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Macomb, IL 61455. *Mathematical readiness of incoming college freshmen.*

Math readiness of incoming freshmen will be examined. For the last four years the author has been in charge of math placement for all freshmen at his university. In Fall 06 and Spring 07 he administered an anonymous quiz on basic skills to over 950 students. Both his math placement experiences and the quiz results suggest that it may be time to re-examine how students are prepared for college and how colleges deal with the problem. The results of the 2005-2006 ACT National Curriculum Survey also seem to suggest that a critical look at present practices may be necessary.

Based on the math placement outcomes and the quiz results we will look at some present practices and try to examine their strengths and weaknesses. We are interested both in K-12 preparation and in the way colleges deal with underprepared students, especially in algebra based lower division courses. (Received September 10, 2008)