



# 2015 ACT Test Results Summary

## Austin Independent School District

2014–2015

### Purpose

This report describes ACT test results for Austin Independent School District (AISD) students in the 2014–2015 school year. The ACT is a national college admissions examination developed and administered by ACT, Inc. that consists of the following subject area tests: English, mathematics (math), reading, and scientific reasoning. The highest score possible on each section of the ACT is 36. Students generally take the ACT during their junior or senior year of high school, and many colleges and universities use the ACT to make admission decisions.

### How many AISD students took the ACT?

AISD students' participation in ACT testing continued to increase in 2015, compared with participation in prior years (Figure 1). ACT test participation also increased at the national level but decreased statewide in 2015.

Figure 1  
ACT test participation has almost doubled since 2005.



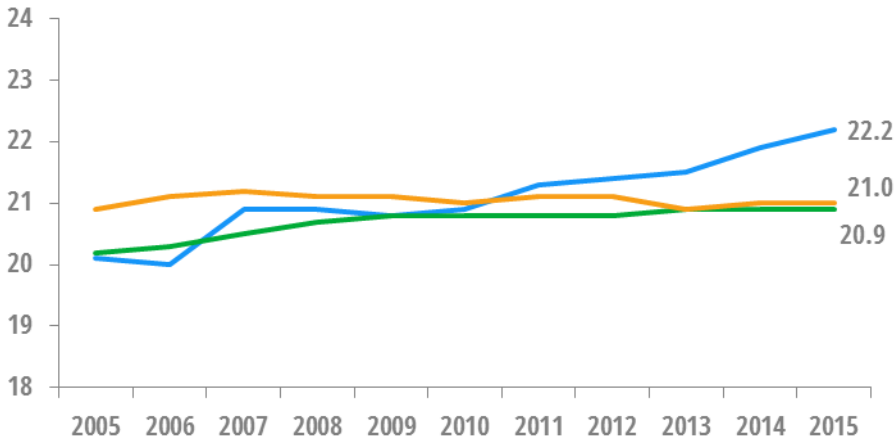
Source. ACT District Profile Report, 2015.

### How did AISD students perform on the ACT?

The average ACT composite score of 22.2 was an all-time high for the district and exceeded the state and national average composite scores. Over the past 5 years, average composite scores for AISD students increased, while national and state average composite scores remained stable. The district's average ACT subject area score in English, math, reading, and science also continued to increase over the past 5 years and exceeded state and national averages in each subject in 2015 (Figures 2 and 3).

