



ACT[®]

Getting to know your New Statewide Assessments in
South Carolina: ACT Aspire, The ACT, & WorkKeys

ACT[®]



Your South Carolina ACT Account Manager...

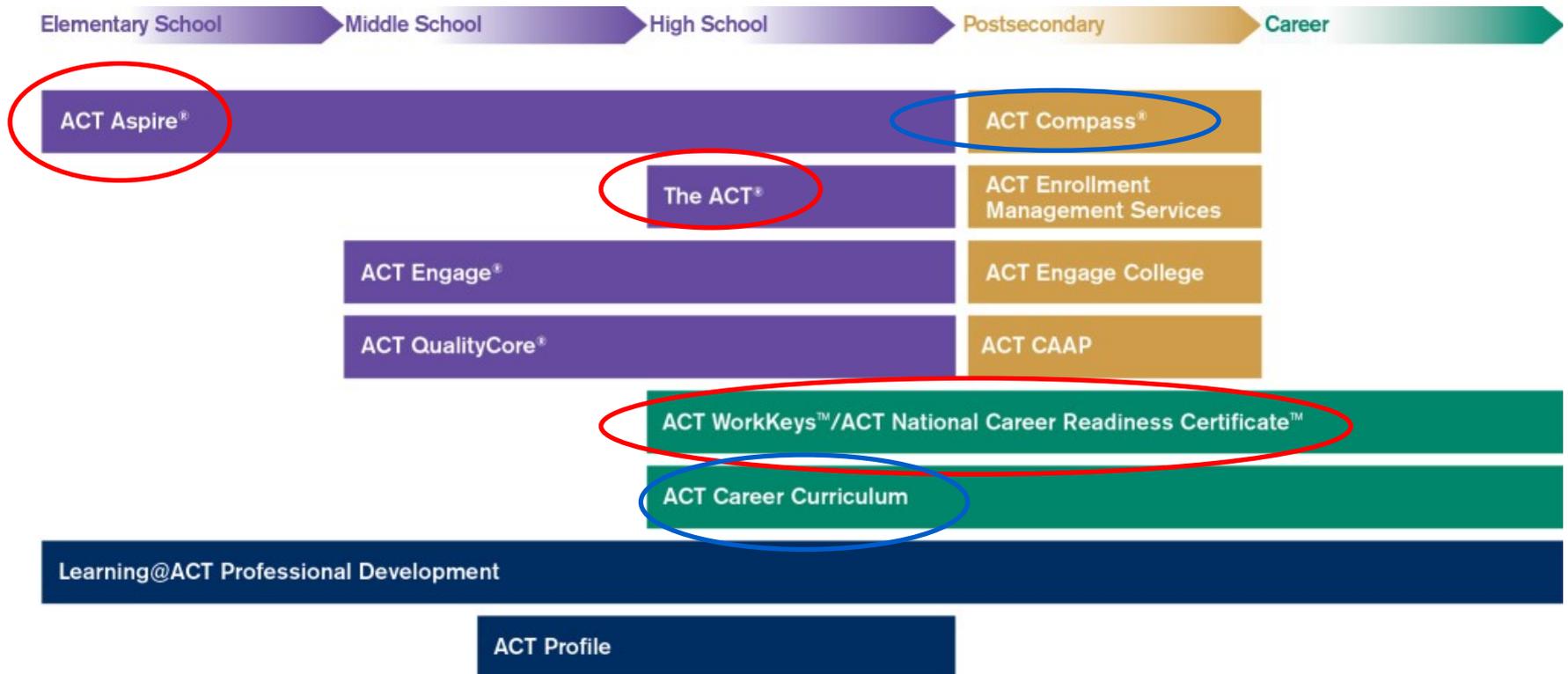
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Senior Account Manager

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ACT Elementary — Career Continuum



The **ACT**[®]

ACT[®]



A young man with dark hair and glasses is smiling. He is wearing a blue and white checkered shirt under a grey sweater. He has a grey backpack with a tan strap over his shoulder and is holding a light blue folder. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a building and trees.

- Based on ACT analysis of actual student performance in college
- The minimum ACT test scores required for students to have a high probability of success in corresponding first-year, credit-bearing college courses
 - 50% chance of earning a B or better
 - 75% chance or better of earning a C or better

The ACT College Readiness Benchmarks

College Course	ACT Subject-Area Test	ACT Benchmark
English Composition	English	18
College Algebra	Mathematics	22
Social Sciences	Reading	22
Biology	Science	23

- Direct link between what students have learned and what they are ready to learn next
- Help interpret what the scores earned on the ACT mean
- Identify the knowledge and skills students are likely to demonstrate at various score levels on each academic test
- Linked to college instruction



Topics in the flow to...	Score Range 13–15	Score Range 16–19	Score Range	Score Range	Score Range 28–32	Score Range 33–36
Number and Quantity (N)	<p>N 201. Perform one-operation computation with whole numbers and decimals</p> <p>N 202. Recognize equivalent fractions and fractions in lowest terms</p> <p>N 203. Locate positive rational numbers (expressed as whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and mixed numbers) on the number line</p> <p>« View changes »</p>	<p>N 301. Recognize one-digit factors of a number</p> <p>N 302. Identify a digit's place value</p> <p>N 303. Locate rational numbers on the number line</p> <p><i>Note: A matrix as a representation of data is treated here as a basic table.</i></p> <p>« View changes »</p>	<p>Score Range 16–19</p>		<p>601. Apply number properties involving prime factorization</p> <p>602. Apply number properties involving even/odd numbers and factors/multiples</p> <p>603. Apply number properties involving positive/negative integers</p> <p>604. Apply the facts that π is irrational and that the square root of an integer is rational only that integer is a perfect square</p> <p>605. Apply properties of rational exponents</p> <p>606. Multiply two complex numbers</p> <p>607. Use relations involving addition, subtraction, and scalar multiplication of vectors and of matrices</p> <p>« View changes »</p>	<p>N 701. Analyze and draw conclusions based on number concepts</p> <p>N 702. Apply properties of rational numbers and the rational number system</p> <p>N 703. Apply properties of real numbers and the real number system, including properties of irrational numbers</p> <p>N 704. Apply properties of complex numbers and the complex number system</p> <p>N 705. Multiply matrices</p> <p>N 706. Apply properties of matrices and properties of matrices as a number system</p> <p>« View changes »</p>
			<p>N 301. Recognize one-digit factors of a number</p> <p>N 302. Identify a digit's place value</p> <p>N 303. Locate rational numbers on the number line</p> <p><i>Note: A matrix as a representation of data is treated here as a basic table.</i></p> <p>« View changes »</p>			

 **View or Print the Standards**

- [English](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [Reading](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Writing](#)

ACT College and Career Readiness Standards

The ACT College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) are the backbone of ACT assessments. Empirically derived descriptions of the essential skills and knowledge students need to become ready for college and career, the Standards give clear meaning to test scores and serve as a link between what students have learned and what they are ready to learn next. Parents, teachers, counselors, and students have used the Standards to:

- communicate widely shared learning goals and expectations
- relate test scores to the skills needed in high school and beyond
- understand the increasing complexity of skills needed across the score ranges in English, Mathematics, Reading, Science, and Writing

Changes to the Standards

ACT reviews the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards regularly as part of an ongoing [validity process](#). That process, which includes analysis of the results of the 2012 [ACT National Curriculum Survey](#), showed us there was a need to reformat our standards to

Why College and Career Ready?

ACT is developing a holistic understanding of readiness—for college, for career, and for work. We have renamed our Standards to ACT College and Career Readiness Standards to reflect our ability to provide insights related to both college and career readiness.

With this broader understanding of readiness, ACT will be providing ACT examinees with additional indicators of career readiness in the near future. [More information](#)

www.act.org/standard

philosophy of continuous improvement, ACT announced in May 2013 that the ACT College Readiness Standards would be reformatted and retitled the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards.

Updates as part of the reformatting include the recategorization of the Standards and the clarification and reformatting of many of the Standards' language. These updates will make comparisons with other sets of standards easier. The updates also provide a clear, longitudinal connection to the reporting categories featured in our [lower grade assessments](#).

Each content area page has the following features:

- Curriculum-based college entrance exam
- Measures academic achievement
 - English
 - Math
 - Reading
 - Science
 - Writing (optional)
- Only college entrance exam based on number of correct answers
 - No penalty for guessing
- High-stakes assessment

High School

- ACT — 11th–12th grade students
- Multiple test dates
 - September, October, December, February, April, June
 - State and District Testing
- Counseling
 - Academic and career student advising based on test results
- Links to ACT Educational Opportunity Service (ACT EOS)
 - Connects students with relevant college and scholarship information at no cost

Postsecondary

- Admissions, Enrollment Managers, Retention, Academic Advisors
- Data help shape work tailored to students' needs

Key Non-Cognitive Components

- High School Course/Grade Information
 - Courses completed or intend to take
 - Grades received
- ACT Interest Inventory
 - Helps students explore personally relevant career options
- Student Profile Section (SPS)
 - Educational and vocational aspirations
 - Post-high school plans
 - Activities
 - Accomplishments
 - Needs

Receiving Student Score Report

- Multiple-Choice scores available online beginning two weeks after test date
- Writing scores can take an additional 3-4 weeks

Sending scores

- 4 free score reports to schools of student's choice
 - If requested at the time of registration
- Additional score reports can be requested at any time for nominal fee

Pricing

- 2014–2015
 - \$38.00 ACT
 - \$54.50 ACT Plus Writing
- Fee waivers available
 - 11th and 12th grade students
 - US citizens, or testing in the United States, US territories, or Puerto Rico
 - Meet the indicators of economic need
 - Fee Waiver Eligibility Requirements Flier

Home > Agency > Programs services > 215 > The ACT

The ACT® www.ed.sc.gov/agency/programs-services/215/

Beginning in spring 2015, all eleventh grade students will take The ACT® test. The ACT is a tool that assesses readiness for college. The assessment is based on the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards which are empirically derived descriptions of essential skills and knowledge students need to know to be ready for college. Required by Act 200, ACT scores will be used for state and federal accountability. The ACT consists of four multiple-choice tests (English, mathematics, reading, science) and a writing test.

