

# The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2018

## Kansas Key Findings

### Performance

- In the 2018 Kansas graduating class, 25,103 graduates (71 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 21.6. This compares to 23,924 (75 percent) with an average of 22.0 in 2014. Nationally, 55% of 2018 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.8.
- In 2018, 29 percent of Kansas graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 29 and 31 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 27 percent of Kansas graduates met zero ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 25 and 23 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ 2018 Kansas graduates taking more advanced English coursework demonstrated markedly higher average English scores than those who did not. In fact, 70 percent of Kansas 2018 graduates taking four or more years of English met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 45 percent of students taking less than four years of English meeting the benchmark.
  - ~ 2018 Kansas graduates taking more advanced math coursework demonstrated markedly higher average math scores than those who did not. In fact, 47 percent of Kansas 2018 graduates taking three or more years of math met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 11 percent of students taking less than three years of math meeting the benchmark.
  - ~ 2018 Kansas graduates taking more advanced social studies coursework demonstrated markedly higher average reading scores than those who did not. In fact, 54 percent of Kansas 2018 graduates taking three or more years of social studies met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 37 percent of students taking less than three years of social studies meeting the benchmark.
  - ~ 2018 Kansas graduates taking more advanced science coursework demonstrated markedly higher average science scores than those who did not. In fact, 45 percent of Kansas 2018 graduates taking three or more years of science met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 20 percent of students taking less than three years of science meeting the benchmark.

### STEM

- In 2018, 12,049 Kansas graduates (48 percent) indicated having an interest in STEM majors and/or careers.
  - ~ Nationally, 45 percent of graduates indicated having an interest in STEM.
- Compared to a 2018 Kansas graduating class average ACT STEM score of 21.6, graduates in 2017 and 2014 had STEM averages of 21.7 and 22.0, respectively.
  - ~ 2018 Kansas graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average science score of 28.6. This compares to 28.2 in 2014.
- 2018 Kansas graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average math score of 28.4. This compares to 28.3 in 2014.

## Career Readiness

- In 2018, 6,924 Kansas graduates (28 percent) were likely to attain the Gold ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate or higher based upon ACT Composite score, compared to 499,653 (26 percent) nationally.
  - ~ The ACT Composite scores associated with a 50% chance of earning each ACT WorkKeys NCRC level or higher are: 13 for Bronze, 17 for Silver, 25 for Gold, and 35 for Platinum. Based on those cut scores, students who earned an ACT Composite score of less than 13 would be classified as “Needs Improvement,” 13 to 16 as “Bronze,” 17 to 24 as “Silver,” and 25 or above as “Gold or Higher.”

## Impact

- Based on the actual test volume and ACT score distributions of 2018 ACT-tested Kansas high school graduates, ACT research estimates that an increase of 0.1 in state average ACT Composite score for the 2018 graduating class would result in:
  - ~ 58 more students enrolling in college.
  - ~ 67 more students persisting to year two.
  - ~ 49 fewer students needing remedial English.
  - ~ 82 fewer students needing remedial math.
  - ~ 74 more students persisting to year four.
  - ~ 79 more students earning a postsecondary degree within six years.

## Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In Kansas, 15,872 of the 2018 graduates (63.2%) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 23.0, compared to an average of 19.3 for 9,231 of the 2018 graduates (36.8%) who took the ACT only once.
- 50,769 score reports were sent to colleges by 2018 Kansas ACT-tested graduates.
  - ~ 32,137 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2018 Kansas ACT-tested graduates.
  - ~ For Kansas’s 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were Kansas State University, University of Kansas, Wichita State University, Emporia State University, and Fort Hays State University.
  - ~ For Kansas’s 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top three out-of-state schools to which scores were sent were University of Missouri-Kansas City, University of Arkansas, and Oklahoma State University.
- Compared to 68 percent of 2018 graduates nationally, 71 percent of Kansas 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.
  - ~ Compared to 79 percent of African American students nationally, 84 percent of Kansas African American 2018 graduates opted into EOS.
  - ~ Compared to 66 percent of White students nationally, 68 percent of Kansas White 2018 graduates opted into EOS.
  - ~ Compared to 80 percent of Hispanic students nationally, 84 percent of Kansas Hispanic 2018 graduates opted into EOS.
- In the 2017-2018 academic year, ACT issued 6,874 ACT fee waivers to qualified Kansas students. However, 1,532 students (22.3 percent) did not take advantage of this opportunity to test for free. This compares to 542,506 waivers issued nationally, of which 152,227 (28.1 percent) students did not take advantage. This represents a great opportunity for high schools within the state to increase the socioeconomic diversity of its students tested. Note: this is the number of fee waivers issued for the state, not specific to this graduating class.

