## The Ar

## Profile Report - State

Graduating Class 2023
Public High School Students Updated in January 2024
South Dakota

## New to your 2023 Profile Report

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

## Table of Contents

## Section I: Executive Summary

Average Composite Scores: 5 Years of Testing
Percent Meeting 3 or 4 Benchmarks: 5 Years of Testing
Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark: 5 Years of Testing
Percent Taking A Core Curriculum: 5 Years of Testing
Five Year Trends-Percent of Students Who Met
College Readiness Benchmarks
Five Year Trends-Average ACT Scores
Five Year Trends-Average ACT Scores by Level of Preparation
Five Year Trends-Percent and Average Composite Score
by Race/Ethnicity
Five Year Trends-Achievement in STEM
Proficiency Toward Understanding Complex Text

Section II: Academic Achievement

Page 11
Page 5 Section III: College Readiness \& Impact of Course Rigor
Percent of Students Meeting 3 or 4 College Readiness
Benchmarks by Core College Curriculum Status
Percent of Students in College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) Score Ranges
Percent of Students Who Met ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Gender
Percent of Students Who Met ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity
Likely ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) Level Based Upon ACT Composite Score
College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Overall High School Curriculum
College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Content-Specific Curriculum
College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Common Course Patterns
College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores for Gender by Common Course Patterns

## Section IV: Career and Educational Aspirations

Average ACT Composite Scores
by Race and Student Postsecondary Aspirations
Distribution of Planned Educational Majors for All Students by College Plans
Average ACT Composite Scores for Racial/Ethnic Groups
by Post-Secondary Educational Aspirations
Students' Score Report Preferences at Time of Testing

Section V: Optional Writing Test Results
Average ACT Writing Scores by Race/Ethnicity
Average ACT English Language Arts Constituent Scores
by Race/Ethnicity and Gender for Students Who Took ACT Writing
Average ACT English Language Arts Outcomes
by Race/Ethnicity and Gender for Students Who Took ACT Writing

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.

## 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 |

[^0]
## 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: 5,303 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. $70 \%$ 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, $10 \%$ were college ready. $13 \%$ of the cohort reported taking a course sequence of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. 15\% 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. $25 \%$ 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.

## Section I Executive Summary

Total Students in Report: 5,303

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


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


[^1]Figure 1.2. Percent Meeting 3 or 4 Benchmarks: 5 Years of Testing*


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


Total Students in Report: 5,303

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

|  | Number of Students Tested |  | Percent Who Met Benchmarks |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | English |  | Mathematics |  | Reading |  | Science |  | Met All Four |  |
| Year | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National |
| 2019 | 5,459 | 1,782,820 | 67 | 59 | 48 | 39 | 53 | 45 | 46 | 36 | 31 | 26 |
| 2020 | 5,276 | 1,670,497 | 67 | 58 | 49 | 37 | 53 | 45 | 44 | 36 | 31 | 26 |
| 2021 | 4,752 | 1,295,349 | 65 | 56 | 46 | 36 | 52 | 44 | 45 | 35 | 30 | 25 |
| 2022 | 5,058 | 1,349,644 | 66 | 53 | 46 | 31 | 52 | 41 | 44 | 32 | 29 | 22 |
| 2023 | 5,303 | 1,386,335 | 63 | 51 | 44 | 30 | 49 | 40 | 41 | 31 | 28 | 21 |

Table 1.2. Five Year Trends-Average ACT Scores

| Year | Number of Students Tested |  | English |  |  Average ACT Scores <br> Mathematics Reading |  |  |  | Science |  | Composite |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National |
| 2019 | 5,459 | 1,782,820 | 20.7 | 20.1 | 21.4 | 20.4 | 22.4 | 21.2 | 22.1 | 20.6 | 21.8 | 20.7 |
| 2020 | 5,276 | 1,670,497 | 20.7 | 19.9 | 21.6 | 20.2 | 22.4 | 21.2 | 22.0 | 20.6 | 21.8 | 20.6 |
| 2021 | 4,752 | 1,295,349 | 20.3 | 19.6 | 21.3 | 19.9 | 22.4 | 20.9 | 21.9 | 20.4 | 21.6 | 20.3 |
| 2022 | 5,058 | 1,349,644 | 20.5 | 19.0 | 21.3 | 19.3 | 22.2 | 20.4 | 21.8 | 19.9 | 21.6 | 19.8 |
| 2023 | 5,303 | 1,386,335 | 19.9 | 18.6 | 20.9 | 19.0 | 21.9 | 20.1 | 21.5 | 19.6 | 21.2 | 19.5 |

Table 1.3. Five Year Trends-Average ACT Scores Nationwide

| Year | ber of Students | Average ACT Scores |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Tested | English | Mathematics | Reading | Science | Composite |
| 2019 | 1,782,820 | 20.1 | 20.4 | 21.2 | 20.6 | 20.7 |
| 2020 | 1,670,497 | 19.9 | 20.2 | 21.2 | 20.6 | 20.6 |
| 2021 | 1,295,349 | 19.6 | 19.9 | 20.9 | 20.4 | 20.3 |
| 2022 | 1,349,644 | 19.0 | 19.3 | 20.4 | 19.9 | 19.8 |
| 2023 | 1,386,335 | 18.6 | 19.0 | 20.1 | 19.6 | 19.5 |