Figure 2

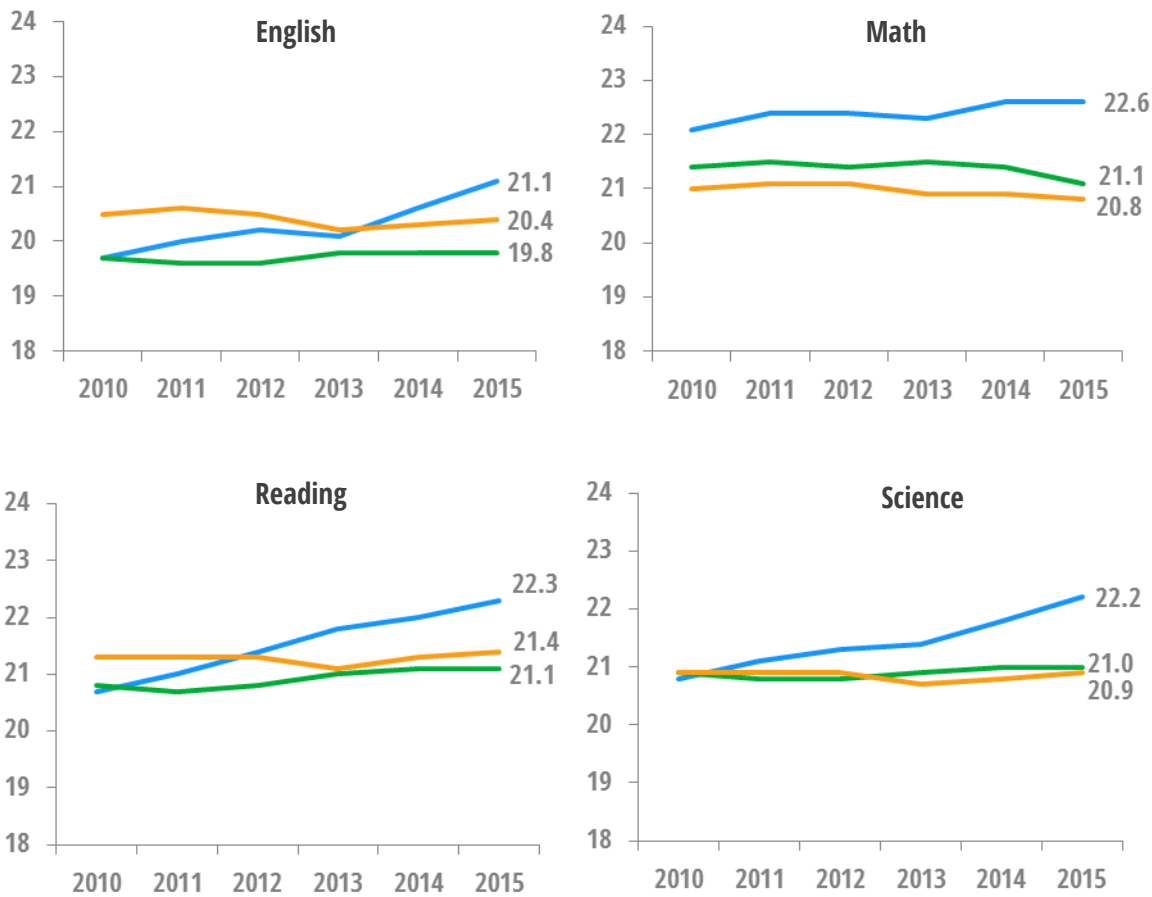
The average ACT composite score of 22.2 was an all-time high for the **district** and exceeded **state** and **national** averages.



Source. ACT District Profile Report, 2015.

Figure 3

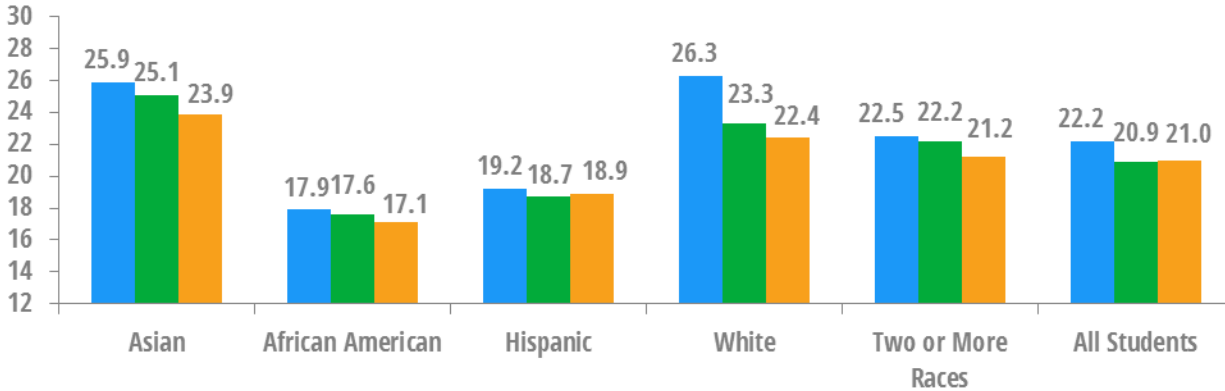
The **district's** average ACT score in each subject area continued to increase over the past 5 years and exceeded **state** and **national** averages in each subject.



Source. ACT District Profile Report, 2015.

