

FAYETTE R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT 2017 ACT SCORES

The ACT assesses high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work. It was first administered in 1959 and all 50 states began administering it in 1960. It is the one college entrance exam required by more 4-year colleges than any other. The test includes a multiple-choice portion covering four skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science. The writing test is optional and measures skill in planning and writing a short essay. Specifically, the ACT is comprised of 75 English questions, 60 math questions, 40 reading questions, and 40 science questions for a total of 215 questions. It is not an aptitude or an IQ test. It is a test based directly on what students have learned in their high school courses in English, math, and science. It includes a unique interest inventory that is designed to provide information on career and educational planning as well as a student profile section that provides a comprehensive profile of a student's work in high school and his or her future plans.

More than 2.03 million graduating seniors took the ACT in 2017, and yielded a national average composite score of 21.1, up from 20.8 in 2016. The highest possible score is 36. Approximately 1 in 5,500 students who take the exam score a perfect 36. Students are allowed to retest in an effort to improve their score. 55% of the students who retest do increase their composite score, 23% decrease their score, and 22% show no change in their score.

In 2015, Missouri began offering a one-time ACT administration to all 11th graders at no cost to the students. These results reflect the performance of the entire senior class for the first time, which has resulted in a new baseline. Currently there are seventeen other states who test 100 percent of their graduating students. This shift from a mainly college bound population taking the test to a fully tested population has impacted the average composite scores by causing a decline. This report reflects the highest scores of the 2016 graduates as students may retake the test in an attempt to raise their score.

Five Year Data Trends for Fayette and the State of Missouri – Average ACT Scores

Year	Total Tested		English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
	Fayette	State	Fayette	State	Fayette	State	Fayette	State	Fayette	State	Fayette	State
2013	30	49,217	23.4	21.4	22.8	21.0	22.6	21.9	23.3	21.6	23.2	21.6
2014	33	48,865	19.9	21.6	19.2	21.1	21.4	22.3	20.2	21.7	20.2	21.8
2015	26	49,640	21.3	21.4	19.8	21.0	21.8	22.2	21.1	21.7	21.1	21.7
2016	42	68,446	18.6	19.7	18.6	19.8	19.3	20.6	19.0	20.4	19.1	20.2
2017	41	68,480	18.9	19.8	18.8	19.9	18.3	20.8	18.9	20.5	18.8	20.4

New baseline scores began in 2016 with 100% of the graduating students tested. 2016 & 2017 data cannot be compared to the data from the previous years. Prior data is provided for informational purposes only.

On the national level, the 2017 graduating students who took the ACT earned a composite score of 21. This score reflects the average of the most recent ACT scores of the graduates. The composite scores for the 17 states testing 100 percent of their graduating students are in order by score as follows:

Minnesota	21.5	Utah	20.3	Louisiana	19.5	S.Carolina	18.7
National Score	21.0	Montana	20.3	Oklahoma	19.4	Mississippi	18.6
Colorado	20.8	Wyoming	20.2	Arkansas	19.4	Nevada	17.8
Wisconsin	20.5	Kentucky	20.0	Alabama	19.2		
Missouri	20.4	Tennessee	19.8	N.Carolina	19.1		

Percent of ACT-Tested Students Ready for College-Level Coursework

College English Composition: Fayette 41% State 59%

College Algebra: Fayette 27% State 34%

College Social Science: Fayette 20% State 43%

College Biology: Fayette 21% State 34%

All four (4) college courses: Fayette 12% State 23%

After high school, all students should be prepared for college and work. Through collaborative research with postsecondary institutions nationwide, ACT has established college readiness benchmark scores for the following courses:

English Composition: 18 on ACT English Test

Algebra: 22 on ACT Math Test

Social Science: 22 on ACT Reading Test

Biology: 23 on ACT Science Test

Nationally, students who take four years of high school English and three years each of math, science, and social studies score an average of 22.0 on the ACT exam and students who do not take that course load score an average of 19.8.

Many four-year university scholarships are available to students scoring a minimum of 24 on the ACT.

The preparation to be successful in college begins in Kindergarten and each year of educational experience is instrumental in that process. Family and community support and encouragement throughout a child's education is vital. The Fayette R-III School District appreciates the partnership and support of both parents and the community.