

The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2019

Oklahoma Key Findings

Performance of 2019 Graduates

- In the 2019 Oklahoma graduating class, 42,234 graduates (an estimated 100 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 18.9. This compares to 30,844 (an estimated 80 percent) with an average of 20.7 in 2015. Nationally, an estimated 52 percent of 2019 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.7.
 - There were 2,314 African American graduates from Oklahoma who took the ACT (5 percent) with an average Composite score of 16.3. This compares to 2,635 (6 percent) with an average of 16.6, and 2,058 (7 percent) with an average of 17.6, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 3,009 American Indian graduates from Oklahoma who took the ACT (7 percent) with an average Composite score of 17.3. This compares to 2,724 (6 percent) with an average of 18.2, and 2,293 (7 percent) with an average of 19.2, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 20,202 White graduates from Oklahoma who took the ACT (48 percent) with an average Composite score of 19.9. This compares to 19,532 (46 percent) with an average of 20.5, and 16,819 (55 percent) with an average of 21.6, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 5,463 Hispanic graduates from Oklahoma who took the ACT (13 percent) with an average Composite score of 17.6. This compares to 5,589 (13 percent) with an average of 17.8, and 3,485 (11 percent) with an average of 18.8, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 75 Pacific Islander graduates from Oklahoma who took the ACT (0 percent) with an average Composite score of 17.4. This compares to 88 (0 percent) with an average of 16.7, and 62 (0 percent) with an average of 19.3, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.

- In 2019, 15 percent of Oklahoma graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 16 and 22 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 46 percent of Oklahoma graduates met zero ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 43 and 31 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 48 percent of Oklahoma graduates met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 50 and 64 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - 2019 Oklahoma graduates taking more advanced English coursework demonstrated markedly higher average English scores than those who did not. In fact, 54 percent of Oklahoma 2019 graduates taking four or more years of English met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 26 percent of students taking less than four years of English meeting the benchmark.
 - 2019 Oklahoma graduates taking more advanced math coursework demonstrated markedly higher average math scores than those who did not. In fact, 26 percent of Oklahoma 2019 graduates taking three or more years of math met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 3 percent of students taking less than three years of math meeting the benchmark.
 - 2019 Oklahoma graduates taking more advanced social studies coursework demonstrated markedly higher average reading scores than those who did not. In fact, 40 percent of Oklahoma 2019 graduates taking three or more years of social studies met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 23 percent of students taking less than three years of social studies meeting the benchmark.
 - 2019 Oklahoma graduates taking more advanced science coursework demonstrated markedly higher average science scores than those who did not. In fact, 32 percent of Oklahoma 2019 graduates taking three or more years of science met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 13 percent of students taking less than three years of science meeting the benchmark.
- In 2019, 10,191 (24 percent) of Oklahoma graduates met three or four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 11,285 and 10,789 (27 and 35 percent) out of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively. For reference, the national percentage of 2019 graduates meeting three or four benchmarks was 37 percent.

STEM

- In 2019, 18,524 Oklahoma graduates (44 percent) indicated having an interest in STEM majors and/or careers.
- Compared to a 2019 Oklahoma graduating class average ACT STEM score of 18.9, graduates in 2018 and 2015 had STEM averages of 19.4 and 20.5, respectively.
- Compared to 10 percent of 2019 Oklahoma graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark, graduates in 2018 and 2015 had STEM Benchmark percentages of 10 and 14, respectively.
- In 2019, 12,739 Oklahoma graduates (30 percent) indicated taking physics. This compares to 29 and 39 percent for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.

Career Readiness Indicator

- In 2019, 11,561 Oklahoma graduates (27 percent) were likely to attain the Gold ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate or higher based upon ACT Composite score, compared to 726,923 (41 percent) nationally.

Impact

- Based on the actual test volume and ACT score distributions of 2019 ACT-tested Oklahoma high school graduates, ACT research estimates that an increase of 0.1 in state average ACT Composite score for the 2019 graduating class would result in:
 - 110 more students enrolling in college.
 - 121 more students persisting to year two.
 - 91 fewer students needing remedial English.
 - 143 fewer students needing remedial math.
 - 125 more students persisting to year four.
 - 130 more students earning a postsecondary degree within six years.

Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In Oklahoma, 21,287 of the 2019 graduates (50.4 percent) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 21.0, compared to an average of 16.8 for 20,947 of the 2019 graduates (49.6 percent) who took the ACT only once.
 - Nationwide, 765,568 of the 2019 graduates (42.9 percent) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 22.7, compared to an average of 19.2 for 1,017,252 of the 2019 graduates (57.1 percent) who took the ACT only once.
- 79,718 score reports were sent to colleges by 2019 Oklahoma ACT-tested graduates.
 - 50,575 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2019 Oklahoma ACT-tested graduates.
 - For Oklahoma's 2019 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, the University of Central Oklahoma, Northeastern State University, and the University of Tulsa.
 - For Oklahoma's 2019 ACT-tested graduates, the top three out-of-state schools to which scores were sent were the University of Arkansas, Baylor University, and Wichita State University.
- Compared to 66 percent of 2019 graduates nationally, 68 percent of Oklahoma graduates opted into the ACT Educational Opportunity Service (EOS). EOS is a free service that allows students to gain exposure to recruitment, scholarship agencies, colleges, and universities that students may not have accessed on their own. The ACT Get Your Name in the Game initiative encourages colleges and universities to recruit underserved EOS participants to increase access and opportunity for all.
- In the 2018-2019 academic year, ACT issued 9,527 ACT fee waivers to qualified Oklahoma students across all grades. However, 2,593 students (27.2 percent) did not take advantage of this opportunity to test for free. This compares to 487,749 waivers issued nationally, of which 135,569 (27.8 percent) students did not take advantage. Fee waivers represent a great opportunity for students of low socioeconomic status to retest without incurring any fees.

Postsecondary Aspirations

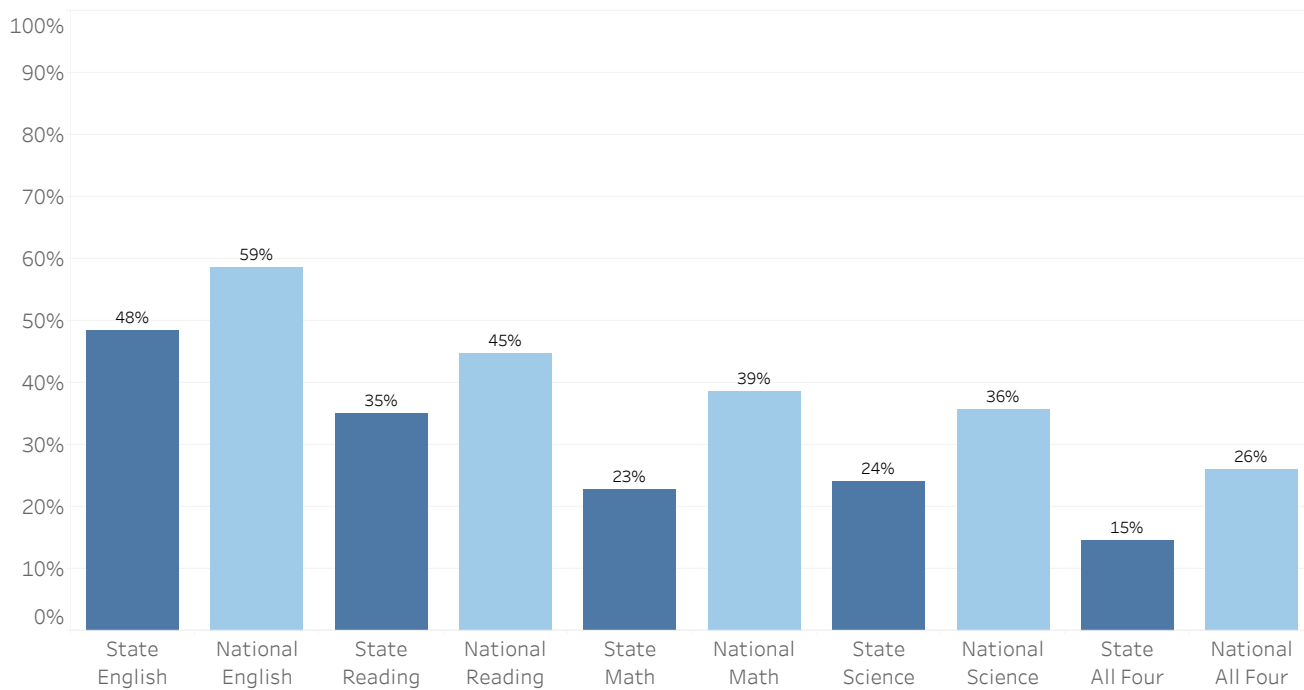
- 10,156 students (24 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 22.0.
- 16,673 students (39 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 19.4.
- 4,066 students (10 percent) aspired to attain a vocational/technical or associate's degree. They had an average Composite score of 15.9.
- In the Oklahoma graduating class of 2019, 8,969 students (21 percent) had parents who did not attend college.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2019 Oklahoma graduates were: Undecided; Nursing, Registered (BS/RN); Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Business Administration and Management, General; and Mechanical Engineering.
 - In the Oklahoma graduating class of 2019, 5,091 students (12 percent) indicated being undecided about their college major. They had an average Composite score of 19.7. Decision making regarding college major can be facilitated through activities included in ACT Aspire and PreACT testing experiences. In addition, the Student Score Report is a valuable tool for conversations using the College and Career Planning and Interest-Major Fit sections.
 - In the Oklahoma graduating class of 2019, 1,370 (3 percent) indicated planning on majoring in education. They had an average Composite score of 19.2.

