

The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2019

Ohio Key Findings

Performance of 2019 Graduates

- Ohio is in its third year of offering state-funded college admissions testing for all juniors.
- In the 2019 Ohio graduating class, 126,983 graduates (an estimated 100 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 20.0. This compares to 91,607 (an estimated 73 percent) with an average of 22.0 in 2015. Nationally, an estimated 52 percent of 2019 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.7.
 - There were 13,424 African American graduates from Ohio who took the ACT (11 percent) with an average Composite score of 16.4. This compares to 13,787 (11 percent) with an average of 16.6, and 10,333 (11 percent) with an average of 17.5, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 425 American Indian graduates from Ohio who took the ACT (0 percent) with an average Composite score of 16.1. This compares to 400 (0 percent) with an average of 17.1, and 196 (0 percent) with an average of 19.5, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 84,345 White graduates from Ohio who took the ACT (66 percent) with an average Composite score of 20.9. This compares to 85,715 (67 percent) with an average of 21.2, and 66,162 (72 percent) with an average of 22.9, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 6,752 Hispanic graduates from Ohio who took the ACT (5 percent) with an average Composite score of 18.4. This compares to 6,332 (5 percent) with an average of 18.8, and 3,723 (4 percent) with an average of 20.6, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 2,862 Asian graduates from Ohio who took the ACT (2 percent) with an average Composite score of 23.9. This compares to 2,904 (2 percent) with an average of 23.7, and 1,992 (2 percent) with an average of 24.3, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 114 Pacific Islander graduates from Ohio who took the ACT (0 percent) with an average Composite score of 18.0. This compares to 122 (0 percent) with an average of 18.7, and 77 (0 percent) with an average of 20.8, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.

- In 2019, 23 percent of Ohio graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 25 and 33 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 41 percent of Ohio graduates met zero ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 38 and 23 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 53 percent of Ohio graduates met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 55 and 71 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 35 percent of Ohio graduates met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 38 and 49 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 41 percent of Ohio graduates met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 43 and 54 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 33 percent of Ohio graduates met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 35 and 45 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 42,706 (34 percent) of Ohio graduates met three or four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 45,518 and 43,566 (36 and 48 percent) out of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively. For reference, the national percentage of 2019 graduates meeting three or four benchmarks was 37 percent.
- In 2019, 12 percent of Ohio graduates took the ACT with extended time. This compares to 11 and 5 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.

STEM

- In 2019, 50,511 Ohio graduates (40 percent) indicated having an interest in STEM majors and/or careers.
- Compared to a 2019 Ohio graduating class average ACT STEM score of 20.3, graduates in 2018 and 2015 had STEM averages of 20.6 and 22.1, respectively.
- In 2019, 50,804 Ohio graduates (40 percent) indicated taking physics. This compares to 44 and 60 percent for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
- 2019 graduates taking physics had an average science score of 22.5, compared to 18.9 for students not taking physics.

Career Readiness Indicator

- In 2019, 46,219 Ohio graduates (36 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 Ohio 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:
 - 314 more students enrolling in college.
 - 349 more students persisting to year two.
 - 262 fewer students needing remedial English.
 - 399 fewer students needing remedial math.
 - 370 more students persisting to year four.
 - 389 more students earning a postsecondary degree within six years.

Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In Ohio, 60,441 of the 2019 graduates (47.6 percent) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 22.9, compared to an average of 17.4 for 66,542 of the 2019 graduates (52.4 percent) who took the ACT only once.
- 275,177 score reports were sent to colleges by 2019 Ohio ACT-tested graduates.
 - 158,776 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2019 Ohio ACT-tested graduates.
 - For Ohio's 2019 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were The Ohio State University, the University of Cincinnati, Ohio University, Kent State University, and Bowling Green State University.
 - For Ohio's 2019 ACT-tested graduates, the top three out-of-state schools to which scores were sent were the University of Kentucky, Northern Kentucky University, and the University of Michigan.
- Compared to 66 percent of 2019 graduates nationally, 67 percent of Ohio 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 18,468 ACT fee waivers to qualified Ohio students across all grades. However, 5,655 students (30.6 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. Fee waivers represent a great opportunity for students of low socioeconomic status to retest without incurring any fees.