Total Students in Report: 5,303

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

|  | Number of Students Tested |  | Percent ${ }^{2}$ |  | Average ACT Scores |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | English | Mathematics |  | Reading |  | Science |  | Composite |  |
|  |  |  | Core | Less |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Year | Core or More ${ }^{1}$ | Less than Core |  |  | or More | 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 | Core or More | Less than Core |
| 2019 | 4,691 | 600 | 86 | 11 | 21.2 | 18.5 | 21.8 | 19.4 | 22.8 | 20.5 | 22.5 | 20.3 | 22.2 | 19.8 |
| 2020 | 4,495 | 605 | 85 | 11 | 21.2 | 18.5 | 22.0 | 19.7 | 22.8 | 20.5 | 22.4 | 20.2 | 22.2 | 19.9 |
| 2021 | 3,925 | 660 | 83 | 14 | 20.9 | 18.2 | 21.8 | 19.2 | 22.9 | 20.3 | 22.3 | 20.1 | 22.1 | 19.6 |
| 2022 | 3,985 | 835 | 79 | 17 | 21.1 | 18.2 | 21.9 | 19.1 | 22.8 | 20.0 | 22.4 | 19.9 | 22.2 | 19.4 |
| 2023 | 3,696 | 900 | 70 | 17 | 20.8 | 18.2 | 21.7 | 19.3 | 22.6 | 20.3 | 22.3 | 19.9 | 22.0 | 19.6 |

ere years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science
${ }^{2}$ 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

| Race/Ethnicity | 2019 |  |  | 2020 |  |  | 2021 |  |  | 2022 |  |  | 2023 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | N | \% | Avg | N | \% | Avg | N | \% | Avg | N | \% | Avg | N | \% | Avg |
| All Students | 5,459 | 100 | 21.8 | 5,276 | 100 | 21.8 | 4,752 | 100 | 21.6 | 5,058 | 100 | 21.6 | 5,303 | 100 | 21.2 |
| Black/African American | 108 | 2 | 17.9 | 86 | 2 | 17.7 | 84 | 2 | 18.6 | 104 | 2 | 18.1 | 83 | 2 | 17.9 |
| American Indian/Alaska Native | 286 | 5 | 16.7 | 240 | 5 | 16.4 | 195 | 4 | 16.3 | 199 | 4 | 16.6 | 246 | 5 | 16.2 |
| White | 4,340 | 80 | 22.4 | 4,310 | 82 | 22.3 | 3,898 | 82 | 22.1 | 4,123 | 82 | 22.0 | 4,240 | 80 | 21.7 |
| Hispanic/Latino | 214 | 4 | 20.0 | 202 | 4 | 20.4 | 187 | 4 | 19.7 | 173 | 3 | 19.8 | 267 | 5 | 19.2 |
| Asian | 86 | 2 | 21.2 | 90 | 2 | 21.8 | 85 | 2 | 22.4 | 84 | 2 | 23.1 | 84 | 2 | 22.7 |
| Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander | 1 | 0 | 13.0 | 2 | 0 | 14.0 | 0 | 0 |  | 2 | 0 | 19.0 | 4 | 0 | 20.5 |
| Two or more races | 266 | 5 | 20.8 | 222 | 4 | 20.7 | 229 | 5 | 20.7 | 269 | 5 | 20.8 | 287 | 5 | 20.2 |
| Prefer not to respond/No response | 158 | 3 | 22.5 | 124 | 2 | 21.8 | 74 | 2 | 22.2 | 104 | 2 | 22.2 | 92 | 2 | 21.5 |

Total Students in Report: 5,303

Table 1.6. Five Year Trends—Achievement in STEM ${ }^{1}$

${ }^{1}$ The STEM score describes students' overall proficiency in mathematics and science.

Table 1.7. Proficiency in Understanding Complex Texts ${ }^{1}$

| Text Complexity Proficiency Level |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Below Proficient |  |  |  |  |  |  | Proficient |  |  |  |  |  | Above Proficient |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | N |  | Percent |  | Avg. Reading |  | N |  | Percent |  | Avg. Reading |  | N |  | Percent |  | Avg. Reading |  |
| Year | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National |
| 2019 | 2,498 | 950,826 | 46 | 53 | 17.6 | 16.2 | 1,725 | 455,611 | 32 | 26 | 23.6 | 23.6 | 1,236 | 376,383 | 23 | 21 | 30.4 | 31.0 |
| 2020 | 2,386 | 903,921 | 45 | 54 | 17.5 | 16.1 | 1,629 | 398,982 | 31 | 24 | 23.5 | 23.6 | 1,261 | 367,594 | 24 | 22 | 30.3 | 31.1 |
| 2021 | 2,203 | 711,705 | 46 | 55 | 17.5 | 15.8 | 1,500 | 318,182 | 32 | 25 | 23.9 | 23.8 | 1,049 | 265,462 | 22 | 20 | 30.6 | 31.3 |
| 2022 | 2,429 | 770,624 | 48 | 57 | 17.7 | 15.6 | 1,522 | 318,327 | 30 | 24 | 23.6 | 23.5 | 1,107 | 260,693 | 22 | 19 | 30.1 | 31.0 |
| 2023 | 2,544 | 793,815 | 48 | 57 | 17.2 | 15.3 | 1,643 | 334,268 | 31 | 24 | 23.5 | 23.3 | 1,116 | 258,252 | 21 | 19 | 30.2 | 30.7 |

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## Section II Academic Achievement

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.

Table 2.1. ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percents (CP ${ }^{1}$ ), and Score Averages

