

FIELD NOTES



Guide to Your Constituency

2 million

students took the ACT in 2017. Of those, **130,525 students** were from your state.

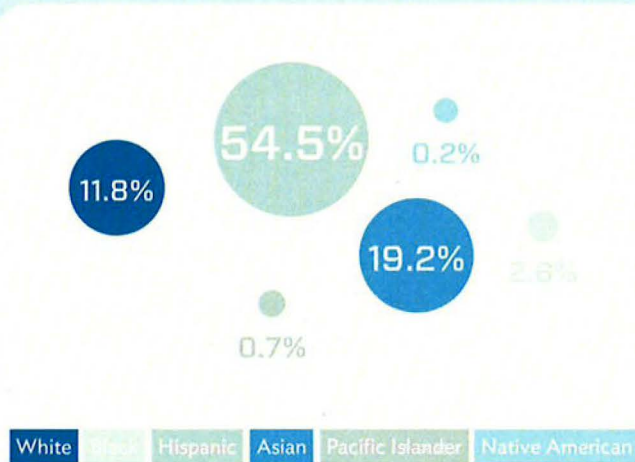
THIS REPRESENTS

31%

OF YOUR STATE'S 2017 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES.

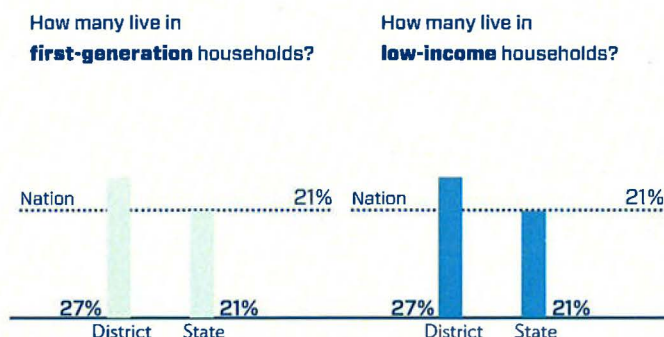


What are your students' racial/ethnic backgrounds?



Two or more (3.3%) | No response (7.6%)

What percentage of your students come from underrepresented groups?



Are your students ready for college?

The ACT test is the most frequently taken college entrance exam in the U.S. The chart below shows the ACT Composite score distribution for students in your district, state, and nation.

ACT COMPOSITE	DISTRICT	STATE	NATION
1-18	36%	27%	38%
19-23	30%	29%	30%
24-36	34%	44%	32%

...But college readiness is more than ONE number.

Along with their ACT Composite score, students also receive scores in four subject areas – Math, Science, English, and Reading – along with target (or “Benchmark”) scores that will help them gauge their likelihood of earning a B or C in credit-bearing first-year college courses. The percentages of students who met at least three of these four Benchmark scores are provided below.

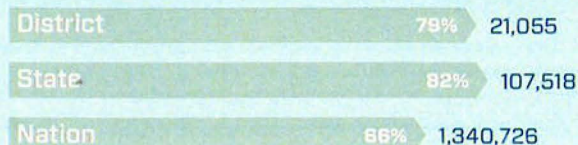
STUDENTS IN YOUR DISTRICT WHO MET AT LEAST 3 OF 4 COLLEGE-READY BENCHMARK SCORES

Overall	42%	State: 51% Nation: 69%
First Generation	23%	State: 25% Nation: 41%
Low Income	26%	State: 27% Nation: 40%

How many students in your district go to college?

Unfortunately, low-income and first-generation students lag behind their peers in their college enrollment rates. Below is a comparison of the college-going rates of these traditionally underrepresented students in your district, state, and nation.

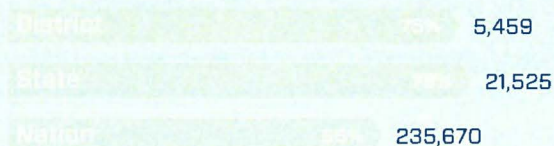
OVERALL



FIRST GENERATION



LOW INCOME



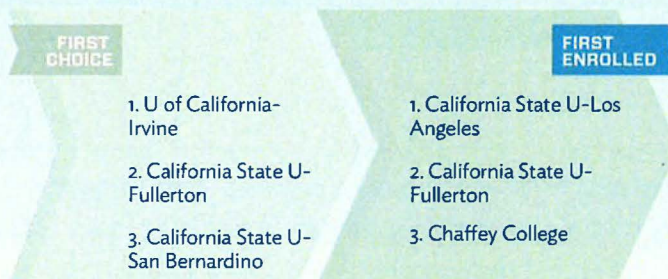
Are your students attending their first choice college?

Where students send their ACT scores is a good indication of which colleges they would like to attend. More often than not, students from underrepresented groups are less likely than their peers to enroll in their top choice colleges.

Top 3 first-choice and first-enrolled colleges of all students



Top 3 first-choice and first-enrolled colleges of underrepresented students



STEM Careers: Are your students interested and ready?

In your state, **43%** of ACT-tested students from the class of 2017 reported being interested in either a STEM major or career. **27%** are prepared for first-year college coursework related to these careers.

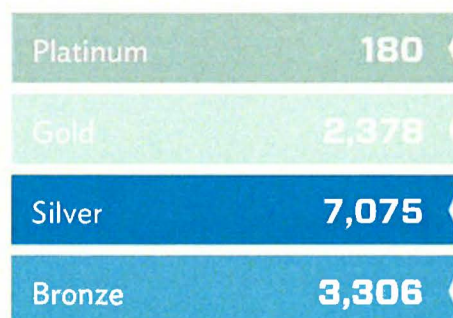
Is your state work ready?

- **7** large employers (with 500+ employees) recognize or recommend the NCRC.
- **0%** of all counties participate in ACT Work Ready Communities.
- There is **1** ACT Work Ready Certified county in your state.

Is your workforce ready?

ACT's National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) matches individuals with jobs and advancement opportunities, and employers with qualified workers. The NCRC is a single credential with four levels – **Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze**. For more information about the NCRC and ACT Work Ready Communities, visit workreadycommunities.org.

NUMBER OF CERTIFIED WORKERS IN YOUR STATE BY NCRC LEVEL





The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) is the primary advocacy organization for the nation's community colleges. The association represents nearly 1,200 two-year, associate degree-granting institutions and more than 12 million students. AACC promotes community colleges; student access, learning, and success; community college leadership development; economic and workforce development; and global intercultural education. Information about AACC and community colleges may be found at www.aacc.nche.edu.



www.aacc.nche.edu

ACT

www.act.org

Sources: ACT (2017). ACT test registration data. | ACT (2016). The ACT National Career Readiness Certificate and job requirements. Retrieved from <https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/WK-Brief-NCRCRequirements.pdf>. | National Student Clearinghouse (2018). Data matched to ACT test registration data. | Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (2016). *Knocking at the College Door: Projections of High School Graduates*, 9th edition.