- ~ While African American Kansas students represent 14 percent of fee waivers issued, they account for 19 percent of unused fee waivers. This compares to 31 and 33 nationally.
- ~ While White Kansas students represent 33 percent of fee waivers issued, they account for 30 percent of unused fee waivers. This compares to 19 and 17 nationally.
- ~ While Hispanic Kansas students represent 38 percent of fee waivers issued, they account for 38 percent of unused fee waivers. This compares to 35 and 36 nationally.

## Pipeline

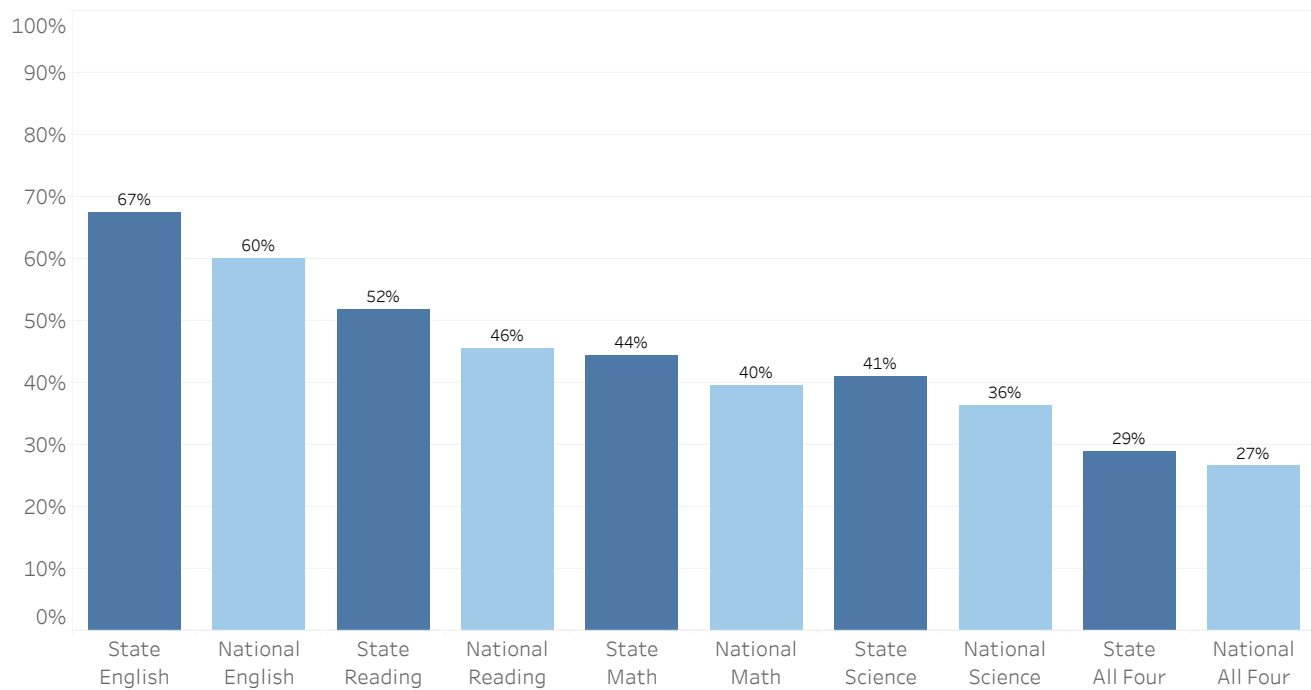
- Aspirations matter. Students who aspire to a higher level of postsecondary education typically achieve higher ACT Composite scores.
  - ~ 7,581 students (30 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 24.1.
  - ~ 13,090 students (52 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 21.2.
  - ~ 1,451 students (6 percent) aspired to attain a vocational/technical or associate's degree. They had an average Composite score of 17.5.
- In the Kansas graduating class of 2018, 3,564 students (14 percent) had parents who did not attend college.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2018 Kansas graduates were: Undecided; Nursing, Registered (BS/RN); Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Business Administration and Management, General; and Mechanical Engineering.
  - ~ In the Kansas graduating class of 2018, 4,541 students (18 percent) indicated being undecided about their college major. They had an average Composite score of 22.0. 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 Kansas graduating class of 2018, 1,379 (5 percent) indicated planning on majoring in education. They had an average Composite score of 21.0.
- There is good news in that 88% of Kansas's 2018 ACT-tested graduates aspired to postsecondary education. Interestingly enough, 91% of Kansas's 2017 ACT-tested graduating class aspired to enroll in postsecondary education, compared to 74% who actually did enroll. If we fully closed the aspirational gap, an additional 4,085 of the 2017 ACT-tested graduates from Kansas would have enrolled in postsecondary education.

