

# The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2018

## Maine Key Findings

### Performance

- In the 2018 Maine graduating class, 1,043 graduates (7 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 24.0. This compares to 1,276 (9 percent) with an average of 23.6 in 2014. Nationally, 55% of 2018 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.8.
  - ~ There were 824 White graduates from Maine who took the ACT (79 percent) with an average Composite score of 24.0. This compares to 912 (76 percent) with an average of 24.6, and 1,013 (79 percent) with an average of 23.7, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
  - ~ There were 72 Asian graduates from Maine who took the ACT (7 percent) with an average Composite score of 24.0. This compares to 97 (8 percent) with an average of 24.2, and 79 (6 percent) with an average of 23.2, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
- The 2018 Maine graduating class average English score was 23.8. This compares to 24.2 and 23.3 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 Maine graduating class average math score was 23.6. This compares to 24.0 and 23.6 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 Maine graduating class average reading score was 24.7. This compares to 24.8 and 24.1 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 Maine graduating class average science score was 23.4. This compares to 23.7 and 22.8 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- In 2018, 44 percent of Maine graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 46 and 40 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 11 percent of Maine graduates met zero ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 11 and 11 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 84 percent of Maine graduates met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 84 and 84 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 64 percent of Maine graduates met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 67 and 65 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 69 percent of Maine 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 Maine graduates met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 57 and 53 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
- In 2018, 4 percent of Maine graduates took the ACT with extended time. This compares to 4 and 2 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
- 69 percent of 2018 Maine 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 Maine's Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) initiative.
- In 2018, 575 Maine graduates (55 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 Maine graduating class average ACT STEM score of 23.8, graduates in 2017 and 2014 had STEM averages of 24.1 and 23.4, respectively.
- Compared to 36 percent of 2018 Maine graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark, graduates in 2017 and 2014 had STEM Benchmark percentages of 39 and 32, respectively.
  - ~ 2018 Maine graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average science score of 28.5. This compares to 27.8 in 2014.
- 2018 Maine graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average math score of 29.1. This compares to 29.1 in 2014.

## Career Readiness

- In 2018, 974 Maine graduates (93 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."

## Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In Maine, 266 of the 2018 graduates (25.5%) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 25.7, compared to an average of 23.5 for 777 of the 2018 graduates (74.5%) who took the ACT only once.
- 1,025 score reports were sent to colleges by 2018 Maine ACT-tested graduates.
  - ~ 159 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2018 Maine 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 Maine's 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were The University of Maine, Husson University, University of Southern Maine, University of New England, and University of Vermont.
- Compared to 68 percent of 2018 graduates nationally, 57 percent of Maine 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 122 ACT fee waivers to qualified Maine students. However, 26 students (21.3 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

