

The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2018

Delaware Key Findings

Performance

- In the 2018 Delaware graduating class, 1,654 graduates (17 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 23.8. This compares to 1,647 (18 percent) with an average of 23.2 in 2014. Nationally, 55% of 2018 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.8.
 - ~ There were 207 African American graduates from Delaware who took the ACT (13 percent) with an average Composite score of 18.8. This compares to 210 (12 percent) with an average of 18.9, and 248 (15 percent) with an average of 17.8, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
 - ~ There were 1,021 White graduates from Delaware who took the ACT (62 percent) with an average Composite score of 24.8. This compares to 1,103 (65 percent) with an average of 24.6, and 1,041 (63 percent) with an average of 24.3, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
 - ~ There were 104 Hispanic graduates from Delaware who took the ACT (6 percent) with an average Composite score of 20.6. This compares to 90 (5 percent) with an average of 21.8, and 101 (6 percent) with an average of 22.0, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
 - ~ There were 125 Asian graduates from Delaware who took the ACT (8 percent) with an average Composite score of 27.1. This compares to 129 (8 percent) with an average of 27.8, and 119 (7 percent) with an average of 25.9, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
- The 2018 Delaware graduating class average English score was 23.7. This compares to 24.1 and 22.7 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 Delaware graduating class average math score was 23.1. This compares to 23.4 and 23.2 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 Delaware graduating class average reading score was 24.5. This compares to 24.8 and 23.7 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 Delaware graduating class average science score was 23.4. This compares to 23.6 and 22.9 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- In 2018, 44 percent of Delaware graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 45 and 42 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
- In 2018, 18 percent of Delaware graduates met zero ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 14 and 18 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - ~ In 2018, 79 percent of Delaware graduates met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 82 and 77 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - ~ In 2018, 59 percent of Delaware graduates met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 61 and 60 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - ~ In 2018, 64 percent of Delaware graduates met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 68 and 61 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.

- ~ In 2018, 56 percent of Delaware graduates met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 55 and 52 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - 2018 Delaware graduates taking more advanced science coursework demonstrated markedly higher average science scores than those who did not. In fact, 58 percent of Delaware 2018 graduates taking three or more years of science met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 8 percent of students taking less than three years of science meeting the benchmark.
- In 2018, 973 (59 percent) of Delaware graduates met three or four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 1,017 and 939 (60 and 57 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, 6 percent of Delaware graduates took the ACT with extended time. This compares to 4 and 3 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
- 66 percent of 2018 Delaware graduates were Proficient or Above Proficient in understanding complex texts.
- Of the 1,650 students who took the ACT in 2018, 761 students attended public schools and had a Composite score average of 21.9 with 34% meeting all four benchmarks.

STEM

- In 2018, 940 Delaware graduates (57 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 Delaware graduating class average ACT STEM score of 23.5, graduates in 2017 and 2014 had STEM averages of 23.8 and 23.3, respectively.
- Compared to 36 percent of 2018 Delaware graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark, graduates in 2017 and 2014 had STEM Benchmark percentages of 38 and 33, respectively.
- 2018 graduates taking physics had an average science score of 24.3, compared to 19.7 for students not taking physics.
 - ~ 64 percent of 2018 Delaware graduates taking physics met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark, compared to 27 for students not taking physics.
 - ~ 2018 Delaware graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average science score of 29.1. This compares to 28.8 in 2014.
- In 2018, 1,549 Delaware graduates (94 percent) indicated taking three or more years of math. This compares to 96 and 97 percent for 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
 - ~ 2018 graduates taking three or more years of math had an average math score of 23.4, compared to 19.6 for students taking less than three years of math.
 - ~ 61 percent of 2018 graduates taking three or more years of math met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark, compared to 32 percent for students taking less than three years of math.

Career Readiness

- In 2018, 757 Delaware graduates (46 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 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."

Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In Delaware, 513 of the 2018 graduates (31.0%) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 26.9, compared to an average of 22.4 for 1,141 of the 2018 graduates (69.0%) who took the ACT only once.
- 2,417 score reports were sent to colleges by 2018 Delaware ACT-tested graduates.
 - ~ 601 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2018 Delaware ACT-tested graduates.
 - ~ For Delaware's 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were University of Delaware, Fit/Access to Success Project DSU, Delaware State University, Penn State-University Park Campus, and University of Maryland College Park.
 - ~ For Delaware's 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top three out-of-state schools to which scores were sent were Penn State-University Park Campus, University of Maryland College Park, and Villanova University.
- Compared to 68 percent of 2018 graduates nationally, 69 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 2017-2018 academic year, ACT issued 197 ACT fee waivers to qualified Delaware students. However, 78 students (39.6 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

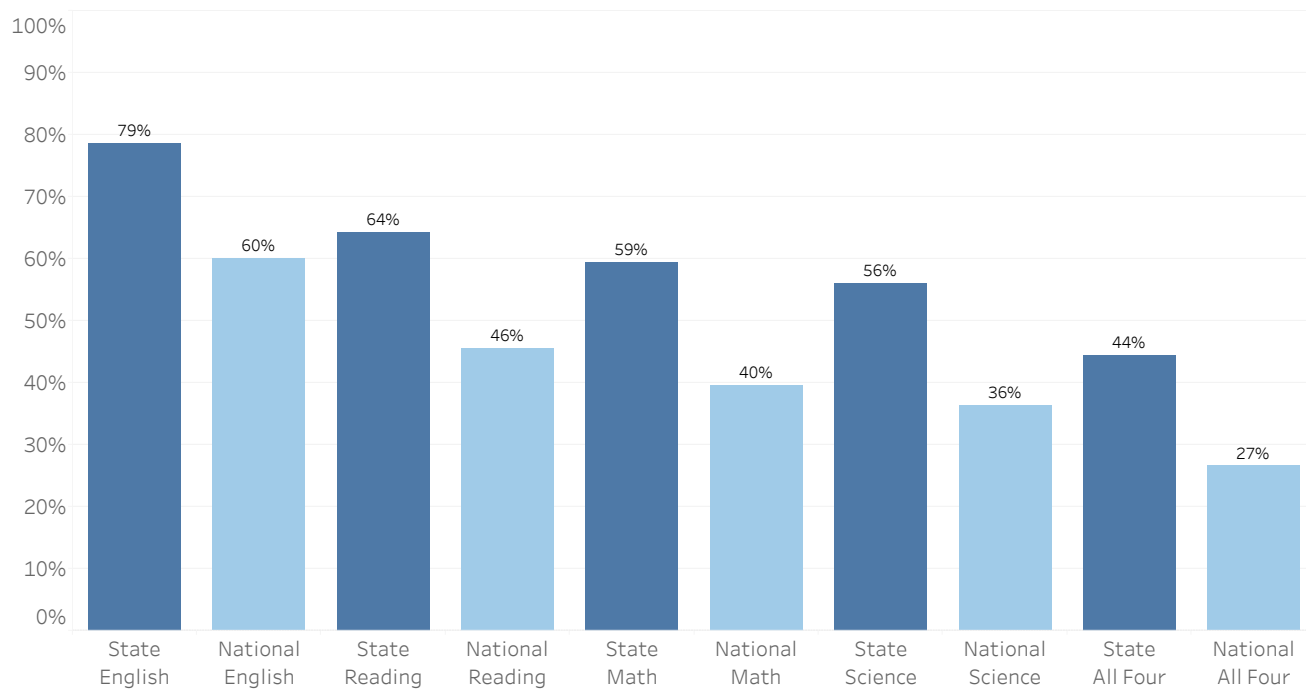
- Aspirations matter. Students who aspire to a higher level of postsecondary education typically achieve higher ACT Composite scores.
 - ~ 939 students (57 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 25.2.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2018 Delaware graduates were: Undecided; Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Nursing, Registered (BS/RN); Business Administration and Management, General; and Biology, General.
 - ~ In the Delaware graduating class of 2018, 46 (3 percent) indicated planning on majoring in education. They had an average Composite score of 21.0.

Additional Points

- According to the US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the fastest-growing careers in Delaware requiring education beyond high school are: Statisticians, Research Analysts, and Physical and Occupational Therapy Assistants.
- The ACT College and Career Readiness Champions are individuals across the country who support ACT's mission of education and workplace success. Congratulations to the Delaware Champion Brooke Wallace (High School Senior).

