

The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2018

Nevada Key Findings

Performance

- In the 2018 Nevada graduating class, 35,865 graduates (100 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 17.7. This compares to 7,738 (36 percent) with an average of 21.2 in 2014. Nationally, 55% of 2018 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.8.
 - ~ There were 2,836 African American graduates from Nevada who took the ACT (8 percent) with an average Composite score of 15.3. This compares to 2,636 (8 percent) with an average of 15.5, and 470 (6 percent) with an average of 18.2, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
 - ~ There were 10,282 White graduates from Nevada who took the ACT (29 percent) with an average Composite score of 19.9. This compares to 10,437 (31 percent) with an average of 19.8, and 3,768 (49 percent) with an average of 22.5, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
 - ~ There were 13,192 Hispanic graduates from Nevada who took the ACT (37 percent) with an average Composite score of 16.4. This compares to 12,967 (39 percent) with an average of 16.3, and 2,005 (26 percent) with an average of 19.0, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
- The 2018 Nevada graduating class average English score was 16.6. This compares to 16.3 and 20.2 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 Nevada graduating class average math score was 17.8. This compares to 18.0 and 21.2 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 Nevada graduating class average reading score was 18.0. This compares to 18.1 and 21.7 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 Nevada graduating class average science score was 17.9. This compares to 18.2 and 21.1 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- In 2018, 12 percent of Nevada graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 11 and 26 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - ~ In 2018, 38 percent of Nevada graduates met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 38 and 65 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - ~ In 2018, 21 percent of Nevada graduates met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 21 and 46 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - ~ In 2018, 27 percent of Nevada graduates met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 27 and 47 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - ~ In 2018, 18 percent of Nevada graduates met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 19 and 37 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
- In 2018, 6,864 (19 percent) of Nevada graduates met three or four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 6,576 and 3,131 (20 and 40 percent) out of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively. For reference, the national percentage of 2018 graduates meeting three or four benchmarks was 38%.

- In 2018, 3 percent of Nevada graduates took the ACT with extended time. This compares to 3 and 1 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
- 28 percent of 2018 Nevada graduates were Proficient or Above Proficient in understanding complex texts.
- 72 percent of 2018 Nevada graduates were Below Proficient in understanding complex texts.

STEM

- In 2018, 11,917 Nevada graduates (33 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 Nevada graduating class average ACT STEM score of 18.1, graduates in 2017 and 2014 had STEM averages of 18.3 and 21.4, respectively.
 - ~ 2018 Nevada graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average science score of 28.3. This compares to 28.0 in 2014.
- 2018 graduates taking three or more years of math had an average math score of 18.6, compared to 15.1 for students taking less than three years of math.

Career Readiness

- In 2018, 18,130 Nevada graduates (51 percent) were likely to attain the Silver ACT WorkKeys® National Career Readiness Certificate® or higher based upon ACT Composite score, compared to 1,393,517 (73 percent) nationally.
 - ~ The ACT Composite scores associated with a 50% chance of earning each 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 Nevada 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:
 - ~ 97 more students enrolling in college.
 - ~ 104 more students persisting to year two.
 - ~ 76 fewer students needing remedial English.
 - ~ 111 fewer students needing remedial math.
 - ~ 104 more students persisting to year four.
 - ~ 107 more students earning a postsecondary degree within six years.

Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In Nevada, 6,939 of the 2018 graduates (19.3%) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 21.6, compared to an average of 16.8 for 28,926 of the 2018 graduates (80.7%) who took the ACT only once.
- 74,696 score reports were sent to colleges by 2018 Nevada ACT-tested graduates.
 - ~ 33,925 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2018 Nevada ACT-tested graduates.
 - ~ For Nevada’s 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were University of Nevada-Las Vegas, University of Nevada-Reno, College of Southern Nevada, Truckee Meadows Community College, and Nevada State College.
 - ~ For Nevada’s 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top three out-of-state schools to which scores were sent were University of Southern California, Arizona State University, and University of California-Los Angeles.