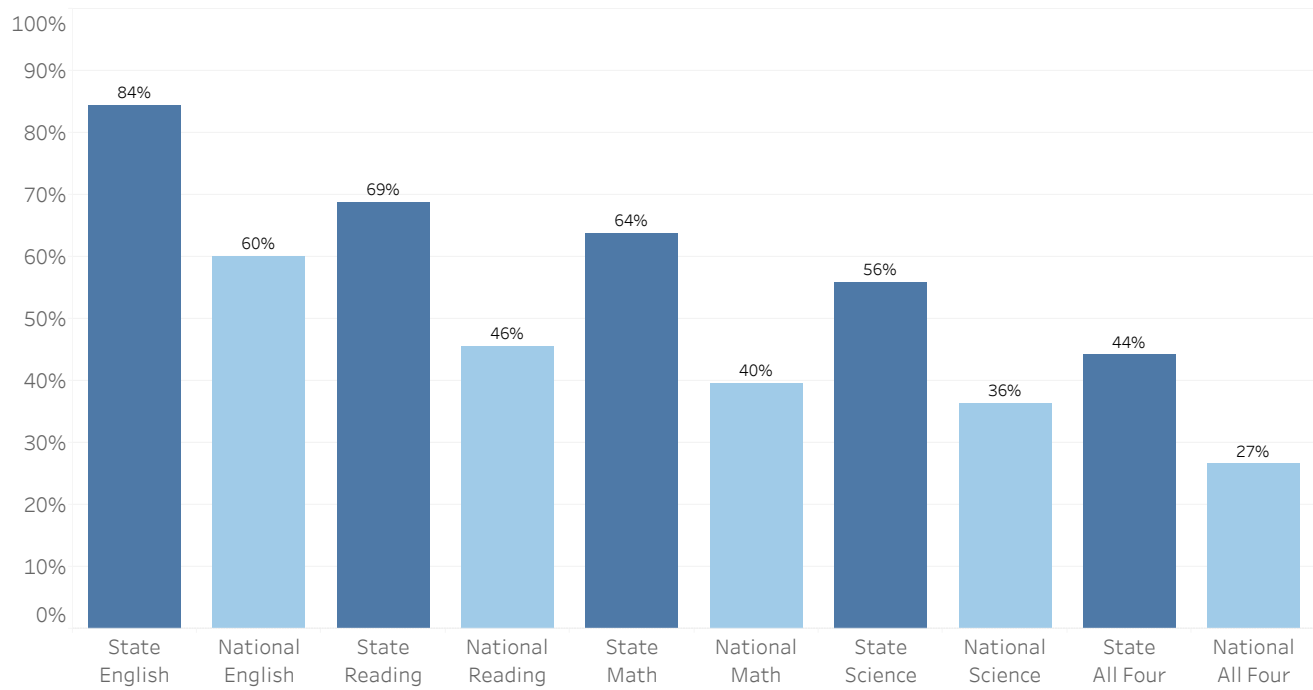
- Aspirations matter. Students who aspire to a higher level of postsecondary education typically achieve higher ACT Composite scores.
  - ~ 497 students (48 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 25.6.
  - ~ 400 students (38 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 22.0.
  - ~ 6 students (1 percent) aspired to attain a vocational/technical or associate's degree. They had an average Composite score of 17.2.
- In the Maine graduating class of 2018, 58 students (6 percent) had parents who did not attend college.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2018 Maine graduates were: Undecided; Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Biology, General; Nursing, Registered (BS/RN); and Mechanical Engineering.
  - ~ In the Maine graduating class of 2018, 28 (3 percent) indicated planning on majoring in education. They had an average Composite score of 22.0.
- There is good news in that 87% of Maine's 2018 ACT-tested graduates aspired to postsecondary education. Interestingly enough, 85% of Maine's 2017 ACT-tested graduating class aspired to enroll in postsecondary education, compared to 80% who actually did enroll. If we fully closed the aspirational gap, an additional 59 of the 2017 ACT-tested graduates from Maine would have enrolled in postsecondary education.

## Additional Points

- The Maine ACT State Organization continues to grow in membership and in diversity, with more than 10 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.
- According to the US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the fastest-growing careers in Maine requiring education beyond high school are: Biomedical Engineers, Statisticians, Nurse Practitioners, Operations Research Analysts and Cartographers and Photogrammetrists.
- 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 Maine Champions: Anisah McEwan (High School Senior) and Eric Chapman (Postsecondary Professional).