Additional Points

- The Oklahoma ACT State Organization continues to grow in membership and in diversity, with more than 800 members from across the state. The membership includes educators from state agencies, K-12, access, and postsecondary institutions, as well as members involved in workforce development. Each year, ACT hosts a state summit that brings together professionals representing each of these areas, providing a unique and diverse professional development opportunity.
- According to the US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the fastest-growing careers in Oklahoma requiring education beyond high school are: Marriage and Family Therapists, Statisticians, and Massage Therapists.

OKLAHOMA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks* by Subject



Data From Graph Above

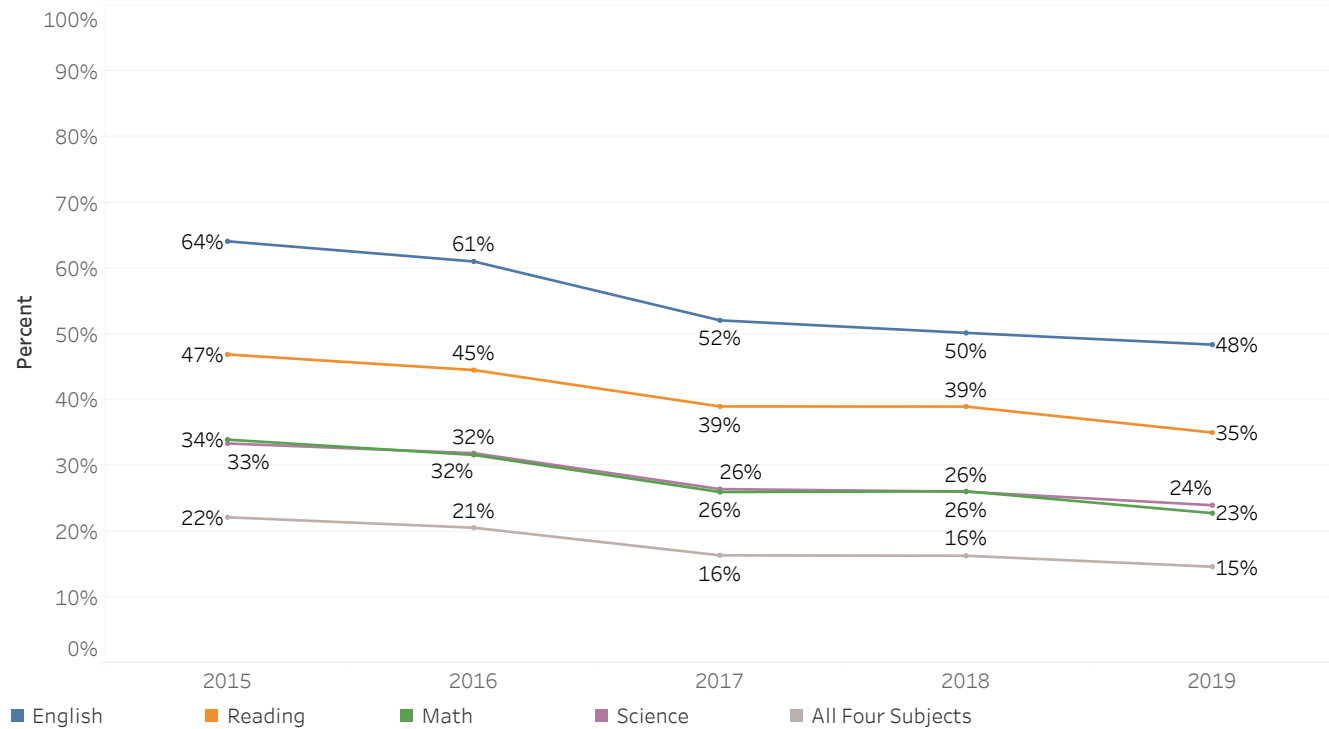
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
48%	59%	35%	45%	23%	39%	24%	36%	15%	26%