- Compared to 68 percent of 2018 graduates nationally, 67 percent of Nevada 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, 68 percent of Nevada African American 2018 graduates opted into EOS.
- In the 2017-2018 academic year, ACT issued 2,905 ACT fee waivers to qualified Nevada students. However, 760 students (26.2 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. Fee waivers represent a great opportunity for students of low socioeconomic status to retest without incurring any fees. Note: this is the number of fee waivers issued for the state, not specific to this graduating class.
 - ~ While African American Nevada students represent 14 percent of fee waivers issued, they account for 13 percent of unused fee waivers. This compares to 31 and 33 nationally.
 - ~ While White Nevada students represent 12 percent of fee waivers issued, they account for 10 percent of unused fee waivers. This compares to 19 and 17 nationally.
 - ~ While Hispanic Nevada students represent 53 percent of fee waivers issued, they account for 57 percent of unused fee waivers. This compares to 35 and 36 nationally.

Pipeline

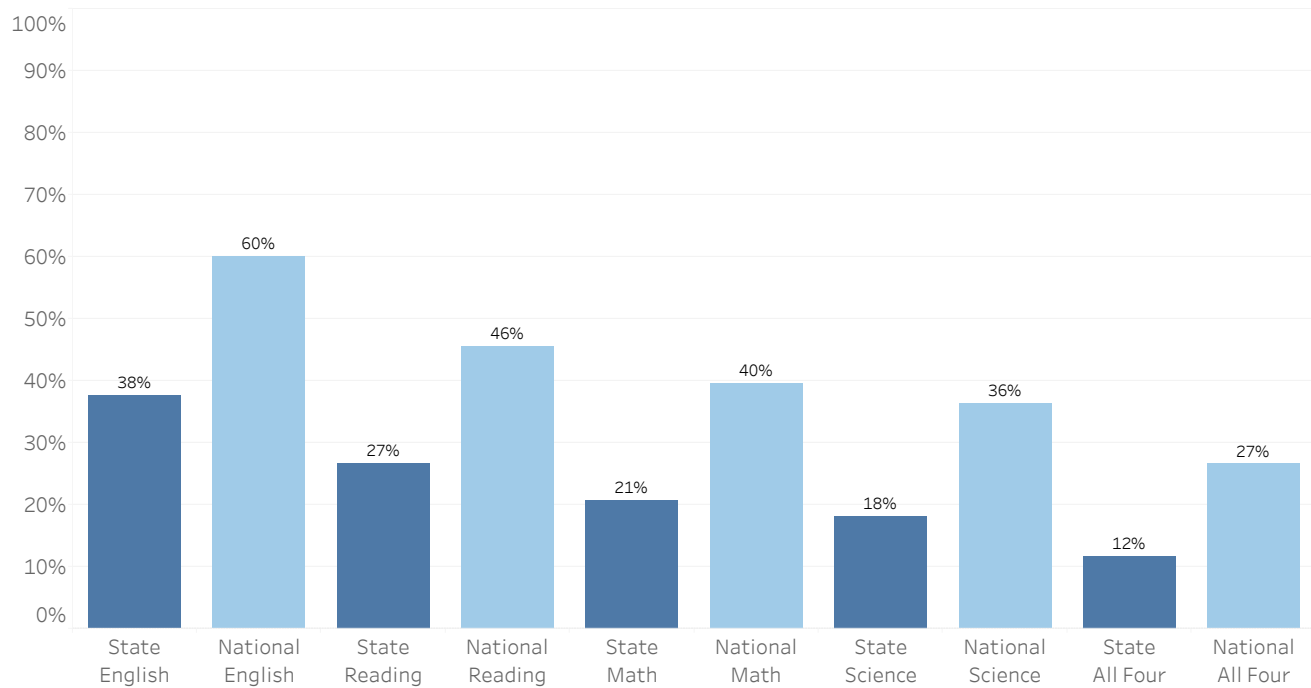
- Aspirations matter. Students who aspire to a higher level of postsecondary education typically achieve higher ACT Composite scores.
 - ~ 7,470 students (21 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 21.1.
 - ~ 10,829 students (30 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 18.6.
 - ~ 2,836 students (8 percent) aspired to attain a vocational/technical or associate's degree. They had an average Composite score of 15.2.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2018 Nevada graduates were: Undecided; Nursing, Registered (BS/RN); Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Business Administration and Management, General; and Criminology.
 - ~ In the Nevada graduating class of 2018, 2,466 students (7 percent) indicated being undecided about their college major. They had an average Composite score of 18.6. 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 Nevada graduating class of 2018, 811 (2 percent) indicated planning on majoring in education. They had an average Composite score of 18.5.
- There is good news in that 59% of Nevada's 2018 ACT-tested graduates aspired to postsecondary education. Interestingly enough, 63% of Nevada's 2017 ACT-tested graduating class aspired to enroll in postsecondary education, compared to 40% who actually did enroll. If we fully closed the aspirational gap, an additional 7,928 of the 2017 ACT-tested graduates from Nevada would have enrolled in postsecondary education.

