

2016-17 College and Career Readiness: In-School ACT Testing

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At-a-Glance

A goal of Dallas ISD leadership was to increase the proportion of high school seniors who achieved college-ready scores on the ACT. To help achieve this goal of college readiness, Dallas ISD seniors took the ACT during the school day on September 27, 2016. To assist the district in evaluating progress toward college readiness goals, this evaluation documented the number and proportion of Dallas ISD seniors who took the in-school ACT and reported results for 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17.

The ACT is administered by ACT, Inc. and consists of four sections: English, reading, mathematics, and science. Each section's score ranges from 1 to 36. A composite score is calculated by taking the average of the scores for the four sections. A college-ready score is defined by ACT, Inc. as a composite score of at least a 21. ACT college readiness benchmarks for individual subjects are: English, 18; reading, 22; mathematics, 22; and science, 23.

Methodology

The evaluator merged ACT data from 2014-15 (August 18, 2015), 2015-16 (January 27, 2016), and 2016-17 (March 23, 2017) with district demographic data files from October 31, 2014, October 30, 2015, and October 31, 2016 (PEIMS snapshot dates), respectively, to determine how many seniors took the ACT during in-school testing. The evaluator calculated the number and percentage of seniors who met the ACT college readiness benchmark (21), the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) benchmark (23), and the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) benchmark (24).¹

Results

In comparison to previous years, the percentage of senior participants and mean composite scores slightly increased. While the total number of seniors decreased in 2016-17, the number of students tested increased. Eighty-seven percent of Dallas ISD seniors took the ACT on September 27, 2016, compared to 86 percent in 2014-15 and 84 percent in 2015-16. The mean composite score increased from 16 in 2014-15 and 2015-16 to 17 in 2016-17. In addition, 18 percent of seniors met the college readiness benchmark compared to 15 percent in 2014-15 and 17 percent in 2015-16. Tables 1 to 4 show 2016-17 ACT participation numbers, participation rates, average composite scores, and rates

of seniors meeting TSI college readiness benchmarks, respectively, by campus.

Table 1: 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 Number of Seniors and ACT Participants by Campus

Campus	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
	Seniors Tested	Seniors Tested	Seniors Tested	Seniors Tested	Seniors Tested	Seniors Tested
	n	n	n	n	n	n
Adams, B	370	305	382	260	401	375
Adamson	299	265	332	285	295	228
Smith New Tech	100	99	100	92	111	111
Molina	461	412	419	332	424	384
Hillcrest	279	194	235	191	216	189
Jefferson	295	242	317	251	281	228
Kimball	291	254	269	222	271	245
Lincoln	123	115	114	94	96	80
Pinkston	196	157	175	141	171	137
Roosevelt	99	82	99	65	95	51
Samuell	332	275	361	302	330	245
Seagoville HS	271	250	272	209	253	218
S. Oak Cliff	255	193	237	193	245	189
Spruce	234	175	272	229	258	199
Sunset	439	382	410	333	440	383
White	454	404	417	374	450	397
Wilson	322	270	353	309	339	291
Carter	205	173	217	180	191	171
North Dallas	250	218	274	220	185	145
Skyline	1,063	963	1,115	933	1,005	911
Townview Sci & Eng	81	80	89	83	106	100
Conrad	188	114	225	198	223	188
Madison	112	106	81	73	86	82
Townview Business	106	105	112	110	117	113
Washington	218	186	224	199	214	202
Rangel HS	59	57	63	57	70	70
Townview Health	122	122	130	129	135	132
Townview Education	69	69	71	70	70	68
Townview Public Svc	102	98	100	97	86	85
Townview TAG	62	39	60	42	61	46
Gilliam	75	75	85	82	99	97
Garza	101	94	104	98	97	97
Lassiter	50	48	56	55	58	58
Wilmer-Hutchins HS	212	177	185	157	152	136
Obama HS	12	12	10	10	35	33
Patton	25	14	16	10	20	14
District Total	7,932	6,824	7,981	6,685	7,686	6,698

Source: District ACT data files 08/18/2015, 01/27/2016, and 03/23/2017. District demographic data files 10/31/2014, 10/30/2015, and 10/31/2016.

