

# The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2018

## Oregon Key Findings

### Performance

- In the 2018 Oregon graduating class, 15,432 graduates (42 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 21.3. This compares to 13,568 (36 percent) with an average of 21.4 in 2014. Nationally, 55% of 2018 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.8.
  - ~ There were 8,536 White graduates from Oregon who took the ACT (55 percent) with an average Composite score of 22.6. This compares to 8,064 (55 percent) with an average of 23.0, and 7,888 (58 percent) with an average of 22.6, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
  - ~ There were 2,898 Hispanic graduates from Oregon who took the ACT (19 percent) with an average Composite score of 17.8. This compares to 2,594 (18 percent) with an average of 18.4, and 2,092 (15 percent) with an average of 17.7, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
  - ~ There were 1,086 Asian graduates from Oregon who took the ACT (7 percent) with an average Composite score of 23.3. This compares to 1,004 (7 percent) with an average of 23.6, and 927 (7 percent) with an average of 22.3, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
- In 2018, 29 percent of Oregon graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 32 and 30 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 31 percent of Oregon graduates met zero ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 27 and 28 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 63 percent of Oregon graduates met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 67 and 67 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 43 percent of Oregon graduates met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 47 and 47 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 49 percent of Oregon graduates met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 53 and 49 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 40 percent of Oregon graduates met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 43 and 40 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
- In 2018, 6,477 (42 percent) of Oregon graduates met three or four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 6,682 and 5,891 (46 and 43 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, 4 percent of Oregon graduates took the ACT with extended time. This compares to 4 and 3 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
- 52 percent of 2018 Oregon graduates were Proficient or Above Proficient in understanding complex texts.

## STEM

- In 2018, 6,642 Oregon graduates (43 percent) indicated having an interest in STEM majors and/or careers.
  - ~ Nationally, 45 percent of graduates indicated having an interest in STEM.
- Compared to 22 percent of 2018 Oregon graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark, graduates in 2017 and 2014 had STEM Benchmark percentages of 25 and 22, respectively.
- In 2018, 7,336 Oregon graduates (48 percent) indicated taking physics. This compares to 54 and 48 percent for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
- 2018 graduates taking physics had an average science score of 22.6, compared to 20.0 for students not taking physics.
  - ~ 51 percent of 2018 Oregon graduates taking physics met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark, compared to 30 for students not taking physics.
- In 2018, 11,613 Oregon graduates (75 percent) indicated taking three or more years of math. This compares to 82 and 85 percent for 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
  - ~ 2018 graduates taking three or more years of math had an average math score of 21.7, compared to 16.7 for students taking less than three years of math.
  - ~ 49 percent of 2018 graduates taking three or more years of math met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark, compared to 10 percent for students taking less than three years of math.

## Career Readiness

- In 2018, 4,404 Oregon graduates (29 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.
- In 2018, 11,851 Oregon graduates (77 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 Oregon 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:
  - ~ 36 more students enrolling in college.
  - ~ 41 more students persisting to year two.
  - ~ 29 fewer students needing remedial English.
  - ~ 46 fewer students needing remedial math.
  - ~ 45 more students persisting to year four.
  - ~ 48 more students earning a postsecondary degree within six years.

## Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

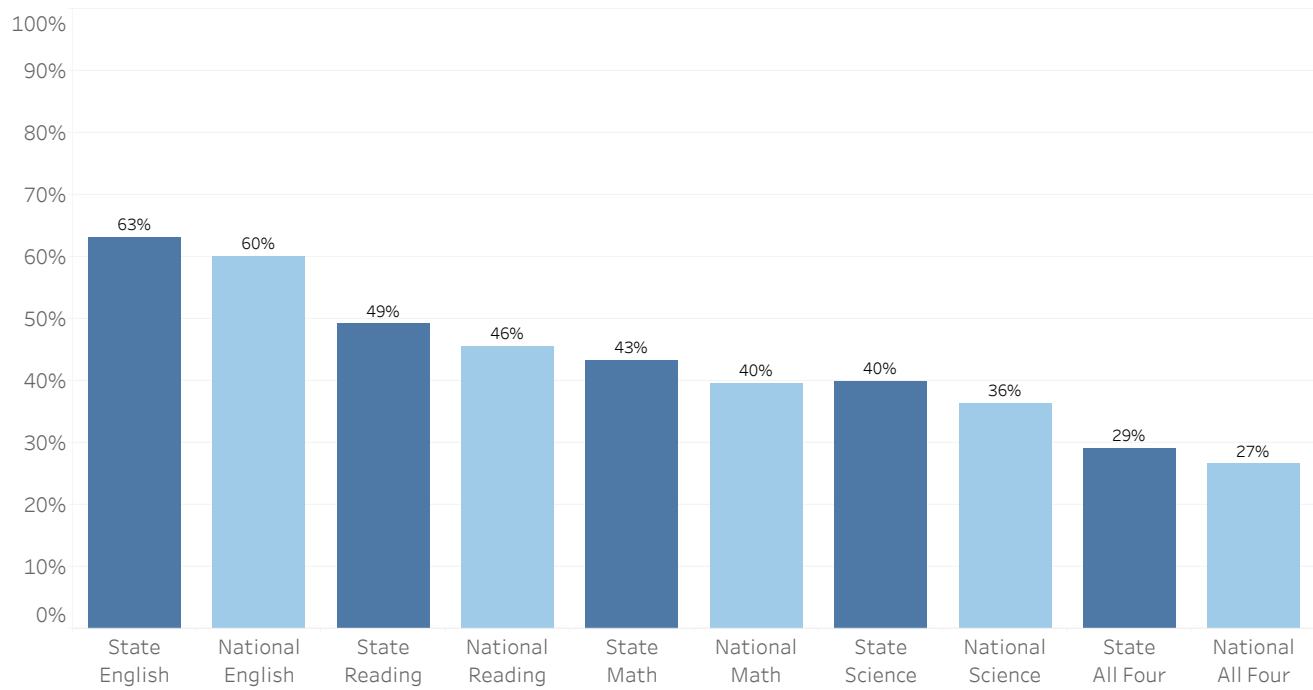
- In Oregon, 3,346 of the 2018 graduates (21.7%) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 24.3, compared to an average of 20.4 for 12,086 of the 2018 graduates (78.3%) who took the ACT only once.
- 33,213 score reports were sent to colleges by 2018 Oregon ACT-tested graduates.
  - ~ 15,850 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2018 Oregon ACT-tested graduates.
  - ~ For Oregon's 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were Oregon State University, University of Oregon, Portland State University, Portland Community College, and University of Portland.
  - ~ For Oregon's 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top three out-of-state schools to which scores were sent were University of Washington, Stanford University, and Brigham Young University.
- Compared to 68 percent of 2018 graduates nationally, 69 percent of Oregon 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 66 percent of White students nationally, 67 percent of Oregon White 2018 graduates opted into EOS.
  - ~ Compared to 80 percent of Hispanic students nationally, 79 percent of Oregon Hispanic 2018 graduates opted into EOS.
  - ~ Compared to 74 percent of Asian students nationally, 73 percent of Oregon Asian 2018 graduates opted into EOS.
- In the 2017-2018 academic year, ACT issued 2,578 ACT fee waivers to qualified Oregon students. However, 615 students (23.9 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.
  - ~ White Oregon students represent 28 percent of fee waivers issued and they account for 29 percent of unused fee waivers.
  - ~ Hispanic Oregon students represent 42 percent of fee waivers issued and they account for 46 percent of unused fee waivers.
  - ~ Asian Oregon students represent 9 percent of fee waivers issued and they account for 5 percent of unused fee waivers.

