Students in Report: 6,878

**Table 1.6. Percent of Students in College Readiness Standards Score Ranges**



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# Section II

## Academic Achievement

Tables within this section have been changed to reflect the updated United States Department of Education race/ethnicity reporting requirements. The race/ethnicity categories shown are the derived Federal reporting categories. Not all values convert from old race/ethnicity categories into new race/ethnicity categories. Therefore, trend data may not be present where direct conversions are not available.

Total Students in Report: 6,878

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

ACT Scale Score	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite		ACT Scale Score
	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	
36	22	100	12	100	49	100	20	100	3	100	36
35	61	100	32	100	39	99	21	100	8	100	35
34	64	99	50	99	83	99	26	99	24	100	34
33	82	98	63	99	110	98	34	99	56	99	33
32	85	97	63	98	146	96	61	99	76	99	32
31	98	95	57	97	203	94	90	98	90	98	31
30	137	94	121	96	196	91	122	96	146	96	30
29	146	92	129	94	228	88	107	95	160	94	29
28	164	90	247	92	237	85	219	93	242	92	28
27	272	88	317	89	261	81	336	90	308	88	27
26	263	84	486	84	321	77	337	85	358	84	26
25	327	80	513	77	269	73	499	80	454	79	25
24	508	75	612	70	483	69	687	73	648	72	24
23	443	68	522	61	380	62	626	63	456	63	23
22	458	61	456	53	478	56	579	54	529	56	22
21	647	54	262	46	539	49	606	45	566	48	21
20	478	45	404	43	467	42	683	36	524	40	20
19	435	38	387	37	364	35	367	27	516	32	19
18	342	32	472	31	541	29	423	21	491	25	18
17	257	27	524	24	298	22	266	15	339	18	17
16	365	23	610	17	311	17	206	11	282	13	16
15	347	18	368	8	282	13	174	8	214	9	15
14	237	13	122	2	200	9	114	6	150	6	14
13	141	9	30	1	169	6	103	4	146	3	13
12	125	7	14	1	113	3	86	3	59	1	12
11	117	5	4	1	58	2	42	1	27	1	11
10	105	4	1	1	33	1	29	1	6	1	10
9	74	2	0	1	11	1	10	1	0	1	9
8	47	1	0	1	4	1	2	1	0	1	8
7	23	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	7
6	5	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	6
5	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	5
4	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	4
3	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	21.0 (5.8)		21.8 (4.8)		22.1 (5.7)		22.0 (4.6)		21.8 (4.7)		Avg (SD)

<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: 6,878

**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/ Sciences		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	191	100	75	100	155	100	163	100	293	100	53	100	55	100	18
17	259	97	56	99	292	98	277	98	317	96	35	99	10	99	17
16	314	93	351	98	449	94	396	94	235	91	180	99	190	99	16
15	284	89	395	93	435	87	429	88	476	88	246	96	421	96	15
14	479	85	532	87	555	81	539	82	579	81	669	93	601	90	14
13	379	78	631	80	676	73	595	74	852	72	925	83	734	81	13
12	629	72	803	70	825	63	694	65	741	60	775	69	1,061	71	12
11	730	63	968	59	657	51	662	55	793	49	1,006	58	863	55	11
10	885	53	708	45	719	41	634	45	542	38	1,046	43	892	43	10
9	755	40	849	34	657	31	729	36	504	30	792	28	802	30	9
8	534	29	550	22	537	21	606	26	617	22	578	17	511	18	8
7	517	21	365	14	527	13	392	17	589	14	278	8	386	11	7
6	356	13	214	9	201	6	410	11	190	5	139	4	192	5	6
5	252	8	173	6	114	3	203	5	92	2	89	2	50	2	5
4	154	5	148	3	52	1	82	2	39	1	16	1	77	2	4
3	113	2	47	1	16	1	58	1	13	1	36	1	9	1	3
2	45	1	11	1	5	1	9	1	5	1	2	1	19	1	2
1	2	1	2	1	6	1	0	1	1	1	13	1	5	1	1
Avg (SD)	10.5 (3.6)		10.8 (3.1)		11.4 (3.3)		11.0 (3.5)		11.5 (3.3)		11.0 (2.6)		11.0 (2.7)		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	22	22	22	22
Q1 (25th Percentile)	17	18	18	19	19

Total Students in Report: 6,878

**Table 2.4. Average ACT Composite Scores for Race/Ethnicity<sup>1</sup> by Level of Preparation**

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More <sup>2</sup>	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
State	<b>All Students</b>	<b>6,878</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>18.7</b>
	Black/African American	100	67	18.8	15.4
	American Indian/Alaska Native	416	70	16.9	14.6
	White	5,675	89	22.8	19.8
	Hispanic/Latino	208	86	20.4	17.7
	Asian	101	78	23.1	17.7
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	9	56	19.6	16.3
	Two or more races	230	81	20.8	18.2
	Prefer not/No Response	139	86	23.6	19.1
National	<b>All Students</b>	<b>1,666,017</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>19.1</b>
	Black/African American	222,237	72	17.5	15.9
	American Indian/Alaska Native	13,523	66	19.3	16.9
	White	983,148	77	23.0	20.3
	Hispanic/Latino	234,456	73	19.5	17.4
	Asian	68,080	81	24.1	21.8
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	4,545	74	20.4	18.3
	Two or more races	55,500	76	22.0	19.6
	Prefer not/No Response	84,528	68	22.5	19.2

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the section header on page 11 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

<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.

