

The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2019

Delaware Key Findings

Performance of 2019 Graduates

- In the 2019 Delaware graduating class, 1,242 graduates (an estimated 13 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 24.0. This compares to 1,869 (an estimated 21 percent) with an average of 23.5 in 2015. Nationally, an estimated 52 percent of 2019 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.7.
 - There were 165 African American graduates from Delaware who took the ACT (13 percent) with an average Composite score of 19.0. This compares to 207 (13 percent) with an average of 18.8, and 287 (15 percent) with an average of 18.7, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 770 White graduates from Delaware who took the ACT (62 percent) with an average Composite score of 24.7. This compares to 1,021 (62 percent) with an average of 24.8, and 1,228 (66 percent) with an average of 24.3, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 84 Hispanic graduates from Delaware who took the ACT (7 percent) with an average Composite score of 21.5. This compares to 104 (6 percent) with an average of 20.6, and 85 (5 percent) with an average of 22.4, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 90 Asian graduates from Delaware who took the ACT (7 percent) with an average Composite score of 28.1. This compares to 125 (8 percent) with an average of 27.1, and 122 (7 percent) with an average of 26.0, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - The 2019 Delaware graduating class average English score was 23.9. This compares to 23.7 and 23.2 in 2018 and 2015, respectively.
 - The 2019 Delaware graduating class average math score was 23.1. This compares to 23.1 and 23.0 in 2018 and 2015, respectively.
 - The 2019 Delaware graduating class average reading score was 24.7. This compares to 24.5 and 24.1 in 2018 and 2015, respectively.
 - The 2019 Delaware graduating class average science score was 23.5. This compares to 23.4 and 23.1 in 2018 and 2015, respectively.

- In 2019, 47 percent of Delaware graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 44 and 42 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 15 percent of Delaware graduates met zero ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 18 and 16 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 81 percent of Delaware graduates met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 79 and 79 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 60 percent of Delaware graduates met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 59 and 59 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 66 percent of Delaware graduates met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 64 and 64 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 56 percent of Delaware graduates met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 56 and 54 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 730 (59 percent) of Delaware graduates met three or four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 973 and 1,086 (59 and 58 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, 732 Delaware graduates (59 percent) indicated having an interest in STEM majors and/or careers.
- Compared to a 2019 Delaware graduating class average ACT STEM score of 23.6, graduates in 2018 and 2015 had STEM averages of 23.5 and 23.3, respectively.
- Compared to 36 percent of 2019 Delaware graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark, graduates in 2018 and 2015 had STEM Benchmark percentages of 36 and 35, respectively.
 - 2019 Delaware graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average science score of 29.5. This compares to 28.7 in 2015.
 - 2019 Delaware graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average math score of 29.2. This compares to 28.9 in 2015.

Career Readiness Indicator

- In 2019, 798 Delaware graduates (64 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.
 - 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, 22 for Gold, and 27 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 21 as “Silver,” and 22 or above as “Gold or Higher.”

Impact

- Based on the actual test volume and ACT score distributions of 2019 ACT-tested Delaware 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:
 - 3 more students enrolling in college.
 - 3 more students persisting to year two.
 - 2 fewer students needing remedial English.
 - 3 fewer students needing remedial math.
 - 3 more students persisting to year four.
 - 4 more students earning a postsecondary degree within six years.

Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In Delaware, 374 of the 2019 graduates (30.1 percent) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 26.3, compared to an average of 22.9 for 868 of the 2019 graduates (69.9 percent) who took the ACT only once.
- 1,509 score reports were sent to colleges by 2019 Delaware ACT-tested graduates.
 - 282 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2019 Delaware ACT-tested graduates.
 - For Delaware's 2019 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were the University of Delaware, Delaware State University, the University of Pennsylvania, Penn State - University Park Campus, and the University of Maryland College Park.
 - For Delaware's 2019 ACT-tested graduates, the top three out-of-state schools to which scores were sent were the University of Pennsylvania, Penn State - University Park Campus, and the University of Maryland College Park.
- Compared to 66 percent of 2019 graduates nationally, 64 percent of Delaware 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 184 ACT fee waivers to qualified Delaware students across all grades. However, 60 students (32.6 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. This represents a great opportunity for high schools within the state to increase the socioeconomic diversity of its students tested.