* The ACT College Readiness Benchmarks are scores on the ACT subject area tests that represent the level of achievement required for students to have a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in corresponding credit-bearing first-year college courses. Throughout this report, benchmark attainment corresponds with students meeting or exceeding 18 in English, 22 in Reading, 22 in Math and 23 in Science.

Note, missing data points in tables and graphs reflect insufficient data for reporting.

OKLAHOMA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2015–2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks*



Data From Graph Above

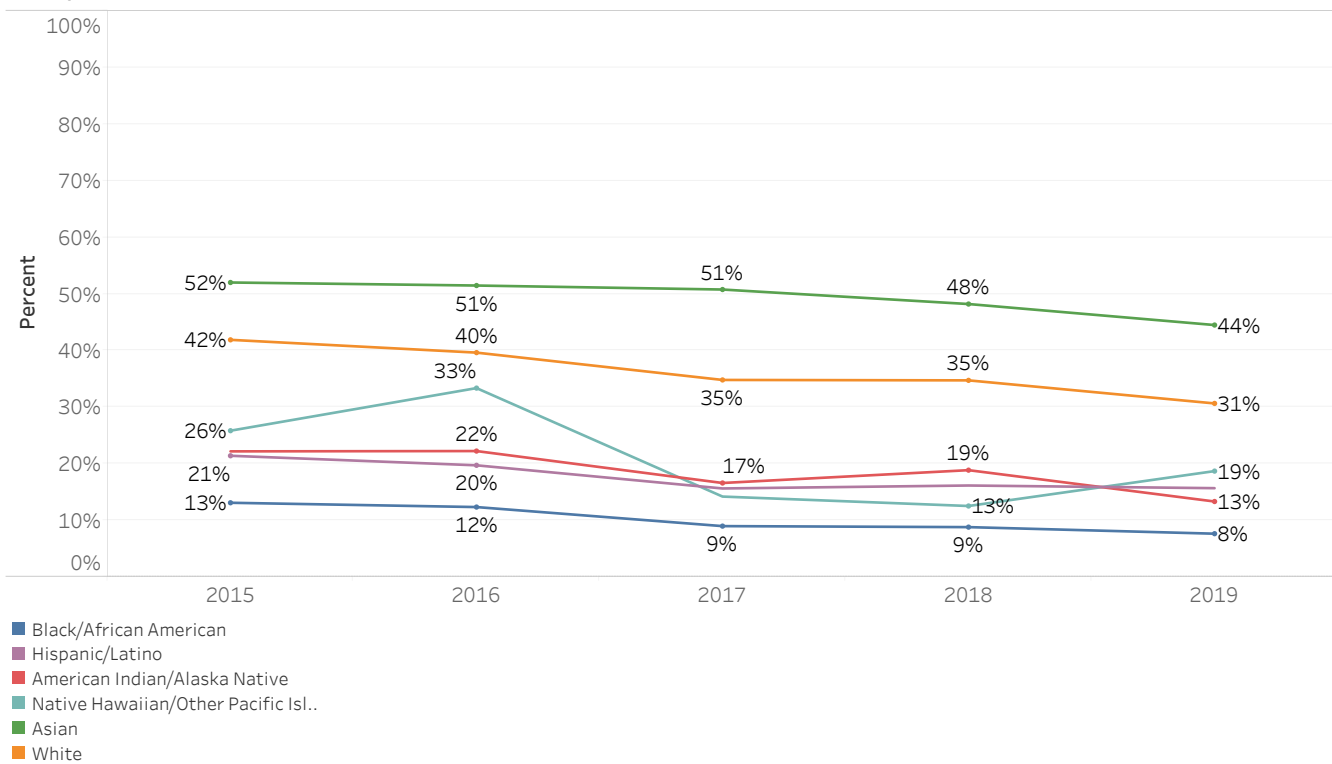
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2015	64%	47%	34%	33%	22%
2016	61%	45%	32%	32%	21%
2017	52%	39%	26%	26%	16%
2018	50%	39%	26%	26%	16%
2019	48%	35%	23%	24%	15%