## Additional Points

- The Kansas ACT State Organization continues to grow in membership and in diversity, with more than 180 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 conference that brings together professionals representing each of these areas, providing a unique and diverse professional development opportunity.
- The ACT College and Career Readiness Champions are individuals across the country who support ACT's mission of education and workplace success. They are high school seniors, K-12, postsecondary, and workforce professionals, who have demonstrated exemplary behavior and contributions in support of college and career readiness in their respective communities. Congratulations to the Kansas Champions: Lacey Gregory (High School Senior), Jina Kugler (K-12 Professional), and Tracey Faulkner (Workforce Professional).

# KANSAS College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks\* by Subject



Data From Graph Above

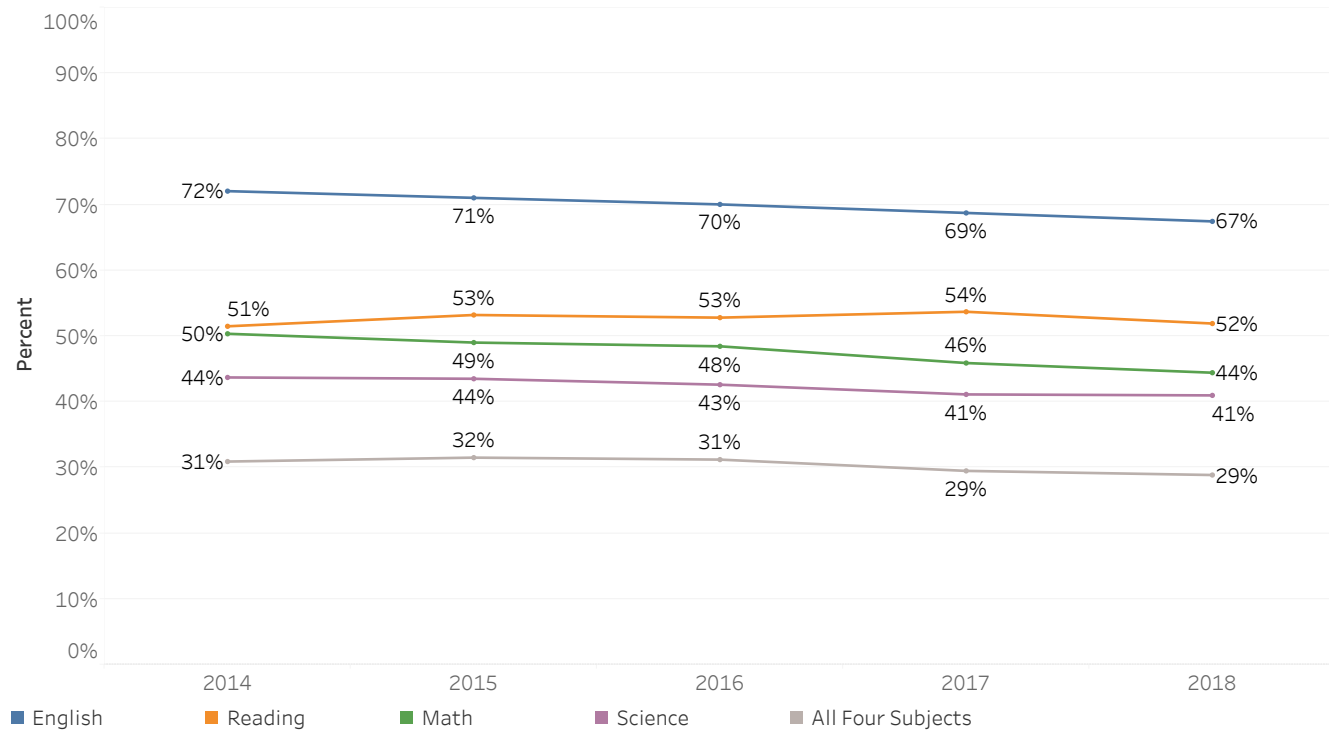
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
67%	60%	52%	46%	44%	40%	41%	36%	29%	27%