Postsecondary Aspirations

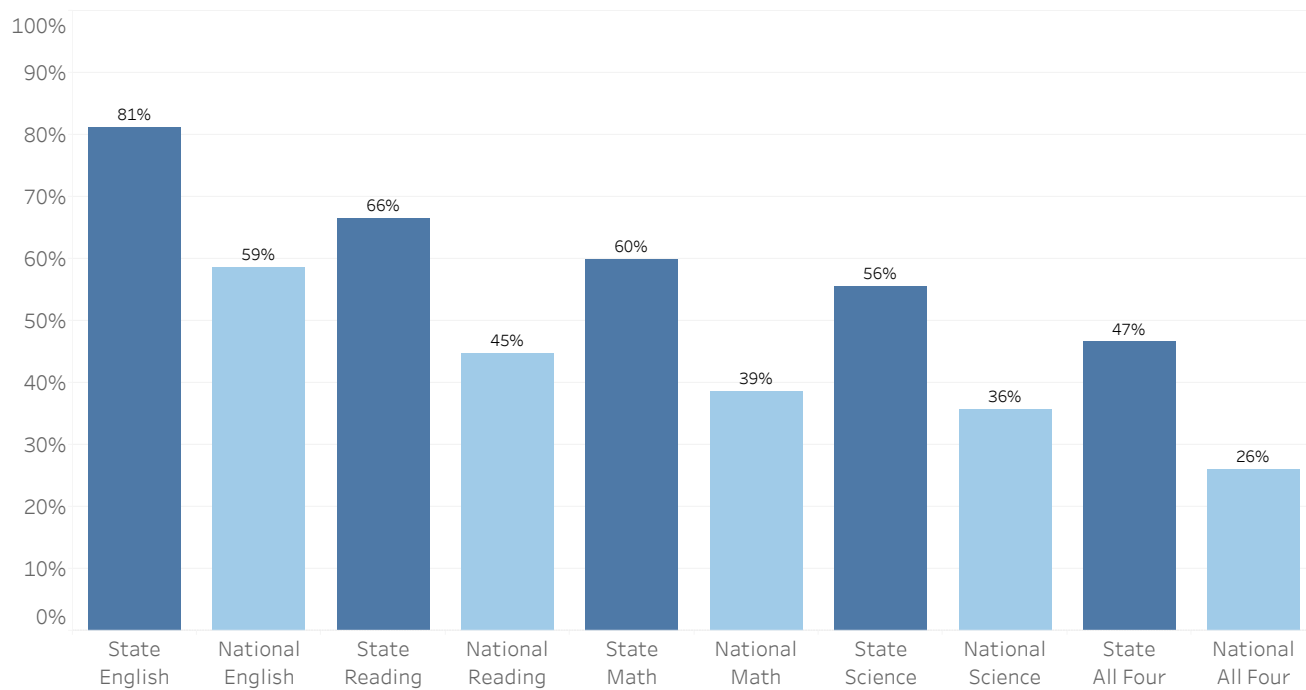
- Aspirations matter. Students who aspire to a higher level of postsecondary education typically achieve higher ACT Composite scores.
 - 706 students (57 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 25.1.
 - 440 students (35 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 22.0.
- In the Delaware graduating class of 2019, 88 students (7 percent) had parents who did not attend college.

Additional Points

- The Delaware ACT State Organization continues to grow in membership and in diversity, with educators from state agencies, K-12, access, and postsecondary institutions, as well as members involved in workforce development.
- In 2019, ACT honored College and Career Readiness Champions in most states. The Delaware honorees were:
 - High school senior: Esha Shah, Newark Charter High School; and K-12 professional: Carolyn Fox, School Counselor, School District of Philadelphia.