**Table 2.5. Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity<sup>1</sup>**

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
State	<b>All Students</b>	21.0	21.8	22.1	22.0	21.8
	Black/African American	16.0	18.2	17.6	18.3	17.7
	American Indian/Alaska Native	14.2	16.7	16.6	16.9	16.2
	White	21.7	22.4	22.6	22.5	22.4
	Hispanic/Latino	18.9	19.8	20.5	20.3	20.0
	Asian	19.9	23.2	21.5	22.4	21.9
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	17.4	17.8	18.6	18.6	18.1
	Two or more races	19.2	20.2	20.8	20.6	20.3
	Prefer not/No Response	22.4	22.5	23.8	22.6	23.0
National	<b>All Students</b>	20.5	21.1	21.3	20.9	21.1
	Black/African American	16.0	17.3	17.2	17.2	17.0
	American Indian/Alaska Native	17.1	18.5	18.7	18.7	18.4
	White	22.1	22.1	22.7	22.1	22.4
	Hispanic/Latino	17.7	19.4	19.0	18.9	18.9
	Asian	22.7	25.2	22.9	23.2	23.6
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	18.9	20.4	19.8	19.7	19.8
	Two or more races	21.0	21.1	21.8	21.2	21.4
	Prefer not/No Response	20.7	21.3	21.5	20.9	21.3

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the section header on page 11 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.



Total Students in Report: 6,878

**Table 2.6. Percent of Students in College Readiness Standards (CRS) Score Ranges**

Student Group	CRS Range	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
State	33 to 36	229	3	157	2	281	4	101	1
	28 to 32	630	9	617	9	1,010	15	599	9
	24 to 27	1,370	20	1,928	28	1,334	19	1,859	27
	20 to 23	2,026	29	1,644	24	1,864	27	2,494	36
	16 to 19	1,399	20	1,993	29	1,514	22	1,262	18
	13 to 15	725	11	520	8	651	9	391	6
	01 to 12	499	7	19	0	224	3	172	3
National	33 to 36	74,039	4	50,719	3	81,737	5	30,082	2
	28 to 32	167,405	10	149,540	9	223,134	13	123,485	7
	24 to 27	291,143	17	369,818	22	262,453	16	355,144	21
	20 to 23	414,094	25	332,787	20	399,794	24	532,341	32
	16 to 19	318,585	19	538,042	32	366,975	22	373,233	22
	13 to 15	210,405	13	216,778	13	220,083	13	158,083	9
	01 to 12	190,346	11	8,333	1	111,841	7	93,649	6

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

Student Group	Gender	N	Percent	Average ACT Scores				
				English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
State	Males	3,220	47	20.7	22.5	22.1	22.7	22.1
	Females	3,658	53	21.3	21.3	22.0	21.4	21.6
	Missing	0	0	.	.	.	.	.
National	Males	761,554	46	20.2	21.7	21.2	21.4	21.2
	Females	900,625	54	20.9	20.6	21.4	20.5	21.0
	Missing	3,838	0	16.1	17.8	17.6	17.8	17.5

**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	71	58	58	44	35
	Females	75	50	59	31	26
National	Males	64	50	51	35	29
	Females	69	42	53	27	22

**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>4</sup>	Avg
State	Core or More <sup>2</sup>	5,995	77	21.6	58	22.3	62	22.5	40	22.4	33	22.3
	Less than Core	835	47	17.4	25	18.7	35	19.0	16	19.1	11	18.7
	Missing <sup>3</sup>	48	54	17.3	27	18.9	38	19.3	17	19.5	15	18.9
National	Core or More	1,259,744	72	21.3	51	21.8	57	22.0	35	21.6	29	21.8
	Less than Core	355,849	51	18.3	29	19.1	38	19.4	19	19.1	14	19.1
	Missing	50,424	38	16.2	22	18.1	27	17.6	14	17.8	10	17.6

<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> Zero years or no coursework information reported in one or more content areas.

<sup>4</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 <sup>2</sup>	6,659	74	21.1	6,535	56	22.1	6,730	59	22.1	6,340	39	22.3
	Less than Core	180	54	18.3	299	6	16.2	106	27	18.5	494	14	18.8
	Missing <sup>3</sup>	39	59	17.6	44	27	19.0	42	40	19.8	44	18	19.9
National	Core or More	1,558,562	68	20.8	1,550,768	48	21.4	1,471,658	54	21.6	1,425,217	33	21.4
	Less than Core	64,748	41	16.5	69,741	8	16.6	149,266	40	19.7	194,661	13	18.4
	Missing	42,707	40	16.5	45,508	22	18.2	45,093	29	17.8	46,139	14	17.9

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

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

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.

