



Profile Report - State

Graduating Class 2023

South Dakota



Total Students in Report: 6,126

New to your 2023 Profile Report

For 2022-2023, contents of the ACT Profile Report remain consistent with last year.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

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Total Students in Report: 6,126

We are pleased to provide this 2023 Graduating Class ACT Profile Report. This report summarizes the preparation and performance of your 2023 graduates who took the ACT as sophomores, juniors, or seniors under standard- or extended-time conditions and achieved a college reportable composite score. The most recent set of test information is used in your report for students testing more than once.

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 who met or exceeded 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: 6,126

The ACT is a curriculum-based measure of college readiness. ACT components include:

- Tests of academic achievement in English, math, reading, science, STEM, and (optional) ELA and writing
- 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 and Career 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. College and Career Readiness Standards to the Classroom interpretive guides can be found at www.act.org/content/act/en/education-and-career-planning/college-and-career-readiness-standards.html.

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, Biology, STEM and ELA. These scores were empirically derived based on the actual performance of students in college.

College Course/Course Area	ACT Score	Benchmark Score
English Composition	English	18
Algebra	Mathematics	22
Social Sciences	Reading	22
Biology	Science	23
STEM	STEM	26
ELA	ELA	20

For more information, go to www.act.org

Total Students in Report: 6,126

How to Improve Scores and Increase College Readiness

27% 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: 6,126 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. 69% 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 3.7 reports 3% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 8% were college ready. 13% of the cohort reported taking a course sequence of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. 14% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 54% 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 3.7 reports 10% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 24% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 46% of students who took at least three years of science coursework were college ready.

EVALUATING RIGOR OF COURSES: Table 3.1 reports the percentage of students falling in each of the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards score ranges. For example, approximately 48% 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 and Career Readiness Standards at www.act.org/content/act/en/education-and-career-planning/college-and-career-readiness-standards.html.

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 ACT Customer Care at 319-337-1365 or hs.reporting@act.org.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Section I

Executive Summary

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Figure 1.1. Average Composite Scores: 5 Years of Testing*

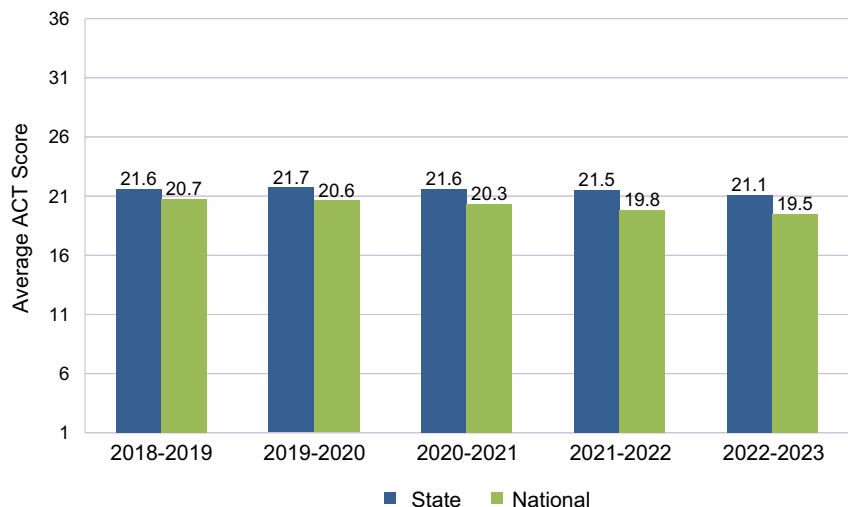


Figure 1.2. Percent Meeting 3 or 4 Benchmarks: 5 Years of Testing*

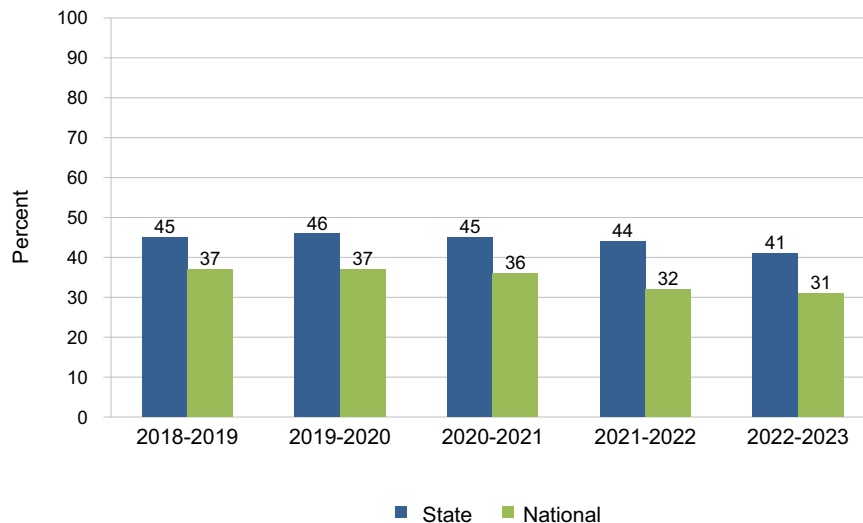


Figure 1.3. Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark: 5 Years of Testing*

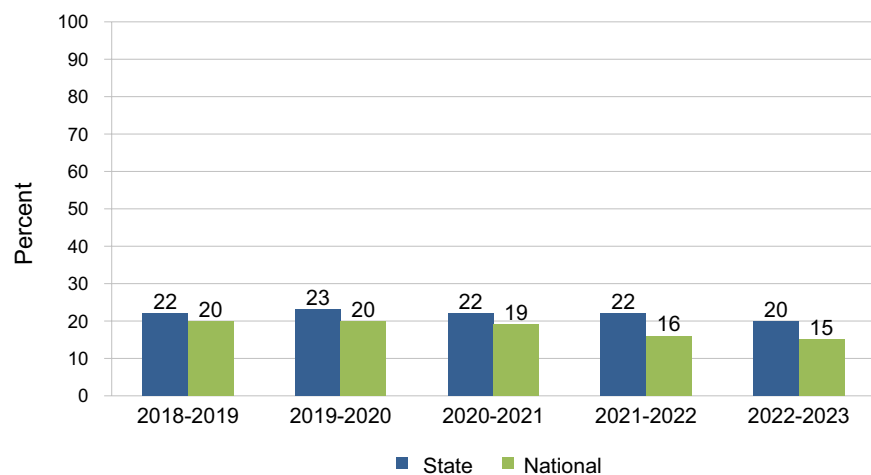
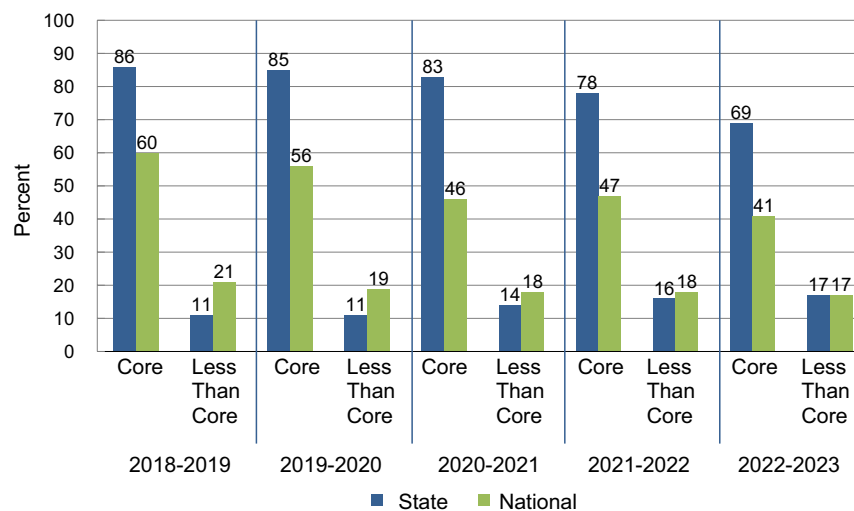