¹ A composite score that meets or exceeds the TSI benchmark of 23 is sufficient to exempt a student from developmental courses in college.

Table 2: 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 Seniors' Participation Rates for In-School ACT by Campus

Campus	2014-15 %	2015-16 %	2016-17 %
Smith New Tech	99	92	100
Rangel HS	97	91	100
Garza	93	94	100
Lassiter	96	98	100
Townview Public Svc	96	97	99
Gilliam	100	97	98
Townview Health	100	99	98
Townview Education	100	99	97
Townview Business	99	98	97
Madison	95	90	95
Washington	85	89	94
Townview Sci & Eng	99	93	94
Obama HS	100	100	94
Adams, B	82	68	94
Molina	89	79	91
Skyline	91	84	91
Kimball	87	83	90
Carter	84	83	90
Wilmer-Hutchins HS	84	85	90
White	89	90	88
Hillcrest	70	81	88
Dallas ISD	86	84	87
Sunset	87	81	87
Seagoville HS	92	77	86
Wilson	84	88	86
Conrad	61	88	84
Lincoln	94	83	83
Jefferson	82	79	81
Pinkston	80	81	80
North Dallas	87	80	78
Adamson	89	86	77
South Oak Cliff	76	81	77
Spruce	75	84	77
Townview TAG	63	70	75
Samuell	83	84	74
Patton	56	63	70
Roosevelt	83	66	54

Source: District ACT data files 08/18/2015, 01/27/2016, and 03/23/2017. District demographic data files 10/31/2014, 10/30/2015, and 10/31/2016.

Note: Data were sorted by 2016-17 school year.

Table 3: 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 Seniors' Mean In-School ACT Composite Scores by Campus

Campus	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Townview TAG	29	29	31
Townview Sci & Eng	28	29	29
Washington	23	24	24
Rangel HS	23	23	23
Townview Health	21	21	21
Obama HS	22	21	21
Townview Public Svc	20	21	21
Garza	20	20	20
Lassiter	21	21	20
Townview Business	20	19	20
Townview Education	20	20	19
Wilson	18	18	19
Gilliam	17	18	19
White	17	17	18
Hillcrest	17	17	17
Dallas ISD	16	16	17
Roosevelt	14	15	17
Adams, B	14	14	16
Skyline	16	15	16
Sunset	15	15	16
Smith New Tech	17	17	16
Adamson	15	15	16
Jefferson	15	14	15
Pinkston	13	15	15
Kimball	15	15	15
Molina	15	15	15
Seagoville HS	15	14	15
Spruce	14	15	15
Carter	15	15	15
North Dallas	15	15	14
Conrad	14	14	14
Wilmer-Hutchins HS	15	15	14
Madison	15	13	14
Lincoln	13	14	14
Samuell	13	14	14
South Oak Cliff	14	13	14
Patton	12	13	13

Source: District ACT data files 08/18/2015, 01/27/2016, and 03/23/2017. District demographic data files 10/31/2014, 10/30/2015, and 10/31/2016.

Note: Data were sorted by 2016-17 school year.

Table 4: 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 Percentage of Seniors Meeting the ACT College Readiness Benchmark (21) by Campus

Campus	2014-15 %	2015-16 %	2016-17 %
Townview Sci & Eng	99	100	100
Townview TAG	97	93	100
Washington	68	77	78
Rangel HS	74	81	77
Townview Health	53	54	57
Obama HS	58	60	55
Townview Public Svc	41	50	49
Garza	40	46	45
Lassiter	54	44	45
Townview Business	44	32	40
Wilson	31	29	34
Gilliam	12	17	31
Townview Education	39	39	28
White	22	22	23
Hillcrest	21	17	22
Dallas ISD	15	17	18
Adams, B	6	9	10
Sunset	5	8	10
Skyline	10	11	10
Adamson	5	8	9
Smith New Tech	11	21	9
Jefferson	5	6	8
Roosevelt	3	11	8
Patton	0	10	7
Seagoville HS	7	5	7
Kimball	5	5	6
Molina	5	6	5
Carter	6	4	5
Samuell	2	2	4
North Dallas	5	9	4
Spruce	4	5	4
Madison	3	1	4
Conrad	6	5	3
Wilmer-Hutchins HS	3	1	3
South Oak Cliff	1	3	2
Pinkston	1	3	2
Lincoln	4	2	1