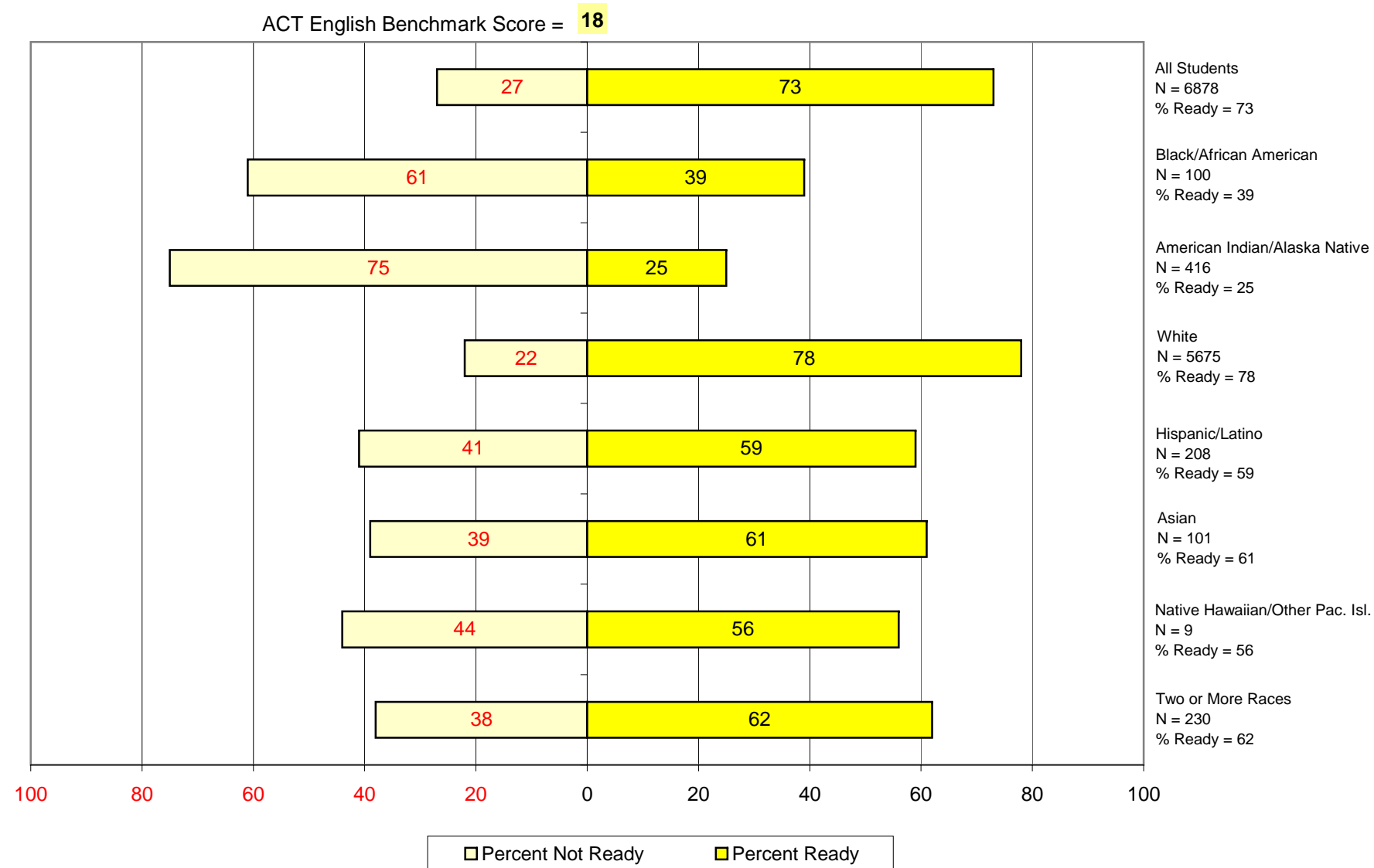
<sup>3</sup> Zero years or no coursework information reported in the specified content area.

# Section III

## College Readiness and the Impact of Course Rigor

Tables within this section have been changed to reflect the updated United States Department of Education race/ethnicity reporting requirements. The race/ethnicity categories shown are the derived Federal reporting categories. Not all values convert from old race/ethnicity categories into new race/ethnicity categories. Therefore, trend data may not be present where direct conversions are not available.

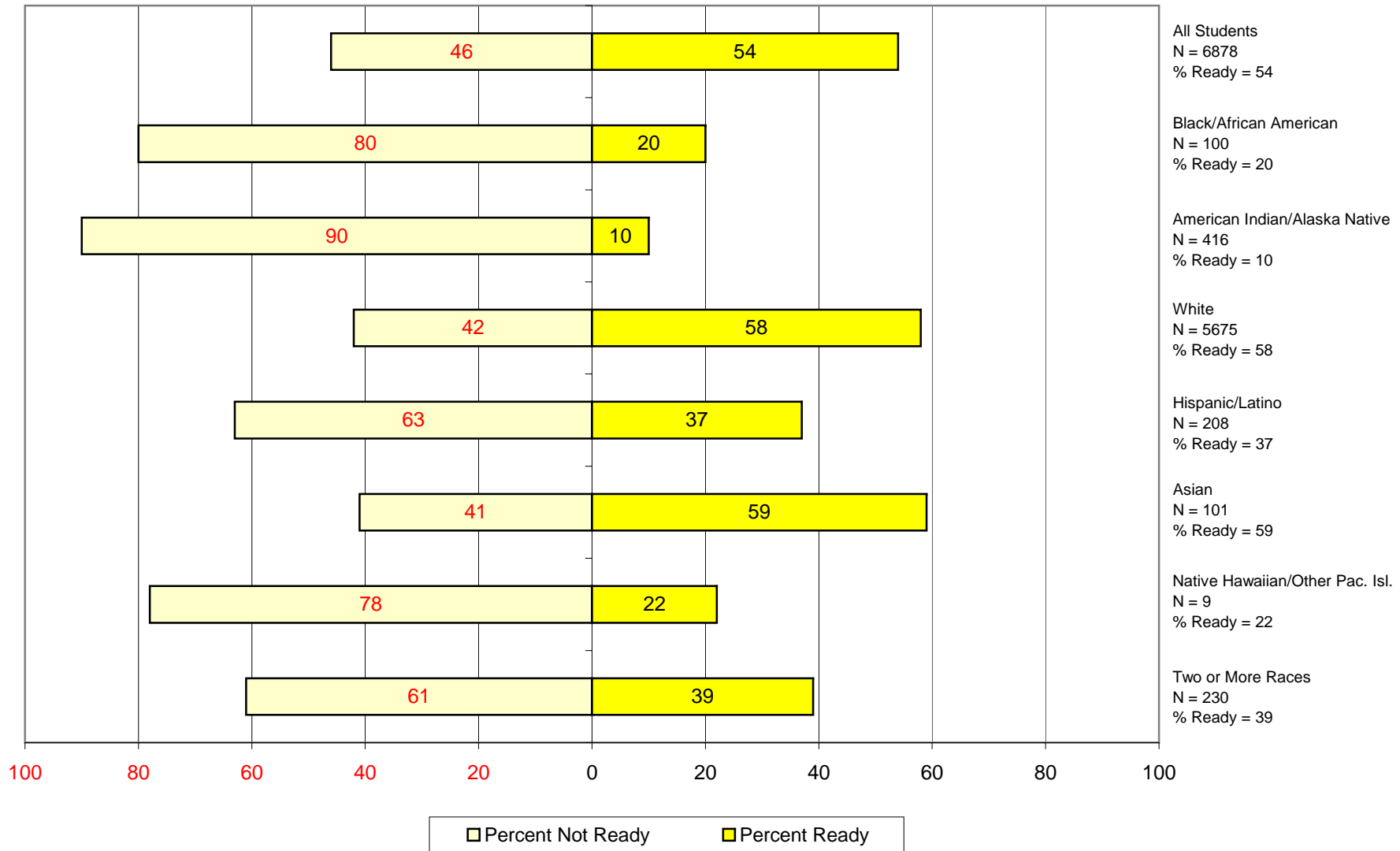
**Figure 3.1. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity<sup>1</sup>: ENGLISH**