## Pipeline

- Aspirations matter. Students who aspire to a higher level of postsecondary education typically achieve higher ACT Composite scores.
  - ~ 4,641 students (30 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 24.0.
  - ~ 5,338 students (35 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 20.8.
  - ~ 769 students (5 percent) aspired to attain a vocational/technical or associate's degree. They had an average Composite score of 16.3.
- In the Oregon graduating class of 2018, 2,463 students (16 percent) had parents who did not attend college.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2018 Oregon graduates were: Undecided; Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Nursing, Registered (BS/RN); Business Administration and Management, General; and Biology, General.
  - ~ In the Oregon graduating class of 2018, 1,615 students (10 percent) indicated being undecided about their college major. They had an average Composite score of 21.9. 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 Oregon graduating class of 2018, 509 (3 percent) indicated planning on majoring in education. They had an average Composite score of 20.4.
- There is good news in that 70% of Oregon's 2018 ACT-tested graduates aspired to postsecondary education. Interestingly enough, 79% of Oregon's 2017 ACT-tested graduating class aspired to enroll in postsecondary education, compared to 66% who actually did enroll. If we fully closed the aspirational gap, an additional 1,847 of the 2017 ACT-tested graduates from Oregon would have enrolled in postsecondary education.

# OREGON 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

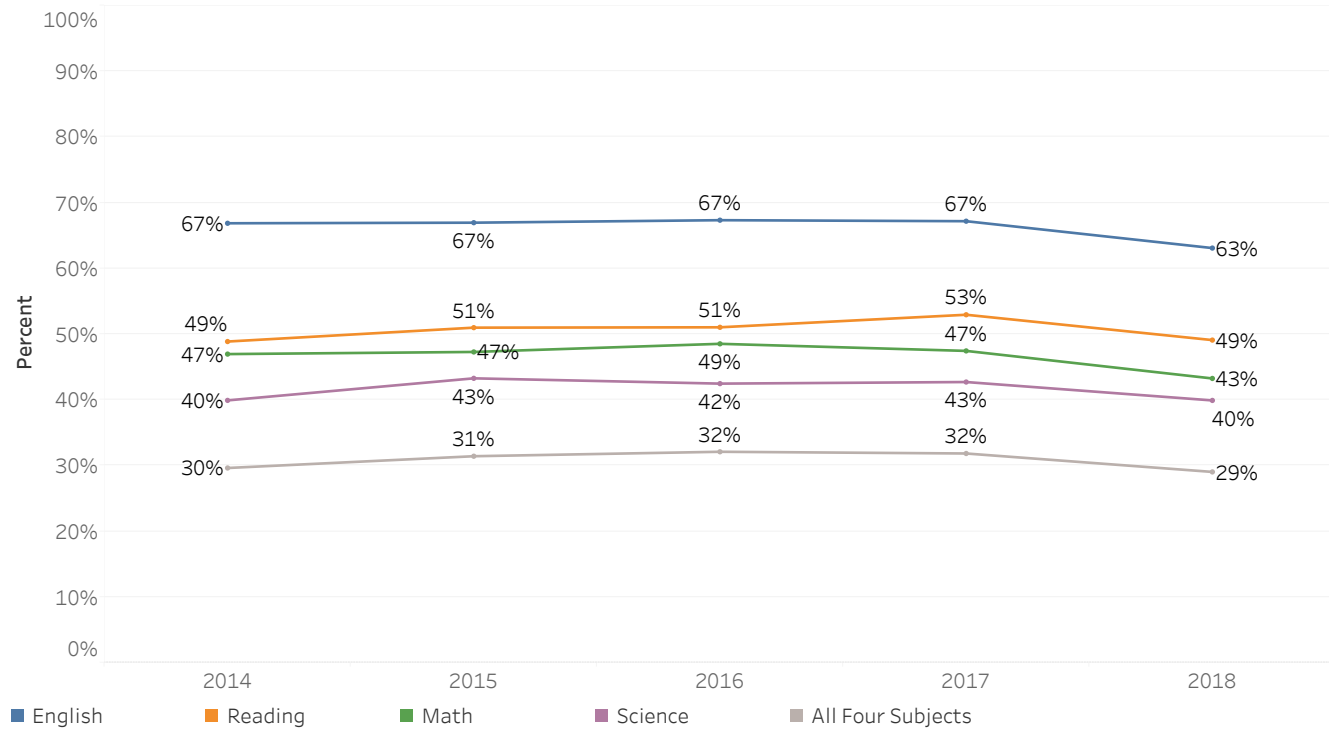
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
63%	60%	49%	46%	43%	40%	40%	36%	29%	27%