Source: District ACT data files 08/18/2015, 01/27/2016, and 03/23/2017. District demographic data files 10/31/2014, 10/30/2015, and 10/31/2016.

Note: Data were sorted by 2016-17 school year.

Tables 5 and 6 show the percentage of students meeting TSI and TAPR college readiness benchmarks by campus. Overall, the rate of students in Dallas ISD meeting both benchmarks increased from 2014-15 to 2016-17.

Table 5: 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 Percentage of Seniors Meeting the TSI ACT College Readiness Benchmark (23) by Campus

Campus	2014-15 %	2015-16 %	2016-17 %
Townview Sci & Eng	94	99	100
Townview TAG	95	88	98
Rangel HS	54	58	63
Washington	50	58	60
Obama HS	33	40	39
Townview Health	26	33	30
Townview Public Svc	19	27	28
Wilson	21	20	27
Garza	21	25	26
Townview Business	21	14	24
Lassiter	35	31	19
Gilliam	4	4	14
Hillcrest	15	12	14
Townview Education	23	13	13
White	13	13	13
Dallas ISD	9	10	12
Sunset	2	4	5
Adams, B	2	5	5
Skyline	4	5	5
Smith New Tech	4	11	5
Kimball	2	2	3
Seagoville HS	4	3	3
Adamson	2	4	3
North Dallas	1	5	3
Carter	1	2	2
Roosevelt	0	5	2
Samuell	1	1	2
Spruce	3	2	2
Jefferson	2	3	2
Molina	2	3	2
South Oak Cliff	0	1	2
Pinkston	1	1	2
Wilmer-Hutchins HS	2	1	2
Lincoln	2	0	1
Madison	0	0	1
Conrad	4	3	1
Patton	0	10	0

Source: District ACT data files 08/18/2015, 01/27/2016, and 03/23/2017. District demographic data files 10/31/2014, 10/30/2015, and 10/31/2016.

Note: Data were sorted by 2016-17 school year.

Table 6: 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 Percentage of Seniors Meeting the TAPR ACT College Readiness Benchmark (24) by Campus

Campus	2014-15 %	2015-16 %	2016-17 %
Townview Sci & Eng	88	95	96
Townview TAG	92	89	96
Washington	41	49	52
Rangel HS	42	40	47
Townview Public Svc	14	21	27
Obama HS	25	10	24
Townview Health	12	24	23
Wilson	17	16	23
Garza	13	15	19
Townview Business	13	7	18
Hillcrest	10	11	12
White	10	9	11
Lassiter	25	22	10
Townview Education	13	10	10
Dallas ISD	7	8	9
Gilliam	4	1	8
Skyline	3	3	4
Sunset	2	3	3
Adams, B	1	2	3
Smith New Tech	2	7	3
Kimball	2	2	2
Adamson	1	3	2
Roosevelt	0	3	2
Seagoville HS	3	2	2
Spruce	2	1	2
North Dallas	1	4	1
Jefferson	1	2	1
Lincoln	1	0	1
Carter	0	2	1
Samuell	0	0	1
Madison	0	0	1
Molina	1	2	1
Wilmer-Hutchins HS	1	1	1
South Oak Cliff	0	1	1
Conrad	1	1	1
Pinkston	1	0	0
Patton	0	0	0

Source: District ACT data files 08/18/2015, 01/27/2016, and 03/23/2017. District demographic data files 10/31/2014, 10/30/2015, and 10/31/2016.

Note: Data were sorted by 2016-17 school year.

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