Additional Points

- 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 Nevada Champions: Taylor Scrutchen (High School Senior), Sean Abid (K-12 Professional), and Guadalupe Ramirez (Postsecondary Professional).
- ACT hosted two fall educator workshops in 2017. The workshops, held at University of Nevada-Reno and University of Nevada-Las Vegas, were attended by more than 100 Nevada educators. ACT will host fall 2018 educator workshops at NSHE (Reno) on October 16 and Clark County Library (Las Vegas) on October 18.

NEVADA 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

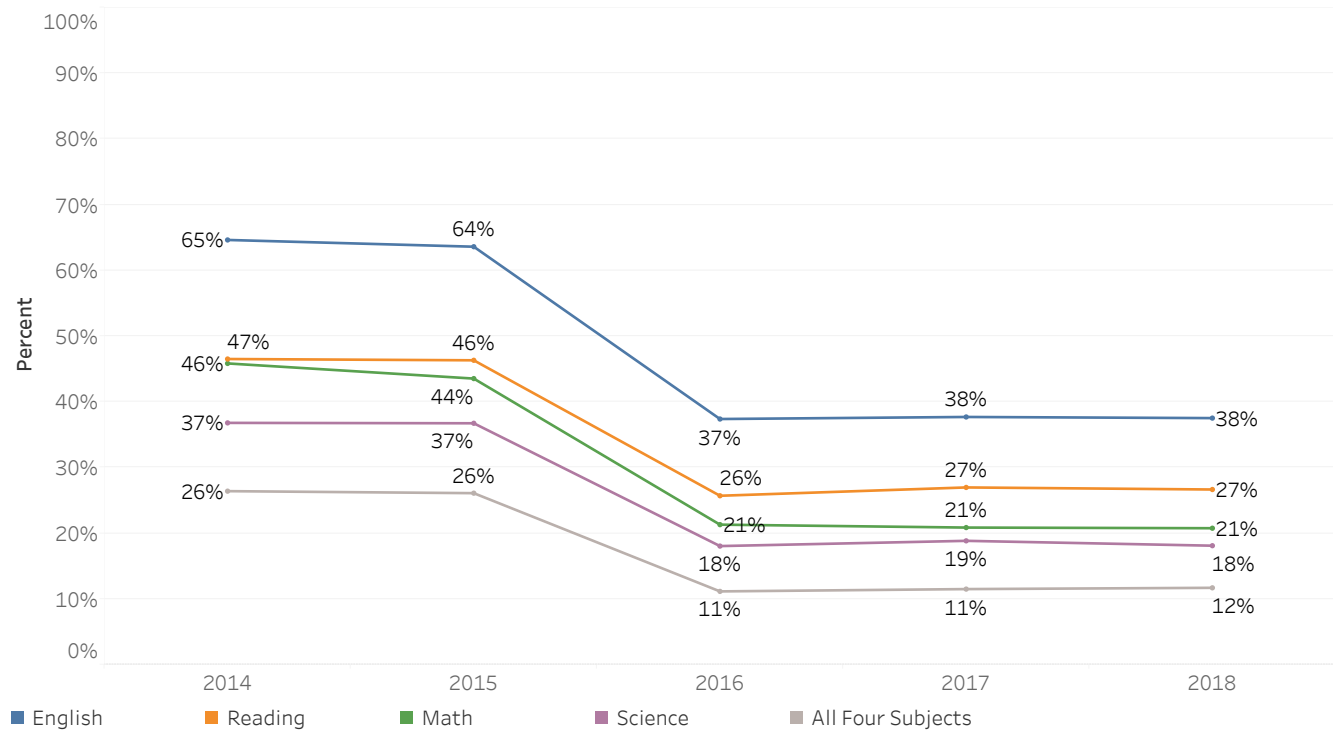
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
38%	60%	27%	46%	21%	40%	18%	36%	12%	27%