Postsecondary Aspirations

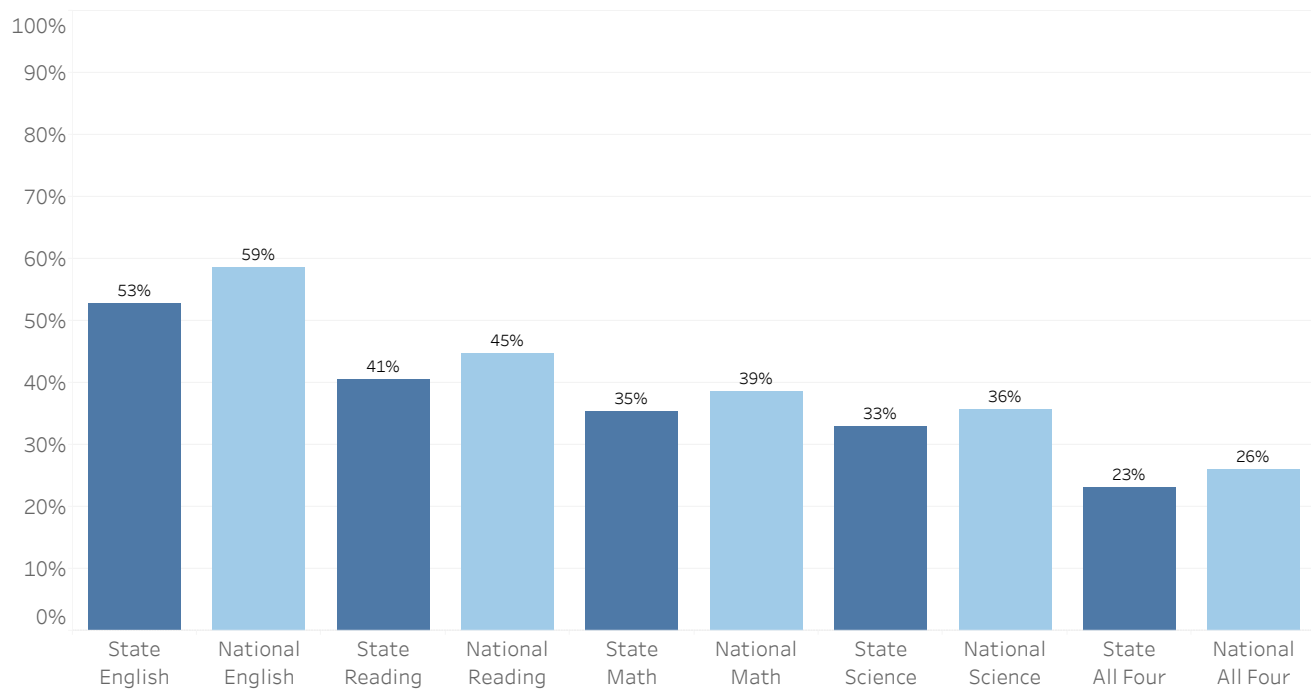
- Aspirations matter. Students who aspire to a higher level of postsecondary education typically achieve higher ACT Composite scores.
 - 30,426 students (24 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 23.7.
 - 47,845 students (38 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 20.5.
 - 9,036 students (7 percent) aspired to attain a vocational/technical or associate's degree. They had an average Composite score of 16.2.
- In the Ohio graduating class of 2019, 19,358 students (15 percent) had parents who did not attend college.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2019 Ohio graduates were: Undecided; Nursing, Registered (BS/RN); Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Business Administration and Management, General; and Mechanical Engineering.
 - In the Ohio graduating class of 2019, 13,089 students (10 percent) indicated being undecided about their college major. They had an average Composite score of 21.3. 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 Ohio graduating class of 2019, 5,207 (4 percent) indicated planning on majoring in education. They had an average Composite score of 20.4.