DELAWARE 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

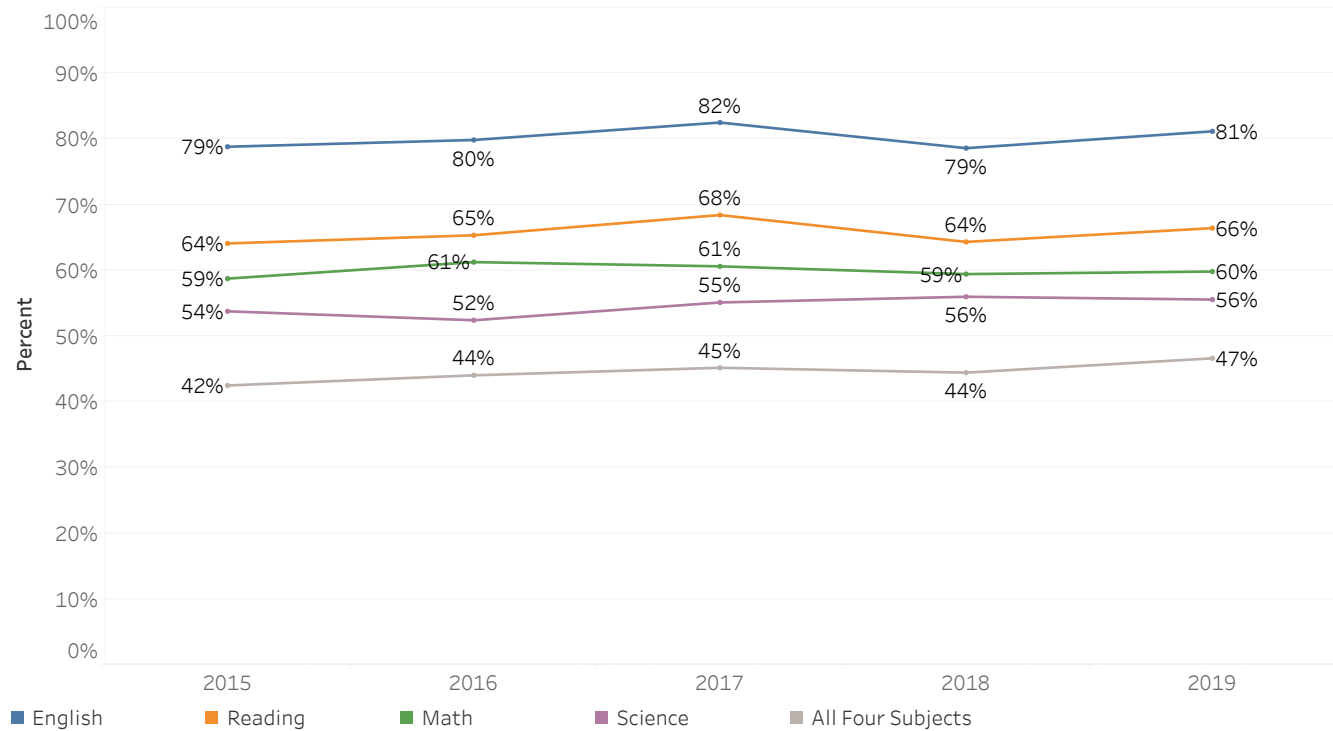
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
81%	59%	66%	45%	60%	39%	56%	36%	47%	26%

* 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.