<sup>1</sup>Refer to the section header on page 17 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

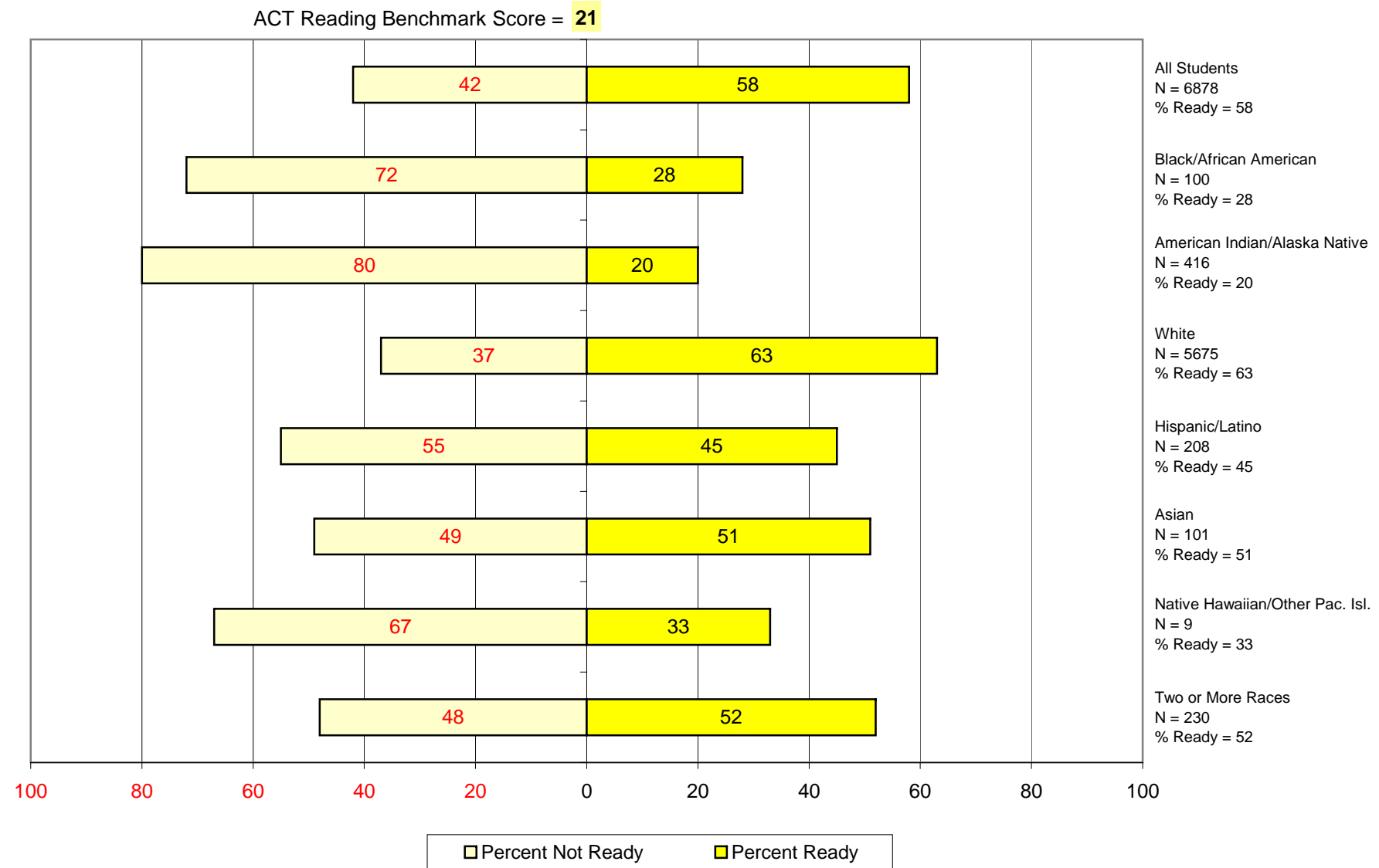
**Figure 3.2. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity<sup>1</sup>: MATHEMATICS**