Additional Points

- The Ohio 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, the Ohio ACT Council hosts an annual professional development conference and workforce summit in Columbus.
- In 2019, ACT honored College and Career Readiness Champions across the country. The Ohio honorees were:
 - Olivia Sexton, high school senior, West Branch High School; Tina Drake, principal, Wellington High School; Jennifer King, student success coach, Zane State College; and Tim Myers, general manager, Century Die Company.
- There is good news in that 69% of Ohio's 2019 ACT-tested graduates aspired to postsecondary education. Interestingly enough, 75% of Ohio's 2018 ACT-tested graduating class aspired to enroll in postsecondary education, compared to 57% who actually did enroll. If we fully closed the aspirational gap, an additional 22,516 of the 2018 ACT-tested graduates from Ohio would have enrolled in postsecondary education.
- Over 179,000 ACT National Career Readiness Certificates have been awarded in Ohio. These credentials range from bronze to platinum levels and demonstrate individuals' career readiness strengths to employers. Four counties in Ohio participate as Work Ready Communities and utilize ACT research and data to assess and close their local skills gaps.
- According to the US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the fastest-growing careers in Ohio requiring education beyond high school are statisticians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, massage therapists, and occupational therapy assistants.

OHIO 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

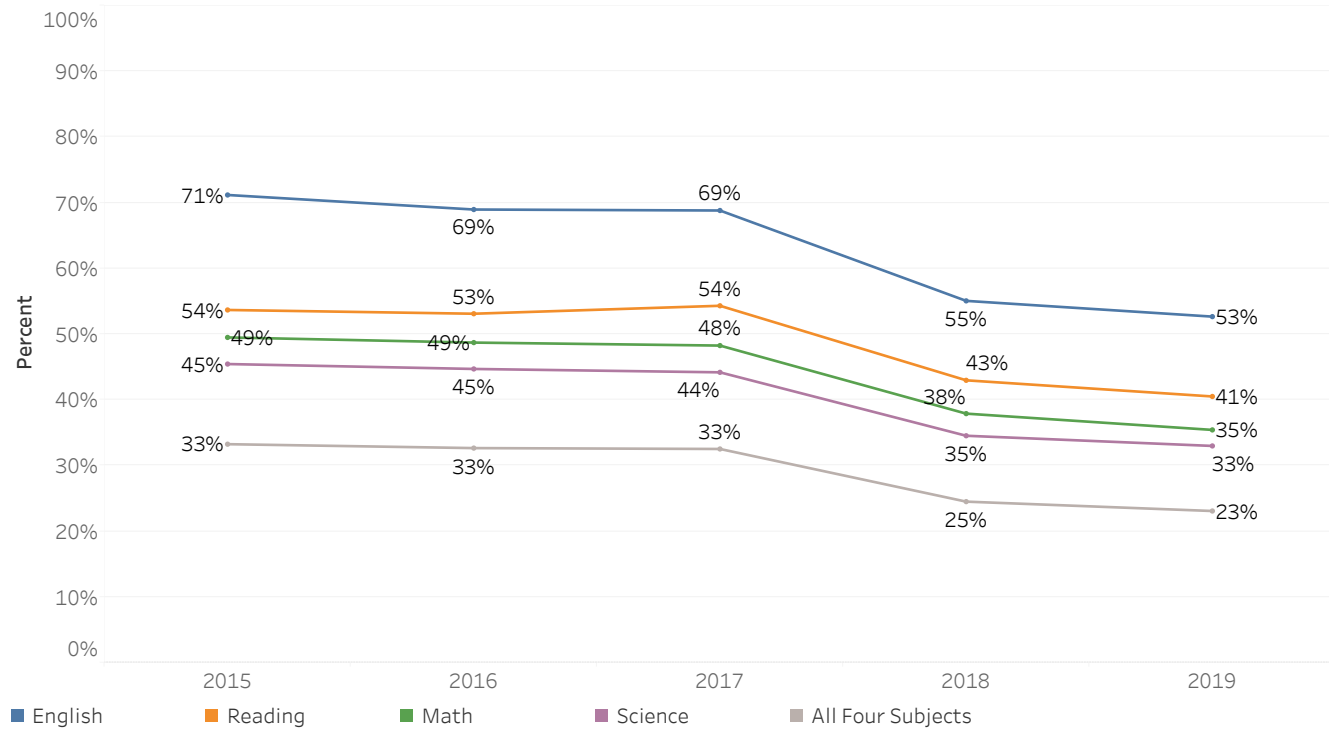
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
53%	59%	41%	45%	35%	39%	33%	36%	23%	26%