\* 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.

# OREGON 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

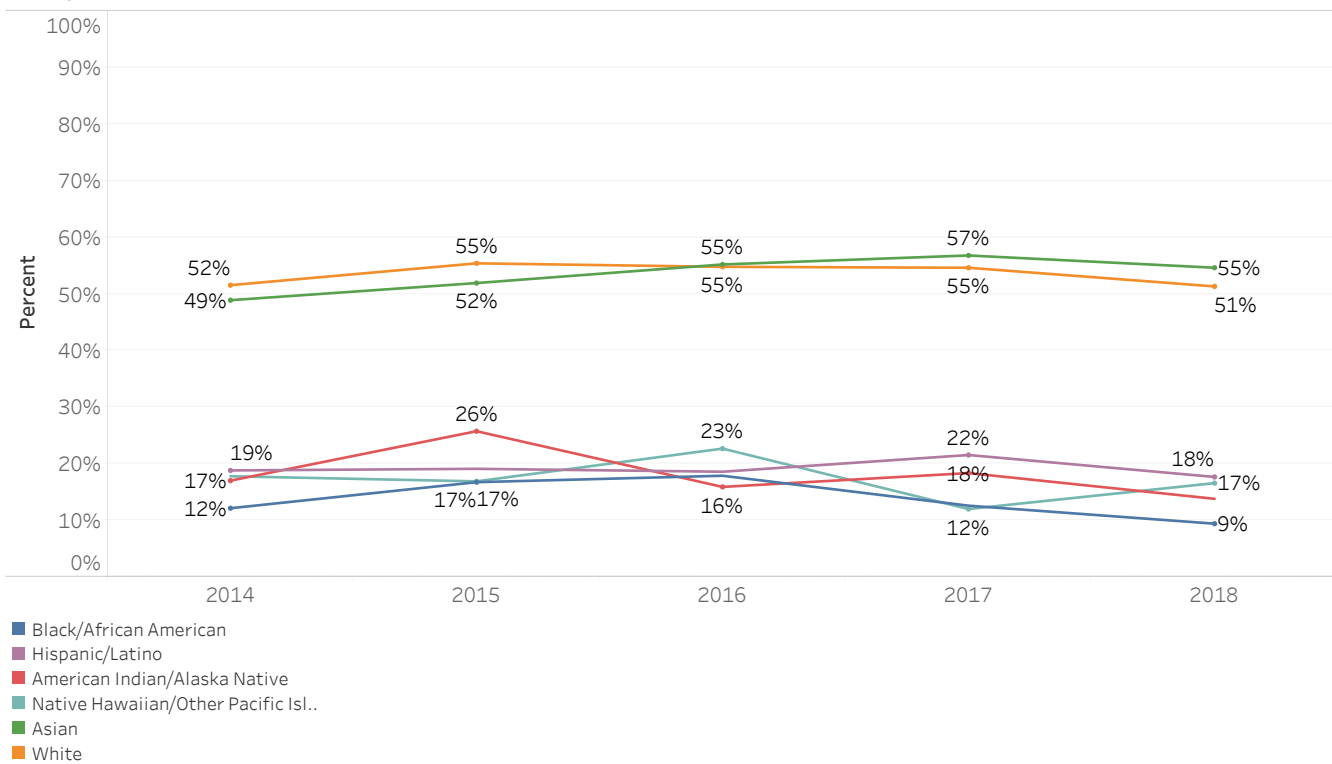
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2014	67%	49%	47%	40%	30%
2015	67%	51%	47%	43%	31%
2016	67%	51%	49%	42%	32%
2017	67%	53%	47%	43%	32%
2018	63%	49%	43%	40%	29%

