

The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2019

Idaho Key Findings

Performance of 2019 Graduates

- In the 2019 Idaho graduating class, 6,392 graduates (an estimated 31 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 22.5. This compares to 7,362 (an estimated 42 percent) with an average of 22.7 in 2015. Nationally, an estimated 52 percent of 2019 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.7.
 - There were 68 African American graduates from Idaho who took the ACT (1 percent) with an average Composite score of 18.4. This compares to 51 (1 percent) with an average of 19.1, and 74 (1 percent) with an average of 18.9, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 48 American Indian graduates from Idaho who took the ACT (1 percent) with an average Composite score of 17.3. This compares to 58 (1 percent) with an average of 16.6, and 57 (1 percent) with an average of 18.3, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 4,923 White graduates from Idaho who took the ACT (77 percent) with an average Composite score of 23.0. This compares to 5,633 (77 percent) with an average of 22.9, and 5,742 (78 percent) with an average of 23.2, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 737 Hispanic graduates from Idaho who took the ACT (12 percent) with an average Composite score of 19.4. This compares to 934 (13 percent) with an average of 19.1, and 804 (11 percent) with an average of 19.5, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 111 Asian graduates from Idaho who took the ACT (2 percent) with an average Composite score of 23.7. This compares to 126 (2 percent) with an average of 24.7, and 129 (2 percent) with an average of 23.1, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - The 2019 Idaho graduating class average English score was 21.9. This compares to 21.9 and 22.3 in 2018 and 2015, respectively.
 - The 2019 Idaho graduating class average math score was 21.9. This compares to 21.6 and 22.2 in 2018 and 2015, respectively.
 - The 2019 Idaho graduating class average reading score was 23.4. This compares to 23.2 and 23.4 in 2018 and 2015, respectively.
 - The 2019 Idaho graduating class average science score was 22.2. This compares to 22.1 and 22.4 in 2018 and 2015, respectively.

- In 2019, 35 percent of Idaho graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 34 and 37 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 21 percent of Idaho graduates met zero ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 22 and 18 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 73 percent of Idaho graduates met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 73 and 77 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 51 percent of Idaho graduates met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 49 and 55 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 59 percent of Idaho graduates met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 58 and 60 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 47 percent of Idaho graduates met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 46 and 48 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 3,225 (50 percent) of Idaho graduates met three or four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 3,591 and 3,869 (49 and 53 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, 3,444 Idaho graduates (54 percent) indicated having an interest in STEM majors and/or careers.
- Compared to a 2019 Idaho graduating class average ACT STEM score of 22.3, graduates in 2018 and 2015 had STEM averages of 22.1 and 22.6, respectively.
- Compared to 26 percent of 2019 Idaho graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark, graduates in 2018 and 2015 had STEM Benchmark percentages of 24 and 26, respectively.
 - 2019 Idaho graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average science score of 28.6. This compares to 28.4 in 2015.
 - 2019 Idaho graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average math score of 28.4. This compares to 28.3 in 2015.

Career Readiness Indicator

- In 2019, 3,499 Idaho graduates (55 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 Idaho 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:
 - 14 more students enrolling in college.
 - 16 more students persisting to year two.
 - 11 fewer students needing remedial English.
 - 19 fewer students needing remedial math.
 - 19 more students persisting to year four.
 - 20 more students earning a postsecondary degree within six years.

Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In Idaho, 2,749 of the 2019 graduates (43.0 percent) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 24.1, compared to an average of 21.2 for 3,643 of the 2019 graduates (57.0 percent) who took the ACT only once.
- 15,054 score reports were sent to colleges by 2019 Idaho ACT-tested graduates.
 - 5,486 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2019 Idaho ACT-tested graduates.
 - For Idaho's 2019 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were Boise State University, Idaho State University, Brigham Young University-Idaho, Utah State University, and Brigham Young University.
 - For Idaho's 2019 ACT-tested graduates, the top three out-of-state schools to which scores were sent were Utah State University, Brigham Young University, and University of Utah.
- Compared to 66 percent of 2019 graduates nationally, 70 percent of Idaho 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 1,985 ACT fee waivers to qualified Idaho students across all grades. However, 586 students (29.5 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.
 - 2,382 students (37 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 24.7.
 - 2,950 students (46 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 21.9.
 - 233 students (4 percent) aspired to attain a vocational/technical or associate's degree. They had an average Composite score of 17.6.