* 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.

OHIO 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

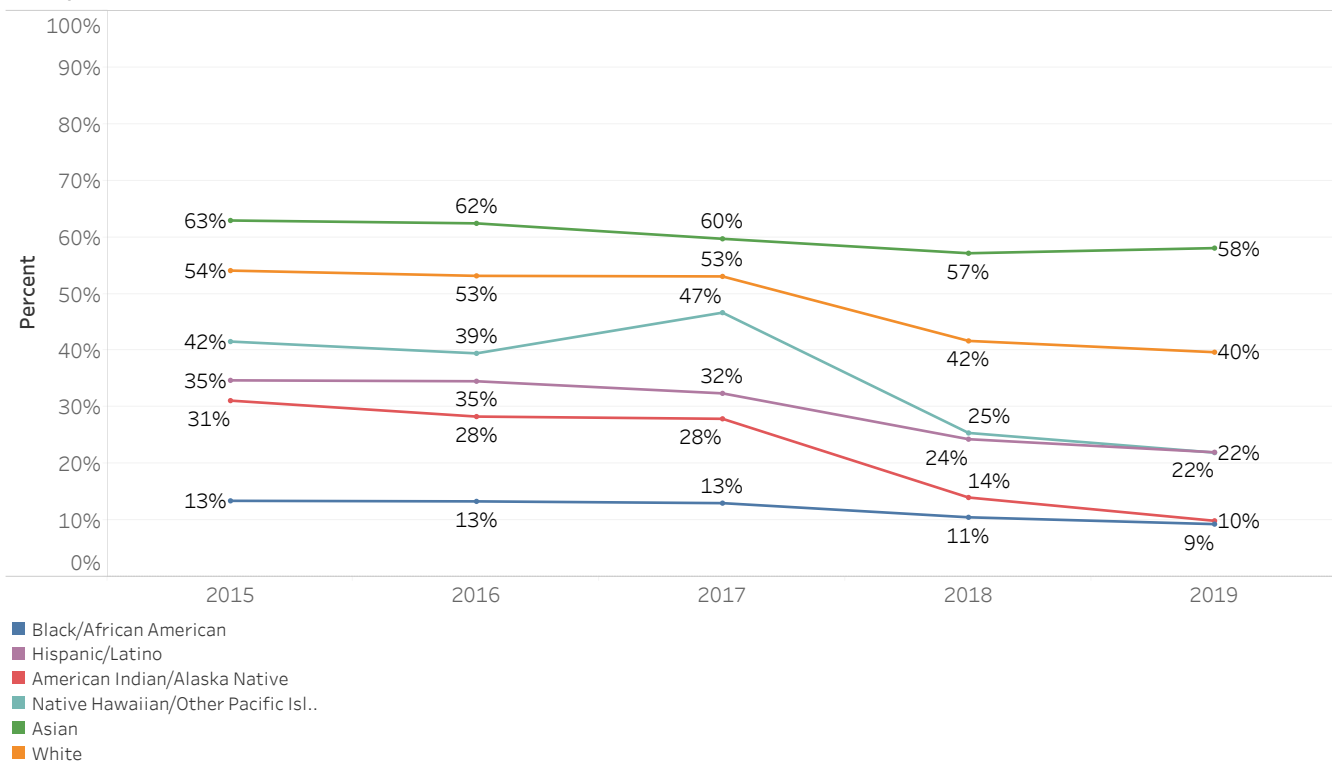
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2015	71%	54%	49%	45%	33%
2016	69%	53%	49%	45%	33%
2017	69%	54%	48%	44%	33%
2018	55%	43%	38%	35%	25%
2019	53%	41%	35%	33%	23%