| ACT Scale English |  |  | Mathematics |  | Reading |  | Science |  | Composite |  | STEM |  | ELA ${ }^{2}$ |  | ACT Scale Score |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Score | N | CP | N | CP | N | CP | N | CP | N | CP | N | CP | N | CP |  |
| 36 | 19 | 100 | 11 | 100 | 52 | 100 | 17 | 100 | 10 | 100 | 13 | 100 | 0 | 100 | 36 |
| 35 | 81 | 99 | 29 | 99 | 61 | 99 | 39 | 99 | 13 | 99 | 20 | 99 | 0 | 100 | 35 |
| 34 | 59 | 98 | 29 | 99 | 88 | 98 | 48 | 99 | 27 | 99 | 32 | 99 | 1 | 100 | 34 |
| 33 | 40 | 97 | 26 | 99 | 122 | 96 | 29 | 98 | 43 | 99 | 34 | 99 | 3 | 99 | 33 |
| 32 | 66 | 96 | 41 | 98 | 128 | 94 | 78 | 97 | 60 | 98 | 52 | 98 | 6 | 99 | 32 |
| 31 | 33 | 95 | 56 | 97 | 128 | 91 | 85 | 96 | 68 | 97 | 59 | 97 | 6 | 98 | 31 |
| 30 | 89 | 94 | 57 | 96 | 136 | 89 | 47 | 94 | 100 | 96 | 94 | 96 | 15 | 96 | 30 |
| 29 | 72 | 93 | 100 | 95 | 146 | 87 | 94 | 94 | 126 | 94 | 108 | 94 | 12 | 93 | 29 |
| 28 | 95 | 91 | 176 | 93 | 176 | 84 | 125 | 92 | 152 | 92 | 139 | 92 | 23 | 91 | 28 |
| 27 | 101 | 90 | 277 | 90 | 152 | 80 | 123 | 89 | 181 | 89 | 193 | 90 | 29 | 85 | 27 |
| 26 | 162 | 88 | 308 | 85 | 192 | 78 | 246 | 87 | 211 | 85 | 300 | 86 | 22 | 79 | 26 |
| 25 | 181 | 85 | 347 | 79 | 227 | 74 | 336 | 82 | 292 | 81 | 342 | 80 | 22 | 74 | 25 |
| 24 | 297 | 81 | 317 | 73 | 278 | 70 | 465 | 76 | 383 | 76 | 381 | 74 | 21 | 69 | 24 |
| 23 | 324 | 76 | 295 | 67 | 305 | 64 | 444 | 67 | 336 | 69 | 364 | 67 | 23 | 65 | 23 |
| 22 | 329 | 69 | 261 | 61 | 428 | 59 | 421 | 59 | 346 | 62 | 334 | 60 | 42 | 60 | 22 |
| 21 | 392 | 63 | 198 | 56 | 383 | 51 | 459 | 51 | 395 | 56 | 362 | 54 | 27 | 50 | 21 |
| 20 | 367 | 56 | 282 | 52 | 359 | 43 | 376 | 42 | 412 | 48 | 411 | 47 | 24 | 44 | 20 |
| 19 | 357 | 49 | 280 | 47 | 311 | 37 | 369 | 35 | 411 | 41 | 445 | 39 | 36 | 39 | 19 |
| 18 | 276 | 42 | 383 | 42 | 341 | 31 | 422 | 28 | 410 | 33 | 409 | 31 | 24 | 31 | 18 |
| 17 | 239 | 37 | 528 | 35 | 228 | 24 | 286 | 20 | 361 | 25 | 441 | 23 | 32 | 26 | 17 |
| 16 | 390 | 33 | 598 | 25 | 276 | 20 | 266 | 15 | 306 | 18 | 289 | 15 | 30 | 19 | 16 |
| 15 | 353 | 25 | 367 | 13 | 170 | 15 | 152 | 10 | 253 | 12 | 207 | 9 | 15 | 12 | 15 |
| 14 | 266 | 18 | 219 | 6 | 199 | 12 | 92 | 7 | 185 | 8 | 137 | 5 | 14 | 9 | 14 |
| 13 | 194 | 13 | 78 | 2 | 132 | 8 | 120 | 5 | 120 | 4 | 88 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 13 |
| 12 | 152 | 10 | 22 | 1 | 152 | 5 | 53 | 3 | 68 | 2 | 32 | 1 | 11 | 4 | 12 |
| 11 | 145 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 74 | 3 | 59 | 2 | 24 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 11 |
| 10 | 145 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 35 | 1 | 31 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 10 |
| 9 | 43 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 14 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 9 |
| 8 | 20 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| 7 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 7 |
| 6 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 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 | 1 | 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) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Avg (SD) |

[^2]ELA 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

Figure 2.2. English Reporting Categories


Figure 2.4. Reading Reporting Categories


Figure 2.5. Science Reporting Categories


Figure 2.3. Math 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: 5,303

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 C Core or More | te Score Less Than Core |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| State | All Students | 5,303 | 70 | 22.0 | 19.6 |
|  | Black/African American | 83 | 66 | 19.2 | 16.2 |
|  | American Indian/Alaska Native | 246 | 44 | 17.6 | 15.5 |
|  | White | 4,240 | 73 | 22.3 | 20.1 |
|  | Hispanic/Latino | 267 | 57 | 20.3 | 18.2 |
|  | Asian | 84 | 71 | 23.8 | 18.9 |
|  | Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander | 4 | 75 | 18.3 | 27.0 |
|  | Two or More Races | 287 | 64 | 21.7 | 17.0 |
|  | Prefer not/no Response | 92 | 53 | 23.0 | 20.1 |
| 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 |

Table 2.3. Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity

| Student Group | Race/Ethnicity | N | Percent | English | Mathematics | Reading | Science | Composite | STEM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| State | All Students | 5,303 | 100 | 19.9 | 20.9 | 21.9 | 21.5 | 21.2 | 21.4 |
|  | Black/African American | 83 | 2 | 16.4 | 17.6 | 18.8 | 18.1 | 17.9 | 18.1 |
|  | American Indian/Alaska Native | 246 | 5 | 14.4 | 16.2 | 17.0 | 16.8 | 16.2 | 16.7 |
|  | White | 4,240 | 80 | 20.4 | 21.4 | 22.4 | 22.0 | 21.7 | 21.9 |
|  | Hispanic/Latino | 267 | 5 | 17.5 | 19.0 | 20.1 | 19.6 | 19.2 | 19.6 |
|  | Asian | 84 | 2 | 21.9 | 22.9 | 22.5 | 22.8 | 22.7 | 23.1 |
|  | Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander | 4 | 0 | 18.3 | 19.8 | 25.0 | 18.8 | 20.5 | 19.5 |
|  | Two or More Races | 287 | 5 | 18.9 | 19.6 | 21.1 | 20.4 | 20.2 | 20.3 |
|  | Prefer not/no Response | 92 | 2 | 20.7 | 21.1 | 22.0 | 21.5 | 21.5 | 21.6 |
| 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: 5,303