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# OREGON 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



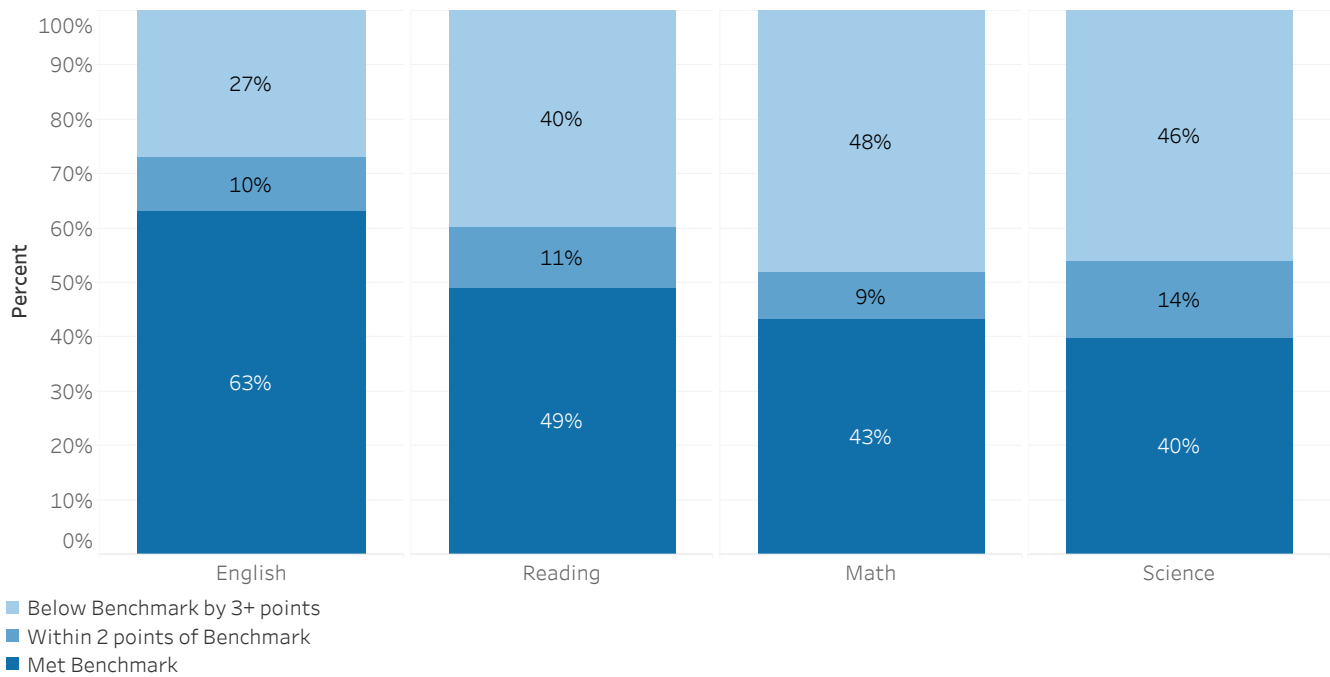
### Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2014	12%	19%	17%	18%	49%	52%
2015	17%	19%	26%	17%	52%	55%
2016	18%	19%	16%	23%	55%	55%
2017	13%	22%	18%	12%	57%	55%
2018	9%	18%	14%	17%	55%	51%

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# OREGON 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