DELAWARE 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

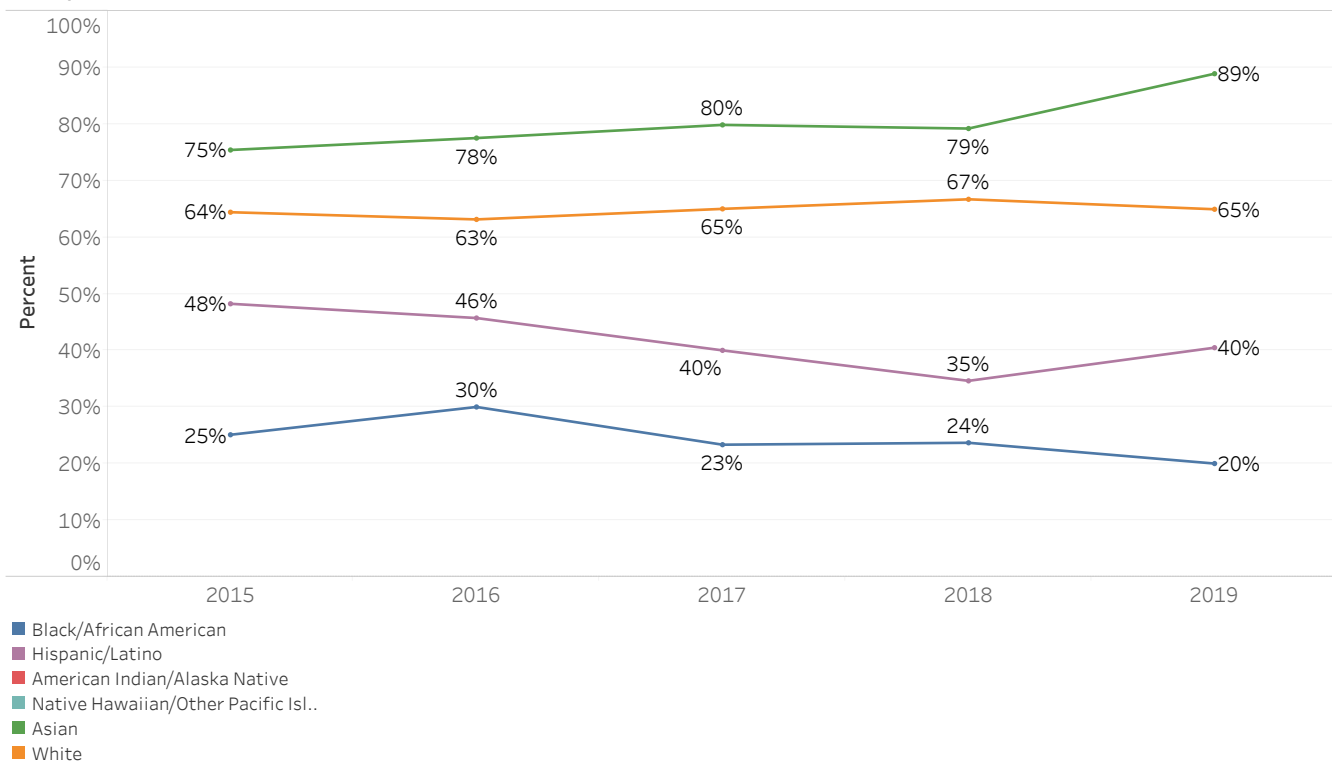
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2015	79%	64%	59%	54%	42%
2016	80%	65%	61%	52%	44%
2017	82%	68%	61%	55%	45%
2018	79%	64%	59%	56%	44%
2019	81%	66%	60%	56%	47%

* 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.

DELAWARE 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



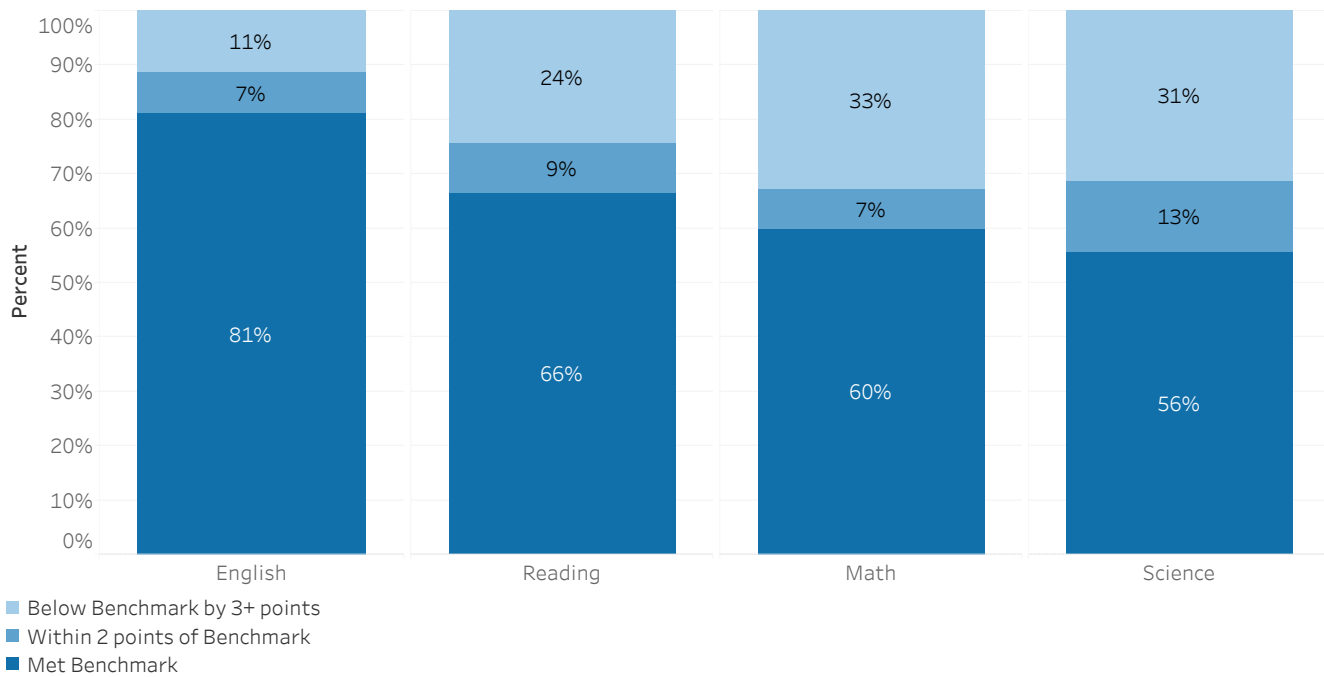
Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2015	25%	48%			75%	64%
2016	30%	46%			78%	63%
2017	23%	40%			80%	65%
2018	24%	35%			79%	67%
2019	20%	40%			89%	65%