* 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.

NEVADA 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

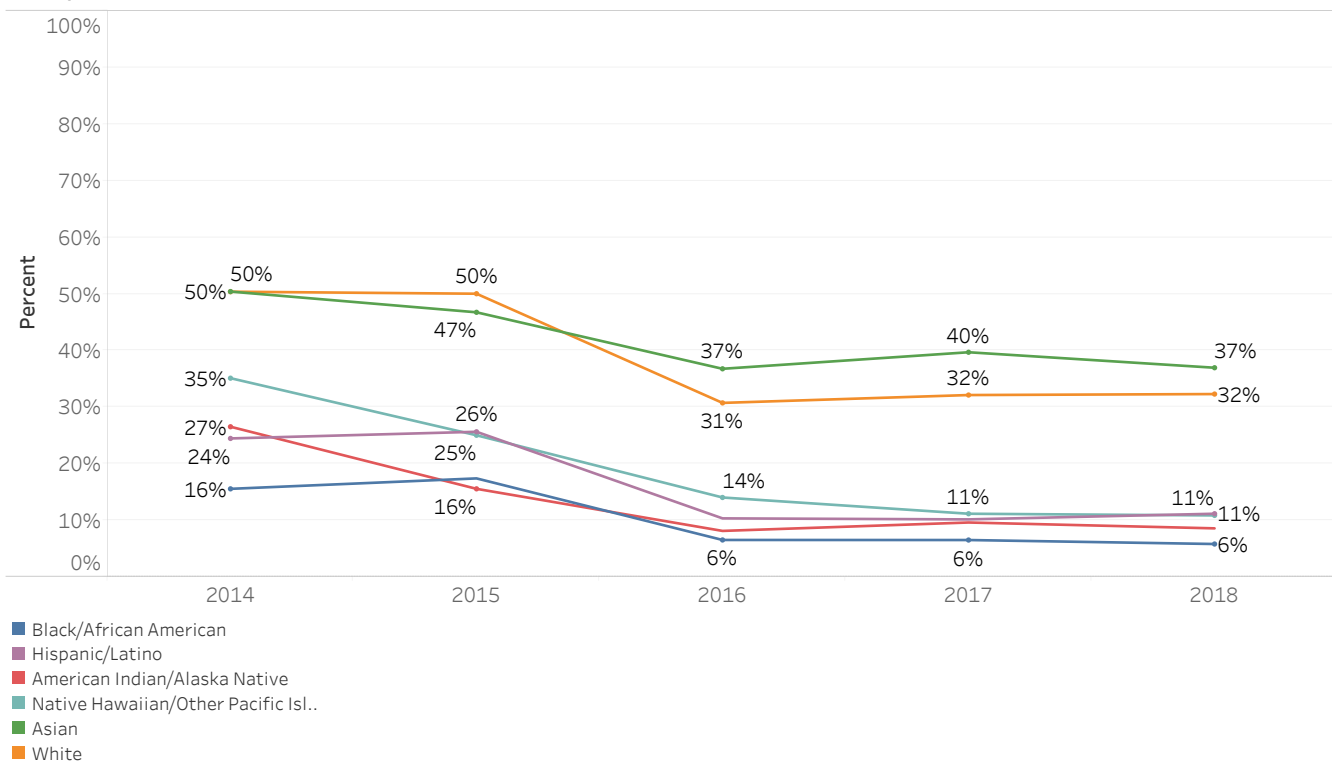
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2014	65%	47%	46%	37%	26%
2015	64%	46%	44%	37%	26%
2016	37%	26%	21%	18%	11%
2017	38%	27%	21%	19%	11%
2018	38%	27%	21%	18%	12%

