

Relating Kansas Assessment Program Scores to ACT Scores

Tests in the Kansas Assessment Program (KAP) measure student knowledge and mastery of the Kansas College and Career Ready Standards in multiple subjects, including English language arts (ELA) and mathematics. These computer-based assessments are taken at the end of the school year. They provide feedback to students, parents, and schools and are used for state and federal accountability. Students receive scores from 220 to 380, and this range is divided into four performance levels, from 1 (lowest) to 4 (highest).

The ACT test is a national college admissions exam that includes subject-area tests in English, reading, math, science, and writing (optional). According to ACT, the test measures students' high school achievement and determines students' academic readiness for college. Students receive scores from 1 to 36 in each subject and also an overall composite score. College Readiness Benchmark scores that indicate potential success in postsecondary education are set by ACT for each subject area. The ACT benchmark scores represent the level of achievement expected for students to have a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in corresponding credit-bearing first-year college courses, as shown in the following table.

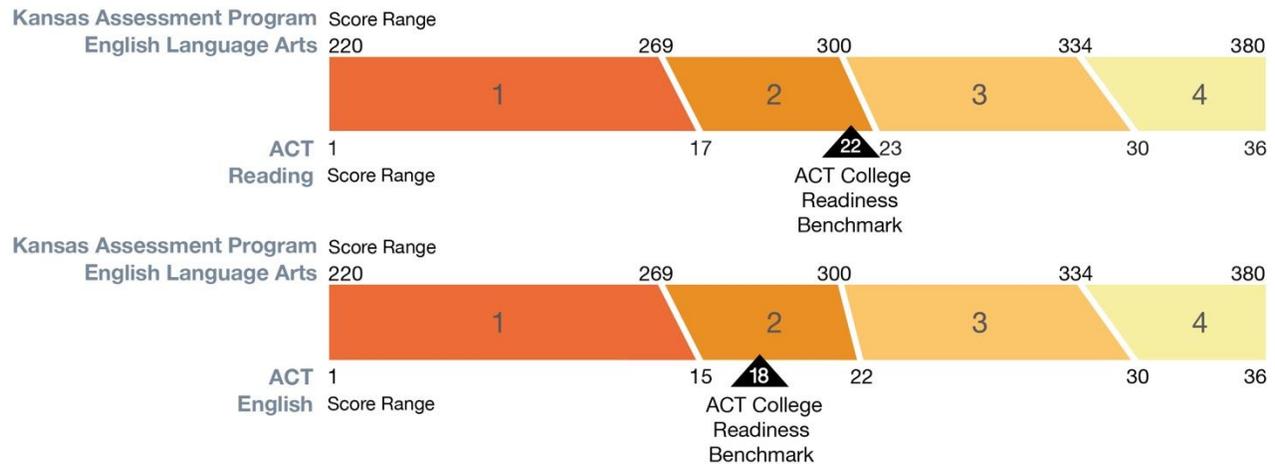
College Course/Area	ACT Subject-Area Test	ACT College Readiness Benchmark Score
English Composition	English	18
Social Sciences	Reading	22
College Algebra	Math	22

The following charts show how students may perform on the ACT based on their Grade 10 Kansas assessment scores for ELA and math. These charts were derived from analyses by the Center for Educational Testing and Evaluation (CETE) of the Kansas assessment and correlating ACT scores of a group of Grade 10 students in English and math during the 2014–15 school year. CETE replicated the analyses of the scores with data from Grade 10 students during 2015–16, and the results were similar.

The scale at the top of each bar represents the range of possible KAP scores and shows the cut scores that divide the range into the four performance levels. The scale at the bottom of each bar represents the range of possible ACT scores and shows the predicted ACT score for each KAP cut score. The triangle identifies the ACT College Readiness Benchmark for each subject-area test. For example, if a student earned a score of 320 on the Kansas assessment in ELA, that student's projected ACT score in reading would be between 23 and 30. However, a student's actual ACT score depends on a number of factors, including which courses the student takes, previous exposure to the test's format, and even the amount of sleep the night before and/or eating a well-balanced breakfast the morning of the ACT test administration.

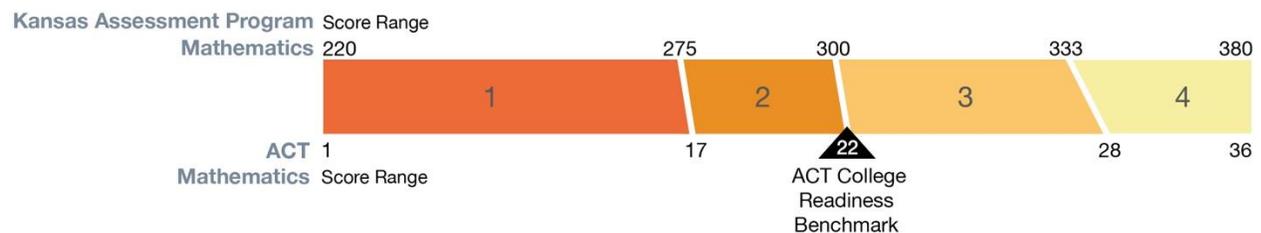
Projected ACT Scores for KAP Performance Levels

Comparing KAP ELA to ACT reading and English



Student's actual KAP Grade 10 ELA score	Student's projected ACT reading score	Student's projected ACT English score
Level 1: 220–268	1–17	1–15
Level 2: 269–299	17–23	15–22
Level 3: 300–333	23–30	22–30
Level 4: 334–380	30–36	30–36

Comparing KAP math to ACT math



Student's actual KAP Grade 10 math score	Student's projected ACT math score
Level 1: 220–274	1–17
Level 2: 275–299	17–22
Level 3: 300–332	22–28
Level 4: 333–380	28–36

