

Annually, the ACT release a “Condition of College and Career Readiness” report that outlines progress of the most recent, ACT-tested graduating class. This fact sheet reflects data from the 2016 report.

### LOUISIANA’S ACT FAST FACTS

- According to the 2016 ACT Annual Report, Louisiana’s composite score of 19.5 ranks 13<sup>th</sup> of 18 states in which 100 percent of students take the test. Louisiana ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> of seven states in the South.
- Since 2014, Louisiana has closed the performance gap with the national average by .5. While the nation’s average composite score has declined 0.2 since 2014, Louisiana’s increased 0.3 points from 19.2 in 2014 to 19.5 in 2016.
- Louisiana students average performance that is closer to the national average than in 2014 in every subject tested by the ACT.

### ACT IN LOUISIANA

In 2012, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education adopted policy to give all high school students access to the ACT free of charge, as part of a comprehensive package to increase access to college and a career for high school students. This initiative was first put in place in 2013; the graduating class of 2014 was the first class to have all seniors take the ACT.

The 2016 ACT Annual Report calculates Louisiana’s average score for all public and private school students using a student’s “most recent score” which uses only the score achieved the last time the student took the test.

### LOUISIANA’S ACT RESULTS

#### **Outpacing States Testing All Graduates**

Of the 18 states testing 100 percent of all graduates, Louisiana’s average composite score for all public and private school testers is higher than five of those states. Louisiana also finished 3<sup>rd</sup> among 7 Southern states. Louisiana ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> among these states for progress since 2015 and 1<sup>st</sup> for gains over the last two years.

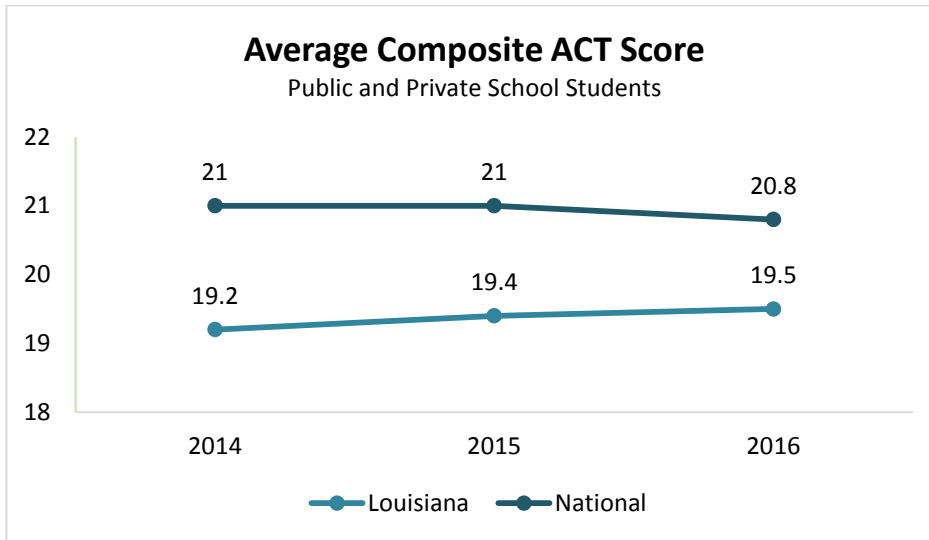
2016		
State	Score	Rank
Minnesota	21.1	1
Illinois	20.8	2
Colorado	20.6	3
Wisconsin	20.5	4
Michigan	20.3	5
Montana	20.3	5
North Dakota	20.3	5
Missouri	20.2	8
Utah	20.2	8
Kentucky	20	10
Wyoming	20	10
Tennessee	19.9	12
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>13</b>
Alabama	19.1	14
North Carolina	19.1	14
South Carolina	18.5	16
Mississippi	18.4	17
Nevada	17.7	18

Gains from 2015		
State	Change in Score	Rank
Michigan	0.2	1
Illinois	0.1	2
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2</b>
North Carolina	0.1	2
Tennessee	0.1	5
Utah	0	6
Kentucky	0	6
Colorado	-0.1	8
Montana	-0.1	8
Wyoming	-0.2	10
North Dakota	-0.3	11
Mississippi	-0.6	12