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OKLAHOMA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2015-2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting Three or More Benchmarks by Race/Ethnicity



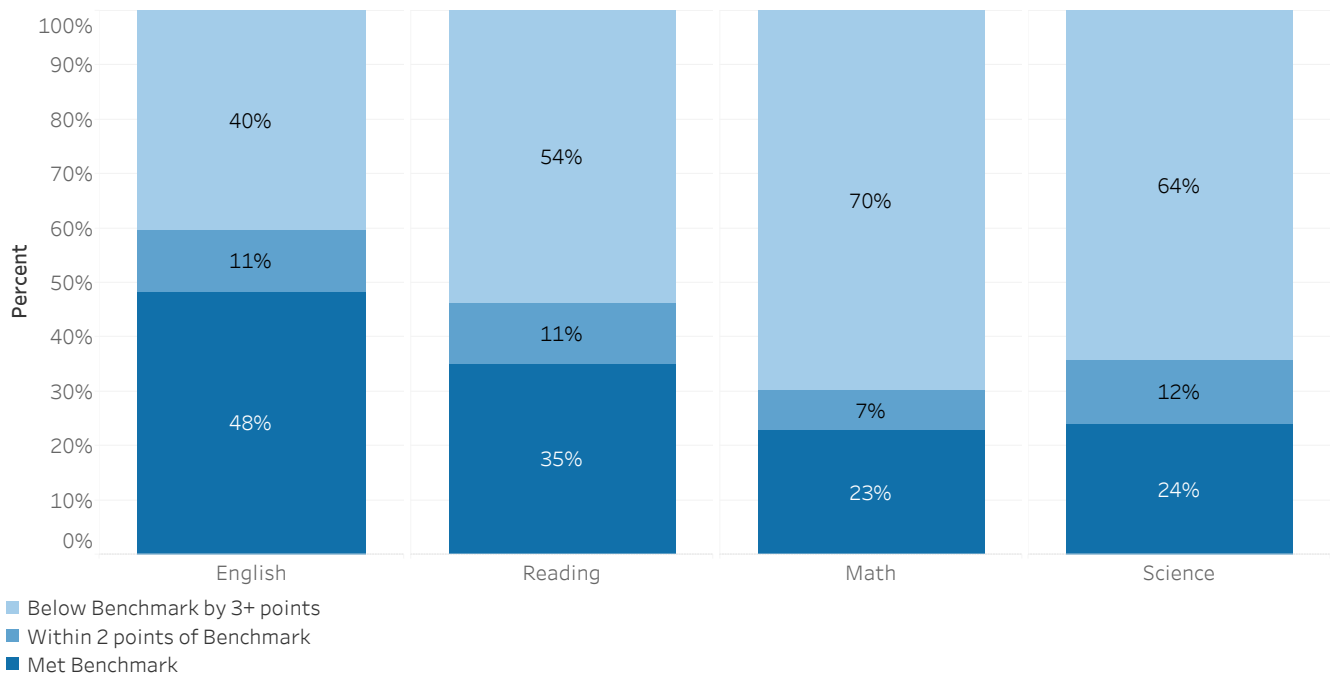
Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2015	13%	21%	22%	26%	52%	42%
2016	12%	20%	22%	33%	51%	40%
2017	9%	16%	17%	14%	51%	35%
2018	9%	16%	19%	13%	48%	35%
2019	8%	16%	13%	19%	44%	31%

