

FAYETTE R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT 2018 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.

The highest possible score is 36. Approximately 1 in 5,500 students who take the exam score a perfect 36. Students are allowed to retake in an effort to improve their score. 55% of the students who retake 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. The results reflected the performance of the entire senior class for the first time, which resulted in a new baseline. This shift from a mainly college bound population taking the test to a fully tested population impacted the average composite scores by causing a decline. The information below also reflects the highest scores of the graduates as students may retake the test in an attempt to raise their score. Missouri is among 17 states that test 100% of the graduating class and had a composite score of 20, the sixth highest of this group, tying with Montana and Wyoming.

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
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
*2018	42	68,424	19.0	19.5	19.1	19.7	19.7	20.5	19.6	20.0	19.5	20.0

***New baseline scores began in 2016 with 100% of the graduating students tested. 2016, 2017, & 2018 data cannot be compared to the data from the previous years. Prior data is provided for informational purposes only.**

On the national level, the 2018 graduating students who took the ACT earned a composite score of 20.8.

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

	2018 Fayette	2018 Missouri	2017 Fayette	2017 Missouri
College English Composition	55%	56%	41%	59%
College Algebra	31%	33%	27%	34%
College Social Science	36%	41%	20%	43%
College Biology	24%	32%	21%	34%
All 4 (4) College Courses	19%	22%	12%	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	Algebra	Social Science	Biology
18	22	22	23

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.

ACT Research has shown that it is the rigor of coursework, rather than simply the number of core courses, that has the greatest impact on ACT performance and college readiness.

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 parents and the community in the education of its youth.