Figure 1.4. Percent Taking A Core Curriculum: 5 Years of Testing*



*Missing columns in above graphs reflect years in which no students were tested.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Table 1.1. Five Year Trends—Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmarks

Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent Who Met Benchmarks									
	State	National	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Met All Four	
			State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2019	6,374	1,782,820	66	59	47	39	52	45	45	36	30	26
2020	6,049	1,670,497	67	58	48	37	53	45	44	36	31	26
2021	5,467	1,295,349	65	56	46	36	52	44	45	35	30	25
2022	5,839	1,349,644	66	53	45	31	52	41	44	32	30	22
2023	6,126	1,386,335	63	51	43	30	49	40	41	31	27	21

Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores

Year	Number of Students Tested		Average ACT Scores									
	State	National	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
			State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2019	6,374	1,782,820	20.7	20.1	21.3	20.4	22.2	21.2	21.9	20.6	21.6	20.7
2020	6,049	1,670,497	20.7	19.9	21.5	20.2	22.4	21.2	21.9	20.6	21.7	20.6
2021	5,467	1,295,349	20.5	19.6	21.2	19.9	22.4	20.9	21.9	20.4	21.6	20.3
2022	5,839	1,349,644	20.5	19.0	21.2	19.3	22.2	20.4	21.7	19.9	21.5	19.8
2023	6,126	1,386,335	19.9	18.6	20.8	19.0	21.8	20.1	21.4	19.6	21.1	19.5

Table 1.3. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores Nationwide

Year	Number of Students Tested		Average ACT Scores				
	State	National	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
2019	6,374	1,782,820	20.1	20.4	21.2	20.6	20.7
2020	6,049	1,670,497	19.9	20.2	21.2	20.6	20.6
2021	5,467	1,295,349	19.6	19.9	20.9	20.4	20.3
2022	5,839	1,349,644	19.0	19.3	20.4	19.9	19.8
2023	6,126	1,386,335	18.6	19.0	20.1	19.6	19.5

Total Students in Report: 6,126

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

Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent ²		Average ACT Scores									
	Core or More ¹	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
2019	5,469	703	86	11	21.2	18.2	21.7	19.1	22.7	20.2	22.3	19.8	22.1	19.5
2020	5,155	683	85	11	21.3	18.5	21.9	19.4	22.8	20.5	22.3	20.1	22.2	19.8
2021	4,527	748	83	14	21.0	18.2	21.8	19.2	23.0	20.3	22.3	20.1	22.2	19.6
2022	4,550	938	78	16	21.2	18.1	21.9	19.0	22.9	20.0	22.4	19.8	22.2	19.4
2023	4,222	1,034	69	17	20.9	18.1	21.7	19.1	22.7	20.3	22.3	19.7	22.0	19.4

¹"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.

²Percent 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

Race/Ethnicity	N	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023					
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%				
All Students	6,374	100	21.6	6,049	100	21.7	5,467	100	21.6	5,839	100	21.5	6,126	100	21.1
Black/African American	125	2	17.7	103	2	18.2	91	2	18.6	115	2	18.2	98	2	17.8
American Indian/Alaska Native	535	8	16.0	410	7	15.9	319	6	16.3	325	6	16.1	416	7	15.9
White	4,827	76	22.5	4,754	79	22.5	4,364	80	22.2	4,641	79	22.1	4,740	77	21.8
Hispanic/Latino	240	4	20.0	231	4	20.3	224	4	19.7	206	4	19.7	309	5	19.0
Asian	113	2	21.8	104	2	21.9	97	2	22.4	97	2	23.3	95	2	22.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	3	0	19.7	4	0	18.3	0	0	.	4	0	17.5	7	0	18.1
Two or more races	312	5	20.9	259	4	20.5	261	5	20.7	299	5	20.8	329	5	20.1
Prefer not to respond/No response	219	3	22.0	184	3	21.4	111	2	22.6	152	3	20.9	132	2	21.5

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Table 1.6. Five Year Trends—Achievement in STEM¹

Year	All Tested Students						Students Meeting STEM Benchmarks			
	Number of Students Tested		Avg. STEM Score		Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark		Avg. Mathematics Score		Avg. Science Score	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2019	6,374	1,782,820	21.8	20.7	22	20	28.1	28.9	28.5	29.0
2020	6,049	1,670,497	21.9	20.6	23	20	28.1	28.9	28.4	29.1
2021	5,467	1,295,349	21.8	20.4	22	19	28.1	28.9	28.5	29.2
2022	5,839	1,349,644	21.7	19.9	22	16	28.2	28.8	28.2	29.1
2023	6,126	1,386,335	21.3	19.6	20	15	28.1	28.7	28.3	29.1

¹The STEM score describes students' overall proficiency in mathematics and science.

Table 1.7. Proficiency in Understanding Complex Texts¹

Year	Text Complexity Proficiency Level																		
	Below Proficient						Proficient						Above Proficient						
	N		Percent		Avg. Reading		N		Percent		Avg. Reading		N		Percent		Avg. Reading		
State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2019	2,973	950,826	47	53	17.4	16.2	1,969	455,611	31	26	23.6	23.6	1,432	376,383	22	21	30.5	31.0	
2020	2,738	903,921	45	54	17.4	16.1	1,847	398,982	31	24	23.5	23.6	1,464	367,594	24	22	30.4	31.1	
2021	2,526	711,705	46	55	17.5	15.8	1,717	318,182	31	25	23.9	23.8	1,224	265,462	22	20	30.6	31.3	
2022	2,791	770,624	48	57	17.6	15.6	1,757	318,327	30	24	23.6	23.5	1,291	260,693	22	19	30.2	31.0	
2023	2,971	793,815	48	57	17.1	15.3	1,839	334,268	30	24	23.5	23.3	1,316	258,252	21	19	30.2	30.7	

¹The text complexity indicator, beginning in Fall 2015, represents students' progress toward understanding complex written material often encountered in college and careers.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