Mathematics	60 questions	60 minutes	Measures mathematical skills students have typically acquired in courses taken up to the beginning of grade12.
English	75 questions	45 minutes	Measures standard written English and rhetorical skills.
Reading	40 questions	35 minutes	Measures reading comprehension.
Science	40 questions	35 minutes	Measures the interpretation, analysis, evaluation, reasoning, and problem-solving skills required in the natural sciences.
Writing	1 prompt	30 minutes	Measures writing skills emphasized in high school English classes and in entry-level college composition courses.

Office of Assessment

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The ACT Counselor/Educator Resources

www.act.org/aap/resources.html



- *Preparing for the ACT*
- *Why Take The ACT?*
- *Using Your ACT Results*
- *ACT User Handbook*
- Test dates and deadlines
- Sample Score Reports
- ACT sample test booklets/retired tests
- Forms – fee waiver eligibility, paper registration, accommodated testing
- Order materials

The ACT® Home Overview K-12 Services Higher Ed Services **Resources** Contact Us

Resources

- About the ACT Test
- Registration
- Preparing for Test Day
- Results

Related Links

- ACT Registration, Information, and Prep Tools
- What's Next for the ACT
- Register for Updates

Additional Resources

- Technical manuals, information briefs, and research reports
- Resources for Students and their Families (*pdf*, 4 pages)
- Test center locations, dates, and codes*
- College and Scholarship Code Look-up*
- High School Code Look-up*

Counselor and Educator Resources

Help your students prepare for the ACT test with information found here on registration, preparing for test day, and using test results. All documents can be downloaded, printed, or shared via email and newsletters. Those with (*) are wonderful resources to share with your students.

For additional information, you may also direct your students to www.actstudent.org.

Popular Downloads

- Resources for Students and their Families**
(PDF, 4 pages)
- Preparing for the ACT***
(PDF, 64 pages)
- Registering Online for the ACT***
(PDF, 2 pages)

Register to Receive Updates and Information



ACT Online Prep

www.actstudent.org/onlineprep



- Practice tests with real ACT test questions
- Practice essays for the optional ACT Writing Test, with real-time scoring
- Comprehensive content review for each of the ACT's four required tests—English, Math, Reading, and Science
- Diagnostic test and study path
- Anywhere, anytime access via the Internet



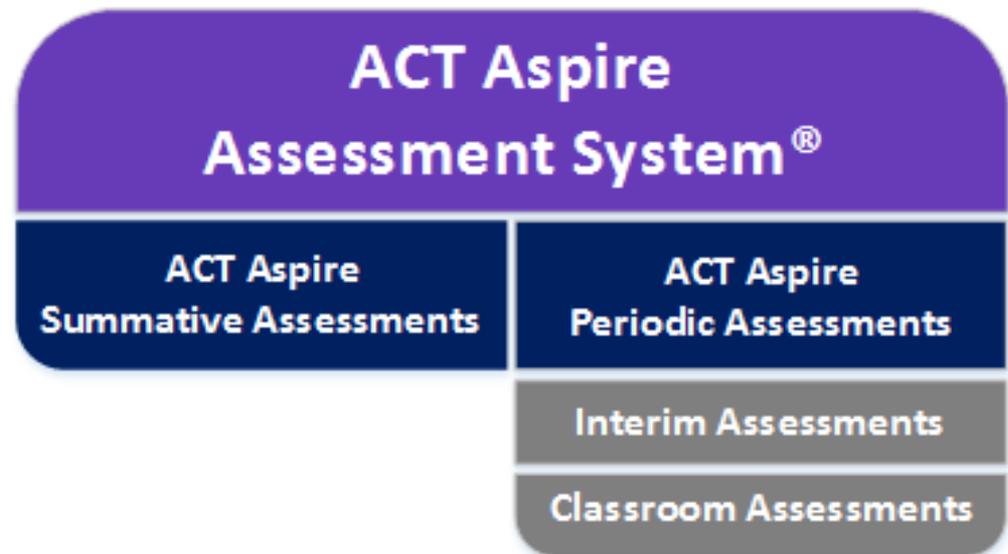


ACT[®] **Aspire**[™]

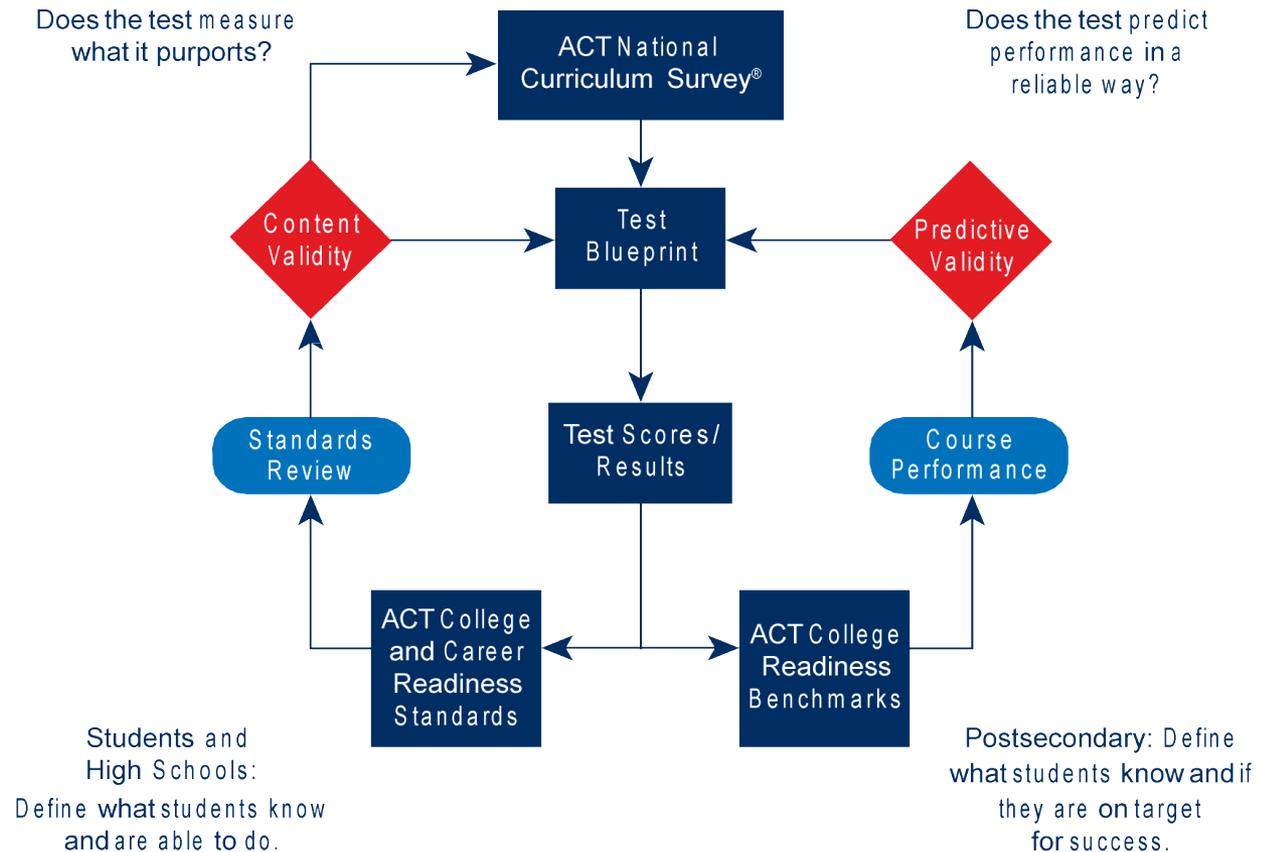
ACT[®]



The ACT Aspire Assessment System[®] is a vertically scaled, standards-based system of assessments that monitor student growth and progress in the context of college and career readiness.

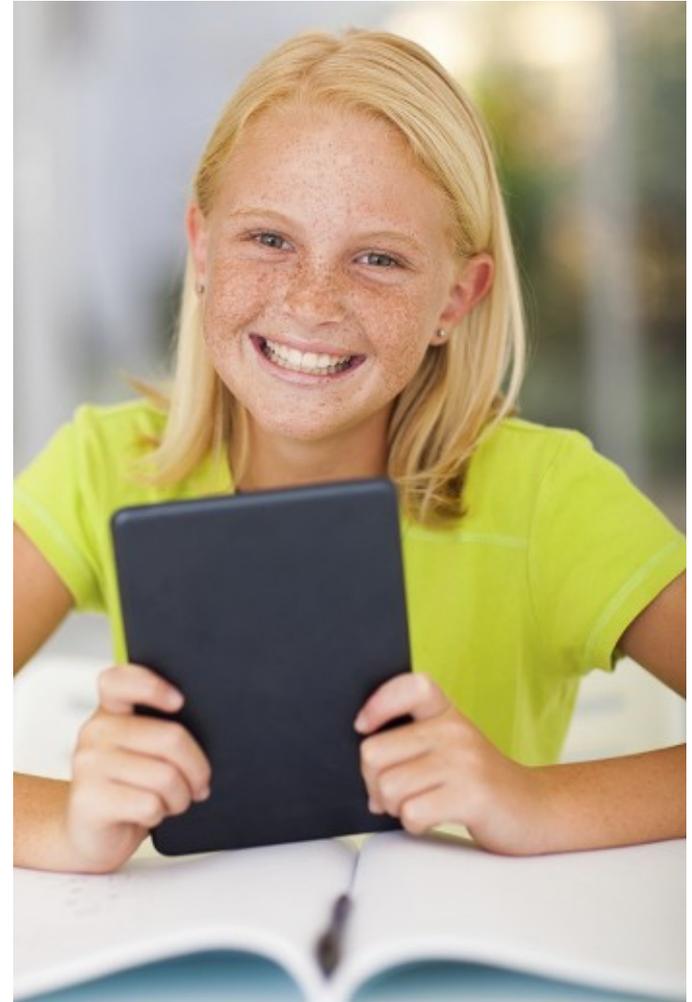


The Science Behind ACT Assessments Evidence and Validity



Who can use the data and insights?

