A Presentation for ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION & LEAs

Using ACT Reports

Turning ACT Data Into Action

Presented by Jessica Eilertson • ACT, Inc. • jessica.eilertson@act.org

SESSION OVERVIEW

Session Objectives

What we'll accomplish together in the next 60 minutes

1

Understand the Reports

Know what's inside the ACT score reports - including what changed with the enhanced ACT.

2

Access Your Reports

Know how to get into ACT Online Reporting and pull the reports you need, when you need them.

3

Make Data Actionable

Leave with concrete routines for instruction and program evaluation using this data.

4

Apply It to Arizona

Ground the discussion in Arizona's own ACT performance data, not generic averages.

40 min content + 20 min FAQ

New in Online Reporting: ACT Graduating Class Profile Reports Now Available

Schools and districts can access 2026 Graduating Class Profile Reports in ACT Online Reporting.
To download your report:

- Log into ACT Online Reporting
- Go to the **Download Hub**
- Request **Supplemental Files for 2026**

Authorized users will receive a PDF of their organization's report. View detailed instruction here.

ACT releases U.S. graduating class data at the district, state, and national levels each fall. The annual graduating class data release is part of ACT's commitment to provide meaningful data for institutions and stakeholders to make informed decisions to improve student outcomes.

ACT

Important distinctions:

- **The Graduating Class of 2026** is the students who finished high school in spring or summer 2026. Most were born in 2007 or 2008, started kindergarten around fall 2013, and entered 9th grade in fall 2022. They're already graduates as of now (October 2026).

- ACT's Class of 2026 reports count students who graduated in 2026 and took the ACT **at any point in high school**. Each student's most recent score is used. That includes statewide school-day testing, typically given in 11th grade (spring 2025 for this class). It also includes any retakes or national test-date scores through the 2025–26 school year.

- This is the **first class** to have most of its ACT testing under the newer, enhanced format, with Science omitted from the Composite score.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Why This Matters for Arizona

Arizona's Graduating Class of 2026 - near-universal testing means near-complete data

100%

of AZ graduates tested

17.7

AZ average Composite score

19.2

National average Composite

The takeaway:

Because Arizona tests nearly every graduate, the state's ACT data reflects the full student population - not just a self-selected group of college-bound seniors. That makes it one of the most reliable, representative data sets Arizona educators have for understanding readiness gaps and targeting support - if the reports are read and used well. That's our job today.

ACT

AVERAGE ACT® TEST SCORES BY STATE
GRADUATING CLASS OF 2026
AVERAGE SCORE BY SECTION



The table below classifies states by the percent of ACT-tested high school graduates, including the average Composite score and average ACT section scores. A best practice is to examine a cohort of states with percentages of tested students similar to your state, as modeled by the blue shading on the below table. The blue shading represents those states who tested nearly all of their 2026 graduates (90% and greater) with the ACT through statewide testing programs.

STATE	ESTIMATED % OF GRADUATES TESTED*	AVERAGE COMPOSITE SCORE	AVERAGE ENGLISH SCORE	AVERAGE MATH SCORE	AVERAGE READING SCORE	AVERAGE SCIENCE SCORE
Alabama	100	17.9	17.2	17.4	18.4	18.0
Arizona	100	17.7	16.8	17.7	17.9	17.8
Illinois	100	19.0	18.1	19.0	19.2	19.2
Kentucky	100	18.3	17.5	17.7	18.9	18.5
Louisiana	100	18.4	17.7	17.9	19.0	18.4
Mississippi	100	17.8	17.1	17.7	18.4	17.7
Nebraska	100	18.8	17.8	18.8	19.2	19.2
Nevada	100	17.3	16.2	17.0	17.8	17.6
Oklahoma	100	17.4	16.6	16.8	18.0	17.8
Tennessee	100	18.7	18.2	18.4	19.3	18.8
Wyoming	100	18.9	17.9	18.6	19.6	19.1
Wisconsin	96	19.4	18.4	19.2	19.6	19.8
Montana	95	19.4	18.3	19.2	20.0	19.7
North Carolina	94	18.4	16.8	18.5	19.1	18.7
Arkansas	93	18.4	17.8	17.8	19.0	18.7
Utah	91	20.1	19.3	19.5	20.8	20.2

Where to Find Your Reports

Every Arizona school and district already has access - here's how to get in

1

Get a Trusted Agent account

Access is tied to a Trusted Agent account for your school or district - request a code, or confirm who already holds one.

2

Log in to ACT Online Reporting

Create your account at success.act.org - ACT's home for every score report.

3

Start at your role's dashboard

State and district admins start at the rollup; school staff jump straight to their building's roster - same benchmarks, different zoom level.

4

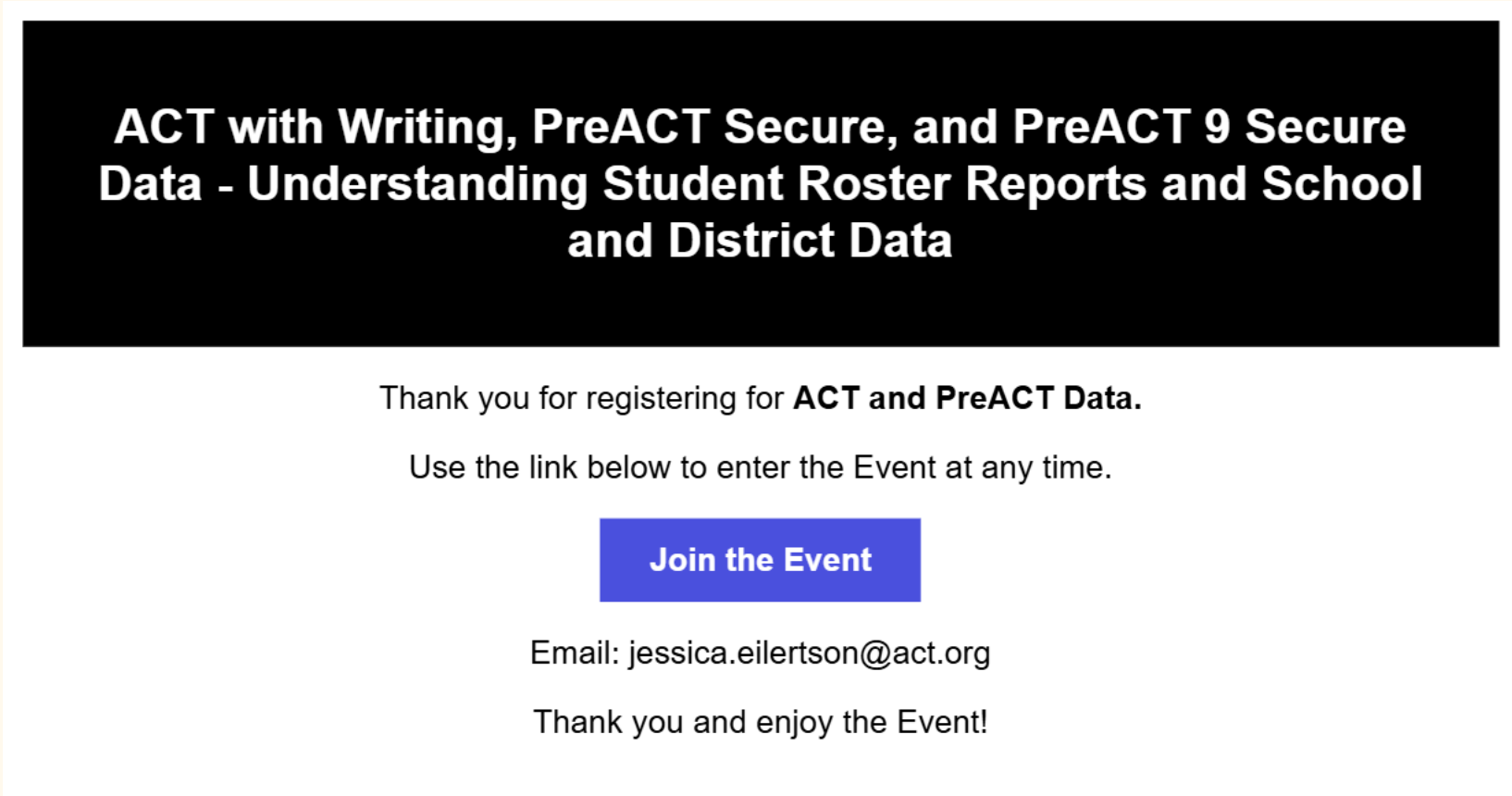
Pull official reports from the Download Hub