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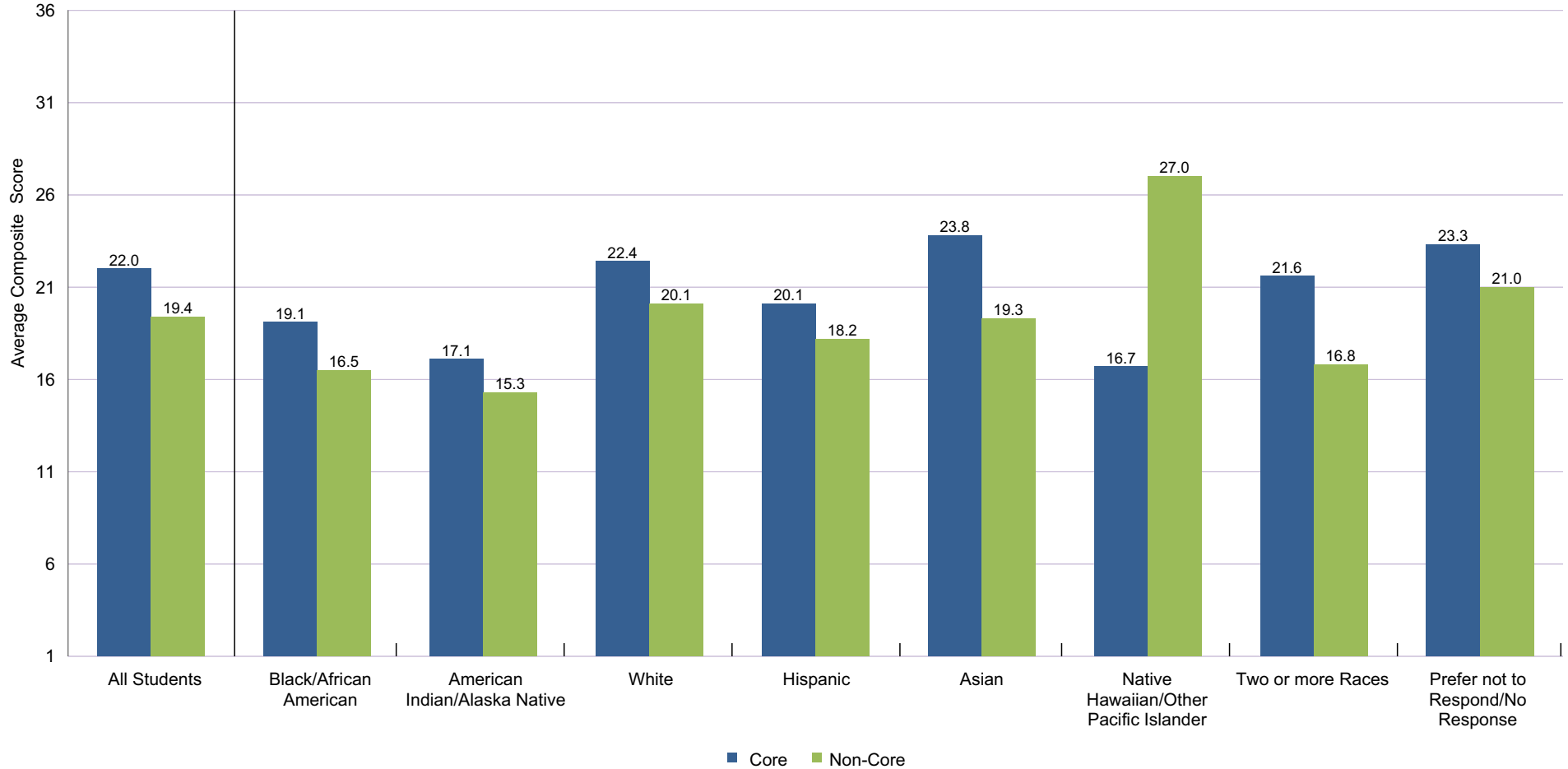
Total Students in Report: 6,126

Section II

Academic Achievement

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Figure 2.1. Average ACT Composite Scores by Race and Core Curriculum Status*



*Missing columns reflect combinations of race/ethnicity and core course-taking status in which one or both indicators are missing.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Table 2.1. ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percents (CP¹), and Score Averages

ACT Scale Score	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite		STEM		ELA ²		ACT Scale Score
	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	
36	21	100	12	100	60	100	20	100	11	100	15	100	0	100	36
35	110	99	36	99	69	99	44	99	16	99	25	99	0	100	35
34	73	98	33	99	109	98	55	99	30	99	32	99	1	100	34
33	52	97	29	99	145	96	35	98	53	99	38	99	3	99	33
32	74	96	45	98	146	94	84	97	72	98	61	98	7	99	32
31	47	95	68	97	154	91	95	96	84	97	75	97	11	98	31
30	108	94	69	96	164	89	60	95	121	96	107	96	15	96	30
29	84	92	117	95	169	86	110	94	150	94	127	94	17	94	29
28	122	91	205	93	210	83	141	92	183	91	158	92	27	91	28
27	116	89	313	90	175	80	146	89	205	88	227	90	34	86	27
26	181	87	346	85	218	77	285	87	237	85	336	86	25	81	26
25	210	84	387	79	255	74	375	82	335	81	386	80	24	77	25
24	340	80	357	73	306	69	529	76	425	76	422	74	24	72	24
23	361	75	332	67	348	64	509	68	379	69	408	67	29	68	23
22	370	69	287	62	487	59	473	59	394	62	379	61	49	64	22
21	451	63	234	57	440	51	535	52	448	56	420	54	37	55	21
20	403	56	313	53	392	44	428	43	471	49	465	48	33	49	20
19	400	49	315	48	363	37	418	36	457	41	511	40	47	44	19
18	315	42	439	43	388	31	471	29	466	34	462	32	38	36	18
17	275	37	600	36	260	25	320	21	417	26	483	24	44	29	17
16	436	33	692	26	323	21	313	16	342	19	361	16	35	22	16
15	405	26	449	15	195	15	187	11	293	14	265	10	22	16	15
14	300	19	281	7	236	12	126	8	232	9	176	6	21	12	14
13	225	14	109	3	166	8	153	6	170	5	118	3	13	9	13
12	177	11	33	1	176	6	67	3	86	2	41	1	16	7	12
11	183	8	14	1	89	3	78	2	31	1	20	1	8	4	11
10	181	5	3	1	46	1	39	1	11	1	4	1	8	3	10
9	57	2	5	1	20	1	7	1	3	1	2	1	3	1	9
8	26	1	1	1	9	1	9	1	2	1	0	1	3	1	8
7	11	1	1	1	3	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	7
6	10	1	0	1	1	1	5	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	6
5	1	1	0	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	5
4	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	4
3	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	2
1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	19.9 (6.1)		20.8 (5.1)		21.8 (6.1)		21.4 (5.1)		21.1 (5.0)		21.3 (4.8)		20.8 (5.5)		Avg (SD)

¹CP is the cumulative percent of students at or below a score point.

²ELA scores are derived only for students with a valid writing score.

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

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Figure 2.2. English Reporting Categories