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

|  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Student Group | Gender ${ }^{1}$ | Number of |  |
|  | Males | Students Tested | Percent Taking |
| Core or More |  |  |  |

Table 2.5. Average ACT Scores by Gender

| Student Group | Gender ${ }^{1}$ | N | Percent | English | Mathematics | Reading | Science | Composite | STEM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| State | Males | 2,344 | 44 | 19.7 | 21.7 | 21.9 | 22.1 | 21.4 | 22.1 |
|  | Females | 2,871 | 54 | 20.0 | 20.2 | 21.8 | 21.0 | 20.9 | 20.9 |
|  | Other Responses | 88 | 2 | 20.5 | 20.4 | 23.3 | 21.4 | 21.5 | 21.2 |
| 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) | 23 | 25 | 26 | 24 | 24 |
| Q2 (50th Percentile) | 20 | 20 | 21 | 21 | 21 |
| Q1 (25th Percentile) | 15 | 17 | 18 | 18 | 17 |

[^3]${ }^{2 " C o r e}$ 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.

## Section III

## College and Career Readiness and the Impact of Course Rigor

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: 5,303

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

| Student Group | CCRS | English |  | Mathematics |  | Reading |  | Science |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Range | N | \% | N | \% | N | \% | N | \% |
|  | 33 to 36 | 199 | 4 | 95 | 2 | 323 | 6 | 133 | 3 |
|  | 28 to 32 | 355 | 7 | 430 | 8 | 714 | 13 | 429 | 8 |
|  | 24 to 27 | 741 | 14 | 1,249 | 24 | 849 | 16 | 1,170 | 22 |
| State | 20 to 23 | 1,412 | 27 | 1,036 | 20 | 1,475 | 28 | 1,700 | 32 |
|  | 16 to 19 | 1,262 | 24 | 1,789 | 34 | 1,156 | 22 | 1,343 | 25 |
|  | 13 to 15 | 813 | 15 | 664 | 13 | 501 | 9 | 364 | 7 |
|  | 01 to 12 | 521 | 10 | 40 | 1 | 285 | 5 | 164 | 3 |
|  | 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 |
| National | 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 |  |  |  | MetAll Four |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | English | Mathematics | Reading | Science |  |
| State | Males | 62 | 50 | 50 | 46 | 31 |
|  | Females | 64 | 39 | 49 | 37 | 25 |
|  | Other Responses | 66 | 38 | 55 | 51 | 27 |
| National | Males | 48 | 33 | 38 | 33 | 22 |
|  | Females | 55 | 28 | 42 | 29 | 20 |
|  | Other Responses | 42 | 20 | 34 | 23 | 14 |

[^4]Total Students in Report: 5,303

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

| Student Group | Race/Ethnicity | N | $\begin{gathered} \text { English } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Mathematics \% | Reading \% | Science \% | All Four \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { STEM } \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| State | All Students | 5,303 | 63 | 44 | 49 | 41 | 28 | 20 |
|  | Black/African American | 83 | 37 | 17 | 29 | 17 | 12 | 8 |
|  | American Indian/Alaska Native | 246 | 22 | 9 | 18 | 9 | 3 | 3 |
|  | White | 4,240 | 68 | 48 | 53 | 45 | 30 | 21 |
|  | Hispanic/Latino | 267 | 45 | 30 | 39 | 29 | 18 | 12 |
|  | Asian | 84 | 64 | 56 | 55 | 51 | 36 | 31 |
|  | Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander | 4 | 50 | 25 | 75 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Two or More Races | 287 | 55 | 34 | 45 | 33 | 22 | 14 |
|  | Prefer Not to Respond | 92 | 62 | 43 | 47 | 41 | 28 | 25 |
| 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 Score ${ }^{1}$

| Student |  | Average <br> Group |  | ACT NCRC Level |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Platinum | N | $\%$ | Composite |

[^5]Total Students in Report: 5,303

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

| Student Group | Curriculum Taken ${ }^{1}$ |  | English |  | Mathematics |  | Reading |  | Science |  | Composite ${ }^{4}$ |  | STEM |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | N | \% | Avg | \% | Avg | \% | Avg | \% | Avg | \% | Avg | \% | Avg |
| State | Core or More ${ }^{2}$ | 3,696 | 69 | 20.8 | 51 | 21.7 | 54 | 22.6 | 47 | 22.3 | 33 | 22.0 | 24 | 22.3 |
|  | Less than Core | 900 | 52 | 18.2 | 30 | 19.3 | 39 | 20.3 | 27 | 19.9 | 17 | 19.6 | 11 | 19.8 |
|  | Missing ${ }^{3}$ | 707 | 43 | 17.1 | 24 | 18.4 | 36 | 19.8 | 26 | 19.3 | 14 | 18.8 | 9 | 19.1 |
| 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.
"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.
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 | English |  |  | Mathematics |  |  | Reading |  |  | Science |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Taken ${ }^{1}$ | N | \% | Avg | N | \% | Avg | N | \% | Avg | N | \% | Avg |
|  | Core or More ${ }^{2}$ | 4,437 | 66 | 20.4 | 4,492 | 48 | 21.4 | 4,448 | 52 | 22.3 | 4,095 | 46 | 22.1 |
| State | Less than Core | 247 | 58 | 18.9 | 145 | 10 | 16.5 | 167 | 38 | 19.9 | 532 | 25 | 19.6 |
|  | Missing ${ }^{3}$ | 619 | 41 | 16.8 | 666 | 23 | 18.3 | 688 | 36 | 19.7 | 676 | 25 | 19.3 |
|  | Core or More | 805,869 | 64 | 20.6 | 777,766 | 41 | 20.6 | 715,782 | 51 | 22.1 | 671,066 | 44 | 21.6 |
| National | 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 |

[^6]
## ACT PROFILE REPORT - State: SECTION III, COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS \& THE IMPACT OF COURSE RIGOR