\* 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.

# KANSAS College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2014–2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks\*



## Data From Graph Above

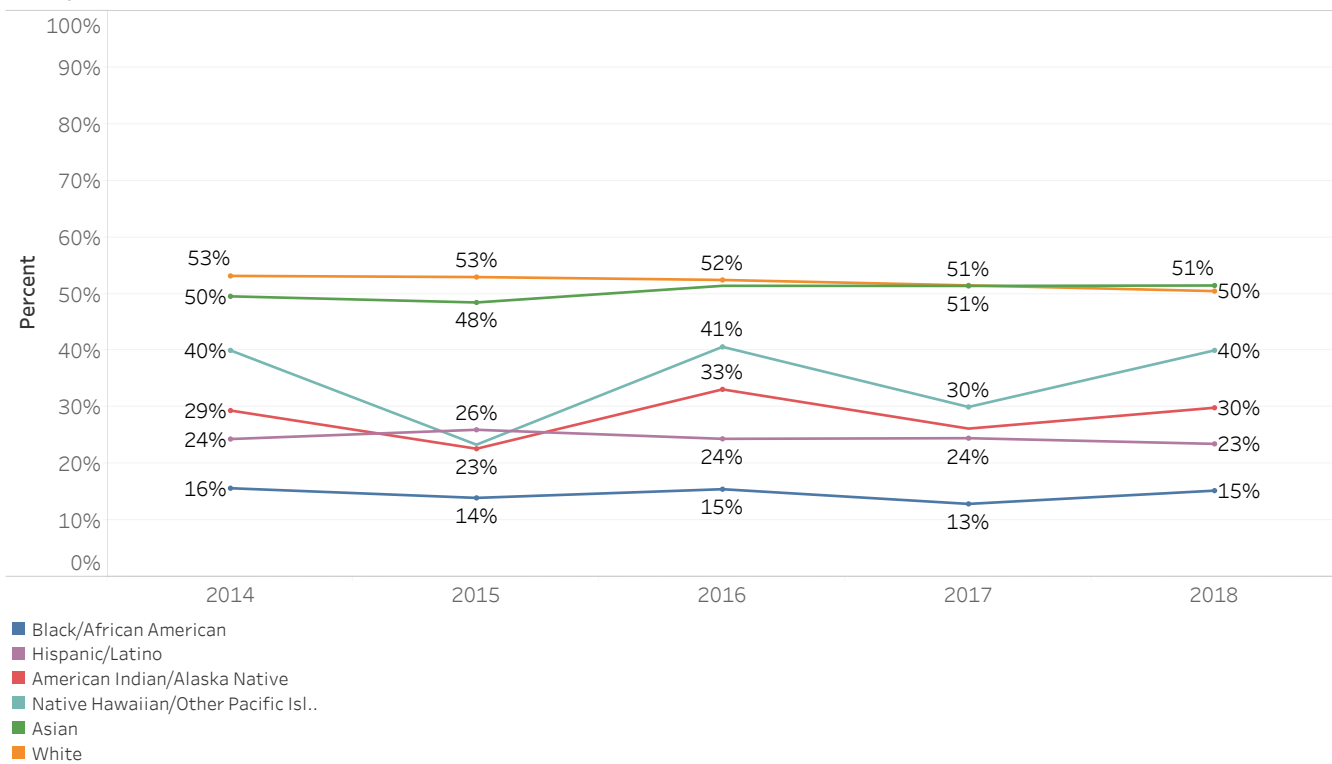
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2014	72%	51%	50%	44%	31%
2015	71%	53%	49%	44%	32%
2016	70%	53%	48%	43%	31%
2017	69%	54%	46%	41%	29%
2018	67%	52%	44%	41%	29%