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NEVADA 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



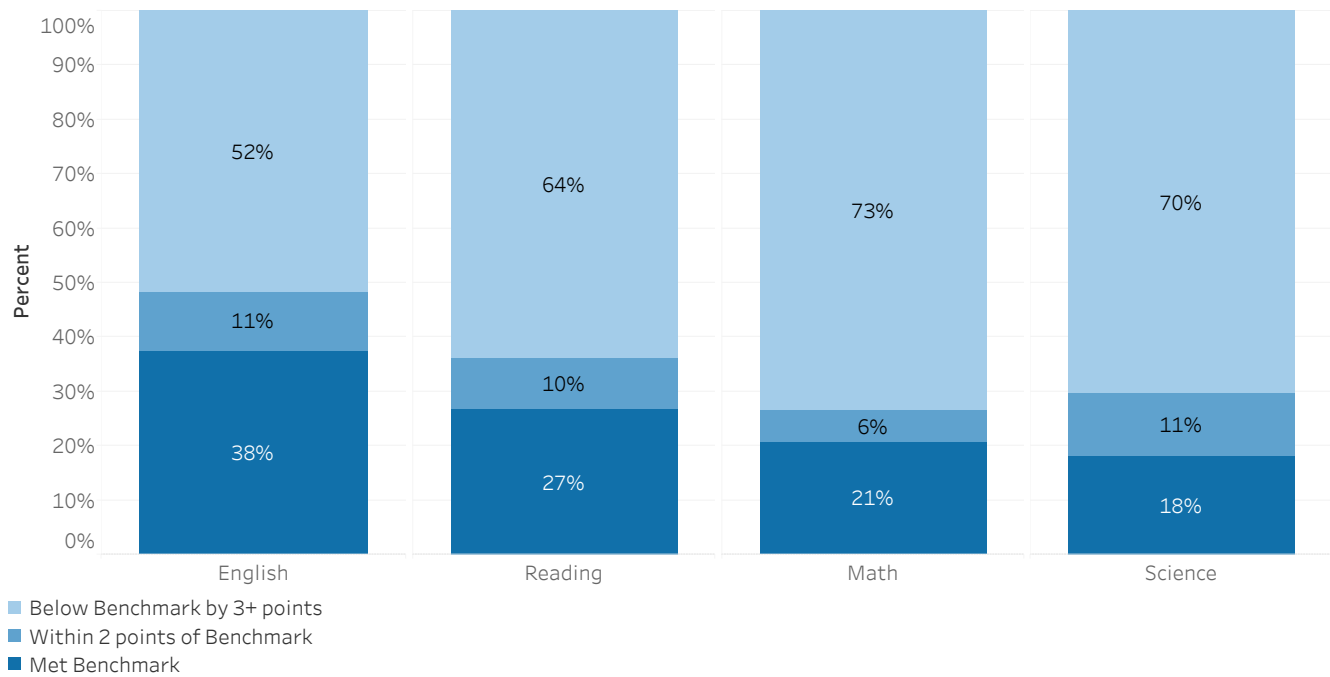
Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2014	16%	24%	27%	35%	50%	50%
2015	17%	26%	16%	25%	47%	50%
2016	6%	10%	8%	14%	37%	31%
2017	6%	10%	10%	11%	40%	32%
2018	6%	11%	9%	11%	37%	32%