# MAINE 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

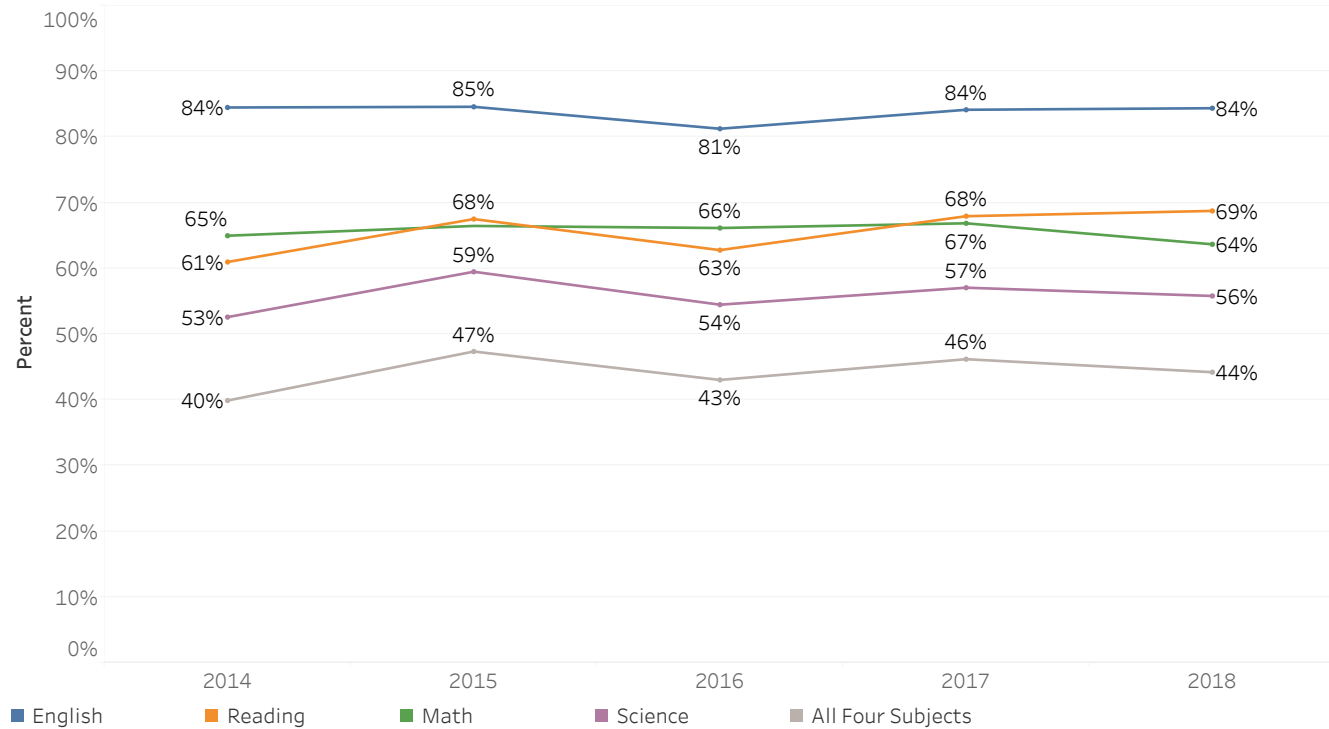
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
84%	60%	69%	46%	64%	40%	56%	36%	44%	27%

\* 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.

# MAINE 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

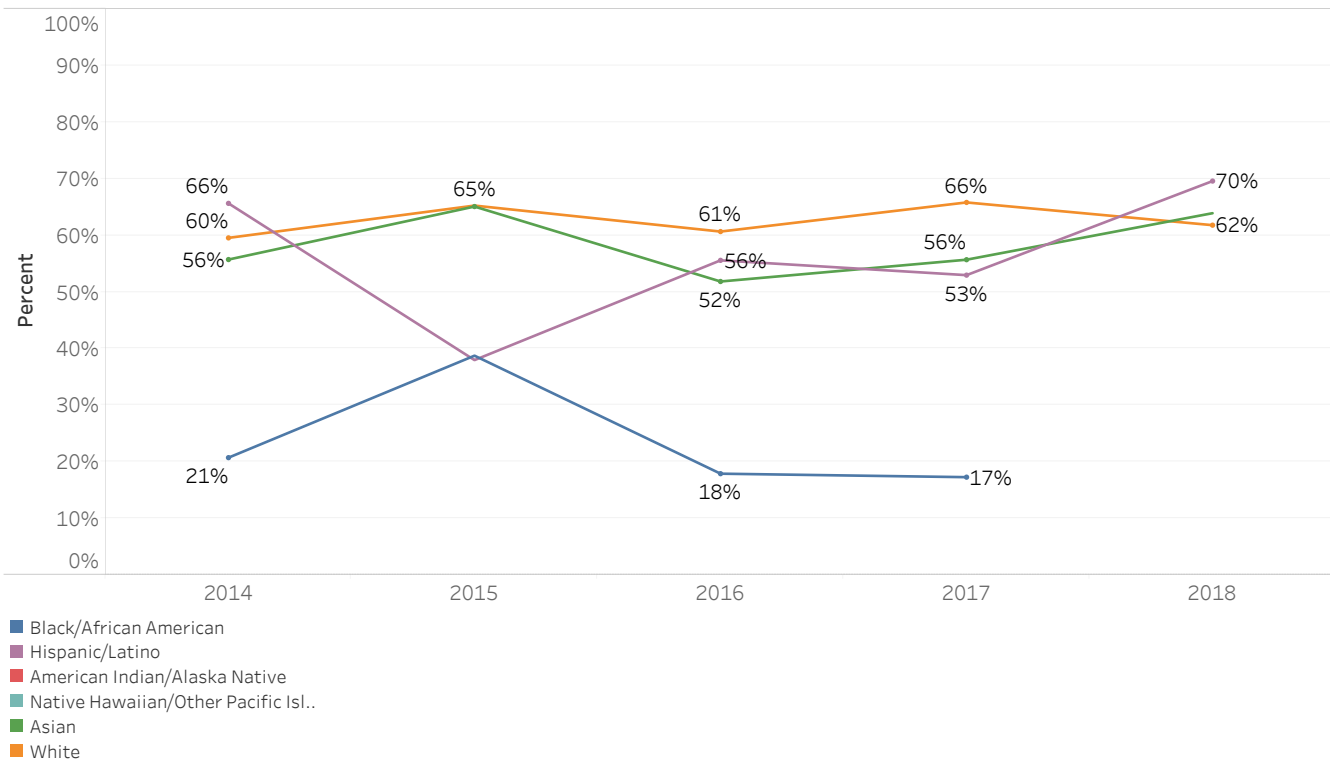
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2014	84%	61%	65%	53%	40%
2015	85%	68%	66%	59%	47%
2016	81%	63%	66%	54%	43%
2017	84%	68%	67%	57%	46%
2018	84%	69%	64%	56%	44%