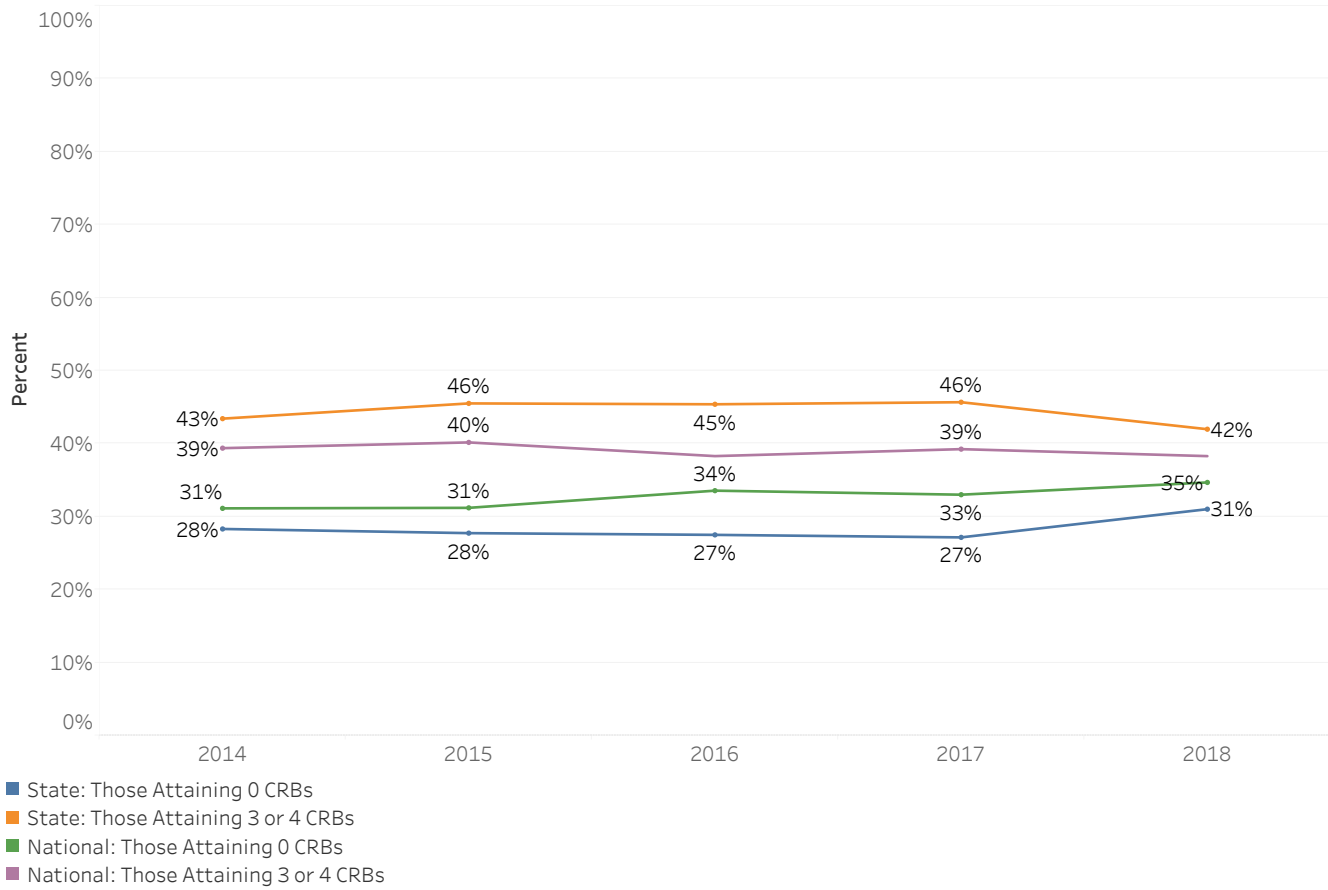
	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	27%	10%	63%
Math	48%	9%	43%
Reading	40%	11%	49%
Science	46%	14%	40%