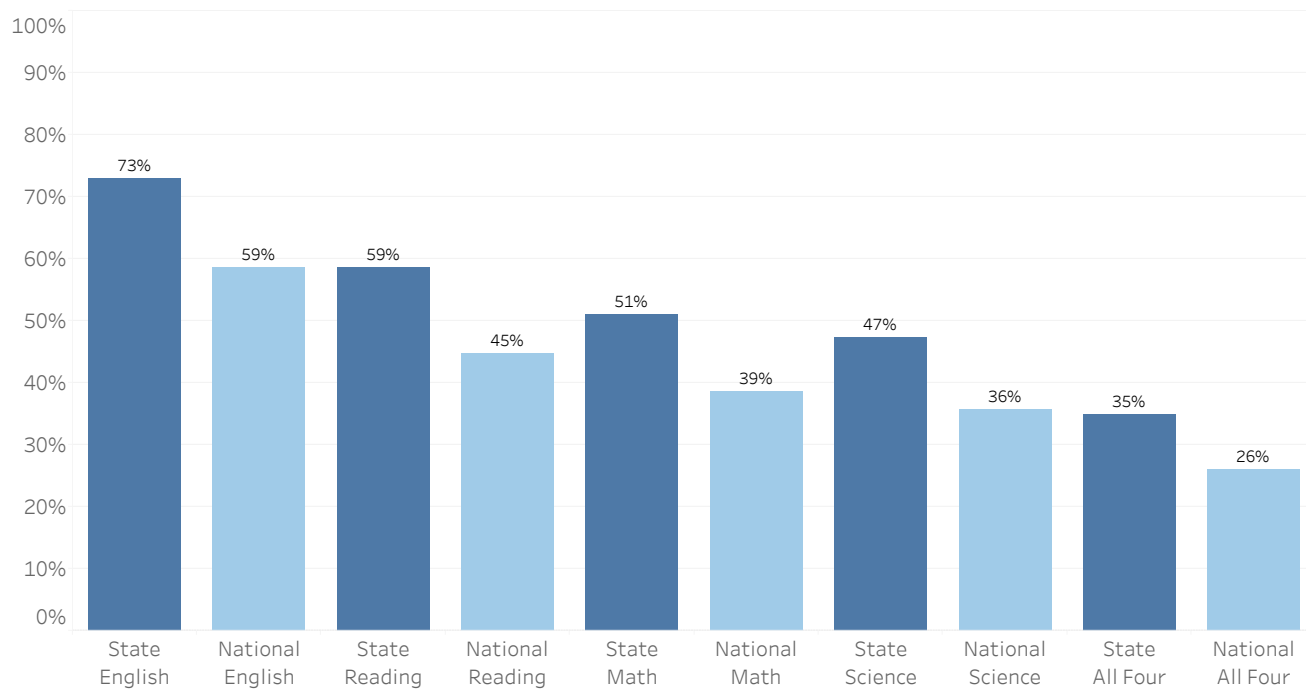
- In the Idaho graduating class of 2019, 602 students (9 percent) had parents who did not attend college.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2019 Idaho graduates were: Undecided; Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Nursing, Registered (BS/RN); Business Administration and Management, General; and Mechanical Engineering.
- There is good news in that 87% of Idaho's 2019 ACT-tested graduates aspired to postsecondary education. Interestingly enough, 86% of Idaho's 2018 ACT-tested graduating class aspired to enroll in postsecondary education, compared to 59% who actually did enroll. If we fully closed the aspirational gap, an additional 2,001 of the 2018 ACT-tested graduates from Idaho would have enrolled in postsecondary education.

Additional Points

- The Idaho ACT State Organization continues to grow in membership and in diversity, with more than 165 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.
- In 2019, ACT honored College and Career Readiness Champions in most states. The Idaho honorees were:
 - High school senior: Katie Luong, Borah Senior High School; K-12 professional: Barb Denny, Career Center Advisor, Canyon Ridge High School; postsecondary professional: Trevi Hardy, ESL Supervisor, the College of Western Idaho; and workforce professional: Tyler Lenzi, Senior Director Research and Development, Micron Technology.