- Students, parents, and educators
- Counselors and principals
- Schools and districts
- States

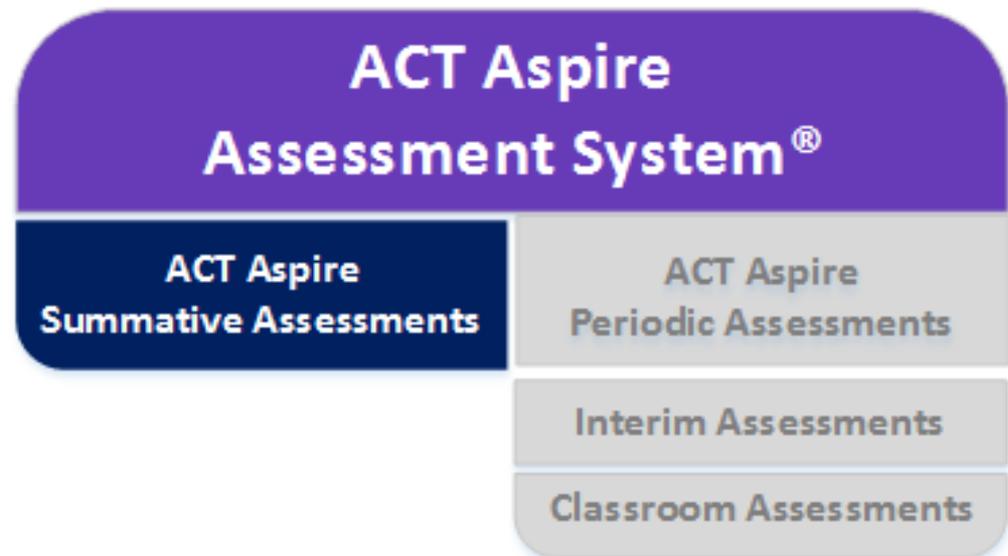


ACT Aspire Overview



Summative Assessments

- English, math, reading, science, and writing assessments
- Grades 3–8 and Early High School (grades 9–10)
- Computer-based testing AND paper-and-pencil
- Connected to ACT College and Career Readiness Standards and Benchmarks, along with other high-stakes standards initiatives
- Longitudinal reporting on a vertical scale linked to the ACT®



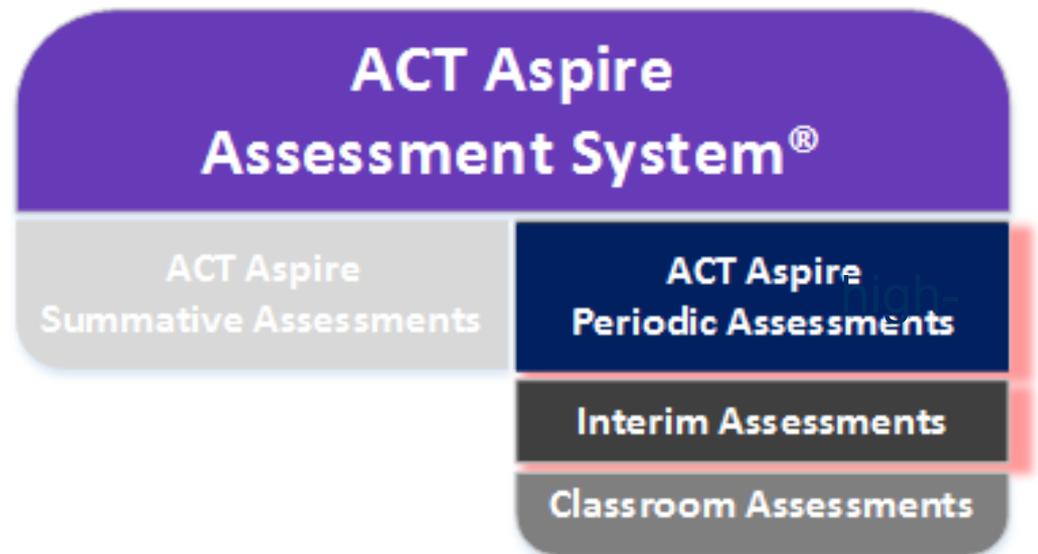
ACT Aspire Overview

Periodic Assessments



Interim Assessments

- English, math, reading, and science assessments
- Grades 3–10
- Computer-based testing
- Connected to ACT College and Career Readiness Standards and Benchmarks, along with other states standards initiatives



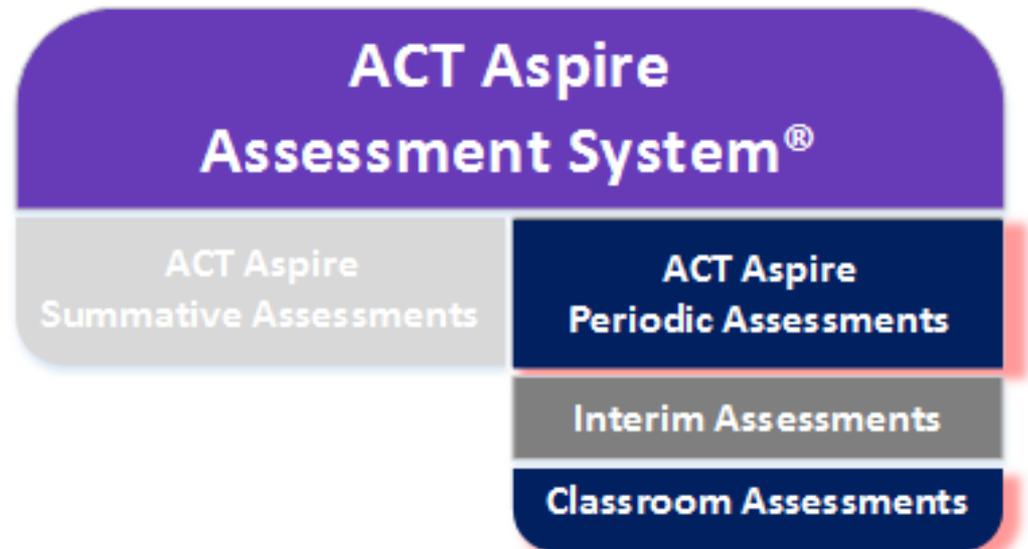
ACT Aspire Overview

Periodic Assessments



Classroom Assessments

- English, math, reading, and science assessments
- Grades 3–8
- Computer-based testing
- Connected to ACT College and Career Readiness Standards and Benchmarks, along with other high-stakes standards initiatives



Multiple Item Types

- Selected Response

Items can accurately distinguish students who grasp a basic concept from those who do not. As one component of our assessments, selected-response items can help measure a large amount of content in a brief time.

- Constructed Response

Require learners to use creativity, organizational skills, logic, and content knowledge to demonstrate understanding.

- Technology Enhanced

Any question that takes advantage of computer capability to present material to the student, engage the student in an activity, simulate the creation of information, or otherwise allow interaction not possible in paper mode testing.

Login Information

To view the exemplar ACT Aspire CBT questions online, visit tn.actaspire.org. Usernames and passwords for the various subject areas can be found in the following table.

Subject	Username	Password
English	english	actaspire
Reading	reading	actaspire
Math	math	actaspire
Science	science	actaspire
Writing Grade 9	writing9	actaspire
Writing Grade 8	writing8	actaspire
Writing Grade 7	writing7	actaspire
Writing Grade 6	writing6	actaspire
Writing Grade 5	writing5	actaspire
Writing Grade 4	writing4	actaspire
Writing Grade 3	writing3	actaspire

ACT Aspire Features



- Interim assessments are approximately 45 minutes.
- Classroom assessments are short and efficient.

