

Seminole State College
ACT Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP) Test
2014-15

ACT COLLEGIATE ASSESSMENT OF ACADEMIC PROFICIENCY (CAAP) TEST

The College uses the *ACT Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP)* as a component of its Assessment of General Education. This assessment is a nationally recognized academic test designed to measure general education foundational skills typically attained in the first two years of college. Each fall the College uses five objective test modules of the CAAP Test—Writing Skills, Mathematics, Reading, Critical Thinking, and Science—to assess students with 45 or more credit hours. Approximately 200 students typically take the exam in late October or early November. ACT provides demographic information for the participants as well as mean scores for each module for both Seminole State College students and the national database. ACT also provides information for the following groups: sophomore students, students planning to transfer to another institution, female students, and male students.

Fall 2014 CAAP Test Assessment Results

The CAAP Test was administered to 192 students the morning of Wednesday, October 29, 2014. The students were chosen based upon their anticipated completion of 45 or more credit hours at the completion of the fall 2014 semester and their having classes scheduled during the morning testing period. Each student was administered two randomly selected test modules from the pool of modules consisting of Writing Skills, Mathematics, Reading, Critical Thinking, and Science. Consequently, a total of 368 test modules were taken during the testing period consisting of 73 in Writing Skills, 74 in Mathematics, 76 in Critical Thinking, 75 in Reading, and 70 in Science. The test was administered in the Foundation Hall of the SSC Haney Center. The test was administered according to ACT guidelines under the supervision of the Coordinator of Assessment, members of the Assessment of Learning Committee, and other SSC faculty and staff volunteers.

Demographics

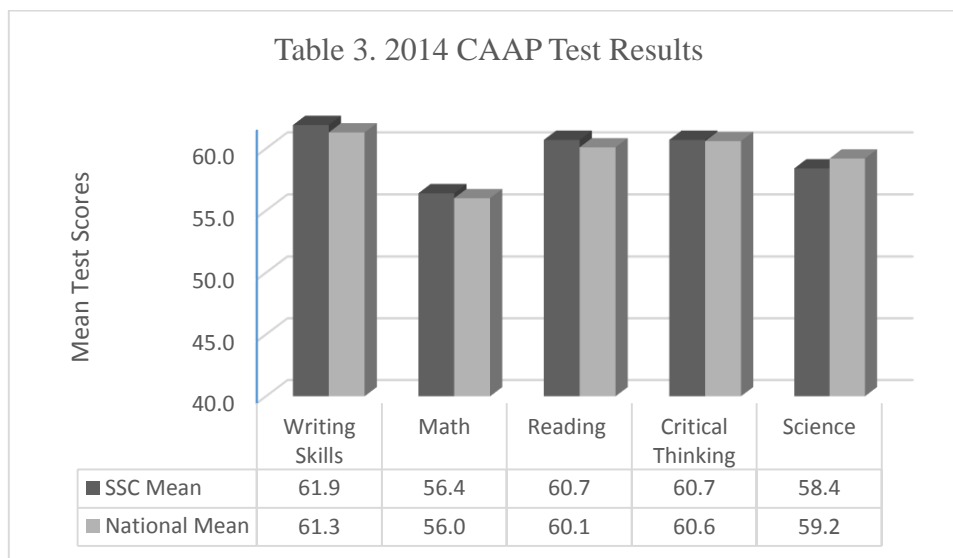
Table 2 shown on the right summarizes the self-reported demographic information for the 192 examinees. As shown in the table, students representing at least seven ethnic groups participated in testing. Caucasian students accounted for 61% of the examinees while Native Americans accounted for 16%. About 67% of the

examinees were female and about 32% were male. About 89% of the students considered themselves to be full-time students. Ninety-six percent of the students tested gave English as their first language, and 85% replied that they began their freshman year of college as an SSC student.