IDAHO 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

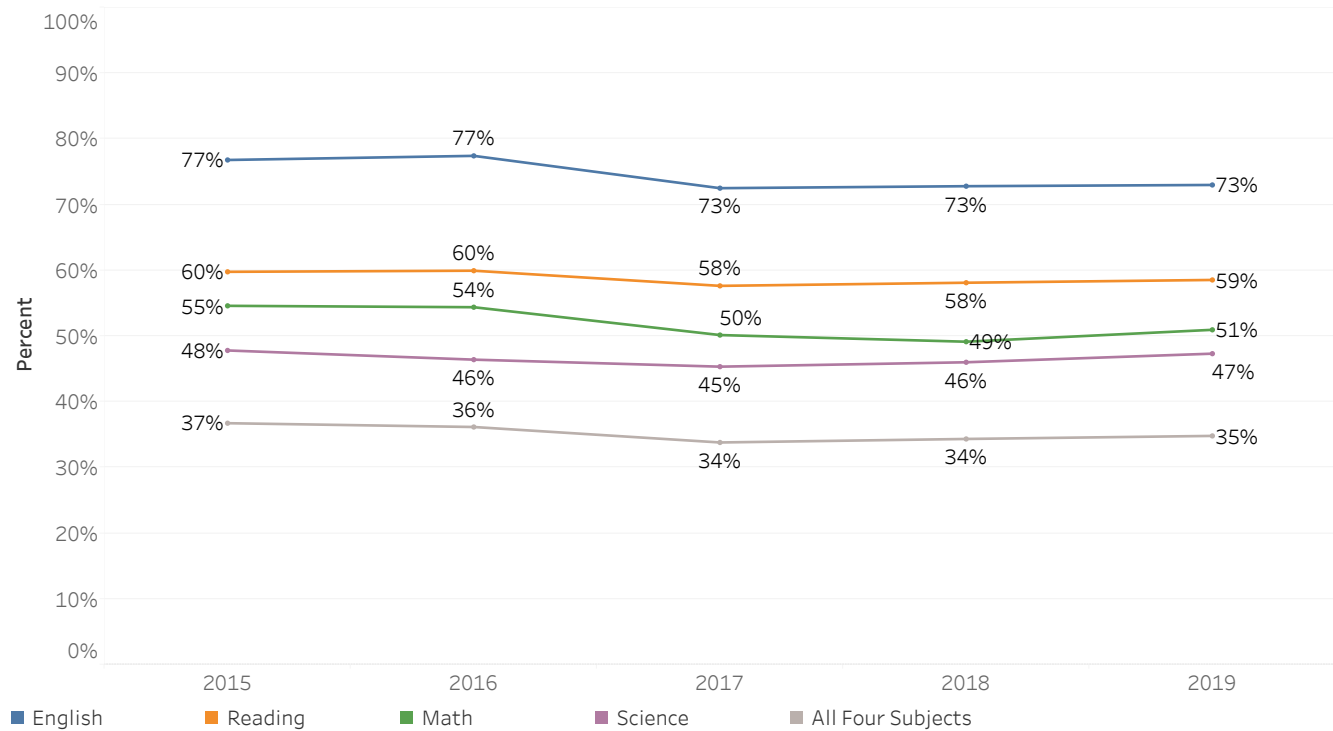
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
73%	59%	59%	45%	51%	39%	47%	36%	35%	26%

* 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.