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NEVADA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

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



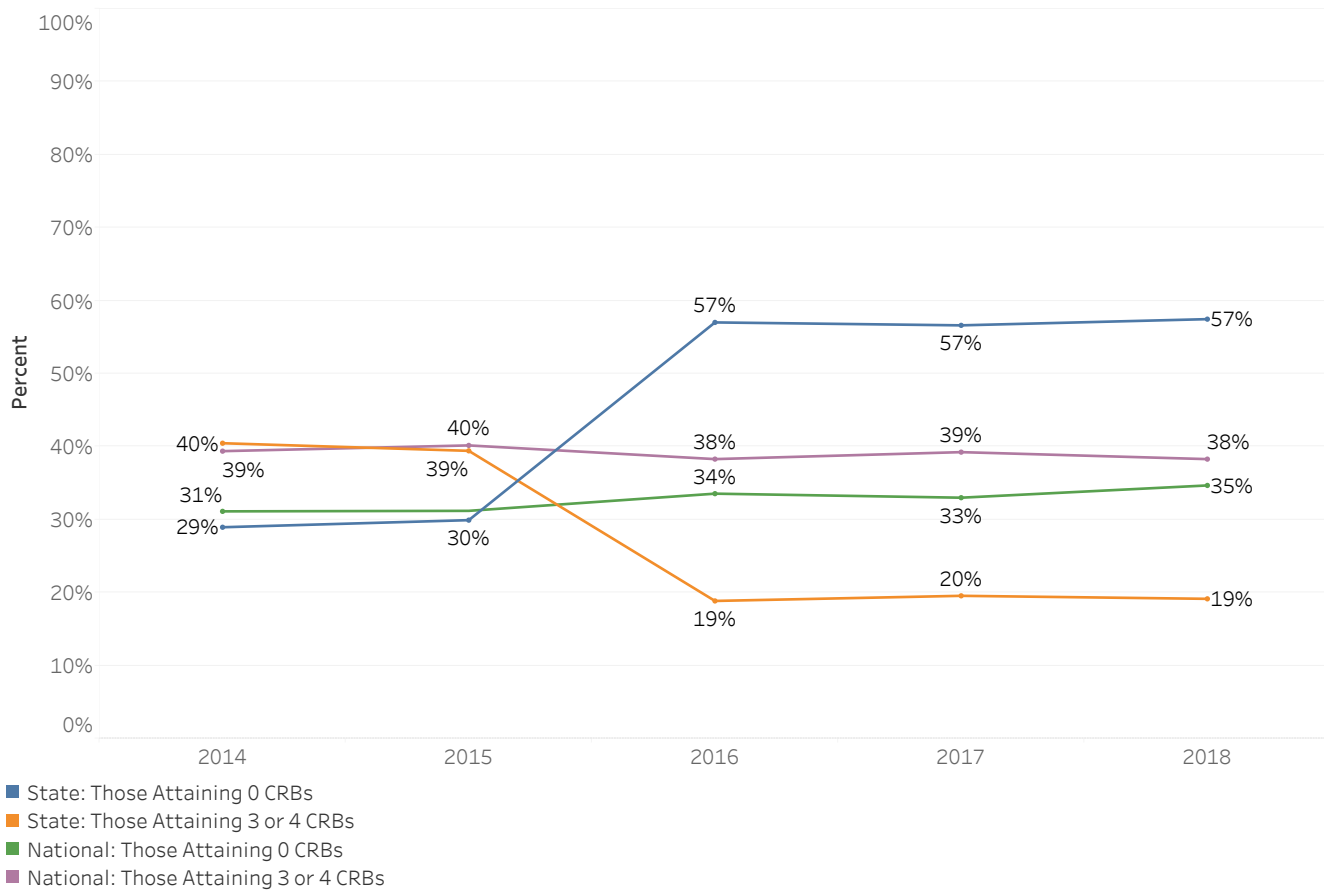
Data From Graph Above

	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	52%	11%	38%
Math	73%	6%	21%
Reading	64%	10%	27%
Science	70%	11%	18%