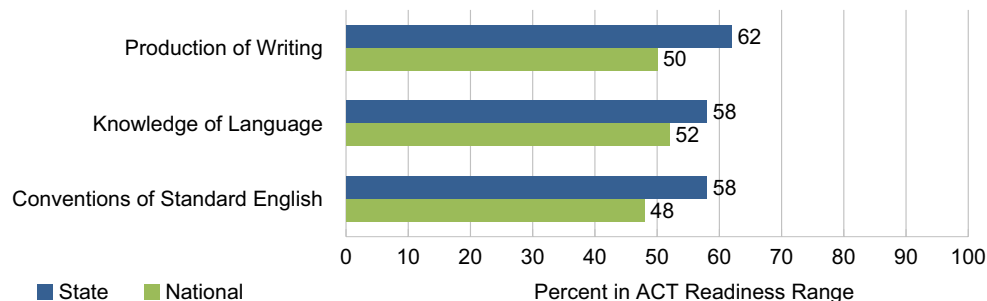


Figure 2.3. Math Reporting Categories

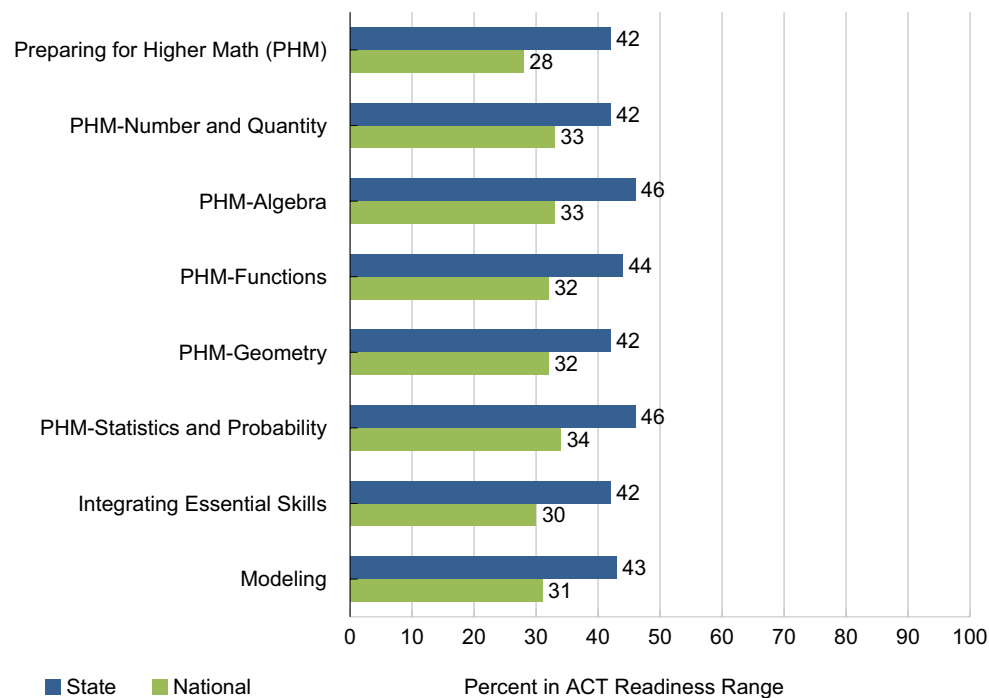


Figure 2.4. Reading Reporting Categories

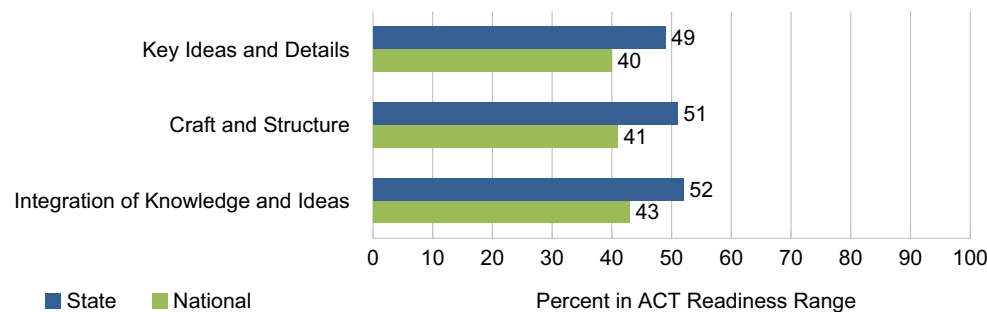
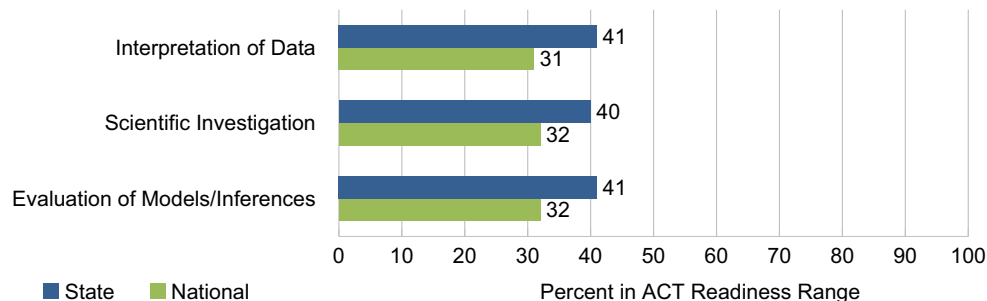


Figure 2.5. Science Reporting Categories



The charts on this page show the percent of students whose reporting category scores fall within associated ACT Readiness Ranges. ACT Readiness Ranges reflect where a student who has met a particular subject area's ACT College Readiness Benchmark would typically perform within the associated reporting category.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Table 2.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Race/Ethnicity by Level of Preparation

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More ¹	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
State	All Students	6,126	69	22.0	19.4
	Black/African American	98	66	19.1	16.5
	American Indian/Alaska Native	416	40	17.1	15.3
	White	4,740	73	22.4	20.1
	Hispanic/Latino	309	56	20.1	18.2
	Asian	95	73	23.8	19.3
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	7	86	16.7	27.0
	Two or More Races	329	63	21.6	16.8
	Prefer not/no Response	132	52	23.3	21.0
National	All Students	1,386,335	41	21.9	19.3
	Black/African American	171,380	34	17.7	16.1
	American Indian/Alaska Native	13,616	28	18.1	16.1
	White	722,990	48	22.7	20.2
	Hispanic/Latino	234,031	33	19.8	17.7
	Asian	57,600	56	25.9	23.4
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	3,932	25	19.1	16.2
	Two or More Races	68,095	41	22.0	19.5
	Prefer not/no Response	114,691	14	23.7	20.6

¹"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 2.3. Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	N	Percent	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite	STEM
State	All Students	6,126	100	19.9	20.8	21.8	21.4	21.1	21.3
	Black/African American	98	2	16.4	17.5	18.7	18.1	17.8	18.0
	American Indian/Alaska Native	416	7	14.1	15.8	16.8	16.5	15.9	16.4
	White	4,740	77	20.6	21.4	22.5	22.1	21.8	22.0
	Hispanic/Latino	309	5	17.5	18.8	20.0	19.3	19.0	19.3
	Asian	95	2	21.9	22.9	22.5	22.8	22.7	23.1
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	7	0	16.7	18.0	19.9	17.6	18.1	18.0
	Two or More Races	329	5	18.9	19.4	21.1	20.1	20.1	20.0
	Prefer not/no Response	132	2	20.9	20.9	22.1	21.4	21.5	21.4
National	All Students	1,386,335	100	18.6	19.0	20.1	19.6	19.5	19.6
	Black/African American	171,380	12	14.8	15.8	16.4	16.3	16.0	16.3
	American Indian/Alaska Native	13,616	1	14.5	16.0	16.4	16.5	16.0	16.5
	White	722,990	52	20.3	20.3	21.8	21.0	21.0	20.9
	Hispanic/Latino	234,031	17	16.2	17.2	17.9	17.7	17.4	17.7
	Asian	57,600	4	23.9	24.2	24.4	23.9	24.2	24.3
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	3,932	0	14.9	16.4	16.6	16.8	16.3	16.9
	Two or More Races	68,095	5	19.0	19.1	20.7	19.9	19.8	19.7
	Prefer not/no Response	114,691	8	16.2	17.6	18.0	17.9	17.6	18.0

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Table 2.4. Average ACT Composite Scores for Gender by Level of Preparation

Student Group	Gender ¹	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More ²	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
State	Males	2,712	68	22.4	19.4
	Females	3,308	70	21.7	19.4
	Other Responses	106	40	23.4	21.4
National	Males	643,247	39	22.2	19.1
	Females	674,852	45	21.7	19.4
	Other Responses	68,236	14	23.3	20.9

Table 2.5. Average ACT Scores by Gender

Student Group	Gender ¹	N	Percent	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite	STEM
State	Males	2,712	44	19.7	21.5	21.8	22.0	21.4	22.0
	Females	3,308	54	20.1	20.2	21.8	20.9	20.9	20.8
	Other Responses	106	2	20.0	20.0	22.9	21.0	21.1	20.8
National	Males	643,247	46	18.2	19.4	19.7	19.8	19.4	19.9
	Females	674,852	49	19.2	18.8	20.6	19.6	19.7	19.4
	Other Responses	68,236	5	17.2	17.6	19.1	18.4	18.2	18.3

Table 2.6. ACT Score Quartile Values

Quartile	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
Q3 (75th Percentile)	24	25	26	24	24
Q2 (50th Percentile)	20	20	21	21	21
Q1 (25th Percentile)	15	16	18	18	17

¹'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

²"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.