IDAHO 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

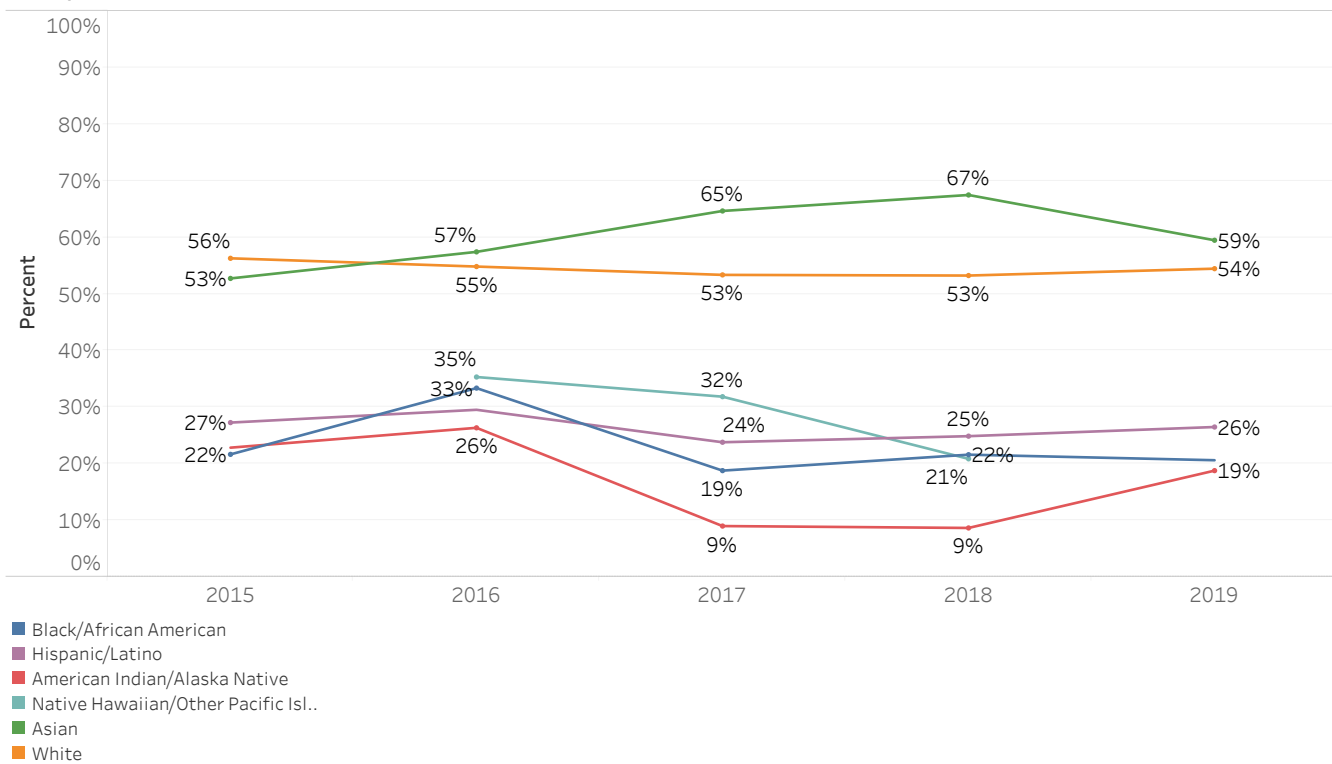
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2015	77%	60%	55%	48%	37%
2016	77%	60%	54%	46%	36%
2017	73%	58%	50%	45%	34%
2018	73%	58%	49%	46%	34%
2019	73%	59%	51%	47%	35%

* 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.

IDAHO 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



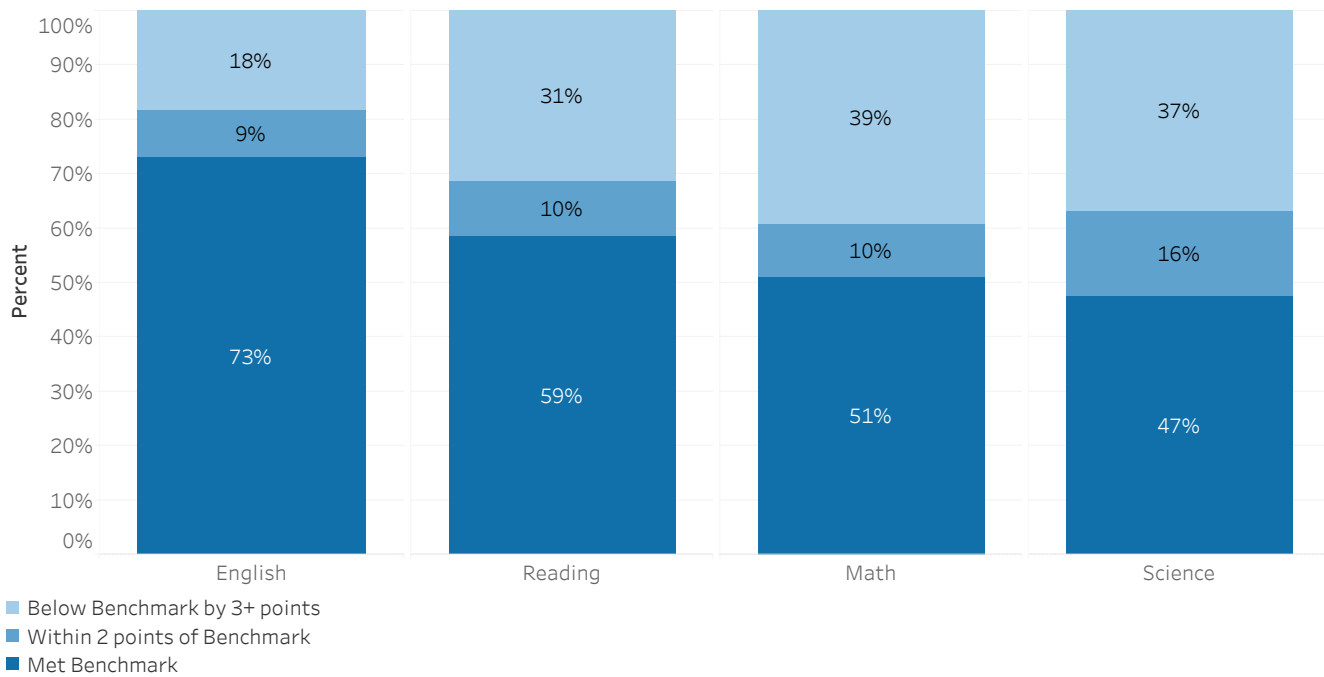
Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2015	22%	27%	23%	35%	53%	56%
2016	33%	30%	26%	32%	57%	55%
2017	19%	24%	9%	32%	65%	53%
2018	22%	25%	9%	21%	67%	53%
2019	21%	26%	19%	21%	59%	54%

