

Chapter X: FRESHMAN / JUNIOR TESTING

(As of Fall 2001, freshmen testing is suspended.)

Who takes it?

Entering freshmen. The students then take an identical test two years later (after accumulating 60 credit hours). Half of the students take the CAAP test and the other half take the Academic Profile test.

When is it administered?

Freshmen take it during Freshman Week. Juniors take it either in the fall or spring semester at specially arranged times by the Assessment and Testing Office.

How long does it take for the student to complete the test?

2 ½ to 3 hours for each test.

What office administers it?

The Assessment and Testing Office.

Who originates the tests?

Currently two tests are given: the CAAP (ACT) and the Academic Profile (ETS). Since each test focuses on different components, the two tests together prove to be effective assessment instruments.

When are the results typically available?

For the individual student, results are available several months after the test is taken. University reports for the fiscal year are typically available in late June.

What type of information is sought?

Information about the liberal arts based general education curriculum.

The CAAP (Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency) from ACT provides measurement in five areas: science, mathematics, reading, writing, and critical thinking. Students randomly take tests in four of the five areas. When students take it a second time, they take tests in the same four areas to see whether improvement has been made (value added). The Academic Profile from the Educational Testing Services tests students in all of these areas: natural science, social science, mathematics, humanities, reading, writing, and critical thinking. All students who take the Academic Profile take the same test both times.

CAAP: American College Testing Program
PO Box 168, Iowa City, IA
(319) 337-1053

Academic Profile: Higher Education Assessment, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, NJ
08541
(609) 951-6508

From whom are the results available?

From the Assessment and Testing Office.

Are the results available by division or discipline?

Yes.

To whom are the results regularly distributed?

Individual results are communicated to students and their advisors. University, division, and discipline averages are sent to the President, VPAA, Division Heads, Assessment Committee, and selected administrators.

Are the results comparable to data of other universities?

Both the CAAP and Academic Profile provide comparative data norms. The CAAP has nationally normed scores for each test module, while the Academic Profile provides norms for only the total score.