Summative Timing in Minutes					
Grade	English	Math	Reading	Science	Writing
3	30	55	60	55	30
4	30	55	60	55	30
5	30	55	60	55	30
6	35	60	60	55	30
7	35	60	60	55	30
8	35	65	60	55	30
Early HS	40	65	60	55	30

English Assessment

- Time Frame
 - Grades 3-5: 30 minutes
 - Grades 6-8: 35 minutes
 - EHS: 40 minutes
- Various passage types provide a variety of rhetorical situations

English Assessment

- Domains
 - Conventions of Standard English
 - Punctuation and Usage Conventions
 - Sentence Structure and Formation
 - Production of Writing
 - Topic Development
 - Organization, Unity, and Cohesion
 - Knowledge of Language

Mathematics Assessment

- Grade Three:
 - 37 questions
 - 20-22 MC questions (57%)
 - 16 constructed response (43%)
- Numbers and Operations in Base 10: 5-7 questions
- Number and Operations—Fractions: 2-4 questions
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking: 3-5 questions
- Geometry: 3-5 questions
- Measurement and Data: 3-5 questions
- Justification and Explanation: 16 questions

Mathematics Assessment

- Grade Four:
 - 37 questions
 - 20-22 MC questions (57%)
 - 16 constructed response (43%)
- Numbers and Operations in Base 10: 3-5 questions
- Number and Operations—Fractions: 4-6 questions
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking: 3-5 questions
- Geometry: 3-5 questions
- Measurement and Data: 3-5 questions
- Justification and Explanation: 16 questions

Mathematics Assessment

- Grade Five:
 - 37 questions
 - 20-22 MC questions (57%)
 - 16 constructed response (43%)
- Numbers and Operations in Base 10: 3-5 questions
- Number and Operations—Fractions: 4-6 questions
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking: 3-5 questions
- Geometry: 3-5 questions
- Measurement and Data: 3-5 questions
- Justification and Explanation: 16 questions

Mathematics Assessment

- Grade Six:
 - 46 questions
 - 29-31 MC questions (65%)
 - 16 constructed response (35%)
- Numbers and Operations in Base 10: 1-3 questions
- Number and Operations—Fractions: 1-3 questions
- Number System: 3-5 questions
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking: 1-3 questions
- Expressions and Equations: 3-5 questions
- Ratios and Proportional Relationships: 3-5 questions
- Geometry: 5-7 questions
- Measurement and Data: 0-2 questions
- Statistics and Probability: 3-5 questions
- Justification and Explanation: 16 questions

Mathematics Assessment

- Grade Seven:
 - 46 questions
 - 29-31 MC questions (65%)
 - 16 constructed response (35%)
- Numbers and Operations in Base 10: 1-3 questions
- Number and Operations—Fractions: 1-3 questions
- Number System: 3-5 questions
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking: 1-3 questions
- Expressions and Equations: 3-5 questions
- Ratios and Proportional Relationships: 3-5 questions
- Geometry: 4-6 questions
- Measurement and Data: 1-3 questions
- Statistics and Probability: 3-5 questions
- Justification and Explanation: 16 questions

Mathematics Assessment

- Grade Eight:
 - 53 questions
 - 31-35 MC questions (62%)
 - 20 constructed response (38%)
- Numbers and Operations in Base 10: 1-3 questions
- Number and Operations—Fractions: 1-3 questions
- Number System: 2-4 questions
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking: 0-2 questions
- Expressions and Equations: 5-7 questions
- Ratios and Proportional Relationships: 0-2 questions
- Functions: 3-5 questions
- Geometry: 6-8 questions
- Measurement and Data: 1-3 questions
- Statistics and Probability: 4-6 questions
- Justification and Explanation: 20 questions

Reading Assessment

- Determine main ideas
- Locate and interpret significant details
- Understand sequences of events
- Make comparisons
- Comprehend cause-effect relationships
- Determine the meaning of context-dependent words
- Draw generalizations
- Analyze the author's method or the narrator's voice

Reading Assessment

- Constructed-Response Tasks
 - Formulate a conclusion by making connections within a passage and provide support using specific details from text
 - Formulate a conclusion by making connections between a pair of passages and provide support using specific details from both texts
 - Identify cause and effect relationships within a passage and provide support using specific details from the text
 - Identify similarities and differences between the key ideas of paired passages and provide support using specific details from both texts

Reading Assessment

- Domains
 - Key Ideas and Details
 - Craft and Structure
 - Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

Writing Assessment

- Domains
 - Generating Ideas
 - Developing Ideas
 - Sustaining Ideas
 - Organizing Ideas
 - Communicating Ideas

Writing Assessment

	3	4	5	6	7	8	EHS
Ideas and Analysis	5	5	5	6	6	6	6
Development and Support	5	5	5	6	6	6	6
Organization	5	5	5	6	6	6	6
Language Use and Conventions	5	5	5	6	6	6	6
Total Points	20	20	20	24	24	24	24

Stronger Technologies

- Leverages technology familiar to students to foster achievement
- Robust online reporting that enables timely modifications to student learning and intervention strategies



Stronger Technologies

- **Rapid Ramp-Up**

Browser based, so zero time lost to install; and uses your native industry browsers—so no time-draining browser install/removal.

- **Group or Individual Testing**

High flexibility allows traditionally grouped tests and individuals to be tested as needed.

- **Robust Capacity**

To date in 2014, ACT Aspire™ successfully delivered more than 1.2 million assessments, both online and paper.



Accessibility

Second Language Supports:

- Grades 3–6: Spanish language audio and text in math, science, and writing
- All grades: Spanish language support materials

Audio read-aloud, text-to-speech, and verbal descriptions	Visual color contrast settings, screen magnification, line reader, and highlighter
Cognitive and engagement answer masking	American Sign Language (ASL)
Closed captioning of video content	Braille and tactile graphics
Large type paper-and-pencil	

Online Reporting for Schools and Districts

- Rich data and insights
- Accessible via computer or tablet
- Downloadable PDFs of student reports
- Dynamic online reporting for schools, districts, and states
- Aggregate data files available for download to SIS



User-Centric Reporting

Tell a Story

Reflect each child's possibilities, not his or her deficits

Focus on the Journey

Progression toward readiness matters, not individual scores

Self-Service

Customers determine how deeply to engage with the data

Easy-to-Understand Language

For all audiences

Summative Reporting — Easy-to-Use Data and Insights

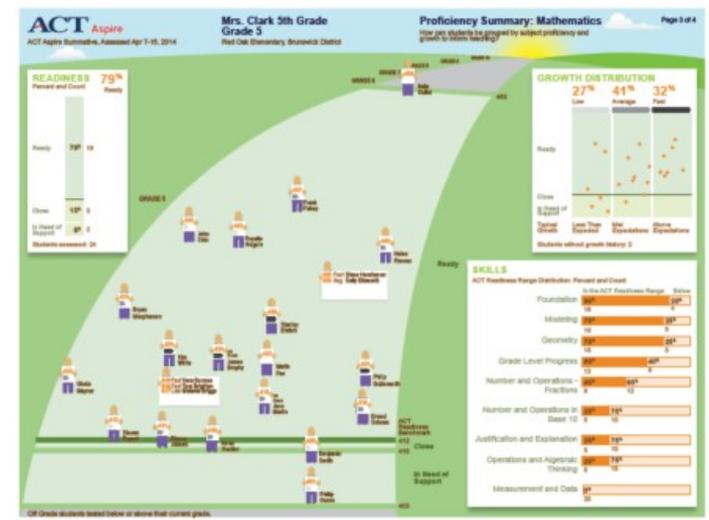
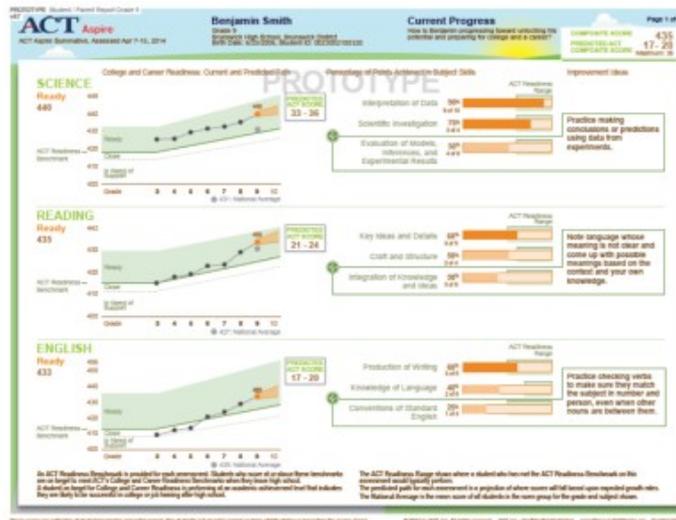
- **Flexible Student Grouping** — your results as you want to see them
- **Quick identification** of Benchmark Attainment, Growth, and Standards Performance
- **Student Longitudinal Growth charts showing personalized progress**
 - Predicted ACT scores for Composite and each subject starting in early high school
 - National Normative data to provide grade level context
- **Standards performance** based on ACT College and Career Readiness Standards including:
 - **ACT Readiness Ranges** : Typical performance of students who have met the ACT Readiness Benchmark for that subject
- **Simple interventions** as a path to improvement

Summative Reporting – Additional Measures of Readiness

- National Percentile Ranks showing students how they performed vs. other students in their grade nationwide
- ELA score for students who test in English, reading, and writing
- STEM scores for students who test in both math and science
- A Reading Progress with Text Complexity Score
- A Progress Toward Career Readiness Score (grades 8–10) for students who test in English, math, reading, and science
- Predicted ACT Subject and Composite Scores (beginning at grade 9/10)

Dynamic Aggregate Reporting Online for Educators, Schools, and Districts

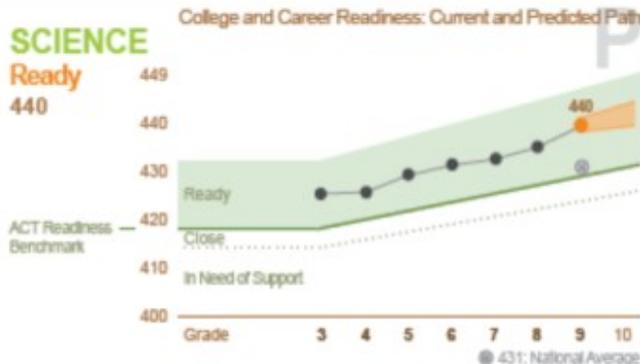
- Identifies potential curriculum gaps
- Identifies students in need of intervention
- Identifies opportunities for professional development



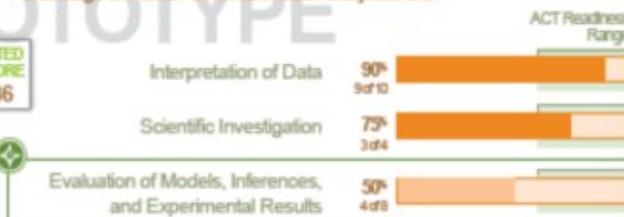
COMPOSITE SCORE **435**
PREDICTED ACT COMPOSITE SCORE **17-20**
Maximum: 36

SCIENCE

Ready
440



Percentage of Points Achieved in Each Subject's Skill

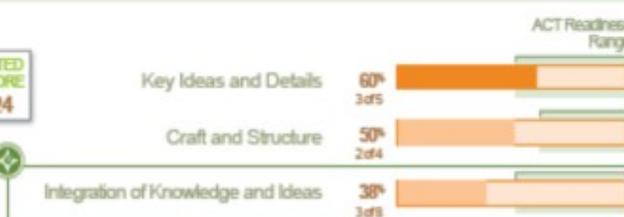


Improvement Ideas

Practice making conclusions or predictions using data from experiments.