Request your official Graduating Class Profile Report and student data files once scores post on the rolling release schedule after each test date.

TODAY: brief tutorial on accessing student Data

TOMORROW: thorough on-demand webinar (free, of course!)





ACT with Writing, PreACT Secure, and PreACT 9 Secure Data - Understanding Student Roster Reports and School and District Data

Thank you for registering for **ACT and PreACT Data.**

Use the link below to enter the Event at any time.

Join the Event

Email: jessica.eilertson@act.org

Thank you and enjoy the Event!

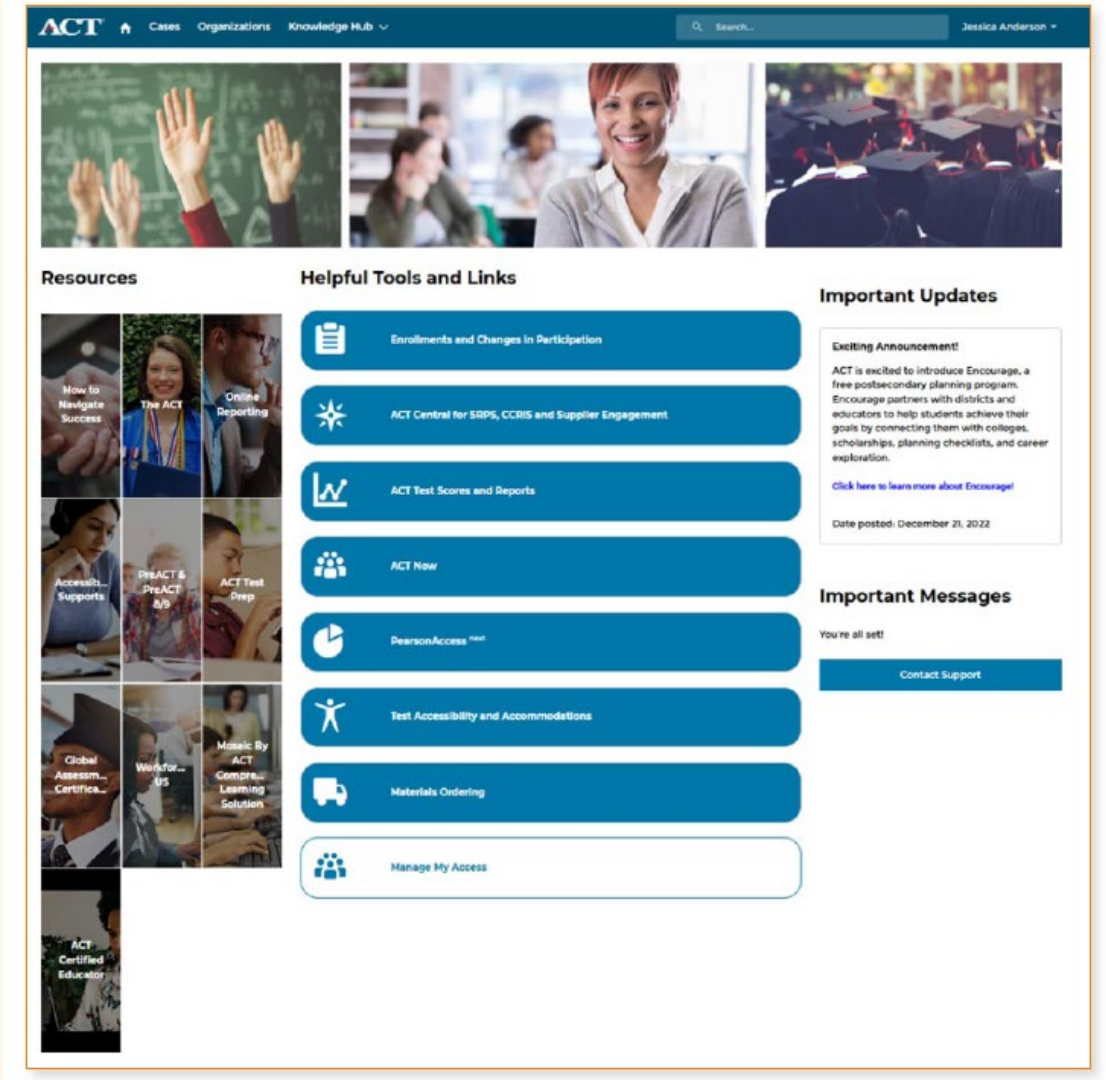
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ACT

2026–2027

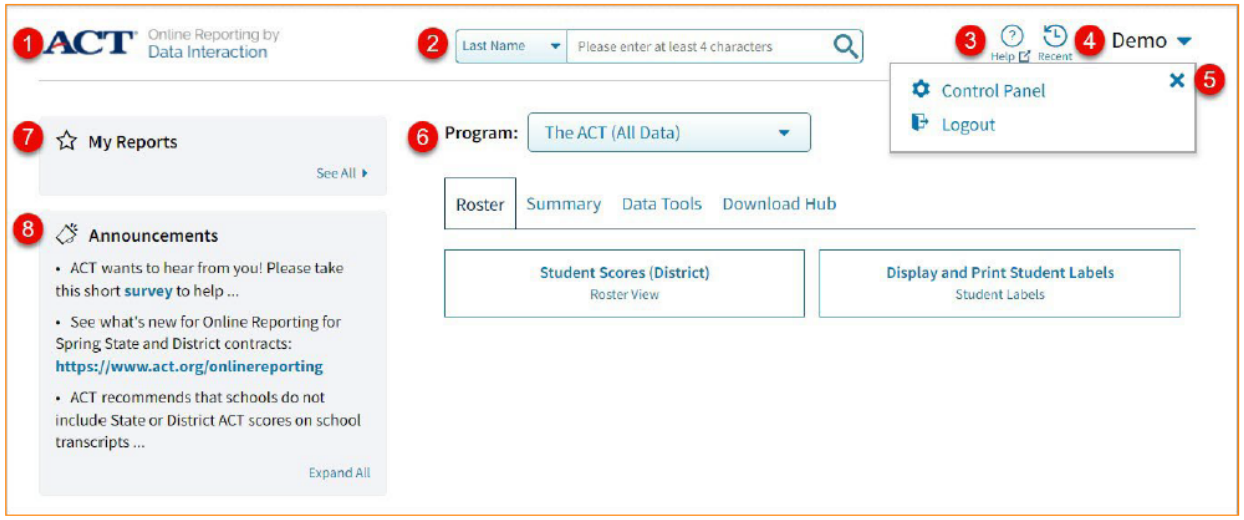
THE ACT | PREACT ASSESSMENTS | ACT WORKKEYS
Online Reporting Guide