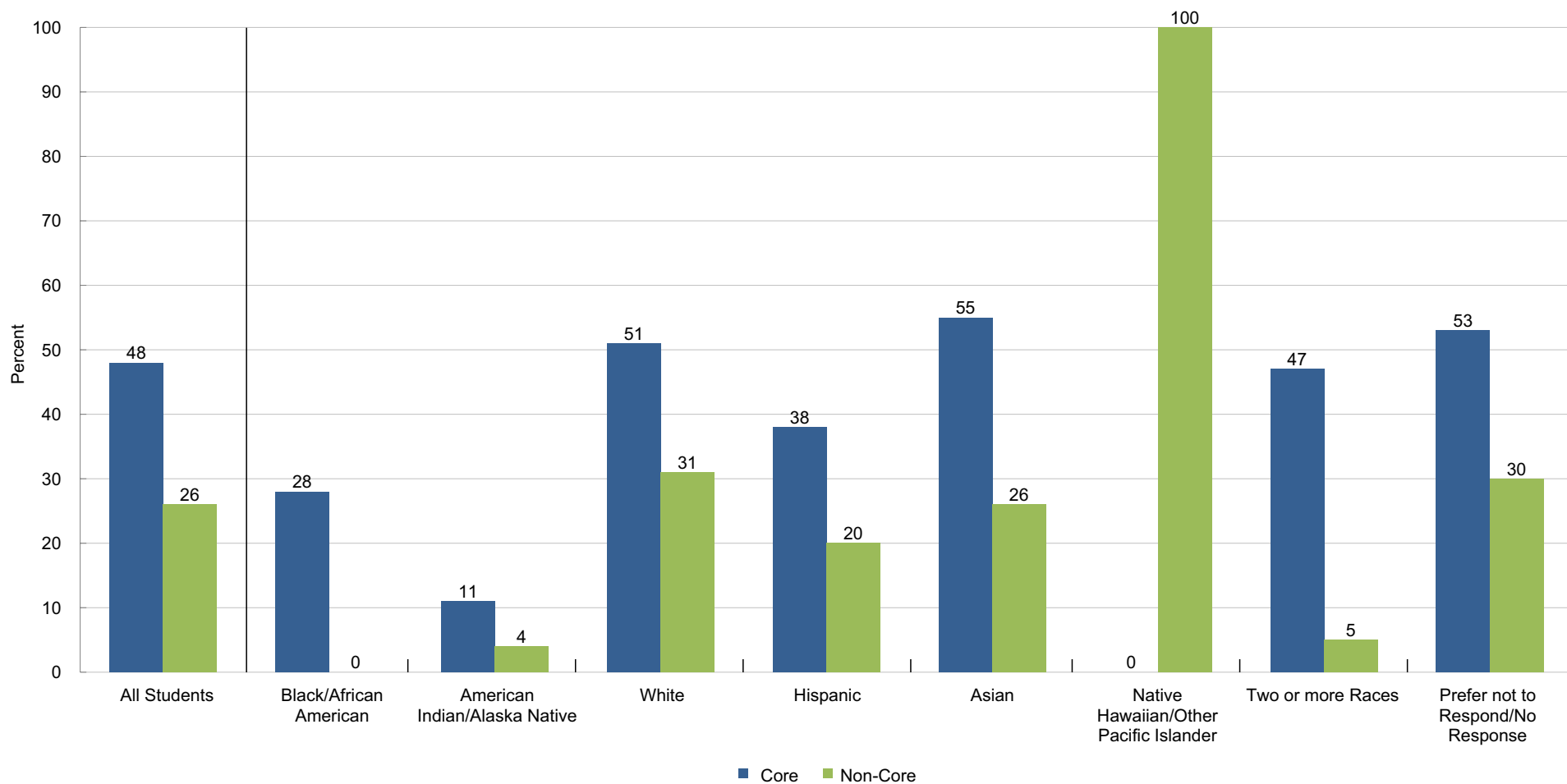
Total Students in Report: 6,126

Section III

College and Career Readiness and the Impact of Course Rigor

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Figure 3.1. Percent of Students Meeting 3 or 4 College Readiness Benchmarks by Core College Curriculum Status*



*Missing columns reflect combinations of race/ethnicity and core course-taking status in which one or both indicators are missing.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Table 3.1. Percent of Students in College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) Score Ranges

Student Group	CCRS Range	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
State	33 to 36	256	4	110	2	383	6	154	3
	28 to 32	435	7	504	8	843	14	490	8
	24 to 27	847	14	1,403	23	954	16	1,335	22
	20 to 23	1,585	26	1,166	19	1,667	27	1,945	32
	16 to 19	1,426	23	2,046	33	1,334	22	1,522	25
	13 to 15	930	15	839	14	597	10	466	8
	01 to 12	647	11	58	1	348	6	214	3
National	33 to 36	75,356	5	31,219	2	93,624	7	42,408	3
	28 to 32	92,796	7	91,401	7	148,617	11	91,200	7
	24 to 27	157,385	11	197,011	14	160,650	12	202,886	15
	20 to 23	265,490	19	186,782	13	296,098	21	314,755	23
	16 to 19	246,582	18	443,512	32	251,439	18	381,434	28
	13 to 15	245,744	18	377,200	27	221,283	16	215,864	16
	01 to 12	302,982	22	59,210	4	214,624	15	137,788	10

Table 3.2. Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Gender

Student Group	Gender ¹	Percent of Students				Met All Four
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	
State	Males	61	49	49	45	31
	Females	64	38	49	37	25
	Other Responses	64	35	51	46	24
National	Males	48	33	38	33	22
	Females	55	28	42	29	20
	Other Responses	42	20	34	23	14

¹'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Table 3.3. Percent of Students Who Met ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	N	English %	Mathematics %	Reading %	Science %	All Four %	STEM %
State	All Students	6,126	63	43	49	41	27	20
	Black/African American	98	37	16	28	19	12	8
	American Indian/Alaska Native	416	19	7	17	7	2	2
	White	4,740	69	48	54	45	31	22
	Hispanic/Latino	309	44	28	38	28	17	12
	Asian	95	64	54	53	49	35	31
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	7	43	14	43	0	0	0
	Two or More Races	329	54	33	44	32	21	14
	Prefer Not to Respond	132	64	43	48	41	28	24
National	All Students	1,386,335	51	30	40	31	21	15
	Black/African American	171,380	26	8	17	9	5	3
	American Indian/Alaska Native	13,616	24	9	18	10	5	3
	White	722,990	63	38	50	40	27	20
	Hispanic/Latino	234,031	36	17	27	17	10	7
	Asian	57,600	75	62	63	58	49	44
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	3,932	27	12	19	12	7	5
	Two or More Races	68,095	53	29	43	32	21	16
	Prefer Not to Respond	114,691	35	20	28	21	14	11

Table 3.4. Likely ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) Level Based Upon ACT Composite Score¹

Student Group	ACT NCRC Level	N	%	Average Composite
State	Platinum	925	15	29.5
	Gold	1,770	29	23.8
	Silver	2,259	37	19.0
	Bronze	1,037	17	14.8
	Needs Improvement	135	2	11.4
National	Platinum	192,520	14	30.0
	Gold	272,713	20	23.8
	Silver	404,386	29	18.9
	Bronze	396,449	29	14.5
	Needs Improvement	120,267	9	11.4

¹ The ACT Composite scores associated with at least a 50% chance of earning each ACT NCRC level or higher are: 13 for Bronze, 17 for Silver, 22 for Gold, and 27 for Platinum. Based on those cut scores, students who earned an ACT Composite score of less than 13 are classified as 'Needs improvement' as they are unlikely to obtain an ACT NCRC. Students with an ACT Composite score of 13 to 16 are classified as 'Bronze' as they are likely to obtain a Bronze NCRC, 17 to 21 as 'Silver', 22 to 26 as 'Gold', and 27 or above as 'Platinum'.