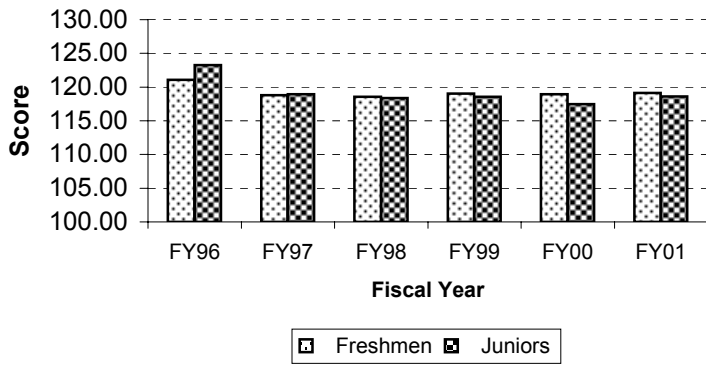
Freshman - Junior Testing

Pre-Test/Post-Test Results, FY96-FY01

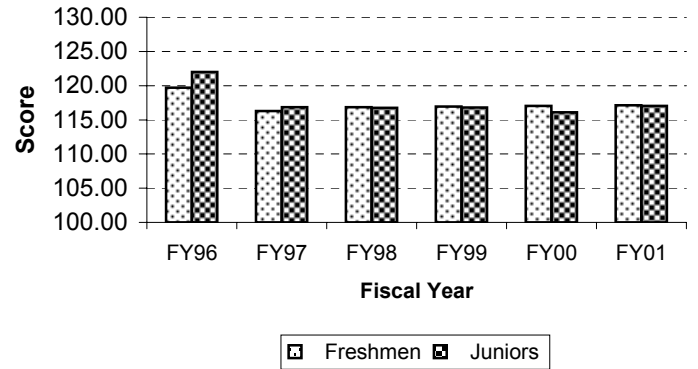
Academic Profile

	1995-96 FY96	1996-97 FY97	1997-98 FY98	1998-99 FY99	1999-00 FY00	2000-01 FY01
Humanities	N=72	N=182	N=539	N=558	N=597	N=558
Freshmen	121.09	118.78	118.57	119.02	118.94	119.14
Juniors	123.25	118.96	118.37	118.56	117.45	118.61
Change +/-	2.15	0.18	-0.20	-0.45	-1.49	-0.53
%positive/%negative/%unchange	68.1/16.7/15.3	50.0/42.3/7.7	50.3/39.0/10.8	48.9/45.2/59.1	44.9/44.9/10.2	50.4/42.7/7.0
Social Science	N=72	N=182	N=539	N=558	N=597	N=558
Freshmen	119.70	116.31	116.87	116.92	117.03	117.11
Juniors	121.98	116.87	116.77	116.81	116.10	117.03
Change +/-	2.27	0.55	-0.09	-0.10	-0.92	-0.08
%positive/%negative/%unchange	69.4/19.4/11.1	53.8/38.5/7.7	50.1/41.6/8.3	52.2/40.9/7.0	48.6/44.6/6.9	52.2/38.7/9.1
Natural Science	N=72	N=182	N=539	N=558	N=597	N=558
Freshmen	121.7	118.89	118.89	119.53	119.34	119.63
Juniors	123.18	118.71	118.87	118.90	117.86	118.99
Change +/-	1.48	-0.18	-0.02	-0.62	-1.47	-0.63
%positive/%negative/%unchange	61.1/25.0/13.9	51.1/37.9/11.0	52.3/39.3/8.3	50.9/41.2/7.9	46.4/45.6/8.0	48.4/41.2/12.9
Reading	N=72	N=182	N=539	N=558	N=597	N=558
Freshmen	124.19	121.45	121.40	122.07	121.62	121.9
Juniors	126.1	120.91	120.54	120.62	119.30	120.76
Change +/-	1.9	-0.53	-0.85	-1.45	-2.31	-1.14
%positive/%negative/%unchange	68.1/23.6/8.3	48.4/44.0/7.7	48.1/41.9/10.0	45.5/44.1/10.4	42.4/46.9/10.7	45.0/42.1/12.9
Writing	N=72	N=182	N=539	N=558	N=597	N=558
Freshmen	120.87	118.26	118.48	118.46	118.78	118.87
Juniors	121.97	118.03	118.37	118.23	117.46	118.44
Change +/-	1.09	-0.23	-0.11	-0.22	-1.31	-0.43
%positive/%negative/%unchange	56.9/29.2/13.9	50.5/42.9/6.6	52.1/39.0/8.9	50.5/38.9/10.6	45.4/45.9/8.7	47.0/43.2/9.9
Critical Thinking	N=72	N=182	N=539	N=558	N=597	N=558
Freshmen	117.36	114.23	114.43	114.91	114.89	115.07
Juniors	120.23	115.56	115.05	115.39	114.61	115.39
Change +/-	2.87	1.33	0.61	0.48	-0.27	0.32
%positive/%negative/%unchange	69.4/25.0/5.6	56.6/32.4/11.0	56.0/36.9/7.1	55.0/38.4/6.6	50.4/42.5/7.0	54.7/36.2/9.1
Mathematics	N=72	N=182	N=539	N=558	N=597	N=558
Freshmen	120.68	118.15	118.70	119.10	119.14	118.47
Juniors	122.16	118.49	118.44	118.37	117.68	119.24
Change +/-	1.48	0.33	-0.26	-0.72	-1.45	-0.77
%positive/%negative/%unchange	65.3/26.4/8.3	55.5/36.8/7.7	47.9/40.8/11.3	48.7/40.7/10.6	45.1/45.7/9.2	48.2/42.3/9.5
Total	N=72	N=182	N=539	N=558	N=597	N=558
Freshmen	467.20	457.28	458.10	459.47	459.36	459.98
Juniors	473.84	458.17	457.58	457.76	454.60	458.16
Change +/-	6.63	0.89	-0.51	-1.71	-4.76	-1.81
%positive/%negative/%unchange	80.6/16.7/2.8	61.5/36.3/2.2	58.3/38.4/3.3	55.2/41.6/3.2	53.9/43.9/2.2	56.5/40.1/3.4