ACT® www.act.org eMetric



High-Level Navigation Options

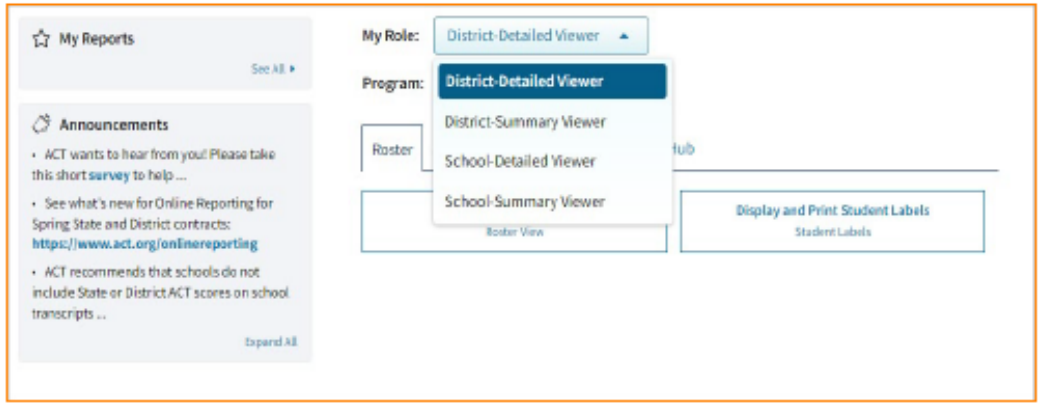
The diagram below shows the high-level navigation options for the online reporting tool. Descriptions of the options follow.



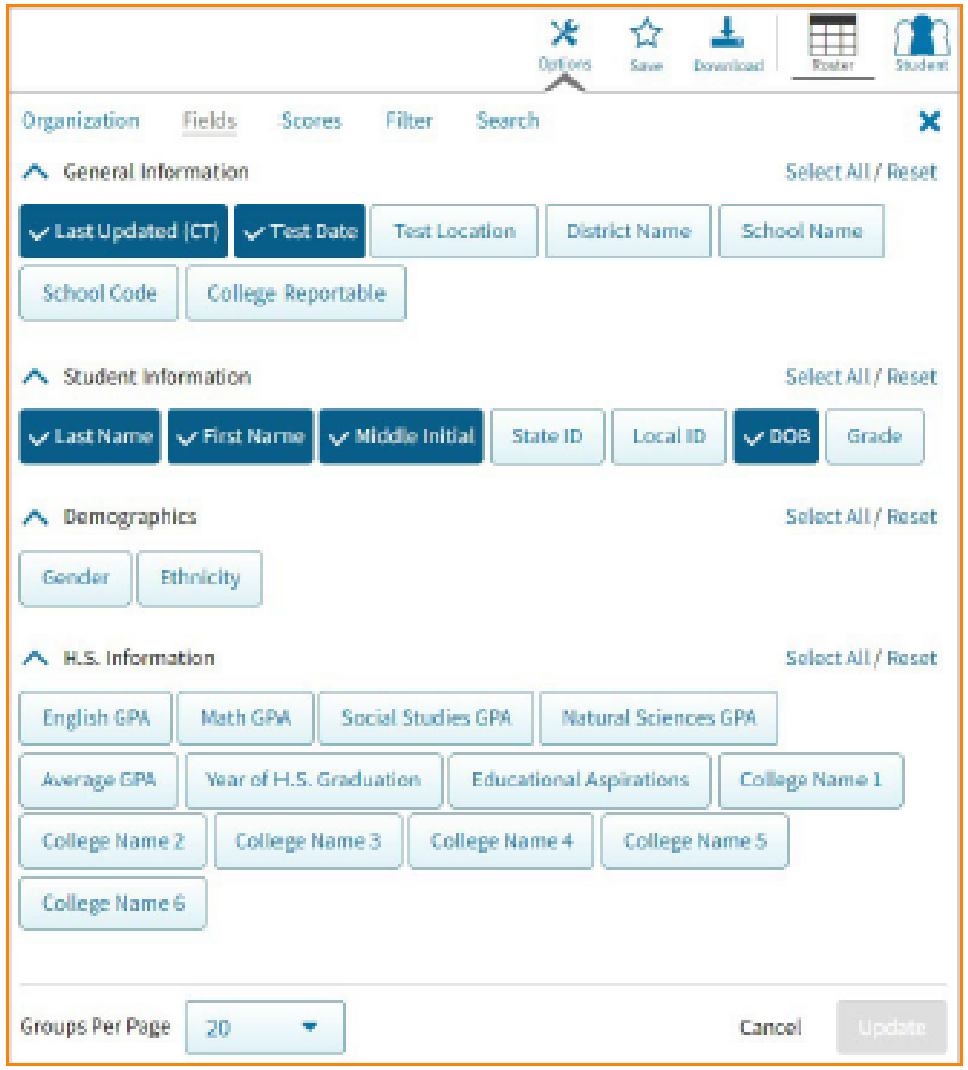
Multiple Profiles

ACT users who are authorized to view data from multiple organizations under different roles will have the option to switch between these org-level/role profiles. On the ACT online reporting landing page, a drop-down menu will give users the option to switch between profiles.

The reports available on the selections page are dependent upon the user role and organization level. For example, a user with the district-summary role will only see summary data for the organization(s) assigned to that role, and a district-admin user role will have access to Roster, Summary, and Data Tools on the selections page for the organization(s) assigned to that role.



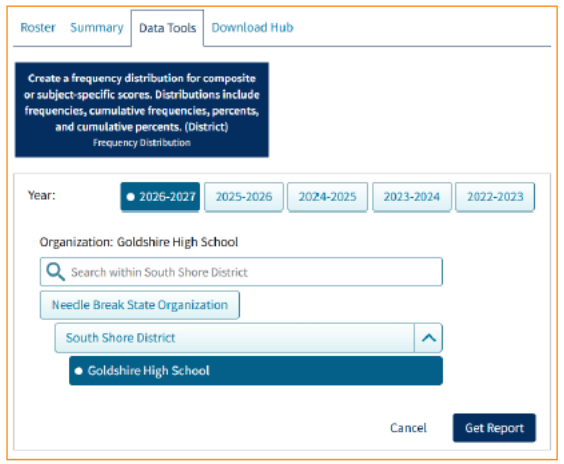
The **Fields** tab allows users to select student identification information, test information, and demographics to view on the report. Apply the appropriate demographics, and select the **Update** button to add these fields as columns to the report.