Public High School Students Updated in January 2024
South Dakota
Total Students in Report: 5,303

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 <br> English | Percent Who Met Benchmark | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> English | Percent Who Met Benchmark |
| Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, \& Other English | 1,476 | 28 | 21.1 | 71 | 206,329 | 15 | 20.6 | 64 |
| Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 | 2,961 | 56 | 20.0 | 64 | 599,540 | 43 | 20.6 | 64 |
| Less than 4 years of English | 247 | 5 | 18.9 | 58 | 39,453 | 3 | 18.0 | 48 |
| Zero years / no English courses reported | 619 | 12 | 16.8 | 41 | 541,013 | 39 | 15.7 | 33 |
| MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> Math | Percent Who Met Benchmark | N | Percent Taking <br> Pattern | Avg ACT <br> Math | Percent Who Met Benchmark |
| Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, \& Calc | 109 | 2 | 24.3 | 70 | 29,620 | 2 | 22.3 | 55 |
| Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, \& Other Adv Math | 305 | 6 | 22.4 | 60 | 56,308 | 4 | 21.0 | 45 |
| Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, \& Trig | 140 | 3 | 20.8 | 46 | 28,780 | 2 | 18.6 | 25 |
| Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, \& Other Adv Math | 1,364 | 26 | 20.8 | 43 | 196,294 | 14 | 18.9 | 27 |
| Other comb of 4 or more years of Math | 1,527 | 29 | 23.8 | 68 | 319,480 | 23 | 23.1 | 59 |
| Alg 1, Alg $2, \&$ Geom | 696 | 13 | 17.6 | 15 | 91,952 | 7 | 16.5 | 9 |
| Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math | 351 | 7 | 19.7 | 33 | 55,332 | 4 | 19.0 | 29 |
| Less than 3 years of Math | 145 | 3 | 16.5 | 10 | 40,332 | 3 | 16.3 | 11 |
| Zero years / no Math courses reported | 666 | 13 | 18.3 | 23 | 568,237 | 41 | 17.1 | 16 |
| SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN | N | Percent Taking <br> Pattern | Avg ACT <br> Reading | Percent Who Met Benchmark | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT Reading | Percent Who Met Benchmark |
| US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, \& Other Hist | 23 | 0 | 19.4 | 26 | 25,073 | 2 | 22.5 | 53 |
| Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science | 3,032 | 57 | 22.7 | 55 | 380,202 | 27 | 22.6 | 55 |
| US Hist, World Hist, \& Am Gov | 75 | 1 | 19.9 | 29 | 59,507 | 4 | 20.0 | 38 |
| Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science | 1,318 | 25 | 21.5 | 46 | 251,000 | 18 | 21.8 | 49 |
| Less than 3 years of Social Science | 167 | 3 | 19.9 | 38 | 92,045 | 7 | 20.3 | 40 |
| Zero years / no Social Science courses reported | 688 | 13 | 19.7 | 36 | 578,508 | 42 | 17.7 | 26 |
|  |  | Percent Taking | Avg ACT | Percent Who Met |  | Percent Taking | Avg ACT | Percent Who Met |
| NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN | N | Pattern | Science | Benchmark | N | Pattern | Science | Benchmark |
| Gen Sci', Bio, Chem, \& Phys | 1,451 | 27 | 22.9 | 53 | 287,293 | 21 | 22.3 | 49 |
| Bio, Chem, Phys | 655 | 12 | 23.3 | 55 | 109,345 | 8 | 23.5 | 57 |
| Gen Sci', Bio, Chem | 1,863 | 35 | 21.1 | 38 | 245,426 | 18 | 20.3 | 34 |
| Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science | 126 | 2 | 20.3 | 33 | 29,002 | 2 | 19.0 | 25 |
| Less than 3 years of Natural Science | 532 | 10 | 19.6 | 25 | 141,675 | 10 | 18.6 | 22 |
| Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported | 676 | 13 | 19.3 | 25 | 573,594 | 41 | 17.5 | 17 |

$\frac{1}{1}$ Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

## ACT PROFILE REPORT - State: SECTION III, COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS \& THE IMPACT OF COURSE RIGOR

Public High School Students Updated in January 2024
South Dakota
Total Students in Report: 5,303