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

IDAHO College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

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



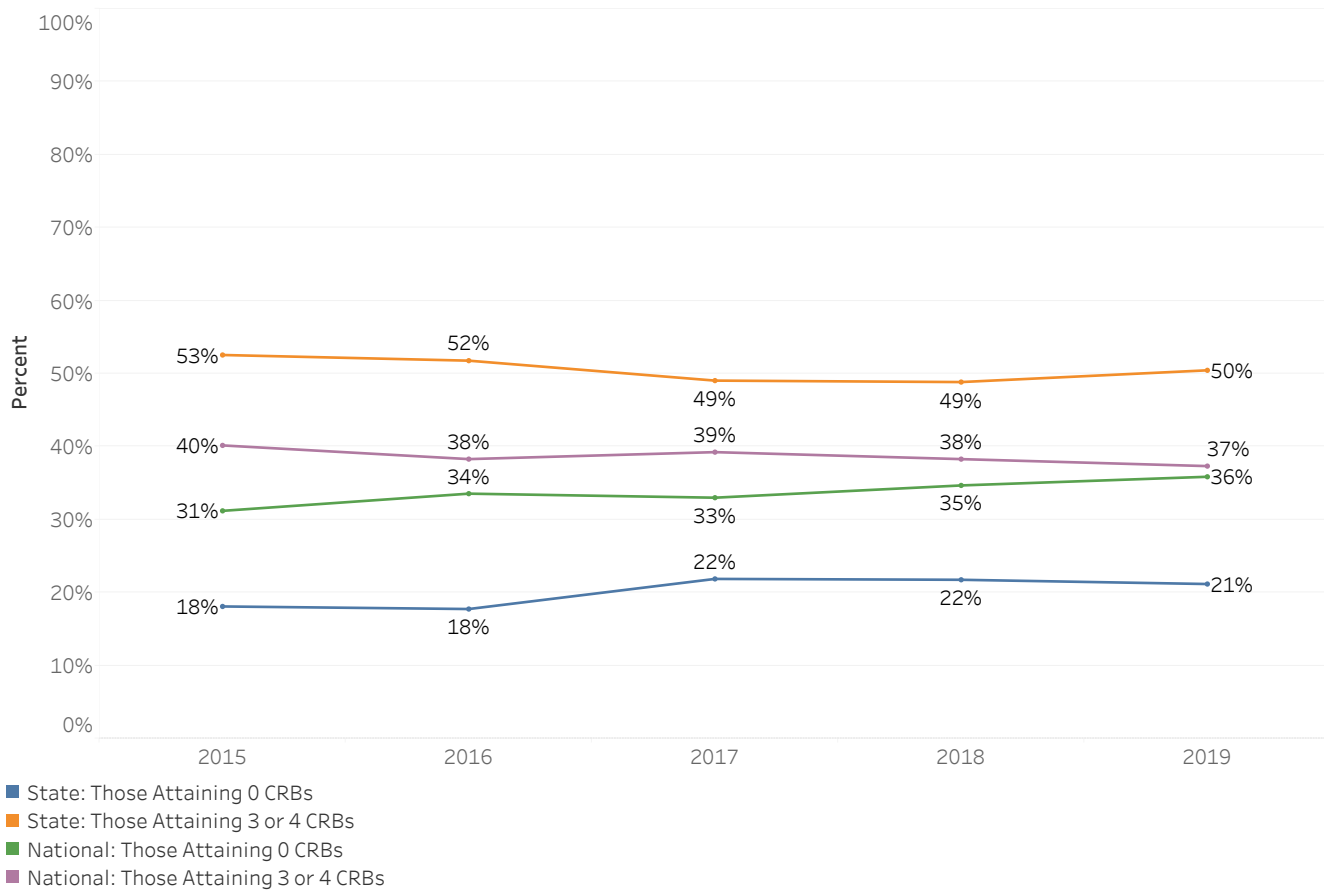
Data From Graph Above

	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	18%	9%	73%
Math	39%	10%	51%
Reading	31%	10%	59%
Science	37%	16%	47%