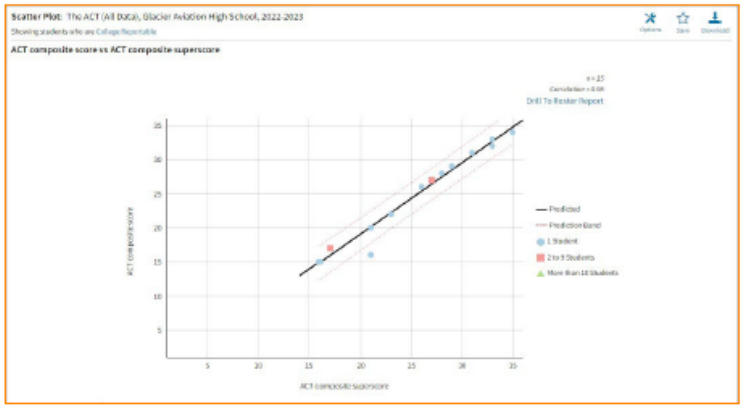


The **Scores** tab can be used to select scores to view on the report. To view all scores and reporting categories, select the **Select All** link. Select the **Update** button to view the selections in the report.



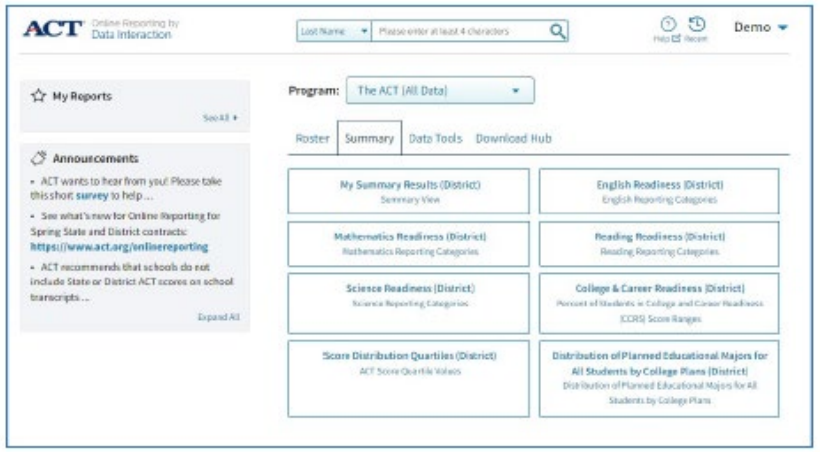
BASIC REPORTS

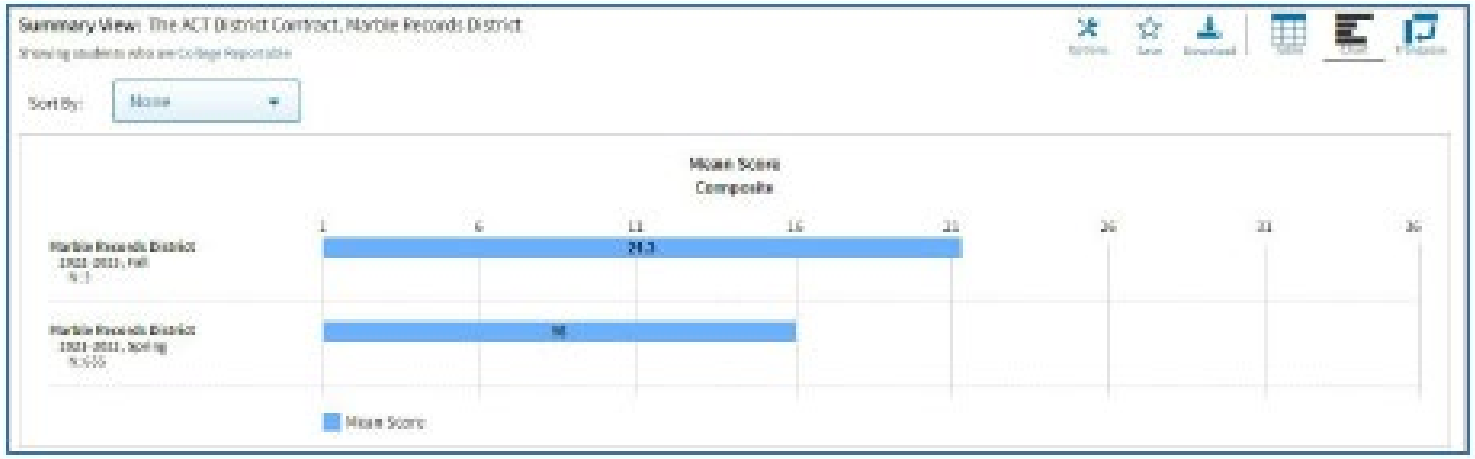


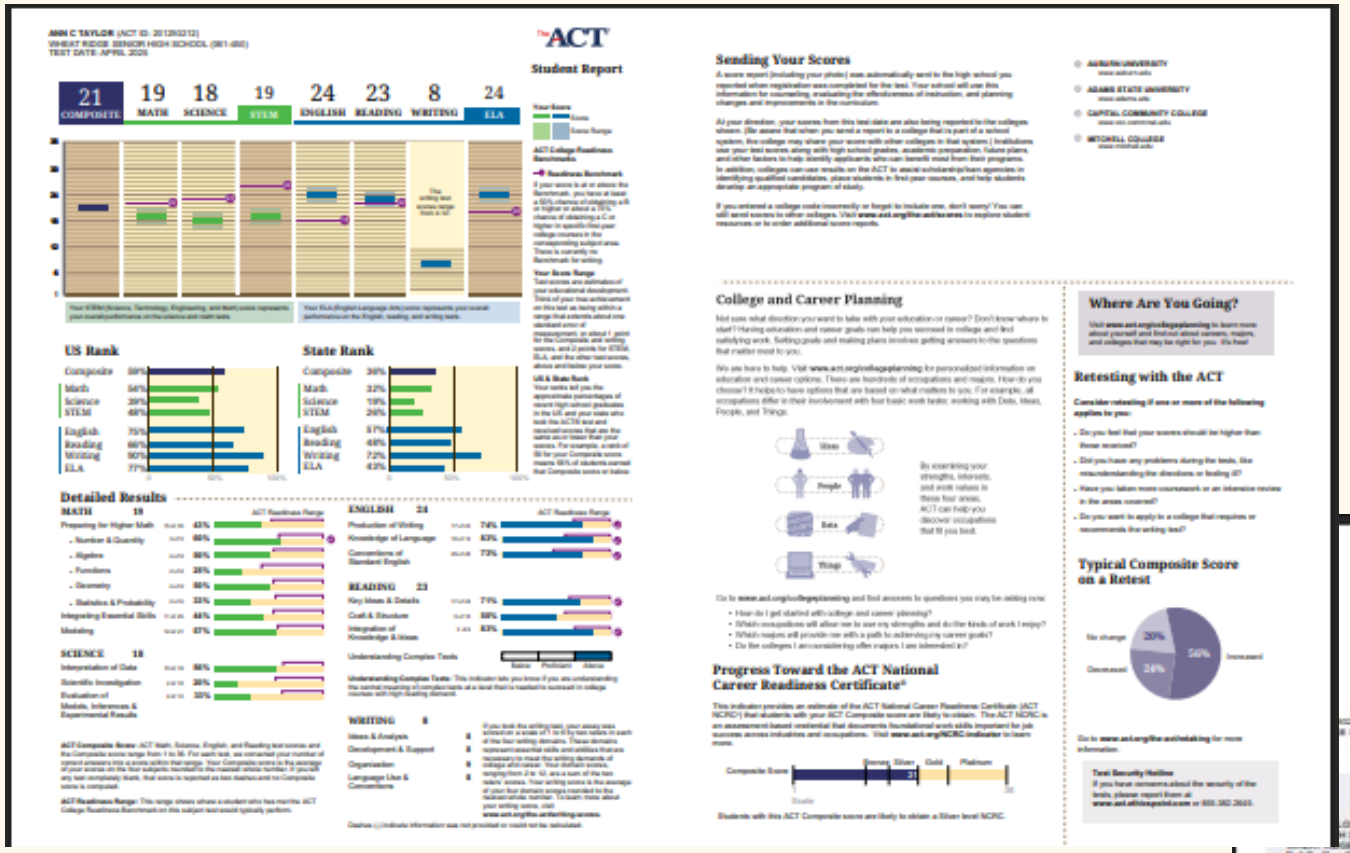


For school and district views, users may zoom in on sections of the scatter plot by selecting and dragging to draw a box around the section of the selected graph to zoom in on.









ANN C TAYLOR (ACT ID: 2012923212)
WHEAT RIDGE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (061-480)
TEST DATE: APRIL 2020

The ACT

Student Report

21	19	18	19	24	23	8	24
COMPOSITE	MATH	SCIENCE	STEM	ENGLISH	READING	WRITING	ELA

Your Scores

ACT College Readiness Benchmarks

Your Score Range

US Rank

Composite	88%
Math	54%
Science	28%
STEM	48%
English	75%
Reading	66%
Writing	90%
ELA	77%

State Rank

Composite	36%
Math	32%
Science	19%
STEM	26%
English	57%
Reading	48%
Writing	72%
ELA	43%

US & State Rank

Detailed Results

MATH	19	ACT Readiness Range
Preparing for Higher Math	43%	
• Number & Quantity	60%	
• Algebra	50%	
• Functions	25%	
• Geometry	50%	
• Statistics & Probability	33%	
Integrating Essential Skills	44%	
Modeling	67%	

SCIENCE	18
Interpretation of Data	50%
Scientific Investigation	25%
Evaluation of Models, Inferences & Experimental Results	33%

ENGLISH	24	ACT Readiness Range
Production of Writing	74%	
Knowledge of Language	83%	
Conventions of Standard English	73%	

READING	23
Key Ideas & Details	71%
Craft & Structure	88%
Integration of Knowledge & Ideas	83%

Understanding Complex Texts: Below / Proficient / Above

WRITING	8
Ideas & Analysis	8
Development & Support	8
Organization	9
Language Use & Conventions	8

Sending Your Scores

A score report (including your photo) was automatically sent to the high school you reported when registration was completed for the test. Your school will use this information for counseling, evaluating the effectiveness of instruction, and planning changes and improvements in the curriculum.

At your direction, your scores from this test date are also being reported to the colleges shown. (Be aware that when you send a report to a college that is part of a school system, the college may share your score with other colleges in that system.) Institutions use your test scores along with high school grades, academic preparation, future plans, and other factors to help identify applicants who can benefit most from their programs. In addition, colleges can use results on the ACT to assist scholarship/loan agencies in identifying qualified candidates, place students in first-year courses, and help students develop an appropriate program of study.