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

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



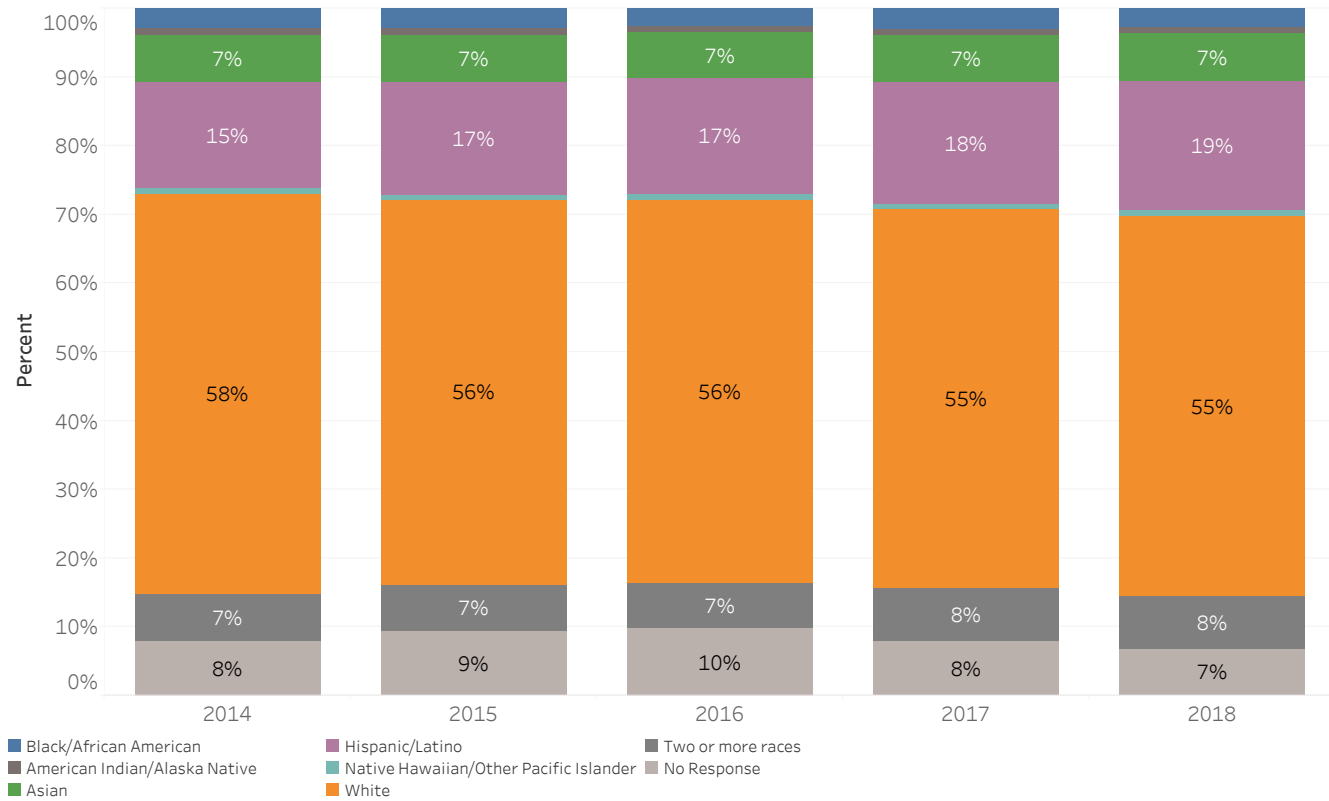
## Data from Graph Above

	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	28%	43%	31%	39%
2015	28%	46%	31%	40%
2016	27%	45%	34%	38%
2017	27%	46%	33%	39%
2018	31%	42%	35%	38%