\* 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.

# KANSAS College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

## Percent of 2014-2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting Three or More Benchmarks by Race/Ethnicity



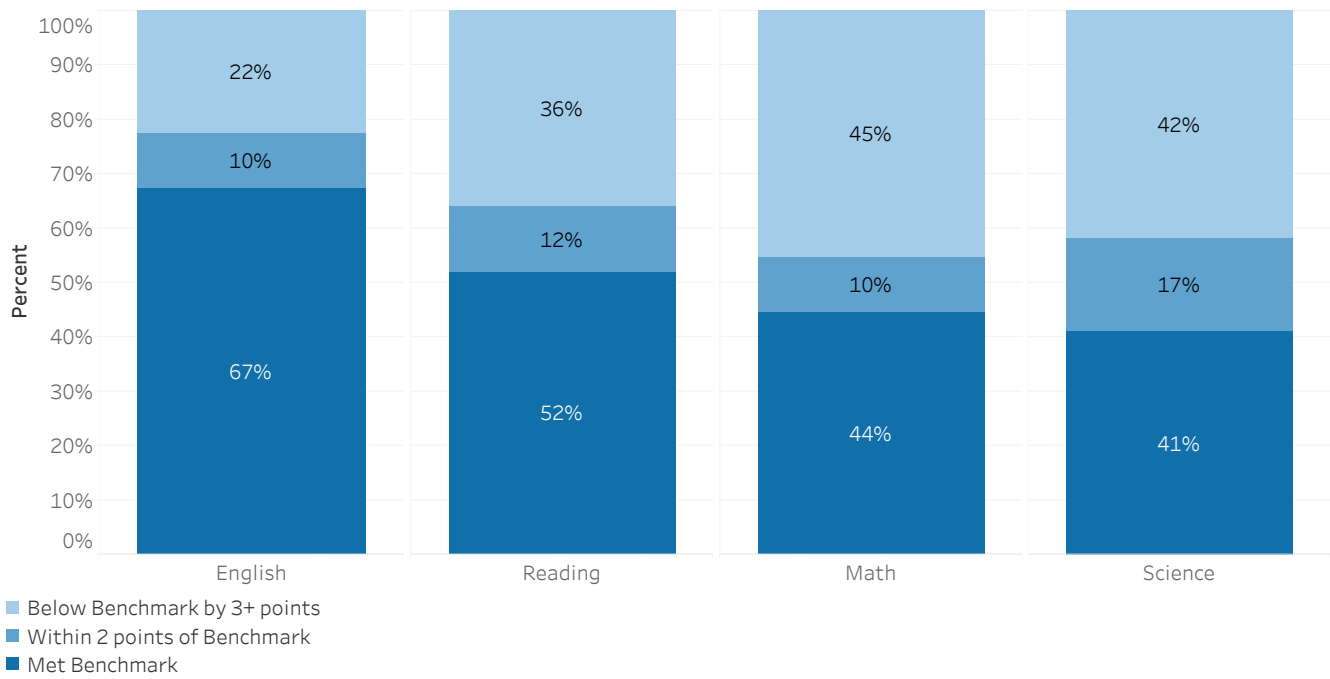
### Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2014	16%	24%	29%	40%	50%	53%
2015	14%	26%	23%	23%	48%	53%
2016	15%	24%	33%	41%	51%	52%
2017	13%	24%	26%	30%	51%	51%
2018	15%	23%	30%	40%	51%	50%