ACT Mathematics Benchmark Score = **22**



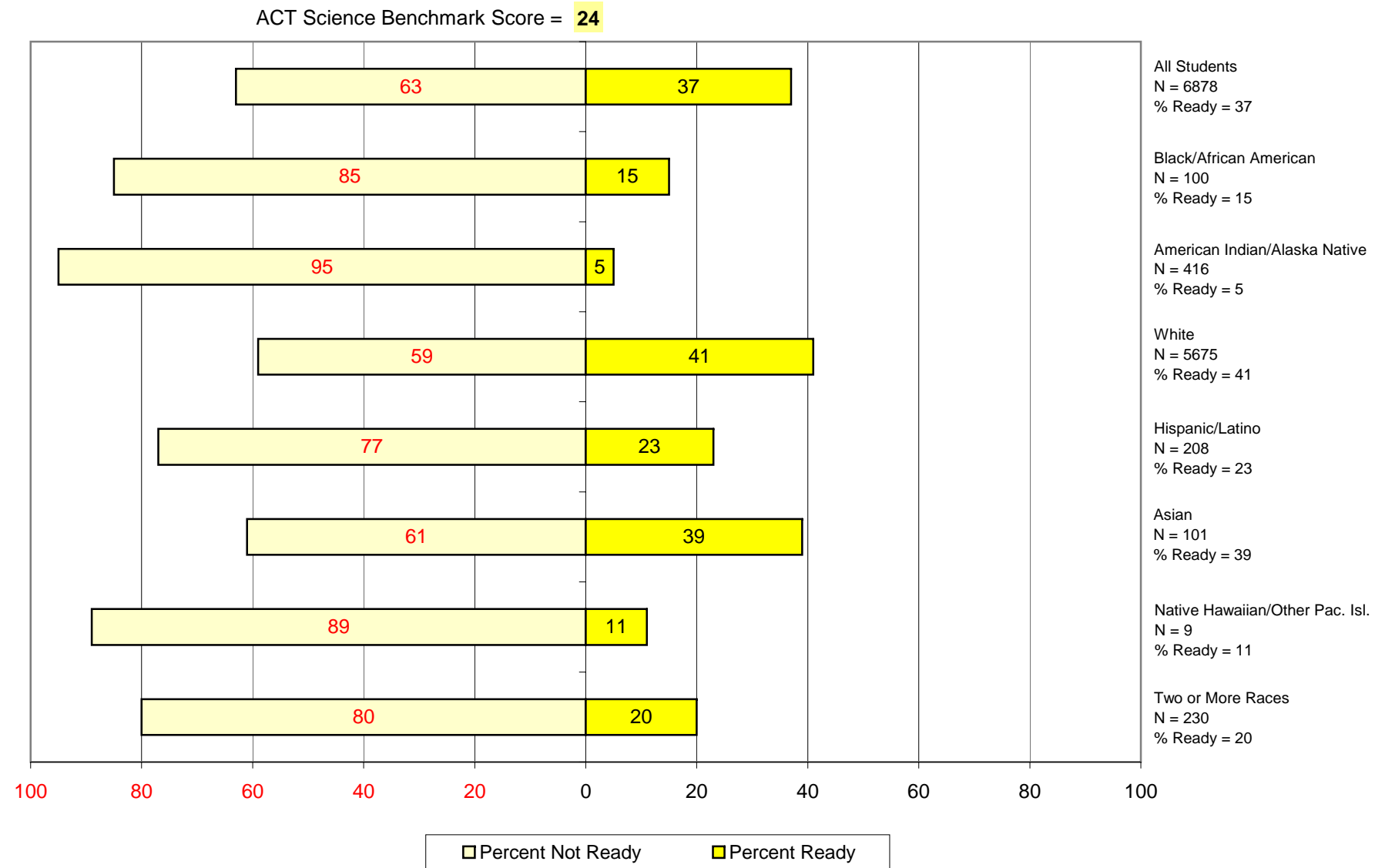
<sup>1</sup>Refer to the section header on page 17 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

