Average ACT Scores of College-Bound Seniors (1970 – present)

Class Year	ACT									ACT (Pre-1990 Test and Scale)								
	Composite			English			Mathematics			Composite			English			Mathematics		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
1970	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	19.9	20.3	19.4	18.5	17.6	19.4	20.0	21.1	18.8
1971	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	19.3	19.5	19.1	18.1	17.1	19.2	19.1	20.1	18.1
1972	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	19.1	19.5	18.8	17.9	16.9	18.8	19.0	20.0	18.0
1973	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	19.2	---	---	18.1	---	---	19.1	---	---
1974	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.9	---	---	17.9	---	---	18.3	---	---
1975	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.6	19.5	17.8	17.7	17.1	18.3	17.6	19.3	16.2
1976	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.3	---	---	17.5	---	---	17.5	---	---
1977	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.4	19.2	17.8	17.7	17.0	18.2	17.4	18.9	16.1
1978	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.5	19.3	17.8	17.9	17.4	18.3	17.5	19.1	16.2
1979	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.6	19.3	17.9	17.9	17.4	18.4	17.5	19.1	16.2
1980	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.5	19.3	17.9	17.9	17.3	18.3	17.4	18.9	16.2
1981	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.5	19.3	17.8	17.8	17.3	18.2	17.3	18.9	16.0
1982	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.4	19.2	17.8	17.9	17.3	18.4	17.2	18.6	16.0
1983	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.3	19.1	17.6	17.8	17.3	18.2	16.9	18.4	15.7
1984	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.5	19.3	17.9	18.1	17.5	18.6	17.3	18.6	16.1
1985	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.6	19.4	17.9	18.1	17.6	18.6	17.2	18.6	16.0
1986	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.8	19.6	18.1	18.5	17.9	18.9	17.3	18.8	16.0
1987	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.7	19.5	18.1	18.4	17.9	18.9	17.2	18.6	16.1
1988	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.8	19.6	18.1	18.5	18.0	19.0	17.2	18.4	16.1
1989	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.6	19.3	18.0	18.4	17.8	18.9	17.1	18.3	16.1
1990	20.6	21.0	20.3	20.5	20.1	20.9	19.9	20.7	19.3	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1991	20.6	20.9	20.4	20.3	19.8	20.7	20.0	20.6	19.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1992	20.6	20.9	20.5	20.2	19.8	20.6	20.0	20.7	19.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1993	20.7	21.0	20.5	20.3	19.8	20.6	20.1	20.8	19.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1994	20.8	20.9	20.7	20.3	19.8	20.7	20.2	20.8	19.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1995	20.8	21.0	20.7	20.2	19.8	20.6	20.2	20.9	19.7	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1996	20.9	21.0	20.8	20.3	19.8	20.7	20.2	20.9	19.7	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1997	21.0	21.1	20.8	20.3	19.9	20.7	20.6	21.3	20.1	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1998	21.0	21.2	20.9	20.4	19.9	20.8	20.8	21.5	20.2	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1999	21.0	21.1	20.9	20.5	20.0	20.9	20.7	21.4	20.2	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2000	21.0	21.2	20.9	20.5	20.0	20.9	20.7	21.4	20.2	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2001	21.0	21.1	20.9	20.5	20.0	20.8	20.7	21.4	20.2	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2002	20.8	20.9	20.7	20.2	19.7	20.6	20.6	21.2	20.1	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2003	20.8	21.0	20.8	20.3	19.8	20.7	20.6	21.2	20.1	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2004	20.9	21.0	20.9	20.4	19.9	20.8	20.7	21.3	20.2	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2005	20.9	21.1	20.9	20.4	20.0	20.8	20.7	21.3	20.2	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2006	21.1	21.2	21.0	20.6	20.1	21.0	20.8	21.5	20.3	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2007	21.2	21.2	21.0	20.7	20.2	21.0	21.0	21.6	20.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2008	21.1	21.2	21.0	20.6	20.1	21.0	21.0	21.6	20.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2009	21.1	21.3	20.9	20.6	20.2	20.9	21.0	21.6	20.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2010	21.0	21.2	20.9	20.5	20.1	20.8	21.0	21.6	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2011	21.1	21.2	21.0	20.6	20.2	20.9	21.1	21.6	20.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2012	21.1	21.2	21.0	20.5	20.2	20.9	21.1	21.7	20.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2013	20.9	20.9	20.9	20.2	19.8	20.6	20.9	21.4	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2014	21.0	21.1	20.9	20.3	20.0	20.7	20.9	21.4	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2015	21.0	21.1	21.0	20.4	20.0	20.8	20.8	21.3	20.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2016	20.8	20.9	20.9	20.1	19.8	20.6	20.6	21.0	20.3	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2017	21.0	21.0	21.1	20.3	19.9	20.8	20.7	21.2	20.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2018	20.8	20.8	20.9	20.2	19.7	20.7	20.5	20.9	20.2	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2019	20.7	20.6	20.8	20.1	19.6	20.6	20.4	20.8	20.0	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†

