## Duluth Public Schools

ACT Summary Report Graduating Class of 2013


## ACT Basics

- Curriculum-based measure that provides a readiness indicator for college-level work
- Tests achievement in 4 areas:
- English
- Math
- Reading
- Science

College English
College Algebra
College Social Science
College Biology

## ACT Results

Composite Scores Over Time


## ACT Results

- Reminder: Each year, test data for a school, district, and the state represents a different cohort of students. ACT encourages educators to focus on trends ( $3,5,10$ years) rather than year-to-year changes. Such changes can represent normal - - even expected - - fluctuations. Focus on trends.
- Note: Scores for students taking the test with accommodations are included in the reports for the first time this year.


## ACT Results

## Composite Scores Over Time - Trends



## ACT Results

## Percent of Students Ready for College-Level Coursework



## ACTThemes

- Duluth students were well-above the nation in percent of students meeting college readiness benchmarks in:
- English Composition*
- College Algebra
- Social Science*
- Biology
- All four areas
-     * Denotes areas above the state


## ACT

## Themes

- Although more students took the ACT in 2013, students of color are underrepresented in our results
- Fewer students of color take the ACT, than would be expected, based on our demographics

|  | Percent of <br> Student <br> Population | Percent of <br> Students Who <br> Took ACT |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Black/African <br> American | $8.3 \%$ | $1 \%$ <br> 6 students |
| American Indian/ <br> Alaskan Native | $6 \%$ | $1 \%$ <br> 3 students |
| White | $81.1 \%$ | $84 \%$ <br> 393 students |
| Hispanic/Latino | $2 \%$ | $2 \%$ <br> 11 students |
| Asian | $2.5 \%$ | $2 \%$ <br> 8 students |
| Two or more races | Unknown | $4 \%$ <br> 21 students |
| Prefer not to |  |  |
| respond/ |  |  |
| No response | NA | $6 \%$ <br> 27 students |

## ACTThemes

- Students who take more advanced courses "Core or More" earn substantially higher ACT composite scores
- Core or More $=4$ or more years of English and 3 or more years each of math, social studies, natural science
- 82\% of our 2013 graduating class took "Core or More"
- Average ACT score for "Core or More" for Duluth students $=23.6 \mathrm{vs} .20 .1$
- Of the Duluth students who reported taking fewer than 3 math courses, 0\% were considered college ready


## ACTThemes

- To increase college readiness, ACT recommends the following:
- Increase access for students to take the ACT
- Make "core or more" a curriculum focus
- Make sure the students are taking the right kind of courses early
- Evaluate the rigor of courses
- Plan guidance activities based on students' career and college aspirations


## Questions?

Tawnyea L. Lake, PhD
Director of Assessment, Evaluation, and Performance
tawnyea.bolme-lake@duluth.kı2.mn.us (218) 336-8700 ext. 1027