DELAWARE 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

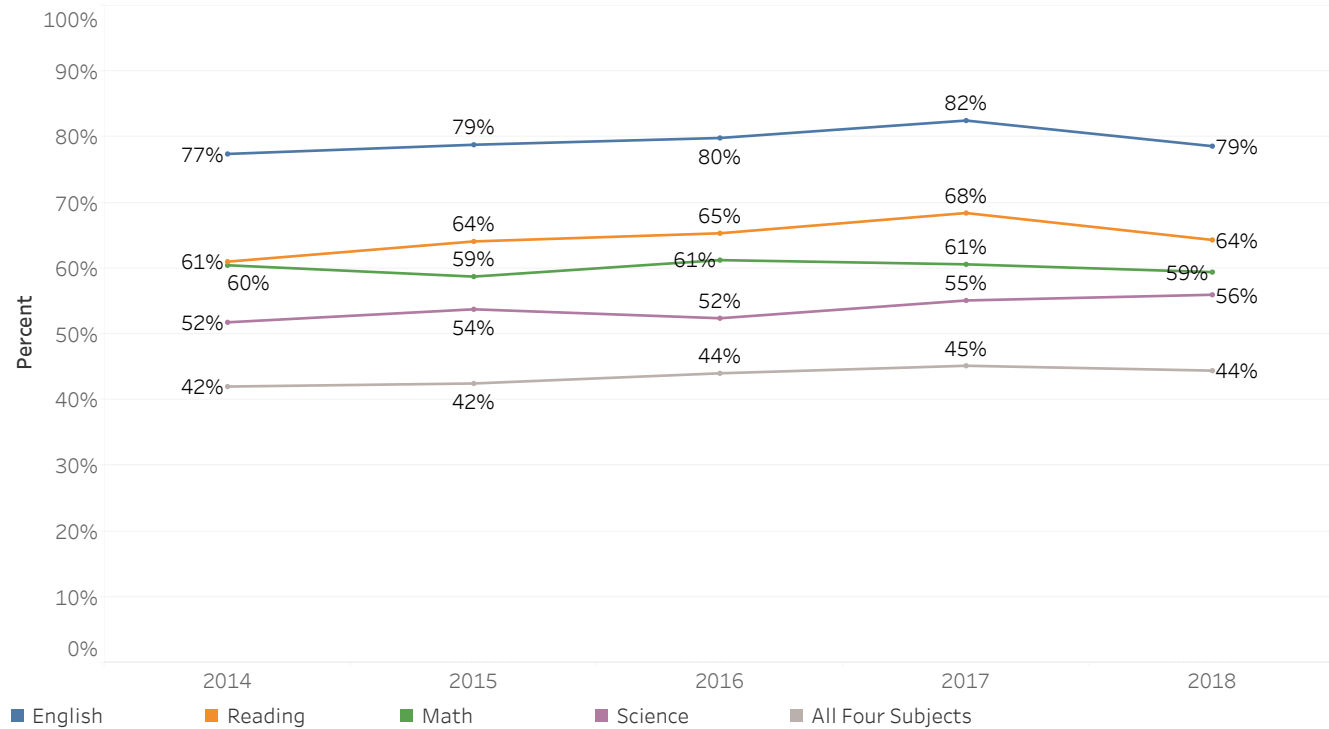
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
79%	60%	64%	46%	59%	40%	56%	36%	44%	27%

* 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.