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

# KANSAS College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates by ACT College Readiness Benchmark Attainment and Subject



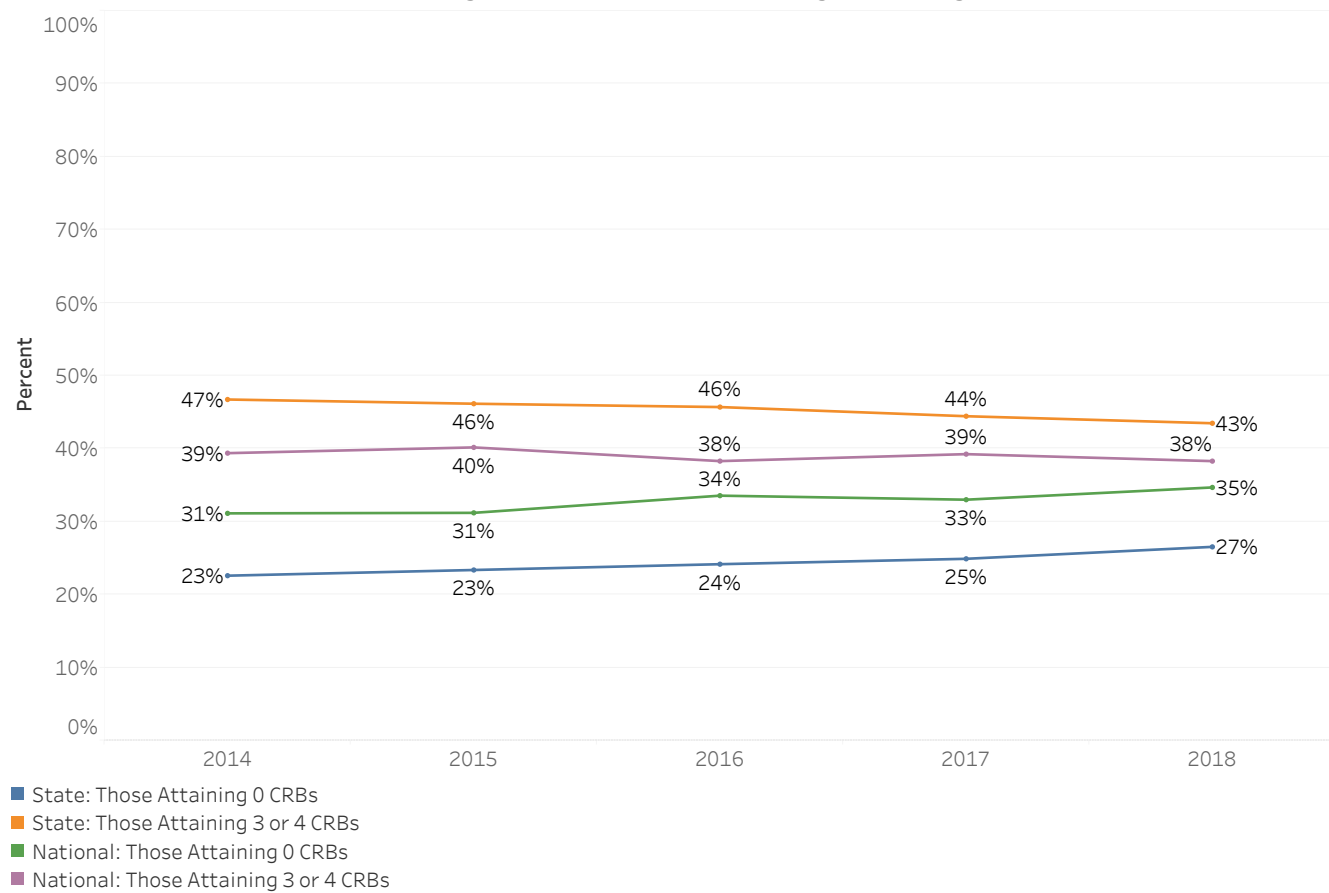
## Data From Graph Above

	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	22%	10%	67%
Math	45%	10%	44%
Reading	36%	12%	52%
Science	42%	17%	41%