Table 2. 2014 CAAP Test Examinee Demographic Information		Student Count
Ethnicity	African American/Black	12
	Amer. Indian/Alaskan Nat.	31
	White/Caucasian	117
	Mexican	
	American/Chicano	8
	Asian/Pacific Islander	3
	Puerto Rico/Cuban/Hisp.	4
	Filipino	1
	Other	-
	Prefer not to respond	4
No response	12	
Gender	Male	62
	Female	129
	No response	1
Age	18 and under	11
	19-20	97
	21-25	42
	26-30	16
	31-39	13
	40 and older	13
	No response	-
English	First Language	184
	Not First Language	7
	No response	1
Enrolled at SSC as Freshman?	Yes	163
	No (Transfer Students)	28
	No response	1
Enrollment Status	Full-time	170
	Part-time	21
	No response	1

Test Scores

The tests were scored based on a scale that ranges from 40 to 80. National means for two-year institutions for each test subject are shown in Table 3. As shown in the table, Seminole State students scored near national means in all five subject areas. For example, SSC students averaged a score of 61.9 on the Writing Skills test, which is 0.6 higher than the national mean. In Math, SSC students performed slightly above the national mean with a score of 56.4 compared to the national mean of 56.0. In Critical Thinking, SSC students scored slightly above the national mean of 60.6 with a score of 60.7. SSC students scored above the national mean in Reading by 0.6 with a score of 60.7 and slightly below the national mean in Science with a score 0.8 below their counterparts with 45+ credit hours at other two-year institutions nationwide.



In terms of individual student performance, SSC had students whose performances placed them in the 99th percentile nationally in all five subject areas. ACT awarded Certificates of Achievement to students who scored at or above the national mean on a test module. Of the 368 tests administered, 188 were at or above the national average. A number of students earned certificates in more than one module.

Fall 2014 CAAP Test Analysis

As per the *2014-15 SSC Assessment of Student Learning Procedure*, the Assessment of Student Learning Committee set a goal for students to perform at or above the national average on each test module. The Committee set a minimum acceptable threshold of no more than 2.0 points (5 percent) below the current national mean scores. Based on this criteria, SSC students are performing above the minimum threshold levels established as "long-term" in 2013 in all of the five subject areas assessed.

Cumulative Data

Data has now been collected for five test administrations spanning a seven-year period. As shown in Table 4 on the right, SSC's five-test average is slightly below the national mean in every area except Writing Skills and Reading. However, student scores for the current year were above the national mean in Writing Skills, Mathematics, Reading, and Critical Thinking Skills. As a whole, the five-test averages covering a seven-year span all fell within 1.0 of the national mean for those tests in that period. This indicates that SSC students are performing at levels consistent with but not generally superior to students in the national database for these areas of general education.

The Assessment of Student Learning Committee will continue to review both single year and cumulative results each spring following a CAAP Test administration and recommend appropriate expectations for improvement.

Table 4. 2014 Cumulative CAAP Test Results		SSC Mean	National Mean	Over/Under National Mean
Writing Skills	2008	61.6	62	-0.4
	2011	62.2	61.6	0.6
	2012	61.3	61.5	-0.2
	2013	61.7	61.5	0.2
	2014	61.9	61.3	0.6
	5-test average	61.7	61.6	0.2
Mathematics	2008	55.1	56.2	-1.1
	2011	54.8	56.2	-1.4
	2012	56.2	56.1	0.1
	2013	56.3	56.0	0.3
	2014	56.4	56.0	0.4
	5-test average	55.8	56.1	-0.3
Reading	2008	59.8	60.4	-0.7
	2011	60.4	60.2	0.2
	2012	59.9	60.1	-0.2
	2013	60.0	60.2	-0.2
	2014	60.7	60.1	0.6
	5-test average	60.2	60.2	0.0
Critical Thinking	2008	59.5	60.8	-1.3
	2011	na	60.4	Na
	2012	59.8	60.6	-0.8
	2013	61.2	60.6	0.6
	2014	60.7	60.6	0.1
	4-test average	60.3	60.6	-0.4
Science	2008	59.9	59.2	0.7
	2011	59	59.2	-0.2
	2012	57.8	59.2	-1.4
	2013	59.0	59.2	0.2
	2014	58.4	59.2	-0.8
	5-test average	58.8	59.2	-0.4