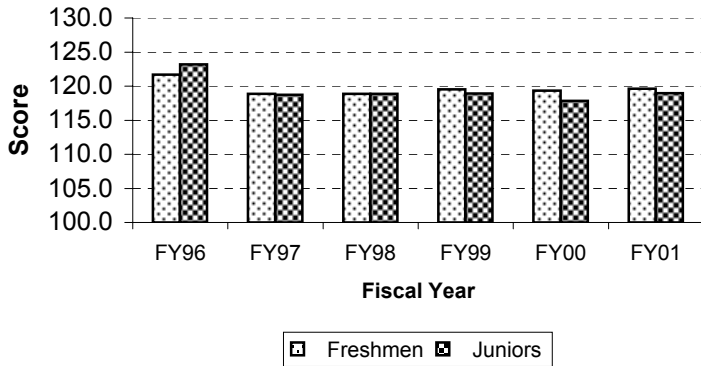
Humanities



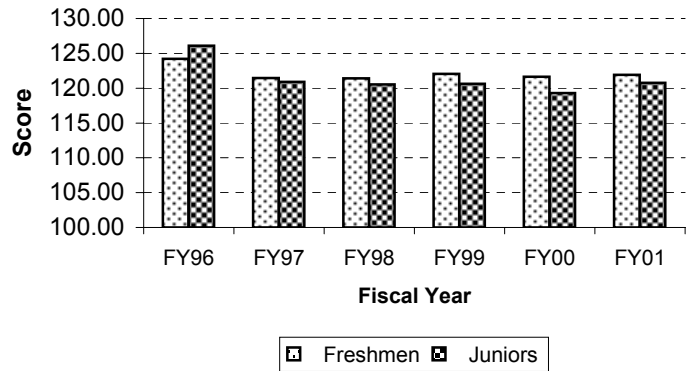
Social Sciences



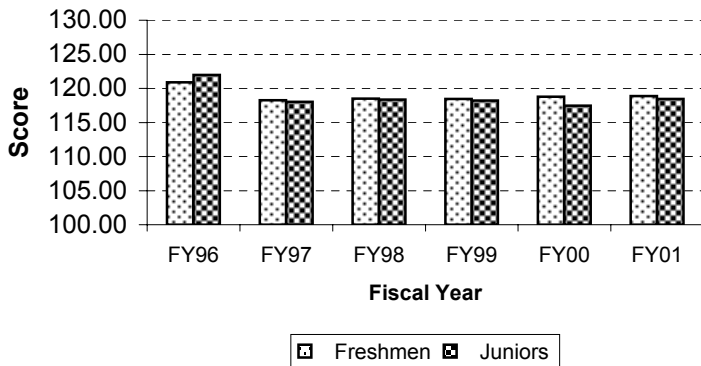
Natural Sciences



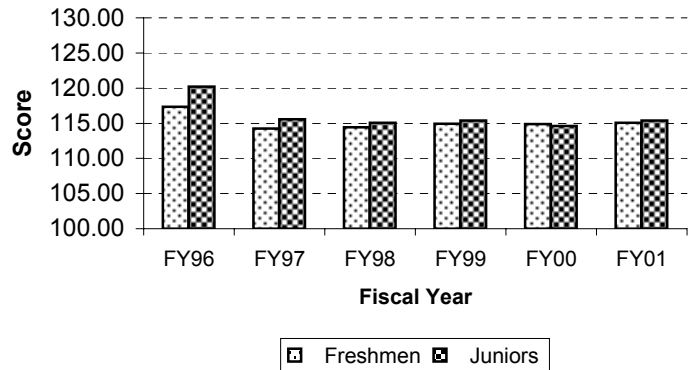
Reading

