



The ACT:
What's in it
for me?



Are you excited about planning for college? Uncertain? Overwhelmed with options? All great adventures begin with a mix of emotions in anticipation of the road ahead.

ACT's *My Journey* event provides valuable information to help students and parents confidently navigate the college admissions process.

It's important to remember that while everyone's journey after high school follows a unique path, there are some common things you can do to make the best decisions about your future.



FREE
**College Planning
Event for Students and
Parents**

- ✓ **College Planning Sessions**
- ✓ **Career Navigation Sessions**
- ✓ **Paying for College Sessions**

**Click below to register to
access the recorded sessions**

ACT MY JOURNEY

Aren't test scores optional?

Yes



No



What colleges wanted

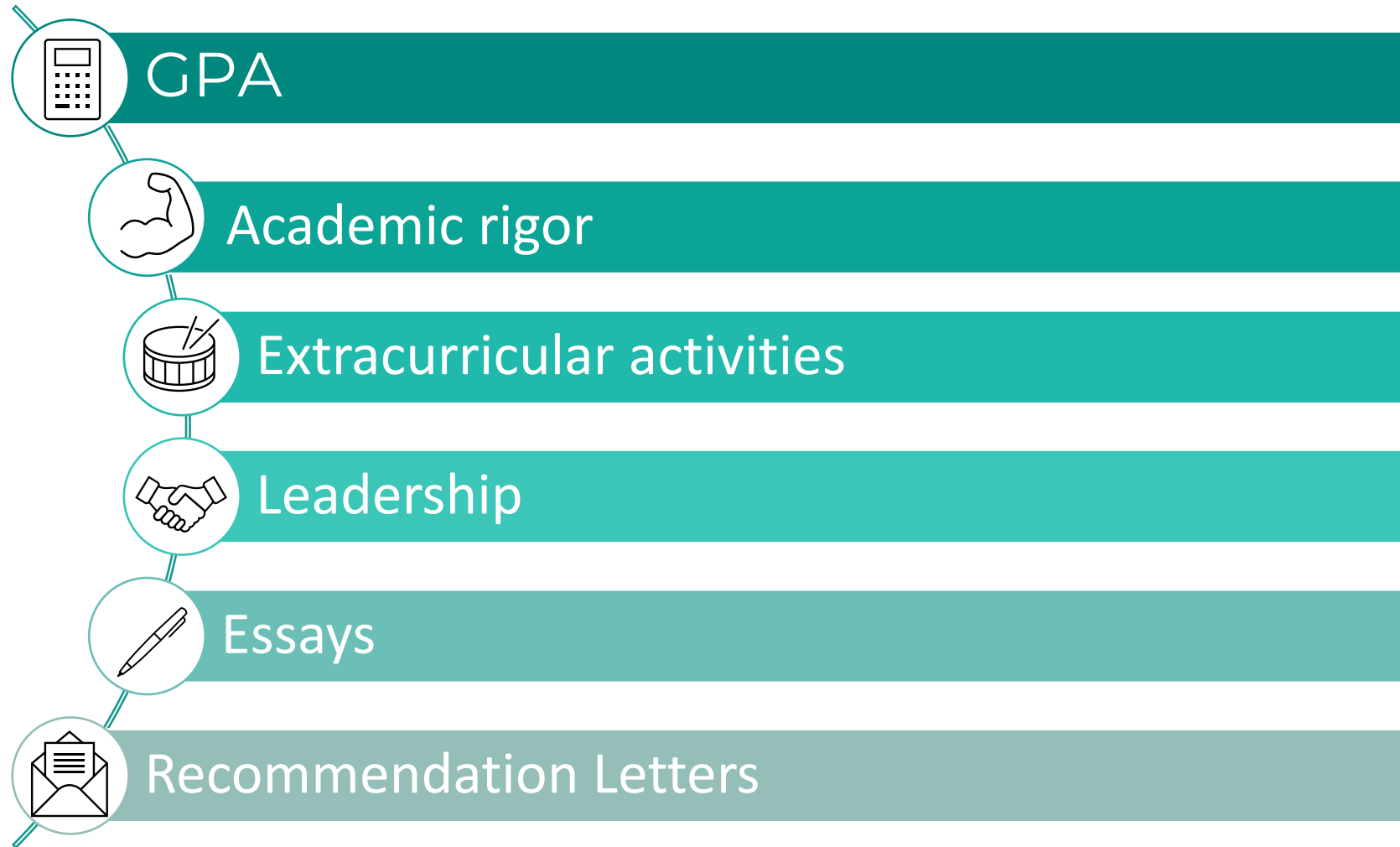
- More diverse student body
- More applicants
- Eliminate advantages of increased opportunities that some students have