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

| Course Pattern |  |  | ales |  |  |  | males |  |  | Other R | esponses |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> English | Percent Who Met Benchmark | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> English | Percent Who Met Benchmark | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> English | Percent Who Met Benchmark |
| Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, \& Other English | 567 | 24 | 21.4 | 72 | 885 | 31 | 20.8 | 70 | 24 | 27 | 22.0 | 83 |
| Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12 | 1,350 | 58 | 19.7 | 63 | 1,590 | 55 | 20.3 | 65 | 21 | 24 | 22.8 | 86 |
| Less than 4 years of English | 117 | 5 | 18.5 | 57 | 123 | 4 | 18.9 | 58 | 7 | 8 | 23.4 | 86 |
| Zero years / no English courses reported | 310 | 13 | 16.8 | 40 | 273 | 10 | 16.6 | 41 | 36 | 41 | 17.5 | 39 |
| MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> Math | Percent Who Met Benchmark | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> Math | Percent Who Met Benchmark | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> Math | Percent Who Met Benchmark |
| Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, \& Calc | 63 | 3 | 25.2 | 73 | 46 | 2 | 23.0 | 65 | 0 | 0 |  |  |
| Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, \& Other Adv Math | 107 | 5 | 23.6 | 72 | 193 | 7 | 21.7 | 53 | 5 | 6 | 25.0 | 80 |
| Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, \& Trig | 65 | 3 | 21.5 | 48 | 74 | 3 | 20.2 | 45 | 1 | 1 | 25.0 | 100 |
| Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, \& Other Adv Math | 502 | 21 | 21.5 | 50 | 850 | 30 | 20.3 | 39 | 12 | 14 | 22.6 | 58 |
| Other comb of 4 or more years of Math | 738 | 31 | 24.6 | 72 | 774 | 27 | 22.9 | 63 | 15 | 17 | 24.5 | 60 |
| Alg 1, Alg 2, \& Geom | 283 | 12 | 18.2 | 20 | 404 | 14 | 17.1 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 18.8 | 22 |
| Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math | 187 | 8 | 20.0 | 36 | 158 | 6 | 19.2 | 30 | 6 | 7 | 20.8 | 33 |
| Less than 3 years of Math | 71 | 3 | 16.5 | 11 | 72 | 3 | 16.5 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 16.5 | 0 |
| Zero years / no Math courses reported | 328 | 14 | 19.1 | 31 | 300 | 10 | 17.4 | 15 | 38 | 43 | 17.9 | 21 |
| SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> Reading | Percent Who Met Benchmark | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> Reading | Percent Who Met Benchmark | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> Reading | Percent Who Met Benchmark |
| US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, \& Other Hist | 15 | 1 | 17.7 | 20 | 8 | 0 | 22.6 | 38 | 0 | 0 | . |  |
| Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science | 1,235 | 53 | 22.7 | 54 | 1,764 | 61 | 22.6 | 55 | 33 | 38 | 26.8 | 79 |
| US Hist, World Hist, \& Am Gov | 41 | 2 | 20.1 | 32 | 33 | 1 | 19.8 | 27 | 1 | 1 | 11.0 | 0 |
| Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science | 629 | 27 | 21.9 | 50 | 679 | 24 | 21.1 | 43 | 10 | 11 | 22.3 | 50 |
| Less than 3 years of Social Science | 86 | 4 | 19.5 | 38 | 77 | 3 | 20.2 | 36 | 4 | 5 | 21.5 | 50 |
| Zero years / no Social Science courses reported | 338 | 14 | 19.7 | 38 | 310 | 11 | 19.5 | 33 | 40 | 45 | 21.2 | 38 |
| NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> Science | Percent Who Met Benchmark | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> Science | Percent Who Met Benchmark | N | Percent Taking Pattern | Avg ACT <br> Science | Percent Who Met Benchmark |
| Gen Sci², Bio, Chem, \& Phys | 713 | 30 | 23.7 | 57 | 721 | 25 | 22.2 | 49 | 17 | 19 | 23.3 | 71 |
| Bio, Chem, Phys | 326 | 14 | 24.0 | 62 | 319 | 11 | 22.6 | 47 | 10 | 11 | 26.6 | 90 |
| Gen Sci', Bio, Chem | 700 | 30 | 21.5 | 41 | 1,147 | 40 | 20.8 | 35 | 16 | 18 | 22.6 | 56 |
| Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science | 72 | 3 | 21.0 | 38 | 53 | 2 | 19.6 | 26 | 1 | 1 | 11.0 | 0 |
| Less than 3 years of Natural Science | 199 | 8 | 19.5 | 25 | 328 | 11 | 19.6 | 25 | 5 | 6 | 19.2 | 40 |
| Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported | 334 | 14 | 19.7 | 30 | 303 | 11 | 18.8 | 19 | 39 | 44 | 19.3 | 33 |

[^7]
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## Section IV <br> Career and Educational Aspirations

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: 5,303

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 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Avg ACT |  |  | Avg ACT |  |  | Avg ACT |
|  | $\mathrm{N}^{1}$ | Percent ${ }^{2}$ | Comp | N | Percent | Comp | N | Percent | Comp |
| Agriculture \& Natural Resources Conservation | 174 | 3 | 20.4 | 54 | 10 | 18.6 | 106 | 3 | 21.5 |
| Architecture | 61 | 1 | 21.2 | 10 | 2 | 18.8 | 47 | 1 | 22.0 |
| Area, Ethnic, \& Multidisciplinary Studies | 6 | 0 | 22.2 | 0 | 0 | . | 6 | 0 | 22.2 |
| Arts: Visual \& Performing | 168 | 3 | 21.6 | 13 | 2 | 17.5 | 134 | 3 | 22.4 |
| Business | 436 | 8 | 20.4 | 58 | 10 | 18.4 | 352 | 9 | 20.9 |
| Communications | 40 | 1 | 22.4 | 4 | 1 | 20.0 | 35 | 1 | 22.7 |
| Community, Family, \& Personal Services | 78 | 1 | 18.5 | 16 | 3 | 16.4 | 56 | 1 | 19.5 |
| Computer Science \& Mathematics | 197 | 4 | 23.9 | 16 | 3 | 20.2 | 166 | 4 | 24.3 |
| Education | 309 | 6 | 20.3 | 8 | 1 | 15.4 | 286 | 7 | 20.6 |
| Engineering | 327 | 6 | 24.4 | 12 | 2 | 20.3 | 299 | 8 | 24.8 |
| Engineering Technology \& Drafting | 54 | 1 | 21.2 | 12 | 2 | 19.3 | 38 | 1 | 21.9 |
| English \& Foreign Languages | 31 | 1 | 23.3 | 1 | 0 | 10.0 | 27 | 1 | 23.6 |
| Health Administration \& Assisting | 142 | 3 | 18.6 | 29 | 5 | 17.7 | 97 | 2 | 19.0 |
| Health Sciences \& Technologies | 948 | 18 | 21.2 | 95 | 17 | 18.4 | 799 | 20 | 21.6 |
| Philosophy, Religion, \& Theology | 11 | 0 | 21.8 | 0 | 0 | . | 11 | 0 | 21.8 |
| Repair, Production, \& Construction | 105 | 2 | 19.1 | 77 | 14 | 19.3 | 20 | 1 | 18.9 |
| Sciences: Biological \& Physical | 397 | 7 | 23.3 | 7 | 1 | 16.9 | 368 | 9 | 23.6 |
| Social Sciences \& Law | 320 | 6 | 21.6 | 14 | 3 | 16.6 | 288 | 7 | 22.0 |
| Undecided | 1,171 | 22 | 21.1 | 131 | 24 | 18.7 | 843 | 21 | 21.9 |
| No Response | 325 | 6 | 17.2 | 0 | 0 | . | 3 | 0 | 20.7 |