If you entered a college code incorrectly or forgot to include one, don't worry! You can still send scores to other colleges. Visit **www.act.org/the-act/scores** to explore student resources or to order additional score reports.

- AUBURN UNIVERSITY
- ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY
- CAPITAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- MITCHELL COLLEGE

College and Career Planning

Not sure what direction you want to take with your education or career? Don't know where to start? Having education and career goals can help you succeed in college and find satisfying work. Setting goals and making plans involves getting answers to the questions that matter most to you.

We are here to help. Visit **www.act.org/collegeplanning** for personalized information on education and career options. There are hundreds of occupations and majors. How do you choose? It helps to have options that are based on what matters to you. For example, all occupations differ in their involvement with four basic work tasks: working with Data, Ideas, People, and Things.

By examining your strengths, interests, and work values in these four areas, ACT can help you discover occupations that fit you best.

Go to **www.act.org/discollegeplanning** and find answers to questions you may be asking now:

- How do I get started with college and career planning?
- Which occupations will allow me to use my strengths and do the kinds of work I enjoy?
- Which majors will provide me with a path to achieving my career goals?
- Do the colleges I am considering offer majors I am interested in?

Progress Toward the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate®

This indicator provides an estimate of the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (ACT NCRC®) that students with your ACT Composite score are likely to obtain. The ACT NCRC is an assessment-based credential that documents foundational work skills important for job success across industries and occupations. Visit **www.act.org/NCRC-indicator** to learn more.

Students with this ACT Composite score are likely to obtain a Silver level NCRC.

Where Are You Going?

Visit **www.act.org/collegeplanning** to learn more about yourself and find out about careers, majors, and colleges that may be right for you. It's free!