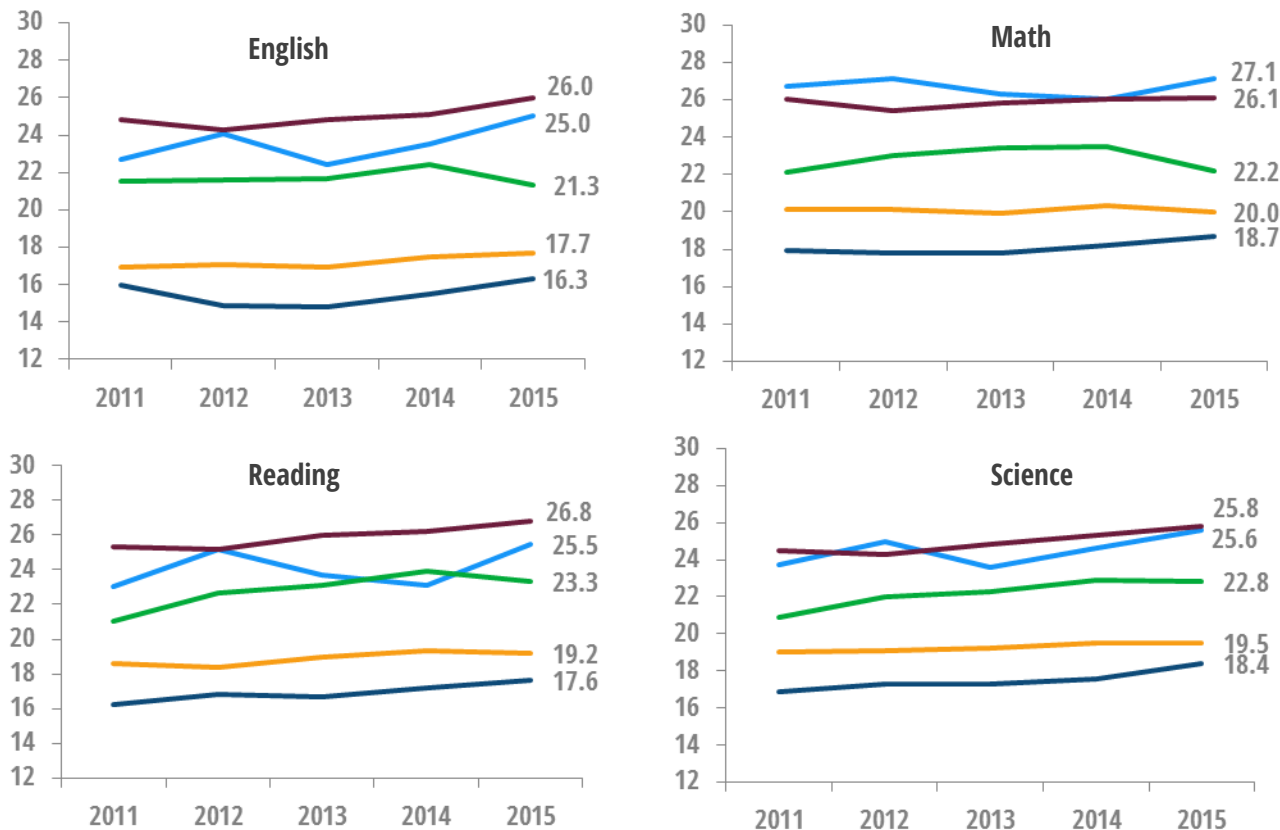
In 2015, AISD students from every race/ethnicity category had greater average composite scores on the ACT, compared with their peers at the state and national levels (Figure 4). Over the past 5 years, the AISD average ACT composite score and subject area scores in English, math, reading, and science increased for all student groups (Figure 5). While ACT scores increased, achievement gaps remained as Asian and White students consistently scored higher than did other student groups.

Figure 4  
The average ACT composite score for all student race/ethnicity groups in AISD exceeded those at state and national levels.



Source. ACT District Profile Report, 2015.

Figure 5  
While average ACT scores increased over the past 5 years for all student groups, Asian and White students continue to score higher on the ACT than students categorized as African American, Hispanic, or two or more races.