${ }^{1} 2$-Year and $4-Y e a r ~ " ~ N " ~ c o u n t s ~ d o ~ n o t ~ r e f l e c t ~ s t u d e n t s ~ i n d i c a t i n g ~ n o ~ c o l l e g e ~ p l a n s, ~ " O t h e r " ~ c o l l e g e ~ p l a n s, ~ a n d ~ m i s s i n g ~ r e s p o n s e s . ~ T h e r e f o r e, ~ t h e y ~ m a y ~ n o t ~ a d d ~ u p ~ t o ~ t h e ~ N ~ c o u n t ~ f o r ~ A l l ~ S t u d e n t s . ~$
${ }^{2}$ Percent of students tested within College Plan groups (All Students, 2-Year, $4-$ Year).

Total Students in Report: 5,303

Table 4.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Racial/Ethnic Groups by Post-Secondary Educational Aspirations

| Educational Degree | All Racial/Ethnic Groups |  | Black/African American |  | American Indian/Alaska Native |  | White |  | Hispanic/Latino |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Aspirations | N | Average | N | Average | N | Average | N | Average | N | Average |
| Voc-Tech | 180 | 18.9 | 0 | . | 7 | 16.1 | 149 | 19.0 | 13 | 19.0 |
| 2-yr College Degree | 377 | 18.3 | 6 | 16.7 | 20 | 16.0 | 291 | 18.8 | 27 | 15.9 |
| Bachelors Degree | 2,585 | 21.1 | 36 | 17.0 | 78 | 17.3 | 2,174 | 21.4 | 103 | 19.1 |
| Graduate Study | 617 | 23.7 | 14 | 20.5 | 11 | 18.1 | 516 | 24.1 | 23 | 23.2 |
| Prof. Level Degree | 780 | 23.8 | 13 | 21.3 | 16 | 18.4 | 624 | 24.0 | 50 | 22.1 |
| Other | 66 | 19.7 | 1 | 14.0 | 4 | 14.3 | 51 | 19.8 | 3 | 19.3 |
| No Response | 600 | 18.8 | 12 | 15.2 | 98 | 15.1 | 377 | 20.1 | 37 | 16.9 |


| 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 | 180 | 18.9 | 1 | 21.0 | 0 | . | 8 | 18.4 | 2 | 21.5 |
| 2-yr College Degree | 377 | 18.3 | 5 | 17.2 | 1 | 22.0 | 19 | 17.7 | 8 | 17.8 |
| Bachelors Degree | 2,585 | 21.1 | 27 | 21.1 | 3 | 20.0 | 131 | 20.7 | 33 | 21.5 |
| Graduate Study | 617 | 23.7 | 10 | 22.9 | 0 | . | 32 | 22.0 | 11 | 24.9 |
| Prof. Level Degree | 780 | 23.8 | 31 | 25.1 | 0 | . | 36 | 23.1 | 10 | 27.2 |
| Other | 66 | 19.7 | 1 | 26.0 | 0 | . | 6 | 22.8 | 0 | . |
| No Response | 600 | 18.8 | 7 | 24.7 | 0 | . | 45 | 17.3 | 24 | 19.5 |

Total Students in Report: 5,303

Table 4.3. Students' Score Report Preferences at Time of Testing

|  |  |  | er of Stud |  |  |  |  | of Stu ess Sta | ts in ards R |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | 2nd-6th |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Name | State | Total | 1st Choice | Choice | 01-12 | 13-15 | 16-19 | 20-23 | 24-27 | 28-32 | 33-36 |
| SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY | SD | 1,319 | 659 | 660 | 0 | 5 | 22 | 32 | 26 | 12 | 2 |
| UNIV OF SOUTH DAKOTA-ETS | SD | 959 | 353 | 606 | 0 | 5 | 24 | 31 | 26 | 12 | 2 |
| BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY | SD | 337 | 116 | 221 | 1 | 11 | 29 | 29 | 23 | 7 | 1 |
| NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY | SD | 315 | 127 | 188 | 1 | 8 | 23 | 32 | 26 | 8 | 2 |
| SOUTH DAKOTA SCH OF MINES-TECH | SD | 300 | 135 | 165 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 23 | 32 | 24 | 6 |
| AUGUSTANA UNIVERSITY | SD | 282 | 84 | 198 | 0 | 3 | 16 | 26 | 35 | 17 | 4 |
| DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY | SD | 268 | 121 | 147 | 1 | 8 | 25 | 26 | 30 | 8 | 2 |
| SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL COLLEGE | SD | 238 | 102 | 136 | 3 | 13 | 40 | 27 | 14 | 3 | 0 |
| LAKE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE | SD | 229 | 100 | 129 | 1 | 16 | 42 | 24 | 11 | 6 | 0 |
| UNIVERSITY OF SIOUX FALLS | SD | 183 | 36 | 147 | 1 | 4 | 25 | 35 | 25 | 7 | 3 |
| MITCHELL TECHNICAL COLLEGE | SD | 174 | 70 | 104 | 2 | 11 | 41 | 29 | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| UNIV OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES | MN | 171 | 47 | 124 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 21 | 38 | 22 | 5 |
| UNIV OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN | NE | 163 | 37 | 126 | 0 | 2 | 12 | 37 | 29 | 18 | 2 |
| NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY | ND | 110 | 21 | 89 | 2 | 1 | 19 | 33 | 26 | 19 | 0 |
| DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY | SD | 103 | 30 | 73 | 1 | 10 | 28 | 36 | 19 | 6 | 0 |
| WESTERN DAKOTA TECH COLLEGE | SD | 85 | 30 | 55 | 4 | 18 | 40 | 21 | 11 | 7 | 0 |
| MINNESOTA ST UNIV-MANKATO | MN | 83 | 18 | 65 | 0 | 2 | 20 | 47 | 22 | 8 | 0 |
| IOWA STATE UNIV | IA | 58 | 12 | 46 | 0 | 2 | 14 | 26 | 31 | 22 | 5 |
| MOUNT MARTY UNIVERSITY-YANKTON | SD | 58 | 14 | 44 | 2 | 5 | 19 | 45 | 16 | 14 | 0 |
| UNIV OF N DAKOTA | ND | 57 | 13 | 44 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 37 | 25 | 14 | 4 |
| UNIVERSITY OF IOWA | IA | 52 | 15 | 37 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 17 | 42 | 29 | 2 |
| ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY | AZ | 49 | 11 | 38 | 0 | 6 | 10 | 39 | 22 | 22 | 0 |
| COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY | CO | 47 | 16 | 31 | 0 | 11 | 15 | 30 | 23 | 19 | 2 |
| NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER | IN | 47 | 21 | 26 | 0 | 11 | 11 | 30 | 40 | 6 | 2 |
| GRAND CANYON UNIV | AZ | 46 | 20 | 26 | 2 | 7 | 37 | 26 | 17 | 11 | 0 |
| UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING | WY | 43 | 13 | 30 | 0 | 7 | 14 | 33 | 30 | 14 | 2 |
| MONTANA STATE UNIV-BOZEMAN | MT | 38 | 11 | 27 | 0 | 5 | 16 | 18 | 37 | 21 | 3 |
| CHADRON STATE COLLEGE | NE | 31 | 11 | 20 | 0 | 3 | 39 | 35 | 13 | 10 | 0 |
| NORTHWESTERN COLL-IA | IA | 31 | 9 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 26 | 39 | 13 | 6 |
| MINN ST U-MOORHEAD | MN | 26 | 7 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 27 | 27 | 35 | 4 | 8 |
| All Other Institutions |  | 1,474 | 372 | 1,102 | 1 | 5 | 17 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 5 |
| Total |  | 7,376 | 2,631 | 4,745 | 1 | 6 | 22 | 29 | 25 | 14 | 3 |