What colleges got

- Missed identifying capable students from schools without rigorous coursework
- Artificially inflated average test scores
- Missed true indicators of college readiness

If you don't include a test score, there is more emphasis on...





Why Test Scores Matter

Application Differentiator

“Not required” does not mean “not considered”

Merit Aid

A standardized test score is a component of many scholarships

College Readiness

Students who meet or exceed ACT College Readiness Benchmarks have a demonstrated likelihood of first-year success

College Fit

Comparing an ACT score with the scores of incoming freshmen can indicate compatibility with the college’s level of rigor

What else?

Plans Change!



Why Test Scores Matter: ACT Scores* can be used for the following

- Education: GACE, GA Association for Certification of Educators – applicants can bypass the admission test required to enter the Teacher Education Program
- Nursing: Nursing programs are very competitive. Many programs evaluate applicants on a points system, where points are a combination of GPA and a standardized test score. This gives them a concrete way to determine who gets admitted.
- Law Enforcement: GA POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) allows minimum ACT reading and math scores to be used in lieu of the corresponding state tests.

*Minimum scores apply as determined by the organization.



Am I ready for the ACT?



Yes! The ACT measures what you've already learned, including in grades 3-8. Georgia has a strong curriculum. Many students perform better on the ACT than the SAT.

ACT COLLEGE READINESS BENCHMARKS

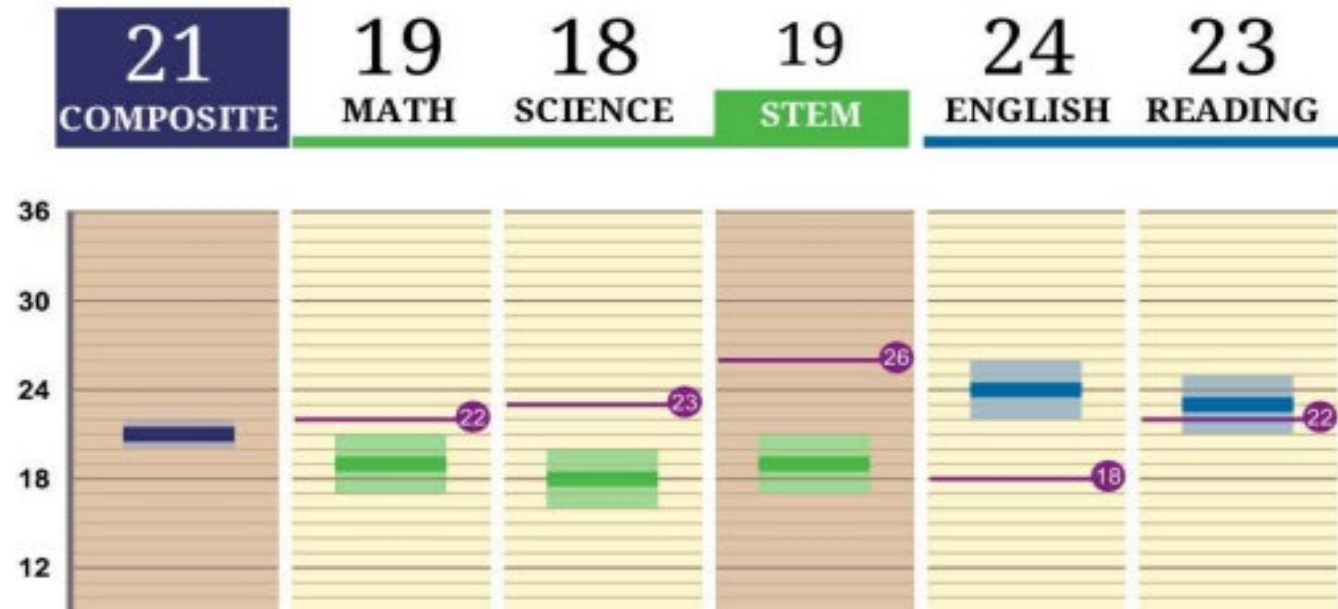
SUBJECT	THE ACT TEST
English	18
Math	22
Reading	22
Science	23
ELA	20
STEM	26

