

About the ACT. 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. ACT, Inc. provides an annual summary of student performance at the end of each academic year. Results from that annual summary are described in this brief.

AISD student participation in ACT testing continued to increase in 2012, compared with prior years' participation. The 2012 ACT test participation increased for all student groups, except African American students, who decreased by 17. Overall, 198 additional students took the ACT test in 2012 compared to 2011. Since 2005, student participation has increased by 570.

Figure 1. Number of AISD Students Taking the ACT

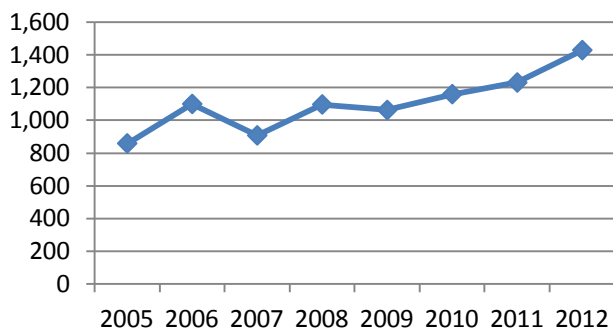
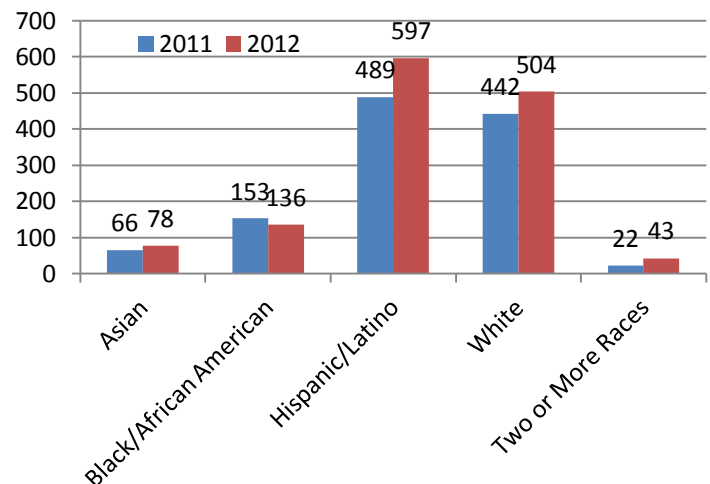


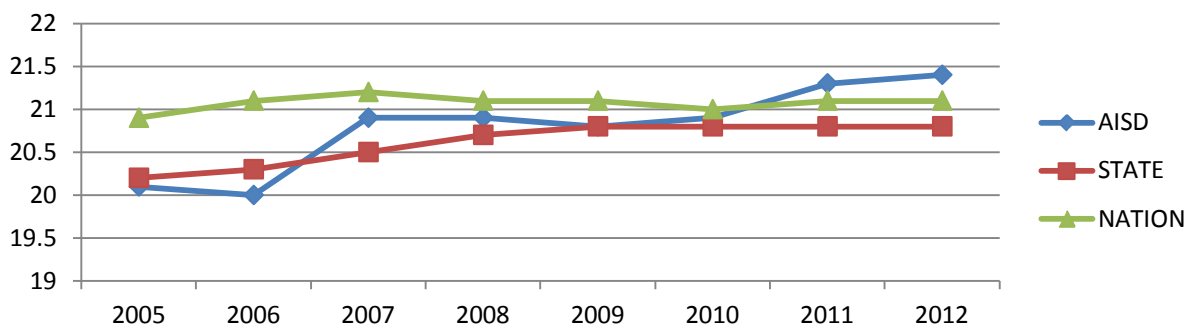
Figure 2. Number of AISD Students Taking the ACT



Source. ACT Profile Report, 2012

The average composite ACT score remained stable (21.4) in 2012, compared with a score of 21.3 in 2011. State and national average composite scores also remained the same. In 2012, AISD student performance continued to exceed the state (20.8) and national (21.1) averages.