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# MAINE 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



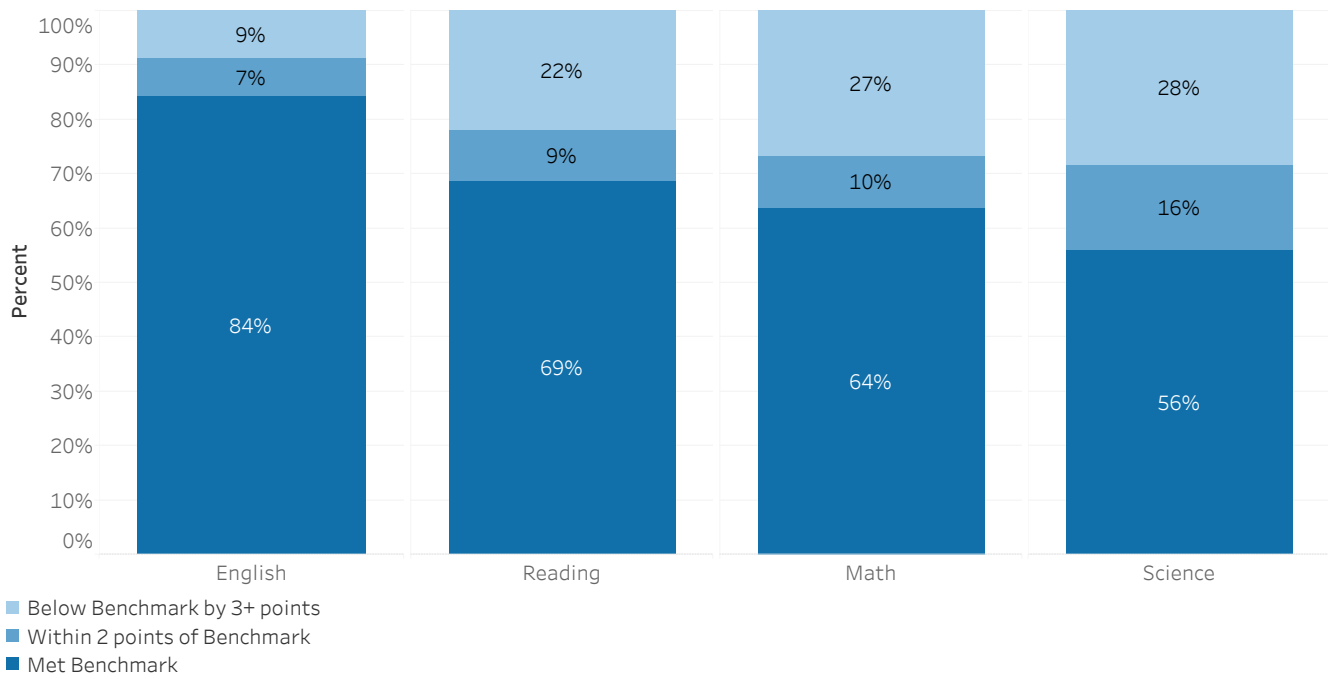
### Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2014	21%	66%			56%	60%
2015	39%	38%			65%	65%
2016	18%	56%			52%	61%
2017	17%	53%			56%	66%
2018		70%			64%	62%