The ACT College Readiness

Benchmarks are the minimum ACT test scores required for students to have a reasonable chance of success in first-year, credit-bearing college courses.

- 75% chance of earning an A, B, or C
- 50% chance of earning an A or B

What do these numbers mean?



- The highest score you can earn on the ACT is 36.
- Your goal is not to score a perfect 36. Your goal is to fully demonstrate everything that you know.



How hard is it to meet ACT subject-area benchmarks?

English

- 75 questions
- 52-55% Conventions of Standard English (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure)
- 55% of 75 questions = 41 questions
- If you get those 41 questions correct, you earn about a 20 on English
- To reach the 18 Benchmark, you need to get around 18 questions correct
- If you answer 41 of 75 questions correct, you exceed the English benchmark.

Math

- 60 questions
- 47-53% Integrating Essential Skills (math skills mastered in grades 3-8)
- 53% of 60 questions = 31 questions
- If you get those 31 questions correct, you earn about a 20 on Math
- To reach the 22 Benchmark, you need to get around 34 questions correct
- If you answer 31 of 60 questions correct, you almost meet the Math benchmark. You need to get about 3 more questions correct to meet the benchmark.

Reading

- 40 questions
- 52-60% Key Ideas and Details
- 60% of 40 questions = 24 questions
- If you get those 24 questions correct, you earn about a 26 on Reading
- To reach the 22 Benchmark, you need to get around 22 questions correct
- If you answer 24 questions correct, you exceed the Reading benchmark.

Science

- 40 questions
- 40-50% Interpretation of Data
- 50% of 40 questions = 20 questions
- If you get those 20 questions correct, you earn about a 20 on Science
- To reach the 23 Benchmark, you need to get around 25 questions correct
- If you answer 20 of 40 questions correct, you almost meet the Science benchmark. You need to get about 5 more questions correct to meet the benchmark.

$20 + 20 + 26 + 20 = 86/4 = 21.5$ Composite Score, which rounds up to 22!

EVERY Test Point Matters!



A single point on the ACT
can increase your financial
and educational
opportunities

ACT[®]

Should I retest?
Average ACT scores by number of times tested (national averages). Note that the biggest gains are from the first test to the second.

For example, in 2021, students who tested twice raised their score over 3 points on average.



Can I *really* increase my score?

Under each subject is the number of questions you must answer correctly in order to hit the ACT scale score number (blue columns on left and right). The number of questions to answer correctly to meet the subject-area benchmarks is highlighted in green. *This scale can vary slightly from test to test, but notice that in most cases you only need to get 2-3 more questions correct in order to hit the next score level for each subject.*

This is why retesting offers a realistic chance to improve your score.