Visit www.act.org/NCRC-indicator to learn more.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Table 3.5. College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Overall High School Curriculum

Student Group	Curriculum Taken ¹	N	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite ⁴		STEM	
			%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg		
State	Core or More ²	4,222	70	20.9	51	21.7	55	22.7	48	22.3	33	22.0	24	22.2
	Less than Core	1,034	50	18.1	29	19.1	39	20.3	26	19.7	17	19.4	11	19.6
	Missing ³	870	42	17.0	23	18.2	35	19.5	24	19.0	13	18.6	8	18.8
National	Core or More	567,731	69	21.5	45	21.2	55	22.7	45	21.8	33	21.9	25	21.8
	Less than Core	231,055	51	18.6	27	18.7	39	20.1	28	19.4	18	19.3	13	19.3
	Missing	587,549	34	15.9	17	17.1	26	17.7	18	17.6	10	17.2	7	17.6

¹ "Curriculum Taken" reflects overall high school curriculum in this table.

² "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.

³ Zero years or no coursework information reported in one or more content areas.

⁴ Composite College Readiness Benchmark % results reflect students who met all four subject-area benchmarks.

Table 3.6. College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Content-Specific Curriculum

Student Group	Curriculum Taken ¹	N	English			Mathematics			Reading			Science		
			%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	
State	Core or More ²	5,086	66	20.4	5,123	48	21.4	5,076	52	22.3	4,700	46	22.0	
	Less than Core	280	57	18.7	183	8	16.3	203	39	20.1	593	24	19.4	
	Missing ³	760	40	16.7	820	22	18.0	847	35	19.4	833	24	19.0	
National	Core or More	805,869	64	20.6	777,766	41	20.6	715,782	51	22.1	671,066	44	21.6	
	Less than Core	39,453	48	18.0	40,332	11	16.3	92,045	40	20.3	141,675	22	18.6	
	Missing	541,013	33	15.7	568,237	16	17.1	578,508	26	17.7	573,594	17	17.5	

¹ "Curriculum Taken" reflects content-specific curriculum in this table.

² "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.

³ Zero years or no coursework information reported in the specified content area.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Table 3.7. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores by Common Course Patterns

Course Pattern	State				National			
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Who Met Benchmark
ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN								
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	1,649	27	21.0	70	206,329	15	20.6	64
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	3,437	56	20.2	65	599,540	43	20.6	64
Less than 4 years of English	280	5	18.7	57	39,453	3	18.0	48
Zero years / no English courses reported	760	12	16.7	40	541,013	39	15.7	33
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN								
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Math	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Math	Percent Who Met Benchmark
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	118	2	24.3	69	29,620	2	22.3	55
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	327	5	22.4	60	56,308	4	21.0	45
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	163	3	20.5	44	28,780	2	18.6	25
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,554	25	20.9	44	196,294	14	18.9	27
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	1,751	29	23.7	67	319,480	23	23.1	59
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	811	13	17.5	14	91,952	7	16.5	9
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	399	7	19.4	32	55,332	4	19.0	29
Less than 3 years of Math	183	3	16.3	8	40,332	3	16.3	11
Zero years / no Math courses reported	820	13	18.0	22	568,237	41	17.1	16
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Reading	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Reading	Percent Who Met Benchmark
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	31	1	18.4	26	25,073	2	22.5	53
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	3,458	56	22.8	55	380,202	27	22.6	55
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	95	2	19.5	26	59,507	4	20.0	38
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	1,492	24	21.5	47	251,000	18	21.8	49
Less than 3 years of Social Science	203	3	20.1	39	92,045	7	20.3	40
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	847	14	19.4	35	578,508	42	17.7	26
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Science	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Science	Percent Who Met Benchmark
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	1,734	28	22.9	53	287,293	21	22.3	49
Bio, Chem, Phys	749	12	23.3	56	109,345	8	23.5	57
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem	2,077	34	21.0	37	245,426	18	20.3	34
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	140	2	20.5	34	29,002	2	19.0	25
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	593	10	19.4	24	141,675	10	18.6	22
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	833	14	19.0	24	573,594	41	17.5	17

¹Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Table 3.8. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores for Gender by Common Course Patterns

Course Pattern	Males				Females				Other Responses ¹			
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Who Met Benchmark
ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN												
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	649	24	21.4	72	975	29	20.8	69	25	24	21.5	80
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	1,548	57	19.8	63	1,862	56	20.4	66	27	25	23.1	89
Less than 4 years of English	136	5	18.2	54	136	4	19.0	58	8	8	22.4	75
Zero years / no English courses reported	379	14	16.8	40	335	10	16.5	40	46	43	16.9	39
		Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Math	Percent Who Met Benchmark		Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Math	Percent Who Met Benchmark		Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Math	Percent Who Met Benchmark
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN	N				N				N			
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	63	2	25.2	73	55	2	23.3	65	0	0	.	.
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	115	4	23.6	72	207	6	21.7	53	5	5	25.0	80
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	72	3	21.3	46	90	3	19.8	42	1	1	25.0	100
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	577	21	21.5	50	961	29	20.4	40	16	15	22.2	56
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	856	32	24.6	71	879	27	22.9	62	16	15	23.9	56
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	332	12	18.0	19	469	14	17.0	10	10	9	19.1	30
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	209	8	19.9	36	183	6	18.9	27	7	7	20.1	29
Less than 3 years of Math	88	3	16.6	10	92	3	16.1	7	3	3	16.0	0
Zero years / no Math courses reported	400	15	18.9	30	372	11	17.2	15	48	45	17.6	19
		Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Reading	Percent Who Met Benchmark		Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Reading	Percent Who Met Benchmark		Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Reading	Percent Who Met Benchmark
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN	N				N				N			
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	16	1	18.0	25	14	0	18.7	29	1	1	20.0	0
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	1,423	52	22.7	54	1,998	60	22.7	56	37	35	26.8	78
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	51	2	19.6	29	43	1	19.5	23	1	1	11.0	0
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	709	26	21.8	49	772	23	21.2	44	11	10	23.1	55
Less than 3 years of Social Science	99	4	19.8	38	98	3	20.4	39	6	6	21.0	50
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	414	15	19.5	36	383	12	19.2	33	50	47	20.5	32
		Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Science	Percent Who Met Benchmark		Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Science	Percent Who Met Benchmark		Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Science	Percent Who Met Benchmark
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN	N				N				N			
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem, & Phys	848	31	23.7	58	865	26	22.1	48	21	20	23.0	62
Bio, Chem, Phys	369	14	23.9	62	370	11	22.6	48	10	9	26.6	90
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem	791	29	21.3	40	1,269	38	20.8	35	17	16	22.4	53
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	81	3	21.1	38	57	2	19.6	26	2	2	17.5	50
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	216	8	19.3	24	370	11	19.4	23	7	7	19.9	43
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	407	15	19.4	29	377	11	18.5	19	49	46	18.9	29

