

GOVERNORS' EDUCATION PROFILE SERIES

CLASS OF 2018



NGA is boldly nonpartisan. Through NGA, governors share best practices, speak with an informed voice on national policy and develop innovative solutions that improve state government and support the principles of federalism.



ACT is a mission-driven, nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people achieve education and workplace success. Headquartered in Iowa City, Iowa, ACT is trusted as a leader in college and career readiness, providing high-quality assessments grounded in nearly 60 years of research. ACT offers a uniquely integrated set of solutions designed to provide personalized insights that help individuals succeed from elementary school through career.

¹ https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17_203.40.asp?current=yes; https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d16/tables/dt16_203.20.asp?current=yes; https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17_304.10.asp?current=yes

² <http://nieer.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/State-of-Preschool-2017-Full-7-16-18.pdf>; <https://stats.bls.gov/oes/special.requests/oesm17st.zip>

³ <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/ndecore/landing>. Analysis done by ACT.

⁴ https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17_219.46.asp

⁵ http://www.sheeo.org/sites/default/files/project-files/SHEEO_SHEF_FY2017_FINAL.pdf; https://www.nassgapsurvey.com/survey_reports/2016-2017-48th.pdf

⁶ https://ticas.org/sites/default/files/pub_files/classof2017.pdf; https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/17_5YR/DP02/0100000US|0100000US.04000.001. Analysis done by ACT. Reflects adults, residing in the state, aged 25 and older.



GOVERNOR KAY IVEY

Major Education Priorities: ★ **Early Education Programs** ★ **Literacy**
★ **Computer Science and STEM Education** ★ **Workforce Alignment**

BACKGROUND: Governor Ivey grew up in Camden, AL, and later graduated from Auburn University with a degree in secondary education. Prior to holding elected office, she worked as a high school teacher, bank teller, and for the Alabama House of Representatives and the Alabama Development office. Prior to becoming governor, she first became state treasurer in 2002 and was elected to the lieutenant governorship in 2010.

PARTY AFFILIATION: Republican

“For Alabamians to have career opportunities, they must be prepared when the right job comes along. My education initiative, Strong Start, Strong Finish, does just that.”
– Gov. Ivey

Early Education and K-12 Educational Priorities

Strong Start, Strong Finish: Started the ‘[Strong Start, Strong Finish](#)’ initiative to champion a comprehensive approach to improving student achievement.

Computer Science/STEM: Established the Governor’s Advisory Council for Computer Science Education to expand opportunities, worked to provide postsecondary teachers with a path to certification in computer science.

Early Education Programs: Championed early education initiatives including coordinating home-visit programs, quality standards for childcare, increased pre-K investment to \$96M to expand the program, and launched a summer enrichment program to improve reading outcomes.

Additional Priorities: Enhanced school security.

Student Enrollment¹



Higher Education and Workforce Priorities

Higher Education Degrees: Will focus on achieving 500,000 postsecondary degrees by 2025, improving the quality and the use of postsecondary data available.

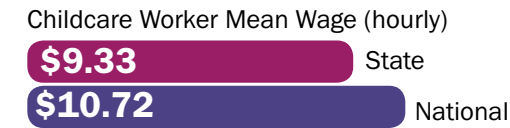
STEM-Related Jobs: Established the Governor’s Advisory Council for Excellence in STEM Education to help Alabama reach its 2025 postsecondary degree goal.

Career Readiness: Working to develop youth apprenticeship programs and leverage the Alabama Workforce Council to build apprenticeship partnerships with private companies.

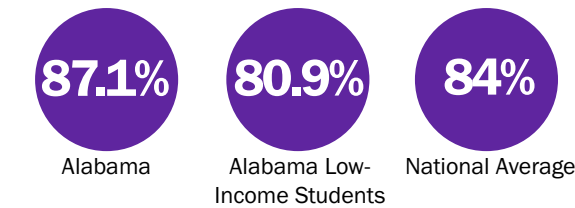
“ Education is the key to a better life for all. I am focused on ensuring all Alabama children get a good start and have the resources they need to complete school, be prepared for the workplace and ultimately succeed. ”