READING

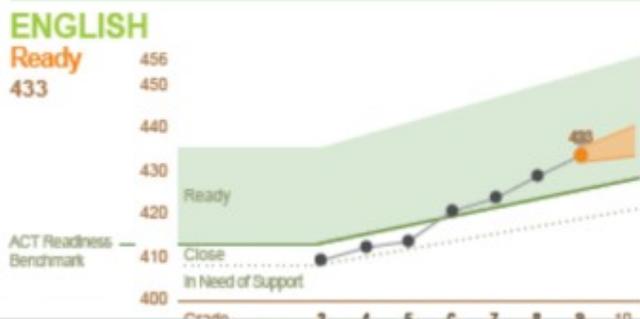
Ready
435



Note language whose meaning is not clear and come up with possible meanings based on the context and your own knowledge.

ENGLISH

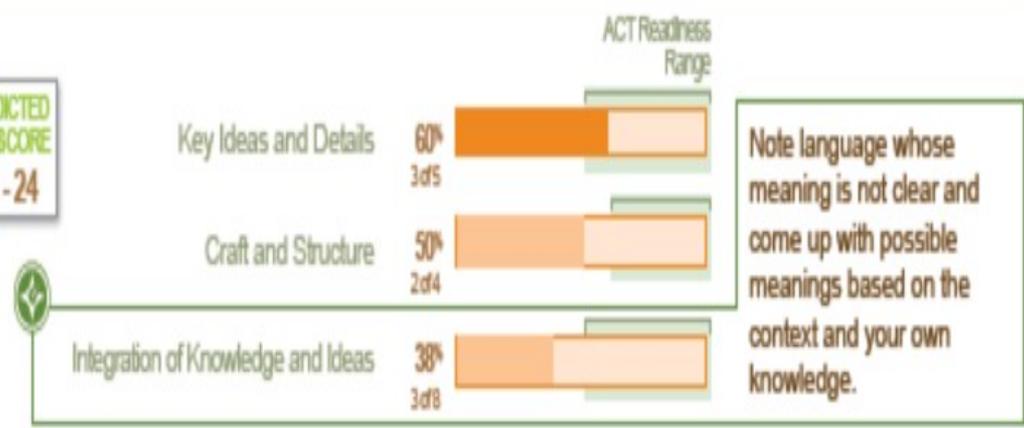
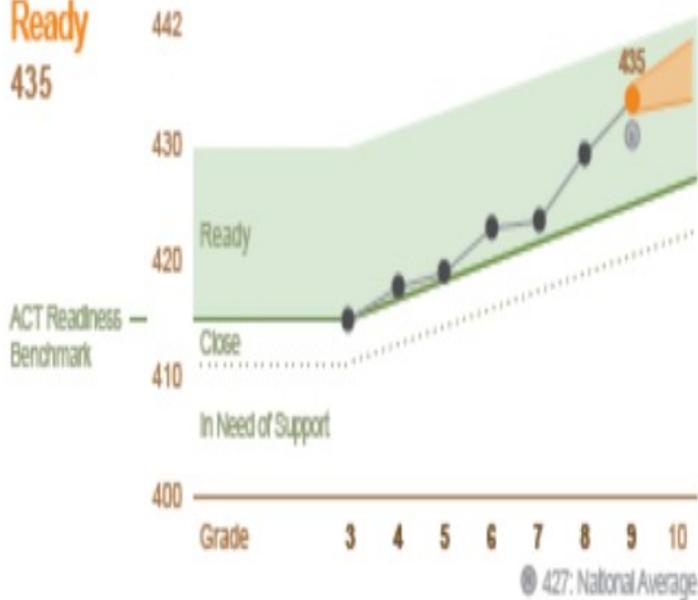
Ready
433



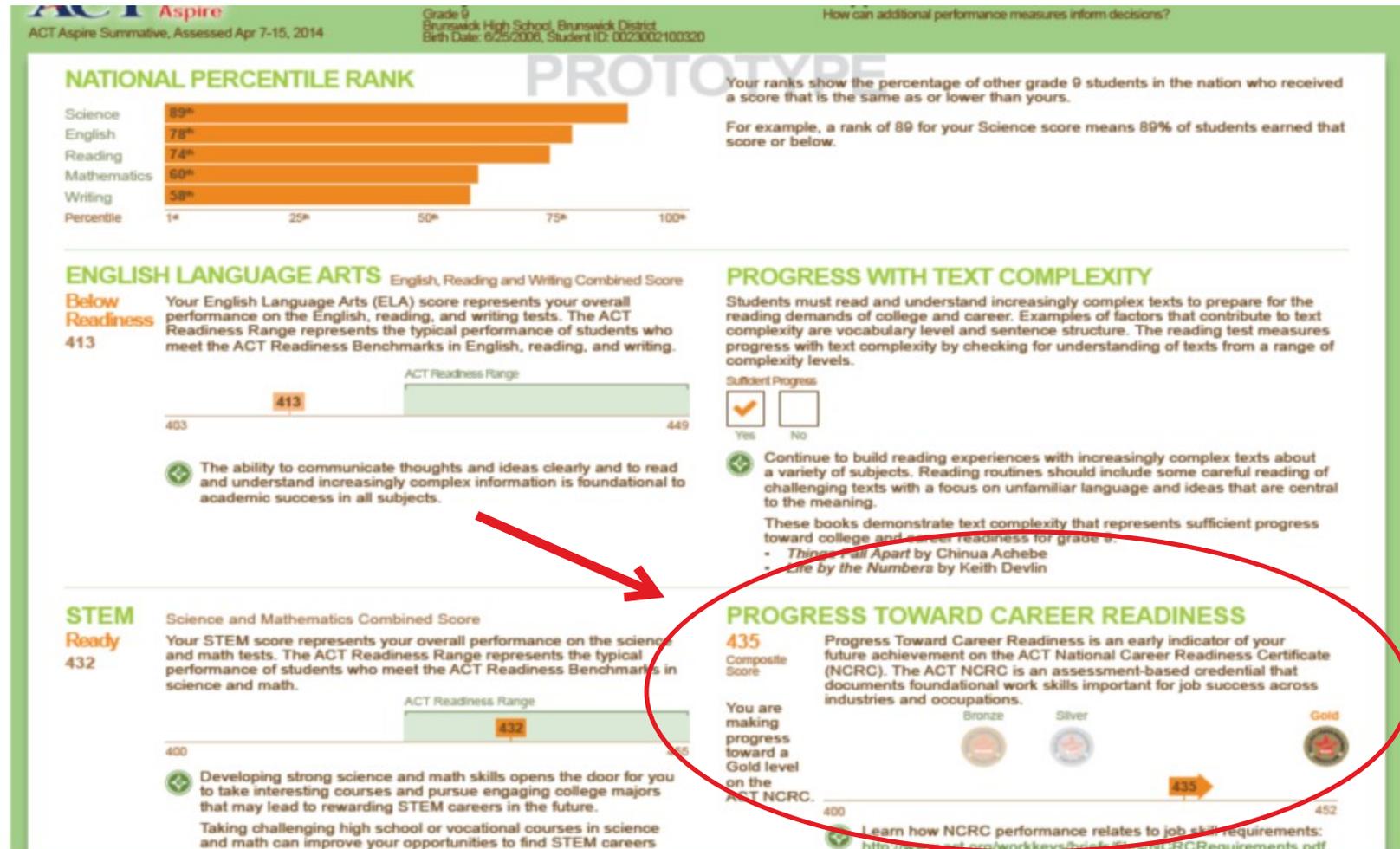
Practice checking verbs to make sure they match the subject in number and person, even when other nouns are between them.

READING

Ready
435



ACT Aspire Additional Test Scores





Subject Proficiency by Student
Which subjects have the lowest readiness averages?

How can students be grouped across subjects to focus teaching?



Current Progress
What is the growth trend for this group of students?



Supplemental Scores
How many students have other measures that are below readiness?

English, Mathematics, Reading, Science, Writing: One set of these reports is provided for each subject.



Proficiency Summary
How can students be grouped by subject proficiency to focus teaching?

Which skills have the lowest readiness average?



Skill Proficiency
How can students be grouped by skill proficiency to focus teaching?

About the Scores

Scores are estimates of student knowledge and achievement. The student's actual achievement could be slightly higher or lower than the scores shown.

Averages

All average scores are calculated as medians to ensure outlying high or low scores to not misrepresent information.

ACT Readiness Benchmark



An ACT Readiness Benchmark is provided for each assessment. Students who score at or above these benchmarks are on target to meet ACT's College and Career Readiness Benchmarks when they leave high school.