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

IDAHO College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

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



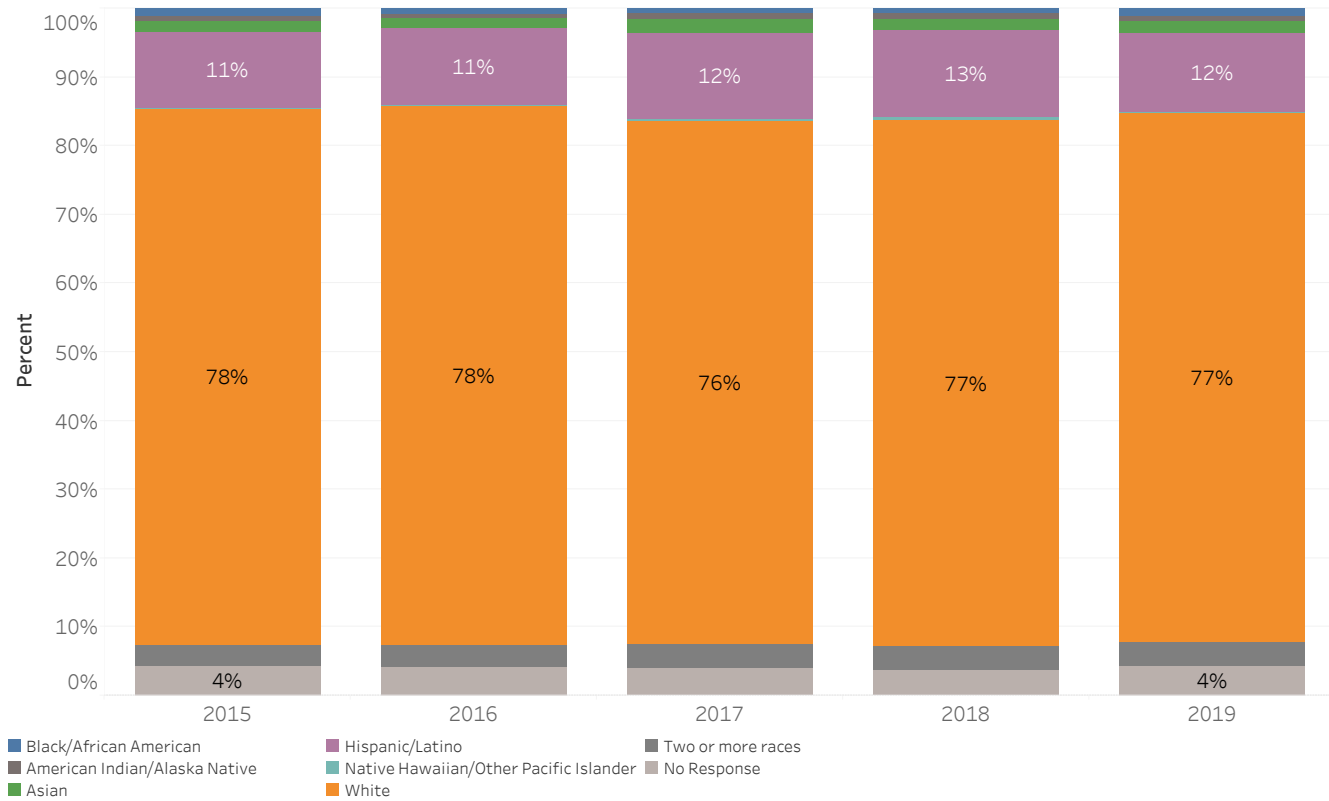
Data from Graph Above

	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	18%	53%	31%	40%
2016	18%	52%	34%	38%
2017	22%	49%	33%	39%
2018	22%	49%	35%	38%
2019	21%	50%	36%	37%