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OHIO 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



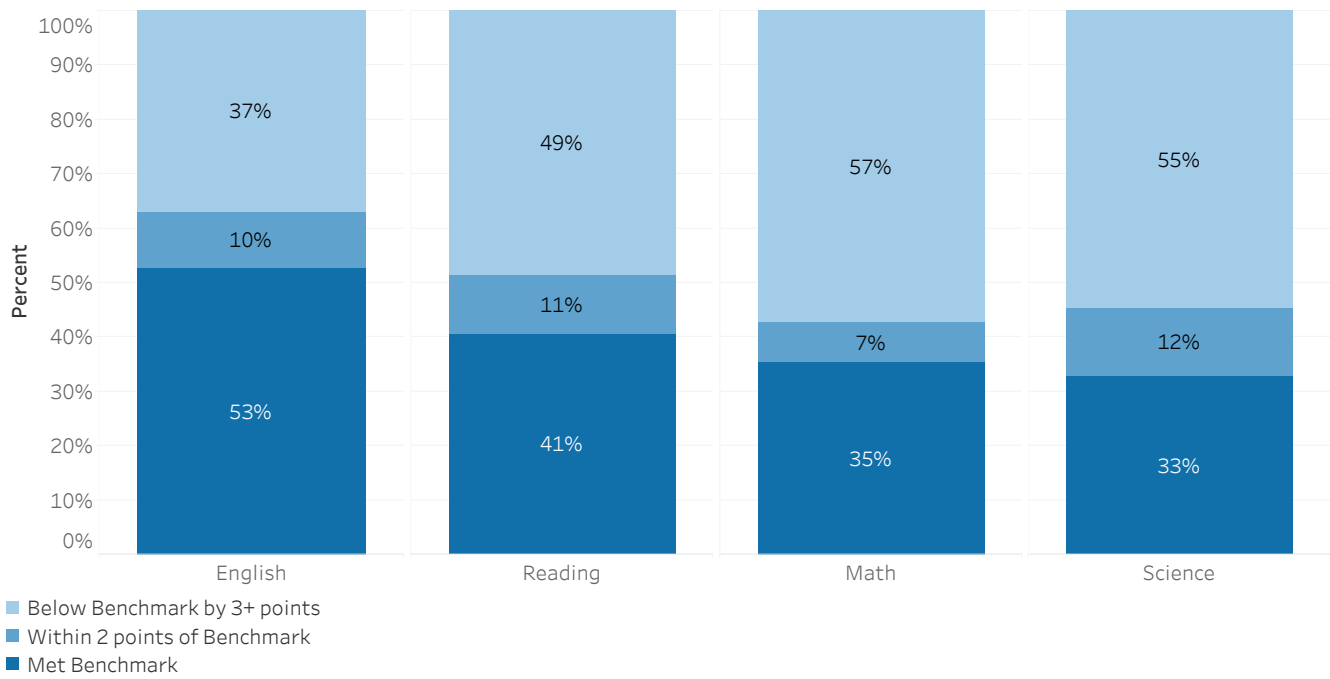
Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2015	13%	35%	31%	42%	63%	54%
2016	13%	35%	28%	39%	62%	53%
2017	13%	32%	28%	47%	60%	53%
2018	11%	24%	14%	25%	57%	42%
2019	9%	22%	10%	22%	58%	40%

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OHIO College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