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## Section V

## Optional Writing Test Results

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

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

Table 5.1. Average ACT English Language Arts Constituent Scores by Race/Ethnicity and Gender ${ }^{1}$ for Students Who Took ACT Writing

|  |  |  |  |  | Ave | cores |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | State | National | State | National | State | National | State | National |
| All Students | 453 | 380,279 | 22.3 | 17.6 | 24.1 | 19.2 | 6.8 | 6.1 |
| Black/African American | 12 | 34,333 | 16.6 | 14.3 | 18.6 | 16.0 | 6.1 | 5.3 |
| American Indian/Alaska Native | 6 | 7,338 | 17.0 | 14.0 | 20.2 | 15.9 | 5.7 | 5.4 |
| White | 347 | 179,047 | 22.8 | 19.4 | 24.5 | 21.0 | 6.8 | 6.4 |
| Hispanic/Latino | 28 | 87,670 | 19.8 | 15.5 | 22.5 | 17.1 | 6.6 | 5.9 |
| Asian | 10 | 17,507 | 19.1 | 21.1 | 22.0 | 22.2 | 7.3 | 7.0 |
| Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander | 1 | 1,849 | 15.0 | 13.9 | 26.0 | 15.6 | 6.0 | 5.8 |
| Two or More Races | 38 | 23,574 | 22.0 | 18.1 | 23.6 | 19.7 | 6.7 | 6.3 |
| Prefer not/No Response | 11 | 28,961 | 24.8 | 15.6 | 27.3 | 17.3 | 7.1 | 5.5 |
| Males | 199 | 179,404 | 22.0 | 17.1 | 24.2 | 18.8 | 6.6 | 5.8 |
| Females | 242 | 183,457 | 22.4 | 18.1 | 24.0 | 19.6 | 6.9 | 6.4 |
| Other Responses | 12 | 17,418 | 23.2 | 18.1 | 26.0 | 19.8 | 7.3 | 6.1 |

Table 5.2. Average ACT English Language Arts Outcomes by Race/Ethnicity and Gender ${ }^{11}$ for Students Who Took ACT Writing

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | State | National | State | National | State | National |
| All Students | 453 | 380,279 | 21.5 | 17.6 | 61 | 35 |
| Black/African American | 12 | 34,333 | 17.0 | 14.5 | 33 | 14 |
| American Indian/Alaska Native | 6 | 7,338 | 16.7 | 14.4 | 0 | 13 |
| White | 347 | 179,047 | 21.8 | 19.2 | 63 | 46 |
| Hispanic/Latino | 28 | 87,670 | 19.9 | 15.9 | 54 | 23 |
| Asian | 10 | 17,507 | 20.4 | 20.7 | 50 | 54 |
| Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander | 1 | 1,849 | 19.0 | 14.8 | 0 | 14 |
| Two or More Races | 38 | 23,574 | 21.2 | 18.1 | 66 | 38 |
| Prefer not/No Response | 11 | 28,961 | 23.9 | 15.6 | 73 | 23 |
| Males | 199 | 179,404 | 21.2 | 16.9 | 57 | 31 |
| Females | 242 | 183,457 | 21.7 | 18.2 | 64 | 39 |
| Other Responses | 12 | 17,418 | 23.3 | 17.9 | 75 | 38 |

[^8]
[^0]:    For more information, go to www.act.org

[^1]:    *Missing columns in above graphs reflect years in which no students were tested.

[^2]:    CP is the cumulative percent of students at or below a score point.

[^3]:    1'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

[^4]:    ${ }^{1}$ 'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

[^5]:    The ACT Composite scores associated with at least a $50 \%$ chance of earning each ACTNCRC level or higher are. 13 for Bronze, 17 for Silver, 22 for Gold, and 27 for latinum. 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.

[^6]:    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.

[^7]:    1 'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.
    ${ }^{2}$ Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

[^8]:    ${ }^{1}$ 'Other responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values