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# OREGON 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	3%	1%	7%	15%	1%	58%	7%	8%
2015	3%	1%	7%	17%	1%	56%	7%	9%
2016	3%	1%	7%	17%	1%	56%	7%	10%
2017	3%	1%	7%	18%	1%	55%	8%	8%
2018	3%	1%	7%	19%	1%	55%	8%	7%

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

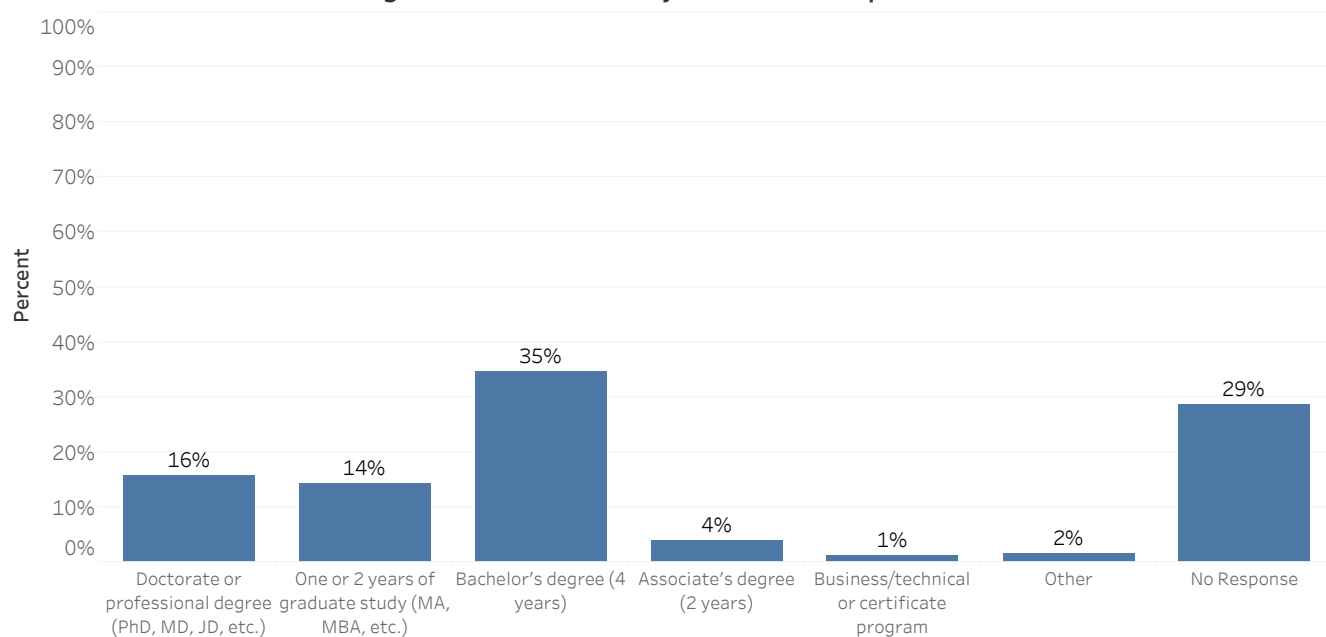
## Student Data Trends: 2014-2018, State vs. Nation

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
State N-count	13,568	14,198	14,724	14,631	15,432
National N-count	1,845,787	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817
Average ACT English Score - State	20.8	20.8	21.0	21.2	20.6
Average ACT English Score - National	20.3	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2
Average ACT Reading Score - State	21.9	22.1	22.3	22.4	21.9
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3
Average ACT Math Score - State	21.4	21.4	21.4	21.5	20.9
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.9	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5
Average ACT Science Score - State	21.1	21.4	21.6	21.7	21.1
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.8	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7
Average ACT Composite Score - State	21.4	21.5	21.7	21.8	21.3
Average ACT Composite Score - National	21.0	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8

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# OREGON 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.)	16%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	14%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	35%
Associate's degree (2 years)	4%
Business/technical or certificate program	1%
Other	2%
No Response	29%

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