

2014 ACT REPORT

Elk River Area School District

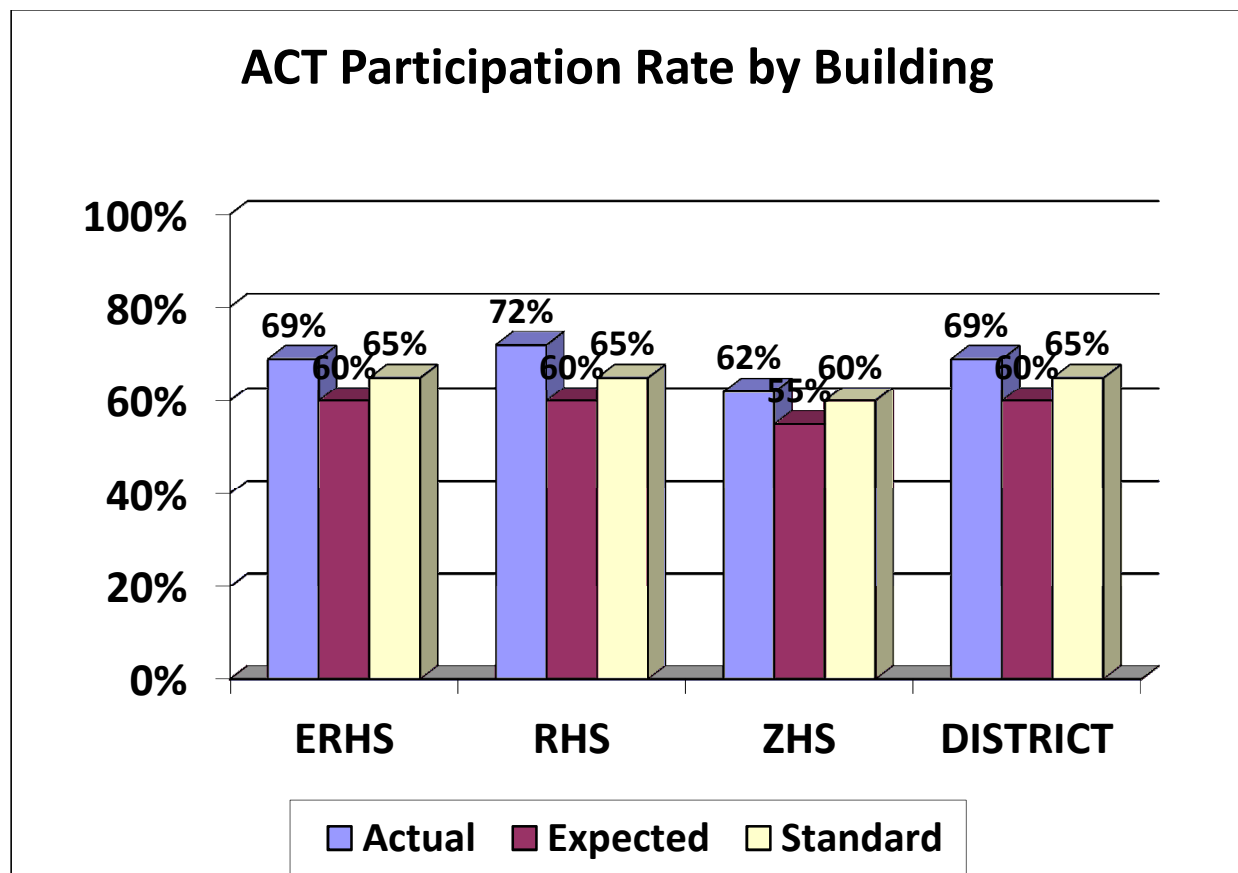
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INTRODUCTION:

This report details the results for students who were part of the Class of 2014 and took the American College Testing (ACT) assessment. The ACT measures a student's preparation for college-level study and almost all four-year colleges use the ACT as part of their college admission process. The ACT is typically taken by students in the spring of their junior year and/or the fall of their senior year and many students take the test more than once. The results included in this report are a summary of results for students who were scheduled to graduate last spring, regardless of when they took the exam, using the students' last testing event (for students who took the exam more than once).