ACT Readiness Range



The ACT Readiness Range shows where a student who has met the ACT Readiness Benchmark on an assessment would typically perform.

Growth

Student growth is identified by 3 measures:

- Low = Less Than Expected
- Average = Met Expectations
- Fast = Above Expectations

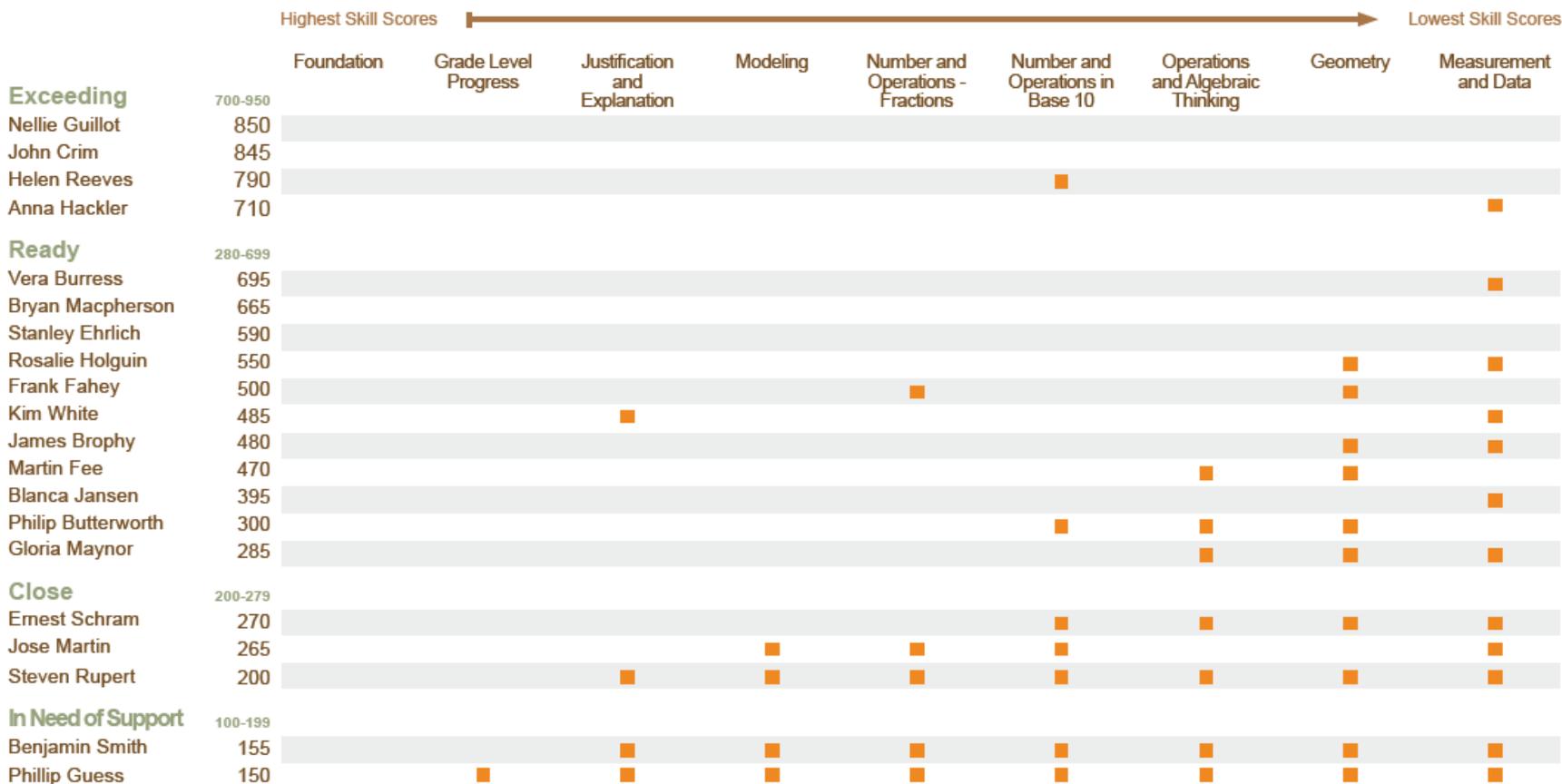
Insights

Areas flagged with a compass provide additional information and improvement recommendations.



HOW DO I LEARN MORE?

Visit our website to learn more about the ACT Aspire assessment and results: www.ACTAspire.org/xxxx



LOWEST PERFORMING SKILL Focus on improving this skill for these students.
Measurement and Data: This skill is...

9 students

- Rosalie Holguin
- Gloria Maynor
- Steven Rupert
- Kim White
- Ernest Schram
- Benjamin Smith
- Blanca Jansen
- Jose Martin
- Phillip Guess

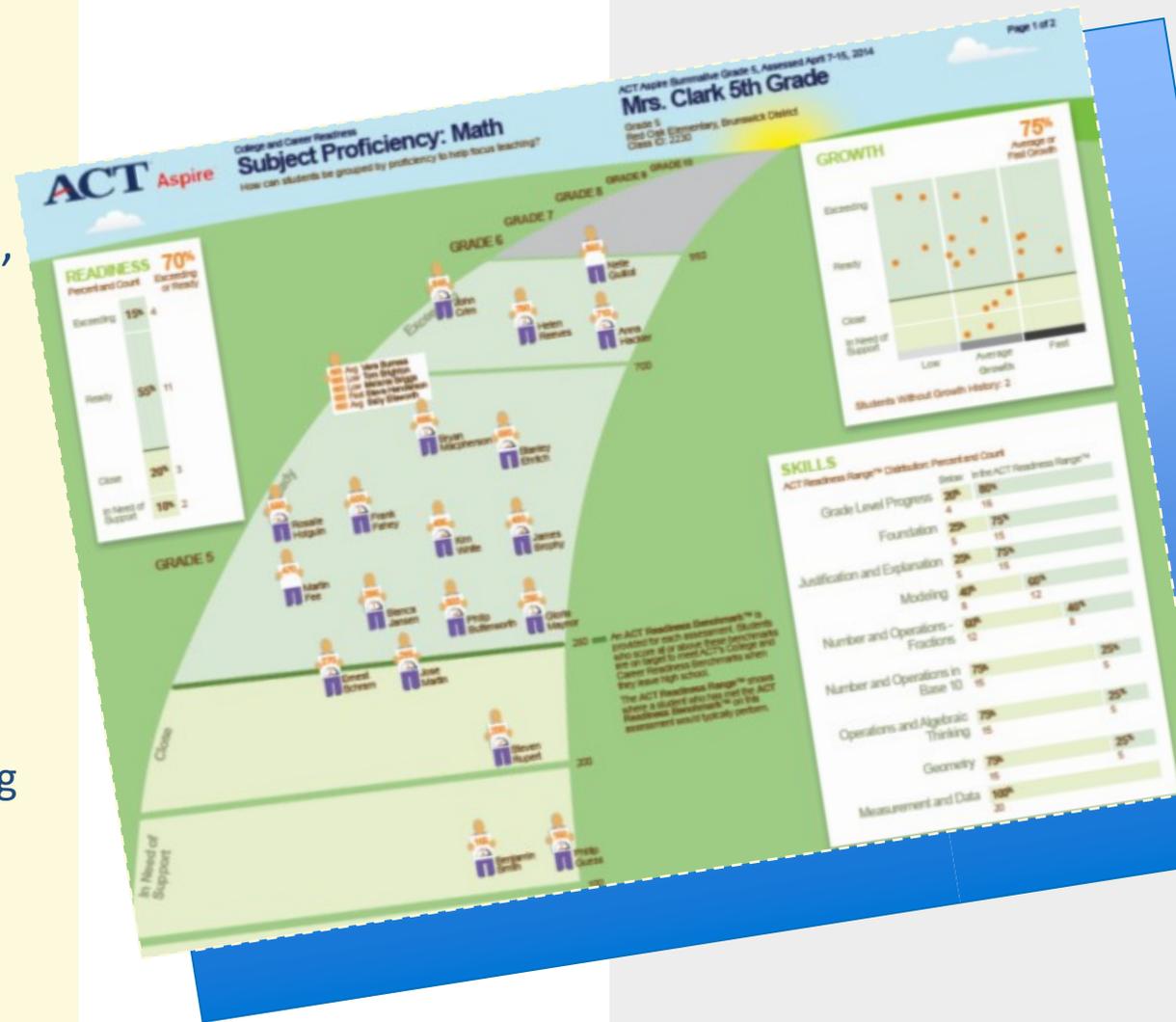
Design Note
Keys are placed at the bottom of every page.
Insights are placed on the last page.

ACT Readiness Range
■ Below the Range
Blank = Within the Range

Aggregate Reporting that Enables Educators

Experience with assessing, scoring, collecting and reporting data in a useful format should never be based on the assumption that such a skill set will simply arise.

- Easy to Use and Interpret
- Flexible Student Grouping
- Quick identification of Benchmark Attainment, Growth and Standards Performance



Home

Thank you for choosing ACT Aspire as your local student assessment program.

This site houses resources and links that will help you learn about, prepare for, and deliver the ACT Aspire assessment.



Training and Manuals

Training and Manuals >

Click here for step-by-step instructions for interacting with Organization and SDU files, PNP and test session set-up, authorization tickets, accommodations, paper test material handling, manuals, training videos, and an interactive

Exemplars

ACT Aspire Exemplar Items >

Click here to access ACT Aspire sample test questions for all grades and subjects. Give educators and students the opportunity to interact with the TestNav computer-based testing platform prior to a live testing experience.