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



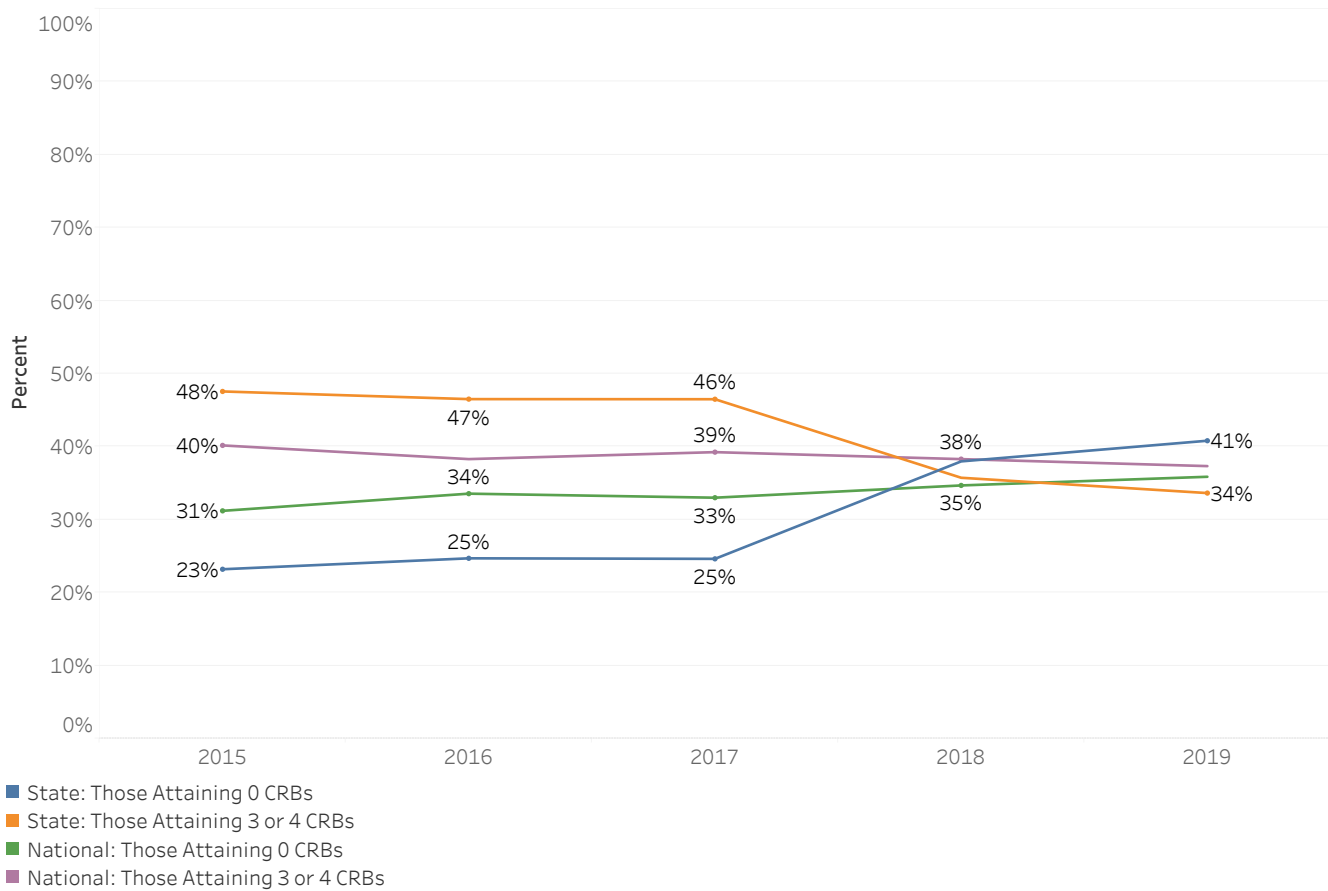
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	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	37%	10%	53%
Math	57%	7%	35%
Reading	49%	11%	41%
Science	55%	12%	33%