---Not available. †Not applicable. (table continues on next page)

Average ACT Scores of College-Bound Seniors (1970 – present)																		
Class Year	ACT									ACT (Pre-1990 Test and Scale)								
	Composite			English			Mathematics			Composite			English			Mathematics		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
2020	**20.6**	20.5	20.8	**19.9**	19.3	20.5	**20.2**	20.6	20.0	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2021	**20.3**	20.3	20.6	**19.6**	19.1	20.2	**19.9**	20.4	19.7	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2022	**19.8**	19.7	20.0	**19.0**	18.5	19.6	**19.3**	19.7	19.1	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2023	**19.5**	19.4	19.7	**18.6**	18.2	19.2	**19.0**	19.4	18.8	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2024	**19.5**	19.4	19.6	**18.6**	18.2	19.2	**19.0**	19.4	18.7	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2025	**19.4**	19.4	19.6	**18.4**	18.1	19.0	**18.9**	19.4	18.7	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†

---Not available. †Not applicable.

The class year refers to the year in which an academic year ends and the graduating year for the senior class. For example, 1992 refers to the academic year 1991-1992 and the data shown for this date includes seniors in the class of 1992. Data through 1980 is based on a 10% sample of all test takers; data after 1980 is based on all test takers. Data prior to class year 1985 include all tests taken by all participants and may include students other than seniors (typically, juniors). Data for 1985 and on are for seniors who graduated in the year shown and had taken the ACT in their junior or senior years. Data for 2013 and on includes extended-time test takers. Possible scores on each part of the ACT range from 1 to 36. Prior to 1990, the Reading section was called Social Studies and the Science Reasoning section was called Natural Science.

Note: The available source data for years 1971 and 1972 include “residual” testing of students on college campuses, unlike the data from other years which include high school students only. (See Koretz, “Trends In Educational Achievement”, 1986, p. 91.) The data for 1971 and 1972 shown in the table above were calculated by comparing 1970 and 1973 numbers (which are available in both data sets) to produce appropriate linear offsets for 1971 and 1972.

SOURCES: 1990 NCES Digest of Education Statistics (nces.ed.gov): data years 1970, 1975, 1977-1989; ACT, Inc. Research Report 71 (1976): data years 1971, 1972; 1989 Almanac of Higher Education (NEA): data years 1973, 1974, 1976; 2000 NCES Digest of Education Statistics: data years 1990-2000; 2010 NCES Digest of Education Statistics: data years 2001-2010; ACT Profile Report – National: data years 2011-present

Average ACT Scores of College-Bound Seniors (1970 – present)

Class Year	ACT									ACT (Pre-1990 Test and Scale)								
	Composite			Reading			Science Reasoning			Composite			Social Studies			Natural Science		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
1970	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	19.9	20.3	19.4	19.7	20.3	19.0	20.8	21.6	20.0
1971	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	19.3	19.5	19.1	18.6	18.8	18.4	20.5	21.2	19.8
1972	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	19.1	19.5	18.8	18.7	19.1	18.3	20.6	21.5	19.7
1973	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	19.2	---	---	18.3	---	---	20.8	---	---
1974	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.9	---	---	18.1	---	---	20.8	---	---
1975	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.6	19.5	17.8	17.4	18.7	16.4	21.1	22.4	20.0
1976	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.3	---	---	17.0	---	---	20.8	---	---
1977	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.4	19.2	17.8	17.3	18.2	16.5	20.9	22.3	19.6
1978	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.5	19.3	17.8	17.1	18.0	16.4	20.9	22.3	19.8
1979	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.6	19.3	17.9	17.2	18.1	16.4	21.1	22.3	20.2
1980	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.5	19.3	17.9	17.2	18.2	16.4	21.1	22.4	20.0
1981	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.5	19.3	17.8	17.2	18.3	16.4	21.0	22.3	20.0
1982	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.4	19.2	17.8	17.3	18.1	16.6	20.8	22.2	19.7
1983	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.3	19.1	17.6	17.1	18.0	16.4	20.9	22.4	19.6
1984	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.5	19.3	17.9	17.3	18.1	16.5	21.0	22.4	19.9
1985	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.6	19.4	17.9	17.4	18.3	16.6	21.2	22.6	20.0
1986	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.8	19.6	18.1	17.6	18.6	16.9	21.4	22.7	20.2
1987	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.7	19.5	18.1	17.5	18.4	16.7	21.4	22.8	20.1
1988	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.8	19.6	18.1	17.4	18.4	16.6	21.4	22.8	20.2
1989	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	18.6	19.3	18.0	17.2	18.1	16.4	21.2	22.6	20.0
1990	20.6	21.0	20.3	---	---	---	---	---	---	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1991	20.6	20.9	20.4	21.2	21.3	21.1	20.7	21.3	20.1	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1992	20.6	20.9	20.5	21.1	21.1	21.1	20.7	21.4	20.1	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1993	20.7	21.0	20.5	21.2	21.2	21.2	20.8	21.5	20.3	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1994	20.8	20.9	20.7	21.2	21.1	21.4	20.9	21.6	20.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1995	20.8	21.0	20.7	21.3	21.1	21.4	21.0	21.6	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1996	20.9	21.0	20.8	21.3	21.0	21.6	21.1	21.7	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1997	21.0	21.1	20.8	21.3	21.2	21.5	21.1	21.7	20.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1998	21.0	21.2	20.9	21.4	21.1	21.6	21.1	21.8	20.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
1999	21.0	21.1	20.9	21.4	21.1	21.6	21.0	21.5	20.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2000	21.0	21.2	20.9	21.4	21.2	21.5	21.0	21.6	20.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2001	21.0	21.1	20.9	21.3	21.1	21.5	21.0	21.6	20.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2002	20.8	20.9	20.7	21.1	20.9	21.3	20.8	21.3	20.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2003	20.8	21.0	20.8	21.2	21.0	21.4	20.8	21.3	20.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2004	20.9	21.0	20.9	21.3	21.1	21.5	20.9	21.3	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2005	20.9	21.1	20.9	21.3	21.0	21.5	20.9	21.4	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2006	21.1	21.2	21.0	21.4	21.1	21.6	20.9	21.4	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2007	21.2	21.2	21.0	21.5	21.2	21.6	21.0	21.4	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2008	21.1	21.2	21.0	21.4	21.2	21.5	20.8	21.3	20.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2009	21.1	21.3	20.9	21.4	21.3	21.4	20.9	21.4	20.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2010	21.0	21.2	20.9	21.3	21.1	21.4	20.9	21.4	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2011	21.1	21.2	21.0	21.3	21.1	21.4	20.9	21.4	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2012	21.1	21.2	21.0	21.3	21.2	21.4	20.9	21.4	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2013	20.9	20.9	20.9	21.1	20.9	21.4	20.7	21.2	20.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2014	21.0	21.1	20.9	21.3	21.1	21.5	20.8	21.2	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2015	21.0	21.1	21.0	21.4	21.2	21.6	20.9	21.3	20.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2016	20.8	20.9	20.9	21.3	21.0	21.6	20.8	21.1	20.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2017	21.0	21.0	21.1	21.4	21.2	21.8	21.0	21.3	20.8	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2018	20.8	20.8	20.9	21.3	21.0	21.7	20.7	20.9	20.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2019	20.7	20.6	20.8	21.2	20.7	21.7	20.6	20.8	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†

---Not available. †Not applicable.

(table continues on next page)

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	Composite			Reading			Science Reasoning			Composite			Social Studies			Natural Science		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
2020	20.6	20.5	20.8	21.2	20.8	21.6	20.6	20.7	20.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2021	20.3	20.3	20.6	20.9	20.6	21.5	20.4	20.6	20.4	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2022	19.8	19.7	20.0	20.4	20.0	20.9	19.9	20.0	19.9	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2023	19.5	19.4	19.7	20.1	19.7	20.6	19.6	19.8	19.6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2024	19.5	19.4	19.6	20.1	19.6	20.6	19.6	19.8	19.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
2025	19.4	19.4	19.6	20.0	19.6	20.6	19.6	19.8	19.5	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†

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Note: The available source data for years 1971 and 1972 include “residual” testing of students on college campuses, unlike the data from other years which include high school students only. (See Koretz, “Trends In Educational Achievement”, 1986, p. 91.) The data for 1971 and 1972 shown in the table above were calculated by comparing 1970 and 1973 numbers (which are available in both data sets) to produce appropriate linear offsets for 1971 and 1972.

SOURCES: 1990 NCES Digest of Education Statistics (nces.ed.gov): data years 1970, 1975, 1977-1989; ACT, Inc. Research Report 71 (1976): data years 1971, 1972; 1989 Almanac of Higher Education (NEA): data years 1973, 1974, 1976; 2000 NCES Digest of Education Statistics: data years 1990-2000; 2010 NCES Digest of Education Statistics: data years 2001-2010; ACT Profile Report – National: data years 2011-present