Gains from 2014		
State	Change in Score	Rank
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>1</b>
North Carolina	0.2	2
Michigan	0.2	3
Illinois	0.1	4
Kentucky	0.1	4
Tennessee	0.1	6
Colorado	0	7
Wyoming	-0.1	8
Montana	-0.2	9
North Dakota	-0.3	10
Mississippi	-0.6	11
Utah	-0.6	11

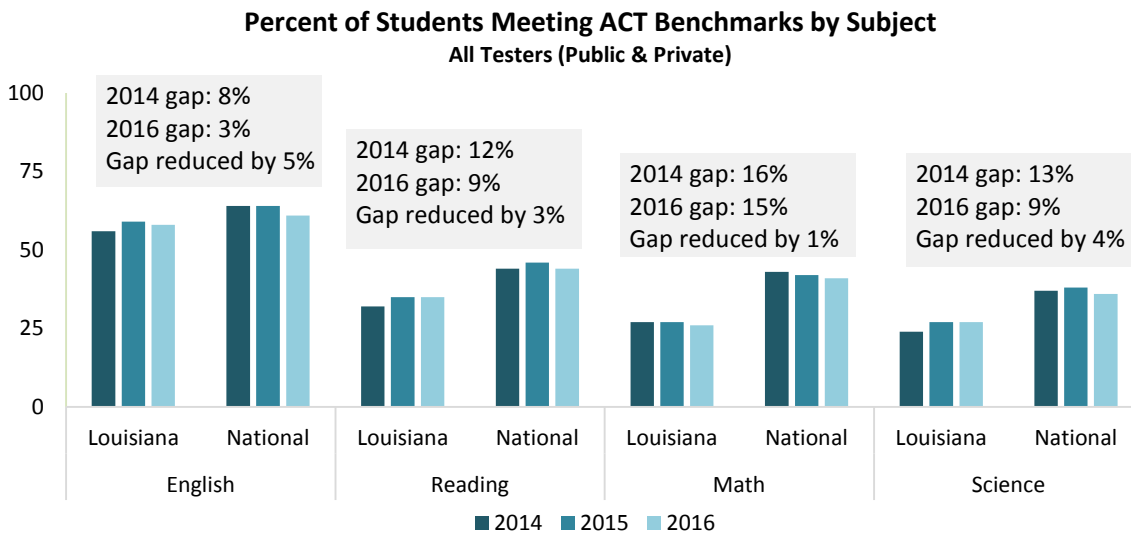
**Outpacing the Nation**

2016 marks the third consecutive year of growth by Louisiana students, representing an increase of 0.3 points since 2014. In that same time, the national average ACT composite score for all students, including states that only test select populations, decreased 0.2 points to 20.8.



**Students Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks**

Since 2014, Louisiana has steadily reduced the national gaps between the percent of students meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks in every subject.



**Life Benefit for Louisiana Graduates**

Since Louisiana began requiring all public high school students in grade 11 to take the ACT series in 2013, the state has seen a [dramatic increase in the number of seniors earning qualifying scores](#) for TOPS Tech (17+), TOPS Opportunity (20+), and TOPS Honors (27+), boosting both students on the TOPS University pathway and the Jump Start TOPS Tech

pathway. A record **25,144** public high school seniors in the class of **2016** earned a college-going score (**18+**), an increase of **462** students from **24,682** in **2015** and an increase of **6,837** students since **2012**. Furthermore, the number of students eligible for TOPS awards at every level due to ACT achievement has reached record highs.

<b>Opportunity</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>	<b>2013-2014</b>	<b>2014-2015</b>	<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>Increase from 2012 to 2016*</b>
<b>TOPS Tech (17+)</b>	20,466	25,073	26,846	27,891	28,351	<b>7,885</b>
<b>College-Going Score Not Requiring Remediation (18+)</b>	18,307	22,088	23,660	24,682	25,144	<b>6,837</b>
<b>TOPS Opportunity &amp; Regional University (20+)</b>	14,129	16,027	17,101	18,080	18,326	<b>4,197</b>
<b>TOPS Performance &amp; Statewide University (23+)</b>	7,429	8,433	8,938	9,537	9,804	<b>2,375</b>
<b>Flagship University (25+)</b>	4,296	5,006	5,359	5,663	6,008	<b>1,712</b>
<b>TOPS Honors (27+)</b>	2,435	2,938	3,170	3,345	3,612	<b>1,177</b>