Technology Set-up

Technology Resources >

The ACT Aspire assessment is comprised of several technology based components that work together to deliver test content to students. Information and resources for SystemCheck, ProctorCache, TestNav 8, and general technical help documents can



www.discoveractaspire.org

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Every step of the way...
On their path to College & Career.

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- ▶ ACT Aspire Room Supervisor (PBT)
- ▶ ACT Aspire Test Coordinator
- ▶ Manuals
- ▶ Student Performance File (SPF) Layout
- ▶ Work Instructions for Computer-Based Testing
- ▶ Work Instructions for Paper-Based Testing

A

- ▶ Accessibility & Accommodations
- ▶ ACT Aspire Portal Rollover
- ▶ ACT Aspire Portal User Guide
- ▶ ACT Aspire Room Supervisor (CBT)
- ▶ ACT Aspire Room Supervisor (PBT)
- ▶ ACT Aspire Test Coordinator

Welcome to the ACT Aspire Spring 2015 Testing Administration!

1/12/2015

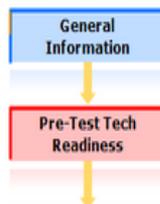
Welcome to ACT Aspire's online training and ancillary resource index used for locating information on topics related to all ACT Aspire assessments. *Be sure to watch the tutorial video located below for helpful navigation tips.*

This site includes an alpha-based topic index on the left to help you find the information you need quickly. The topics reference pages from the most recent test administration manuals and other guides, or the topic may link to an external website. *You can view document pages on this site, review test administration schedules, listen to audio files, as well as download the PDFs for future reference.*

Additional training resources can be found at the Training Management System (TMS) site and the ACT Aspire Landing Page.

- TMS : <https://actaspire.tms.pearson.com/>
- ACT Aspire Landing Page: <http://actaspire.pearson.com/>

Document borders and footnotes reflect the phase of testing it impacts. *See the diagram below for color coding by program chronological flow.* These phases are represented by a specific color with the phase name in the bottom left-hand side of the document.





Welcome to the ACT Aspire Training Management System

Enter your information below to get started

Email

Continue

ACT Testing: South Carolina

www.act.org/aap/southcarolina/aspire.html

The ACT | ACT WorkKeys

ACT Aspire

ACT Aspire

Test Dates

- Testing Window: Coming Soon

Many of the links included on this page take you to an ACT Aspire online resource called Avocet. Using Avocet, you may access the complete document by scrolling to the top of the page and clicking the **Download PDF** button.

Note: Use Internet Explorer 9 or later, Safari 5.1 or later, or Google Chrome 17 if you are having trouble viewing.

- ▶ [Manuals and Documents](#)
- ▶ [Online Testing Readiness](#)
- ▶ [Help Documents](#)
- ▶ [Training](#)
- ▶ [Score Reporting](#)

Contact Us

For questions about ACT Aspire, please contact ACT Aspire Support.

Phone: 888.802.7502

Email:

ACTAspire_Implementation@ACTAspire.org

Related Links

Visit the [ACT Aspire](#) website.

Home > Agency > Programs services > 214 > ACT Aspire

ACT® Aspire™

www.ed.sc.gov/agency/programs-services/214/

ACT® Aspire™ English language arts (writing, English, reading) and mathematics tests will be administered statewide to students in grades 3–8 for the first time in spring 2015.

ACT Aspire Spring 2015 Test Administration Schedule

Grades 3–8	Test Date	Time Limit*
Writing	April 28 (Tuesday)	30 min., grades 3–8
English	April 28 (Tuesday)	30 min., grades 3–5; 35 min., grades 6–8
Reading	April 29 (Wednesday)	60 min., grades 3–8
Mathematics	April 30 (Thursday)	55 min., grades 3–5; 60 min., grades 6 & 7; 65 min., grade 8
Make-up Testing through May 13		

*Note: The ACT Aspire assessments are timed tests.

Education Associate

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- Provides evidence-based results
- Additional measures provide a more holistic view of student
- Educators have greater visibility into specific areas of academic risk and can apply earlier intervention
- Modular administration by subject and/or grade provides testing flexibility
- Links to ACT College Readiness Benchmarks ensure a student's path to College and Career Readiness is on target
- Provides educators with a powerful predictor of performance on the ACT test beginning in grades 9 and 10



ACT[®] WorkKeys[®]

ACT[®]



Assessments and credentials that measure and document foundational work readiness skills

- Developed to address the need for standardized measures of work readiness skills
- Widely adopted by job seekers, educators, employers, and others across the country
- Includes cognitive and non-cognitive assessments that measure foundational workplace skills, interests, attitudes, and personality traits
- Relevant to success on multiple career pathways

ACT Workforce video on You Tube

<http://youtu.be/J2NMYxJTPgc>

You Tube

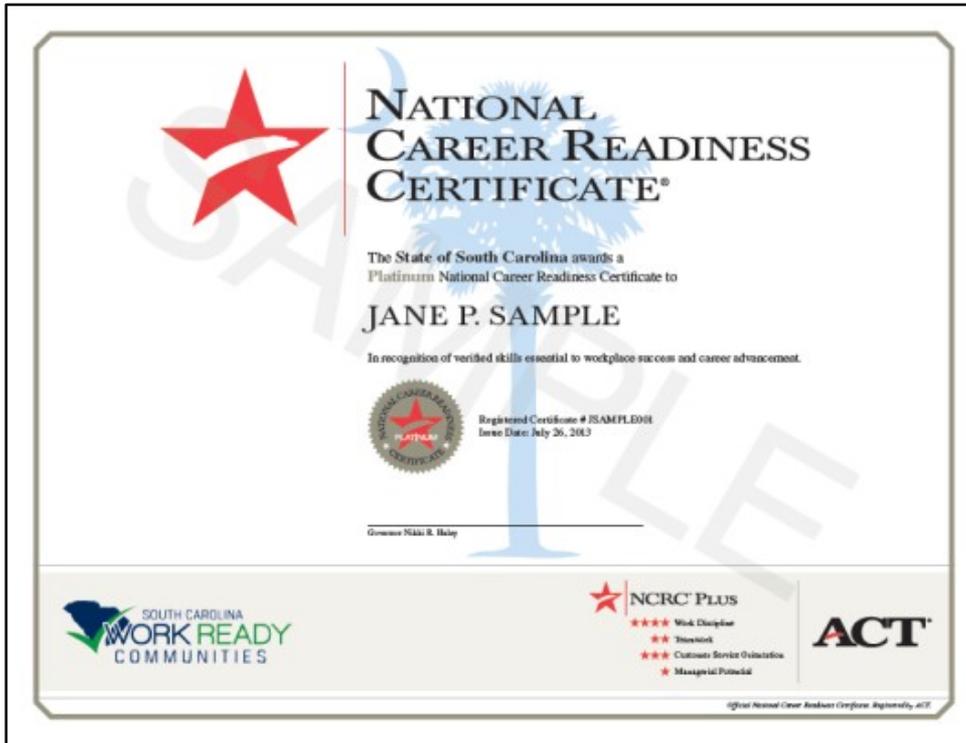


2:53 / 3:53

ACT's Work Readiness System

National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)

The NCRC™ is a credential that is:



- Evidence-based
- Industry-recognized
- Portable
- Used to document essential skills linked to workplace success
- Awarded at four levels: Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum



Platinum: Scores of 6 or higher on all tests; indicates skills required for at least 99% of jobs in the ACT JobPro[®] database



Gold: Scores of 5 or higher on all tests; indicates skills required for at least 93% of jobs in the ACT JobPro database



Silver: Scores of 4 or higher on all tests; indicates skills required for at least 67% of jobs in the ACT JobPro database



Bronze: Scores of 3 or higher on all tests; indicates skills required for at least 17% of jobs in the ACT JobPro database