ACT Scale	English	Math	Reading	Science	ACT Scale
36	72-75		39-40	39-40	36
35	68-71	58	37-38	38	35
34	66-67	56	36		34
33	65	55	35	36	33
32	64		34	35	32
31	63	53	33	34	31
30	62	51-52	32	33	30
29	61	49-50	31	32	29
28	59-60	48	30		28
27	58	44-47	29	31	27
26	56-57	41-43		30	26
25	54-55	39-40	28	28-29	25
24	51-53	37-38	26-27	26-27	24
23	49-50	35-36	25	24-25	23
22	47-48	34	23-24	22-23	22
21	44-46	32-33	22	21	21
20	41-43	31	21	19-20	20
19	39-40	29-30	19-20	17-18	19
18	37-38	27-28	18	16	18
17	35-36	24-26	17	14-15	17
16	33-34	20-23	16	13	16

Click to access the ACT Superscore Calculator

If you take the ACT more than once, we can report your highest subject-area scores from any test in order to calculate a potentially higher composite score. Superscores are accepted by most colleges and universities. Use the ACT Superscore Calculator to determine your Superscore from multiple tests or see what might happen if you earn particular scores.

CALCULATING SUPERSCORES

TEST DATE	ENGLISH SCORE	MATH SCORE	READING SCORE	SCIENCE SCORE	COMPOSITE SCORE
APRIL	19	20	23	21	21
JUNE	22	22	20	22	22
SEPT	20	23	21	21	21

TEST DATE	BEST ENGLISH SCORE	BEST MATH SCORE	BEST READING SCORE	BEST SCIENCE SCORE	SUPERSCORE
COMBINED	22	23	23	22	23

- ACT test scores are a big factor in scholarships awarded on academic achievement.
- A single test point may offer additional thousands of dollars in awards.

A school counselor at Morse High School in Maine documented over 10 years of her students taking both the ACT and SAT and found more scholarships favored the ACT.

See the full story at
act.org/milliondollarimpact

“Students may be missing out on more scholarship opportunities—and, possibly, college altogether—by not taking the ACT.”

–Leslie Trundy, School Counselor, Morse High School



Why should I test at school if I can also test on a Saturday?

- The test fee for school-day testing is lower than national Saturday tests.
- You are already at school. You do not have to worry about transportation, schedule conflicts, or testing at an unfamiliar location.
- Test at school to get a baseline score and learn which areas you can improve.
- [If you qualify for an ACT fee waiver](#), you can test at no charge up to four times with national Saturday tests to have a chance to increase your scores.

ACT Fee Waiver Program

- **Covers basic registration fee** on national tests taken in junior or senior year
- May be used for **4 administrations** for the ACT
- Allows students to send **scores to four college choices** when registering for the test
- Allows any number of **free** additional score reports after registration
- Includes one year of **free access to test prep**
- **May be used to request waiver or deferral of college application fees**
- [See details and qualifications here.](#) If you think you qualify, talk with your counselor.

How do I prepare?



MyACT.org

Create a free account at MyACT.org

- Register for the ACT (National)
- Free online practice test in each ACT subject area
- Question of the Day
- Links to sample ACT test items
- Career Interest Inventory available
- Send ACT scores
- Purchase online test prep packages



MyACT.org



TESTS & PREP

SCORES

PLANS



Olivia Griffin

Welcome, Olivia!

ACT ID: 206097406

Whether you're ready to [register for the ACT](#) or [explore colleges and careers](#), we're here to help you find your path and achieve your goals.

Prepare for the ACT

The ACT is the most popular college entrance exam, accepted and valued by all US universities and colleges. Do your best with our industry-leading prep tools.

[Register for the ACT](#)

The Official ACT® Prep Guide

The Official ACT® Prep Guide 2022-2023 offers 7 full-length practice tests, 400+ digital flashcards, and helpful tips and tools so you can do your best on the ACT.



[See ACT Prep Guide](#)

The Official ACT Self-Paced Course

Bite-sized, on-demand lessons that offer the perfect mix of structure and flexibility.



[Learn More About Self Paced](#)

The Official ACT Live Online Course

Scheduled live classes with expert teachers, plus everything you need to personalize your study plan.



[Learn More About Live Online](#)

Already testing at your school for school day testing?

Start here to complete your student profile and to send scores to colleges and scholarship agencies.