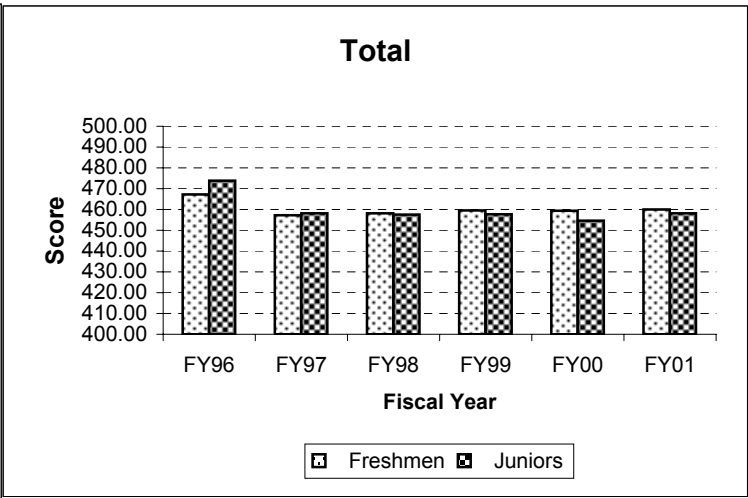
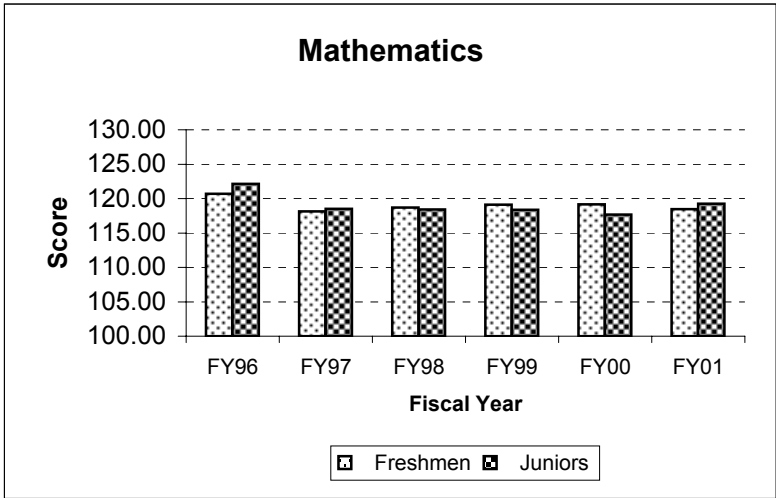


Writing



Critical Thinking





Freshman - Sophomore/Junior Testing
Pre-Test/Post-Test Results, FY92-FY01
CAAP Tests: Pre-test/Post-test Scale Scores and Percentiles