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# MAINE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

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



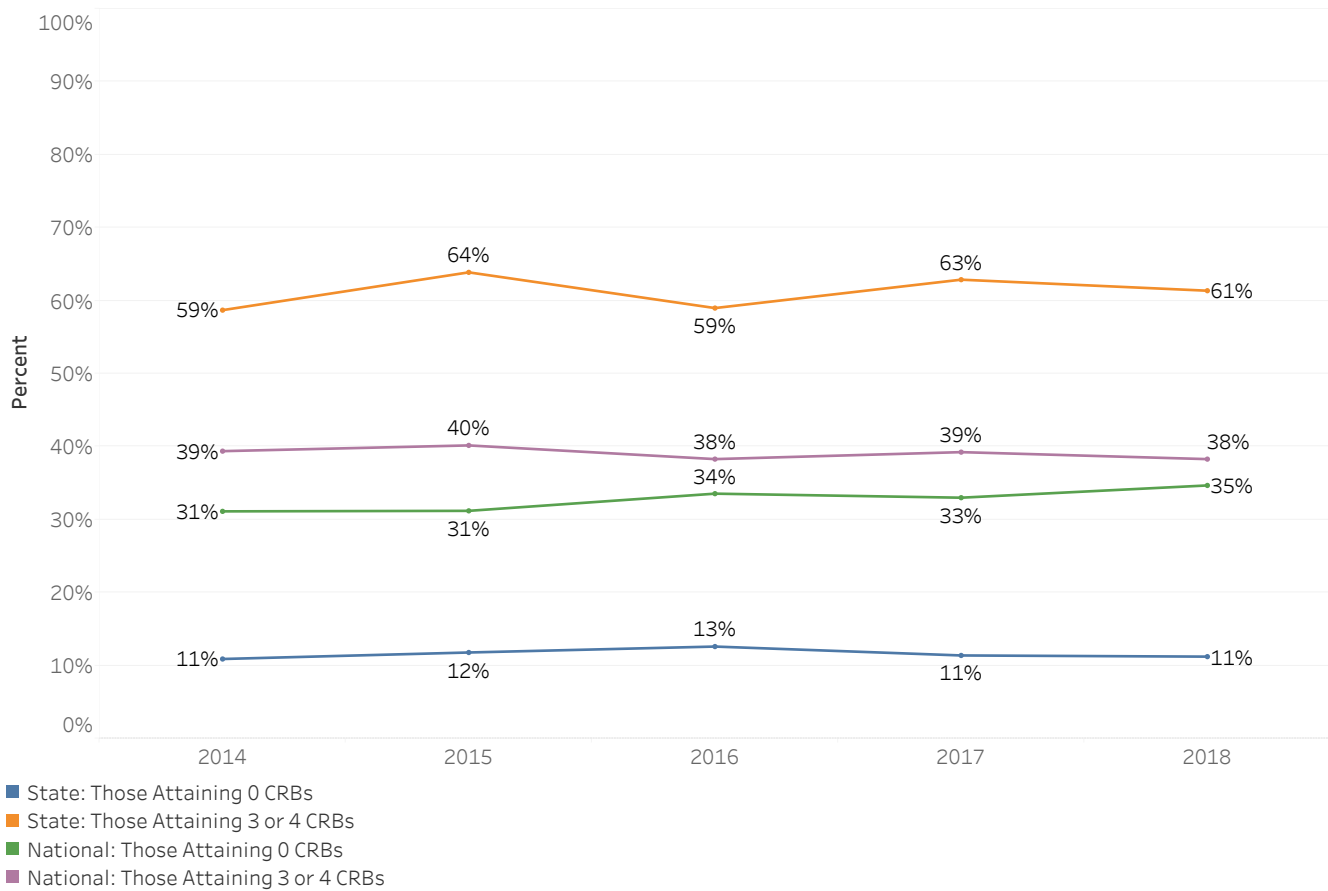
### Data From Graph Above

	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	9%	7%	84%
Math	27%	10%	64%
Reading	22%	9%	69%
Science	28%	16%	56%