¹ 'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

² Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

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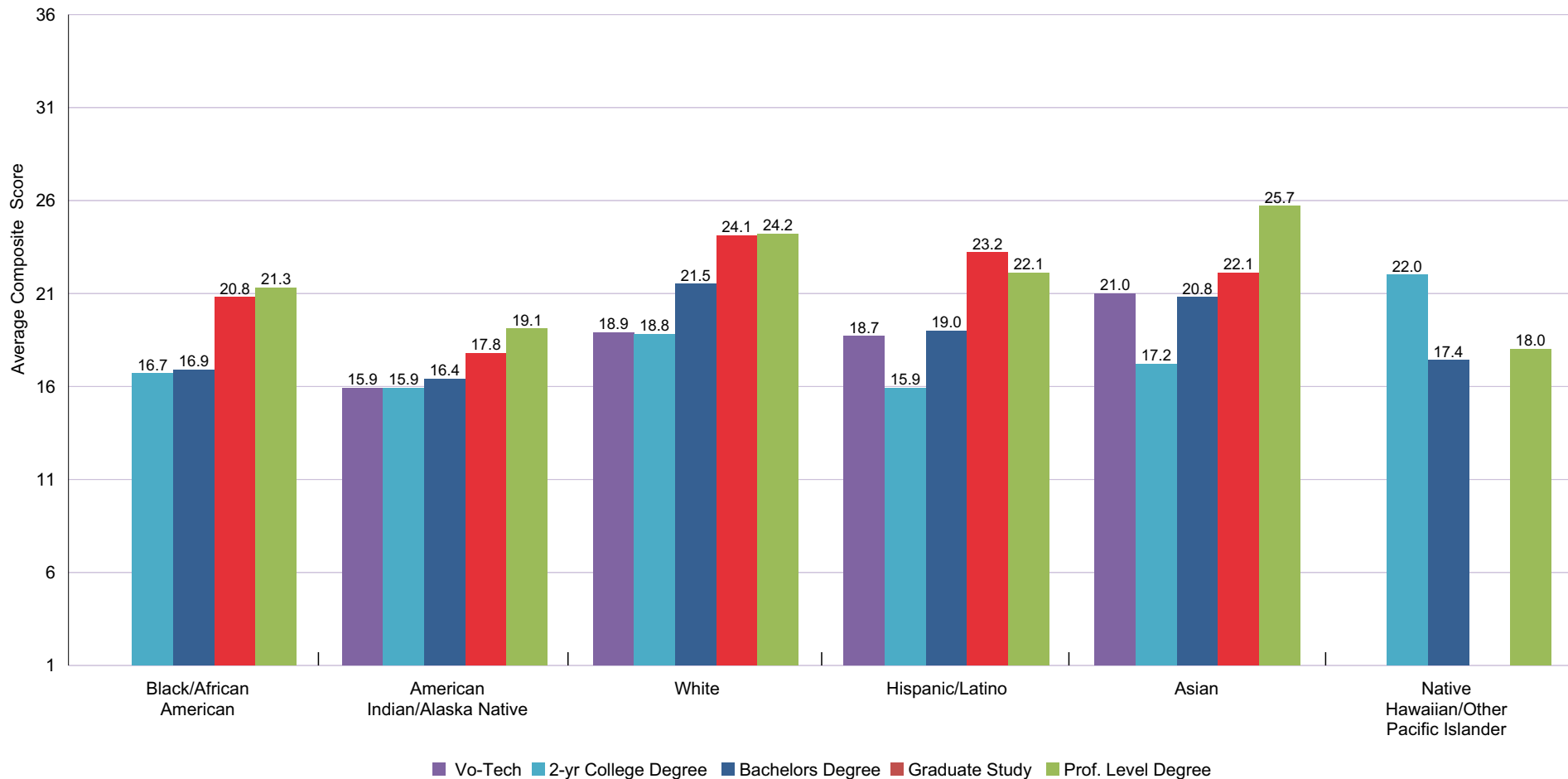
Total Students in Report: 6,126

Section IV

Career and Educational Aspirations

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Figure 4.1. Average ACT Composite Scores by Race and Student Postsecondary Aspirations*



*Missing columns reflect combinations of race/ethnicity and postsecondary aspiration in which one or both indicators are missing.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

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 ¹	Percent ²	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent	Avg ACT Comp
Agriculture & Natural Resources Conservation	200	3	20.2	59	9	18.2	120	3	21.1
Architecture	66	1	20.8	10	2	18.8	51	1	21.6
Area, Ethnic, & Multidisciplinary Studies	6	0	22.2	0	0	.	6	0	22.2
Arts: Visual & Performing	184	3	21.6	16	3	17.6	147	3	22.4
Business	523	9	20.4	67	11	18.4	420	9	20.9
Communications	47	1	22.5	4	1	20.0	42	1	22.7
Community, Family, & Personal Services	83	1	18.6	16	3	16.4	61	1	19.5
Computer Science & Mathematics	223	4	24.0	17	3	20.1	190	4	24.3
Education	336	5	20.4	10	2	15.4	306	7	20.7
Engineering	377	6	24.3	14	2	19.4	340	7	24.7
Engineering Technology & Drafting	60	1	21.3	12	2	19.3	44	1	21.9
English & Foreign Languages	34	1	23.3	1	0	10.0	30	1	23.5
Health Administration & Assisting	170	3	18.5	32	5	17.2	122	3	18.9
Health Sciences & Technologies	1,053	17	21.3	106	17	18.4	882	19	21.7
Philosophy, Religion, & Theology	19	0	21.6	0	0	.	19	0	21.6
Repair, Production, & Construction	128	2	19.0	90	14	19.3	26	1	18.8
Sciences: Biological & Physical	448	7	23.4	8	1	16.5	417	9	23.7
Social Sciences & Law	365	6	21.6	15	2	16.5	332	7	21.9
Undecided	1,379	23	21.0	149	24	18.6	993	22	21.8
No Response	422	7	17.0	0	0	.	4	0	19.5

¹2-Year and 4-Year "N" counts do not reflect students indicating no college plans, "Other" college plans, and missing responses. Therefore, they may not add up to the N count for All Students.

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

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Table 4.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Racial/Ethnic 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	211	18.7	0	.	18	15.9	164	18.9	15
2-yr College Degree	415	18.3	6	16.7	31	15.9	314	18.8	27	15.9
Bachelors Degree	2,959	21.1	44	16.9	129	16.4	2,439	21.5	120	19.0
Graduate Study	705	23.7	16	20.8	17	17.8	584	24.1	27	23.2
Prof. Level Degree	889	23.9	15	21.3	26	19.1	700	24.2	53	22.1
Other	80	19.6	2	15.0	6	15.0	57	19.9	5	18.4
No Response	756	18.6	14	14.9	169	15.1	421	20.4	51	16.6

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	211	18.7	1	21.0	0	.	9	18.1	4
2-yr College Degree	415	18.3	5	17.2	1	22.0	20	17.5	11	18.1
Bachelors Degree	2,959	21.1	32	20.8	5	17.4	146	20.5	44	21.7
Graduate Study	705	23.7	11	22.1	0	.	36	22.0	14	24.5
Prof. Level Degree	889	23.9	35	25.7	1	18.0	45	23.3	14	27.4
Other	80	19.6	1	26.0	0	.	6	22.8	3	20.3
No Response	756	18.6	8	24.4	0	.	55	17.0	38	19.5

Total Students in Report: 6,126

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	SD	1,475	730	745	1	5	22	32	25	12	2
UNIV OF SOUTH DAKOTA-ETS	SD	1,057	388	669	0	6	24	31	25	12	2
BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY	SD	388	135	253	1	12	29	30	20	7	1
SOUTH DAKOTA SCH OF MINES-TECH	SD	341	158	183	1	2	12	24	31	24	6
NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY	SD	335	137	198	1	8	23	31	26	9	1
AUGUSTANA UNIVERSITY	SD	322	95	227	0	3	15	27	33	17	4
DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	SD	284	127	157	1	8	24	26	29	10	2
SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL COLLEGE	SD	264	111	153	2	14	37	30	13	4	0
LAKE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	SD	248	107	141	2	16	41	24	11	6	0
UNIVERSITY OF SIOUX FALLS	SD	205	42	163	0	4	25	35	24	9	2
UNIV OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES	MN	193	55	138	1	3	9	22	36	24	5
MITCHELL TECHNICAL COLLEGE	SD	192	78	114	2	11	40	30	14	4	0
UNIV OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN	NE	183	42	141	0	2	11	36	29	20	2
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	ND	120	24	96	2	3	19	31	26	20	0
DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY	SD	115	31	84	1	10	30	37	17	6	0
WESTERN DAKOTA TECH COLLEGE	SD	108	37	71	3	19	40	23	9	6	0
MINNESOTA ST UNIV-MANKATO	MN	93	18	75	0	2	19	44	24	11	0
IOWA STATE UNIV	IA	71	15	56	0	3	11	25	34	23	4
MOUNT MARTY UNIVERSITY-YANKTON	SD	68	18	50	1	6	19	44	16	13	0
UNIV OF N DAKOTA	ND	67	16	51	1	4	15	37	24	15	3
GRAND CANYON UNIV	AZ	66	28	38	2	8	30	32	18	11	0
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY	AZ	61	16	45	0	5	8	39	23	23	2
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA	IA	59	17	42	0	2	8	17	39	31	3
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY	CO	54	17	37	0	11	17	26	26	19	2
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	IN	50	22	28	0	12	12	30	38	6	2
MONTANA STATE UNIV-BOZEMAN	MT	48	14	34	0	4	17	23	29	25	2
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING	WY	47	13	34	0	9	13	32	28	17	2
NORTHWESTERN COLL-IA	IA	46	12	34	0	4	17	20	39	13	7
CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY	NE	36	7	29	0	0	14	22	19	42	3
CHADRON STATE COLLEGE	NE	35	11	24	0	9	34	37	11	9	0
All Other Institutions		1,839	488	1,351	1	6	17	25	23	22	5
Total		8,470	3,009	5,461	1	7	22	29	24	15	3