Retesting with the ACT

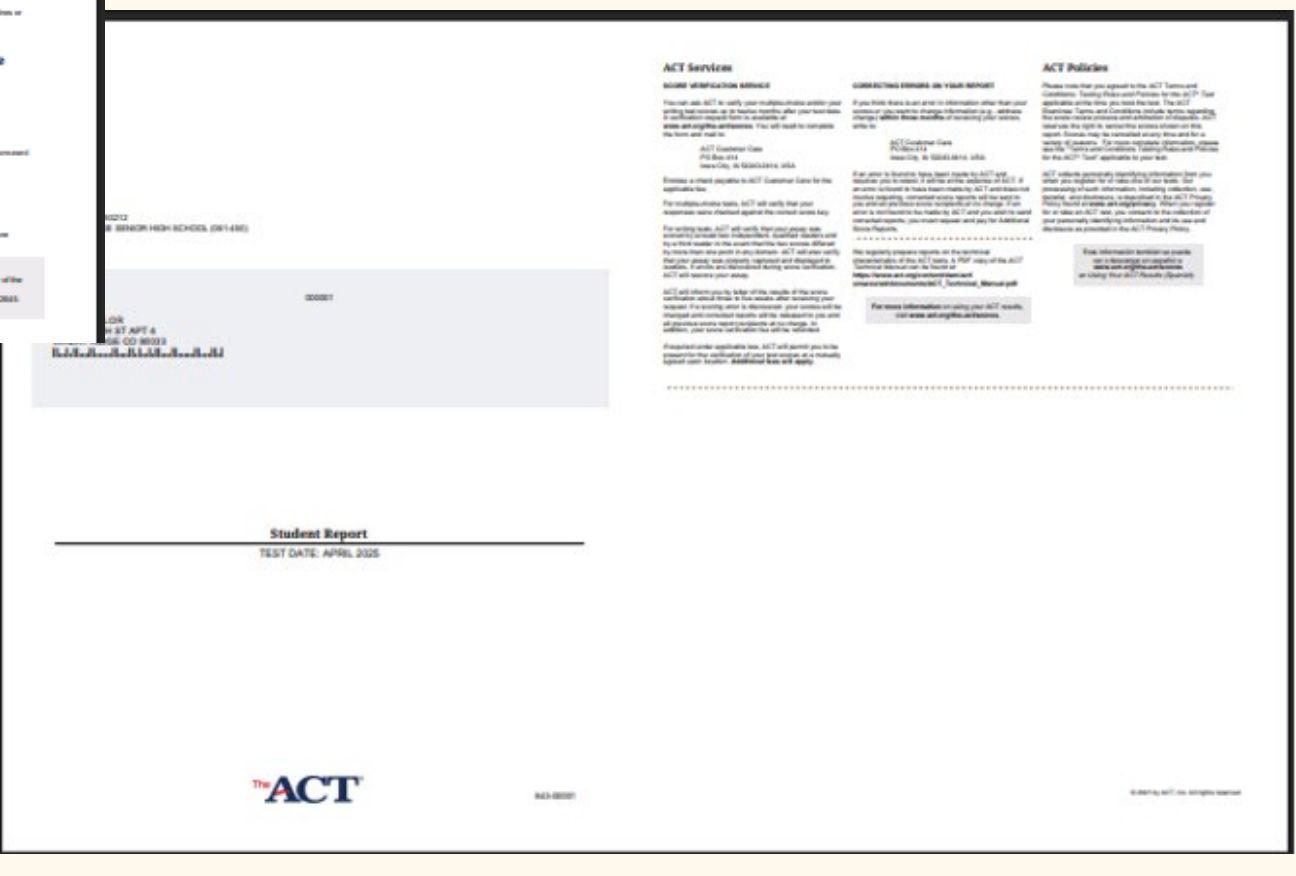
Consider retesting if one or more of the following applies to you:

- Do you feel that your scores should be higher than those received?
- Did you have any problems during the tests, like misunderstanding the directions or feeling ill?
- Have you taken more coursework or an intensive review in the areas covered?
- Do you want to apply to a college that requires or recommends the writing test?

Typical Composite Score on a Retest

Go to **www.act.org/the-act/retaking** for more information.

Test Security Hotline
If you have concerns about the security of the tests, please report them at **www.act.ethicspoint.com** or 800.382.2643.



ACT Services

SCORE VERIFICATION SERVICE

CORRECTING ERRORS ON YOUR REPORT

ACT Policies

Student Report

TEST DATE: APRIL 2020

The ACT

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ACT

Anatomy of the ACT Score Report

Six scores, each tied to a specific, actionable readiness question

Score	What It Is	Why It's Actionable
Composite	Average of English, Math, Reading (+ Science if taken, pre-enhancement)	*Overall readiness snapshot*
4 Section Scores	English • Math • Reading • Science (if taken), each 1–36	*Which subject needs support*
STEM Score	Science + Math combined	*Readiness for STEM coursework/majors*
ELA Score	English + Reading + Writing (if taken) combined	*Literacy & communication readiness*
Benchmark Flags	Met / Not Met for each score, vs. college readiness benchmarks	*Is this student on track right now?*

How ACT Calculates the Composite and ELA Scores

Section scores, averaging, and rounding on the 1–36 scale

ACT®

Everything starts with section scores

1–36	1–36	1–36	1–36
English	Math	Reading	Science

Each test is reported as a scale score from 1 to 36. Science is scored separately and feeds the STEM score (average of Math and Science), not the Composite.

Writing is scored separately: four domain scores (2–12) are converted to a 1–36 writing scale score for use in ELA.

Composite = average of three tests

English + Math + Reading ÷ 3 = Composite

Worked example

English 24, Math 19, Reading 23

(24 + 19 + 23) ÷ 3 = 22

Rounding

Fractions of one-half or more round up; less than one-half rounds down.

Applies to tests taken September 2025 or later; Superscores use the same three tests.

What changed in the Composite

Before Sept. 2025

Average of 4 tests

English + Math + Reading + Science, divided by 4 and rounded.

Sept. 2025 onward

Average of 3 tests

English + Math + Reading, divided by 3 and rounded. Science moves to the STEM score.

****Check the score report's test date to know which formula applies.*

How the Writing Score is Built and Converted

- **Domain Scores (1–6 per rater):** Two trained raters (or an automated engine and human reviewers) evaluate your essay across four distinct domains: *Ideas and Analysis*, *Development and Support*, *Organization*, and *Language Use and Conventions*. Each rater gives a score from **1 to 6** for each domain.
- **Domain Subscores (2–12):** The two raters' scores for each domain are added together, resulting in a domain score from **2 to 12**.
- **Writing Score (2–12):** Your overall essay score (reported as a **2 to 12**) is the rounded average of the four domain scores.
- **Transformation to 1–36 Scale:** To combine Writing with your English and Reading scores, ACT transforms your 2–12 Writing score into a **1–36 scale score** using an official conversion table.
- **Final ELA Score (1–36):** ACT takes your scaled **English** score (1–36), scaled **Reading** score (1–36), and your transformed **Writing** scaled score (1–36), finds the average, and rounds it to the nearest whole number to form your total **ELA score**.

ELA = average of English, Reading, Writing



1. Writing is scored on four domains (2–12 each).
2. The domain scores are transformed into a 1–36 writing scale score. This conversion is done by lookup tables that are test form specific.
3. The three scale scores are averaged and rounded to the nearest whole number.

Inside the Student Report: “Your Scores”

A simplified mock-up of the panel every Arizona student and school receives



- Composite: average of English, Math & Reading (Science adds in only if taken, pre-enhancement).
- Each section bar shows the score against its benchmark - green means benchmark met.
- STEM and ELA combine related sections into one readiness signal.

Inside the Student Report: Readiness Status & Next Steps

What a school counselor reads after the scores - to decide what to do next

COLLEGE READINESS BENCHMARK STATUS

English	Math	Reading	Science	STEM	ELA
✓	✓	✓	✓	!	✓

UNDERSTANDING YOUR SCORES

For each subject, the report breaks the score into specific skill categories - for example, in Math: Number & Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics & Probability - showing which categories fell inside ACT's Readiness Range and which didn't.

Algebra	In Readiness Range
Geometry	Below Readiness Range
Statistics	In Readiness Range

CAREER READINESS & NEXT STEPS

The report also prints a career-readiness indicator alongside suggested next steps - course recommendations, retest guidance, and a prompt to connect with a school counselor to plan senior-year coursework.

Suggested: meet with your counselor to discuss dual-enrollment math and a senior-year course plan.