Figure 3. AISD, State, and National Overall Average ACT Scores, 2005–2012



Source. ACT Profile Report, 2012

ACT Test Results Summary, 2010-2011

AISD average ACT scores slightly increased in English (0.2), reading (0.4), science (0.2), and composite (0.1) compared to last year. Since 2005, scores have increased by 1 to 1.7 points across subject areas, on average. AISD average ACT scores exceeded state average ACT scores in every area and exceeded national average ACT math, reading, science, and composite scores (omitting English).

Figure 4. ACT Average Scores: English

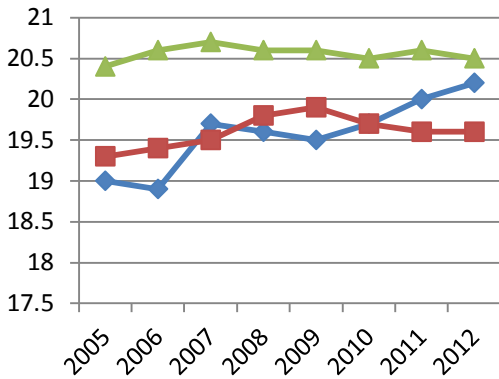


Figure 5. ACT Average Scores: Math

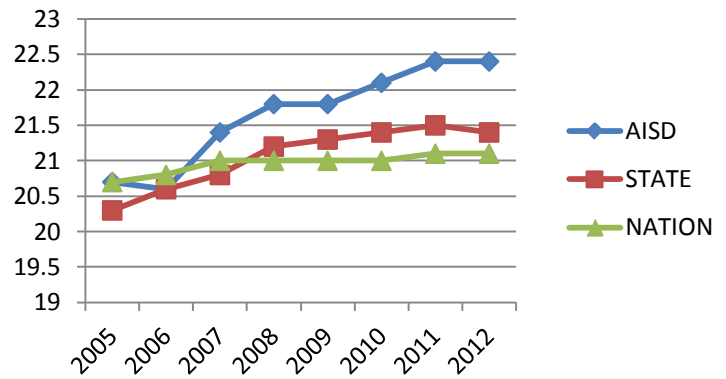


Figure 6. ACT Average Score: Reading

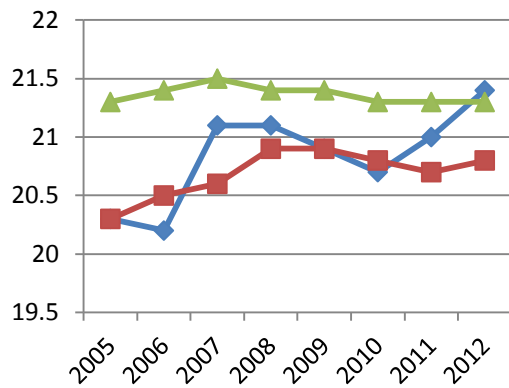
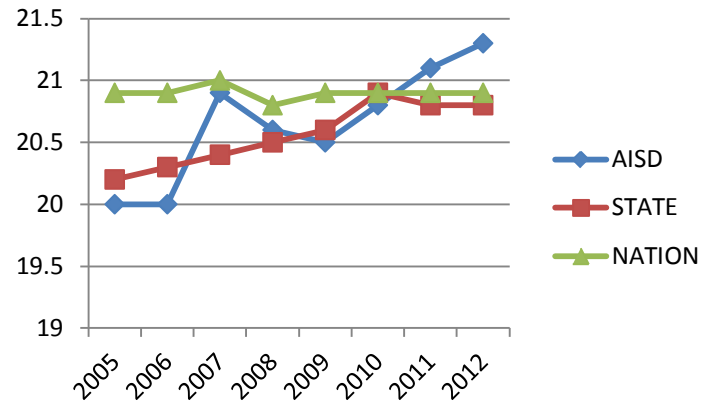


Figure 7. ACT Average Score: Scientific Reasoning



Source. ACT Profile Report, 2011

Average ACT scores continued to vary across student groups by subject and between 2011 and 2012. Average ACT scores increased for Asian students in every subject area (Table 1). Compared to last year, African American students slightly increased their reading and science, while their English score decreased. Hispanic students increased their English score slightly from last year, and their reading score decreased slightly. Average scores decreased slightly for White students in English, math, and science. Students of Two or More Races had increases in math, reading, and science scores.