Total Students in Report: 6,126

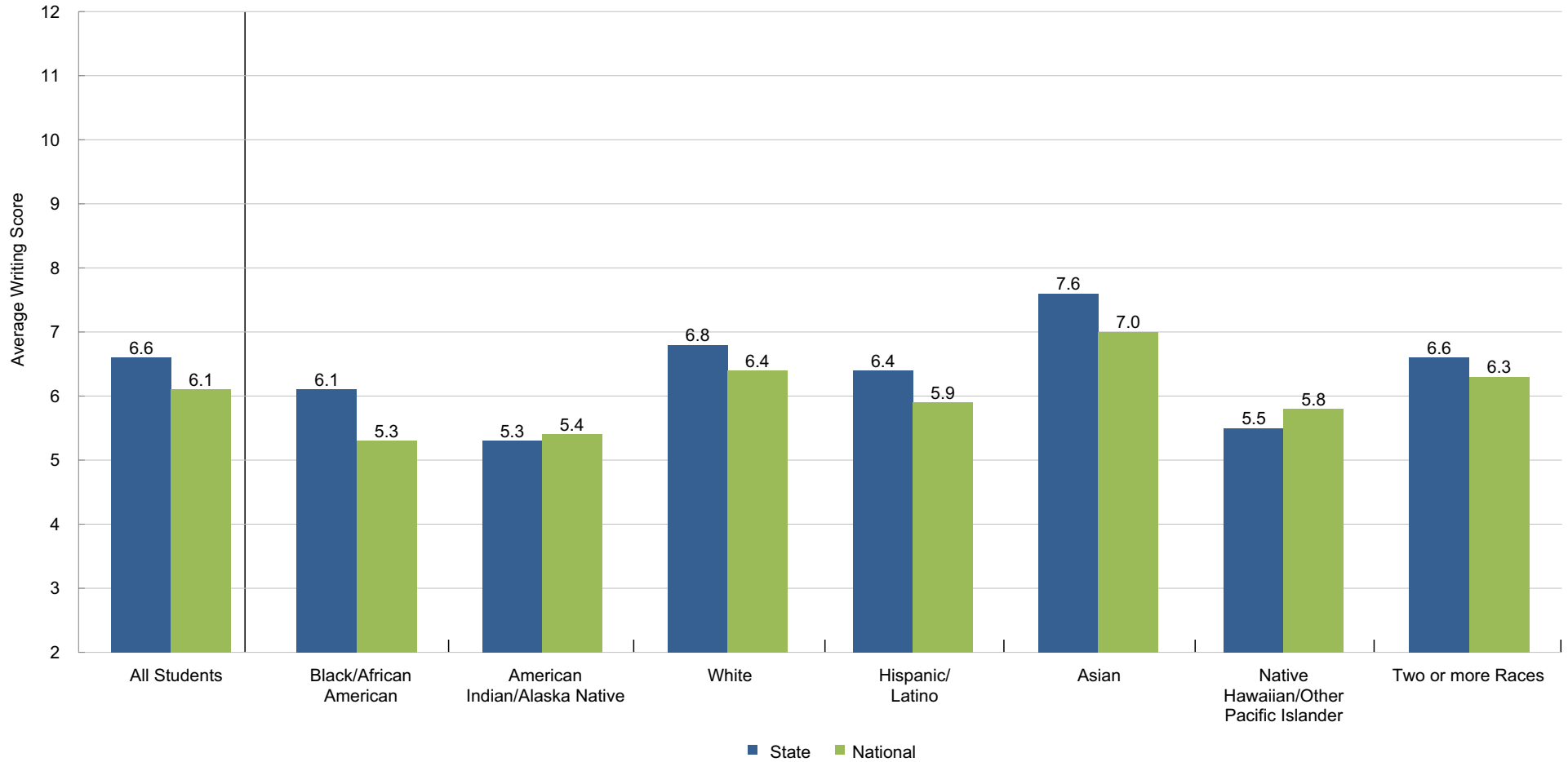
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Total Students in Report: 6,126

Section V Optional Writing Test Results

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Figure 5.1. Average ACT Writing Scores by Race/Ethnicity*



*Missing columns reflect race/ethnicity groupings that are missing.

Total Students in Report: 6,126

Table 5.1. Average ACT English Language Arts Constituent Scores by Race/Ethnicity and Gender¹ for Students Who Took ACT Writing

	N		Average ACT Scores					
	State	National	English		Reading		Writing	
			State	National	State	National	State	National
All Students	596	380,279	21.6	17.6	23.4	19.2	6.6	6.1
Black/African American	13	34,333	16.8	14.3	18.9	16.0	6.1	5.3
American Indian/Alaska Native	53	7,338	14.9	14.0	17.8	15.9	5.3	5.4
White	406	179,047	22.9	19.4	24.6	21.0	6.8	6.4
Hispanic/Latino	41	87,670	19.7	15.5	21.7	17.1	6.4	5.9
Asian	12	17,507	21.0	21.1	23.8	22.2	7.6	7.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	2	1,849	13.0	13.9	19.5	15.6	5.5	5.8
Two or More Races	53	23,574	21.0	18.1	22.6	19.7	6.6	6.3
Prefer not/No Response	16	28,961	22.1	15.6	24.4	17.3	6.6	5.5
Males	254	179,404	21.3	17.1	23.5	18.8	6.4	5.8
Females	324	183,457	21.9	18.1	23.4	19.6	6.8	6.4
Other Responses	18	17,418	19.6	18.1	22.8	19.8	6.7	6.1

Table 5.2. Average ACT English Language Arts Outcomes by Race/Ethnicity and Gender¹ for Students Who Took ACT Writing

	N		Average ACT Scores			
	State	National	Average ELA Score		Percent Who Met ELA Benchmark	
			State	National	State	National
All Students	596	380,279	20.8	17.6	56	35
Black/African American	13	34,333	17.2	14.5	31	14
American Indian/Alaska Native	53	7,338	15.2	14.4	11	13
White	406	179,047	21.9	19.2	64	46
Hispanic/Latino	41	87,670	19.4	15.9	46	23
Asian	12	17,507	21.9	20.7	58	54
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	2	1,849	15.5	14.8	0	14
Two or More Races	53	23,574	20.3	18.1	58	38
Prefer not/No Response	16	28,961	21.4	15.6	56	23
Males	254	179,404	20.5	16.9	52	31
Females	324	183,457	21.1	18.2	60	39
Other Responses	18	17,418	20.2	17.9	56	38

¹ 'Other responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