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NEVADA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

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



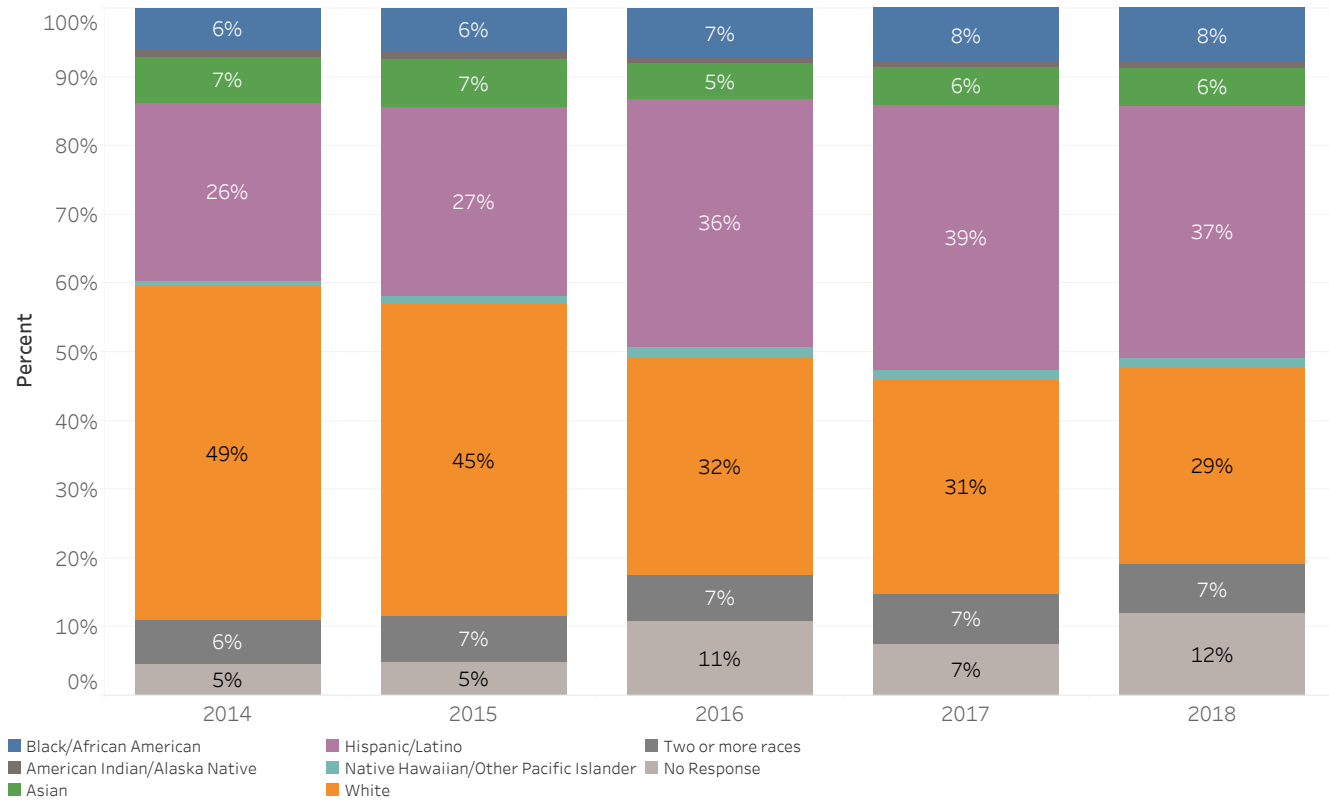
Data from Graph Above

	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	29%	40%	31%	39%
2015	30%	39%	31%	40%
2016	57%	19%	34%	38%
2017	57%	20%	33%	39%
2018	57%	19%	35%	38%