**Figure 3.3. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity<sup>1</sup>: READING**



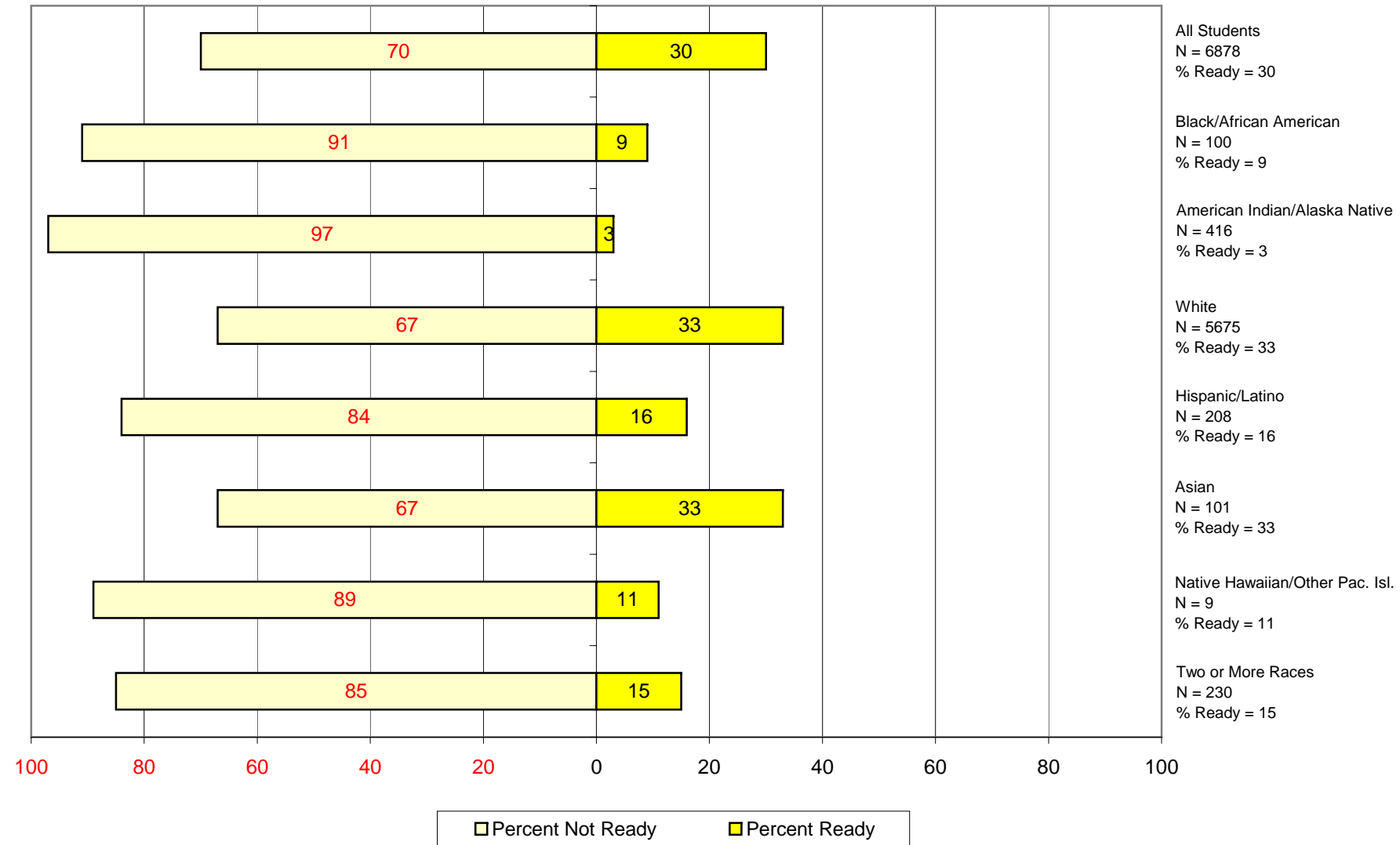
<sup>1</sup>Refer to the section header on page 17 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

**Figure 3.4. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity<sup>1</sup>: SCIENCE**



<sup>1</sup>Refer to the section header on page 17 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

**Figure 3.5. Percent of Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity<sup>1</sup>: ALL FOUR**



<sup>1</sup>Refer to the section header on page 17 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.



Total Students in Report: 6,878

**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	1,829	27	21.9	3.6	748	23	21.6	2.9	1,081	30	22.1	4.2
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	4,830	70	20.8	2.5	2,354	73	20.5	1.8	2,476	68	21.1	3.2
Less than 4 years of English	180	3	18.3	-	88	3	18.7	-	92	3	17.9	-
Zero years / no English courses reported	39	1	17.6	-	30	1	18.2	-	9	0	15.6	-
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	312	5	25.0	8.8	152	5	25.7	9.1	160	4	24.3	8.5
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	493	7	22.9	6.7	179	6	23.7	7.1	314	9	22.4	6.6
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	418	6	21.1	4.9	200	6	21.5	4.9	218	6	20.7	4.9
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,128	16	21.6	5.4	475	15	22.1	5.5	653	18	21.2	5.4
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	2,609	38	24.1	7.9	1,277	40	24.9	8.3	1,332	36	23.2	7.4
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	1,107	16	18.3	2.1	519	16	18.7	2.1	588	16	18.0	2.2
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	468	7	19.5	3.3	225	7	20.1	3.5	243	7	19.0	3.2
Less than 3 years of Math	299	4	16.2	-	159	5	16.6	-	140	4	15.8	-
Zero years / no Math courses reported	44	1	19.0	-	34	1	19.6	-	10	0	17.1	-
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	30	0	21.3	2.8	18	1	21.3	2.5	12	0	21.3	3.1
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	5,120	74	22.4	3.9	2,314	72	22.6	3.8	2,806	77	22.3	4.1
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	78	1	20.1	1.6	49	2	19.7	0.9	29	1	20.8	2.6
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	1,502	22	21.3	2.8	751	23	21.3	2.5	751	21	21.3	3.1
Less than 3 years of Social Science	106	2	18.5	-	56	2	18.8	-	50	1	18.2	-
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	42	1	19.8	-	32	1	20.3	-	10	0	18.2	-
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>												
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,818	41	23.1	4.3	1,447	45	23.9	5.2	1,371	37	22.2	3.3
Bio, Chem, Phys	229	3	25.9	7.1	128	4	27.3	8.6	101	3	24.3	5.4
Gen Sci <sup>2</sup> , Bio, Chem	3,045	44	21.3	2.5	1,204	37	21.7	3.0	1,841	50	21.0	2.1
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	248	4	21.3	2.5	145	5	21.8	3.1	103	3	20.8	1.9
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	494	7	18.8	-	262	8	18.7	-	232	6	18.9	-
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	44	1	19.9	-	34	1	20.4	-	10	0	17.9	-

<sup>1</sup>Course value added is defined as the average ACT score change compared to course sequences in which students took less than four years of English or less than three years of Mathematics, Social Science or Natural Science.