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



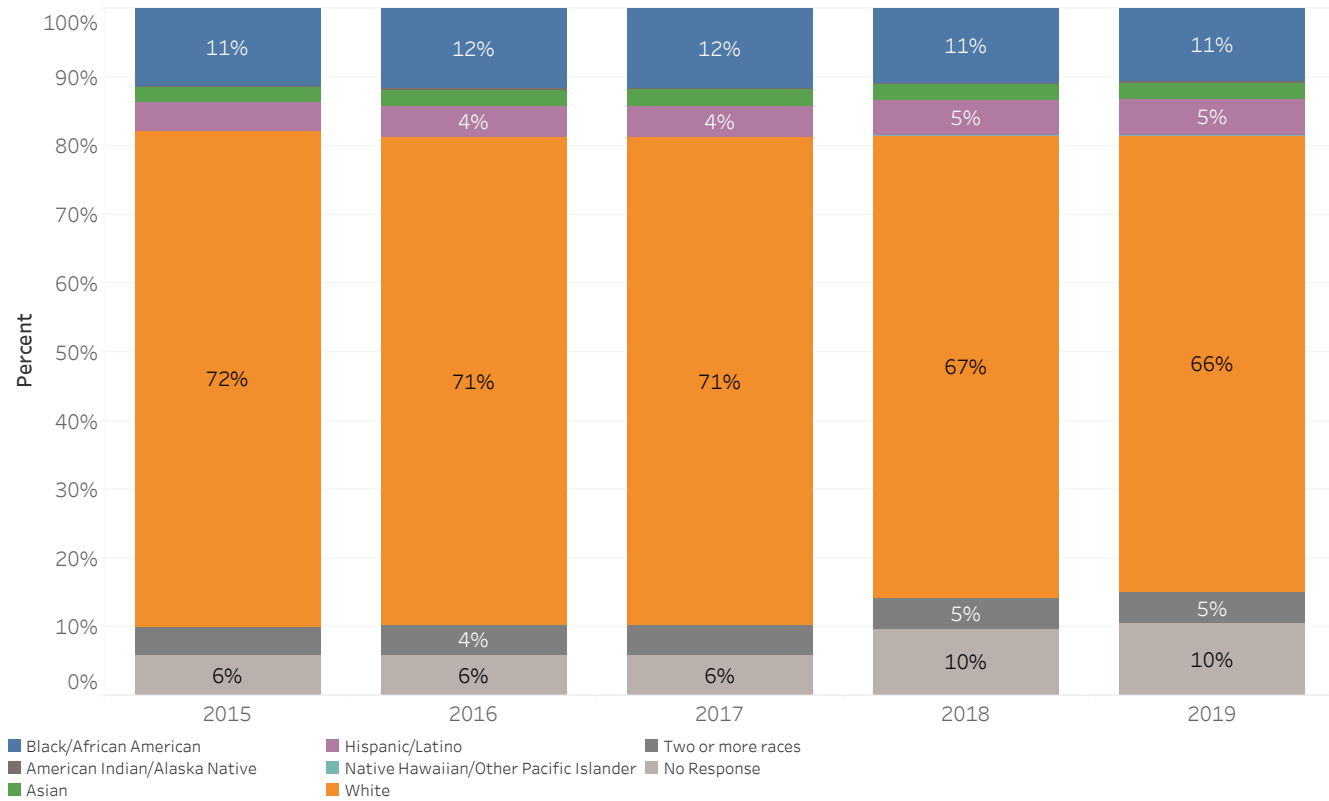
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	State: Those Attaining 0 CRBs	State: Those Attaining 3 or 4 CRBs	National: Those Attaining 0 CRBs	National: Those Attaining 3 or 4 CRBs
2015	23%	48%	31%	40%
2016	25%	47%	34%	38%
2017	25%	46%	33%	39%
2018	38%	36%	35%	38%
2019	41%	34%	36%	37%