DELAWARE 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

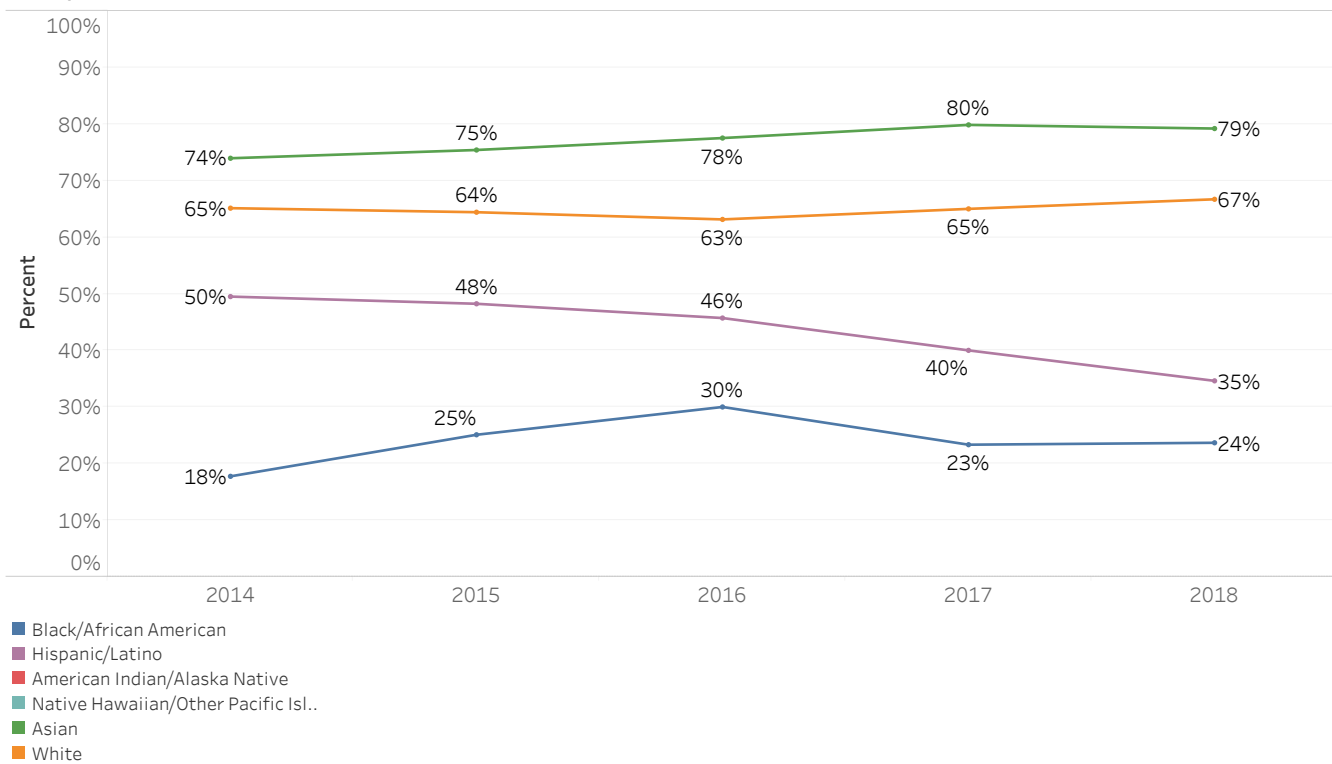
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2014	77%	61%	60%	52%	42%
2015	79%	64%	59%	54%	42%
2016	80%	65%	61%	52%	44%
2017	82%	68%	61%	55%	45%
2018	79%	64%	59%	56%	44%

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



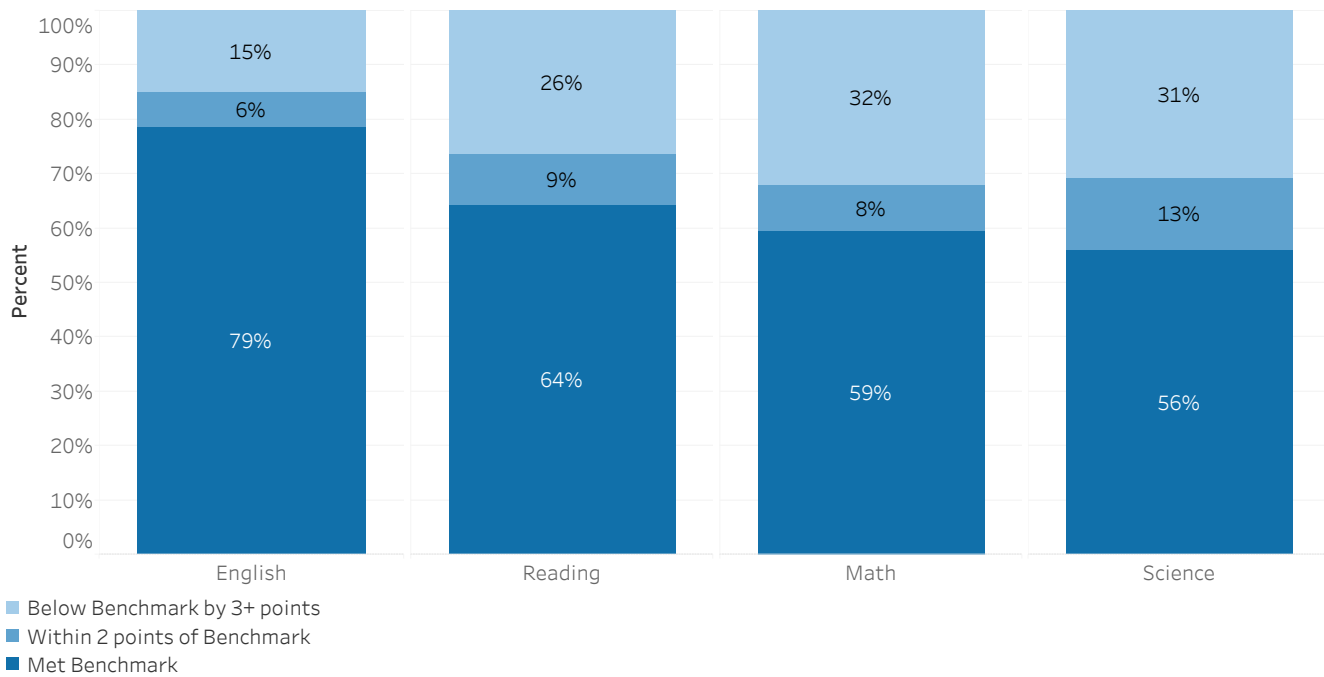
Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2014	18%	50%			74%	65%
2015	25%	48%			75%	64%
2016	30%	46%			78%	63%
2017	23%	40%			80%	65%
2018	24%	35%			79%	67%