[Enter Student Code](#)

Recommended Products

Based on the information provided in your profile, we recommend the following products:

The **ACT** Official Self-Paced Course [Learn more](#)

Prep as you need it, when you need it! This self-paced course uses brief videos led by a Kaplan instructor and official ACT practice questions to help you acquire the essential skills needed for success on the ACT.

The **ACT** Official Live [Learn more](#)

A few days before your school-day ACT, you will get a Student Code. You will enter it here to select up to four colleges to send your scores for free.

MyACT.org

ACT

TESTS & PREP

SCORES

PLANS



Olivia Griffin



Start Here

Begin exploring your plans for the future. Tell us where you want to start.

Where would you like to start your college and career planning?

I want to...

Take Your Inventories

Search Careers

Discover Military Careers

Find Majors

Explore Schools

Score Explorer

View Your Summary

Question of the Day



Interest Inventory, Abilities Inventory, Values Inventory

Unsure where you want to start?

We recommend starting with careers, then majors, followed by schools if you are unsure, but there is no wrong way to go about your college planning process. It is all about you and where you want to begin!

How many solutions are there to the equation $x^2 - 15 = 0$?

F. 0

G. 1

H. 2

J. 4

K. 15

Correct!

The correct answer is H.

$x^2 - 15 = 0$, so $x^2 = 15$, $x = \pm\sqrt{15}$.

If $x = -\sqrt{15}$, $x^2 - 15 = (-\sqrt{15})^2 - 15 = 15 - 15 = 0$.

If $x = \sqrt{15}$, $x^2 - 15 = (\sqrt{15})^2 - 15 = 15 - 15 = 0$.

Thus both $-\sqrt{15}$ and $\sqrt{15}$ satisfy the equation, so there are two solutions.

F and G are not correct because two numbers have been shown to satisfy the equation.

J and K are not correct because a quadratic equation has at most two solutions.

Nothing Is a Surprise! And Other Tips

Nothing in the ACT is a secret. Everything you need to know about what you will see on the test can be found before you test.

There are no trick questions. Questions may be designed to ensure that you read the entire question carefully. Don't jump to conclusions based on part of the question.

The first time taking the test should not be the first time seeing the test! MyACT.org has a question of the day.

In Preparing for the ACT, be sure to review the content of the ACT sections – the description of categories and the percentage of the test made up of each category.



Nothing Is a Surprise! More Tips

The English test is over 50% Conventions of Standard English – grammar, usage, mechanics, and sentence structure. It is okay to answer “No change.” That will sometimes be the correct answer.

Math is the ONLY section that gets more difficult as it progresses. The first 30 problems are the easiest.

There are 60 questions in 60 minutes on the math test. You should not be trying to complete one question per minute. Many questions should take less than one minute.

In math, you are looking for the CORRECT answer, not the BEST answer. In other subjects you are looking for the BEST answer. In English, Reading, and Science you must be able to determine why one particular answer is BETTER than the others.

Nothing Is a Surprise! More Tips

You may have your calculator for the entire math portion, but you do not need your calculator for every question. Using your calculator may take extra time in some instances.

Math “Integrating Essential Skills” is 40% or more of the math test. This applies basic skills content (that you learned through 8th grade) to more complex problems.

The ACT does not penalize you for guessing. On your first pass through, leave blank the questions that you don’t know and return to them after you complete the ones you do know.

If you still have blank answers with two minutes to go, choose ONE answer position on your document to bubble in--1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th answer. Be consistent – do not randomly guess.





2022 | 2023

Preparing for the ACT® Test

What's Inside

- Full-length practice ACT test, including the 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

Preparing for the ACT

Download *Preparing for the ACT Test* to access:

- An overview of the ACT test and what to expect on test day
- A full-length practice ACT test (including writing prompt)
- Answers and a scoring key for each test section
- A breakdown of the content covered in each test section
- General test-taking strategies
- Ways to approach each section of the ACT

Test-Taking Strategies

These suggestions apply to the four multiple-choice tests.