Source: ACT JobPro Data 2006-2010

Percentage of U.S. Examinees Earning The Certificate



<1%



18%



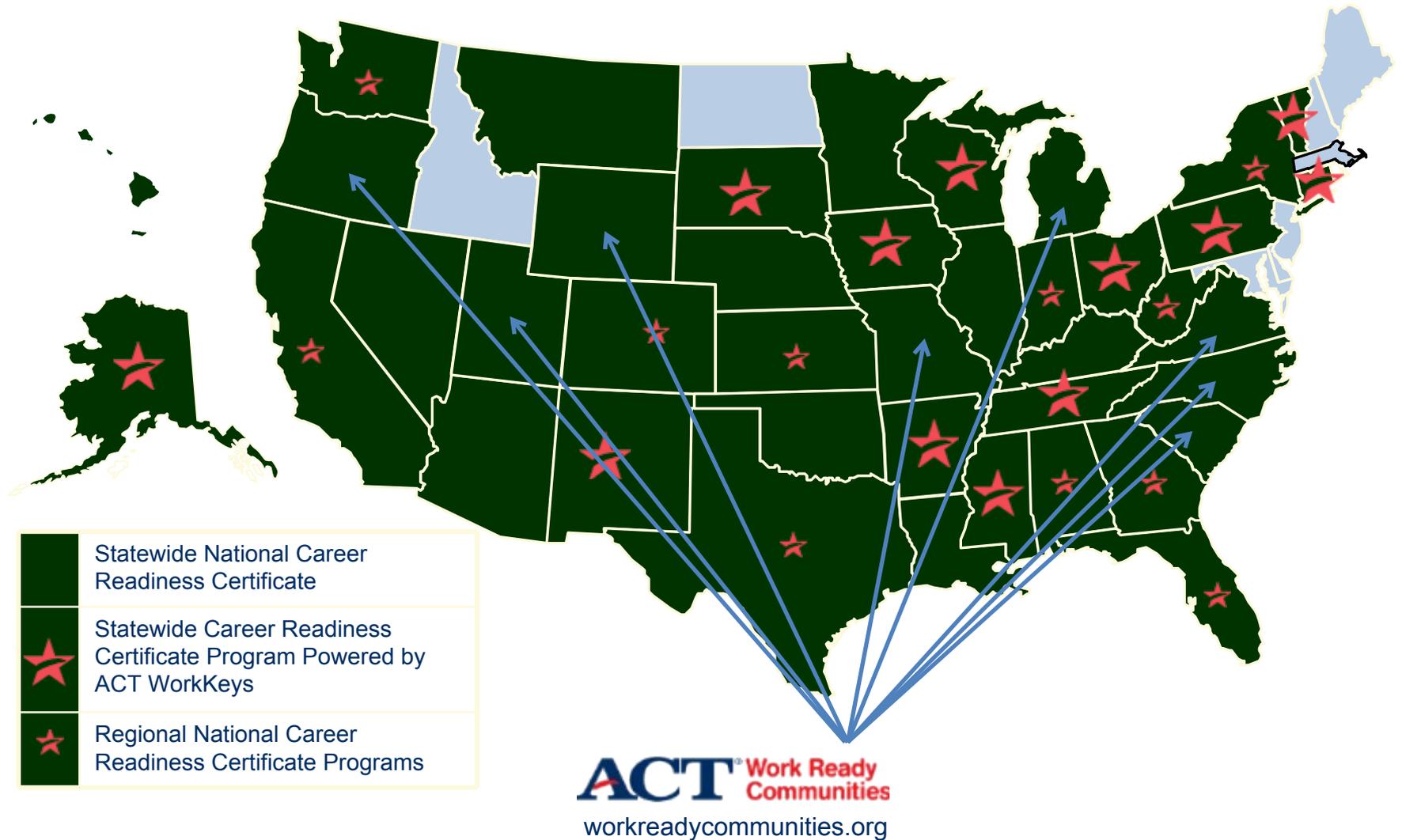
47%



21%

Source: ACT research based on 1,837,880 examinees.

The NCRC is Nationally Accepted



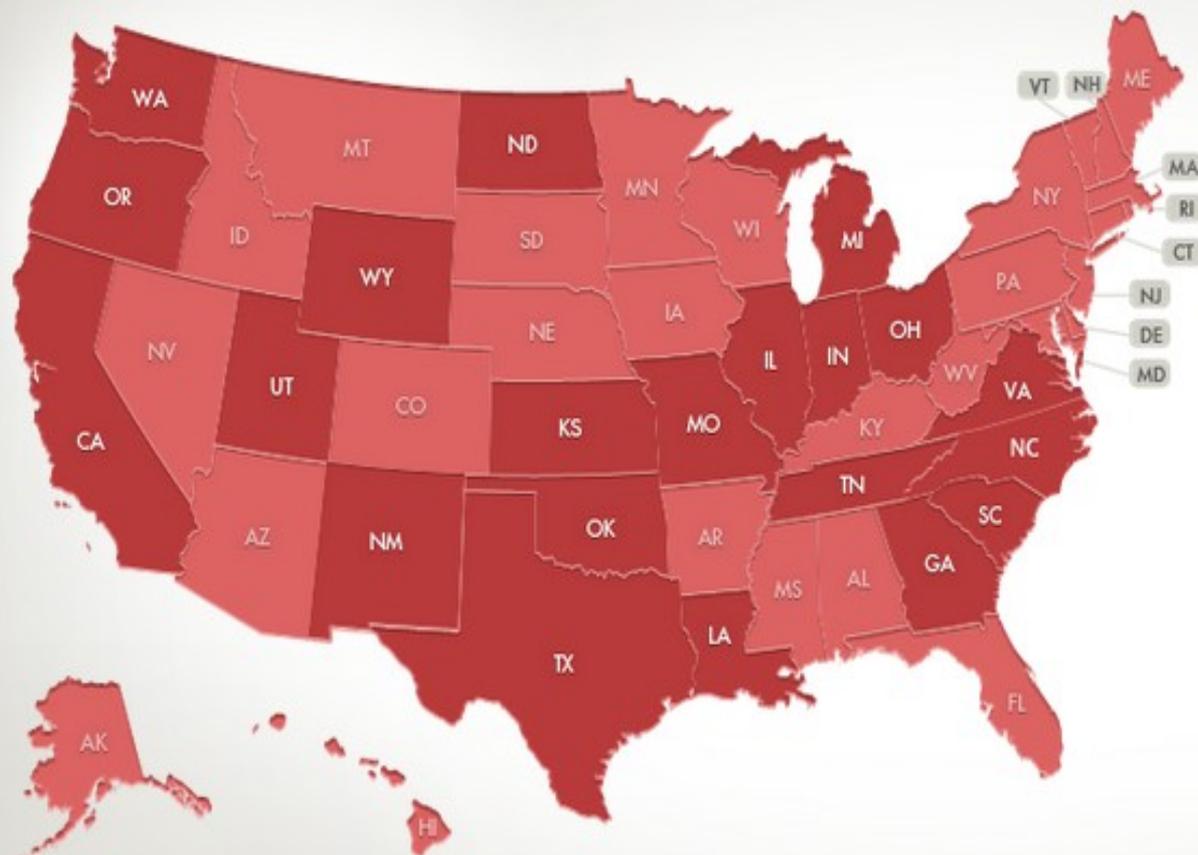
2014 Best Practices Symposium

St. Louis, MO

October 7-8

[Learn More](#)

AFFORDING COMMUNITIES A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE



What is an ACT[®] Work Ready Community?

ACT Work Ready Communities (WRC) empowers states, regions and counties with *data, process and tools* that drive economic growth. Participants are leveraging the **National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC[™])** to measure and close the skills gap – and building common frameworks that link, align and match their workforce development efforts.

ACT is leading this national effort and offers the **ACT Work Ready Communities Academy** – a performance-driven program WRC leadership teams use to initiate, deploy and drive carefully-tailored efforts that grow the number of counties certified as work ready communities.

There are two paths to engage in ACT Work Ready Communities: state and county level applications. Through the **application process**, counties and states are accepted into the Academy to build and launch their Certified Work Ready Communities initiative.

[MORE ON HOW TO SIGN UP](#) ▶

STATES WITH STATE OR COUNTY LED ACT WORK READY COMMUNITIES

[About the data on this site.](#)

www.workreadycommunities.org/SC

ACT® National Career Readiness Certificate[®]

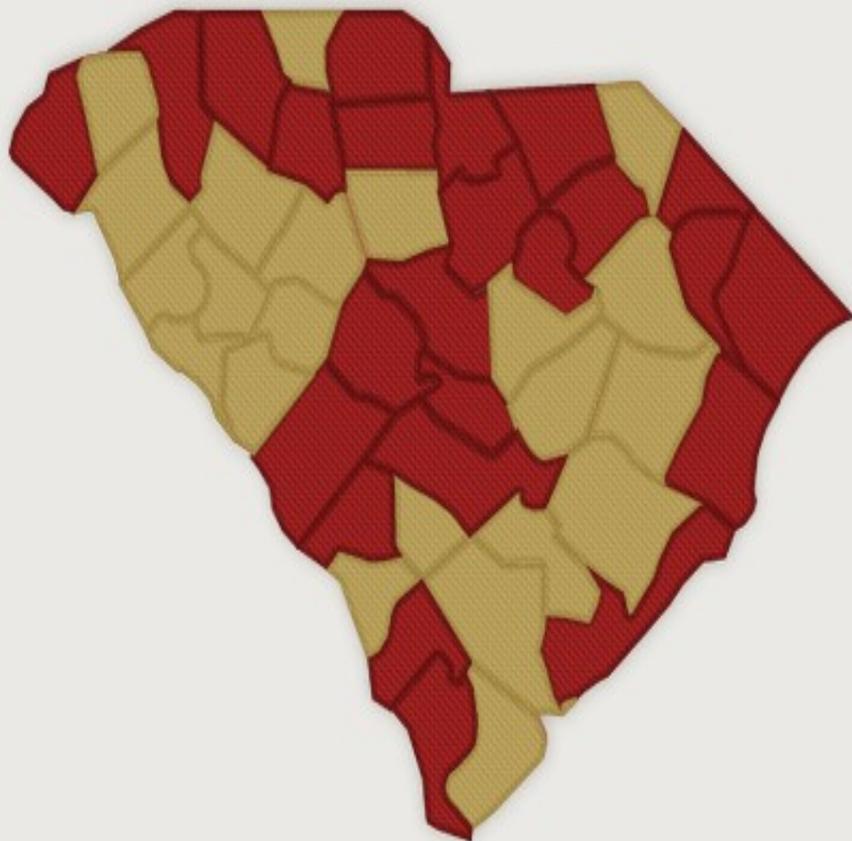
UNITED STATES

SOUTH CAROLINA

*Participating
* State level program in place*

CHOOSE STATE ▼

CHOOSE COUNTY ▼



 PARTICIPATING COUNTY

 CERTIFIED COUNTY

[About the data on this site.](#)

PLATINUM	300
GOLD	30,863
SILVER	129,361
BRONZE	72,202
TOTAL	232,726
NCRC PLUS	5,723 ^①
JOB PROFILES COMPLETED	1,030 ^①

	ACTUAL
<u>EMPLOYERS SUPPORTING</u> ^①	1999 ^①

NCRC Data: 01-01-2006 - 11-30-2014

Engaged January 2012

Thank You!

Mike DiNicola

Senior Account Manager

319-321-9741

mike.dinicola@act.org