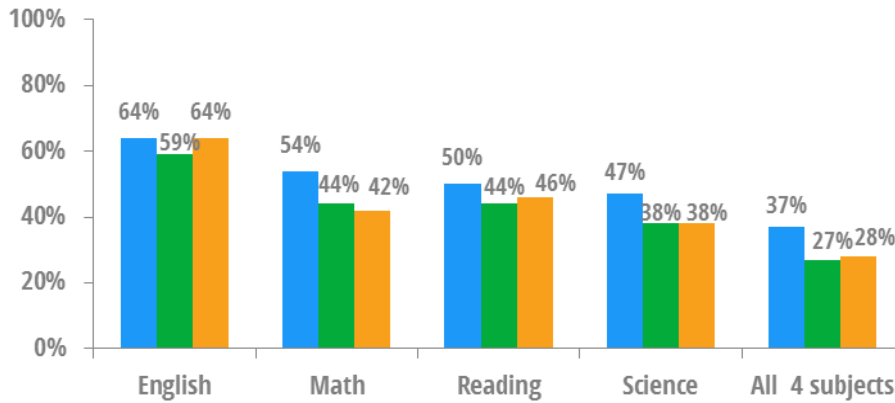
Source. ACT District Profile Report, 2015.

## How many AISD students met college readiness benchmarks on the ACT?

AISD had greater percentages of students who were college ready, compared with percentages at the state and national levels, in math, reading, and science and across all four subjects (Figure 13). Sixty-four percent of students in AISD and across the nation were college ready in English. In a year-to-year comparison, the percentage of student who were college ready increased in English, reading, science, and across all four tests.

Figure 5

In most subjects, greater percentages of AISD test-takers met college readiness benchmarks on the ACT than did students at the state and national levels.

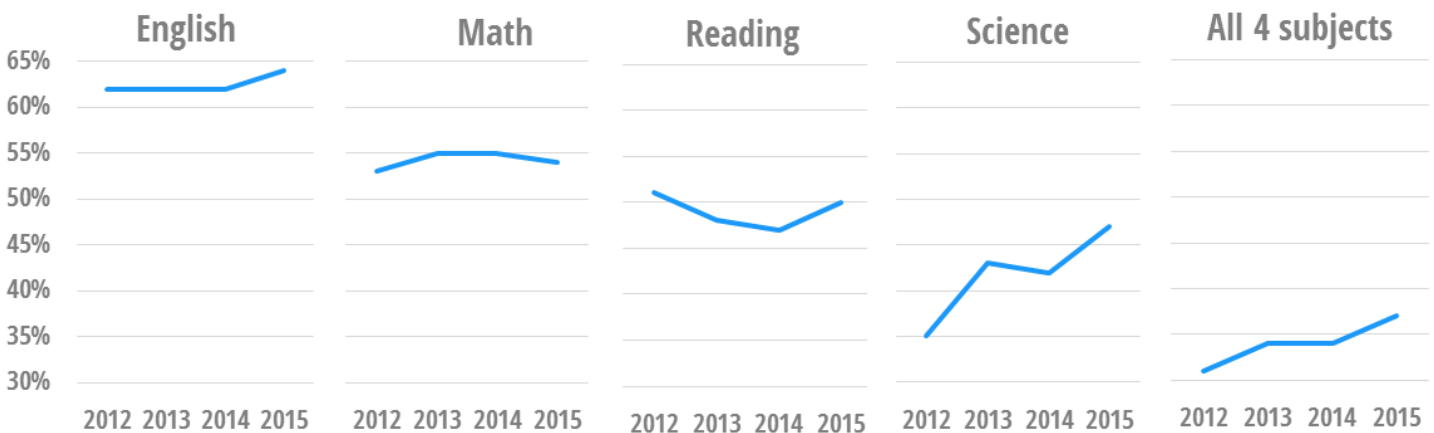


Based on the actual performance of college students, ACT college-readiness benchmark scores indicated a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college courses (ACT, 2014a). These courses included English composition, algebra, social science, and biology.

Source. ACT District Profile Report, 2015.

Figure 6

Compared to prior year's results, the percentage of students who were college ready increased in English, reading, science, and across all four tests in 2015.



Source. ACT District Profile Report, 2015.

### Reference

ACT. (2015). *Graduating class 2015 district profile report*. Iowa City, IA: ACT.

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