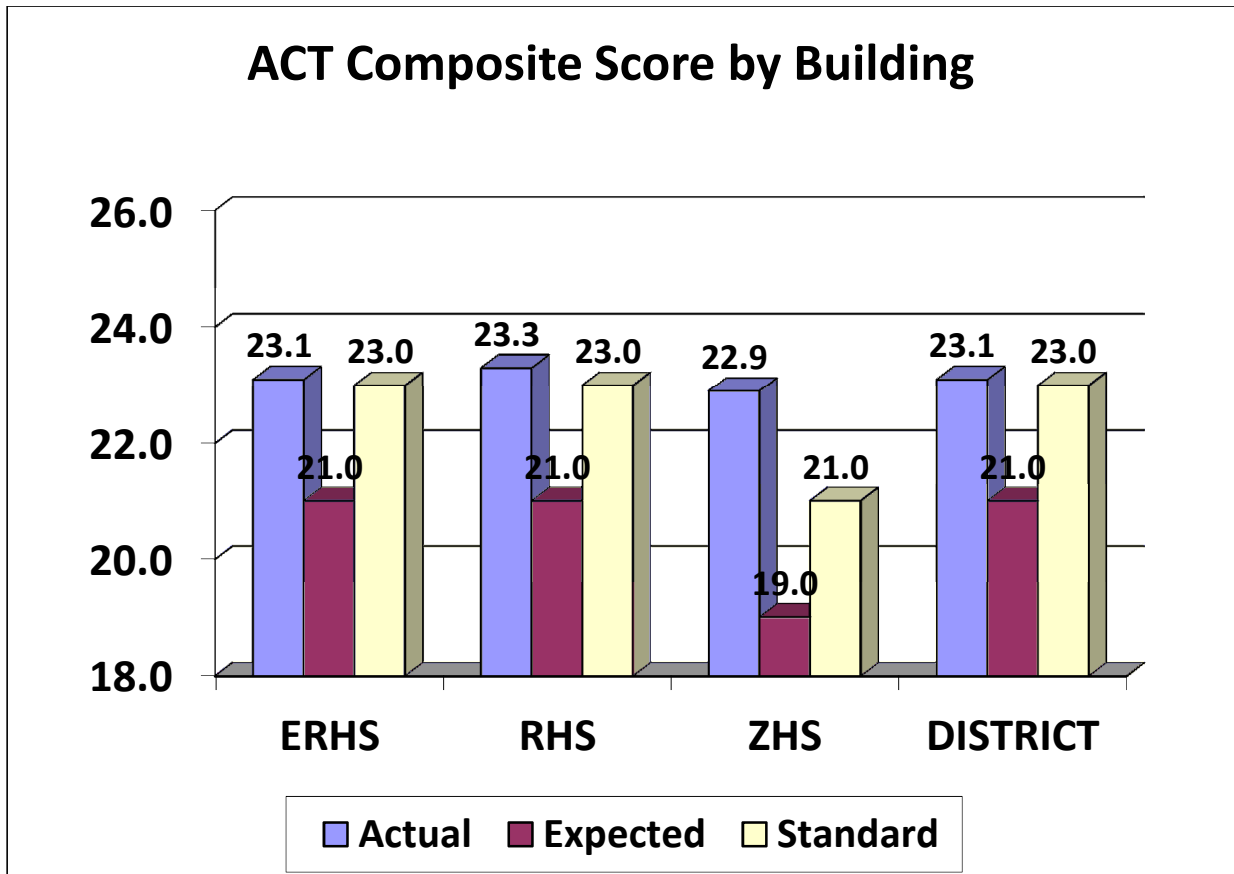
PARTICIPATION

There were 614 students from the Class of 2014 who took the ACT during their high school career. This represents a participation rate of 69%, an increase of 2% from the Class of 2013. The percentage of Elk River Area School District (ERASD) students who took the ACT exceeded the 60% participation rate for the expected level as well as the 65% "standard" level as identified by the Educational Effectiveness Audit. At the building level, participation rates ranged from 62% at Zimmerman High School (ZHS), to 69% at Elk River High School (ERHS) and 72% at Rogers High School (RHS). Based on the recommendations from the Educational Effectiveness Audit, all three schools exceeded both their expected and "standard" level of participation.



COMPOSITE SCORE RESULTS

The Composite ACT score for the Class of 2014 increased by .3 to 23.1. The score of 23.1 exceeded the Educational Effectiveness Audit's Expected Score of 21.0 and Standard Score of 23.0. The Class of 2014 scored better than the national average of 21.1 and, for the first time ever, was above the state average of 22.9. The average score earned by each building was above the standard level as measured by the Educational Effectiveness Audit. (See Graph 2)



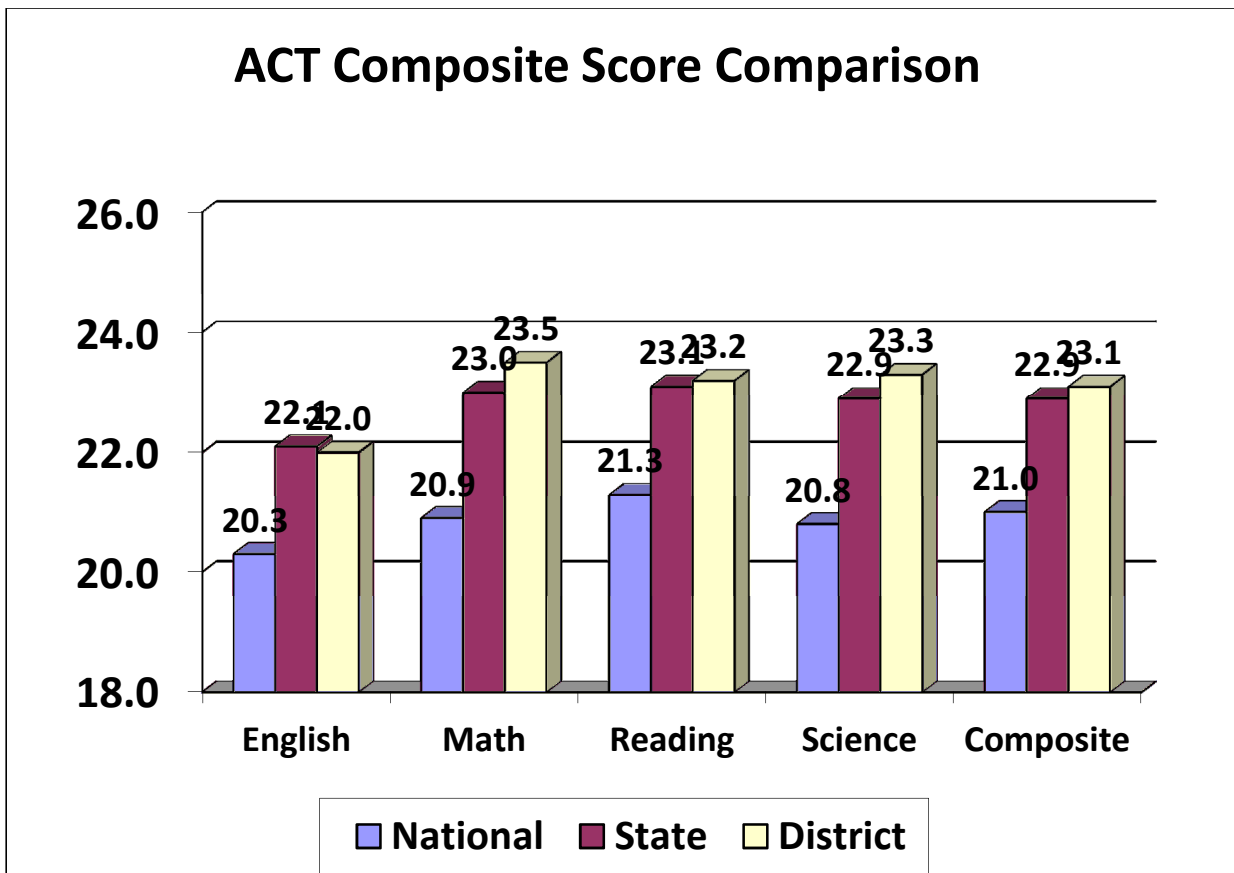
SUBJECT AREA SCORE RESULTS

The ACT contains four subject area tests: English, Math, Reading, and Science. Each of these tests receives an individual score that is blended into the composite score. Math continued to be the highest subject area on the ACT, with science also demonstrating strength. (See Chart Below)

	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
2008-2009	21.5	22.8	22.7	22.5	22.5
2009-2010	21.3	22.8	22.7	22.4	22.4
2010-2011	22.0	23.3	22.5	22.9	22.8
2011-2012	21.7	23.3	22.3	22.6	22.6
2012-2013	21.7	23.5	22.6	22.7	22.8
2013-2014	22.0	23.5	23.2	23.3	23.1

STATE AND NATIONAL COMPARISONS

As a district, the Class of 2014 exceeded the Minnesota average by .2 points on the composite score. Compared to national scores, we are significantly higher than the national average in all tested areas. Compared to the state, ERASD was significantly higher in math and science and exceeded the state's reading score.



COLLEGE READINESS

Research conducted by the ACT has demonstrated that success in college can be linked to performance on the ACT. Researchers have determined that achieving a specific score on each of the subject specific parts of the ACT can indicate the potential for success for students entering college. Minimum scores established for each of the 4 areas of the ACT indicate a 50% chance of earning a B or higher or a 75% chance of earning a C or higher in specific courses at college.

Based on the indicators specified in research, 83% of ERASD students who took the ACT earned a score that prepared them for College English, 66% were prepared for College Algebra, and 57% of students were prepared for College Social Studies and Biology. All of these college preparedness marks were higher than both the state and national averages. The percentage of students who met all four criteria was 39%; higher than the national average and equal to the state average.