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OKLAHOMA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates by ACT College Readiness Benchmark Attainment and Subject



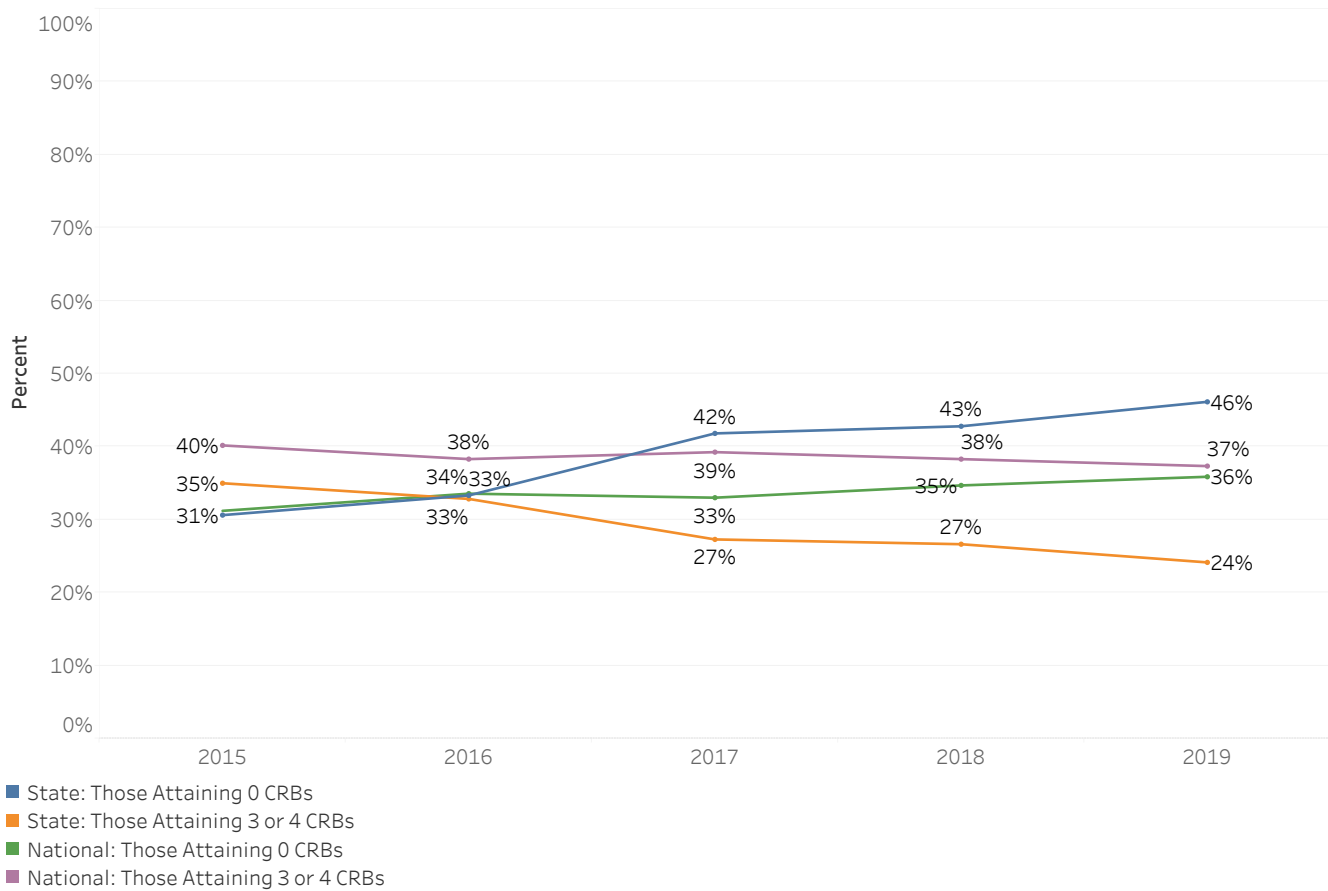
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	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	40%	11%	48%
Math	70%	7%	23%
Reading	54%	11%	35%
Science	64%	12%	24%