✓ *Pace yourself.*

It is important that you have enough time to read the passages/questions and figure out your responses. For each test, subtract the number of minutes you estimate you will spend skimming the passages or reading the information provided, then divide the total number of remaining minutes allowed by the number of questions to determine the estimated time you should spend on each question. If possible, spend less time on each question and use the remaining time allowed for a test to review your work and return to the questions on that test that were most difficult for you.

The time limits set for each test give nearly everyone enough time to finish all questions. However, you will want to pace yourself to avoid spending too much time on one passage or puzzling over an answer to a specific problem. Go on to other questions and come back if there is time.

✓ *Read the directions carefully.*

Before you begin each test, read the directions carefully.

- The English, reading, and science tests ask for the best answer. Read and consider all of the answer choices and choose the answer that best responds to the question.

- The mathematics test asks for the correct answer. You may want to work out the answer you feel is correct and look for it among the choices given. If your answer is not among the choices provided, reread the question and consider all the answer choices.

✓ *Read each question carefully.*

You need to understand exactly what each question asks. Some questions will require you to go through several steps to find the correct or best answer, while others can be answered more quickly.

✓ *Answer the easy questions first.*

A good strategy is to answer the easy questions and skip the questions you find difficult. After answering the easy questions, go back and answer the more difficult questions if you have time.

✓ *Use logic on more difficult questions.*

When you return to the more difficult questions, try to use logic to eliminate incorrect answers. Compare the answer choices to each other and note how they differ. Such differences may provide clues as to what the question requires. Eliminate as many incorrect answers as you can, then make an educated guess from the remaining answers.

Familiarity before speed

Practice the test **CONTENT** before taking a timed test. See how long it takes you to complete each section to your satisfaction before you time yourself.





What happened?

Review missed practice items

ERROR

- Filled in wrong bubble
- Didn't review every answer choice
- Looked at wrong underlined section or line number
- Failed to notice "EXCEPT" or "NOT" in the question

MISCONCEPTION

- Flawed understanding of concept or skill
- Misapplication of a rule or principle (wrong formula, for example)

After You Receive Your Scores

- Download the eBook: *Using Your ACT Score Report as a Tool to Shape Your Future*
- This FREE eBook explains the sections of your ACT score report and how it can:
 - Help you determine your college readiness
 - Help you plan and inform your future after high school
 - Identify your academic strengths and weaknesses
 - Help put yourself in the best position to win a scholarship