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# MAINE 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

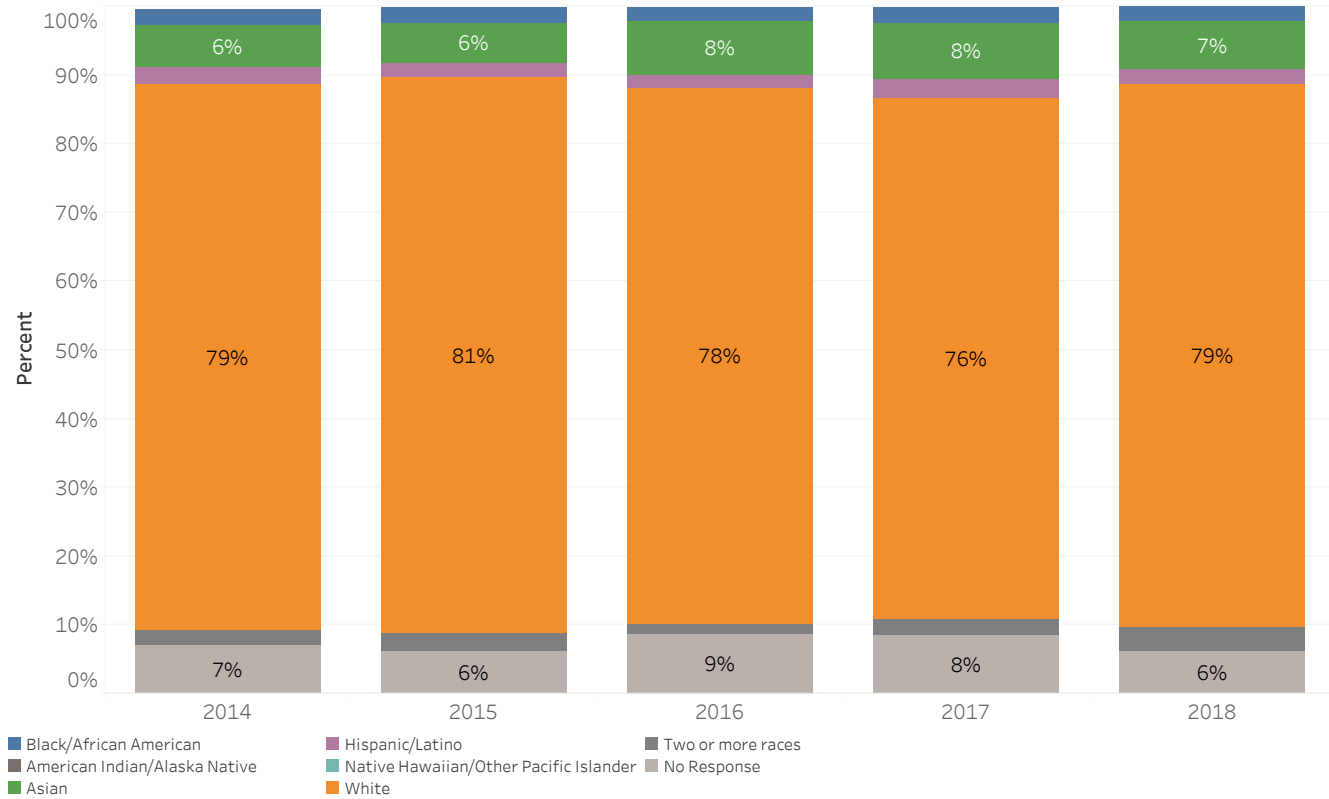
	State: Those Attaining 0 CRBs	State: Those Attaining 3 or 4 CRBs	National: Those Attaining 0 CRBs	National: Those Attaining 3 or 4 CRBs
2014	11%	59%	31%	39%
2015	12%	64%	31%	40%
2016	13%	59%	34%	38%
2017	11%	63%	33%	39%
2018	11%	61%	35%	38%