Inside the School & District Profile Report

What administrators and data teams receive - the aggregate view behind every student report

# Tested	Avg. Composite	% Meeting ≥ 3 Benchmarks	Report Section
1,284	18.6	41%	Executive Summary

TABLE 1 - FIVE-YEAR TREND: % MEETING BENCHMARK

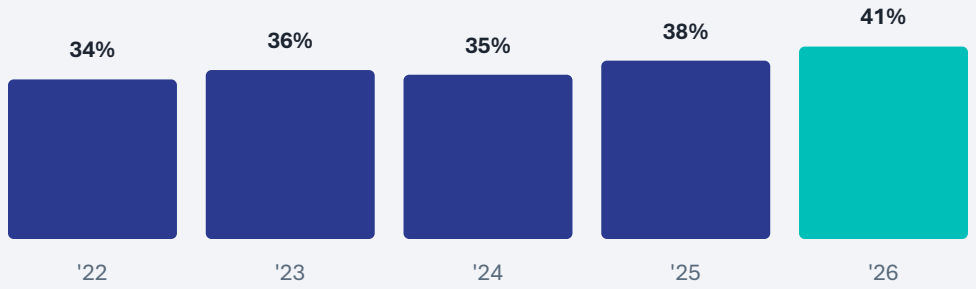


TABLE 2 - % MEETING BENCHMARK BY SUBGROUP



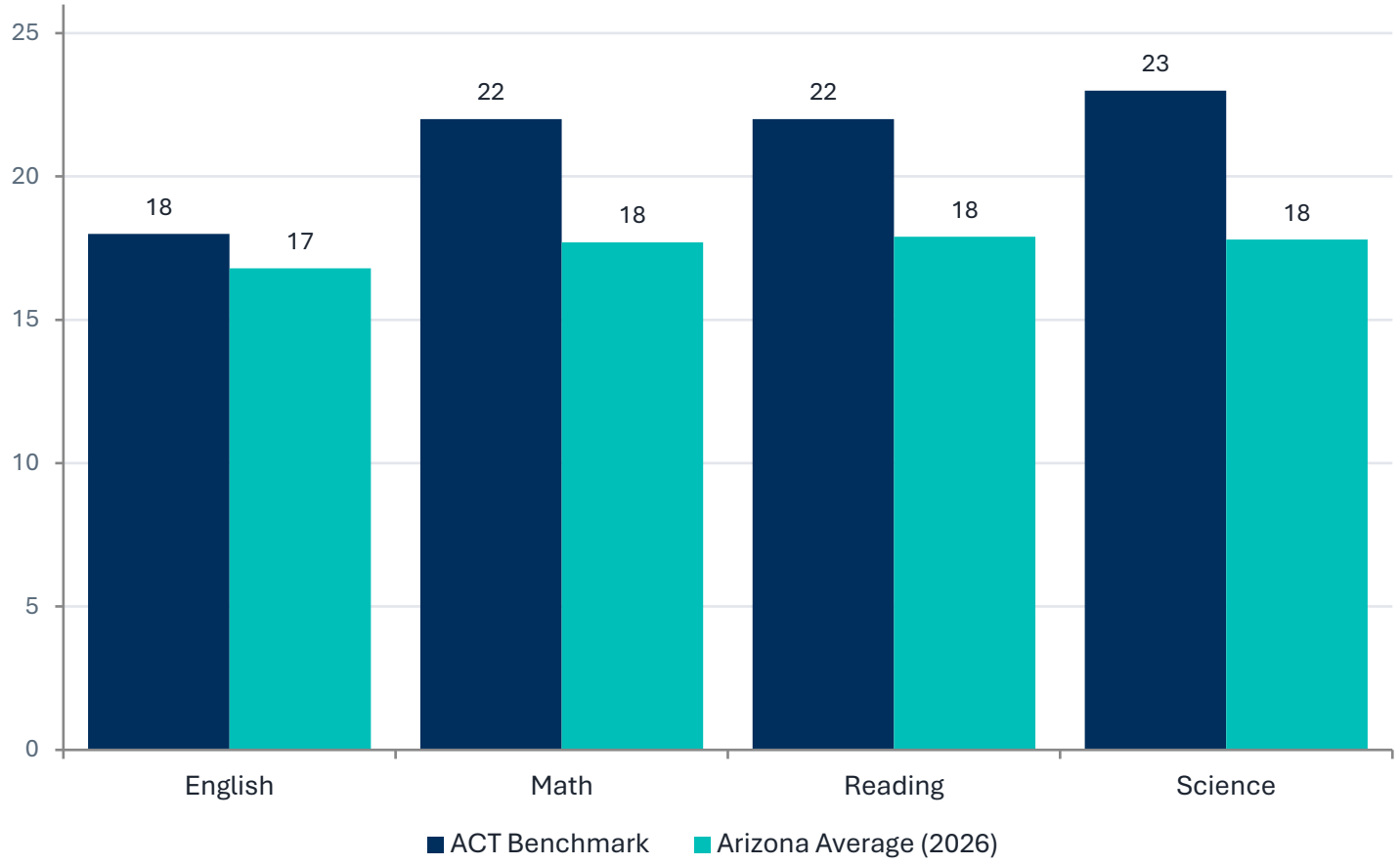
TABLE 3 - COURSE RIGOR IMPACT ON AVERAGE COMPOSITE

Core curriculum or more: 19.4 **Less than core curriculum: 15.8** **Difference: +3.6 pts**

(Illustrative figures - your Profile Report shows your school's/district's own values in this layout.)

The Benchmarks - and Where Arizona Stands

College Readiness Benchmarks vs. Arizona's Class of 2026 averages



STEM benchmark: 26

ELA benchmark: 20

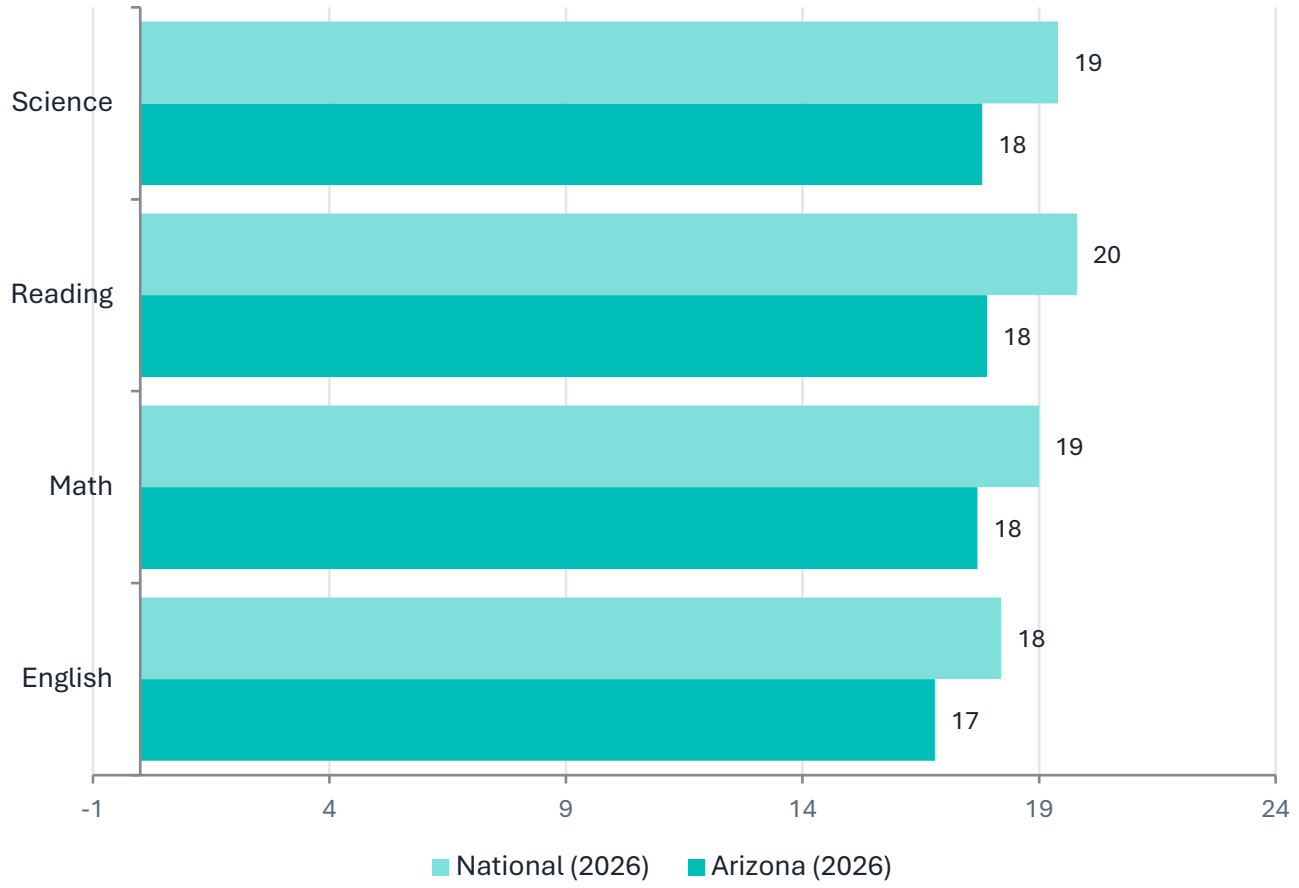
Reading the chart:

Every subject in Arizona's average currently falls below its benchmark - the gaps range from about 1 point in English to over 4 points in Math and Reading (about 5 in Science).

That's not a judgment on any single school. It's the starting point for targeting: where is the gap widest, and for which students?

Educator & School Profile Reports

Zoom out from one student to a school, district, or state view



Course rigor impact

Shows how avg. scores shift for students who completed a core or rigorous course load vs. those who didn't.

Multi-year trend

Tracks composite and benchmark attainment across graduating classes - is the gap closing?

Subgroup breakdowns

Disaggregates by demographic group - essential for equity monitoring and targeted supports.

QUICK REFERENCE

5 Ways to Use ACT Online Reporting

A quick-reference guide for Arizona schools and districts

1. Build Custom Reports You Can Save and Reuse

Rather than working from one fixed report format, Online Reporting lets you configure a report around the question you're actually asking - a grade level, test administration, school, or student group - and save that configuration as a query you can run again later. Saving queries means you're not rebuilding the same view from scratch every time you check in.

Try this: *Save a standing query for "students below the Math benchmark, this school year" so your intervention team can re-run it after every test event without rebuilding the filter.*

2. Dig Into Summary Statistics and Five-Year Trends

The portal's data tools go well beyond a single average score. You can pull summary statistics, frequency distributions, cross-tabulations, and scatterplots, and view up to five years of historical data in the same view - turning a single data point into a trend line.

Try this: *Pull a five-year frequency distribution for English and Math benchmark attainment before a board presentation - it replaces a single flat number with a real growth (or stagnation) story.*

3. Drill Down From State to Student Level

Online Reporting is built around a drill-down structure: depending on your access level, you can move from a state or district rollup down through individual schools to a single student's record, always measured against the same College Readiness Benchmarks.

Try this: *Start at the district level to find the school with the widest benchmark gap, then drill into that school's roster to identify which students are driving it.*

5 Ways to Use ACT Online Reporting

Continued - ways 4 and 5

4. Pull Raw Data and Reports Through the Download Hub

The Download Hub, available at the school, district, and state level, lets you request a file of your tested students rather than working only through the on-screen dashboards. Schools and districts can request their official Graduating Class Profile Report as a PDF directly from the Download Hub once it's published each fall - and export student data to blend with your own gradebook, attendance, or course-enrollment records.

Try this: *Use the Download Hub to request your official Graduating Class Profile Report each fall, and export a student data file to join against your own course-enrollment records.*

5. Monitor Who's Actually Using the Data

Online Reporting also reports on itself: administrators with the right access can view user activity to see who at their school or district is logging in and pulling reports. A district that invests in ACT testing but finds that only one or two staff members ever log in has a report-literacy problem, not a data problem - and this is where you'd see it.

Try this: *Check the activity summary each fall. If counselors or department chairs aren't showing up as active users, schedule a hands-on portal walkthrough rather than another report hand-off.*

Making It Actionable: Instructional Targeting & Data Teams

Turn the benchmark gap chart you just saw into a PLC agenda item

1

Rank the gaps

Order subjects by distance from benchmark - among Composite subjects, Math shows the widest gap at −4.3 points.

2

Drill into standards

Use the Educator Report's skill/standard breakdown to see which specific content areas drive the subject-level gap.

3

Form data teams

Bring that breakdown into PLCs and department meetings - assign ownership of specific standards, not just 'improve Math.'

4

Re-test the hypothesis

Check the next ACT cycle against the same standards to see if the intervention moved the needle.

Making It Actionable: Program Evaluation & Equity Monitoring

Use Profile Report trend data to evaluate initiatives and monitor subgroup gaps

Evaluate What You've Already Invested In

- Before/after comparison: did benchmark attainment shift after a new curriculum, tutoring program, or schedule change?
- Course-rigor impact data: quantify the return on expanding access to advanced coursework.

Close Equity Gaps With Evidence

- Subgroup benchmark-attainment gaps: identify which student groups need targeted - not just universal - support.
- District/state rollups: compare your trend line to state and national trends to contextualize local results.

WRAP-UP

Additional Resources & Next Steps

Where to go after today's session

act.org/the-act-educator

Educator hub for sample reports, score-use guides, and the Enhanced ACT FAQ.

College & Career Readiness Benchmarks (act.org)

Full benchmark tables and the research methodology behind them.

Your ACT state/district representative

For access to your Profile Reports and training on the Educator Report portal.

jessica.eilertson@act.org

Direct line for Arizona-specific follow-up, data walkthroughs, or scheduling a working session with your data team.



2026|2027

Preparing for the ACT® Test

What's Inside

- Full-length practice ACT test, including the optional Science and optional Writing test
- Information about the multiple-choice and writing sections
- Test-taking strategies
- What to expect on test day

Esta publicación también se puede ver o descargar en español

The ACT www.act.org



2026|2027

Preparing for the ACT® Test

Special Testing Scoring Keys

What's Inside

- How to Score the Multiple-Choice Tests
- Reviewing Your Performance on the Multiple-Choice Tests
- Scoring Keys
- How to Score the Writing Test

The ACT www.actstudent.org

ACT® Regional Events

2026 ACT Regional Conference - Tempe

Registration is now open!

December 3, 2026
Memorial Union
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ

Scan the QR code to register!

ACT 2026 COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS WORKSHOP

ACT® Professional Learning Community

ACT Professional Learning Community

Scan the QR code to become a member today!

ACT PLC members help shape the education and workforce landscape so that everyone can achieve education and workplace success.
As a free member, you receive:

- Discounts for ACT Regional Learning Events.
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Let's Talk.

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JE

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Thank you!