

Test Score Variations by Gender and Race or Ethnicity, 2015

Evaluate your testing experiences and compare them with those of other groups.

Table 10.5 ACT and SAT Scores by Gender and Race or Ethnicity

ACT Scores	Average	SAT Scores	Average
Composite, total scores	21.0	SAT Writing, all students	484
Male*	21.2	Male*	482
Female*	20.9	Female*	493
White	22.4	White	513
Black/African American	17.1	Black/African American	418
American Indian/Alaska Native	17.9	American Indian/Alaska Native	460
Hispanic	18.9	Hispanic	439
Asian American	23.9	Asian American	531
SAT Scores	Average	SAT Scores	Average
SAT Critical Reading, all students	495	SAT Math, all students	514
Male*	496	Male*	531
Female*	494	Female*	499
White	529	White	534
Black/African American	431	Black/African American	428
Hispanic	449	Hispanic	457
Asian American	525	Asian American	598
American Indian/Alaska Native	481	American Indian/Alaska Native	482

*No male/female scores listed for 2015; scores reflect 2013 data.

Source: ACT (2013); College Board (2013); Jaschik (2016a, 2016b).

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Engaging With Sociology

1. Do you think your scores were an accurate measure of your ability or achievement? Why, or why not?

2. Do you think your race or ethnicity, social class, or gender affected your scores? Why, or why not?
3. Have your scores affected your life chances? Are there ways in which you have been privileged or disprivileged in the testing process?

4. What might be some causes of the variation in test scores between groups or categories of students?