Table 1. One-Year Change in ACT Average Score, by Ethnicity

| | English | | | Math | | | Reading | | | Science | | |
|------------------|---------|------|-------|------|------|-------|---------|------|-------|---------|------|-------|
| | 2011 | 2012 | Diff. | 2011 | 2012 | Diff. | 2011 | 2012 | Diff. | 2011 | 2012 | Diff. |
| Asian | 22.7 | 24.1 | 1.4 | 26.7 | 27.1 | 0.4 | 23 | 25.2 | 2.2 | 23.7 | 25.0 | 1.3 |
| African American | 16 | 14.9 | -1.1 | 17.9 | 17.8 | -0.1 | 16.2 | 16.8 | 0.6 | 16.9 | 17.3 | 0.4 |
| Hispanic | 16.9 | 17.1 | 0.2 | 20.1 | 20.1 | 0.0 | 18.6 | 18.4 | -0.2 | 19 | 19.1 | 0.1 |
| White | 24.8 | 24.3 | -0.5 | 26 | 25.4 | -0.6 | 25.3 | 25.2 | -0.1 | 24.5 | 24.3 | -0.2 |
| Two + Races | 21.5 | 21.6 | 0.1 | 22.1 | 23.0 | 0.9 | 21 | 22.7 | 1.7 | 20.9 | 22.0 | 1.1 |

Source. ACT Profile Report, 2010

ACT Test Results Summary, 2010-2011

Compared with last year, the percentage of *all* AISD students meeting the ACT college readiness benchmark increased in English and science (Table 3). The highest gains were made by Asian students (between 12%-15% across all areas except Math, which also increased, by only 3%). The percentage of African American students meeting the college ready benchmark increased in reading and science and decreased in English. The percentage of Hispanic students meeting the benchmark scores increased in science and decreased in reading. The percentage of White students meeting the benchmark scores decreased in math and science. Additionally, AISD had a greater percentage of students meeting the college readiness benchmark in every area compared with the state. However, Gaps in the percentages of students meeting college readiness benchmarks continued to be found between African American and Hispanic students and their White and Asian peers.

Table 3. ACT Percentage College Ready, by Ethnicity, 2010 and 2011

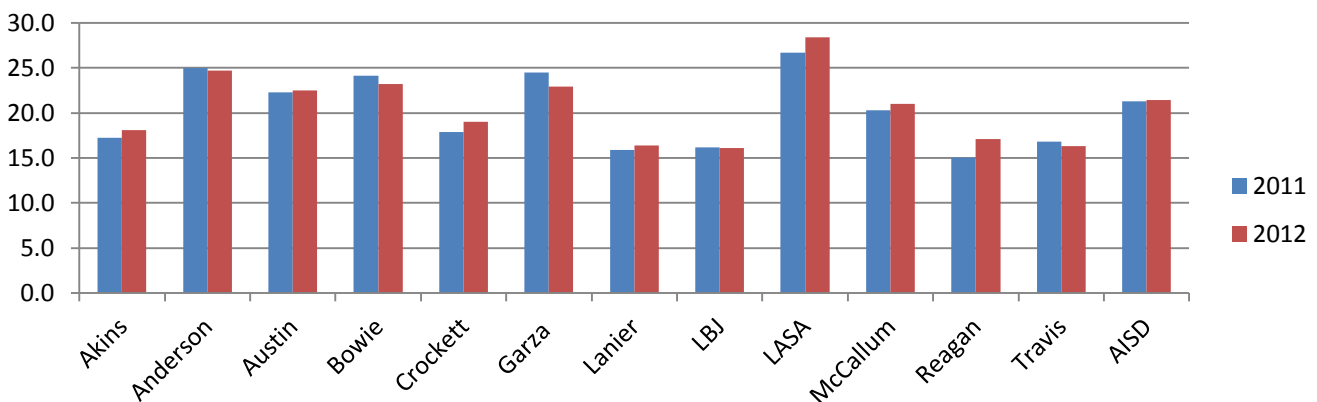
| | English (Benchmark score= 18) | | | Math (Benchmark score= 22) | | | Reading (Benchmark score= 24) | | | Science (Benchmark score= 18) | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|------|-------|-------------------------------|------|-------|----------------------------------|------|-------|----------------------------------|------|-------|
| | 2011 | 2012 | Diff. | 2011 | 2012 | Diff. | 2011 | 2012 | Diff. | 2011 | 2012 | Diff. |
| Asian | 73% | 85% | 12% | 80% | 83% | 3% | 61% | 73% | 12% | 48% | 63% | 15% |
| African American | 29% | 26% | -3% | 19% | 18% | -1% | 18% | 23% | 5% | 5% | 10% | 5% |
| Hispanic | 43% | 44% | 1% | 36% | 35% | -1% | 36% | 33% | -3% | 17% | 19% | 2% |
| White | 88% | 87% | -1% | 82% | 77% | -5% | 76% | 76% | 0% | 59% | 55% | -4% |
| Two + Races | 77% | 74% | -3% | 59% | 60% | 1% | 41% | 58% | 17% | 32% | 37% | 5% |
| All Students | 60% | 62% | 2% | 54% | 53% | -1% | 50% | 51% | 1% | 33% | 35% | 2% |