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OHIO 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	11%	0%	2%	4%	0%	72%	4%	6%
2016	12%	0%	2%	4%	0%	71%	4%	6%
2017	12%	0%	3%	4%	0%	71%	4%	6%
2018	11%	0%	2%	5%	0%	67%	5%	10%
2019	11%	0%	2%	5%	0%	66%	5%	10%

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OHIO College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

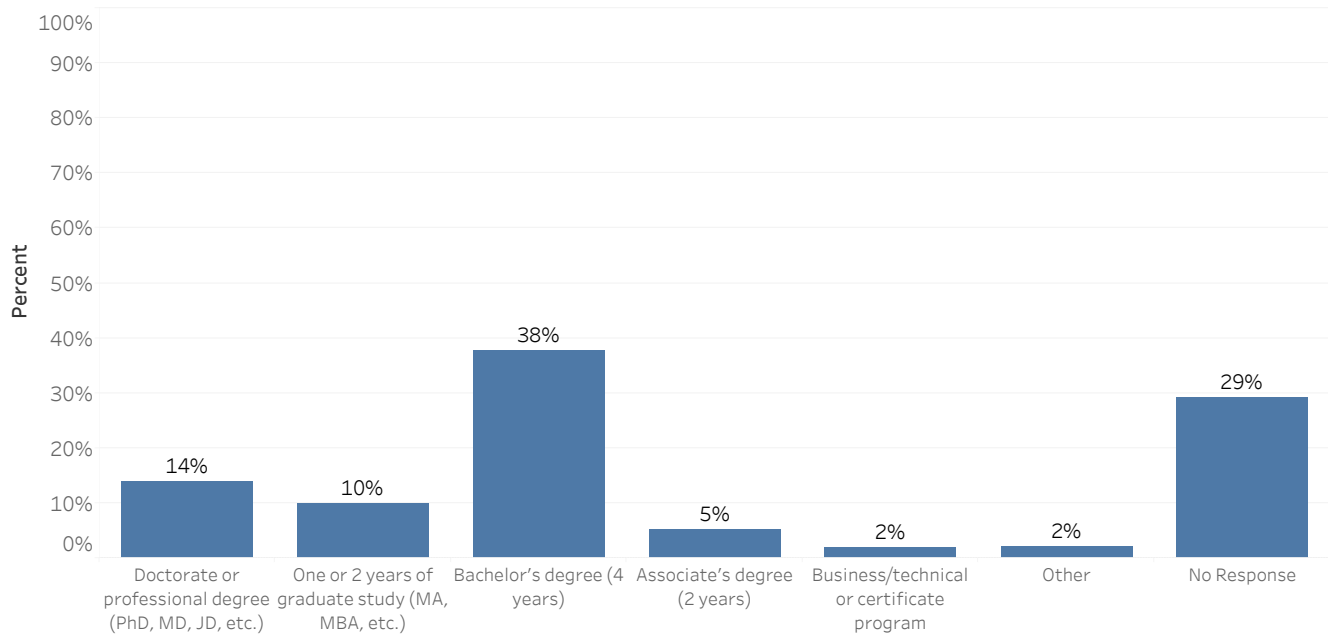
Student Data Trends: 2015-2019, State vs. Nation

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
State N-count	91,607	93,659	92,674	127,392	126,983
National N-count	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817	1,782,820
Average ACT English Score - State	21.4	21.2	21.2	19.3	19.0
Average ACT English Score - National	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2	20.1
Average ACT Reading Score - State	22.5	22.5	22.5	20.8	20.5
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.2
Average ACT Math Score - State	21.7	21.6	21.6	20.3	19.9
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5	20.4
Average ACT Science Score - State	22.1	22.0	22.0	20.4	20.1
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7	20.6
Average ACT Composite Score - State	22.0	22.0	22.0	20.3	20.0
Average ACT Composite Score - National	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8	20.7

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OHIO 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.)	14%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	10%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	38%
Associate's degree (2 years)	5%
Business/technical or certificate program	2%
Other	2%
No Response	29%

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