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

# KANSAS College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2014–2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks\*



## Data from Graph Above

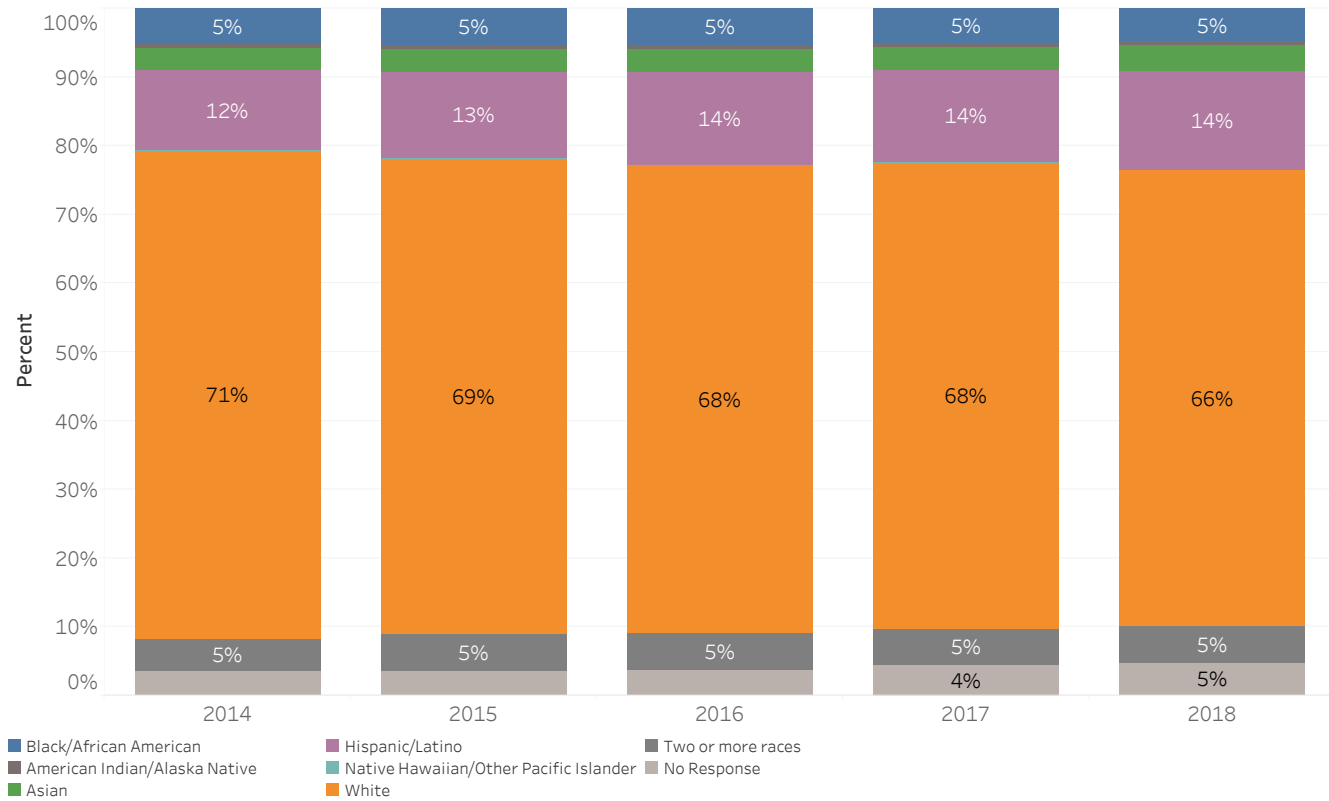
	State: Those Attaining 0 CRBs	State: Those Attaining 3 or 4 CRBs	National: Those Attaining 0 CRBs	National: Those Attaining 3 or 4 CRBs
2014	23%	47%	31%	39%
2015	23%	46%	31%	40%
2016	24%	46%	34%	38%
2017	25%	44%	33%	39%
2018	27%	43%	35%	38%