	1992-93 FY93	** 1993-94 FY94	1994-95 FY95	1995-96 FY96	1996-97 FY97	1997-98 FY98	1998-99 FY99	1999-00 FY00	2000-01 FY01
WRITING SKILLS	N=145	N=18	N=155	N=533	N=498	N=460	N=415	N=469	N=401
Freshmen	66.29	66.50	67.05	66.76	67.24	66.73	66.92	67.92	67.94
Sophomores/Juniors	66.39	67.55	66.08	66.90	66.92	67.30	66.06	66.19	66.16
Change +/-	0.09	1.05	-0.96	0.13	-0.31	0.56	-0.86	-1.72	-1.48
%positive/%negative/%unchange	44.8/38.6/16.6	77.8/22.2/0.0	45.2/42.6/12.2	49.9/32.6/17.4	47.3/31.5/21.3	50.9/26.1/23.0	41.4/15.7/42.9	51.6/17.5/30.9	54.4/39.7/5.9
Pre-Test %ile ****	73.0	74.5	76.3	74.1	72.9	61.5	62.0	73.4	75.6
Post-Test%ile *****	69.1	79.9	70.6	72.0	70.2	73.1	62.5	63.5	62.4
READING	N=523	N=172	N=563	N=593	N=477	N=436	N=418	N=461	N=390
Freshmen	64.76	64.16	63.90	64.31	64.57	64.41	64.22	64.66	64.32
Sophomores/Juniors	65.22	64.58	63.03	64.70	64.29	63.91	62.60	63.06	62.59
Change +/-	0.46	0.41	-0.87	0.38	-0.27	-0.50	-1.61	-1.60	-1.73
%positive/%negative/%unchange	51.2/38.1/10.7	54.1/40.1/5.8	45.5/46.0/8.5	53.6/35.9/10.5	48.4/43.2/8.4	48.6/43.6/7.8	41.1/52.2/6.7	3.0/46.9/10.2	1.5/47.9/10.5
Pre-Test %ile ****	75.3	71.1	64.9	68.2	67.4	64.5	57.8	63.3	63.2
Post-Test%ile *****	70.1	67.1	58.2	65.6	62.0	59.3	48.8	51.5	48.1
MATHEMATICS	N=507	N=174	N=552	N=560	N=482	N=475	N=455	N=494	N=394
Freshmen	59.76	59.92	59.53	59.55	60.17	59.98	59.88	60.07	60.89
Sophomores/Juniors	60.61	59.99	59.53	60.10	59.87	59.90	60.52	60.27	60.48
Change +/-	0.84	0.06	0.00	0.54	-0.29	-0.08	0.64	0.20	-0.40
%positive/%negative/%unchange	56.2/30.2/13.6	43.1/40.8/16.1	45.8/43.1/11.1	52.9/36.8/10.4	43.4/42.5/14.1	42.7/44.2/13.1	45.3/35.4/10.1	3.0/35.4/11.5	8.0/40.9/11.2
Pre-Test %ile ****	76.0	78.5	66.2	68.4	73.2	71.8	66.9	68.6	76.9
Post-Test%ile *****	78.5	73.9	73.2	76.6	76.0	76.3	80.6	77.2	76.3
CRITICAL THINKING	N=544	N=170	N=574	N=544	N=494	N=462	N=474	N=490	N=394
Freshmen	64.23	64.06	64.36	64.20	64.69	65.04	64.17	64.15	64.93
Sophomores/Juniors	65.57	64.32	63.67	65.30	64.42	63.87	63.23	63.77	63.48
Change +/-	1.34	0.26	-0.68	1.10	-0.26	-1.19	-0.94	-0.37	-1.44
%positive/%negative/%unchange	61.4/29.0/9.6	55.9/39.4/4.7	49.5/42.3/8.2	59.0/29.4/11.6	53.4/37.0/9.5	43.3/48.7/8.0	50.6/41.4/8.0	50.4/39.8/9.8	47.7/43.9/8.4
Pre-Test %ile ****	70.4	69.4	66.5	66.2	67.1	67.3	58.0	59.1	70.6
Post-Test%ile *****	71.0	62.9	58.4	63.5	59.1	57.7	55.1	62.4	58.8
SCIENCE REASONING***	N=542	N=172	N=580	N=522	N=465	N=460	N=413	N=479	N=422
Freshmen	61.50	61.16	61.51	61.89	62.19	61.80	62.08	61.73	62.12
Sophomores/Juniors	62.99	62.12	60.50	61.98	61.60	61.61	60.77	60.77	60.88
Change +/-	1.48	0.95	-1.01	0.08	-0.59	-0.18	-1.31	-0.95	-1.24
%positive/%negative/%unchange	62.2/26.0/11.8	58.1/33.1/8.7	41.4/47.8/10.8	50.4/40.2/9.4	48.8/41.5/9.7	49.3/38.9/11.3	52.3/39.2	44.7/46.8/8.6	44.3/48.8/6.9
Pre-Test %ile ****	61.00	58.96	41.06	68.45	66.71	61.40	64.7	63.6	65.1
Post-Test%ile *****	51.95	59.08	51.50	63.88	62.60	62.27	54.9	52.4	52.0

Note: In each column, data reflect scores of students who, during that year, completed the "Sophomore"/"Junior" retest. The "Freshman" score in that column is the matched pretest mean, reflecting scores earned by these same students whenever they first entered. The table is therefore a longitudinal summary by cohort, not a comparison of the Freshman vs. Sophomore/Junior scores within a given year.

* CAAP tests were first introduced in 1989; for FY89 and FY90, there are therefore no corresponding Freshman tests for comparison.

** Beginning in Fall 1993 (FY94), Sophomore/Junior testing follows the completion of 60 CH of coursework (vs. 45 CH in previous years).

*** The Science Reasoning module was introduced a year later than the other four modules.