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NEVADA 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	6%	1%	7%	26%	1%	49%	6%	5%
2015	6%	1%	7%	27%	1%	45%	7%	5%
2016	7%	1%	5%	36%	1%	32%	7%	11%
2017	8%	1%	6%	39%	1%	31%	7%	7%
2018	8%	1%	6%	37%	1%	29%	7%	12%

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NEVADA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

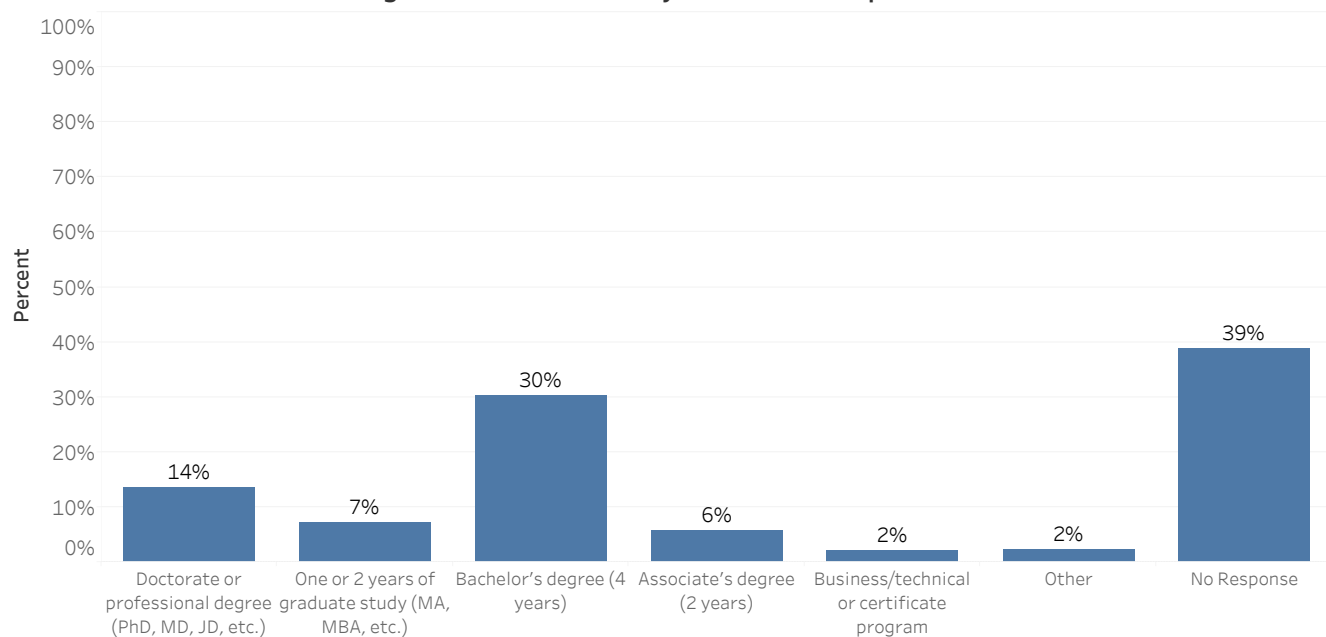
Student Data Trends: 2014-2018, State vs. Nation

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
State N-count	7,738	9,308	32,261	33,634	35,865
National N-count	1,845,787	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817
Average ACT English Score - State	20.2	20.1	16.2	16.3	16.6
Average ACT English Score - National	20.3	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2
Average ACT Reading Score - State	21.7	21.4	18.1	18.1	18.0
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3
Average ACT Math Score - State	21.2	21.0	18.0	18.0	17.8
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.9	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5
Average ACT Science Score - State	21.1	20.9	18.1	18.2	17.9
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.8	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7
Average ACT Composite Score - State	21.2	21.0	17.7	17.8	17.7
Average ACT Composite Score - National	21.0	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8

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NEVADA 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.)	14%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	7%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	30%
Associate's degree (2 years)	6%
Business/technical or certificate program	2%
Other	2%
No Response	39%

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