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



# KANSAS College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2014-2018 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
2014	5%	1%	3%	12%	0%	71%	5%	3%
2015	5%	1%	3%	13%	0%	69%	5%	4%
2016	5%	1%	3%	14%	0%	68%	5%	4%
2017	5%	1%	3%	14%	0%	68%	5%	4%
2018	5%	1%	4%	14%	0%	66%	5%	5%

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

# KANSAS College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

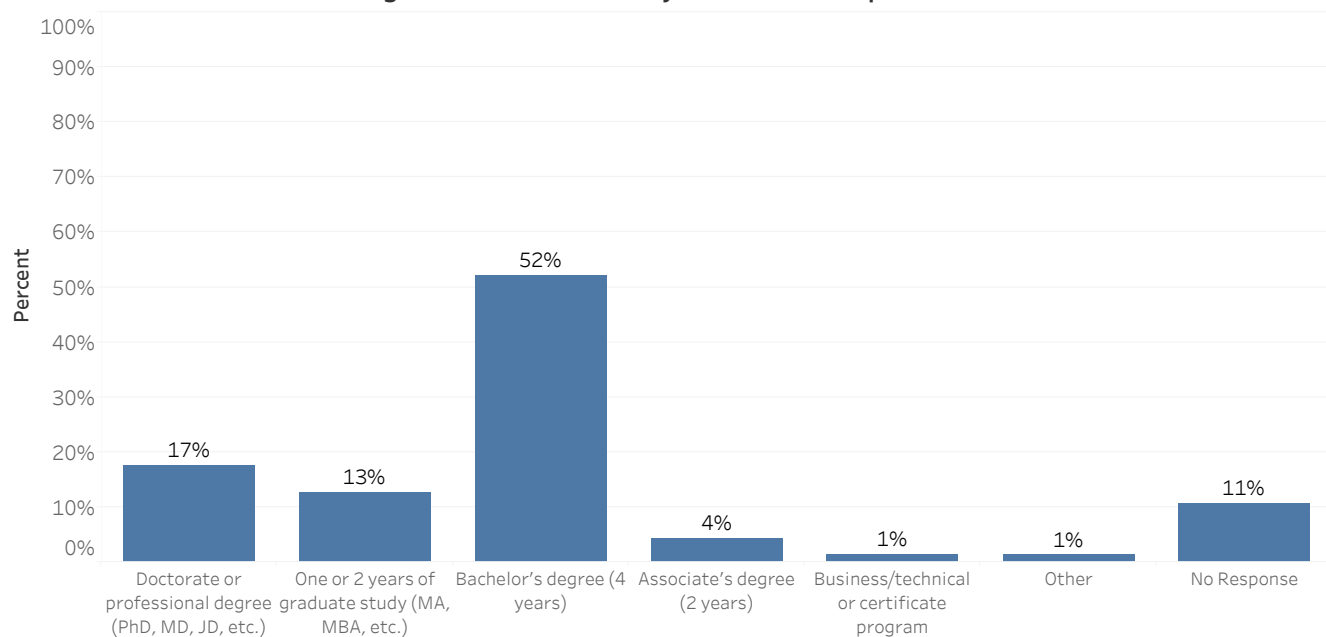
## Student Data Trends: 2014-2018, State vs. Nation

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
State N-count	23,924	23,708	24,488	24,741	25,103
National N-count	1,845,787	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817
Average ACT English Score - State	21.4	21.3	21.3	21.1	21.0
Average ACT English Score - National	20.3	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2
Average ACT Reading Score - State	22.5	22.4	22.5	22.3	22.3
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3
Average ACT Math Score - State	21.7	21.6	21.5	21.3	21.1
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.9	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5
Average ACT Science Score - State	21.8	21.8	21.8	21.7	21.5
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.8	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7
Average ACT Composite Score - State	22.0	21.9	21.9	21.7	21.6
Average ACT Composite Score - National	21.0	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8

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

# KANSAS College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

## Percent of 2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates by Educational Aspirations



### Data From Graph Above

	% of Graduates
Doctorate or professional degree (PhD, MD, JD, etc.)	17%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	13%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	52%
Associate's degree (2 years)	4%
Business/technical or certificate program	1%
Other	1%
No Response	11%

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

**ACT**<sup>®</sup>