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Percent of 2015–2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks*



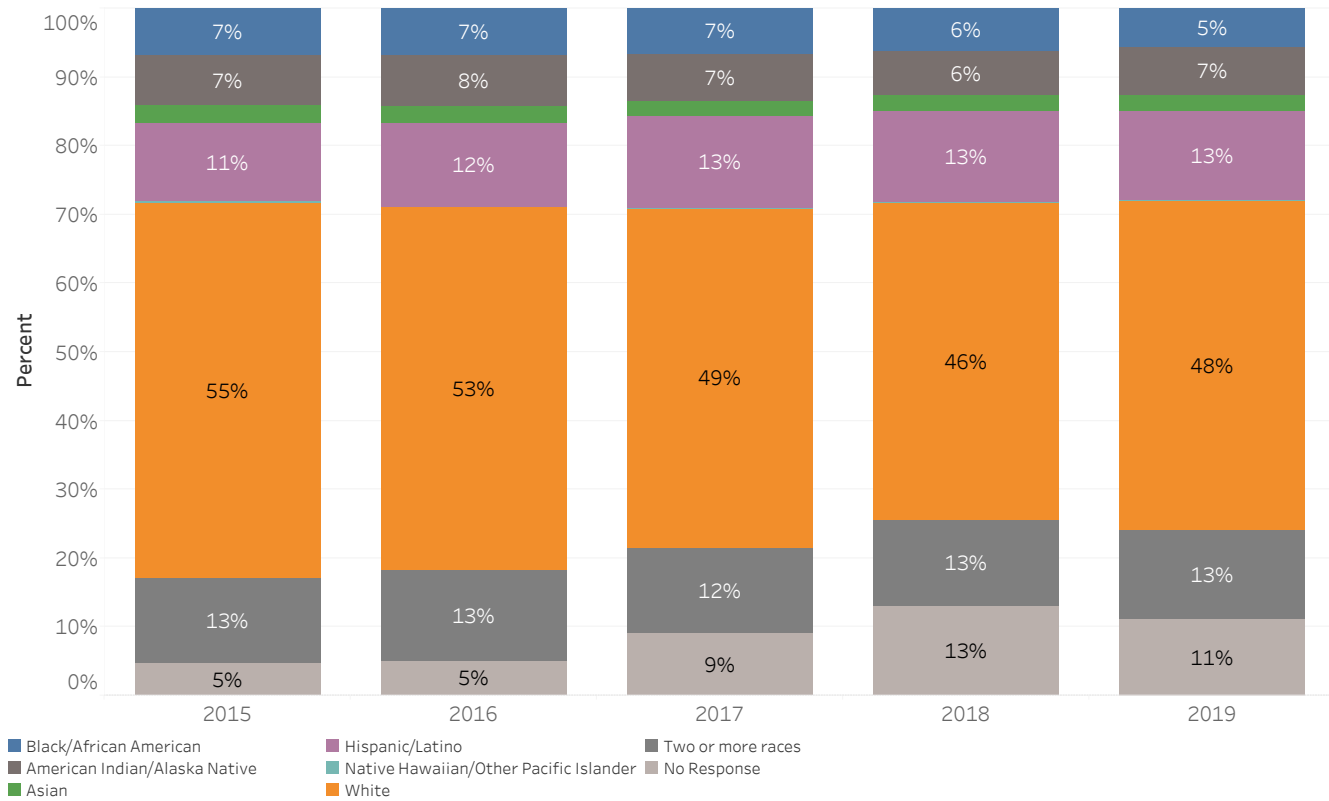
Data from Graph Above

	State: Those Attaining 0 CRBs	State: Those Attaining 3 or 4 CRBs	National: Those Attaining 0 CRBs	National: Those Attaining 3 or 4 CRBs
2015	31%	35%	31%	40%
2016	33%	33%	34%	38%
2017	42%	27%	33%	39%
2018	43%	27%	35%	38%
2019	46%	24%	36%	37%

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OKLAHOMA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2015-2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates by Race/Ethnicity



Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	American Indian/Alaska Native	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	White	Two or more races	No Response
2015	7%	7%	3%	11%	0%	55%	13%	5%
2016	7%	8%	3%	12%	0%	53%	13%	5%
2017	7%	7%	2%	13%	0%	49%	12%	9%
2018	6%	6%	2%	13%	0%	46%	13%	13%
2019	5%	7%	2%	13%	0%	48%	13%	11%

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OKLAHOMA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

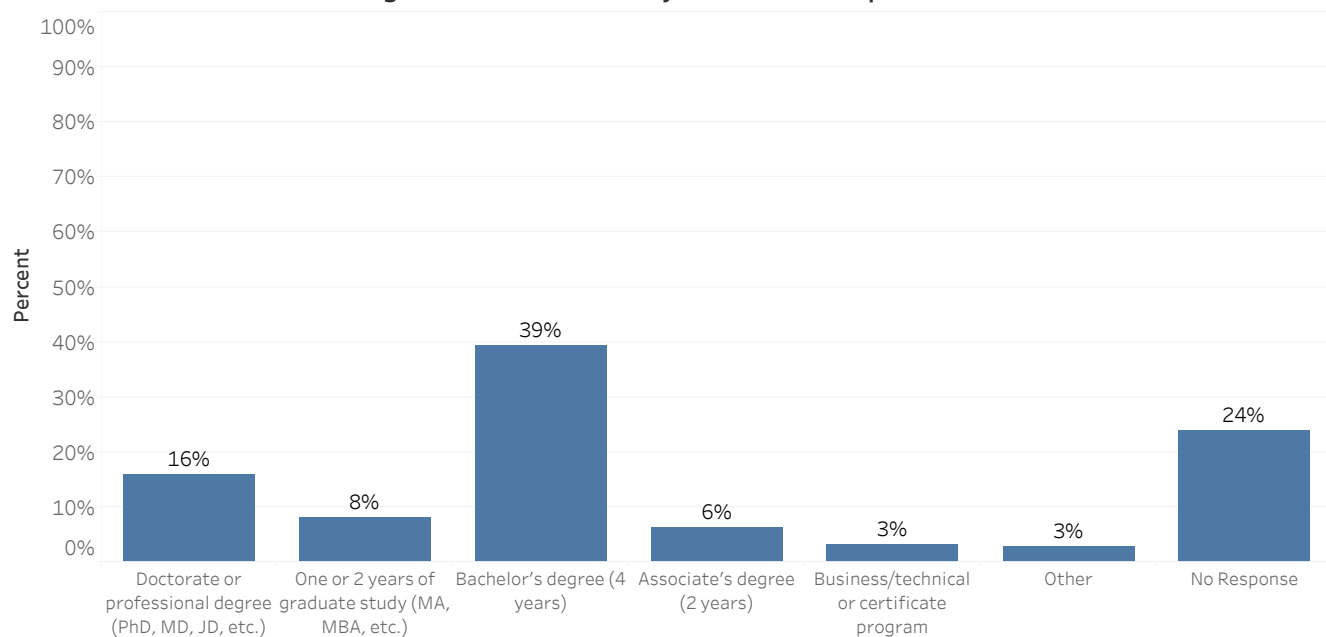
Student Data Trends: 2015-2019, State vs. Nation

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
State N-count	30,844	32,854	42,405	42,388	42,234
National N-count	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817	1,782,820
Average ACT English Score - State	20.1	19.8	18.5	18.4	18.2
Average ACT English Score - National	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2	20.1
Average ACT Reading Score - State	21.5	21.3	20.1	20.1	19.6
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.2
Average ACT Math Score - State	19.8	19.5	18.8	18.8	18.3
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5	20.4
Average ACT Science Score - State	20.7	20.5	19.6	19.4	19.0
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7	20.6
Average ACT Composite Score - State	20.7	20.4	19.4	19.3	18.9
Average ACT Composite Score - National	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8	20.7

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OKLAHOMA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates by Educational Aspirations



Data From Graph Above

	% of Graduates
Doctorate or professional degree (PhD, MD, JD, etc.)	16%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	8%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	39%
Associate's degree (2 years)	6%
Business/technical or certificate program	3%
Other	3%
No Response	24%

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