Source. ACT Profile Report, 2012

Note. As reported by ACT, "The benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate 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, which include English composition, algebra, social science, and biology. These scores were empirically derived based on the actual performance of students in college."

Across campuses, the average ACT composite scores varied, ranging between 16.1 and 28.4 (Figure 8 and Table 4). Eastside had less than 5 students who took the ACT test, while Bowie had the highest participation rate (n=249). Between 2011 and 2012, average ACT scores increased for 6 schools, and decreased for four schools. The following institutions received the most ACT score reports from AISD students and are listed in order: Texas State University, University of Texas at Austin, University of Texas at San Antonio, Texas A&M University at College Station, and St. Edward's University.

Figure 8. ACT Average Composite Scores, by Campus and School Year



Source. ACT Profile Report, 2012.

ACT Test Results Summary, 2010-2011

Table 4. 2012 ACT Campus, District, State, and National Average Scores, by Subject

| Campus | Number Tested | English | Mathematics | Reading | Science | Composite |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------|-------------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Akins | 101 | 16.1 | 19.3 | 17.9 | 18.6 | 18.1 |
| Anderson | 201 | 23.7 | 25.7 | 24.5 | 24.4 | 24.7 |
| Austin | 223 | 21.8 | 23.3 | 22.7 | 21.9 | 22.5 |
| Bowie | 249 | 22.1 | 24.1 | 23.4 | 22.9 | 23.2 |
| Crockett | 127 | 17.8 | 19.7 | 18.9 | 19.3 | 19.0 |
| Garza | 10 | 24.2 | 21.9 | 23.4 | 21.7 | 22.9 |
| Eastside Memorial | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Lanier | 65 | 13.7 | 17.8 | 16.2 | 17.3 | 16.4 |
| LBJ | 76 | 14.4 | 17.1 | 16.0 | 16.2 | 16.1 |
| LASA | 96 | 26.7 | 28.4 | 28.8 | 27.6 | 28.4 |
| McCallum | 165 | 19.5 | 22.1 | 20.8 | 21.2 | 21.0 |
| Reagan | 24 | 14.4 | 18.6 | 17.6 | 17.6 | 17.1 |
| Travis | 89 | 14.4 | 18.0 | 15.6 | 16.6 | 16.3 |
| AI SD | 1,429 | 20.2 | 22.4 | 21.4 | 21.3 | 21.4 |
| State | 110,180 | 19.6 | 21.4 | 20.8 | 20.8 | 20.8 |
| National | 1,666,017 | 20.5 | 21.1 | 21.3 | 20.9 | 21.1 |

Source. ACT Profile Report, 2012.

Note. * Results for groups of less than 5 students are not reported to protect confidentiality.

Reference

ACT (2012). *Graduating class 2011 district profile report*. Iowa City, IA: ACT.