<sup>2</sup>Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

**Table 3.2. College Readiness Percents by Common Course Patterns**

Course Pattern	State				National			
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Meeting Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Meeting Benchmark
<b>ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	1,829	27	21.9	78	380,162	23	21.7	73
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	4,830	70	20.8	72	1,178,400	71	20.5	67
Less than 4 years of English	180	3	18.3	54	64,748	4	16.5	41
Zero years / no English courses reported	39	1	17.6	59	42,707	3	16.5	40
<b>MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	312	5	25.0	79	108,668	7	24.0	69
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	493	7	22.9	68	151,050	9	22.0	58
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	418	6	21.1	48	115,739	7	19.6	34
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,128	16	21.6	54	279,658	17	19.9	36
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	2,609	38	24.1	74	585,086	35	23.6	66
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	1,107	16	18.3	18	228,058	14	17.3	12
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	468	7	19.5	30	82,509	5	19.9	35
Less than 3 years of Math	299	4	16.2	6	69,741	4	16.6	8
Zero years / no Math courses reported	44	1	19.0	27	45,508	3	18.2	22
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>								
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	30	0	21.3	47	47,179	3	22.3	59
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	5,120	74	22.4	61	887,744	53	21.9	56
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	78	1	20.1	40	84,563	5	20.2	44
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	1,502	22	21.3	53	452,172	27	21.2	51
Less than 3 years of Social Science	106	2	18.5	27	149,266	9	19.7	40
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	42	1	19.8	40	45,093	3	17.8	29
<b>NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN</b>								
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,818	41	23.1	47	740,499	44	21.9	39
Bio, Chem, Phys	229	3	25.9	72	171,734	10	23.0	47
Gen Sci <sup>1</sup> , Bio, Chem	3,045	44	21.3	30	466,992	28	20.0	22
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	248	4	21.3	31	45,992	3	19.5	20
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	494	7	18.8	14	194,661	12	18.4	13
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	44	1	19.9	18	46,139	3	17.9	14

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

# Section IV

## Career and Educational Aspirations

Tables within this section have been changed to reflect the updated United States Department of Education race/ethnicity reporting requirements. The race/ethnicity categories shown are the derived Federal reporting categories. Not all values convert from old race/ethnicity categories into new race/ethnicity categories. Therefore, trend data may not be present where direct conversions are not available.

Tables within this section have been changed to reflect the updated Educational Major categories implemented by ACT in the fall of 2010.

Total Students in Report: 6,878

**Table 4.1. Distribution of Planned Educational Majors for All Students by College Plans**

Planned Educational Major <sup>1</sup>	All Students			Plan on 2 Years or Less of College			Plan on 4 Years or More of College		
	N <sup>2</sup>	Percent <sup>3</sup>	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent <sup>3</sup>	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent <sup>3</sup>	Avg ACT Comp
Agriculture & Natural Resources Conservation	256	4	20.1	62	9	18.3	187	3	20.6
Architecture	96	1	21.2	14	2	18.1	78	1	21.8
Area, Ethnic, & Multidisciplinary Studies	5	0	21.8	0	0	.	5	0	21.8
Arts: Visual & Performing	401	6	21.5	32	5	18.1	345	6	21.9
Business	487	7	21.0	53	8	18.0	420	7	21.3
Communications	90	1	23.2	4	1	23.0	85	1	23.2
Community, Family, & Personal Services	166	2	19.9	37	6	17.1	116	2	20.9
Computer Science & Mathematics	163	2	23.2	15	2	19.2	137	2	23.6
Education	440	6	21.6	10	2	17.4	420	7	21.7
Engineering	419	6	23.9	16	2	18.6	393	7	24.1
Engineering Technology & Drafting	73	1	21.2	19	3	18.0	50	1	22.6
English & Foreign Languages	69	1	24.1	2	0	19.5	63	1	24.2
Health Administration & Assisting	212	3	19.2	32	5	17.3	166	3	19.6
Health Sciences & Technologies	1,600	23	22.2	104	16	19.1	1,453	25	22.4
Philosophy, Religion, & Theology	41	1	22.4	2	0	21.5	37	1	22.2
Repair, Production, & Construction	184	3	18.6	120	18	18.3	50	1	20.1
Sciences: Biological & Physical	384	6	24.0	4	1	21.5	370	6	24.2
Social Sciences & Law	475	7	21.9	17	3	17.2	441	7	22.1
Undecided	1,255	18	22.0	117	18	18.4	1,047	18	22.4
No Response	62	1	18.6	2	0	16.0	18	0	20.1

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the section header on page 25 for a description of educational major changes.

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

<sup>3</sup>Percent of students tested within College Plan groups (All Students, 2-Year, 4-Year).