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

DELAWARE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

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



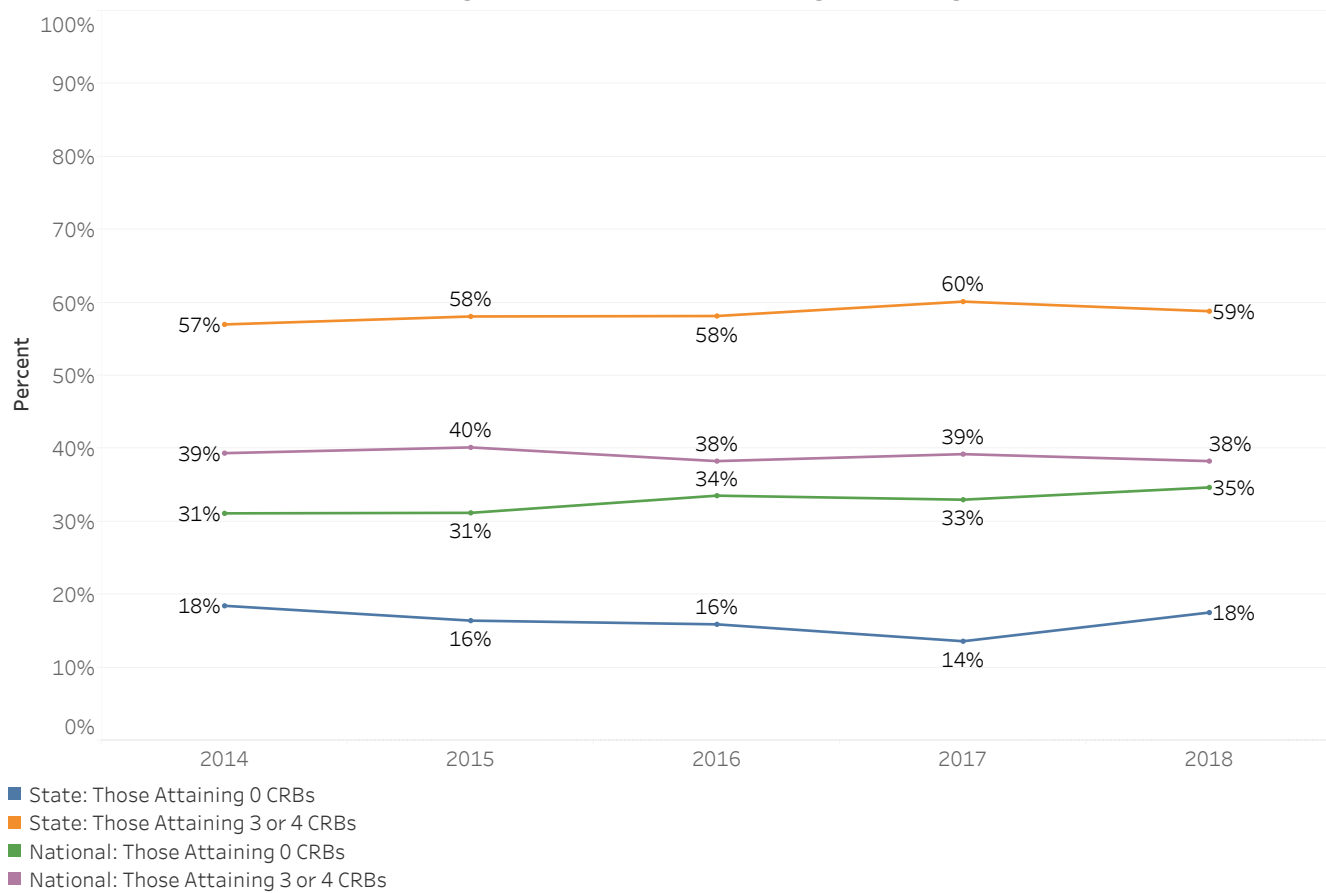
Data From Graph Above

	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	15%	6%	79%
Math	32%	8%	59%
Reading	26%	9%	64%