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# MAINE 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	2%	7%	6%	3%	0%	79%	2%	7%
2015	2%	6%	6%	2%	0%	81%	3%	6%
2016	2%	9%	8%	2%	0%	78%	2%	9%
2017	2%	8%	8%	3%	0%	76%	2%	8%
2018	2%	6%	7%	2%	0%	79%	4%	6%

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# MAINE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

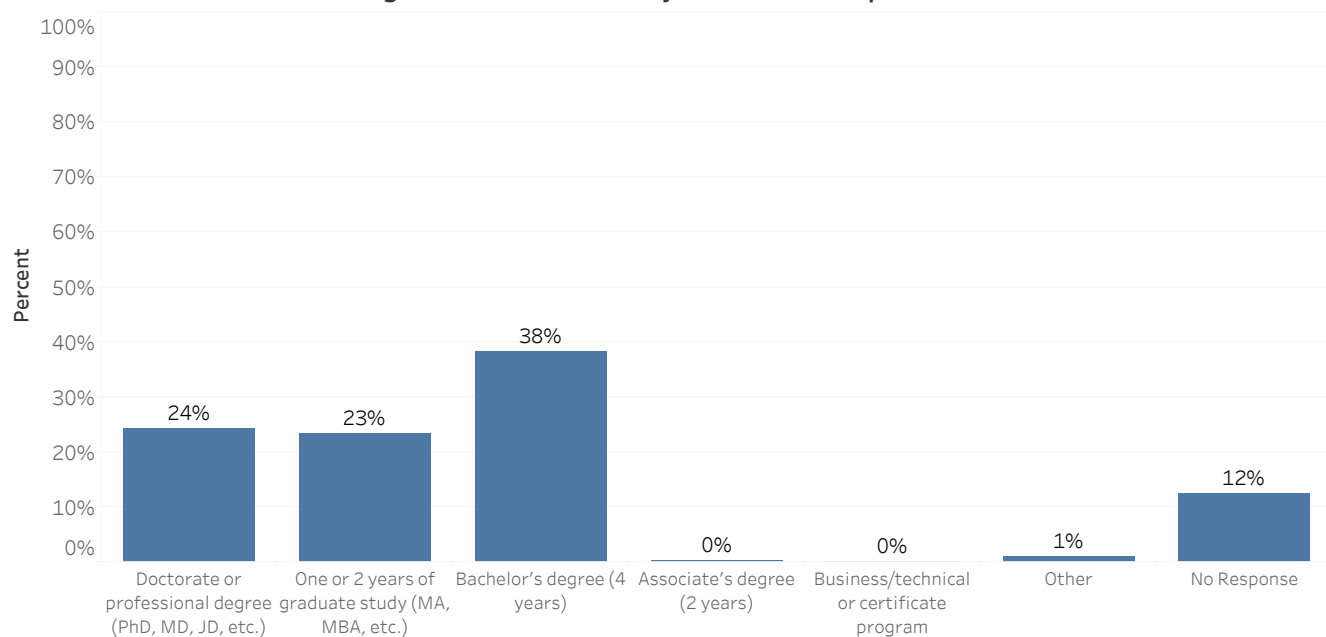
## Student Data Trends: 2014-2018, State vs. Nation

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
State N-count	1,276	1,434	1,397	1,204	1,043
National N-count	1,845,787	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817
Average ACT English Score - State	23.3	24.2	23.3	24.2	23.8
Average ACT English Score - National	20.3	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2
Average ACT Reading Score - State	24.1	24.6	23.9	24.8	24.7
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3
Average ACT Math Score - State	23.6	23.9	23.8	24.0	23.6
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.9	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5
Average ACT Science Score - State	22.8	23.6	23.1	23.7	23.4
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.8	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7
Average ACT Composite Score - State	23.6	24.2	23.6	24.3	24.0
Average ACT Composite Score - National	21.0	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8

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# MAINE 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.)	24%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	23%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	38%
Associate's degree (2 years)	0%
Business/technical or certificate program	0%
Other	1%
No Response	12%

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