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

DELAWARE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

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



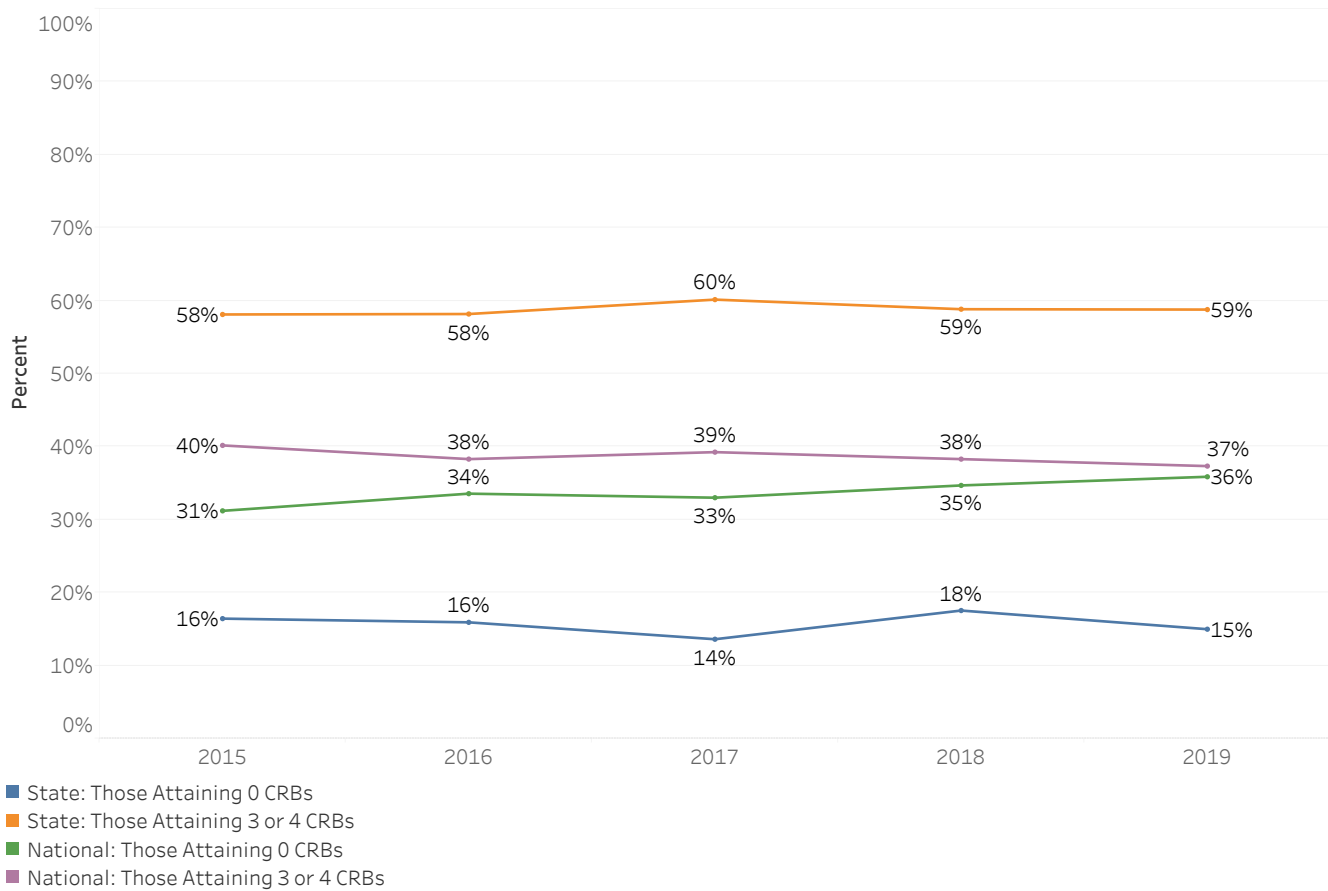
Data From Graph Above

	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	11%	7%	81%
Math	33%	7%	60%
Reading	24%	9%	66%
Science	31%	13%	56%