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 2014–2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks*



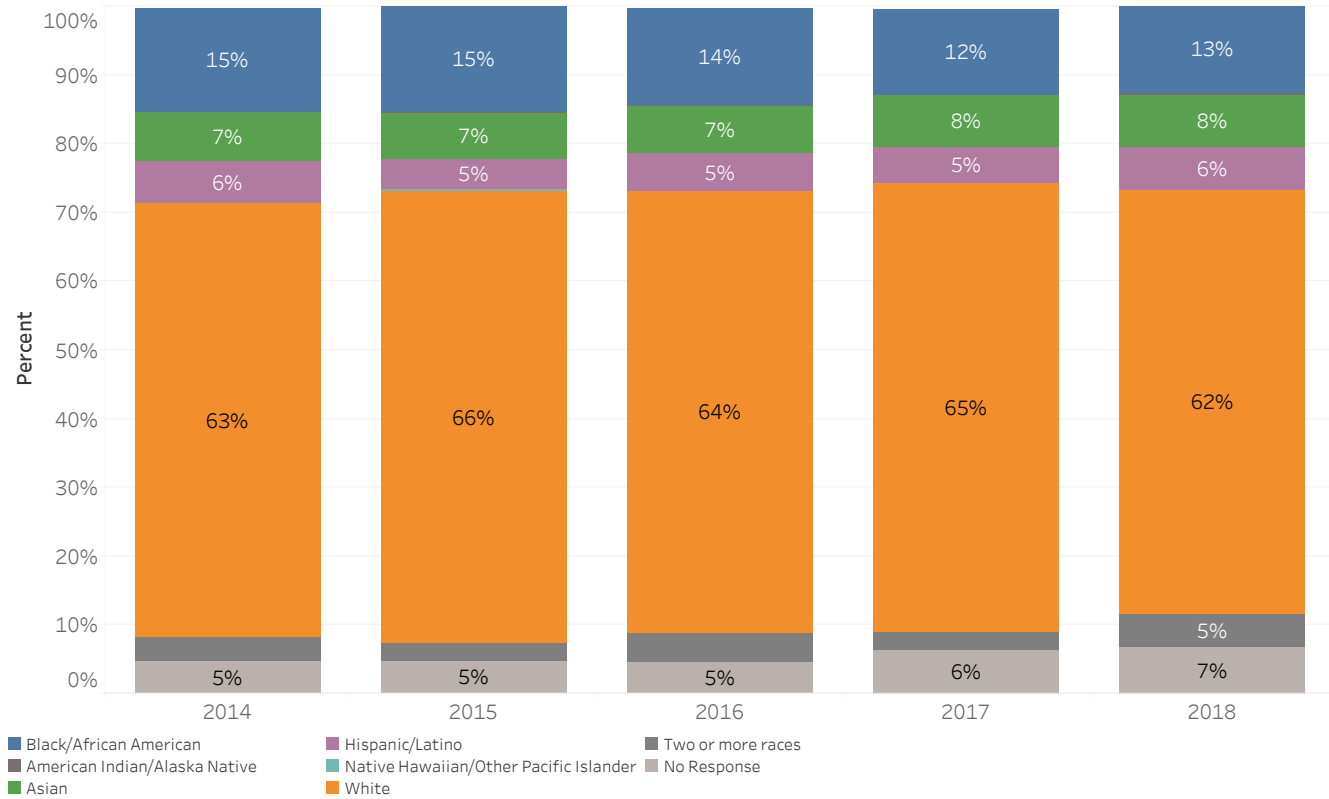
Data from Graph Above

	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	18%	57%	31%	39%
2015	16%	58%	31%	40%
2016	16%	58%	34%	38%
2017	14%	60%	33%	39%
2018	18%	59%	35%	38%

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

DELAWARE 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	15%	0%	7%	6%	0%	63%	4%	5%
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%

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

DELAWARE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

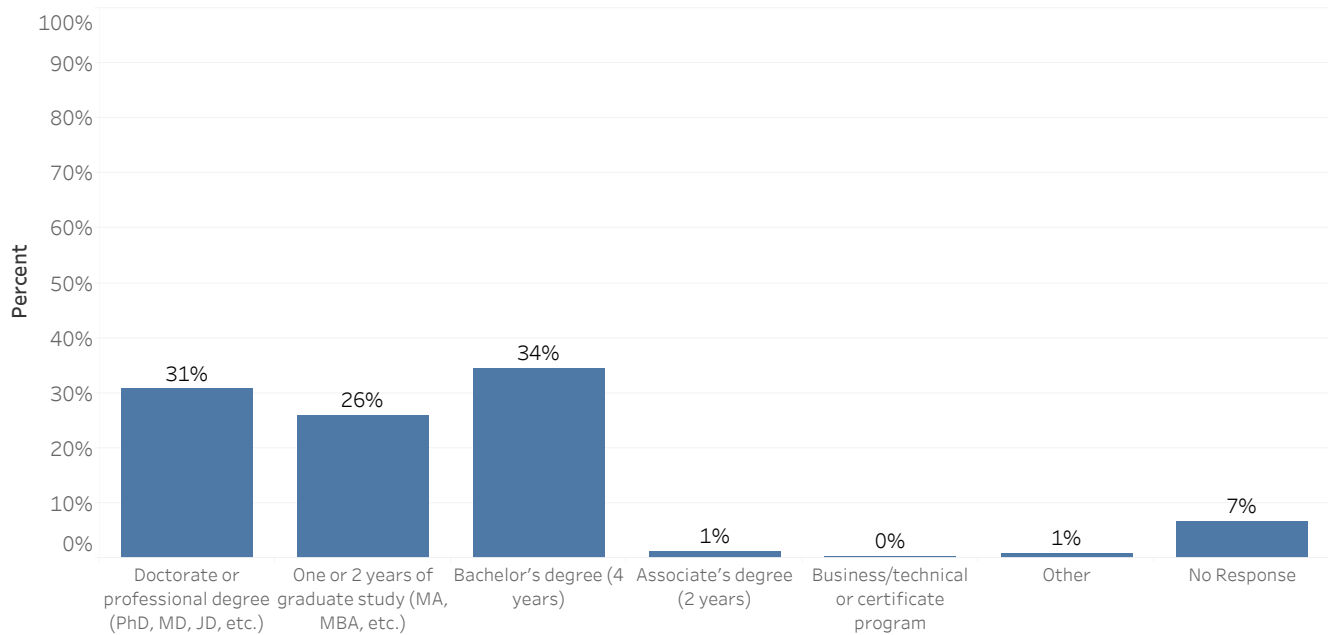
Student Data Trends: 2014-2018, State vs. Nation

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
State N-count	1,647	1,869	1,910	1,691	1,654
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	23.2	23.3	24.1	23.7
Average ACT English Score - National	20.3	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2
Average ACT Reading Score - State	23.7	24.1	24.3	24.8	24.5
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3
Average ACT Math Score - State	23.2	23.0	23.2	23.4	23.1
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.9	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5
Average ACT Science Score - State	22.9	23.1	23.2	23.6	23.4
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.8	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7
Average ACT Composite Score - State	23.2	23.5	23.6	24.1	23.8
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.

DELAWARE 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.)	31%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	26%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	34%
Associate's degree (2 years)	1%
Business/technical or certificate program	0%
Other	1%
No Response	7%

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

ACT[®]