State of Alabama Education

Early Childhood Facts²

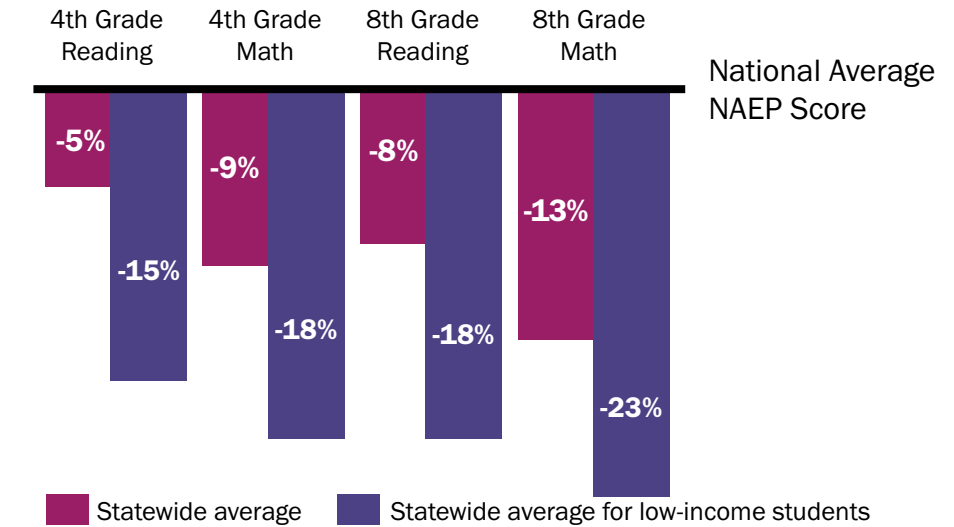


High School Graduation Rate⁴



Alabama National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Scores³

Percentage of students performing at or above proficient level



Are Alabama Students Ready for College?

The ACT test is the most frequently taken college entrance exam in the U.S. The chart below shows the ACT Composite score distribution for students in Alabama and the U.S.

ACT COMPOSITE	ALABAMA	NATION
1-18	53.1%	39.9%
19-23	26.9%	29.1%
24-36	20.1%	31%

STEM Careers: Are Alabama Students Interested and Ready?

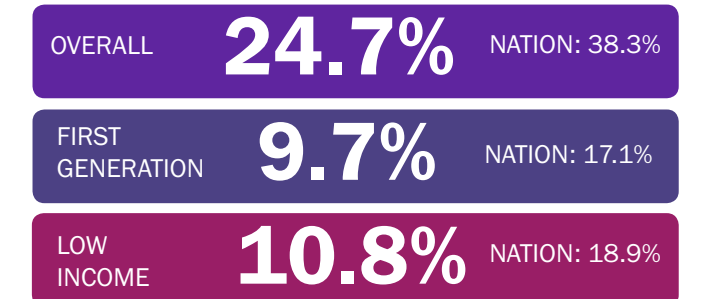
In Alabama, **49 percent** of ACT-tested students from the class of 2018 had aspirations to pursue a future in STEM. Of those students, **14.4 percent** are prepared for first-year college coursework related to STEM fields.



College Readiness is More than ONE Number

Along with their ACT Composite score, students also receive scores in four subject areas – Math, Science, English and Reading – along with target (or “Benchmark”) scores that will help them gauge their likelihood of earning a B or C in credit-bearing first-year college courses. The percentages of students who met at least three of these four Benchmark scores are provided below.

Students in Alabama Who Met at Least 3 of 4 College-Ready Benchmark Scores

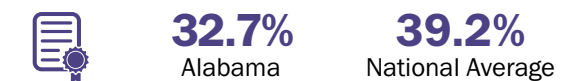


Higher Education Stats⁵

	ALABAMA	NATIONAL AVERAGE
Educational Appropriations per Full-Time Equivalent	\$6,666	\$7,642
Total State Grant Expenditures as Percentage of State Fiscal Support for Higher Education	5.3%	12.7%
Percent Change in Total Spending Since 2008	-36.5%	-11.6%
State Grant Aid per Full-Time Undergraduate Student	\$382.96	\$816.79
Need-based State Grant Aid per Full-Time Undergraduate Student	\$359.77	\$623.66

Higher Education Outcomes⁶

Percent of Residents with an Associate’s Degree or Higher:



Percent of Residents with a Bachelor’s Degree or Higher:



Average Student Debt:

