

# The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2018

## New York Key Findings

### Performance

- In the 2018 New York graduating class, 56,340 graduates (27 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 24.5. This compares to 54,496 (27 percent) with an average of 23.4 in 2014. Nationally, 55% of 2018 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.8.
  - ~ There were 3,717 African American graduates from New York who took the ACT (7 percent) with an average Composite score of 20.3. This compares to 4,531 (7 percent) with an average of 19.9, and 3,700 (7 percent) with an average of 19.0, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
  - ~ There were 32,732 White graduates from New York who took the ACT (58 percent) with an average Composite score of 25.0. This compares to 36,536 (58 percent) with an average of 24.8, and 34,150 (63 percent) with an average of 24.1, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
  - ~ There were 6,805 Hispanic graduates from New York who took the ACT (12 percent) with an average Composite score of 22.2. This compares to 8,026 (13 percent) with an average of 22.0, and 6,106 (11 percent) with an average of 21.0, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
  - ~ There were 5,045 Asian graduates from New York who took the ACT (9 percent) with an average Composite score of 26.8. This compares to 5,610 (9 percent) with an average of 26.3, and 4,264 (8 percent) with an average of 25.1, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
- The 2018 New York graduating class average English score was 24.2. This compares to 23.8 and 22.7 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 New York graduating class average math score was 24.2. This compares to 24.0 and 23.8 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 New York graduating class average reading score was 24.9. This compares to 24.6 and 23.6 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 New York graduating class average science score was 24.2. This compares to 23.9 and 23.2 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- In 2018, 49 percent of New York graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 48 and 43 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
- In 2018, 36,662 (65 percent) of New York graduates met three or four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 40,193 and 32,397 (63 and 59 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, 8 percent of New York graduates took the ACT with extended time. This compares to 7 and 5 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
- 70 percent of 2018 New York graduates were Proficient or Above Proficient in understanding complex texts.

## STEM

- The ACT is the only college admissions exam with a dedicated Science assessment. The ACT is a great fit for the New York State STEM Incentive Program.
- In 2018, 28,365 New York graduates (50 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 New York graduating class average ACT STEM score of 24.4, graduates in 2017 and 2014 had STEM averages of 24.2 and 23.7, respectively.
- Compared to 41 percent of 2018 New York graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark, graduates in 2017 and 2014 had STEM Benchmark percentages of 40 and 35, respectively.
- 2018 graduates taking physics had an average science score of 25.2, compared to 21.3 for students not taking physics.
  - ~ 2018 New York graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average science score of 29.1. This compares to 28.4 in 2014.
- 2018 New York graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average math score of 29.3. This compares to 29.1 in 2014.

## Career Readiness

- The ACT WorkKeys® National Career Readiness Certificate® can be used in New York as an alternative Graduation Requirement through Career Development and Occupational Studies.
- In 2018, 52,379 New York graduates (93 percent) were likely to attain the Silver NCRC® 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 New York 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:
  - ~ 112 more students enrolling in college.
  - ~ 132 more students persisting to year two.
  - ~ 81 fewer students needing remedial English.
  - ~ 129 fewer students needing remedial math.
  - ~ 157 more students persisting to year four.
  - ~ 172 more students earning a postsecondary degree within six years.

## Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In New York, 23,029 of the 2018 graduates (40.9%) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 26.1, compared to an average of 23.4 for 33,311 of the 2018 graduates (59.1%) who took the ACT only once.
- 37,992 score reports were sent to colleges by 2018 New York ACT-tested graduates.
  - ~ 13,294 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2018 New York ACT-tested graduates.
  - ~ Nationwide, 847,940 of the 2018 graduates (44.3%) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 22.7, compared to an average of 19.3 for 1,066,877 of the 2018 graduates (55.7%) who took the ACT only once.
  - ~ For New York's 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were University at Buffalo/SUNY, Binghamton University-SUNY Stony Brook University/SUNY, University at Albany/SUNY, and Cornell University.
- Compared to 68 percent of 2018 graduates nationally, 63 percent of New York 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, 85 percent of New York African American 2018 graduates opted into EOS.
  - ~ Compared to 66 percent of White students nationally, 59 percent of New York White 2018 graduates opted into EOS.
  - ~ Compared to 80 percent of Hispanic students nationally, 78 percent of New York Hispanic 2018 graduates opted into EOS.
  - ~ Compared to 74 percent of Asian students nationally, 73 percent of New York Asian 2018 graduates opted into EOS.
- In the 2017-2018 academic year, ACT issued 12,429 ACT fee waivers to qualified New York students. However, 3,741 students (30.1 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.

## Pipeline

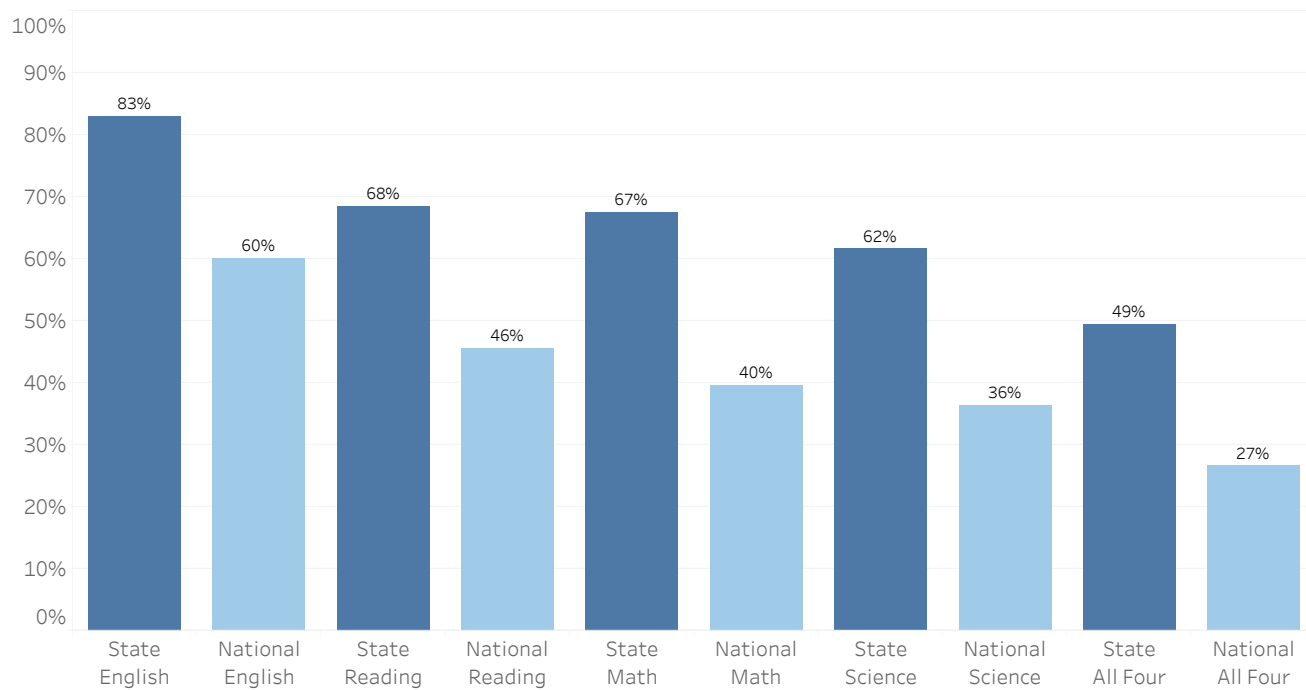
- Aspirations matter. Students who aspire to a higher level of postsecondary education typically achieve higher ACT Composite scores.
  - ~ 28,048 students (50 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 25.8.
  - ~ 18,531 students (33 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 22.6.
- In the New York graduating class of 2018, 5,131 students (9 percent) had parents who did not attend college.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2018 New York graduates were: Undecided; Biology, General; Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Business Administration and Management, General; and Nursing, Registered (BS/RN).
  - ~ In the New York graduating class of 2018, 2,279 (4 percent) indicated planning on majoring in education. They had an average Composite score of 22.0.
- There is good news in that 84% of New York's 2018 ACT-tested graduates aspired to postsecondary education. Interestingly enough, 84% of New York's 2017 ACT-tested graduating class aspired to enroll in postsecondary education, compared to 86% who actually did enroll. A positive note is that more 2017 New York ACT-tested graduates enrolled in postsecondary education than initially aspired to do so.

## Additional Points

- The New York ACT State Organization continues to grow in membership and in diversity, with more than 185 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.
- 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 New York Champions: Winnie Lu (High School Senior), Joseph Greco (K-12 Professional), Christopher Cofer (Postsecondary Professional), and Natasha Dasani (Workforce Professional).

# NEW YORK 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

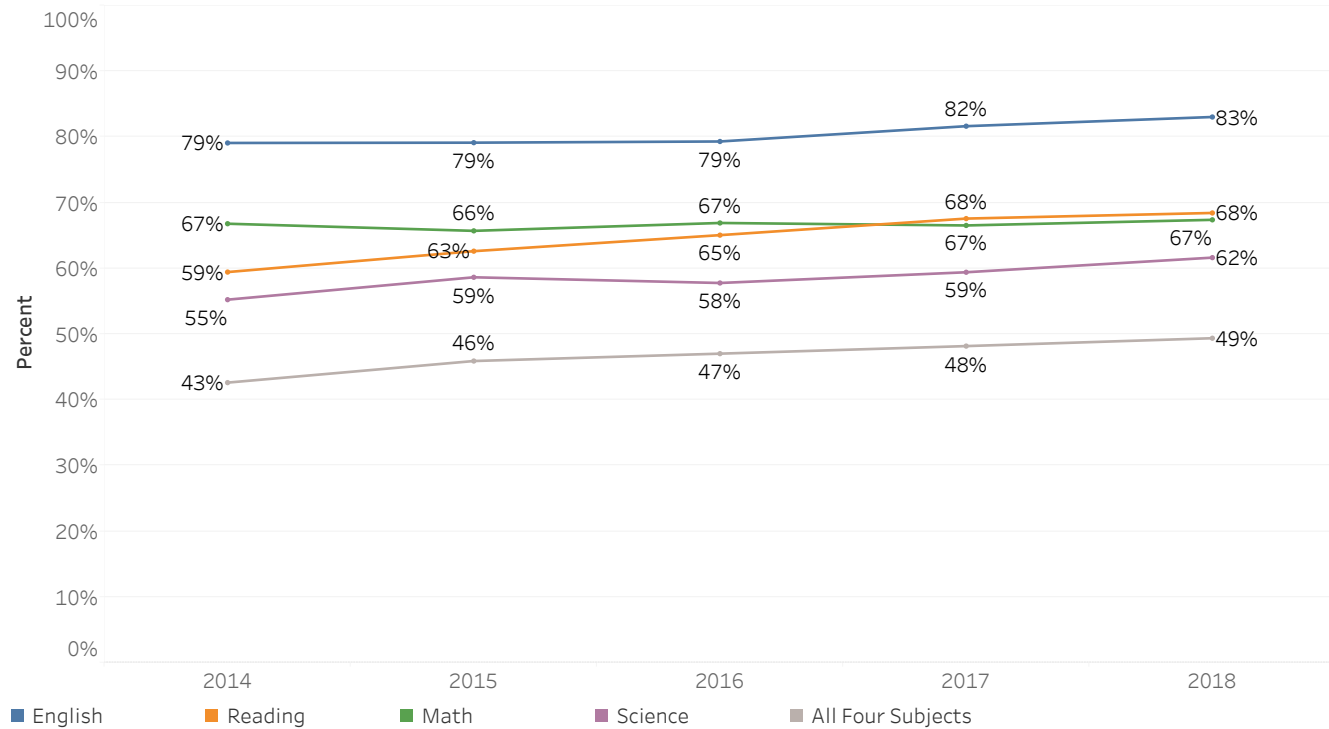
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
83%	60%	68%	46%	67%	40%	62%	36%	49%	27%

\* 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.

# NEW YORK 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

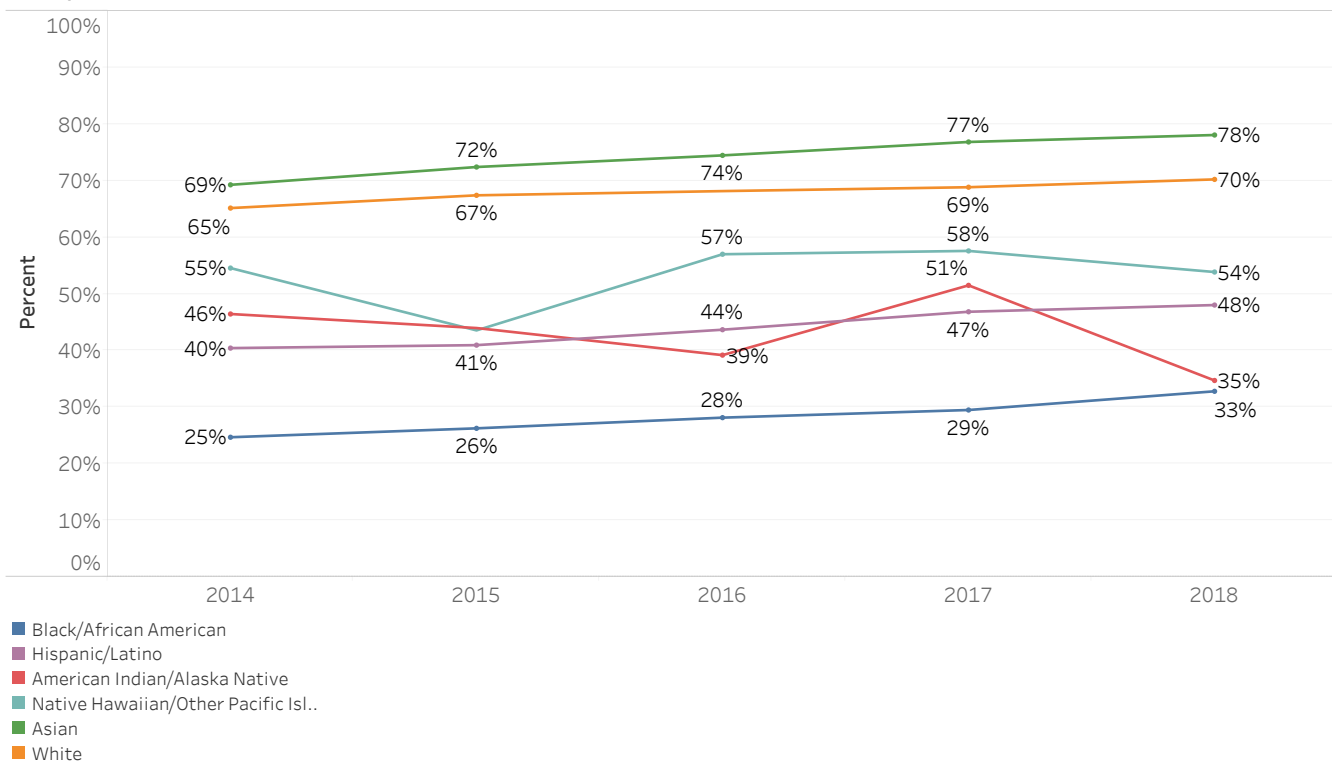
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2014	79%	59%	67%	55%	43%
2015	79%	63%	66%	59%	46%
2016	79%	65%	67%	58%	47%
2017	82%	68%	67%	59%	48%
2018	83%	68%	67%	62%	49%

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# NEW YORK 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



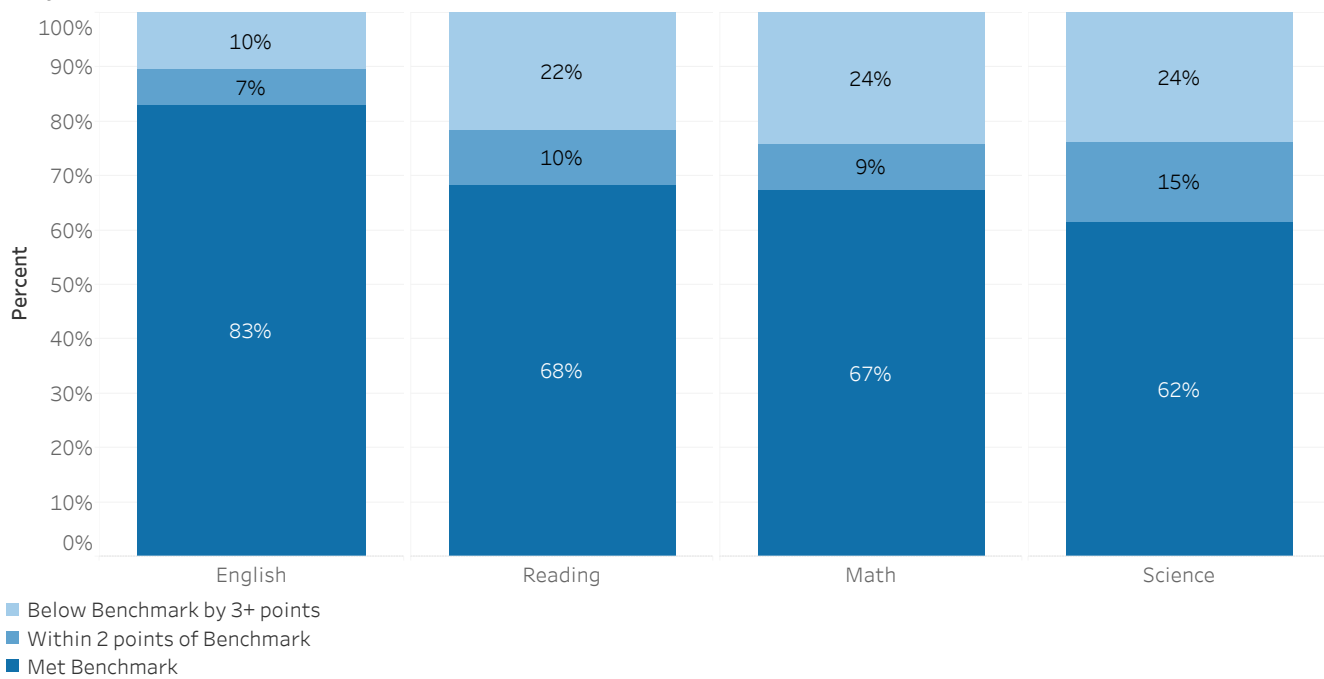
### Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2014	25%	40%	46%	55%	69%	65%
2015	26%	41%	44%	44%	72%	67%
2016	28%	44%	39%	57%	74%	68%
2017	29%	47%	51%	58%	77%	69%
2018	33%	48%	35%	54%	78%	70%

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# NEW YORK 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

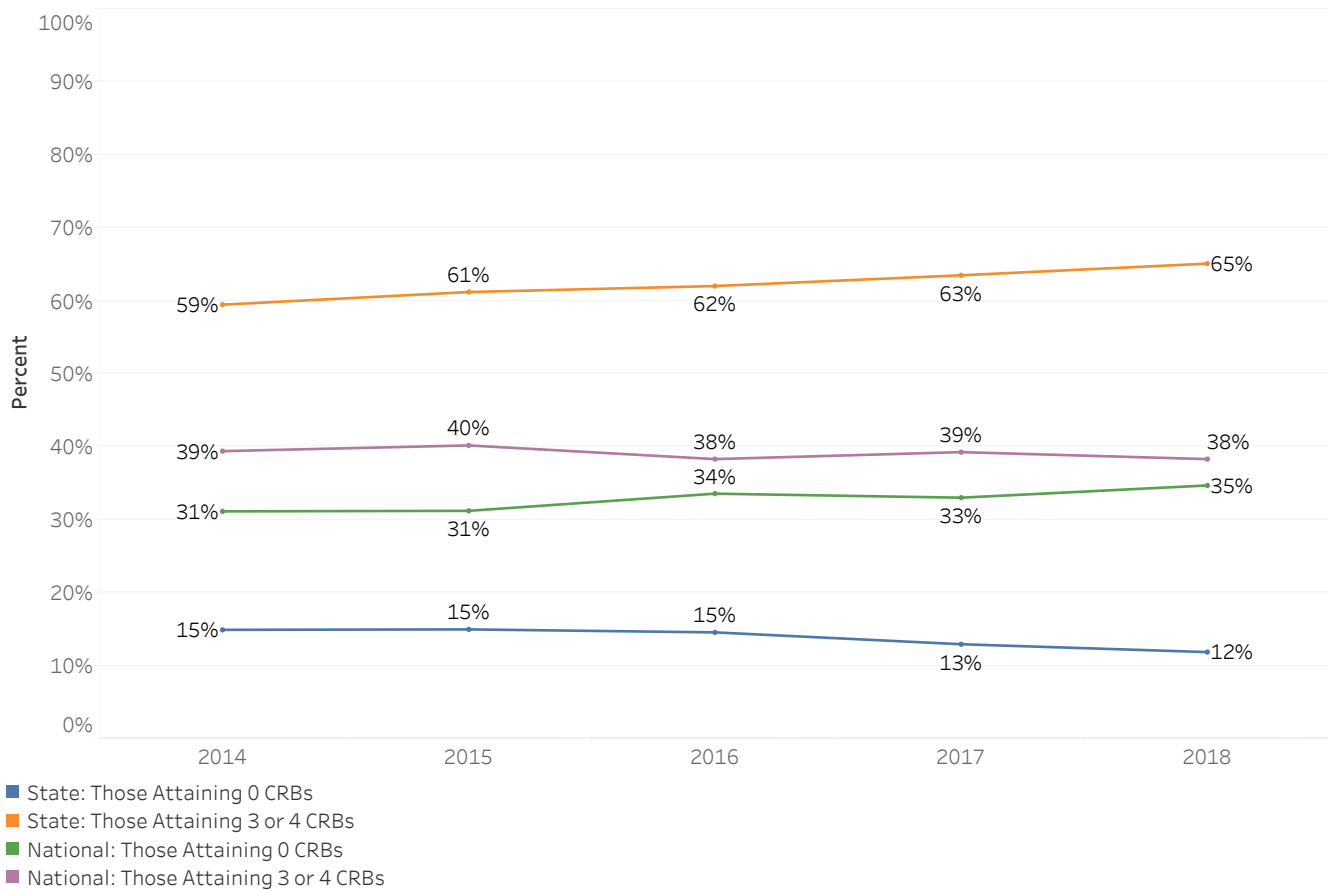
	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	10%	7%	83%
Math	24%	9%	67%
Reading	22%	10%	68%
Science	24%	15%	62%

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



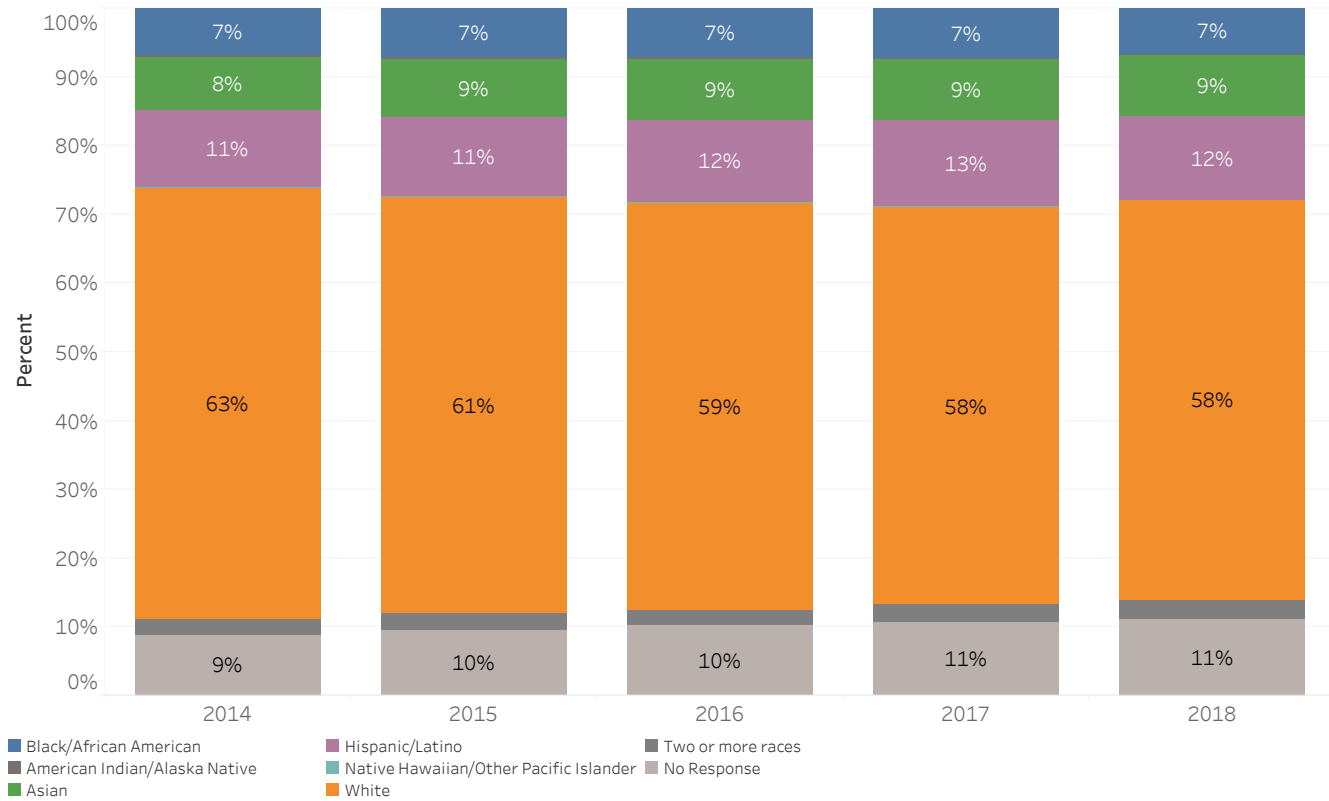
## Data from Graph Above

	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	15%	59%	31%	39%
2015	15%	61%	31%	40%
2016	15%	62%	34%	38%
2017	13%	63%	33%	39%
2018	12%	65%	35%	38%