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

DELAWARE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

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



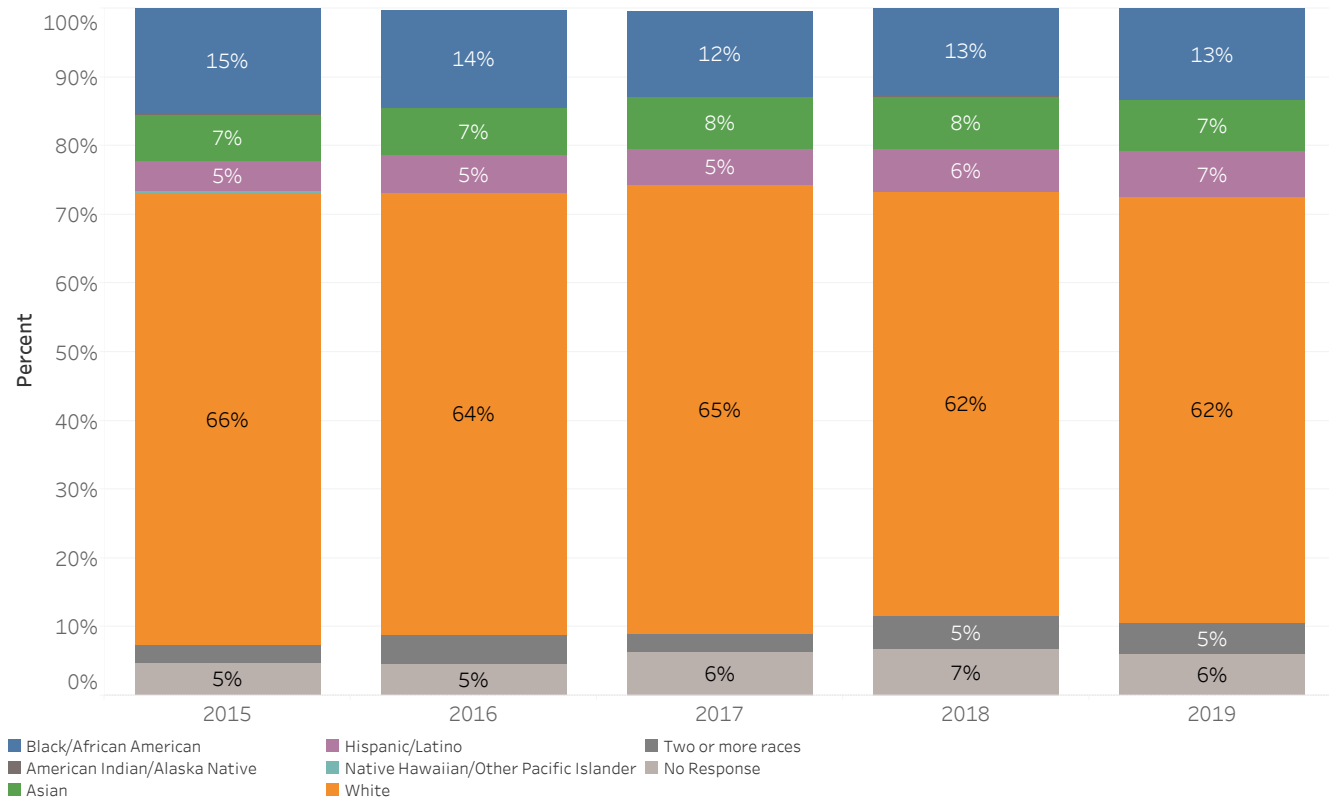
Data from Graph Above

	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	16%	58%	31%	40%
2016	16%	58%	34%	38%
2017	14%	60%	33%	39%
2018	18%	59%	35%	38%
2019	15%	59%	36%	37%