Total Students in Report: 6,878

**Table 4.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Racial/Ethnic<sup>1</sup> Groups by Post-Secondary Educational Aspirations**

Educational Degree Aspirations	All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined		Black/African American		American Indian/ Alaska Native		White		Hispanic/Latino	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	216	18.4	2	12.5	16	14.2	174	18.8	7	17.4
2-yr College Degree	446	18.3	5	12.4	44	14.6	349	18.8	13	17.4
Bachelors Degree	3,945	21.3	61	17.0	227	15.8	3,309	21.8	106	19.5
Graduate Study	664	24.3	5	22.8	20	18.8	586	24.6	17	22.4
Prof. Level Degree	1,272	24.5	19	20.7	70	18.1	1,021	25.2	54	21.6
Other	92	19.1	2	19.5	10	15.2	63	19.7	2	18.5
No Response	243	21.1	6	15.7	29	17.2	173	22.2	9	18.4

Educational Degree Aspirations	All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined		Asian		Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander		Two or more races		Prefer not to respond/ No Response	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	216	18.4	0	.	1	12.0	10	19.5	6	20.3
2-yr College Degree	446	18.3	4	20.0	2	16.0	20	17.6	9	19.4
Bachelors Degree	3,945	21.3	47	20.0	4	21.0	129	20.2	62	22.0
Graduate Study	664	24.3	7	27.1	2	17.5	17	22.3	10	24.8
Prof. Level Degree	1,272	24.5	30	24.8	0	.	40	22.3	38	25.7
Other	92	19.1	3	19.7	0	.	5	17.4	7	21.0
No Response	243	21.1	10	19.7	0	.	9	18.4	7	22.9

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the section header on page 25 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.

Total Students in Report: 6,878

**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	2,308	1,073	1,235	1	5	20	32	31	11	1
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA	South Dakota	1,704	585	1,119	1	5	21	31	31	10	1
BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	774	315	459	3	11	27	33	20	6	0
NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	532	165	367	1	5	27	32	28	7	1
UNIVERSITY OF SIOUX FALLS	South Dakota	437	95	342	1	5	22	30	30	11	0
AUGUSTANA COLLEGE	South Dakota	426	125	301	0	3	12	27	38	18	1
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES	Minnesota	424	134	290	0	2	8	22	44	21	3
SOUTH DAKOTA SCH OF MINES/TECH	South Dakota	402	186	216	1	4	9	26	37	21	2
DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	388	138	250	1	6	24	35	28	7	0
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT LINCOLN	Nebraska	382	112	270	1	2	7	22	41	25	3
SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	307	111	196	3	15	38	27	17	1	0
LAKE AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	259	121	138	2	14	42	30	12	0	0
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO	Minnesota	226	45	181	0	3	16	39	29	12	2
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	North Dakota	223	56	167	0	2	17	34	35	10	1
DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	204	67	137	1	3	25	38	28	5	0
MITCHELL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	197	71	126	1	16	36	26	18	4	0
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA	North Dakota	136	46	90	1	4	21	35	30	9	0
WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	124	36	88	6	31	34	19	10	1	0
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MOORHEAD	Minnesota	117	20	97	0	3	19	36	30	12	1
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	112	41	71	2	5	15	42	26	9	1
CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY	Nebraska	109	20	89	1	5	3	17	42	28	5
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	Iowa	102	15	87	0	1	9	20	44	23	4
MOUNT MARTY COLLEGE	South Dakota	99	19	80	0	5	27	40	26	1	0
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY	Colorado	89	25	64	1	3	12	35	33	15	1
SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	Minnesota	89	24	65	0	2	24	43	22	9	0
CHADRON STATE COLLEGE	Nebraska	86	21	65	6	8	26	31	22	6	1
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA	Iowa	73	15	58	0	0	11	23	38	26	1
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-MORRIS	Minnesota	73	15	58	0	14	18	30	26	11	1
NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE	Iowa	65	17	48	0	5	11	29	29	25	2
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING	Wyoming	64	15	49	0	5	19	38	27	11	2
All Other Institutions		3,459	932	2,527	2	8	19	24	25	18	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>13,990</b>	<b>4,660</b>	<b>9,330</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>

# Section V

## Optional Writing Test Results

Tables within this section have been changed to reflect the updated United States Department of Education race/ethnicity reporting requirements. The race/ethnicity categories shown are the derived Federal reporting categories. Not all values convert from old race/ethnicity categories into new race/ethnicity categories. Therefore, trend data may not be present where direct conversions are not available.

Total Students in Report: 6,878

**Table 5.1. Average ACT English and Writing Scores by Race/Ethnicity<sup>1</sup> and Gender for students who took ACT Writing**

	N		Average ACT Scores					
			English		Essay		English/Writing Combined	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
<b>All Students</b>	<b>1,463</b>	<b>931,148</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>20.7</b>
Black/African American	21	113,247	20.0	16.6	7.1	6.2	19.7	16.4
American Indian/Alaska Native	83	5,233	16.4	17.8	5.9	6.5	15.9	17.5
White	1,149	518,974	24.5	23.2	7.2	7.2	23.0	22.1
Hispanic/Latino	69	150,249	21.0	18.5	6.9	6.8	20.2	18.3
Asian	41	53,381	21.9	23.7	6.7	7.6	20.7	22.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Isl.	4	2,851	18.8	19.9	7.0	7.1	19.0	19.6
Two or more races	49	32,346	21.9	21.9	6.6	7.1	20.6	21.1
Prefer not/No Response	47	54,867	24.6	21.8	7.3	7.1	23.2	21.0
Males	644	413,617	23.9	21.2	6.8	6.8	22.3	20.3
Females	819	515,745	23.4	21.7	7.2	7.2	22.3	21.1
Missing	0	1,786	.	16.8	.	6.3	.	16.6

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the section header on page 29 for a description of race/ethnicity changes.