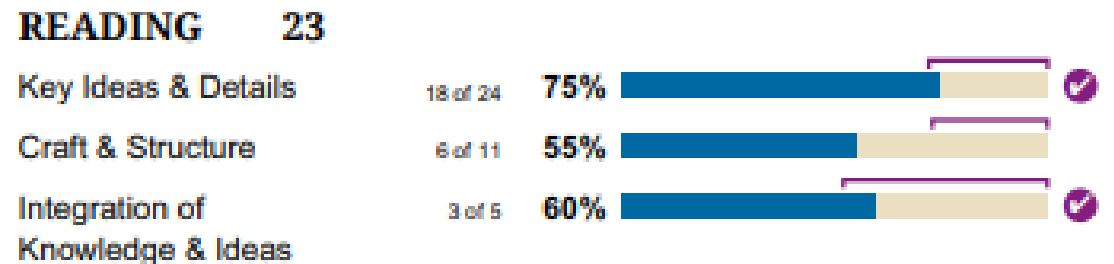
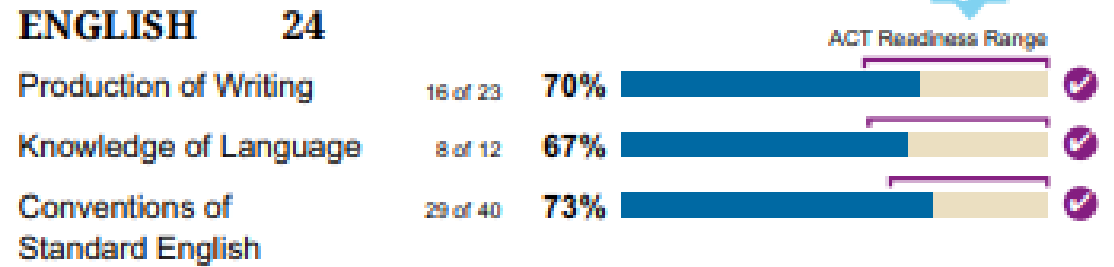
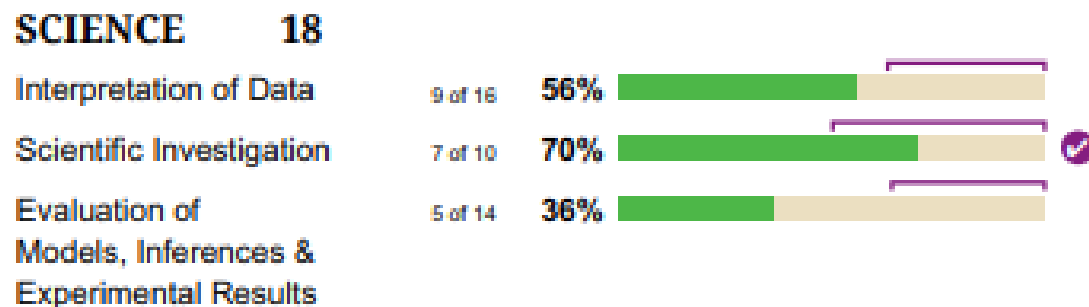
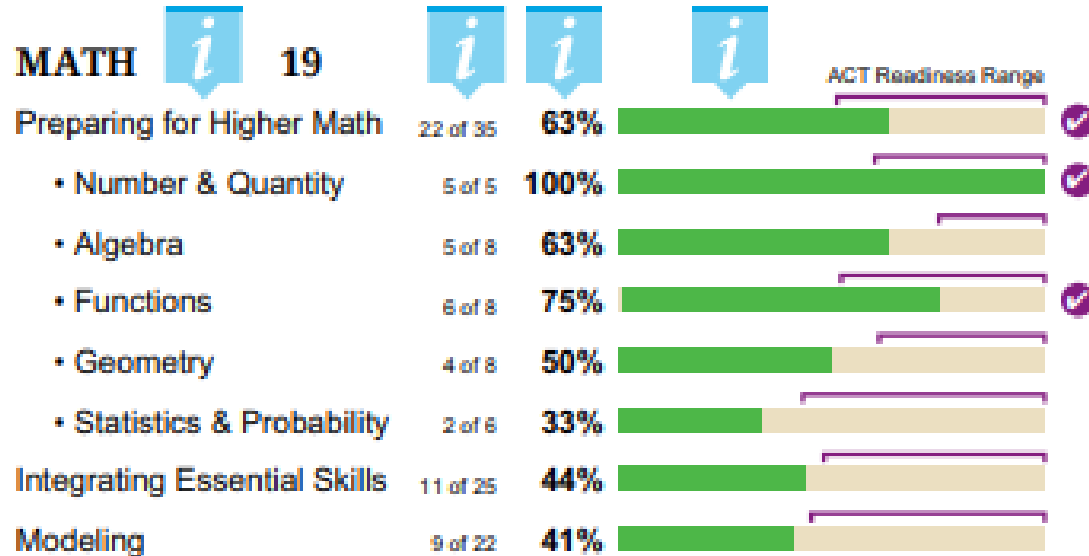
Compare your ACT and SAT Scores

On this page, you can learn more about how to compare your scores on the ACT and SAT.

Use the “Convert Your Score” tool. Enter your ACT score to see the corresponding SAT score, or enter your SAT score to see the corresponding ACT score. Whichever test you performed better on should be the one you retake to improve your score.

[Access the Interactive ACT Student Report here.](#) It has live links to explain the various parts of your score report.

Detailed Results



Understanding Complex Texts: This indicator lets you know if you are understanding the central meaning of complex texts at a level that is needed to succeed in college courses with higher reading demand.

WRITING **08** If you took the writing test, your essay was



ACT[®]