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

DELAWARE 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	15%	0%	7%	5%	0%	66%	3%	5%
2016	14%	0%	7%	5%	0%	64%	4%	5%
2017	12%	0%	8%	5%	0%	65%	3%	6%
2018	13%	0%	8%	6%	0%	62%	5%	7%
2019	13%	0%	7%	7%	0%	62%	5%	6%

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

DELAWARE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

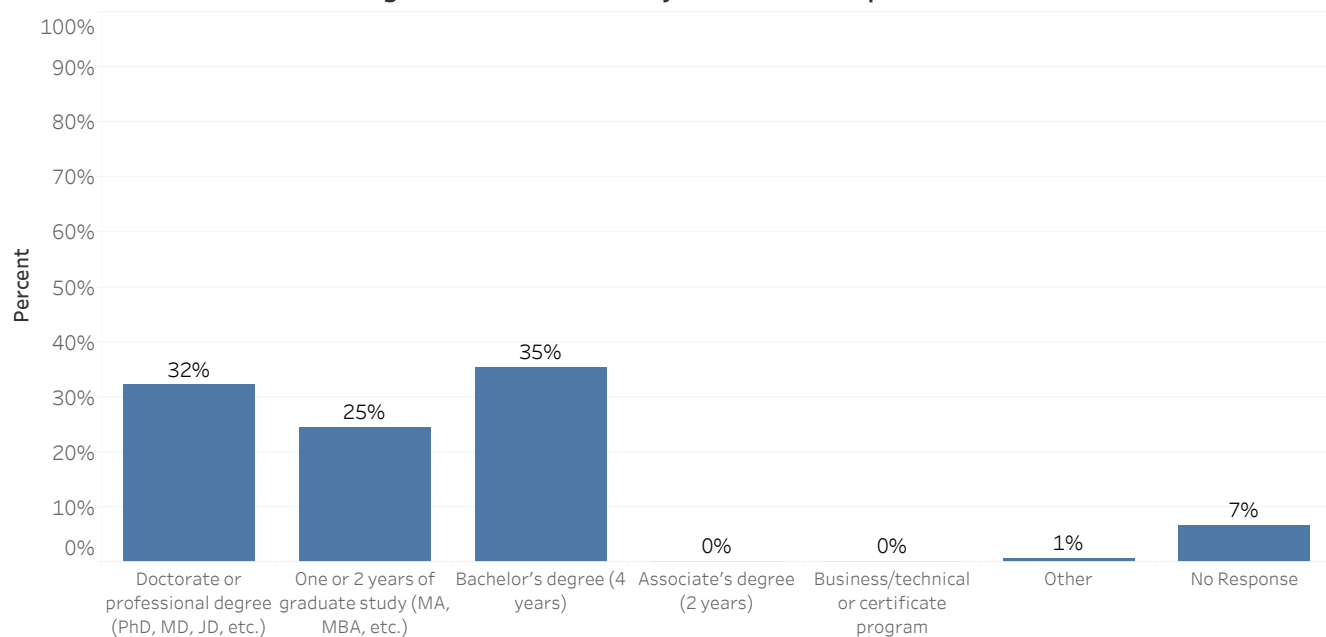
Student Data Trends: 2015-2019, State vs. Nation

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
State N-count	1,869	1,910	1,691	1,654	1,242
National N-count	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817	1,782,820
Average ACT English Score - State	23.2	23.3	24.1	23.7	23.9
Average ACT English Score - National	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2	20.1
Average ACT Reading Score - State	24.1	24.3	24.8	24.5	24.7
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.2
Average ACT Math Score - State	23.0	23.2	23.4	23.1	23.1
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5	20.4
Average ACT Science Score - State	23.1	23.2	23.6	23.4	23.5
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7	20.6
Average ACT Composite Score - State	23.5	23.6	24.1	23.8	24.0
Average ACT Composite Score - National	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8	20.7

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

DELAWARE 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.)	32%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	25%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	35%
Associate's degree (2 years)	0%
Business/technical or certificate program	0%
Other	1%
No Response	7%

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