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# NEW YORK 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	7%	0%	8%	11%	0%	63%	2%	9%
2015	7%	0%	9%	11%	0%	61%	2%	10%
2016	7%	0%	9%	12%	0%	59%	2%	10%
2017	7%	0%	9%	13%	0%	58%	3%	11%
2018	7%	0%	9%	12%	0%	58%	3%	11%

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# NEW YORK College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

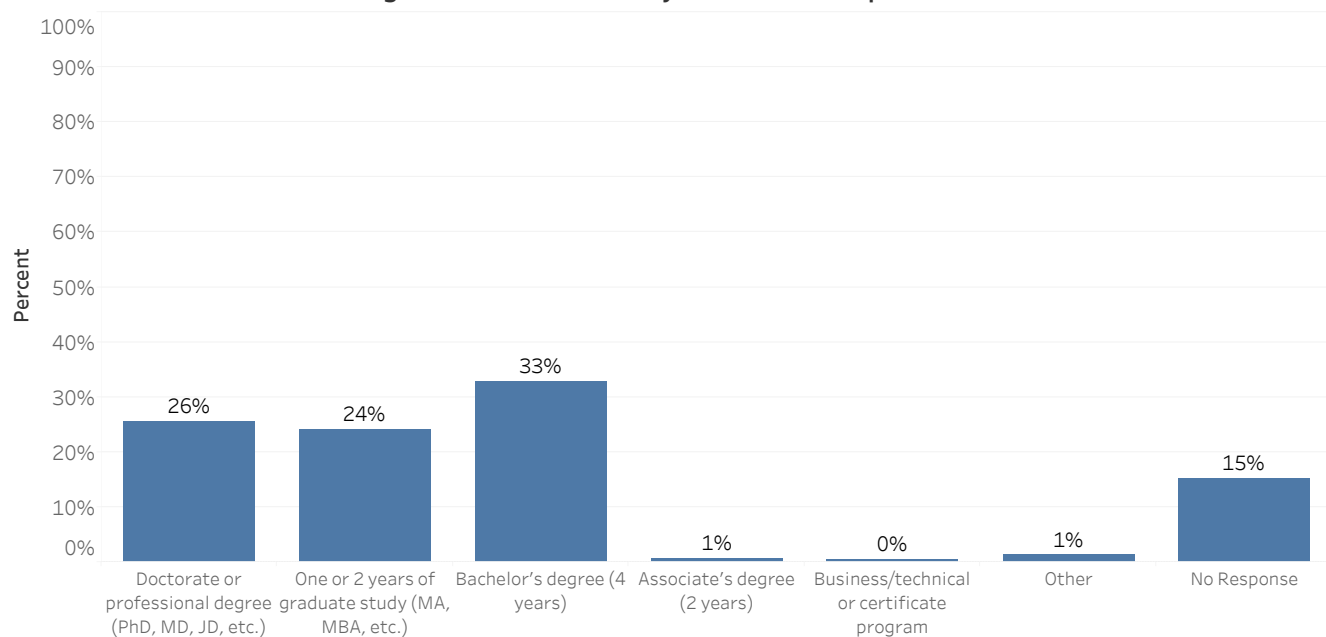
## Student Data Trends: 2014-2018, State vs. Nation

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
State N-count	54,496	58,136	60,628	63,322	56,340
National N-count	1,845,787	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817
Average ACT English Score - State	22.7	23.0	23.2	23.8	24.2
Average ACT English Score - National	20.3	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2
Average ACT Reading Score - State	23.6	23.9	24.4	24.6	24.9
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3
Average ACT Math Score - State	23.8	23.8	23.9	24.0	24.2
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.9	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5
Average ACT Science Score - State	23.2	23.5	23.7	23.9	24.2
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.8	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7
Average ACT Composite Score - State	23.4	23.7	23.9	24.2	24.5
Average ACT Composite Score - National	21.0	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8

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# NEW YORK 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.)	26%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	24%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	33%
Associate's degree (2 years)	1%
Business/technical or certificate program	0%
Other	1%
No Response	15%

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