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

IDAHO 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	1%	1%	2%	11%	0%	78%	3%	4%
2016	1%	1%	2%	11%	0%	78%	3%	4%
2017	1%	1%	2%	12%	0%	76%	4%	4%
2018	1%	1%	2%	13%	0%	77%	3%	4%
2019	1%	1%	2%	12%	0%	77%	3%	4%

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

IDAHO College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

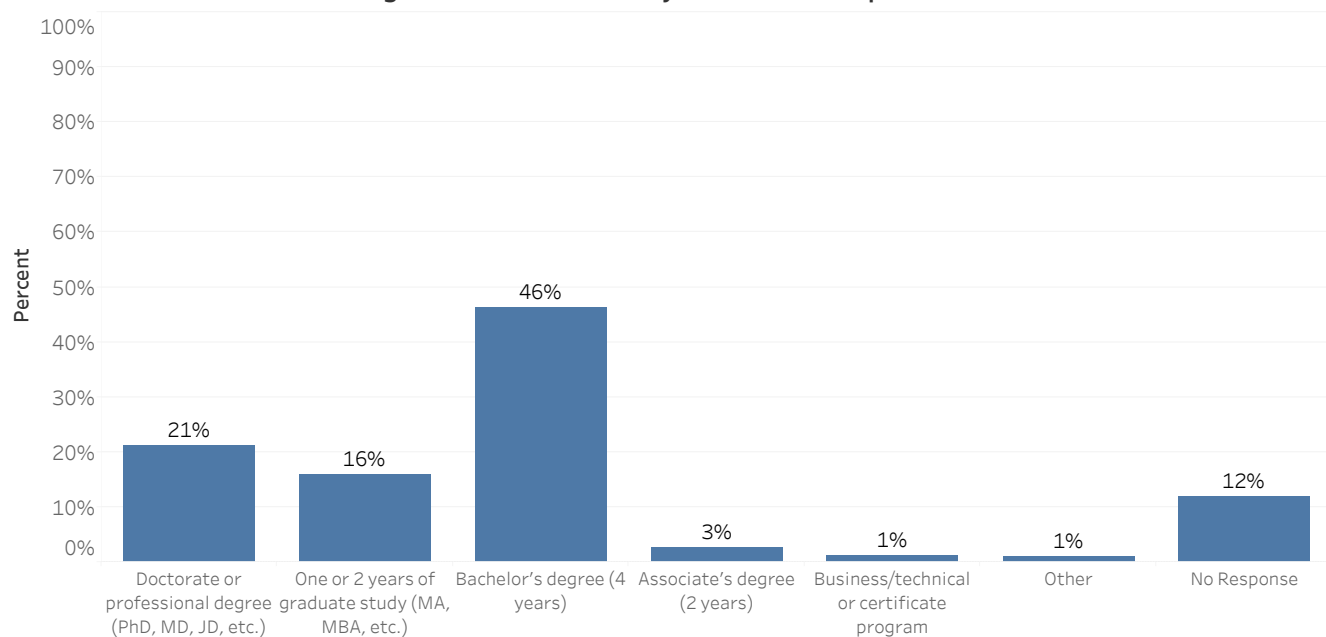
Student Data Trends: 2015-2019, State vs. Nation

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
State N-count	7,362	7,181	7,628	7,352	6,392
National N-count	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817	1,782,820
Average ACT English Score - State	22.3	22.3	21.9	21.9	21.9
Average ACT English Score - National	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2	20.1
Average ACT Reading Score - State	23.4	23.5	23.0	23.2	23.4
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.2
Average ACT Math Score - State	22.2	22.1	21.8	21.6	21.9
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5	20.4
Average ACT Science Score - State	22.4	22.4	22.1	22.1	22.2
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7	20.6
Average ACT Composite Score - State	22.7	22.7	22.3	22.3	22.5
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.

IDAHO 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.)	21%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	16%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	46%
Associate's degree (2 years)	3%
Business/technical or certificate program	1%
Other	1%
No Response	12%

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